



## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

**September 4: last summer worship, 10 AM**

**September 11: fall schedule begins; worship & Sunday School at 9 & 11 AM**

**September 4:** On this first Sunday of the month, we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Delaney Brielle Cicerchi will be baptized. Gretchen Burmeister will bring special music. This is the last Sunday for summer worship at 10 AM.

**September 11:** The fall schedule begins, with worship and Sunday School at 9 and 11 AM. We welcome back our adult vocal choirs. Dr. Brill's sermon is based upon Psalm 46. We will commemorate the events of September 11, 2001 with a prayer blessing all military personnel, and all who work in emergency response services (police, fire, ambulance, etc.) If anyone in your family or circle of friends works in these areas, please invite them to be here on September 11 for recognition and prayer.

**September 18: Worship and Sunday School at 9 and 11 AM**

At 9 AM, Dr. Brill's sermon will be based upon the story of the Israelites complaining in the wilderness, as told in Exodus 16:2-15.

At 11 AM, we will celebrate the Sacred Rite of Confirmation for our 25 confirmation students.

**September 25:** Dr. Brill's sermon will be based upon another story from Exodus, in which the people of Israel test God. The passage is Exodus 17:1-7. We will give Bibles to our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. If you have a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader in your family and you did not receive a letter about this, please call Julie in the church office at 933-3241 or email [christianed@thealucc.org](mailto:christianed@thealucc.org). If you did receive a letter, remember to let us know if you will be attending and which service.

## INQUIRER'S CLASSES

If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining our church or learning more about the UCC and ALUCC, we will be offering two sessions of our Inquirers' Classes early in the fall. The first class offers a basic introduction to the history and theology of the United Church of Christ, and a personal message from Senior Minister Kelly Brill. The second class will focus on the Avon Lake UCC with a tour of our facilities and guest speakers from staff, boards and committees. The classes are at 12:15 PM on Sundays, September 25 and October 2. Lunch will be provided both days by the Board of Membership. Please write to Tim Schulz, Membership Coordinator, at [membership@thealucc.org](mailto:membership@thealucc.org) with questions or to RSVP. Babysitting is offered upon request.

**September, 2011**

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## **A WORD FROM KELLY**

I want to express my thanks to the congregation for your support which has made it possible for us to expand our church staff. The addition of Tim Schulz as Membership Coordinator has made a tremendous difference, both to me personally, and to the congregation. Tim works with our prospective members, coordinates the new member classes, and will be following up with new members as they join ~ to help them integrate into the life of the church. He has rewritten our Time and Talent survey, and will be managing the distribution of that information. If you have not yet filled one out one of the new surveys, please pick one up at the Welcome Center or download one here:

Working with the Personnel Committee, a request has been made to expand Tim's position and hours. Currently he works ten hours per week. The expanded position would be a twenty hour per week responsibility and would entail working with communications and technology. Job duties would include overseeing the email lists and email communications, checking computers, microphones, and all audio-visual equipment. Staying on top of our technology and communications is crucial. Having one person in charge will free Nate and me to work in other areas.

As our congregation grows, so does our need for staff. Adding part-time staff is a cost-effective way for us to meet the needs of the church. We are blessed with an outstanding staff right now. I am so excited about working with each of them, including the newest member of our music staff, Jim Kotora.

My thanks for your ongoing support of our congregation through your gifts of time, talent, and treasure!

**FALL CARE PACKAGES:** Do you know how good it feels to receive an unexpected package in the mail when you are away from home? The Board of Membership wants to give that feeling to our students and military personnel. We need you to help by sending the names and addresses of any student or military person who will not be home before the end of October to the church office (933-3241 or [office@thealucc.org](mailto:office@thealucc.org)). We will also be accepting donations of items to include in the packages. A collection box will be available in the Narthex. Some items suggested for military packages are: hard candy (that won't melt) or snacks, gum (peppermint or spearmint are preferred), Dunkin Donuts ground coffee, beef jerky, chapstick, Propel power packets used to flavor bottles of water, Schick Extreme 3 men's disposable razors (10 in a packet), Selsun Blue shampoo, Act mouthwash with Fluoride. Some ideas for students are: post-it notes, snacks, nutrition bars, pens, highlighters, micro-wave popcorn, micro-wave macaroni and cheese, gum. Toothbrushes and toothpaste have already been donated by the Zakels. The deadline for receiving names/addresses and donations is October 16.

## **CROSS TRAINING BEGINS NEXT MONTH**

Cross Training is a midweek program of food, fellowship, worship, and study. The main purpose is to provide another opportunity for members of the church family to nurture relationships with one another. Dates for this fall's session are: Wednesdays, October 5 - November 9. Each evening begins with dinner at 6, Chapel worship (with music led by Jim Kotora) at 6:30, and classes for all ages from 7-8.

Highlights this fall: Julie Reimer is teaching an intergenerational course on Advent for middle school students and adults, Bob Reich is leading a Bible Study called "God Is Still Speaking", and Kelly Brill will be leading a group called "In God's Image: Becoming the Person You Were Created to Be." We will have programming for children, and senior high students will be meeting Wednesday nights. Full details of Cross Training will be available soon in a brochure form, at the Welcome Center and on the website. For now, please save the dates, and plan on being a part of Wednesday nights this fall.

## **PARISH NURSE NEWS:**

**Office hours:** Wednesdays, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. & Sundays between services. Other times by appointment; contact: 933-3241 or email: [cherylupdegraff@oh.rr.com](mailto:cherylupdegraff@oh.rr.com)

**Diabetic Support Group:** Wednesday, September 14, 6:30 - 7:30. Program by Mercy Hospital - all welcome.

## **STEPHEN MINISTER NEWS**

Applications for Stephen Minister training are available at the Welcome Center and on the church website - [thealucc.org](http://thealucc.org). (Click on Announcements at the bottom of the main page; the Stephen Minister info. will direct you to the application, which can be downloaded.) Applications may be returned to the pastor or any Stephen leader by September 11. Classes will begin in October, meeting once a week for about 6 months

## **SINGING AND RINGING AT ALUCC**

If you are looking for a personal, rewarding, challenging and fun way to get involved here at ALUCC, I *encourage you to join one our Choirs*. We have 2 adult choirs who sing each week, and 1 handbell choir which rings in worship monthly. The choirs and bell choir are available to people 9<sup>th</sup> grade to age 99. We also have a Children's Choir which rehearses Sunday mornings and sings at various times throughout the year and there are also plans for additional Youth music offerings later in the year.

The **Handbell Choir** directed by Sharon Dixon rehearses on Mondays at 6:30 in the Sanctuary. Please contact Sharon at [sdixon0714@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sdixon0714@sbcglobal.net)

I conduct the **Sanctuary Singers** (the 9:00 choir) who rehearse for one hour on Wednesdays at 7:30 in the choir room. Reach me at [fancherie@aol.com](mailto:fancherie@aol.com)

The **Chancel Choir** led by Fritz Schaufele, (the 11:00 choir) rehearses on Thursdays at 7:30 in the choir room. Contact Fritz at [fritzmeister@prodigy.net](mailto:fritzmeister@prodigy.net)

Please feel free to contact me or the particular directors for more information. The first rehearsals of the year will be Handbell Choir - Monday, August 29, Sanctuary Singers - Wednesday, September 7 and Chancel Choir - Thursday, September 8.

Joining one (or more) of your church's choirs are a great way to get involved and get to know some other church members. It is also a great outlet for music lovers. It helps to have some musical background, but being an expert sight-reader isn't necessary. We work diligently, have fun, love learning, and find singing or ringing in worship is a way to use our love of music as a way to deepen our faith and honor God. If you would want help with babysitting for rehearsals or would like to be able to sit with your family during the service, that can be arranged—please contact the director. If you're not sure about this, but would like to give it a try for a few weeks, that's fine, too—no strings attached. Hope to see you in September!

Mary Fancher, Director of Music Ministry

To all kids grades K - 5: My name is Dr. Kotora and I am the new Children's Choir director at ALUCC. I want to invite each of you to join the choir this year as we are going to have a great time making a joyful noise unto the Lord! Our first rehearsal will take place on September 18 at 10:10 am in the Chapel. I look forward to working with you and hope you can join us!

## **CHRISTIAN ED NEWS**

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Did you know the GPAs of kids who attend church regularly are 14.4% higher than the GPA of kids who don't? Something to think about as parents plan fall schedules – make time for church! This year is going to be an exciting year as we switch curriculum to *Seasons of the Spirit*. *Seasons* is a lectionary based curriculum, so both parents and children will be hearing the same scriptures on Sundays. It is full of wonderful stories and fun arts and crafts – the children and teachers are going to love it! The 2011-12 Sunday School year begins on September 11. Join us!

**CLOTHE-A-KID:** We were able to help 41 children look and feel good as they return to school this year. It always amazes me the number of people who volunteer to take one or two children to buy and shop for. Also, this year we had so many donations that Joleen Bradley, Gloria Eastman, Margie Kaufman, Mandy Lavriha, Joyce Young, and I each shopped for 3 or 4 children with money that was donated from our members for this program. I just love being a part of this program and church. Thank you. Jean Grady

**ALUCC BOOK CLUB:** Attention military history fans! The ALUCC Book Club will be reading the Pulitzer Prize winning *Guns of August* by Barbara Tuchman this month. *Guns of August* describes in great detail the events of the first month of World War I. The club will be meeting at 7pm Tuesday, September 27 in the church library. Join us!

**FALL FESTIVAL OCT. 9:** Save the date! ALUCC's Annual Fall Festival will be from 2-4pm on Sunday, Oct. 9. There will be hay rides, fall crafts, hot dogs and much, much more! Bring your family for a great afternoon of fall fun!

**Avon Lake United  
Church of Christ**

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*Growing People to  
Serve God and Others*

We are on the Web:  
[thealucc.org](http://thealucc.org)

**DID YOU KNOW...**that you can contribute to the church through an Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT)? Many people like to pay their bills automatically. It's convenient for you, and the church appreciates the steady income throughout the seasons. Contact Valerie Tanzilli in the church office for more information.

**RIDES TO AIRPORT OFFERED:** Jim Wise will provide transportation to and from the airport to any member, in exchange for a donation to the church. If you ever need a ride to the airport, and/or a pick-up, please call Jim at 440-933-3120 (home phone) or 216-337-8537 (cell phone.)

**JACK AND JILL NEWS**

A few openings remain for the 2011-2012 school year at Jack & Jill Nursery School. Afternoon classes for 3, 4, and 5 year olds all have openings. There are also a few openings for the two-day morning 3 year old class. Please contact Melody Rice, Director: 933-7946.

**PRAYER LIST**

We update this list at the beginning of each month. Please contact the church office by phone (933-3241) or email ([pastor@thealucc.org](mailto:pastor@thealucc.org)) to send an update or to add a name.

**New on the Prayer List:**

**Update on the Prayer List:** Dick Bucey is hospitalized; cards can be sent to 35 Prescott Drive, Hudson, OH 44236. Joy Petit (Glenn Williams' sister) whose stem cell transplant was not successful.

**Recuperating:** Gregg Brekke, Marilyn Luce, Fran Niziolek, Sherry Odle, Don Purdy, Randy Tober, Lois Taylor.

**Members with Health Concerns:** Helen Bendau, Peg Breitweg, Ron Butrey, Pat Garrett, Clara Gumble, Krystal Holstein, Ellie Mental.

**Members Receiving Treatment for Cancer:** Linda Brown

**Receiving Hospice Care:** Craig Irish

**Friends and Relatives Receiving Treatment for Cancer:** Linda Norman, Don Bayley, Karen Beech, Tom Bellino, Tom Brunner, Kristi Foster, Mary Harold, Kris McLeod, Dan McGough, Jim Neibes, Lisa Nusbaum, Sharon O'Donnell, Heidi Peck, Kelly Rashedi, Maura Roberts, Emily Stephens, Sylvia Weaver, Werner Wittman.

**Friends and Relatives of Members:** Mallory Arndt, Lisa Bolthouse, Dick Bucey, Alex Burbules, John Dase, William & Florence Dickinson, Joyce Dorbish, Brandon Hiller, Karen Holdridge, Mick Haddox, Stella Klasch, Toni Kulma, David Mange, Henry Moldenhauer, Stuart Nelson, Lillian Piggott, Thomas Trefts, Luanne Varndell, Julie Weaver.

**Sympathy to** the following families: Wally Paine on death of his sister, Janice Thibo, July 26; Matt Gould on the death of his wife, Carol, July 31; Gordon Cerney & Dawn Phelps on the death of wife & mother, Carolyn Cerney, August 11 and the family and friends of Kathleen Jeffries who passed away August 24.

**Serving Overseas:** Matt Roesel, Wes Wiblin, Geoffrey Wightman.

Please remember our members who are homebound and in rehab or nursing home care.

**REMINDER:** If you or a loved one are in the hospital and wish prayers or visits from the church, please call the church office. Otherwise, we may not know you're there!

**OCTOBER DRUMMER DEADLINE** is Monday, SEPTEMBER 26. If you would like any information included in the next monthly newsletter, please send to the church office by email ([office@thealucc.org](mailto:office@thealucc.org)) or be sure to bring your items in by this date. News items/reminders may also be submitted for Kelly's weekly email updates. (If you are not receiving the weekly email updates, please send your email address to [pastor@thealucc.org](mailto:pastor@thealucc.org).)

## FROM THE MODERATOR

I'm taking a break from my body building theme this month to report on the results of the Congregational Meeting held August 21. At this meeting, the congregation voted 101 to 7 in favor of holding a Capital Campaign in the spring of 2012 to raise money to pay down our mortgage debt. There were two informational sessions regarding this issue prior to the meeting. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you missed those meetings and would like more information about this issue.

I want to make a few things clear. The Capital Campaign is a separate effort from our annual Stewardship Campaign that will be kicking off this fall. The Stewardship Campaign is our yearly pledge drive that raises funds to operate our building and run all of our programs from youth, to mission, to ministry. Of the two upcoming fundraising campaigns, I would have to say the Stewardship Campaign is the most important.

Despite all of the time and energy I have spent discussing money this summer, it is my least favorite topic. I hope that no one in our congregation is feeling that all the leadership cares about is money. I can assure you in every meeting I have attended this year, everyone speaks passionately about providing ministry, mission and fellowship to our church family and the community at large. That is what drives this church. But, there are those pesky utility bills and we do need a paid professional staff to help make everything run smoothly so money is not something we can ignore.

It is my hope that everyone feels welcome in this church community and no one should feel uncomfortable about their contributions to these campaigns. Our efforts are to strengthen the financial picture of our congregation but our mission is to be a presence of God in our community. We are very aware that the current economic climate has affected people in different ways. We value all of our members and the contributions they make to our community in time, treasure and talent. Everyone gives and receives in different ways at different times. I encourage you to reflect on the role the Avon Lake United Church of Christ plays in your life and the life of your family as you ponder your contributions of time, treasure and talent to our faith community and I sincerely thank you for all you have contributed thus far.

Maureen Johnson  
mjalucc@gmail.com

## PRIME TIMERS' SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

**IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU REGISTER!** Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact: Judy or Bob Reich (930-5370 or [bjreich@oh.rr.com](mailto:bjreich@oh.rr.com))

- Thursday, September 15: TOUR & LUNCH AT WESLEYAN MEADOWS ELYRIA (free), Carpool from church @ 11:00am, Hosts at Wesleyan Meadows: Kent & Kitty Kress & Vince & Laurie Young
- Saturday, September 24: END-OF-SUMMER PICNIC IN OUR BACKYARD, 5:30pm - Bring \$2.00, table service & a dish to share.
- Friday, October 14: HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR - SCHOEPFLE GARDENS; Carpool from the church @ 11:00 Lunch @ Mitchells / Tour 2 - 3pm
- Saturday, October 29: POTLUCK @ CHURCH - 5:30pm; Bring a dish to share & table service +Games? Bingo? Movie? - TBA

**LOOKING AHEAD:** November 3<sup>rd</sup>, SHERLOCK HOLMES @ HUNTINGTON PLAYHOUSE - \$20.00 - Women's League has bought put the house. Details TBA

**SIGN UP SHEETS @ Welcome Center. QUESTIONS? RESERVATIONS.** Transportation available.

**ALL PROGRAMS OPEN TO ALL - NO AGE RESTRICTIONS**

## SUPPORT AVON LAKE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AT THE ROCK PILE

Thank you to those members who mentioned ALUCC when shopping at the Rock Pile. We received a check for \$150.33. It's simple... Shop at **The Rock Pile**, tell the cashier you want to help Avon Lake UCC and we'll donate 5% of your purchase (pre-tax) to your church! Whether you buy mulch for your beds, bird feed or feeders for your birds, propane for cookouts, or beautiful garden items to plant in your yard... every product you buy at **The Rock Pile** (excluding Lottery) will earn 5% for the Avon Lake United Church of Christ.

## **EXPANDED C.R.O.P. WALK SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, SEPT. 25<sup>TH</sup> TO MEET INCREASED NEED**

For many years, Avon Lake has hosted an annual C.R.O.P. Walk in Avon Lake to raise money to combat the serious problem of hunger. C.R.O.P. stands for "Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty." It is an easy and pleasant 2-mile walk that starts at the ALUCC and proceeds through the scenic "Save the Woods" area off Electric, continues through the Belle Ave. neighborhood and loops back to the church. It is very do-able for any level of fitness and age group!

**Where does the money go** ~ 25% of the funds raised will go directly to CRS to fill their food pantries and help out neighbors and families right here in our local community to help Avon Lake and Avon residents. 75% of the funds raised address the serious epidemic of hunger in third-world countries where millions of families and children are starving and dying prematurely

**How can I help?** This year, the ALUCC's goal is to sign up 50 walkers. Tables will be set up in the Narthex every Sunday through Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> to sign up walkers and collect donations from the congregation to support our walkers. Your help is needed to address the increased demand, both in our own local community and worldwide.

**Thank you for helping us to address this important issue in our community and world! Working together, we can make a meaningful difference!**

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Girls on the Run is a life-changing, non-profit prevention program for girls in the 3rd through 5th grade. Our mission is "to inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running."

Girls on the Run combines training for a 5K (3.1 miles) running event with healthy living education. Our programs instill self-esteem through health education, life skills development, mentoring relationships, and physical training - all of which are accomplished through an active collaboration with girls and their parents, schools, volunteers, staff, and the community.

Girls on the Run is a lot more than a running program! It is our goal to help all girls grow into physically, emotionally, mentally and socially healthy women, to dream and achieve goals, and to become contributing members of the community.

We are currently seeking adult volunteers to be head or assistant coaches at our fall program site. The fall session starts the week of Sept 19th and goes through Dec 2nd. Coaches are assigned to teams which meet twice per week from times beginning at 5:00 - 6:00 and last about an hour. Our volunteer coaches lead their teams through the easy to follow, Girls on the Run curriculum, stretching and running activities, and training for the end-of-season 5K event. You do not need to be a runner or a competitive athlete. Successful coaches need only serve as a role model for girls by showing up prepared and on time, listening attentively, and by demonstrating a positive attitude!

Please contact Stacey Lopriore @ 440-554-9820 or [staceylopriore@yahoo.com](mailto:staceylopriore@yahoo.com) if you are interested.

**STAMPS:** Please bring in your used postage stamps and place them in the box outside the office. Please leave approximately ¼ inch of paper around the stamp for trimming. Please leave postcards whole. This is a Women's League fundraising project. Thank you.

**ALL MEN OF OUR CHURCH:** We would like to invite you to join in & try out one of our Morning Prayer Group sessions. Our group consists of a few men who look forward to spending a little time with each other discussing our faith journey. We share our struggles, joys and concerns and have really come to look forward to our time together. We meet every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays from 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM at the church. Please join us.

## **LORAIN COUNTY BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH NEWS**

22<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month - 5K Family Run/Walk (1 mi.) - brochure with details at the Welcome Center