



# Pathways July 2025



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## What's Happening



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

Window Clings made during VBS by the children!

## Pastor Words of Wisdom

We recently hosted Vacation Bible School at our church where we had the opportunity to teach and interact with almost 50 children.

It was a wonderful week where the kids had plenty of fun, but also learned some really important things about God and about themselves.

What I always find interesting about these events is that even though they are geared toward children, the lessons they learn are ones that we as adults would do well to listen to also.

They learned that God is with them on the journey. We don't always know where we are going or where we will end up, but God stays with us during every step, illuminating the path at our feet.

They learned that God is with them when they go off course. Life doesn't always go exactly how we plan or hope. Sometimes we go off course or are forced to take detours. But even in those moments, God is with us and uses those unexpected paths to teach us new lessons.

They learned that God is with them when they are lonely. Not everyone will like us. Not everyone will want to be our friend. Sometimes we end up alone, or at least feeling that way. But we are never truly alone because God stays with us and reminds us how loved we truly are.

And they learned that God is with them near and far. No matter where we go and where we end up, God goes with us. It could be just across the street to a friend's house, or halfway across the world while travelling. Either way, we don't leave God behind and God doesn't leave us behind.

Sounds like some lessons that we should remember too, right?

Did any of those resonate with you? Did you read any (or all) of those and think, "I needed to hear that today"?

We often take for granted the simplest lessons in life. We are too busy being adults who know better than children, and therefore ought to be learning more complex things.

But the reality is that it's often the simplest message which helps us the most. It's the wisdom of children and for children that can teach us the most about who God is and who we are.

So maybe next year you can come to VBS not to just volunteer or help, but to also learn.

You're never too old for that.





7/1 Carol Lommer  
7/2 Steven Turner  
7/3 Annie Efke  
7/6 Donald Lerch  
7/8 Brittney Heitman

7/12 Roxanne Reed  
7/15 Molly Marshall  
7/16 John Rogers  
7/18 Haley Hauer  
7/23 Nancy Klusmeier



7/24 Scott Sauer  
7/27 Kristen Woods  
7/28 Lyndelle Murphy  
7/29 Sonya Heitman



8/5 Vicky Ritz  
8/15 Patricia Yung  
8/21 Don Dumford  
Elijah Jones

8/23 Debbie Beresford  
Melitta Marx  
8/27 Skip Zimmer  
8/28 Patti Hornback

8/28 Bonnie Reed  
8/30 Ruth Hoeweler  
Tommie Jenkins  
Doris Foster

## CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Have you been going thru your closets, basements, attics, and storage areas? If not, there is still time. Our Rummage Sale on Saturday, August 9th, in Fellowship Hall, will be here before we know it. 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. Items that you no longer need or want and would like to donate for the sale, you are welcome to bring them to church. Please note that we will not be taking donations of clothing. Items may be dropped off at the Church Office at any time. If you have larger items, or if you are unable to bring the items to church yourself, please 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. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex. However much time you have available to help out, there is a place for you! 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   Christina Bast   Barb Brewer  
Mike Burriss   Andy Campbell   Mark Carothers   **Skye Connerley**  
Logan Cowan   **Chelsey Davis**   Carrie Devine   Mercedes Dreier  
Cheryl DuPriest   Terry DuPriest   Ethan, student of Missy   Sue Geary  
Ken Handley   Lin Heald   **Rebecca Horning**   Teresa Howard  
Mike Iverson   Janet Koehler   Rob Langdon   **Joan Lewis**   Bill Luke  
Vicki Luke   Catherine Lynch   Harper Manning  
Dan McDonald   Sara McQueen   Nathan's Grandmother   Debbie Nungester  
Roger Purcell   Ruth Purcell   Ricky Renier   Steve Rogers   Cherie Lynn  
Sauer   Tom Schumm   Chris Shannon   **Drew Staudigel**  
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   Kay Zimmer   Kip Zimmer  
**Family of John Koehler**

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

**AUGUST  
NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE**

The newsletter deadline for the August edition is Wednesday, July 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**

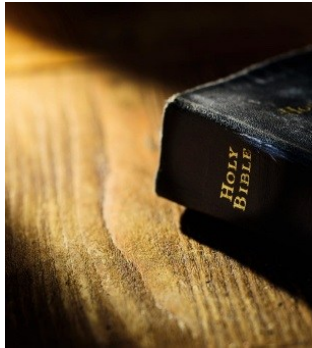
Our parish nurses, Vicki Celenza and Roxanne Reed, will have blood pressure screening on Sunday, July 27th. All are welcome!

**FACEBOOK PAGE**

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



## Worship Leaders in July



Melissa Holmes	7/6/2025
Linda Woods	7/13/2025
Bobbie Compton	7/20/2025
David Holmes	7/27/2025

## Communion Servers in July

Melissa Holmes	David Holmes	7/6/2025
Linda Woods	Terry DuPriest	7/13/2025
Bobbie Compton	Roxanne Reed	7/20/2025
David Holmes	Judith Lewis-Combs	7/27/2025

## Greeters in July

Margaret Maybury	7/6/2025
Vicki Celenza	7/13/2025
Steve Lighthall	7/20/2025
Judith Lewis-Combs	7/27/2025



### 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	



### March 10th, 2025 Board Meeting Notes

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Steve called meeting to order and Brian opened with prayer at 6:10pm. Five board members present along with pastor.

January meeting notes read and approved with minor edits.

#### **Team/Committee Reports**

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

- Shared that we are finishing up major expenses.
- Treasurer report accepted. See attached.

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

- Shared that Jim is missed and have been working through his absence.
- Zimmer heating has finished roof top unit for Head Start area.
- April tune-up for cooling system. Church is holding back 10% until work is completed.
- 3 Janitor carts have been ordered. One for each floor. Rob is currently using one.
- Ordered air freshener devices for bathrooms (8).
- Starting today we have a new SPELC cleaning lady.
- Bill has started to fill in the church cleaning for Kim Ferry.
- There is concern about all the cars in the South Lot.
- SPELC has some safety concerns with Jim not being here.

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

- Had office administrator and treasurer's review (Anne's). Agreed to have Dee and Anne work together on creating instructions/user guide for key administrator tasks/job duties to have on hand in case of Anne's absence.
- Refinements made and shared with Brian updated pastor job.
- Followed up on Associate/youth pastor with Brian.

## Board Meeting Notes Continued

**Spiritual** (Robin)

- No Easter Egg Hunt this year.
- We are trying to plan a community cookout sometime this summer.
- May 10<sup>th</sup> planting area along side of church will require more than just one day of work to complete.
- We are preparing for VBS which will be June 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>. New this year the hours will be changed a bit to give us time to feed the children dinner before it begins. There will be no more recreation, that time will focus on mission.
- Trudy has two bible studies planned. The first is a four week “Why Easter Matters”. She will announce dates soon.
- Vicki has formed a book club that will meet for the first time on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. The book for this month is “In a Dark, Dark Wood” by Ruth Ware (psychological thriller)
- We have started our themed coffee hours again to try to get more of the congregation involved.
- I am so happy that everyone is enjoying the Pairs & Spares group. It’s hard to believe that we have been meeting for over a year. Cheryl Rogers has planned the next one on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at Krimmer’s Italianette.

**Pastor Report** (Brian)

- Youth minister posted with Disciples Region
- Alan Harris, Disciples Regional Minister, hopes to visit our church soon.
- Preparation for Easter has begun. Working on ways to get more people to come to our church.
- Pastoral Care Update:
  - Many funerals the past couple of months.
  - Visits – Terry D., Cherie Lynn, Kim F.
  - Calls – Jim Hutchison and others not attending.
- From Anne Oak Street Health Care contacted church to set up a table during upcoming coffee hour to share information to church members.

**Additional Business** (Steve)

Outdoor signage- We currently have only the red digital sign that identifies the Name of our church, and this is only for a brief moment. Our church needs permanent fixed signage out front that identifies us as Journey Community Church! I met with Jeff Scroggie from FastSigns that did the original installation and currently performs maintenance on our sign. He is going to supply us with a couple options to review: 1) Add a fixed lighted sign to the top of the existing sign with our church name and, 2) Fixed lettering mounted on the front of the church. Ironically, the church used to have this permanent signage out front on the large brick wall. I don’t know whatever happened to it, as it looked very nice.



## Board Meeting Notes Continued

**Additional Business** (Steve) (continued)

Sam Weismann, one of the Learning Center teachers, would like to do a tree planting in honor/ memory of Jimmy Maybury. This will be a Norway spruce, to be located to the right of the Learning Center sign in front of the playground.

Discussion on the letter to the Board from one member, and some follow up measures. I met with this individual to gain clarity on the items of concern so that we would all be on the same page when discussing. Although not all items are addressed here, this is a work in progress and the current follow-ups are as noted: 1) Job descriptions will be available when yearly feedback requests are solicited on the church staff employees. 2) We will begin having a quarterly/semi annual process where anyone can become a new member or renew a membership and welcomed in front of the congregation. Brian will begin talking about the process on Sundays as a part of the worship service. We have already rekindled the welcome meet/greet shaking hands etc during the service. 3) To improve transparency and more details of the Board meetings, each member will provide a printout to Ben detailing their topics and discussion points and updates. Ben will capture any subsequent discussions on these topics and incorporate into the notes. 4) Discuss having all congregation votes by secret ballot. Currently we do this when we have all elections. Further discussion to be had on this request.

We are going to sign a contract with a towing company to remove any unauthorized vehicles from our property. Ideally, they will post the signs for us on the property and keep us compliant when having someone towed.

Meeting closed with a prayer by Brian at 7:50pm

**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.

**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>

# July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Anne Vacation	2	3	4 Fourth of July Office Closed	5
		Community Dinner 5-6:30 PM			 AA-8PM	AA-8PM
6 Jazz Trio	7 Men's Bible Study 4 PM - High Grain	8	9	10 Anne Back in Office	11	12
Anne Vacation					AA-8PM	AA-8PM
13 George Theders	14 Brian Vacation	15	16	17	18 Brian Back	19
		Community Dinner 5-6:30 PM			AA-8PM	AA-8PM
20 Jazz Trio	21 Men's Bible Study 4 PM - High Grain	22	23 Newsletter Articles Due	24	25	26
					AA-8PM	AA-8PM
27 George Theders	28	29	30	31 Book Club Café 7 PM	FH = Fellowship Hall ELC = Early Learning Center HS = Head Start	Building Team meets after Worship on Sunday's as needed.