



Dear Union Avenue Family,

On Saturday, February 7th I had the opportunity to attend the annual Confirmation Retreat at Camp Asbury in Hiram with two high school students who started attending our church last fall. After worshipping weekly with us for several months and attending many of our other ministries, the students approached me in January and told me they wanted to join the church. At the retreat, they learned some of the basics of United Methodist history – especially about the early Methodist emphasis on living one’s faith out in loving action. We learned about how the United Methodist Church takes a stand on social issues through our Social Principles and encourages church members to actively work towards a world that better reflects God’s love and justice. The students shared with me that they appreciate how our church doesn’t ignore what’s happening in the world, but talks about how our faith should drive the way we engage with neighbors and enemies alike.

In a month or two I will be baptizing both students on the day they join our church as members and affirm their faith in Christ. I am excited to continue teaching and learning alongside them in the meantime. Working with these students has reminded me of the holy privilege I have of walking with people throughout the entirety of their faith journeys. I don’t hold this privilege lightly. One of my favorite parts of my job is engaging with people ask they ask questions that relate to life and faith. If you ever want to talk about your questions, I would love to meet with you. If you are especially interested in engaging questions related to biblical interpretation and are available on Wednesday mornings, I encourage you to try our Wednesday Bible study. It’s one of the highlights of my week.

I am so grateful for every one of you – for the questions you ask, for the ways you love God through acts of service and compassion, and for the honesty and curiosity with which you engage your faith. It is a privilege to be your pastor, and I am grateful to be part of this church community.

I wish you a blessed and holy March and season of Lent!

In Christ’s Peace,

Pastor Becky

Pastor Becky



PASTOR BECKY’S OFFICE DROP-IN HOURS

See Sunday bulletin for current hours or call office to schedule.



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| 1. Pastor’s Letter | 5. Mental Health Awareness, Service/Support Opportunities | 7. Calendar, Birthdays, Lent at Union Avenue |
| 2. District News, Summer Camp | 6. Endowment, Thank You, Passing, Easter Flowers | <u>NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE:</u>
<i>Monday, March 16</i> |
| 3. Meetings/Events | | |
| 4. Missions | | |



DAYS IN THE DISTRICT

12:00-3:00 PM, Saturday, March 14, North Canton Faith UMC | Our East Ohio Conference Resident Bishop Hee-Soo Jung will host Days in the District for clergy and laity. This year’s theme is “Abundant Grace” and the guiding scripture is Matthew 14:13-21.

Register here: <https://www.eocumc.com/eventregistration/index.html>



**SUMMER CAMP INFO —
DISCOUNTS UNTIL MARCH 15th**

Brochures are on the table near the elevator or online at <https://www.eocumc.com/camps/>



NEW DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT—REV. DR. BILL LIMING

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung is grateful to announce the appointment of the Rev. Dr. Bill Liming to the East Ohio Conference Cabinet. He will serve as superintendent of the Central Valley District effective July 1.

"I have felt the steadiness of the Holy Spirit from the time I was a child in both seasons of joy and seasons of great difficulty," said Liming, who felt the call to ministry at age 14.

"I can't imagine where I would be today without the loving presence of Christ. It is our Savior Jesus Christ who strengthens us daily and opens doors of life we could have never imagined. I am excited about this new season serving in a new way. May our lives bear witness to what only God can do in our faithful churches of East Ohio!"

Bishop Jung said, "Bill brings a deep calling to ministry, a pastor’s heart shaped by faithful service in local churches, and trusted wisdom through his leadership across our Conference. He leads with spiritual depth and grace, building empathetic and authentic relationships with clergy and lay leaders alike. I am confident his leadership will help strengthen the body of Christ for the mission before us."

Liming’s first appointment in the East Ohio Conference was as associate pastor of Lakewood UMC in 2001. After six years in Lakewood, he served as pastor of Willowick Shoregate UMC for six years, and then Tallmadge UMC for three. He has served as senior pastor of Montrose Zion UMC since 2016.

Throughout his ministry, Liming has served on district committees, including Finance, Mission Funding and Evaluation, and district Committees on Ministry. He also served on the Conference Board of Benefits for 16 years, chairing the Board for the last seven years.



See the Faith in Action bulletin insert for details on Copeland Oaks events, and weekly classes and events, including The Gathering Class, Bible Study, and The Hour.

UNBOOK CLUB

7:00 PM, Monday, March 16 | We are focusing on a theme word, **seasons**, at our next meeting. You can choose any meaning of seasons you would like to explore: winter, spring, summer, fall, a season of life, a sports season, the seasoning of food, or any other connection you can make. Please bring a short excerpt from a book, play, essay, or poem that makes you think about seasons to share with the group. We can't wait to hear your ideas!

YOGA CHURCH

6:30-7:30 PM, Friday, March 20 | This worship gathering incorporates gentle movement with modifications for all levels, prayer, meditation, and a brief scripture reflection. Every service ends with extended rest. Connect to Christ as you connect with the breath and body God has gifted you! Bring a mat or borrow ours.



The Lion King, one of the most popular stage musicals of all time is coming to Playhouse Square in Cleveland. Union Avenue has reserved a limited number of discounted group tickets for the **matinee at 1:30 PM on Saturday, July 18**. The ticket price for orchestra floor seating is \$77.50 and the **deadline for ordering tickets is Sunday, May 31**. If paying by check, please make the check payable to Union Avenue UMC with "Lion King tickets" in the memo line. Please fill out the form below to order tickets and don't delay as we expect these tickets to go quickly.

Contact Sue Redinger at 330-257-6639 or Kelly Bericchia at 330-206-0801 with questions. Please join us to experience the wonder of this touching show about family, friendship, and finding your place in the world.

Name _____ Phone _____

Number of tickets at \$77.50 _____ Total price for tickets _____



UMCOR SUNDAY- MARCH 15

When people face crisis--whether from natural disaster, conflict, or hunger---UMCOR is there to help. But that kind of response doesn't just happen, it requires trained staff, reliable systems, and the ability to act quickly and compassionately.

UMCOR Sunday matters because it sustains that foundation. By covering UMCOR's administrative costs, this Special Sunday makes sure the Church is equipped to respond whenever and wherever help is needed---without delay.

Our "campaign" to support UMCOR Sunday at UAUMC began February 22 and runs until March 15. Please consider donating because when we support UMCOR Sunday, we are not just reacting to emergencies. We are making it possible for the Church to be a consistent, trusted, presence in moments of urgent need. You can make a gift to UMCOR Sunday using the giving envelope, online (select UMCOR Sunday), or by writing a check (write UMCOR Sunday on the memo line). March 15 is the end of our campaign. Thank you!

EASTER OFFERING — APRIL 5

Easter arrives on April 5 this year and with it comes the opportunity to support outreach ministries in our community and also those of our East Ohio Resident Bishop Hee-Soo June. This spring the Easter offering will be split among several very worthy causes:

- Habitat for Humanity Apostle Build for 2026
- YWCA SARTA bus pass program (providing bus passes travel to work or appointments)
- YWCA Unity Walk which is usually held in the fall to promote unity and peace among all
- United Methodist Bishop Hee-Soo Jung's Discretionary Fund for mission outreach
- Alliance Domestic Violence Shelter

Being able to support others in need is truly a privilege. You can donate by using the special offering envelope in your bulletin on Easter Sunday, using the QR code online (designate the amount for the Easter offering), or writing a check with "Easter offering" on the memo line. Thank you for your thoughtful and generous giving!

UMU SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY CLASS TRIP SPECIAL OFFERING — STILL TIME TO SUPPORT

Every year, Union Avenue supports Mount Union students attending the Social Responsibility class trip. The Social Responsibility course provides students with a semester of learning about major social issues and the ways in which we can all make a positive impact.

Students will spend spring break (week of March 8th) in the Dominican Republic serving along-side a local Christian church doing outreach with folks in the community and children at the local school. Instructor Abby Schroeder will be accompanied by staff member Angi Johnson and 17 students. To contribute to the cost of the trip, please make a check out to Union Avenue UMC, with "Social Responsibility Trip" on the memo line, or donate via our online giving.



POTLUCK LUNCHEON

11:00 AM, SUNDAY, MARCH 1 | Everyone is invited to stay after church for our potluck luncheon. We'll have apple dumplings for dessert.



DINE OUT – BONESHAKERS (NOTE DAY CHANGE THIS MONTH)

5:30 PM, Wednesday, March 18 | Our Mental Health Awareness Team invites you to join UA family and friends for dinner out. All are welcome! This month we return to Boneshakers, 544 E. Pershing St., Salem. A sign-up sheet is outside the sanctuary.

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

Have a mental health need? Free booklets to help you respond are available on the display racks outside the church office. The booklets are free, and a few of the topics available are anxiety, worry, depression, and addiction.



SERVICE AND SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

UNION AVENUE PIANO FUND

We are excited to share that our congregation is working toward purchasing a new piano for the sanctuary. Our current piano has served faithfully for close to 100 years, and it is time to replace it with an instrument that will support our worship for generations to come.

The total purchase price of a comparable new piano is \$38,000. Thanks to the generosity of two of our members with an initial gift of \$20,000, and an additional \$500 gift from another donor, we have received \$20,500 toward this goal.

If you feel led to contribute, please designate your gift by writing "Piano Fund" on the memo line of your check. Every contribution brings us closer to enhancing our worship experience through music. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

QUILTERS AND SEWERS

We are looking for quilters or sewers to make small quilts/blankets to be given to babies and children who will be baptized in our church. Please see Lynda Slack if you are interested in helping with this project.

2026 APOSTLE BUILD HOUSE

The excitement is "building." Habitat for Humanity has announced the first day for volunteers who want to help with the Apostle build home will begin April 11, 2026. More information will be coming soon.



ENDOWMENT NEWS - The Union Avenue Endowment Committee invites you to attend its "Spring Ahead" Endowment Seminar to be held on Sunday, March 8th, immediately following the service. Our guest speaker will be Attorney Dan Griffith, former UAUMC member and current Director of Wealth Strategy at Huntington Bank. Dan will talk about the important role that the Endowment Fund plays in our ministry as well as creative ways that one might elect to support the Fund. If possible, please let us know of your planned attendance by signing the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary or calling the church office.



Thank you so much for helping my daughter and I pay rent! I was so worried, and by God's grace, you all helped me! I am beyond grateful. Please know that if I'm ever in a position to pay it forward, I most definitely will do that. My heart is full of gratitude. Thank you!

Name withheld

From meal packing event where our youth volunteered: We're giving thanks for YOU!

Because of your support, lives are being changed around the world. Your generosity sends practical help and the hope of Christ to those in need.

Midwest Mission



Our hearts and prayers go out to the family of:

William "Bill" Downs - February 5

2026 EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

List number of each you are ordering. Plants are \$11.50 each:

_____ Easter Lilies (white)

_____ Hybrid Lilies (colors)

_____ Tulips _____ Daffodils

_____ Total number of plants

_____ Amount enclosed (1 = \$11.50, 2 = \$23.00, 3 = \$34.50, 4 = \$46.00)

IN MEMORY of: _____

IN HONOR of: _____

GIVEN by: _____

_____ I will pick up after the Easter service.

Place this form and payment in offering plate or turn in to church office. **Orders due March 15**

NOTE: Some flower supplies are limited. It is possible we might need to substitute other flowers.

MARCH

SUNDAYS: 9:45 AM (also Facebook Live); 11:00 AM - 91.1 FM

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

SUNDAYS: Social Hour: 9:00-9:45 AM
Kids Faith Formation - 9:00-9:30 AM
Adult Gathering Class - 11:00 AM
Events at UA unless noted; Z = Zoom

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES:
6:00 PM Sundays (through 3/22)
Flyer with locations posted on bulletin boards and on table outside office.

1 8:30 UMM Breakfast 9:45A Worship Communion 11A 91.1 FM 11A Church Luncheon	2	3 5P Community Spaghetti Dinner (at Christ UMC)	4 10A Bible Study 6P Praise Team	5 10A The Hour (Z) 5:30P Preschool Family Event 6:15P Bell Choir 7:30P Choir	6	7 <i>Get ready:</i> 
8 9:45A Worship 11A 91.1 FM	9	10 10A Crandall Worship Service	11 10A Bible Study 6P Praise Team 6:30P Worship Committee	12 10A The Hour (Z) 6:15P Bell Choir 7:30P Choir	13	14 11A Bishop Days in the District (@Faith UMC)
15 9:45A Worship 11A 91.1 FM	16 8:30A UMU Coffee Cart 7PM Unbook Club	17 5:30P Dine Out	18 10A Bible Study 6P Praise Team 7P Trustees	19 10A The Hour (Z) 6:15P Bell Choir 7:30P Choir	20 6:30P Yoga Church	21
15 9:45A Worship 11A 91.1 FM	23	24 10A UA at Copeland Oaks	25 10A Bible Study 6P Praise Team	26 10A The Hour (Z) 6:15P Bell Choir 7:30P Choir	27	28
29 PALM SUNDAY	30 8:30A UMU Coffee Cart	31	6P Praise Team 6:30P Admin. Council	6:15P Bell Choir 7:30P Choir		

6 – Mike Patterson 13 – Steffani Vickers 19 – Joyce Lackey
 11 – Jessie Canavan 14 – Cricket Slack 27 – Sandy McLachlan
 13 – Barb Gaughan 17 – Anna Leforte 29 – Mark Harper

Contact office to have your birthday listed here.





UNION AVENUE UMC
1843 S. UNION AVE.
ALLIANCE OH 44601

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

*A United Methodist Church
practicing Safe Sanctuary through
the child protection policy*

Church: J. Kim Lewis
Rev. Rebecca Weamer Director of Music
Elder and Lead Pastor

Preschool:
Rev. Dawn Beamish Pam Harlan
Minister of Pastoral Care Preschool Director

Dale Brown Kirk Miller
Custodian Preschool Treasurer

Christine K. Cochran Cindy Saari
Financial Secretary Preschool Custodian

Tyler Kinser
Treasurer

Christine R. Lamb
Administrative Assistant,
Membership Secretary



**UNION AVENUE
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

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unionavenueumc.org

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facebook.com/amuck

Instagram:
[instagram.com/unionavenue
umc](https://instagram.com/unionavenueumc)

Church office hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM-2:30 PM

SUNDAY: Sanctuary 9:45 AM | WRMU 91.1 FM 11 AM | Facebook.com/uaumc (live)