

May 2024 Newsletter



From the Heart

A letter from Pastor John

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding.

Proverbs 3:5

Dear Friends,

As I ponder the above verse, I wonder if I have ever come close to carrying it out. Lean not on my own understanding? Another version says, "...do not rely on your own insight" and another says, "...do not rely on your own intelligence." Since when I have ever jettisoned my own desire to understand a situation? I want to trust the Lord with all my heart. I want to love the Lord with all my heart, mind, soul, and strength, but I find it difficult to give up my own ability to make sense out of the senseless. I see intuition as a gift of God.

Evidently, wisdom is the ability to accept that there are limits to logic. The writer goes on to say, "Do not be wise in your own eyes, fear the Lord and turn from evil." If we are wise in our own eyes, we will forget to pray. God will become a last resort. Faith is difficult. We want to trust. Good living is about trust, but our self-reliant, independent, individualistic culture often works against it. Our culture says, "It is all up to you." Our Scripture declares that God is present and available. God can lead us into what God is doing.

Shiloh is going through a season of trust. Transitions are ahead. The dilemma of fixing things or waiting for a more prudent time is always with us. Careful analysis caused Shiloh to determine that now is the time to renovate the sanctuary. The size of the project required a capital campaign. And every church that enters a capital campaign will be challenged in the trust department. I am grateful Shiloh has built the capital campaign on prayer. "Lord, what do you want to do through me to fulfill your will for Shiloh?" With such a prayer our faith has grown. And consider this, with the sanctuary renovation nearly complete, many of our fears are now in the past.

My impending retirement feels like a test of faith. There are so many decisions to make and I agonize over decisions. There are many details in the retirement journey. I get exhausted by minutia. For example, I was having trouble signing up for social security benefits online. When I went to the Social Security office, I discovered that two different birthdays were listed for me. How did that happen? Fortunately, my birth certificate cleared up the confusion. Why can't things be simple? We purchased a home near our grandchildren. This week, Mary Lynn called a company to determine what kind of animal has been heard in the attic. Really? Despite all the tests, I must trust that when retirement arrives I will be ready. And certainly, God is with us all and I am grateful for God's patience.

Blessings,

Pastor John

CHURCH-WIDE UPDATES

Our First Worship Service in the Renovated Sanctuary! Commitment Sunday May 5, 10:30am

Shiloh is thrilled to return to the Sanctuary for a combined worship service on May 5 at 10:30am. There will be a meal following in the gymnasium. No reservations are required. This is our Commitment Sunday. Pledges will be received for our capital campaign to renovate the sanctuary. There will also be a dedication of the sanctuary. If there are prayer requests for May 5, please email them to either office@shilohumc.com or jwhitaker@shilohoumc.com and the staff will pray over them during the week.

The pews are already in and they are beautiful. The storm windows are installed. The windowsills and stained-glass are next. Musical instruments must be moved back into place. Cleaning needs to be accomplished. We hope all the stained-glass will be in, but if not, we will still be able to proceed with worship and the dedication.

Our capital campaign goal is \$385,000. Remember all commitments matter. The capital campaign pledge is for three years and is giving beyond our regular support of the annual budget. If you need more information about the campaign, please call the church office. A special thanks to everyone who has helped make the Shiloh Capital Campaign a positive experience. We have prayed, "Lord, what do You want to do through me to fulfill your will for Shiloh?" Many are appreciative that are capital campaign has been founded on prayer.

West Ohio Annual Conference, May 29-June 1, 2024

The 55th session of the West Ohio Annual Conference is set to convene from Wednesday, May 29 through June 1, 2024, at Capital University in Bexley, Ohio. This year's theme, "God is Able," draws inspiration from Ephesians 3:20-21, promising a gathering that celebrates the limitless power of God.

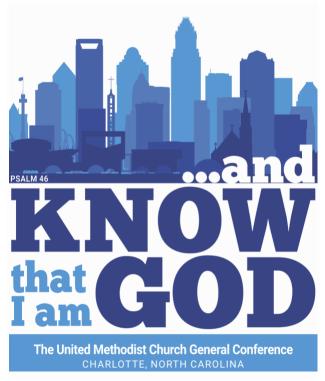
A significant aspect of the conference includes voting on crucial business matters that will shape the future of the West Ohio Conference.

There will be a time of celebration as it marks the retirement of Bishop Gregory and Mrs. Cynthia Palmer. Pastor John will also be attending a retirement service on Saturday, at 10:30am. Bev Hansen is our lay delegate to Annual Conference.

The conference will also shine a spotlight on the ordination of clergy, symbolizing a commitment to nurturing new leaders and fostering spiritual growth within The United Methodist Church.

There will be an offering received for scholarships for Africa University. Tuition for one year at Africa University is \$6500.

2024 General Conference, April 23-May 3, 2024



The United Methodist Church General Conference is set to begin on April 23 in Charlotte, NC. This conference takes place every four years and is the only entity that speaks for the denomination. The United Methodist Book of Discipline is updated every four years to incorporate changes made by the General Conference.

The voting delegates for this conference will come from various parts of the world, including the United States (55.9%), Africa (32%), the Philippines (6%), Europe (4.6%), and concordat churches that have close ties to The United Methodist Church (1.5%). Half of the delegates will be clergy and the other half will be laity.

In the days ahead, many will have opinions about what happens at the General Conference. Please see these reliable sources for the most accurate information:

- The United Methodist Church: <u>Website</u>, <u>Facebook</u>
- West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church: Website, Facebook
- West Ohio Conference Delegates <u>These persons</u> have been elected to serve as General Conference Delegates. You may send your prayers and messages to West Ohio Conference delegates via email: <u>GCDelegates2024@wocumc.org</u>

Looking Ahead Farewell Service for Pastor John June 30, 10:00am

Pastor John is retiring July 1, 2024. Shiloh has decided to have one worship service on June 30 at 10:00am in celebration of his retirement. There will be a meal together following worship in the gymnasium. Everyone is invited. Please mark your calendars for that day. Pastor John will be preaching "May They Be One" on John 17:20-24.

Free Elizani

Please contact the office if you are interested in the organ.

Must pick up and load yourself.



prayer

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Alice Amelia Amelia

Malachi Burgin Karen Cain

Capital Campaign

Ray Clark Linda Conley

Donny
Danielle English

Pastor Rod Fightmaster

Jim Giese Hailey

Ashley Howard

Israel Linda Martha Ann Martinjack Susan McBeath

Sue McCulley Stacey Morehead

Nyenpu Tim Reher

Angie Rizzo & Family Nehemiah Robinson

Evelyn Ruffner Jean Sharp

Mike Spohr

Susan

Patty Taylor Team Hope

Those seeking disability

Tornado Victims Chuck Wright

HOMEBOUND

Ginny Konerman
Barb Lienhart
Ruth Mathias
Esther Reher
Mary Anita Schaefer
Louise & Bernie Schroeder
Roland Zimmerman

If you'd like to send a card to any of our shut-ins, please contact the office and we can give you the needed information.

Do you have a prayer request?

Please send it to

kplumlee@shilohumc.com

or call the office @ 513-451-3600

Please specify if you'd like the request published in the newsletter, or if you'd like to keep it private. Urgent requests can be sent-out via email as well.



For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.

SHILOH PRESCHOOL



Shiloh Preschool has opened an additional T/TH class and MWF PM class and there is only a few spots left in each! Please pray that God would send us the families He wants us to have and for protection throughout enrolling season and as we try to expand.

PRESCHOOL NEWS



If you or someone you know is looking for a preschool to call home that is child-led, play-inspired, has an emphasis on nature and is faith based we would love to give them a tour!

Register now at Shilohpreschool.com 513-451-6443 preschool@shilohumc.com

The Sewing circle came to make a quilt with us!











Delhi Fire Department came to show us the trucks and how to stop,drop and roll!

Mike " the Bee guy" visit







We made an observatory in preparation for the April 8th Solar Eclipse











We used
flashlights to
see
constellations
and planets

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Ministry Classroom Notes

<u>May</u>

This month we continue to learn about Abraham. We also will work each week on memorizing our memory verse. The kids get so excited when they remember it!

Memory Verse

Trust the Lord with all your heart.
Do not depend on your own
understanding. In all your ways
obey him. Then he will make your
paths smooth and straight
Proverbs 3:5-6

<u>May 12th</u> <u>Happy Mothers Day!</u>

We are celebrating
Moms with a special
craft in K-5 and
Preschool classrooms.

May 5th

- Communion Sunday
- All In for K-5 children

May 12th

- Worship with music from VBS Start the Party
- Mothers Day craft
- Lesson:Abraham learns he will have a son

May 19th

- · Lesson: Isaac is born
- Celebration of May birthdays

May 26th

- Lesson: A wife for Isaac
- Memory verse reward.
 The kids love the prize cart!

Pennies for Pews

Thank you Shirley Burdette for designing our canvas and giving it direction!











Pennies for Pews







JUNE 10TH-14TH

9:00-12:15 PM

VOLUNTEER MEETING

May 23rd at 6:30 pm

VBS CLEANUP

June 16th following the VBS Sunday Celebration. Thank you in advance for all who can help!

VBS SET UP

June 1st and 2nd
we are setting up
for VBS and need
your help! We will
be creating
several Glow in the
Dark spaces so the
kids can glow!! Sign
ups at VBS table

VBS WISH LIST

- Cake Mix
- Icing w/sprinkles
- Birthday candles
- Birthday plates & napkins,
- 9x13 aluminum disposable pans.

- Bright colored latex balloons
- Empty plastic 8oz water bottles. Recycle here! We need 120
- Baby wipes



VBS SUNDAY CELEBRATION JUNE 16TH 11AM



Lindsey's Ice will be provided immediately following the VBS Celebration

Join us as we celebrate our favorite VBS music, dance, game, bible story and share the kids mission project





WEDNESDAY NIGHT KIDS CLUB



Spring/Summer Calendar

MAY 1 Kids Club 6-7:30PM

SUMMER BREAK

JULY 17

Glow Party 6-8PM

AUGUST 21

Kids Club resumes 6-7:30pm

AUGUST 28 Kids Club 6-7:30pm

About Kids Club

K-5th grade meet every Wednesday from 6-7:30pm

- Large group gym games
- Small group activities that help kids grow in their faith.
- Monthly service project

Glow Party

Join us on July 17th for a Glow Party in the gym. This is open to everyone K-5th grade. Pizza will be served

Summer Break

Kids Club will be on summer break beginning May 2. We will resume on **August 21st**

Kids Club Highlights





Our April service project was to sort and organize donations for Team Hope.

This is an optional rotation for the kids. Those who joined in had many questions about those who are less fortunate. It's beautiful to watch the kids develop and grow a servants heart for the Lord.





We used our small group time to share with the kids that Shiloh wants to pray for them. They loved it!



SAVE THE DATE

GIOGL BASH

AUGUST 3RD





EASH BASH

WE ARE COLLECTING

ICE PACKS

(FOR LUNCH BOXES)

- SANDWICH BAGGIES
- <u>NEW</u> LUNCH BOXES

PLEASE PLACE DONATIONS IN THE DESIGNATED BOXES
IN THE GATHERING SPACE



STUDENT MINISTRIES





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NOTES FROM NATHAN

Hello Brothers and Sisters, As the spring blooms in its full glory, it brings with it a season of transition, particularly for our beloved students. Graduation marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and growth. It's a time of reflection, celebration, and anticipation for the journey ahead. In the midst of these transitions, it's important for us to pause and reflect on the significance of this moment, not just academically or socially, but also spiritually. As Christians, we view graduation not only as a milestone in one's educational journey but also as a testament to God's faithfulness and provision throughout the years. Scripture reminds us in Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." As our students embark on this new chapter of their lives, let us trust in God's perfect plan for each of them. Though the path ahead may be uncertain, we take comfort in knowing that God is always with us, guiding our steps and leading us toward His purpose. Graduation season also offers us an opportunity to reflect on the lessons learned and the friendships forged during our time together. It's a time to express gratitude for the mentors who have walked alongside us, the challenges that have strengthened us, and the victories that have shaped us. As we bid farewell to our graduating seniors, let us do so with hearts full of love and blessings. May they carry with them the values of faith, integrity, and compassion as they venture into the world beyond our ministry walls. And may they always remember that they are never alone, for God's presence goes with them wherever they may go. To our graduating seniors, as you stand on the threshold of this new beginning, know that you are cherished and celebrated by your church family. We believe in you, we pray for you, and we eagerly anticipate witnessing the incredible journey that lies ahead for each of you. In closing, let us lift our voices in prayer, thanking God for the gift of our graduating seniors and asking for His guidance and protection as they step into the next stage of their lives. Blessings and grace,

EVENTS FROM THE PAST MONTH

Comate Home Pershabit Food English

EASTER EGG HUNT

On April 7th we hid Easter Eggs all around the church with candy.

Two lucky students found our golden eggs and walked home with a UDF gift card.

SERVICE WITH MATTHEW 25

On March 27th we spent the day serving with Matthew 25 learning how to give back around the world. We packaged gloves with hospitals in less fortunate nations.



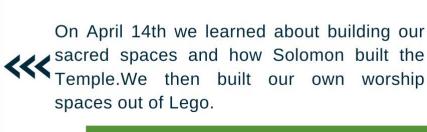
LEGO NIGHT.





EARTH DAY

On April 21st we learned about God's plans for the world and our command to care for creatures and the earth for all humanity and all time.







Event Photos







Calendar of Events

May 5th- Youth Group 6PM

-High School Bible Study 7:30PM

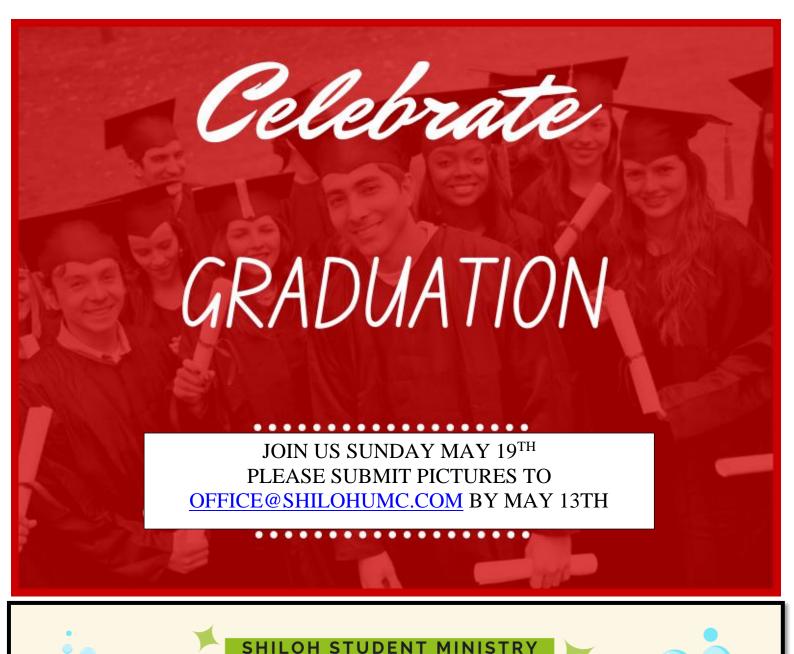
May 12th- Youth Group Canceled

May 19th - Youth Group 6PM (Senior Night)

-High School Bible Study

May 25th- Youth Group Canceled (Memorial

Day)





MISSION MOMENTS



Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for our 6th Annual "Driving Out Addiction" Golf Outing & Dinner set to be held on August 24th, 2024. Tickets will be available for purchase soon, be sure to check our website for updates!

https://litgolf2024.maxgiving.bid/about-us



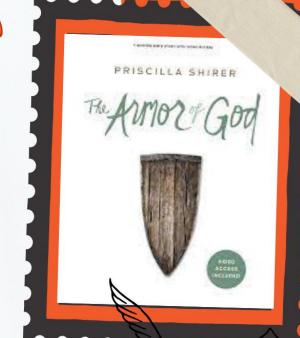


We will be hosting a silent auction at the golf outing & are currently collecting donations. If you would like to donate please contact Toni Eyrich---> 1eyrichhome@gmail.com

WHAT'S NEW

Women's Program Bible Study

Over at the Women's home we are engaged in a thrilling bible study on the Armor of God! We've got a solid group of Christian women who are attending weekly and pouring into our residents. We are grateful to see our residents build friendships and embrace their authority Jesus!



Jail Outreach



We have been given the opportunity to enter into the new Women's Care Pod at the Hamilton County Justice Center. Focusing on rehabilitation and re-entry, we are able to go in once a week and speak to women currently incarcerated about our program at LIT. This allows us to give them information and spark interest in becoming a resident or simply offering resources for when they are released.

RECENT EVENTS

PRAYER BREAKFAST 99

Thank you to all who joined us at our 2nd Annual LIT Prayer Breakfast on March 2nd! The event was a resounding success, highlighted by an impactful testimony from Anthony Munoz.

The contributions made by individuals like yourselves, who share a belief in the transformative work of God, are indispensable to the mission of LIT. Your support enables us to positively impact the lives of those we serve. Thank you!





:: **\$47,640**







WOMEN ARE GOLD

Happy Spring!

April is always a slow month and a very fascinating for Rick and I, as Christians, at Women Are Gold. It's a slow month because in Cambodia, this is the time when the people celebrate Khmer New Year, the greatest traditional festival, and also the greatest national holiday. It is three or four days of festival depending on the lunar calendar. Khmer New Year begins on April 13th or can begin on April 14th and is celebrated for three consecutive days.

The second day of New Year is called Wanabot, which means day of offering gifts to the parents, grandparents and elders. In the evening, people go to temple to build a mountain of sand and ask the monks to give them a blessing of happiness and peace.

The third day is called day of "Leung Sakk;" that means the year starts to be counted up from this day, for example it is when the year of 2023 would change and begin to be 2024. Traditionally, in the morning, people would go to the temple to perform the ceremony of the mountain of sand to get blessed. In the evening, to complete the New Year festival, Khmer people need to perform the last ceremony, called "Pithi Srang Preah", which means giving a special bath or a special shower to Buddha statues, the monks, elders, parents and grandparents in order to apologize for any mistake done to them and to gratify them.



Our clients younger siblings giving a bath to their mother and grandmother during Khmer New Year.

Everyone has a wonderful time during this ceremony because it is a great opportunity for everyone, young and old, man and woman, to have much fun by spreading out water to each other.

During this time, as Christians, Rick and I witness the worshipping and celebrating of false gods, something that Theravada Buddhism is centered around and what most people in Cambodia practice. But, we also witness the love, loyalty, honor and respect that is given to family during this time, something that is absolutely beautiful and something that we know can only come from God.



One of our clients giving a bath to her mother and grandmother on the third day of Khmer New Year. We are always fascinated by this time of year in Cambodia, but we are also so thankful that we have One True God, who is always close, can take care of our every need, and doesn't expect offerings, showers or blessings. Jesus is the Way!

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Our clients family washing a Buddha statue during the third day of Khmer New Year.



COMMUNITY DINNER

Shiloh was blessed to have local Girl Scouts, Troop 44474, volunteer to serve at our monthly community dinner. We certainly needed their help with a larger than usual number of diners. It was great to see all the tables full of people having a meal together and enjoying some fellowship.







TEAM HOPE IS IN NEED OF SUPPLIES TO SUPPORT THEIR MINISTRY



DONATIONS CAN BE PUT IN THE SHOPPING CART LABLED "TEAM HOPE" IN THE GATHERING SPACE.

ITEMS NEEDED ARE LISTED BELOW

SOCKS **BODY WIPES** SOAP WASHCLOTHS UNDERGARMENTS(S)(M)(L)(2X) MEN & WOMENS RAZORS **CHAPSTICKS** MINI DEODERANT **TOOTHPASTE & TOOTHBRUSH** MINI LOTION BOTTLES MINI SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER **COMBS & BRUSHES** FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS **BIBLES** INSPIRATIONAL LITERATURE **GALLON SIZE BAGGIES**



United Women in Faith

JOY CIRCLE

Joy Circle will be meeting on Monday, May 20th at 5:30pm in the Gathering Space. We will be working on a project for the upcoming Vacation Bible School. All ladies of the church are invited to participate. Light refreshments will be provided. More details as available.

Questions? See Betty English or Janet Klem.



United Women in Faith



THANK YOU!

God bless everyone who donated vegetable seeds for the Jackson Area Ministries Community Garden Project. We collected 156 seed packets. I believe that is a record for us!

-Janet Klem for United Women in Faith



CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 12:30PM – STAFF MTG 6:00PM – KIDS CLUB 7:00PM –CHOIR REHEARSAL	2 7:00PM - AA	3 5:00PM – LITTLE YOGI - ASBURY	4 6:00PM – EUCHRE – ASBURY HALL
5 10:30AM – ONE SERVICE – SANCTUARY 11:30 – LUNCHEON – GYM 1:00PM – PRESCHOOL PICNIC -OUTSIDE 6:00PM – YOUTH	6 <u>NO</u> <u>PICKLEBALL</u> <u>IN GYM</u> <u>6:30PM</u> – NA	7 11:00AM – UPPER ROOM 6:00PM – SCOUTS 7:00PM – MISSIONS COMMITTEE - ASBURY	8 12:30PM – STAFF MTG 7:00PM –CHOIR REHEARSAL	9 6:00PM PRESCHOOL GRADUATION GYM 6:00PM – FINANCE COMMITTEE - ASBURY 7:00PM - AA	10 5:00PM – LITTLE YOGI - ASBURY	11
12 MOTHER'S DAY 9:30AM - TRADITIONAL 11:00AM - MODERN NO YOUTH GROUP	13 6:00PM – PICKLEBALL 6:30PM – NA 7:00PM – CAPITAL CAMPAIGN MEETING - ASBURY	14 11:00AM – UPPER ROOM 6:00PM – SCOUTS 6:15PM - SPPRC	15 12:30PM – STAFF MTG 12:30PM - FORTNIGHTLY 7:00PM – CHOIR REHEARSAL	16 7:00PM - AA	17	18 9:00AM – WESTSIDE MOMS PLAYDATE
19 9:30AM – TRADITIONAL 11:00AM – MODERN 6:00PM – YOUTH	20 6:00PM – PICKLEBALL 6:30PM – NA 6:30PM – JOY CIRCLE	21 11:00AM - UPPER ROOM 6:00PM - SCOUTS 6:00PM - TRUSTEES 7:30PM - LEADERSHIP	22 12:30PM – STAFF MTG 7:00PM –CHOIR REHEARSAL	23 11:00AM — DELHI MIDDLE - GYM 6:30PM —VBS VOLUNTEER — GATHERING SPACE 7:00PM - AA	24	25 11:00AM – PRIVATE PARTY – MURRAY- GYM
26 9:30AM - TRADITIONAL 11:00AM - MODERN NO YOUTH GROUP	27 6:00PM – PICKLEBALL 6:30PM – NA	28 11:00AM – UPPER ROOM 6:00PM – SCOUTS	29 <u>12:30PM</u> – STAFF MTG	30 7:00PM - AA	31 5:00PM – COMMUNITY DINNER	

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Carol	Woulms	1-May	
Jen	Baltzersen	4-May	
Jackson	Gutzwiller	10-May	
Sandra	Reher	10-May	
Gary	Cox	11-May	
Emily	Kelley	11-May	
Elizabeth	Wong	12-May	
Ashley	Andriacco	13-May	
Jonathan	Cody	14-May	
Maria	Coogan	14-May	
Emma	Warren	15-May	
Robin	John	17-May	
Gerry	Mirus	17-May	
Brian	Hunterman	19-May	
Gerald	Suit	19-May	
Layna	Sizemore	20-May	
Kenneth	Kreuter	25-May	
Tana	Casper	26-May	
Timothy	Reher	26-May	
Carol	Drescher	28-May	
Patricia	Strube	28-May	
Daniel	Thorman	30-May	

-SHILOHCHURCH-

Mission Statement:

The mission of Shiloh United Methodist Church through the Spirit is to glorify God, develop disciples of Jesus Christ, and change the world.

Vision Statement:

Our vision is to seek and share God's gift of oneness.

Shiloh Church Staff Contact Information

Rev. Dr. John C. Whitaker: Pastor <u>jwhitaker@shilohumc.com</u> 937-416-7262 Cell 513-451-3600 Church Office

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Jerry Suit: Traditional Worship Coordinator jsuit@shilohumc.com

Theresa Works: Modern Worship Coordinator tworks@shilohumc.com

Do you have something for our newsletter? Submit to <u>kplumlee@shilohumc.com</u> by the 20th of each month to be included in the next month's publication.

Shiloh United Methodist Church

5261 Foley Road Cincinnati, OH 45238

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