BRUNSWICK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NOVEMBER 2026

STEEPLEVUES

A Letter From The Pastor

BY REV. MATT MERRIMAN

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods.
Psalm 95:1-3

BUMC Family and Friends,

Above you will find one of many passages of scripture that encourage us to be thankful and sing songs of praise to our God. These are good words to keep in mind as we very quickly move toward Thanksgiving.

I personally am very thankful for my appointment to serve you all as a congregation. These past four plus years have been wonderful and I hope there will be more than a few more. Things are really going well at BUMC. We have new families joining and lots of kids and youth which will help ensure the future of this congregation. People are starting small groups and our existing missions and ministries seem to be expanding. There is always something going on.

I am certainly thankful for the vitality of our church, but one consequence of having so much busyness around is that I sometimes neglect to find quiet time to reflect and simply thank God. Even within the context of serving God and humankind through a church, we can become so busy that we lose touch with God.

And so, going forward I am going to make an extra effort to ensure I don't skip my morning devotions. Then, I am going to try to find a few moments throughout the day to simply sit quietly, clear my mind, and say thank you to God. I encourage each of you to do something similar. Let's try to remain focused on the Lord and be especially attentive to our need to say thank you to God for the blessings that shower down around us.

Happy Thanksgiving and God Bless,

Pastor Matt



Finance Report

By John Herman, Treasurer

For September, Total Income was $ 23,906 with total expenses of $ 39,342 for a net deficit of $12,999. Our missions team normally gives $3,000.00 per quarter to local organizations, ministries, and charities. They had fallen behind and we expended $8,809.00 catching up. Staff salaries and wages cost $17,303. Building Operations was $5,654.

In August the church received a bequest of $307,374 from one of our long-time members. The leadership board has allocated $25,000 to replenish operating funds, and 10% for missions. Plans are moving forward to build the Pavillion and Memorial Garden as well.

Larger capital repairs and improvements in October included $5,446 for a new hood fire suppression system for our kitchen and a new heat pump for the Fellowship Hall that costs $23,066.00 .

The Leadership Board is working on a preliminary budget for 2027. At this time, based on 2026 and 2025 numbers, I am projecting $336,800 in donations/income, and $399,200 for expenses for a net projected deficit of $62,400 for 2027. The top 3 expense categories are Salaries & Wages of $199,800, Building Operations of $116,900 (Utilities, Cleaning and normal repairs and maintenance) and District Apportionments of $36,200. A projected deficit of $62,400 is not sustainable over time. Our church would need about 20% more donations to maintain current operations and maintain the building.

Thought for Today:

Dear Veterans,

Those of us who have not served will never fully understand the sacrifices you've made both in times of peace and of war.

We will never fully understand what you were required to do or how you were able to do it.

We will never fully understand the depth of your scars.

But what we can offer you is this:

We see you.

We recognize your humanity.

And we send you Love that is gentle, patient and healing.

With Blessings and Gratitude, we ask that you remember you are loved.

Thank you.

November Birthdays

11/02	Becky Hall
11/03	Dave Goessler
11/03	Kim Goessler
11/04	Alayna Hammond
11/05	Hayden Litton
11/07	Kim Chidsey
11/08	Elaine Monroe
11/10	Geoff Killey
11/11	Jaelyn Solivan
11/13	April Sawicki
11/13	Julie Zevchek
11/16	Emerson Breeden
11/17	Natalyn Walter
11/18	Dick Beeching
11/19	Leslie Robinson
11/20	Harry Caudill
11/21	Marilyn Springer
11/22	Cindy Kintop
11/23	Janet Kleinhenz
11/25	Yvonne Dentz



Tom's family receives the horrible news.



KIDZ CONNECTION

Sunday School News

Sunday school is underway! We're having a blast with the kids this year. The kids and teachers like the new format of having 3 groups: pre-k/K, 1st-4th graders, and 5th-7th graders. Our curriculum continues to follow the theme of the church sermon. We're always welcoming new faces, kids and teachers included! Contact Mallory Anglin or Maggie Sheets with questions.

KidzConnect

Our Wednesday evenings are filled with praise, crafts, games and songs! If you have a kiddo that's pre-K to 5th grade, please join us if you haven't already. Our theme this fall and continuing until Christmas is showing the kids how to use their light inside to spread the love of God.

It's not too late to bring your children to practice for the children's Christmas pageant which will be performed on Sunday, December 6 during the worship service. We are already choosing parts and learning songs. Come join us. Contact Diane Haley for details at 440-554-9580.

We always love adults and teens who want to help!
Contact Mallory Anglin or Maggie Sheets with questions.









Pastor's Bible Study



Pastor Matt's Wednesday evening Bible study meets at 7 p.m. It is open to everyone, and people may join at any time. The group has finished the recent book study on the Apostle Paul and will resume the study of Isaiah they did not complete last spring. It should only take a few weeks to finish Isaiah and then the group will choose another book of the Bible to study.

Men's Bible Study

Dick Beeching is facilitating a Men's Bible Study that meets on Thursday nights from 7:00-8:00 in the church library. They are currently studying the Gospel of Matthew. If you have a bible you can bring it with you, if not we can provide you with one. For more information, talk to Dick.

Women's Book Study

Hey Ladies,
We are studying the book, "Goodbyes and Good Boundaries"

We meet once a month on Fridays at 6:30 in room 101. Our next meeting is on Friday, November 6th and then December 3rd. The books can be found on Amazon for only $10.00. Come give us a try and meet some new friends. Join us even if you haven't read the book.



Music Dept.

"Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD" - Psalms 95:1

Come sing with the choir! You are invited to join us this upcoming holiday season. We will sing twice during the holidays including Christmas Eve and we'd love to have you.

Rehearsals are on Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 pm

Contact me for more information.
Chris Chidsey
216-403-5912
christopherchidsey@gmail.com

Mahjong Small Group



The new Mahjong group is alive and well. We meet the first Thursday of the month from 12:30-3:30 and the third Tuesday of the month from 9:30-12:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We welcome all levels of experience, and there are seats available for brand new beginners. Come join us and feel free to bring a friend!

Call Cathy Richard at
440-668-9018
for questions.

LET'S CONNECT!

CHRIST COMMUNITY CONNECT

Community Soup Dinner

Thursday, November 19

5:00 pm



Thank you to everyone who helped cook soup, setup, serve and cleanup at the October's soup dinner! It was great to see so many members help make sure our soup dinner was a success. We had approximately 72 people attend with 16 members making pots of soup.

We were fortunate that we were able to feed everyone. We expect more people to attend in November as the temperatures will remain cooler and the winter weather begins to return to Brunswick. Please mark your calendars now and plan on bringing a pot of soup on November 19. This monthly dinner is a good time to try a new recipe to share with everyone. Please stay for dinner and fellowship. This is one of the best outreach events we have where we can get to know members of the community and build relationships with them. You have no idea whose life you might touch with Gods love just by having a bowl of soup with them.

Mission Team – Christmas Outreach

By Carole Jones

It seems early to be planning for Christmas but the process to provide gifts for the foster children of Medina County takes time. The kids who live in foster care will provide the church with their Christmas wish lists soon and we will post them on the Gathering Area bulletin board by November 1st. We will need all donations returned to the church in two weeks by November 15. The turnaround is quick.

Last year it was exciting to watch the enthusiasm and generosity that this congregation showed for this outreach program. All items the kids wished for were purchased and promptly returned. It was an honor to represent our church when we took the gifts to the foster office in Medina.

Many times, I have heard and read that foster kids travel with their things in black garbage bags. So this year in addition to gifts our members provide, we will include a large gym style bag. This should add some dignity to their moving process.

It feels right and good that we as a church can do a little something to help the kids during the holiday season.

Operation Christmas Child

Samaritan's Purse OPERATION Christmas Child

November holds many Operation Christmas Children Opportunities: First, we will be setting up for the packing party on Friday, November 6th at 2:00 pm. Help is needed to carry everything down to the Fellowship Hall and arrange the items on the tables. Then, on Saturday, November 7th, at 10:30 am we will be packing the boxes. A light lunch will be provided when the boxes are full. Please plan to join us for these events. Thank you, once again for those who came to our workshops, donated items or gave a monetary gift. Your help is always greatly appreciated.

Questions, call Marcia Taylor at (330) 350-1479.

See you there!

Kids Hope

Our Kids Hope Ministry is off and running for this school year. Currently there are 15 active mentors with mentees. After I announced that more mentors were needed during a recent church service, more came to volunteer to help. Thank you to Matt Robinson, Alayna Hammond, David Sheets, Mary Jane Broaddus and Sue Tysinger for stepping up to help out with our Kids Hope Ministry this year. When all are trained and are assigned a mentee, we will have at least 19 children being mentored.

So far, I have had no one show an interest in taking over the Kids Hope Director job to replace me at the end of this school year. Hopefully, there are others out there that have considered it but have not come forward yet. I am willing to share any and all tricks and materials to whomever will be taking the lead.

God Bless,
Ron Chidsey
kidshope@brunswickumc.org
440-785-0509







Dear Church Family,

Thank You, very much, to the volunteers who came and conquered Pierogi making. We had a Great Crew of 20 on October 12. We pushed, and you made it possible to meet our goal! We made 76 dozen. We will have plenty for 2 fish fry dates in 2027.

BUMC Volunteers are the best! We appreciate your dedication.

Ruth Dodig and Dan Monroe

Youth Connection

The Youth Group will be meeting on the following Sundays from 6-8
11/1/26
11/15/26
11/29/26
(May Cancel this due to Thanksgiving Weekend)

Youth Sunday Service
11/8/26

Please contact Tristin Anglin or Pastor Matt for more information or with questions.

GOBBLE Til You WOBBLE

Trunk or Treat

We had a successful Trunk or Treat! Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to pass out candy. We had 35 cars with 6 of them being from the Boy Scouts. Thank you to everyone who helped inside with cooking, serving, painting faces, helping with the craft tables, shopping, setting up on Friday and helping to clean up afterwards. We estimated over 300 people in attendance. The weather was perfect! We heard lots of compliments that everyone was having a fabulous time. This is one of the best outreach events our church does.










































A JOURNEY TO
BETHLEHEM
CENSUS →
MARKETPLACE →
INN →
MANGER →
Real People.
Real Places.
A Living Story.
All Are Welcome!
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON
EXPERIENCE BETHLEHEM!
A LIVE, INTERACTIVE NATIVITY EVENT
SPQR
BY ORDER OF CAESAR!
PUT ASIDE YOUR HOLIDAY PREPARATIONS!
ALL TRAVELERS MUST REPORT TO BETHLEHEM
FOR THE CENSUS!
EXPERIENCE PEACE
AMIDST THE CHAOS.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2026
5 - 7 PM
CORNER OF 303 & 42 • BRUNSWICK, OHIO
Brunswick
United Methodist Church
IN COLLABORATION
WITH
THE SALVATION ARMY

November 22
11:15 am



This year we will be holding Hanging of the Greens following the church service on November 22nd at 11:15. This is a fun tradition that has been working well over the past few years. Everyone has a great time decoratiing the church for Christmas and then enjoys lunch and fellowship at approximately 12:00 pm. It should be a lot of fun again this year. Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us.

Door Decorating Contest

The door decorating contest is a fun BUMC tradition. During the past three years, members have decorated doors in the office hallway and the downstairs classrooms. Everyone enjoys seeing how creative our members can be and it adds a bit of holiday spirit to the church.

The contest will begin on November 22nd and needs to be completed by December 13. Ballots will be available during the worship service on December 13. Winners will be announced on December 20th. Anyone interested in decorating a door should contact Karen in the office. She'll assign you a door. Feel free to pair up with other members.

Here are a few examples of doors from previous years:





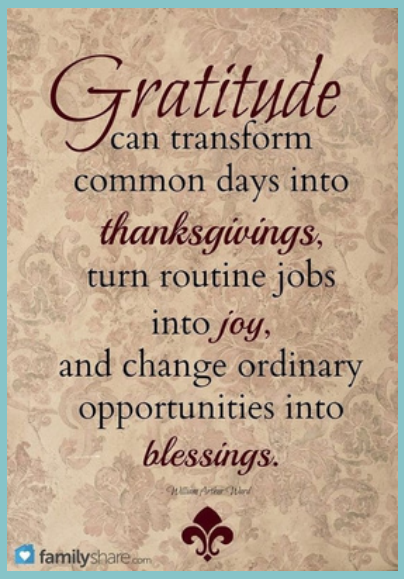




Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all the prayers, phone calls, and visits after my fall and surgery. They have really helped me get through such a difficult time. I really appreciate the love and support that you have shown me.

With Love,
Lynn Miller





Turkey Bowl

By Mallory Anglin

I have the honor and privilege of working for an amazing family-owned company, 1st Day School Supply, located in Hinckley, Ohio. Every year, they host the nation's largest backyard football game that's played on Thanksgiving Day. The Meadows' Turkey Bowl has received a ton of media coverage. You cannot turn on the radio or watch TV without seeing something about them. They have recently been on "New Day Cleveland" discussing the amazing opportunity. This year, I am a virtual player, helping raise money for people in need in our community as well as those battling cancer. This cause is near and dear to my heart.

I am looking for family and friends to help me give back to this charitable cause. When you make a donation, 100% of the funds go to help those battling cancer. The oldest son of the Meadows' Family, Pete Meadows, my fellow colleague, had a life-altering experience when he was diagnosed with brain cancer in May 2020. Later, Pete and his wife lost their beautiful baby girl, Gianna Rae, eight months into pregnancy. Thirty percent of all donations will go to the Gianna Rae Meadows Fund to find a cure for Oligodendroglioma, the type of cancer Pete is battling. Her legacy will live forever while finding a cure.

So when you donate not only are you helping the needy but you're getting incredible packages and value in return. Please use the direct link for more information: https://www.meadowsturkeybowl.com/ or you can donate at MeadowsTurkeyBowl.com - You can select "Mallory" as the player!

Thank you and God Bless, *Mallory Anglin*





Daylight savings time ends on November 1st. Turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night so you can show up to church on time.







Office News!

Church Directory

We are planning a new church directory. Carole Jones asks that you begin looking for updated pictures with family that you would like to submit. She will do the same format she did in 2024. More information to follow.

Veteran's Day Video

We will be showing the Veteran's Day video on November 8 following the worship service. If you're a Veteran and haven't submitted your picture to Bob Lewis, please drop it off in the office by November 2nd.

Attention, Snow Birds!

It's that time of year again when members start planning trips to warmer states for the winter months. Please make sure you notify the office if we need to put a hold on your church mail or if you have a forwarding address. Thank you!

Office Hours:

Please plan your trips accordingly:

Monday thru Thursday:
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
The office is closed on Friday afternoons.

Mail

Please remember to mail your donations and any other correspondence to the following:

BUMC
PO Box 85
Brunswick, Ohio 44212



CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION: 330-225-3179

Matt Merriman, Pastor — matt.merriman@brunswickumc.org
Karen McGoughran, Office Manager (ext. 10) — karen.mcgoughran@brunswickumc.org



Christmas Poinsettias!!

Order Form

We would like to decorate the sanctuary with beautiful poinsettia plants in honor or memory of friends and loved ones. To order, please complete the form below and place it in one of the offering boxes with your payment or turn it into the church office by **Sunday, Dec. 7.** (Please note that the cost of the poinsettias have gone up as well as the delivery fee increased significantly and therefore, we had to increase the cost of the poinsettias.)

(No orders can be accepted after this date.)

Donated by: _____

Phone: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

No. of plants _____ @ $13.25 each

Total Payment: _____☐ Check #_____ ☐ Cash

____ I will take my plant home after the Christmas Eve service.

____ Please donate my plant to a shut-in.