

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

As we enter July, I pause with gratitude to reflect on my ministry in this congregation and community. These past four years as your pastor have meant a lot to me. We have worshiped through seasons of joy and seasons of loss, shared in Bible study, prayed together, engaged in mission and outreach, maintained our buildings, and most importantly, grown as a family in faith. Your trust, your prayers, and your willingness to serve have shaped me as much as I trust I have helped shape our life together. July marks another beginning and I look forward to another year of partnership in ministry with you, to see what God will do next among us and through us.

July is also a personal milestone in our family. My wife and I are celebrating our thirty-fifth wedding anniversary on the 20th. Thirty-five years of marriage, many conversations, travel, children, a son-in-law, a grandson, and the kind of grace that marriage teaches you. It has been an exciting journey. We look back with gratitude and look forward to what the years before us will bring. Thank you for the ways you have loved us, prayed for us, and let us be part of your lives. Your friendship is one of God's greatest blessings to our family. Speaking of anniversaries. We salute the USA on 250 years of Independence. In God we trust.

The month ahead is full of life here at church. We are especially looking forward to an exciting week of Vacation Bible School. To all our volunteers I say thank you for committing your time and energy so freely to ensure a successful week. To the children, youth and families joining us I say come ready for songs, stories, crafts, play and the joy of discovering how amazing is the love of God. We pray that every volunteer and participant will have an inspiring, illuminating and enjoyable week, and that the seeds planted during VBS will grow for years to come.

Finally, friends, please continue to support the congregation through your prayers, your presence, and your generosity. Ministry goes on in every season. Let us continue to show up for each other knowing that every act of faithfulness matters. Enjoy the summer, spend time with family, get some rest and recreation, and keep safe in all your travels and adventures.

I pray you know God's protection and peace in every season and that your mind will be filled with stories of God's goodness that you can share and help to enrich and build up our life together as a congregation and community.

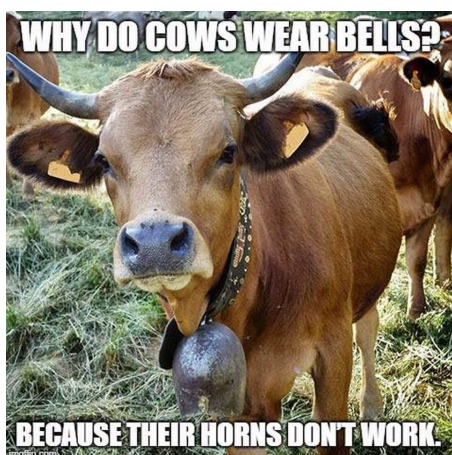
Sincerely,

Jefferson C Niles, EdD, MAE, BA  
Pastor  
Email: [pastor@ciceroumchurch.org](mailto:pastor@ciceroumchurch.org)

60+ people enjoyed Ice Cream Sundaes at God's Country Jamboree on Sunday 06/14. What a fun way to worship together! Thank you to everyone who helped with the ice cream and the service. We acknowledged Father's Day and shared many of our favorite Dad Jokes! If you could not attend you can check out the country music video we watched by Jewel and Dolly Parton, called *I Am My Father's Daughter*. A link for this video can be found on our Facebook page. The song tells the story of how parents pass on things to their children, not only in their looks but in their actions as well. Parents can give their children faith, music, work ethic and integrity along with the color of their eyes or hair. Generations can leave legacies for their family to be passed on for years to come.

Pastor Niles told us how Deuteronomy 11:19 instructs parents to diligently teach God's commands to their children in every aspect of daily life. He also described how the lineage from Abraham through Moses, and all the patriarchs in between, left their legacy for the people of Israel. In closing he left us with this question to consider. What will be your legacy?

**Our next service is August 23rd. Remember to wear your cowboy hat and bring a friend. Y'all come back now ya hear!**



# God's Country Rambblers

Country Music - Gospel Favorites - Western Spirit



Faith - Fellowship - Music - Community

# Thank You So Much

The family of Mason Marotta extends our sincere gratitude to  
**Pastor Niles and the congregation of  
Cicero United Methodist Church**  
for your prayers, support, and encouragement  
during Mason's deployment.

We are grateful to share that  
**Mason has returned home safely  
and is now stateside.**

Your faithful prayers brought comfort  
and strength during his time away.

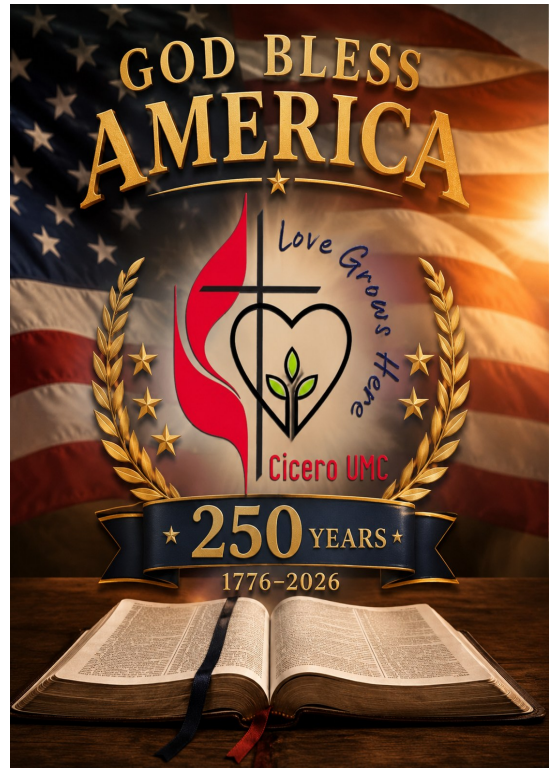
While we rejoice in his safe return, we ask that  
you continue to lift up in prayer the brave  
men and women of our military who remain  
deployed around the world, along with their  
families who await their homecoming.

May *God* bless our service members,  
protect those in harm's way,  
and bring them *safely home*.

"The Lord will watch over  
your coming and going  
both now and forevermore."

Psalm 121:8

★ *With heartfelt thanks and continued prayers.* ★



## Asbury United Methodist Church

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for the thoughtful note you sent to me for my journey on Honor Flight 24 on May 2, 2026. Receiving your message made my trip especially meaningful.

During my return flight from Washington, D.C., we experienced a mail call reminiscent of those I received while serving in Vietnam from 1965 to 1966. As a dog handler with the United States Air Force, I was among the first to serve in Phan Rang and Cam Ranh Bay. Those mail calls provided an essential connection to home during challenging times.

Your letters and cards forged a significant connection with each of you by recognizing what was not acknowledged when I returned home in December 1966. This gesture of kindness and acknowledgment means more than words can express.

Thank you again for the warm welcome home. Your support and recognition are deeply appreciated.

Charles Deyo



## **Finance Corner**

***“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot.” Ecclesiastes 3:1-2***

It's finally Summer! Summer suggests vacations, picnics, relaxation and family gatherings. In the Bible, summer is frequently portrayed as a time for preparation, growth, and harvest. Here at CUMC, summer is a very busy time of the year! We have Vacation Bible School at the end of July, and the month of August is taken over by our biggest fundraiser of the year – The Rummage Sale Rumble!! It is an all-hands-on deck event – there's a job for everyone – come join us and become part of an amazing team.

Speaking of summer, please remember CUMC and keep up with your pledges if you are traveling. Unfortunately, the church's expenses don't ever take a vacation. One option is to set up online giving while you are away. It's simple and convenient. If you have questions, please contact a member of the Finance Committee. For those of you who are currently making your offerings online, please be aware that we will be switching to Breeze/Tithly from Easy Tithe in the next few months. This will save us money and should be a relatively seamless transition. More to come....

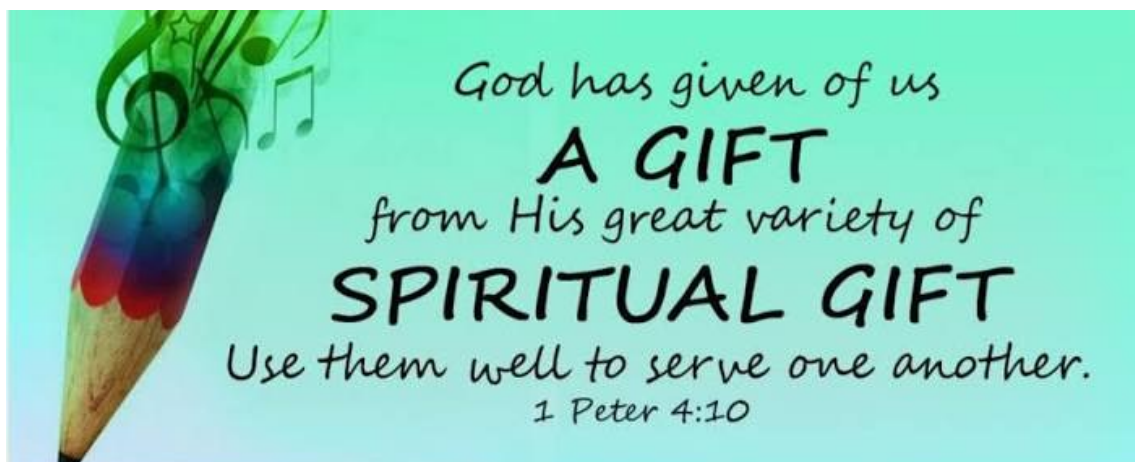
A quick reminder regarding monetary gifts given to CUMC- please make checks payable to Cicero United Methodist Church. Write any specific designations (memorial, fund raisers, needs, etc.) in the Memo area of the check. Thank you!

The Finance Team celebrated Tari Otabara with a cake at our last meeting. Tari and Kaz are relocating to the Rochester area to be near family. Please join CUMC on June 28<sup>th</sup> to celebrate and honor them after church! They will be missed!

The Finance Team would love to add a few new members to our team. If you think you might be interested, please reach out to either Pastor Niles or Barb Forleo. You'll learn a lot about the church and how things operate. It's inspiring to see what a giving church family we have and what we are able to support with your gifts.

Have a blessed summer – relax and enjoy God's gifts.

Barbara Forleo, Finance Chair



# Carol's Memory Care Cafe



**An Afternoon of Magic, Smiles & Balloon Creations**



**Creating joyful moments, sharing laughter, and making memories together!**



**Carol's Memory Cafe - A place for friendship, support, fun, and meaningful connections.**



# Carol's Memory Care CAFE

## Stars, Stripes & Smiles

A welcoming gathering for individuals living with Alzheimer's or dementia and their caregivers.

**July 15, 2026 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

8416 Brewerton Road, Cicero, NY 13039



### **July Celebration**

Join us for patriotic music, summertime fellowship, light refreshments, and plenty of smiles.

Sing along to familiar favorites, enjoy good company, and celebrate the joy of community together.

#### **Friendly Conversation**

Connect in a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

#### **Patriotic Music & Sing-Along**

Enjoy familiar songs and cherished memories.

#### **Summer Refreshments**

Light snacks and cool treats.

#### **Caregiver Support**

Share experiences and encouragement.

#### **Meaningful Connections**

Building friendships one conversation at a time.

 Celebrating freedom, friendship, memories, and community. 

*"Where every story matters and every smile is welcome."*

Contact: Mike White at 607-423-0672 or email [Office@ciceroumchurch.org](mailto:Office@ciceroumchurch.org)



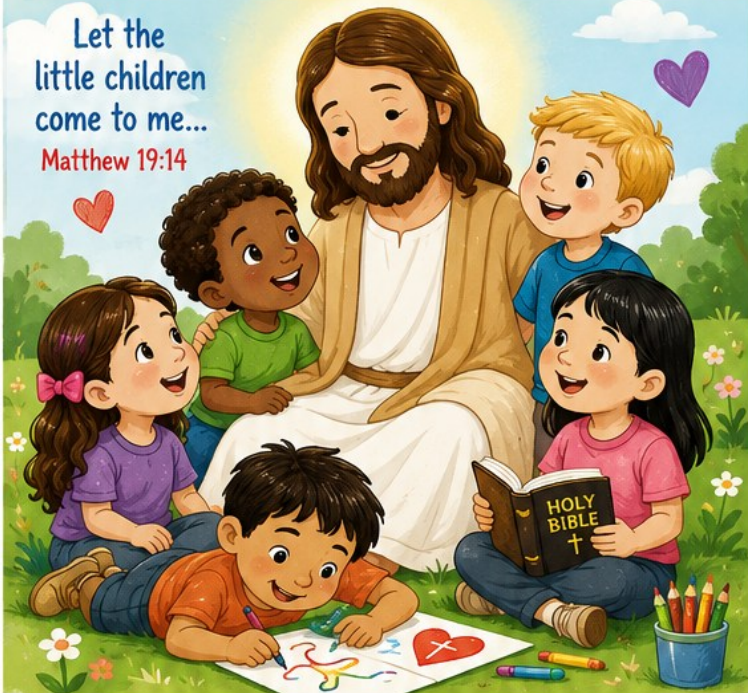


# SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED!

TEACHERS, CO-TEACHERS, & SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS  
needed to teach tiny humans about Jesus. ♥

Let the  
little children  
come to me...

Matthew 19:14



We need caring adults to help teach our littlest disciples about Jesus through Bible stories, crafts, games, music, and love. ♥

## WHY SERVE? ♥

- † Help shape young hearts for Christ
- † Make a lasting difference in a child's faith journey
- † Share your God-given talents
- † Build meaningful relationships with children and families
- † Have fun while serving the Lord!



## Do You Have a Heart for Children?

### Do You Have a Gift to Share?

Our Sunday School ministry is growing, and we are looking for **Teachers, Co-Teachers, and Substitute Teachers** who would love to help our tiny humans learn about the love of Jesus!

You don't need to be a Bible scholar. You simply need a willing heart and a desire to help children grow in their faith. ♥

## God Gives Each of Us Special Gifts...

### Maybe your gift is:

- |                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Storytelling    | Patience & Kindness      |
| Arts & Crafts   | Creativity & Imagination |
| Music & Singing | Building Relationships   |
| Encouragement   | Sharing God's Love       |

Whether you can teach every week, assist a teacher, or be available as a substitute, there is a place for you in this ministry.

## INTERESTED? ♥



Contact Sue B.  
**315-420-2101**

OR



Contact the  
Church Office  
**315-699-2731**



Share Your Gifts. Share God's Love. Change a Child's Life. ♥

Cicero United Methodist Church  
Love Grows Here ♥ +

Teaching tiny humans  
about a very BIG God!





# THANK YOU!



*Celebrating the Hearts That Help Our Children  
Grow in Faith, Love, and Service*



With hearts full of gratitude, we give thanks to **Pastor Niles** and to each and every one of our incredible teachers, youth group leaders, parents, and family members who pour their love, time, and faith into guiding our children on their spiritual journey with the Lord.

*A very special thank you to our devoted teachers:*

- ✿ Chris Burton
- ✿ Linda Bouwens
- ✿ Danni Gauthier
- ✿ Phyllis Chapman
- ✿ Vicky Moore
- ✿ Sarah Jones
- ✿ Larry Bonspille
- ✿ Stephanie Lotts



Your patience, kindness, and unwavering commitment are shaping lives in ways that will echo for years to come. You are *planting seeds of faith* that will grow strong and deep.



*We are so grateful for the gift of music in our program!*

- ♥ Thank you to **Emily Bush** for helping bring our children's voices to life in such a joyful and meaningful way each Sunday.
- ♥ Thank you to **Clara Keating** for assisting with such care and dedication.
- ♥ And thank you to our wonderful chime players—



*Thank You, Chime Teachers!*

- 🔔 **Phyllis Chapman**      🔔 **Elisabeth Auburn**      🔔 **Zeke Auburn**

Your talents add such a beautiful and uplifting touch to our worship experience.



## ★ ♥ TO OUR AMAZING KIDS ♥ ★

You did such a wonderful job! Your joy, courage, enthusiasm, and willingness to share your faith shine so brightly.

*We are so proud of each and every one of you!*



- ♥ It is so clear that it truly takes a village to nurture faith, and what a beautiful, loving village this is. We are beyond blessed to be part of it.
- ♥ May God continue to bless each of you for the work you do, the love you give, and the light you bring into the lives of our children.



Join us in Playing, Praying, and Growing Together at Cicero United Methodist Church...



*Love grows here.*



*"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6*



# IT TAKES A CHURCH TO RUN A RUMMAGE SALE!

**OUR RUMMAGE SALE IS A BIG DEAL!**

Lots of people look for it every year and making it happen takes a lot of us working together.

**Bottom line – we need everyone to play a part!** 



**EVERY HAND HELPS!** 

The opportunities to help are nearly endless. Whether you have a few hours or can help more, there is a place for you!



**STOP BY THE WELCOME CENTER AND SIGN UP!**

A list of volunteer opportunities and descriptions will be available, along with sign-up sheets for each area.

**Questions?**

**Deb Irwin**  
 (315) 727-0190  
(call or text)  
 irwind0119@gmail.com

**OR**

**Mike Irwin**  
 (315) 727-9483  
 mirwin1220@aol.com



**THANK YOU** for helping make this much-loved community event a success!



• CICERO UMC •

# RUMMAGE SALE

## 2026

*Save the Date & Spread the Word!*

**AUGUST 21 & 22**

*Donation Collection Begins*

**AUGUST 3rd**

*Decluttering? Think of Us!*



**• WE ACCEPT:**



**• WE CANNOT ACCEPT:**



**• VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! •**  
90+ VOLUNTEERS LAST YEAR!

**• SETUP DAY •**

**Sunday, August 2**  
*After Church*  
VBS to Rummage



**• SORTING BEGINS •**

**August 3 – Sale Week**  
*Help Needed Daily!*



**• CRUNCH WEEK •**

**August 17 – 20**  
*All Hands on Deck!*



**• CLEAN-UP DAY •**

**After the Sale**  
**August 22**  
*Restoring for Sunday Services*



**• Questions? •**

Call Mike: 315-727-9483 or Deb: 315-727-0190

◆ *Together, We Make This A Success! Thank You!* ◆



SHINING A LIGHT ON  
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

# ILLUMINATION STATION

JOHN 8:12

VBS  
2026

CICERO  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

## Can You Help Us Shine?

Our Vacation Bible School is just around the corner, and we're collecting a few supplies to help make the week bright, fun, and successful for our children!

### VBS WISH LIST



Napkins



5 oz. Drinking Cups



9 oz. Drinking Cups



Sandwich-Size Baggies



Quart-Size Baggies



Goldfish Crackers



Plastic Spoons



Small Paper Plates



Regular-Size Paper Plates



Lemonade Mix



Punch Cups



Food Serving Gloves

Donations may be dropped off in the church office or in the designated VBS collection area.

"I am the light of the world."

JOHN 8:12

Thank You!

Your generosity helps us share God's love and create a memorable week for our children as we learn to shine the light of Jesus!

EVERY DONATION HELPS  
OUR LIGHT SHINE BRIGHTER!

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026 REGISTRATION



JULY 27 – JULY 31, 2026

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

PRE-K (3 YRS OLD) – 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE – ADULT VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

## CHILD INFORMATION

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Grade Completed (Fall 2026): \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_

## PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Mother/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Father/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## EMERGENCY CONTACT (IF PARENT/GUARDIAN CANNOT BE REACHED)

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## ALLERGIES OR OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS

(Snack is served daily, please check the sign-in desk each morning or ask for the menu.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## MYSTERY SHIRT SIZE (PLEASE CIRCLE)

CHILD: 4T SM (5-6) MED (7-8) LG (10-12) XL (14-16) ADULT: S M L XL XXL

For recreation time, we ask that children wear closed-toe sandals or sneakers; this helps prevent injuries. There will also be a water day at the end of the week. They will not get soaked, but a towel may be brought in. Please indicate below if it is all right for your child to participate in the water fun day.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, my child CAN participate \_\_\_\_\_ No, rather they did NOT

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



PHOTO RELEASE:  Yes, I give permission for my child to be photographed for church use.  No, I do not give permission.

COME SHINE BRIGHT WITH US AT ILLUMINATION STATION!

# CARING SUPPORT GROUP PRESENTS

## Mackinac Island



### INCREDIBLE PRICE INCLUDES:

- ◆ Motorcoach transportation
- ◆ 5 nights lodging including 3 consecutive nights in Northern Michigan
- ◆ 8 meals: 5 breakfasts and 3 dinners
- ◆ Guided Tour of Mackinaw City
- ◆ Visit to Mackinac Island, including a Guided Carriage Tour
- ◆ Boat ride through the Soo Locks and free time and sight-seeing in Sault Sainte Marie
- ◆ Visit to Mackinaw Crossings
- ◆ Admission to Colonial Michilimackinac
- ◆ Gaming excitement at a Northern Michigan Casino

For more pictures, video, and information visit:  
[www.GroupTrips.com/caringsupportgroup](http://www.GroupTrips.com/caringsupportgroup)

# \$799\*

## 6 Days 5 Nights

\*PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

(Mon - Sat)  
Sep 28 - Oct 3  
2026

**Departure: Cicero Methodist Church, 8416 Brewerton Rd, Cicero, NY @ 8 am  
(North side Parking Lot)**

**Day 1:** Board your spacious, video and restroom equipped Motorcoach and set off for Northern Michigan. Enjoy the beautiful scenery along the way before checking into your en route hotel tonight.

**Day 2:** After enjoying a Continental Breakfast, you'll continue towards Northern Michigan. Upon arrival, see the Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, dating back to 1892. After some free time at Mackinaw Crossings, visit Colonial Michilimackinac - A 1700's era Village. This evening, you will enjoy Dinner and check into your hotel for a three night stay.

**Day 3:** After today's Continental Breakfast, head for Sault Sainte Marie, MI and take an exciting CRUISE through the SOO LOCKS. Next, enjoy lunch on your own and spend some free time in SAULT SAINTE MARIE. Watch ships enter and depart the Locks from the observation area or browse the unique local shops and boutiques. Later, enjoy gaming at a NORTHERN MICHIGAN CASINO. Tonight, have Dinner at a local restaurant before returning to your hotel.

**Day 4:** After enjoying a Continental Breakfast, your adventure begins with a ferryboat ride to peaceful Mackinac Island where the only mode of transportation is by Horse and Carriage. Take a leisurely CARRIAGE RIDE TOUR of the island and see splendid sites like the Arch Rock and Lilac Lane. Enjoy some free time to explore this quaint island. Later, cross the Straits of Mackinac again and enjoy a lovely Dinner at a local restaurant.

**Day 5:** After enjoying a Continental Breakfast, you'll take a GUIDED TOUR OF QUAINT MACKINAW CITY. This evening, relax at your en route hotel.

**Day 6:** Today you'll enjoy a Continental Breakfast and depart for home... a perfect time to chat with your friends about all the fun things you've done, the great sights you've seen and where your next group trip will take you!



Tour Mackinac Island by Horse and Carriage



Soo Locks Cruise in Sault Sainte Marie



Mackinac Point Lighthouse



Mackinac Island Ferry

**\$75 Due Upon Signing. \*Price per person, based on double occupancy. Add \$205 for single occupancy.  
Final Payment Due: 7/21/2026**

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

**Mary Alice Scheel @ (315) 699-7181**

**Diamond Tours**<sup>inc.</sup>  
Bringing Group Travel to a Higher Standard®

Gratuities are included in the flyer price



**LANCASTER, PA BUS TRIP**  
**SIGHT AND SOUND THEATER**  
**November 10 –11, 2026**

Trip includes transportation and lodging, with one breakfast, one dinners, 2 shows: Joshua, American Theater Christmas Shows, driver gratuity, tips, luggage, and more time allows on over night trips.

**\*limited seating sign up now**

The trip is sponsored by Cicero United Methodist Church Caring Support Group. For more information contact Mary Alice Scheel at 315-699-7181.

Cost is \$425.00 per double per person. \$525.00 Single  
\$100 deposit  
needed ASAP.

Don't miss out on this fantastic trip!

# 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> <b>Guild Meeting</b>  <i>10 Forever Young</i>  <b>7 Alzheimer's Dementia Meeting</b>	<b>2</b>  <b>2 Bereavement</b> <b>6 Community Outreach</b>	<b>3</b> <i>Office Closed in Observance Of 4th Of July</i>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>  <i>9:30 Worship</i>  <i>Private Gathering n Fellowship Hall 2-7</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <i>10:30 Cicero Christian Sisters</i>  <i>11 Bible Study</i> <i>11 Bridge</i> <i>12 Mahjong</i> <i>6 :30 Bible study</i>	<b>8</b>  <i>5:45 Music Team</i>  <b>9 am Quilt Guild</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>  <i>9:30 Worship</i> <i>Baptism</i> <i>11 MYF</i>	<b>13</b>  <b>6:30 SPRC</b>	<b>14</b>  <i>11 Bible Study</i> <i>11 Bridge</i> <i>12 Mahjong</i> <i>6 :30 Bible study</i>	<b>15</b>  <b>10:30 –12:00 Memory Café Gathering</b>  <i>5:45 Music Team</i>	<b>16</b>  <b>Rummage Sale Meeting Noon</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>  <i>9:30 Worship</i> <i>Baptism</i>	<b>20</b>  <i>VSB Set Up Week 9-4</i>	<b>21</b>  <i>VBS Set Up Week 9-4</i>	<b>22</b>  <b>6 Finance Team</b> <b>6:30 Trustees</b>  <i>5:45 Music Team</i>  <i>VBS Set Up Week 9-4</i>	<b>23</b>  <i>VSB Set Up Week 9-4</i>	<b>24</b>  <i>VSB Set Up Week 9-4</i>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>  <i>9:30 Worship</i> <i>Baptism</i>  <i>11 MYF</i>	<b>27</b>  <b>9– Noon VBS</b>	<b>28</b>  <b>9– Noon VBS</b>	<b>29</b>  <b>9– Noon VBS</b>	<b>30</b>  <b>9– Noon VBS</b>	<b>31</b>  <b>9– Noon VBS</b>	



**SAVE**  
— THE —  
*Date*

..... THE 2ND ANNUAL .....

# FALL FESTIVAL

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD**  
**10 AM - 3 PM**



**FOOD TRUCKS**



**CRAFT SHOW**



**MUSIC**



**BAKE SALE**



**BOUNCE HOUSE**



**CHILDREN'S GAMES**

**AND A FEW NEW ITEMS.**

**MORE INFO TO FOLLOW.**

*See Jan Cerimeli  
for more details.*





# Grad, Dad & Youth Sunday

Celebrating Our Graduates, Fathers, and Young Disciples



Train up a child in the way he should go... Proverbs 22:6



# Grad, Dad & Youth Sunday

Celebrating Our Graduates, Fathers, and Young Disciples



Train up a child in the way he should go... Proverbs 22:6

**Cicero United Methodist Church**

8416 Brewerton Road

Cicero, NY 13039

Phone: 315-699-2731

Website:

[www.ciceroumchurch.org](http://www.ciceroumchurch.org)

E-mail:

[Office@ciceroumchurch.org](mailto:Office@ciceroumchurch.org)

**Church Office Hours**

Monday-Friday

8:00 am to 2 pm



Cicero United Methodist Church

8416 Brewerton Rd

Cicero, NY 13039

