

Ohltown U.M.C.

We believe in making disciples for Jesus Christ for the
Transformation of the World.



August 2021

How many of you like change? I think many of us like to keep things the way they are because we have settled into a routine. We have had to deal with a great deal of change this past year and a half. And that changed produced even more. First, we had to stay apart, then we had to wear masks, many were vaccinated and we thought things were getting back to normal. This morning I read that schools will be making the decision very soon as to determine if students will be required to wear masks this year. Because of the many changes that occurred, many churches did not survive. I am fearful that if we have another round of isolation that many more churches will not survive. I am asking those individuals that have decided NOT to get vaccinated to please reconsider your decision. I know it is your decision, but your decision effects many other people.

Change is something that just happens. Scripture tells us: *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."* Philippians 4:6-7

We should not be nervous about change, but we should take those fears to God. I will confess that I have been taking A LOT of fears to God in recent weeks. Getting married, moving, selling my house, Beverly leaving as my administrative assistant and taking a leave as pianist. Having to hire a new person and find substitutes, and add to that charge conference paperwork...I have been bending God's ear a great deal. Have you been talking to God with more frequency as of late? I believe it is okay to feel a bit apprehensive about change, but not to fear it. God will lead you though the change and into a future that is exciting and brimming with possibilities. Who knows... maybe the change in your life will be one that will bring praise, honor, and glory to God. Maybe the change will draw you into a closer relationship with Jesus. Remember as you are facing new and exciting things God is with you. Your situation may change but God never does.

Pastor Teresa

The Bridge

Best of Luck Beverly

As I am sure you have all heard by now Beverly, the most amazing administrative assistant EVER, will be leaving this position to further her education and better her life. I have kidded around and told her I was mad at her but the truth is I couldn't be happier that she is doing something that will bring her financial wellbeing and independence. I would like to publicly thank her for all of the hard work and dedication she has given to our church. She will also be taking a little leave from her pianist position to concentrate on her studies. I hope you will all join with me and thanking her for a job well done and supporting her and her family with your prayers. Best of luck and congratulations Beverly!

~Pastor Teresa

Meet our new Administrative Assistant

After receiving many applications and going through the interview process the Staff Parish Relations Committee and Pastor Teresa would like to announce that they have hired Betty A. Harness to Ohltown UMC as our new administrative assistant. Betty comes to us from Niles. She will begin the training process on August 2. We are very fortunate that she is able to work with Beverly and learn the job before Beverly has to leave. So don't be surprised when you call the church office and there is a new voice on the other end of the line.

Thank you, Robin Bowers

It is with a heavy heart that we accept the resignation of Robin Bowers as our church financial treasure. Robin has done a wonderful job in this position for which we are thankful. Unfortunately, she no longer is able to continue to serve in this capacity. We thank her for her time, dedication and energy and wish her well. She is NOT leaving the church, just the position. If YOU would like to serve as our church treasure, please see Pastor Teresa.

Mission Trip Opportunity

Be a blessing to God's people in need by joining a volunteer-in-mission trip to Detroit, Michigan, where we will renovate homes damaged by recent severe flooding. Dates of the trip are Oct. 17-23, 2021. Construction skills are helpful but not required. For more information contact Rev. Kathryn Adams, 330-719-2902; Revkathryn927@aol.com

Greetings my dear church family,

There are no words that I can find to adequately describe my gratitude for all of you. Being your Administrative Assistant these past five years has been a true blessing for me and my family. Getting to know you all has given me so much appreciation for what we do as a church. Your generosity with our community, each other, and myself personally is beyond astounding. There have been numerous times when I have reached a difficult situation in my personal life and someone comes along unexpectedly to help me and my family through. From something like helping me jumpstart my car to an anonymous gift card for groceries just when we need it, the blessings are all in God's perfect timing. I have clearly seen the hands and feet of Christ through all that I've witnessed. I can not thank you enough for not only your most extravagant blessings, but for showing me and my children the meaning of what God's children are capable of doing together. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for your support.

My final day as your Administrative Assistant will be Thursday, September 9. I will also be taking a leave of absence from being your worship service pianist with my final Sunday being September 12. Betty will be a wonderful addition to the OUMC family as your new assistant and the substitute pianists will bring you blessings as well. One of which being a favorite of ours, John Mancino! I plan on returning for worship services at the end of December after I have finished my course work. I will be going to school full time and this requires me to invest my full attention to that end. I've had the desire to study again for years and I do not want to undermine this opportunity and the potential it carries. It's taken me much consideration, budgeting, and prayer to step into this transition. The most meaningful changes in one's life can be the most daunting! I simply must succeed for AnnaMae, Bethany, and myself.

In short, I cannot express how much your support has given me the courage to aim for a more stable future for me and my children. Thank you beyond measure.

In Christ, Beverly



Address correction:
Chris Sigley
632 Harvard P.
Austintown, OH 44515

New address:
Sarah Hahn
#1156
434 5th Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219



August 2021

Sunday Worship 9:30 am

The Western Reserve UMC is looking for vocalists! They are having a special organ dedication service on **October 24** and are including guests to sing for worship. If you would like to know more about this opportunity, please contact Russ Adams at 330-719-7814.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion 	2 Betty start date	3	4 Quilters 10 am	5	6	7
8 Silas Baptism	9	10 Nominating Committee results due to Pastor Teresa	11 Quilters 10 am	12	13	14
15	16 UMW noon Potluck Picnic	17	18 Quilters 10 am 	19	20	21 Yvonne calling hour 10 am Memorial service 11 am
22	23	24	25 Quilters 10 am	26	27	28
29	30	31 Pastor Teresa Clergy Consult. w/ Rev. Auman 1 pm	Sept. 1 Charge Conference forms info due	2	3	4

Facts and Figures
 July 4 Views: 28 In-person Attendance: 44 Gifts: \$3,040
 July 11 Views: 40 In-person Attendance: 60 Gifts: \$2,662
 July 18 Views: 37 In-person Attendance: 64 Gifts: \$2,175
 July 25 Views: 12 In-person Attendance: 48 Gifts: \$1,561

*Our deepest sympathies to Dorothy Mellott
following the passing of Gene*

*Our deepest sympathies to the Rich family
following the passing of Gloria*

*Congratulations to Willovene upon the
arrival of her great granddaughter
Colton Ryan*

*Congratulations to Tom & Karen Purnell
upon the arrival of their great grandson
Sawyer James*

*Congratulations to Rhonda upon the arrival
of her grandson Nathaniel Oliver*



August Anniversaries:

- 1 Matt & Julie Cluse
- 6 Michael & Laura Fisher
- 7 Bob & Trudee Davis
- 10 Tom & Karen Purnell
- 17 Pat & Margie Ford

August Birthdays:

- 2 Valerie Joseph, Nonnie Woodford
- 3 Jeff McCracken, Tom Purnell
- 7 AnnaMae Kalasky, Corey Shofroth
- 8 Caleb Knipp
- 10 Marcy Sabol
- 18 Robert Baldwin, Diane Hofus
- 19 Jessica Goist
- 22 Josh Robinson
- 26 Karen Purnell
- 31 Nancy Welch



Join the UMW on Monday, **August 16** at noon for a pot-luck picnic. Bring a dish to pass and wrapped “prizes” for bingo!

Thank you!

Thank you to all the committee members who have recently attended meetings, completed paper work, made phone calls, and performed inspections. It is because of your dedication that our church is able to function successfully! It is easy to be uninspired by such work, but it is ministry all the same even if it doesn't seem particularly glamorous. Thank you for your continued service to our church and our community.

Looking ahead

We will be having a picnic following worship on Sunday, **September 12**. Be plan to join us and feel free to bring a dish to share.



THE BRIDGE
Ohltown United Methodist Church
2001 Ohltown Road
Mineral Ridge, Ohio 44440
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
Teresa C. Smolka, Pastor
Nancy Goddard, Custodian
Beverly Kalasky, Secretary
Truman Littler, Choir Director