



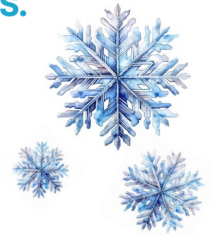
# MAYFIELD CHURCH

FAITH GROWS IN SIMPLE ACTS & WARM RELATIONSHIPS.

mayfieldchurch.org



## January 2025 Newsletter



Rev. Beth Wilterdink, Lead Pastor • Rebecca Sulzer, Newsletter Editor

### RULE OF LIFE

By Rev. Beth Wilterdink

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." -John 15:4-5

As we begin 2025, I am sure that many of you have made your New Year's resolutions, which can be helpful to launch you into the new year with goals and direction. As I've grown in my walk with Christ, I've come to realize that Jesus invites us to have different kinds of goals and that our direction in life includes Christ at the center. Jesus invites us to abide in him, to bear much fruit, which in regular language means having a regular rhythm or daily practice.

When we moved to Mayfield, one of the gifts we received was a lemon tree. We've had it now for about three years. It started off about a foot tall. We had to transplant it to a larger pot. A friend recommended we put it in front of the window in the winter. And this year, a gardener recommended we fertilize the tree. It has grown to be about four feet tall and this year is flowering for the first time. But, it took time to grow, and it took the wisdom of a community of people to help it grow.

This is true of our life with Christ. Our invitation at the start of the year is to root our life in Christ, keeping God at the center of our rhythm and purpose. There is tool called the *Rule of Life*, that can allow us to pray and plan for our growth in our life for the coming year.

To create a rule of Christ, there are several helpful tools through these links:

[Developing a Personal Rule of Life](#)

[Rule of Life: Ordering our lives to be with Jesus](#)

[Crafting a Personal Rule of Life](#)

As you move through 2025, may your *Rule of Life* serve as a tool to help you grow in intimacy with Christ, to bear fruit, and to live a life that reflects His love and purpose. It will take time, patience, and the wisdom of community, but over the year, you will begin to see the growth.

God bless you in the New Year!  
Rev. Beth Wilterdink



### CHURCH EVENTS

See where you can invite a friend or neighbor to join in our community of faith!

- **SAT. JAN. 18 @ 3 PM**  
WOMEN'S MINISTRY YOGA  
GYM (SECOND LEVEL)
- **SAT., JAN. 18 @ 8:30 AM**  
MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST  
FELLOWSHIP HALL
- **TUES., JAN. 21 @ 6 PM**  
BINGO! WITH M.U.M.S.  
FELLOWSHIP HALL
- **FRI., JAN. 31 @ 5 - 6:30 PM**  
FREE COMMUNITY DINNER  
FELLOWSHIP HALL
- **TUES., FEB. 4 @ 8:30 AM**  
PRAYER WALK W/ REV. BETH  
MEET IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- **SAT., FEB. 8 @ 9 AM**  
HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

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# Ministry Fair and Second Floor Open House

## Sunday, February 2, 2025 Before and After Services

Join us on the second level during Fellowship Hour for refreshments and learn about the various ministries at Mayfield Church. Also, check out the newly renovated gym and youth space!

## A NOTE FROM REV. BETH

Dear Mayfield UMC,

I wanted you to know that I am having thyroid surgery on Fri., Jan. 10. I expect to be out of the office and pulpit for two weeks, but there will be pastoral coverage for emergencies from several clergy friends in the area. I'm grateful for their help and support.

I'm also excited for Jonathan Gordon and Mark Seyfried to bring the messages for Jan. 12 and 19.

Thank you for your continued prayers, and please keep up your support for our lay leadership and staff.

Grace and peace,  
Rev. Beth Wilterdink

## MLK DAY 2025 "Living the Dream: Bold Faith, Hopeful Future"

East & West Conferences of  
The United Methodist Church  
Worship Service

Sunday, January 19  
4 - 6 PM

Garfield Memorial UMC  
Pepper Pike



The East and West Ohio Conferences of The United Methodist Church are coming together to honor the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a joint worship service on Sun., Jan. 19, at Garfield Memorial United Methodist Church in Pepper Pike. The event, hosted by Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, will focus on building Dr. King's vision of a beloved community rooted in justice, love, and hope.

The service will open with gathering music at 3:45 PM and feature retired Bishop Julius C. Trimble, General Secretary of the General Board of Church & Society of The United Methodist Church as the keynote speaker. Known for his commitment to justice and reconciliation, Bishop Trimble will offer a message of inspiration and challenge.

# MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS: EMSIZINI SCHOOL IN ZIMBABWE


Mayfield Church has been in partnership with Bethel Church, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, since 2014 in supporting the Emsizini secondary school, located in Kensington Zimbabwe. In this partnership, Mayfield Church has supported many capital improvements.

Some of the items we focused on last year were a new classroom block, classroom furniture, a greenhouse project, security bars, laptops, sports equipment and fees, and some facility repairs and upgrades. Another opportunity to give is toward the Emsizini Teacher Partner Program. This program, which began four years ago, has been a way to show appreciation and love to the teachers and staff at Emsizini. Funds from this program help cover fuel for teacher commuting costs, continuing education opportunities, and a modest year-end bonus to the teachers and staff for a job well done.

If you are interested in helping with this mission, please contact John Parker at 330-289-4117 or [parkerja89@gmail.com](mailto:parkerja89@gmail.com).



On Sunday, Feb. 23, hear John Parker and Joe DeNardo speak about their recent Mission Trip (pictured right), during the 9:30 and 11 AM services.



**BULAWAYO EAST CIRCUIT**  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2nd , Jason Moyo Street  
Bulawayo

Rev Ncube+263774467922  
Rev Kanyenze+263773001743

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Calvary Greetings,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude to you and the entire Mayfield United Methodist congregation for your generous support of Emsizini School. Your church's kindness and commitment to helping those in need are truly inspiring.

We are deeply thankful for the funds your church provided to help build a classroom block at our school. Your contribution will have a lasting impact on the education and lives of our students. The new classroom block will provide a conducive learning environment, enabling our students to reach their full potential.

Please extend our gratitude to your church members who worked tirelessly to raise funds for this project. Their selflessness and dedication to making a difference in the lives of others are a testament to the values of compassion, empathy, and kindness that your church embodies. We enjoyed spending some time with John and Joe.

We would be delighted to keep you updated on the progress of the classroom block project. We believe that this partnership between our school and your church will continue to bear fruit and inspire future collaborations.

Once again, thank you for your church's generosity and commitment to supporting education in Zimbabwe. May God bless you, John and Joe and the Mayfield UMC congregation for your kindness and goodwill.

Sincerely in God's Vineyard,  
Rev. L Ncube



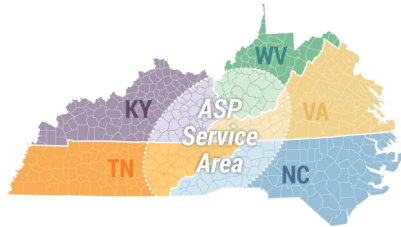
## UPCOMING MISSION TRIP TO GUATEMALA

If anyone is interested in traveling to Guatemala on a short-term mission trip this July 12 to 19, 2025, please contact Jess Martz at [jessica@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:jessica@mayfieldchurch.org) by January 31. Thank you!

# COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

## YOUTH MISSION TRIP: JULY 6-12, 2025

We are looking for youth and adult leaders to join us for a life-changing week through the Appalachia Service Project. Please email Pastor Beth if you are interested in going!



Sign-ups for our Winter/Spring Growth Groups will begin on Sun., Jan. 12. Pick up a copy with your bulletin on Sun., Jan. 12, or find it on our display board in the main hallway.



Join Pastor Beth and other members of the congregation for a monthly time of prayer for Mayfield UMC, our leadership, and the community around us. Every first Tuesday of the month, from 8:30 to 9 AM. Next month, meet in Fellowship Hall on Tues., Feb. 4 and we will walk around the building.

I know that some of you work during this time, don't worry- we know you are praying with us.



## HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 8th from 9am - 4pm

Mayfield UMC - 7747 Mayfield Rd, Chesterland, OH 44026

### Equipping leaders to prevent destructive conflict and continue the path set before them by Christ.

The Healthy Congregations workshop is designed to equip leaders to respond to the presence or potential threat of anxiety in a congregational system in ways that prevent destructive conflict and help the church stay focused on its unique mission and purpose.



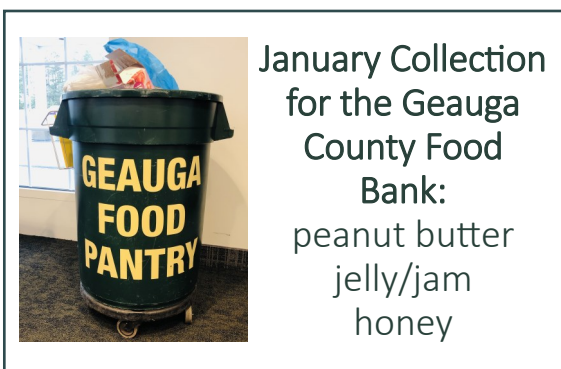
**For:** Clergy, Church Staff, Church Leaders, Church Members

The more people equipped with Healthy Congregation systems principles, the healthier the church will be

**Cost:** \$15 – Covers printed materials. Cost of lunch and presenter from District and churches

**More Information:** Use the QR code to get more information and to register.

Questions go to: [info@mentorumc.org](mailto:info@mentorumc.org)



January Collection for the Geauga County Food Bank:  
peanut butter  
jelly/jam  
honey

## THE GOD AND FAMILY PROGRAM THIS SPRING

This is part of the P.R.A.Y. series for children (grades 4-6), to help them understand the importance of family and God's role in a healthy family. Children will compare families and "pizza." The six steps for making pizza will give students a concrete, "hands-on" model on which to build their understanding of God's love for their families. They will make a pizza as they study how families can grow together in God's love, and they will choose "family projects" to be done with their family at home.

**Crust-Foundation – We are God's Family**  
**Sauce – Family Heritage, Spiritual Heritage**  
**Toppings – Our Talents and Gifts Strengthen Our Families**  
**Cheese – In God's Family We're Loved No Matter What!**  
**Bake – Being in God's Family Helps Us When Things Are Tough**  
**Eat, Share, Enjoy! – In God's Family, We Share as a Response to God's Love**



If your child is interested in participating this spring, please email Pastor Beth at [beth@mayfieldchurch.org](mailto:beth@mayfieldchurch.org)

## YOUTH



**SUN., JAN. 12 @ 5:40 - 8 PM: HIBACHI AT BENIHANA**  
 Meet at the church and then carpool to Benihana on Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, and enjoy dinner together!



**SAT., JAN. 18 @ 12:45 - 3:15 PM: ICE SKATING AT THE POND**  
 Meet at the Pond, 9999 E. Washington St., Chagrin Falls. Skating and rentals are \$12/pp. Pizza will be served.



**SUN., JAN. 26 @ 6 - 8 PM: "OVERCOMING OBSTACLES" WITH PASTOR BETH**  
 Meet in the you space on the second level. Hotdogs and Mac & Cheese will be served.



**SAT., FEB. 1 @ 8:45 - 11:30 AM: SERVICE PROJECT**  
 Meet at the church at 8:45 AM to carpool out to Trials for Hope Homeless Ministry and help organize the food pantry.



**SAT., FEB. 8: ALL-DAY SKI TRIP AT PEEK'N PEAK**  
 More details to come on the Church Center app.



**SUN., FEB. 9: SUPER BOWL PARTY AT THE CHURCH**  
 Wear your favorite sports jersey or shirt and watch the game in the youth room! Bring a snack to share.

## Sunday School

**9:30 AM on the Lower Level**

**Nursery** (infants to 2 year olds)  
**Stepping Stones** (3 year olds to K)  
**The Rock Worship** (grades 1 to 5)  
*The Rock is closed the first Sunday of the month and students are welcome to join parents in worship.*

**9:30 in the Worship Center**

**Youth** (grades 6 to 12)  
*Students meet in the last two rows on the left side of the Worship Center and worship together. Then head to the youth room before the sermon for the lesson.*

**11 AM on the Lower Level**

Childcare for all ages.



### MONSTERS GAME! (FAMILY EVENT) SAT., MARCH 8 @ 2 PM

Meet at the church to carpool downtown to see the Monster's game. Cost per ticket is \$34. Please Venmo Adam Neff @adam-neff-24



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Contact: Elin Kappus, [elinkappus@gmail.com](mailto:elinkappus@gmail.com)

You're invited to the Women's Ministry, **Christian Yoga on Sat., Jan. 18 @ 3 PM in the gym** (at the church). There will be snacks and drinks— come and get to know other women of faith from Mayfield UMC.

## MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

Contact: Jon Wilterdink or Church Office, 440-729-4006

Join the Men's Breakfast every third Saturday of the month, (**Jan. 18**) from 8:30 to 9:30 AM, for some eggs, breakfast potatoes, and of course, bacon! Men are also invited to stay after for a prayer meeting. If you have never joined but would like to try it out, reach out to Jon Wilterdink or call the church office for more info.

## SENIORS' MINISTRY

Contact: Church Office, 440-729-4006

Our seniors' ministry, God's Caring Community, helps seniors acquire the knowledge that will enable them to make choices they need to make as they age. Activities include social support, information, education and advocacy. Meets the second Thursday of the month at 10:30 AM in Fellowship Hall to hear a speaker and have lunch (\$6/person). **Next event TBD.**

## OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

... to Gayla Schriefer and family, on the passing of her son, Bruce Schriefer, on Thurs., Nov. 28, 2024. His service is on Sat., Feb. 1, at 1 PM, at Mayfield Church.

... to friends and family of Betty Boylan, who passed away on Dec. 28. The family is planning a service this summer.

... to Annamaria Wolfe, on the passing of her father, Michael Tradowsky, on Wed., Jan. 8. His service is on Sat., Jan. 18, at Willoughby Hills UMC, at 3 PM.

...to Mary Bronson, on the passing of her mother, Dorothea Fricke, on Wed., Jan. 8. Her service will be in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in June.

Dear Church,

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the love, support, and fellowship I have experienced as your Communications Director for the past seven years.

I am especially grateful for the pastoral guidance I have received from Pastor Beth, the support from our current staff members, Ted Diadiun's editing skills, and the office volunteers who have helped lighten my load.

This decision was not easy, but I feel called to a new chapter in my life that will allow me to serve God in a different capacity.

Please know that although I am leaving this position, I will remain a member of this congregation and will continue to pray for the growth and vitality of our church.

Blessings, Rebecca Sulzer




# 2025

## M.U.M.S. EVENTS

### SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY


#### MONTHLY MEETINGS - EVERY THIRD TUESDAY

#### 6 - 7:30 PM @ MAYFIELD CHURCH




**JAN 21**

**BINGO!**




**MAR 18**

**PAINT'N'SIP  
AN OWL**




**FEB 18**




**MAR 18**


**ST. PATRICK'S  
DAY PARTY**



**APR 15**


**EASTER EGG  
HUNT**






**MAY 20**


**HOMEMADE  
ICE CREAM**



**JUN 17**

**FELLOWSHIP  
HALL PICNIC**





**MAYFIELD CHURCH 7747 MAYFIELD RD. CHESTERLAND**

# WHAT'S HAPPENING...

Welcome, New Members!

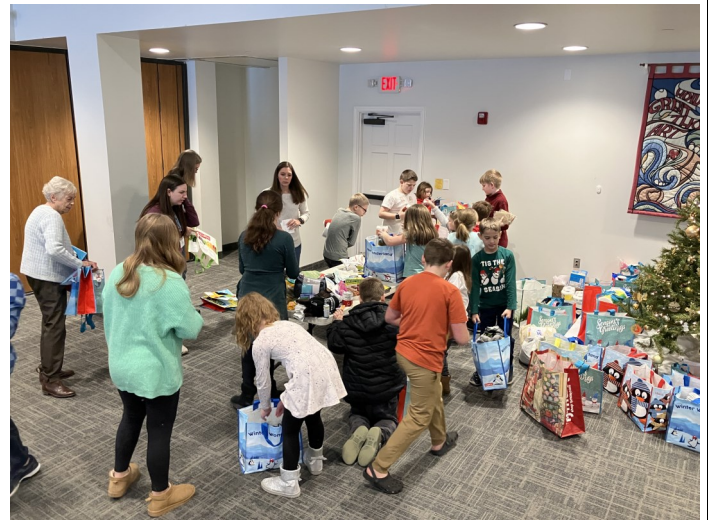


Thank you, Church, for all of your donations for the Reverse Advent Community Drive! And also a big thank you to Nancy Patterson and the Mission Outreach Council for organizing.

Our children and youth sorted through the items and packed them on Sun., Jan. 5, to send them to Women's Safe, Rowland School, and Geauga Food Pantry.



Youth Christmas Party in their new space!



Open Circle Small Group Christmas Party



Thank you to Linnea Bubnow, Sandy Stevenson, and Chris Guthrie, for braving the cold and decorating the Mayfield Church "Kindness Christmas Tree" as part of the West G Chamber of Commerce.



# IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE

## GROWTH GROUPS/MINISTRY EVENTS (FOR MORE INFO, SEE PAGE 6)

Care and Prayer Team Mtg.	Tues., Jan. 7 @ 7 PM, Zoom
Senior Disciples Small Group	Mondays @ 4 PM, Lounge
Seniors' Ministry, G.C.C.	Cancelled this month
Special Needs Sunday School	Sundays @ 11 AM, Lounge
S.A.M.I., Singles Ministry	Wed., Jan. 15 @ 1 PM, La Mexicana, Chesterland
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Fri., Jan. 17 @ 1 PM, Lounge
Men's Ministry Breakfast	Sat., Jan. 18 @ 8:30 AM, FH
Women's Ministry Fellowship	Sat., Jan. 18 @ 3 PM, Gym
Stephen Leaders Mtg.	Mon., Jan. 20 @ 6:30 PM, Zoom
Special Needs Ministry, M.U.M.S.	Tues., Jan. 21 @ 6—7:30 PM, Fellowship Hall
Free Community Dinner	Fri., Jan. 31 @ 5—6:30 PM, FH

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SPRC Mtg.	Tues., Jan. 7 @ 6 PM, Lounge
Mission Outreach Council Mtg.	Tues., Jan. 14 @ 6 PM, Zoom & Conf. Room
Finance Committee Mtg.	Tues., Jan. 14 @ 7 PM, Lounge
Trustees Committee Mtg.	Tues., Jan. 21 @ 7 PM, Conf. Room
Executive Committee Mtg.	Wed., Jan. 29 @ 7 PM, Lounge

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH (FOR MORE INFO, SEE PAGE 5)

Nursery (Infants & Toddlers)	Sundays @ 9:30 and 11 AM, Lower Level
Stepping Stones (Preschool - K)	Sundays @ 9:30 AM, Lower Level
The Rock Worship Service (Grades 1 - 5)	Sundays @ 9:30, Lower Level
Tweens (Grades 4 & 5)	Cancelled this month
Youth Sunday School (Grades 6 - 12)	Sundays @ 9:30 AM, meet in the last two rows on the left side of the Worship Center
Youth Ministry Events	See Page 5

## MUSIC MINISTRIES

Modern Band Rehearsal	Wednesdays @ 7 PM, WC
Hand Bell Rehearsal	Thursdays @ 6:15 PM, WC
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Thursdays @ 7:30, Choir Room & WC

FH = Fellowship Hall  
WC = Worship Center

*\*Schedule is subject to change. Check our calendar at [mayfieldchurch.org](http://mayfieldchurch.org) for updates*

# MAYFIELD STAFF

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Facilities Manager  
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**Patty Wenzel**  
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**THE LAST FRIDAY  
OF EVERY MONTH IN  
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**JAN. 31:  
5 - 6:30 PM  
LASAGNA**

**GETTING TO KNOW NEW PEOPLE IS WHAT  
MATTERS MOST TO US.**

## WAYS TO GIVE

**IN-PERSON OR MAIL**  
Contributions may be placed in the baskets near the exits after the service.  
  
Mayfield Church  
7747 Mayfield Road  
Chesterland, OH 44026

**ONLINE OR EFT**  
[mayfieldchurch.org](http://mayfieldchurch.org) → Give

