



# ***THE CHIMES***

***June 2024***

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Christ United Methodist Church  
470 East Broadway Street  
Alliance, OH 44601-2698  
Reverend John Partridge, Pastor  
Church: 330-823-7136

**Our Mission is to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ and to  
Serve God by Sharing Compassion, Hope and Love**

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E-Mail: [secretary@cumcalliance.org](mailto:secretary@cumcalliance.org)

Web Page: [www.cumcalliance.org](http://www.cumcalliance.org)

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# ***THE CHIMES***

## **JUNE 2024**

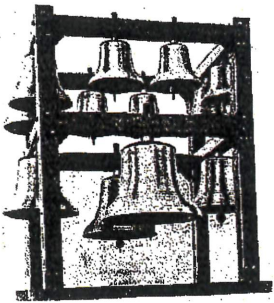
### VISION STATEMENT

The people of Christ United Methodist Church will;

- COURAGEOUSLY REACH OUT AND WELCOME
- PASSIONATELY WORSHIP AND PRAY
- INTENTIONALLY NURTURE AND ENCOURAGE
- LOVINGLY SHARE AND SERVE.

### MISSION STATEMENT

**OUR MISSION IS TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST (MATTHEW 28:19-20) AND TO SERVE  
GOD BY SHARING COMPASSION, HOPE, AND LOVE.**



## I Ain't Skeered

By now I'm sure that you know about my wife Patti's transplant surgery. In fact, in anticipation of that surgery, I am writing this article for our church newsletter several weeks earlier since our secretary, Dolores, will be editing and printing the June newsletter about the time that our family will be spending much of our time at the hospital and then recovering at home. But thinking about this surgery caused me to remember and reflect on my feelings, and some of the questions that I had, seventeen years ago when Patti had her first transplant, and later for a few other significant health issues.

The biggest question was, "Aren't you afraid?" And, honestly, my best answer was, and is, "No." Even before I started down the path of becoming a pastor, I had put my faith and trust in a magnificent creator God, and his redeemer and rescuer son, Jesus. I admit to feeling stress about schedules, homework assignments, and the possibilities that things might somehow go wrong. I'm human. I do worry. I worry about Patti, I worry about her quality of life, I worry about Jonah and his future life with one kidney.

But beyond those things, I trust. I trust that the God who brought Patti and I together is smarter, wiser, and far more powerful than I can imagine. I trust that this amazing God loves me, as he demonstrated by the stories of scripture and by sacrifice of his only son for our rescue. I trust that the God who brought us through unemployment, the adoption of our children, our call to ministry, then a career change, seminary, several changes of church appointments, several surgeries, Patti's near fatal dance with COVID-19, and a host of other frightening adventures, will bring us through this one.

Does that mean that Patti's full recovery is guaranteed? No, of course it doesn't. If that were true, she never would have been diabetic, or developed kidney disease, or needed a transplant (let alone a second one). Life doesn't always turn out the way we want it to turn out. God isn't a genie in a bottle and doesn't answer all our prayers. But God has been with us through so much, I trust that God will give me the strength to endure whatever lies ahead. I pray that Patti will recover well, and that we get to keep her for another 20 years or so. I pray that Jonah lives a long and happy life with one kidney. But I trust God for whatever happens.

In situations like this, I have often seen social media post like, "God never gives you more than you can handle." But that's not true. The Bible never says that. Ever. In fact, if we pay attention, the stories of scripture often say the opposite. The Moses got so much grief from the people of Israel that he cried out to God and said, *"Why have you brought this trouble on your servant? What have I done to displease you that you put the burden of all these people on me? Did I conceive all these people? Did I give them birth? Why do you tell me to carry them in my arms, as a nurse carries an infant, to the land you promised on oath to their ancestors? ...I cannot carry all these people by myself; the burden is too heavy for me. If this is how you are going to treat me, please go ahead and kill me..."*

Elijah, one of the greatest prophets that ever lived, was so afraid of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel, that he *"ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, <sup>4</sup> while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it, and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors."<sup>5</sup> Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep."*

It isn't that God won't give us more than we can handle, God often does exactly that. But God doesn't want us to give up, God wants us to surrender ourselves and ask for his help. God wants us to trust

him and to rely upon him for strength when life demands more from us than we have within ourselves. When God gives us more than we can handle, he trusts that, together, we can get through it. I know that this is true. Patti and I have lived through difficult things more than once. And honestly, sometimes I wish that God didn't trust me to handle things as much as does.

In the end...

I don't know what the future holds.

But I know who holds the future.

I ain't skeered. (translation: I'm not scared)  
I am at rest in the hands of a faithful God.

Blessings,

**Pastor John**

**UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH UPDATE:**



United  
Women  
in Faith

**June 4 (7PM) – UNIT MEETING**, Dussel Room

**\*\*Program also offered via Zoom\*\***

**Program:** "Food, Faith, and Land", **Presenter:** Shannon Sampson

**Greeters/Hostesses:** May Smyth Circle

**Our meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend.**

**If you'd like to "Zoom in", contact Nancy Prueter at [prueter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:prueter@sbcglobal.net) for an invitation.**

#### **GOOD TO KNOW:**

The Vision of United Women in Faith is, *turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world.* What better way to act on this Vision than to support a local agency like the Alliance YWCA that advocates directly for women and children.

Recently, the YWCA acquired an additional Transitional Housing location on Union Avenue, now called *Donna Jean's House*. There is a great need in the Alliance community for transitional housing, especially for women and children. United Women in Faith, recognizing this need and the capability of the YWCA to perfectly fill it, decided we needed to support this critical initiative.

United Women in Faith decided to utilize the Martha and Leonard Goldrick Fund to support the YWCA in its pursuit of providing Transitional Housing. This fund was so generously provided by the Goldrick's to support women and children locally and globally. A donation of \$15,000 is being given

directly to the YWCA to support needed renovations of Donna Jean's House. A plaque to honor the Goldrick's will be placed in the house. Another \$15,000 is being used to establish a Greater Alliance Foundation endowed fund, the *YWCA Transitional Housing Fund*, to be used to sustain YWCA Transitional Housing programs in the Alliance area now and in the future. More information to come on how you can support this fund.

We can't say THANK YOU enough to Martha and Leonard Goldrick for letting United Women in Faith extend the hands of extravagant generosity to the world! Their generosity is and will continue to change lives!

**The Spring Basement Sale was a great success, the funds will be used to support local missions!**

A **BIG Thank You** to everyone that helped with the sale, from donating items, setting up, helping shoppers, and cleaning up. Everyone's efforts are needed and appreciated, a special thanks to Pat Helsel for coordinating this project.

### **Mission-u**

**2024 Theme: The Kin-dom is Among You: Drawing Closer to God and One Another**

Mission u is an annual United Women in Faith event. It is a transformative education program of biblically grounded curricula focusing on spiritual growth.

**July 19-21 University of Mount Union**

### **Summer Break – July and August**

**United Women in Faith** always welcomes guests and new members.

Please call Jamie Greiner at (412) 601-4275 or any Executive Board Officer, if interested.

**The Unit** meets on most 1st Tuesdays at 7pm in the Dussel Room

- ❖ **Peg Williams Circle** meets at 1pm on 3rd Mondays at Copeland Oaks, Williamsburg Lounge
  - ❖ **M & M Circle** meets at 7pm on 3rd Mondays in the Dussel Room
  - ❖ **May Smyth Circle** meets at 10:30am on 3rd Tuesdays in the Dussel Room
  - ❖ **Susie Buckel Circle** meets at 7pm on 3rd Tuesdays in the Dussel Room

## **Summer Sunday Schedule** **June 2<sup>nd</sup> through September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

*Sunday, June 16th, Worship and Church Picnic in Silver Park*

*11:00 A.M. Worship*

*12:00 P.M. Picnic*

*Please bring table ware and food to share.*

Starting with Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> and continuing thru Sunday, Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, service will be in Fellowship Hall.



# Blessing Bags

**Blessing Bags:** Thank you for all the items donated for the Blessing Bags. We made 26 Blessing Bags in May that were given to Salvation Army, Alliance of Churches and Clothed in Righteousness. We will be doing more in August. We will need: Ladies & Men Deodorant, Toothbrushes, small Toothpaste and Washcloths. Thank Jean Webster and Carolyn Miller

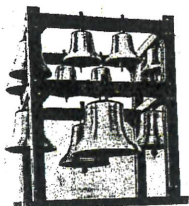


## CHURCH IN THE PARK

On Father's Day, June 16<sup>th</sup>, we will once again have our church service in the pavilion in Silver Park. Worship service will start at 11:00 am. After the worship service, we will have a covered dish meal in the park for all to enjoy. Please bring your plates, cups, silverware and a favorite dish to share.

## CHUCKWAGON

On May 19<sup>th</sup>, we raised \$40 for the Salvation Army and \$40 for Alliance of Churches through the noisy can collection. We also had 31 food items for Salvation Army.



**CHIMES DEADLINE:** The deadline for the July- August 2023 issue of *The Chimes* is Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. Articles may be placed in the Secretary's slot outside the church office or emailed to [secretary@cumcalliance.org](mailto:secretary@cumcalliance.org)



## 2024 GRADUATES

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Ian Sherer, son of Sara Sherer and John Sherer, graduated from Alliance High School on May 19. Throughout high school his favorite things were music – band and orchestra. After that his favorite subjects were sciences and math. He is planning to attend the University of Mount Union (and his mom is making him live on campus). While he is currently undecided about what his major is going to be, it will likely be some branch of science. Right at the moment, Physics or Environmental Science are at the top of the list. And, while music isn't in contention for his major or minor, he is planning to be part of some ensembles at Mount Union and also stay involved with the choir and bell choir here at church, if his schedule permits.

### COLLEGE GRADUATE

Jada Grace Sutton, daughter of Seth & Jennifer Sutton and Granddaughter of Richard and Susan Diser graduated from The University of Mount Union on May 11, 2024 with a Bachelor of Arts in Middle Childhood Education. Jada has been hired as the Cheerleading Advisor at The University of Mount Union and plans to pursue a teaching position in a local school district.

Michael Shields, son of Chrissy & Eric Shields and grandson of Lew & Pettie Shields graduated from The University of Mount Union on May 11, 2024 with a double degree in Computer Science and Psychology.

## Concerts at Caboose

John Hampu band is on Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Christ Church has a refreshment stand to support Habitat for Humanity. Concerts are dependent on the weather.



We will be having special music on Sunday during the months of July and August. We have ONE Sunday left to fill on the schedule. If you like to sing or play an instrument, please consider signing up to share your talents.

# WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR JUNE

## USHERS - Team #2

Jim Greiner, Captain  
John Christian                      Mike Greiner  
Keith Noble                         Bill Sol  
Gene Stroia

## LITURGISTS

2 Pat Helsel  
9 Jim Greiner  
16 Jamie Greiner  
23 Ellen Sol  
30 Judith Hookway

## WELCOME CENTER

2 Sheila Gard/Justis Conley  
9 Nancy Prueter  
16 At park  
23 Denise Aeling  
30 Karen Locke

## JUNE TELLERS

2 Donna Essick/Jill Greiner  
9 Jim Greiner/Nancy Prueter  
16 Bill Prueter/Dick Diser  
23 Pat Helsel/Marilyn Ruff  
30 Mark Locke/Bruce Helsel

## JUNE VISITATION MEMBERS

2 Mary Aufrance, Alliance  
9 Dan Gard, Canton  
16 June Luca, Alliance  
23 Faye Heim, Alliance  
30 Mary Louise Ford, Sebring



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3	Zachary Smith	22	Chrissy Shields
4	Elizabeth Wellington		
9	Lucinda Feess	22	JoAnn Patterson
13	Aaron Webster	25	Andy Magda
16	Jessica Crider	25	Karen Locke
17	Carolyn Wallace	27	Tyler Kinser
		30	June Luca



## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Rev. Chris and Cindi Martin  
June 12, 1969  
Wil' and Dorothy Rogers  
June 12, 1982  
Dick and Susan Diser  
June 13, 1970  
Craig and Amy Starkey  
June 13, 1998  
Bill and Ellen Sol  
June 27, 1970  
John and Rebecca Innerst  
June 22, 1975



# JUNE

# 2024

\***Sunday** Worship & Program  
 Opportunities  
 9:00 A.M. Sunday School  
 10:15 A.M. Worship Service

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2 Trinity Sunday</b> Peace with Justice Offering	<b>3</b> 7p Boy Scouts	<b>4</b> 5:00 Community Dinner 7 pm UWF Unit Meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>10</b> 7p Boy Scouts	<b>11</b> 5:00 Community Dinner	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b>
<b>16 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>11AM Church In Silver Park</b> 	<b>17</b> 1p Peg Williams Circle 7p Boy Scouts 6p M & M Circle	<b>18</b> 5:00 Community Dinner 12p May Smyth Circle 7p Susie Buckel Circle	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> <hr/> <b>30 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>24</b> 7p Boy Scouts	<b>25</b> 5:00 Community Dinner 6:30p Trustees	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6p-8p John Hampu Band at Caboose	<b>29</b> 