

Dublin Community Church United Church of Christ

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SEE INSIDE

Lisa's Message	1
Committee Notes/Second	
Mile	2
Becky's Message	3
Stewardship	.4-5
DCCF/DFP	6
Finance/Moderator Moment.	
Blessing of Animals/Youth	8
Rummage/ConnecT	9
Deep Griha10	-11
Calendar/Birthdays12	2-13
Youth Group	

THE MESSENGER

October 2024

Dublin Community Church—United Church of Christ

Sharing Our Gifts

By the time you read this it will officially be Fall. The trees will be turning colors, the air will be crisp, and the days will be getting shorter. As I write this, however, I have been reflecting back on my attempts at gardening over the summer, and something funny that happened at a family cookout.



Recently, as I sat with some family members on my patio, we all became aware of a very large ragweed plant that had decided to take up residence next to the patio. So, we decided that while we waited for some others to arrive, we would pull the overbearing weed. What happened next was nothing short of comical. The stem of the weed was so strong, and the roots so deep that it took three adults and a shovel, digging and pulling and twisting with all our might to unearth the intruding weed. That thing was determined to stay!

The flowers and plants that I "babied" all summer, however, have not been nearly as robust. The impatiens that I carefully planted and faithfully watered all summer have been completely eaten by the deer – I'm talking not a single bloom is left. And the three tomato plants I tended all summer only managed to produce one small tomato – no kidding.

Clearly, then, I don't have the talent for gardening that others have. But I do have other gifts, and perhaps all of this is a bit of a metaphor for life. We don't all have the same talents, and that's not just Ok, it's actually a good thing. We all have our own gifts to contribute.

In recent weeks our Stewardship Committee has asked the members and friends of Dublin Community Church to fill out a time and talents survey and to consider the many opportunities we have at DCC to give of our time and talents. In the coming weeks, the Stewardship Committee will also be asking us to consider the ways we can contribute financially.

Not all of us are good at gardening, but the good news is that we all have the ability to "plant beautiful seeds." We may never know all the ways in which sharing our gifts have positively affected someone else. Our Stewardship theme for this year is, "Our Church is a good place to be...connecting, growing, serving, and giving." Indeed, it is. And I give thanks for all of you and the many gifts you bring.

Shalom,

-Rev. Lisa Bowersock



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 COMMITTEE NOTES MILE:

October Second Mile:

Deep Griha is an NGO (Non-Government Organization) in Pune India supported by DCC-UCC and other UCC churches in the Columbus area. Their services to the community of



Pune are highlighted in the DG Quarterly Insert found in this newsletter. These funds will be 100% directed to India and used to support the needs of Deep Girah India. Please find it in your hearts to support DG and help make a difference by the "Empowerment of the marginalized through capacity building and sustainable rural and urban development programs" in Pune India. Also, check out the full quarterly update on the Deep Griha board in the office hallway! This is changed out on a quarterly rotation to keep the congregation up to date on all the wonderful work being done.



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

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:

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A Good Place to Be...

"Our church is a good place to be...connecting, growing, serving and giving." This is the theme for this year's DCC stewardship campaign. I think it's a great theme because I have found it to be absolutely true!



...Connecting

Beginning with the Passing of the Peace, extending to coffee hour after worship, and continuing with many opportunities throughout the week, there are so many ways that the people of Dublin Community Church live out our call to be the beloved community of Christ. I have seen the depth of relationships that can be formed through our shared life together. Here at DCC, people pray for one another and support each other in through all of life's circumstances, living out our love for one another in Christ. Best of all, we recognize that there is always more room at the table, and everyone is welcome!

...Growing

Sunday School, VBS, Confirmation, youth groups, Sunday morning Seekers, Wednesday evening studies, Men's Fellowship, WORD... These are just some of the engaging ways our congregation encourages children, youth, and adults to learn and grow together in faith. DCC fosters an environment where individuals are encouraged to lean into their questions, share from their own experience, and expand their understanding. Each one is on a journey of faith, and we travel farther because we accompany each other along the way.

...Serving

At Dublin Community Church, there is room for everyone's talents and gifts! It is the creativity, energy, effort, and dedication of the people of DCC that make so many wonderful ministries possible. From Church Council to those who fill out all of our committees to a host of other volunteers, the people of DCC serve faithfully and joyfully, whether teaching Sunday school, preparing a meal for a church member after surgery, helping to formulate the church's annual budget, or sorting rummage. Every hour given in service is an expression of faith and love for God, for each other, and for our neighbors.

...Giving

I have seen how mindfully the leaders of Dublin Community Church manage the resources our faith community gives. As you are prayerfully considering your pledges for the coming year, know that every dollar is put toward ministry that grows the Body of Christ in meaningful ways. Thank you for all the ways you show forth the love of God through your faithfulness and generosity.

Because of you—who you are and how you live—our church truly is a good place to be... connecting, growing, serving and giving!

Peace and blessings always,

-Rev. Becky

2024 Stewardship Campaign

"Our church is a good place to be...connecting, growing, serving and giving."

Early in the summer we conducted a narthex survey and asked you how **our church is "a good place to be...doing what?"** Your responses were heartfelt, hopeful, honest and generous. Here is a word cloud of what you shared:



Our campaign theme for this fall reflects what is important to our life together as a community of faith and most vital for each of us in our personal seeking and serving in faith. Thank you for sharing your truth and wisdom. You might notice that the largest word in the word cloud is "my." Your personal life experiences and faith commitments are the gifts you bring to our faith community (the next largest words). We are a family that worships together, makes music together, loves and cares for each other, accepts our differences and values our questions.

Dublin Community Church is more than a good place – together, our church is where and how and why we seek Christ in the face of each other – and offer Christ to all we greet (thank you, Rev. Lisa, for this weekly reminder).

"Our church is a good place to be...connecting, growing, serving and

giving."

In September we invited you to take our annual Time and Talent survey. We will keep the survey open through October. Please let us know your interests – and suggestions – for ways to serve and strengthen our community. There are sixteen groups listed in the Google Form survey – here is the QR code link:



2024 Stewardship Campaign

Thank you to our committee and ministry leaders who invited us to join them in serving our church: Brenda Rizzo from Finance, Kathy Blair from Rummage Sale, Sri Kar from Fellowship, and C.E. Director Jill Deicas-Nehls from Christian Education!

"Our church is a good place to be...connecting, growing, serving and giving."

Consecration Sunday this year will be on November 3. Each Sunday in October, our Witnessing Stewards will encourage us to prayerfully make a financial pledge for 2025. They will share personal stories and thoughts about how our church is a good place to be. I'm eager to hear what each will say.



Will we hear stories about **connecting** with friends and loved ones? Or about **growing** in wisdom and faith? Or **serving** our neighbors both near and far? Or **giving** as a measure of our abundance and expression of our gratitude for who and whose we are together as friends and members of Christ's church? I'm eager to hear them, and I imagine that you have a story that would inspire and encourage us as well.

Our church is a good place for all of us to be living our faith with each other. I encourage you to reflect on those reasons, in the quiet of your thoughts or in lively conversations with your loved ones. I invite you to prayerfully consider making a financial pledge to support the peo-

ple, ministries and property of our congregation. Please make your pleages online or on paper. Both forms will be available by mid-October.

Our church is a good place to be together – I have a story or two to share – do you? Eric Williams, Stewardship Committee Chair



With Gratitude!

The Dublin Community Church Foundation (DCCF) Trustees appreciate the gifts of several people during the past few years. Their generosity has contributed to the growth of Foundation funds. Some of the dividends and interest from these funds has been used to support several church projects by way of annual grants. We are most grateful to and would like to recognize those donors who are:

Anonymous

Thomas & Barbara Anderson

Ken & Cindy Bitter

Marko Boh

Lisa Bowersock

Susan Brunner

Marion Chard

Judy Coggin

Jill & Jackie DeiCas-Nehls

Jeffrey Forster

Claudette Headlee

Dave & Judy Hoover

Vallery & Charles Hoy

Andrew & Mary Jakes

Candace Kennedy

Sally Kosnik

Amy LaDu

Doug & Judy Martin

Susan Maslyk

RuthAnn Mitchell

Gary Morin

Stefan & Andrea Niewiesk

Martha Noreault

Chad & Amy Notestone

John & Denise Orr

Eula Gay Price

David & Cindy Probst

Robert Redfield

Bruce Rizzo

Tim Saunders

Jeffrey & Betsy Smith

Ross Walker

Won't you please let us add your name to our next list? YOUR DCC Foundation manages donations that help promote our church's "missions." 2024 grants were made this year to purchase new handbell tables and foam pads/cover, to assist the Kitchen Committee with a large dishwasher repair bill, to purchase a "bounce house" for VBS, church picnic, and other children's activities, to buy Green Team supplies, and to contribute to the "Ann's Angels" fund. We want to increase grant numbers and amounts with each passing year. YOU can help make that happen!

Keep the DCC FOUNDATION in mind when estate planning, when meeting with your financial advisor about the use of RMDs or when celebrating family milestones. Contact any of the DCCF Trustees for more information.

(Tom Anderson, Andy Jakes, Steph Mizer, Gary Morin, Brian Redenshek, Betsy Smith, and Cheryl Yeack)

It's Fall and Harvest of Hope Time

The Dublin Food Pantry is grateful for all the faith community's support over the years, including the yearly Harvest of Hope effort! Dublin Community Church is being asked specifically to provide 200 boxes of Jiffy Muffin Mix and 200 cans of Cranberry Sauce for the boxes that will be given to our clients during the month of November.



We will have shopping carts in the narthex beginning on <u>Monday, Oct. 7th</u> to collect these items and we will deliver them to the Pantry on <u>Wednesday, Oct. 30th</u>. Please purchase these items now or whenever convenient, but please wait until Oct. 7th to bring them in.

We so appreciate so many faith organizations' contributions and this will truly make a difference to our clients.

Thanks so much!

FINANCE

Dublin Community Church Financial Summary - through August 30, 2024

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

For the Month

Contributions totaling \$31,017 were *unfavorable* to plan by \$5,894 or 84% of plan **Total Operating Revenue** totaling \$32,603 were *unfavorable* to plan by \$15,604 or 68% of plan **Total Operating Expenses** totaling \$44,287 were *favorable* to plan by \$36,357 or 55% of plan.

Net cash flow for the month was *unfavorable* to plan by total expenses exceeding total operating revenue by \$11,684.

Year-to-date

- Contributions of \$281,422 was unfavorable to plan by \$13,866 or 95% of plan
- Total Operating Revenue of \$597,569 was favorable to plan by \$211,913 or 155% 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 \$ 965,691 was **unfavorable** to plan by **\$320,539** or **150%** of plan due to costs for renovations and final payment of mortgage

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

Through August 31, 2024	M	<u>Month</u>							Year-to-Date							
<u>Revenue</u>		Actual		Plan	Vai	r. to Plan	% of Plan		Actual		Plan	Va	r. to Plan	% of Plan	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Contributions - Pledged	\$	22,633	\$	29,583	\$	(6,950)	77%	\$	196,028	\$	236,664	\$	(40,636)	83%	\$ 355,000	55%
Contributions - Pledged Prior Yr.	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-		\$	-	\$	-	\$	-		\$ -	
Contributions - Unpledged	\$	5,021	\$	6,465	\$	(1,444)	78%	\$	53,382	\$	51,720	\$	1,662	103%	\$ 77,580	69%
Contributions - Prepaid & Other	\$	3,363	\$	863	\$	2,500	0%	\$	32,012	\$	6,904	\$	25,108	464%	\$ 10,358	309%
Sub-total Revenue - Contributions	\$	31,017	\$	36,911	\$	(5,894)	84%	\$	281,422	\$	295,288	\$	(13,866)	95%	\$ 442,938	64%
Other Revenue	\$	1,586	\$	11,296	\$	(9,710)	14%	\$	316,147	\$	90,368	\$	225,779	350%	\$ 135,542	233%
Total Operating Revenue	\$	32,603	\$	48,207	\$	(15,604)	68%	\$	597,569	\$	385,656	\$	211,913	155%	\$ 578,480	103%

Net Cash Flow from	(Current	Cur	rent Plan	Va	r. to Plan	% of Plan	Y	D Actual	Y	TD Plan	Va	r. to Plan	% of Plan	1	Annual	% Expended
<u>Operations</u>		Actual														Budget	
Total Operating Revenue	\$	32,603	\$	48,207	\$	(15,604)	68%	\$	597,569	\$	385,656	\$	211,913	155%	\$	547,631	103%
Total Operating Expense	\$	44,287	\$	80,644	\$	36,357	55%	\$	965,691	\$	645,152	\$	(320,539)	150%	\$	637,596	151%
Net Cash Flow fav. / (unfav.)	\$	(11,684)	\$	(32,437)				\$	(368,122)								

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

September 2024 Moderator Moment

2nd ANNUAL HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEER

APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Mark your calendars for <u>Sunday</u>, <u>November 10th at 11:30am in the Goodwill Room</u>. Our Moderator, Jacob Coburn, and Vice Moderator, Neil Butler, would like to invite church volunteers to a luncheon to thank you for your efforts that make our church council and ministries run smoothly



throughout the year. Please look for a sign up in the narthex to let them know if you plan to attend so they can have an accurate count for the lunch order.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS/ YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



JOIN US: OCTOBER 20TH 4:30 PM RAIN DATE; NOV. 3

All well-behaved pets are invited to participate in the blessing ceremony on the front lawn of Dublin Community Church. Photos and stuffed animal representations of your beloved pet are also welcome!

We will be collecting donations of pet food, cat litter and pet toys for the Dublin Food Pantry as our special offering.



Youth Sunday, October

Plan to join us on Youth Sunday to hear from our wonderful DCC Youth. We will highlight their summer mission work as well as their youth group experiences. We will also present fourth graders with a gift of a Bible from their DCC family!





Announcing the 2024 Children's Christmas Pageant

One Sleepless Night Written by Nancy Luikart

The annual Children's Christmas pageant will held on Sunday, December 15. We will need cast members and volunteers. Sign up forms will be available mid-October. Pageant rehearsals will be held Sundays after church beginning on November 17 thru December 8. The Dress rehearsal will be held Saturday. December 14. Save these dates now!

FALL 2024 RUMMAGE SALE/ANNUAL PICNIC

Rummage Sale Preparation In Progress

When you receive your **October "Messenger**," the preparation week before the **October 5th Rummage Sale** will be in full swing! If you have never been to the church the week before the sale or even on the sale day, you owe it to yourself to drop by DCC and see how almost the entire church is transformed. You will also witness industrious and hard-working volunteers busy sorting, pricing, organizing and placing "merchandise" in departments upstairs and down. More importantly, you will feel a strong sense of fellowship among our workers ranging in ages from 8 to 98!

If you read this DCC newsletter after October 5th, you can be assured that the Fall Rummage Sale ticked off all the boxes:

- Raised money for our church's and our youth mission ministries
- Repurposed and recycled tons of unwanted (to the donors) merchandise
- Presented thousands of low and reasonably-priced items to the public
- Provided dozens of opportunities for church members' fellowship

Thanks to all who participated in any way. Dollar amounts of the sale will be forthcoming.

CONNECT PIRATE PARTY

Saturday, October 26th @ 5:45 pm; 184 W. Reindeer Dr., Powell, OH 43065

Ye be summoned to a night of swashbucklin' revelry and ghostly adventure at our Pirates of the Caribbean Halloween Party! Don yer finest pirate garb and prepare to set sail on a treacherous sea of fun.

Arrr, keep yer weathered eyes peeled fer the Baldwin Party Parkin' Signs on both Reindeer an' Cherokee streets.

Bring a swashbucklin' dish to share with yer fellow buccaneers. Here be some swashbucklin' ideas:

Buccaneer's Booty - Spiced roasted nuts and pretzels.

Mariner's Munchies - Cheese and meat platters fit for the high seas.

Cannonball Meatballs ~ Spicy meatballs with a tangy sauce.

Treasure Chest Treats - Cookies or brownies shaped like treasure chests.

Jolly Roger's Fruit Skewers - Fruit pieces on skewers, easy for pirates to grab.

Heidi Baldwin 614-561-9785



DEEP GRIHA UPDATE-PART 2

Healthy Ageing

The Senior Citizen Programme is focused on helping participants get their documentation in order to access various Government services. The ongoing activities have continued through the quarter, here is a snapshot of numbers reached:

- Total elderly 4287
- Total Home visit 13956
- Total Community Meetings 86
- Total attendees 2591
- Total OPD-60

- Total eye checkup camps 16
 Total elderly at the camp 674
 Total eye surgery 332.
- Total Social Security Sch 2247





Dance therapy classes were on a break for the summer but the healthcare camps and follow up continued. Social Scheme camps continued to ensure that people had the documentation needed to access government social services available to the Ajjis and Ajobas.



This programme reaches out to local donors for donations in kind for the grocery that provides daily meals, for medication distributed during the general check-up and Doctor consultation, and for the assistive devices needed by Ajjis and Ajobas. We have a lot of partners that come through for various activities including meditation sessions, grocery distribution for individuals, legal aid services for abuse faced by the elderly and of course partners for health camps.

DEEP GRIHA—continued

Income Generation Programme (IGP) - Asimit (Without boundary)

The Asimit project continues to grow with 18 new women signing up for the computer classes in



the quarter. The number of tiffins/lunch boxes provided per quarter went from 4487 to 4721. Through this quarter Asimit organised Financial Literacy Training for the staff as well as women from the community. These sessions helped women understand income, money and savings better.

Through the summer the women made their own curry masalas to cut costs of buying readymade masalas and it has affected the taste of the food too, making it much better. The women enrolled with Asimit are primarily women who haven't stepped out of the house before and to see them grow and thrive has been a pleasure.



Tech SMART Centre, Gokhale Nagar

The Tech SMART classes have trained 105 students in the first quarter. The placement percentage for last year has reached 70% which was the target placement percentage.

As an inclusive centre, we enrol students with hearing impairment, a facilitator who is fluent in sign language is available to assist the students. This year we have sponsorship for 60 students with hearing impairment and are excited to fulfil this new target.

Apart from Computers and language training, we ensure the students are prepared for the workplace through other soft skill development. Exposure visits, mock interviews, and celebrations are part of the course to ensure the students are as prepared as they can be for their first job.



Training young women to be part of the Auto Industry, conducted technical training at an Automotive Company where our role was to bring spoken English and basic computers and workplace readiness.

OCTOBER

Worship 10 AM Cherub Bells BSA Greenery Sale Creativity Circle Church Council 7PM Gospel Class WORD PM - Workshop Kitchen/GV Room 10AM—2PM	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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Jeanne Dellner
Andrew Haid
Evan Sugar
Teddy Weakley
Capp Whitney
John DeDobbelaere
Brian Lewis
Corinne Evans
Christie Grooms
Kate Norfleet
Terry Shinnick
Andrew Sullivan
Alexandra Uber
Sean Uber
Jesus Gimenez
Karlee North
Joan Wintermantel
Adelyn Briggs
Denise Burgers
Linda O'Brien
Denise Orr
Connor Patterson
Tim Saunders
Jeffrey Smith
Anna Long
Sam McAdow
Lee Ann Jenkins
Megan Sullivan
Gabby Weeks
Keith LaDu
Ryan Briggs
Andy Jakes
Derek Olen
Pat Rike
Elaine Coughlin
Owen Damceski
Jeffrey Bennett

13	Susan Conner
	Chad Davis
	Chris DeDobbelaere
	David Jenkins
	Bill Martin
	Betsy Smith
14	Gabriella Damceski
	Ralph Feasel
	Steven Ostrowski
	Kelly Ostrowski
15	Matt Lefferts
16	Alexa deSilva
	Kelly Smith
17	Adam Clayton
	Hagen Lefferts
	Sharon Reardon
18	Branden Bellanca
	Chloe Ployer
19	Owen Dicus
	Ellen George
22	Becky Crawford
	Don Ottney
23	Joe Riedel
	Melissa Simpson
	Cristina Wolfe
24	Steve Earley
	Kellan Glover
25	Charlotte Dorazio
	Shelby Saunders
26	Taylor Nagel
27	Stefan Niewiesk
28	Joanna Bryant
	Scott Campbell
	Tim Haynes
	Bob Kreeger
	Grace Ottney
	Rose Ottney
00	Craig Yeack
30	Fred Zugaro
31	Ruth Ann Mitchell
	Karen Ostrowski

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Time to Celebrate

Why not recognize that special person or couple with a gift to honor their legacy? A gift to Dublin Community Church Foundation (DCCF) to celebrate a special birthday or congratulate friends or parents on their anniversary is the perfect way to give a gift that will keep on giving! Simply write a check payable to the DCCF, add "celebration gift" in the memo line, and drop it in the collection plate.



MINISTERS/CHURCH OF-FICE HOURS:

Rev. Bowersock's normal day off is *Thursday*.

Rev. Sunday's normal day off is <u>Monday</u>.

Church Office Hours:

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday - Thursday. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Friday.



VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.DUBLINCOMMUNITYCHURCH.



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

NEW PERSPECTIVES YOUTH GROUP

We have two youth groups. One for our Middle School aged youth from 6th to 8th grades. The other is our Sr High Youth Group. This is for youth in grades 9 through 12.

If you have a youth that fits that description, and you are not currently receiving emails from Jena or Gregg please send an email to the following address dccnpyg@yahoo.com

We want you to know about our programs and opportunities to serve our church and greater community. We also have fun activities and meetings. Please submit your request to be added to our email group.

Thanks! Gregg & Jena

