



St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church



welcome

We are so glad you have joined us today! Please take a minute to grab your name tag off the new rack before the service. If you need a name tag, let us know on the sheet provided on the table in the narthex.

A NOTE FOR FAMILIES

Children of all ages are welcome in worship! Crayons, pencils, activities and a children's bulletin are available in the Children's Corner in the narthex. This area can also be used during the service.

We offer nursery and childcare for children ages 6 months—5 years old during the service. Our student caregivers have gone through extensive training and are looking forward to greeting your child! Ask the Usher for directions to our Nursery.

ASSIST WITH THE SERVICE

We are looking for adults who would be interested in being a Verger at our Sunday service, as well as anyone age 10 and above who can serve as an Acolyte. This is a wonderful way to deepen your relationship with God by serving at the altar & during the service. Contact the church office if you are interested or email Rev. Gayle: revgayle@lovelearnserv.org



MEET & GREET REV. GAYLE

Would you like to host Rev. Gayle for a meal or tea to get to know her, or simply attend a gathering? This is a parishioner-led opportunity to welcome our new Rector, share a meal with her at your home or a restaurant, and enjoy time getting to know Rev. Gayle on a personal level. Angela Sturtz is helping coordinate these get-togethers. If you'd like to host, or join a group that's already scheduled, please email Angela: DASTurtz13@gmail.com



Common Grounds meets after the service in the Fellowship Hall for fellowship, learning, and exchange of ideas and coffee, tea, or cocoa.

December 17: Christmas Story-telling (for All Ages!)



This Sunday we return to the nourishing tradition of hearing a story, read by one of our wonderful readers, Donna Wipfli. Come hear a story and enjoy a cup of tea, coffee or hot cocoa, as we take a memorable journey with Donna as the guide.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS + MUSIC

You're invited to make a donation toward Christmas Music & Flowers in memory of a loved one. Special offering envelopes are on the hall & narthex tables. Envelopes should be turned in to the office by THIS Sunday.



SPECIAL GUEST TODAY

During the service today, we'll hear from Mandy Phillips, Volunteer & Business Development Coordinator of Family House. This year's Christmas Offering will be given to Family House, to help them support families in crisis in our community. We look forward to hearing from Ms. Phillips and learning more about their programs. Contact her with any questions at 419-242-5505 or bizdev@familyhousetoledo.org



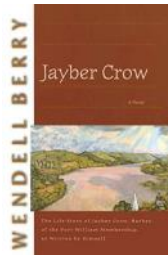


ADVENT WALKING

All are invited to bundle up and go for a walk in Wildwood at **3:00 pm on Sundays** during Advent. Meet at the Ward Pavilion (the parking lot near the schoolhouse and farm house) to begin the walk.

DINNER + BOOK CLUB

All are invited to enjoy fellowship, dinner and a book discussion! The group is reading *Jayber Crow* by Wendell Berry for the month of December. Join them **Monday, December 18th at 6 pm**, at the home of Ruth Ann Sailstad. If you can attend, contact Ruth Ann:(419) 266-8886, ruthannsailstad@gmail.com.



8:00 AM SERVICE

We would love to offer an 8:00 am service starting in the new year! We are looking for individuals who would be willing to commit to attending this service for 6 months as we gauge interest. It would be a Rite I Eucharist service with no music. If you are interested, please email or call the office & let us know!

2024 BUDGET

The Finance Committee and Vestry will be forming the 2024 budget this coming Tuesday. If you haven't turned in your pledge card, or contacted Gretchen, please do so today! We need final numbers. THANKS!

BETHLEHEM DINNER

Save the date! All are invited to our 2nd Annual "Bethlehem Dinner," on **Friday, February 2nd**. We will again enjoy a wonderful evening of friendship, charity, and music to honor the grace & life of Rev. Peg Sammons. We will share a meal together, hear a presentation from Toledo charity *Leading Families Home*, and enjoy singing together. *More details to come!*

WINTER CONVOCATION

Save the date for Winter Convocation, February 2-3, at Kalahari Convention Center in Sandusky. For more info, visit www.dohio.org.

FAMILY EVENT: JANUARY 13

Families are invited to attend a Walleye Game with others from St. Michael's on **Saturday, January 13th at 7:00 pm**. It will also be the Walleye's first ever Looney Tunes Night; players will be wearing special Looney Tunes jerseys. Tickets are \$19/person and can be purchased by scanning the code at right. *Hope to see you then!*



welcomehome

Ukrainian Family Update

This is the season of waiting, keeping our lamps burning, regarding the 6 Ukrainian beneficiaries we still hope to sponsor through the US Humanitarian Parole Program. We applied August 12th and the applications are still pending approval. We hear varying reports from other sponsor groups in Toledo, but nearly all say the wait time has been much longer for them, too, than earlier in the year. We have found no way to inquire directly to USCIS. We have asked Rep. Marcy Kaptur's office to look into it, which they are doing. Currently, the Humanitarian Parole program, along with other aid to Ukraine, is being challenged in Congress, according to news reports. On the positive side, we've had email contact with our adult applicants, who responded immediately & were happy to be in contact and affirmed that they are safe. Also, the housing we secured for these 2 family groups remains available and willing to wait for awhile. If you have questions, let us know. And pray for our applicants in Ukraine: Alina, Dariia, Hanna, *and their children*.

—Joe Gerhardinger, Barb Malkoski, Gretchen Rohm, Sarah Schendel, Terri and Mike Ward

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Joe Myers in loving memory of his wife, Kathie.

