



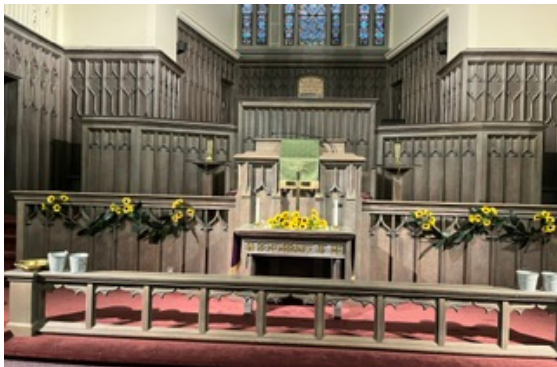
GREENE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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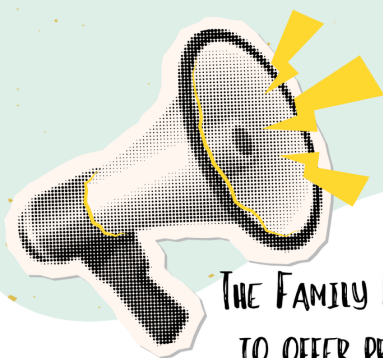
NEWSLETTER

MISSION

"MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS WHO TRANSFORM THE WORLD."



YOUTH GROUP IS COMING THIS FALL! For youth in grades 7-12



THE FAMILY MINISTRY TEAM IS VERY EXCITED TO BEGIN TO OFFER PROGRAMS SPECIFICALLY FOR OUR TEENS AND THEIR FAMILIES STARTING THE FALL OF 2026. WE WANT TO BRAINSTORM IDEAS WITH YOU AND START LINING UP VOLUNTEERS AS WE TAKE THIS STEP IN GROWING OUR MINISTRY. JOIN US AFTER SERVICE ON BACKPACK SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS! CAN'T MAKE IT? SEND US AN E-MAIL AT MICHELLE@GREENESTREETUMC.ORG

GREENE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

415 W. Greene Street
Piqua, Ohio 45356
www.greenestreetumc.org
937-773-5313
office@greenestreetumc.org

Pastor

Rev. Dr. William Leasure
revwill@greenestreetumc.org

Office Manager

Jennifer Sweetman
jennifer@greenestreetumc.org





WE PRAISE GOD FOR
ALL HE HAS DONE!

Operation Christmas Child: Shoeboxes of Hope

It's time to start filling shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child! This year's theme is "It's All About Jesus." Through Samaritan's Purse, these shoeboxes travel to children in remote areas around the world. Every box is an opportunity for a child to hear that Jesus Christ came to earth for them.

Shoeboxes are packed for three age groups: 2-4, 5-9, and 10-14.

Suggested gifts include dolls or stuffed animals, Matchbox cars, balls, sunglasses, flashlights, calculators, combs, toothbrushes (no toothpaste), socks, T-shirts, small books, school supplies, and coloring books. For some children, this may be the only gift they ever receive. Each child also has the opportunity to participate in a discipleship class and receive a booklet with 12 lessons about Jesus that they can share with their families.

You may give purchased items to Peggy Moorman or drop them off at the church office.

One shoebox at a time, we can share the love of Jesus around the world!

Peggy Moorman
Certified Lay Minister



Don't
forget!



9/6 - Greene Street's
Sabbatical Time
Greene Street Family will be
giving testimonies about
what they saw, did, &
learned during the
Sabbatical



9/13 - Rev. Will's
Sabbatical Time
A Celebration of Rev. Will's
Return, including what Rev.
Will saw, did, & learned
during the Sabbatical

Enjoy being a Youth Mentor for 30 - 45 minutes a week in a Piqua School



Years ago, just two youth mentors
drastically impacted a school's culture
and shifted the trajectory of each child.

Each Mentor woke up to a new
purpose and it changed their lives.

Explore becoming a mentor by
scanning below to review the easy
4-step process



CREATION TIPS

Slow down. Move through the world in a way that truly sees God's creation. Breathe deeply, opening yourself to the Spirit. September is a wonderful time to care for creation in simple, practical ways.

🌳 Plant a tree. September is prime planting time. Consider adding a tree at home or church, or gather volunteers for a community planting project. Trees provide shade, improve air quality, protect waterways, and provide habitat for wildlife.

🐦 Help the birds. September and October are peak migration seasons. Reduce outdoor lighting and turn off unnecessary floodlights at night to help migrating birds find their way.

🌿 Let your lawn grow a little wild. Taking a break from mowing can reduce erosion and runoff while helping rainwater soak into the ground. Tell your neighbors why you're letting things get a little "scraggly!"

♻️ Pick up three pieces of litter a day. That small commitment adds up to more than 1,000 pieces of trash in a year. Invite children to join you and make caring for our community a family habit.

👕 Give school clothes a second life. Organize a clothing or school-uniform swap. Reusing clothing saves families money and keeps usable items out of the landfill.

💨 Use the air—it's free! Skip the heated drying cycle on your dishwasher, hang some laundry to dry, or let your hair dry naturally. Small changes can save energy. Finally, remember that access to green space is a matter of justice. Lower-income neighborhoods often have fewer trees and parks, hotter temperatures, and poorer health outcomes. Speak up for parks, trees, and clean air in every part of our community. How might our world change if we stopped seeing nature as something we own and instead saw ourselves as being in relationship with God's creation?

FOOD PANTRY ANSWERS

Food Pantry: Seeing God in the Everyday

The past two months at the Food Pantry have been filled with activity and many "God moments." Sometimes they come through an unexpected donation, a person we meet, or a simple conversation or prayer.

We were blessed with more than 17 boxes of donuts from Kroger. Rather than let them go to waste, we connected with the Stonebridge Pantry, who happily took them. We are grateful whenever we can share our abundance with another ministry.

One very hot day, a father and his four children walked from Shawnee to our pantry. The children had recently been removed from an abusive situation, and we were thankful to provide food and support during a difficult time.

Prayer continues to be an important part of our ministry. One morning, a young man arrived while we were praying and was invited to join us. Another woman came feeling that she was under spiritual attack, and we prayed together and reminded her that she was not alone.

One especially meaningful moment came when a father asked how we could pray for him. When I asked how I could pray for him, he instead asked how he could pray for me. He then had his 14-year-old daughter pray for us. Her prayer included many of the same things we had prayed for that morning. It was a beautiful reminder that faith is taught by example.

The Salvation Army has also blessed us with leftover food from Olive Garden, which our pantry friends were happy to receive.

We are serious about this ministry, but we also have a lot of fun doing it! Most importantly, we continue to see God at work through our friends, volunteers, and those who share their abundance.

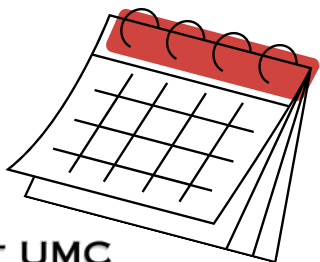
Hygiene items are always needed and can be placed in the grocery donation box at church. Please continue to pray for our Food Pantry friends—their families, health, housing, and hope—and for the many "God moments" still to come.

Peggy Moorman
Certified Lay Minister





GREENE STREET UMC
FAMILY MINISTRY



Upcoming Family Events

September 6: No children's Sunday School

September 27: 3rd Grade Bible Sunday

October 4: UMCOR Kit Packing

October 29: Trunk or Treat 6-8pm

Promotion Sunday in Sunday School

Over the past couple of years, we have been blessed with incredible growth in our youth Sunday school programs! To encourage and celebrate our young learners, we are holding a special Sunday School Celebration & Promotion Sunday on Backpack Sunday, August 30.

While we use general grade guidelines, we firmly believe in accommodating every child's unique learning style and needs. Here is a quick look at our class offerings for the upcoming year:

Active Sunday School (Approx. K-4th grade): Hands-on Bible story exploration through stories, crafts, games, and interactive take-home materials with Michelle Hart. *Note:* Kindergarteners automatically move up from nursery on promotion Sunday, but parents of preschoolers/pre-K students can reach out to Michelle for early promotion.

Discussion Sunday School (Approx. 5th - 8th grade): Sermon note-taking, group discussion, and practical application of spiritual concepts to daily life with Stephanie Maniaci.

High School Students (9th - 12th grade): High schoolers are warmly encouraged to participate fully in the main worship service. For interest in volunteer opportunities during our weekly service, contact Jenny Sweetman (jennifer@greenestreetumc.org).



No Sunday School Sunday, September 6

During the special service on September 6, children are invited to sit with their teachers up front or with their families in the pews.

We will have a special time for the kids to share their God Sightings from the past few months and sharing some of our VBS music.



UMCOR United Methodist Committee on Relief **Hygiene Kits**



We would like to thank everyone for their generous donations for the United Methodist Committee on Relief hygiene kits! We will continue to collect donations through September. If you need a list of needed donations, contact Michelle Hart (michelle@greenestreetumc.org) or visit the Family Ministry table in the narthex.

On October 4 after service, children and their families are invited to join the family ministry team in packing the items collected during VBS and over the summer into kits. Lunch will be provided.

3RD GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY

Join us on September 27 during 10 am service to celebrate our 3rd grade students as they receive the gift of God's Word.

Not sure if your third grader is on the list to receive their Bible? Check with the Family Ministry team, Michelle Hart & Stephanie Maniaci, or Office Manager, Jenny Sweetman.



In the case of inclement weather (rain, snow, or temperature below 40 degrees) or if the City of Piqua cancels Trick or Treat, our event will be cancelled. Watch our Facebook Page for cancellation information.

Sign-up to pass out candy for Trunk-or-Treat with Michelle Hart (michelle@greenestreetumc.org) or at the Family Ministry table in the narthex.



THANK YOU

Dear Greene Street United Methodist Community,
Thank you so much for the generous gift and your well wishes.
It is amazing and such a blessing to have such an incredible community supporting me.

Thanks again!
Sincerely, Allison Osborn (Military Cards)

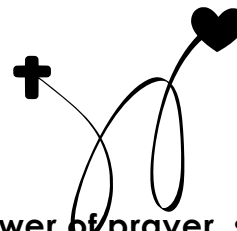


Dear Greene St. Family,
Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, and support in such a difficult time.
I know how valuable my church family is in my life. God has placed me here for a reason.

God Bless You All!
Edna Middleton & Family



PRAYER REQUESTS



We believe in the power of prayer, so please keep us updated! Please communicate to the church office manager via email (jennifer@greenestreetumc.org).

Greene Street Church Family – Jo Anderson, Joan Beck, Gary Bowdle, Shirley Gover, Lou Ellen Oakes, Bill Walters, Bill Wright,

Friends and Family of Greene Street - Mike & Debbie Deeter (Clark), Mark & Donna Youtz (Collette), Kinsley Miller, Evelyn Shortidge (Cooper), Tammy (Ellerman), Uncle Jack, Aunt Janet, Jeff Thiebau (Frazier), Jim Gaier, Dave Reeves, Steve Thomas, Jim Hinker, Weston Houts (Gaier), Uncle Wilson, Uncle Bob, Mauger Family (Hadden), Christy Hight (Hall), Nancy Cox (Heath), Jeremy Root (Helman), Ed Eidemiller (Hudson), Mom (Huelskamp), Holmes family, Mary Schultes, Kritz family (Jurosic), granddaughter (Kiser), Travis Lucas, Jeff Cox (Marrs), Angie (McLargin), Doug Lange, (Minton), Jodi McGraw (Price), Karen Jamison, Forrest Foster (Scroggins), Donna Casto, Val Seas (Seas), Harley S, Brandon, Don Patty, Tim Ferree (Stilwell), Christina Whittacker, Carol Greene (Taylor), Crystal, Diane, Nikkea, Carol H, Connie T, Doug & Teresa, Richard, Wendy (Thorpe), Jeb Friend (Underwood), Dave & Kris Brown (Vosler), Candy (Weimer), David Shortidge (Wilzcek), Diana Swafford, Mike Miller, Jerry Nicks (Food Pantry)

Military - Jed Cooper, Ronnie Cooper, Taylor Hubner (Frazier), Elijah Young (Guenther), Annie Marrs, LTJG Allison Osborn (Pedroff), Myles Hoffman, Brendon Tisher (Seas), Joseph Sherman (Shellenberg), TC Place (Tapp),

Care Facilities - Brookdale, Piqua: DiAnn Bateman, Shirley Sanders, Margaret Venus; Story Point: Carol Hepler; Piqua Manor: Darl Blevins, Debbie Blue, Helen Sharpe; Assisted Living in Sturgis, MI: Kathleen Pedroff; Brookhaven, Brookville: MaryJo Morgan.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

**We pray God's comfort
to be with:**

September	OCTOBER
1 Payton Meckstroth Peter Sullivan 2 Amanda Brown Annie Thorpe 3 Amanda Piascik Savannah Jaqua Jeanne Ringer Evelyn Stilwell Claire Wiseman 4 Makenzie Ellerman 5 Dick Clark Jim Meckstroth 6 Phil Thomas 7 Abigail Silvers Mike Taylor 8 Brenda Rice 10 Remington Hitchman Jackie Pollock 11 Jennifer Everett 12 Darryl Lawson 16 Ashley Bantz Lou Oakes Phylis Otey 19 Jen Hadden Nicholas Heath 20 Dustin Brown 22 Hal Cain 23 Brett Marrs 27 Harper Bantz Edna Middleton 30 John Cox	1 Susan Hopkins 2 Jill Weimer 6 William Monnier 7 Jean Heath 8 Jeff Erbes 10 Jo Anderson 11 Petyon Guenther 12 Mary-Jo Morgan 13 Grant Maniaci Nancy Woods 14 Andy Stilwell 16 Cale Meckstroth Carris Meckstroth 18 Sandor Scroggins 24 Amy Hartman 26 Toni Thompson 27 Melanie Sever 29 Michelle Underwood 
8 Joe & Toni Thompson 9 Josh & Kelly Meckstroth 11 Brett & Alice Marrs 12 Nicole & Ryan Lacy 20 Michael & Megan Kline 25 Marian & Ron Couchot 28 Hillary & Addison Jaqua 29 Brenda & Paul Rice	3 Stephanie & Michael Maniaci 6 Mike & Michelle Taylor 9 George & Kathy Sweetman 11 Jen & Austin Hadden 12 Jeff & Linda Price 13 Jeff & Diana Hall 19 Katie & Ben Hitchman 21 Jim & Kelli Meckstroth 24 Rick & Karen Kist

- family and friends of Mary "Rosie" Guenther who passed away on Friday, June 26, 2026.
- the Clifton family; their son, Austin was killed in a motorcycle accident in Kansas. Austin is a cousin of Pat Helman.
- family and friends of Larry Underwood, who passed away on Tuesday, August 4, 2026.
- Edna Middleton and family (including Krystal Lawson family, Katie Farris family, Lisa Meckstroth family, & more) upon the death of her husband Pat Middleton on August 9, 2026.
- the Helman family; cousin David Wortman who passed away on August 14 in hospice care.
- April and Dave Vosler and family upon the death of her father Llyod Fry on August 20, 2026.

**We pray God's blessings
upon:**

- Joan Beck: Happy news: Joan has a new great grandson, born Sunday, 9 lb 9 oz! Barrett Jack Schmiesing is welcomed by sister Blakeleigh, 22 months.



The Chimes - Newsletter
Greene Street United Methodist Church
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Piqua, Ohio 45356-2198

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