



Andover UMC

# The Messenger

andoverfirstumc



November  
2023

To create and nurture a passionate faith community through open doorways to Christ.



**Join us Sundays @ 9:30am (Modern with Kid's Church & Online)**

Website: [www.andoverfirstumc.org](http://www.andoverfirstumc.org) (watch past services anytime)

Follow us on Facebook: [andoverfirstumc](https://www.facebook.com/andoverfirstumc)

& YouTube: [youtube.com/@andoverumc](https://www.youtube.com/@andoverumc)

Email: [receptionist@andoverfirstumc.org](mailto:receptionist@andoverfirstumc.org) / Phone: (440) 293-6290

Pastor Jason Hockran 440-862-0470 / [jhockran@gmail.com](mailto:jhockran@gmail.com)

Pastor Linda Bradley 440-293-7025 / [pastorlinda@andoverfirstumc.org](mailto:pastorlinda@andoverfirstumc.org)



Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

1 Chronicles 16:34

**"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."**

In 1978, a young seminary graduate named Henry Smith was struggling to find work and coming to terms with a degenerative eye condition that would eventually leave him legally blind. Despite those hardships, Henry found hope in 2 Corinthians 8:9 and penned "Give Thanks," one of the most beloved songs of our time. And now let the weak say, 'I am strong'; Let the poor say, 'I am rich' because of what the Lord has done.

Years later, a young worship leader named Don Moen would record Henry's song, helping to carry it around the world. Today, you can hum "Give Thanks" at almost any church in the world, no matter the country or the language, and someone will recognize this simple song of thanksgiving and trust. <https://www.praisecharts.com/blog/the-story-behind-the-song-give-thanks>

I frequently, especially this time of year, find myself humming this wonderful song. It seems there is tragedy all around and yet, we can and should find things to be grateful for. I know I am grateful for this congregation. When I was sick so many of you reached out to offer a word of prayer, a bit of encouragement, a meal, an emoji text message and even cupcakes. As I was sitting at home recuperating I kept thinking to myself, "boy I miss my church folks." I had texted back and forth with Jason and told him I felt bad giving him such short notice about having to preach on the 12th in my place, and he said to me, "that is why we are a team", which my response in turn was "what a team we are"!

Even in the midst of Christ dying on the cross there was and is something to be grateful for ~ our eternal salvation because of that selfless act of love.

So my friends at this time of year and always:

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
give thanks to the Holy One;*

**give thanks, because he's given**  
*Jesus Christ, his Son.*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
give thanks to the Holy One;*

**give thanks, because he's given**  
*Jesus Christ, his Son.*

**And now let the weak say 'I am strong',  
let the poor say 'I am rich',**

*because of what the Lord has done for us;*

**and now let the weak say 'I am strong',  
let the poor say 'I am rich',**

*because of what the Lord has done for us.*

**Give thanks...**

<https://www.music-ministry.org/hymns/give-thanks-with-a-grateful-heart/>

Pastor Linda





## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please submit prayer requests  
by calling the church office  
(440) 293-6290 or visit our website:  
[www.andoverfirstumc.org](http://www.andoverfirstumc.org) (Contact tab)

You can also email:  
[receptionist@andoverfirstumc.org](mailto:receptionist@andoverfirstumc.org)

Please provide first name, last name  
and reason for prayer.

If confidential, let us know & it will be  
given to our prayer team only on Tuesdays.

Please update us every 2 weeks.

**If you would like a “We Prayed for You” card sent,**  
please provide their address.

## November 2023 Prayer List

When we join the United Methodist Church, we take a vow that we will be, loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it by Our Prayers, Our Presence, Our Gifts, Our Service and by Our Witness. Scriptures call us to celebrate with those who celebrate and to grieve with those who grieve. We grow in connection with one another as we know the praises and concerns of the individual churches and respond in a manner of praise and/or prayer.

Please feel free to share your news that we may share especially the prayer concerns to the faith community.

### Prayers and Concerns:

Phillip Barkley	financial concerns
Doris Beckwith	prayers for sisters & sons
Julie Decker	<b>Jaret &amp; Sam's move to GA</b>
Decker Family	comfort in grieving
Marge Flack	healing following surgery
Will Greenawalt	health concerns
Limestoll Family	continued prayers
Silvano & Dora Madrusa	healing and transition
Cindy Maloney	prayers for loss of pets
Mary Mitchell	healing – broken elbow
Bob Ogram	health concerns
Mark Shetler	health concerns
Joan Smock	healing following surgery
Sandra Sturdevant	health concerns
Tina Teter	continued healing
Vinroe Family	unspoken prayers

### Grief of Families and Friends:

Daniel Decker Sr.  
Delbert Dreyer

### Service Men, Women and families:

Lucas Hitchcock  
Andrew Kirby  
Andre McCoy

**Michael “Ronnie” Taylor**

Jennifer White

### Those in Assisted Living/Nursing Facilities:

Jane Ericson - Andover, Rm 506  
Will Greenawalt - Andover, Rm 517  
Sis Ogram - Andover, Rm 412  
Joan Smock - Andover, Rm 300  
Norma Piper - The Legacy, Farmdale  
Roberta Hill - Ashtabula Co. Home - Kingsville



# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

**Oct '22 to Sept '23  
Salvation Army**



**Total Donations  
Received: \$8652.21**

**People Helped:**

- 243 Total Individuals
- 68 Families

**Aid Given:**

- Total \$8746
- Help Filling the tank \$4244
- Utility Help \$2960
- Back to school Bash \$1500
- Other (Rent, Rx) \$42



**Bell Ringing Opportunities**

**Fridays from 11:30am-5:30pm:**

**November 17**

**December 1, 8, 15, 22**

**&**

**Saturdays from 10am-5pm:**

**November 18,**

**December 2, 9, 16, 23**

**See and Like Our  
FaceBook Page!  
Link to sign up  
@The Salvation  
Army of Andover  
Service Unit  
or call the church**



### Ashtabula County Outreach Department

is in search of a Group Fitness Instructor to be located at Andover UMC. The YMCA will train & work with any other prior commitments. Please contact Bonnie Konczal @ 440-997-5321.



## AMPLIFY MEDIA

Sign up for Amplify - It's FREE!

Go to <https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/register> and use the access code: FRMYTJ to set up your account and get started.

### Jesus Girls

Small Group Study  
@ Andover UMC  
Thursdays @ 10:15am  
All are welcome!

JESUS  
GIRLS

## Community Center

Andover Community Center  
10am-2pm Tues/Wed/Thurs.  
More details,  
call Debbie 440-689-0026



Giving Online at  
[www.andoverfirstumc.org](http://www.andoverfirstumc.org)

For one time or recurring gifts, visit  
[www.andoverfirstumc.org/give](http://www.andoverfirstumc.org/give)  
on your phone or tablet.



YMCA Silver Sneakers Classes  
@ Andover UMC

Yoga Stretch:  
Mon.- 10am & Wed. - 10am  
Silver Sneakers Classic:  
Tues. & Thurs. - 10am

Download the  
NEW Vanco Mobile App  
which has replaced the  
GivePlus+ App. Your  
Log-in & recurring gifts  
transfer over. Search for  
Andover UMC in the app.



Call the church office if you need assistance.

Would you like to serve in our  
Worship & Discipleship Ministry  
through the Nursery or  
**Kid's Church?**

Or maybe you'd like to help out with  
one of our Food Ministries?  
(Food Bank or Pantry)  
Inquire today - call the office.  
440-293-6290 or talk to the Pastors.



## Rentals

Andover UMC's Fellowship Hall, Kitchen and Classrooms are available to rent for meetings, birthdays, weddings, showers, reunions, office space & many other events that you might be planning. To inquire, call the church office at: 440-293-6290.



**Kid's Church** - Sundays during 9:30 worship.  
UNIT 3: BLESSING

The Birthright - Genesis 25:29-34

The Blessing - Genesis 27:1-45

**Jacob's Ladder** - Genesis 28:10-22

A Peaceable Kingdom - Isaiah 11:6-9



United Methodist  
Men & Friends  
Breakfast

Sat., Dec. 9th  
@ 8:30am  
All are welcome  
to attend!

Andover UMC is no longer collecting items such as used eyeglasses, ink cartridges, etc. due to lack of a place to take them to.

## Ways to Give @ Andover UMC



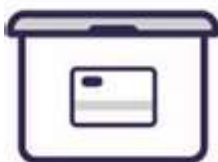
### In Person

**Whether it's cash or check, we appreciate your kindness.** Please place your donations in an offering envelope and drop them in the offering plate, mail them or drop them off at the church.



### QR CODE

Scan the QR code to visit our online giving page.



### Online

Visit [www.andoverfirstumc.org](http://www.andoverfirstumc.org) and click the eGiving image on our Welcome page or Give page to set up a one-time or recurring donation, or to make a payment.



### Mobile App

Download the Vanco Mobile app from your app store to set up a one-time or recurring donation. Search Andover and then choose UMC. Available on [Apple](#) and [Android](#) devices.



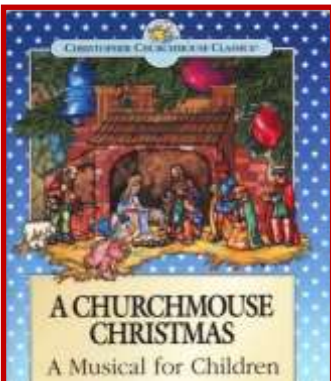
## East Ohio Conference News

For recent news & articles from the East Ohio Conference, visit the website:

<https://www.eocumc.com>



We welcomed Rick Oakes  
on Sunday, October 22nd  
as our Guest Speaker  
for worship!  
The kids certainly welcomed him, too  
& had a great time.



**Kid's Christmas Program,**  
*A CHURCHMOUSE CHRISTMAS*  
**will be meeting during Kid's Church**  
and after worship on Sunday mornings.  
*Performance will take place on Sun., Dec. 10th*  
*during 9:30 worship.*

Sent with a prayer to:

Andover United Methodist Church  
181 South Main St  
P.O. Box 207  
Andover, OH 44003

Free Dinner Friday  
November 24th @ 5:30pm



Andover UMC  
Fellowship Hall  
Invite a friend!

Outdoor Food Pantry  
November 10th, 9am-Noon  
@ Andover UMC

Open to all of those in need  
in the PV School District

Fighting  
hunger.  
Delivering  
hope.



Andover Community Center  
Open Tues. - Thurs. 10a-2p,  
Deb Somerville: 440-689-0026



Outdoor Cleveland Foodbank  
November 17th, 10am-Noon  
@ Andover UMC

Open to all of those in need  
in Ashtabula County

