

# DOVER VOICES

September 2025



From the pastor....

My heart is heavy, as I am sure some of yours are as well. I invite you to live with me into Dreaming, God's dream of love and hope for all.

A song by Peter, Paul, and Mary

*Light one candle for the Maccabee children with thanks that their light didn't die  
Light one candle for the pain they endured when their right to exist was denied  
Light one candle for the terrible sacrifice justice and freedom demand  
But light one candle for the wisdom to know when the peacemaker's time is at hand.*

*Don't let the light go out it's lasted for so many years  
Don't let the light go out let it shine through our love and our tears.*

*Light one candle for the strength that we need to never become our own foe  
And light one candle for those who are suffering pain we learned so long ago  
Light one candle for all we believe in let anger not tear us apart  
And light one candle to bind us together with peace as the song in our heart.*

We have a task force that has been looking at what it means to be a Just Peace church. I believe that this is a designation for us because Dover UCC has been living into this since our vision statement came about, — "to seek justice, love kindness, and walk humble with our God." (Micah 6:8). We will be voting on the covenant on Sept. 14 at a specially called meeting. If you have questions, the committee (Pam Compton, Amy Storms, Martha Vivona, Kathleen Poe) will be at the picnic to answer them.

*Don't let the light go out  
it's lasted for so many years  
Don't let the light go out  
let it shine through our love and our tears.*

In Ukraine, the Heartland Conference many years ago, began S.A.R.A.- Sharing Americas Resources Abroad in order to help hospitals and orphanages in Transcarpathia, Ukraine. I received this request for prayer. "Russian drones bombed Mukachevo, in Transcarpathia, Ukraine." S.A.R.A. (Sharing America's Resources Abroad) serves the Regional Children's Hospital in this city. Communication is limited. Pray for our health/medical staff and our friends in this state, including the Good Samaritan Home and St' Michael's Home. Both of my parents sit in this picture one of the many times they traveled to the Ukraine for S.A.R.A. May we continue to lean into the light of Christ, so that war and violence may end and we may live into Dreaming God's dream of peace.



In Gaza, many people, including a lot of children are dying because of starvation. Living into our vision, "to seek justice, love kindness, and walking humbly with our God", I hope this causes us to open our eyes. No child should not have food or a place to lay their head. We can help by going to [UCC.org](http://UCC.org) and clicking on donate, and designate your gift to go to helping get food to Gaza. The Middle East office of Global Ministries is working with our partner churches in Gaza to help.

*Don't let the light go out it's lasted for so many years  
Don't let the light go out let it shine through our love and our tears.*

My friends, may it be so.

*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.



### Baptism of Eliot Behanic

on July 27. Proud parents are Laura & Jeff Behanic. Grandparents are Liz and Rick Emmer.



### Terry Chadwick elected to Bay High Athletic Hall of Fame

On September 6th, Terry Chadwick, beloved hockey coach, will be inducted into the Bay High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Terry coached at Bay between 2000 and 2010. Hockey runs in Terry's family—his son, Eddie, is a hock player and his father played for the Toronto Maple Leafs and scouted for the Edmonton Oilers.



## from the folks at Dover!



### **Buddy brings smiles to the Summer Faith Explorers' Class**

On September 10th, the DelMonte's dog, Buddy, visited the Faith Explorers' class, where they learned how God loves all creatures—animals and us. The kids loved Buddy and he loved them back.



### **Dragon Boat paddlers had a great trip**

In Chinese culture, the classic dragon boat rides the clouds in the sky and commands the wind, mist and rain. . .a revered symbol of strength and power. The July 20 excursion of 13 Dover dragon boat paddlers did all that and had a lot of fun in the process.





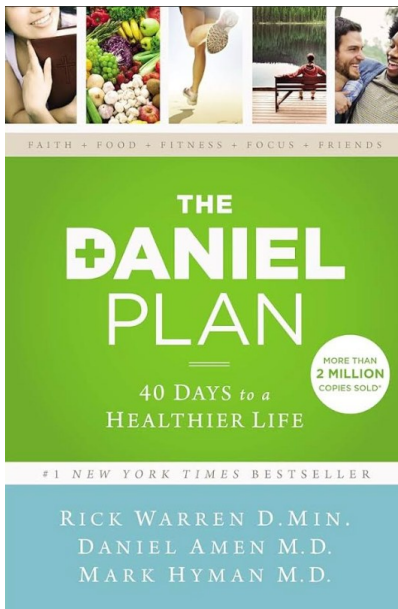
**MORE**



### Books, books, books



**Dover generously donated 196 books to the Cleveland Kids Book Bank. Thanks to all who participated!**



### Daniel Plan survey at August 24th coffee hour

At the August 24th coffee hour, Liz Emmer distributed a survey asking about interest in joining a Daniel Plan group. The Daniel Plan focuses on five key areas: faith, food, fitness, focus, and fellowship/friends—all designed to help you live a healthier, more balanced life. If this sparks your interest, contact Liz for more information.

There are Daniel Plan materials available in the church library.

It is time for the next round of Fun, Friends, Fellowship and FOOD. If you are new or returning, please join other members for once-a-month get togethers. If you are interested and haven't already notified Loreen Flesher, please email ASAP (Loreen [6300@gmail.com](mailto:6300@gmail.com)). Groups will be notified during 2nd week of September. Thank you!



AND MORE



**Introducing . . .**

## **Dover's Liturgical Arts Team!**

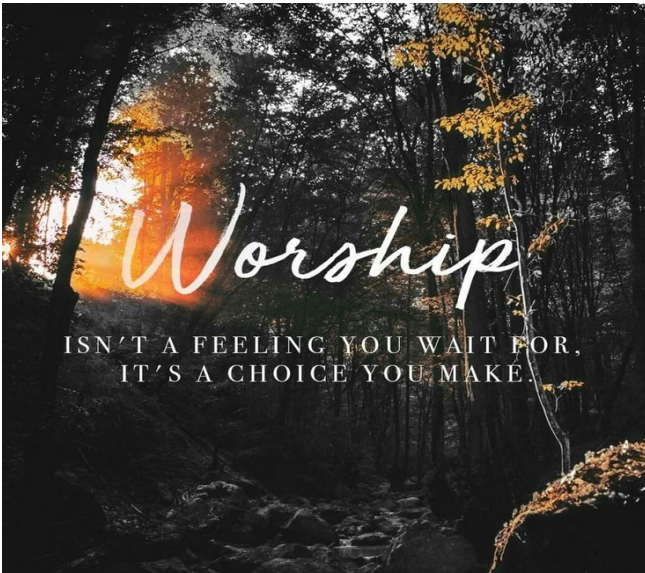
Over the past few years we have been blessed with the creativity of Lucy Bufkin, Katie Alexander and Dre Russo, who have dressed the worship space during special seasons of the church year. Joining them is a team of creative members of the church who also bring unique talents—they are: Corrie Purdum, Ivy Beckwith, Jeff Davis, Jen Bokenyi, and Judy Kean.

The goal of a liturgical arts team is to enhance the worship experience by creating a sacred environment that helps the congregation feel, see, and understand the divine. Instead of simply decorating, the team uses art and design to deepen the community's engagement with the liturgy and its themes.

### **Core objectives**

- **Create a prayerful and beautiful worship space:** The team's primary responsibility is to make the church environment suitable for worship, devotion, and contemplation. This involves using visual elements that are beautiful, hospitable, and theologically accurate.
- **Reflect the liturgical calendar:** A key goal is to change the art and environment of the worship space to correspond with the different seasons of the church year (e.g., Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Ordinary Time). This helps our members participate more fully in the liturgical cycle.
- **Inspire devotion and encounter with the divine:** Liturgical art is not meant to be mere decoration but a tool for encountering God. It inspires faith and focuses the hearts and minds of the faithful on the sacred mysteries being celebrated.
- **Teach and communicate spiritual truth:** Since many people process information visually, liturgical arts can communicate theology and biblical narratives in a way that words alone cannot. This is particularly important for visual learners and helps convey profound spiritual messages.
- **Integrate art with liturgical action:** Effective liturgical art is not a distraction, but a seamless part of the liturgy itself. The visual elements should serve a specific liturgical purpose and enhance the overall experience.

## 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 EXPLORERS

### FAITH, LOVE, AND GROWING IN GOD

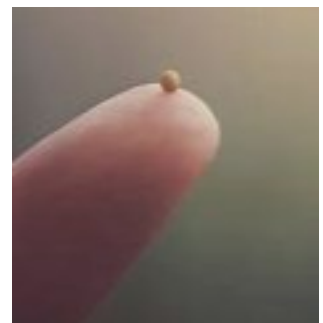


Our nursery for faith explorers from birth through pre-kindergarten is staffed and open every Sunday during the 10:00 AM worship service.

The Faith Formation classes are held during the 10:00 AM worship service each Sunday—explorers will accompany their families/friends to worship, and then go downstairs to Faith Formation classes after the children's message.



If you have any questions about our program, please call Jacquie DelMonte at 440-463-6460.





# Notes From Council

Adam Jakubiak, Moderator

*What does the Lord require of us, but to seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.*

If you haven't yet heard, we will be having a Special Meeting on September 14th immediately following the 10:00 worship, where we will vote to adopt a Just Peace covenant statement. I hope you'll join us!

We first started talking about Just Peace within Council at the end of 2023 and made one of our 2024 goals to kick off a team during that year, which we did. Council recognized that we were already doing basically all of the things that make a Just Peace church, so the original desire was that we could leverage the UCC Just Peace framework to recognize and formalize what we already do to be able to share that more broadly within the UCC world and beyond as a form of outreach.

Just Peace is one of the 8 UCC Covenants that local churches can choose to adopt and one that the 2023 and 2024 Councils felt would have congregational support. Just like the Open and Affirming designation, there is a UCC recommended process that can be followed, which culminates in adoption of a Just Peace covenant statement that should be accepted by the congregation by vote prior to sharing with the Association for inclusion in their network of churches in covenant. Once attained, we can announce ourselves to be a Just Peace church in addition to an Open and Affirming church, which helps to say who we are to anyone who may be looking to join. You can find a lot more information about Just Peace and the 8 covenants on the UCC website or feel free to ask me or the team any questions you may have. Please also be sure to read the statement if you haven't yet done so!



Speaking of the team, I want to thank Jane Coil and Martha Vivona for their efforts in the early days to start us down this journey, as well as Pam Compton, Amy Storms, and Kathleen Poe, who later joined the effort and moved us forward. I personally recall the Free Trade Fair they introduced as a part of the Just Peace model that the team felt we weren't yet touching on (Just Peace in the Marketplace) and that seemed to be well-received. I also mention this to call out that while perhaps the originally-perceived benefit of becoming a Just Peace church was to support outreach and communication, the true benefit really is intended to be furthering "a just world for all".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Jakubiak", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.





## IS DRINKING COFFEE HEALTHY?

Drinking coffee can be healthy. Studies find that coffee drinkers have a lower risk of death from any cause compared to people who don't drink coffee. The benefits of coffee depend on things like how much you drink, your age, gender, medicine you take, and even your genes.

Some benefits are linked to caffeine, other benefits are related to the other components in coffee. But in general, studies find that coffee is linked to health in many ways. Drinking coffee

may be linked to a lower risk of some diseases and drinking coffee with caffeine has been linked with improved mood and a lower risk of depression in some groups. Drinking 3 to 4 cups of coffee a day is linked to a lower risk of stroke in some studies. And coffee may help protect against cancers of the mouth, throat and digestive system, although the evidence isn't conclusive. Here are some other benefits:

### **Boosts energy levels**

Coffee contains caffeine, a central nervous system stimulant that fights fatigue and increases energy levels. This is because caffeine blocks the receptors of a neurotransmitter called adenosine, which increases the levels of other neurotransmitters in your brain that regulate your energy levels.

### **May be linked to a lower risk of type 2 diabetes**

Some research suggests that consuming coffee regularly could be associated with a decreased risk of developing Type 2 diabetes. In fact, 30 studies found that each cup of coffee people consumed per day was linked to a 6% lower risk of developing type 2 diabetes. This is thought to be due to coffee's ability to preserve the function of the beta cells in your pancreas, which are responsible for producing insulin to regulate blood sugar levels.

### **Could support brain health**

Although studies have shown mixed results, some research suggests that coffee may help protect against certain neurodegenerative disorders, including Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease. They found people who regularly consumed caffeine had a significantly lower chance of developing Parkinson's disease. What's more, those who consumed caffeine also had a slower progression of Parkinson's disease over time. Additionally, several studies have demonstrated that moderate coffee consumption could be associated with a lower risk of dementia and cognitive issues



### **May promote weight management**

According to some, coffee could alter fat storage and support gut health, which may be beneficial for weight management. Studies concluded that higher coffee consumption could be associated with decreased body fat. Furthermore, one study found that people who drank one to two cups of coffee daily were 17% more likely to meet recommended physical activity levels than those who drank less than one cup daily. Again, more studies need to be done.

### **Linked to a lower risk of depression**

Some studies have found that drinking coffee could be associated with a lower risk of depression. One study in over 14,000 students found that drinking at least 4 cups of coffee each day was associated with a lower risk of depression, compared with drinking just 1 cup per day.

### **Could protect against liver conditions**

Coffee could support liver health and protect against liver disease. A recent study found that coffee consumption was associated with decreased liver stiffness, which is a measure healthcare professionals use to assess fibrosis, the formation of scar tissue in the liver.

### **May support heart health**

Some research shows that drinking coffee may benefit heart health. In fact, one review found that drinking 3 to 5 cups of coffee daily reduced the risk of heart disease by 15%. Another review of 21 studies showed that drinking 3 to 4 cups of coffee daily was associated with a 21% decrease. Also, one of more than 21,000 people found that increased coffee intake was associated with a decreased risk of heart failure. However, keep in mind that caffeine could affect blood pressure levels. People with unmanaged blood pressure may need to limit or moderate their caffeine intake.



### **Could increase longevity**

Some research suggests that coffee could help extend longevity, thanks to its many potential health benefits. For example, studies concluded that drinking two to four cups of coffee daily was associated with a lower risk of death, regardless of factors like age, weight status, and alcohol consumption. Similarly, another study of 1567 found that drinking caffeinated coffee was linked to a lower risk of death after 12 and 18 years of follow-up. Furthermore, drinking at least 1 cup of coffee per day was also associated with a lower risk of death from cancer.

### **May enhance athletic performance**

Coffee is often used as an aid by athletes looking to improve performance and increase energy levels. A study found that drinking coffee was associated with improved physical performance and faster gait speed, even after the researchers adjusted for factors like age, belly fat, and physical activity levels. Additionally, it was reported that moderate caffeine consumption may slightly improve power output and time-trial completion time.



### **The Unexpected Risks of Drinking Too Much Coffee**

#### **Coffee has some risks, mostly due to caffeine.**

Taking in too much caffeine can cause anxiety, headache or faster heart rate.

Caffeinated coffee can increase heartburn symptoms, also called reflux symptoms.

Urinary symptoms including frequency and urgency may increase from caffeine.

Coffee that's made without a filter, such as using a French press, has been linked to a small rise in cholesterol levels. Some studies link drinking five or more cups of coffee a day to lower bone density among some groups of women. But taking in higher amounts of food and drink with calcium can limit this potential issue.

Coffee is a popular beverage that researchers have studied extensively for its many health benefits, including its ability to increase energy levels, promote weight management, enhance athletic performance, and protect against chronic disease. **Keep in mind that some people may need to limit their intake, including people who are pregnant or breastfeeding, children and adolescents, and people with certain health conditions.** Still, drinking coffee in moderation — about 3 to 4 cups per day — has been associated with several health benefits and is generally considered safe for most adults.

**Try this today:** Switching up your sweetener is one way to maximize the benefits of your daily cup of joe. Instead of using sugar or flavored syrups, opt for a naturally derived low-calorie sweetener like stevia, or add a dash of cinnamon for flavor.



I wish they could find these same benefits of Diet Coke!!

"What goes best with a cup of coffee~ ANOTHER cup" ~ Harry Rollins

Blessings and Prayers, Julie Kiefer RN

**(Information taken from [mayoclinic.org](http://mayoclinic.org), [johnhopkinsmedicine.org](http://johnhopkinsmedicine.org), [UHhospitals.org](http://UHhospitals.org) and [healthline.com](http://healthline.com))**





## Missions Team

Our Missions Team is dedicated to making a positive impact. We strive to live into A Just World For All. While our focus is often local, we realize that our neighbors are not restricted by borders or oceans. We are interconnected with our community, our state and country, and our world. Our current projects reflect just that!

Our Book Drive collected 186 books!! Thanks to all who made this project a success. You have helped shape our future because today's readers become tomorrow's leaders!

We have begun our Disaster Relief efforts to provide cleanup buckets, period packs, and personal hygiene kits. We've been blessed with a \$250 grant from the Heartland Conference! Lists of items can be found on the table outside the sanctuary, in Thomas Hall, and are included here. Simply place the items inside the Ziploc bag or bucket and bring them to church! We invite you to help us reach our annual goal of 10 buckets, 100 period packs, and 100 personal hygiene kits.

We will be making donations to support the people of Ukraine and Gaza whose lives have been torn apart. SARA (Sharing America's Resources Abroad) has a long history with Ukraine and with Pastor Mindy! Her parents were involved when SARA first began. To read more about the UCC's humanitarian efforts in the Middle East, click here: [Humanitarian Aid to Gaza](#). More information about the UCC's commitment to world aid can be found on its website, [UCC.org](#).

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

Peace,  
Judy Brizzolara

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](http://cwskits.org).



VALUE: \$75

PROCESSING FEE: \$3 per bucket

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## CWS HYGIENE KITS



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](https://cwskits.org).



VALUE: \$15

PROCESSING FEE: \$2 per kit

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## PERIOD PACK: MENSTRUAL HYGIENE KIT

**UPDATED**

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.

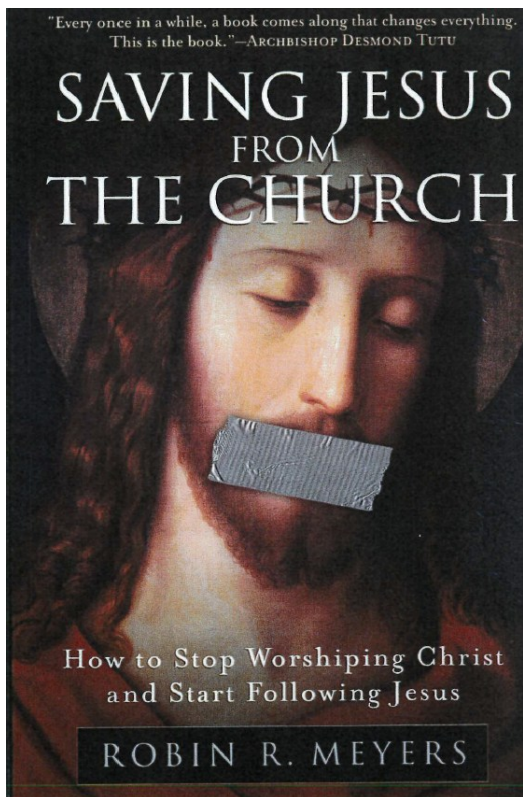


For more information, including where to ship or drop off your CWS Kits, how to support the Shipping and Processing Fund to help get CWS Kits to their final destinations, and answers to other Frequently Asked Questions, scan this QR code or visit [cwskits.org](http://cwskits.org).



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.”

# September

	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28
Altar Flowers				
Coffee	Church Picnic	Bette English Karin Shaughnessy	Maria Veléz	
Liturgist	Sandy Burkey	Jeff Davis	Mike English	Jan Jones



Mark your calendar now!

**Sunday, Sept. 7th:** Church picnic/Sunday school kickoff; theme of the picnic this year is: Peace We will be making tie-dyed shirts in preparation for the "Just Peace" vote on Sept. 14th. We are hoping to find a drone with a camera to get an overhead pic of members making a peace sign—if you can help out with a drone or know someone who can, please let Martha Vivona know.

**Sunday, Sept. 14th:** Congregational vote on Just Peace Church project immediately following 10:00 AM worship

**Tuesday, Oct. 7th:** Bunco night—sign-up sheet and more details coming!

**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**

### **BRING YOUR HEIRLOOM, OR “OLD” TREASURED BOOKS TO SHARE**

Monday, September 8, 12:30 PM  
Parlor

Come share some of your favorite books that might have some history behind them! Perhaps books from your childhood, family favorites, classics passed down from past generations.



## **EVENING BOOK GROUP**

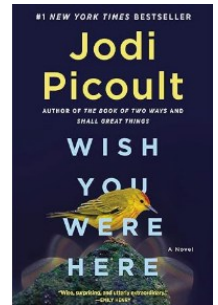
### **WISH YOU WERE HERE**

BY  
JODI PICOULT

Monday, September 15, 7:00 PM  
Heather Harris’ house

“A powerfully evocative story of resilience and the triumph of the human spirit.”

If you have any questions or would like to join us, but would like more information, please feel free to email Dody Chadwick at [DGCC629@aol.com](mailto:DGCC629@aol.com)



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## **NEW IN OUR LIBRARY**

### **MIRACLES IN MY LIFE**



### **Miracles in My Life**

By Denece Black Praeger

Does the author’s name sound familiar to you?!? Denece and her husband, Chuck, joined Dover UCC in 2016, reconnecting with many Westlake friends from their past. After Chuck passed away in late 2020, Denece’s daughter convinced her to move to Minnesota to be closer to family. A friend of Denece’s from her Longaberger days called one day to get contact info for Denece and told Jane that Denece had written this book—thought it would be a good addition to our library!

“Do miracles really happen in today’s world? Denece Black Praeger thinks so, and by reading *Miracles in My Life*, you can see the examples in her world where miracles *have* happened.

In “Rainbow Girls”, Denece discovered where to find her home with God. Finding her lifelong mate in Chuck continued that journey with God. People might wonder how to find a miracle in “Chronic Pain”, but Denece shows us how. We can find meaning and joy in spite of living with Chronic pain. And that in itself is a miracle. Join Denece on this journey of finding the miracles that show up in your life. Embrace the challenge of spreading the word about *your* miracles. Find the joy of the unbelievable.”



## **Congregational Vote to become a Just Peace Church Scheduled for September 14th**

In 2024, Council suggested that we take steps to become a Just Peace church. Our congregation already does much work that is considered Just Peace work\*, however we have never gone through the step of developing and officially adopting a Just Peace statement. A committee was formed, and a statement has been developed. The draft statement is below for your review/ information. A congregational vote on whether to adopt this statement is scheduled for Sept 14, right after the 10 am service. The statement will also be included in the bulletin on Aug. 24 and committee members will be available at coffee hour that day. If you have questions, feel free to contact any of the current committee members: Pam Compton, Kathleen Poe, Amy Storms, Martha Vivona.

**\* Examples of Dover UCC Just Peace work:**

- Street mission meals and blessing bags,
- Christmas gifts and Easter baskets for Project Noelle,
- Being an open and affirming congregation,
- Composting,
- Heifer International project,
- Fair trade market,
- Mission trips,
- End Gun Violence petitions,
- Racism awareness,
- Providence House,
- Disaster Relief - cleanup buckets, period packs, personal hygiene kits
- Autism Acceptance
- Pride Month events
- Vigils and other forms of activism for peace and social justice issues
- Book drive
- Quilted hand project.
- Alzheimer's support group
- Prayer shawl ministry
- Calling and Caring gifts for shut ins
- Meals on Wheels

# JUST PEACE

CHURCH



**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.

The JUST PEACE vision aligns with our vision statement to seek justice,  
love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. (Micah 6:8)

Dover Congregational United Church of Christ  
Westlake, Ohio  
*An Open & Affirming Congregation*

## 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](http://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](mailto: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





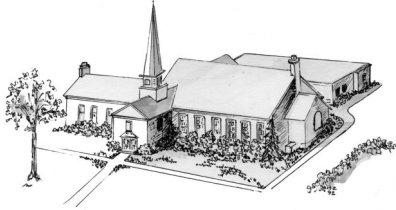
# Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened

*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, Karen Bellebuono (Friend of Mary Ann & Joe Brizzolara and Judy Brizzolara), Katarina Burton (Maria Veléz-colon's daughter), Mark Chomoa (Rae-Rita Chomoa's son), Gail Cordy, Betty Correll (Sany Burkey's mother), Eli (Friend of Judy Brizzolara), Bobbie English (Friend of Lois McCreight), Jim & Linda (Friends 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

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!*