



Messenger

September 2023

A PUBLICATION OF THE WEST JEFFERSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WEST JEFFERSON, OHIO



God Hunger

by Pastor Ruth

Welcome to the brink of fall! It doesn't seem possible that school is about to or already has begun; our college kids have left to begin their new journeys or are continuing on that road. We look back on our vacations that seem so long ago now and we prepare for the coming busyness of fall. Are you ready?

It's so easy to get distracted by the demands on our everyday lives—the schedules, the deadlines, the unforeseen circumstances that sap our time and energy. In the midst of our packed schedules, we can find ourselves chasing after that which is most pressing rather than that which is most necessary. We tend to want to push some things to the back and out of the way, especially our relationship with God. That's probably the last thing we should do.

We need to be intentional about pursuing God and seeking God's voice in our lives. We need to stir up a hunger for God. And as we cultivate a hunger in our own lives, those around us will naturally become more spiritually hungry too.

Spiritual hunger points to a sense of discontentment, emptiness, and longing. The phrase "hungering for God" points to a solution—the very hunger and desires are meant to be satisfied in God. But how do we discover God in our everyday as the source of satisfaction and joy in this life? How do we find the time to do that?

First, we need to pray for the hunger. Asking, "Lord, please make me hungrier for you," is a prayer God doesn't say no to! Spending time in the Scripture and encountering those "aha" moments also stirs up the hunger to know God and seek God in greater depth.

But one of the biggest things we can do to stir our spiritual hunger is to simply talk about what God is doing in our lives and what we want God to do. If someone starts talking about Texas barbeque, the kind with the pulled pork that melts in your mouth, and a big cold tangy glass of lemonade, followed up by a scoop of homemade ice cream, I start to get hungry—even if I've just eaten! If talking about food makes us physically hungry, how much more does talking about God make us spiritually hungry? We often don't become God-hungry until we're starving to death!

You have an opportunity each week to take time to feed that God-hunger by meeting with other believers to talk about God and how Jesus has worked and is working in your life. You can worship weekly, sing or play bells in a choir to praise God, you can join a Sunday School class, Bible Study, Disciple, choir, or something else available here.

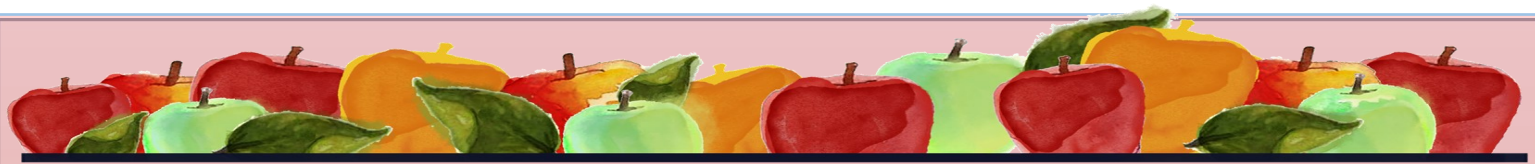
Another great way to feed your God-hunger is to attend an **Emmaus Weekend!** Emmaus is a wonderful weekend where you get steeped in God's love, joy, and song! I am the Spiritual Director for the Greater Columbus Emmaus Community and would love to talk to you about attending a weekend. The next one is a Woman's Walk October 5-8th. I will be serving on this Walk as will Susie Weller. Another Co-Ed Walk is planned in the Spring as well. Check out Emmaus at the UpperRoom.org or GCEmmaus.org

Come on back to church, Sunday School, and other opportunities that will begin on Sept. 10th! Don't spiritually starve to death! Join us!

See you in church!

Pastor Ruth





CHURCH NEWS

The Emmaus women's walk will be from Thursday, **October 5th** to **Sunday October 8th**. Sign up for a weekend of meaningful stories and scripture.

Contact **Pastor Ruth** or visit the Emmaus website for details:

Upperroom.org
GCEmmaus.org



Congratulations goes out to **Laura Francis** on a new **granddaughter: Gentry Jolene Francis**.

Congratulations also to the **Ellingers** on the birth of their **great-granddaughter**.

Congrats to **Susie & Nick Weller's** son and daughter in law **Patrick & Ashley Jarvis** on the birth of their **daughter: Charlotte Oliva Jarvis**

Welcome to the world! ❤️



the **Community Breakfast** is hosted by the **UM Men** and will take place every **third Saturday of the month, 8-10am**.



Sufficient Grace starts up again in September. Meetings are every **Monday at 1pm**.

*UM Women
9/16, Join us at 9am!*



Leadership meets every **4th Monday of the month at 6:30pm** to discuss current topics and upcoming church issues.



Sunday School will start back up on **September 10th** and is open to ages 3 and up during the regular church service time. If you have any questions or would like to find out how you can help out please see **Wendy Parks!**

FINANCIAL NEWS ; Duane Stokes, Treasurer

General Fund 2023

	July	YTD
GF Income	16,316.00	94,117.92
GF Expenses	14,836.19	101,617.83
	1,479.81	-7,499.91

On the back table in the sanctuary are **First Fruit** forms for people who want to set up an automatic withdrawal from their bank to the credit union we use. A form can also be accessed on the website, wjumc.org under "Giving." Please give a **COPY** to the church and the **ORIGINAL** to your **bank**.

Thank You!



The **Good Samaritan Food pantry** is looking for some more able volunteers who are available to work on **Wednesday from 12:30 to 3:00pm**.

Tasks would be to supervise clients picking up food items and getting food supplies ready for distribution.

You should be able to lift and move boxes.

Please see **Sharon Garver** if you're interested or call/email the church office.



Bishop Palmer "Grace upon Grace" Fall Tour

Tuesday, September 26 @ 6pm

Bishop Gregory Palmer will be on tour this fall with a series called "Grace Upon Grace." These district gatherings will have two key components: Teaching on the Means of Grace and Organizing the work of the new districts. "Our time together will include Reaffirmation of Our Baptismal Vows and Celebration of Holy Communion. The gatherings will be at **6pm** and all are welcome."

Join **Bishop Palmer** on **Tuesday, September 26** in **Springfield on High Street**. This series will likely be **Bishop Palmer's** last of his district visitations, so consider attending and enjoying an evening of inspired words and worship!

UPCOMING
EVENTS



SEPTEMBER
2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2 <i>Food Pantry 10-11a</i>
3 <i>Worship 10a</i>	4 <i>Sufficient Grace 1p</i> <i>Boy Scouts 121 6:30-9:30p</i>	5 <i>Food Pantry Set-up 7:30a</i> <i>Shawls sisters 9a</i>	6 <i>Food Pantry 2-3p</i> <i>Choir 7p</i>	7	8	9 <i>Food Pantry 10-11a</i>
10 <i>Worship 10a</i> <i>God's Kids</i>	11 <i>Sufficient Grace 1p</i> <i>Boy Scouts 121 6:30-9:30p</i>	12 <i>Food Pantry Set-up 7:30a</i> <i>Shawls sisters 9a</i>	13 <i>Food Pantry 2-3p</i> <i>Choir 7p</i>	14	15	16 <i>Food Pantry 10-11a</i> <i>Community Breakfast 8-10a</i> <i>UM Women 9a</i>
17 <i>Worship 10a</i> <i>God's Kids</i>	18 <i>Sufficient Grace 1p</i> <i>Boy Scouts 121 6:30-9:30p</i>	19 <i>Food Pantry Set-up 7:30a</i> <i>Shawls sisters 9a</i>	20 <i>Food Pantry 2-3p</i> <i>Choir 7p</i>	21 <i>Girls Scouts Service Unit 6-8p</i>	22	23 <i>Food Pantry 10-11a</i>
24 <i>Worship 10a</i> <i>God's Kids</i>	25 <i>Sufficient Grace 1p</i> <i>Leadership Mtg 6:30p</i> <i>Boy Scouts 121 6:30-9:30p</i>	26 <i>Food Pantry Set-up 7:30a</i> <i>Shawls sisters 9a</i> <i>Grace Upon Grace Event, 6p in Springfield</i>	27 <i>Food Pantry 2-3p</i> <i>Choir 7p</i>	28	29	30 <i>Food Pantry 10-11a</i>

West Jefferson
 Birthdays &
 Anniversaries

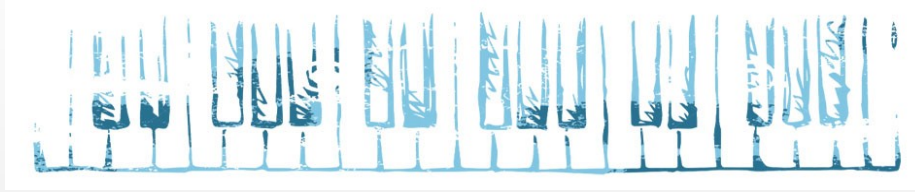


SEPTEMBER
 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <i>Bill & Karren Wells (A)</i> <i>Lillie Cavinee</i>			6 <i>Larry Butler</i>	7 <i>Pamela Parks</i>	8	9 <i>Aaron Parks</i> <i>Kara Phillips</i>
10	11 <i>Larry & Barb Butler (A)</i>	12	13	14	15	16 <i>Terry Beck</i>
17 <i>Trisha Foulk</i>	18 <i>Donna Hockenbery</i>	19	20 <i>Wendy Peters</i>	21	22 <i>Spencer Postle</i> <i>Lucas Winters</i>	23 <i>Margie Jester</i>
24	25	26	27	28 <i>David Peters</i>	29 <i>Eugene Ellinger</i> <i>Abbie Dee Maggied</i> <i>Brian & Jillian Postle (A)</i>	30 <i>David Arganbright</i>

MUSIC NOTES



The **Alleluia Ringers** meet after worship on **Sundays at 11:15am**. Rehearsals and performances are TBA.

Any teens interested in bell choir? See Katie Hillenbrand or call/email the church office.



Beginning September 6, **Chancel Choir** will be starting back up. Adults **(and Young Adults!)** are welcome to join.

Rehearsals are **Wednesdays @ 7pm** in the church sanctuary. See Jeanne Godden if you or someone you know is interested!



God's Kids starts back up on Sept 10. **Attending rehearsal is important!** Children's choir practice is immediately following the church service in the chapel. The nursery will be open for children younger than 3.



Praise Team: Have any contemporary favorites or new requests? Let us know! We want to worship God with what we all like to sing. Feel free to approach any of our musicians or music leaders.



Christmas Cantata: New recruits are always welcome to join us in the choir for the Christmas Cantata. Rehearsals begin around late November during Wednesday practice and after church worship. Every year is a new adventure to the stable!



Music Opps: If there are any young up-and-coming musicians with something musical to share, feel free to approach any of our music leaders. Allowances can be made! We'd love to hear and share in your musical offering.





West Jefferson OX ROAST Labor Day Weekend

Sat. 9/2 to Mon. 9/4

OX ROAST SANDWICH

MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 4
12:00 - 6:30 P.M.



\$9.00

Cash
Check
VENMO
CARDS

**NEW
THIS
YEAR**

Tickets can be purchased at the Ox Box starting at 11:30 a.m.
Drive-Thru: 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Returned checks will have a \$35.00 return fee.
NOTE: Card payments will only be accepted for sandwich sales.

@WESTJEFFOXROAST | WESTJEFFOXROAST.ORG

NEW WEST JEFFERSON OX ROAST PRESENTS :

OX IDOL

CASH PRIZES * VIEWER * VOTING * SEP 3 2023

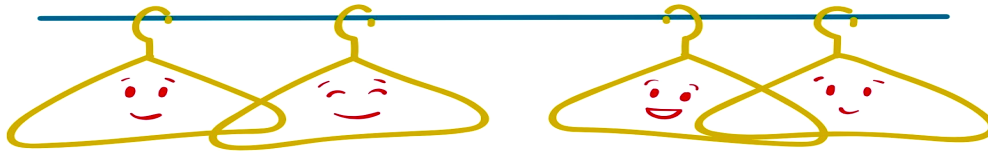
ALL DAY EVENT • 4 CATEGORIES • 3 ROUNDS

PARTICIPANTS MUST BE READY FOR A MAXIMUM OF THREE PERFORMANCE ROUNDS. EACH INDIVIDUAL WILL SUBMIT THREE NON-EXPLICIT SONGS FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE OX ROAST ENTERTAINMENT STAFF. TO ENSURE A DIVERSE RANGE OF PERFORMANCES, DUPLICATE SONGS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED. THERE WILL BE A MAXIMUM OF 15 CONTESTANTS PER CATEGORY IN THIS SINGING ONLY COMPETITION. IF THERE ARE FEWER THAN 10 PARTICIPANTS, WEST JEFFERSON OX ROAST ENTERTAINMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO COMBINE CATEGORIES/AGE GROUPS AS NEEDED.

QUESTIONS: WJOXROAST.ENTERTAINMENT@GMAIL.COM



HELP STOCK THE NORWOOD ELEMENTARY CARE CLOSET!

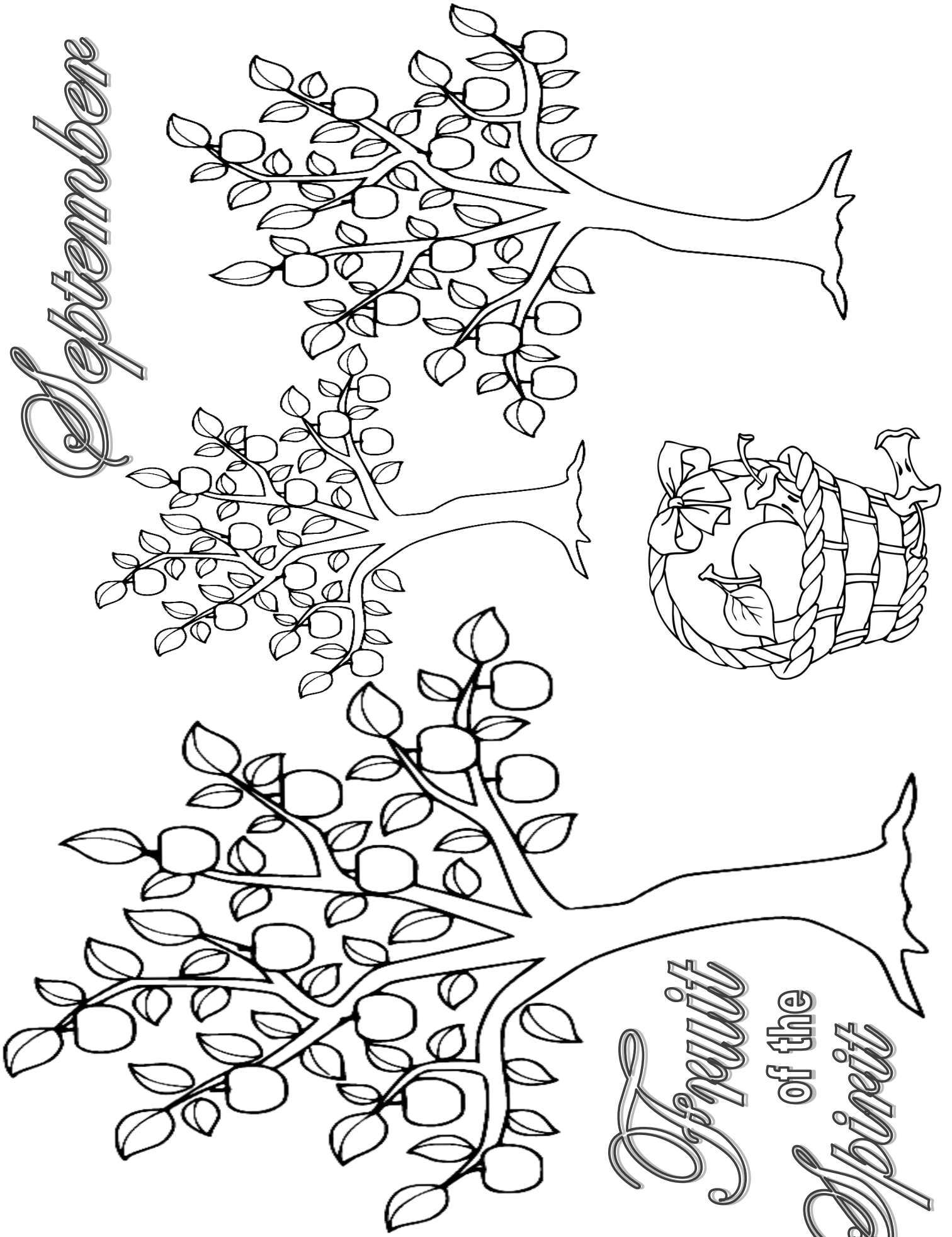


Help us stock the Norwood Care Closet!

We are in need of the following items in gently used, good, or new condition:

- all sizes girls, solid black or gray leggings and/or sweat pants and elastic waist shorts all sizes
- small and medium boys gray and black sweatpants and elastic waist shorts all sizes
- small and large girls shirts
- boys and girls underwear all sizes (new only please)
- boys and girls socks all sizes (new only please)
- girls shoes size 8,12,13,1,2,5
- boys shoes size 8,12,13,1,2,3,5

September



Fruit
of the
Spirit



West Jefferson United Methodist Church

36 South Center Street

West Jefferson OH 43162

614-879-8130

Email: wjumc@att.net

Rev. Ruth Pribe, Pastor

Email: preacherlady@aol.com

Worship 10AM

Sunday School 10AM

YouTube, Facebook, or by CD (audio only)



September

2023

