

Cheviot United Methodist Church

Connecting and serving all people so that lives are transformed and empowered through the love of Christ

“Practice Matters”

There was a time in my life when I spent about 6 hours a day practicing golf. I had heard that the one thing that separated professional golfers from amateurs is how seriously they took practice. “If you want to be a great golfer, you have to approach practice in the same way that you approach your job”, said one of my instructors. Show up on time. Put everything you have into it. And know why you are practicing what you are practicing. It’s not just about mindlessly beating balls all day. You have to practice with a goal in mind. The old adage. “practice makes perfect” wasn’t enough. The real truth was “perfect practice makes perfect.” In short, I learned that if you wanted to be good at something, practice mattered. But how you practiced mattered even more.

Years have gone by since those 6 hours a day practice session and I am very grateful for that! I’m not sure that my back could take it anymore. But, since entering ministry, I have learned an amazing truth: When it comes to growing in our relationship with Christ, practice matters there too. In the fifth chapter of the book of Hebrews, the writer is laying it out for the church. He says, “by this time you ought to be teachers, but you need somebody to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. Anyone who lives on milk is still an infant and is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, *who by constant practice*, has trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. Apparently, because the church had stopped practicing one basic practice of the Christian faith, they

were no longer behaving as mature believers. In fact, it says that they weren’t even trying to understand.

In his book, *The Spirit of Disciplines*, Dallas Willard introduces an important principle: “Spiritual practices are the exercises that, engaged with the Spirit, we slowly move a truth of God’s Word from our head to our heart.” Recent research reveals that the number one Christian practice that catalyzes spiritual growth is Bible engagement, with no close second.

In the same way that I would never have become a great or even good golfer without practice, we cannot expect to become heart-centered, mature Christians without regularly reading God’s Word. This is where we can begin this year in growing up in our faith. Be looking in the coming months for new and different opportunities to engage with the spiritual practice of Bible reading. As with every spiritual practice, it’s more fun when we do it together.

See you in church!

Pastor Carne



This Month in Cheviot UMC History

The congregation actually began as a mission Sunday School. The Rev. J.G. Leuchauser, pastor of the Second United Brethren Church of Cincinnati, on Torrence Road, was motivated to start a mission Sunday School in the Cheviot community. A location was secured at the Junior Order Hall at the corner of Harrison and Lovell Avenues, where the Cheviot Municipal Building now stands. On June 6, 1909, the Sunday School began. It continued to be operated by members of the Second U.B. Church for several months, but the work became too heavy for the church to carry alone. The mission was turned over to the Miami Conference. Miss Mary S. Geeting, a deaconess from the M.E. Missionary Training School in Cincinnati was appointed to take charge. Although the Sunday School was in operation, a church had not yet been organized.



The Sunday School When Meeting in the Junior Order Hall

Westfed Food Pantry

Canned peas, cereal, 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.

Thank You

My heartfelt thank you for your cards, calls and especially your prayers for a successful hip revision surgery. Although all went better than anticipated, I was truly comforted by your love and encouragement during recovery and feel blessed to be part of such a caring church family.

Sue Duebber

Thank You

Thank you for the many cards you have sent to me over the years. I turned 99 years old on May 22nd.

Love,
Esther Hasselbeck

Thinking Ahead

Wondering what the easiest way is to leave money to Cheviot UMC at your passing?

Naming the church as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy is easy. It can be a wonderful way to remember the church.

A call to your insurance company for a change of beneficiary form will start the process.

You should always check with your attorney or financial advisor to see how this will fit with your overall estate and tax plan.

See Tom Kindervater if you have questions. trkind@roadrunner.com

Looking for the calendar? In order to accommodate more articles the calendar has been removed from this newsletter and can be found online, www.cheviotumc.com/events and a hard copy of the calendar is on the copy room door in the hallway next to the lounge. Thank you for understanding!

June– Monthly Mission Offering

This month's mission offering will go towards the Parish Fund. Everyone experiences times in their life when they need help to get through a challenging situation. In scripture, we are told that everyone should carry their own load, but it also says that we should bear one another's burdens. A burden is a challenge that comes into our life that cannot be carried alone. We are blessed to have the parish fund to be able to assist people for those times in their life--whether it is to assist with a utility bill, a car repair, or a medical need. Your special mission offering will make it possible for people to overcome the unexpected hurdles that life often puts in their path. Thank you for helping our church to bear one another's burdens in times of need.

Vacation Bible School

June 19- 6:30 PM– 8:45 PM Wednesday

June 20- 6:30 PM– 8:45 PM Thursday

June 21- 6:30 PM– 8:00 PM (Family Celebration featuring Mr. Cowpie!) Friday

Saddle up for a trailblazing shorten week of fun! Kids'll kick up their heels at Yee-Haw VBS as they stampede through the wild frontier and celebrate God's greatest gift of all—Jesus!

Registration is open on our website for participants and volunteers!

Participants can also register in person the day of. Thank you to everyone who has already signed-up! This program wouldn't be possible without our amazing volunteers. VBS is something that is meaningful and memorable to all of the kids!

Questions? Contact Co-Directors Megan Wittich megan.wittich@gmail.com, Missy Wittich moots68@gmail.com, or Katie Golek golekk@gmail.com.



REVEAL for Church Survey Complete – Now What?

The GROW team extends a big THANK YOU to everyone who took the Spiritual Growth Survey. There were eighty-three surveys completed which represents 67% of our 2019 year-to-date average Sunday morning worship attendance and should provide a clear picture of our congregation's collective spiritual growth.

At the time this article was written, the GROW team is awaiting a conference call that will take place in the latter part of May with REVEAL for Church resources to go over the survey results. The conference call is intended to provide insight into the results that will enhance the team's understanding and guidance for taking steps to plan spiritual growth pathway opportunities for members who want to grow their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Digesting the survey results and developing a spiritual growth pathway will be a process as will the journey to a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. The GROW team will be providing additional updates and information over the next several months.



Women's Ministries

Let's Do Dinner

All women are invited to come together for what is a new monthly fellowship time. We will be meeting in an area restaurant the 2nd Thursday of the month for good conversation and fellowship. This is a great way to introduce a friend to your friends at Cheviot UMC. Not all are comfortable walking in "the front door" for the first time. So this is an opportunity to introduce them to the church in an easy casual way. This month's dinner will be at the Cabana on Thursday, June 13th at 6:00PM. Sign up on the count me in page in the bulletin or call the church office. Reservations are not necessary but a good approximate number attending would be helpful. We hope we can count you in!

Save the Date

Sara Circle and the Connect Team are sponsoring a timely program on July 28th at 7:00PM. Municipal Court Judge Heather Russell will be with us for a program on Human Trafficking and the new Hamilton County Change Court.

We read about it in the news but do we really understand what Human Trafficking is? Who is at risk? What is the new Change Court and how is it trying to impact and change the lives of women?

This will be a program of interest to all ages. Invite your friends, bring your children or grandchildren before they start to school or college. This is being scheduled at this time so that young adults can attend before they head to college.



Ladies having fun and sharing in fellowship at the May, Let's Do Dinner at Christine's Restaurant

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 CHAPEL (new location) at 8:00 AM and finish around 9:15 AM (enter doors by the playground.)

Here are the future dates and readings we will be discussing (please feel free to begin joining us anytime!)

June 1	Isaiah 1-30
June 15	Isaiah 31-51
June 29	Isaiah 52-66; 1 Peter 1-5; 2 Peter 1-3
July 13	Jeremiah 1-21
July 27	Jeremiah 22-39



June BIRTHDAYS



6/1 Dave Hauser
Melanie McGill
6/4 Kelly Kremer
Chris Schumacher
6/6 Marcia Lucas
Karen Meiners
Ben Wessel
6/7 Nancy Hucke
Megan Wittich
6/8 Paula Long
6/9 Theresa Black
Sallie Krieg
Jim Scheibling
6/13 Allan Cox
6/14 Kim Green
Nathan Kremer

6/16 Kathy Haskins-Benn
Kathleen Grosse
Jayne Lash
6/18 Julie Struckman
6/19 Alan Trueblood
Cheryl Wilde
6/20 Johnathon Vanover
6/21 Ruth Simmons
Marion Smith
6/22 John Hartley
6/24 Alexandra Lawson
Arlene Meyer
6/25 Morgan Woodward
6/27 Ferd Lohman
Walt Long



6/2 Mark & Lori Roush
6/5 Eric & Wendy Bruestle
6/10 Matt & Cindy Bruestle
6/11 Chris & Linda Schumacher
6/17 Mark & Lauren Phair
Charlie & MaryAnn Sparenberg
6/19 Tom & Marilyn Pepple
6/20 John Hartley & Lois Schalk-Hartley
6/25 Don & Pat Francis
Sam & Jewel Roberts
6/26 Phil & Anita Beason
6/27 Terry & Pann Webb
6/29 Chip & Peggy Cummings
Jim & Barb Scheibling

Beth Moore at BB&T Arena

One of our favorite Bible study leaders is coming back to Cincinnati. Beth Moore will be at BB&T Arena at Northern Kentucky University August 23rd & 24th. Tickets are \$59. for groups of 10 or more and include sessions Friday evening and Saturday.

Please contact the church office if you're interested in going. Feel free to invite friends, family and coworkers. Carpooling will be available. We'd like to order the tickets ASAP as they sell out quickly. Any questions can be directed toward Mary Painter-Romanello- (513) 941-6636.



Celebration of Music and Mission

Good music, good food, new friends, and a celebration of Mission-- That is what we have in store for everyone who attends the "Celebration of Music and Mission" event on Sunday, July 7th at 10:00 AM in the main sanctuary. Our friends, "My Brother's Keeper" who have just released a new album on May 1st will be our featured musical guest. My Brother's Keeper is a Cincinnati based Bluegrass/Folk band with a contemporary sound, energetic live shows and creative musicianship. This event is free and open to the community. "My Brother's Keeper" will be performing at 10:00 AM in the main sanctuary followed by lunch and a celebration of mission. Join us and bring your friends for this great event!

Please Pray

The youth group will be heading to Blue Knob, PA June 23rd-28th near the town of Altoona and the surrounding areas in the Alleghenies Mountains. Mission trips allow youth to serve families and ministries in need through hands-on projects. These projects include painting, home repair, roofing and building wheelchair ramps and showing the love of Christ throughout an area in need. Check out the Cheviot UMC Facebook page for updates from the youth during their trip.

What a Miracle!

by Lois Schalk-Hartley

There is an old Gospel Song I love.
The title of the song is, "It Took A Miracle."
It goes something like this:

*The Bible tells us of God's love
And wisdom all way through
And every little bird and flower
Are testimony too.*

*It took a miracle to put the stars in place
It took a miracle to hang the world in space
But when He saved my soul,
cleansed and made me whole
It took a miracle of love and
grace.*

In a past sermon I shared a message on Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit. God loves us so much that He came to this earth in a flesh and blood body. He came to reconcile us back to Himself and re-create us back into the image of Christ. All of this sounds so impossible and we wonder how it can happen. That is where the Holy Spirit comes in.

I shared about that twelve year old boy who was converted. His friends questioned him about it. Did he see a vision, did he hear God speak to him? "No," the young boy said. His friends then wanted to know how he knew he was born again.

The young boy said, "It's like when you catch a fish, you can't see the fish or hear the fish, you just feel it tugging on your line. Just like the little boy, I felt God tugging on my

line (heart) and I said yes to Jesus and gave Him my whole heart."

Have you have felt God tugging at your heart. That is the beginning of God's being the "hound of Heaven" and drawing you to Himself. That is God's Holy Spirit at work in you.

He is knocking at your heart's door and asking to come in. But there is no doorknob on the outside of the door. You have to open the door of your heart to God and invite Him to come in.

When you truly want Him to come and live in you, He will!!

That is when God awakens your spirit and literally

comes and lives in you, and reconciles you back into relationship with Him. You are then born from above. It is a "spiritual birth," you are born again.

As the scriptures say, "When someone becomes a Christian they become a new creation, old things are passed away, behold all things are becoming new." II Corinthians 5:17

It is God's desire to recreate us into the image of Jesus.

A friend of mine was doing some work for me and he brought his daughter to help. As he was working his daughter was standing in the yard and I got a good profile of her. I was



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amazed how much she looked like her father! As I shared, the song, “She Has Her Father’s Eyes” came to me.

We were created to be in the family of God, but we rebelled and went our own way. We lost the image of God in us. But the Father sent His Son Who then sent His Holy Spirit to come to this earth and live in us, awakening our spirits to know God and begin the journey of being recreated into the image of Jesus Christ.

But how does this work in our day to day lives. I also shared with you how it is not easy day by day because the flesh nature in us and God’s spirit pull us one way or the other.

Nancy Missler, a great Bible teacher now home with the Lord helped me. She said that “our will” is the passageway for God’s life to flow out into our lives. In each situation in our day to day lives we have a choice.

We can either make an emotional choice and be carried away by our uncontrolled feelings, negative thoughts, and self-centered desires or make a faith choice, a God-choice free of those feelings. We follow what we believe God has prompted us to do and rely on His strength to perform His will in us.

Since our emotions and feelings are so strong, choosing to make a faith choice can be extremely difficult. Faith choices free us from the devil’s lies and unleashes all of God’s power through His Holy Spirit to come to our aid.

I have to choose many times a day and every day to go God’s way. God is ALWAYS there

for us when we turn things over to Him. United Methodists call this sanctification and it is a day by day process of letting God, through His Holy Spirit, live in and through us.

God is the only one Who is righteous, but when we turn our wills over to Him we live in “practical righteousness” and the process of the “image of Christ” is being formed in us.

This is what God wants for His children and it is only possible when:

- ◆ The Holy Spirit comes to live in us
- ◆ We live out this life as we open our hearts to God by choosing His will.
- ◆ Our will then opens up our minds to be renewed and becomes the conduit for God’s Spirit to flow out from our hearts into our daily lives.

This is the greatest miracle of all! God created us and now through Jesus He offers us His grace to forgive our sins because He died in our place on that cross. Then Jesus sent His Holy Spirit to come and live in us. Thus, this bring us back into a relationship with God and back into the “image of God” that was lost in the garden of Eden.

It takes a daily miracle for this to take place but praise God, with God all things are possible!!

WHAT A MIRACLE!



Cheviot United Methodist Church
3820 Westwood Northern Blvd.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45211-2597
(513) 662-2048
www.cheviotumc.com

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Cheviot United Methodist Church Contact Info

Carrie Jena, Pastor pastorcarrie123@gmail.com
Lois Schalk-Hartley, Assoc. Pastor awriter@fuse.net
Church Office/Prayer Requests office@cheviotumc.com
Katie Golek & Ashley Rhodes, Youth Ministry
..... youth@cheviotumc.com
Juanita Woodburn, Flower Orders .. flowers@cheviotumc.com
Carol Gangwer, Choir cgangwer@fuse.net
Marcia Lucas, Bells mslucas@zoomtown.com
Anne Schummer, Children/Youth Choir/Bells piano@fuse.net
Lynn Krebs, Facilities lynn@cheviotumc.com
Katie Golek, Promotions ... communications@cheviotumc.com



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.