

The Pilgrim Spire

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

130 Broad Boulevard
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Staff

Pastor

Rev. Kirk W. Bruce

Christian Education Director

Marilyn Freeman

Choir Director

Ryoji Shimpō

Secretary

Amber Parana

Custodian

Peter Paugh

Contact Info

Office phone:
330.928.4847

Office Fax:
330.928.1017

Email:

Rev. Kirk W. Bruce

pilgrimpastor@ameritech.net

Marilyn Freeman

pilgrimce@ameritech.net

Amber Parana

pilgrimoffice@ameritech.net

Visit our website @

www.PilgrimCF.org

for electronic versions of current and previous Spires, calendars, the Pilgrim Constitution, wedding, funeral and facility use policies, history and much more!

The Pilgrim Spire is published twice monthly, on the first and third Wednesday of every month.

If you have something you'd like to share with your fellow Pilgrims, please contact the church office by June 12th to include your announcement in the next edition of *The Pilgrim Spire*.

We don't want you to miss a single issue! Please contact the office with any address changes, temporary or permanent.

Pastor's Parable:

Recently there was a comedian who had a list: "Top Ten Things Men Know About Women." Of course the list was numbered one through ten and next to each number was nothing but a blank line. There are just some things we cannot fully understand. Isn't the mystery of life part of what makes it fun? If you had it all figured out, what would there be to learn?

Sunday is Trinity Sunday. It is a day we celebrate God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Last week we celebrated Pentecost, the gift of God's Spirit: unseen, but ever present. The Spirit comes to us and makes us complete. The Spirit completes our understanding of God the Father and Son. God is three persons, yet one person. If it doesn't make complete sense, don't worry; God won't be testing us on it.

But the Spirit comes to us (or more accurately, God comes to us in the Spirit) to help us as: comforter, encourager, guider and conscience.

In Paul's letter to the church in Rome he wrote, "You did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear..." God has given himself to us in the Spirit that we would have nothing to fear. In neither life nor death, nor things seen or unseen do we have cause to fear. Instead, live boldly because we have the Spirit of God.

Shalom,

Pastor Kirk

Your Fellow Pilgrims Your Fellow Pilgrims

- Saints Among Us
- Steeple Lighting
- Prayer Requests
- Vacation Bible School
- Thank you to L.I.G.H.T.

Saints Among Us

Have you ever noticed all the saints among us who work tirelessly for the betterment of our church? Now there is a way to recognize all the volunteers who mow, weed, clean, repair or just always seem to be helping out. From now until All Saints Day on November 1st, you can nominate people to receive a *Saints Among Us* award. We will have an award ceremony Sunday, November 1st. Stop by the Social Hall to fill out a nomination slip and put it in the marked box. You can also mail or e-mail nominations to the church office. Be sure to include the following information:

I would like to nominate

*for the Saints Among Us Award.
The reason for my nomination is*

The Steeple lights the sky over Cuyahoga Falls:

In loving memory of our parents

from

Mohn and Viola family

To light the *Pilgrim United Church of Christ Steeple* from dusk to dawn for a week in honor or remembrance of someone or a special event, please sign the sheet in the Social Hall or contact the church office.

Donations to **LIGHT THE STEEPLE** are \$5.

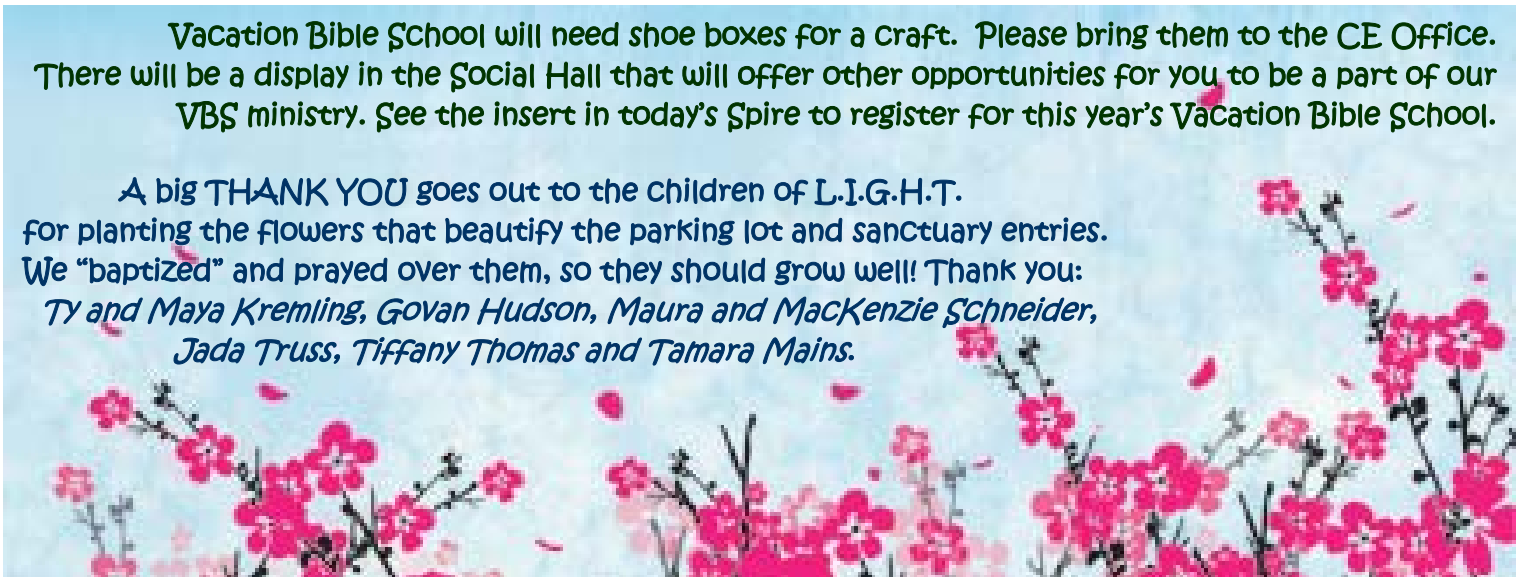
Please keep the following in your **PRAYERS**:

The men and women who have chosen the “path of a warrior” including *Linda Siple’s* son, *Bryan*, and all his fellow soldiers; All those who are searching to find strength and peace; All those mourning the loss of *Melody Rippey; Norma Roberts* and her family as she recovers from a stroke; All the marriages of the world, that God’s presence could be seen in both those thriving and those struggling; Safe travels for all those embarking on summer adventures; Encouragement and guidance to all those celebrating a graduation; *Gary DeHart*, healing from shoulder surgery; *Mark*, battling liver cancer; *Ginny Offret; Ruth Schnabel; Marge Ing*; all other prayers that have not been given voice.

Note: If you have put someone on the prayer list, please contact the church office at least once a month with updates to keep this list current.

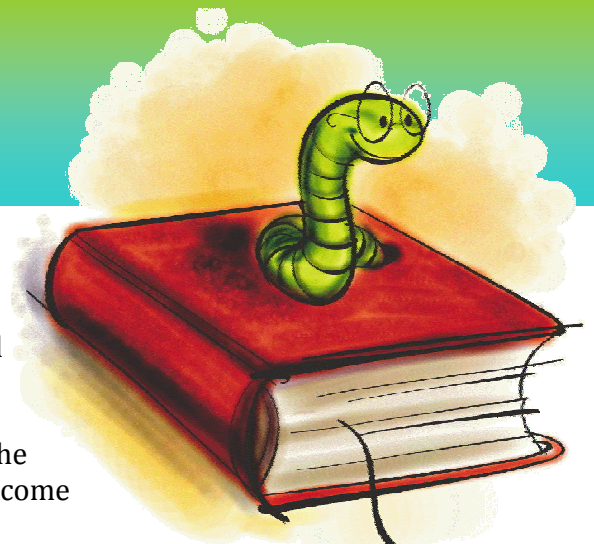
Vacation Bible School will need shoe boxes for a craft. Please bring them to the CE Office. There will be a display in the Social Hall that will offer other opportunities for you to be a part of our VBS ministry. See the insert in today’s Spire to register for this year’s Vacation Bible School.

A big THANK YOU goes out to the children of L.I.G.H.T. for planting the flowers that beautify the parking lot and sanctuary entries. We “baptized” and prayed over them, so they should grow well! Thank you:
TY and Maya Kremling, Govan Hudson, Maura and MacKenzie Schneider, Jada Truss, Tiffany Thomas and Tamara Mains.



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events



L.I.G.H.T.

Thursday, June 4th

THE SHACK BOOK DISCUSSION:

An afternoon and evening session will be offered in the Heritage Room both Thursday, June 4th and June 11th. The afternoon session will begin at 1pm, the evening session at 7pm. Come to one, come to all, just come prepared to discuss The Shack!

Friday, June 5th

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to man the parking lot Friday nights during Rockin' on the River. All proceeds collected will benefit the Free Community Lunch program. See *Shari Schneider* for more information.

Friday, June 12th

"TAKE ME OUT THE BALLGAME!"

Limited tickets are still available to join the Singles Group for the 7:05pm Akron Aero's baseball game complete with fireworks following the game! Contact *Linda Siple* (330.983.4419) to reserve your seat today!

Saturday, June 13th

Pilgrim hosts **FREE COMMUNITY LUNCH** from 11:30am-1pm. Everyone in the community is welcome to enjoy lunch on us! Volunteers are welcome Friday @ 7pm to pack groceries, and anytime Saturday from 8am-2pm to help serve lunch. Contact *Crystal Wagner* (330.630.1600) for details.

Sunday, June 14th

Ed & Shari Schneider invite their church family to celebrate their 10-year Wedding Anniversary during a **VOW RENEWAL CEREMONY** at 1 p.m. in Pilgrim's sanctuary. A reception will follow in the Social Hall. Please RSVP with *Shari* (330.926.1585 or spansies@aol.com) by Monday, June 8th.

Friday, June 19th

Looking for a night of entertainment for the whole family? Sign up to see **LOST AND FOUND IN CONCERT** @ 7pm. We are looking to get a group of 15 or more together to receive the reduced cost of \$7/ticket and carpool to Federated Church in Chagrin Falls for this family friendly event. Sign up on the Youth bulletin board. Those children and youth going without parents will need a permission form. Part stand-up and complete musicians, Lost and Found is suitable for the entire family! Ages 3 and up will enjoy the sing-along nature of their concert. Visit <http://www.praiseandserve.org> for more info about this group and concert.

Learning In God's House Together
Every Sunday - 9:30 - 10:15 am
Preschool - Grade 5

Amazing Book Adventure Challenge!
June 7, 14, 21

We're wrapping up our Amazing Book Adventure series with some fun and games over the next three weeks, and finish creating our Bible Book Worms. The challenge will be to see how much we can remember about what we have learned.

So come, create your Challenge Team, and win some great prizes!

In Other News...

In Other News...

- Marketing Pilgrim
- Community News

Marketing- the art of convincing someone to buy something they didn't know they needed. Isn't that our common perception? But it's wrong. Marketing is not those television commercials that say "*It's only \$19.99, but wait, if you order today we'll also include not just one but two...*" Marketing is about examining who you are, what you have to offer, and how to reach those people who will benefit from what you do."

When it comes to church marketing, our mission is to ensure that people in our community know we exist and what we can offer. To attract people, we must understand why they might be interested in UCC congregations and what factors differentiate us from other churches in the area. Who is Pilgrim United Church of Christ? What are the characteristics of the people who would feel comfortable and can grow in the faith here? How do we reach these persons? Why do we want to share?

During the January Congregational meeting, the Constitution was amended to enhance our marketing focus to "Evangelism and Church Growth". Therefore, Council has appointed a Pilgrim Marketing Team that will be a sub-committee of the Evangelism Board.

After some time of instruction on the art of successful marketing, our Marketing Team will explore who we are and what we have to offer the community. Then they will offer suggestions to Evangelism and Council on how to reach out beyond ourselves. If you are open to learning, and hear God calling you to share your talents in this manner, please let the moderator, *Ann Ziegler*, or *Pastor Kirk* know.

GODSPELL AT FIRST GRACE UCC

What has been called "a Godspell to stir things up" will be performed for two weekends, June 5th through the 14th. Performance times will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 8pm BOTH weekends. General Admission is \$10. See their "Buy One, Get One Free" ticket offer. To make a reservation online:

<http://godspellakron.eventbrite.com>

Or call 330-212-6709. For more information, visit www.firstgraceucc.org. Expect same music and story, but also hitting on issues of sexuality, poverty, and human rights.

NEW ORLEANS CONCERT and DINNER!

Sunday June 7 at 4:00, Trinity UCC, Wadsworth (215 High St.) - concert featuring New Orleans street musicians David Leonard and Roselyn Lionhart, who perform regularly on Royal Street or Jackson Square in the heart of the French Quarter. All are invited to the concert. Free-will offering will go to New Orleans Recovery. Following the concert will be a New Orleans-style dinner / (330) 334-2536 / <http://davidandroselyn.com/bio.php>

SUMMER CELEBRATION IN THE COUNTRY

What could be better than a hot dog roast on top of a hill in rural Ohio? Music and worship in the outdoors afterward! Renner's St. Paul UCC, settled between woods and pastureland, invites you to share a meal with us, at no cost. They will be serving hot dogs, chips, cookies, and beverages outside at their pavilion; games, contemporary music, and casual worship at dusk. Beginning 6 - 6:30pm with food; worship at 7:30-8:30. Three dates planned: June 13, July 18, and August 22. Contact Rev. Sharon Jacobsen, uccrev@roadrunner.com / (330) 204-8642.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL IN ROOTSTOWN

June 21st, 12:00 - 3:00pm, First Congregational UCC, Rootstown, on the front lawn. There will be sloppy joes, hot dogs, chili dogs, beverages, strawberry pie, shortcake, ice cream, chocolate covered strawberries, live music, games for kids, and baskets to bid on. Everyone welcome!

MEET THE AUTHOR OF THE SHACK

Thursday, June 25, 1 & 7pm
First Congregational Church of Akron
292 East Market Street
Akron, OH 44308
Seating is limited ~ Tickets \$15
Purchase tickets at www.theshacktour.com
www.akronfcc.com or call (866) 440-7880.