



The Good News **EXPRESS**

SEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH // September 2026
Celebrating 200 Years In Ministry!



Seville United Methodist Church
74 W. Main Street; PO Box 32
Seville, Ohio 44273
A Small Church With Giant Heart

Pastor: David McGrath
Administrative Assistant: Adine Dunn
Pianist: Pam Mullin
Organist: Connie Beery
Praise Team Director: Bobbi Placke

Phone: 330-769-2836
Email: sevumc@aol.com (Pastor Dave)
Seville.UMC.office@gmail.com (Office)
Website: www.sevilleumc.org

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 2:00 pm

Pastor Dave's 'Usual' Office Hours are the same, however they may fluctuate weekly due to various meetings, so call the office if you need an appointment.

Pastor Dave's Days Off:
Fridays and Saturdays

Sunday Worship Services:
8:30 am Praise And Worship
10:45 am Traditional Service

Sunday Christian Education: 9:30 am

**Scan the QR Code to
visit our Facebook page
where we also live stream
Sunday worship**



Finding Rest In God's Rest:

Labor Day Can Be Both A Holiday And A Holy Day

How many of us really rest? Our lives are filled with such complexity and chaos. There are so many demands that vie for our attention and time. We are exhausted in our striving, and yet we still fail to rest. In the first chapter of God's story, we learn that life is not meant to be an endless toil of striving and strife. There is rest to be found in God's good creation and his re-newed creation. Rest is actually the climax of the creation. We see this from the very first story we read in the Bible. God's work of creation moved from emptiness to goodness to Sabbath rest. There is movement in God's purposed mission. There is a divine pattern of creation as expressed in the opening story of the Bible. God will bring creation to completion. He finishes what he starts. Therefore, God wants to fill the emptiness of our own broken and sinful lives with the very good restorative love of Jesus Christ. He also wants us to find rest in his love and grace within the midst our continual re-alignment process of growing and maturing in faith. The fact that God works and God rests establishes a sacred rhythm for us. There is a pattern of life modeled for us by God and in the person of Jesus. If we are to be in mission with God, we will need to live in a sacred rhythm in Christ that includes rest. To stop all of our striving and working, even our good and very good work, we will have to carve out time to rest in the Lord physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Jesus said, "Come to me and you will find rest." The actual word Sabbath means "to cease from working." Biblically speaking, this concept is holy. The point is to stop striving and look for God. Rest in God's grace. Rest in God's love. Rest in God's rest. Now 'resting in rest' sounds redundant, but how often do we really rest in God's rest? Everyone needs rest. We need rest from striving to earn our acceptance. We need rest from being hurt by one another. We need rest from our heavy labor. We need rest from our fast-paced world. We need rest from our uncertainty. Resting in God's rest is absolutely necessary in times of uncertainty. It helps us to remember that God is in control and that our identity is not dependent on the work that we do. Matthew Sleeth in his book "24/6" says, "Resting in God's rest says that our present and our future does not depend on our actions, but on God's action." It's ok to stop for a little bit and rest. In fact, it is necessary to stop and trust God. Labor Day is not usually thought of in terms of being a religious holiday. In fact Labor Day Sunday is often low in worship attendance. Still, at least once a year in our country, we are invited to take a day and rest from all our labors. From God's perspective, the upcoming Labor Day can be both a holiday and a holy day if we would simply take a moment to find a bit of rest. - With Love, Grace, & Peace - Pastor Dave

Great Things Are Happening At Seville UMC!



September Birthdays

1-Courtney Harlan
1-Tara Freeland
5-Nancy Barr
5-Alayna Gubics
14-Vickie Fortney
14-Donna Francko
17-Linda Miller
26-Donna Auxter
27-Jim Demo
28-Connie Beery

September Anniversaries

4-Walter & Jean Eby
7-Shawn & Denise George
8-Jim & Lori Morris
9-Phil & Tammey Wilden
10-Chris & Velvet Eby
18-Brian & Hilary Grey
23-Kevin & Amy Barr



J.C. Kids Choir

J.C.'s Kids Choir is starting up again!

Here is the quick breakdown of what you need to know to get your kids involved:

Kick-off: Wednesday, September 30 at 5:30 PM

Practice: Every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. until the end of April

Who: Open to all children kindergarten and up

What: We sing every second Sunday at the 10:45 a.m. service along with a Christmas musical and a spring "Dinner Theater/ Spring musical." Being in choir at this age teaches the kids confidence and public speaking skills. They learn to be active in the church, and safety, support and encouragement from the congregation watching them. Through the programs, they are memorizing Bible verses that will stay with them forever and sharing God Word.

Come join us on September 30th !



Christian Education

The adult Sunday School Class that meets at 9:30 continues year round. The group is open to all folks to come. A few different people help lead the class. Currently they are studying "The Fruit of the Spirit" by Stuart Briscoe.

The children's classes will resume Sunday, Sept. 13. at 9:30am! All are welcome! PreK-12th grade.

Pam's Bible Study

Acts: Awakening To God In Everyday Life

Its a 6 session Bible Study, it will be held every Tuesday starting on September 15th at 9:30am in the parlor. Hope to see you.



Jubilee

Luncheon

Please remember to join us on September 24, for the Jubilee luncheon for our church members 75 or older.

The theme this year is Oktoberfest. Lunch will be served at 12. We hope to see you there!!!

Redcross

Please consider donating blood on September 28, Monday from 11-6pm. They will be here at church, set up in fellowship hall.



Great Commandment + Great Commission = Our Purposed Mission

Seville UMC's Current Vision Statement:
**Discovering God's Intended Well-Being of
Body, Soul, and Spirit by Building Community**

Our vision of what we hope to see as an outcome of our continual work toward our mission of making and nurturing disciples of Jesus Christ is this:

To see people and communities helping to build up other people and communities in the Spirit-filled discovery of God's intended well-being physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

This is Jesus' ultimate vision: to bring complete wholeness and wellness, healing, restoration, renewal, revival, reconciliation, forgiveness, grace, mercy, and love. It is wholly, holistic 'trinitarian' of
Body, Soul, and Spirit by way of:
God our Creator, Jesus, our Redeemer,
and The Holy Spirit, our Sustainer.

The Hebrew word and concept is Shalom =
To be made whole and complete in total well-being,
harmony, peace, and fulfillment as God intended.

*A Basic Formula: The Great Commandment Plus
The Great Commission Equals Our Purposed Mission.*

Jesus says that all the commandments are wrapped up in his Great Commandment:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, (strength) and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."

(Matthew 22:34-40, Mark 12:28-34, Luke 10:25-28)

Jesus also gives us the Great Commission:

"To make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:18-20)

Our purpose is to help bring a balanced wellness of the body, soul, and spirit in order to help people continually grow in the likeness of Jesus in order to fulfill Christ's Great Commandments to love God and others and to be faithful to the Great Commission to make and mature disciples for the transformation of the world.

YAPPY NIGHT



**Sponsored
by Outreach
Group**

Do you have a dog?

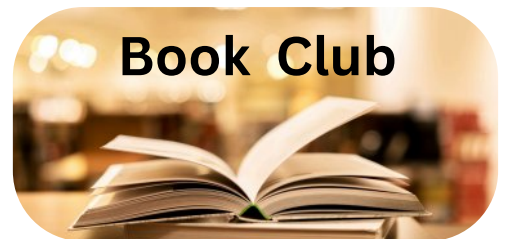
We are having a yappy night on September 27 at 5:00pm till 6:30pm. We're opening it up to the community and to all dogs and all persons! There will be treats for dogs and all persons! It surely will be fun.

Craft Bazaar



Are you crafty?? Starting on September 17, Thursday from 9:30-12 please join us in making wonderful crafts. We meet on Thursday's except September 24 (Jubilee lunch that day) Hope to see you! We meet in the lower level room.

Book Club



Book Club was meeting on the second Monday of each month. Starting in September, it will be on the second THURSDAY of each month. There is a list of books up until December that we will be reading. List is on the table outside the sanctuary. We meet in the parlor at 2:00 pm.
All Are WELCOME!!

SEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH September 2026



Pie and Ice Cream Social

Plan to attend the pie and ice cream social on September 13 at 5:00pm.

Everyone is asked to bring their favorite pie and the ice cream will be provided by the church. We will begin the gathering at 5:00 pm with a wonderful group of gospel singers.



SAVE THE DATES!
**For Our Special 200th
Celebrations in 2026!**

One Worship Service
10:00 am
October 11



COFFEE CLUB IS BACK

The COFFEE CLUB resumes Monday, September 14 at 10:00 a.m.

We have some very interesting and entertaining programs planned for this year plus a great menu. The cost for each person is \$5.00

Hope to see you! - Mary Oberli

A CALENDAR OF FUTURE DATES IS AVAILABLE NOW.

September 14, 2026: "Riding The Rails With Conductor Dave"

Guest Speaker: Pastor Dave McGrath

Lunch: Pancakes with Blueberry Sauce, Pecan Sauce, Bananas or Strawberries, Sausage, Applesauce and Cookies

Farmer's Market

Dates to Remember:

It began on Memorial
Weekend 9 am -12 pm and



runs through
September
2026! Follow
them on Facebook!



Coffee Club Speaker Emily Gladden

Emily Gladden spoke at the last coffee club about her experience backpacking through the Laurel Mountains.

What a wonderful and informative talk she gave.

Thank you Emily for sharing your experience with us!

REMINDER: Last Coffee Club is on Monday,
October 5th from 10-1pm, don't miss it!

*Deadline for the
October 2026
NEWSLETTER no later
than Thursday
September 24 . Please have
ANY & ALL items
into the office by
then, thank you.*



Look for The Weekly Whistle heading to your inbox soon.
Expected day to arrive is on Wednesday's. It will be filled
with updated information for the week.

Worship Looking Ahead: Joy In Living: Rejoice, Again I Say Rejoice

September 6
15th Sunday
After Pentecost

Joy In Faith

Scripture
Philippians 1:21-30

Greeters/Ushers
8:30
Kevin & Nancy Barr
10:45
John & Melanie
Gladden

Liturgist
8:30 Heather Cottingham
10:45 Helen Angell

September 13
16th Sunday
After Pentecost

Joy In Grace

Scripture
Philippians 2:1-13

Greeters/Ushers
8:30
Mark & Lea Ewing
10:45
Chris Wotowiec &
Joyce Milota

Liturgist
8:30 Bobbie Placke
10:45 Sandy Bridenthal

September 20
17th Sunday
After Pentecost

Joy In Hope

Scripture
Philippians 3:1-14

Greeters/Ushers
8:30
Brian & Nancy Greer
10:45
Sue Payne &
Bette Smith

Liturgist
8:30 Brian Greer
10:45 Dave Freeland

September 27
18th Sunday
After Pentecost

Joy In Peace

Scripture
Philippians 4:4-8

Greeters/Ushers
8:30
Craig & Roseann Wood
10:45
Dave & Val Welday

Liturgist
8:30 Kelly Korb
10:45 Melanie Gladden

Counter- Helen Angell **Counter-** Carol Harlan **Counter-** Janet Gommel **Counter-** Bette Smith **Counter-** Melanie Gladden

August 2: Communion Stewards: 8:30 Lea Ewing **10:45** Liisa Coldiron

We will have the
Blessing of the Backpacks
during services on Sunday,
September 13



United Methodist Men

Fall is back-to-school time and back to United Methodist Men time! UMM is a casual group of guys who get together to eat breakfast, enjoy a program, and find ways God can use us to serve the church and community. Our devotions this year will be taken from former NFL head coach Tony Dungy's book, "The Uncommon Life." We meet in the church parlor at 9 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month from October through May. All men and boys are invited to join us. Please see John Gladden for more information. Hope to see you on Oct. 3!



Save The Date!
Saturday October 24
~ CROP Hunger Walk ~
Nancy Pitz - Event Coordinator



Please keep these folks in prayer:

Connie Beery: Health Concerns
 Kathy Pangle: Recovery from Surgeries
 Tom Wellman (Vicki's husband) : Health Concerns
 Edie Landis: Recovery of a broken shoulder
 Kathy Stutzman: Recovery from unexpected surgery
 Wendel Payn: Health Concerns
 Chris Wotowiec: Her grandson's Issac's recovery from a car accident

For New Prayer Request: If you want the prayer request listed publicly in the bulletin and in newsletters, fill out a prayer request card, send the office an email of your prayer request or contact the church office to have the prayer request included.

A Special Thank You



Thank you to our church family for all the calls, cards and texts after my recent heart problem. All the support we have received means a lot.
 Love, Wendel & Darla



Thank you to all who made the second of three special 200th anniversary Sundays on Aug. 16 such a wonderful celebration! We sang some of our faith's most meaningful hymns and worship songs (thank you, Pam Mullin and Bobbi Placke, for planning the music), enjoyed a light lunch, and participated in activities that helped us learn more about the history of Seville UMC. We are grateful to everyone for flexing their normal church times so we can join together and worship as one church family on these special dates.

The final special 200th anniversary Sunday is Oct. 11, which we are celebrating as Church Homecoming Day with one service at 10 a.m. We are looking forward to former pastors and members joining us for "A Visit from The Rev. John Hazzard," Seville UMC's founding circuit rider. There will be food after the service, a church family photo and more. We are grateful to all who ordered commemorative t-shirts, sweatshirts and tote bags. Orders should be available soon for pick-up at the church. If you have not done so already, please be sure to sign the 200th anniversary time capsule in the Fellowship Hall and bring in an object to place inside by Oct. 11. The new church photo directory is currently under construction. Thanks to Nancy Greer for donating her photography skills to this project! It's not too late to submit a picture and contact information so we can all put faces with names and get to know one another better. Please submit photos and info to Adine in the church office or contact Beth Meadows or John Gladden

CARING FOR OTHERS



Seville Community Food Pantry

To say that August was a busy month would be an understatement. But it did not give our volunteers pause at all. It was all hands on deck and we have really great hands. We were able to serve 60 households this past month and I would say that even the last person out of the door had valuable additions to their pantries.

Out of the 154 persons served, there were 42 seniors and 42 children. Out of the 60 households, 49 only came to one pantry. We served 14 families with 6 or more members. We served 7 families who had not been to our Pantry previously, 3 had never been to any pantry in the Akron Canton Regional Foodbank system.

Our shelves are a bit bare right now, but with the money we have received through various sources and community and church support, they are already being restocked. We had a concern about our side by side fridge and may need to replace it in the near future. But already two of our volunteers have offered to purchase a new unit. God has got this project!

Dates for September are adjusted for the Labor Day Holiday
Our usual Monday Pantry will be Tuesday, September 8, 6-7 pm
Saturday Pantry is Saturday, September 19 from 10 am to noon

Please spread the word about this change to Tuesday.

Out September Item of the Month is boxed meals.

Think Hamburger or Tuna Helper or even boxed potato sides.

Or think outside of the box!

If you would ever like to help or just see what happens at a Pantry, just show up! All are welcome!

The Next Food Pantry Dates are
Monday September 8 ~ 6:00 - 7:00 pm and
Saturday September 19~ 10:00 am - Noon



Lay Leader Report

Submitted By Bobbi Placke

When I was writing the Lay Leader report for Charge Conference, I really focused on all the work of the Laity of our church. I can't possibly list all names separately because I would be listing everyone who is a part of Seville UMC. My prayer for what we focus on during the next conference year is where we are, as the laity, can reach out even more to the community. We have the food pantry, VBS, Panera Bread distribution, Bible Studies, and many organizations that use our building.

Our challenge is now to see what is needed and where we can share God's love and the resources he has provided. I want to thank everyone for using their talents toward helping to build God's kingdom. Not just inside our four walls, but also out in our community, welcoming others and sharing God's love.

Let us join together in seeing our vision reach out to our community and realize God's love for all of his children by: Discovering God's Intended Well-Being of Body, Soul, and Spirit by Building Community.

Worship Team Update:



The Worship Team would like you to know, in advance, these special planning dates for 2026. Mark these dates on your fall/winter calendars. For questions, please reach out to either Beth Meadows or Sandy Bridenthal. Thank you!

- Blessing of the Backpacks - Sept. 13th
- World Communion Sunday - Oct. 4th
- Laity Sunday - October 18th
- All Saints Sunday - Nov. 1st
- Veteran's Sunday - Nov. 8th
- UWIF Sunday - Nov. 22nd
- First Sunday of Advent - Nov. 29th
- JC Kids Christmas Program - Dec. 13th
- Christmas Eve. Service - 7:00pm & 11:00pm



**HomeComing
Celebration:
October 11!**

~ Leadership Board News ~

The new Leadership Board structure of 10 members and Pastor Dave serves as a group that acts quite similar to the old Administrative Council that incorporates tasks that were previously assigned to the former SPPRC, Trustees, and

Finance Committees. There are various ministry teams throughout the church, including both a trustee team and finance team, that meet and serve to oversee the work that is needed to be done. Reports from team leaders are sent to Adine to be distributed to the Leadership Board members in order to keep everyone in the loop. A primary role of the newly structured Leadership Team is to focus on the strategy to accomplish overarching goals of the church.

However, the new Leadership Board is also responsible for some official approvals of the conference, district, or local church, just like the old Administrative Council. The Leadership Board recently adopted a "Vision Statement" of what it is we hope to "see" as an outcome of our work towards fulfilling the Great Commandment and the Great Commission (see the article on page 3 that was originally printed in last month's newsletter). The Board can also create temporary teams to handle specific tasks that are needed. For example, the group of folks who recently met with the District Superintendent was made up of a few Leadership Board members and a few others from the church.

For any questions about the Leadership Board, or any interest in becoming part of a Team please contact anyone on Leadership Board:

***Randy Eby, Emily Gladden, Janet Gommel, Brian Greer,
Carol Harlen, Beth Meadows, Mary Oberli, Wendel Payn,
Bobbi Placke, and Craig Wood.***

FINANCE NEWS

Year to date general fund income totals \$115,944, including \$111,044 in giving and \$4,900 in parsonage rent, compared with expenses of \$107,896. This leaves the general fund ahead of the earlier months this year, but overall giving remains ahead of expenses. Thank you for your continued support.

Finance report as of July 31, 2026
General Fund giving \$111,044
Parsonage Rent (50%) \$4,900
Total General Fund Income \$115,944
Expenses \$107,896
Difference \$8,048

If you have a question, please feel free to ask Melanie Gladden
or email a question to sevumcfinance@gmail.com.

Did you know that there is a Finance Team....

The following people make up the team :

*Melanie Gladden

*Dave Welday

*Carol Harlan

*Bette Smith

*Mary Oberli



Trustee News:

Memorial garden mulching is done. A new air conditioner was purchased by the food pantry for the pantry room. The old unit from the pantry room was moved to the room across the hall temporarily. Thank you to all who help keep our church beautiful and so welcoming!

The New Office Email Address is:
Seville.UMC.office@gmail.com

The old email address, although soon to be deleted, will be briefly monitored in order to not miss some communication during the transition.

Give online thru our website <https://www.seville-umc.org/>
Just click the donate button or mail a check directly to the church. Send a check thru your online banking system (you can even set it up to send recurring checks). We value you and your support of Seville UMC! Your Finance Committee.

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

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

Online
Giving at



MONTHLY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 Historical Society Members Only 7pm	4	5
6 8:30 Praise Service 10:45 Traditional Service	7 Labor Day Office Closed	8 Food Pantry 6- 7pm	9	10 Book Club 2pm	11	12
13 8:30 Praise Service 10:45 Traditional Service *Blessings of the Backpacks Pie & Ice Cream Social 5pm	14 Coffee Club 10-1pm 200th Ann. meeting 7pm	15 Bible Study 9:30 Joy Caring Group 11:30 (Ihop)	16 Leadership Board Meeting 7pm	17 Craft Bazaar 9:30-12	18	19 Food Pantry 10-noon
20 8:30 Praise Service 10:45 Traditional Service	21	22 Bible Study 9:30 UWIF 7pm	23	24 Jubilee Lunch 11:30-2pm	25 Lunchbox Noon	26
27 8:30 Praise Service 10:45 Traditional Service Yappy Night 5pm	28 Red Cross 11-6pm	29 Bible Study 9:30	30 JC Kids 5:30pm			

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

Seville United Methodist Church 74 West Main St. Seville, OH

Our Sunday Morning Schedule:

8:30 AM Praise Worship

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Traditional Worship & Online Streaming

Scan here to
view the
Calendar
Online



**September 2026 - Item of the
month**

Boxed Meals

**Consider signing up in Fellowship Hall to order Sunday altar flowers
this Fall to honor someone or to remember loved ones.**

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



Online Giving at

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



**Weekly Panera Bread and
Pastries Pickup on
Wednesday Mornings**

First Wednesday Brian Greer
Second Wednesday The Perrys
Third Wednesday The Ewings
Fourth Wednesday The Rhoads
Fifth Wednesday is Tara Freeland

