



Cheviot UMC—A Place Where Kids Learn About God Love

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them.” Luke 18:16

It happens every Sunday. There in the church bulletin it says: “Children’s Message”. Pastor Carrie comes down front and invites the children to come and sit on the steps with her. And everyone in the congregation holds their breath. Why do we do that? Because over the past few years, there have been less and less children coming forward and we are never sure if anyone is going to come at all. We have heard all of the reasons why this is the case: More soccer games on Sunday morning, kids too tired to get up for church, weekend road trips with select sports teams, kids traveling between parents’ homes on the weekends. All of those realities of our current culture have changed the Sunday morning habits of many families in our community. And all of those things are hindering children from coming to know Jesus. This is the reality of our changing culture.

But one thing hasn’t changed: Children need Jesus in their lives. They need to learn about the love of God. And they will not learn that unless someone tells them and demonstrates that love to them.

What does that mean for parents and grandparents of young children? It means that every family needs the church and every church should be full of families. When it comes to learning about a God who loves us, a God who cares for us, a God who gives Himself to us, and a God who forgives us, there is no better place than the church for that to happen.

In the month of September, our church made great strides in demonstrating God’s love to families by welcoming nearly 50 people—many of whom were parents of our preschoolers to a Blessing of the Backpacks. We enjoyed a delicious lunch, a bouncy house for the kids, prayer and meaningful conversation while Pastor Carrie got to know several new families. Why did we do that? Because we want to be a place where kids and their parents learn about God. We want to be a place where families can feel at home. We want to help parents bring their children to Jesus.

In the coming months, I am challenging parents to think about how their Sunday mornings are spent. Remember, you control the calendar. Not your child’s coach. We want to support you as you make those tough decisions to put God first in your life and in the life of your kids. Your kids will thank you for it; Maybe not right way, but trust me, they will eventually.

Give me a call or send me an e-mail at pastorcarrie123@gmail.com and let me know how we can be a resource for you and your family.

We are praying for you and looking forward to seeing you in church soon. Pastor Carrie

Pastor Carrie



Matthew 25 Ministries

Below are the upcoming dates:

10/26—9-11 AM

11/23—11-1 PM

12/21—9-11 AM



Meet at the Matthew 25 building: 11060 Kenwood Rd, Blue Ash, OH 45242. Questions? Contact Lisa Cox: coxalisa728@gmail.com or 661-8487.

Pastor Carrie will be holding a leadership training on Saturday November 16th from 9 a.m. to noon. This is for everyone that is a chair and/or committee member this year and for those who will coming on committees starting in 2020. Please RSVP no later than November 10th by marking it on the Count-Me-In sheet, emailing Pastor Carrie (pastorcarrie123@gmail.com) or calling the Church office @ 662-2048. This training helps all of us to work better together so we can grow in to make more Disciples for Jesus Christ.

Westfed Food Pantry

Items needed: cereal, toilet paper, can fruit, and large paper grocery bags. Check the Sunday bulletin for additional needs that may occur throughout the month. Donation baskets are outside the Werner Lounge. Donation envelopes are available on the Welcome Tables. Please make checks out to CUMC with the memo: Westfed.

Thank you for supporting our neighborhood mission.



The Hospitality Team is sponsoring a community and church dinner each month beginning in October called Thursdays-To-Gather. The dinners will be held on the third Thursday of each month, October 17, November 21, and December 19, beginning at 6 PM in Fellowship Hall.

The Hospitality Team will supply the entrée asking the church members to bring a dessert and an occasional side dish. A donation of \$5 per adult is suggested to offset the cost, with children under 10 eating free. The theme for the October dinner is "Oktoberfest". The menu for October is metts (and hotdogs), sauerkraut, mashed potatoes and applesauce. We will also have sautéed peppers and onions. Hotdogs will be provided for the children (and adults who prefer hotdogs). The Hospitality Team is asking church members to bring an apple themed dessert or a potato themed side dish to the October dinner.

This is a great opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor. So mark your calendars and save these dates: October 17, November 21 and December 19!

Lydia Circle will be collecting new or gently used coats, plus gloves, hats and scarves for City Gospel Mission to give to needy men and women during their Thanksgiving Day celebration. Please place your donations in the collection basket in the hallway outside the Werner Lounge by November 10. Thank you for your support of City Gospel Mission.

Women's Ministries would like to extend a HUGE thank you to all who attended the very informative program by Judge Heather Russell on Human Trafficking and the Hamilton County Change Court. The attendance was tremendous. It was not only informative but an inspiring presentation. Look for more information as we develop ways for our women to be involved. The mission initiative of this year's Fall Women's Retreat will be focused on supporting the Change Court participants. One small act of kindness may mean the world to one person. Hopefully we can show these women many acts of kindness. Stay tuned!



PUT ON YOUR WALKING SHOES AND WALK TO END ALZHEIMERS. OCTOBER 5

Women's Ministries

hopes you will join us in walking to end Alzheimer. This year's Alzheimer Walk is at Sawyer Point. We will be walking on October 6th and will be carpooling from church. Meet at 8:30 am. Go online to <http://act.alz.org/goto/CheviotUMC> to register or donate. For more information call Vicki Groh at 703-9174 or Mary Ann Jacobs at 604-5821. We hope you will join us!!

VISIONING SUNDAY

A well-known Proverb says, "Where there is No Vision, the People Perish" (Proverbs 29:18). The same can be said for churches. But the opposite is also true for people and churches: Where there is a clear vision, the church will prosper! Join us Sunday, October 13th to hear Pastor Carrie cast vision for Cheviot UMC for 2020 and beyond. We will learn about 3 Strategies for Growth and the part that you can play in making that happen. Pastor Carrie would also like to extend a special invitation to our Preschool parents and kids to come and learn how they can get involved.

NEW SERMON SERIES

Loving A Generous God

Our God is a generous God. His extravagant love is all around us, but we often can't see it. We can begin to think of God as withholding, angry, punitive, and distant. When, in reality, God's extravagant generosity toward us and then reflect on the generous life that we are called to live in response. Do we really believe that there is enough? Or do we nurture a scarcity mindset? Join us for this 6-week Stewardship Series and let your eyes be opened to the reality of our generous God. Bring your friends.



New Member Sunday

We are looking forward to welcoming several new members to our church on Sunday, October 13th. For all those who will be joining or who have been considering joining Cheviot UMC, there will be no better time than now! Pastor Carrie will hold a New Member Orientation class on Saturday, October 12th at 9 AM. During this class you will get to know more about Pastor Carrie and her family, you will learn how to get involved at Cheviot UMC, you will learn information about the United Methodist Church, and most importantly, you will make some new friends. If you are interested in joining Cheviot, e-mail Pastor Carrie at: pastorcarrie123@gmail.com.



Let's Do Dinner! ALL Ladies, get together for a fun evening of dinner and conversation. Our October gathering will be October 10th at Aston Oaks Clubhouse Restaurant at 6 PM. For more information and to say YES! I am coming, please call Shirley Pemberton at 368-8995, call the church office or sign up on the Count Me In. Reservations are not required but a good estimate of people is a help! Bring a friend with you. You may be surprised who is looking for a church!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The Operation Christmas child program will start on September 29th through October 27th. Stop by the Werner Lounge between services shoebox and label. All you need to do is take your box to the Dollar anywhere they sell hygiene products and toys, and return your filled along with your \$9.00 donation and label on the box. The boxes are around the world who are in need.

There will also be a get together on November 10th at 2pm in the Fellowship Hall where you can help go through the boxes to be sure the correct items are packed, along with the donation to ship the box. There will also be extra boxes to fill at that time. If you would rather give a donation, we will be taking up a collection, the last Sunday in September, or if you would like to buy some items, there will be a collection box outside the Werner Lounge.



and will run pick up your ore, Target or box to church, ment to children all

GIVING TREE COMING IN EARLY NOVEMBER!!

Wesley Chapel Mission Center's Santa Shop will once again be the recipient of this year's Giving Tree. Every November their students begin to earn points, which they can then use to "purchase" Christmas gifts for their families. They earn the points by exhibiting good behavior, doing homework, learning Bible verses, etc.



Our Giving Tree goal this year is to help stock their store shelves with items that have been recommended by Wesley Chapel's staff. Each tag on the Giving Tree will list 2-3 items (with a total value of about \$25). We are asking that you select a tag from the tree, purchase the items listed, and return them UNWRAPPED to church.

Since the items need to be delivered to Wesley Chapel by the end of November, we will need to get an early start. Tags will be available for two Sundays - November 10 and 17. Gifts will need to be returned to church by November 24.

More details will follow. Questions? Please contact Bobbi Ostermeyer, RAOst@aol.com or 662-2841.

FAITH: RECEIVING IT YESTERDAY, LIVING IT TODAY AND PASSING IT ON TO TOMORROW WOMEN'S MINISTRIES FALL RETREAT NOVEMBER 1 AND 2.

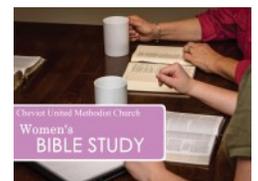
Please join us for this year's Fall women's retreat on November 1 from 6:45-9 PM and November 2 8:30-4 PM. This year's retreat will be held at Aston Woods Condominiums Clubhouse. This year's program will include a Keynote speaker: Dianne Stortz, a local author and the author of the book which has been used by the Saturday morning Women's Bible class as they work their way thru the Bible. Ms. Stortz is a noted author of devotionals and faith themed children's books. Pastor Carrie will be leading the rest of the retreat as we explore how our faith was formed, how it sustains us now and how we can pass it on to future generations. This is a retreat which will be of interest to women of all ages. This is a great event to invite a friend or neighbor to attend. You may be surprised who in your circle of friends and neighbors are looking for a church. Early registration will be on Sept. 22 and 29 at a cost of \$20. Registrations in October will be \$25. Breakfast and lunch will be included. Ms. Stortz's books will be available for purchase. This retreat's mission focus will be to provide personal hygiene items to the participants of the Hamilton County Change Court. You will receive more information on this mission initiative when you register.



News for Saturday Morning Women's Bible Study! Reading the Bible in a Year (or Two)!!

- ◆ All woman are welcome to join the Saturday Morning Woman's Bible Study (invite friends and relatives too).
- ◆ We meet every other Saturday in the **Upper Room (change in location)** at 8 AM and finish around 9:15 AM
- ◆ Here are the future dates and readings we will be discussing (please feel free to begin joining us ANYTIME!!!)

October 5	Ezekiel 19-39
October 19	Ezekiel 40-48; 1 John 1-5; 2 John, 3 John, Jude, Daniel 1-6
November 2	WOMEN'S RETREAT - NO BIBLE STUDY
November 16	Daniel 7-12; Revelation 1-18
November 30	Revelation 19-22; Hosea 1-14; Joel 1-3
December 14	Amos 1-9; Obadiah; Jonah 1-4; Micah 1-7
December 28	Nahum 1-3; Habakkuk 1-3; Zephaniah 1-3; Haggai 1-2; Zechariah 1-14; Malachi 1-4



These Readings Complete our journey through reading God's Word. Please join us as we plan for a new study beginning in January 2020.

"The Bible is the only book whose Author is always present when one reads it.

--Anonymous



10/4 *Ashleigh Budge*

10/11 *Renee Leimbach*

10/5 *Joan Schlensker*

10/13 *Hailey Brice*

10/1 *Josh & Amanda Thomas*

10/7 *Michael Romanello*

10/15 *Glen Lash*

10/2 *Jim & Cheryl Wilde*

10/8 *Gary Krebs*

10/16 *Linda Kimble*

10/5 *Jeff & Missy Wittich*

David Meiners

10/26 *Eleanor Ackerman*

10/11 *Martin & Katie Golzk*

10/9 *Jeffrey St. John*

Brenda Zerby

10/10 *Sue Duebber*

10/27 *Nancy Phillips*

Michael Smith

10/29 *Larry Morgan*

Stewardship Update

The Stewardship & Finance committee is aware of the importance of keeping the congregation informed of our stewardship health. Each of us on the committee would like to extend our thanks for your faithful giving so far this year as well as your generous offering of your time and talent. This article marks the resumption of a monthly update in Crossbeams.

Our stewardship of time and talents has continued to be very strong this year. The SEND team has conducted two successful Hearts & Hammers projects providing assistance to Cheviot residents. The INVITE team members have devoted many hours to update the look and feel of our facilities. The Trustees and various members have diligently maintained the building and flower gardens. The Crafters group has been faithfully supporting the Congregational Care team with various projects used to send messages of love and caring to those who are unable to attend. And there are many others who participate in the music programs, in the Prince of Peace breakfasts, Matthew 25, and Red Bird Mission trips.

Our stewardship of mission support has also been strong. Our congregation donated a truckload of furniture, clothing, and appliances to Red Bird Mission. We continue to faithfully support the Westfed Food Pantry with our food and monetary donations. Our congregation donated 79 school kits and 46 health kits for the Festival of Sharing project. We have contributed an average of \$560 to the monthly mission offerings that go to local, regional, and worldwide charitable support organizations.

Our stewardship of fiscal support for our church's ministries, mission projects, and staff through August 31 this year is summarized below.

Weekly Tithes & Offerings goal:	\$6,525.00	Actual average per week:	\$6,022.00
Missions support total:	\$10,093.00	Monthly mission offerings:	\$4,466.00

Our Operating Budget for 2019 totals \$339,295.00. Tithes & Offerings received through August totaled \$204,737, which is 90.5% of our projected income and budgeted expenses through August. Our expenses through August totaled approximately \$225,000 or 99.0% of our projected operating expenses. Expenses were \$20,000 more than giving at the end of August.

The average Sunday morning total worship attendance through August was 134. Let's continue to encourage formerly active members and friends to return as well as renewing our efforts to invite others to join us and make disciples for Christ.

We have seen God do great things through our congregation when we collectively maintain our resolve to fulfill our stewardship goals for time, talents, and financial support. Again, thank you for all that you do to serve God's Kingdom through your regular giving, enabling CUMC to remain healthy, vibrant, and able to plan exciting ministry and mission opportunities for 2019 and beyond.

CUMC Financial Management Update

Greetings from the CUMC Stewardship & Finance Committee. This article was prompted by comments from a few members of the congregation, which led us to believe it was time to provide a brief review of how the Stewardship & Finance committee, with the support of the Investment committee, manages the financial assets of our congregation.

Finance Committee Role

The role of the Finance committee, as defined by the United Methodist Book of Discipline, is to develop, maintain, and administer a comprehensive coordinated plan for the fiscal management of our church. We would like to share with you how that work is being accomplished so that you are aware of the careful and strategic use of your financial investment in God's kingdom through Cheviot UMC

Your Church's Financial Resources

The financial resources of CUMC are spread among five different sources, each of which is discussed in more detail below. The sources are: 1) Tithes and offerings. 2.) Theiring Music endowment 3) Capital fund 4.) General Fund and 5) Designated giving.

The Theiring Music endowment, capital fund, and general fund are all investment accounts that are overseen by the Investment committee with counsel from Lincoln Financial Advisors. Our average rate of return on these investments has been 10.5% over the past 10 years.

Tithes and Offerings: Why Your Regular Giving Matters

Our Operating Budget, which allows us to do life-changing ministry and mission through our church, in our community, and beyond, is supported solely by the weekly donations of tithes & offerings and receipt of miscellaneous income (mainly facilities rental). The 2019 Operating Budget of \$339,295.00 provides funding for all our ministry programs, the trustees' operating budget, administrative contracted services, and staff expenses.

Theiring Music Endowment

The Theiring Music endowment provides the annual music budget funding for all of our music department needs except staff salaries. This investment fund was created by an endowment from the Theiring family. The endowment requires that the principle received be maintained and only growth and income can be used for music department funding.

The Capital Fund

The capital fund investment account was created from the sale of Mt. Airy assets following the merger with the Mt. Airy congregation in 2012. As defined by the United Methodist Book of Discipline these assets can only be used for major maintenance, upgrades, or additions to our physical facilities. They cannot be used for any other purpose. For those wondering how the upgrades to the Werner Lounge and Chapel were funded, it is the capital fund that has been used to pay for them. Anticipated upgrades to the fellowship hall are planned to be covered by the capital fund. Last year's parking lot repaving and drainage upgrade was paid for from the capital fund. There is no requirement to maintain original invested principle in this investment account. However, we have managed to fund several major maintenance projects and the current upgrades while retaining about 70% of the original invested funds.

The General Fund

The general fund investment account has been accumulated over many years from various unrestricted bequests donated to CUMC. For the past 10 years, this investment account has been used to pay our connectional giving to the Ohio River Valley District and the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist church. It has also been used to finance the yearly routine maintenance work needed to keep the church and parsonage fully functional. The overall cost of these two budgeted areas, averaging \$95,000 per year, has and continues to consume the annual growth and income from the general fund account equities.

Designated Giving

Lastly, designated giving (donations to CUMC that are made for uses specified by the donor) provides additional support for a number of our ministry programs. A Memorials committee oversees contributions received as memorials or honorariums and works with the Trustees and Finance committee to ensure these designated gifts are used for lasting enhancements or additions to our church facility. A generous designated gift was received recently for renovations to the interior courtyard. Designated giving also includes the monthly mission offerings.

If you have questions or are interested in more details about how CUMC's financial assets are managed, please contact Tom Kindervater, Stewardship & Finance Chairperson at trkind@roadrunner.com.

God's Plan—A New Heaven and A New Earth

God's original plan was the Garden of Eden. The Covenant relationship God intended for His children was that He was God and Adam and Eve were not. But Adam and Eve had a choice to make and they wanted to be their own "god" knowing right and wrong. The problem is they chose wrong and rebelled against God. Thus the whole earth has suffered from that day to this. All creation is groaning waiting to be redeemed from this curse.

God the Father's plan for His lost children, longing for them to "come back home to the Father's House" cost God the Son His life!! He paid the ransom, and opened up the way for lost, sinful children to come home. We can blame Adam and Eve for the mess we are in but think about it. They had a choice to make and we do too. We can choose this day to come back home. Jesus came and died to be our Savior and invites us to again allow God to be God, and not us! With faith in Christ and a willing heart we can sing, "I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back, no turning back".

Adam and Eve lost living in the presence of God, a personal relationship with God and life in a world of joy and peace and beauty and security. With Jesus as our personal Savior we can come back into a personal relationship with God right now and through His Holy Spirit live in God's presence! Because of the fallenness of Adam and Eve, we lost Eden! And the nature of this world is not good but evil. All creation, humans and the natural world is groaning, we long for Eden. God knows that the only way to create a New Heaven and a New Earth is to destroy the old one and create a new one. In Revelation 21:5 Jesus tells us "I am making all things new". Our only hope is God's redemptive mercy through Jesus Christ. It is only through God's amazing grace that His lost children can come home now and ultimately live in the Presence of God forever.

So what is God's final intent? The whole Bible, God's redemptive plan leads humanity back to Eden in an historical plan with a Nation, a sequence of steps, a series of rescues, a series of covenants and the final covenant with Jesus, the Father's only begotten Son coming to pay the ransom for God's lost children. Whoever comes to the Father through Jesus the Son and opens up their whole heart to Him is secure in the "Father's House" here and now spiritually and will be



living with God on the New Heaven and New Earth forever in a physical resurrected body just like Jesus' body when He rose from the dead!

God's original intent becomes God's final intent. This old world cannot be "fixed". Romans 8:22 tells us that not only are we humans groaning, longing to be totally redeemed but creation itself is groaning and the groanings are getting louder and louder!

God's "ultimate redemption" is coming where all of His redeemed children will live on a new redeemed Earth with Him.

You might want to read II Peter chapter 3. In verse 13 we read that God's children are looking forward to a New Heaven and a New Earth, which is the home of "righteousness".

If Heaven is where God is, and as it says in Revelation 21:1-5, that God will live with His children, then the New Heaven will come down and be on the New Earth. God will live with all those who have given their lives to Jesus. Here the curse is gone forever, no more sin, no more temptation to sin. No more death or pain or tears. All that the first Eden was and lots more will be on the New Earth! God will not

be defeated. His plan will ultimately come full circle. Right now we live in the "not yet" but right now to all those who have invited Jesus to be their personal Savior, the Kingdom of God lives in us. God's Holy Spirit lives in our spirit and we live and walk and talk with our God here and now.

My friends, we live in this story, in the history of God's redemptive plan. We Christians are the temple that Jesus lives in on this earth.

We are the "church", given the charge to tell the world about God's redemptive plan as given to us through "His Word", through Jesus the Son and in the power of God's Spirit living within us.

The whole picture, the whole story speaks of a God who never gave up on His creation and a Heavenly Father Who sent His one and only Son to pay for our sins and open the Way to bring us back Home.

Yes, in Adam all die, but in Christ Jesus all who come to Him will be made alive. I Corinthians 15:22

This is "the rest of the story". It takes us from the beginning to the end or maybe to the true "new beginning"! And we can choose to be a part of God's great redemptive plan!! What a Savior!!!



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9:10 a.m.

Traditional Worship—Sanctuary

10:20 a.m.

Sunday School (All Ages)

11:15 a.m.

Contemporary Worship—Fellowship Hall

Our vision is to connect and serve all people so that lives are transformed and empowered through the love of Christ.