

STEEPLEVUES

A Letter From The Pastor

By Pastor Matt Merriman

“If your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life maimed or lame than to have two hands or two feet and to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into the hell of fire.¹⁰“Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven. ¹² What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost. ¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Matthew 18:8-20

BUMC Family and Friends,

We Christians are human beings and as such, there is often conflict among us. And so, every now and then it is good to discuss “The Rule of Christ.” This rule is a way that Jesus gave us to deal with other Christians when there are problems. Understanding this rule can help us weather the storms of conflict that are sure to pop up in every church. The Rule of Christ is based on the passage of scripture above.

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(Pastor's letter cont.)

Step One: Self-Reflection (Matthew 18:8-9). We look inward and examine our own role in the conflict. How have we sinned? What was my role in the conflict? What can I do to make this better?

Step Two: Look with Jesus' Eyes (Matthew 18:10-14). We then consider how Jesus views the person with whom we are in conflict. Does Jesus love them? Then, so should I. How has this person been wounded? We prayerfully consider the other person with empathy in our hearts, just like Jesus would.

Step-Three: One-on-One (Matthew 18:15). We then go to the person with whom we are in conflict and simply talk to them. We don't talk to others. We absolutely avoid gossip. We simply find a quiet place to sit with the other person and allow each of us to share our views. Two important points: both parties must treat the other with dignity and respect and each person must listen carefully to what the other has to say. The vast majority of problems in churches can be solved right here at step three, but respect, understanding, and sharing Christ's love with each other are necessary.

If a conflict cannot be resolved, we might then go find some trusted people to intervene and help us resolve our differences. I don't have space to go into the remaining steps, but rest assured that reasonable, caring people should be able to resolve 99% of their problems with these three steps.

The most important thing to remember is that just as Jesus loves everyone regardless of anything about that person, so too should we love everyone without any qualifications. Even in the friendliest, happiest church, people sometimes step on each others toes. If that happens to you, please remember the Rule of Christ. Prayerfully look inward to God, look at the other person through the eyes of Jesus, and talk to that person in a respectful loving way. This is how Jesus taught us to deal with each other.

Blessings,
Pastor Matt



June Birthdays

6/2 Bob Miktuk
6/4 Barb Chidsey
6/7 Christopher Chidsey
6/11 William Mellott
6/11 Jennifer Mille
6/14 David Lenigan
6/14 Don Tripepi
6/18 Sandy Sarnovsky
6/20 Laurie Baker
6/24 David Jahnke
6/24 Maryann Snowbrick
6/27 Hannah Crawford
6/28 Dave Goodyear
6/29 Diana VanDiest
6/30 Karen Haught



It's a boy!!

Kimberly and Evan
Dickerhoof
are the proud parents of
Logan Allen Dickerhoof.
Born Monday, May 11, 2026
at 5:43 pm.
He was 7 lb 10 oz and
21 inches long.
Proud Grandparents are
Julie and Len Zevchek
and very proud big brother
is Noah.



Brunswick High School Graduates

Cassie Chidsey

Sienna Pelot

(Marilyn Springer's Granddaughter)

Zoe Sheets

Luke Stella

(Jill and Tom Arnold's Grandson)

Upcoming Church Events



Missionary Patrick Booth Meet and Greet Sunday June 14th 2:00 pm

Patrick will talk about his background and his mission in Cambodia. Plan to join us to welcome Patrick to our "One Big Happy Family."



June 28 Spaghetti Dinner following worship for Mission Trip Recap (all invited)

September 13 Rally Day & Church Picnic



Vacation Bible School July 6-9 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School the week of July 6-9 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

This year's VBS theme, Emerald Crossing, takes the kids on a journey through Ireland's lush landscapes, exploring the powerful words of Psalm 23. They'll discover the life of the shepherd-king David and will learn how to cross from anxiety to peace, from fear to faith, and from uncertainty to a firm foundation in God's Word through a relationship with the Good Shepherd.

Children ages Kindergarten - 5th grade will enjoy a week of singing songs, making crafts, playing games and doing science projects.

Please register your child online at brunswickumc.org.



Kidz Connect

The kids learned about being fisher of men by finding the goldfish hidden under a pile of whipped cream. Yum! How fun!





Kidz Connect Continued

We held an end of the year party on May 20th. The kids had so much fun literally playing in bubbles. We had relay races, parcel game and silly string fights followed by ice cream sundaes.





Youth Connection

Youth Group Summer Events

- Ice Cream Social - June 14th 4-6 pm
Girls Retreat - June 18-20 (tentative)
Pizza and Painting - July 19th 4-6 pm

Youth Mission Trip

Thank you to everyone for your support of the youth mission trip to Kentucky. Between fundraisers and donations, we raised the \$10,000.00 we need to make the trip happen. The rental vans and gas will use up at least half of that money. The rest will cover the cost of food, incidentals, and to make a big donation to the Kentucky Conference to help cover the cost of building materials. The kids will host the congregation at a spaghetti dinner immediately after worship on June 28 as a way of saying thank you.

Our team consists of 14 youth, 5 Team Leaders, 3 Cooks, and 3 Leaders in Training. They include: Brayden Belloma, Clinton Breedon, Emerson Breedon, Joey Breedon, Emily Chidsey, Mason Crawford, Hannah Crawford, Harper Domann, Teigan Dryer, Lucas Grove, Alayna Hammond, Maddie Ritter, Dominic Zarife, Alex Zimmerman. Team Leaders are: Pastor Matt Merriman, Chris Chidsey, Janet Hartmann, Hank Hartmann, and Katie Kintop. Cooks include: Ruth Dodig, Vivian O'Neill and Wendy Kammer. Leaders in Training include Cara Chidsey and Amanda Merriman.

Please lift our group up in prayer for safety during this week as we travel and work.



Brunswick United Methodist Church Golf League

The BUMC Golf League is in full swing. So far we have about a dozen regular golfers every week. There is still time to come join us if you are interested. Players of all skill levels are welcome. The golf league will play 9 holes every Thursday evening from April 24th through September 18th. Tee time is 4:00 pm at Cossett Creek Golf Course in Brunswick.

If you can't commit to being a Regular (players who plan to play the majority of weeks during the season) we have space for what we call Alternates (players who plan to play at least 5 times during the season). For more information on the league contact:

Jim Armitage: 724-814-4513 jrarmitage1@gmail.com
Ron Chidsey: 440-785-0509 chidseyr@gmail.com



Music Department



The choir will be taking a summer break. Anyone with any musical ability that would like to perform during the summer months, please let Chris know.

Contact Chris Chidsey at
christopherchidsey@gmail.com



Bible Study

We are on summer break and will resume in the fall. Enjoy your time off and look for updates in your August or September newsletters announcing the date we will resume and what the studies will be.



LET'S CONNECT!

**CHRIST
COMMUNITY
CONNECT**

Operation Christmas Child



Thank you for your faithfulness in donating items in May. For June, pick up a bookmark on the Welcome Center and purchase the items on the bookmark. Don't forget you can fill a box (or more) on your own or with your small group. We will be having a workshop soon to take inventory and sort the items we have already received. Watch your Sunday bulletin for the day and time of the workshop.

Please call me if you need anything or have a question.

Marcia Taylor, 330-350-1479.



Here is a picture of the first counting of the pull tabs at the Ronald McDonald House with Brittany and Tony. They are more than halfway to their goal. They have another year to collect the rest. Please keep bringing in your pull tabs and placing them in the containers in the gathering area.



Dear Church Family,
The gracious spirit of the church members and the kindness throughout the day brought sunshine to the darkness of our hours. We will never forget the church's expression of love.

The Family of Barb Porter

There is a lot that happens behind the scenes especially with our finances. We would like to thank Julie Zevchek for all her time, expertise, and hard work in ensuring our financial records are accurate. She has helped for many years but has most recently been assisting with setting up the budget and training our new finance team on how to use Church Windows. It is very time consuming.
Thank you so much Julie!



Building Maintenance Team

As previously mentioned in another article, there is a lot that goes on behind the scenes in our church that members aren't always aware of.

The Building Maintenance Team does so much to maintain our church building and the church grounds. Hank Hartmann is constantly fixing and repairing items especially lights that go out. Most recently he fixed the ice maker which was a time consuming job.

Bill Radcliffe has spent the last month hanging drywall downstairs to cover up the old paneling in the fellowship hall. It looks beautiful. Stop down and see it.

Harry Caudill has been meeting with companies to get bids on updating our kitchen hood which no longer meets code.

Dick Beeching has been getting bids for parking lot repairs and met with the city in order to get the entrance fix after the water main break.

These are just a few jobs they have recently been working on. I can't list them all as there are so many. Thank you gentlemen for all your time and effort!

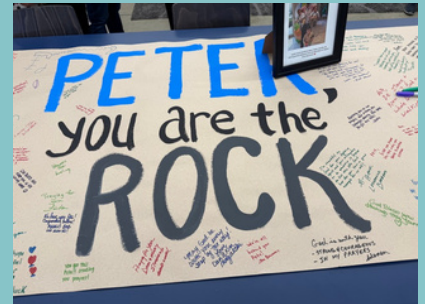
Medina County Fair – Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to collect tickets and stamp hands at the gates at the Medina County Fair, on August 3 - August 9, 2026. We are doing this in conjunction with other United Methodist churches in Medina County. Volunteers will work 4 hour shifts, will receive a t-shirt to wear, and free entrance to the fair. Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older to volunteer alone or junior-high school age if volunteering with an adult. Proceeds will go to the Missions budget.

For additional information, please call or text Beth Myers 216-403-3855.



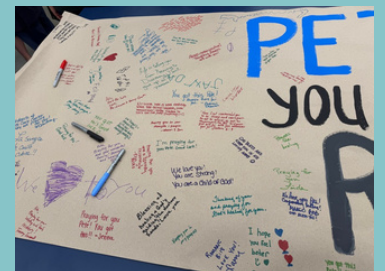
Thank you to the Boy Scouts who helped take apart and dispose of the ping pong table and foosball table along with many boxes that had been collecting in the community room. The room looks so much cleaner.



I cannot thank my church family enough for all the support and participation in signing the banner for my friend Peter! The left side of the banner was pretty full of just BUMC people!

When I presented this banner to Pete Meadows and his family, the love in that room was exponential!

With love and appreciation,
Mallory Anglin





On Saturday May 9, seven members of our congregation gathered with folks from five other churches to build the frame of a Habitat for Humanity house. Brunswick UMC, Medina UMC, York UMC, Medina UCC, Medina Nazarene, and Zion Lutheran were all represented. The frame pictured will soon be transported to the home's permanent location in Wadsworth. The homeowner's name is Bridgette. She has a 15 year old son and currently lives here in Brunswick. Unfortunately, Habitat was unable to find property in Brunswick, but Bridgette and her son are very excited about their new home anyway. They are also very thankful for this wonderful opportunity they have been afforded.



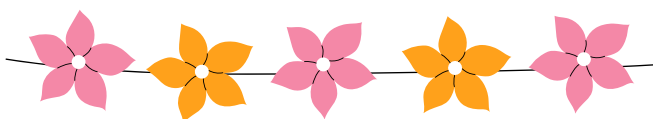
Hi Brunswick friends!

Thought you'd like to know that the Brunswick UMC signal gets out pretty far. Inspired by a visit back home to Brunswick to see my mom for Mother's Day, I tuned into Worship this weekend. What a lovely, spirit-filled expression of our Christian faith. So wonderful to see the love of God, great music ministry, and strong biblical teaching 500 feet from where my grandpa used to have his ice cream store.

May Brunswick UMC continue to bring God's grace to Northeast Ohio and the World! I'd love to stop and visit next time I'm in town.

Yours in Christ,

*Alex Nixon
Emory Candler Seminarian
and Certified Candidate for
Ministry in the North Georgia
Conference*





Kids Hope Picnic

Kids Hope concluded another year with a trip to the farm. The students and their mentors enjoyed a scavenger hunt, ice cream sundaes and a visit to the barn. We want to send a huge thank you to our host Dave Goodyear (better known as Uncle Dave) and to Julie Buttle who organized all the games and ice cream social. Carole and Kevin Jones, Barb and Jim Keister and Barb Slama also helped during the picnic. A memorable moment was when two ostriches entertained the kids with their lively antics. It was so heart warming to hear a bunch of kids giggling. It was a nice end to our year.





Office News!

Pastor Matt will be out of the office for the Youth Mission Trip May 31- June 7 and for Annual Conference June 10-13.

As a reminder, if you have something you would like to donate to the church, please check with Karen in the office first to see if the church can use it. We are finding bags and boxes of random items around the church not knowing where they came from.

The Strongsville UMC holds a Royal Family Kids Camp for foster care kids in Beach City. They need help this year on Friday, July 24 at 10 am packing up all of their luggage and getting it on the U-Haul, while others tear down their entire VBS-style set up. It's a big job and has to be done quickly. If you can help that day, please let Pastor Matt know. He'll also be helping.

Mail

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

BUMC
PO Box 85
Brunswick, Ohio 44212

Office Hours:

Please plan your trips accordingly:

Monday thru Thursday:

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

The office is closed on Friday afternoons.



CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION: 330-225-3179

Matt Merriman, Pastor

Karen McGoughran, Office Manager (Ext. 10)

Jessieca Paul, Youth Ministry Coordinator

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