



Pathways August 2025



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What's Happening

Journey
Community Church
UCC-DOC
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Cincinnati, OH
45231

Ph. 513-931-2205
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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 recently moved into a new house and had the opportunity to go through all of my stuff in an effort to figure out what I was bringing with me and what I could get rid of.

I had lived at my old house for about three years, and there were boxes in the basement that I had never opened in my entire time there.

As I went through the boxes, I started two piles - one for things I wanted to keep, and one for things I could throw away or donate.

The “keep” pile kept growing larger and larger while the “donate” pile remained relatively empty. Eventually I noticed this and took a moment to stop and think about what I was doing.

The stuff I felt like I had to keep was stuff that I had not used for the past 3+ years, most of which I had forgotten I had. Yet I was insisting to myself that I needed to keep it.

Keeping it meant packing it away, carrying it and moving it, and then having to find a place to store it in my new house. It took time, effort, energy, and space. All for things that in all actuality I had no use for, as evidenced by it sitting untouched for years.

All that effort and hassle for things I don’t need and aren’t helpful to me.

Life can be the same way.

How many unnecessary things do we have stored in our minds? Things that take up time, effort, energy, and space?

Things that we carry with us and move from place to place, only for them to do more harm than good?

It can be difficult to let that kind of stuff go. I could barely bring myself to throw away junk that I have rarely if ever used. How much harder is it for us to let go of old hurts, thoughts, and feelings?

I know how difficult it can be to let go of a painful memory, or a fight that we had with someone, or an insult someone yelled at us years ago, or that one thing that your coworker did that really annoyed you.

We are people who hold onto things, even if we don’t realize it. But we often need to move on, and with moving comes the opportunity to clean out the boxes of things we no longer need.

Once we get rid of the things we don’t need, we open up more space for new experiences and thoughts and feelings. As they say, out with the old and in with the new.

So let’s get moving.





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



9/15 Bill Luke

9/22 Aidan Dahm
Darwin Yung

9/25 Amanda Iverson
9/27 David Holmes

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Our Rummage Sale is fast approaching, on Saturday, August 9th, in Fellowship Hall. A huge thank you to all who have already brought in many of their items. The last day to bring in any donated items will be on Wednesday, August 6th.

If you haven't signed up to help yet, there is still time. We will need all the possible help available. There will be a brief meeting Sunday, August 3rd, after worship, in the café, so that we can discuss a few last minute updates regarding set up, moving everything to the fellowship hall, and on the day of the sale.

Many thanks to those who have signed up to help, has helped already, and those who will be helping on the day of the Rummage Sale.



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
Families and Rescuers - Texas Flooding

Alex, Brian's partner Nola Apro Victoria Baumstead Christina Bast
Lindsey Borgman Barb Brewer Mike Burriss Mark Carothers
Lee & Sue Chambers Adam Clark Skye Connerley Logan Cowan
Chelsey Davis Carrie Devine Mercedes Dreier Cheryl DuPriest
Terry DuPriest Ethan, student of Missy Jan Foster Sue Geary
Ken Handley Rebecca Horning Teresa Howard Mike Iverson
Bill Jackson (continued health from heart and kidney transplant) **Jan Keller**
Janet Koehler Rob Langdon Joan Lewis Bill Luke Vicki Luke
Catherine Lynch Harper Manning Sue Marshall 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
Family of John Koehler Family of Andy Campbell

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

**SEPTEMBER
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

The newsletter deadline for the September edition is Wednesday, August 13th. 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 QR 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.

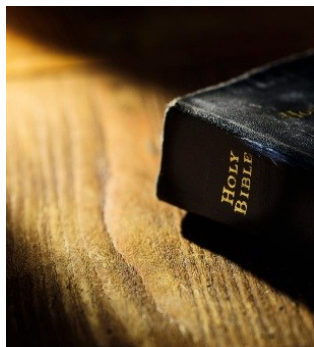
PARISH NURSES

Our parish nurses, Vicki Celenza and Roxanne Reed, will have blood pressure screening on Sunday, August 24th. 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 August



Margaret Maybury	8/3/2025
Roxanne Reed	8/10/2025
Ben Sauer	8/17/2025
Judith Lewis-Combs	8/24/2025
Terry DuPriest	8/31/2025

Communion Servers in August

Margaret Maybury	Lois Bates	8/3/2025
Roxanne Reed	Linda Woods	8/10/2025
Ben Sauer	Louise Pitcher	8/17/2025
Judith Lewis-Combs	Robin Lighthall	8/24/2025
Terry DuPriest	Lois Bates	8/31/2025

Greeters in August

Lois Bates	8/3/2025
Steve Lighthall	8/10/2025
Judith Lewis-Combs	8/17/2025
Robin Lighthall	8/24/2025
Lois Bates	8/31/2025



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	



May 12th, 2025 Board Meeting Notes

Steve called meeting to order and Brian opened with prayer at 6:00pm. Five board members present along with pastor.

March meeting notes read and approved with minor edits.

Team/Committee Reports Finance (Mike I)

- Discussion regarding Deb S. will be available to run payroll while Anne is on vacation as needed.
- Treasurer report accepted. See attached.

Building (Skip)

- Passed out quotes from the electrician (HillTop) to repair the following.
 - Light for the cross in front of the building
 - Replace the portico lights.
- The Board gave go ahead to proceed
- Discussed the potential of removing the two trees from the Narthex courtyard and pastor courtyard. Skip requested a quote from a tree removal company.
- All new HVAC equipment is now operational.
- Discussed the replacement for Jim Maybury. Will meet with Ben for further discussions on hiring Kim Ferry.

Personnel (Ben)

- Have completed Pastor's review
- Personnel team to meet with Skip and Kim to go over Sexton job description and align to expectations.
 - May 19th is Kim's official start date
- Need to regroup and move on creating key tasks descriptions and process for essential Administration (Anne and Dee) and Sunday Tech (Mike B. and Ben).
- Discussion on payroll changes, along with review process and timing.
- Moving forward Personnel will gather feedback for employees between Nov 15th and December 15th each year
- Employee reviews to be conducted between January 1st and February 15th
- Any payroll increase will happen starting March 1st of that year

Board Meeting Notes Continued**Spiritual (Robin)**

- 11 Volunteers showed up to help with gardening on Saturday, May 10th
- Trudy finished an Easter Bible Study
- Twelve people attended the first book club. The next book will be "Sisters Like Us" by Susan Mallery and the group will be meeting on April 29th in the café.
- Everyone is preparing for VBS which is just around the corner.
- A community cookout is in the works for Saturday, July 12th.
- We are considering doing a "Fall into Jazz" evening sometime before Thanksgiving.
- Board discussed taking the time to look around each Sunday to see who might be missing that week and work to reach out to each as appropriate.
- Mike I. volunteered to head up Pairs and Spares for June.

Pastor Report (Brian)

- Pastoral Care - 15 visits - 2 funerals - 45 phone calls - Includes check-ins, new visitors, counseling, and prayer - Does not include common questions/conversations that reflect day-to-day work
- Rev. Allen Harris - Regional Minister for the Ohio Region of the Disciples of Christ - Will be preaching on May 18th - Wants to start building more bonds between church and denomination - UCC is in process of hiring a new Association Minister and I hope to invite her to come preach soon as well
- Offering Cards - Way to reflect the things our congregation is doing/offering outside of just financial tithing

Test it out for a month or two so we can gather data and celebrate the work we are collectively doing

- Membership Sundays - Last Sunday of every month - Happens during the service - A time for people to join the church, reaffirm their membership/faith
- Pastor Vacation - June 23rd-29th
- July 14th-17th

Additional Business (Steve)

- Towing signs have been installed at both parking lot areas. Sawyer Towing has already removed one vehicle from the back lot. We need to install at least one more sign for visibility in the back lot, which is being used heavily by the complex tenants across the street.
- Review three applicants criteria for the Zwoster Scholarship. Dylan (Mike and Patti's grandson), Allie (Judy, the Dir. of our learning Center, daughter), and Logan (Steve and Robin's grandson). The scholarship team recommends all three candidates for the award. One applicant has questionable total hours recorded but meets the criteria minimum hours regardless.

Board Meeting Notes Continued

- We have made no progress on our outdoor signage requests. Currently there is no permanent fixture that identifies the name of our church.
- Each Board member needs to send their meeting notes to Ben in Word format.

Meeting closed with a prayer by Brian at 8:10pm

FREE TOMATOES “MAYBE”

You may have noticed that eleven tomato plants have been planted at the far western end of the main church parking lot up against the chain link fence. With “a little bit of Luck” God, (with our help) will provide us with some red juicy, sweet tomatoes. However, there are some “ifs”.

If the plants grow, we may get tomatoes.

If the weather is good, we may get tomatoes.

If the deer and other varmints don’t get them, we may get tomatoes.

If not, we have the satisfaction of knowing that we helped feed God’s wildlife.

If the neighbors pick them, we have the satisfaction of helping our neighbors as God wants us to do.

In any event, keep an eye out for ripening tomatoes after church on Sundays. If you see some, feel free to pick one or two, but please leave some for others. They were planted for all of us to share. One more if, if by chance we have an abundance of tomatoes, we will donate them to Mt. Healthy Alliance Pantry or another charity.

Here’s hoping for lots of tomatoes!!

Cliff Dziech

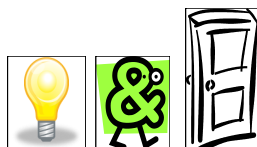


PLEASE HELP US with LIGHTS AND DOORS

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>

August 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 AA - 8 PM	2 AA - 8 PM
3 Worship Jazz Trio	4 Men's Bible Study 4 pm HighGrain	5 Community Dinner 5:00-6:30 PM	6	7 Begin set up for Rummage Sale 6: 30 PM-?	8 Set Up Rummage Sale 9 am-3 pm AA - 8 PM	9 Rummage Sale 8:30 am-2:00 pm AA - 8 PM
10 Worship George Theders	11	12	13 Newsletter Articles Due	14	15 AA - 8 PM	16 AA - 8 PM
17 Worship Jazz Trio	18 Anne Off Linda In Men's Bible Study 4 pm HighGrain	19 Office Closed Community Dinner 5:00-6:30 PM	20	21	22 AA - 8 PM	23 AA - 8 PM
24 Worship George Theders Blood Pressure Screening Café 9:15 - 9:45 AM	25 Anne Back	26	27	28	29 AA - 8 PM	30 AA - 8 PM