



# MAYFIELD CHURCH

## December 2023 Newsletter

Rev. Beth Wilterdink, Lead Pastor • Pastor Jill Scott, Associate Pastor • Newsletter Editor: Rebecca Sulzer

Our mission is to offer Christ through an *inclusive community of faith* that worships God, cares for people, equips disciples, and works to transform the world.

### AN UNEXPECTED ADVENT

Advent is a season of expectancy - it is a season of looking toward the future. Advent began because of the expectant waiting for the Messiah, the Savior. The people were waiting. *'The Star' was a sign of what the Magi were expecting to find, and will be our sign of expectancy this Advent.*

We don't have a lot of Advent songs or hymns, but many of you know "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus":

*Come, Thou long expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.*

In the life of Mayfield UMC, my prayer is that we will not only enter the season of Advent with expectancy, but that in our next season as a community of faith we be fully expectant of Jesus' transforming power. Expectant of how we can see the stranger and make them feel at home. Expectant of God's Spirit moving to inspire us to draw people together, even with our differences. Expectant of meeting someone new and inviting someone to connect with God's purpose for their lives.

Once again, 2023 brought transitions and changes - some that we expected and others that we did not. If we have learned anything about our current world, the only constant is change. However, we can always be expectant of what God will do with whatever situation, transition, or change that comes our way.

We believe in the hope, love, joy, and peace of Christ that will change our lives, and change the world for the better. Jesus coming into the world and into our lives changes what the focus of our lives should be and how we should live. So, are we ready?

Mayfield UMC has a deep desire to welcome the outsider and include each person who walks through our door. Including those who have fallen out of the community of church and non-Christians. But, are we ready to invite them to see that Jesus is for them, too?

*Will you open the door and open your life to welcome someone, so that they too can know the love of Christ? Will you be expectant of what God will do for them? Will you be expectant of what God will do for you?*

*Be expectant of Jesus in our midst! ~ Rev. Beth Wilterdink*



### CHURCH EVENTS

See where you can invite a friend or neighbor to join in our community of faith.

- **SAT., DEC. 2 @ 6 - 8 PM**  
WOMEN'S ORNAMENT EXCHANGE  
*SEE PAGE 9*
- **SUN., DEC. 3,**  
CHRISTMAS CAROLING  
*SEE PAGES 9*
- **THURS., DEC. 14 @ 10:30 AM - 1 PM**  
GOD'S CARING COMMUNITY  
*SEE PAGE 9*
- **SAT., DEC. 16 @ 8:30 AM**  
MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST  
*SEE PAGE 9*
- **SUN., DEC. 17 @ 1:30 - 4:30 PM**  
CHRISTMAS CAROLING  
*SEE PAGES 9*
- **TUES., DEC. 19 @ 6-7:30 PM**  
M.U.M.S. PARTY FOR JESUS  
*SEE PAGE 9*
- **SUN., DEC. 24**  
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES  
*SEE PAGE 2*
- **MON. - FRI., DEC. 25 - 29**  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- **SUN., JAN. 1 @ 10 AM**  
ONE-SERVICE SUNDAY



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Mayfield Church  
7747 Mayfield Rd.  
Chesterland, OH 44026  
440-729-4006  
[mayfieldchurch.org](http://mayfieldchurch.org)



## JOIN US ON CHRISTMAS EVE AT MAYFIELD CHURCH!

10 AM: TRADITIONAL ADVENT SERVICE  
Sunday Morning Service

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4 PM: CHILDREN & FAMILIES\*  
with Worship Band

8 PM: TRADITIONAL\*  
Lessons, Carols, Candlelight with  
Choir & Handbells

11 PM: A SERVICE OF PRAYER AND CAROLS  
Candlelight & Holy Communion

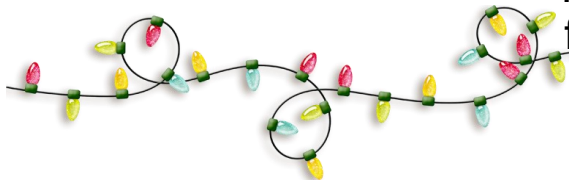
*\* Livestream is available*

7747 Mayfield Rd., Chesterland, OH  
[mayfieldchurch.org](http://mayfieldchurch.org)



## [Holy] Spirit Day Sunday

On Sunday, Dec. 17, join in the joy and wear your favorite Christmas clothing. Let's show how worshipping Jesus can be fun with our celebratory wear!



## Show the joy of the season with beautiful poinsettias on Christmas Eve!

Visit the Garden Ministry table in Fellowship Hall Sundays through Dec. 17 to order Christmas plants and poinsettias for the church, your home, or as a gift. The last day to order is Sunday, Dec. 17.

If you have any questions or would like to place an order directly, please contact Linnea Bubnow at 440-729-2424 or [linneabubnow@hotmail.com](mailto:linneabubnow@hotmail.com).

You may pick up your Worship Center poinsettia after the 11 PM service on Christmas Eve or Sunday, Dec. 31.

# "HANDS THAT SERVE" REVERSE ADVENT CHARITY DRIVE

DECEMBER 3 - 24, 2023

## Reverse Advent COMMUNITY DRIVE

SHARE THE JOY OF ADVENT THIS SEASON BY DONATING ITEMS TO OUR LOCAL PARTNERS AT TRIALS FOR HOPE, NEXT STEP, AND GEAUGA COUNTY FOOD BANK. SELECT ANY 24 ITEMS ON THEIR WISH LIST, ONE FOR EACH DAY OF ADVENT.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** BRING HOME THIS WISH LIST AND A TOTE BAG (LOCATED AT THE TABLE NEXT TO THE CHURCH OFFICE), GATHER THE ITEMS, AND DROP OFF YOUR FULL TOTE BAG UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL, BETWEEN CHRISTMAS EVE AND JANUARY 5.



**MAYFIELD CHURCH**  
*a United Methodist Congregation*

### FOOD

*CANNED, WITH TWIST/TAB OPEN*

- TUNA IN WATER
- CHICKEN IN WATER
- SOUP
- SPAM

*INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED NUT-FREE*

- GRANOLA BARS
- BREAKFAST BARS
- CHIPS (SNACK BAGS)
- POPCORN (SNACK BAGS)

### PERSONAL ITEMS

- NEW GLOVES (ADULT)
- NEW SOCKS (ADULT)
- DEODORANT (TRAVEL SIZE)
- TOOTHPASTE (TRAVEL SIZE)
- TOOTHBRUSH

### CONDIMENTS

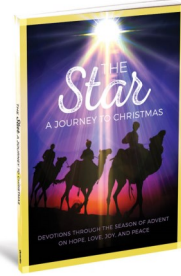
*SMALL BOTTLES PREFERRED*

- SALAD DRESSING
- MAYO
- KETCHUP & MUSTARD
- PICKLES
- RELISH
- OLIVES
- VINEGAR
- HONEY
- BBQ SAUCE
- SALSA
- HOT SAUCE



## SUNDAYS AT MAYFIELD

9:30 AM Modern  
11 AM Traditional



**December 3**

9:30 and 11 AM:

**A JOURNEY OF  
Hope**

**December 10**

9:30 and 11 AM:

**A JOURNEY OF  
Love**

**December 17**

9:30 and 11 AM:

**A JOURNEY OF  
Joy**

**December 24**

10 AM:

**A JOURNEY OF  
Peace**

4 PM, 8 PM, 11 PM:

**A JOURNEY TO  
Christmas**

**December 31**

10 AM:

**EPIPHANY**



## CHRISTMAS ANGELS

A huge THANK YOU! to all who participated in the Christmas Angels project this year. More than 50 envelopes were picked up by church members and friends, so we were able to provide many gifts to Geauga County Job and Family Services as well as Next Step, an organization that assists foster children who have aged out of the system and need help finding jobs and housing.

# MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS: 2023 "HANDS THAT SERVE"

Thank you to everyone who has helped support our monthly mission focuses this past year! This ministry is just one example of the many ways Mayfield Church works to achieve our mission. Through "Hands That Serve," we offer the love of Christ as we care for people and work to transform our community and the world.

Our work on the ministries is generally directed by a ministry team, which is either an existing LifeGroup or a special ministry team. We appreciate all of those who helped with hands-on service projects and fundraising efforts (including putting on those delicious breakfasts).

## February: Emsizini School

Mayfield Church and the East Ohio Conference partner with Bethel Church in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, to provide education and bring the community to Christ through Emsizini Secondary School. We provide a physical presence at the mission as well as ongoing spiritual and financial support.

[Look for an article in our January 2024 Newsletter on an update with some exciting changes at the school.](#)

## April: Guatemala Mission Team

The team traveled on a Mission Trip to Guatemala from July 8 to 15. Because of your generosity, the members exceeded their \$20,000 fundraising goal, allowing them to build houses for four families in Guatemala and raise over \$370 in change to provide over 1,100 meals for our brothers and sisters in Christ! Thank you, sincerely, to everyone who contributed to these efforts. Because of you, families will be blessed for a lifetime!

## May: Foster & Kinship

This Program walks alongside children in the foster care system and their caretakers, offering consistent support through intentional giving and relationship building. Throughout the past two years, we were able to bless our foster family with household necessities, clothing, and family outings.

## June: Tools and Blankets

Tools and Blankets is a United Methodist Mission project. Our team is headed up by Eve Circle, who helped raise money for those in crisis.

## July: Trials for Hope

Trials for Hope's mission is "to deliver dignity and hope to those who fall between the cracks, bringing wholesome food, personal care items and warmth to the greater Cleveland area." On the first Saturday of every month, a group from Mayfield Church volunteers to help organize donated food and toiletries, and deliver bags to the homeless.

## August: SEL Schools Ministry

This is our church's continued support of students at Rowland school. Opportunities exist to volunteer for various projects throughout the year.

## September: UMCOR

UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. Through UMCOR, United Methodists extend loving care to people within the United States. When disaster strikes, it is local churches that provide the first response to their communities. This basic understanding—that disaster response is local—forms the foundation for UMCOR's U.S. disaster training and response. When responding to a disaster in the United States, UMCOR provides training, financial assistance, expertise, and community collaboration to churches and partners, helping them recover from disasters.

[This year, our congregation has donated \\$2,405.65 to UMCOR. Yay God!](#)

## November: Heifer International

An opportunity to support the international mission work of Heifer International. Heifer Gifts provide a perfect idea for your loved ones.

## December: Christmas Angels

This mission provides Christmas gifts on behalf of Geauga County Job and Family Services as well as Next Step, an organization that assists foster children who have aged out of the system and need help finding jobs and housing. *Read more on page 3.*

## Other Mission Opportunities:

**Mustard Seed** – Make a small donation each month to support special ministry needs, including our church's Helping Hands Fund. Donate through the offering or online.

**Gauga County Food Pantry** – A bin is located year-round in the main entrance vestibule for donation to the Geauga Food Pantry.

**Reverse Advent** – A collection of supplies to support various missions that depend on these items to support their work. *See page 3.*

**Free Community Dinner** – A monthly free dinner served at the church and open to the community. Join us the last Friday of the month!



Can you believe it's the first Sunday of Advent this week? I can't either. Mom always told me time speeds up as you get older. She was so right! Pastor Beth asked me to remind you all to think about hosting Star Parties during this Advent Season.

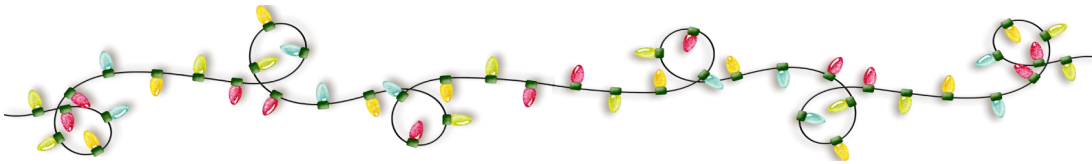
Most of you have already picked up *The Star* devotional that goes along with our sermon series for Advent. So host a Star Party for your LifeGroup in your neighborhood and invite some friends from the community over to celebrate with you.

There are some great ideas for kicking off your celebration beginning on page 90 in the devotional book. Send Pastor Beth and me a picture by Christmas Eve of your friends and neighbors enjoying your Star Party, and by all means, don't forget to reflect the light of Jesus Christ all season long!

Also, if any of your LifeGroups would like to announce in the newsletter what you plan to be doing in January, please let Rebecca Sulzer know by December 20. Any new studies on the horizon? Any new ministry projects? Are you just looking to invite some new people to your gatherings? Now is the time to let people know what your group is up to and get the New Year started off right! We look forward to hearing from you!

In the meantime, I wish you the best that this season has to offer. May you love and be loved as Christ loves.

-Pastor Jill Scott



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

### The After People

Sometimes an article that has been in a previous newsletter is worth repeating. In this day and time, this is one of those articles. If you find yourself in any of these situations or others, please reach out to Stephen Ministry.

**People often ask, "What exactly is a Stephen Minister?" One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.**

*Stephen Ministers are there:*

- After the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- After the divorce papers are served and the bottom falls out of your life.
- After the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- After the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do."
- After the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."
- After the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away - and the house suddenly seems empty.
- After the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- After the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- After you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- After your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the "After People." They are ready to come alongside you - or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives - and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed.

If you or someone you know would like more information about receiving the services of a Stephen Minister, contact one of the pastors or the Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator, Mardi Atkins, [4894atkins@gmail.com](mailto:4894atkins@gmail.com)



# STUDENT MINISTRY GRADES 6 - 12



**Youth Sunday School:** Grades 6 - 12, at 11 AM will begin their new series called, 'Welcome to the Neighborhood' on Dec. 3.

## SERVICE PROJECT LUNCH AT ST. HERMAN HOUSE

**SUNDAY, DEC. 3 @ 8:30 AM**

Meet at the church at 8:30. Cook and serve lunch to men in Cleveland who need shelter and support.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

**SUNDAY, DEC. 10 @ 6 - 8 PM**

Bring a white elephant gift wrapped (something from around your house you want to pass on, or something silly, under \$10), a snack to share, and invite a friend to come with you.

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING TO HOMEBOUND

**SUNDAY, DEC. 17 @ 1:30 - 4:30 PM**

Meet at the church at 1:30 PM, we'll have dinner at McDonald's in Chesterland afterward. We will need some parent drivers to join us, so please let Pastor Beth know if you can drive. The whole family is invited to participate (even if you want to go with a different group than your youth). A full explanation is on page 9.

## CHRISTMAS EVE (NO MEETING)

Join us for one (or all) of the services!

## NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

**SUNDAY, DEC. 31 @ 8 PM - 12:30 AM**

At Mayfield UMC (details to come)



*Happy New Year*

I want to say a BIG thanks to our volunteers for our youth ministry this fall.

Denny Nelson has led Sunday School; Adam Neff, Chelsea Stickley, and Drew Sulzer have planned devotions/activities for a great fall of youth ministry!

I know other parents have stepped in when there has been a need.

Equipping disciples is the work of all of us at MUMC, and I'm grateful for each of you making this a reality.

-Pastor Beth

## YOUTH DIRECTOR ROLE

Do you, or someone you know, love working with teenagers? Our part time position is open and posted on our website under "Leadership."



Mayfield United Methodist Church  
Director of Youth Ministry (6-12th grades) (Part-Time- 10-15 hours)  
(range: \$20-\$22/hr)

### Mission Statement

To empower youth and their families to grow and deepen their walk in Christian discipleship.

### Basic Requirements and Expectations

- Be a committed Christ-follower engaged in the process of Christian discipleship
- Have a faith grounded in God's grace and love, and seek to grow with others in the community
- Pass a background check administered through the church office
- Be a team player that works well with other staff
- Be on time and prepared for lessons and activities
- Connect to the congregation
- Teachable and open to constructive criticism
- Maintain professional conduct as well as appropriate personal practices and boundaries as found in the employee handbook
- Participate in regular performance reviews, including following a 90-day probationary period

### Physical Requirements

- Must be able to sit or stand for long periods of time
- Must have the ability to be mobile and active with youth

### Responsibilities

- Lead and oversee age-level ministries (Grades 6-12)
- Discipleship for weekly youth Bible Study and fellowship/service activities
- Encourage youth attendance and participation in Mayfield Church
- Recruit and train volunteers for youth ministry
- Oversee weekly youth gatherings in addition to Sunday worship - focusing on discipleship, worship, and spiritual formation (schedule will be adjusted in light of holidays and summer programming)
- Assist in planning and implementation of Camp Aldersgate week
- Actively participate in weekly worship - attend regularly when not participating, and engage students to attend weekly as well

8-4-2023

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



## Stepping Stones Sunday School

Our preschool and kindergarten classroom will be open every Sunday in December! Come visit Miss. Sue to learn about the Bible stories leading up to Jesus' birth this month.



## The Rock: Children's Worship

Our elementary classroom will be open every Sunday this month. Dec. 3, 10, and 17 will be normal classroom lessons. On Sun., Dec. 24, at 10 AM, we will watch "The Star." On Sun., Dec. 31, we will have a celebration for the elementary students' hard work this year.



Childcare Note for Christmas Eve: We will have all of our Sunday School classrooms open at 10 AM, but there will be no childcare during the evening services. We invite all children to join us for our 4 PM Family Service or 8 PM Traditional Service.

# HEARTLAND CHILDCARE

### BIBLE MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH:

"I am bringing you good news of great joy."

Luke 2:10

Heartland staff and students are having a great time spending the entire month celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior. We are also so excited to host our annual Christmas Program for families on the evening of Tuesday, December 12, in the Worship Center, with an Open House to follow. We will also have a daytime performance for God's Caring Community on Thursday, December 14 at 11 AM. Please feel free to join us on Thursday; we would love to have you! The children and teachers have been working very hard to make this the best production ever!

A big thank you to the Mayfield Church family for allowing Heartland to continue to spread the good news of great joy to the Chesterland community and beyond. Merry Christmas!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Heartland Office at 440-729-4006 ext. 116 or email [heartland@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:heartland@mayfieldchurch.org).

-Patty Wenzel, Director



## Have a Heart for Heartland?

Each year, our church supports the ministry of Heartland Childcare Center through our church. This connection and covenant with our childcare center needs dedicated members of our congregation to help shape, support, encourage, and lead on an advisory board. If you have gifts in finance, business, or just a heart for kids and education, please reach out to Pastor Beth to find out more about serving in this role.



## EVE CIRCLE

Eve Circle is a group of ladies, many retired, who gather together for spiritual, service, social & fundraising activities for the church. Meetings are usually the first Friday of the month at 10 AM in Fellowship Hall. New members are always welcome. For more information, please contact Laurie Dye at [lauriedye@yahoo.com](mailto:lauriedye@yahoo.com).

### EVE CIRCLE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Fri., Dec. 15 @ 11 AM

At the home of Carol Mulhern

Call the church office for more details.



Come see the Mayfield UMC Tree, as a part of the Festival of Trees for the West Geauga Chamber of Commerce.

The public lighting ceremony is on Sat., Dec. 2 @ 6 PM. Come out & see the trees!



### california pizza kitchen FUNDRAISER CANCELED

The fundraiser to refurbish our coffee pot, which Eve Circle sponsored on Dec. 5, is canceled. Unfortunately, CPK in Legacy Village is closing on Monday, Dec. 4. Stay tuned for another opportunity to have dinner out!

## CHRISTMAS CARD TREE



This year, Eve Circle will have a Christmas Card Tree hanging on the Bookstore window. We are encouraging everyone to bring in a Christmas card from you or your family to the Mayfield Church Congregation to be hung on the tree.

Any money you save on postage by not mailing to everyone you see weekly at church can be donated to any of the "Hands That Serve" monthly mission focus ministry.

Starting Sunday, Dec. 3, and every Sunday until Christmas Eve, leave your Christmas card in the basket next to the tree or mail it in to the church office and we will put it up for you.

Celebrating the birth of Christ by sending the joy of Christmas to everyone in church!

## OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

...to Lori and Chris Black and family, on the passing of Lori's father, Edward Palsha, on Nov. 11.

...to the Gross Family, on the passing of Ken's sister, Karen McMullen, on Nov. 13.

...to Paul and Julie Balazs and family, on the passing of Paul's mother, Rosemary Balazs, on Nov. 26.

...to the family and friends of Linda Limbert, who passed away on Nov. 26.





## M.U.M.S. SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY



TUESDAY, DEC. 19  
6 - 7:30 PM  
MAYFIELD CHURCH

Please RSVP to Sandy Pavick at  
440-429-5029.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

CHRISTMAS CAROLING  
SUN., DEC. 17 @ 1:30 - 4:30 PM

Do you enjoy singing festive Christmas carols? Please join us as we spread cheer to our church family members who can no longer attend worship. All ages are invited to join us on Sun., Dec. 17, from 1:30 to 4:30 PM!

Please meet in Fellowship Hall to carpool to the various homes and nursing homes where our shut-ins live. Spreading Christmas cheer to these wonderful people is one of the best and most important parts of our Christmas celebrations. Please plan to come with your family and friends! Contact Carol Neff with any questions at 216-970-5654 or [carol@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:carol@mayfieldchurch.org).

## SING WITH THE CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS

Please consider joining our marvelous Chancel Choir for the Christmas season! We rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7:30, and then meet on Sunday mornings at 10 to sing at the 11 AM worship service. Singing with the choir is a wonderful way to share your faith and inspire our church family. For more info, contact Joel Logan at [joel@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:joel@mayfieldchurch.org).



## 9:30 WORSHIP MUSIC PLAYLIST

Prepare your hearts for Advent by listening to the music we will be singing during our 9:30 worship services. Below is a QR code to scan with your smart phone to listen.



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

ORNAMENT EXCHANGE PARTY  
SATURDAY, DEC. 2  
6 - 8 PM  
AMANDA MATTHEWS' HOME



Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share for 10 people, along with a wrapped ornament.

Please RSVP to Jennifer Kaye at [jenn81884@gmail.com](mailto:jenn81884@gmail.com).

## MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN'S BREAKFAST  
SATURDAY, DEC. 16  
8:30 - 9:30 AM  
FELLOWSHIP HALL



All men are invited to join this morning of breakfast, conversation and prayer.

Please email Jon Wilterdink at [jwilterdink@gmail.com](mailto:jwilterdink@gmail.com) or call him at 440-321-5521 to RSVP or for more information.

## GOD'S CARING COMMUNITY

THURSDAY, DEC. 14  
10:30 AM - 1 PM



Join our gathering in December for Christmas cheer as we watch the Heartland Preschool perform their Christmas program. We welcome all retirees to join us, both church members and friends in the community. Cost is \$6 for lunch. Any questions or to RSVP, please contact Wil Steigerwald at 440-564-7698.

## RENAME THE BOOKSTORE!

We will be using this space for meetings, small groups, & Sunday School. Enter a suggestion on your Connection Card or email Rebecca Sulzer at [rebecca@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:rebecca@mayfieldchurch.org) and our Exec. Team will vote in January.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I know that the last few years have had their ups and downs, but I am very excited and hopeful for the future of our mission at Mayfield United Methodist Church as **we recommit to our life together at Mayfield and learn how to support our mission.**

We began the year by focusing on our mission to *offer Christ as an inclusive community of faith: that worships God, cares for people, equips disciples, and works to transform the world.* Our Executive Team has taken seriously the planning of how we will move this mission forward into the future to reach new people, including all families who need to know the grace and love of Christ. In the coming year, that means focusing on living our discipleship, inviting and introducing new people to our community of faith and the deep love of Jesus Christ.

Each of us is a part of Mayfield UMC because we have seen the power of God to come alongside us in the craziness of life and this world and *offer us hope that can transform* our moment, our day, and ultimately, our lives. **I pray you will continue to join me in supporting our mission and looking toward God's exciting vision for our future.**

How do we see the world? Do we see a lack or do we see abundance from God? **I believe in the abundance of what God has put within our congregation to live our mission fully- through our people, resources, and community at Mayfield UMC. May we live out the same generosity we see from God. It is easy to move into a scarcity mindset. But, the kingdom of God is a mindset of abundance. I pray you will be a part of what God does with our church in 2024, and help us to see that God truly does provide within our communities everything that we need.**

With a spirit of joy!  
Rev. Beth Wilterdink

## FINANCE MINISTRY

If you have an IRA (regular, SEP, SIMPLE, or SARSEP); you can take distributions from your IRA, including your Required Minimum Distribution (if applicable), and have the money sent directly from your IRA trustee to the church and you won't pay any tax on that distribution. On the other hand, if you can still itemize your deductions, you don't get a deduction for that contribution.

If you have a security (stock or mutual fund) that has appreciated in value and you are considering selling it, you can donate the security directly from your brokerage account to the church. You get a tax deduction for the full market value of the donation, the institution gets the full amount of the funds, and no one pays any income taxes on that donation. It is best to check with your financial advisor on their procedures. Please be warned that if you receive the check and then give the check to the church, you will still have to pay the Capital Gains tax.

Another way to donate to the church is through a Donor Advised Fund (DAF). This type of account allows you to transfer appreciated securities into your DAF account and receive a tax deduction (if you qualify for itemizing deductions). Money in DAF can be invested in securities allowing future growth, and allows you to grant money to the church at any time. It is best to check with your financial advisor on setting up a DAF, understanding the contribution and tax deduction limits, and if it is right for you.

For more information on any of the above, please contact Darlene Janke at [darlene@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:darlene@mayfieldchurch.org)



## MAYFIELD UM CHURCH Commitment to Life Together and Giving

January 1, 2024 thru  
December 31, 2024

*Please print information*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

This yearly time of commitment is a reminder of our life together at Mayfield United Methodist Church, where *our mission is to offer Christ through an inclusive community of faith.*

**I/We recommit my prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to the mission of Christ, as I/we:**

- Connect** with two new people
- Worship** weekly at MUMC, unless sick or out of town
- Participate in a **Small Group** at least once during the year
- Give** a regular dedicated offering, striving toward a tithe or beyond
- Serve** on a ministry team inside and/or in mission outside the church walls

**Yes, I/We pledge to give the following to support the Ministry & Operating Budget:**

- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Weekly for 52 weeks, or
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Semi-monthly for 24 periods, or
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly for 12 months, or
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ As follows: \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Gifts**

**I/We pledge to give a special gift to the:**

- Endowment Fund:** \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Capital Fund:** \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Giving Options (please circle):**

- Cash or Check**
- EFT Bank Transfer**
- Online Giving through the Website**
- Appreciated Stock**
- Required IRA Distribution**
- Previously Authorized Scheduled EFT**  
(Continue in 2024 without change)
- Planned Giving**  
I/We wish to know more about including Mayfield Church in our estate planning. Please contact me/us.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name(s)

## ANNUAL PATTERSON PIE FELLOWSHIP

Thank you, Patterson Family, for providing delicious pies on Sunday, Nov. 26, before and after service!



### THE CHURCH ELEVATOR IS UP AND RUNNING

Thank you for your patience as we were waiting on a new motor for the elevator.

### TWEENS MINISTRY

Children in grades 4 and 5 made their own pizzas and wrote Christmas cards to our homebound members



### CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM

Congratulations on the baptism of Emma Seibert on Nov. 24. Proud parents are Todd Seibert and Jessica Emick-Seibert.



**American Red Cross**

We are hosting the Red Cross Blood Drive on

**Wednesday, December 20**  
**1 - 6 PM: By Appointment Only**

To sign up for an appointment:

1. Scan the QR code or go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)
2. Enter Zip Code 44026
3. Scroll down to find Mayfield Church on Dec. 20.
4. Select the time you would like to donate.



Scan to schedule an appointment.

# IMPORTANT DATES

Care Team Zoom Mtg.	Tues., Dec. 5 @ 7 PM
Finance Committee Mtg.	Tues., Dec. 12 @ 7 PM
God's Caring Community	Thurs., Dec. 7 @ 10:30 AM
Stephen Leaders Zoom Mtg.	Mon., Dec. 11 @ 10 AM
Mission Outreach Council Mtg.	Tues., Dec. 12 @ 6 PM
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Fri., Dec. 15 @ 1 PM
M.U.M.S., Special Needs	Tues., Dec. 5 @ 6 - 7:30 PM
Trustees Mtg.	Tues., Dec. 19 @ 7 PM
Executive Committee Mtg.	<i>Not meeting this month</i>
Free Community Dinner	Fri., Dec. 29 @ 5 - 6:30 PM
S.A.M.I.	<i>Not meeting this month</i>
<b>YOUTH</b>	
Young Servants	<i>Not meeting this month</i>
Tweens: Pizza Making Night	<i>Not meeting this month</i>
Youth Bible Study	Sundays @ 11 AM
Youth Group (Middle/High)	<i>see schedule on page 6</i>
<b>MUSIC</b>	
9:30 Band Rehearsal	Wednesdays @ 7 PM
Hand Bell Rehearsal	Thursdays @ 6:15 PM
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Thursdays @ 7:30 PM
<b>SMALL GROUPS</b>	
Senior Disciples	Thursdays @ 4 PM
The Early Birds	Sun., Dec. 10 @ 9:15 AM
Faith Builders (Zoom)	Mondays @ 9:30 AM
Holy Huddle	<i>Not meeting this month</i>

# MAYFIELD STAFF

- Rev. Beth Wilterdink**  
Lead Pastor  
[beth@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:beth@mayfieldchurch.org)
- Pastor Jill Scott**  
Associate Pastor  
[jill@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:jill@mayfieldchurch.org)
- Rebecca Sulzer**  
Office and Communications Director  
[rebecca@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:rebecca@mayfieldchurch.org)
- Darlene Janke**  
Financial Administrator  
[darlene@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:darlene@mayfieldchurch.org)
- Jessica Martz**  
Children's Ministry Director  
[jessica@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:jessica@mayfieldchurch.org)
- Carol Neff**  
Organist  
[carol@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:carol@mayfieldchurch.org)
- Sarah Dixon**  
Modern Worship Director  
[sarah@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:sarah@mayfieldchurch.org)
- Joel Logan**  
Choir Director  
[joel@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:joel@mayfieldchurch.org)
- Steve Vegel**  
Facilities Manager  
[steve@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:steve@mayfieldchurch.org)
- Patty Wenzel**  
Director of Heartland Childcare Center  
[patty@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:patty@mayfieldchurch.org)

## Ways to Give

**IN-PERSON**  
Contributions may be placed in the baskets near the exits after the 9:30 and 11 AM services.

**ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER**  
For more information, please contact Darlene Janke at 440-729-4006 or [darlene@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:darlene@mayfieldchurch.org)

**MAIL**  
Mayfield Church  
7747 Mayfield Rd.  
Chesterland, OH 44026



**ONLINE**  
[mayfieldchurch.org](http://mayfieldchurch.org) → Give

## WE HAVE AN APP!

Our new church system has an app, called church center, for your smart phone, where you can update your personal info, find out what's happening at church, and request rooms for your groups.



## Church Cancellation Notices

It's that time of year in NEO when we never know when weather conditions may warrant cancellations. If you are in doubt, there are several ways to find out if your activity will go on as scheduled if the church office is closed.

If West Geauga Schools are closed due to inclement weather, we are also closed. Please check our phone message or website.

