



JANUARY 2023

THE MESSENGER

Dublin Community Church—United Church of Christ

Dublin Community Church United Church of Christ

81 W. Bridge Street
Dublin, Ohio 43017

Church Office:
614.889.1026

Website:
www.dublincommunitychurch.org

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www.facebook.com/dublincommunitychurchucc/

United Church of Christ:
www.ucc.org

Check Your Engines

By the time you read this we will have completed our Advent journey together and celebrated the light of Christ being born once again. We will have heard the familiar Scripture and sang all the carols and lit the candles. And now we are looking ahead to 2023 and everything the new year will bring.

In the midst of all the hustle and bustle of the Advent season, however, my family unfortunately has also dealt with a lot of car issues. Earlier in November one of my children came to me for advice as the “check engine” light had come on in their car. After having the car looked at by several different people, we were ultimately told that the car required a new engine. We had the repairs done just in time for another one of my children to tell me that now their “check engine” light was on. Fortunately, this time the repair was much simpler. But no sooner had that issue been resolved when the “check engine” light came on once again in the car with the “new” engine. And now that car is back in the shop as we await a

resolution.

I bring this up because our issues with car engines feel a bit to me like a metaphor for life. As we all emerge from a very busy month, and now look ahead to what the new year will bring, perhaps it's time that we all take a deep breath, pause, and check our metaphorical “engines.” While the Advent season can be extremely joyous, it can also be extremely exhausting. And so, my advice for us all is to pay particular attention to our “check engine” lights. It may be time for a bit of self-care as we rest our spirits and our souls in anticipation of the new year ahead.

Take time to check your engines. And have a wonderful New Year!

Shalom,
– Rev. Lisa Bowersock



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VISIT US ONLINE AT
WWW.DUBLINCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG

January Second Mile:

COMMITTEE NOTES

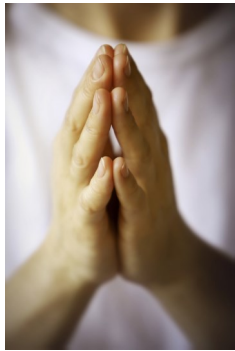
Welcome to DCC

Why do you choose DCC? Check out the Welcome Board by the Narthex entrance for stories and photos from your friends at DCC. We will also feature member stories on the new DCC website. The Growth and Rolls Committee would like to include your story, too!

Please email lin-da.mischler@gmail.com and let her know you are interested.

Prayer Chain

Our Prayer Chain offers comfort and support in a thoughtful, confidential, manner. If you know of someone's need for prayers, contact our Prayer Chain through Karen Harget (karenharget@yahoo.com or 614-891-8303).



Dublin Food Pantry. The Dublin Food Pantry provides food to assist Dublin Residents in need. They also link clients to much needed resources in the community to have many of their other basic needs met. You only have to pull into our parking lot on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday to see the great need in the community for this important program.



Creativity Circle

Are you interested in Creativity Circle? We have two Creativity Circles – one meets the second Sunday of the month from 3 to 5 p.m. and one meets the last Wednesday of the month from 1 to 3 p.m. **You're welcome to join us at either or both!**

Questions about the Sunday group, contact Karen Royce at kroyce6@gmail.com

Questions about Wednesday, contact Cindy Bitter at kcbitter77@gmail.com



MINISTERS/CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:



Rev. Bowersock's normal day off is Thursday.
Rev. Sunday's normal day off is Monday.
Church Office Hours:
9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday - Thursday.
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Friday.

Want to receive DCC information?

Send your request to:

dublinuccoffice@gmail.com

You will receive *The Messenger* and important DCC announcements.

Our DCC-UCC Staff is Here for You

Lisa Bowersock, Senior Minister:
Becky Sunday, Associate Minister:
Jill DeiCas-Nehls, C.E. Director:
Nancy Luikart, Music Director:
Laura Zuber, Church Administrator:
Gregg Dudash, Youth Leader:
Bianca De Maria, Organist/Accompanist:
Barb Anderson, Interfaith Outreach Facilitator:

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GUIDED BY A STAR

"They set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was." Matthew 2:9 (NRSV)

Ushered in by our Christmas Eve celebrations, we began a new liturgical season—the twelve days of Christmas, ending each year with Epiphany on January 6. Epiphany is sometimes an overlooked celebration, partly because, more often than not, it falls during the middle of the week. Epiphany is supposed to be when we remember the magi coming to visit the infant Jesus, presenting him with the precious gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But most years, by January 6 we have already heard the story of the magi several times over. By Epiphany, our own Christmas gifts are long since gone from under the tree, and many of our nativity scenes are packed away safely for another year. Epiphany becomes an afterthought.

But I see it as a great opportunity to remind us that the gift of Christmas—Emmanuel, God with us—continues. Biblical scholars have suggested that the magi first saw the star two years before their arrival to see Jesus. Their journey lasted far longer than our four weeks of Advent. Season after season, they traveled long and far under the light of the star. They followed it in faith, trusting that it would ultimately lead them to their destination.

After we have sung the last carol and packed away the decorations, the light of Christ still shines. How will you let that light shine forth in your life? How will you let it guide you in the coming year? If you follow with the faith and curiosity of the magi, where might it lead you?

Over the last decade, some churches have adopted a new tradition of sharing "Star Words" with the people in their congregations. A Star Word is a word given as a point of spiritual focus—something to pray over, to meditate on, to wonder about, to inspire and guide us. They are simple words like "hope," "compassion," "awareness," or "gratitude." If you come to worship at Dublin Community Church on Sunday, January 8, you will have an opportunity to choose your own Star Word. Choose a word, and let it guide you for a week, for a season, or for the year. If you can't be in worship that day and would like a word, let me know. Let your star guide you closer and closer to Christ as the days unfold, and see how it shines ever brighter in and through you.

Peace and blessings,

Rev. Becky

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

Hi All,

Youth Group met on Sunday, November 27th. Here is what we did:

We ate yummy spaghetti with fruit, salad and cookies. Thank you to Betty and Frank Sugar for always providing us with great food to nourish our bodies.

We talked about Advent and how it is a new beginning for each of us as we welcome the Christ Child into our lives and how there is Hope, Peace, Love and Joy that is part of our belief and faith in God as a result of the birth of Jesus and how that lasts all year long.

We played a game of Penny Chinny. You had to place a penny on your chin and you could not use your hands. The last one standing won. You could not touch your opponents, but you could try to distract them into dropping their penny.

Thanks to Lynn Rose we signed and placed notes in Christmas cards that go to the Inmates and staff at all of Ohio's correctional institutions. This was a very worthwhile project that I personally enjoyed as did several of the other youth. Thank you Lynn for this opportunity.

Thanks to Betty and Frank Sugar who picked up our Tree Ornaments. Frank showed us how to put these together and then the youth painted theirs or decorated them to be able to take home with them. The youth particularly enjoyed this project. Thanks Frank!

Youth Group is open to all youth 6th grade through 12th grade and their friends. We hope to see you at our next meeting in January!

-Gregg



SEARCHING FOR THE LIGHT



Mark your Calendars! Children's Events

6/11—6/17
6/26-6/30
7/21-24

Sr. High Mission Trip to Maryland
UnTrip 2023
Vacation Bible School '23

WORD Begins New Study

Both WORD groups will begin a new book in January 2023, Tattoos on the Heart by Fr. Greg Boyle. This should be a very interesting study, and the books are available in the church office for \$10.00. Checks made out to Dublin Community Church with WORD in the memo line. WORD p.m. will be a hybrid format and begin on Thursday, Jan. 5 in the parlor and via zoom, 7-8:30 p.m. WORD a.m. will be in person only and begin on Friday, Jan. 6 in the Kennedy rooms 9:15-11:15 a.m. Childcare is available each Friday morning in our nursery downstairs. Please let Barb Anderson know if you're new and interested in attending either group. All are welcome! andersonfamily2214@gmail.com or 614-783-7998.

Dublin Community Church Foundation (DCCF)

Your Foundation trustees wish you a 2023 filled with good health and much happiness. Please keep the Foundation in mind throughout the year as you plan your charitable giving. Remember that you can make "living" donations (cash, RMDs, etc.) and/or you can make "legacy" donations (making the DCCF the beneficiary of your estate). Of course, you can continue to make "Celebration Donations" to commemorate birth days and birthdays, anniversaries, and graduations. Please consider the Foundation as you make end-of-life memorial plans, too. May your new year be better than the old!

Happy New Year from the DCCF Trustees: Gary Morin, Tom Anderson, Nancy Chapman, Andy Jakes, Steph Mizer, Henry Montgomery and Betsy Smith

DUBLIN FOOD PANTRY URGENT NEEDS

- **Personal hygiene items:** Toilet paper, larger sized diapers, household cleaning supplies, toothpaste, individual toothbrushes, liquid dish soap, deodorant, feminine pads, and laundry detergent
- **Non-Perishable Items such as:** Peanut butter, spaghetti noodles and sauce, **canned soup and fruit**, oatmeal packets, and ramen noodles.
- **Blessing Box Items:** Crackers and fish/meat packets, ready to eat foods.

Also, monetary gifts are most appreciated and needed. When making a monetary donation, please make your check out to The Dublin Food Pantry and mail it to The Dublin Food Pantry, 81 West Bridge St., Dublin, OH 43017, visit <https://www.dublinfoodpantry.org/donate/> or scan the QR code below to donate online.

Thank you for your continued support!



FINANCIAL NEWS

Dublin Community Church Financial Summary – through November 30, 2022

Financial Update: Thank you for your generosity and ongoing support of the Dublin Community Church!

For the Month

- **Contributions** totaling **\$28,998** were unfavorable to Plan by **\$6,199** only **82%** of Plan
- **Total Operating Revenue** was **\$37,315**, was also unfavorable to Plan by **\$7,061** only **84%** of Plan
- **Total Operating Expense** was **\$40,161**, favorable to Plan by **\$8,876** or **18%** under Plan (good job!)
- **Net Cash Flow** for the month was unfavorable by **\$2,846** with Total Expense exceeding a slack Total Revenue

Year-to-date

- **Contributions** of **\$384,320** remain slightly unfavorable at **1%** below Plan
- **Total Operating Revenue** of **\$499,435** is favorable by **\$11,299** or **2%** better than Plan
- **Total Operating Expense** of **\$533,648** is slightly unfavorable by **\$6,620** or **1%** over Plan
- **Net Cash Flow** for the year-to-date is unfavorable by **\$34,213** with Total Expense exceeding Total Revenue

Through November 30, 2022	Month				Year-to-Date			
Revenue	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan
Contributions - Pledged	\$ 21,680	\$ 30,809	\$ (9,129)	70%	\$ 319,621	\$ 338,899	\$ (19,278)	94%
Contributions - Pledged Prior Yr.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Contributions - Unpledged	\$ 5,585	\$ 3,966	\$ 1,619	141%	\$ 50,983	\$ 43,626	\$ 7,357	117%
Contributions - Prepaid & Other	\$ 1,733	\$ 422	\$ 1,311	411%	\$ 13,716	\$ 4,642	\$ 9,074	295%
Sub-total Revenue - Contributions	\$ 28,998	\$ 35,197	\$ (6,199)	82%	\$ 384,320	\$ 387,167	\$ (2,847)	99%
Other Revenue	\$ 8,317	\$ 9,179	\$ (862)	91%	\$ 115,115	\$ 100,969	\$ 14,146	114%
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 37,315	\$ 44,376	\$ (7,061)	84%	\$ 499,435	\$ 488,136	\$ 11,299	102%

Net Cash Flow from Operations	Current Actual	Current Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	YTD Actual	YTD Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 37,315	\$ 44,376	\$ (7,061)	84%	\$ 499,435	\$ 488,136	\$ 11,299	102%
Total Operating Expense	\$ 40,161	\$ 49,037	\$ 8,876	82%	\$ 533,648	\$ 527,028	\$ (6,620)	101%
Net Cash Flow fav. / (unfav.)	\$ (2,846)				\$ (34,213)			

Respectfully submitted by the DCC Finance Committee: Brian Redenshek, Chair; Neil Butler; Brenda Rizzo



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Happy New Year	2 Office Closed In Observance of New Year's	3 *All Committees Meeting	4 MORE, 6:15 AM	5 WORD-PM	6 WORD—AM	7 7:30 AM Men's Fellowship Dublin Community Bands Youth Scholar- ship Comp. - 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM Upstairs
8 Seekers Worship 10AM Youth Group	9	10	11 MORE, 6:15 AM	12 EGA—10AM SAIL—noon WORD-PM	13 WORD—AM Excellence Group PM	14
15 Seekers Worship 10 AM Confirmation 4—6:30 pm	16 Office Closed MLK Day	17 Church Council 7PM	18 MORE, 6:15 AM	19 WORD-PM	20 WORD—AM	21 7:30 AM Men's Fellowship Goodwill Room
22 Seekers Worship 10AM Confirmation 4-6:30pm	23	24	25 MORE, 6:15 AM	26 WORD-PM	27 WORD—AM	28
29 Seekers Worship 10AM ANNUAL MEETING Confirmation 4—6:30 pm	30	31	<u>Red Cross Blood Drives</u> <u>2022</u> Kennedy Room Wed. 12:30 PM—6:30 PM		<u>AA Meetings</u> Mon-Sat, 7 AM (KS) Tues, 10AM; 1 PM (KS) Thurs, 1 PM (KS) Fri., 6:30 PM (KS) Fri., 8:00 PM (GW) 1st Thurs. , 7 PM (Parlor)	
			<u>Indian Dancers</u> Tues. 5:30—9:30 PM Thur. 7—9PM Kennedy			

Happy Birthday!



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS/ CELEBRATIONS

1	Megan Graves Karin Hoyt Teresa Menges Jake Reed Vera Rizzo	12	Judy Hoover
2	Amy Nichols Samantha Razem	13	Donna Seiple
3	Arianna Price	14	Vincent Forster Tim Hirschfeld
4	Amy Daniels Connie Montgomery Eli Pace	15	Julie Ottney
6	Madison Hall	18	Leslie Kern Susan Korte Becky Sunday
7	Suzy Smith Justin Ward	19	Olivia Dudash William Easterday Suzanne Feasel Tim Haid
8	Angela Hiller Marty Tussing	20	Mike Perkins
9	Matt Hoyt	22	Randy Luikart Pierce Malinowski Lynda Rohr-Howard Isaac Daft
10	Jaret Bowzer Becky Carlson Michelle Feasel Erin Lewis Blake Russell Gregg Simpson	24	Jackie Moore
11	Kay Albright Molly Coburn Ryan Crawford Jessa Haynes Anna Moran Andrew Patterson Erin Risser	25	Alice Coburn
		26	Isabel Kuck Ethan Leary Evelyn Wirchainski
		28	Sheila Ebersole Amy Green Ashley Lawrence Allison Thornbloom
		29	Kelton Glover Sam Montgomery Richard Termeer
		30	Adam Hiller Nick Razem Dick Toberen

SMALL STEPS
achieve
BIG GOALS



Celebration Donation!

The Dublin Community Church Foundation (DCCF) is endeavoring to re-energize the Foundation Fund and make it a vital and current part of our Ministry—AND an enduring legacy to support the work of Dublin Community Church in generations to come. Important, as well, is making each member of our Congregation feel a part of this legacy of faith and commitment. This can seem a daunting task! So here is a “Modest Proposal”: To mark special occasions like birthdays and anniversaries, consider making a Celebratory Donation of \$1.00 per year to the Foundation, i.e.: \$25.00 on your 25th wedding anniversary, or \$42.00 on your 42nd birthday. You can commemorate your milestone by becoming part of the legacy of DCCF. And over time these small, individual, memorials can result in substantial growth in the Foundation Fund—with everyone having a part in this meaningful foundation for the future. We hope you will give some consideration to joining in what, we hope, will become a New Tradition at Dublin Community Church.

Donations can be made by placing a check payable to the **DCC Foundation** in the collection plate. It is **IMPORTANT** to note **“DCCF Foundation Celebration”** in the memo line.

Are you enjoying our online services?

We love that people are watching our services online. We'd love to know who is joining us each Sunday from home and if you have any prayer requests or would like the ministers to check in with you. We have started providing a link with the weekly email to help track attendance online, just like we do in the pews. ***If you are watching from home, we invite you to please fill out this link:***
<https://forms.gle/Vg1qd9zLa5WMEHQHA>





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"We are proudly and officially an Open and Affirming Congregation."

ANNUAL MEETING: The 110th Annual Meeting of the Dublin Community Church-United Church of Christ will be held Sunday, January 29, 2023 following worship. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to receive the annual reports of the staff, church officers and committees, approve the budget for the year 2023 and vote upon the report of the Nominating Committee.