



Garrettsville
Methodist Church
Newsletter 2026



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ to each and every one of you!

As we approach July 4 and the celebration of American freedom, I wanted to offer you just a few thoughts on the spiritual freedom.

In the New Testament, freedom is liberation from guilt and the power of sin, bandage of super religious law, and the fear of death. Rather than freedom being an excuse to do whatever you want, it is a purposeful act by God to free us to serve God and others through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The New Testament reveals to us three distinct pillars of freedom.

1. Freedom from the power of sin: We all know how easy it is, once we commit sin, to repeat it. Once we have done something, it becomes easier to do it a second time and a third and a fourth, etc. Jesus teaches that those who practice sin are in bondage or slavery to it. But once we have come to Jesus, and have truly given our lives to him, we are no longer controlled by our past mistakes. Jesus sent us free from the power of sin.

FROM THE PASTOR (CONT)

2. Freedom from the rigidness of Mosaic Law: Those laws were extremely rigid and saw to gain us. God's approval through strict adherence to them. Where once the laws of God were written on tablets of stone, The will of God is now written on our hearts, having received Christ. We are now free to experience Grace and to offer Grace. We are free to live in faith and to bring others to faith. And because God's law and will is written on our hearts, we desire to follow Christ because of his sacrifice for us.

3. Freedom FOR and in our Service: The apostle Paul urges us not to return to slavery but to use our freedom and serving God and others. Our freedom in Christ is an opportunity not to Lord that freedom over others, not to be critical, but rather to bring Christ love into every through act of mercy, love and care; To bring the grace of God into every situation; To live so that other see Christ and us and desire what he is offering them.

Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is true liberty and transformation of heart, mind and spirit.

Go, and live in the freedom of Christ!

Church Office Hours

**Mon. thru Fri. 9am—
Noon**

**Tues thru Thurs.,
Peggy Thomas, Secre-
tary, is in the office.**

**Mon. & Fri.,
Gale Lane is in work-
ing on the Newsletter
and Membership**

Please call and leave a
message.

Office Phone #:
330-527-2055

Pastor Sandi has office
hours on Tuesday and
Thursday mornings.

The door is locked for
security. Please
ring the doorbell to
gain entry.

Thank you for your
patience

Website:

Garrettsvilleohumc.org

Email:

Garrettsvilleohumc
@gmail.com

Facebook:

Garrettsville United
Methodist Church

CHANGE IN

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

MARCH 1 - AUG 31, 2026

10:30 AM

*** * * * ***

Special Praise Music by Jack Carmichael

**Many of our congregation
can probably remember Jack
being part of our Sunday
School and Appletree Pre-
school. He has graduated
from Garfield and is now
enrolled at Hiram College
where he is pursuing his mu-
sical and theatrical talents.**

**Jack lives in Garrettsville an
is working for JC Electric for
the summer.**

*** * * * ***

JOINT SERVICES ON 5th SUNDAYS:

August 30, 2026 at TBA

Nov 29, 2026 at Garrettsville

Dec 19, 2026 at Nelson



****When a prayer need arises, please contact Linda Fall, our Prayer Chain Coordinator at 330-730-4672.**

THOSE IN OUR HEARTS NOT MENTIONED THIS DAY

THOSE FACING CHALLENGES:

Wade Johnston
Tommy Miller
Pam Montgomery
Benny Bailey
Mollie Lewis
Cody Stone
Elliot Thompson
Alex Washington
Rebecca Williams
John Sedensky, Sr.
Marie Elum
Adam Walker

CELEBRATING A JOY

OUR SHUT-INS:

Ann Kalina
Belva Smith
Kay Smith
Roderick Nimtze
Joanne Kraft
Carrie Kraft

:FAMILIES IN NEED OF PRAYER:

Rev. John Wolfe Family
Ben & Cheryl Singelyn Family

THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER:

Rick McKenzie
Janet Heiss
Jane & Fred Bell
Pastor Sandi Dennis
Jack Schultz
Susan Dade
Matt & Ann Long
Ken & Evonne Fox
Kat Berry
Esler Hyde
Shirley Cline
Jean Reichelderfer
Kim Cooper
Janice Roach

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

Active

United States

North Central Jurisdiction

The Ohio Episcopal Area



Born in Korea to parents who practiced Buddhism and Neo-Confucianism, United Methodist Bishop Hee-Soo Jung met a missionary when he was sixteen. The missionary, who was working in a nearby field preparing the land to build a church, told Jung that God loved him. Before the floors were finished in the new church building, Jung was baptized and a lifelong pursuit of building bridges between his faith and his family, between the gospel and culture, between people across faith traditions, had begun.

Bishop Hee-soo Jung was elected to the episcopacy in 2004 by the North Central Jurisdiction.

On September 1, 2024, Bishop Jung will be the new resident bishop of the East Ohio and West Ohio Conferences.

Bishop Jung previously served as the resident bishop in the Wisconsin Annual Conference and has served in this role since September of 2012. He played a key role in Wisconsin's Imagine No Malaria Campaign, which raised more than \$1 million.

Prior to leading the Wisconsin Conference UMC, Bishop Jung served eight years as bishop of the Northern Illinois Conference (Chicago area). He was instrumental in inspiring the Harvest 2020 movement in Northern Illinois, which resulted in many new faith communities.

Previously, Bishop Jung served as an elder in the Wisconsin Conference, where he was a pastor and a district superintendent. Bishop Jung taught and chaired the Department of Religion and Philosophy at Kangnam University in South Korea. He also served as pastor of congregations in California, Texas, and South Korea.

Bishop Jung (con't)

He is currently the president of the General Board of Global Ministries, chair of the UM Korean National Plan, and a member of the Board of Directors for Bread for the World. Bishop Jung serves as a member of the Ecumenical Forum for Korea at Geneva, Switzerland, and is actively involved in Korea peace and reconciliation. He has served as faculty for the Two-Year Academy for Spiritual Formation since 2005, and has taught in various Five-Day Academy sessions in the U.S. and abroad. Previously, Bishop Jung served as president of United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), and as a member of the Board of Directors for the General Board of Discipleship, the UM National Hispanic Plan, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, and the General Commission on United Methodist Men.

Bishop Jung earned a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He also holds an M.A. from the Institute of Buddhist Studies, affiliated with the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA; an M.A. from the Dongguk University Graduate School in Seoul, South Korea; and a B.Th. from the Methodist Theological Seminary in Seoul, South Korea.

Im-Hyon, Bishop Jung's wife, is an elder in the Wisconsin Conference and currently serves as the director of International Relations, Asia & Global Programs, for the Upper Room/Discipleship Ministries. The Jung's are the parents of two adult sons, Jae-Hugh and Jae-Joon, who is married to Brittney.

Thanks,

East Ohio Conference

Good news!

Bishop Jung will be visiting more churches on the Northern Waters District on August 19 and 20, barring any unforeseen schedule changes.

Our *tentative* plan is as follows:

Wednesday, August 19, he will start at Hudson, visit Portage Faith, then Camp Asbury, including lunch. After his time at Camp Asbury, he will continue on to Garretttsville and Nelson. (It will be just a short stop at Nelson, so Nelson laity should plan to be at Garretttsville for the conversation with the bishop.)G

Thursday, August 20, he will start at Rocky River and Story Church, then on to Willson, Cory, St. Matthew, and Aldersgate. (It will just be a short stop at Willson, so Willson laity should plan to come to Cory or St. Matthew for the conversation with the bishop.)

Laity are encouraged to be present as able for a brief time of conversation with the bishop after he prays at the altar of each church. In a few cases, we will ask the laity to join at another church, and he will make a brief visit to the other church, as in the case of Nelson and Willson.

We are still working out the detailed itinerary, but I want to make sure that these dates will work on your church calendars, or if I will need to swap a church out for a different one. Please let me know if you can make these dates work.

Thanks,
Lisa Huston, Administrator, NWD



I would like to thank everyone for all the cards and phone calls while I was recuperating from my surgery.

I had the privilege of having the Comfort Singers come and share their gospel music with me. What a wonderful group they are.

I am blessed to be part of such a loving and caring Church Family.

Jean Reichelderfer



Our church is growing!!

We are blessed to have new members join our church family.

Welcome to:

Christine Countryman

479 Ridge Rd #J-1
Newton Falls OH 44444
(330) 219-0780
ChristineLo757@hotmail.com

Donald Darlington

9977 N. Chapel St.
Garrettsville OH 44231
(330) 389-0461

Dan Dietz

10800 Forest St #11
Garrettsville OH 44231
(216) 258-8826
dandietz79@gmail.com

Jim Dennis

8135 Clover Lane
Garrettsville OH 44231
(440) 969-7429

Bruce & Karen Green

7912 Shawnee Trl
Garrettsville OH 44231
(330) 977-0143
greene02@neo.rr.com

Jerry Meade

8540 River View Dr
Garrettsville OH 44240
(216) 401-1650
crispy2166@yahoo.com

Harry Skyles

9135 Hickory Circle
Windham OH 44288
(330) 931-0374

Rev. Kristen Patt (choosing GUMC as home church)

1730 Montague Ave NW
Massillon OH 44646

GUMC Apple Tree Preschool

Registration for 2026/2027 School Year

**Will be open for new families
beginning March 15th, 2026**



Please reach out for registration information

**Email gumcappletree@gmail.com
Or call GUMC office at 330-527-2055**



ATTENTION MEN!!

The First Annual Nelson-Garrettsville Men's Retreat is set for Friday and Saturday, August 28th and 29th at Camp Asbury. Rev. Bruce Hitchcock is our guest for the weekend.

Dinner will be served Friday evening with breakfast and lunch on Saturday morning and departure from camp approximately 3PM on Saturday afternoon.

We will have talks, breakout sessions, and activities geared to men.

More information to follow.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The Member Care Committee



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

If you are visiting a shut-in, an ill person, or someone who has experienced a loss, consider taking a prayer shawl to them when you visit. The Member Care committee has them available.

**Member Care Committee is taking the summer off.
The next meeting will be on September 3rd.**

**For more information contact Kim Polifrone or
Jean Reichelderfer.**



The COMFORT SINGERS
meets every 3rd Sunday of the
month at 3pm to bring comfort or
uplifting to those in need.

**If you know of anyone who needs comfort,
uplifting,**

**Or would like to join in, please contact
Jane Parker @ (812) 655-0908.**

The Grief Support Group
meets the 1st Sunday of each month @ 2pm at the
Garrettsville UMC for approximately 1 1/2
hours and is open to any who have
experienced loss.

Facilitator, Pastor Sandi
(440-228-3093)

All are welcome!



2026 Garretttsville Christmas Walk

‘Let the Presence of Jesus be your Present’

Our church will be in the 2026 Garretttsville Christmas Walk. As you know, it takes a lot of people and a lot of decorations to make our church beautiful for the Walk.

If you have any of the following items that you would like to donate, please drop them off in the box in the narthex or call the church office and we will arrange for pick up.

Every little bit is appreciated!!

Wanted in colors of Red, Gold, Silver, White and Green:

Wired Ribbon, Plain Wrapping paper (green, red, gold, white, silver), small boxes and **shirt boxes**, scotch tape, zip ties, pipe cleaners, Christmas picks, garland and greens (no Christmas trees).



You're invited to:



Messy church will continue through the summer months with hopes of going outside for many of our activities.

Perhaps you would like to join in on some family fun, fellowship, and yummy food?

We meet the second Tuesday of each month, 5:30-7pm.

Come!

YOUTH GROUP REPORT



Grades 6 - 12
are welcome.

We meet on the
2nd & 4th Sunday of
each month
at GUMC from 5 - 6:30pm
Bring a friend or 2!

Dinner included.



High School Bible Study

Even though bells are finished playing for the year, our high school Bible study will continue meeting on Thursdays, but we are changing the starting time to 6:30.

Dinner is still included!

We might go through the summer, unless the students say they want a break. If anyone is interested in joining our group, please let Lisa Schwan or the office know so that we can include you in our communications.



7/03:	Hank Osterman	7/27:	Mikhail Gospode- nook
07/08:	Sandi Dennis	7/28:	Leo Wojonek
	Jerry Meade	7/29:	Christine Country- man
07/12:	Mike Pesicek		Michael Mikula
07/16:	John Clark		Joey Tarnowski
07/17:	Claire Parazeau	07/30:	Connie Crate
07/18:	Kimberly Russel		Carrie Kraft
7/21:	Kathy Schulda		Kiera Gonzales
7/23:	Aiden Hill		
	Luke Whittenberger		
7/25:	Iva Walker		



7/01: Jesse & Connie Crate
 Jim & Diane Irwin
 Fran & Allen Michael

7/29: Matt & Sarah Hill

7/30: Bruce & Karen Greene
 Marty & Jane Hill
 Mike & Laura Young



**The United Methodist Church of
Garrettsville
8223 Park Avenue
Garrettsville OH 44231-1223**

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to submit articles, committee news or announcements for the next newsletter please provide to
Gale Lane.

Email: garrettsvilleohumc@gmail.com

Website: garrettsvilleohumc.org

Facebook: [Garrettsville United Methodist Church](#)

Submission by email is desired, however if email is not an option please feel free to provide a hard copy to the church office.

***Thank You,
Gale Lane, Web Designer & Newsletter Coordinator***