

news

52 Club Fundraiser

Now is your opportunity to join the 52 CLUB for 2019. What is the 52 CLUB? This is a "club" for people who would be willing to donate \$1 a week to the youth ministry for activities, supplies, and mission work. You will be honored with a special dinner at the end of the year. You can make your donation weekly, monthly, or all at once, it's up to you. Simply fill out a registration form (these are available on the Information and Activities Table) and return to Anne Horvath or the church office to sign-up to support the youth ministry in this way. Thank you!

UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES

January 6

3:45-5pm Confirmation 8 (parent class meets)

5-7pm Family Fun Night Star Wars Style

January 13

5-7pm Combined Youth Group Dinner, Devotion, and Grog!

January 20

3:45-5pm Confirmation 9

5-6pm Middle School Regular Youth Group

6-6:30pm MS & HS combined dinner

6:30-7:30pm High School Regular Youth Group •

15th Annual Valentine Tea

Don your tea party finery, come in out of the cold, and join us for a fun-filled afternoon of tea, savories, entertainment and more at our 15th Annual Valentine Tea on Saturday, February 9, 2019 from 12:00-2:00pm. The entertainment this year is a

sing along with Tim Lake and we will enjoy lunch consisting of a delectable selection of savories and pastries brought to you by Caraway Catering. Pat Dennison of Palmer Place Fine Teas will be offering a wide variety of exotic blends of tea to sample. Beginning at 11am, a large selection of baskets and auction items will be available in The Pickwick Shoppe. Auction Tickets are available to purchase for \$2.00/each or 6 for \$10.00. You do not need to be present at the tea to win.

Cost: \$35.00 for adults, \$15 for children 10 and under. For reservations contact Mike Horvath at llcboard@gmail.com or call the church office at 440-585-9462. Reservations can also be made by filling out a reservation card which can be found on the Welcome Table at WHUMC. Seating is limited so please reserve early.

All proceeds benefit The Little Light Learning Center. •

It's Tea Party Time!

Plans are well underway for the annual Valentine Tea Party that includes many wonderful themed baskets for the Ticket Auction on that day. The baskets are

put together every year in January using donations from local businesses and generous individuals. Would you consider donating items to but put in baskets? Donations will be accepted all throughout the month of December. Here are some ideas:

- **Gift cards** (which can be purchased through our Care Card program to benefit the mission projects of WHUMC)
- **Game Night/Movie Night** Board games, cards, DVDs, popcorn, movie theater candy, puzzles, activity books
- **Pampering nail polish**, face scrub, adult coloring books/colored pencils, spa towel, lotion, candles, chapstick
- **Coffee Lovers** Keurig cups or coffee beans, coffee mugs, fancy creamers/syrups, cookies
- **Taco Night** taco seasoning, shells, chips, salsa, beans, rice
- **All about pets** food and water dishes, treats, toys, blanket, books about pet care (could go cat specific or dog specific)
- **Healthy living** exercise equipment, nutrition items, healthy cook books, water bottles

Celebrating Our Membership!

Congratulations to the following members of our congregation who will reach milestone years of membership this month!

Celebrating 58 years

Elaine Hale

Celebrating 25 years

Betty Braun

Celebrating 20 years

Bill Dorsey
Patty Dorsey

Nancy Quick
Michael Tradowsky
Laura Tradowsky
Kirsten Tradowsky
Peter Tradowsky
Jeannette Schmidt

Congratulations, and thanks for your continuing service to the Lord through WHUMC! •

There are lots and lots of theme possibilities out there. A more complete list of themes and ideas can be found on the Welcome Table at WHUMC. No item is too small. You can donate enough items to create an entire basket or a few items that will become part of a basket.

All proceeds from these donations benefit the Little Light Learning Center. Thank you! •

Small Group Opportunities

Online Bible Study led by Dr. Jacob and Lara Waldenmaier

One trait that unites WHUMC is a curiosity about the Bible. While we enjoy exploring scripture together in person, it's also helpful to discuss biblical themes online. Anyone in our congregation is very welcome to join the WHUMC Bible Group on Facebook. Please feel free also to invite friends and colleagues who might share this curiosity. We hope to see you there!

Sundays, 9:30 am in the Library—led by Patty Dorsey

Lectionary Bible Study: looking at the verses that Pastor Max will be preaching on each week. This is open format, meaning you do not need to attend each week to participate.

First Monday of Each Month 10:00 am-11:30 am in the Library—led by Anne Horvath. A time for women of all ages to meet for devotion, prayer, and support. Childcare available upon request. Come when you are able.

Mondays, 7 pm in the Library—led by Pastor Max. Men's Bible Study-The Gospel of Mark.

Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30 am in the Library—led by Patty Dorsey. Bible Study: New Study starting in January. Childcare available upon request.

Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30 am in the Library—led by Patty Dorsey. Book Study: Social Principles of the United Methodist Church 2017-2020.

Thursdays 10:00am-12:00pm in the

Library—led by Dr. Laura Tradowsky. Spiritual Formation / Bible Study: "Drawn into the Mystery of Jesus through the Gospel of John" by Jean Vanier. Childcare available upon request.

Saturdays 8-9:30 am in the Library. Led by Dr. John Borgert. Men's Bible Study-The Gospel of John. •

RFK



The holiday season has once again blessed so many within Royal Family

Kids this year. Thank you to everyone who continues to bless this ministry with your time, talent, prayers, and gifts. The gifts given to our children at Royal Family Kids Club were truly an overwhelming blessing. Have you noticed just how many times I have used the word blessing? It is not by mistake, but very intentional. The blessings that flow from Willoughby Hills United Methodist Church to Royal Family Kids Camp and Club are truly incredible. The opportunity to grace children with the love of God is a privilege beyond measure.

The tree in the church lobby was overflowing with bags full of treasures for our kids at RFK Club, purchased by members of our generous congregation. We cannot begin to thank you for your awesome response of once again showing God's love to children. Letting a child know that there are people in the world who love them enough to take the time to think of a special gift just for them means the world. Our youngest within the church family got in on spreading God's love by wrapping all the gifts purchased. A very heartfelt and special thank you to all of you. Bags full of love will be delivered this Saturday, and we are so moved and grateful.

Coming up is a fun event for the weekend between the last NFL playoff game and the Super Bowl. Wondering what you will possibly do with those couple of hours on Sunday without football? Come to Wickliffe Lanes for the second annual Bowling for Kids event on January 27, 2019 from

2:30-5:30. Gather up to 6 of your friends and family (per lane) and bowl for a few hours and support a great cause. It's \$100 for the lane which includes shoes. Call the church office to reserve your lane. We hope you can come and have some fun with us.

Thank you to the entire congregation for your continued support of the mission. We are gearing up and gathering volunteers for this year's camp. Now that our camp is more local, we are looking for full and part time volunteers. So if you are up for a life changing experience in June from the 2nd-7th, contact us at (216)214-3154. Happy New Year and all the best for 2019. Many Blessings, Francisco and Jen Gonzalez •

Did You Know...

...that up until the early 13th century the Bible had no spaces between words and no punctuation? The only things that were available were white spaces between long segments of written text. It took the work of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Stephen Langton, who laboriously went through what would have been the Catholic Old and New Testaments and numbered the verses and decided chapter beginnings and endings. This system is used to this day by both Christians and Jews. Knowing that this numbering system was not in place until the early 13th century should help you realize what a monumental task it would be to translate the original texts and understand the authors' original meaning. A curious note – for some reason Stephen Langton ended the first Creation story three and a half verses too soon. It actually ends in Genesis 2:4a. Just for fun, read it. We do not know the reason why he did this but it was done just the same. Stephen Langton is also known for his involvement in convincing King John to sign the Magna Carta in 1215. Rick Polburn •

Kids4Christ

KID'S CHOIR is in recess til January 13th.

KID'S QUEST: January: The Good Samaritan

UPCOMING DATES:

VBS & SPORTSCAMP JULY 8-12, 2019. Please check out our Facebook group and page WHUMC Kids4Christ

New challenge for January: "WHAT'S FOR DINNER?" Don't forget to turn in the December challenge!! Two prize packages await! •

Best Years Luncheon

I want to thank everyone for attending the luncheons and supporting the bake sales, as well as the committee members of Nurture and Care, who have shopped, set tables, cooked, served, cleaned up, and our dishwasher Ted Williams, you are all awesome!

Join us on the second Tuesday of the month starting in January and going to June, for interesting, entertaining programs, and a delicious lunch all for \$7.00 per person.

Thank you and God Bless. Sharen Ott, Chair of Nurture and Care Committee •

Continue reading at on the next page

Willoughby Hills United Methodist Church and the East Glenville UMC Supper Kitchen

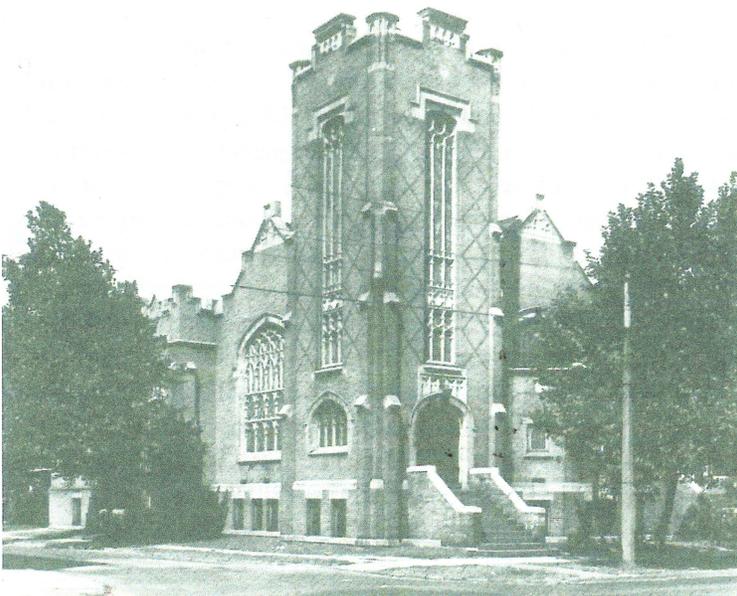
“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” – Hebrews 13:8

Many of us can recall that verse and know that it’s true. But the same cannot be said of communities! Cities like Willoughby Hills grew from the last, small piece of the former Willoughby Township. Mentor quickly expanded in population during the 1960s and 1970s. But other communities, like that served by the East Glenville United Methodist Church, underwent other changes – changes in population composition, lowered household economic levels, and fewer local thriving businesses and jobs.

The United Methodist Church is a connectional denomination – all local congregations are part of the larger denomination. As such, not only is there awareness of the other congregations around us, but also a desire to assist them during difficult times. And one of the congregations with which Willoughby Hills UMC members assisted was East Glenville UMC, situated in what at one time had been the independent village of Glenville.

East Glenville Methodist Episcopal Church’s building was completed in 1912. Organized ten years earlier at what is now the corner of Shaw Avenue and East 128th Street by 14 people, the granite brick building was constructed at a new site at Lancelot and St. Clair. A 15 June 1912 Plain Dealer article detailed the building: “The auditorium... will accommodate 350, and the Sunday school room about 600. The basement contains a lecture room, gymnasium, primary grade room, ladies’

parlors, kitchen and shower bath.” The congregation obviously anticipated significant growth!



East Glenville Church, Photo courtesy L. B. Canfield

What changes some of those early pastors must have seen! Cleveland was one of the largest US cities with some of the most prestigious companies. The East Glenville congregation had grown to almost 1300 members by 1922. Yet Rev. Elton Barnett, pastor of East Glenville from 1923 until

his retirement in 1929, had actually been one of the last horseback riding circuit riders in the Ohio Methodist church! From a hard leather saddle and saddlebags to a church with a shower bath! What luxury!

But by 1929, Cleveland – and the world -- was changing. Depression years. Unemployment. World War II. The 1950s. Manufacturing jobs began to leave. Housing patterns began to shift. Redlining. Residents of Cleveland began moving to inner ring suburbs... and then ones farther out. As good paying jobs left, so did some small businesses. Homeowners sold. Properties were rented. As African-American populations increased, “white flight” happened, some of it prompted by real estate companies utilizing scare tactics.

From the early 1950s to the early 1960s the east side of Cleveland, specifically the Glenville area, changed from being “overwhelmingly white, middle-class, and Jewish” to being “overwhelmingly black and poor,” according to a Wikipedia article. East Glenville Methodist was on the far eastern edge of Glenville, but this Cleveland neighborhood also experienced similar changes.

Through the 1950s, residents knew East Glenville Methodist as the “white” church. (Cory Methodist, located on East 105th in Glenville, was the area’s African-American congregation.) An East Glenville Methodist Church postcard from that time period showcases “The Rainbow Choir -- not a choir of ethnically diverse members, but rather one dressed in a variety of colored outfits! But changes were soon to come.



By 1962, when Rev. Jon R. Freshwater came to East Glenville from an associate pastorate at Mayfield Methodist, it was apparent that not only had the neighborhood changed, but also that East Glenville Methodist would need to change... if it were to continue in ministry. Freshwater, who had studied at Boston University’s School of Theology, had heard Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. speak in his classes. In a 2008 sermon entitled “Jesus: Out of Bonds or Out of Bounds?” he related what he found when he came to East Glenville:

“... I was appointed to an inner city church in a changing neighborhood of that city... ‘Changing neighborhood’ meant, of course, that Black families were purchasing homes surrounding this all white, neighborhood church. It also meant that many of the older, all white members of the church were moving to other areas... The pattern of most older, white churches in the area was to relocate, merge with

another congregation, or simply close its doors, selling the older building to a Black congregation... I was told by my predecessor that I was being sent there to preside at the funeral of that proud and historic congregation. Common questions and comments from the members included, 'What are we going to do?' 'How long will we be able to remain open?' 'THEY wouldn't be happy worshipping with us.'

"... As I faced the challenges of the East Glenville church, I tried to reconcile Dr. King's message of inclusion with what I faced serving this struggling congregation... On a particular Sunday morning at the East Glenville Church, a daughter of one of our members brought her new neighborhood friend to come to Sunday School with her. Visitors were not usually reported to the pastor during the church school hour, but I was notified immediately when this little Black child appeared at the door. I was asked, 'What should we do?' I responded, 'Well, what do you think we should do.' Today, in this new generation, even asking the question seems unnecessary and inappropriate. But I remind you this was the our neighborhood just weeks before; several buildings were burned... "



Yes, the riots. Riots in the but even closer riots, Glenville Shootout, in July Freshwater was not to Glenville, as the another pastoral change Rev. Thomas Sagendorf, completed a Case Western

internship in urban ministry. Rev. Sagendorf, while a student at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, had participated in the 1965 Montgomery march with his seminary classmates. Another pastoral change in 1968 installed the Rev Don Lefelar, who was working toward a law degree at Cleveland State, as pastor. Frequent pastoral changes seemed to echo the rapidly changing neighborhood itself.

Hough area in June 1966, sometimes called the 1968. But Rev. remain long at East congregation experienced with the appointment of who recently had Reserve University

By 1969, older Methodist churches on Cleveland's east side were closing, merging, or considering options. Five United Methodist churches joined together in an East Side Cooperative Ministry, East Glenville among them. Along with the Corry, Collinwood, Werner, and Windermere congregations, they shared "staff and special personnel" obviously lessening the financial burden as changes in the neighborhood and congregational membership continued.

The 1970s were hard years in Cleveland. The city lost almost one-quarter of its population. The city government defaulted on its loans. Crime increased. Unemployment and poverty grew in many of the city's oldest neighborhoods. But East Glenville UMC continued in ministry, having chosen to stay in the neighborhood and to welcome all who lived there.



A part of any congregation's ministry and mission is identifying and meeting the needs of the community around them. It was soon obvious that food insecurity was a serious issue, especially towards the end of the month when money or government program funds were exhausted.

What is now known as the Hunger Network of Great Cleveland was begun about 1977 by the Interchurch Council of Greater Cleveland because of "cuts in public welfare programs and the national recession." Their initial challenge was to meet the needs for emergency food for children in Cuyahoga County.

Through the efforts of the East Glenville congregation, in conjunction with the Interchurch Council of Greater Cleveland, a free supper program was begun, with meals served the last eight days of every month. Various names were used through the years, as it was variously called the Glenville Hunger Project, East Glenville Supper Place, and East Glenville Supper Club. At Willoughby Hills, it was most often called the East Glenville Soup Kitchen. Each assisting congregation selected one of those eight days during which they supplied volunteers to help with the meals. Willoughby Hills' members volunteered the last Wednesday of each month. In addition, in 1988, congregational members were encouraged to give \$1.00 monthly to help East Glenville purchase ingredients for the suppers.



Volunteers arrived at 4 pm or slightly after, with the dinner served from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Sandy Hanson recalled "Fannie and her husband Jewell, and Josephine" being among the East Glenville members who would begin meal preparations before the volunteers arrived. Carol McClain was the Director and a representative from the Cleveland Hunger Network. Volunteers would stay a short time after the meal to assist with cleanup. About 200 meals were served each evening.



During the summer of 1988, the WHUMC Methodist Youth Fellowship members volunteered at Eat Glenville. Among the 1990 goals for the WHUMC Missions Committee was to have four members volunteering at the "Glenville Hunger Project" on the last Wednesday of each month.



East Glenville UMC celebrated 90 years of ministry with a Homecoming Celebration in September 1992. A special history brochure was prepared highlighting both the past achievements and current challenges that this congregation faced. While recognizing that “illegal drugs are having devastating influences,” and that “Many

of our African-American men still find themselves unemployed,” the congregation also noted that “Two former ministers, Rev. Donald Lefelar [1968 - 1973] and Rev. Gregory Palmer [1979 - 1981], have been appointed as District Superintendents in the East Ohio Conference.” (Rev. Gregory V. Palmer is now Bishop Gregory V. Palmer, the Resident Bishop of the Ohio West Area.)

Toward the end of the brochure, the authors, Margaret Jones and Doris J. Haynes Wright state, “We need to resolve to do everything we can to encourage others to praise the Lord, keep the faith, work for the good and wait for the wonderful results.” Ministry was continuing at East Glenville, just as it had for the last 90 years.

During the 1990s, WHUMC newsletter calendars and bulletins faithfully listed the East Glenville volunteer opportunities, with an August 1997 newsletter noting, “On the last Wednesday of each month our folks are committed to help prepare and serve meals at East Glenville UMC. This has proven to be a very gratifying ministry for those who have gone in the past. Why not circle Aug. 27 and Sept. 24 and come along?”

Other WHUMC meeting minutes and documents mention the need for a new refrigerator and kitchen repairs, items East Glenville was unable to afford on its own. In addition, by 2000, fewer people from WHUMC were volunteering, but a dedicated contingent continued to serve, with the supper dates placed in the bulletins throughout that decade.

Sandy and Eric Hanson and their children volunteered for about 18 years. Sandy recalled: “Our kids grew up with some of the neighborhood kids. Before they were old enough to help in the kitchen, they used to just play with the neighborhood kids in the dining room/church gymnasium while Eric and I helped cook the meals.”

Ed Craun was a long-term volunteer until it became too difficult for him to climb the East Glenville church stairs. Even





after that, he continued to send apples from a Willoughby Hills fruit farm for the meals. Sandy and Eric also contributed rolls, pies, ice cream or other treats. Carol Formica, Jeannette Schaefer, Pastor Mike Teston, and youth were some of the other volunteers. The congregation also continued its financial support with records from 2007 indicating that \$275 had been given to the East Glenville Hunger Project that year.

Besides volunteering for the once monthly suppers, WHUMC members and friends also helped with special Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. In addition, Michelle Hanson's Girl Scout troop served Thanksgiving meals the Wednesday before Thanksgiving for about seven years.

Although in 2008 their former pastor Rev. Jon Freshwater had praised the East Glenville congregation for remaining "a strong witness to God's love in the same neighborhood; a Black church with doors wide open," by July 2011, the congregation was no longer sustainable. The East Glenville congregation merged with Werner United Methodist from the Buckeye-Woodland area and then relocated to the building at East 260th in Euclid that had been home to Master's UMC and the relocated merged congregation became known as Celebration United Methodist Church!

East Glenville UMC, and Willoughby Hill's UMC participation with them in the soup kitchen outreach, may now have ended, but as one ministry and mission ends, new opportunities in a new location with a unified congregation with a new name abound. For although communities may change, *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."* – Hebrews 13:8