



Crossbeams

October 2020

A Cheviot United Methodist Church Newsletter

A Church Alive

I am excited about Cheviot United Methodist Church. I hope that you are, too. Because when I think of all that has happened over these past 6 months (even in the midst of a pandemic), I am overjoyed. Whether it is our outreach in the community, our food drives, community prayer walks, Bible studies, welcoming new members, or the many stories of life change that we have been part of, the only word that describes Cheviot United Methodist Church is the word, "Alive". As we move into 2021, I firmly believe that the Spirit is with us and that the future is unlimited.

Earlier this month, I came across a helpful article that outlined the 6 practices of a healthy and vibrant church; A church that I would call "Alive". I was encouraged to see many of practices already happening at Cheviot United Methodist Church. See if you recognize our church in any of these practices.

Here are 6 things that "Alive" Churches do:

- 1.) **They listen to the right things.** They listen to the Word of God in Scriptures. They listen to the needs of their neighbors in their communities. They listen to each other in their planning and their visioning.
- 2.) **They pay attention to the right numbers.** Rather than focusing on bodies, buildings, and budgets, they focus on the numbers of people that they have reached for Christ, the number of people whose lives have been transformed, and the number of people who are growing in their relationship with Jesus. They know that when they focus on those numbers, the numbers that represent bodies, buildings, and budgets will take care of themselves.
- 3.) **They work to accomplish God's mission rather than working only for self-preservation.** God's goal is to heal the world, to grow his kingdom and to restore what was lost. An "Alive" church keeps God's mission front and center. When they do, they don't have to worry about self-preservation.

4.) **They have a vibrant ministry of the laity.** "Alive" churches know that each person's work is the way that God chooses to heal the world. They help every member of their church discover their spiritual gifts and their unique calling to serve God in the church and in the world.

5.) **They make "Shalom" a priority.** "Alive" churches are working to maintain peace in every relationship. They seek peace between God, others, and themselves. They work to resolve conflict quickly and completely. They strive for unity of the Spirit amidst the diversity of their church.

6.) **They prioritize spiritual formation.** "Alive" Churches give their members tools to deepen their relationship with Christ. They help their members grow in an intimate, personal relationship with Jesus.

As you read this, we are in the midst of planning for our 2021 Stewardship campaign. Our strategy is to Grow High, Grow Wide, and Grow Deep. With all that we have accomplished in 2020, there is even more to be excited about in 2021. We have come a long way, but there is more work ahead. Be watching your mailbox, your all-church email, our website, Facebook and social media for ways that, with your financial support and service, we will impact our community, expand our reach with children, youth, young adults and their families, and grow deeper in our relationship with Jesus-- the One who makes it all possible.

See you in church or on screen!

Pastor Carne





We are sorry to announce that we will not be able to have the Lydia Circle meeting featuring Andrea from the BLOC Ministries in September as we had planned.

We pray that you are all doing well and hope to cross your path in the Fall.

We understand your concerns about meetings and the Covid-19 pandemic.

I will personally try to call each member of the Lydia Circle in the next few weeks to make some decisions about meetings and our current financial situation to maybe allow some donations from our funds.

God is with you always --- we will see each other soon. *Linda Schumacher*

October

Birthdays to Celebrate

- 04-Oct** Ashleigh Budge
- 05-Oct** Joan Schlensker
- 07-Oct** Michael Romanello
- 08-Oct** Gary Krebs & David Meiners
- 09-Oct** Jeffrey St. John
- 10-Oct** Sue Duebber & Michael Smith
- 11-Oct** Renee Leimbach
- 13-Oct** Hailey Brice
- 15-Oct** Glen Lash
- 16-Oct** Linda Kimble
- 20-Oct** Phyllis Jenkins
- 26-Oct** Eleanor Ackermann & Brenda Zerby
- 27-Oct** Nancy Phillips
- 29-Oct** Larry Morgan
- 30-Oct** Annette Nose

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus in you." I Thessalonians 5:16-17

If you look at the scripture and all instances that Jesus used prayer in his life a person can sum it up in nine ways:

- Jesus believed that prayer works.
- Jesus prayed alone.
- Jesus prayed in community.
- Jesus prayed before meals.
- Jesus offered Thanks.
- Jesus prayed before making important decisions.
- Jesus prayed for his disciples.
- Jesus continues to pray for us.

HOW DO YOU PRAY?

October

Anniversaries to Celebrate

- 01-Oct** Josh & Amanda Thomas
- 02-Oct** Jim & Cheryl Wilde
- 05-Oct** Jeff & Missy Wittich
- 11-Oct** Martin & Katie Golek

Dear Friends,

It is the blessings from all of you that are holding me up. Those blessings are from God. Thank you for your cards and prayers. You are all like a beacon on a hill shining and making the world bright and cheerful just as God has intended for each of us.

Thank you

With love and hope,
Chuck Cummings



**Cheviot School
United Methodist Church
Food Ministry**

Thank you to all who have volunteered to work the United Methodist Church Food Distribution this past September.

We had 11 members volunteer to help! This is a great way for our church to be out in our community.

We would like to build a list of people to call in the event someone is unable to be there. There hasn't been much time to recruit, so a list would be great to have when a request is received.

If you would like to be on the list of volunteers, please call or text Mary Ann Jacobs at 513.604.5821 or e-mail: majacobs@ritter-randolph.com

Thank you!!

I had been thinking a lot about the verse in Hebrews 11:1 that says in the King James Version that "Faith is the Substance of things hoped for". That word "substance" caught my attention big time. One morning as I made John his toast for breakfast I had run out of the "good" bread. I bought a loaf of lesser quality bread and took it up that morning. As we ate, I mentioned the fact to John that the bread he was eating that day was not the "good" bread. It had lesser substance than the "good" bread. It did not have a lot of nutrition in it. The bread I usually buy is 100% Whole Wheat with natural ingredients and even bits of wheat grain in it. It is rich in nutrients and fiber. So, then we talked about the "substance" of the breads and I shared with him that I had been thinking about our faith and substance.



We then began to try to define the word "substance". John said that it can mean the ingredients. I mentioned that it is the glue that holds something together. As I looked further for the definition of the word, I found some interesting definitions. Here are a few:

- * the quality of being important, valid, significance
- * solidity, firmness, something not imaginary
- * an immaterial yet real and solid

In faith, substance is that which stands under, the foundation of what we believe. It is the glue that holds us together spiritually. What are some of the things that determine how big or how small our faith is? How **BIG** is our God? Human reasoning can get in the way of our faith. When we rely a lot on human reasoning our faith is not solid. Yes, human reasoning has its place but not in matters of faith. Human reasoning does not have the capacity to tell us that Jesus was born of a virgin, but faith knows He was. Human reasoning cannot prove that Jesus, God the Son, became a man and died on the cross for our sins. But faith can. Human reasoning cannot tell us that in three days Jesus rose from the dead. But faith can. The question here is, what kind of substance does our faith have in our lives? Our faith is small when we rely on human reasoning for our understanding of God. As believers, we enter a world that rises above human reasoning. Another thing that makes our God small is when we depend on ourselves to make it in life. When our God is small, everything depends on us. We are governed by our circumstances and feelings and emotions. Faith in a Big God rises above what is

happening to us to God's greater plan that has an Eternal perspective. This is not easy and in this area we all need to grow in our faith. In the New Testament there are a lot of verses about faith. Matthew 7:20 says that even a grain of mustard seed of faith can be strong. Romans 1:17 says that the just shall live by faith. II Corinthians 5:7 says that we walk by faith and not by sight. Hebrews 10:23 says that we are to hold fast to our faith, not wavering.

Jesus asked the question, "Will there be any faith when I return?"

The substance of our faith must become stronger and stronger in the days in which we live.

Without a strong faith we will really struggle. I know because I too struggle as you do. Now let's look at what ingredients we need as the substance of a strong faith by which to live in these days.

What are the ingredients in this substance?

* A.W. Tozer in his book, "Faith beyond Reason" says that as Christians we need to put our faith in the "Character of God". When I take the time to look at God's world and marvel at His handiwork, my faith grows stronger. What a mighty God we serve! We need to meditate on God's attributes, His character. God is faithful, holy, just, unchanging, merciful, loving and the list goes on and on. Meditate on God and Who He is.

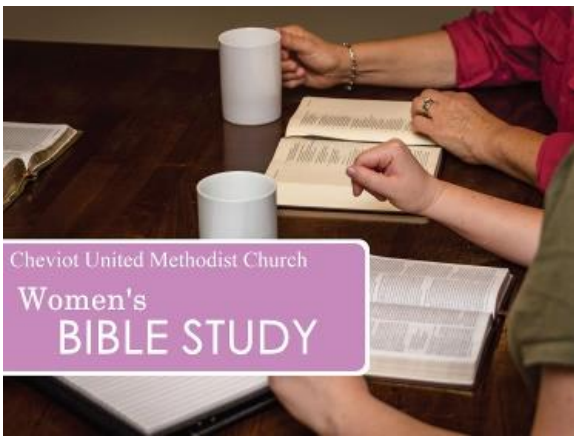
* Worship God. If our God is too small, we cannot truly worship Him. We need to open our hearts and let His Spirit lead us in true worship.

* Read God's Word, Romans tells us that faith comes by hearing (and reading) the Word of God.

* Sing and listen to the songs/hymns of faith. As I sing the hymns of faith and John listens, I am drawn into God's truth in the words. I have found an old hymn "My Faith has Found a Resting Place" and oh, how it speaks to me.

"My faith has found a resting place, not in device or creed. It is enough that Jesus died and that He died for me. I need no other argument; I need no other plea. It is enough that Jesus died and that He died for me"! The substance of our faith as it grows stronger and stronger in the Lord becomes the "anchor of our soul". We will then be able to stand strong in these days in which we live.

I need to grow in my faith, *do you?*



Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study

The Bible Study, open to all women, Is Entitled
Here We Go Again...Reading the Bible in a Year...or Two.

We currently meet every 1st and 4th Thursday, 7pm to 8:30pm via ZOOM. *Should this change, an all church e-mail will be sent out with revised meeting location and other information*

We are using the book *A Women's Guide to Reading the Bible in a Year* by Diane Stortz. We will not finish in one year (more like two years), but the wonderful thing about the Bible is that you can always join in at any time.

New members are always welcome to join us.

Here are the readings for October:

October 1, 2020 Week 14
 Psalms 6-37

October 22 Week 15:
 Psalms 38-41; Acts 1-18

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

PRAYER MEETING OCTOBER 18 @ 7pm

God has been working in our church. Cheviot UMC has been a benefactor of answered prayers. Multiple projects within our community have begun or grown. Change Court, Food Pantry collection, Hearts and Hammers, neighborhood prayer walks, helping with lunch distribution to children at Cheviot School are just some of the ministries. Outside our community we have ministered to Red Bird Mission and Elizabeth UMC and their congregation. These programs are thriving and it all began with prayer.

Within our own congregation prayer has been lifted to God for help and ideas on how to reach our congregation since we are limited to meeting because of Covid. For example, we did not have a group for moving us forward in the technology area. We have been asking God for his help in putting this together and now it is amazing how we are reaching others through this new ministry. Pastor Carrie gets very excited, as we all should, when she discusses how God has been present in our midst.

Let's keep the Spirit moving! The next virtual prayer meeting will be October 18 at 7pm. This will be online. It is informal; you may actively participate or just sit back and silently pray with us. Join us to hear how God has been answering the church prayers as well as individual prayers.

See you on the 18th!

Saturday Morning Women's Bible Study

- ◆ All woman are welcome to join the Saturday Morning Woman's Bible Study. *Invite friends & relatives, too !!*
- ◆ **As of September 26, we have resumed meeting every other Saturday, using the ZOOM app.**
- ◆ We begin at 8am and finish around 9:15am

Our Next Readings from
**The Joshua Code:
 52 Scripture Verses
 Every Believer Should Know**
 by O. S. Hawkins are:

October 10 1 Corinthians 10:31
 & 1 Samuel 16:7

October 24 Luke 22:42
 & Ephesians 1:7

Questions? Contact--
 Vicki Groh: vgroh@zoomtown.com
 or
 Pam Outt: peoutt@cinci.rr.com

Feel free to begin joining us at any time.

The GOOD Book Club of the Month!

Our October reading selection is *Fear of the Unknown: No Fear in Love* written by Methodist pastor William H. Willimon -- a book the Methodist Conference has encouraged congregations to read.

We will take a holiday break for November and December.

Join us, 7pm, for what is always a lively discussion!
 NOTE NEW TIME: 7pm

We will announce each month whether we will be together via Zoom or in person.

Questions?

Contact:
 Vicki Groh
vgroh@zoomtown.com

or

Mary Ann Jacobs
majacobs@ritter-randolph.com

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study is currently meeting via ZOOM Saturday's at 8am.

E-mail Mark Woodward:
markwoodward082@gmail.com
 for the link.

The Children and Youth Ministry Team invites you to put together a shoebox *for children all around the world.*

There are **3 ways** to participate in Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry this year:

- You can purchase a shoebox online: operationchristmaschild.com, select the **Build A Shoebox Online** link, and fill it with items of your choice.



- You can get a shoebox, fill it up with the suggested items from the Operation Christmas Child website, enclose a \$9 donation for shipping, and drop your box off at church on Saturday, October 24, between 10am & 12pm.
- You can purchase whatever items you would like [suggestions are on the Operation Christmas website] and drop the items off Saturday, October 24, between 10am & 12pm.



Festival Of Sharing Update

We had a very successful kit drive in August, completing 96 school kits and 57 health kits. Unfortunately, before our depot pickup date, the Church World Service Festival Of Sharing Committee halted collections due to the corona virus. Our kits are in storage until a new date is set, possibly in the Spring. Rather than create more kits for storage, the Missions Committee voted to use \$150 in additional Festival Of Sharing donations to participate in the **Church World Service 3-for-1 Cleanup Bucket Challenge**.

For a limited time, each \$75 donation fills three 5-gallon emergency buckets with supplies instead of just one. In addition to cleaning supplies, buckets contain insect repellent, clothespins & clothesline, dust masks, trash bags, and gloves.

Church World Service shipped 2,000 buckets to areas impacted by hurricanes in August.

Sandwiches for Our Daily Bread

Many thanks to all who have embraced our new mission project for Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen & Social Center.

We have gone from twelve volunteer Sandwich Warriors in June, to twenty-two in August, and have made over 1,000 sandwiches in three months!!!

So many have expressed how rewarding, and how much fun it has been to make sandwiches for our friends at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen & Social Center.

Our next date will be Thursday, October 22 for those either making sandwiches at church, or dropping off already made sandwiches.

Each volunteer is asked to make either 20 PB&J sandwiches (white bread/smooth PB), or 20 turkey/ turkey bologna/ or beef bologna sandwiches, with American or Cheddar cheese; although some choose to make more.

Please contact Barb Scheibling at 513.941.7800, or jwscheibling@fuse.net if you would like to help. Please let her know what you will make, and where you will be making your sandwiches.

Blessings! Women's Ministry



Youth Group Kick-Off 2020

Youth Group began the 2020/2021 school year September 27--but participants are welcome anytime.

All students currently in grades 7th thru 12th are invited to attend.

We'll be meeting weekly, Sunday evenings, from 4pm to 5pm with Bible lessons and games.

We've worked hard to make Youth Group a safe and uplifting place for students to learn about Jesus and to build relationships with their peers.

If you know a youth,
please invite them to join us!

Contact Katie Golek or Ashley Rhodes:
Youth@CheviotUMC.com
for more information.



Sharing Our Blessings

Sharing our blessings with others is one form of expressing praise and thanksgiving to God for all that He provides us. In the midst of a COVID-19 driven changing lifestyle and expressions of civil unrest, Cheviot United Methodist Church continues to provide a message of faith in God, love for our neighbors, and hope for the future.

Beginning in May and continuing monthly, Women's Ministries have conducted very successful food drives that have benefited the Westfed Food Pantry and Elizabethtown UMC. Women's Ministries has also sponsored monthly sandwich making events for Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen and Social Center. CUMC has conducted a monthly neighborhood prayer walk, one in conjunction with members of Immanuel Lakewood Baptist Church, and offered a monthly prayer video conference.

Our church is successfully reaching out to our members and the community through weekly YouTube sermon videos that have drawn individuals to become new members of CUMC. Through August, these messages have been watched by an estimated average of 180+ individuals who are looking for good news in a time of great uncertainty. The Children's Ministry team continues to send packets of do-at-home activities to stay engaged with the children participating in JAM and Sunday School.

It is the steadfast commitment of our church family to support the ministry and mission of CUMC during the COVID-19 pandemic that has enabled our church to continue to provide ministries and retain staff. We give thanks to you and praise to God for your support. Our financial support and expenses through August are summarized below:

Monthly Tithes & Offerings goal per month: \$30,100.00

Average Tithes & Offerings per month: \$27,121.00

Total monthly mission offerings: \$4,217.75

Total designated giving for all Missions: \$10,151.75

Average expenses per month: \$27,538.00

Our financial support this year has been very similar to last year. This has enabled us to keep up with our expenses through the Summer and position us well for the end of the year. We are behind in reaching our tithes and offerings goal for 2020, but no more than usual at this point in the year. The Stewardship & Finance Committee has faith that our giving will rebound from the normal Summer slump and bring us closer to our giving goal by the end of the year.

We will be continuing our ministry and missions within the boundaries established by our need to be socially responsible. This includes maintaining and supporting our staff so that we are able to continue ministering to our congregation and are prepared to serve others when opportunities arise. It is through faith that we believe those who are able will continue to provide financial support for CUMC in this uncertain time.

Westfed Food Pantry Update

This October 24th, Cheviot United Methodist Church will have the opportunity to help support the Westfed Food Pantry, collecting items for holiday distribution.

We particularly need canned hams (12 oz. or 16 oz.) and muffin mixes (any boxed mix or pouch - corn muffins, blueberry muffins, etc.) to be used as part of the pantry's Thanksgiving meal distribution. Non-perishable items requested are cereal, peanut butter, jelly (plastic jars please), canned fruits, vegetables and meat, toilet paper, paper towels, and cleaning products. Pork and beans, toothpaste, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce (plastic cans or jars preferred) are always needed. An added bonus would be having the items placed into paper bags. The food pantry uses paper bags to distribute to families.



Look for separate information regarding this year's Operation Christmas Child program as we will also be collecting shoeboxes during the October Food drive.

Items may be left in the Westfed baskets outside Werner Lounge or brought to neighborhood food drives listed on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Westfed-Food-Pantry-683028575069765>

Monetary donations may be made through the church.
[checks made out to CUMC with memo: *Westfed*]



Dear CUMC Congregation,

A few months ago, as you may remember, before Coved 19 (seems like longer than that), Lynn Krebs decided to retire. Lynn has been our custodian and our building manager for over 28 years. I believe she started in March 1992. When Coved 19 started we really did not know what to do because our building was basically closed. We talked to Lynn and she agreed to stay with us a little longer. Lynn is a person that always has put the best interest of our church first. She has been a great person to work with and our church was always clean.

We have had applications for the custodian's position for some time and we decided it was time to interview people for the job. We interviewed three people for the position and all three were very nice people. The interview team was Pastor Carrie, Lynn Krebs and Charles Sparenberg. After some discussion, we chose to hire Lindsey Zech Bethel.

Lindsey's family has a long history with Cheviot United Methodist Church. If you are a long-time member you might remember the name Zech. They were members of our Scout Troop 201 in the 50's. I am sure Dick Becker will remember that name. I believe one of them was Lindsey's grandfather. Now I want to take you back to the 60's and 70's. We had a family named Hicks that were members of our church. Their mother's name is Sandy Hicks, now Sandy Heady. They had twin daughters named Terry and Jerry. I believe Terry and Jerry were seniors at West Hi or just out of high school when Jerry came down with cancer. I remember they went to another city and did a bone marrow transplant. The doctors thought it might work because Terry and Jerry were twins. But I am sorry to say it did not work and Jerry passed away. It was a very hard time for our church. Cathy Cummings Davis was good friends with the twins and remembers it well. Terry is Lindsey's mother.

Lindsey has been a preschool teacher at our CUMC Preschool for the last few years. She was looking for additional work and does not live too far away from our church. She is a college graduate, with a degree in Nutrition Science from the University of Cincinnati. She is very personable, motivated and disciplined person. Over the next few weeks, she will be working with Lynn and then Lynn will phase out and Lindsey will take over.

If you get a chance when you are around church and you see her, please take the time to say hello and welcome her to our church.



The Staff Parish Relations Committee,
Charlie Sparenberg



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www.cheviotumc.com

Address Service Requested

Cheviot United Methodist Church How to Reach Us

Pastor	Carrie Jena Pastor@cheviotumc.com
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Prayer Requests	office@cheviotumc.com
Youth Ministry	Katie Golek & Ashley Rhodes youth@cheviotumc.com
Contemporary Worship Leader	Greg Goodwin gpgoodwin7.gg@gmail.com
Flower Orders	Juanita Woodburn flowers@cheviotumc.com
Choir	Carol Gangwer cgangwer@fuse.net
Bells	Marcia Lucas mslucas@zoomtown.com
Children/Youth Choir/Bells	Anne Schummer piano@fuse.net
Custodian	Lindsey Bethel custodian@cheviotumc.com
Event Promotions	communications@cheviotumc.com

Worship with Us...

9:10am
Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

Bible Studies
See our website or call the office for
information and to learn how to join
our online studies during the week.

11:15am
Contemporary Worship
in the Fellowship Hall

...this October

www.cheviotumc.com

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