



The Pilgrim Spire July 2022



Pilgrim
United Church of Christ
130 Broad Blvd.
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Pastor's Parable

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office:

Phone: **330.928.4847**
Fax: **330.928.1017**

Staff & E-Mail:

Pastor: *Rev. Glen Shedlock*
pilgrimpastor@ameritech.net

Faith Formation Director:
Open Position
pilgrimfce@ameritech.net

Music Director: *Benjamin Knight*

Choir Director: *Kimberly Knight*

Secretary: *Kelly Gerstenberger*
pilgrimoffice@ameritech.net

When I began my ministry among you as Pilgrim's Transitional Minister in July of 2020, I had three primary goals I was hoping to achieve. The first was to provide stable leadership during the uncertainties of the COVID 19 pandemic; the second was to offer meaningful, challenging, and inspiring worship experiences for the congregation, and the third – most importantly – was to help prepare the leadership of this church for the task of searching for a settled pastor. Today, as we approach the end of our second year together, I can honestly say I believe those goals have, to a greater or lesser degree, been achieved.

For several months, the leadership of this church and I met weekly to critically examine the cultural and practical realities facing Pilgrim UCC, with a desire to discern what the next chapter of this congregation's story should be. They confronted many difficult truths and considered many different possibilities, including calling a part-time pastor or sharing ministry with another congregation. While these options present a very different way of "being church," the fact is, the current trends in worship attendance, the average age of "active" members, the size and age of the church building, and the financial issues associated with the above realities tell us we cannot move into the future pretending that we are the same church we were 10 years ago. Any decisions about future pastoral leadership must be made with these truths in mind.

This past April, on Easter Sunday, we commissioned a Pastoral Search Committee to begin the process of searching for a settled pastor. The committee has begun its work, fully aware of the issues I just mentioned. You will soon be asked to complete a survey, asking for your input about what you believe the next chapter of ministry at Pilgrim UCC should look like. As you fill out your survey, I ask you to keep the truths mentioned above in the forefront of your mind.

Now that you have entered the phase of beginning an active search for a settled pastor, I want you to know that I am planning to retire from pastoral ministry at the end of September.



Website: www.pilgrimcf.org
You'll find electronic versions of *The Pilgrim Spire*, Calendar, and more!

The Pilgrim Spire is published once a month.

Contact the church office:

- If you have something to share with your fellow Pilgrims in the next edition of . . . *The Pilgrim Spire*.
- If you'd like an electronic version of *The Pilgrim Spire* by email.
- Your address has changed.

Thank you!

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ANNIVERSARYS	DIACONATE
<p style="text-align: center;">Date - Name (Years)</p> <p>07/09 - Brandon & Dani McIntyre (11) 07/16 - Mark & Laura Ahrens (5) 07/20 - Jim & Carol Letvin (54) 07/31 - Rachel & Vince Coven (1)</p> <p>08/13 - Dan & Kathleen Stimmel (17) 08/24 - Dan & Kelly Gerstenberger (43)</p>	<p>No Report</p>
BIRTHDAYS - July	FAITH FORMATION
<p style="text-align: center;">Date — Name (Age)</p> <p>07/04 - Barbara Mellinger 07/07 - Govan Hudson 07/09 - Joel Stanley 07/11 - Ceci Ing 07/12 - Kurt Spenoso 07/13 - Jason VanHorn 07/15 - Maura Schneider 07/18 - Kris Gill 07/18 - Lily Ing 07/25 - Lou Yanik 07/30 - Jean Hudson</p>	<p>No Report</p>
BIRTHDAYS - August	NEWS FROM THE KITCHEN
<p style="text-align: center;">Date — Name (Age)</p> <p>08/01 - Jaden Sandlin 08/07 - Vera Subichin (5) 08/08 - Dan DeHart 08/08 - Sara Mohn 08/10 - Gary DeHart 08/12 - Sophie Ing 08/14 - John Howell</p> <p>08/15 - Meghan Howell 08/16 - Simon Howell 08/17 - Kendall Cole (2) 08/20 - Mary Ann Reiser 08/22 - Sue Gillman 08/30 - Megan Kraft</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>These items are very much needed!</i></p> <p>MEN & WOMEN'S SHAVING CREAM MEN & WOMEN'S RAZORS MEN & WOMEN'S TOOTHPASTE MEN & WOMEN'S TOOTHBRUSHES MEN & WOMEN'S DEODORANT MEN & WOMEN'S GLOVES</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Crystal Wagner</i></p>
COUNCIL	PASTOR'S PARABLE—CONTINUED
<p style="text-align: center;">Contact the Chairperson of the following Boards & Committees for the next meeting.</p> <p>Council: Brian Ewart, Kathie Richards, Mark Opritza Diaconate: Kathie Richards Evangelism: Not an active board. Faith Formation: Mitzi Stanley Stewardship: Needed Trustees: Dan Gerstenberger</p>	<p>The challenge of dealing with chronic health problems has led me and my wife, Missi, to do some serious soul-searching, and we have discerned that it is time for us to make some significant life changes, while we can. I also have other spiritual longings and passions that I want to pursue, while I can. Leadership will continue to work closely with our General Associations Minister, Rev. Nayiri Karjian, to secure a standard interim who will seek to help “keep things going” as you search for your next pastor.</p> <p>It has been a privilege to serve as your Transitional Pastor. I offer you my love and my blessing as you move into God’s future for Pilgrim UCC.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">With Hope and Love, Rev. Glen Shedlock</p>
	<p><i>Pilgrim’s secretary will be on vacation from July 27, 2022 to August 14, 2022. Rev. Glen Shedlock or one of the moderators, Brian Ewart, Kathie Richards, or Mark Opritza, should be contacted with needs and concerns.</i></p>  <p style="text-align: right;">UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST</p>

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE



The pastoral search committee:

JP Kraft, Chair
Bob Kindel, Chaplain
Cindy Spensoso

Katherine Subichin, Secretary
David Kump

Next Meeting: June 29, 2022 @ 7 p.m.

PRAYERS & PRAISES

- ◇ The loss of young lives in a Texas school.
- ◇ Those needing mental health care.
- ◇ Zoey, Baptized Sunday, May 22, 2022.
- ◇ Graham's cancer diagnosis.
- ◇ Grandma Pattie, 4th hospitalization in two months.

- ◇ John & Kathie Richards niece.
- ◇ Jim, healing after a blood clot.
- ◇ Chris, hoping his wife, Lauren will return.
- ◇ Rev. Rich Plant recovering from medical treatments.
- ◇ The family and friends of Eric, who passed to his eternal home.

- ◇ Pilgrim's search for a lawn care provider.
- ◇ Teacher's and student's expectantly waiting for the last day of school.
- ◇ Jo's mother, Billie Iles, who needs to make decisions to transition away from her home.
- ◇ The Pastoral Search Committee
- ◇ The families planning and preparing for their summer vacations.

- ◇ The situation in Ukraine.
- ◇ World Leaders navigating the conflicts and environmental issues.
- ◇ A couple trying to conceive a child.
- ◇ Carl at Altercare.

SHARING AMERICA'S RESOURCES ABROAD

SARA has set up a Ukraine Relief Fund. Donations should be mailed to:
Heartland Conference
Attn: SARA Relief Fund
PO Box 1230
Worthington OH 43085



Checks should be made out to the **Heartland Conference** with "**SARA Relief Fund**" in the memo line.
Thank you, Bob & Jo Kindel

SOCIAL HOUR

Social Hours are Back! The first Sunday of the month will have treats to enjoy with our coffee, tea, and juice. The other weeks of the month will be beverages only. Help will be needed with the tables and chairs. Please remember to keep a safe distance as you visit.



*Thank you for your
contributions of
\$130.00!*

STEWARDSHIP



The last two years have told a story about the resilience of our churches and their leaders.

**This has been hard.
Leaders are tired.
Leaders are anxious.
Leaders are beleaguered.
Leaders are traumatized.**

All Together!

Please prayerfully consider giving to the **Strengthen the Church** offering which will be received June 1 - 30, 2022.

Thank you for your contributions to Strengthen the Church!

THANK YOU'S

Dear Friends at Pilgrim United Church of Christ:

Thank you for your generous donation to the United Church of Christ to support national disaster relief. ...Because of your kindness, we will help people rebuild their communities and bring comfort to their lives.

Hand in hand with our Partners in Service and other volunteers, congregations, and conferences, UCC Disaster Ministries seeks to serve families and communities by identifying and meeting unmet needs and providing spiritual and emotional support.

Your love of neighbor will be made tangible through your gift. With the help of our global partners, you will provide welcome, shelter, and respite for families in local and international communities. Through your giving, those in need will be provided with spiritual support and physical resources to rebuild their lives.

United in prayer, action, and giving, we stand as a people of faith in love and compassion. Thank you again for spreading God's hope, peace, and love through your financial assistance as the United Church of Christ continues to build a just world for all....

*In faith,
Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer
General Minister and President*



TREASURER

Thank you ... to everyone who ... have continued to send-in contributions!

Contributions Received:

\$2,802.00	May 1, 2022	\$6,925.00+	June 5, 2022
\$2,960.00	May 8, 2022	\$2,498.36	June 12, 2022
\$6,659.00+	May 15, 2022	\$2,080.50	June 19, 2022
\$2,255.40	May 22, 2022	<u>\$2,387.00</u>	<u>June 26, 2022</u>
<u>\$4,210.00</u>	<u>May 29, 2022</u>	\$13,890.86	June Totals
\$18,886.40	May Totals		

+Ameriprise-Reserve Income (Asset Movement \$5,000.00 +\$4,000.00 = \$9,000.00

End of May 2022:	Balance of all Ameriprise Accounts:	\$378,602.80
End of May 2022:	Income:	\$11,898.59
	Expenses:	\$15,477.21

TRUSTEES

No Report.

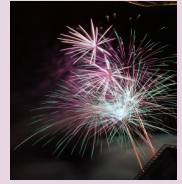






Pilgrim United Church of Christ

July 2022 ~ Calendar



OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY - FRIDAY
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Website: www.pilgrimcf.org

Facebook: [Cuyahoga Falls Pilgrim United Church of Christ](#)

YouTube: [Pilgrim UCC, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio](#)

Group Key:

AMMS=Absorbent Minds Montessori School

AA=Alcoholics Anonymous

BHG=Broad Highway Group

CS=Cub Scouts

EA=Emotions Anonymous

PCL=Pilgrim's Community Lunch

WRSS=Western Reserve Suzuki School

Room Key:

AL=Adult Library

SA=Sanctuary

CL=Children's Library

HR=Heritage Room

MR=Music Room

RGR=Rev. Greene Room

SH=Social Hall

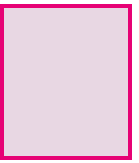
AT=Attic

C=Classroom

K=Kitchen

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 6-10 p.m. AA, SH
3 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, SA 11:30 a.m. Social Hour - Treats & Beverages, SH	4 Offices Closed Independence Day	5 10 - 2 pm WRSS-Violin, AL 6:45-9:00 p.m. BHG AA, SH	6 1 - 7 pm WRSS-Violin, AL 3-5 p.m. Legacy Barbershop, HR	7 6:30-8:30 p.m. Moon-Light Serenader's, MR 7:30-9:00 pm EA, AL	8	9 6-10 p.m. AA, SH
10 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, SA 11:30 a.m. Social Hour - Beverages, SH	11	12 2 - 4 pm WRSS-Violin, AL 6:45-9:00 p.m. BHG AA, SH	13 1 - 7 pm WRSS-Violin, AL 3-5 p.m. Legacy Barbershop, HR 6:45 - 9:30 p.m. Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, SH	14 7:30-9:00 pm EA, AL	15 5:00 p.m. August Spire Deadline For Information	16 1:00-4:00 p.m. Akron Multi-District AA mtg, AL 6-10 p.m. AA, SH
17 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, SA 11:30 a.m. Social Hour - Beverages, SH	18	19 10 - 1 pm WRSS-Violin, AL 6:45-9:00 p.m. BHG AA, SH	20 1 - 7 pm WRSS-Violin, AL 3-5 p.m. Legacy Barbershop, HR	21 7:30-9:00 pm EA, AL	22	23 6-10 p.m. AA, SH
24 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, SA 11:30 a.m. Social Hour - Beverages, SH	25	26 6:45-9:00 p.m. BHG AA, SH	27 3-5 p.m. Legacy Barbershop, HR 6:45 - 9:30 p.m. Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, SH	28 7:30-9:00 pm EA, AL	29	30 6-10 p.m. AA, SH
31 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, SA 11:30 a.m. Social Hour - Beverages, SH			The secretary will be on vacation from July 27 th - August 14 th Please contact Rev. Shedlock or the Moderators: Kathie Richards, Brian Ewart, or Mark Opritza			

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Address Correction Requested



July 2022 The Pilgrim Spire

Sunday Schedule:

10:30 am Worship

Recorded Worship Services:

Website: www.pilgrimcf.org

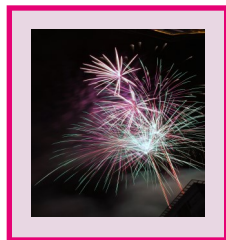
Facebook: [Cuyahoga Falls Pilgrim United Church of Christ](#)

YouTube: [Pilgrim UCC, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio](#)

Contact us at:

www.pilgrimcf.org

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