

**Church Messenger**

**July 2021**



**PASTOR**

**LORRIN RADZIK!**

## A Message From Our New Pastor—Rev. Lorrin Radzik

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! It's a joy to be writing this newsletter article from my office at The United Methodist Church of Macedonia! Since my appointment to serve at UMCM was announced, the Radzik family has been in prayer for you, for Pastor Russ and Lynn, and for our family as we anticipated making this transition. Thank you for the warm welcome, the lovely reception, and the gifts that made our first Sunday special! We look forward to getting to know you even better in the months ahead!

In order to help you get to know me a bit, I wanted to share a few more details about me and the Radzik family. I'm a native of Northeast Ohio and a lifelong United Methodist, who grew up at Church of the Cross UMC in Wooster. God called me to ministry (the first time!) at a young age, while attending summer camp at Camp Wanake. The theme for the week was "Here I Am, Lord," from Isaiah 6, and I remember wondering why in the world God would want me to serve in ministry. At that point in my life, I'd never encountered a female pastor, and I decided that though I felt called, I'd keep that to myself as long as possible. But I couldn't hide it for long. Soon, our Youth Pastor began to ask me about ministry and named God's call on my life, even when I hadn't shared it out loud with anyone else. I spent some time talking with my pastors, learning about God's love, and began the Candidacy Process for ministry while still in middle school.

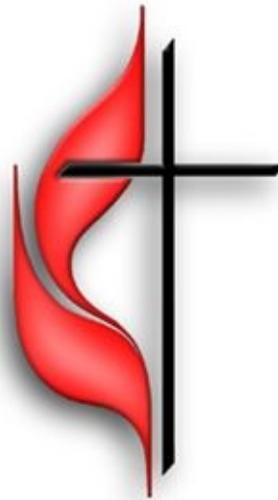
I had a few detours along the way, deciding for a time I wanted to be a Music Therapist, and then a Licensed Professional Counselor, before God's call to ordained ministry in the local church was impossible to ignore. The summer before my junior year of college at Baldwin Wallace, I had the privilege of participating in a ministry internship program. I spent 12 weeks working alongside a mentor, discerning my continued call to ministry and learning what it was like to serve in the local church. At the end of the summer, I returned to school committed to following God's call, determined to complete my Psychology degree while adding a minor in religion, and ready to go to seminary.

Dave and I met while I was in seminary at Boston University School of Theology. He's a native of New England and grew up in the whaling city of New Bedford, Massachusetts. Dave and I just celebrated our 9<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and it is the joy of our lives to be parents to Sophia and Oliver. We also have a fluffy white dog named Becket. His antics keep us laughing and smiling. Our family loves spending time together, snuggling in to read a good book, playing outside with the kids, trips to the zoo and exploring museums! In fact, that list of things are just a few of the "Friday activities" that are on the Radzik schedule. For both Dave and myself, Fridays are sacred days of rest and connection with our family, where we refrain from church work. We take these days off very seriously because they help us be better pastors, partners, and parents.

I'm very much looking forward to getting to know you all as we begin our ministry together, building on all that you have already been doing and following God's continued call into the future. I'm excited to listen for the Spirit's movement and to grow in faith with you as we love and care for each other and the community around us.

In Christ's love,

Rev. Lorrin Radzik



**OPEN M Needs Us This Month!**



On **Thursday, July 22**, OPEN M is having a street carnival celebration for the neighborhood. Our church has agreed to provide about 200 wedges of watermelon for the lunch. We need your help to slice and serve watermelon, arrive at OPEN M around 10 am, and be a part of the celebration. If you would like to help, contact Althea Marquardt at (330) 467-6435 or Carolyn Hansinger at

(330) 467-1836 or email [cmhansinger@aol.com](mailto:cmhansinger@aol.com) or text to 440-821-0943. We probably need two cars to transport all those watermelon rolling around in the trunk!

Does anyone want to provide a craft or fun activity for kids that day that can be done at an outside table?

OPEN M will set up a table if you have an idea, a craft, and supplies.

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The third Friday of every month is "Mountain of Food" distribution and we need teenagers or people with strong arms to lift boxes of food into cars. You would need to arrive by 8 am and Carolyn Hansinger will drive if you're unsure of the location. The next date is July 16. **Call Carolyn at (330) 467-1836** if you can help.

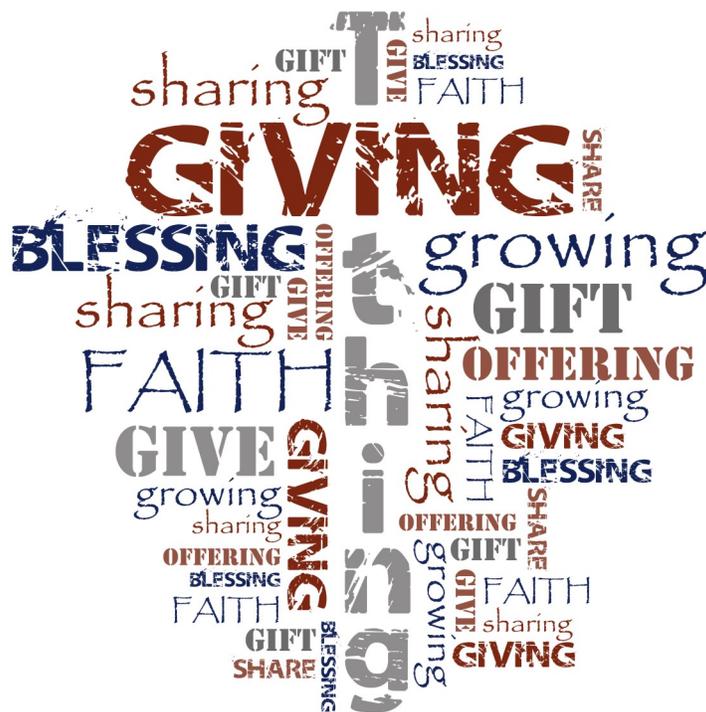
**The Red Wagon Is Ready For Your Donation!**

For the month of July let's bombard the OPEN M Red Wagon located in the Holbrook Room with bar soap. Bar soap is one item that Open M can't get free from the food bank. We will deliver it to OPEN M if you get it to us.

*-Carolyn Hansinger*

## Financial News from Jill Marlow

We have closed out the Zimbabwe fund here at the church. Pastor Russ is the steward/ambassador of the project at Emsizini school, so if any of you feel moved to donate to that project, please contact the New Leaf United Methodist Church in Conneaut at (440) 593-2525 or <https://www.newleafumc.com/> to make a donation to the fund.



**Save the Date!**  
**Women's Connection Day**  
**November 13, 2021**

As Christians, it is important for us to stay connected so we may demonstrate God's love and care for one another. Due to the cancelation of the last two women's retreats, The Women's Ministry Team has put together a one-day event this fall for all women to "reconnect".



**Saturday, November 13 from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm**, the event will be held at UMC of Macedonia. The day is designed to be fun and relaxing while allowing us to grow spiritually and closer to God. It is our hope that after participating in this session, we focus less on the anxiety the holidays can bring and instead focus on the four themes of Advent: ***Hope, Love, Joy and Peace.***

The day will consist of music, Bible study and reflection, along with creating your own Advent wreath for each lady to enjoy throughout the holidays. The Bible study will be led by Kevin Schaner, a retired librarian, writer, author and speaker. She has traveled to five continents with “Volunteer in Mission” teams with the United Methodist Church; her articles about Ubuntu Journeys sponsored by United Methodist Women appear in *Response* magazine.

Join us as we rekindle the anticipation of our Savior’s birth with comforting conversation from Kevin as she shares from her heart a collection of deeply engaging essays that provide not only food for thought during the pre-Christmas season, but also inspiration and hope for the future.

Registration will become available soon. Watch for updates in the Messenger or UCM website for more information. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Linda Bloom at 216-312-0828.



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