



FEBRUARY 2023

THE MESSENGER

Dublin Community Church—United Church of Christ

Dublin Community Church United Church of Christ

81 W. Bridge Street
Dublin, Ohio 43017

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614.889.1026

Website:
www.dublincommunitychurch.org

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/dublincommunitychurchucc/

United Church of Christ:
www.ucc.org

Let's Celebrate!

Many of you will recall that in years past we have traditionally celebrated "Women's Sunday" on the second Sunday of February. "Women's Sunday" included an invitation for women and friends of Dublin Community Church to participate in the service that day. And so, we always had a large number of women who participated as liturgists, ushers, and singers, and it was a joyous celebration of women.

Fast forward to 2023. The staff and others here at DCC have recently revisited our tradition of celebrating "Women's Sunday." As we emerge from the worst of the pandemic, I think it is normal and healthy to reevaluate who, and where we are as a church.

One thing we can say with great pride is that we are officially an "Open and Affirming" congregation. Allow me to share this portion of our official Open and Affirming statement which reads: *We are a congregation on a journey that includes all persons, embracing differences of age; gender; gender identity and/or expression; sexual orientation; nationality; ethnicity; family makeup; marital status; socioeconomic background; political and theological background/status and people with all physical, mental and emotional abilities. We welcome and affirm full participation in all aspects of our faith*

family.

As I think, then, about the history of "Women's Sunday" I am reminded that there was a time, of course, in the history of the church, when women (and many others) were not represented in leadership roles. That has thankfully changed significantly. And as a woman, I am thrilled that for the first time in its 200-year history, both the Senior Minister and Associate Minister at DCC are women! That is not to take anything away from the many faithful and gifted men who have served this church and I'm sure will serve again in the future. But what it says to me is that we are fully growing into and claiming who we are as a church. We honor and celebrate all – whoever and wherever you may be on life's journey.

And so, instead of celebrating "Women's Sunday" this year, let's celebrate who we all are as a diverse, wonderful, faithful, inspiring and committed people – we truly are the body of Christ. Let's celebrate!

Shalom,
- Rev. Lisa Bowersock



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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 dublinuccoffice@gmail.com and let us know you are interested in sharing your story!

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).



Mile: "The Hills Are Alive!" Campaign

Please join the Mission Committee in supporting our Second Mile Cause for February. Your donations support United Church of Christ's efforts to revitalize the Templed Hills Camp making camping and retreats sustainable for the future. The pandemic has made a negative, financial impact on this sacred natural space - beloved by generations. A place for personal growth, spiritual renewal, for authentic community, and camping fun.



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:

lisaabowersock@gmail.com
revbeckysunday@gmail.com
jcd.dcc.ucc2014@gmail.com
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dublinuccoffice@gmail.com
dccnpyg@yahoo.com
bvm.demaria@gmail.com
andersonfamily2214@gmail.com

BECKY'S MESSAGE

They Grow Up So Fast



One time, when my oldest nephew, Mason, was just a toddler in his mother's arms, he noticed the simple gold cross she wore around her neck. He took it in his little hand and asked her what it was for. "It's to remind us of the cross where Jesus died," she answered. Mason looked confused as he considered her words. Then he ventured the question... "Baby Jesus?" It was a child's question that required a grownup answer. They grow up so fast. They ask innocent questions, and we do our best to answer them. The world gets a little more complicated each time, and we find ourselves wishing they could remain babies just a little longer.

By the end of this month, we will be in the season of Lent. Once again, we will walk with Jesus to the cross. And I find myself asking, "Baby Jesus?" Wasn't he just in the manger a little over a month ago? Why does he have to grow up so fast? The Lenten journey is hard. Can't we just rest in those innocent moments of awe and wonder a little while longer?

In truth, it is no accident that Lent follows just a few short weeks after Christmas. This liturgical rhythm closely mirrors what we find in scripture. Matthew's gospel moves directly from the holy family's sojourn as refugees in Egypt to Jesus' baptism by John in the Jordan. Luke only has one brief chapter between the nativity and the beginning of Christ's public ministry. Mark and John skip over the birth narrative entirely.

Whether we are ready for it or not, we have to let Jesus grow up. Because it is in the preaching and teaching and feeding and healing and blessing and challenging and serving and suffering and dying and rising again that we come to know who Jesus is and what God's call is on our lives. May each of us be open to that call throughout this Lenten season and beyond.

Peace and blessings,

Rev. Becky

DUBLIN FOOD PANTRY URGENT NEEDS

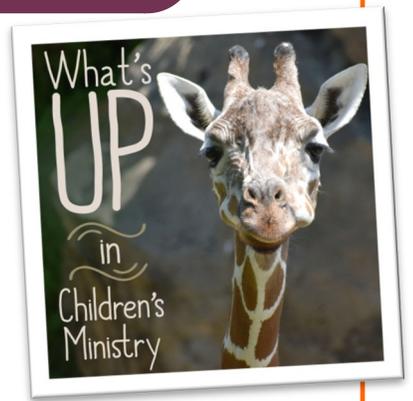
- **Personal hygiene items:** Toilet paper, larger sized diapers, household cleaning supplies, toothpaste, individual toothbrushes, liquid dish soap, deodorant, feminine pads, and laundry detergent
- **Non-Perishable Items such as:** Peanut butter, spaghetti noodles and sauce, **canned soup and fruit**, 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!



We are still in need of teachers and assistants for Sunday School. Currently, Jill is teaching all the children together. We need your help to be able to separate the 4 yr olds through 1st grade from the 2nd through 4th or 5th grade (mature 5th graders have the option of attending the mid high class). This would allow for more age appropriate instruction.



In January, the children were learning the Lord's Prayer and what it means so that they can participate when in worship with their families. We will begin a new series in February that is more user friendly for the teachers and will allow teachers and children to utilize the recently purchased tablets that were purchased for us from the Dublin Community Foundation. Lessons are NOT difficult to prepare, so PLEASE, if anyone is interested, contact Jill at jcd.dcc.ucc2014@gmail.com

Mission Trip Update

The Mission Trip for Senior high Youths is from June 11 through June 17, 2023. The Mission Trip is open to all youth who are currently in the 8th grade (will be in 9th grade in fall 2023) through those high school seniors (will be freshmen in college in fall 2023). Their friends are also eligible to go with us.

We will be going to Deep Roots at Clairvoux Farms in Earleville, Maryland. This is a farm that houses homeless families that are trying to get back on their feet. Our work will consist of light construction, painting, cleaning up both the land around the property and the inside/outside of the buildings, serving meals to the homeless, and conducting games/activities with the children that are staying at Deep Roots.

Cost is \$300 for the week. However, many of the youth who are going have earned money off the cost by participating in working the Rummage Sale in the fall. There will be another opportunity to earn money off this trip by working the Rummage Sale in the spring.

We will have lodging and meals paid for during our stay at Deep Roots. The lodging is our own building with air-conditioning and showers along with bunk beds to sleep in. We have a kitchen for any food that needs to be made and consumed.

We will have a free day on that Wednesday. While we have a lot of options to choose from near our location we will get out and do something fun.

We will have at least two adult male and two adult female chaperones with us on the trip.

If your son and or daughter are interested in attending this year's mission trip please send an email to the Youth Group at dccnpyg@yahoo.com.

We would love to have as many youth as possible attend this trip.

Any questions please see Youth Group Leader, Gregg Dudash.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Dublin Community Church Financial Summary – through December 31, 2022

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

For the Month

Contributions totaling **\$55,844** were very favorable to Plan by **\$20,632**, or **59%** better than Plan!

Favorability primarily due to a very generous Unpledged Contribution

Total Operating Revenue was **\$72,246** was also favorable to Plan by **\$27,858**, or **63%** better than Plan

Total Operating Expense was **\$59,208**, unfavorable to Plan by **\$10,087** or **21%** over Plan

Primarily due to a one-time B&G repair, and billing for landscaping services

Net Cash Flow for the month was favorable by **\$13,038** with Total Revenue exceeding Total Operating Expense

Year-to-date (and Year End)

Contributions of **\$440,163** end the year favorable at **4%** better than Plan

Total Operating Revenue of **\$571,680** is favorable by **\$39,156** or **7%** better than Plan

Total Operating Expense of **\$593,155** ends the year unfavorable by **\$17,006** or **3%** over Plan

Net Cash Flow for the year is unfavorable by **\$21,475** with Total Operating Expense exceeding Total Revenue

Through December 31, 2022	Month				Year-to-Date			
Revenue	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan
Contributions - Pledged	\$ 37,207	\$ 30,813	\$ 6,394	121%	\$ 357,393	\$ 369,712	\$ (12,319)	97%
Contributions - Pledged Prior Yr.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Contributions - Unpledged	\$ 17,400	\$ 3,967	\$ 13,433	439%	\$ 68,283	\$ 47,593	\$ 20,690	143%
Contributions - Prepaid & Other	\$ 1,237	\$ 432	\$ 805	286%	\$ 14,487	\$ 5,074	\$ 9,413	286%
Sub-total Revenue - Contributions	\$ 55,844	\$ 35,212	\$ 20,632	159%	\$ 440,163	\$ 422,379	\$ 17,784	104%
Other Revenue	\$ 16,402	\$ 9,176	\$ 7,226	179%	\$ 131,517	\$ 110,145	\$ 21,372	119%
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 72,246	\$ 44,388	\$ 27,858	163%	\$ 571,680	\$ 532,524	\$ 39,156	107%

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	\$ 72,246	\$ 44,388	\$ 27,858	163%	\$ 571,680	\$ 532,524	\$ 39,156	107%
Total Operating Expense	\$ 59,208	\$ 49,121	\$ (10,087)	121%	\$ 593,155	\$ 576,149	\$ (17,006)	103%
Net Cash Flow fav. / (unfav.)	\$ 13,038				\$ (21,475)			

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

Open Committee Positions

Thank you to those who have volunteered to fill committee positions! Being active on a committee is a great way to know what is happening in the church and a wonderful way to get to know other members of our Dublin Community Church Family! We could still use members on the Fellowship Committee and Christian Education Committee. There is always room on any committee for anyone who wants to serve, but these two committees are significantly lower on members than they should be.

Please contact Sri Kar (ray_sritama@yahoo.com) fellowship chair or Jill DeiCas-Nehls

(jcd.dcc.ucc2014@gmail.com) Christian Ed. Director if you are interested in serving on either of those committees.

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 MORE, 6:15 AM Church Council 7PM	2 WORD—7 PM	3 WORD 9:15 AM	4 7:30 AM Men's Fellowship
5 Seekers Worship 10AM Scout Sunday 2PM Deep Griha Confirmation 4-6:30 PM	6	7 *All Committees Meeting	8 MORE, 6:15 AM	9 EGA—10AM SAIL—noon WORD—7 PM	10 WORD 9:15 AM Excellence Group PM	11
12 Seekers Worship 10 AM Creativity Circle 3-5 PM	13	14	15 MORE, 6:15 AM	16 WORD—7 PM	17 WORD 9:15 AM	18 7:30 AM Men's Fellowship Goodwill Room
19 Seekers Worship 10AM Confirmation 4-6:30 PM	20 President's Day Office Closed	21 Church Council 7PM *Deadline for Messenger Articles.	22 MORE, 6:15 AM Creativity Circle 1-3 PM Ash Wednesday Chapel 7:00 PM	23 WORD—7 PM	24 WORD 9:15 AM UCC Heartland Conference Event	25
26 Seekers Worship 10AM Scout Spaghetti Dinner— Following worship Youth Group 5:30—7:30 PM	27	28	<u>Red Cross Blood Drives</u> 2022 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!



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS / CELEBRATIONS

1 William Crecelius
 Robert Redfield
 Will Norfleet
 Deborah Medsker

2 Mark Schrewe

3 Caela Weber

4 Richard Evans
 Dennis Julian

5 Sharon Hatton
 Julia Haid
 Jack Hirschfeld

7 Kimberly North
 Janet Whitney
 Nathaniel McCauley

8 Elisa Travaglio
 Barbara Travaglio
 Caleb Redenshek

9 Claire Allen Culler
 Nicole Young

10 Pam Riedel
 Gregory Essig

11 Amy LaDu
 Greg Lam
 Sarah Bergman
 Anna Bergman

12 Bryson Malinowski
 Lennox Louters
 Scarlett Louters
 Web Hatton
 Chris Heider
 Megan Wintermantel
 Gwenyth Hickey

14 Lindsey Geese
 Kaufman
 Caroline Kalix
 Michael Margolius
 Alexander Ward

15 Leona Jones
 Sharon Uber

16 Jason Farris
 Jordan Kerr

17 Bob Tussing

19 Brenda Olen
 Nancy Chapman
 Colin Kirkley
 Evan Ployer

21 Doug Martin

22 Bruce Rizzo
 Ashley Hardin
 James Notestone

23 Bill Easterday
 Nate Green
 Emily Rose

24 Kathy Blair
 Trace Kaufman
 Catherine Zugaro

25 Heidi Baldwin
 Anna Norfleet
 Andrea Niewiesk

26 Makayla Schofield

27 Trevor Sell
 Tim Louters
 Caroline White

28 David Nichols
 Elizabeth Weber

29 Kayleigh Doherty



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.

VISIT US ONLINE AT
WWW.DUBLINCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG



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

Thanks for Giving

Once again, a huge thank you to all who helped make our 2022 Giving Tree a huge success. Your kindness will help so many people dealing with difficult times! Thank you to Creativity Circle members for the many hats and scarves so beautifully made. Thank you to all who shopped for items on the wish lists for Star House and Choices/Faith Mission. Two car loads of donations are being delivered thanks to our caring and generous congregation.

Live Streaming System – Call for Volunteers.

We have a dedicated team of volunteers who are on a rotation to run the Sunday morning livestream and would love to add a few more to our team! Volunteer spots include those who are able to run the sound board for the live stream and for someone to run the sound for the sanctuary. We would also like to teach additional people to run the livestream. It is a simple process that has been fine-tuned over the past couple of years to make it easy to learn. High Schoolers and older are welcome to learn more. Please contact Saoirse George (saoirsetgeorge@gmail.com) if you are interested in learning more!