

DOVER VOICES

October 2025

From the pastor...



Beauty surrounds us
summer moves into autumn
flowers begin to fade
birds migrate
temperatures cool
squirrels work to gather more nuts
leaves begin to fall
seasons change
beauty surrounds us

If we are sitting in a circle, and a book is in the middle of a table, open and standing up, every person around that table would see a different perspective of what is in that book. Some would see the title, others would see the back, some would see a page or two, others might only see the binding. Each person would describe in positive words what they saw. Each perspective would be different, but we wouldn't know what the book was, or what kind of book it was, without each person sharing what they saw. Each person would share what they saw, and as the leader, the pastor if you will, listened, the picture would become clearer of what that book is. It is the same in the church, we need each person, sharing what they see in a positive way, and then with each perspective and with the work of the Holy Spirit, the church is led to be what the mission and ministry of that church is. Dover UCC mission is seek kindness, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. Being an Open and Affirming congregation and a Just Peace congregation helps us live into what God is calling us to be as the church filled with the Holy Spirit.



As Dover UCC lives into what God is calling us to do and be, as we Dream, God's Dream, I invite you to remember that we all different, we all love God, and have a faith that we are growing and living into.

Dreaming God's Dream,

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 or 314-704-7534). Pictures appreciated but not required.

At a September 14 congregational meeting, we voted to adopt the proposed Just Peace covenant and become a Just Peace church. This is the culmination of a several-year effort, and the discussion at the meeting challenged the congregation to increase our efforts to do God's work in the world.



Sept 7 Church Picnic was a Delicious Success

The weather was perfect, the turnout was great, the food was incredible. Twenty-five t-shirts were tie-dyed. If you made a tie-dyed t-shirt at the picnic, please plan to wear it on **Sunday, Oct. 12.**

Memorials to John Reinhart Dedicated at Sept. 7 picnic

On Sept. 7th, a memorial tree and rock placed in the Dover labyrinth were dedicated to Rev. John Reinhart. John was our minister for justice, who passed away in 2024.





from the folks at Dover!

Dover Attendees Find Joy and Provide Much Needed Support at Farrell Foundation Gala

Thirty-seven Dover UCC members and friends attended the Sept 6th **Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation Gala**, which raises money for the foundation's dementia support activities. The foundation based in Westlake was created by Dr. Charley Farrell and his reverend daughter, and is named after Dr. Charley's wife who had dementia.

A supportive member of Dover graciously donated \$50 per attendee to the church, so in addition to all the wonderful foundation activities that the gala supports, Dover received a \$1,850 donation!

Special thanks to Scott Thompson who serves on the board of the Farrell Foundation. Scott states: "The foundation supported Sunny and me on our five-year journey and I am trying to repay a small amount of their kindness and to help grow the organization. I still attend some programs and go to their monthly support group, which was so great to me at the time of Sunny's passing."



Where Arts and Imagination Fuel the Mind



MORE



Angels at work!

If you thought you smelled the heavenly scent of Murphy's oil soap in the sanctuary recently, you're right! A host of anonymous angels have been deep cleaning some areas of the church.

"Human Angels are beacons that simply being who they are, illuminate the darkness, to help those who are still on the path to stay the course."

~Helen Keller



There's no way we could possibly thank everyone who helped make our Peace and Love Rally picnic such a meaningful day. It wouldn't have been possible without all of you! Your helping hands and generous hearts made the day shine with love and joy.



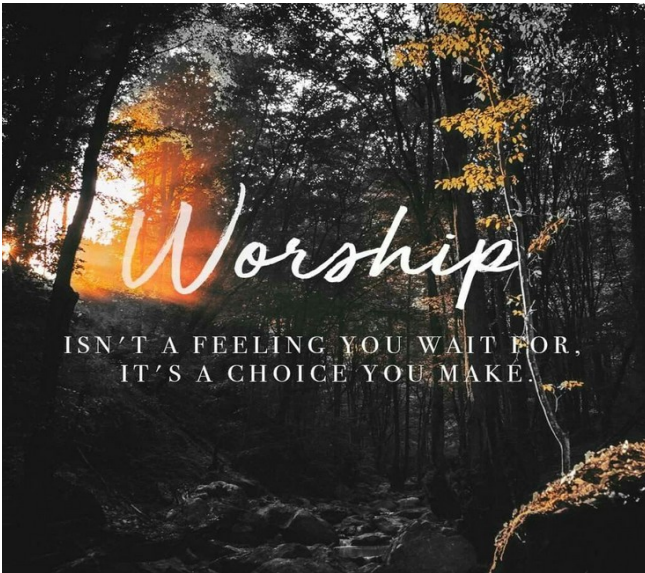
The Congregational Life committee



✨ Faith Explorers Kickoff Success! ✨

We are excited to share some wonderful news — our *Faith Explorers* program is off to a joyful start! At our Faith Formation Kickoff, **14 enthusiastic Faith Explorers** gathered to begin their journey of learning, growing, and discovering God's love together. Their excitement and energy filled the room, reminding us all of the bright future God has for our church family. Please keep these young explorers in your prayers as they continue to learn, wonder, and live out their faith each week!

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.



Faith Formation and Faith Explorers are in full swing. This month our children will be learning about prayer and kindness. Come grow with us—there's something for every age! Any questions—please contact Jacquie DelMonte. 440-463-6460.



Make the Most out of your Doctor's Appointment

Have you ever left your doctor's office, and wondered what he or she was talking about, or wished you had asked more questions? Good communication between doctors and their patients is essential to good health, and yet too many patients feel uncomfortable "bothering" the doctor with their questions or fears. Here are some tips to help communicate:

IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND—ASK: Medical jargon is confusing, so ask for an explanation in language you can understand. Medical professionals often lapse into "medical lingo" without even realizing it. Don't hesitate to stop them and remind them to use more relatable terms. Ask why they are doing tests or procedures or if there is anything you need to do to prepare for it.

BRING A LIST: The anxiety and confusion of a doctor's office can make us forget some of the things we wanted to discuss with our physician, so bring a list. It is a simple way to help you and your doctor focus. If possible, bring another person that can listen and take notes for you.

MAKE SURE YOU INCLUDE DETAILED INFORMATION:

Give the doctor all the information he/she needs to help you ~ this includes symptoms, medications, allergies, and major stressors in your life. The loss of a job or illness of a loved one can have a major impact on your health. Don't forget to list any over the counter medications or supplements as some of them can interact with prescriptions drugs. As little as a baby aspirin a day can cause uncontrolled bleeding after surgery, so remember that all the pills you take must be disclosed.



REPEAT BACK THE INFORMATION: When your doctor is explaining something, try repeating it back to make sure you understand, or take notes while you are there. You can also send a message via MyChart. This way all your information is kept together and all of your physicians can access your chart. A good way to find a doctor that is a good fit for you is to ask friends and relatives about health care providers with whom they feel confident.

Tell the doctor if you are feeling rushed and think about making your next appointment for a time that isn't as busy. Don't be afraid to tell your health care team what you would like so you can all work together toward one goal: **Better Health!**

Info taken from nih.org

Blessings and Prayers ~ Julie Kiefer, RN



Please note, I will be out of town the weekend of Oct 19th, so will be checking blood pressures on October 12th instead.



Missions Team

BOOK DRIVE UPDATE: We collected **228** books!! Cleveland Kids' Book Bank was thrilled to accept enough books to almost fill one of their bins!



Our Disaster Response Network kits have been coming in but we still need your help to reach our annual goal! The number of buckets and kits in the depot has been seriously depleted. The lists follow this article.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR COMPLETED KITS IN BY WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8!

In addition, Missions Team will be hosting TWO Packing Parties!! We invite you to join us in Thomas Hall during coffee hour on Sunday, October 5 and in the parlor before choir practice on Wednesday, October 8 to assemble the supplies that Missions has purchased into kits.

If you would like more information about how the Heartland Conference Disaster Ministries provides support to those in need, click here: <https://heartlanducc.org/disaster-response-network/>

As always, if you have any questions or project suggestions, feel free to reach out to any of us.

Peace,
Judy Brizzolara
judybdoverucc@aol.com

Mary Ann Brizzolara, Gail Cordy, Heather Harris, Joe Healey (Street Ministry Leader), Jan Jones, Ann Lew, Judy MacKeigan, Sharrie Nichols (Environmental Justice Leader), Sue O'Neil, Amy Storms, Martha Vivona



CWS CLEANUP BUCKET

UPDATED

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- ☐ One five-gallon bucket with resealable lid (If reused, please scrub clean. Do not use a bucket that has held chemicals of any kind. Brand labels on the outside are acceptable)
- ☐ Five scouring pads (No stainless steel or pads with soap in them. Remove from packaging)
- ☐ Seven sponges, including one large
- ☐ One scrub brush (With or without handle)
- ☐ 18 reusable, lightweight multipurpose cleaning towels (Not paper towels. Remove from packaging)
- ☐ One 16-34oz bottle of liquid dish soap (antibacterial preferred)
- ☐ One 12-40oz bottle of liquid concentrate household cleaner that can be mixed with water (No spray bottles)
- ☐ One 50-100 ft clothesline (Cotton or plastic line)
- ☐ Five dust masks (N95 particulate respirator dust masks preferred; No surgical masks)
- ☐ Two pairs of heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves (Latex-free preferred. Durable for multiple use. Remove from packaging)
- ☐ One pair of heavy-duty, reusable work gloves (Such as Nitrile, cotton with leather palm, or all leather)
- ☐ 20-28 heavy-duty or contractor-type 30-45 gallon trash bags on a roll (Remove from packaging)

All cleaning items must be new and all liquid items must be capped and securely tightened. Place all items into the bucket, making sure they are packed securely to avoid damage during shipment. Snap the lid on tight and seal with packing tape.



For more information, including where to ship or drop off your CWS Kits, how to support the Shipping and Processing Fund to help get CWS Kits to their final destinations, and answers to other Frequently Asked Questions, scan this QR code or visit cwskits.org.



VALUE: \$75

PROCESSING FEE: \$3 per bucket



The CWS Hygiene Kit now includes travel-sized shampoo, deodorant, lotion, and toothpaste, making it more practical for people on the move or in temporary shelters. These updates ensure the kits meet immediate needs with greater care and relevance.

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- ☐ 1-gallon resealable plastic bag
- ☐ Washcloth
- ☐ Fingernail or toenail clipper (packaging removed)
- ☐ Toothbrush (in original packing)
- ☐ Bath-size bar of soap (in original packaging)
- ☐ Travel-size deodorant (3.4 oz. or less, non-aerosol)
- ☐ Travel-size lotion (3.4 oz. or less, fragrance-free, NEW only)
- ☐ Travel-size shampoo (3.4 oz. or less, NEW only)
- ☐ Travel-size toothpaste (3.4 oz. or less, expiration date of 1 year)
- ☐ Sturdy wide-tooth comb (6" minimum teeth, packaging removed)



For more information, including where to ship or drop off your CWS Kits, how to support the Shipping and Processing Fund to help get CWS Kits to their final destinations, and answers to other Frequently Asked Questions, scan this QR code or visit **cwskits.org**.



PERIOD PACK: MENSTRUAL HYGIENE KIT

UPDATE

For many women and girls, access to essential menstrual supplies is a daily challenge. CWS Period Packs provide the basics—sanitary napkins, soap and plastic bags—to help women and girls stay clean, safe and healthy. This year, we're asking for your help by including 12 long, ultra-thin sanitary napkins (an increase from 10 in previous years) to make the packs even more hygienic and effective in supporting women's dignity.

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- ☐ One 1-gallon size re-sealable bag
- ☐ Two 2oz bottle hand sanitizer
- ☐ Three 4-gallon bathroom trash bags
- ☐ One travel pack of Wet Ones
- ☐ 5 regular Tampons
- ☐ 5 super absorbency Tampons
- ☐ 12 Pads (Unscented. Long super ultra-thin)
- ☐ Bath-size soap (3 oz. bar or larger. No Ivory or Jergen's soap. Do not remove from packaging)
- ☐ One pack of flushable wipes (Unscented. 42 count)
- ☐ Six fragrance-free laundry sheets (placed in small, Ziploc bags)

ASSEMBLY TIPS

- Place all items in the plastic bag, remove air, and seal.
- All items must be new.
- Do not enclose personal notes, money, or extra items in the kits.

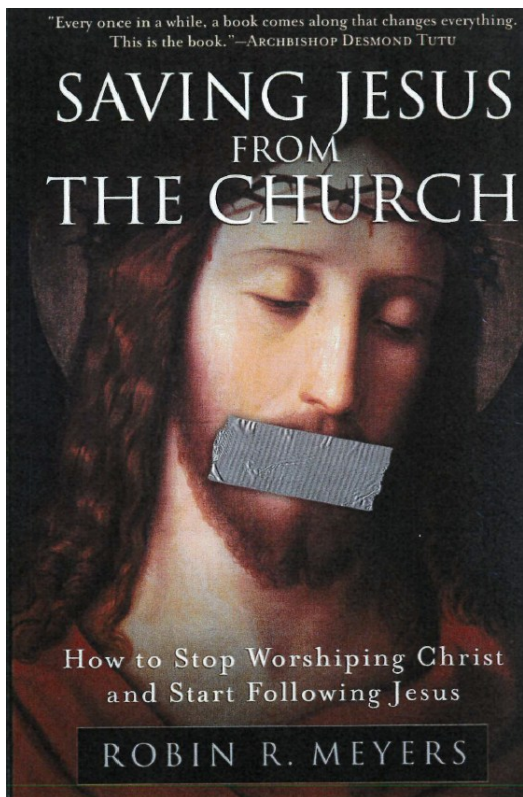


For more information, including where to ship or drop off your CWS Kits, how to support the Shipping and Processing Fund to help get CWS Kits to their final destinations, and answers to other Frequently Asked Questions, scan this QR code or visit cwskits.org.



VALUE: \$25

PROCESSING FEE: \$2 per kit



FOR DISCUSSION

Don Nichols has donated several copies of the book **Saving Jesus from the Church** to Dover. He would like to lead a discussion group about the book for anyone interested.

If you would like to participate in the discussion and/or would like to check out a copy to read, please sign up at The Hub. Books are available in the office.

When Don has heard that people are interested in discussing, he will set up a day/time for the group to meet.

“Saving Jesus from the Church” is a thought-provoking critique by Robin Meyers that calls for a return to the core teachings of Jesus, emphasizing discipleship over worship. The phrase “saving Jesus from the church” reflects a growing concern among some theologians and believers that institutional Christianity has strayed from the authentic teachings of Jesus. This critique often highlights how the church has become more focused on doctrine, rituals, and institutional power rather than embodying the compassion, justice, and love that Jesus preached.

Key Themes from the book:

1. **Discipleship vs. Worship:** Meyers argues that contemporary Christianity often emphasizes worshiping Christ rather than following Jesus’s teachings. He advocates for a shift towards understanding faith as a way of life that embodies Jesus’s principles.
2. **Compassion Over Condemnation:** The book promotes the idea that Christianity should be rooted in compassion rather than judgment. Meyers encourages believers to view Jesus as a teacher who exemplified love and acceptance, rather than merely a figure to be worshiped.
3. **Reconstruction of Faith:** Meyers calls for a deconstruction of modern beliefs that have distorted the essence of Christianity. He suggests reconstructing faith to align more closely with the early Christian community’s values, focusing on relationships and community rather than rigid doctrines.
4. **Historical context:** The book emphasizes the importance of understanding the historical context of Jesus’s life and teachings, arguing that many contemporary interpretations have lost sight of their original meaning.

Saving Jesus from the Church serves as a wake-up call for many within the Christian community, urging a return to the foundational aspects of Jesus’s message. By prioritizing discipleship, compassion, and a genuine relationship with the teachings of Jesus, Meyers believes that the church can reclaim its true mission and purpose in the modern world. This book resonates with those seeking a more authentic expression of their faith, free from the constraints of institutionalism.”

October 2025

	10/5	10/12	10/19	10/26
Altar Flowers			Linda Brugh	
Coffee		Calling & Caring		Pam Compton
Liturgist	Sharrie Nichols	Ken Delfing	Judy MacKeigan	Don Nichols



Mark your calendar now!

Tuesday, Oct. 7th: Bunco night; 7:00 PM—Thomas Hall

Sunday, Oct. 12th: Wear your tie-dyed t-shirts to worship

Saturday, Nov. 8th: Karaoke night

Sunday, Nov. 23rd: Chili cook-off after 10:00 AM worship

Friday, Dec. 7th: Poetry night

Sunday, Dec. 14th: Cookie walk after 10:00 AM worship

“READING IS AN EXERCISE IN EMPATHY; AN EXERCISE IN WALKING IN SOMEONE ELSE’S SHOES FOR A WHILE.”

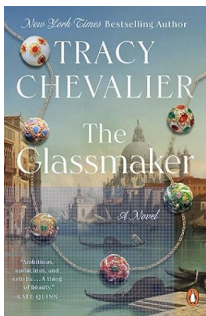
~MALORIE BLACKMAN

MONDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

THE GLASSMAKER

By
TRACY CHEVALIER

Monday, October 6, 12:30 PM
Parlor



“This charming fable is at once a love story that skips through six centuries, and also a love song to the timeless craft of glassmaking. Chevalier probes the fierce rivalries and enduring loyalties of Murano's glass dynasties, capturing the roar of the furnace, the sweat on the skin, and the glittering beauty of Venetian glass.” – Geraldine Brooks, author

EVENING BOOK GROUP

WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR IS IN THE LIBRARY

By
MICHIKO AOYAMA

Monday, October 27, 7:00 PM
Dody Chadwick's house

“For fans of ***Before the Coffee Gets Cold***, a charming, internationally bestselling Japanese novel about how the perfect book recommendation can change a reader's life.”

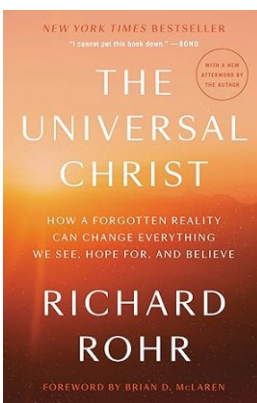
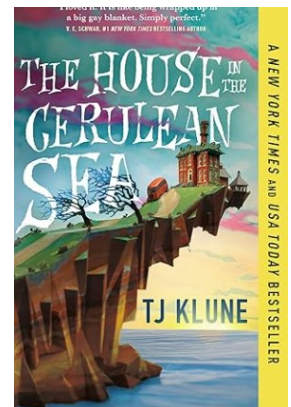
For more information, contact
Dody Chadwick at:
dgcc629@aol.com



“CHECK OUT” IN OUR LIBRARY!!

A Monday afternoon book club selection:
The House in the Cerulean Sea by TJ Klune

“An enchanting story, masterfully told, ***The House in the Cerulean Sea***, is about the profound experience of discovering an unlikely family in an unexpected place—and realizing that family is yours.”



The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, and Believe by Richard Rohr

“Drawing on scripture, history, and spiritual practice, Rohr articulates a transformative view of Jesus Christ as a portrait of God's constant, unfolding work in the world. ‘God loves things by becoming them,’ he writes, and Jesus's life was meant to declare that humanity has never been separate from God—except by its own negative choice.”

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.**

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



Online Giving

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.

jcoil@doverucc.org



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 - Adam Jakubiak
Vice Moderator - Judy MacKeigan
Clerk - Sharron Wilkins
Treasurer - Liz Emmer

Members at Large:

Judy Brizzolara, Sandy Burkey, Terry Chadwick, Millie Harley,
Reggie Pratt, Dan Read, Scott Thompson

Ex-officio Members:
Rev. Mindy Quellhorst



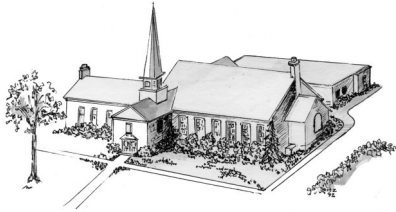
Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened

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:

Meri Armour, Tom Beck, Karen Bellebuono (Friend of Mary Ann & Joe Brizzolara and Judy Brizzolara), Katrina Burton (Maria Veléz-colon's daughter), Mark Chomoa (Rae-Rita Chomoa's son), Gail Cordy, Betty Correll (Sandy Burkey's mother), Eli (Friend of Judy Brizzolara), Jim & Kay Mesaros, People of Ukraine, Israel, Palestine and Gaza, Bob Pozwick (Patricia Houser's brother), Rachel (Friend of Judy Brizzolara), Joann Sarvay, Maura Young (Friend of Lois McCreight)

2239 Dover Center Road
Westlake, OH 44145



440-871-1050
doverucc.org

Serving the Church

Adam Jakubiak Council Moderator
Judy MacKeigan 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
Ben Malkevitch Organist
Julie Kiefer, R. N. Parish Nurse



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

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