Church of the Saviour

United Methodist

A Christian Community Committed to Growing Deeper in Faith
And Pursuing God's Hope for Every Life

September 27, 2026

10:30 AM | Great Hall

Rev. Andy Call, Lead Pastor
Rev. Cindy Patterson, Administrative Pastor

2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Hts., OH 44118
216-321-8880 | www.cotsumc.org

Order of Service

Welcome		Rev. Andy Call
Opening Songs		*You Are Good* *Firm Foundation (He Won't)* *Here I Am To Worship*
Children's Blessing		Rev. Call
Passing of the Peace		
Scripture	2 Timothy 1:7-9	Rev. Cindy Patterson
The Message	*Not a Spirit of Fear: Facing Intelligent Machines Without Flinching*	Elonda Clay
Reflection Song		*Altogether Good*
Prayers		Rev. Call
Offering		Rev. Patterson
Announcements		
Closing Song		*Tell Me Once More*
Blessing		Rev. Call

Morgan Miller Mecaskey, Director of Modern Music
Bryan Karas, Director of Production
The Ratchford Family, ushers
McKenna Glorioso, violin
Holly Hrubik, keyboard
Drew Parent, drums
Ryann Anderson, bass
Esther Fitz, vocals

Welcome—We're glad you're here!

At Church of the Saviour, we welcome people of all ages and abilities to grow in faith together. We celebrate children's voices, movement, and energy in worship! Coloring materials are available at the round tables and the church library offers a quiet space, if needed. Nursery care is available in Room 100 from 9:30AM–12:00PM. Children in age 3 through 5th Grade are invited to join in our Godly Play and Children's Music programs, between 9:50AM and 12:00PM. Middle and High School groups meet at 11:00AM. Visit the church office for room locations and details. Scan the accompanying QR code for complete information about our Children's and Youth Ministries.

Habitat for Humanity Faith Build

Habitat For Humanity's mission statement is to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope. The Faith Build program, founded in 2015, brings people of faith together to sponsor a home. Each congregation gives a portion of prayer, volunteer power, and funding to build a home for a family. This is COTS' third year of participation in a Faith Build project, although we have a core group of regular Habitat construction volunteers who have been helping build homes for decades.

Our 2026 Faith Build home is located in the nearby Mt. Pleasant neighborhood of Cleveland. There is one final construction date on Wednesday, October 14 for volunteers to join the project. Scan the QR code for all the details and to sign up.

Sermon Series Preview

We live in a state of high alert: preparing ourselves for bad news, on guard against the next attack, readying for or avoiding confrontation with those who are different from us. Whether we are aware of it or not, many of our actions are driven by fear - fear of what we cannot control, fear of those who are not like us, fear of what we might lose. But scripture reminds us that perfect love casts out fear. The last night of Jesus's life, he brought his disciples together around a table. At the table, they shared more than food. Jesus's final words were about love - the love God has for all of us, the love he demonstrated, the love they would need to carry on his work. In this season of campaign ads, political slogans, and fear mongering, let us hear again the words of Jesus and take them to heart. *Love One Another*: October 4-25

Get Out the Vote!

We can love our neighbors and community by showing up to the polls for election day on November 3. Scan the QR code or visit Vote4Ohio.com to double check your voter registration today! Visit the table outside of the Great Hall for assistance with voter registration, absentee ballot requests, and making a voting plan.

Blessing of the Animals

Join us for a Blessing of the Animals service on Sunday, October 4 at 4 p.m. on the church's front lawn. Bring your pets—furry, feathered, or scaly—for a special blessing and a treat! This joyful gathering is open to all as we give thanks for the animals who share our lives and bring us so much joy.

Photo Directory

The time has come! There have been a number of requests for a new church photo directory, and this fall we're taking it on.

A professional photographer will be here on Sunday, October 4 and October 11. Scan the QR code to book a session window on one of these dates, and please be sure to read the instructions on the booking site about how many slots to reserve and when to arrive. If you need any assistance booking your photo session, please contact Sarah Dick in the church office at 216-321-8880 or office@cotsumc.org.

Ideally, everyone in the directory will have an updated photo taken at one of our photo shoots. Again, there is no cost to sit for a picture, and having recent photos improves the quality of the finished directory. However, if you are unable to make a session or do not wish to have a new photo taken, you may submit your own photo to Sarah by October 11. Self-submitted photos will be screened and may be altered for usability.

If you are a member or regular attendee of Church of the Saviour we will include your names, address, phone number, and email in the directory, with or without a photo, unless instructed otherwise. If you DO NOT want to be included or wish to limit your information shared in any way, please communicate that to Sarah by October 11. We are happy to adapt individually to your needs.

Braver Angels: Skills for Managing Difficult Conversations

All are welcome to attend a free workshop on Thursday, October 15 from 6:30-8 p.m. in the parlor designed to help people manage difficult conversations, an especially useful skill in these times of growing polarization in our country. Political and cultural positions are often infused with intense emotions—anger, contempt, and distrust—that are threatening our most valued relationships with family and friends. Facilitated by Dr. Bill Shaul, co-founder and ambassador of the NE Ohio Chapter of Braver Angels, a national, grassroots, non-partisan, non-religious organization that seeks ways to depolarize the country. Let's learn how to re-engage with others in a constructive, respectful way.

Please register your attendance at today's worship service. Thank you!

Announcements

Evensong Worship Returns

After a summer break, Choral Evensong is returning this fall with the first service taking place at 7:00 p.m. tomorrow, Monday, September 28 in the sanctuary at The First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland, 3630 Fairmount Blvd, Shaker Heights, OH 44118. The service will be led, as always, by organist and director of traditional music Don Verkuijlen, the Vox Salvatoris premiere evensong chamber ensemble choir, and COTS clergy. Come and experience this timeless tradition in the community surrounded by beautiful music as together we listen, pray, and reflect.

Walk with COTS in the CHUH Homecoming Parade!

Support the kids and families of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights schools in their annual homecoming parade Friday, October 2! Church of the Saviour is marching, passing out mini basketballs and candy, and carrying a banner. It's a great opportunity to show that we care and to get the word out about the next COTS Youth Basketball season and our other children's and youth ministries. Meet on Coleridge Rd. off Lee Rd. at 4:45pm and look for the Jeep with the basketball hoop on the back. The parade starts at 5pm and travels 1/2 mile up Lee Rd. to the Heights High football field. Wear a COTS or CHUH shirt if you have one. Contact Curt Campbell at ccampbell@cotsumc.org with any questions.

Simply Jesus Book Study

"Why am I here?" "How can I live a meaningful life?" Most people wrestle with these kinds of questions. We want our lives to make a difference. We want to "leave the world a better place." It seems to be a fundamental human drive.

Church of the Saviour is offering a course aimed at helping people find answers to these questions. The course, called "Simply Jesus," is based on the book of that title by Anglican priest and theologian N.T. Wright. Using Wright's method of weaving history and theology together, we will gain a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and come away with some good answers to the question, "Why should I follow him?" You may just find, in a deep-seated and powerful way, that following Jesus is the key to living a meaningful life.

The course is being offered at two different times, to make it accessible to as many people as possible: Mondays from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM, and Thursdays from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The first meetings will take place on October 12th and October 15th. There will be a total of 16 sessions, with some breaks for holidays, so the last sessions will take place

during the week of February 22nd. David Hildebrandt will be the facilitator. If you'd like more information, please contact him at dhildebr1961@gmail.com or 229-378-0636. Scan the QR Code or call the office to sign up. We hope to see you there!

UWF Fall Flea Market

The United Women in Faith are hosting their biannual flea market Thursday-Saturday, October 8-10. Donations will be accepted in the Great Hall on Sunday 10/4 through Tuesday 10/6. Scan the QR code for all the details about donating and shopping. Many volunteers are needed throughout the week; from set-up, to cashiers, to bakers, and beyond. Contact Mary Freer at cotsfleas@gmail.com to sign up. Volunteers receive special privileges!

The flowers on the altar are dedicated in honor of Martin Kolb's 80th birthday, a gift of his wife, Sandra Kiely Kolb.

This Week's Highlights

Monday, September 28

Choral Evensong at First Baptist Church, 7:00PM

Friday, October 2

CHUH Homecoming Parade, 5:00PM
Jr. Youth Overnight Retreat, 6:00PM

Sunday, October 4

World Communion Sunday
Photo Directory Picture Day, 8:00AM-1:00PM
UWF Fall Flea Market Donation Day, 12:30PM
LGBTQIA+ Adults & Active Allies Prayer Group via Zoom, 12:30PM
Blessing of the Animals, 4:00PM

Visit cotsumc.org/events for additional programming information and regularly scheduled events.

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