

Emmanuel UCC



JULY

Newsletter 2022

*And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.
John 8:32*

Greetings my brothers and sisters in Christ! We are finally in the full swing of summer and now wishing for all that rain we had in the spring time to come back and turn our brown grass green and help the crops grow. Funny how when we don't want rain we get it and when we do want rain not a drop is to be found. Still we have faith in the Lord and that he will provide for all our needs.

I will remind you all again that this season means that many of our youth will be out playing, our bikers will be biking, walkers walking, joggers jogging for some reason, and more activity on the road. Please be aware of all of this as you drive around in your nice, cool, air conditioned vehicles and if you happen to be someone who rides, I implore you to wear a helmet. It saved the life of my brother-in-law and it could save you too. Also, as I was reminded by a friendly concerned stranger at a rest stop during our trip in June, our pets will find it very hot outside and the roads hot. So keep them indoors, in the shade, and off hot surfaces whenever possible. Our furry friends need us to look out for them on days like these.

Here at the church we are in Summer mode with another joint service and picnic coming up at the end of July. Be aware that our **service on July 31st will be here at Emmanuel**, outside if possible, **at 10:30**. On that same day we will celebrate summer with a church picnic and games as has become our tradition. We will be seeking sides and desserts to go along with our chicken and sloppy joe sandwiches and of course donations of cakes, pies, and baked goods for our Pennsylvania Dutch Cake Walk. The day should be full of fun and activities so be sure to mark your calendars. Another upcoming event will be our Emmanuel Day at the Bluffton Pool sometime in July.

If you have not yet seen the online survey made available by the Village of Bluffton on the Bluffton Icon and in other various places around town, the "Bluffton Beyond Tomorrow" project is seeking some feedback on our community's thoughts on the present and future of Bluffton. Please be sure to check out and fill out a survey if you have time. If you would like to fill out a survey but need assistance in doing so, please let me (Pastor Jeremy) know and I will be happy to get you started. It simply asks for your thoughts on the current state of the Village of Bluffton and any ideas you may have for future projects you would like to see in improvement. It is information like this that helps our local leaders guide us into the future with a clearer picture of the needs of our community.

As for our Church Family, I wanted to thank you all for the wonderful cards, gifts, and words of encouragement over the past few weeks for the loss of my grandfather in Pennsylvania. He was 91 years old at the time of his passing and lived a very full life. I am proud to be known as his grandson and hope to continue his legacy of love, compassion, and faith, sharing with you in this community those fruits which he has instilled in me. Your words, thoughts, and prayers have been a wonderful system of support and speaks to the fruits of the Spirit to be found here at Emmanuel. I also know that many of you have been wondering "how it's going" with two churches and I can say that so far it has been going quite well.

We are blessed to have Ron Geiser available to us for filling in at the pulpit when needed and the leadership of both congregations have been very supportive and understanding as we find a balance together in this new form of ministry. I continue to look forward to the opportunities and challenges we will face together in the future with the seasons of the church kicking off once more in September with Rally Day. Be sure to mark your calendars for this along with another church time change in September.

I hope you all have a happy and safe Summer and would remind all of my campers out there, you can always join us online for worship, or simply go to our YouTube page to watch previous services you may have missed, even from the camp ground, beach, or wherever your life's path may lead.

Blessings,
Pastor Jeremy

Prayer List:

Janice Brewster

Linda Steele

Jeta Fruchey

Fred Andrews

Sean Burrell

Kathy Hobensack

Tanner Pinks (In Ecuador where there is civil unrest, waiting to get a flight back to states)

Luke Mummert (diagnosed with arthritis)
grandson of John and Regena Mummert

Sharl Steiner will be having more eye surgery

July 3

Luke 10:1-20

July 10

Luke 10:25-37

July 17

Luke 10:38-42

July 24

John 11:1-13

July 31

Luke 12:13-21



July 31 - Worship Emmanuel and St. John's will be worshipping together - One service at 10:30. This service will be at Emmanuel

There will be a church picnic to follow service. Food, Fun, Games and Fellowship. Chicken, Hot meat sandwiches, and Dietsch's Ice Cream will be provided.

WOMEN'S OUTREACH NEWS

The women's outreach put together 10 disaster kits at the April meeting. This was done with the help of a challenge by the Northwest Ohio Association. Thank you to all who helped with this mission.

In May 8 women went to Do Good ministries for a wonderful lunch located in Osgood, OH. This restaurant is unique in the each month their tips goes to a designated family in the area that has special need. The pictures tell a little about the restaurant and Kaitlin. Do Good Ministries provides a story hour with Jesus for kids, a bible study for adults and other ministries. The bench below was located outback where you could walk the Stations of the Cross and Labyrinth.



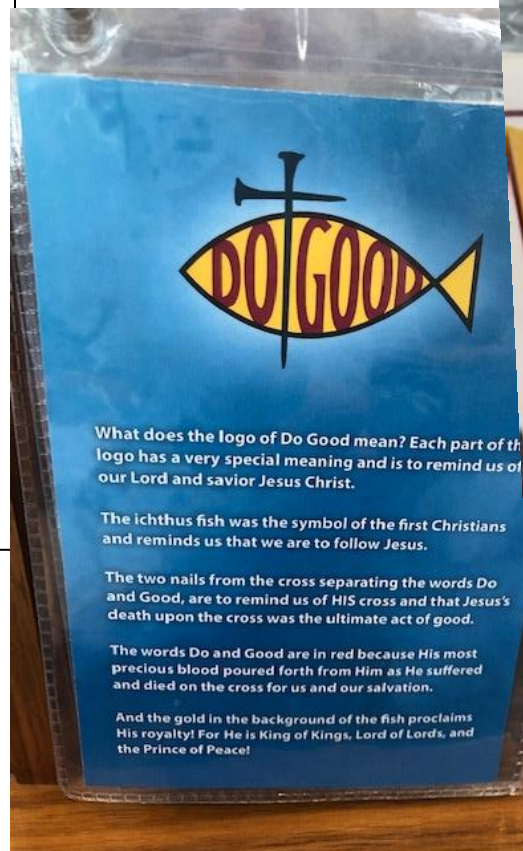
Women's Outreach will
not be meeting in July



2022 Disaster Kit Collection ON GOING PROJECT FOR 2022

Collection at NWOA - 133 disaster buckets & 142 hygiene kits

Thanks
to those participating
with buckets, hygiene kits & funds.



Church Watering

Help is needed with the watering and care of outside plants here at the church - Signup sheet on bulletin board or call Bev Shepler 419-236-5902 or the church 419-358-1561



Outdoor Movie Nights

Sunday evenings starts at 6:00pm

July 17 - American Underdog

July 31 - Wizard of Oz

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2022

The theme is **MEGA Sports Camp**.

Hero – Jesus is my hero because He created me.

Endurance – Jesus love endures even when I make a mistake.

Alert – Jesus sees exactly what I need.

Ready – Just like Jesus, I am ready to respond.

Triumphant – I can be with Jesus forever!

Save the dates of Sunday, July 17 through Thursday, July 21, 2022 for the Bluffton Community Vacation Bible School.

Presbyterian Church hosts this year's VBS.

Walkers and a person to teach soccer drills and skills are needed. If you are interested sign up sheet on bulletin board or call the church and we can get you signed up. 419-358-1561

Financial update

Current Fund	
YTD	
Income	\$40,908.30
YTD	
Expenses	\$43,876.95
Budget	\$42,643.75

Benevolence Fund	
YTD	
Income	\$1,963.76
Budget	\$2,187.50

Overall	
Income/Expense	
YTD	
Income	\$88,543.18
YTD	
Expense	\$58,599.24

Community news and from the church's wider church

Emmanuel UCC family

The email below was sent from K& J
Greenhouse in Columbus Grove, Oh.

(This is the Greenhouse where we have gotten our
flowers from for Easter, Christmas, and Mother's Day
fundraiser)

This email comes with much sadness, as we are going to
close our business as of July 1. This past year has been very
hard physically, and following covid, we talked about what I
would do if anything happened to Ken, and we were still
open, and we decided it would be best to close now before
that might happen. Also, we couldn't find help this past
spring, and 5 of us, and 1 driver, handled it all, which was
very difficult. We love all of you and the friendships we
have built along the way, and wish we could go on, but our
age has caught up with us. We have appreciated your
business more than you know these past many years, so
thank you very much

Thank you all again, so very very much. We are truly sorry
to make this announcement.

Ken and Jean

News from the UCC Cleveland office **Sale of UCC building in
Cleveland complete; new office space nearly
ready**

by Hans Holznagel | published on Jun 3, 2022

The United Church of Christ no longer owns property in
downtown Cleveland.

The sale of the 700 Prospect Avenue building, **announced in
April**, was officially completed as planned on Tuesday, May
31. The purchase price was \$4.5 million, said UCC General
Counsel Heather Kimmel, who handled the closing along with
General Minister and President John Dorhauer.

Dorhauer said proceeds from the sale — after some final
expenses — will be added to the national setting's
unrestricted endowment to help fund the mission of the United
Church of Christ.

Meantime, the church is making final preparations to move
into leased space in another downtown building a half-mile
away, at 1300 E. 9th Street. The build-out of offices there now
awaits city inspection. An occupancy permit is expected in
July.

Assets for mission

The sale ends a years-long process, **led by the UCC Board**,
to decide whether or not to keep 700 Prospect. The closure of
the building in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the
uptick in remote and hybrid work, added new aspects to that
process.

“As we look to position our organization for future success,
we seek to invest more resources in mission and personnel
and fewer resources in property,” Dorhauer said. “



2022 Emmanuel UCC Calendar

Sundayay Mondaya Tuesdaya Wednesdaya Thursday Friday Saturday

					1 Kizor Young	2 Bev Osborn Benjamin Shaw Tucker Wyman
3 Worship 9am	4 Doug Oberly	5	6	7	8	9 Men's Breakfast Lulu's 8:00 am Cassie Leiber Lani Shumaker
10 Worship 9am	11 Consistory 5pm Ron Geiser	12	13 Jo Lynn Burrell	14 Deron Geiser	15 Paul Cottrell Barbara Fett	16
17 Worship 9am Greg Fett Sandy Garmatter	18	19 Madison Melton	20	21	22	23
24 Worship 9am 31 Worship 10:30am	25	26 Jayne Caskie	27	28	29 Roy Reichenbach	30

Pocket Prayer Shawls.

Pocket prayer shawls, also called prayer squares and prayer cloths, are small enough to be tucked into pockets, purses and pillowcases.

History of Prayer shawls are known the world over, and come in many forms. It seems that the first Christian, formal prayer shawl ministry began in Hartford Connecticut in 1998. Since then, the practice has spread far and wide, bringing comfort to thousands. Whether they are called Prayer Shawls, Comfort Shawls, Peace Shawls, or Mantles, etc., the shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is sent on its way. Many blessings are prayed into every stitch.



We now have a basket at the back of the church that has Pocket Prayer Shawls. (Thanks to Pastor Jeremy's church in Pennsylvania)

If you know someone that you would like to share with. Please take one and give it to them. These prayer shawls have been prayed over and include a paper that includes May this pocket-sized prayer shawl made with love and infused with prayers, be a sign God's sustaining presence. Through it may you find wisdom, courage, empathy, love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

SAVE THE DATE **Sunday, September 11** **Rally Day**

Faith Formation classes officially start back
Lunch after church
(Lee's chicken)