



WOODLAWN
GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

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September/October 2025 Newsletter

¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹Therefore **go and make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20 NIV

In Matthew 28:18–20, Jesus gives His disciples one final instruction before returning to the Father: "Go and make disciples of all nations." These words, often called the Great Commission, remind us that sharing the good news is not just for pastors or missionaries—it's for every believer. Every disciple! And yes, this includes YOU! I think for many of us this seems intimidating but Jesus doesn't leave all on our own. Rather, Jesus reassures us that He has all authority in heaven and on earth, so we never step into this work alone or without His power.

Making disciples starts right where we are. It can be as simple as offering encouragement to a struggling friend, praying with a neighbor, or inviting someone to join us at church. Discipleship is about building relationships, showing love, and helping others grow in their faith. Each of us has unique opportunities in our daily lives to reflect Christ's love and point others toward Him.

As we begin to live out this mission together as a church family, we can take comfort in knowing that He is always with us, guiding and strengthening us. Let's continue to encourage one another, support one another, and joyfully share the hope we have in Christ with the community around us.

- Pastor Sean



The **September/October** issues of **The Upper Room** devotionals are available to you on the wall rack in the outer Narthex.



If you would like to give **altar flowers** to celebrate a special occasion or in memory of a loved one, please get in touch with the church office. **Thank you.**

The Women of Woodlawn (WOW)

Summer is winding down and soon we will be enjoying the beautiful fall colors.

Our group visited Barb Leuthold, Phyllis Spengler, Elma Diller and Joyce Brown in July. At our August meeting we decided to sponsor a month for the **Jericho House**.

Check out the bulletin board to read the **thank you notes** from the missions that we donate to each month. WOW donates \$50 each month to the offering collected from the church to send to the missions.

The **Samaritan Purse Christmas shoe boxes** will be in the Narthex sometime in October. You can also fill a box on line. This is a great mission project for the less fortunate children.

Our next meeting will be **September 17th** and **October 15th** at 9:30am at the Church. **All Ladies Welcome**.

Blessings

WOW

- The mission offering for **September** will be given to **BORN**
- The mission offering for **October** will be given to **Help Me Grow**

3rd Sunday Benefit

Just a reminder that **Woodlawn GMC** will continue to support **Jericho House** in mission every **3rd Sunday** but without a **meal**.

Also the Sponsor sheet is on the table in the Narthex for September 2025 to August 2026. Thank you

We appreciate your donations on each 3rd Sunday.

Blessings for all of **Woodlawn** and the **folks at Jericho**.
Phyllis Crall and **"The Kitchen Gang"**

September Mission is BORN

Our Mission is to provide non-sustaining emergency assistance to residents and/or transients of Crawford County Ohio who have financial, physical, emotional, educational, and/or spiritual needs by networking with churches, agencies and individuals to promote effective and efficient use of community resources.

Do you need assistance with emergent needs such as rent, electric, gas or water? Or maybe you need help to get your birth certificate or state ID, or a different need. Please call us at **419-562-2150** or email us at **bucyrusborn@gmail.com**. You may also reach us through Facebook messenger at: **Bucyrus BORN**

We are funded completely by donations and fundraisers, so there are some things we are unable to assist with. **We can only service people in Crawford County Ohio.**

We do not assist with any kind of deposits, fees or 1st month's payments of any utility, or rent.

Woodlawn is a founding member of BORN

Pastor Sean resides as President of BORN

October Mission is Help Me Grow

Help Me Grow is a system of supports for pregnant women, caregivers with new babies, and families with young children with developmental delays and disabilities.

Services and supports are provided statewide through Home visiting, Early intervention, developmental screenings, and connections to community resources.

Family Support – More than 95% of Ohio parents who accessed Early Intervention for their child reported they were better able to support their child in learning new things and gaining new skills.

Early Impact – Help Me Grow Services help foster healthy relationships, experiences, and environments to support brain development, 80% of which occurs before age three.

Healthy Babies – Pregnant women who participated in home visits were 48% less likely to have a child with low birth weight.

Help Me Grow directly supports the three big goals of the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY).

4.4/1000 – Reduce Infant Mortality Rate.

Top 10 in the country, saving an additional 330 babies per year.

60% - Improve Kindergarten Readiness.

More than 26,000 more children demonstrating readiness on the kindergarten readiness assessment.

2/1000 – Reduce rate of children entering foster system.

Top 10 in the country, support families to keep more than 3,300 children in their homes



September Birthdays

- 25 Bob Greenick
- 28 Austin Strouse
- 29 Joe Kalb



September Anniversaries

- 14 Dick & Ellie Rockwell
- 21 Scott & Laurie Heinle

October Birthdays

- 9 Charlotte Mathis (2020)
- 13 Jennifer Gerger
- 16 Avery Moser (2011)
- 21 Mike Stover
- 26 Carla Gerhart
- 28 Wanda Trash
- 31 Beth Heinlen

October Anniversaries

- 22 Mike & Nancy Stover

MINUTES

Church & Finance Counsel Committee

August 5, 2025

The Church & Finance Council Committee met together on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 with the following members present: Pastor Sean, Dave Teets, Phyllis Crall, Barb Spaid, Tom Holtshouse, Karen Scott, Linda Efaw and Laurie Reynolds.

Pastor Sean started the meeting with prayer.

Dave Teets led the meeting

Reading of the Minutes: Everyone was given a copy of the minutes and they were read silently. A motion by Linda Efaw was made to accept the minutes and Phyllis Crall second the motion. All in favor said I.

The Treasurer's report: Financial Reports will follow with the most recent updates.

Pastor Sean: Last Thursday there was an SPR meeting and Pastor informed that his hours would be changing starting September 2nd. Hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8am until noon. Pastor Sean gave his August schedule where he will be gone August 14, 15, and 16th. On August 18 & 19 he will be in Ashland for training. The weekend of August 23 & 24 he will be out of town, he will check with Don Bennett to see if he would be available for Sunday service. Then October 6-8 he will be at a clergy retreat. Pastor had received an email from Colonel Crawford High School to be a sponsor for the Fall season. It was discussed and decided if they did it for one local school would need to do all local schools. Pastor also talked about "The Greenhouse community an 8 week interactive online "practicum" There are 2 dates in September 18th and 22nd. There is a code to scan to register. The web site is therivernetwork.org for other dates.

3rd Sunday Benefit Meal: Continue with donations. There will be a new sponsor sheet for September 2025 to August 2026.

Hospitality: None

Music: The schedule for the following year is full. Jenny Bennett is doing most of the year with Bev Roby picking up 3 5th Sundays and Ron Bower picking up 1. Tom said for United in Harmony next year this was the time to pick a date before they were booked. July 26, 2026 is the tentative date for United in Harmony and there will be a potluck that day as well.

SPR: Meeting last Thursday. Discussed Pastor Sean's hours changing in September.

Trustees: The parsonage is needing work done outside the patio, steps, basement wall sinking due to water. A-1 concrete leveling came and gave an estimate of \$5,700 to fix all the issues. The \$5,700 will come from the Parsonage fund in our Memorial & Savings Accounts. Linda advised

that this was to protect the Church investment and the problem would not get better. She made a motion to have A-1 concrete do the work now and Phyllis second the motion. A-1 concrete is scheduled to do the work August 20th and 21st. Linda also has been trying to get ahold of the Leaf Filter to fix the gutters at the parsonage. The lights at the end of the driveway has been put on hold for now and we are waiting on getting some of the painting done outside that needs it.

WOW: Karen said they visit the shut-ins in July, they went to see Barb Leuthold, Phyllis Spengler, Elma Diller and then they went and seen Joyce Brown. They all appreciated the visit. Had a good day.

Worship: No meeting scheduled yet.

Old Business: Ohio Mutual used our parking lot.

New Business: Dave had said that there was water in the basement the other day and it was in two of the rooms the usually do not get water.

Phyllis Crall ended the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted: Alice Donaldson

Financial News as of August 31, 2025

All bills are paid and current. This includes all medical, pension & disability income costs billed to us by the Global Methodist Church through the end of August.

As of August 31, 2025 our checking account balance was \$22,756.23.

We are trying to save enough monthly to be able to pay all of our 2025 Allegheny West Conference Connectional Giving and our Global Methodist Church expensing in March 2026 to take advantage of the 5% Full Payment discount on the Allegheny West Conference portion of these expenses. We estimate the total expense to be about \$6,000. As of this date we have saved \$2,400 towards this expense.

Our parsonage had some concrete problems that included sinking patio, driveway and sidewalks that was “suspending” the support posts for the patio roof (so that they were not supporting anything) and “pitching” the water run-off back to the house (instead of away from the house). The Administrative Council approved \$5,700.00 to be taken from the parsonage saving account fund to make the necessary repairs. A-1 Concrete & Leveling completed a 2-day leveling process to correct these problems...and did a beautiful job. Soil yet needs to be added to the west-side to the top level of the patio (that is now several inches higher than ground level) to validate a 3-year warranty on his work.

With this deduction from the parsonage savings account fund our current total Savings & Memorial Funds has been reduced to \$105,338.12

We did receive Patchworks monthly \$350 payment for August. Since the beginning of our agreement Patchworks has paid a total of \$5,600 to help with utility and maintenance costs...\$2,800 of which has been paid in 2025. As 08/31/25 they are current on their payments for 2025.

Year to Date...For This Report as of 08/31/25

- Year to Date Regular & Online Offerings of **\$82,863.70 were up slightly by \$1,355.00 or 1.6% compared to this time last year.**
- We have paid \$928.61 to Christ Covenant Church in Galion for half of their parsonage utilities. These payments stop in June.
- Our current Parsonage Fund (including a \$50k CD with Edward Jones) had dropped to \$63,591.64.
- Total funds in the Richard & Thelma Hawkins' Scholarship Fund are \$8,047.94
- The current balance of the Capital Improvements & Replacement Fund (including a \$25,000 CD with Edward Jones) stands at \$34,714.84. This fund was established to reduce the need for future borrowing for major expenses for such things as: eventually boiler and air-conditioner replacements, replacement of the deteriorating brick light columns at the end of the driveway, eventually roof replacements and the like. We have a growing need for some exterior painting.
- Year to date we have received \$1,235.00 in Memorial contributions.
- Our Undesignated Memorial Fund now stands at a **negative** \$6,418.90 because of the money needed for disaffiliation payments. This is an improvement from a negative \$14,297.21 balance this time last year.
- As shown above, our Total Memorial & Various Designated Savings & CD Account Funds Balance stands at \$105,335.12.

- **Total Mission & Evangelism Support Year to Date was \$4,885.48 and includes:** \$2,357.00 to Alpha 12 Step Recovery-Jericho House Project. 3rd Sunday Alpha fund raising dinners were suspended during Covid and again in January 2022. However, the Administrative Council voted to approve the contribution of the continuing \$150 per month sponsorship payments to Alpha....these sponsorship payments are included in the total payments to Alpha 12 Step.
Other Mission Support Offerings included:
 - 285 Back Pack Program (April Mission Offerings)
 - 400 Blanket Mission (February Offering thru Church World Services)
 - TBD Born (will Incl. \$300 from General Offerings & Sept Mission Offering)
 - TBD Flat Rock Homes (December Mission Offering)
 - 0 Hawkins' Scholarship Fund (Stopped being a Mission Offering in January 2023)
 - TBD Help Me Grow (October Mission Offering)
 - 380 Life Wise (March Mission Offering)
 - TBD Life Wise (Christmas Eve Offering)
 - 280 Reffey Family Missionaries (August Mission Offering)

- 175 Mid-West Mission-Disaster Relief (June Mission Offering)
- TBD Salvation Army (November Mission Offering)
- 515 Samaritan's Purse (January & July Mission Offering)
- 153 Upper Room Publications
- 235 Voice of Hope (formerly known as Bethel House-May Mission Offering)

Total Income for all of 2025 year to date was \$103,807.80 vs. \$108,211.26 this time last year. This reduction was mostly due to the loss of parsonage rental income and health insurance reimbursements from Christ Covenant Church.

Thank-you for your continuing financial support of our Church. If you are unable to attend “in-person” services please continue mailing your offerings directly to the Church at 1675 Hopley Ave. Bucyrus, OH 44820.

On behalf of our Treasurer, Carla Gerhart, Finance Committee and Administrative Council, **I Thank you** for your faithfulness and ask that you continue to prayerfully look at your support level of our Church.

Tom Holtshouse
Finance Chairperson



SEPTEMBER 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	<p>1</p> 	2	<p>3</p> <p>Trustee meeting 6:30</p> <p>Worship meeting 5:00</p>	4	5	6
<p>7</p> <p>Worship @ 10 AM</p> <p>Holy Communion</p>	<p>8</p> <p>SAWA meeting 5pm downstairs</p>	9	10	11	12	13
<p>14</p> <p>Worship @ 10 AM</p>	15	16	<p>17</p> <p>WOW meeting @ 9:30am</p>	18	19	20
<p>21</p> <p>Worship @ 10 AM</p>	<p>22</p> 	23	24	25	26	27
<p>28</p> <p>Worship @ 10 AM</p>	29	30				

October 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5 Worship @ 10 AM Holy Communion	6	7 Church & Finance meeting @ 6:30pm	8	9	10	11
12 Worship @ 10 AM	13	14	15 Wow meeting @ 9:30 am	16	17	18
19 Worship @ 10 AM	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Worship @ 10 AM	27	28	29	30	31	

Samaritan's Purse

Thank you for your gift of \$330 to our ministry.

Our U.S./ Disaster Relief team are concluding work this month in Texas where the deadly July flooding caused the Guadalupe River to rise dozens of feet in under an hour.

Your gifts and prayers help make critical ministry like this possible when disaster strikes both in the U.S. and around the world.

Midwest Mission

Your donation of \$430 to Midwest Mission is a gift that, along with others, allowed us to reach 3 million people in 2024, plus the ripple effect that spills over.

You helped us lift people up from crisis situations and position us to create new vision for the next 25 years.

We are grateful for you, for your belief in our work, and your investment in our mission.

The Full letter is on the bulletin board in the outer Narthex.



Pray for Missions