



THE SONLIGHT

November 2021 • Volume 30 • Issue 11

1871 - 2021



150th Anniversary Celebration

November 28th

Combined Service - 10:45am

Informal reception to follow

The SonLight
Published Monthly

Sulphur Grove UMC
7505 Taylorsville Road
Huber Heights, OH 45424



Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church

“Growing Disciples, Living and Sharing God’s love”



Coffee Chat



What a wonderful time in history it is for Sulphur Grove! This month we will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Sulphur Grove Church. We have much for which to offer praise and thanks to God. For one, it is the fact that Sulphur Grove has been here for 150 years! I'm sure many of us have seen or know of churches that were founded around the same time as Sulphur Grove yet are no longer in existence. Sure, some transitioned into large facilities or other locations to accommodate a need for space, but there are also many that dwindled and ceased to exist. Let us praise and thank God that Sulphur Grove is not one of those churches and by the grace of God has been here proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ for 150 years.

Another reason we have to celebrate and offer praise and thanksgiving to God is how the church has grown in numbers and size of the facility. Again, most of us are aware of churches that are basically the same size in numbers and the size of the facility as when they were founded. I'm not inferring that is good or bad. Yet Sulphur Grove is an exception whether it is realized or not. Over its 150 year history Sulphur Grove has grown in numbers and in the size of the church building. Sure, membership and attendance has waxed and waned over the years, but Sulphur Grove has not only survived those times, it has thrived. Let us offer praise and thanksgiving to God for what Sulphur Grove has become.

Yet another reason we have to celebrate and offer praise and thanksgiving to God is the fact, that as a church, you decided through the Missional Church Consultation Initiative (MCCI), to ensure the future success of Sulphur Grove to continue its 150 year tradition of proclaiming the Gospel and serving the surrounding communities in the name of Christ Jesus. Let us praise and thank God for giving us the opportunity to be a part of the MCCI.

I am hearing that some are wondering why more of the MCCI prescriptions have not been realized. COVID-19 is a major reason our progress on the MCCI was slowed. I ask for your continued patience and remind you of the work that has been happening. You have seen the temporary signage that has been put up to test the effectiveness and clarity of the signage before we invest in visually appealing, professional signage. Soon, the Gathering Area project will begin. Plans and funds have been approved and work should begin soon. The plans include a new permanent coffee and snack bar with water and drain access. The new church website is up and running. It will continue to be developed and added to but know it is now live. And while this was not an MCCI prescription, we have a beautiful new playground to attract young families with children. And finally, one of the most important things we have accomplished together is the return of Sunday School classes for all ages to Sulphur Grove. I cannot stress enough how critical this is to the future success of Sulphur Grove UMC in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This has all been part of visioning and long range planning that has been happening the last several years to prepare the church to reach out to our surrounding community with renewed vigor and effectiveness.

We still have more to do around the implementation of the MCCI prescriptions but we have also accomplished much in preparing and equipping Sulphur Grove Church for a continued future of effectively making disciples of Jesus for the next 150 years should the LORD tarry. We have much to celebrate and offer praise to God as we celebrate Sulphur Grove's 150th!

Blessings & Peace,



WATCH OR LISTEN LIVE!



Traveling this fall or winter? Visiting family? You can still worship with your friends and neighbors at Sulphur Grove! The Taylorsville campus broadcasts the 10:45am service live online every week. Simply go to www.sulphurgrove.org/online to watch, or if you have a slower internet connection, you can listen to our audio-only broadcast. Live-streaming of our Y services is coming soon!



Meditation from my heart....



Time is flying! I can't believe it is November. While we should be doing it everyday, November is the month we traditionally focus on all the ways we are thankful. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all of you for the warm welcome I received as I joined the Sulphur Grove family in September. Thank you for the cards and notes of encouragement. Thank you for your helpful advice. Thank you to those who have traveled with me to meet the beautiful people who are in care facilities and can't be with us on Sunday mornings. We go to be a blessing but as we return home I feel so deeply blessed myself by the inspiration of those we visit. Thank you God, for gracing me with the gifts of compassion and caring. Thank you Sulphur Grove, for the opportunity to share these gifts with you and our extended church family.

I wish you many BLESSINGS, profound PEACE, and abundant HOPE,
Pastor Bonnie

SULPHUR GROVE'S 150th ANNIVERSARY Sunday, November 28th

Come celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church on Sunday, November 28, 2021. Join us for a Combined Worship Service in the Taylorsville Sanctuary at 10:45am in person or on-line (you can connect at www.sulphurgrove.org). Former pastors and their spouses have been invited to participate; a few will share their reflections about Sulphur Grove. An informal gathering in the Activity Center will follow the worship service. This reception will enable us to greet our guests, share with one another, look through Sulphur Grove historical displays, and enjoy delicious refreshments.

Mark your calendar for November 28 at 10:45am. Invite family and friends to join us! Indeed, if you know persons who have previously been a part of our congregation, please call, write or e-mail them and extend this invitation. Our celebration is for everyone – so let us work together to make it a joyous, inclusive occasion.

Questions? Please contact Don Hayashi, 150th Anniversary Committee Chair, at (937) 890-2729 or hayashidon@gmail.com. Thank you.

Please also be aware that the previously announced dinner for November 13th has been cancelled.

IN THE BEGINNING

The members of Holden Class visited their friends and neighbors early in 1871, seeking funds for the building of a church on Taylorsville Road in the center of Wayne Township, Montgomery County, Ohio. They collected \$5,000 which was more than they thought they needed. So, Plan B, a 48' x 36' brick church was built under the guidance of Joseph C. McElhany, a local carpenter. Limestone for the foundation came from a quarry on Taylorsville Road. The clay for the brick was dug from the land adjacent to and west of the church and fired on the school grounds across the road. To make the walls strong, every 8th course of brick was laid side by side, instead of end for end. The Gothic Architecture featured a high steep roof and pointed arches in the steeple, windows, and front door. Named for our founding pastor, Samuel S. Holden, Holden Chapel was dedicated November 12, 1871 as a church of the United Brethren in Christ denomination. We were just a little country church by the side of the road for the next seventy-five years.

Celebrating
150
Years

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

"We are a 'mission church.'

We believe in reaching out to those in need locally, nationally and globally."

HOMEFULL REPORT

Due to their Covid outbreak, chicken & noodles, green beans, rolls, cupcakes, variety of fruits, Welch's fruit drinks, water, paper products, and booklets were dropped off at St. Vincent's and the staff served the ladies and then the families. Hopefully, next month we'll be allowed in again, but we'll see how things go in the next 31 days. Please keep them all in your prayers.

SULPHUR GROVE AND YMCA FOOD COLLECTION

We will be collecting food during November for our Thanksgiving food distribution partners.

<u>Sunday Date:</u>	<u>Collecting for:</u>
November 7	Wesley Community Center
November 14	St. Peter Food Pantry
November 21	Huber Heights FISH and Wesley Community Center

Please bring your donations to the church and put them on the food rack in the Narthex. Your donations are greatly appreciated and will help feed the needy in Huber Heights and in West Dayton.

Thank you,
The Missions Committee

GRUB ON THE RUN MARK YOUR CALENDAR & TELL YOUR FRIENDS

The November Grub on the Run will be **Tuesday, November 16th**. Your Grub servants will gather at Sulphur Grove between 5:00pm and 6:30pm to hand you our November dinner on the run edition of Grub at the Grove. You will be served "to go" style meal of turkey & dressing, gravy, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, green beans and a pumpkin dessert. Your servants hope to see you there.

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH FOR SAYING THANK YOU AND ENJOYING ONE ANOTHER'S FELLOWSHIP

This is the month in which we can thank God for his grace and blessings he has bestowed on us, thank our church for providing meals for us to enjoy and to share, and thank our friends and neighbors for their love, concern, and friendship throughout the year. How should I do that? you may ask. Here is a suggestion. Take home 2 additional meals from Grub on the Run and invite 2 people into your home to share those meals with you and to enjoy their fellowship as you break bread together. While this is not quite the same thing as the fellowship you enjoy around one of the tables at Grub at the Grove, it is fellowship you can enjoy around your own table. If you need more than 2 extra meals to throw a banquet, just ask your servants at Grub on the Run. They will be pleased to help you feed the hungry and enjoy their fellowship as you say THANK YOU.

PLAN YOUR HOLIDAY MEAL SCHEDULE NOW!

Remember to mark your November and December calendars for Grub on the-Run. Rather than the usual fourth Tuesday of each month, we will be serving Grub on the Run on **Tuesday, November 16** and **Tuesday, December 14**. Because of the holidays in November and December, Grub has been moved up to permit our guests and our Grub servants the opportunity to enjoy their holiday meals with their loved ones. Check your Sulphur Grove Weekly Email and the December edition of the SonLight for our up-to-date menus for the meals.



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DO YOU MISS THE "OLD" GRUB-at-the-GROVE?

Your Grub Leadership team met on September 14; and once again, evaluated the pandemic situation and health guidance and tried determine when is the appropriate time to bring back the sit-down, white china, personally served, home cooked meal for which Sulphur Grove Church is so fondly regarded. Because of the "Social Distancing" required to dine inside of Sulphur Grove at a sit down dinner, we would (1) have to reduce the number of tables from our usual 20 tables to only 15 tables to be able to "re-configure" the seating plan, (2) have to reduce the number of seats at a table from 6 people to 4 people, and (3) have to allow approximately 10-15 minutes between seating occupants at a table for the appropriate cleaning, sanitization, and resetting the table. We estimate that this would reduce the number of guests we could serve from our usual 150 -175 to about 120 and would only allow people 40 minutes for their seating, eating, fellowship, and leaving.

After considering these limitations and the fact that Grub on the Run is averaging more than 225 guests served each time, your Grub leadership has determined that we will continue serving our guests in the Grub on the Run format for now because of the Delta variant of COVID-19 and the greater number of hungry people we have been serving. We still want to bring back the "old" Grub with its the sit-down, white china, personally served, home cooked meal and its warm fellowship as soon as we possibly can when health directives permit. So, please bear with us and stay tuned to the Sulphur Grove Weekly Email and the January edition of the SonLight.

UMW NEWS ...

All ladies are invited to attend UMW meetings and events

- **CARITAS** will meet **Wednesday, November 3** at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. The Fish item is a bar of soap. For more information contact Marge Graves (937)441-7667 or margsocks@aol.com.
 - **NEW DIMENSIONS** will meet **Tuesday, November 9** at 7:00pm at Pam Albers home, 8830 Christygate Dr. We will assemble Kitchen Kits for the Battered Women's Shelter and discuss Chapter 6 in the study "Encouraging One Another". The Fish item is a bar of soap. For more information contact Darlene Rabe (937)307-5489 or rabedc@aol.com.
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SILENT AUCTION

Caritas Circle is sponsoring a Silent Auction in the Taylorsville Gathering Area on Sunday, November 21st and Sunday, November 28th in conjunction with the Sulphur Grove 150th Anniversary Celebration. There will be baskets of goodies to bid on plus crafts made by our talented artists, bakers and sewers.

Come join the fun! You just might be able to mark off a few things on your Christmas shopping list and help someone in need at the same time. Winners of the items being auctioned off will be notified after the November 28th bidding is over.

All proceeds will be given to UMW supported missions.



Silent Auction

POINSETTIA ORDERS

The Altar Committee needs poinsettia plants to decorate for the Christmas season. Would you like to purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone? To place an order, place your completed order form and check in an envelope marked "Poinsettias." Please place your envelope in the offering plate, or drop it off or mail it to the church office. **The deadline for ordering Poinsettias is Tuesday, November 23rd.** Please take your poinsettia home with you after the last Christmas Eve Service at either Taylorsville or the YMCA. Questions? Please call the church office at 236-5970. **Make checks payable to: Sulphur Grove UMC.** Put 'Poinsettia Order' in memo line. Thank you!



<p>4-inch Pot Price: \$7.00 (plant is 8-10 inches high)</p> 	<p>6-inch Pot Price: \$12.00 (plant is 12-18 inches high)</p> 	<p>7-inch Pot Price: \$18.00 (plant is 18-22 inches high)</p> 
<p>How many Color</p> <p>_____ Red</p> <p>_____ White</p> <p>_____ Pink</p> <p>_____ Marble</p> <p>_____ Red Glitter</p>	<p>How many Color</p> <p>_____ Red</p> <p>_____ White</p> <p>_____ Pink</p> <p>_____ Marble</p> <p>_____ Red Glitter</p>	<p>How many Color</p> <p>_____ Red</p> <p>_____ White</p> <p>_____ Pink</p> <p>_____ Marble</p> <p>_____ Red Glitter</p>

(Please cut or tear out this form and place with check in envelope.)

Please check one: for Taylorsville Location for YMCA Location

I am enclosing \$ _____

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

In *honor* OR *memory* OR *celebration* of: _____



November

Worship SCHEDULE

TAYLORSVILLE

Worship 8:30am & 10:45 am

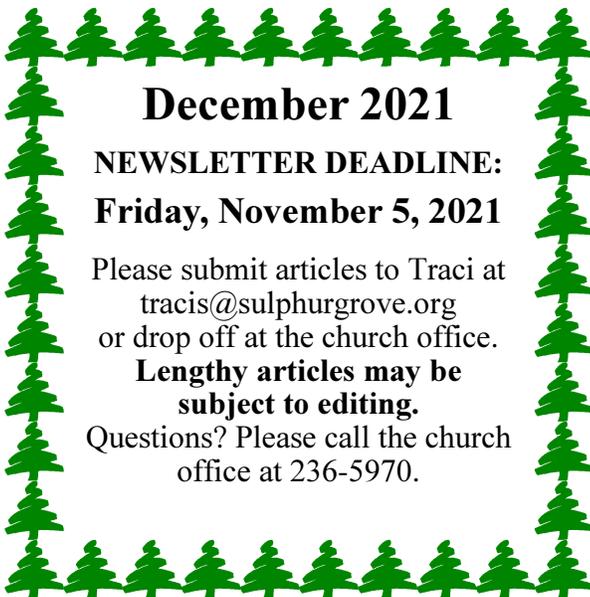
YMCA

Worship 10:30 am

<p>November 7 <i>"The Power of Storytelling: Humility versus Haughtiness"</i> Luke 18: 10-14</p>	<p>November 7 <i>"The Power of Storytelling: Humility versus Haughtiness"</i> Luke 18: 10-14</p>
<p>November 14 <i>"The Power of Storytelling: The Parable of the Talents"</i> Matthew 25: 14-30</p>	<p>November 14 <i>"The Power of Storytelling: The Parable of the Talents"</i> Matthew 25: 14-30</p>
<p>November 21 <i>"The Power of Storytelling: Jesus' Affinity with the Poor"</i> Matthew 25: 31-46</p>	<p>November 21 <i>"The Power of Storytelling: Jesus' Affinity with the Poor"</i> Matthew 25: 31-46</p>
<p>November 28 10:45am service only 150th Celebration Sunday</p>	<p>November 28</p>

Please keep in mind, if you do not feel comfortable returning to church just yet, online streaming will continue to be available.

SULPHUR GROVE GIVING OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS—YEAR TO DATE AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2021
On-line giving available on our website at www.sulphurgrove.org.



December 2021

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Friday, November 5, 2021

Please submit articles to Traci at tracis@sulphurgrove.org or drop off at the church office.

Lengthy articles may be subject to editing.

Questions? Please call the church office at 236-5970.

Total General Fund Giving	\$456,895.89
Transfers to Budget	\$900.76
Total General Fund Income	\$457,796.65
Total General Fund Expenses	\$475,056.42
Loan Balance	\$515,424.65
Payment to Loan Principal	\$1,145,148.42

Monthly detailed finance reports are available through the church office. Please contact Ray Fosnot at treasurer@sulphurgrove.org or 236-5970 if you would like to receive a report or have questions.

Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church Ministers

The People of Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church including:

Barry Baughman.....Lead Pastor
TBDPastor Y Location & Brandt UMC
Bonnie Loudner Congregational Care Pastor

Eric MunsonDirector of Youth Ministries
Candy Buffenbarger... Director of Children’s Ministries
Samantha Seeberg..... Taylorsville Choir Director
Norman Moxley Y Worship Leader
Jessica Voline Y Production Worship Specialist
Lea Warren Technical Multi-Media Specialist
Gary Carmack..... Brandt Worship Leader

Ray Fosnot Treasurer
Jenny Vossler Financial Secretary
Traci Schaaf Administrative Assistant

TAYLORSVILLE
7505 Taylorsville Road
Huber Heights OH 45424
(937) 236-5970
Worship ~ 8:30am & 10:45am
Kiawanda Language Worship
3:00pm -5:00pm in Holden Chapel

YMCA
7251 Shull Road
Huber Heights OH 45424
(937) 236-9622
Worship ~ 10:30am

BRANDT
6805 East US 40
Tipp City, OH 45371
(937) 845-8025
Worship ~ 12:00pm

Taylorsville Office Hours:
Mon - Thurs: 9:00am - 1:30pm
Closed on Fridays until further notice
www.sulphurgrove.org office@sulphurgrove.org
