



# THE MESSENGER

FEBRAURY 2025

**Dublin Community Church—United Church of Christ**

## ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS



Life is full of endings and beginnings. We graduate from high school and go off to college. We move to a new town, change careers, marry, start families - only to then one day send our own kids off to college. These endings and beginnings can often be exciting, but they can also at times be scary. Sometimes our lives change unexpectedly, and we find ourselves having to “begin again” in ways we never anticipated - a loved one dies, we get a devastating diagnosis, a treasured job comes to an end.

If you were at the DCC Church Council meeting on January 21, or at our Annual Meeting on January 26, you heard it announced that there is a significant “ending and beginning” happening in my life in the coming months. I have officially announced my retirement, beginning July of 2026. The decision to end my call at DCC and begin my retirement has taken many months of prayerful thought and discernment. Serving Dublin Community Church has been one of the greatest joys and privileges of my life. But the timing feels right for this ending and beginning. And I look forward to still having 18 months to be with you. I pledge that I will continue to give you the absolute best I have to offer in these final months of my tenure. And I am confident that the future of Dublin Community Church is very bright.

Most of you know I lead the Sunday morning Seekers Bible Study class and have done so for more than a decade. Through the years we have done a variety of studies - everything from reading through the entire Bible, to studying particular books of the Bible, to looking closely at the assigned Lectionary Scripture each week. Facilitating the Seekers class has been one of my most rewarding activities over the years.

Last Fall, the Seekers class read and discussed a study on the book of Revelation - the final book, of course, in the Bible. It was challenging and eye-opening. And then as the class considered what we might want to study next, someone in the class suggested that since we had just studied the end of the Bible, perhaps we should go back and study the beginning. And so that is what we have done. We have just begun a study on the book of Genesis. The story of God's people as told in the Bible is one continuous story. And ultimately it is about God's love for God's people, throughout all their endings and beginnings.

And that is our story as well. May the Holy Spirit hold you close in all your endings and beginnings.

*- 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](http://www.dccucc.com)

Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/  
dublincommunitychurchucc/](https://www.facebook.com/dublincommunitychurchucc/)

United Church of Christ:  
[www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

## SEE INSIDE

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## Creativity Circle

Creativity Circle is a group of women who gather twice a month for the sole purpose of creating knit, crochet, and machine sewn items that are in turn donated to a variety of charities in the Columbus area. Knit and/or crochet blankets are donated to the Van Buren homeless center and/or the YWCA Family Center. Fleece blankets are hemmed and given to Star House, and a variety of baby items (blankets, hats, bibs, burp cloths) are taken to Gifts for Angels (a charity that provides baby items to mothers with little or no means) Both groups meet in the parlor on the second Sunday of the month from 3-5 p.m. and the last Wednesday of the month from 1-3 p.m. For more information, please contact Cindy Bitter at [cbitter77@yahoo.com](mailto:cbitter77@yahoo.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](mailto:karenharget@yahoo.com) or 614-891-8303).

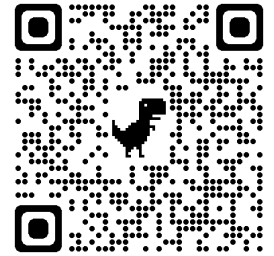


## SECOND MILE:

### Heartland Conference Outdoor Ministries –

provides support for camping experiences in the Heartland Conference.

Summer camp registration is open! There are all types of amazing camps to get involved with this summer! Look on our “Bulletin Board” Tab at [DCCUCC.COM](http://DCCUCC.COM) to Explore.



## Thank You for Shopping at Kroger

Dublin Community Church is fortunate to be part of the Kroger Community Rewards Program. This money is used for childcare for WORD, for purchase of materials, and also for lunches for the volunteers during Rummage weeks, as well as Rummage Sale days. These funds have also been used for other needs of the church. We rely on you to participate in this program. Even if you don't shop at Kroger regularly, it still makes a difference for you to sign up. We receive a check every three months. Our most recent check was **\$497.71**.

Simply sign up online with your Kroger Plus Card number at [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com). Any questions, contact Barb Anderson at [andersonfamily2214@gmail.com](mailto:andersonfamily2214@gmail.com).

## Our DCC-UCC Staff is Here for You

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

[lisaabowersock@gmail.com](mailto:lisaabowersock@gmail.com)  
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**CALLED BY THE SPIRIT**



In his 1973 book *Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC*, Presbyterian author and theologian Frederick Buechner wrote, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

Every human being has gifts and talents unique to that individual. In our recent Sunday morning epistle readings from the Corinthian correspondence, we have heard Paul reminding the church that the variety of gifts, given to people by the same Spirit of God, make us like a single body with many parts. Each member has its part to play, and every gift has essential value. Furthermore, Paul explains, each person's unique gifts are made more beautiful when they are used with love for the good of all.

Just as each individual within the church brings something special to the Body of Christ, each congregation has its own unique blend of gifts. So every congregation has particular gifts to bring to its community and to the wider church. Individuals have the responsibility to discern how their gifts might be used in service to others, and, in turn, each congregation has the responsibility to discern its unique, collective call in service to its own community and the world.

With Rev. Lisa's recently announced retirement in July of 2026, Dublin Community Church is entering into a season of discernment. It is our intention to use these eighteen months to their fullest, actively engaging in a process of discerning our congregation's particular call at this time in our life together.

Throughout these months, Rev. Lisa and I will facilitate an intentional, Spirit-led process to bring clarity to a number of questions—What are our gifts? Where does our story overlap with God's story through Scripture? What are our congregation's passions? What brings us joy? What needs in our community are unmet? What are our priorities in mission and ministry? What is our unique call in this moment? Where is it that our deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet?

This sort of discernment takes time. And in order to be effective, it will take participation from many individuals. Beginning this spring, and continuing in the months that follow, we will hold a series of gatherings to engage in this important and holy work. More specific information will be coming in the weeks and months ahead. We need your gifts and your unique voice if we are to glean a more complete understanding of who we are as an expression of the Body of Christ and where God is calling us in the season ahead. I hope you'll join us!

Peace and blessings,

Rev. Becky



**Senior High Youth Group Meetings—lower level Youth Room/Goodwill Rooms**

- Sunday, February 23rd from 5:30—7:00 PM \* this is a change.
- Sunday, March 23rd from 5:30—7:00 PM
- Sunday, April 13th from 5:30—7:00 PM
- Sunday, May 18th from 5:30—7:00 PM

**Mid High Youth Group Meetings—lower level Youth Room**

- Sunday, February 9th—immediately after worship
- Sunday, March 9th—immediately after worship
- Sunday, April 13th—immediately after worship
- Sunday, May 18th—immediately after worship



# Finance Committee Report/DCCF News

## Dublin Community Church Financial Summary – through December 31, 2024

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

### For the Month

**Contributions** totaling \$39,519 were *favorable* to plan by \$2,602 or 107% of plan.

**Total Operating Revenue** totaling \$48,545 were *favorable* to plan by \$342 or 101% of plan.

**Total Operating Expenses** totaling \$63,027 were *favorable* to plan by \$17,612 or 78% of plan.

**Net cash flow** for the month was *unfavorable* to plan by total expenses exceeding total operating revenue by \$14,482.

### Year-to-date

- **Contributions of \$427,040** were **unfavorable** to plan by \$15,898 or 96% of plan

- **Total Operating Revenue** of \$1,052,386 was **favorable** to plan by **\$473,906** or **182%** of plan

Total Operating Revenue includes a transfer of \$252,241 from the capital reserve for renovation of the Goodwill room and a transfer from Council Contingency Fund of \$281,312 for renovations.

- **Total Operating Expense** of \$ 1,175,360 was **unfavorable** to plan by **\$207,637** or **121%** 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.

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

Revenue	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Contributions - Pledged	\$ 11,138	\$ 29,587	\$ (18,449)	38%	\$ 284,484	\$ 355,000	\$ (70,516)	80%	\$ 355,000	80%
Contributions - Pledged Prior Yr.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Contributions - Unpledged	\$ 22,899	\$ 6,465	\$ 16,434	354%	\$ 93,591	\$ 77,580	\$ 16,011	121%	\$ 77,580	121%
Contributions - Prepaid & Other	\$ 5,482	\$ 865	\$ 4,617	0%	\$ 48,965	\$ 10,358	\$ 38,607	473%	\$ 10,358	473%
<b>Sub-total Revenue - Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 39,519</b>	<b>\$ 36,917</b>	<b>\$ 2,602</b>	<b>107%</b>	<b>\$ 427,040</b>	<b>\$ 442,938</b>	<b>\$ (15,898)</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>\$ 442,938</b>	<b>96%</b>
Other Revenue	\$ 9,026	\$ 11,286	\$ (2,260)	80%	\$ 625,346	\$ 135,542	\$ 489,804	461%	\$ 135,542	461%
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 48,545</b>	<b>\$ 48,203</b>	<b>\$ 342</b>	<b>101%</b>	<b>\$ 1,052,386</b>	<b>\$ 578,480</b>	<b>\$ 473,906</b>	<b>182%</b>	<b>\$ 578,480</b>	<b>182%</b>

Net Cash Flow from Operations	Current Actual	Current Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	YTD Actual	YTD Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Annual Budget
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 48,545	\$ 48,203	\$ 342	101%	\$ 1,052,386	\$ 578,480	\$ 473,906	182%	\$ 578,480
Total Operating Expense	\$ 63,027	\$ 80,639	\$ 17,612	78%	\$ 1,175,360	\$ 967,723	\$ (207,637)	121%	\$ 967,723
<b>Net Cash Flow fav. / (unfav.)</b>	<b>\$ (14,482)</b>	<b>\$ (32,437)</b>			<b>\$ (122,974)</b>				

## DEEP GRIHA SPRING FUNDRAISER AND DCC LUNCHEON—SAVE THE DATES!

Deep Griha in Pune, India is supported by our church and many other church communities.

A Spring dinner fundraising event is held each year at First Community Church, North Campus and this year's date will be **Friday, April 4th, 2025, 6-8 p.m.** The director there, Ashlesha Onawale, will be visiting our church and others during a 3 week period that she will be here. She will speak at our church on **Sunday, March 23rd, and there will be a lunch following that service.** More information to come soon.

She and Dr. Amy Acton will be the featured speakers at the April 4th dinner to discuss public health concerns in our country and in India.

Rev. Bob Tussing will be the emcee for the event. Please save the date and look for more information to come very soon.

Because of DCC's generosity during the January 2nd Mile offering, we will be sending a check for nearly \$3000 to Deep Griha in February to support 10 children's needs there for 1 full year. We are truly grateful for the continuing support from DCC to Deep Griha.

## INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY

The church directory is available on line through the program Instant Church Directory. This is available on your PC or iPad and even on your smartphone. Following are step by step instructions to access the directory from home or away from home. Keep in mind that you will only be allowed to access the directory if you are in the directory and show a current email address. If you are not in the Directory and would like to be added, please email [directory.dcc@gmail.com](mailto:directory.dcc@gmail.com) to express your interest. **In order to be more "green" the church no longer prints out paper directories, so this is the best way to get up to date information.**

### **LOGGING IN TO INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY**

On your PC go to [www.instantchurchdirectory.com](http://www.instantchurchdirectory.com)

- At the top click on **Church Member Sign In.**
- Enter your email address.
- If this is your first time Create your unique password.

### **You are now logged in to the Directory.**

On your smartphone, download the Instant Church Directory app from the App store.

If you have already created your login and password you will only need to sign in to access the Directory.

### **MAKING CHANGES TO YOUR PROFILE**

If you want to edit your profile or change your picture, click on the **Edit My Family** tab. To change your photo, click on **Browse** and find your new photo from your own files. Make any other changes as necessary (i.e. address, email, phone). Once you are finished, click **Submit Edits.**

If you have any questions or comments, please email them to [directory.dcc@gmail.com](mailto:directory.dcc@gmail.com).



## WOMEN'S RETREAT 2025

The women's retreat is scheduled for 2/28-3/2, 2025! Please plan to join us at a new location, Hope Wood Pines 2790 State Route 61, Marengo, OH 43334 [pines@hopewoodoutdoors.org](mailto:pines@hopewoodoutdoors.org)

Total cost for the weekend, 2 nights, 4 meals and wonderful fellowship is \$128 per person. If this is a difficulty for anyone, please let me, Lisa or Becky know, and we will confidentially arrange for you to attend. We'd love to have a full cabin of 20 of us attending, so please make plans now and let me know that you can attend. Lisa and Becky will be providing some structured time for us and will let us know more about that as time gets closer.

Let me know if you have any questions at all! [andersonfamily2214@gmail.com](mailto:andersonfamily2214@gmail.com)  
614-783-7998

DUBLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH  
PRESENTS

## Jazz Piano Concert



FEATURING:  
BOBBY VAN DEUSEN

SAVE THE DATE!

APRIL 26, 2025 | 3:00 - 4:30 pm

DCC SANCTUARY

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS  
AND TICKET INFORMATION.

# FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<b>AA Meetings</b> 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)		<i>* All upstairs meetings will move to the west part of the Goodwill Room during Kennedy Renovations.</i>	<b>Red Cross Blood Drives</b> <i>* 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the Goodwill Room</i>		<b>Boy Scouts Wednesdays</b> 7 PM— Goodwill Room		1 SMMF 8—9:30 AM  Ukrainian Soup Workshop
2 Seekers  Worship 10 AM  Scout Sunday/ Pancake Breakfast 8:30 am and directly after service.	3     Grief Group 7PM	4     MORE, 6:15 AM	5     ECSB—7PM GW  WORD PM	6     WORD AM	7     8AM -2PM Dublin Community Solo Competition	8	
9 Seekers  Worship 10 AM  Creativity Circle 3-5 PM—parlor  3-5PM Confirma- tion	10     Red Cross—GW pm  Growth and Rolls 7PM Parlor  DCCF Zoom 7pm	11     MORE, 6:15 AM	12     WORD PM FLUTE Choir – GW	13     WORD AM  Excellence Group 12-3PM	14     SMMF 8—9:30 AM  Green Team Eco Summit 12-4PM	15	
16 Seekers  Worship 10 AM  3-5PM Confirma- tion	17 Special Red Cross Drive 12-6PM	18     Church Council 7PM	19     MORE, 6:15 AM  Messenger Articles Due	20     WORD PM ECSB—7PM GW FLUTE Choir—S	21     WORD AM	22	
23 Seekers  Worship 10 AM	24     Red Cross—GW PM	25     MORE, 6:15 AM  Creat. Circle 1-3 PM—Parlor	26     WORD PM Flute Choir— GW	27     WORD AM	28	29	
<b>Indian Dancers—Narthex or GW Room</b> Tues. 5:30—9:30 PM		<b>Choir Practice</b> is at 7pm on Sundays in the Sanctuary. <b>Handbell Practices</b> are on preschedule scheduled Sundays at 5:30 pm in the Sanctuary.					

# Happy Birthday!



- 1 William Crecelius  
Robert Redfield
- 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
- 11 Amy LaDu  
Greg Lam
- 12 Bryson Malinowski  
Lennox Louters  
Scarlett Louters  
Web Hatton  
Megan Wintermantel
- 13 Ryan Hodge
- 14 Lindsey Geese Kaufman  
Caroline Kalix  
Alex Ward

- 15 Leona Jones  
Sharon Uber
- 16 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  
Andrea Niewiesk
- 26 Chris Hodge  
Makayla Schofield
- 27 Amy Lane  
Trevor Sell  
Tim Louters
- 28 David Nichols  
Elizabeth Weber
- 29 Kayleigh Doherty

## SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP

will meet in February on 2/8 and 2/22. We'll be finishing "Do I Stay Christian?" and deciding on our next book for study.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

### DCCF-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 OFFICE HOURS:

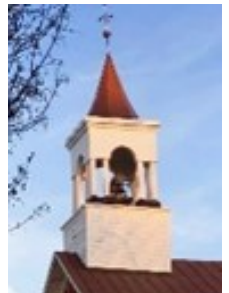
Rev. Bowersock's normal day off is Thursday.

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.

Laura's days off are *Saturday and Sunday*. Please leave her a note in the notepad on her desk on Sundays and she'll get back with you during office hours.



### Want to receive DCC information?

Send your request to: [dublinuccoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dublinuccoffice@gmail.com)

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

VISIT US ONLINE AT  
[WWW.DUBLINCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.DUBLINCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG)



# Dublin Community Church

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“We are proudly  
and officially an Open and Affirming  
Congregation.”

## SCOUTING AMERICA Pancake Breakfast Save the Date:

**February 2nd** is Scout Sunday and the Scout Troops 185 and 581 will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast. We hope you can join them.

We will have two seatings: 8:30 - 9:30AM and *immediately* following service. Scouts will serve pancakes, scrambled eggs, link sausage, orange juice and coffee for a freewill donation. Proceeds will support our Scout's trips to Philmont Scout Ranch this year (troop 581) and next year (Troop 185).

### Dublin **Eco** Summit 2025

Bringing resources and community together to protect the Earth.

Free  
and  
Open to the Public  
All are welcome!



Saturday  
February 15, 2025  
1:00 to 4:00 pm

Organized by The Green Team

Register to attend via [dcuccgreenteam@gmail.com](mailto:dcuccgreenteam@gmail.com)

1:00 Welcome  
1:15 SWACO  
1:30 Rumpke  
1:45 Compost Exchange  
2:00 Columbus Recycling  
2:15 Green Columbus  
2:30 Franklin Soil/Water  
Conservation District  
2:45 Closing  
3:00 Mix and Mingle

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