



# Pathways April 2025



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## What's Happening

### CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE COMING SOON

Our church will be having a Rummage Sale on Saturday, August 9th, in Fellowship Hall. This is the weekend of the “the Longest Yard Sale” which runs hundreds of miles along State Route 127 (Hamilton Avenue) so we hope to get a lot of shoppers. Now is the perfect time to start looking through your drawers, closets, basements or attics for items that you no longer need or want and would like to donate to the sale. Please note that we will not be taking donations of clothing. Items may be dropped off at the Church Office or, if you are unable to bring the items to church yourself, call Linda Woods at 513-289-5335 to make arrangements for them to be picked up.

We will need volunteers to help with pricing items, setting up in the Fellowship Hall, helping customers the day of the sale, cashiering and cleaning up after the sale. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those interested in volunteering. We hope you can help if you are able. Watch for more information in upcoming issues of Pathways.

Journey  
Community Church  
UCC-DOC  
6997 Hamilton Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH  
45231

Ph. 513-931-2205  
Email:  
office@journeyc.cc.com  
Website:  
www.journeyc.cc.com

Worship  
Opportunities

Sundays:

10:00 AM Traditional  
Worship in Sanctuary



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

## Pastor Words of Wisdom

I am a huge fan of the NCAA basketball tournament that happens every March.

I love the excitement, the fact that there are games all day, and all of the smaller, underdog schools that get the opportunity to play David vs. Goliath.

Normally every year I take the first day of the tournament off from work, head to a bar with friends, and spend the entire day watching basketball and cheering for schools I didn't even know existed until I looked at the bracket.

Unfortunately, this year my friends were all busy and weren't able to take off work and join me. Instead of heading out, I simply stayed home and watched the games by myself.

It was still enjoyable, but there was also a slightly hollow feeling to the experience this year. I wondered why I didn't feel the same level of joy and excitement, before realizing a simple truth:

Joy is meant to be shared.

This is just as true for March Madness as it is for birthdays, promotions at work, and meeting your grandchild for the first time. It is better when it is together.

Some of the teams I wanted to win in the tournament did win, but it didn't feel as joyful as it normally does.

And it's because I wasn't surrounded by a hundred other people rooting for the same teams I was.

When my teams won, I simply acknowledged it before changing the channel to another game. I didn't yell, or jump up and down, or give out high fives.

Community is so important when experiencing joy. It allows us to celebrate with others, and our feelings of happiness grow when there are other happy people around us.

If you aren't feeling much joy in your own life at present, seek out the communities around you that have brought you joy in the past.

Find something small or big to celebrate, no matter how obscure or absurd, and then invite people to celebrate with you.

Seek out others who have found joy recently and rejoice with them. You'll both be happier for it.

Joy is better together. So go and find your people, and with it find your joy.



**ZWOSTER SCHOLARSHIP**

It's time once again for those who are eligible to apply for the Zwoster Scholarship for the upcoming 2025/2026 school year.

If you have a student who is interested in applying, please contact the office and the criteria and application will be emailed. The deadline for applying is Thursday, May 1, 2025.

Applications may be mailed or emailed to the office at [office@journeyc.cc](mailto:office@journeyc.cc). Only applications and necessary documentation that are in the church office by close of business hours, 2:00 PM, will be considered. If mailing, please be sure to allow the proper time as mail delivery times have changed. Any questions, please reach out to Sandy Blevins, 513-520-2772.

**Mt. Healthy Alliance Needs**

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

- |                      |                     |                          |              |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Deodorant            | Shampoo             | Toothpaste               | Toothbrushes |
| Hand Soap            | Toilet Paper        | Laundry Detergent        |              |
| Dishwashing Liquid   |                     |                          |              |
| Non-Perishable Foods | Personal Care Items | Spring Cleaning Supplies |              |



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|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 4/3 Ann Roberts     | 4/9 Owen Chalfin   | 4/19 Quaid Hauer     |
| 4/7 Matthew Chalfin | 4/11 Matt Tietsort | 4/20 Trudy Jester    |
| 4/8 Sandy Blevins   | 4/15 Sue Erickson  | 4/28 Sam Wiesman     |
| Marlene Sheward     | 4/17 Carol Chalfin | 4/30 Steve Lighthall |



- |                    |                  |                      |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 5/1 Karen Schroer  | 5/8 Alice Graber | 5/19 Alexis Mittler  |
| 5/5 Pam Leist      | 5/9 Emmett Izer  | 5/21 Jackie Lamott   |
| 5/6 Jenny Birdsong | 5/11 Dee Iverson | 5/23 Tyler Mittler   |
| Linda Stegman      | 5/16 Greg Turner | 5/31 Judith McIlhane |
| 5/7 Judy Staudigel | 5/17 Linda Woods | Angie Tietsort       |

*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*

*Special Prayer Request*

*Our Service Men and Women  
The Country of Ukraine  
Civil War in the Sudan*

*Victims of Children Trafficking*

*For Everyone in the Wildfires of California*

***Friends & Family Currently Experiencing Grief***

*Nola Apro      Lois Barland      Victoria Baumstead      Barb Brewer      Sue Brown  
Mike Burriss      Calvin's Grandpa      Mark Carothers      Ray Clark  
Friend of Jessika Combs      Joyce Compton      Logan Cowan      Carrie Devine  
Mercedes Dreier      Terry DuPriest      Tanya Elliott      Ethan, student of Missy  
Kim Ferry      Sue Geary      Ken Handley      Michelle Henn      Teresa Howard  
Jim Hutchison      **Mike Iverson**      Janet Koehler      John Koehler      Rob Langdon  
Linda LeValley      **Judith Lewis-Combs**      Vicki Luke      Catherine Lynch  
Harper Manning      Dan McDonald      Missy's Sister      Debbie Nungester  
Roger Purcell      Ruth Purcell      Ricky Renier      Vicky Ritz      **Daniel Rogers**  
Steve Rogers      Cherie Lynn Sauer      Emma & Teddy Sauer      Jacob Sauer  
Tom Schumm      **Chris Shannon**      Kari Shell      Gary Smallwood  
Summer, Mom's Family      Lisa Super      Paul Tensing      Amy Wadl  
AJ Walker      Leslie Washington      Chad Wilcocks      Karen Wilson      Kamaria's  
Mom & Family      Ann Winkler      Bruce Wright      Paula Zellner      Rick Zellner  
Family of Dorothy Lighthall - Dumford      Family of Jim Maybury  
Family of Del Yung      Family of Bruce Banker      Family of Rev. Andrew Bierkan  
Family of William DuPriest      Family of Anne Marie Timme  
Partner of Roxanne Reed -Family of Bill Carter, the "Colonel"*

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

**MAY  
NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE**



The newsletter deadline for the May edition is Wednesday, April 23rd. 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, April 27th. 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**

Trudy & Joe Jester

Carolyn & Roy Push

**In Memory of Sharon Wagner**

Trudy & Joe Jester

**In Memory of Dorothy Lighthall-Dumford**

Bobbie Compton

Joyce Compton

Carolyn & Roy Push

Trudy & Joe Jester

Elaine Sloan

**In Memory of Erma Amrein**

Trudy & Joe Jester

**In Memory of Jim Maybury**

Carol & Mike Chalfin

Bobbie Compton

Joyce Compton

Trudy & Joe Jester

Bonnie & Steve Rogers

**In Memory of Bruce Banker**

Trudy & Joe Jester

**In Memory of Adele Yung**

Carol & Mike Chalfin

Trudy & Joe Jester

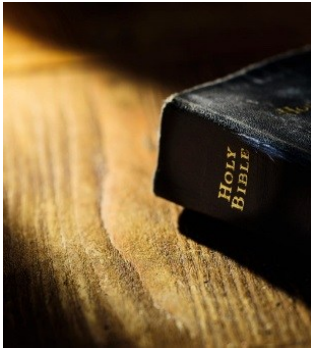
Bonnie & Steve Rogers

Elaine Sloan

**In Memory of Rev. Andrew Bierkan**

Trudy & Joe Jester

## Worship Leaders in April



Terry DuPriest	4/6/2025
Vicki Celenza	4/13/2025
Steve Lighthall	4/17/2025
David Holmes	4/20/2025
Margaret Maybury	4/27/2025

## Communion Servers in April

Terry DuPriest	Melissa Holmes	4/6/2025
Vicki Celenza	Judith Lewis-Combs	4/13/2025
Steve Lighthall	Robin Lighthall	4/17/2025
David Holmes	Lois Bates	4/20/2025
Margaret Maybury	Linda Woods	4/27/2025

## Greeters in April

Vicki Celenza	4/6/2025
Judith Lewis-Combs	4/13/2025
Margaret Maybury	4/17/2025
Lois Bates	4/20/2025
Robin Lighthall	4/27/2025



January 13th, 2025 Board Meeting Notes

Steve called meeting to order and Skip opened with prayer at 6:05pm. Five board members present. December meeting notes read and approved as read.

### **Team/Committee Reports**

#### **Finance (Mike I)**

- Reported that church is going through a lot less money this year. This is due to the fact that we were able to get many of the needed building updates completed and paid in 2024.
- Receiving Covid(ERC) payments from government. Full report to come.
- Audit is in process of finishing up. Report to come next month.
- Treasurer report accepted. See attached.

#### **Building (Skip)**

- New heating in Café and office areas completed with new furnace units combined as one system.
- Previous snow plowing company has been discontinued. We are now using T.H.E. Property Maintenance Service for snow removal.

#### **Personnel (Ben)**

- Working through the review process. Will include team leads when meeting with employees.
- Refinement to new pastor job description is being worked on.
- Received feedback to make job descriptions readily available for congregation future review process. Plan to include this communication in a future newsletter.
- Continue work to search for Associate Pastor with Brian's help.
- 3-month calendar with staff vacation and out of office schedule along with key church dates created by Anne is now being posted in the café.

#### **Spiritual (Robin)**

- Team is meeting next Monday.
- Team has planned for an exciting 2025! Will be sharing more soon.

#### **Additional Business (Steve)**

- Shared a feedback letter from a church member regarding suggestions for improvement.
- Missy Sauer stepped down from spiritual team and Kim Ferry has stepped in to role.
- Discussion was begun about new opportunity to grow the church

Meeting closed with a prayer by Ben at 7:40pm



# Thank You!

Thank you so much for the Peace Lillies given to my sister and me in memory of our mom, Adele Yung. We appreciate your thoughts and prayers. I know she is smiling down on us!

With love,  
Sandy Blevins and Sue Erickson



## Love and Thanks

We are so grateful for your love and support during this time of sadness. The kindness of friends and family warms our hearts.

The Family of Dorothy Lighthall

*To the Members of  
JCC*

**You made such a difference,  
and it is so deeply appreciated.**





*Your support is overwhelming  
& so appreciated. I am  
so grateful & blessed*

*Margaret  
Meyers*

*Thank you so much for the beautiful  
plant in memory of my mom, Dorothy Lighthall.  
This added beauty to the service, complemented by  
your kindness and support.  
With heartfelt thanks,  
Steve, Robin and family*

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# April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>5</b> FH = Fellowship Hall ELC = Early Learning Center HS= Head Start	<b>1</b> Building Team meets after Worship on Sunday's as needed.	<b>2</b> ELC Spring Break  Community Dinner 5:00 - 6:30 PM	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Bible Study 12 PM - Café  AA - 8 PM	<b>5</b>	AA - 8 PM
<b>6</b> Worship Jazz Trio	<b>7</b> AARP Tax Prep 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM HS - No School	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Bible Study 12 PM - Cafe	<b>11</b> AA - 8 PM	<b>12</b> AA - 8 PM
<b>13</b> Palm Sunday Worship George Theders 	<b>14</b> HS - No School	<b>15</b> Community Dinner 5:00 - 6:30 PM	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Bible Study 12 PM - Cafe  Maundy Thursday Service 6:30 PM	<b>18</b> Good Friday Office Closed 1/2 Day  ELC - No School AA - 8 PM	<b>19</b> AA - 8 PM
<b>20</b> Easter Sunday Worship Jazz Trio 	<b>21</b> Office Closed HS - No School Brian Vacation	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Newsletter Articles Due	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> AA - 8 PM	<b>26</b> AA - 8 PM
<b>27</b> Worship George Theders Pastor Washington  Blood Pressure 9:15-9:45 am Brian Vacation	<b>28</b> HS - No School	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			