

# UMC EXPRESS



## Ash Wednesday February 22 7:00pm

Ashes are an important symbol of our humanity from Genesis.

Receiving the imposition of ashes is a powerful way to confront our humanity and mortality. They remind us that we are not God, but God's good creation. In them, we recognize that our bodies will not last forever and we come face to face with the reality of our eventual death.

On Ash Wednesday, we confront our sin. We recognize our inability to live up to all God has created us to be and our need to be forgiven. No matter how far we have come in our spiritual journey, each of us has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).

Lent leads to Easter, the day we celebrate that though our bodies are temporary and our lives are flawed, a day of resurrection will come when we will live in the presence of God forever.

~ United Methodist Communications

*All committee chairs and interested members are invited to a meeting with Paul Nickerson, our church growth coach from Boston. February 28 7:00 pm in the parlor.*

**March Newsletter**  
The Deadline for the March Newsletter  
Monday, February 20, 2023

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Pastor: Rev. Dr. Donald Kuntz  
Deacon: Rev. Tammy Kuntz  
Organist: Connie Beery  
Choir Director: Pam Mullin  
Praise Team Director: Bobbi Placke

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Check us out on Facebook!



## Important Dates

February 7, 14, 21, 28

**Bible Study**

9:30 AM

February 8

**Bible and Burritos**

**El Patron**

6:30 PM

February 11

**MT25OC Food Distribution**

10:00 AM-1:00 PM

February 18

**Food Pantry**

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

February 21

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake**

Supper

5:00pm-7:00pm



# What's Happening At Seville UMC?



## Calling All Chili Chefs and Chili Eaters!

We are planning our annual chili cook-off! We are in need of chefs, basket donors and chili enthusiasts! Our Cloverleaf Community event will be on March 11 at 5pm. Tickets are \$10 with a family cap of \$20 (2 adults and kids under 18). Please let Sarah, Jerrica, or Valerie know if you are interested in being a chef, donation a basket, needing tickets or help plan.

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## Bibles and Burritos

Join the Cloverleaf Collaborative Community for scripture and reflection as we share a meal together.

Hear a Jesus story and share in the discussion questions:

*How did this story affect the people at the time?*

*Where do I fit in this story?*

*How is this story relevant today?*

Share the meal and be part of the conversation!

El Patron 101 Greenwich Rd. Seville

February 8 6:30pm

RSVP for reservations.

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## Happy New Year

The Book for Kids program has been in service to Cloverleaf Local children for two years now. We want you to know how much we appreciate your support through your donations of books, anonymous monetary donations, hours of time sorting, packing and delivering books. Early literacy makes such a huge difference in the life of a child, not only in their success at school, but also in their future as their confidence grows!

So far we have delivered 3,108 books to children in the free lunch program, Lodi preschool, our food pantry and by taking the Louiemobile out to several communities in the summer. This would not be possible without your help.

Thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts!

Sincerely, The Books for Kids Volunteers

# A WORD FROM OUR REVEREND...

## **Reverend Donald Kuntz**

Manos Juntas is Spanish for Hands Together. Created decades ago as a partnership between the Oklahoma Conference of the UMC and the Methodist Church of Mexico.

Rev. Tammy has been going to Mexico for 19 years, starting as the cook for medical teams. Rev. Don has been going for 17 years, primarily as a driver. For decades their primary impact was building tiny houses for very poor families, giving them a cement floor, cinderblock walls, windows, wooden door and a roof. Sometimes Manos Juntas would do twenty to twenty five houses a year. In recent years, construction has grown into building classrooms for schools.

An entire school built in Nuevo Progreso is now the Casa Esperanza Children's Home (House of Hope). It currently has 17 orphans, living in one boys dorm room and one girls dorm room. All of these children have been placed there by the government. At first, the hope was to raise the orphans of violent criminals whom other groups wouldn't touch with the thought from Manos Juntas "all children are precious to the Lord, we will love them all."



Another entire school built on the west side of Rio Bravo is now being finished as a daycare so single moms can go back to work and feed their families. It has six classrooms and will have two offices and bathrooms.



*Carl Perry took on several tree stumps to wrestle them out of the ground in preparation for sidewalks or gardens.*

Manos Juntas provides free cataract surgery by renting out an operating room in Reynosa one day a quarter. Over ten campaigns, 1041 people have been treated. There is a clinic in Rio Bravo which is self supporting, a school out in a rural poor neighborhood with a community center and resale shop. They are renovating an old farm to be a retreat center south of Reynosa which in time will be self supporting. A women's sewing cooperative is making table cloths, aprons and piñatas. The children of the orphanage are learning handcrafts as they make dolls to support the orphanage. Seville UMC will be supplying some fabric for the next set of dolls. There are English classes in the Susannah Wesley Center in the Larry Acton Retreat Center.

It is interesting seeing the transition from tiny houses which benefit one family at a time to social institutions like schools, orphanages and daycares which benefit whole neighborhoods at a time. There is now a Friends of Manos Juntas house in Alamo, Texas is a staging ground for teams and supplies heading to Manos Juntas in Rio Bravo.

For more information see the Facebook page. To donate, connect with the UMC Advance.

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/manosjuntasvimmexico>

Manos Juntas Advance <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/3020527/>



Scan here to check out the Cloverleaf Collaborative YouTube Channel!



# Missions at Seville UMC

*Reverend Tammy Kuntz*



The recent mission journey to Manos Juntas Mission in Rio Bravo, Mexico provided new ways to serve in the community as we worked on a new day care that will provide a safe place for women to bring their children while they work. This is a new ministry for the mission. The team cleared trash and weeds to make space for a flower garden and vegetable garden. We are grateful for your support in this continued mission project!



The next mission journey is back to the Dominican Republic to share solar oven in three communities. The team includes volunteers from South Dakota, North Dakota, Arizona, and Rev. Don and me. Christopher Sylvah is the new director of Solar Oven Partners and is currently working with the partner in Sierra Leone and the Navajo Nation to increase distribution in those areas. Last year, the March team distributed 101 ovens with education sessions about how to use the ovens effectively for better health and nutrition as well as the impact on the environment. A complete solar oven package – the oven, thermometer, potholders, water purification device, measuring cups, pans with lids – costs \$150. You can contribute to this project through the Advance #418812 or with cash to Rev. Tammy. Thank you



**Mark Your Calendars!**

Saturday, April 29 - Join the Cloverleaf Collaborative in a Rice Meal Pack with Midwest Mission!

Details coming!





United  
Women  
in Faith

We met this month and Kelly Korb led the program "who do you say I am".

Officers were installed by Rev. Don.

On February 5 we will pack cookies and candy for college students and service men. Be sure to bring cookies on that day.

Thanks to the Memorial Committee for the new kitchen Items!

**We're a sisterhood acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation.**



United Methodist Men are hosting a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper from 5 to 7 p.m. on Feb. 21 to benefit the Matthew 25 Coalition. The menu includes pancakes with fruit toppings, sausage, applesauce, coffee and milk. Cost is by donation. Pancake makers and servers are needed! Please contact John Gladden if you can help.

## Outreach

The Outreach Committee met together to evaluate the movie and the nativity scene which were held in December for all who wanted to attend. We all decided to hold both events again this year and make some additions.

Sounds interesting and fun!

We are re-visiting the Visitation Program from the past. If you are interested in being a part of the program, please contact Kris Perry or Mary Oberli. It will be a once a month commitment.

We need to keep in touch with our people!

Coffee Hour will beginning the first Sunday in March and each month following. Anyone wanting to commit to a month, please sign up on sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Just keep it simple!

You will want to be part of "God's Workout" during lent. Look for more information later! It will be a fun challenge! Lent begins February 22.

## Coffee Club

We are in the midst of planning menus and programs for the year. Our first day to meet will be June 5. We will need to raise the price of the lunch and program somewhat.

*Seville Church & All those who Serve,  
**Thank you** all sooo much for all you do.  
We really need it sometimes &  
appreciate it. From your time, kind  
words and a simple smile it all means a  
lot so simply Thank you all.*

*Mom/Family+ Baby*

# Worship

Looking ahead

## February 5

5th Sunday after Epiphany

### Scripture

Isaiah 58:1-12  
Psalm 112 (UMH 833)  
1 Corinthians 2:1-16  
Matthew 5: 13-20

### Hymns

344 Lord You Have Come to  
the Lakeshore  
64 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord  
God Almighty  
593 Here I Am Lord  
398 Jesus Calls Us

### Greeters/Ushers

8:45 Lea & Mark Ewing  
10:45 Kristi & Carl Perry

### Acolytes

8:30  
10:45

### Liturgist

8:45 Jerrica Pawlus  
10:45 *MAYBE YOU?*

**Counter** Helen Angel

### Communion Steward

**8:45** Roseann Wood  
**10:45** Jennifer Drehs

## February 12

6th Sunday after Epiphany

### Scripture

1 Corinthians 3:1-9  
Psalm 119 (UMH 840)  
Matthew 5:21-37

### Hymns

524 Beams of Heaven as I go  
402 Lord, I Want to be a  
Christian  
310 He Lives

### Greeters/Ushers

8:45 Roseann & Craig Wood  
10:45 Cathy Piper & Liisa  
Coldiron

### Acolytes

8:30  
10:45

### Liturgist

8:45 Heather Cottingham  
10:45 *MAYBE YOU?*

**Counter** Janet Gommel

## February 19

Transfiguration Sunday

### Scripture

Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 99 (UMH 819)  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17: 1-9

### Hymns

173 Christ Whose Glory Fills  
the Skies  
368 My Hope is Built on  
Nothing Less  
371 I Stand Amazed in the  
Presence

### Greeters/Ushers

8:45 Jean Eby & Theresa  
Nartzger  
10:45 Sandy Bridenthal &  
Beth Meadows

### Acolytes

8:30  
10:45

### Liturgist

8:45 Bobbi Placke  
10:45 Phil Carpenter

**Counter** Carol Harlan

## February 22

Ash Wednesday

### Scripture

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10  
Psalm 51 (UMH 785)  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

### Hymns

110 A Mighty Fortress Is Our  
God  
496 Sweet Hour of Prayer  
402 Lord, I Want to be a  
Christian

### Greeters/Ushers

7:00pm  
**Liturgist**  
7:00pm Sandy Bridenthal

## February 26

First Sunday in Lent

### Scripture

Romans 5:12-19  
Psalm 32 (UMH 766)  
Matthew 4:1-11

### Hymns

363 And can it be that I should gain  
400 Come, Thou Fount of every blessing  
534 Be still, My Soul

### Greeters/Ushers

8:45 Nancy & Brian Greer  
10:45 Phil & Keri Carpenter

### Acolytes

8:30  
10:45 Evan Reigler

### Liturgist

8:45 Heather Cottingham  
10:45 Phil Carpenter  
**Counter** Melanie Gladden



## February Birthdays

- 1 Theresa Naftzger
- 2 Vicky Welling
- 4 Amy Huttinger
- 6 Dennis Clevidence
- 8 Greg Piper
- 9 Leah Riegler
- 14 Dean Stutzman
- 16 Phil Carpenter
- 17 Joan Bise
- 19 David Freeland  
Malinda Woodring
- 20 Scott Hartman
- 23 Hilary Grey
- 24 Keri Carpenter
- 25 Randy Eby
- 26 Mary Oberli



# News You Can Use...

## Canal District Lay Servant Message

Lydia Stahl, District Director of Lay Servant Ministries

As the New Year begins, I hope you find God's love, peace, and mercy. As servants of Jesus Christ we are called to share the good news. During this time many of us are struggling to see where God is leading us. Lay Servant Ministries is a great place to find your mission and gifts. Pastors please look to your congregation for folks that would love to take our Basic Course which teaches leadership, caring, and, communication skills. Every church lay leader should take the Basic Course and anyone in a leadership role would benefit from the class.

For those who have taken the Basic Course and would love to learn more we have advanced courses twice a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. As a lay servant you can learn more about the United Methodist church, John Wesley's teachings, and how to help your congregation and church communities. Being a lay servant does not mean you have to preach. Many servants choose not to, but it does equip you if you would choose that path or are asked to help with a service.

We have a great team of teachers and we have a great time learning together. I can't wait to see you soon in one of our upcoming classes.

~Lydia Stahl, Lay Servant Ministries District Director

God call each one of differently. If God is calling you this year to serve Him consider contacting the Lay Servant Ministries.

### 2023 Schedule for classes:

Basic Course: February 24, 6-9 pm and February 25, 8 am to 4 pm (Deadline Feb. 3)

Location: Lockwood United Methodist Church, 3680 Manchester Rd, Akron

Spring Advanced Course: Transforming Evangelism, March 10, 6-9 pm, March 11, 8 am to 4 pm, and March 25, 8 am to 4 pm. (Deadline Feb 10)  
THE DATES FOR THIS CLASS MAY CHANGE  
Location Copley United Methodist Church, 1518 S. Cleveland Massillon Rd, Copley

Fall Advanced Course: Leading Worship, TBA

Contact Debbie Sloan to register for classes at [dlsloan1@aol.com](mailto:dlsloan1@aol.com) or at 330-283-6893

## February Anniversaries

- 17 Martha & Jerry Springer  
26 Sarah & Matt Rielger



### *Please pray for:*

Norma Allen  
Airin Dalton  
Maggie Kuntz  
Mary Lou and Jim Eby  
Deb Massie  
Betty Perry  
Matt Huse  
Yvonne Surrarrer  
Morgan Wood

The people of Ukraine  
Natural Disaster survivors  
Unspoken Concerns  
Victims of COVID

# More Happenings

Wow! 350 pairs of socks were hanging on the sock tree that was in the back entry to the church during the advent season. Thank you to all members and friends of SUMC for your generosity. There were so many socks, that the Medina County Children's Center was able to take what they could use, and the abundance was donated to the Cloverleaf schools, and then to the Lodi UMC clothing pantry. There were also a number of hats, gloves and scarves that the Lodi UMC clothing pantry was glad to accept.

Thank you to all who were able to participate in this ministry of our outreach committee.



## Family Life

There will be a Coffee Hour following first and second service on February 12. This is our chance to fellowship with everyone!

Also, we will be planning a summer picnic for this year.

## Youth Work Mission

**June 25 - July 1, 2023**

Any youth currently in grade 6 can participate! One group will serve in Souteh Dakota at Tree of Life Mission on the Rosebud Reservation. The other team will serve with the Fuller Center in western Kentucky working on disaster rebuilding.

The next meeting is planned for Sunday, February 12 at 5:30 at Wellington UMC.

## Bread and Pastries Pickup

- |                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| First Tuesday                   | Kuntz    |
| Second Tuesday                  | Perry    |
| Third Tuesday                   | Ewing    |
| Fourth Tuesday                  | Menssen  |
| Fifth Tuesday                   | Freeland |
| Bagel slicers and bread packers |          |

Sandy Bridenthal and Sherry Armstrong

Can you help with this ministry to pick up bread and pastries as needed?



The **Bazaar workshop** will begin Thursday February 2 at 9:30 am in the parlor.

We are continuing to collect fabric to make the rugs, old sheets, curtains, and jeans.

## Chancel Choir

Do you like to sing? Then Chancel Choir may be the group for you! We are a small group, but we love to praise and worship our Lord with song. Practice is every Thursday at 7 PM.

## Sunday School

Sunday School continues every week at 9:30 AM for all ages. Please encourage children in grades Pre-K through 6th to join us downstairs. Adults meet in the parlor.



# November Finance



## From the Finance Committee

It was a challenging year financially for Seville UMC, but we are grateful for everyone who has supported our church in so many ways. Your financial gifts, prayers and involvement in the life and activities of Seville UMC are appreciated.

As of December 31, 2022:

General Fund Giving	\$164,705
Building/Maintenance	<u>5,742</u>
Total Giving	\$170,447
Total Expenses	( <u>188,738</u> )
Shortfall	(\$18,291)

Funds totaling \$18,800 have been moved from savings during 2022. Shared Giving – part of being a connectional UMC church – were paid thru November. East Ohio Conference will continue to list December 2022 as an obligation on our Shared Giving statement until we are to catch up this past due amount.

In addition to supporting our local food pantry, the Christmas sock tree and coat/blanket boxes, you also provided financial support to:

UMCOR	\$776.00
African Univ.	\$325.03
Ukraine	\$3,933.00

## Parking Lot Update:

The parking lot repairs have been completed!

Cost of the repairs \$6,800

Funds raised for Parking Lot Repairs \$4,758

## Online Giving at

[www.https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z6HA/home](https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z6HA/home)



Scan here with your smartphone camera to make a payment electronically through Vanco

## J.C.'s Kid's Choir

J.C.'s Kids is a children's choir of the Seville United Methodist Church. It is open to children age 5 through 6th grade. Practices are every Wednesday at 5:30 PM and go through the beginning of May. J.C.'s Kids sing every 2nd Sunday at the 10:45 AM service. They usually do a Christmas & spring program with songs, solos, speaking parts and acting. There have children's bells that they play also. Please feel free to join!

*To the Lunch Box Crew  
To all who helped with the December Lunch Box meals, a giant size **Thank you**. I was surprised & blessed to receive a meal when I was down with covid. The meal was **FABULOUS!** Fresh, tasty & generous portions! Your kindness is so appreciated. I was truly blessed by receiving one of these great meals. Thank you!*

*Blessings  
Chris Wotowiec*

# February 2023

- 1 JCs Kids
- 2 Chancel Choir
- 4 United Methodist Men
- 7 Bible Study
- 8 JCs Kids
  - Bibles and Burritos
- 9 Chancel Choir
- 11 MT25OC food distribution
- 14 Bible Study
- 15 JCs Kids
- 16 Chancel Choir
- 18 Food Pantry
- 21 Bible Study
- 21 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- 22 JCs Kids
- 23 Chancel Choir
- 28 Bible Study

## Food Pantry Items of the Month

Toilet paper



Scan here to view the Calendar Online

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Seville United Methodist Church  
74 W. Main St.; PO BOX 32  
Seville, OH 44273

### Our Sunday Morning Schedule:

- 8:30 AM Praise Worship
- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 10:35 AM Singing of Hymns
- 10:45 AM Traditional Worship & Online Streaming

# Seville UMC Lenten Calendar 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>22 Feb</b> Save your change during Lent. Bring to church on Easter and mark Food Pantry.	<b>23</b> Write 5 things you are grateful for. Tape to your mirror. Pray for these when you see them.	<b>24</b> Find a small rock to keep in your pocket. Every time you notice it: Pray!	<b>25</b> Mail a card to someone on our prayer list.
<b>26</b> Pray for Rev. Don and Rev. Tammy	<b>27</b> Pray for our Sunday School program, adults and children. Consider joining.	<b>28</b> Fast from social media and TV for just one day.	<b>1 Mar</b> Read your Bible for 10 min. today. Don't know what to read? Start with Psalm 1.	<b>2</b> Write 5 things you are worried about. Tape to your mirror. Pray for these when you see them.	<b>3</b> Clean out a closet and donate items you no longer use.	<b>4</b> Mail a card to someone you haven't seen in awhile.
<b>5</b> Pray for the finances of our church	<b>6</b> Pray for our Men's and Women's groups. Consider joining.	<b>7</b> Find 2 times of 10 minutes to rest throughout the day.	<b>8</b> Pay or pray for the person behind you at the drive thru. Do this on a different day if you are not at a drive thru today.	<b>9</b> Write 5 people you love. Tape to your mirror. Pray for these when you see them.	<b>10</b> Think about something in your pantry that you love. Buy it this week for the food pantry.	<b>11</b> Mail a card to a church member, just because
<b>12</b> Pray for the music leaders of our church	<b>13</b> Pray for our Food Pantry and Lunchbox programs. Could you help in any way?	<b>14</b> Turn off all the noise in your home and read for half an hour.	<b>15</b> No complaining day! Make a commitment to not whine or complain.	<b>16</b> Write 5 everyday blessings. Tape to your mirror. Pray for these when you see them.	<b>17</b> If you are able, go for a walk and pick up trash.	<b>18</b> Mail a card to a family member
<b>19</b> Pray for our liturgists, acolytes, ushers and tech support.	<b>20</b> Pray for church committee members and the work they do.	<b>21</b> Sing or listen to your favorite hymn. MAKE IT LOUD!	<b>22</b> Make a conscious effort to smile at everyone you see today.	<b>23</b> Write 5 people you need to forgive. Tape to your mirror. Pray for these when you see them.	<b>24</b> Eat a meatless meal and consider donating the cost of the meal.	<b>25</b> Send a note to someone telling them what a good job they are doing.
<b>26</b> Pray for the people who are working while we are in church.	<b>27</b> Pray for the Windfall crew that cleans our church.	<b>28</b> Spend some time outdoors enjoying the beauty of nature. Or just sit by a window	<b>29</b> Pay a compliment to a stranger today.	<b>30</b> Write 5 world problems. Tape to your mirror. Pray for these when you see them.	<b>31</b> Give up sweets for just one day.	<b>1 Apr</b> Mail a card to someone in the newsletter having a birthday.
<b>2</b> Pray for the people who do not know the love of God.	<b>3</b> Pray for Keri our church secretary.	<b>4</b> Spend some time today doing your hobby/art.	<b>5</b> Do a random act of kindness.	<b>6</b> Write 5 things about your faith that you are grateful for. Tape to your mirror. Pray for these when you see them.	<b>7</b> Fast for a time today in recognition of the sacrifice God made for our salvation.	<b>8</b> If you were participating in 40 Days of Prayer, send cards or visit the 5 people. If not, write a thank you note to someone.
<b>9</b> Thank God for the amazing gift of His only Son. Hallelujah.						