

WORSHIP 10:00 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM

JULY 23, 2023

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

To parents of young children: Relax! God put the wiggles in children; don't feel you have to suppress those wiggles in God's house. Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to engage. Explain parts of the service and actions of the pastor, musicians, and leaders. Sing the songs, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn behavior by mimicking you. If you have to leave the Sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. You and your child are a blessing to the church and this congregation. After the Children's Moments, children are welcomed and encouraged to stay and be part of the service or if you choose they can attend God's Big House (Ages: K-5th Grade upstairs with Mr. Andrew and our volunteers) or the Nursery (Ages: New-born to Pre-K on the main level with Ms. Sarah and our volunteers). As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

*Congregation is invited to stand, if able.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***SONG OF PRAISE:** HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: GOD SCATTERS THE SEEDS OF RECONCILIATION AND LOVE, AND WAITS....

P: SO MUCH OF IT LANDS ON FLAT PATHWAYS OR ROCKY ROADS AND WON'T TAKE ROOT....

L: GOD SCATTERS THE SEEDS OF HEALING AND HOPE, AND WAITS....

P: SHALLOWNESS AND FEAR CLAIM THE SEEDS AND THEY CANNOT LIVE.

L: GOD SCATTERS THE SEEDS OF REDEMPTION AND PEACE, AND WAITS....

P: THESE ARE THE PLACES OF DEEP GROWTH WHERE THE SEED WILL CAST DOWN STRONG ROOTS.

L: WELCOME THIS DAY TO A SEED-SCATTERING STATION!

P: MAY OUR HEARTS BE THE RICH SOIL IN WHICH GOD'S LOVE TAKES ROOT. AMEN.

***OPENING PRAYER (IN UNISON) LED BY DALE MEADOWS:**

Lord, you know us so well. We thank you for your presence in our lives, even when we don't recognize it. This day we have gathered, coming from a week of unexpected happenings and events which have surprised us. Make us ready to become stronger witnesses for your love as we receive your word and find our spirits and lives healed. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM

CROSS ROADS UMC CHOIR

A TIME FOR CHILDREN WITH DIANE VARNUM

This, this is where children belong.
Welcomed as part of our worship and song.
Hearing God's Word, sharing love all along.
This is where children belong.

***A SONG OF PREPARATION: COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE UMH 694**

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43 (NRSV)

MESSAGE : THE WHEAT AND TARES

REV. JOHN MASSEY

A TIME OF PRAYER

A TIME OF GIVING

IN A WORLD THAT CALLS US TO SEEK FOR 'ME', WE STRUGGLE TO UNDERSTAND AND SEE THE ABUNDANCE AMONG 'US'. AS WE PREPARE TO GIVE OUR GIFTS THIS DAY, WE REFLECT ON THE PLACES OF ABUNDANCE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND PLEDGE TO CONTINUE CREATING THESE PLACES. PRICK OUR HEARTS FOR THE PLACES OF LACK AND NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY AND IN OUR WORLD, THAT WE MIGHT BE YOUR HANDS AND FEET TO THEM.

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***A SONG OF INVITATION: BRINGING IN THE SHEAVES**

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTIONAL SONG: THE BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you
Make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn His face toward you
and give you peace. Amen.

***BENEDICTIONAL PRAYER**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: We welcome our guest speaker, Rev. John Massey

God's Big House: Sundays at 10:00 am for Pre-K—5th grade

Adult Sunday School Class: meets after Church in the Conference Room. Join Debbie Wallin as she leads a video series titled *The Art of Neighboring*.

Prayer Breakfast: Join Pastor Dustin every Thursday at 8:30 am at Bob Evans in Kinetic Park

Meeting: Child Care Board-Sunday, July 30 immediately after church

Fall Fest: The United Women in Faith will host a Fall Fest in the gym of Cross Roads UMC on September 9, 2023, 10:00 am –2:00 pm. Crafters and Vendors wanted. Contact the church office for contract/information.

VBS: July 31– August 2, 6-8 pm

Thank you to our hosts/hostesses for Coffee on the Lawn:

Schedule: July 23: Sue Dostal, Josh Taylor, Sandy Blank

July 30: Pastor Dustin and Carrie

Aug. 6: Carol MacCourtney, BJ Childers, Julie Savage

Aug. 13: Betty Campbell, Tammy Holland, Emma Walters

If anyone would like to volunteer, please contact the church office.

Movie Night: July 28

Child Care Sunday/Church Picnic: August 27

OCC: Please be in prayer for Operation Christmas Child. Once again, we will participate in the shoebox program, and we plan to fill 108 boxes. If you would like to help, now is a great time to purchase school items that will fit in a shoebox. Crayons, markers, pencils, erasers, scissors, etc. are items that are on sale now. Thank you for your assistance. We cannot do this without YOU!

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Cross Roads United Methodist Church

"Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."



July 23, 2023

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