

# DOVER VOICES

June 2026



From Pastor Mindy...

Our stewardship theme this year is  
"There Our Hearts Will Be".

The Stewardship team, Noreen Thompson, Julie Rinehart, and Roberta Leach have been working hard to connect us in subtle ways in the last couple of weeks. Have you been paying attention to how they have been supporting and sharing different careers in honoring them? Have you checked out above the name tags, and the easel with ways we are

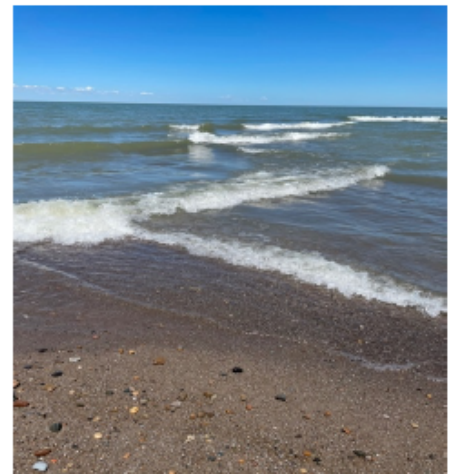
sharing our hearts? How are you living into where your heart is? Is where you give your time and talent and treasure show where your heart is?

On Sunday May 17, we listened to Kevin Gehres, Disaster Response Coordinator of the Heartland Conference, who challenged us with ways to help with Church World Service, and disasters around our state. He talked about challenging us to live into our UCC Statement of Faith, ..."God calls us into God's church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory. God promises to all who trust God forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace"... As Kevin talked, I was reminded of the stewardship theme for this year, "There Our Hearts Will Be". When we are living into God's call on us, we are living into where are hearts, our passions are.

June is upon us as well as the season of summer. We travel, play, swim, watch baseball, boat, play golf, rest, renew. May we be reminded that our church is here living into what God is calling us to do and be. As we take time to breathe in the Holy Spirit, moving in and around us, may you be reminded that you are loved, you are called, you are beloved just how God made you. You are God's child!

What a blessing you are!

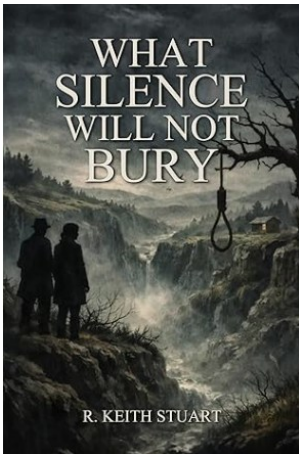
*Pastor Mindy*





## Do you have Good News to Share for the newsletter?

About happenings at Dover UCC or celebrations in your life. Please send to 😊 Amy Storms ([amy-storms@att.net](mailto:amy-storms@att.net) or 314-704-7534). Pictures appreciated but not required.



### Dover UCC Has A Famous Author

Our very own Keith Stuart has written a second book!! **What Silence Will Not Bury** is available now on Amazon. Once the advance copies are available, he will be signing copies at coffee hour.

Check out Keith's book at:

[Amazon.com: What Silence Will Not Bury eBook : Stuart, R.](https://www.amazon.com/What-Silence-Will-Not-Bury-eBook/dp/B09K7K7K7K)

### Jen Bokenyi wins Westlake schools Spring 2026 Excellence Award



# MISSION TRIPS MATTER

## My First Bay Bay Mission Trip

This year I was lucky enough to participate in Dover's Back Bay mission trip. I work at an architectural firm and spring is usually a busy time for me working on projects. Fortunately, this year some of my projects were delayed so I made a quick decision to go on the trip and I'm glad I did!

Before heading out to the job site in the morning, we had the staff members from Back Bay mission come and share their stories with us. Their mission is to strengthen neighborhoods, seek justice and transform lives. I learned that Micah's day center provides much needed services to the unhoused community in the Biloxi area. Micah's provides a meal, laundry facilities, showers, clothing, housing/ medical assistance and counseling services to the marginalized people it serves. I was shocked to learn that Mississippi has no homeless shelters, like we have in Cleveland. Although I was unable to visit the center because it was closed by the time we returned from the job site, I was very impressed with the love and compassion the staff demonstrated when speaking about the people they helped, calling them family.

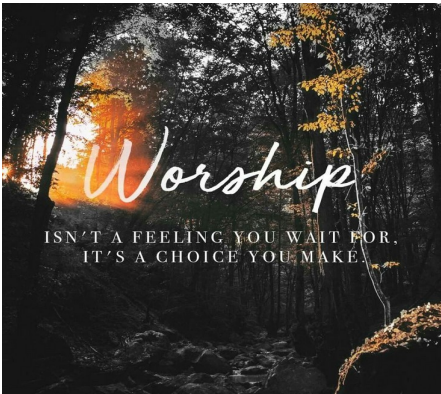
I spent my days at Mrs. Gines (sp ?) house working on exterior painting, painting the new kitchen and building a handicap ramp. Mrs. Gines is a very lively, young 94 year old who raised 14 children in this small modest home, in need of some love. Although I work in the construction industry, I am not used to working physical labor for 7 hours a day! When I returned to the mission house in the evening I was tired and dirty (probably a little crabby)! After a much needed shower we would sit on the front porch and visit or read, then share a meal together (food was delicious- thanks to all the amazing cooks). A shout out to Georgann who arose very early every morning to fix a fabulous breakfast for everyone. After dinner we would play games and laugh alot. Such fun!

What a fun group of people to travel with and spend the week learning more about each other, ourselves and participating in the mission of Back Bay.

Sincerely, Heather Harris



# JOIN US FOR WORSHIP



We have two services every Sunday morning, one at 8:15 AM in our chapel, which is a more informal service, and the second at 10:00 AM in the sanctuary, where you will hear a variety of music styles from contemporary praise to traditional hymns. Pastor Melinda Quellhorst's message is sure to inspire.

Our 10:00 AM service is also live-streamed on Facebook (Dover Congregational UCC) and on the home page of our website, <https://www.doverucc.org>. Recorded services will be available on our website under the 'Worship' tab immediately after the service.

**EXPLORERS:**  
**COME**  
*to the*  
**TABLE**

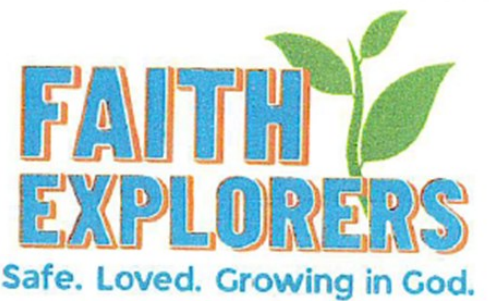
REMEMBER. GATHER. SHARE. FOLLOW JESUS.

Jesus is with us always.

♥ SUMMER FAITH FORMATION • COMMUNION SUNDAYS ♥

- **JUNE**  
PICNIC WITH JESUS
- **JULY**  
CREATE & CELEBRATE
- **AUGUST**  
BLESSING STATIONS

♥ Come, let's remember what Jesus has done for us. † We are loved. We belong. We are sent. ♥



Faith Formation and Faith Explorers are in full swing, and our children are learning about prayer and kindness. Come grow with us—there's something for every age!

Any questions—please contact Jacquie DelMonte, 440-463-6460.

# Vacation Bible School is coming June 15th-19th!

Once again, our church is honored to be part of the snack committee, and we look forward to helping provide treats and refreshments for the children throughout the week.

If you are able to contribute snack donations, we would be truly grateful. Please place your donations in the collection box in Thomas Hall by **June 8th.**

Thank you for helping us make VBS a fun, welcoming, and joy-filled experience for all the children!

## **SNACK DONATIONS NEEDED!**

Can you help out with any of the following:

- 4 yellow cake mix boxes (15.25 oz)
- 100 cupcake liners
- Winter sprinkles
- 8 – 16 oz. vanilla frosting containers
- 100 blue plates
- 100 wooden skewers
- 25 bags powdered sugar mini donettes
- 1 family sized bag M & Ms
- 8 bags pull and peel Twizzlers
- 4 bags milk chocolate chips (11.5 oz)
- 100 plastic spoons
- 3 packages Oreo cookies



The poster features a cartoon walrus character in a red jacket and green hat, holding a microphone. In the background, there's a snowy mountain with a ski lift and a sign that says 'Cokesbury Kids'. The main title is 'SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE' with a sub-tagline 'FIND YOUR STRONGholds IN GOD'. The event details are: 'WESTLAKE ECUMENICAL VBS 2026', 'WHERE FAITH MEETS FUN THIS SUMMER!', 'JUNE 15-19, 9AM-NOON', 'FOR KIDS AGED 4 THRU RISING 5TH GRADERS', 'COST IS \$20 PER CHILD, MAX \$50 PER FAMILY', and 'HELD AT PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN'. A QR code is provided for registration, with the text 'REGISTER AT QR CODE' above it. Ski equipment like skis, poles, and goggles are shown at the bottom.

## DRAGON BOAT OUTING

July 12 Sunday from 1-3. Cost is \$20. At Merwin's Wharf

Questions? Contact Dave MacKeigan.

Sign up at the hub



## HONORING OUR GRADUATES



On June 7th, at the 10:00 AM worship service & Coffee Hour, Dover will honor our 2026 graduates, including high school, college and post-graduate.

**Kendyll Compton** graduated from Elyria High School, and will be attending Indiana University of Pennsylvania in the Fall.

**Jake Falcone** graduated from Westlake High School, and will be attending Ohio University in the Fall.

**Finley Keller** graduated from North Ridgeville High School and will be attending Robert Morris University in the Fall.

**Nicholas LeVeck** graduated from Westlake High School and will be attending Ohio University in the Fall.

**Adrianna Russo** graduated from Westlake High School and will be working at Alchem Corporation.

**Emerson Keller** graduated from Miami University with a BA in Data Analytics with a concentration in Bioinformatics and a BS in Nutrition with a concentration in Community Health; she will be attending The Ohio State University in the Fall working towards a Master of Science in Biostatistics.

**Lillian Beach** was awarded her Masters in writing & publishing from DePaul University.





## Prepare for your Doctor's Visit

Mid-year is a good time to review your health status and everyone should have a physical and/or wellness exam *every year*. **Making the most of your doctor visits** is important to consider especially when most doctors have a limited amount of time to spend with you.

### ***How Do I Prepare for a Doctor's Visit?***

**Record:** Put in writing your symptoms, as well as any other concerns.

**Restate:** Share the big picture so your overall health doesn't get lost in the details. (This is especially important on your initial visit with a new doctor)

**Review the specifics:** What are aggravating & alleviating factors, give a list of all medications (over the counter & prescribed, including vitamins/minerals/herbs taken). Many of us use alternative therapies and forget to share this with the doctor, but they can impact on our health & treatments.

**Relate:** any follow-up concerns or questions you may have.

*70-80% of correct diagnoses depend on medical history and the details you share!*

Taking an active role during your doctor's visit can improve your health and treatment plan. Be assertive about getting information & guidance. If you don't have access to your online "My Chart" information, ask for copies of test & lab reports. Consider keeping your own computer or written record of your medical history. Follow through on the advice and ***be sure to ask for further explanations if you don't understand.***

**Be Specific:** Do not downplay symptoms. How long have you been feeling them? When do symptoms happen? What makes them better or worse?

**Note the impact:** How does illness affect your daily life & functioning?

**Mention Everything:** current medications, allergies & family history.

### *Doctor's Visit Checklist* ✓

What is my diagnosis; Can you explain it in detail?

What other tests are needed/ What are their risks & benefits?

What is the treatment plan/risks & benefits? If considering surgery, ask for a detailed description of the procedure including anesthesia & recovery expectations.

What is the likelihood of full success? How might this treatment affect other health problems?

Is my problem curable or treatable?

Are there alternative ways to treat this problem (medical & non-medical) and what are their risks & benefits?

If I don't do anything, what is likely to happen?

What will my insurance cover?

What kind of follow-up is needed? What symptoms should I report?

Prevent "office amnesia" by taking brief notes during the visit and/or take another person with you! It is reported that we forget 50% of what is said in the doctor's office so it's always good to have another set of ears. And don't forget your insurance card, ID card, glasses and hearing aid if you need them!

**Blessings and Prayers! ~ Julie Kiefer, Parish Nurse**

# June 2026

	7	14	21	28
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	Angie Kalix	Kevin Kurth		Lucy Bufkin
<b>Coffee</b>	Pride/ Graduate Recognition	Council	Council	
<b>Liturgist</b>	Joan Brickley	Judy Brizzolara	Gary Burkey	Sandy Burkey



## Mark your calendar!

**6/7:** Graduate Recognition Sunday  
**7/12:** Dragon Boat Outing

**ARTICLES / PICTURES FOR THE JULY EDITION OF  
 DOVER VOICES ARE DUE:**

**FRIDAY, June 19TH**

**Please send all submissions to:**

**[doverucc44145@gmail.com](mailto:doverucc44145@gmail.com) before that date.**

## Attention Ladies!

Are you looking for fellowship, fun, and someone else to do the cooking? Would you like time for yourself, away from the daily routine? Time to relax, to reflect, to take care of yourself? With real beds and bathrooms? If so, we suggest that you attend Lantern Fellowship.



Lantern Fellowship is a women's retreat that meets in the spring and fall. The theme of the spring meeting was mentoring young leaders in the church. When not in program sessions we had a range of craft activities to participate in—or not—yoga, and shopping with fair trade.

And of course, what would a camp experience be without a campfire and lots of snacks!

Interested? Judy Brizzolara, Liz Emmer, and Sandy Burkey can tell you more.

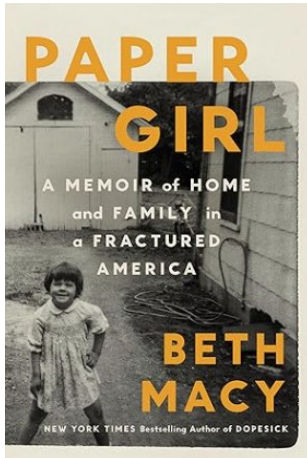


## MONDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

### ***Paper Girl:* A Memoir of Home and Family In a Fractured America**

By  
Beth Macy

Monday, June 1, 2026  
12:30 PM Parlor

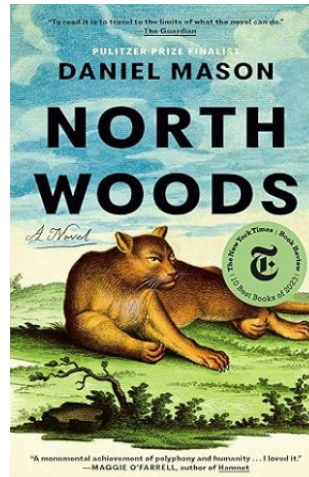


"Urbana, Ohio was not a utopia when Beth Macy grew up there in the '70s and '80s—certainly for her family."

## EVENING BOOK GROUP

### ***North Woods* By Daniel Mason**

Monday, June 22, 2026  
7:00 PM Dody Chadwick's house



A sweeping novel about a single house in the woods of New England, told through the lives of those who inhabit it across the centuries—"a time-spanning, genre-blurring work of storytelling magic."

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**The summer months are the perfect time to relax with a good book. Following are some suggestions to start your summer off!**

### **[The Gowkaran Tree in the Middle of Our Kitchen](#) by Shokoofeh Azar:**

Covering 50 years and one large, complicated family, this book paints an intricate portrait of Iran, both its rich culture and its tumultuous modern history. During the revolution of 1979, the Zoroastrian family at the heart of the novel attempts to keep their culture—and family—intact, all while a mysterious tree begins growing in their kitchen.

### **[I'll Tell You When I'm Home: A Memoir](#) by Hala Alyan**

After years of infertility, poet Hala Alyan makes the difficult decision to become a parent through a surrogate. While she's waiting for her child to enter the world, Alyan struggles with her marriage and reels from the news that Beirut, the city of her youth, is experiencing rising violence.

### **[The Great Mann](#) by Kyra Davis Lurie**

A reimagining of the story of [The Great Gatsby](#) set among L.A. Black elite post-WWII America. A veteran exploring Los Angeles for the first time at his cousin's invitation finds himself on the precipice of a new life where anything seems possible—especially alongside the brilliant figure of James "Reaper" Mann.

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The generosity of our congregation is evident every single day. If you are mailing in your pledge to the church office or a donation to another ministry, **please indicate on the “Memo” section of the check, e.g. pledge, Denison food pantry, Calling & Caring, etc.**



## Online Giving

**The Dover website (doverucc.org)** provides an easy link for making online donations--one-time, recurring or to special funds. You can make a notation in the “Note” field: if you are leaving a memorial--who the donation is in memory of, etc. OR -- you can scan this QR code with the camera on your phone or a QR reader app and be directed to our giving page on our website. Contact Jane Coil if you have any questions how to use the online giving feature. doverucc44145@gmail.com



### HOSPITAL/HOME VISITS

Please notify the church office at 440-871-1050 if you are admitted to the hospital so a phone call or visit from our parish nurse Julie or a member of the Calling & Caring committee can be arranged. When you are recovering, Julie and members of the Calling & Caring committee are available to give you a call; just call the church office to let them know you desire a call. We are not notified by hospitals of admissions.



Please notify the church office if you have a change of address, telephone number(s) or a new email address. A church directory is emailed quarterly to congregation members, and we would like to have the correct information for you!

### HAVE A CONCERN OR QUESTION FOR CHURCH COUNCIL? MEET YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS.



Moderator - Judy MacKeigan  
Vice Moderator - Terry Chadwick  
Clerk - Sharron Wilkins  
Treasurer - Liz Emmer

Members at Large:

Lucy Bufkin, Judy Brizzolara, Sandy Burkey, Reggie Pratt, Noreen Thompson, Scott Thompson

Ex-officio Members:

Rev. Mindy Quellhorst

## Serving the Church

Judy MacKeigan ..... Council Moderator  
Terry Chadwick ..... Council Vice Moderator  
Sharron Wilkins ..... Council Clerk  
Liz Emmer ..... Council Treasurer  
Jane Coil..... Office Administrator

Rev. Mindy Quellhorst..... Pastor  
Rev. Scott Patterson ..... Pastor Emeritus  
Jamie Kunselman ..... Music Director  
Nichole Fehrman..... Organist  
Julie Kiefer, R. N. .... Parish Nurse

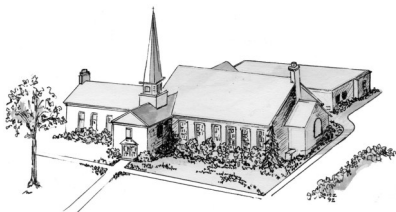
# Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened

*Matthew 11:28*

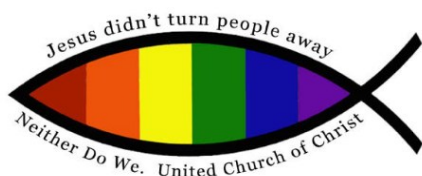
~ Prayer Requests---Please pray for God to be with these individuals, and for them to feel God's presence in the midst of their concerns:

Sandy Aber, Adeena & Dustin (Friends of Jen Bokenyi), Karen Bellebuono (Friend of Mary Ann & Joe Brizzolara and Judy Brizzolara), Janet Leopold-Caden (friend of Judy & Dave MacKeigan), Mark Chomoa (Rae-Rita Chomoa's son), Russell Choma (Rae-Rita Chomoa's son), Gail Cordy, Betty Correll (Sandy Burkey's mother), Gerard (Friend of Kevin Kurth's), Family of Susan Hartman, Katie & Kristi, Andy Klements (Friend of Mary Ann & Joe Brizzolara), Loretta (Friend of Kevin Kurth), Maddie (Daughter of Maria Velez's co-worker), Inge Moorman, People of Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, Gaza, Myanmar/Middle East, Venezuela, and Haitian people of Springfield, OH, Family of Diane Pentek, Roger Polefko (Friend of Kim & Ken Delfing), Bob Pozwick (Pat Houser's brother)

2239 Dover Center Road  
Westlake, OH 44145



440-871-1050  
doverucc.org



*No matter who you are,  
or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!*

## OPEN AND AFFIRMING STATEMENT

Dover Congregational United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming congregation. We affirm that God's grace is available to all. We welcome people of all ages, genders, races, views, abilities, sexual orientations, expressions and identities, ethnic, educational and economic backgrounds into the full life and ministry of our church. We declare this in the name of God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, welcomed all people into God's circle of grace.

Approved by the congregation September 21, 2008  
Additions approved by the congregation April 13, 2014

## JUST PEACE COVENANT

As a Just Peace church continuing the work of Jesus, we commit to work toward a world where all persons are treated with dignity and equality, where societies are structured in ways that promote the well-being of all people, and where conflicts are resolved through communication and negotiations, without resorting to exploitation or violence. We strive to embody these principles in our lives and witness as individuals and as a congregation. Our specific focus is: Just Peace in the community- so that all may live free from fear. Just Peace with the Earth – so that life is sustained. Just Peace in the marketplace- so that all may live with dignity. Just Peace among nations- so that human lives are protected. Through our worship, programs, and outreach we seek to be a community of reconciliation, hope, and courage as we work for peace and justice in our world.

Adopted and approved by congregation September 14, 2025