



# Pathways May 2025



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## What's Happening

### VBS 2025

*Journey Community Church*

6997 Hamilton Ave 45231

**June 16 - 19th**

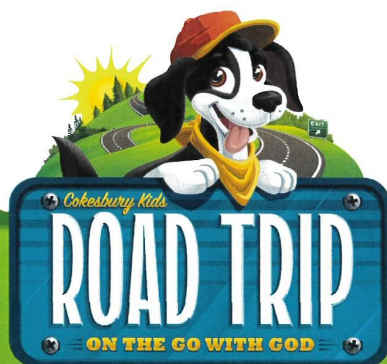
**Dinner** 5:30 - 8:00pm **Music**

**Pre K - 5th grade**

**Registration Deadline**

**Crafts** **June 2nd** **Science**

**Bible  
Stories**



**513-325-9961**

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

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

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

A few years ago, I completely redid the landscaping in front of my house. I tore up everything, redesigned where the garden beds went, and planted brand new flowers.

I was so proud of the work that I put in and was excited to see how the flowers bloomed and how everything progressed year after year.

At the time, I was confident that I had chosen the correct flowers, put them in the right places, and, since they were perennials, would only have to do maintenance work moving forward.

However, during the second year, one of my flower beds wasn't producing the results I wanted. Everything was drooping and the flowers weren't blooming like I had hoped. But I had worked so hard on them the year before that I decided to give them time.

I watered them all summer, kept bugs and rabbits away from them, and tried to will them into growth. It didn't work. They simply wouldn't flourish.

This year, as I set out to get my garden ready for the spring and summer, I lamented the failed garden bed. Even now I was hesitant to give up on them. I wrestled with the idea of giving them another summer to grow. I had put a lot of work into that bed after all!

But I knew it was my pride speaking, rather than my wisdom. So I eventually decided to rip everything up and start over. I took out all the old flowers and replaced them with new ones that were more suited to the soil and sunlight offered to that bed.

Already, the new plants are greener and more vibrant than the previous ones. And though it's still early in the year, flowers are already starting to peek out of their buds.

It was a hard choice, but starting over ended up being the correct decision.

The same can be true for many things in our lives. We start something, commit to it, and try our best to make it work. But sometimes those things are the wrong flowers in the wrong bed, and it simply does not work.

But starting over, choosing something new, and giving your energy to those things can be exactly what we need. There is no shame in realizing that something isn't working and uprooting it from our lives as a result.

Sometimes that's the only way to allow other, more important things to flourish

Holding onto something just because you think you have to isn't always the right thing to do. Letting go and starting over is often healthier and makes us happier.

What do you need to let go of? And what can you plant in its place?





5/1 Karen Schroer  
 5/5 Pam Leist  
 5/6 Jenny Birdsong  
 Linda Stegman  
 5/7 Judy Staudigel

5/8 Alice Graber  
 5/9 Emmett Izer  
 5/11 Dee Iverson  
 5/16 Greg Turner  
 5/17 Linda Woods

5/19 Alexis Mittler  
 5/21 Jackie Lamott  
 5/23 Tyler Mittler  
 5/31 Judith McIlhaney  
 Angie Tietzort



6/3 Brian Carr  
 6/5 Debbie Schaefer

6/6 Mark Heitman  
 6/13 Cheryl DuPriest

6/13 David Lynch  
 6/22 Jordyn King

## CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Our church is 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. If you haven't started yet, 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 as more details and plans are formed.



*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    Victoria Baumstead    Barb Brewer    Mike Burriss  
Mark Carothers    Logan Cowan    Carrie Devine    Mercedes Dreier  
**Cheryl DuPriest**    Terry DuPriest    Ethan, student of Missy    Kim Ferry  
Sue Geary    Ken Handley    Lin Heald    Teresa Howard    Jim Hutchison  
Mike Iverson    Janet Koehler    John Koehler    Rob Langdon  
Judith Lewis-Combs    **Jessica and Baby Titus**    **Bill Luke**    Vicki Luke  
Catherine Lynch    Harper Manning    Dan McDonald    Sara McQueen  
Nathan's Grandmother    Debbie Nungester    Roger Purcell    Ruth Purcell  
Randy, nephew Doris Foster    Ricky Renier    Vicky Ritz    Steve Rogers  
Cherie Lynn Sauer    Tom Schumm    Chris Shannon    Summer, Mom's Family  
Paul Tensing    Amy Wadl    AJ Walker    **Pastor Kendall Washington**  
**Leslie Washington**    Chad Wilcocks    Karen Wilson    Kamaria's Mom & Family  
Ann Winkler    Bruce Wright    Paula Zellner    Rick Zellner  
Partner of Roxanne Reed -Family of Bill Carter, the "Colonel"  
Family of Roy Push    Family of Friend of Jessika Combs

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

**JUNE  
NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE**

The newsletter deadline for the May edition is Wednesday, May 21st. 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, May 25th. 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 Bruce Banker**

Carol & Mike Chalfin

Elaine Sloan

**In Memory of Adele Yung**

Anne & Skip Zimmer

**In Memory of Roy Push**

Linda Woods



**In Memory of Rev. Andrew Bierkan**

Elaine Sloan

**In Memory of Bill Carter**

Carol & Mike Chalfin

Tommie Jenkins

Linda Woods

Anne & Skip Zimmer

**PLEASE HELP US with  
LIGHTS AND DOORS**

On several occurrences lately, we have found lights being left on and inside doors open.

Please be sure to check doors before you leave.

Please check to make sure that the lights are off in the building when you leave.

Thank you!



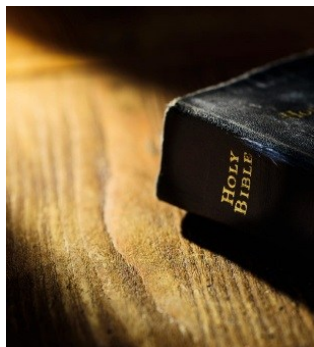
**LIVE STREAM  
OR  
GO BACK AND SEE A WEEK  
(OR TWO)  
THAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED**

Here is the link that will take to watch a live service, or to even go back and watch a service that you may have missed.

<https://www.youtube.com/@journeyccc/streams>



## Worship Leaders in May



Linda Woods	5/4/2025
Jim Hutchison	5/11/2025
Judith Lewis-Combs	5/18/2025
Bobbie Compton	5/25/2025

## Communion Servers in May

Linda Woods	Bobbie Compton	5/4/2025
Steve Lighthall	Dee Iverson	5/11/2025
Judith Lewis-Combs	Ben Sauer	5/18/2025
Bobbie Compton	Roxanne Reed	5/25/2025

## Greeters in May

Judith Lewis-Combs	5/4/2025
Steve Lighthall	5/11/2025
Lois Bates	5/18/2025
Margaret Maybury	5/25/2025



### 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	



Here we are at the last month of school! Looking back, 9 months ago, we welcomed our new students! At that time, many of them were nervous and did not know what to expect at preschool! Now, we see children who skip into class as they are so excited to see friends and teachers each day! Inches taller and looking more grown up, they sure pull at our heartstrings! This is always such a bittersweet time for

teachers as these children have become a part of our daily life! Before we say goodbye for the summer, we will end our school year with fun activities, dance parties, pizza parties, concerts, and graduation!

Thank you Journey Community Church for your continued support of St. Paul Early Learning Center! Have a safe and healthy summer!

Judy Staudigel  
Director

## DO YOU KNOW THIS PERSON?

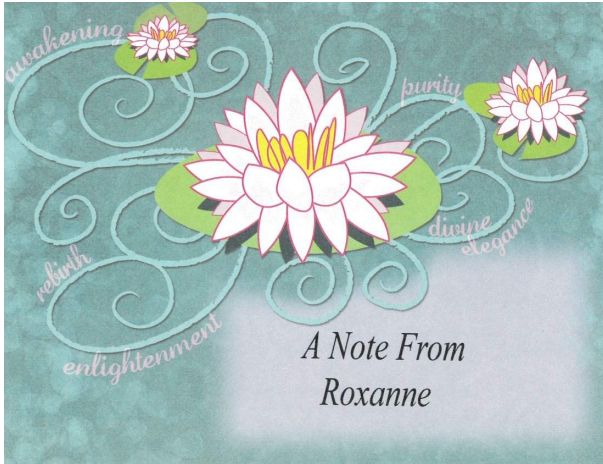
We are digitizing all of our photos, many of which were given to the church of past events. However, there is a great number of them that are unmarked of who is in the picture. Maybe you could help us identify these folks? If you recognize someone in any of the photos, please let Anne know so that she can mark the file.

We are still trying to determine what exactly we will do with the pictures. However, since they are all on the computer now, the original pictures will be available in the future. We are considering placing them on a couple of tables during coffee hour, and if it is someone you know and would like to claim that picture, it will be yours.





# Thank You!



April 16, 2025  
Dear Journey Community Church,

Thank you all for your thoughtfulness during my recent loss of Bill "the Colonel". The peace Lily is beautiful and I sincerely appreciate you remembering Bill. Love to All  
Roxanne



Thank you so much for the prayer blanket during my stay at Mercy West.

Thank you also for the cares and concerns, during the time of my father's death

We thank you for all the love and support you have given our family during this difficult time.

Thank you!  
Terry DuPriest

# May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Building Team meets after Worship on Sunday's as needed.	FH = Fellowship Hall ELC = Early Learning Center HS= Head Start		1		2 AA - 8 PM	3 Hannah –Recital 2PM arrival Sanctuary AA - 8 PM
4 Worship Jazz Trio	5 Head Start - No School	6 Primary Election In Bldg.  Community Dinner 5 - 6:30 PM	7	8	9  AA - 8 PM	10  AA - 8 PM
11 Worship George Theders	12 Head Start - No School	13	14 ELC - 3's Family Dance Party FH 7 PM	15 ELC Concert 4's & Pre-K 7 PM Sanctuary	16 ELC Last Day 2.5's  AA - 8 PM	17  AA - 8 PM
18 Worship Jazz Trio	19 Head Start - No School	20  Community Dinner 5 - 6:30 PM	21 Newsletter Articles Due  ELC Last Day of School 3, 4, Pre-K Head Start Last Day HS Playground 4-5pm	22	23  AA - 8 PM	24  AA - 8 PM
25 Worship George Theders Blood Pressure Screening 9:15 - 9:45 am	26 Memorial Day Observed  Office Closed	27	28	29	30  AA - 8 PM	31  AA - 8 PM