



# Community Cornerstone

## Summer Newsletter

### 2025

OVERFLOW WITH GRACE PRESENT JESUS MAKE NEW DISCIPLES

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 Sunday Worship 10:30am Facebook: Community Methodist Church Riverside Website: communitymcriderside.com

### Blessed!

I love the Jesus and what I am privileged to do with Him. I especially appreciate working one on one and in groups with people who want to grow. They are the ones who do their heart work, show up regularly, and make faithful changes in their lives. Here in Community, there are so many of you who exercise faith because you want to grow!

Not only this, I rejoice because there are a good number of you who also work with others. You bless individuals through your conversations, and you cultivate groups of growing people. You humbly listen to them and graciously point and guide them to Jesus. As you do, you also learn from them, exercise faith, and grow.

When you enter into Community on a Sunday morning for worship, you will not see all of this background. Yet, I hope you will experience the Holy Spirit through your gracious conversations with one another. I pray that these interactions will stimulate you to exercise faith and grow further.

Prayerfully read through this newsletter. Pray for the various people, groups, ministries, and outreaches. Invite our living Lord to connect your heart with others. Then, exercise faith. Contact them immediately after you finish reading the newsletter. **Get involved, experience God, and grow to be like your Lord Jesus!**

*So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.*  
 2 Corinthians 3:18 NLT



### SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30am

**6/29. OUTDOOR WORSHIP:** Be A Neighbor & Become A Neighborhood Again. Jeremiah 29:7. *An outreach service under the big tent. This tent will be utilized the previous day for the neighborhood Yard Sale.*

**7/6. Independence Day Sunday.**

- No special 1st Sunday lunch. Simply Jesus

*Simply Jesus is a continuing series that takes us back to the real Jesus so as to ask:*

- *What are you saying? Help me to understand.*
- *What are you saying to me personally? I want to hear and obey.*

**7/13. Briefing You For Battle.** Matthew 10. *Simply Jesus*

- Communion
- 2nd Sunday Offering: Mad River Schools Backpacks (Hope4Riverside)

**7/20. Jesus Under Siege.** Matthew 11-12. *Simply Jesus*

**7/27. Parables About The War's Outcome.** Matthew 13. *Simply Jesus*

**8/3. Battle Rations.** Matthew 14-15. *Simply Jesus.*

- Homecooked Lunch

**8/10. Forward – Yes Or No?** Matthew 16. *Simply Jesus*

- Communion
- 2nd Sunday Offering: Lyn Oiler Scholarship Fund. *Helps fund those attending training, conferences, and counseling who need the extra help.*

**8/17. LORD Jesus, Big & Real.** Matthew 17. *Simply Jesus*

**8/24. Humbled Down.** Matthew 18-19. *Simply Jesus*

**8/31. On The Edge Of "Victory?"** Matthew 20. *Simply Jesus*



# ALLEGHENY WEST

THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH



**Community is a church in the West Allegheny Conference of the Global Methodist Church. Each year, we have a gathering, called a conference.**

- This year, the Conference emphasized developing groups and planting churches along with training Spiritual leaders of these groups.
- As a local church, we will further what we are already doing regarding groups, church planting, and leadership.

**Attending:** Clergy: Fritz Merkes. Sharon Kirby. Lay Delegate: Steve Hoke. Other: Claire Merkes

### Our mission:

"The Global Methodist Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ and to spread Scriptural holiness across the globe."

## Board News

We had a very productive Church Evaluation Day in June. We SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) evaluated every area of Community and the surrounding community to help us with our planning meeting coming up in August.

Board Members will have a much-needed retreat on July 12. Special speaker Jason Bunker will focus on Intimacy With God. Food, fun, and fellowship will make the day a break from the world and an opportunity to refresh and rejuvenate.

You may be wondering about the front lawn reseeding and regrading project. We are working with the company that has been hired and they are keeping an eye on the weather for the best time for this project to begin, probably September. We are looking into a sprinkler system to help with watering once our seeds are planted.

Another big project, replacing the original lights in our building with LEDs, is taking another step toward completion. A few years ago, our friend and electrician, Dave Rau, initiated this project by replacing the lights in the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen with LED lights. Since then, Active Electric has continued by replacing the lights in the hallways, several rooms on the main floor, and Lower Fellowship Hall. Now, Active Electric is coming back to replace the lights in the remaining rooms on the main floor (Women's Restroom, Nursery, Library, and offices), as well as replace the fans in the Women's Restroom. This will significantly improve our lighting and electric bills.

All these plans are in God's hands and your obedient contributions make it all possible. Thank you!



## Hope4Riverside, Mad River Schools & Community Church Collaborate on an Important Event!

**Supply Drop-Off date:** August 4-8 @ Mad River Schools Board Office

**Packing Day:** Friday, August 15 @ MRLS Board Office 11am-1pm (lunch provided)

**Distribution Day:** Friday, August 22, 2025

9:30am at Beverly Gardens, Overlook and Mad River Middle School

**Our part this year:** Loose notebook paper packs (150 sheets of lined notebook paper). 2nd Sunday offering in July will be for this project. I will buy these in bulk but if you would like to get some of the packs yourself as your donation, **please let Ellen know (937-253-5169)** and drop them off on Sunday mornings or during the week at the box in the Fellowship Hall by July 25. Please feel free to contact the Board office or just show up if you want to volunteer for Packing or Distribution Day.



## JESUS TEAMWORK MANUAL

After 40 days of redevelopment and sharing with Facebook posts, this vital tool for Community is—

**ready!**

This manual will help you to faithfully prioritize your life, Know who and Whose you are, see people as God sees them, and work with others as a team called Community.

Ask for a copy at the office, or check out a Resource table in the church.





## June

6/28 Karen Collier  
6/30 Alex Snodgrass

## July

7/04 Fred Burgess  
7/18 Lana Ping  
7/21 Renee Snodgrass  
7/22 Matthew Huffman  
7/22 Chuck Pinney  
7/23 Travis Hutchinson  
7/26 Alan Buswell  
7/28 Michelle James  
7/31 Sarah Brown  
7/31 Leila Hibbs

## August

8/04 Steve Hoke  
8/05 Todd Miller  
8/10 Mike Raines  
8/12 Mary Ulisky  
8/16 Tatom Whitacre  
8/17 Jim Smith  
8/17 Nikki Whitacre  
8/19 Dave Hale  
8/21 Elsie Rayburg  
8/22 Wanda Balger  
8/22 Zoey Spencer  
8/23 Cortni Boyd  
8/23 Ebby Hale  
8/28 Tom Petkus  
8/28 Pam Moser  
8/29 Hansel Mosoka



## September

8/05 Elizabeth Bellitt  
8/05 Troy Kehl

**6/30 Rachael & Steve Frame**  
**7/18 Bill & Marsha Hiatt**  
**8/01 Ed & Rhonda Miller**  
**8/02 Dan & Nita Renfro**  
**8/03 Don Rauch & Margaret Sanderson**  
**8/31 Roger & Carol Hancock**  
**9/01 Bob & Norma Jean Luneke**  
**9/04 David & Ebby Hale**

## Your Financial Investment In Community as of 5/31/25

### Operations:

Receipts 65,108.09

Expenses 69,981.81

Deficit 3,873.72

**Reminder from Rachel:** "At this time of year deposits start to slow down until September. You can see our expenses are about the same as last year."

A detailed report of each fund is available in the office. Please feel free to stop by and pick one up.

## UNPLUGGED

## Summer Fun for Unplugged Includes Working on Teamwork!

Hello community, this summer is jam packed for Unplugged! At the end of May to celebrate the end of the kids' school year, we went to a Dayton Dragons game. It was a blast! Bill Hiatt drove the church bus and dropped us off and we dodged the rain for a good time for everyone!



Summer unplugged started with 12 kids on the 24<sup>th</sup>. It will end July 29th. We are specifically focusing on how to be a great team using the Jesus teamwork principles. We plan on doing a service project as well that will be led by the Unplugged kids. The service project will be helping out in the little kids area at the Yard Sale with Cheryl and Rachel.

At some point this summer we are also planning to have another lock-in since the first one was a success!

We will also have 2 more Friday night events tentatively scheduled for July 11th and August 8th. The one in June, while the attendance was down due to vacations for the kids, was filled with fun and laughter (and pizza)!

The kids are truly growing in their relationships with Christ and also with one another and it is a blessing to watch. Please pray for us as we continue our summer sessions and learn more on how to work better as a Jesus team.

Blessings,  
Bill

Summer  
Unplugged  
& Leaders  
on their  
first day.





## **SATURDAY JUNE 28 10am-2pm "Let Me Tell You About My Jesus" COMMUNITY YARD SALE**

**PURPOSE:** Focus on fostering "community," sharing faith and creating an inviting atmosphere. Various ways we plan on doing this:

**Offering** the opportunity for our church members and members of the community to have tables at the yard sale

**Sharing** the Love and Word of God by expressing Christian values like generosity, kindness and hospitality through actions (offering affordable items, assisting attendees, sharing personal stories of faith with testimonials and communicating God's love and message in a relatable way)

### **Worship Music**

**Food** being offered fosters hospitality and encourages people to linger, socialize, and engage with one another.

## **TROTWOOD OUTREACH**

A well established 3rd Saturday morning food-related outreach. Come and discover how to be Jesus' witness and make disciples through food and prayer.

Join Pat and Charlotte Boyle and others on one of these 3rd Saturdays:

- 7/19 & 8/16.
- 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Contact Charlotte directly or e-mail or call the office.



## **YOUR BEST TOOLS**

In these times in which we live, you are a missionary. You need to have some of the best tools and know how to use them well. Here are some tools for you to learn how to use and share with family and friends.

### **#1. Do you know? Green ?? Pamphlet**

--> A very clear and brief Gospel presentation, along with how to commit and take first steps.

### **New Believer's New Testament**

--> Introduce this to others through topics of their interest.

### **Video: So, You Just Became A Christian**

Find at William Lane Craig animated videos on YouTube.

--> A short, well presented video on how to cultivate a relationship with God as a new believer.

Also see: **"How To Know God:"** <https://www.cru.org/us/en/how-to-know-god.html>

**Video. The Story of the Bible.** Bible Project. Find at Bible Project on YouTube.

--> An excellent introductory overview of the entire Bible.

**Gospel Of Mark or John booklets.** Gideons' resource on tables at CMCR.

--> Includes interactive notes that make it feel more like a conversation about the text.

**Video of Jesus' Life.** A Choice of Matthew, Mark, Luke. Or John. Watch | Jesus Film Project <https://www.jesusfilm.org/watch>





## Summer Whiz Kids Full of Fun & Challenges

With great anticipation and planning, leader Claire looked forward to the first day of Summer Whiz Kids. She had meetings with the mentors, Prayer Angels and leaders throughout June to make sure the kids had a great experience at Community.

Plans fall apart, though, when you get sick several days before Whiz Kids Summer starts and you have to let the leaders you trained take over.

Claire wanted to write this article and let everyone know how proud she is of the team that made the first day take off as planned.

Assistant Rhonda said, "We were messy! Peanut butter hands and all ! God loves us even in our mess! It was great start and I can't wait to see them Tuesday! The memory verse they are learning is "All have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God." Romans 3:23! They will work on memorizing this verse for next week to get a prize."

Rhonda got out of her comfort zone and created two lessons for the kids. The kids weren't too excited about the peanut butter/candy hands but came around and enjoyed it. Her memory verse lesson was a quiet time for the kids to hear God's Word and learn.

Our mess can turn into a message if we don't get too tangled up in "plans" and let God do His thing while our body heals. Prayers for Claire and so happy for the joy she felt seeing the pictures and hearing the testimonies about Whiz Kids Summer's first day!



## No Summer Breaks for Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery meets year round, every Thursday night, rain, shine, sleet, snow, cold. **Every Thursday.** You can count on it!

The numbers are increasing but better than that, the people who are coming are committed and are growing in their relationship with God. They are showing up and letting go of their pride to gain new friends and have a Spirit filled recovery.

Please feel free to come and visit any Thursday. Free dinner at 6PM, lesson or testimony at 6:45 PM and small groups at 8 PM; men with men and women with women.



**Communion  
the First  
Thursday of  
Every Month**

If you have any questions text Steve Hoke @ 937-470-4807.

DENIAL  
POWERLESS  
HOPE  
SANITY  
TURN  
ACTION  
SPONSOR  
MORAL  
INVENTORY  
SPIRITUAL INVENTORY PART 1  
SPIRITUAL INVENTORY PART 2  
CONFESS ADMIT  
READY VICTORY  
AMENDS  
FORGIVENESS  
GRACE  
CROSSROADS  
DAILY INVENTORY  
RELAPSE  
GRATITUDE  
GIVE  
YES  
SEVEN  
REASONS  
WE GET  
STUCK



## SENIOR PICNIC A BIG HIT!

Marsha's care and concern for the seniors in your Community

Church and the ones in our community has brought so much joy to so many. Every Tuesday she takes food, fellowship and information out to some who can't get out like they used to. She also has at least two senior gatherings called "Picnics" every year. The most recent event was in June.

This time, she asked people to bring something to share like a side dish or dessert. **Over 46 attended and some we hadn't seen in a while were among them! What a great day!**

Sons and daughters brought their mothers and fathers while Bill picked some others up to keep them from missing out. Hugs and smiles, laughter and joy filled the room as well as wonderful food. Many pitched in with setting things up and helped serve and clean up afterward.

Thanking God and Marsha for a great day!





## **A SPARK FOR THE FUTURE**

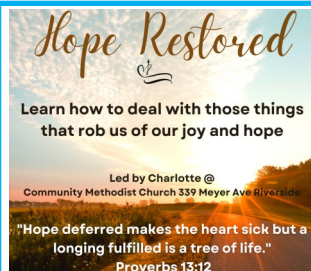
- Thursdays in the new school year. 1:40 p.m. until 3:10 (90 minutes)
- Homebase: The Library
- Spinning Hills Middle School

**PURPOSE OF SPARK.** Present Jesus as Lord and Savior through teaching the Bible and treating them with respect and love. To give each of the students the individual attention they need to thrive. To root them in the relationship with Jesus necessary for Jesus-like character, confidence, cooperation, and community.

The Spark is a collaboration of two teachers and two veteran youth ministers plus Pastor Fritz.

Mentors are needed for the 90 minutes. Will you be one of them?

**If you're willing to prayerfully consider this, please contact Pastor Fritz**



**SPECIAL "4" YOU**  
**4 Special Sunday Sessions at Hope Restored 6:30pm**

Two of these sessions remain and are designed to engage you to learn and faithfully use what God has given you. The rest of the sessions:

- **July 6: Hearing and knowing God's Voice.**
- **July 20: Prayer**

Facilitator: Tommy Lauber. Tommy is a carpenter and contractor --a hard working, Jesus hearted man with a Jesus centered business. He taught a much longer version of these materials for several years at Dayton Vineyard.

The rest of the summer, we will get back to our regular schedule with Charlotte leading and individuals chiming in sharing their talents and gifts.

- **August 3**
- **August 17**

"I do definitely feel a momentum at Community. It is a safe place to introduce new people to Community." - Charlotte Boyle

## **Faithfully Feeding & Fellowshiping**



Are you busy Sunday mornings between 9:40 and 10:15? If the answer is no, come check out what is

happening in the Narthex. You will find coffee, donuts, and most importantly you will find fellowship. We would love to have you join us. We get to know one another, check in with each other, and have some laughs. We would love to see you join us.



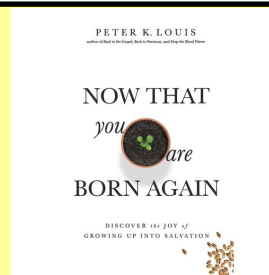
We will continue to have snacks/lunch in the Fellowship Hall after

service. The 1st Sunday is usually a lunch provided by Sally Borba and family. The 4th Sunday will be cupcakes to celebrate the month's birthdays.

**We need volunteers to provide a snack after the service on some Sundays in July and August.** It can be simple, not a full meal. Or maybe you just want to provide the snack but not serve, that's ok, too. You can sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (Rhonda Miller) at (937) 203-6446 [rhmill68@gmail.com](mailto:rhmill68@gmail.com).

Blessings,  
Rhonda



## **THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** **Come One! Come All!**

- **Every Thursday at 10:00am**
- **Right now we are finishing Hebrews**
- **The next study will be the book: *Now That You Are Born Again* by Peter K Louis. Come discover the joy of growing up into Salvation**
- **Join us for a time of refreshing and relationship building**





## Whiz Kids is About...Commitment

In Jesus,

Claire

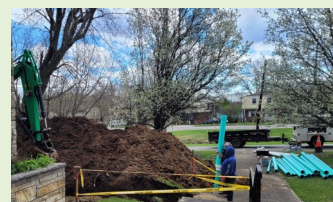
**SUMMER WHIZ KIDS—**

**June 24-July 29 time to be determined**

**Call the office for more details as time draws near**

## Community Board Spring Update

—Bruce Boggs,  
Interim Board Lead



Smiling Faces are always welcome along with food and prayers!



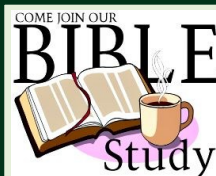
## Trotwood Outreach

On Saturday April 19, our Community Family joined with Emmanuel Baptist Church and Pastor White for a West Dayton outreach. The outreach is every third Saturday of the month at 9:30am If you are interested in learning more or maybe joining the next Trotwood Outreach, contact Charlotte.

Each Outreach starts with prayer!

Isolation is not good for anyone. Those who have tried the group like the opportunity to fellowship in a safe environment. This is a time where people can come together to share their musical, culinary or artistic God-given talents.

We would love for you to at least try it once. Bring a friend or meet a friend or make a friend. We meet every other Sunday at 6:30 at **Community Methodist Church Riverside** 339 Meyer Ave Dayton, OH 45431. Upcoming Meetings: April 27, May 11, May 25, June 8 and June 22.



**THURSDAY MORNING  
PARABLES BIBLE  
STUDY**  
Come One! Come All!

- Every Thursday at 10:00am
- Each Week we study one of Jesus' parables
- Join us for a time of refreshing and relationship building