



Church of the Saviour Magazine

# Fall 2023



# CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR MAGAZINE: FALL 2023



Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

There's an age-old question that has become synonymous with Methodism, one that was asked at every Wesleyan Class Meeting: "How is it with your soul?" Or, to give it a more contemporary spin, "How is your life with God?"

We've been asking this question in some of our staff team meetings, so I thought I'd begin this letter by asking you. The days we live in are so busy, so fast paced, that we rarely have the time to stop and reflect upon the questions that really matter. That means now more than ever, it is important that we make the time. That way we can live on Full, rather than running on fumes.

To help us be better equipped at answering this question we will be diving into a new sermon series in October called "Easy Yoke." The goals of this series are threefold:

1. To explore the big picture goal of discipleship — becoming like Jesus in spirit and character.
2. To provide knowledge of how to follow Jesus in a 21st century context.
3. To teach practical and intelligent disciplines that can bring about Christlike transformation.

I'm really excited about this series, and I anticipate how God will use it to further our mission as a church focused on: "Making disciples of Jesus Christ to transform the church, community, and the world." Please pray for me as I prepare to bring these messages to you.

I'd also like to highlight the Vision and Values that we recently adopted.

**Vision:** A family of believers being transformed by Christ, dedicated to growing spiritually, living generously and loving courageously.

**Values:**

- Centers on Christ
- Welcomes all people
- Respects & celebrates diverse opinions
- Embodies love, grace & generosity
- Forges enriching relationships

These Vision and Values define part of our habitus. By embracing them, we declare that anyone who steps into Church of the Saviour (COS) will sense the direction we're headed and the principles that guide us

Most of us would agree that these values do, indeed, reflect the COS culture, but I've been quick to warn people that unless we are intentional about embodying them, our culture might change into something less admirable. Therefore, it is important for us to keep showing up in ways that reflect this Vision and these Values; ways that would cause others to discern our them through their experience at the church.

In conclusion, let us continue to show up with intentionality, embodying the love, grace, and generosity that define us as a community. By doing so, we not only reinforce our commitment to our Vision and Values but also extend an invitation to others to experience the transformative power of Christ within our church family.



With love and anticipation for what lies ahead,

Pastor Meshach Kanyion

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# Children's Ministry

A Vision for God's Purpose for our Families

When it comes to parenting, sometimes it feels as if just surviving each day is a success. We can get so caught up in the demands of the day, running our crazy schedules, that we give little or no attention to what is important. Have you ever been on a long hike? It is easy to let our eyes fall to the path, looking only where our next step will land.

But God wants more for our families than just surviving the next moment. As parents, we must lift our eyes and ask God to show us where we are going, and more importantly, where He wants to take us. Having a clear destination and vision for where we are headed allows us to be better parents here and now.

Have you ever stopped to imagine who your children will be when they are 20 years old? What character traits will they have? How will they see the world? What will they believe? Will they know and love God?

What sort of legacy will our children leave for their grandchildren? For their world? Will theirs be a story of faith and character? If we are not intentional with our parenting, we run the risk of ending up with a family filled with achievement, recreation, and niceness. God created each of our families for a Kingdom purpose. He gave us children for a reason! Digging into God's word and keeping our eyes fixed on Him will help us discover it!



We are celebrating Bible Sunday on Sunday, October 15 at both worship services. If your child is in 3rd grade OR missed Bible Sunday last year, and they would like to receive a Bible, [sign up to attend here](#). Unable to make it to Bible Sunday? Please contact Michelle Shiparski at [michelle.shiparski@cos-umc.org](mailto:michelle.shiparski@cos-umc.org) to make arrangements to have your



Preschool children & their grown-ups are invited to **Story Hour** on October 7 and November 4. Our time together includes stories, songs & rhymes, and a hands-on activity.



Make plans now for our upcoming **Parents Night Out** on Friday, November 10. Kids get dropped off between 5:30-6p and picked up at 8p. Let them have fun with games, activities, and time with their friends, while you enjoy a well-deserved night out! \*Pizza dinner provided. Available to children 3 months – 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Register here:



## Upcoming Children's Ministry Events:

### October

7 Story Hour, 9:30a  
15 3rd Grade Bible Sunday & Acolyte Recognition  
27 Trunk or Treat, 6:30p-8p

### November

4 Story Hour, 9:30a  
10 Parents Night Out, 5:30p-8p  
12 456, 4p  
19 All-in Sunday

### December

16 Gingerbread Bash, 9:30a  
24 Children's Musical, 5p



# Youth Ministry

*"I was just really nervous to be on this trip in general, but I tried to talk to people and not just stay reserved and it was actually not bad. It was actually one of the greatest weeks of my life." -Charlee Kanyion, 10th grader on her first Mission Trip*

There's a tendency in the church to want to be involved in life-changing work, that wherever you'll serve there will be people completely ready to have Christ revolutionize their lives. That being said, anyone who regularly serves in ministry can tell you that those opportunities don't come every week, every month, or even every year. It's not the most ideal truth, but it's a mold for how people tend to work. Not everyone is ready for what God has in store for them. I am proud to say youth ministry at COS breaks that mold.

We are still on a high from our 2023 Mission Trip and Choir Tour. It's such a joy to see the gospel begin to click for students and that tends to start with God revealing a loving community to us. I am so proud of our students for the open and loving disposition they have towards people they don't know well yet. It's an honor to get to serve here amongst such a mature and God-loving base of good students.

The real joy, for me as the youth director, is how much we can build off of that momentum and continue into a new school year with some gusto! We have a lot of fun stuff planned for this year and it's going to be a lot of fun seeing how God is working in this community. The fun is just beginning.

Blessings,  
Jon Yaney, Youth Director



## Fall Semester Schedule

- October 6 - Pumpkin Patch Setup**
- October 7 - Pumpkin Dropoff**
- October 7-31 - Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser**
- October 15 - Fall Festival**
- October 22 - Senior Night Planning Meeting**
- November 1 - Pumpkin Patch Teardown**
- November 8 - Confirmation Meeting**
- November 26 - No Youth**
- December 3 - Vespers**
- December 9 - DTN Prep Day**
- December 10 - DTN**
- December 17 - Christmas Party**
- December 24 - No Youth**
- December 31 - No Youth**





# Adult Ministry

Did you know that the kangaroo cannot move backward? Kangaroos live out in open country. They have a mode of travel that is perfectly adapted for this habitat--they jump! With huge back feet and a long tail as counterbalance, kangaroos can jump up to thirty feet in a single leap. They are built to jump. They can also move quickly from side to side with amazing agility, but they cannot move backward! Their thick, muscular tail prevents it.

I think we can learn something from the kangaroo. It is easy for us to want to look back, to remember how things used to be, but we run the risk of missing what new things God has in store for us. What if instead, we approach (change) life like the kangaroo? What if we commit to keep moving forward? The apostle Paul says in Philippians 3: 12-13, "I have not yet reached my goal. Christ Jesus took hold of me so that I could reach that goal. So, I keep pushing myself forward to reach it. 13 Brothers and sisters, I don't consider that I have taken hold of it yet. But here is the one thing I do. I forget what is behind me. I push hard toward what is ahead of me."

As we begin this new ministry season at Church of the Saviour, my prayer for us is that we claim the hope that Paul speaks of for our own lives. Let's keep our focus on the new ways God is moving in and through us so that we are growing His kingdom. Let's continue to move forward toward the goal to which Christ has called us!

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It is our hope that through our small groups and classes that we are developing a strong community of Christ followers by offering you a place to connect with one another. Our Adult Discipleship provides small groups, short-term classes, fellowship opportunities as well as opportunities to serve both within the church and community. For information about each of these groups and classes, you can go to [Realm](#) and search adult groups, or you can contact Michelle Shiparski at [michelle.shiparski@cos-umc.org](mailto:michelle.shiparski@cos-umc.org).



If you are a young adults seeking community, growth, and fun, check out our new Young Adult Small Group.

It meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 6:30p in the Peace House. Whether you are a student, professional, or somewhere in between, this group is your chance to with others like you on a journey of faith, self-discovery, and community!

Questions? Email [youngadults@cos-umc.org](mailto:youngadults@cos-umc.org)

Join Pastor Meshach for this exciting new class!

Each class we'll watch an episode of "The Chosen," and at the end of each class there may be time for sharing comments.

Class will be held every week on Wednesday from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm, ending October 25, 2023.

**The  
Chosen  
Watch  
Party**





# Montgomery Nursery School

a ministry of Church of the Saviour, est. 1961

Montgomery Nursery School is celebrating 62nd year of operation this year. Montgomery Nursery School's mission is to serve as an extension of Christ's love to nurture children as they build relationships with others and develop a love of learning. Last year, Montgomery Nursery School received a sizable grant from the State of Ohio. This money could be used for technology and operation upgrades to MNS as well as mental health support for children and updating classroom supplies. We partnered with COS and determined areas of need that would benefit both MNS and COS. The table below shows the improvements made to COS.

Item	Amount
New commercial dishwasher	\$15,335.43
WIFI upgrade throughout church	\$13,260.52
Fire Suppression system upgrade	\$1,016.00
Ceiling replacement in classrooms 105,106	\$12,266.00
Bathroom floors in preschool wing	\$750.00
New locks for all classroom doors to prevent intruders	\$13,060.50
New lock for outside playground door	\$1,773.50
New automatic latching aluminum fence	\$14,528.00
New wet floor cleaning machine that cleans and dries hard surface floors	\$3,000.00
Lockdown curtains on all classroom windows	\$239.46
16 FCC approved Walkie talkies	\$4,880.00
Large trash Gondola to collect trash	\$674.95
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$80,784.36</b>

In addition to these upgrades, MNS tithes to the church and supports the COS Youth Missions. This year our tithe was \$6,000.00 and our donation to the COS Youth mission was \$1,500.00. We are very grateful for the continued support COS provides us. Thank you for helping us make a difference in the lives of the our community.



# Haiti



## *Church of the Saviour Ministry Partners in Haiti*

Ministry Is Still Happening in Haiti!

The evening news paints a hopeless picture of Haiti. Violence is rampant, no governmental control exists, gang warfare rules the streets, the economy continues to decline and the people struggle daily to survive. In spite of the dangerous situation, Servants In Fellowship perseveres to minister to these people.

Our Evangelism and Outreach coordinator, Junior Cineas, works in the neighborhoods who are in desperate need of the message of God's love. Junior identifies families in need of shelter and brings together a team of paid workers to build these families a safe and sturdy 10'x12' home. These are the same homes that so many teams of missionaries, many from COS, built over the past several years. To date in 2023, SIF has built 26 homes. Each family also receives a Creole language Bible and a bucket to bucket water filtration system that Junior developed. His \$25 systems are purchased with funds given by COS Endowment committee. Some people are given an audio Bible, also purchased with COS Endowment funds, if they cannot read the word of God. Materials for the homes cost roughly \$1750 per home. The men who build the homes are paid, which allows them to feed their families. One worker is saving his salary to pay for his post-high school education. This program is a ministry for those receiving a house and those building!!

Junior has been blessed in his life to receive extensive secondary education. He has graduated from a Theological Seminary in Haiti and has taken numerous classes toward a Master's in Divinity from Indiana Wesleyan University. He's spreading his passionate faith and education through several programs that he has developed during his time with SIF. Junior is training a group of young men to teach Bible classes in the neighborhoods where SIF has built homes in the past. Fourteen of the 20 former HOPE Orphanage Girls, who are now in the care of Raising Hope Ministries, help Junior with his Outreach food distribution efforts, while they are growing spiritually under his guidance. Junior has coordinated Youth programs for local churches and organized a Pastor training weekend conference. Ministry is happening!!

Please continue to pray for the country of Haiti...for the violence to end, for the suffering to end, and for the forces of evil to be defeated forever! Your continued prayers and support of Servants In Fellowship allow this lifeline of ministry to continue, despite the dangers and difficulties. Visit the SIF website at [sifministries.org](http://sifministries.org)

To learn more about this organization. Church of the Saviour has been a generous partner with SIF for over 10 years. Let's keep the ministry happening!!

Barb Daniel  
[barb\\_daniel@yahoo.com](mailto:barb_daniel@yahoo.com)  
SIF Board Member



# Who Are the Stephen Ministers?

Previous articles described the Stephen Ministry at COS, in general terms of what they do. Stephen Ministers are compassionate individuals who are trained to help us when we encounter loss, grief, relationship challenges, and a myriad of things that can throw our lives into a tailspin. These Stephen Ministers are trained but are not professional counselors. They simply provide love, care, and support when we need it most. A Stephen Minister is a caring individual who can help us navigate our present situation.

We asked John Starkweather, one of our Stephen Ministers, to describe his experience as a Stephen Minister at COS.

## **Did you have concerns or expectations when you chose to become a Stephen Minister?**

Going in I was concerned that I could listen closely enough to understand all that was going on, and to respond sensitively enough to avoid causing unintended hurt.

## **What did you think was useful or valuable to you from your Stephen Minister training?**

The training at the start provides a basic approach of supplying care and support while the care receiver is working through their difficulties. It also alerted us to many of the pitfalls to avoid. Learning continues after starting to work with a care receiver. The value of experience is enhanced by thinking about what is working well and what is challenging. Organizing these thoughts into brief reports, without case details, to other Stephen Ministers and getting encouragement and suggestions helped me strengthen as a care giver.

## **Why is being a Stephen Minister important to you?**

Since being commissioned in 2015 I have had a number of care receivers. The life aspects in crisis varied widely but, in each case, they were coming to a "T" in the road where they could not continue as they would have chosen and they were confronted with new decisions to be made. I was glad to be able to let them discuss their feelings of frustration and uncertainty in ways they might not be able to talk with anyone else.

## **What talents or spiritual gifts do you think are important for a Stephen Minister?**

Compassion, Servanthood, and Faith: the willingness to spend time with a hurting person and to commit to what may be a fairly long-term relationship. Being anchored in a belief in the ultimate goodness of God even as you may listen to your care receiver struggle with their belief for understandable reasons.

If you know of someone, or you personally feel that you might benefit from a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Karen Crawford (791-3142 Ex 26) or Mary Hoover (513-702-5642).





# Justice

John Wesley and the Social Principles  
Who We Are as People

Inside the office at Church of the Saviour, a copy of the Social Creed of the United Methodist Church is on the wall. Do we notice it there? What is it? Pastor Meshach has challenged us to reflect on our Habitus—The way in which our environment in habits us, or the way our environment instills its values and norms.

Our denomination's founder, John Wesley (1703-1791) devoted much of his ministry to the oppressive causes of systemic poverty and people most affected by societal inequities. He promoted religious tolerance, equity in health care, food security and education, and access to a clean environment. He spoke out about mass incarceration, human trafficking, and the sacred worth of indigenous peoples.

The preaching and ministry of John Wesley led to the first draft of The Social Creed by his followers from his words in journals, books, and letters. It was a collaborative effort developed on a Western Union notepad across continents and globally adopted without dissent in 1908. The focus included: equal rights and justice for all (people) in all stations of life. It stood for protection of workers from dangerous occupational hazards, the abolition of child labor, a living wage in every industry. It concludes with a recognition of the Golden Rule and the mind of Christ as the supreme law of society.

Global change came again in 1968 as The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren merged and became the UNITED Methodist Church. In the union, two distinct statements on social issues were presented, both tracing their roots to the Social Creed of 1908. The General Conference issued a new Social Creed, and the title Social Principles was used globally for the first time in 1972.

The Things You Do, Do Something to You Pastor Meshach sermon: 3-5-2023  
Pastor Meshach reminded us: The power of liturgy is closely related to our identity—who we are as people. As we reflect, dialogue, and make decisions about Who We Are as People at Church of the Saviour, it is more important than ever to reflect on our history, the values and norms of our foundations and ensure these align with our liturgies and actions.

The Book of Discipline states: The Social Principles are a call to all members of the United Methodist Church to a prayerful, studied dialogue of faith and practice. An Overview of the Social Principles will be offered in October 2023 to introduce the Social Principles and discuss their history. Please look for future announcements on the date and location. We invite all to join us.





## United Women in Faith



*Submitted by Donna Steinmetz, Gifts from the Heart Chairperson*

### Gifts From The Heart Celebrating 30 Years

As autumn leaves begin to change, marking the season, the United Women in Faith eagerly anticipate one of their favorite times of the year – Advent and Christmas, along with the cherished tradition of "Gifts from the Heart" (GFTH). This annual event embodies the congregation's commitment to serving the community by providing Christmas gifts to children. Remarkably, we are now celebrating the 30th anniversary.

Gifts from the Heart was founded in 1993 by a UWF member, Laura Burrus. The following year, as part of his Eagle Scout project, high school student Eric Burrus (Laura's son) joined the cause and significantly expanded the program's reach and impact. Eric's responsibilities ranged from sending letters to local elementary schools, crafting angel ornaments for the Christmas tree, amassing 300 gifts, and coordinating the package delivery process. This was an impressive accomplishment for a sixteen-year-old. What initially began as a project by a hardworking boy scout became an annual enterprise at Church of the Saviour.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic posed unprecedented challenges. To address the community's greater needs while ensuring safety, GFTH transitioned to a contactless model.

UWF collected cash, gift cards, and backpacks instead of traditional wrapped gifts. Checks were mailed to the UWF treasurer, gift cards were dropped off at the church on designated collection days, and backpacks were delivered to the front porch of a UWF member who ensured delivery to student recipients. Despite the challenges, the congregation rallied together, contributing over \$10,000 in giving to support the children in our community during this challenging time.

Over the past two years, we have returned to our customary format, albeit with adaptations based on lessons learned during the previous year. We continued the tradition of selecting angels from Christmas trees, gathering wrapped gifts at the church, and collecting backpacks for the Wesley Chapel Mission Center. However, the pandemic prompted us to implement important changes, such as practicing social distancing and purchasing gift cards from Kroger and Walmart for some families.

Additionally, we embraced technology, using online Amazon lists to purchase gifts for the Operation Give Back Christmas Store, which supports Sycamore School children. Notably, GFTH evolved from being solely a UWF mission project into a collaborative effort between the UWF and the COS Youth. Together, we assembled stocking stuffers, organized

gifts, and packaged them for delivery to 252 children and their families. In the past two years, GFTH expanded by adding York Street United Methodist Church and New Vision United Methodist Church to the beneficiary list. The recent evolution reflects our commitment to adapting and persevering in the face of challenges while remaining dedicated to spreading the joy of Christmas to those in need.

As we commemorate the thirtieth anniversary in 2023, let us reflect and express gratitude for Gifts from the Heart, thankful that the mission has enabled us to be the hands and feet of Christ. Over the years, we've provided Christmas gifts from essential clothing items like socks and underwear to warm winter coats, sturdy boots, cherished toys, engaging games, enriching books, and practical backpacks. This year, as in the past, we remain steadfast in our commitment to embodying Christ's compassion.

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



## Here's What Love in Action looks like at Church of the Saviour UM

We believe **love** in action can change the **world**.

**Find out how to JOIN US! CONTACT** Leah Hondorf (513-304-5224) for membership information or to join a **small group**.

or you can join as a member-at-large or volunteer to help with one of our mission projects.

You can subscribe to the UWF Monthly Newsletter by contacting Mary Jane Sper [mjsper@gmail.com](mailto:mjsper@gmail.com).

Contact Donna Steinmetz (513-4488-7711) if you'd like to get involved with Gifts from the Heart.





# You CAN Help

## *Did You Know That You CAN Help With Youth Mission and Choir Trips?*

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world... [L]et your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (from Matthew 5:14-16). In order for Church of the Saviour's youth to let their light shine outside the church walls on the summer youth choir tours and youth mission trips, they prepare their hearts, minds, and souls in worship and in youth group and youth choir activities; and the trip costs are covered by youth/family funds, directed gifts, and various fund-raising events. All year long, a walk through the church's halls means walking by one of these fund-raisers.



The You CAN Help recycling fund-raiser is an ongoing event with no deadlines, no volunteer shifts, no event costs (100% of the recycling proceeds go to the youth trips), and no requests for cash! You CAN Help has been turning trash into mission treasure since 2004, when one youth choir family recycled \$6 worth of cans and wondered "what if lots of people from church gave their empty cans for recycling and the money helped pay the choir tour costs?" Fast-forward to 2023: You CAN Help has resulted in recycling more than 12,930 pounds (nearly 6½ tons!) of aluminum beverage cans and raising more than \$6,875 to support Church of the Saviour's youth as they serve as the hands and feet of Christ through summer youth trips! The simple ask is for empty aluminum beverage cans—anywhere from one at a time up to large bags full!—to be placed in or near one of the 4 collection bins at the church. (One bin is next to the soda machine, which also generates funds for the youth summer trips!)

What if every beverage can emptied at a church meeting or activity went into a You CAN Help bin and all the beverage cans emptied in homes were gathered and brought to a You CAN Help bin, then all of those cans got recycled to benefit Church of the Saviour's youth choir tours and youth mission trips? Just wondering.

*For more information about You CAN Help, contact Angie Philpott (churchangiecp@gmail.com).*

## Children's Closet

We are presently collecting diapers for Jack's Closet and Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank. Jack's Closet is a ministry of the Clough UMC which provides free clothing and diapers for children in foster and/or kinship care. Sweet Cheeks provides diapers to social service organizations and government agencies (ie. schools) that are helping families in need through comprehensive programs and services.

Diapers are NOT covered by food stamps and are very expensive. Since so many are needed, children sometimes do not get changed as often as they should. We hope to provide diapers to help with this great need.

We will also accept any other donations for children to the Children's Closet.

Children's Closet has been a mission of the COS United Women of Faith for many years. It is located in the brightly colored closet across the hall from the church office.

We collect things for two months at a time for one of our mission groups. They include: Wesley Chapel Mission Center; Wesley Education Center; Jack's Closet, Bethany House; Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank; and other areas of need as they arise.

We try to discern what the needs are for each group and collect things accordingly through the year. Some examples: School supplies; household items; cleaning supplies; diapers; clothing for children; etc.

*The C.O.S. United Women of Faith thanks you for your support of this vital ministry. Questions can be directed to Jean Feldmeyer (Children's Closet Coordinator) jean.feldmeyer@yahoo.com.*

## Missions: Matthew 25 Ministries



Matthew 25 Ministries is an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization located in our neighborhood.

by rescuing and reusing products from major corporations and manufacturers, Matthew 25 provides basic necessities, educational materials, nutrition, and disaster relief across the United States and worldwide. Volunteers from COS spend 2 hours each time sorting clothing, hygiene products, medical supplies and more. These items are then sent off to provide much needed relief.

Please join Church of the Savior in volunteering at Matthew 25 Ministries (11060 Kenwood Rd 45242). As a rule, our COS volunteers meet at Matthew 25 on the 2nd Friday of each month at 9:00am. If you would like to join our ministry, or find out more about this amazing opportunity, please call Leslie Bricker at 513-410-2267, or e-mail me at: [mobricker@msn.com](mailto:mobricker@msn.com) Our group is looking for dedicated volunteers just like you!

**Matthew**  
**25**  **Ministries**



# BUILDERS

Don't miss out on the fun!

## Builders

The Builders are a group of adults who enjoy doing life together. Most Builders are in their 30s-50s, but everyone is welcome. Every month we organize a men's fellowship outing (Bro-Union), a ladies fellowship outing, and a co-ed/family outing. We have a women's Bible study that meets on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in the church dining room, and we have a co-ed Sunday School class that meets on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am in the church parlor.

Event information will be shared through COS Newsflashes, church bulletins, GroupMe messaging, and Google calendar invites. Please contact Carrie Feldmeyer at [builderscos@gmail.com](mailto:builderscos@gmail.com) if you would like to be added to our contacts. We would love for you to join us!



# Adventurers

## *Church of the Saviour Fellowship Group*

If you are in for some fun this group is for you. The purpose of this group is adult Christian fellowship. We have no membership dues and no requirements. It's a great way to get to know other members of the church. We have no age requirements, but our activities are geared to the 55 + age group. You are invited to join us for any or all of our activities.

Every month we have a fun event or excursion. Watch the COS Newsflash for our latest activities or sign up for our Adventurer's email by emailing Jane Kieninger at [jkieninger@aol.com](mailto:jkieninger@aol.com) with your preferred email address.

Coming up in September is a Nature Walk at the Aullwood Audubon Farm. October is Rodeo night in Waynesville, OH. In November we will take a Motorcoach trip to Savannah and Charleston, our Christmas dinner will include a ventriloquist.

Watch the Newsflash email, bulletins or the Adventurers Newsletter for details.



# Yoga

## **Yoga in the Light practices Breath Prayer**

Yoga in the Light is a ministry focusing on the whole person: body, mind, and soul. The group, led by Emily Stapleton, meets in the sanctuary to breathe, pray, and move together.

The current details of Yoga in the Light are:

- Classes meet on Thursday mornings in the sanctuary
  - 9:15 am - Traditional Yoga (childcare provided)
  - 10:15 am - Chair Yoga (no childcare at this hour)
- Classes are led by Emily Stapleton and/or Cara Keuster.
- Both class options offer a welcoming environment for all.

The instructors are currently using the book *Breath as Prayer* by Jennifer Tucker for inspiration. Breath prayer is simply intentional prayer centered around Scripture. These simple prayers encourage a focus on Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

Additional information is shared weekly through the Yoga in the Light Newsletter. To receive the newsletter, please use the QR Code.

## *Yoga for the Mind, Body, and Soul*





# Advent Vespers - “To Light the Way”

December 3, 2023 | 5:00 pm

From the pen of composer Karen Marroli, she writes this adaptation of John 8:12...Light of the world, you loose the bonds of night. Once we walked in darkness, now bursts forth your light. Christ is your glory, come to light the way. Advent Vespers provides worshipers peace and separation from the frantic pace of the world. Make time for a moment of quiet solitude at Church of the Saviour's Advent Vespers service of word and song on December 3, 2023 at 5:00 pm. Vespers is a unique expression of worship with quiet centering guided by readings and music to help us see that Christ is our glory who comes to light the way.

*Available in person and on live stream!*





# The Push of a Button

We live in a digital age now, one ruled by electricity and mechanical processes that are based in mountains of logic and purpose. With the world being so rigid it can be hard to think conceptually, to think of the broad strokes of life. I cannot tell you what buttons will protect the world, what buttons will destroy them, but I can tell you that despite what a button does physically, what matters more is what it does conceptually. The push of a button allows for us to send stories across the world, bring light to the darkness, and move the world along.

Our lives are guided by stories, stories of triumph, failure, perseverance. These stories provide us with the means to navigate social situations and life situations helping us succeed in our day to day lives. With all of that said, in the digital age, I can send someone a story that may not pertain to their exact situation but that does contain messages and themes that will give them assistance in pushing through to the end of the goal. I can send them that story with a single click, or a push of a button.

When it is late at night and you walk into the kitchen for a midnight snack you probably turn on the light, right? This is something that you probably do so much that you don't even think about it anymore, unless you're yelling at the kids to turn the light off, which, fair. What I want you to think about is how a stadium can go from complete darkness to showered in bright lights with the flip of a breaker. This is part of what a button does, it can bring others out of darkness and into the light of purpose and community.

The last point I will touch on here is arguably the most important, the world runs on button presses and lever flips. Trains go from platform to platform because the operators push the right buttons to get the train moving. Now most cars are push to start, with most switching to fully electric. Overall the world gets moved along because there are humans like you and me pushing the right buttons. As a creative it's important to think about those responsible for moving what you love along.

Overall, I hope that you start to think more conceptually about the world and specifically pressing a button. I would also encourage you to reach out to me if you are interested in joining our audio visual team here at Church of the Saviour as we are always looking for enthusiastic individuals that want to spread the message of Jesus Christ. I would like to leave you with the reminder that the push of a button allows for us to send stories across the world, bring light to the darkness, and move the world along.



# Special Sundays for the United Methodist Church

Special Offerings are designated offerings throughout the year that provide opportunities for giving. These special offerings are earmarked and support designated ministries. These special offerings empower our congregation to give toward causes and organizations that promote sustainable life change. These offerings help offer refuge in times of disaster, promote peace and justice, provide scholarships, reach out to the community, teach skills to encourage self-sufficiency and share the love of Jesus Christ with God's people everywhere.



## **November 26th – United Methodist Student Day.**

This fund was originally established in 1872 as the Children's Fund. Today, United Methodist Student Day Sunday has the same purpose, calling upon the denomination to support their students as they prepare for life by adding knowledge to their faith.

Every year, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry awards an average of \$5.5 million in financial aid to United Methodist students. The offering taken on United Methodist Student Day is one opportunity to support these scholarships. Every dollar – yes 100% - received goes towards supporting and educating a new generation of principled Christian leaders for the church and the world. Supporting this Special Sunday is truly an investment in our future.



## **December 24th – Wesley Chapel Mission Center**

Wesley Chapel Mission Center, located in Over-The-Rhine, is an extension ministry of the United Methodist Church created from the assets, resources, efforts, dreams, and love of the members of the former Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church. In 2003, the Center was established as a non-profit 501(c)(3). They provide after school programs for children and youth, preK-12, offering love and hope through spiritual nourishment, educational programs, and social development.

To give to Wesley Chapel Mission Center, please clearly mark your Christmas Eve giving envelope for WCMC (Wesley Chapel Mission Center).



# Intercessory Prayer

Why does God want us to pray for others? Because intercessory prayer reflects God's own character of outgoing love and mercy. God wants us to think like He does and praying for others helps us to think beyond ourselves and to grow in compassion for others.

We have a very dedicated prayer team at Church of the Saviour who receive and sincerely uplift the requests of our church family. Along with our pastors, we pray for others, knowing that God has all the power and loves the people we are praying for.

If you have a special concern or praise to submit, please fill out the yellow attendance sheet or online attendance during worship, email to [prayers@cos-umc.org](mailto:prayers@cos-umc.org), or call the church office.

*"We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers." 1 Thessalonians 1:2*

FYI: You are invited to join our prayer community. Praying confidentially for others and the world is rewarding and a ministry to the body of Christ. If you are interested, please contact Mary Hoover ([hooverme99@gmail.com](mailto:hooverme99@gmail.com)).



# Church of the Saviour Staff

*If you have any questions or need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Church of the Saviour Staff! The office is open Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.*

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Meshach Kanyion, [meshach.kanyion@cos-umc.org](mailto:meshach.kanyion@cos-umc.org)

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Karen Crawford, [karen.crawford@cos-umc.org](mailto:karen.crawford@cos-umc.org)

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**Director of Worship and Arts:** Dr. Joe Galyon, [joe.galyon@cos-umc.org](mailto:joe.galyon@cos-umc.org)

**Children's Music Director:** David Anderson, [david.anderson@cos-umc.org](mailto:david.anderson@cos-umc.org)

**Office Administrator:** Beth Culp, [beth.culp@cos-umc.org](mailto:beth.culp@cos-umc.org)

**Executive Director:** Melissa Hagemeyer, [melissa.hagemeyer@cos-umc.org](mailto:melissa.hagemeyer@cos-umc.org)

**Children's Discipleship Director:** Michelle Shiparski, [michelle.shiparski@cos-umc.org](mailto:michelle.shiparski@cos-umc.org)

**Building Administrator:** Dorothy Stadelmann, [dorothy.stadelmann@cos-umc.org](mailto:dorothy.stadelmann@cos-umc.org)

**IT Specialist:** Len Troy, [len.troy@cos-umc.org](mailto:len.troy@cos-umc.org)

**Worship Technology Coordinator:** Peyton Voline, [peyton.voline@cos-umc.org](mailto:peyton.voline@cos-umc.org)

**Director of Montgomery Nursery School:** Jill Waldon, [jill.waldon@cos-umc.org](mailto:jill.waldon@cos-umc.org)

**Youth Director:** Jon Yaney, [jonathan.yaney@cos-umc.org](mailto:jonathan.yaney@cos-umc.org)

**Director of Communications:** Samantha Zeisler, [samantha.stanford@cos-umc.org](mailto:samantha.stanford@cos-umc.org)

*fin.*

Church of the  
 SAVIOUR  
UNITED METHODIST

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513-791-3142

***Sunday Worship Times:***

**9:30 am - Contemporary**

**11:00 am - Traditional**

**Online Always Available**