

Walnut Grove UMC
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“ Whatever you do,
work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord... ”

– Colossians 3:23

Walnut Grove UMC The Nuggets

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SEPTEMBER 2021

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Calendar of Events



9/5	9am	Traditional Worship Service
	10am	Sunday School
	11am	Contemporary Worship
9/12	9am	Abbreviated Worship Service
9/19	9am	Traditional Worship
	10am	Sunday School
	11am	Contemporary Worship
9/20	7pm	Ad Council Meeting
9/26	9am	Traditional Worship
	10am	Sunday School
	11am	Contemporary Worship

From The Pastor's Desk

Are we fulling God's call to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world? Or are we inwardly focused, coming to worship and taking care of business as quickly and easily as possible?

I have been asking myself and the board these questions. While we strive to make the former our reality, my fear is we are on a path towards the latter. If we continue on this path, our Spirit-filled vitality and witness in our community will never grow. Without a clear vision and mission to guide us in how we relate and respond to one another and to the world, we compromise our very call from God to be the Church of Jesus Christ.

I believe it's time to reflect, to dream, and to act so that we will be the church God has called us to be. As you know, we will soon be entering into a season of discernment and decision making in regards to the greater united Methodist Church. It is imperative that we make ourselves ready, both spiritually and organizationally, to meet the obstacles and opportunities that lie ahead of us.

To do this, we must examine the "as is." In other words, where are we right now? What is our current reality? What are we doing well? What areas do we need to improve? What are our resources and assets?

We will then discern where God is calling us – I call this the "could be". This is a process of dreaming and seeking God's direction for the future of the church.

Finally, we will commit to making the "could be" a reality as we act upon the very dreams God has given us.

While we are on this journey, we will be forming a few new ministry teams to help us focus on making disciples. The new ministry teams are: Hospitality and Congregational Care, Worship, Discipleship, and Mission and Outreach. I ask that you prayerfully consider your gifts and graces for ministry and offer your time and talents to one of these teams. Please sign up to serve on a Ministry Team so that we can fulfill our calling to BE the Church of Jesus Christ.

If we truly desire to impact our community for Christ, we must leave this well-worn path we've been traveling and venture into new Kingdom territory. I am so excited to be on this journey together.

CHILDREN'S OUTREACH MINISTRIES

The Children's Outreach Ministry is continuing to make cards and draw pictures and send weekly to members of our church family in need if a special greeting. We have completed 4 blankets as of 8/23 and have more to complete. They will be given to Helping Hands for distribution to area families in need if blankets for their children.

Hello Walnut Grove!

A few upcoming events for our youth group:

Saturday, **September 25th** at Walnut Grove we will be helping the Keep Hardin County Beautiful hold a fundraiser. This is from **11:00 am -1:00 pm**. The youth will be helping with the delivery to the cars from the basement.

Sunday, **October 3rd** from **5-7 pm** will be a Hardin County Collective Youth Group meeting at Saint John's Barn beside their church. We will be carving pumpkins and having a hot dog roast.

Have a great September!



<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Check #</u>
7/1/2021	Beginning Balance			\$3566.04	
7/16/2021	Greater Findlay Area Chrysalis		\$65.00	\$3501.04	1143
7/19/2021	Deposit	\$15.00		\$3516.04	
7/31/2021	Ending Balance			35016.04	

Beginning Balance - \$16,436.16

Deposits - +\$

\$

Checks paid out -\$

Ending Balance - \$12,037.02 (as
of 8/10/21)

Memorial fund - \$21,366.16



The Sunday School account balance is \$1,865.43 as of 8/23/2021.



Vanco, our online giving platform, will be updating their mobile app effective September 30th. Giving will continue as scheduled until then, however you will need to update your mobile app when it becomes available. More information to come in September.

This year fair Sunday will be September 12th. We will have one abbreviated service at 9:00am and no 11:00am service. There will be an hour of inspiration at the fairgrounds beginning at 10:00am. The speaker at the fairgrounds will be the dean of the OSU agricultural department.



Ever feel dry? Soul dry? Do you find yourself in a place where your heart feels worn out and weary? Where your less is more than your more? You need an Oasis.

"I thirst for you, my whole being longs...in a dry and parched land where there is no water." Psalm 63:1

On September 17-18, Geoff and Jill Ludlow of Oasis Ministries will be hosting Oasis Day retreat at the Andy and Darlene Wilson's in Forest, Ohio.

What to expect:

Worship

Reflective Stations

Prayer

Listening to God's Word

Communion

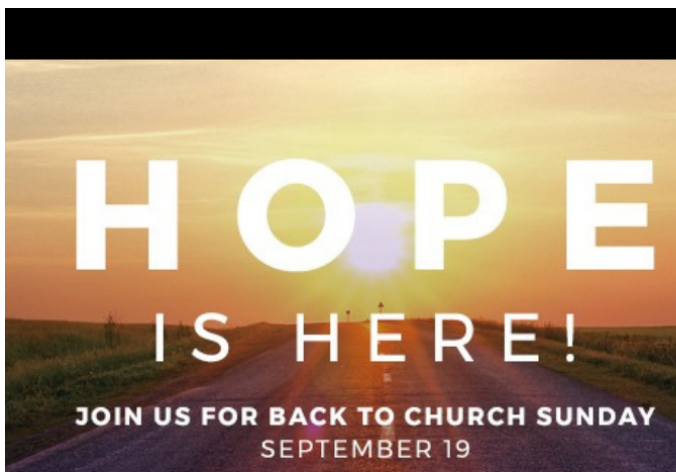
Optional Devotional guide to lead you through your day Breathing deeply!

•The Wilson's Barn: Andy and Darlene Wilson, 3116 CR 175, Forest, OH 45843 September 17, 7:00-9:00pm – Friday Evening Worship/Devotional Time September 18, 9:00am-4:00pm – Oasis Day Retreat *

*Come for an hour or for the whole day. No registration necessary. Feel free to bring a sack lunch. Water and coffee will be provided.

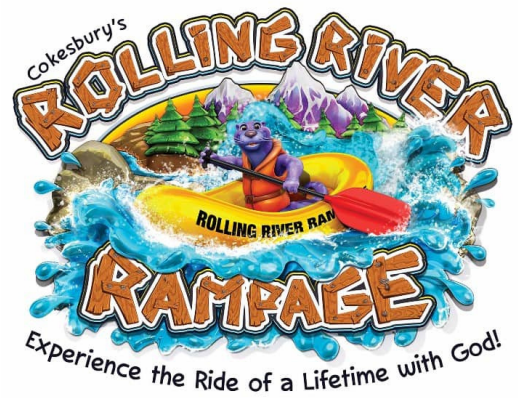
For more info: www.fullsail.org/events Email: info@fullsail.org

Find us on Facebook: Full Sail Ministries



The last 18 months have been difficult for all of us. With the Covid lock down last year and the roller coaster of Covid outbreaks, many have not been comfortable in gathering together. In addition, many have taken time away with friends and family for renewal. And some have just gotten out of the habit of coming to church. I would like to take this chance to invite all of you back to church! We have missed you, and I am certain you have missed the fellowship with your church family. Sunday, September 19, is National Back To Church Sunday. May this Sunday be a day for us to come back and worship together. As the season turns from summer to fall, make this your opportunity to renew your commitment to support your church through your prayers, presence gifts, service, and witness.

Vacation Bible School took place on July 19th, 20th, and 21st. Throughout our 3 days, kids enjoyed learning about the disciples, Mary & Martha, and Zacchaeus. Our kids were able to take part in an interactive story, learn "traditional" VBS songs during music, burned some energy outside at games, created unique crafts, and even did science experiments using ordinary items to get extraordinary results.



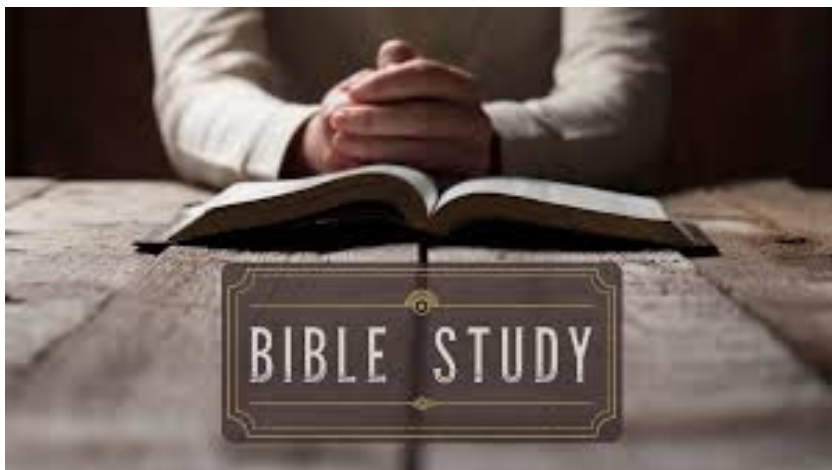
Monday: 37 kids, 21 adult helpers, 3 youth helpers
Tuesday: 41 kids, 22 adult helpers, 4 youth helpers
Wednesday: 43 kids, 22 adult helpers, 5 youth helpers

*Out of the 43 total kids we had during the week, over 60% each day were under the age of 8... that's a lot of energy bouncing around in little bodies!

I want to thank everyone who helped make VBS possible this year!

Thank-you:

- To the Sunday School classes that donated, made, and served meals. A special thanks to 101 Smokehouse for providing our meal on Wednesday night!
- To our youth & adult volunteers who lead groups, stations, or helped out when needed
- To those who helped set-up & tear-down
- To those who donated items/supplies to make the kids' experience that much better. A special thanks to Dunkirk Dairy Dream for donating gift certificates for all of our kids who attended and our youth helpers!



Our Fall Bible Study will begin Thursday, September 23rd, at 7:00pm. We will meet weekly in the Open Door classroom (there will be no Bible Study on October 20th or 27th, as Pastor will be on vacation). We will be studying the Letter to the Hebrews. Everyone is invited to attend, and childcare will be provided.

We are searching for 2 adults to provide childcare for the fall Bible Study. We will meet on Thursdays, 7:00-8:00pm. Childcare providers will be compensated for their time. If interested, please contact Pastor Doug.





9/1	Anna Koehler	9/9	Haily Bradley	9/20	Tammy Landon
9/1	Courtney Crowe	9/9	Jolene Lindeman	9/21	Gaylene Schutz
9/4	Connie Oates	9/10	Garrett Oestrich	9/22	Zachary Thiel
9/4	Luke Purdy	9/13	Chris Bacon	9/22	Justin Thiel
9/4	Mitch Purdy	9/13	Lois Ann Sheldon	9/23	Paul Gault
9/5	Gail Rodabaugh	9/13	Kastle Sheldon	9/23	Storm Drumm
9/5	David Rall	9/14	Nina Rhoades	9/24	Cody Thiel
9/5	Karson Frisbee	9/14	Theron Gammon	9/25	Brenda Comstock
9/5	Liza Ann Ruhlen	9/14	Greg Sheldon	9/25	Kylie Lenhart
9/6	Joshua Cahill	9/15	Tracy Garman	9/26	Heather Hite
9/7	Levi Schutz	9/16	Caitlin Johnson	9/27	Ken Doll
9/8	Mark Doll	9/18	Karin Bash	9/28	Pastor Doug Flinn
9/8	Travis Waller	9/19	Kristie Winklejohn	9/29	Larry Oates
9/9	Bev Bahr	9/20	Mark Garmon	9/30	Jodi Thiel
9/9	Traci Deckling	9/20	Jack McBride	9/30	Joe Walter



9/1	Kip & Denise McBride
9/11	Dean & Annetta Lenhart
9/15	Rob & Ellen Myers
9/16	Andrew & Natasha Ayers
9/25	Jon & Karen Bash
9/26	Brad & Lana Richards
9/30	Tom & Judy Williams



Our deepest sympathies to the family of Tom Kuck, who passed away on August 13th.