

THE MESSENGER

POLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CONNECTS - SERVES - GROWS

THOUGHTS FROM OUR PASTOR - KEN GIFFORD

I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, Sovereign Lord; I will proclaim your righteous deeds, yours alone. Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and grey, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come"
Psalm 71: 16-18

Dear friends in Christ,

If you are like me, I find it hard to believe that summer is almost over. It's already August and Fall is just around the corner. However, as we are enjoying these last warm days, this is the time to be planning for all of our Fall ministries at the church.

One of the items we are looking for are willing servants to assist in any of a multitude of areas. We will be having some sign-up sheets in the foyer within the next few weeks or if there is an area you know you would like to serve in please contact the church office and the chair of that area will be in contact.

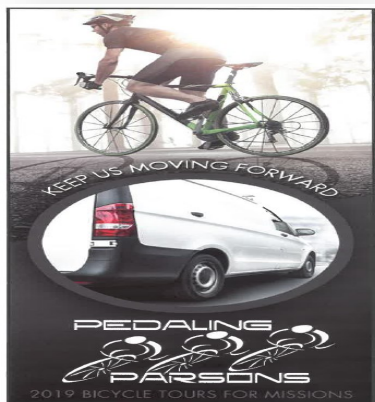
Any of our ministries would love to have you come and assist. Ministries such as GriefShare, Kid's Klub, Sunday School (all ages), Upwards Basketball and Cheerleading, Missions and Outreach events and many others.

I am reminded about what the Psalmist writes each Fall. That God has always been with me, even when I didn't realize it, and has blessed me through times of hardship and times of joy. And He encourages and expects me, and all of us, to proclaim His righteous and marvelous deeds to the next generation.

We may not feel gifted to serve in all of these areas of ministry but I know God has gifted each of us in at least one. He expects us to discern in what areas we can serve and to share His love through this ministry with others just like He has shared with us.

Let us support one another through our discerning process to serve and may we reach as many people as possible with the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

God's Grace and Peace,
Pastor Ken



THE CAUSE

We need a van and trailer!

Over the past 32 years, The Pedaling Parsons have raised over \$900,000 while riding thousands of miles for organizations, missionaries and causes we felt were important. We have seen many lives changed from the generosity of those who have supported us - and we are grateful. Along the way, we have brought better health and vitality to dozens of clergy and laypersons. We have also sparked excitement in hundreds of churches.

We need your help now more than ever to keep this ministry on the road. We need to purchase a used van and trailer to haul us, our bikes and our supplies. Please consider supporting us this year in order to keep this ministry moving forward.

For more information, please contact
Don Richards at dtrailwind@aol.com

Checks can be made out to:
Pedaling Parsons and sent to:
4065 St. Rt. 44, Rootstown, OH 44272

PEDALING PARSONS

The logo for Pedaling Parsons, featuring three stylized figures riding bicycles in a row, with the word "PARSONS" written below them.

CYCLING GROUP

Meeting the 3rd Saturday
of each month @ 9AM

Contact: Karen Visingardi at

kvisingardi@gmail.com

GRIEF SUPPORT

330-757-1553

Everyone Welcome!



Poland UMC

Aug 12 – Nov 12, 2019

6 - 7:30PM

Room 204



**Low Impact
Exercise
Group
M, W, F
9AM
Free Class**

ENROLLING FOR FALL 2019

**POLAND-BOARDMAN
CHILD CARE CENTER**



**GOOD SHEPHERD KITCHEN
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Sat, Sep 14 & Nov 9

Transportation available to Trinity UMC

Contact S Beckwith 330-757-0511/330-550-9077

PINK - PRAY - LOVE

Panerathon is a 10K/2 Mile Walk/Run and Kids Run held annually in downtown Youngstown, Ohio to benefit the Joanie Abdu Comprehensive Breast Care Center (JACBCC). 100% of proceeds from Panerathon benefit Mercy Health Foundation Mahoning Valley in support of the life-saving services of the JACBCC. To date, the event has raised more than \$2.5 million for the cause. The 10th Annual Panerathon is Sunday, August 25, 2019!



**Join Sarah Hatch and represent
PUMC at this year's event.**

Contact Sarah at

**Sarahrae@zoominternet.net or
(330) 402-1460.**

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you everyone for your donations to Kids Adventure Kamp. We had 50 kids registered and they collected over 200 pairs of socks for the Rescue Mission! We had a great time learning about being a good friend & kindness.
Kitty Matteson and VBS Crew

Dear UMW,

Thank you for the donation to the Mission Trip. I am blessed to have a church that supports the trip and we are very grateful! I wish each of your could see our youth and now young adults in action. It's wonderful.

Eileen Crites-Grope

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

To begin, I want to express a great big THANK YOU to everyone here at PUMC that helped support, prayed for, and provided for our Mission Team to go to Dillon, SC last month. Your generosity and encouragement gave us the ability to truly change the lives of the families we served in that community. My life was enriched by this experience and I am confident that we were able to share the love and compassion of Jesus Christ to every person we met.

One of the great takeaways from this trip was a deep sense of relationship building across the participants of this trip. As we traveled back to Ohio, I had youth from another church ask about what we were doing this fall for youth group activities and asked if it would be acceptable for them to join up with us. Of course, my answer was a resounding YES! And so, in conjunction with our youth here and some of the youth from this trip, along with 2 other area churches I will be contacting shortly, we will be planning regular youth meetings for the fall months, outings for us to attend, and other ministry activities in which to participate. While the planning is being taken care of now, in the next few weeks there will be dates set up and events planned out for us to place on the church calendar. Please keep your eyes open for these in the weekly bulletin and in upcoming articles from me.

I am hopeful and excited for where God is leading the ministry of this church in the near future. By working together, sharing our love for Christ and for each other, I know that we are making a difference in the life of our community, whether that is in SC or just down the street in Poland.

Shalom,
Steve

Love in Action: The Church Responds When Disasters Strike

JULY 29, 2019 EOC NEWS by Rick Wolcott*

"Last week (July 8-14) was such a wonderful example of our Methodist connection at work and you should be proud of the effort by the clergy and lay people in your Conference. My team and I are very appreciative for their service and I know there are eight homeowners in South Carolina who are also thankful they were here," Tim Whitten shared in an email to Bishop Tracy S. Malone.

The Hurricane Florence Recovery director for the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, Whitten was appreciative of two East Ohio Conference teams who were answered prayers for homeowners dealing with the aftermath left behind in 2016 by Hurricane Matthew and again last September by Hurricane Florence.

"I feel we must live out being the hands and feet of Jesus. Honestly, we always go on these trips with that as the main reason but really find out it is us who end up being served," said Pastor Doug Theobald of **Struthers UMC** (Mahoning Valley District), who led a team of 53 representing two non-United Methodist congregations and four East Ohio Conference churches: Struthers UMC, **Poland UMC** (Mahoning Valley District), **Lakemore UMC** (Canal District), and **Shreve UMC** (Canal District).

"This was my 10th mission trip and it was amazing from day one," shared Sheri Noble, chair of the Administrative Board and coordinator of Youth Ministries at Struthers UMC. "We were so thankful for our call to serve and blessed to encounter the people that we did."



The team was organized into seven work crews that combined to remove and replace a roof and do flooring and painting, as well as drywall and siding work in Dillon, SC, an area that was hit hard by Hurricane Florence but hasn't received the same amount of recovery support as coastal areas.

The same week, Pastor Carl Kandel of **Navarre Fohl Memorial UMC** (Tuscarawas District) led a second group of EOC volunteers to South Carolina, where they completed two projects in the Lakeview community.

"It means so much to see the faces of the people that we work for shine when we finish a project that they have needed done for a long time. It motivates you to serve even more in some way and it glorifies God," he said. We are all called to serve – in good and bad times – and to share the love of Christ with everyone we encounter.

"Living in Christian community and serving others, the Holy Spirit often does great work on us," said Shreve UMC Pastor the Rev. Mike Grant, who was a member of the team of 53 that worked on homes in Dillon, SC. "If you want a way to impact the next generation for Christ, take them on a mission trip and watch the Spirit do amazing things. God is so good."

Visit the [United Methodist Volunteers in Mission page](#) of the Conference website to learn more about how you can serve right here in East Ohio or participate on a team assisting others outside of the State.



A WAY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WORLDWIDE

A display of canvas bags is located in the Foyer at PUMC ready for you to pick up and fill with items on the CWS School Kit list to the right.

This is a great way to spread the love of Jesus and your love with others around the world!



CWS Kits (School, Hygiene, Emergency Cleanup Buckets) are small packages of supplies assembled by volunteers and shipped to families and communities in need around the world—especially in the aftermath of disasters such as Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael.

CWS School Kit

Shopping List:

- ☐ One pair of blunt scissors removed from the package (rounded tip, only)
 - ☐ Three 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (No loose-leaf or filler paper.)
 - ☐ One 30-centimeter 12" ruler
 - ☐ One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from the package
 - ☐ One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)
 - ☐ Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers removed from the package
 - ☐ One box of 24 crayons (only 24)
 - ☐ One 12"x14" to 14"x17" finished size cotton or lightweight, solid colored canvas bag with cloth handles (no logos). No reusable shopping bags or backpacks. All items must be packed inside of the cloth bag.
 - ☐ \$2 processing fee for this Kit
- Shipping of the Kits to their final destination is expensive. Costs include renting space on trucks, boats and planes, paying for gas, for the insurance of each shipment and for other delivery fees. We ask that our donors help cover a small amount of this cost.

Place all items must be packed inside of the cloth bag.

Poland United Methodist Church
1940 Boardman Poland Rd.
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330-757-1553
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Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 522
Youngstown, Ohio

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AUGUST 2019