



THE MESSENGER

AUGUST 2026

Dublin Community Church—United Church of Christ

SINGING A NEW SONG

*O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD; bless God's name;
tell of God's salvation from day to day.
Declare God's glory among the nations,
God's marvelous works among all the peoples.
For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised.
~Psalm 96:1-4a*



Dublin Community Church United Church of Christ

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614.889.1026

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United Church of Christ:
www.ucc.org

Scripture is full of images referencing new life. Over and over again, God's people experience transformation and renewal, often moving from times of trial or difficulty to something entirely new.

When we follow the story of God's people in the Bible, we see this pattern repeated many times. From darkness and chaos comes light. The rainbow comes after the flood. The prophets promise streams and flowers in the midst of the desert of exile. The dry bones receive new flesh. The ruined vessel is reshaped in the potter's hand. And then, of course, comes the most powerful image among our sacred stories—the death and despair of the cross gives way to resurrection and new life.

But sometimes, as in Psalm 96, we find that God's people experience a different kind of movement. This psalm and others remind us that there are times in our shared life when we move from praise to praise and from joy to joy. God's good works are revealed among the people, and God's glory is seen again and again. And in the midst of continued blessings, a new song emerges. It is this second kind of movement that I believe we are seeing currently in the life of Dublin Community Church UCC.

In recent weeks, we have celebrated the ministry of Rev. Lisa Bowersock. Rev. Lisa's was a faithful and fruitful ministry, and there has been so much to celebrate as the church flourished under her leadership. In the weeks since her retirement, there has been a flurry of activity around the church building, inside and out. The concrete steps and ramp in front of the Gladden Chapel have been replaced. The church offices have received a complete facelift, including new paint, flooring, and furniture. Most recently, the lower parking lot has been resurfaced. In the weeks to come, we will see new interior signage to welcome newcomers into our space and help them navigate our building more easily. All of these changes are helping us to prepare for yet another season of fruitful ministry.

These first few weeks as your Senior Minister have already been a blessing to me, and I look forward to seeing where God is leading us together in the future. So let's sing a new song as we continue to live into God's call to reflect the heart of Jesus, offer hospitality, celebrate diversity, and love and serve our neighbors.

Peace and blessings,
Rev. Becky

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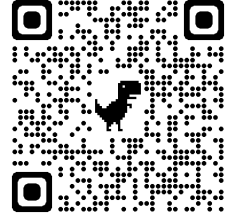
CREATIVITY CIRCLE

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 11:30 a.m. —1:30 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



SECOND MILE:

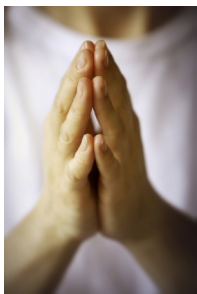
Green Team Initiative – Funds will help to build on the “green” efforts we’ve take as a congregation to be a greener church.



MEN'S RETREAT: Save the Date!

The retreat will take place from Saturday October 31 through Sunday morning, November 1. Attendees will have the option to sign up for one or two days.

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044EA9A828ABFF2-64861938-mens#/> or scan the QR CODE.



PRAYER CHAIN

Our Prayer Chain offers comfort and support in a thoughtful, confidential, manner. If you know of someone's need for prayers or you would like to be added to the group that prays for those who need support, contact our Prayer

Chain through Karen Harget (karenharget@yahoo.com or 614-891-8303).

Our DCC-UCC Staff is Here for You

Becky Sunday, Senior Minister:
Erin Miller, C.E. Director:
Nancy Luikart, Music Director:
Laura Zuber, Church Office Administrator:
Michael Koss, Organist/Accompanist:
Barb Anderson, Interfaith Outreach Facilitator:

revbeckysunday@gmail.com
erinmiller7210@gmail.com
nluikart@icloud.com
dublinuccoffice@gmail.com
michaelpkossphd@gmail.com
andersonfamily2214@gmail.com



PICNIC ON THE PATIO

Sunday, September 13th

Fellowship Committee is providing meat, drinks, condiments and tableware. Sign up for a salad, side dish or dessert in the narthex and let us know how many from your family are attending. There will be music by the Strummers, face painting and a bounce house for the children.

You don't want to miss this fun annual event!



Thank You from Rev Lisa

There are no words to adequately express my gratitude for all the ways in which you made my retirement celebrations so meaningful. My heart is full! I know that several of you were on the committee that organized the celebrations and I give you my heartfelt thanks!

Thank you to the Kitchen Committee for the delicious luncheon! Thank you to Rev Becky and the rest of the staff for your kind words and for the virtual frame filled with precious photos. Thank you to Barb Anderson and the women of WORD for the beautiful book of notes and photos. Thank you to Judy Hoover and Kathy Blair for all your kind words, for presenting me with the stunning "Memory Box" made by our own Steve Kranz (thanks, Steve!), and for the beautiful altar flowers and vase. Thank you to the Fellowship Committee for the amazing reception on my final Sunday, and that magnificent cake! Thank you, Mary Yarina, for snapping photos. Thank you to Nancy Luikart and the Choir and the Strummers and Robin Campbell and Kristen Elliott for all of the incredible music on my final Sunday. Thank you to my children for your ongoing presence, support, thoughtful gifts, and love. And thank you to ALL OF YOU, for the notes and cards and gifts and hugs and kind wishes, and for the extremely generous retirement gift!!

Your love and support for me over the past 18 years will live in my heart forever. Much love and many blessings, always!

Shalom, Rev Lisa Bowersock

DCC MISSION TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

Our Mission Trip to St. Louis had a positive impact on that community. Here is what we did that week!

1. Deep cleaned two apartments for Lydia's House. This work allowed two women and possibly children to find a place to live to escape their abusers. This work while hard and dirty was meaningful because the women/children moving in are now safer.

2. Provided 200 sack lunches to St. Patrick's Center. There are now going to be 200 people who received a nutritious meal they may not have had before. We also donated 200 bottles of water and all of the leftover items we had after filling the 200 sack lunch bags.

3. At Propel Kitchens we helped build lunch bags and cut up vegetables and fruit. The work we did in 2 hours will help feed over 500 kids who do not have enough to eat during the summer.

4. Worked at St. Peter and Paul Parish serving dinner to the homeless. They had 105 people eating there that evening. We also provided 100 travel size bars of soap, 100 travel size deodorant, 100 travel size tubes of sun screen and 100 travel size bottles of lotion.

5. At Beyond Housing we spent the total of 2 days working on their warehouse. Beyond Housing works with low income individuals and families to move them from shelters into low cost rental facilities to owning their own homes. The work we did would have taken them months to complete. We reorganized several bays of their warehouse, we got rid of items that were trash and dumped them, we cleared up a two different sections of their warehouse, we cleared up their docking area where they can now more easily receive donations and deliveries, painted two doors and we were able to help provide yellow painted lines in their warehouse that in the event of a power failure and/or a disaster their employees would be able to find their way to an exit. This painting work will now help them pass inspection with the city and state. Beyond Housing helps 88 different cities that make up the county and city of St. Louis. They help hundreds of people every day.



6. We took brats, hot dogs and hamburgers left over from dinner one evening out to the homeless in downtown St. Louis. We served over 30 people with our leftover food.

7. We took leftover tacos from dinner one night and served them to the homeless people just 5-10 miles from where we were staying. We served over 30 tacos to individuals who were so thankful to have this little bit of food.

I estimate that through our work, we helped over 1,000 people and maybe more.

~ Gregg Dudash



JUST ABOUT TWO MONTHS OUT!

It is only two months until our fall rummage sale on Saturday, October 3rd. Did you realize that there are 7 months between our fall rummage sales and our spring rummage sales? However, there are only 5 months between our spring rummage sales and our fall rummage sales. Follow?! This sale is creeping up on us!

Please be setting aside your no-longer wanted treasures for this autumn sale. We respectfully request no TVs unless they are SMART TVs and they work, no mattresses/box springs, no heavy exercise equipment, no entertainment centers or large hutches. We also ask that your donations be working, clean, and free from defects/tears/stains. No encyclopedias, National Geographics or trade books. We always need plastic and paper grocery bags, handled shopping bags and even clean trash bags.

Our crew who usually are willing to pick donations up at your home are getting tired. We need more, strong, young people with trucks to pick up donations or we will no longer be able to offer this service. Please let me know if you can help us out. (Betsy Smith: blehsmith@yahoo.com.)

In addition, please look at your calendars to see what days you can **volunteer between Saturday, September 26 and sale day Saturday, October 3rd.** More details to come with times. I can't say this often enough. Volunteering is FUN and a great way to feel part of our church family! As always, proceeds from the sale benefit our UCC and Youth ministries.

Betsy Smith

THE FUTURE IS PEACE EVENT AND AUTHOR DISCUSSION

WORD (Women of Religious Diversity) at DCC is pleased to offer a book discussion event on Saturday, Oct. 10th, 9:45-11:15 a.m. This event is made possible through a grant from the DCC Foundation, Natalie Pederson Chard Fund.

The book is titled *The Future is Peace* by Aziz Abu Sarah and Maoz Inon. Aziz and Maoz will visit us via zoom to discuss their unique friendship and commitment to peace which has brought them together in spite of tragic events in their lives. Their story is impactful and they have been featured on many national and international programs, including an interview on the Daily Show with Jon Stewart, NPR, BBC news, and numerous TedTalks. Tom and Barb Anderson met Aziz at his family home in Palestine when they did a dual narrative tour of Israel/Palestine in 2018.

We ask that you read at least part of the book prior to the event, and you can register now so that we can order the books at the best cost and receive them in a timely manner. You can do so by contacting me directly at andersonfamily2214@gmail.com. Books will be \$18.00 each and available in early August, check made to Dublin Community Church. We will give more details about the event as time draws closer, but we want to ensure we have enough books for everyone.

We sincerely hope you can join us, we are very grateful to be able to offer this important presentation.

The Fall Session of WORD will begin on September 10th by Zoom and September 11th in person.

~ Barb Anderson

THANK YOU FROM GREGG

I wanted to thank the Staff at Dublin Community Church United Church of Christ for the wonderful Coffee Hour recognition for my retirement as our Youth Leader. It was wonderful to be acknowledged for the years of service to our church and our youth! I love this church home, our staff, and our youth! I am particularly thankful to all of you who have said a kind word, dropped me a card or came through the line after service. I also want to thank Bill and Tish Martin for the beautiful flowers for my recognition.

While I may not be the Youth Leader any longer, it doesn't mean you will not see me. This is my home, you are my family and I love each and every one of you!

Special thanks to Reverends Chuck Kuck, Heather Kurtz, Robert Tussing, Lisa Bowersock and Becky Sunday for the love, care and support they have given to me over the years. I have learned so much from each of them and my walk with God has greatly increased. I want to thank each and every staff member I have had the privilege of working with as you have made my journey easier and helped me in my journey.

I want to thank all of the chaperones who have been with me on the last Seven Mission Trips. You are incredible people and leaders for our young people. Know that you have helped me far more than I ever did you and you have blessed the lives of so many people including our youth!

Thank you for allowing me to be our Youth Leader and it is a privilege and honor to have seen so many of our young people grow in their walk.

Peace and Blessings

Gregg Dudash

Choir Season Starts September 13



JOIN A CHOIR We are looking for new members for all of our choirs. On **Sunday, August 23** during coffee hour the Music Committee will be available to answer any questions you have about any of our choirs. All are welcome to experience the joy of creating music with any

of our choirs including: Chancel Choir, Gladden Ringers, Gladden Strummers, Cherub Bells and Chime Choir.

CHOIR SEASON KICK OFF SOCIAL ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

The Music Committee is kicking off the choir season by holding a backyard picnic for choir members and anyone interested in joining one of our choirs: Chancel Choir, Gladden Ringers and Gladden Strummers. Family members are invited to join too. The picnic will be held at the home of Randy and Nancy Luikart at 7207 Achill Dr., Dublin from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. The Music Committee will be providing burgers and hot dogs and nonalcoholic drinks. You are welcome to bring adult beverages of your choice. **RSVP by August 23** to nluikart@icloud.com.



Cherub Bells



CHERUB BELLS STARTING SEPTEMBER 20. The Cherub Bell Choir will begin again on **Sunday, September 20**. The session will run Sundays from September 20 through October 25. Rehearsals 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. On **Sunday, August 23** during coffee hour, you will get a chance to ring the bells and learn more about the choir. A signup sheet will be available in the Narthex starting on August 6. You can also sign up by emailing Nancy Luikart at nluikart@icloud.com

The **Chime Choir** returns this fall starting on **October 25**. Rehearsals will be held after church in the sanctuary. This choir is for students grades 3 - 6. A sign up sheet will be available in the Narthex starting on August 6. You can also sign up by emailing Nancy Luikart at nluikart@icloud.com. On **Sunday, August 23** during coffee hour, you will get a chance to ring the chimes and learn more about the choir.

BRINGING HOPE TO LOCAL KIDS

Our 2026 Confirmation class gathered one final time on Sunday, July 26 to complete their service project. Together they organized all of your donations and presented them to Karie Griffin, the founder and director of Stitched Together, a local nonprofit that provides Hope Cases filled with essential items for local children entering the foster care system. Because of your generosity, our confirmands were able to assemble:

- 47 Hope Cases, including...
- 10 Baby cases
- 21 Kid cases
- 16 Teen cases

PLUS...

- 13 Complete hygiene kits
- 52 Additional personal care items
- 38 Colored pencils, markers, or other school supply items
- 13 Pajamas or other clothing
- 43 Stuffed animals
- 222 Books or journals

AND...

- Nearly \$2,800.00 in monetary donations!!!



These gifts will go a long way to helping even more children in the local foster care system. **THANK YOU** for your amazing generosity!



Finance Committee Report

Dublin Community Church Financial Summary – through June 2026

Summary: Net cash flow is **unfavorable** for June but **favorable** Year-To-Date. June unfavorability is not unexpected since contributions typically slow during the summer. Year-To-Date net cash flow is favorable primarily due to one-time contributions received earlier in the year and pre-payment of Preschool rent.

For the Month

- Contributions of \$24,646 were **unfavorable** to plan by \$9,972 (71% of Plan).
- Total Operating Revenue of \$43,836 was **unfavorable** to plan by \$6,720 (85% of Plan).
- Total Operating Expense of \$66,166 was **unfavorable** to plan by \$14,528 (128% of Plan) primarily due to there being 3 pays in the month for salaried personnel.
- Net cash flow for the month was **unfavorable** to plan by \$22,330.

Year-to-date

- Contributions of \$229,614 were **favorable** to plan by \$21,906 (111% of Plan) due to pre-paid pledges booked earlier in the year.
- Total Operating Revenue of \$411,861 was **favorable** to plan by \$101,499 (133% of Plan).
- Total Operating Expense of \$298,801 was **favorable** to plan by \$11,027 (96% of Plan).
- Net cash flow year-to-date was **favorable** to plan by \$113,060.

Respectfully submitted by the DCC Finance Committee: Randy Luikart (Chair), Terry Moore and Mark Miller

Through June 2026 (50%)											
General Fund Budget		Month				Year-to-Date				FY Budget	
Revenue		Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Contributions - Pledged		\$ 24,646	\$ 34,618	\$ (9,972)	71%	\$ 229,614	\$ 207,708	\$ 21,906	111%	\$ 415,414	55%
Contributions - Pledged Prior Yr.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Contributions - Not Pledged		\$ 13,736	\$ 5,833	\$ 7,903	235%	\$ 93,683	\$ 34,998	\$ 58,685	268%	\$ 70,000	134%
Contributions - Visitors and Loose Offr		\$ 1,731	\$ 833	\$ 898	208%	\$ 6,216	\$ 4,998	\$ 1,218	124%	\$ 10,000	62%
Subtotal - Contributions		\$ 40,113	\$ 41,284	\$ (1,171)	97%	\$ 329,513	\$ 247,704	\$ 81,809	133%	\$ 495,414	67%
Other Revenue		\$ 3,723	\$ 10,443	\$ (6,720)	36%	\$ 82,348	\$ 62,658	\$ 19,690	131%	\$ 125,300	66%
Total Operating Revenue		\$ 43,836	\$ 51,727	\$ (7,891)	85%	\$ 411,861	\$ 310,362	\$ 101,499	133%	\$ 620,714	66%
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	% Expended
Total Operating Revenue		\$ 43,836	\$ 51,727	\$ (7,891)	85%	\$ 411,861	\$ 310,362	\$ 101,499	133%	\$ 620,714	66%
Total Operating Expense		\$ 66,166	\$ 51,638	\$ (14,528)	128%	\$ 298,801	\$ 309,828	\$ 11,027	96%	\$ 619,606	48%
Net Cash Flow fav. / (unfav.)		\$ (22,330)	\$ 89	\$ (22,419)		\$ 113,060	\$ 89	\$ 112,971		\$ 1,108	
Capital Fund Budget		Month				Year-to-Date				FY Budget	
Revenue		Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Total Capital Revenue		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 102,688	\$ 84,714	\$ (11,974)	121%	\$ 233,423	44%
Expense		Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Actual	Plan	Var. to Plan	% of Plan	Annual Budget	% Expended
Buildings and Grounds Project List											
Subtotal - B&G Project List		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 87,782	\$ 49,800	\$ (37,982)	176%	\$ 181,710	48%
Capital Project List - Other											
Subtotal - Other projects		\$ 5,200	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 31,864	\$ 5,714	\$ (26,150)	558%	\$ 51,713	62%
Total Capital Projects		\$ 5,200	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 119,646	\$ 55,514	\$ (64,132)	216%	\$ 233,423	51%
Net Capital Cash Flow		\$ (5,200)	\$ -	\$ (5,200)		\$ (16,958)	\$ 29,200	\$ (46,158)		\$ -	

Misc. Notes & Calculations

- 1 Operating revenue ahead of YTD plan due to one time donations and pre-paid rent
 2 Operating expenses are slightly under YTD plan due to Personnel, Finance and Church Growth

AUGUST

Monthly Events:

Indian Dancers—GW Room Tues. 5:30—9:30 PM

BSA: Wednesday evenings—GW Room

Red Cross: 2nd and 4th Friday 12:15—5:00 PM
GW Room

Dublin Swing Band: 1st and 3rd Thursday
evenings, 7PM, GW Room

**STAFF
WEEKLY
WORSHIP
PLANNING**
@11AM –
TUESDAYS

AA Meetings
Mon-Sat, 7 AM (KN)
Mon. Step Class, 6 :30 PM
(KN)
Tues, 10AM; 1 PM (KN)
Wed., 7:15 AM (GWW)
Women only
Thurs, 1 PM (KN)
Fri., 6:30 PM (KN)
Fri., 7:30 PM (GW)

Study Groups:

MEN'S GROUPS

MORE—Wednesdays, 6:15 AM, Parlor
SMMF— 8/15 and 8/29

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUPS

WORD will resume in autumn, Thurs-
day evenings on zoom and Friday
mornings in person.

BIBLE STUDY

SEEKERS on Sundays and Wednesday
Evenings with Rev. Becky will return in
autumn.

Creativity Circle

2nd Sunday of the month, 11:30 AM, Parlor
Last Wednesday of the month, 1-3PM, Parlor

Grief Group: First Monday of the Month, 7PM,
Parlor, led by Bianca DeMaria

Special Upcoming Dates:

August 16— Blessing of the Backpacks

September 10/11—WORD begins

September 13—Annual Church Picnic

September 26-October 2—Rummage Prep-
arations

October 3—Rummage Sale

October 10—WORD sponsored Faith Event

October 25—STD Rev. Becky's Installation
3pm

November 22—Hanging of the Greens

Weekly Worship:

Sundays, 10AM

DCC Foundation:

2nd Tuesday, 7PM, Zoom

Church Council:

3rd Tuesday, 7PM, Kennedy Room



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Jackie Bellanca
Hannah Bennett
Tiffany DeSilva
Brigette Rizzo
2 Barbara Minor
Amy Weeks
3 Jared Elsass
Adrian Sunday
Macy Weeks
4 Mark Minor
5 Kurt Bitter
Lucas Green
7 Conor Kennedy
Ben Lam
Callie Moore
9 Brian Daniels
Chelsea Rose
10 Susan Ruck
Dan Zuber
11 Owen Elsass
Susan Julian
Andy Montgomery
Martha Noreault
12 Betty Sugar
13 Darin McCauley
14 Pete Kienle
Heather Tiefenthaler
Jeanne Palmer

17 Ronald Geese
Erin Miller
18 Jess Martin
19 Eleanor Elliott
Teddy Elliott
20 Jackie DeiCas-Nehls
Robert Wagner
21 Will Coburn
22 Barbara Smith
Kyle Taylor
Diane Wagner
23 Mary Lynn Carothers
Mikayla Richardson
Julie Young
24 Seth Mallott
25 Mary Kinnamon
Carl Olen
26 Karen Harget
Eric Lane
Emileigh Mason
27 Beth Squires
28 Martha Vohlers
29 Mark Corica
Wade Feasel
Elizabeth Daniels
Jeff Forster
Robin Merante
Will Nagel
31 Rosemary Hill

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!



MINISTERS/CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Rev. Sunday's normal day off is Monday.

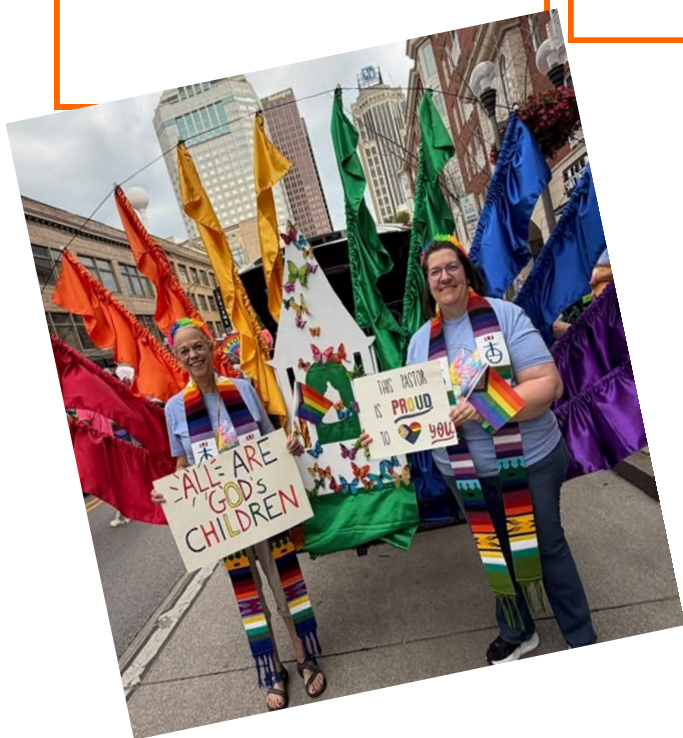
Church Office Hours:
9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday - Thursday.
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Friday.



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





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."

