



# Pathways January 2025



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## What's Happening



Journey  
Community Church  
UCC-DOC  
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Cincinnati, OH  
45231

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Worship  
Opportunities  
Sundays:  
10:00 AM Traditional  
Worship in Sanctuary



For an electronic  
version of newsletter  
please visit our website:  
www.journeyccl.com



## Pastor Words of Wisdom

Well, we've made it another year! 2024 is behind us and 2025 waits ahead with endless possibilities on what this year could mean for us.

As is tradition, most people will be declaring New Year's resolutions - promises to themselves to be better versions of who they are.

Some will focus on living healthier lives. Some will focus on the relationships they want to improve. Some will focus on saving money, on being creative, or on simply going to the gym.

But as Christians, I want to encourage you to do something slightly different with your New Year's resolution this year.

Choose a resolution that is focused solely on your spirituality. Use this time - this extra new year motivation - to build up your faith. Pick something that will deepen your relationship with God and with yourself.

Maybe you could commit to praying more often. Perhaps you could choose to read scripture daily. You could try out new spiritual practices each week (Google can help you find hundreds!) and see which ones work for you.

There are endless possibilities for what you could do, because spirituality and faith have endless paths for each and every one of us.

And what better way to start your year than focusing on your faith?

What better way to make sure 2025 is wonderful than by putting your spirituality first and making it the foundation of all you do moving forward?

The new year offers an opportunity to stretch ourselves, to grow and be transformed, and to become the best versions of ourselves.

Why not start with our faith? Why not put God first, and watch as everything else is enhanced by that new perspective?

A fresh start lays before us - don't waste it!



**Mt. Healthy Alliance Needs**

Mt. Healthy Alliance is in need of the following items:

Deodorant  
Hand Soap  
Dishwashing Liquid  
Non-Perishable Foods

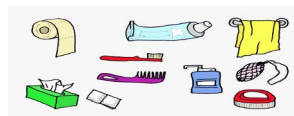
Shampoo  
Toilet Paper

Personal Care Items

Toothpaste  
Laundry Detergent

Spring Cleaning Supplies

Toothbrushes



1/1 Haile Iverson  
1/3 Jeanne Gourley  
Karen Street  
Sharon Wagner

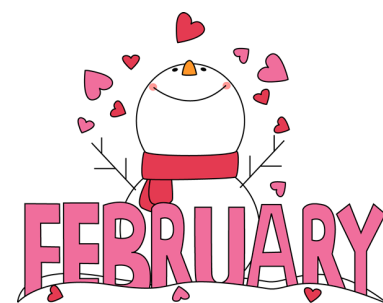
1/7 Jim Mueller  
1/11 Nola Apro  
1/14 Ben Sauer

1/18 Roy Push  
1/18 Paul Smith  
1/25 Rick Davis  
1/26 Jim Hutchison

2/2 Eileen Church  
2/6 Vicki Celenza  
Lois Manifold  
2/9 Mandi Cornish  
2/11 Dave Klotz  
Rob Nungester

2/14 Mike Iverson  
Bonnie Rogers  
Pat Sutton  
2/15 Kim Ferry  
Patrick Lewis

2/20 Drew Hauer  
Randy Hauer  
2/21 Cheryl Rogers  
Cherie Lynn Sauer  
2/23 Pat Sprong  
2/28 Gary Sprong



*Please Continue to Remember in Prayer:*

*Home Bound Members*

*Wm & Eileen Church    Alice Graber    Ruth Hoeweler  
Lynn Hoffman    Emmett Izer    Nancy Lanza    Donald Lerch  
Melitta Marx    Bob Runk    Marlene Sheward    Elaine Sloan  
Anne Timme    Del Yung*

*Special Prayer Request  
Our Service Men and Women  
The Country of Ukraine  
Civil War in the Sudan  
Victims of Children Trafficking*

*Nola Apro    Aunt Lee    Jason Baird    Lois Barland    Victoria Baumstead  
Barb Brewer    Sue Brown    Mike Burriss    Calvin's Grandpa    Bill Carter  
Ray Clark    Michael Collins    Joyce Compton    Danielle Coulton    Carrie Devine    Mercedes  
Dreier    William DuPriest    Dorothy Dumford    Ethan, student of Missy    Paul Fuhr    Sue  
Geary    Ken Handley    Michelle Henn  
Santos Hernandez    John Koehler    Rob Langdon    Linda LeValley    Vicki Luke    Cathe-  
rine Lynch    Harper Manning    Debbie Nungester    Roger Purcell    Ruth Purcell  
Ricky Renier    Steve Rogers    Cherie Lynn Sauer    Jacob Sauer    Tom Schumm    Dave  
Shannon    Kari Shell    Gary Smallwood    Summer, Mom's Family    Lisa Su-  
per    Paul Tensing    Amy Wadl  
AJ Walker    Leslie Washington    Chad Wilcocks    Karen Wilson  
Kamaria's Family    Ann Winkler    Paula Zellner    Rick Zellner  
Family of Sharon Wagner    Family of LaRue Baker  
**Family of Erma Amrein***

*Please keep the office informed when  
Names can be removed or need to be added  
Bold typed names were just recently added*

**FEBRUARY  
NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE**



The newsletter deadline for the FEBRUARY edition is Wednesday, January 22. Please submit the information either by email to Anne or drop it in the Epistle box in the main office. There is also a folder in the blue mailbox outside the office.

**COMMUNITY DINNER**

Our weekly community dinners will be held on the first (1st) and third (3rd) Tuesday's of the month.

Dinner is served 5:00 - 6:30 PM

**ONLINE GIVING**

We do have online giving set up for Journey Community Church. If you choose to use our online giving, here is the link, <https://journeycomchurch.churchtrac.com>, or you can also use the CR code below. Once in the system, you can input your envelope number and it records directly to your record. If you have questions, please let us know. All financial help at this time is much needed and appreciated.

Thanks so much,  
Finance Team



If you have a Kroger Community Rewards Card, you can select our church for receiving rewards.

The name has officially, in Kroger's records, been changed to Journey Community Church, but it still may say St. Paul United Church of Christ on the website. They associate more by account number than name of business.

**PARISH NURSES**

Our parish nurses, Vicki Celenza and Roxanne Reed, will have blood pressure screening on Sunday, January 26, 2025 9:15-9:45 AM before Worship. Their area is located in the Café area. All are welcome!

**FACEBOOK PAGE**

We started a new Facebook Page. Here is the new link!  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100025889658215>

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

*In Loving Memory*

In Memory of Jan Apro

Elaine Sloan



**St. Paul Early Learning Center**

Happy 2025! After some time off of school for the holidays, the children and teachers of St. Paul Early Learning Center are ready to get back in the classrooms! It warms my heart to see the hustle and bustle and hear little voices as I walk down the hall!

Please spread the word to family and friends about our OPEN HOUSE! This will take place on Saturday, January 25, 2025 10 am.-12 pm. This is a great opportunity to tour the classrooms, meet teachers, and sign up for the 2025-2026 school year!

Stay warm!

Judy Staudigel  
Director  
St. Paul Early Learning Center



**November 11th, 2024 Board Meeting Notes**

Steve called meeting to order and Brian opened with prayer at 6:05pm. A four board members and pastor present. Ben present remotely.

Previous meeting notes read and approved with addition of congregational meeting timelines

**Team/Committee Reports****Finance** (Mike I)

- Proposed 2024 budget
- Staff wage increases up to 5% built in budget
- Team continues work on end of year audit.
- Treasurer report accepted. See attached.

**Building** (Skip)

- Waiting on parking bumpers to be installed
- Potential signage on parking lots: handicap signs
- Motion to proceed with HVAC listed updates
  - Office AC/Furnace and Head Start AC
  - \$49k approved

**Personnel** (Ben)

- Met with spiritual team and board chair and agreed to prioritize working to hire youth pastor.
  - This will be a part time position, 15-20hrs per week
  - Working with Brian, personnel has crafted job description and has given description to pastor to begin search through UCC and Disciples regions
  - Will continue to seek music director position
- Have reviewed staff timesheets for Administrator/treasurer and Sexton.
- Plan to begin gathering staff feedback for review process.
- Working on filling pulpit for Brian's vacation, Dec 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Spiritual and Pastor**

- Trunk or Treat was a success!
- Busy Season
  - November 17<sup>th</sup> is Stewardship Sunday along with 2 baptisms
  - November 24<sup>th</sup> is Spiritual Gift Sunday and Hanging of Greens following
    - Displays will be set up in fellowship hall

**November 11th, 2024 Board Meeting Notes (continued)****Spiritual and Pastor (continued)**

- December 7<sup>th</sup> is Breakfast with Santa
- December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Service at 5pm
- Sunday Live streaming is working on YouTube and available also on Facebook.
  - Go to @JourneyCCC to find us!
- New Lap tops for tech needs acquired.

**Additional Business (Steve)**

- December 8<sup>th</sup> is our Congregational Meeting
  - Budget approval
  - Team member vote/approval
- November 24<sup>th</sup> The proposed budget will be available
  - Team Member Candidates
- November 11<sup>th</sup> Deadline to have your name in for Team Openings

**Meeting closed with a prayer by Brian at 7:00pm**





**December 8th, 2024 Congregational Meeting Notes**

Steve called meeting to order and Brian opened with prayer at 11:05 am.

39 – 42 church members present

**Meeting Focus: Annual Church Budget Approval**

**Questions were asked and discussed around the following areas:**

- Creative Kids janitorial income breakdown.
- Investment fees inclusion within the 2025 budget.
- Additional 1% of income breakdown per the church annual report handout.
- Staff pay budget.

**Budget approved unanimously**

- Motion to pass by Skip and Margaret second

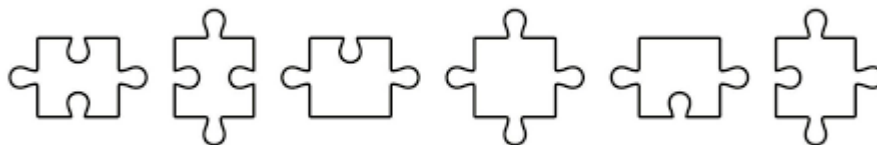
**Additional Business**

- Consideration to additional Spiritual Team members was suggested to support additional needs

**Meeting closed**

- **Robin 1<sup>st</sup>, Judith 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Meeting ended at 11:35am



# January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 ELC - No School Head Start - No School New Years Day Office Closed	2	3	4
5 Jazz Trio	6 ELC Resumes Head Start - No School Finance Mtg - 6 PM Spiritual Mtg - 6 PM	7 Community Dinner 5-6:30 PM	8	9	10 Heat Start - 1/2 day PM AA - PM	11 AA - PM
12 George Theders	13 Head Start - No School Personnel Mtg - 4 PM Board Mtg - 6 PM	14	15	16	17 AA - PM	18 AA - PM
19 Jazz Trio	20 Head Start - No School ELC - No School	21 Community Dinner 5-6:30 PM	22 Newsletter Articles Due	23	24 AA - PM	25 ELC - Open House 10 am - 12 PM AA - PM
26 George Theders Blood Pressure Screening 9:15 am - 9:45 AM	27 Head Start - No School AARP Tax Prep Begins - FH	28	29	30	31 AA - PM	