Canfield UMC Friendly Visitor

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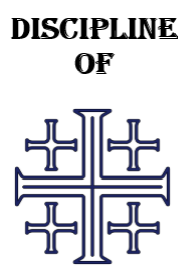
Pastors Ponderings The Discipline of Discipleship

One of the concerns I see as a pastor in the life of both the Canfield and Poland United Methodist Churches is a lack of spiritual formation for adults. Both churches are in need of adult spiritual formation groups such as Bible Studies, Sunday School Classes, and other small groups that help current adult church members and new members to grow in their faith walk with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. We are called as the Church and the Body of Jesus Christ to bring other people into relationship with Christ as their Savior and Lord of all things. There is a need in both churches to help everyone to grow into mature Disciples of Jesus Christ. You may not consider yourself a Disciple of Jesus Christ, but if you proclaim Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you are a Disciple of Jesus called to serve him and the world with his grace and love. Read and really reflect upon Matthew 28:

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16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:16–20, known as the Great Commission, was given by Jesus to His first disciples and continues to be a calling for the Church and for each of us as disciples of Jesus Christ. We are called to use our gifts in Christ to bring others into relationship with the Heavenly Father through the saving grace of his Son Jesus Christ. Canfield and Poland UMC Disciples need to step forward into ministry that helps to serve the next generation of Disciples of Jesus at both churches and in the world.



Starting on January 9th 6:30 p.m. at Poland UMC, I will be leading a Disciple class entitled The Discipline of Discipleship. The first three classes will be on the second Tuesday of the month 6:30 p.m. at Poland UMC. Then from April through June, we will meet at Canfield UMC on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The class will last for 1 hour and a half. I need 6 people from each church to sign up for a total of 12 people for the first class. Out of this first class, the Disciples that are trained will help to lead spiritual disciples for other members at the church so that we all grow together in the likeness of Christ. Sign up will be limited to 6 people at both churches so sign up right away. In order to be the Body of Christ, we need to show up and encourage one another to grow in the grace of Jesus Christ and our knowledge of him helping one another and all to be more Christlike as his Disciples.

A Big Thank You to God

During November, I will be preaching sermons on giving thanks to God. A Pledge card will be sent to you this month and you can pray and discern how much financial money you want to give to the ministries of the Canfield United Methodist Church. I encourage you to reflect upon the blessings God has given you and to pledge a financial gift to support ministries of the church in sharing Jesus Christ's grace and love. Take time in November and give thanks and praise to God for the blessings he has given us. Reflect on this passage from Mark 12:41-44:

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41 Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. 42 But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. 43 Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. 44 They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

Mark 12:41-44 is referred to as the Widow's offering and she gave what she could to say a Big Thank You to God. Take time this month to fill out a pledge card and decide how much financial support you can give to the church to support God's ministry of sharing Christ with the world. You can mail the pledge cards to the church (please put "Pledge Card" on the outside of the envelope and address the envelope to the Financial Secretary) or bring them in person and on the final Sunday of November, the 29th, we will be praying over the pledge cards in the church worship service. As your pastor, I thank you for the financial support and time given to ministries of the Canfield U.M.C. and I look forward to the ministries we will be doing with God the Father in this next year. Remember that Jesus Christ's grace and love is generous in our lives, and he calls us to give God Nonstop Thanks!



Part-Time music director position open at Canfield United Methodist Church. Involves directing Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, and possibility of Children's Choir. Choirs practice every other week on Thursday evenings and usually sing/ring during worship twice per month. Part-time, 15-20 hours per month. Previous experience desired. Send resume & references to Canfield United Methodist Church, 27 South Broad Street, Canfield, Ohio 44406, or email office@canfieldumc.org.

For our Special Christmas Offering, members can order a poinsettia for the altar or make a gift to the Music Fund. Envelopes are in your packet and in the pews. Flowers can be taken home after the Christmas Eve service. Please consider making your donation to the Music Fund if you are not interested in taking a flower home.



Deadline to order poinsettias is December 6. Cost is $10.00.

News & Notes from the Steering Council – October 2026

There is a lot happening at Canfield UMC this fall!

Administration & Facilities

- ChurchTrac System: We plan to have our new ChurchTrac software up and running by the end of the year. This system will help streamline our budgeting and finances, keep membership records current, and make churchwide communication much easier.
- Building Updates: The bathrooms near the atrium were recently professionally cleaned. Based on an issue noted during the cleaning, we are currently gathering quotes to replace the hot water heater that supplies the kitchen and lower-level restrooms.
- Sanctuary Entrance: You may have noticed the new welcome signs in the sanctuary entrance, reminding all who visit that they are welcome to worship with us. A special thank you to Lisa Zetts for making this happen!

Worship & Music

The Steering Council is actively searching for a choir director. In the meantime, Joyce Lawson has graciously stepped up to direct the choir and keep our music ministry vibrant. We are also deeply grateful to Amy Nash for stepping into the full-time role of CUMC musician and accompanist!

Ministries & Missions

- Safe Sanctuaries: Jill Kercher recently led a Safe Sanctuaries training session attended by about 20 people. We are grateful to have our certifications up to date as we continue serving children, youth, and families safely.
- Youth Ministry: Our youth meet in Canfield on the fourth Sunday of each month. The group is currently planning a February retreat at Camp Asbury for students in grades 6–12. If your student is interested, please see Pastor Paul for details.
- Missions: On November 15, Robin Turner will give a presentation titled “Thankful for the Missions.” Looking ahead, planning is already underway for a mission trip to El Salvador next year.

Finances & Upcoming Dates

- 2027 Budget & Charge Conference: The proposed 2027 budget has been approved by Council and is ready for presentation at Charge Conference on Friday, November 7, at 3:00 PM in Berlin Center. All are welcome to attend. Please watch for our annual pledge drive to kick off around Thanksgiving to support our mission and ministries for the coming year.
- Potluck Breakfast: Mark your calendars for a churchwide breakfast in December—stay tuned for the date and details!

Remember, all are welcome to attend our monthly council meetings on the third Monday of each month at 6:00 PM. The Steering Council is always here to support the ministries YOU are passionate about!

Blessings,

The Steering Council - Pastor Paul, Jason Henry, Sheila Factor, Jill Kercher, Leah Donko, Diana Johnson, Pam Sweeney, Ruth Griffis, and David Bennett.

CUMC Missions Team

We will again sponsor a Making Kids Count Adopt-A-Family mission project in November. Signing up for a family with 3-4 children will help us to know the clothing and other basic needs. Similar to last year, you will have choices as to what you might want to give this family for their Christmas.

Please watch for the display in the area by the sanctuary. Gift ideas and a deadline date for collection will be clearly noted. This is a different mission project than Operation Blessing's Toyland for new toys and gift cards.
As always, thank you for your kind generosity!

Operation Blessing's "A Chicken in Every Pot" or "Chicken Challenge" has you to thank for purchasing over 100 chickens for needy families' Thanksgiving meals. Canfield UMC showing Jesus' love to Canfield and the Mahoning Valley - AMEN!

Walking Through Grief Together

A 10-Week Grief Support Group

Canfield United Methodist Church Parlor
Wednesdays, September 23 - November 25 from 4:30-6:00 PM

You are not alone. Join us for a 10-week journey of healing & hope. All are welcome!
Weekly topics are posted on the bulletin board near the office.
Contact Jill Kercher 330-553-9799 or Church Office 330-533-9801 for details.

Preschool News

As we enter this season of gratitude, our preschool is busy preparing for our annual **Thanksgiving Snack Feast**! The children are excited to share a few Thanksgiving songs with their families before inviting them to join us for a special snack. Each classroom will have tables lovingly set by the children, giving them the opportunity to welcome their families and practice sharing in the joy of fellowship. It is always a wonderful reminder that even the simplest moments spent together can create meaningful memories and celebrate the blessings of our preschool family.
We are also excited to launch our annual **Toyland donation drive in partnership with Canfield Operation Blessing**. Through this special ministry, we help provide Christmas gifts for local families, allowing parents to select presents for their children and make the holiday season a little brighter. We invite our preschool families and church community to participate by selecting a donation tag and helping us spread the joy of Christmas. All gifts are due by **December 2.**
As a reminder, preschool will be **closed for Thanksgiving break November 25–30**, following the Canfield Local School District calendar. We wish everyone a safe, happy, and blessed Thanksgiving!

United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women will meet **Wednesday, November 5** in the Fellowship Hall **at noon**. The Canfield Fire Department will send a representative to teach/reteach us how to use the AED machine in our church and how to perform CPR without it. We will have a meeting and refreshments. Bring a friend.

UMW ladies will meet at Piccadilly Parlor **Wednesday, December 2 at noon** for lunch and fellowship. Invite a friend. Please call or text your reservation to Ruth McCune on or before November 30. If you don't have Ruth's cell number please call the church office and they will pass it along. Reminder: December 2 is also the last day to drop off a monetary donation or gift for Operation Blessings Toyland at church.



Canfield Operation Blessing's Toyland Needs Your Help!

Canfield Operation Blessing is gathering new, not wrapped gifts for children ages infant through 16 years old. You can help in several ways:



Donation Suggestions (new, not wrapped):

- Educational toys
- Board games
- Baby dolls
- Action figures
- Barbie dolls
- Cozy Blankets
- $10 gift cards for teens
  - Chick-fil-A, Wendy's, McDonald's, DQ, Dollar Tree, etc

Monetary Donations:
Monetary donations are warmly welcomed! They will be used to purchase toys that are needed for certain age groups.
Please make checks out to Canfield Operation Blessing with TOYLAND in the memo.

Monetary donations would be appreciated as soon as possible.
Questions? Contact Lynette Fumi at 614-314-4326

Canfield United Methodist Church
27 South Broad Street
Canfield OH 44406

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-profit
Organization
Permit 19
Salem OH



JOIN US!

Worship 9:00AM

Address:
27 S. Broad Street
Canfield, OH 44406
330.533.9801

Email: office@canfieldumc.org

Web: www.canfieldumc.org
Facebook:
facebook.com/CanfieldUMC/



Noah Baird, Roger Bell,
Sue Bell, Donna Bricker,
Pastor George Lee,
Ron Musgrove, Jr.,
Birdie Reinhart,
Terry Smith, Donnie Yoho

Our members at home.

CANFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER