

The MUD Church

Emanuel United Church of Christ

13989 Township Rd. 127

P.O. Box 121

Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

419-294-4144

www.themudchurch.com



OHIO
VETERANS
HOMES

Serving Christ by Serving Our Heroes

Get ready to fire up your red-white-and-blue spirit! The Women's Guild is rallying our church family and community for a high-energy mission of gratitude as we support the veterans at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky. On **July 5**, bring your donations to worship, and let's flood our veterans with love, honor, and appreciation for their service. Afterward, stick around for a BBQ lunch hosted by the Guild - because nothing says "thank you" like good food, good fellowship, and a church full of patriotic joy.

Suggested Donation List Ohio Veterans Homes

Items in bold print are most needed.

See Page 2



Corner of Corn and Beans

Some of the readers of our Neighborhood Newsletter might remember when we first started publishing it. We were a much smaller congregation at the time, but we have grown considerably over the years. God smiled favorably on our country church we affectionately say is located "At the Corner of Corn and Beans." The growth of our congregation would not have been possible without the many gifts of those who attend the Mud Church.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 reminds us that the Christian life was never meant to be lived in isolation. The Apostle Paul writes, "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them... Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good." In just a few short verses, Paul offers a powerful vision of the church: many people, many abilities, but one purpose under God.

It is easy to compare ourselves to others. Some people seem gifted in leadership, others in teaching, encouragement, hospitality, music, service, or prayer. Too often we fall into the trap of believing that only the visible gifts matter. Yet Paul makes it clear that every gift comes from the same Holy Spirit and every gift has value in the life of the church.

God does not call everyone to do the same thing. Instead, He equips each believer uniquely. One person may comfort those who are grieving. Another may quietly serve behind the scenes. Someone else may have the courage to speak truth in difficult moments. All these gifts matter because they build up the body of Christ.

What a beautiful reminder this is for our congregations today. The church is strongest not when one person does everything, but when

everyone offers what God has given them. Sunday school teachers, kitchen volunteers, prayer warriors, greeters, and faithful servants who work without recognition all share in God's ministry. No act of service offered in love is insignificant.

Paul also reminds us that spiritual gifts are not given for personal glory. They are given "for the common good." In other words, our gifts are not trophies to display but tools to serve others. When we use our abilities to encourage, strengthen, and care for one another, the church reflects the heart of Christ to the world.

This passage challenges us to ask an important question: Am I using the gifts God has given me? Sometimes fear, doubt, or busyness keep us from stepping forward in service. We may think we are too old, too young, too inexperienced, or not talented enough. But God does not ask us to be someone else. He simply calls us to be faithful with what He has entrusted to us.

It also calls us to appreciate the gifts in others. A healthy church celebrates diversity in ministry rather than competition. We are not rivals in God's kingdom; we are partners in His mission.

As we reflect on these verses, may we remember that the Holy Spirit is still at work among God's people today. He is still calling, equipping, and empowering ordinary people for extraordinary purposes. May we open our hearts to discover our gifts, use them faithfully, and encourage others to do the same.

Together, through many different gifts and one unifying Spirit, the church becomes a living witness to the grace and love of God.

- Pastor Jay

Schedule of Activities/ Mission Projects

Food Pantry Shopping – Sunday, June 14

– We'll leave the church after worship and disperse to local grocery stores to shop to buy food for local food pantries. We'll then meet for lunch, after which we will deliver the food pantry items.

Women's Guild Veterans Collection and Independence Day Celebration –

Sunday, July 5 – Emanuel's Women's Guild is collecting items to be donated to the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky. See the list of needed items to the right. Bring items to worship on July 5, and stay for a BBQ lunch hosted by the Guild.

National Night Out – Tuesday, August 4 from 6pm to 8pm

– Our annual block party on the church grounds featuring free hotdogs, snacks and drinks, as well as games and entertainment, and displays by first responders.

Blessing of the Backpacks – Sunday,

August 16 – In preparation for the new school year, kids can bring their backpacks to worship and we'll pray for God's blessing over them, as well as the students.

Hymn Sing – Sunday, August 23 at 3pm –

Join us for our annual musical get-together as we sing our favorite hymns, hear special music, and then eat ice cream!

Serving Christ by Serving Our Heroes Emanuel's Women's Guild

*(Items in **Bold** are most needed)*

New Clothing - men's and women's

Shirts: L-5xl

- * sweatshirts: L-5XL
- * jackets/hoodies
- * undershirts
- * handkerchiefs
- * robes
- * belts - 36 & larger
- * sweat pants: L-5XL
- * underwear
- * slipper socks – medical grade gloves
- * pajama pants
- * slippers – shoe style suspenders

Personal Hygiene - full size items only

- * combs/brushes
- * denture brushes
- * **denture cleaner**
- * hand soap
- * **tissues**
- * **body wash** (sensitive)
- * **deodorant**
- * soap
- * fingernail clippers
- * **electric razors**
- * **mouthwash (alcohol free)**
- * travel toothbrush holders
- * **polydent purple**
- * **disposable razors - at least 3-blades**
- * lotion
- * **after shave**
- * **body spray**
- * **shampoo/conditioner**
- * Q-Tip toenail clippers
- * band-aids
- * **hair trimmers**

Other Items:

- * Board games
- * cheese puffs/pie
- * hair dryers
- * Velcro wallets
- * wheelchair bags
- * back scratchers
- * batteries - all sizes

Items NOT accepted: used clothing, hand sanitizer, blankets, socks, or books

Special request: comforter sets TWIN XL for men

Together, let's make this a day that reminds our veterans they are seen, valued, and deeply appreciated. Every donation - large or small - helps bring comfort and dignity to those who once stood in service for us all. Thank you for giving so generously and for sharing Christ's love in such a tangible way.

2026 Scholarship Recipients Announced Emanuel's scholarship program has been expanded!

The Mud Church has expanded its scholarship program from a maximum of five, to a maximum of 10, \$1,000 scholarships.

Emanuel's scholarships are offered to graduates who meet the requirements, and are from schools with territory within Wyandot County. Requirements include active participation in a Christian church and a recommendation from the applicant's pastor, among other things. This year's recipients are:

- † Isabella Novak, Wynford, attending The Ohio State University
- † Kolbie Allgyre, Wynford, attending Marion Technical College
- † Evan Wolfe, Wynford, attending Hocking Technical College
- † Aleena Bendele, Upper Sandusky, attending Marion Technical College
- † Samantha Dornbirer, Wynford, attending Mt. Vernon Nazarene College
- † Malia Roth, Wynford, attending Heidelberg University
- † Madison Hall, Carey, attending Western Michigan University
- † Autumn Bouillon, Carey, attending The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute
- † Mackenzie Jones, Wynford, attending Mt. Vernon Nazarene College
- † Brock Saam, Wynford, attending The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute

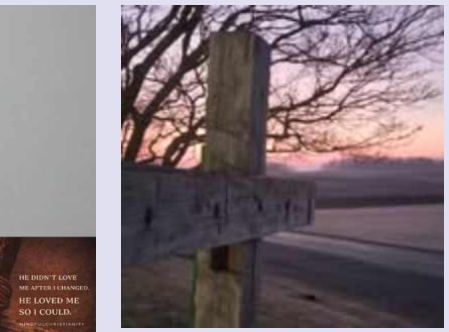
Students graduating in 2027 who are interested in applying for this scholarship should inquire about it with their high school guidance counselor.





SERMON SNIPPET

The tomb was empty before anyone saw it. Jesus was alive before anyone believed it. Like Thomas, we all have questions. Just don't let your questions determine your faith. If you wait until your life is all hunky-dory, you're gonna miss everything he's already done! - Pastor Jay



Take a look at our Palm Sunday and Easter worship, as well as our activities outside of worship, like Game Day after the service.



Nevada Community VBS - Registration Now Open!



Get ready for an unforgettable week of faith, fun, and friendship at Nevada Community Vacation Bible School, happening June 15-19 from 6:00 to 8:15 p.m. Each evening begins with a free meal for all children at 6:00 p.m., so families can arrive, settle in, and start the night with full bellies and happy hearts.

This year, we're making registration easier than ever. Families can scan the QR code on our flyers to sign up quickly and securely. Online registration helps us prepare meals, supplies, and group assignments so your child has the best experience possible.

You can also register anytime by visiting our VBS website: www.myvbs.org/nevadacommunityvbs

We can't wait to welcome your children for a week filled with songs, stories, crafts, games, and the joy of learning about God's love. Invite friends, neighbors, and anyone who could use a week of encouragement and community.



Join us for an amazing VBS adventure — June 15-19!

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Issue 2, June 2026

Open Door Launches 8th Annual Stars & Stripes Giving Campaign



Open Door Resource Center, dedicated to serving the community of Upper Sandusky, is excited to announce the launch of its **8th Annual Stars and Stripes Giving Campaign** beginning Monday, June 1. This popular fundraising event offers individuals, businesses, and organizations a unique opportunity to support Open Door's vital services while displaying their patriotism. All donations are tax-deductible.

- **Stars for \$100:** For a \$100 donation, you can place a star on the flag. Star donors will receive a special thank you message on Open Door's Facebook page, acknowledging their generosity.
- **White Stripes for \$500:** Six white stripes are available for a \$500 donation each. These donors will also receive a thank you message on Facebook and have their name prominently printed on the white stripe they sponsored.
- **Red Stripes for \$1000:** Seven red stripes are available for a \$1000 donation each. Donors contributing at this level will receive a thank you message on Facebook and have their name printed on the red stripes of the flag.

To purchase a star or stripe and contribute to the 8th Annual Stars and Stripes Giving Campaign, please visit www.opendoorohio.org. You can also call Open Door at 419-209-6736 or stop by their location at **212 W. Wyandot St. in Upper Sandusky** on **Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9 AM and 4 PM** to drop off donations. Donations can also be mailed to **P.O. Box 245, Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351**.

2026 Wyandot Mission Church Summer Speakers

Services Start at 8:00 a.m.

| | |
|-----------|--------------------|
| June 7 | Chief Billy Friend |
| June 14 | Ken Gray |
| June 21 | Betsy Bowen |
| June 28 | Jim Stauffer |
| July 5 | Jay Scott |
| July 12 | TBA |
| July 19 | TBA |
| July 26 | TBA |
| August 2 | Bill Williamson |
| August 9 | Scott Moore |
| August 16 | Steve Sturgeon |
| August 23 | Steve Anstine |
| August 30 | TBA |

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are **WELCOME** here.

To support our ministry go to www.themudchurch.com and click on gifts.

Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Service - 10 a.m.



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