

THE MESSENGER

September 2024

Dublin Community Church—United Church of Christ



A Gentle Reminder



By the time you read this, both of our national political conventions will be in the past, and now the season of intense political campaigning begins. We will face endless news coverage, political ads, and social media comments and debates. It will be a lot to take in as emotions run high.

Back in June I attended an online Webinar sponsored by the United Church of Christ, designed to offer suggestions to pastors as to how to effectively navigate the current political season. There were three presenters on the Webinar, and all three gave basically the same advice. As a community of faith, we are grounded in Biblical teaching, particularly in the teaching and example of Jesus, and so that is where we need to look when searching our hearts. What are our core values? How do we best live out Jesus' command to love our neighbors as ourselves? How can we find common ground, despite our differences, in order to respect the sacred humanity in all?

I have talked before about my love/hate relationship with social media. At its best it can lift up and inform. At its worst it can not only mock and dehumanize, but it can also spread dangerously false information. A friend recently posted something on Facebook that I really appreciated. It was suggestions on how we might "post wisely" in the coming weeks. Some of the suggestions were to: contribute to the discussion, not the division - don't take the "bait" - and check your facts. I think all of this is good advice.

This same friend posted something else recently that I particularly liked. It was titled, "A Gentle Reminder," and I want to share it here. Allow me to leave you, then, with these words:

A Gentle Reminder

- Be the hope.
- Be the change.
- Be the light.
- Be the inspiration.
- Be the goodness.
- Be the love.
- Be the magic.
- Be the support.
- Be the kindness.
- Be that one.

A good reminder for all of us, indeed.

Shalom,

-Rev. Lisa Bowersock

Dublin Community Church
United Church of Christ

81 W. Bridge Street
Dublin, Ohio 43017

Church Office:
614.889.1026

Website:
www.dccucc.com

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/dublincommunitychurchucc/

United Church of Christ:
www.ucc.org

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Creativity Circle

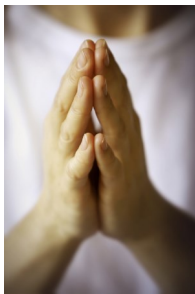
Are you interested in Creativity Circle? We have two Creativity Circles – one meets the second Sunday of the month from 3 to 5 p.m. and one meets the last Wednesday of the month from 1 to 3 p.m. **You're welcome to join us at either or both!**



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

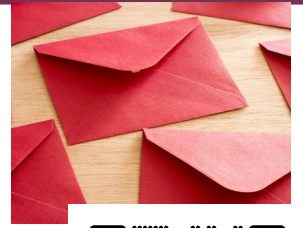
Questions about Wednesday, contact Cindy Bitter at kcbitter77@gmail.com

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).

SECOND MILE: Neighbors in Need – UCC Wider Mission supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the US.



Scan the QR code to donate to Second Mile through VANCO.



WORD (Women of Religious Diversity)

Our Fall study will begin this month with the book titled, God of Love: A guide to the Heart of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam by Mirabai Starr. This should be an excellent book to discuss with our diverse group of women of various faiths, traditions and cultures.

We will begin on Thursday, 9/19, Zoom only, 7-8:30 p.m. and on Friday, 9/20, in person only, 9:15-11:15 a.m.

Childcare will be provided on Friday mornings.

Cost of the books will be \$15.00.

If you haven't attended WORD before, we'd love to have you join us. Please let Barb Anderson know if you have any questions, and/or would like to begin attending!

We look forward to our 22nd year of learning, support, and fellowship!

Barb Anderson

andersonfamily2214@gmail.com

614-783-7998

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 Office Administrator:
Gregg Dudash, Youth Leader:
Jena Biegler, Mid-High Youth Leader:
Bianca DeMaria, Organist/Accompanist:
Barb Anderson, Interfaith Outreach Facilitator:

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

BECKY'S MESSAGE

On July 5, I had the privilege of traveling with our eight Young Ambassadors, plus Amy LaDu, Jennifer Redenshek, and Matthew Kuck, as we embarked on our trek to Germany. It was a wonderful trip. We saw some sights, learned about the culture, talked about how to responsibly grapple with difficult national histories, and, most importantly, deepened our relationships with our German partners. Our group arrived home safely July 20-21st and will cherish memories of an overwhelmingly positive experience. While in Unna, our leaders met with the German YAP leadership team to discuss the future of the program. I am excited for plans to continue toward YAP 4.0 in 2026-2027. Please enjoy a few of our photos from the trip.



Peace and blessings,

-Rev. Becky



FINANCE

Dublin Community Church Financial Summary – through July 31, 2024

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

For the Month

Contributions totaling \$41,092 were *favorable* to plan by \$4,181 or 111% of plan

Total Operating Revenue totaling \$57,517 were *favorable* to plan by \$9,310 or 119% of plan

Total Operating Expenses totaling \$246,382 were *unfavorable* to plan by \$165,738 or 306% of plan.

Total Operating Expenses included a payment to pay off the mortgage of \$188,464 as a transfer from capital reserves.

Net cash flow for the month was *unfavorable* to plan by total expenses exceeding total operating revenue by \$188,865.

Year-to-date

- **Contributions of \$250,403** was *unfavorable* to plan by \$7,974 or 97% of plan

- **Total Operating Revenue** of \$564,910 was *favorable* to plan by **\$227,461** or **167%** of plan

Total Operating Revenue includes a transfer of \$252,241 from the capital reserve for renovation of the Goodwill room

Total Operating Expense of \$ 921,403 was *unfavorable* to plan by **\$356,895** or **163%** of plan due to costs for renovations and final payment of mortgage.

Through July 31, 2024	Month				Year-to-Date					
	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Revenue										
Contributions - Pledged	\$ 32,090	\$ 29,583	\$ 2,507	108%	\$ 174,394	\$ 207,081	\$ (32,687)	84%	\$ 355,000	49%
Contributions - Pledged Prior Yr.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Contributions - Unpledged	\$ 5,780	\$ 6,465	\$ (685)	89%	\$ 47,361	\$ 45,255	\$ 2,106	105%	\$ 77,580	61%
Contributions - Prepaid & Other	\$ 3,222	\$ 863	\$ 2,359	0%	\$ 28,648	\$ 6,041	\$ 22,607	474%	\$ 10,358	277%
Sub-total Revenue - Contributions	\$ 41,092	\$ 36,911	\$ 4,181	111%	\$ 250,403	\$ 258,377	\$ (7,974)	97%	\$ 442,938	57%
Other Revenue	\$ 16,425	\$ 11,296	\$ 5,129	145%	\$ 314,507	\$ 79,072	\$ 235,435	398%	\$ 135,542	232%
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 57,517	\$ 48,207	\$ 9,310	119%	\$ 564,910	\$ 337,449	\$ 227,461	167%	\$ 578,480	98%
Net Cash Flow from Operations										
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 57,517	\$ 48,207	\$ 9,310	119%	\$ 564,910	\$ 337,449	\$ 227,461	167%	\$ 547,631	98%
Total Operating Expense	\$ 246,382	\$ 80,644	\$ (165,738)	306%	\$ 921,403	\$ 564,508	\$ (356,895)	163%	\$ 637,596	145%
Net Cash Flow fav. / (unfav.)	\$ (188,865)	\$ (32,437)			\$ (356,493)					

Respectfully submitted by the DCC Finance Committee: Brenda Rizzo (Chair); Stefan Niewieski; and Randy Evans

August 2024 Moderator Moment

Great news, the mortgage has officially been paid off! Council approved this in June and the final payment was completed. The financials for July /August will be impacted by this payment.

- B&G replaced the cracked steps leading to the preschool and will be adding a handrail in the future
- A \$25k grant was awarded to DCC by the Dublin Community Improvement Corporation for repairs to the chapel, a historic building in Dublin! Work will begin in the coming months.
- The new member luncheon was fantastic, a special thanks to the Kitchen committee for their support.

I'm continually amazed by the love and care that is provided to DCC by the DCC committees and staff, I can't thank them enough.

GREEN TEAM BUCKET BRIGADE FUNDRAISER

The Green Team is raising funds to acquire on site compost services for the months of October, November, and December. If we raise \$240.00 **Compost Exchange** will be picking up 5 - 5 gallon buckets full of compost from preschool and church waste once a week and exchanging them with 5 - 5 gallon buckets that are clean.

For the next 6 weeks, you can bring compost from your home and deposit it in our five -5 gallon compost buckets for a donation and the Green Team will haul the compost to a community compost location.

We are looking for **10** families a week interested in trying this program out and donating at least **\$4.00/week** to the cause.

1. **Pick a week to compost** (scan QR code with phone to go to the Sign -Up Genius website to sign up.)
2. **Pay**
Check - Made out to Dublin Community Church -memo Green Team
Cash - Place in an envelope labeled Green Team
Venmo - @Rebecca-Shorter-1 memo Bucket Brigade
3. **Pick up a bag in the narthex.**



**August 25th, September 1st, September 8th,
September 15th, September 22nd, September 29th**

Kitchen Compost

Meat and fish (including bones); cheese, eggs, and dairy;
fruit and vegetable scraps; any foods cooked in oils/fats;
pasta, rice, and grains; coffee grounds, and filters;
tea and tea bags; shells from eggs, peanuts, and nuts;
bread and baked goods, paper towels, and newspaper;
compostable service ware.



The Green Team is making more headway, not only in recycling, but also in composting. **Compost** is collected after every church event and weekly from other meetings at the church. The team has been working to make sure that the waste is sorted to go into the proper collection bins. We know a thing or two about **the “do’s and don’ts of composting**. One “do” is to make sure that only food items, napkins and certified compostable materials go in the composting bin. Paper plates and cups need this marking to be used in composting. Paper plates or bowls with a wax coating are not compostable. Nor are they recyclable paper once they have food on them. These items go in the landfill bin.

Kudos to our Fellowship and Kitchen Committees for doing their part to assist in keeping things as green as possible. Special thanks to the Kitchen Committee for collecting from tables during events in the Goodwill room to help keep the compost from being contaminated.

Compostable materials make up more than one quarter of the landfill content, so it is a big deal when it comes to our environment. Please go here to learn more about composting and where you can drop off food waste.

https://recyclerright.org/recycling_category/food-waste-scrap/



Deep Griha Society

"Empowerment of the marginalised through capacity building and sustainable rural and urban development programmes"

Quarterly Report April to June 2024

Key Advancements/Highlights

Key Challenges faced

General Programme Updates

Aadhar Kendra Sponsorship Programme

The Aadhar Kendra team grew this quarter. We now have a new English and Math teacher who will work out of the Ramtekdi centre and a new Supervisor who will work on getting new local sponsors on board to bring the number up from 198 sponsors for 262 children. New sponsors will help us to enroll the children in our waiting list as well.

This Quarter covers the end of the academic year, the summer break and the beginning of a new academic year for the children. In the summer break, the children had access to a few days of +hobby classes where fun activities and workshops were organised. We had seniors from the Vriddha Mitra programme conduct some sessions for the children in a wonderful cross programme activity. We are looking to increase interaction between the young people in our programmes with the elderly as we try to bridge the gap between generations.

The children's height and weight were recorded and will be considered as we rework the meals that are provided. Based on feedback from parents we organised parent workshops in this quarter as well.

Sessions for the children covered self-awareness, good communication and practical life skills for personal and professional growth. A session focused on emotions was conducted where young people were introduced to identification, understanding, and healthy expression of emotions.

This year we have started with regular field worker meetings with children at the three locations. Topics of discussion at these meetings range from studies, health, school performance and other support where needed. School material was distributed in this quarter - school bags, books, stationery, and uniforms.



City of Child



Local support from individuals and companies for CoC has been growing over the years and this quarter has been no different. We received tables and stools for the dining room and a big water cooler as donations-in-kind from a company. This means the children don't sit on the floor for meal times anymore and they are very happy to have access to cold drinking water, especially through the summer. Apart from these large donations, groceries, fruit, and snack donations continue. We had employees from BNY celebrate the April birthdays with the children and they organised a lot of fun games

and activities.

In this quarter, we finally started computer classes for children and adults from Kasurdi village. Our biggest challenge was to find a computer teacher for the classes in Kasurdi, we now have a resident teacher. The teacher conducts classes for the village school for a few hours, then classes for individuals from in and around Kasurdi village, and finally for the children at CoC. We have 43 individuals from outside of CoC attending classes and the 44 young boys currently at CoC taking the total number of students to 87.



The counsellor sessions are back after the summer break, and they will be reviewing the Individual Development Plans that were made last year. Before the summer break, the counsellors conducted aptitude tests for children from Grades 9 and 10, to help them decide what they would like to choose for further studies after they finish school.

Agriculture



We harvested 2,956 kg (6,517 lbs) onions in this quarter. Most of them were stored for use at the City of Child and the excess was sent to the urban centres to be used for meal prep.

The polyhouse continues to provide vegetables for the kitchen and this quarter produced:

Pumpkin	11kg	24.25Lbs
Spinach	32 gaddi	32 bunches
Bottle gourd	12kg	26.45 Lbs
Eggplant	3kg	6.6 Lbs
Tomatoes	11kg	24.25Lbs
Chillies	2kg	4.4Lbs
Cabbage	2kg	4.4Lbs

Deep Griha Academy

Deep Griha Academy has been focused on helping children cover learning gaps over the last few years. Virtual classes and no classes for some students over the lockdown period really affected what they knew and retained. The teachers work on diagnostic tests for the children at the beginning of the year so the teacher can plan lessons based on the varying needs of the classroom. The summer training for the teachers revolved around diagnostic tests and how to get the most out of them.



The numbers at school are dropping and not going up because of a Government permission that we haven't received. The administrative team has been following up with the respective department and we hope to have a solution this year. We currently have 190 students enrolled at school.

School has had regular community outreach over the months. We have been visiting two local government schools regularly for computer and language enrichment classes. The idea is to ensure access to quality education for all children, whether they are enrolled at DGA or not.

A two day summer activity camp was organised during the school holidays for children residing around the school.



The school also organised a Gynaec camp for girls and women from the community, with a plan to organise follow up camps for the women. The monthly Dental camps stopped for the summer break and will restart soon.

The school has a special needs educator who works with students with special learning needs and is using tools to help students with behavioural issues as well. The teachers have seen a positive response to the peer learning initiative, where students are responsible for each other's learning.

Activities to ensure a healthy mind and body, celebration of environment day and life skills training are small steps in ensuring that we facilitate holistic learning and are preparing the children to be thoughtful, productive and environmentally conscious citizens of the world.



CREATIVE CRAFT FAIR COMING IN OCTOBER

The women of Creativity Circle have been making a variety of items throughout the year and have decided to share their treasures with the congregation. On October 27 these talented women will be selling their knitted, crocheted, sewn, hand crafted items. Following is a list of the items that will be available along with some pictures to whet your appetite!

Wine Gift Bags



Zippered Pouches



Draw String Gift Bags



- **Dog scarves (various sizes)**
- **Hand knit mittens, hats and scarves**
- **Knitted and crocheted shawls**
- **Market bags and tote bags (since we are going GREEN)**
- **Attachable kitchen hand towels**
- **Table runners and pillows**
- **Hand crafted note cards**
- **Pot holders**
- **Knit and crochet blankets in various colors including Dublin school colors OSU blankets**
- **A variety of baby items (blankets, hats, bibs, burp cloths)**

Money raised from the sale will be used to purchase yarn to make blankets and other items for the VanBuren Center, Family YMCA, and Gifts for Angels; fleece fabric used to make blankets for Star House; Fiberfill used to stuff pillows for cancer patients and palliative care. This is a great time to think about gifts for the upcoming holiday season! While cash and/or checks are preferred, credit cards will also be accepted. Please direct any questions to

Cindy Bitter at cbitter77@yahoo.com or (614) 378-7606.

September is always a very busy month. The church calendar revs up again. Schools and colleges start their fall semesters...AND...we begin to ready for "all things rummage." **Rummage preparation week starts the Saturday before the October 5th sale. Times and details will follow closer to the date.**



We will need tons of volunteers throughout the week AND on sale day. **Please contact Kathy Blair.** Let her know what days and hours you can help out. A couple hours or all day every day...we need you all!

Wanted: Your unused/unwanted household treasures! They can even be new! Most furniture, kitchen items, lamps, books, artwork, frames, linens, infant/child/adult clothing and shoes, sporting goods, garden and yard tools, pet items, toys, puzzles, etc. are accepted. **We beg you to donate items that work and are clean. (We simply do not have the time to repair and wash donations.)** Call the church office at 614-889-1026 to arrange for donation pick-ups. Our pick-up and drop-off teams reserve the right to accept or deny items that are too big, too heavy, or too damaged/soiled. All pick-up donations should be on a first floor or in the garage. (This team is mostly composed of older volunteers so we MUST be considerate of potential injury.) Email Betsy Smith at blehsmith@yahoo.com if you want to confirm that your donation will be accepted and/or to ask other questions or to offer suggestions.

Clean-up! Ah, clean-up. A very important part of the sale. We must return the church to "worship ready" within 2 hours after the sale ends! It takes a village to do so. Wait! It takes a county, a state, a nation, a world to empty both levels of the church of leftover donations, vacuum and mop floors, AND reset all furnishings! So, consider coming at 1:30pm on sale day and give us 2 ½-3 hours of hard work and loads of fun as we restore DCC to its regular beauty. Let Kathy Blair know if you can help. Bonus: you can take for free any of the remaining clothing or other things. Teenage helpers are welcome.

Keep in mind that **all rummage sale proceeds benefit our church's mission ministries!**

P.S. Working at the sale is a great way for new members or others who want to meet church people to find fellowship, fun, faith, and hard work! Join us, please!



**ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC!
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH FOLLOWING WORSHIP.**

Mark your calendars for the annual church picnic! We will have music, food and fun activities for the children. Fellowship provides the meat and beverages for the meal. Plan to sign up for a side or dessert to share! The Sign Up is located in the Narthex!

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 10 AM	2 Labor Day Office Closed	3	4 MORE, 6:15 AM	5 ECB—GW 7pm	6	7 Choir Workshop Narthex/ Sanctuary AM SMMF 8:00 AM Goodwill
8 Worship 10 AM CHURCH PICNIC ON THE PATIO	9	10 Red Cross	11 MORE, 6:15 AM Gospel Class 7PM—Kennedy	12 10-12 AM Embroiderers ECB—GW 7pm	13 Excellence Group 12-3PM	14
15 Seekers Worship 10 AM Creativity Circle 3-5PM	16	17 Church Council	18 MORE, 6:15 AM Gospel Class 7PM—Kennedy	19 WORD PM - ECB—GW 7pm	20 WORD—AM	21 SMMF 8:00 AM Goodwill
Lisa Vacation						
22 Seekers Worship 10 AM	23	24 Red Cross	25 MORE, 6:15 AM Creativity Circle 1-3PM Gospel Class 7PM—Kennedy	26 WORD PM - ECB—GW 7pm	27 WORD—AM	28 Rummage Sale Prep
29 Seekers Worship 10AM Cherub Bells	30	Red Cross Blood Drives * 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the Goodwill Room				
Rummage Sale Prep		Indian Dancers—Kennedy North Tues. /Thurs. 5:30—9:30 PM			Boy Scouts Wednesdays 7 PM— Goodwill Room	
AA Meetings Mon-Sat, 7 AM (KS) Mon, 6:30 PM (KS) Tues, 10AM; 1 PM (KS) Thurs, 1 PM (KS) Fri., 6:30 PM (KS) Fri., 7:30 PM (GW)						

Happy Birthday!



- 1 Daniel Briggs
Kate Kennedy
Pat Shinnick
- 2 Stephanie Briggs
- 3 Carl Karrer
- 4 Christy Hall
Drew Mallott
Teri Morin
Jim Ramey
- 5 Chad Dudash
Lydia Notestone
Barbara Spears
- 6 Beth Bowzer
Rick Hurley
- 7 Larry Graves
MK O'Haver
- 8 Mary Shaffer
- 10 Kris McCullough
- 11 Kelly O'Brien
Kristen Lam
- 12 Abigail McGuire
Erin Rose
- 14 Nicholas Luikart
- 15 Alex Hiller
C.J. Saunders
Holly Zugaro

- 16 Judy Martin
- 17 David Wolfe
- 18 Jennifer Dudash
Jay Howard
Devyn Kerr
- 19 Penny Martin
Jack Weber
- 20 Shelby Headlee
Janet Johnston
Meredith Lewis
- 22 Josh Bowzer
Violet DeDobbelaere
- 23 Judy Ottney
Cynthia Smith
Alex Thornbloom
- 24 Libby Dicus
Tish Martin
- 25 Susan Maslyk
Cindy Probst
A.J. Zugaro
- 26 Karen Royce
- 28 Andrew Doherty
Jeanne Herriott
Linda Mishler
Schuyler Schmidt
Josh Wintermantel
- 30 Bianca DeMaria
Blair Mallott

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

The Perfect Way to

CELEBRATE!

Where do you find the perfect gift? Look no further than your very own Dublin Community Church Foundation (DCCF)! See someone's birthday listed? Celebrate them with a gift to the DCCF in their honor. Need a gift for the couple whose been married for 50 years? How about a \$50 donation to DCCF? Just make a check payable to the DCCF, add "celebration gift" in the memo line, and drop it in the collection plate. It's an easy, meaningful gift that will keep growing!

2024 Men's Retreat: RSVP

Please join us for a weekend of fun and relaxation one last time at Temple Hills October 11-13th! Please use the QR Code below to RSVP that you can come for some or all of the days. More information to follow.



VISIT US ONLINE AT
WWW.DUBLINCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG

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.





Dublin Community Church

81 W. Bridge St.
Dublin, OH 43017
www.dublincommunitychurch.org

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

Cherub Bells

CHERUB BELLS STARTING SEPTEMBER 29



The Cherub Bell Choir will begin again on **Sunday, September 29**. Practices are held right after Sunday School in the Chapel. This choir is for preschool to early elementary students. The bells are brightly colored melody bells and play with piano accompaniment. A sign up sheet will be available in the Narthex or sign up by emailing Nancy Luikart at nluikart@icloud.com.



JOIN A CHOIR: Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, Gladden Strummers

The choir season kicks off September 8. If you are interested in any of our choirs: Chancel Choir, Bell Choir and Gladden Strummers, please contact Nancy Luikart at nluikart@icloud.com.