



OCTOBER 30 @ 6PM

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



On Sunday, October 1st we launch the Bridge of Hope at the Brandt campus as a new church. I want to stress that this is not a restart of the former Brandt or Y churches. It is a brand new church that will try to honor the history and traditions of both former congregations, yet the emphasis has been on launching a new church. A new church with a new DNA that is focused on the mission Jesus gave all churches of making disciples of all people for the transformation of the world. The worship style will be contemporary and will likely evolve as the church moves into the future.

What I primarily want to focus on in this Coffee Chat is what the Bridge of Hope is and is not. I found there was a bit of confusion as to what the Y campus was supposed to be among the congregation when I came to Sulphur Grove. For example, some thought the Y campus was to be a launch of a new church that would eventually be chartered as a separate church. Some thought it was to always be a campus of Sulphur Grove. From what people in leadership when the Y was launched have told me, the Y was always intended to be a campus of Sulphur Grove UMC (SGUMC) and not the launch of a new church. The Bridge of Hope will be a campus of SGUMC at least for many years. However, should the Bridge of Hope eventually grow into a congregation large enough and financially able to support itself as a separate church, then that may be considered in the future. For now, the Bridge of Hope will be a campus of SGUMC.

As a campus of SGUMC, the Bridge of Hope will operate under the authority of the SGUMC Leadership Board and Senior Pastor. We will, in time, establish a leadership board sub-group at the Bridge of Hope that will function under the authority of the SGUMC Leadership Board. All offerings, gifts, etc., will go into the SGUMC general fund as we will still be one church with two campuses just as we did with the Y campus. As the pastor for the Bridge of Hope will be part time, Pastor Bonnie will have primary responsibility for the pastoral care of the congregation at the Bridge of Hope. This will allow the pastor more time to focus on leading the congregation in the mission and ministry of making new disciples and growing the church.

I hope this information helps clarify your understanding of the role and function of Sulphur Grove's Bridge of Hope campus.

Sulphur Grove has always been a forward-thinking, mission-oriented church. That is evident from what the church was, Holden Chapel, to the 35,000 square foot facility it is today. This is just one more way Sulphur Grove is looking to the future and working to fulfill the Great Commission Jesus gave the Church. Please continue to pray daily for The Bridge of Hope. Pray that God will bless our humble efforts to reach new people with the good news of Jesus Christ!

Blessings and Peace in Christ Jesus,



WATCH OR LISTEN LIVE!



Traveling this fall? Visiting family? You can still worship with your friends and neighbors at Sulphur Grove! We broadcast 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.



Meditation from my heart...



Do you ever feel like time is just flying by? I cannot believe it is October already! Where did May, June, July, and August, along with September go? It seems like yesterday that I was planting new blooms but suddenly here I am putting my flower beds to rest for the winter.

The months have been filled with many things ... Brooke graduated high school, visits to many of our homebound friends here at Sulphur Grove, family vacation, Bible School, celebrating the lives of David Iden, Sr., Jeanne Davis, Mary Alexander, Joan Smith, and Florence DePaul. We celebrated baptisms of those who outwardly stated their faith in God by emersion at Taylorsville Dam. So many activities in such a short span of time.

Grief Share began a new series in September, helping those who have lost loved ones. This season we have 17 friends working through the grieving of a family member.

On October 1st we will celebrate the grand opening of *Bridge of Hope*, our new sister church on Route 40. There were so many hours put in to get ready for this new ministry.

Soon it will be Advent, followed by a NEW YEAR, 2024.

When I was a little girl, even as early as preschool age, I would have a specific nightmare quite often. In my dream, people were running around me, I was running also but just couldn't seem to catch up with them. I found myself crying and begging them to slow down and not leave me behind. Then I would wake up in my father's arms who held me close and told me everything was alright; it was just a dream. Every time I ended up in my father's arms, it was the place I ran to when the bad dreams came.

Life sometimes feels like it is spinning out of control by all of us, especially those who are caring for a loved one in their homes or travel to rehab facilities to be present for that special person in their life. Bob Prophater comes to my mind, along with Kelli Preissler who is caring for her in-laws in their home and George Sprinkles caring for Sharon.

On those days when you feel like you are caught up in a nightmare... and I must admit that I still do occasionally, where do you find comfort? I know where I run for comfort... I run to my father's arms. My *Heavenly Father* is always there to hold me, comfort me, and replaces the bad dreams with a sense of peace.

As the seasons pass, I pray you find your peace in the arms of your *Heavenly Father* who will give you words of assurance... *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."* - John 14:27

I wish you many BLESSINGS, abundant HOPE, and profound PEACE.

Pastor Bonnie



A NEW WAY OF COMMUNICATING

Beginning January 2024, Sulphur Grove is going to send communications to you a little differently than in the past.

The monthly newsletter will be sent via email to everyone who would usually get it through the postal mail. This means that if you get the newsletter mailed to you, you will now need to check your email rather than the mailbox. If you already receive the newsletter electronically, there is nothing you need to do.

If we do not have your email on file, it will be crucial that you provide it, otherwise you will miss out on all that is happening within the church. It will also be important to keep us up to date if your email changes.

The same will go for the yearly Easter and Christmas time letters, and any special letter that may have to go out during the year. These will also be emailed out to everyone. Those letters with special offering envelopes included, the envelopes will be made available in the church or offerings can be made online. Stay tuned for further information regarding how to give online.

One of the main reasons for doing this is to keep costs down. With everything becoming more expensive, it is important to be mindful of our spending, including the cost of paper, envelopes, ink for the printers, and wear and tear on the machines.

Again, it will be vital for you to make sure that we have your email address on file.

If you get the newsletter mailed to you, but we have your email address on file, you will be switched over to receive it electronically, beginning with the January 2024 newsletter. Anyone in the household with an email address that would like to receive the newsletter and other forms of communication, will need to provide their email address. Couples sharing an email address will, of course, only get one copy.

For those that prefer a hard copy, you can always print a copy from your computer, phone, or tablet. You can also always pick one up on Sundays when you come in for Sunday Service. We will have them available in the Gathering Area on the curved counter and on the Information Table in the Narthex.

If you would no longer like to receive the newsletter at all, please let us know and we'll take care of the rest.

This will not affect the weekly bulletins, announcements, and prayer and flower lists. This will only affect pieces that are mailed directly to your homes. This also will not affect the yearly directory.

Thank you for your understanding while we move forward into new ways to communicate with everyone as well as being good stewards and being mindful of rising costs.

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

"We are a 'mission church.'

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

WANTED: COLLEGE STUDENT ADDRESSES

It is the start of a new school year! We are planning to send our traditional fall care packages to our college students. It is extremely important, parents and grandparents, that you submit new information or verify old addresses, so that we do not miss anyone. Do include those students who are studying virtually. Please turn the names in **ASAP** to Nancy Trent Providing this information in a timely manner helps with buying supplies and allows those making or supplying goodies to budget accordingly. **DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 15.** Thank you.

IT'S COLLEGE COOKIE TIME! Sunday, October 22nd

We will be sending our first care package of the year to our college students on Sunday, October 22nd, just in time for Halloween. If you would like to bake cookies or send any treats, such as individual packages of popcorn, pretzels, granola bars, candy, etc., or anything else you think they might like. Please provide your name, what you plan on donating, and your best contact number or email. Plan on 30 boxes. Please bring your items to the kitchen on Sunday, October 22nd before 10:30 and be sure to label them "FOR COLLEGE KIDS", so they do not get mixed up with the goodies for any other group. Our students really appreciate that we are thinking of them while they are at school, so **THANK YOU** in advance for volunteering to provide goodies for them.
Nancy Trent

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Questions Jesus ASKED, by Magrey R. Devega, is a six week study in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John dealing with six pivotal questions Jesus asked those around him. Magrey, the senior pastor at Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida, quotes a source as noting that, "Jesus prefers to ask questions rather than to provide direct answer." But why does he do that? Pastor Devega asks us to look at the deeper meaning behind the questions Jesus asked the audience of his day. He then challenges us to evaluate deeper meanings to those same questions as applied to our lives today. Class begins Sunday, October 8th in room 101.

STEWARDSHIP MONTH

In our church life, we are so excited about all the new faces and programming as we embrace our church life going forward into 2024!

Our recent Sonlight newsletter provided an incredible list of exciting programs and projects, including, but not limited to, our own Food Pantry, Body and Soul Feasts, choirs for all ages, Men of Action and United Women in Faith, McCurdy Mission trip, English language program, Helping Hands, Bridge of Hope, Grief Share, My Very Own Blanket and new Sunday School Classes...whew!

As we look forward to 2024, we will be observing our stewardship opportunities, not only financial but also service and mission to others.

Our pastors will be looking at the topic of stewardship as in What Is Our Legacy? And for us as His Servants, this means Time, Talent, and Treasure.

October is Stewardship Month - Pastors Barry, Bonnie, and Jerri will be presenting messages on stewardship with the month ending on Oct. 29 on Stewardship Sunday. That is the day we will have the opportunity to answer with our financial and personal intentions regarding our support of Sulphur Grove and its ministries.

Watch for weekly and Sunday updates!

Kathleen Roberts, Evangelism Chair, Finance Committee

PLAN YOUR HOLIDAY MEAL SCHEDULE NOW!

Remember to mark your **NOVEMBER** calendar for the **SECOND TUESDAY** and your **DECEMBER** calendar for the **THIRD TUESDAY** for Grub-on-the-Run rather than the usual Fourth Tuesday. That is Tuesday, November 14 and Tuesday, December 19. Because of the Holidays in November and December, Grub will be moved up to permit our guests to have two holiday meals each month and to permit our Grub servants the opportunity to enjoy their holiday meals with their loved ones. Tentatively, the November meal will be Turkey & Dressing with all the fondly remembered and well-loved trimmings and the December menu will include the traditional Christmas Ham.



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NO TRICKS, ALL TREATS!

October is a time when Charlie Brown and I begin to think about the "Great Pumpkin" and "Trick or Treat". Why don't you become the "Great Pumpkin" for a few of your lonely neighbors? Instead of taking them "Trick or Treat" candy from the enormous bags sold at every retail store near you, take them a "to go" style meal of a variety of homemade soup, a sandwich, fruit, and a dessert. You just need to be a guest of Grub-on-the-Run, driving through the Sulphur Grove parking lot on the fourth Tuesday of the month, **October 24**, between 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm to pick up meals for yourself, your family, and for several of those lonely or shut-in neighbors next door, across the street, or down the block. Only you can be one of the ways we can serve more and more hungry people in Huber Heights.

Also, stay tuned in future articles in the Sulphur Grove media postings, the Tuesday email messages, the Sunday bulletins, and editions of the SonLight, for the future plans for Grub-on-the-Run on into the New Year. Remember, as you learn new information from the Sulphur Grove communications, share that information with others so we can reach more and more hungry people in Huber Heights.

MY VERY OWN BLANKET

Sunday, October 8th at 12pm

Everyone (men, women, youth) is invited to attend!

Join Sulphur Grove Women in Faith as we help My Very Own Blanket make individual blankets for children in need. Can you cut? Can you knot? Can you work as a team? Then you can share God's love by making a blanket for a child!!!! It's fun and it's easy. The blankets will be given to CARE house in Dayton and given to children in the foster care system. This blanket may be one of the few things a child has that is their very own. The result of your efforts will create warmth, comfort, security, and most of all, a SMILE to a child.

We will start with a light lunch at 12pm and begin creating blankets at 1pm. There are no fees, but a donation will be gladly accepted to help cover the cost of lunch and materials.

Registration will conclude in the Gathering Area Sunday October 1. You may also register online on the Sulphur Grove website: Scroll down to events and click on My Very Own Blanket for the registration form.

Scissors are needed to fringe the blankets and will not be provided, so bring your own scissors and

extras to share if you have them.

HELPING HANDS

It's more than a meal, it's a tangible way to share God's love

On **Saturday October 14 at 9am** Sulphur Grove will host a meal packing event. We will pack 10,000 meals for those affected in Turkey and Syria where February 2023 earthquakes have left approximately 1.5 million people homeless. The rice-based meals are a shelf-stable, specially formulated combination of vitamins, plant-based proteins, dehydrated vegetables and nutrients that provide in one serving about 75% of a child's daily requirement for a healthy diet. This is an event where families and groups can work together and have fun serving God regardless of their age or ability.

We are inviting the community as well as other churches and businesses to join us in this ministry so spread the word and invite your extended family, friends and neighbors! A similar event was held several years ago and enjoyed by all. Please register to attend so we know how many to expect. We are also asking each volunteer to donate \$15 toward the cost of the meals we will be packing. If you cannot financially help, we understand. If you can give more, we would greatly appreciate it!

Registration forms are available on the information desk in the Gathering Area and in the back of the church by the bulletins. Place the completed form in the offering plate. You may also register online on the Sulphur Grove website under Events. Donations may also be given online or placed in the offering plate along with your registration form.



~~ UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NEWS ~~

All ladies are invited to attend all meetings and events

- ⇒ CARITAS will meet Wednesday, October 4 at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. The Fish item is a small laundry detergent.
- ⇒ NEW DIMENSIONS will meet Tuesday, October 10 at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Area. They will continue discussing the book, Aging Faithfully. The Fish item is a small laundry detergent.
- ⇒ BOARD MEETING will meet on Thursday, October 19 at 1pm in room 302/303.



October

Worship SCHEDULE

TAYLORSVILLE

Worship 8:30am & 10:45am

<p>October 1 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY COMMUNION <i>"For the Long Haul: Quarreled & Tested"</i> Matthew 21: 23-32</p> <p>Grand Opening of the Bridge of Hope</p>
<p>October 8 <i>"For the Long Haul: Fruit of the Kingdom"</i> Matthew 21: 23-46</p>
<p>October 15 <i>"What Will Be Your Legacy?: What Really Matters in Life?"</i> Philippians 1: 3-11</p>
<p>October 22 <i>"What Will Be Your Legacy?: Your Temporal Legacy"</i> James 2: 14-17</p>
<p>October 29 <i>"What Will Be Your Legacy?: Your Eternal Legacy"</i> Matthew 25: 14-30</p>

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

SULPHUR GROVE GIVING OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS—YEAR TO DATE AS OF AUGUST 31, 2023

Total General Fund Giving	\$369,679.40
Transfers to Budget	-\$2,450.00
Total General Fund Income	\$367,229.40
Total General Fund Expenses	\$437,348.80
Loan Balance	\$469,627.63
Payment to Loan Principal	\$1,193,970.44

On-line giving available on our website at www.sulphurgrove.org.

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.

November 2023

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Friday, October 13, 2023

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

Articles may be subject to editing.

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

Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church Ministers

The People of Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church including:

Barry Baughman Lead Pastor
Bonnie Loudner Congregational Care Pastor
Jerrie Bell-Brion Interim Pastor, Bridge of Hope

Eric Munson..... Director of Youth Ministries
Candy Buffenbarger..Director of Children's Ministries
Samantha Seeberg.....Choir Director
James Edwards-Kenion...Handbell Choir Director

Ray Fosnot.....Treasurer
Dave HuntFinancial Secretary
Nikki Smith Administrative Assistant
Traci Schaaf Administrative Assistant

SULPHUR GROVE CHURCH
7505 Taylorsville Road
Huber Heights OH 45424
(937) 236-5970
Worship ~ 8:30am & 10:45am
Contemporary Service ~ 10:45am in Holden Chapel
Kiwanda Language Worship
4:00pm-6:00pm in Holden Chapel

Office Hours:
Mon - Fri: 9:00am - 1:30pm
www.sulphurgrove.org office@sulphurgrove.org



Check out our Info Hub for quick and easy access to our Digital Bulletin, Announcements & Events, Digital Connect Card, Online Giving, or submit Prayer Requests. Go to www.sulphurgrove.org/info or scan the code with your phone's camera!