

“He will also lift up a standard to the distant nation, and will whistle for it from the ends of the earth; And behold, it will come with speed swiftly.”

—Isaiah 5 : 26 (NASB)

Our nation’s flag has gone through many transformations over the years. What started out as the work of one Betsy Ross of Philadelphia, replete with red and white stripes and a blue field of thirteen stars, has evolved along with our country. As states have been added to the nation, so have stars on the blue field. In the early days, even stripes were added. But that practice was short-lived. Congress eventually decided that thirteen alternating red and white stripes were enough, and they could serve a dual symbolism. Their number would represent the original number of united colonies, and their colors would call to mind the blood that was shed in defense of this nation, as well as the purity of devotion of all who defended the banner.



There have been no changes in the makeup of our flag for more than sixty years. Yet it continues to stand out among the nations of the world. When people from other countries see “Old Glory,” they know that it represents freedom, liberty, and peace. I am always moved by the sight of our nation’s banner in settings like the Olympic Games or when dignitaries visit other countries. Having our flag fly in places all around the world is a testimony that we, the American people, are there in spirit. What a great testimony to the world.

In Isaiah’s prophecy, in the fifth chapter, the Prophet makes an announcement to the foreign lands, most notably the nation of Assyria. He tells them that God is going to raise a standard on a high, wind-swept mountain top. It will be there for everyone to see. In so doing, God was announcing that judgment was coming upon all those who had risen up against His people. In those days, a call to arms and preparation for war was usually communicated by the blowing of a Shophar. But sometimes, those who needed to hear the call were too far away. So, a large flag was set up on a high place. That way, no one would miss the call.



I’m sure many of you have seen a photograph, or possibly a video, of the raising of the United States flag on Mt. Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima during World War II. That moment was captured on news reel, and has become a lasting icon. It has been duplicated in statues, paintings, and other works of patriotic art. For members of the Marine Corps, it holds special meaning, as those who were involved were U. S. Marines. But it was much like that word Isaiah spoke. It was a message to all who saw it. It said that “We are here, and we’re not going away!” God was telling the invading armies that they were entering “at their own risk.” God’s people would stand against the invasion and the threats of their enemies. And best of all, they had the strength of the Lord on their side. God promised His people that no weapon formed against them would prosper. The battle belonged to the Lord.



We live in an ever-increasingly violent world. We never know where the next threat will come from. But, we can rest assured that as long as the Flag of the United States still flies, we will be present to defend freedom from those threats. June 14th is Flag Day. I would encourage everyone to display our nation’s banner. May it remind us of what our freedoms have cost us, and challenge us to stand up to defend it. May God bless the United States of America.



Pastor Pete





Church Leadership Meeting

Monday
June 5, 2023
at 6:30 PM
in the Fellowship Room

Please plan to attend this monthly meeting if you are part of the Leadership Team.



Come Be a Servant

and

Serve Ice Cream!

**Monday, June 12 @
7:30 PM
(van leaving at 6:45 PM)**

We need 12-18 volunteers including men, to help us serve the families participating in the **Joni and Friends Family Retreat** being held at Shawnee State Park Lodge. There will be a sign up sheet on the back table.

**For more information contact
Trish Shaffer at 740-858-2621**



On Sunday, May 21st, Pastor Pete Shaffer and Anna Davis introduced our 2023 graduates. Each graduate was presented a certificate and a Bible.

Pictured Left to Right: Pastor Pete, Emily Hammond (Pharmacy Technician), Charlie Jo Howard (Nursing), Mitchell Irwin (Civil Engineering), Gabby Sparks (Park Ranger), Vincent Lonardo (Education), and Abigail Hazelbaker (Music and Dance), and Anna Davis. Not pictured were Brody Scott (Phlebotomy) and Allie Roberts (Home Healthcare).

Nauvoo UMC Scholarship recipients were Emily Hammond, Charlie Jo Howard, Mitchell Irwin and Gabby Sparks. Abigail Hazelbaker was the recipient of the Mary Smalley Music Scholarship.



- 1 — Mike Warner
- 8 — Bev Mignerey
- 8 — Kevin Kisor
- 9 — Frances Williamson
- 9 — Diane Reese
- 10 — Dot Hoop
- 12 — Helen Malone
- 14 — Shelby Shaffer
- 16 — Isaac Horner
- 16 — Hunter Terry
- 17 — Misti Cunningham
- 18 — Tracy Scott
- 21 — Lori Payne
- 22 — Steven Irwin
- 23 — Kennedy Lyon
- 24 — Brentley Hopkins
- 25 — Charlie Jo Howard
- 26 — Heather Howard
- 26 — Pete Shaffer

- June 4 — Joe & Kristen Bernard
- June 5 — Brian & Heather Howard
- June 8 — Eric & Allison Hurst
- June 25 — Scott & Tracy Bauer
- June 26 — Paul & Kima Lauder
- June 28 — Larry & Linny Livingston



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HISTORIC VOTES TAKEN AT NAUVOO CHURCH

On Sunday, April 30, 2023, Rev. Calvin Alston, Jr., District Superintendent of the Shawnee Valley District of the West Ohio Conference of the UMC, conducted a Church Conference at Nauvo UMC at 2:00pm. The Conference was called so that the members of the congregation could vote on whether to the Church should disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. The Church’s Leadership Team had requested this official Church Conference based on Paragraph 2553 of the UMC Book of Discipline. Rev. Alston was assisted by the District Administrative Assistant Diana Hall. After convening the Conference, Rev. Alston fielded a couple of questions from the 47 members who were present. The vote was taken and a unanimous decision was reached that we should disaffiliate. Rev. Alston informed the members that this decision would be forwarded to the West Ohio Annual Conference for ratification. That vote will be taken on Thursday, June 1, 2023, during the W.O.A.C. meeting in Dayton, Ohio. Once ratified, Nauvo will pay the exit fees required, and the disaffiliation will become official on July 1st, 2023.

On Sunday, May 7, 2023, during the morning worship service, the Congregation held a vote regarding the future course of Nauvo Church. The main objective of the vote was to decide if we should remain an autonomous, independent congregation, or if we should petition to join another denomination. Ballots were distributed to all in attendance who wanted to vote. The final tally was as follows:

INDEPENDENT CONGREGATION	8 (14%)
GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH	46 (80.7%)
CHR. OF CHRIST IN CHRISTIAN UNION	2 (3.5%)
FREE METHODIST CHURCH	1 (1.7%)

A Motion was then made by Karen Ciraso that Nauvo Methodist Church should petition to join the Global Methodist Church. The vote regarding the motion was 56-1 in favor. Karen will complete the petition and fill out all of the paperwork. Once the GMC accepts our petition, we will then be known as “Nauvo Methodist Church – a Global Methodist Con



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 12 & 13
6:00 to 8:00 PM

Celebration
Sunday, July 16
11:00 AM

Volunteers needed!!!
Sign-up Sheet on the information table.

For more information,
contact Allison Hurst.

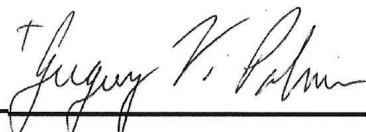
Thank you!



The West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church thanks

Nauvoo UMC

In recognition and appreciation for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world through 100% Conference, District and General Church apportionments for 2022. Thank you for supporting and honoring the connectional nature of our church at all levels.


Bishop Gregory V. Palmer


Bill Brownson, CFO & Director of Administration

Leadership Team Minutes for—Monday, May 8, 2023

Attendance (12): Pastor Pete Shaffer, Paul Conley, Roger Cunningham, Linda Horner, Karen Ciraso, Rhonda Hammond, Wilma Gore, Donnie Richards, Jennie Entler, Jamie Prater, Denise Book, and Butch Cook.

TREASURER REPORT:

Beginning Balance: \$13,518.55
Offerings: 19,826.34
Expenses: (14,852.01)
Ending Balance: \$18,192.88

Offerings are under \$144.76 per week.
Utilities are still fairly high—mainly due to the weather.

FINANCE REPORT: Karen Ciraso

Disaffiliation Loan—we need to start advertising that donations can be made toward the loan now and we will put it on it as soon as we can start payments. We have already received \$800.

Pete suggested maybe taking pledges and having a celebration on July 2nd and naming it Financial Independence Day.

Peoples Bank has everything they need for the loan, it just has to go before their board for approval and that should happen within the next 2 weeks.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Pete Shaffer

Pastor's Schedule

TUE	5/9	11:00 AM	Van alignment
MON	5/15	7:30 PM	OVFA at Jefferson FD
SUN	5/14		Mother's Day—flowers have been ordered
SUN	5/21		Graduation Sunday—Bibles have been ordered
SAT	5/27		Portsmouth Raceway Park opens
SUN	5/28		Memorial Sunday
SUN	6/4		Gideon Speaker
MON	6/5		Leadership Meeting
MON	6/12		Joni & Friends at Lodge

Can we move the Leadership meeting to June 5th as Joni & Friends will be on June 12th ? Yes

Gideon Speaker will be here on June 4th and we will still have Communion.

Pete taking the van to get a front end alignment tomorrow. Racetrack opens on Saturday, May 27th. Pete and Paul will be there then and throughout the summer.

TRUSTEE REPORT: Roger Cunningham

Waiting for weather to get better for Gutterman to replace parsonage roof and wrap windows. It should be soon.

Elevator—Pete was here when the inspector showed up and was able to talk to him. After hearing what he said, Roger called Mellinger's in Columbus. They said they could obtain the 1 board that is bad, however, there is a clip on the door that has to be replaced and they cannot find it anywhere and we will not pass inspection without that piece.

Mellinger's does not recommend replacing the board as they cannot guarantee how long it will last because everything else on the elevator is way out of date.

Upgrading the elevator to present day regulations will cost \$100,000+. We don't feel that we can do the upgrade—due to cost and elevator location.

Our elevator shaft will not work as it does not meet any of the new regulations for elevators. We have to follow regulations for commercial business. We cannot use anything that would be available to residences.

Paul suggested just a platform lift to the basement only, as we have the ramp into the upstairs. Going to check into it. The problem is that we have to meet all the regulations for anything that we do.

Stairway chairlifts? Don't know if they would pass codes. Karen looked it up while discussing and it won't work in our building. All stairway lifts have to be used unassisted. Cannot help them on or meet them at the bottom with walkers or wheelchairs, etc.

Baptismal area? Maybe put a platform lift there? Electric is already there and that would be the area that would cause the least headache. Roger going to do some investigating.

We can get people into the Fellowship Room, by putting a ramp over the baptismal steps and getting them up and down with a wheelchair.

Ramps requiring 1 foot of space for every 1" you want to drop the ramp.

AUDIO/VISUAL REPORT: Donnie Richards

Donnie got an estimate for new screens and to get us digital from the same people that did our sound system upgrade and it was \$8,500. We will talk about this again after the disaffiliation is done.

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A BIG THANK YOU !

Thank you to the 19 people that came to help sort garden seeds for the Scioto County portion of Jackson Area Ministries Garden Project!

We were set up assembly line style with each person adding a different kind of seed pack.

Seeds included: green beans, corn, greens, squash, melons, peas, radish, carrots, flowers, beets, etc.

We have a few left over if anyone wants some!



Pictured starting Upper left going counter-clockwise:

- 1) Two volunteers from Potter's House Ministries
 - 2) Pam & Donnie Richards with Gary Sparks
 - 3) Wilma Gore and Roger Cunningham
 - 4) Gaylene St Ledger-Cox from Cornerstone UMC
 - 5) Diann Cook, Mike Payne, Loreen Maple
 - 6) Mary Lou Filmore and John Parker
 - 7) Becky Sparks
 - 8) Danny Artis
 - 9) April Skaggs
 - 10) Nancy Casey
 - 11) Jamie Prater counting and boxing
 - 12) A view from the stage
- Not pictured: Trish Shaffer





**Jackson Area Ministries
Green Thumb Garden Project
Seeds & Plants for 600+ Gardens
in Scioto County !!**





Tomato Plants!

Arriving the day after sorting seeds were 142 flats of tomato plants, (5,112 total plants)! Dave & Mary McQuay from Wheelersburg UMC drove the church truck to Racine, Ohio to pick them up from the grower, Scott Hill, who is a member of Racine UMC.

Those helping to unload:
Starting at right and going counter-clockwise:

**Ryan Tulley,
 Pastor Pete Shaffer,
 Jamie Prater,
 Dave McQuay,
 Mary McQuay,
 Denise Book**

Paul Conley (Paul is allergic to tomato plants and wore protective gear to place the flats onto the tables)

Not pictured: J.R. Holsinger, Danny Artis, and Trish Shaffer



CHILDREN's MINISTRY REPORT: Allison Hurst

VBS will be on Wednesday and Thursday, July 12th and 13th with a final program on Sunday, July 16th.

SERVICE STEWARDS: Sondi Conley

Paul said that Sondi wanted to thank everyone for the voting meal on Paul's Birthday.

Jennie said that they were going to make up menus for dinners, so they can put sign-up sheets out for a certain amount of meats, veggies, sides, desserts, etc. To ensure a variety of foods.

HISTORIAN: Denise Book

Need pictures and paperwork to send to Conference that they want to keep copies of after we disaffiliate. This needs to be given to Karen Ciraso.

NEW BUSINESS:

Wilma said that some of the ladies were wondering why we don't pass the offering plate down the rows. They said they haven't been able to put their offerings in as the plate does not pass them. Pete is going to talk to JR so he can tell his ushers.

Jennie asked if we still need to do the yearly report for the Conference—Yes. Pete just got them in the last week or so and he is going to get them printed out and passed on to whomever they go to.

Changes they are a coming!! Hymnals, signs changed, no longer using Cross and flame, etc. Have to delete United from everything.

81% of those that voted for the future of Nauvoo Methodist church on Sunday, May 7, 2023 voted to join Global Methodist Church. There were 57 votes and 56 accepted the motion to join GMC and 1 no vote.

Pete is retiring from the West Ohio Conference. He plans to pay into the GMC pension plan for the next 1-2 years. He said that he would like to stay at Nauvoo for the next year, 2 years max, and help us to find a new pastor, if we want him to.

Questionnaire from GMC has to be filled out. PPRC needs to fill it out and then put it before the Leadership Team.

July 1st Pete will lose the Valley UM Church and also their salary. Do we pay you what we pay now + VUMC? Just what Nauvoo pays now.

After the disaffiliation process is complete, it would be a good time to contact members that haven't come in a long time to have them either transfer membership or withdraw. We shouldn't have to pay apportionments for those not coming.

With GMC we will have more input on who Pete's successor will be. Pete said he would really like to help us find his replacement.

GMC has a pool of people that would be available to us. One key factor of someone willing to come here is salary.

Parsonage/housing is a plus towards getting someone here.

Donnie asked about the YouTube account. Do we have to start a new one? Can we change the name? Going to look into that later.

Butch closed the meeting. Wilma said the closing prayer.

Next meeting will be Monday, June 5th at 6:30 PM

Minutes submitted by Rhonda Hammond

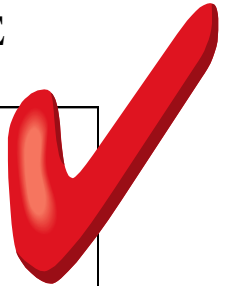


OFFERINGS

May 9	\$3,074.00
May 14	\$6,583.00
May 21	\$3,242.00
May 28	\$2,039.00

ATTENDANCE

May 9	68
May 14	77
May 21	81
May 28	71



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