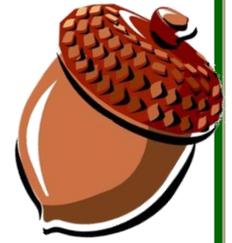


The Acorn

September 2022



Monthly publication of The Oak Chapel United Methodist Church
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New Ideas, New Energy for a New Church Year

We all know the old saying, “If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again!” It’s a familiar refrain for anyone who has come up short in an endeavor or failed to achieve an objective — and that includes just about all of us, including those of us in the church. The issue is not failing; the issue is not making another effort, or as we read in Scripture “to run the race and fight the good fight.”

In the fall of 2019, we tried to relaunch a youth group here at Oak Chapel. Our Trustees and Nomads constructed a fabulous room, now known as “The Gathering Grounds,” where youth (and any other group or organization) could hang out, play games, talk, and become better acquainted with the Word of God and building a relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

With J.J. Cline, Erica Boyer, and Jen Moser guiding the group, we set the wheels in motion, but just as we were gaining momentum, COVID 19 hit, and that brought our youth fellowship program to an abrupt halt.

Now, with COVID somewhat neutralized, we are ready to try again with a reboot of Youth 2.0. The time the effort will target a slightly younger demographic — middle school students in Grades 5-8 — before they become too busy with other activities. The theme for this year comes from I Timothy 4:12, which states, “Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.”

We are confident that we have great leadership and creative new ideas to engage and inspire young people, but we could use everyone’s help in the church. If you have a son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, great grandchild, neighbor, or anyone else in that age group who does not have a church or youth group affiliation, please encourage them to join us this fall.

The group plans to meet on Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Gathering Grounds beginning in mid-September. There are also plans for events, service projects, and a variety of other activities.

If you are interested in helping in any way, you would be most welcome to do so. In the meantime, we are asking the entire church to lift up, bless, and encourage this effort. The future of Oak Chapel depends on it.

Leaders and Servants Needed

We are also looking to rebuild our organizational structure here at Oak Chapel, and we could use your help in this area as well. Our goal is to strengthen our teams and breathe new life into our church, making it more active and vibrant. If you have an interest in any of the following areas, please let Pastor John know, and he will put you in a position where you can serve the church, serve the community, and most importantly serve the Lord.

- Christian Education: Oversees the establishment and operation of Sunday School classes as well as Bible Studies, Vacation Bible School, and other educational endeavors.
- Evangelism: Plans, organizes, and supports membership growth by reaching out into the community and creating a welcoming atmosphere at the church.
- Membership Care: Looks after the needs our members, particularly those who are not able to attend worship on a regular basis.
- Outreach: Engages in various projects and initiatives to bring the church to the community. This includes service and mission projects.
- Staff-Parish Relations: Serves as a liaison between the pastor and other staff members and the congregation to ensure a harmonious and productive relationship.
- Worship and Music: Helps to plan and organize moving and meaningful worship services, including speakers, programs, and musical performances.

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An Old-Fashioned Christmas

The Outreach Committee is hoping to organize an Old-Fashioned Christmas celebration for the church and the community in early December. Plans call for displays of classic toys and board games, vintage doll collections, and a series of miniature train displays. We are also looking into tree trimming and other festive holiday decorations as well as delicious Christmas cookies, cider, and other treats from years gone by. In addition, we are considering the sale of some hand-crafted toys and the possibility of a children's store where young people could buy inexpensive gifts for their parents and siblings so they can experience the joy of giving on Christmas morning. In order to make this happen, we will need a large volunteer group effort. If you are interested in the project, please contact Phyllis Weaver, who has graciously agreed to help coordinate the event.

Until we meet again, Be Blessed! – Pastor John



Our Daily Bread

Copies of *Our Daily Bread* devotional books are in the Narthex. Feel free to pick one up and place it on your nightstand so that you can easily access it when you wake up in the morning and before you go to bed in the evening.



Oak Chapel UWF has Layettes available for you to share with new mothers in our community. Pick one up in the room across from the office and sign the appropriate list, or contact Robin Kitchen if you would like help. Supply donations are also appreciated.

Feed My Sheep

Oak Chapel will continue to collect food on the first Sunday of each month as we come to the Lord's table. Food collected now will help support our in-house food pantry. Any surplus items will be shared with People to People Ministries.



Youth Group

For kids entering 5th Grade—8th Grade; exceptions can be made. Beginning **Sunday September 4 at 6:30 pm**. Theme scripture: 1 Timothy 4:12, 'Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.'" For more information, contact JJ Cline at 330.641.8067 or Pastor Finn at 330.988.2577.

Christian Ed Opportunity for Youth

Oak Chapel is moving forward with its efforts to provide a foundation in Christian Education for young people, beginning with a novel approach to Sunday School. Because the kids and their parents are so busy these days, we have established a new initiative that we are calling "20 at 10." The name is derived from the fact that we are gathering for 20 minutes at 10 a.m. on any Sunday when at least a few young people will be there. It's not a lot of time, but it is something, and we believe it will have value. Perhaps a better name might be "Sunday School Over Easy" or Sunday School Light." Whatever we wind up calling it, we thought it was essential to at least get something started.



The Monday morning Bible Study group will be taking the summer off and resuming in person in the fall. Please join us on Monday mornings at the church after the fair.

Seekers Adult Sunday School Class meets at 9:30 Sunday mornings. Leader is Bruce Bloch.

Thanks to everyone for the wonderful support of our food pantry! It is serving the community every single day! How exciting! As a reminder, we cannot accept anything that is not in tamper-resistant packaging. Nor can we take perishable foods. Please donate only shelf stable items. Thank You!



Acorn Submissions

The next issue is **October 2022**. The deadline is September 15.

Labor Day is an annual celebration of workers and their achievements and originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages. On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first Labor Day parade.

Retirees Breakfast—Tuesday September 6.
Join us at Buehler's Town Market at 8:30 am for great conversation. No agenda other than fellowship!



Moved to Tuesday this month. Art & Soul meets on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. This group meets to craft for about an hour. It is a good time to learn

something new and have a great time. This year we will focus on our Christmas Shoe Boxes and make items that will easily fit inside. We hope to see you **Tuesday**,

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

13 Tina and Bill Braucher

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12 JJ Cline

20 Bob Morris

24 Stuart Mykrantz



Wish your neighbor a Happy day!

This information comes from our membership database. Please contact the church office if there are any corrections or additions.

Faith in Five—A weekly five-minute spiritual journey in faith to help you get through your week. Download the *Spotify* app to your phone or computer (it's free!) and search 'Faith in Five.'



United Women in Faith

Canal District Fall Gathering of UWF is September 24 at Centenary UMC.

The Executive Team will meet September 26 at 11:00 am. Our annual Bazaar is right around the corner—October 22. Do you have a craft to share, a baking, cooking or sewing talent? Contact Phyllis Weaver for more information.

—Miriam Zech, UWF President

UNITED METHODIST MEN September 10 at Green Leaf Restaurant at 7:30 am. All men and boys are welcome. Mark your calendar for the 2nd Saturday of each month.

Bookworms—A group of friends that read the same book and come together for discussion. Join us on **Tuesday, September 20 at 7:00 pm**. As a group we will then decide on the best day for us to meet.

"One dress, One year" will be our first book. How can one girl change the world? It all began with a heart for justice and a little black dress. In 2012, sixteen-year-old Bethany Winz decided to make a difference. To raise awareness, she determined to wear the same black dress every day for a year to bring attention to the lack of choices slaves have. Her yearlong journey was one of hope, discipline, and sometimes disappointment. She celebrated some successes yet despaired at the depth of the problem. As she found her identity tied to the things she did, Bethany discovered that while she stood for freedom for others, she also struggled to find her own freedom in believing that she was loved just as she was. This moving book shows readers that their voices matter, they can make a difference, and sometimes the smallest gestures have lasting impact. Written by Susanna Foth Aughtmon and Bethany Winz.

Creation

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 Eve
 Fish
 Fruit

Garden
 Herbs
 Man
 Mist
 Moon
 Paradise
 Rest
 Rib
 Seeds
 Sky

Stars
 Sun
 Trees
 Woman

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Prayer Shawls—Our Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to make beautiful shawls for us to distribute to people we want to Bless. Anyone can pick up a shawl to give to another. While most of them go to those who could use some comfort and healing, we encourage everyone to think of a happy reason to celebrate as well.

Currently the shawls live in the closet in the Crib Room which is next to the Elevator on the main floor. Step 1. Choose a shawl to give. There are some gift bags if you want to use them. Step 2. Pick up a card from Oak Chapel to deliver with it. Step 3. (A VERY important step) Find the blue folder. Inside you will see the lists of those who have received shawls. Please add the recipient's name(s), date and your name. We want to make sure we do not miss anyone or accidentally duplicate someone. No reasons need to be added.

We are always looking for more people to make shawls too! We are used to seeing crocheted and knitted ones, but fleece and quilted ones are also an idea! Fleece should be hemmed but not fringed and knotted, as someone in a wheelchair or bed could get it tangled up. Lap robes are also a nice alternative to shawls.



WAYNE COUNTY FAIR
Ohio's Foremost Agricultural Fair
September 10 - 15, 2022

Good luck to all exhibitors including 4-Her's at the Wayne County Fair. Check out the fair schedule in the Daily Record or <https://waynecountyfairohio.com> and come out and support our community at the best County Fair!



You Say . . .

I can't figure it out.
 I'm too tired.
 It's impossible.
 Nobody loves me.
 I'm not smart enough.
 I'm not able.
 I can't go on.
 I can't do it.
 I can't manage.
 I'm afraid.
 I feel all alone.

God Says . . .

I will direct your steps.
 I will give you rest.
 All things are possible.
 I love you.
 I will give you wisdom.
 I am able.
 My grace is sufficient.
 You can do all things.
 I will supply all your needs.
 I have not given you fear.
 I will never leave you.

Bible Verses

Proverbs 3:5-6
 Matthew 11:28-30
 Luke 18:27
 John 3:16
 1 Corinthians 1:30
 2 Corinthians 9:8
 2 Corinthians 12:9
 Philippians 4:13
 Philippians 4:19
 2 Timothy 1:7
 Hebrews 13:5

September 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|-----|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 28 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship 11:30am - Yth SS | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship 6:30pm - Youth Group | 5 Labor Day 7:30pm - GS Leaders | 6 8:30am - Retirees' Brkfst 1pm - Days for Girls 7pm - Art & Soul | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Wayne County Fair 7:30am - UMM Brkfst |
| 11 Wayne County Fair 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship 11:30am - Yth SS | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Acorn Deadline | 16 | 17 |
| 18 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship | 19 9:30am - Bible Study 6:30pm - Trustees | 20 1pm - Days for Girls 6:30pm - Outreach 7:00pm—Bookworms | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 9:30am - District UWF |
| 25 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am - Worship 11:30am - Yth SS | 26 9:30am - Bible Study 11am - UMW Exec mtg 6pm - Prayer Shawl | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30  | 1 |



ACORN Newsletter
 Oak Chapel United Methodist Church
 4203 West Old Lincoln Way
 Wooster, OH 44691-3239
<http://www.oakchapelumc.com>



WE INVITE YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Sunday School | 9:30 a.m. |
| Worship | 10:30 a.m. |
| Young Adult SS | 11:30 a.m. |

Oak Chapel United Methodist Church

“Serving Christ and Community through Love, Compassion, Fellowship and Caring”

Rev. John Finn Pastor
 Sheri Finn Secretary
 Jen Moser..... Organist and Choir Director
 Miriam ZechCustodian
Church Phone 330-264-2537
 Pastor John’s Cell Phone.....330-988-2577

E-mail addresses:

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Visit our website: www.oakchapelumc.com

WE ARE ON FACEBOOK! CHECK US OUT!

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