



SUMMER WORSHIP 10 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN 3 YEARS THROUGH 3RD GRADE

Every Sunday: adult-supervised care in Noah's Nursery. The Family Lounge is also open for families with young children.

- **May 31** is Music Sunday. Sharing in music will be the Celebration Bell Choir, the 9 AM choir, and Anchored in Faith. Scripture passages are Colossians 3:12-17 and Micah 6:8. We will be thanking Valerie Tanzilli for her years of service to the church.
- **June 7:** On this first Sunday of the month, we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Dr. Brill's meditation, "We Do Not Lose Heart", is based upon 2 Corinthians 4:13 - 5:1.
- **June 14:** Mark 4:26-34 is the basis for Dr. Brill's sermon, "Small Seeds".
- **June 21:** Dr. Brill's sermon is "Why Are You Afraid?"; the scripture is Mark 4:35-41.
- **June 28:** "Finding God in Unexpected Places" is the sermon title - based upon Mark 5:21-43.

June, 2015

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NEW THIS SUMMER:

Summer Bible Study, Sunday mornings, 9 am - 9:50 am, June 7 through August 30. Each discussion session will draw from a series called "Weekly Seeds," a United Church of Christ resource based on the readings of the Revised Common Lectionary. Discussion will be led by various ALUCC members. No previous Bible study experience or long-term commitment is expected or required. Drop in when you can and enjoy fellowship with other members and guests.

WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN MAY

- Tara Hanratty, 203 Inwood Blvd, Avon Lake 44012. 440-821-7889
Husband: Ryan Children: Olivia (kindergarten), Addison (3 years old) and Mallory (5 months old)
- Leanne Hoppe, 31951 Grove Street, Avon Lake 44012. 716-504-7552
- Margaret (Maggie) Stark, 30507 Manhasset Dr, Bay Village 44140 216-402-9254
- Ryan and Katie Virtue, 25281 Fawn Drive, North Olmsted 44070 Ryan: 440-465-6552 Katie: 440-465-7455

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS:

- June 28 - Visit the General Synod in Cleveland! (See related article for details.)
- July 1 - Bike and Build: potluck and hosting opportunity
- July 18 - Dog Wash and Dirty Dog Run and Walk
- August 16 - Backpack Sunday
- August 16, 5 PM: Parents' Summit (for all parents of youth, 6th-12th grades)
- August 23 - All Church Picnic (with different food and activities this year!)
- August 30 - Day of Service

A WORD FROM KELLY

In the fall of 1994, a candidate for Senior Minister (me) was given a tour of the Avon Lake UCC by the chair of the Search Committee (Jim Tanzilli). He introduced me to his wife, who had just been named church secretary. My relationship with Valerie began that afternoon, and it has been a blessing in my life ever since.

This newsletter is the last one that Valerie will print and mail. We are thanking Valerie in other settings, but it is fitting that I take this opportunity to thank her -in print—for all that she has done to make the Avon Lake UCC a better place.

Personally, I want to thank Valerie for her unfailing support of me in every way - from picking up my son when he missed the bus at Learwood and I was out making pastoral calls (that happened more than once!!) - to helping me get to know “who’s who” in the church family - to hundreds of other kindnesses. Professionally, I am most grateful for Valerie’s integrity and confidentiality. People call and stop by the church office for all kinds of reasons. No one ever worried that Valerie would ask “why?” or talk about their presence. We have all trusted her absolutely, and I think that was her most valuable asset.

She spent countless extra hours on the job, and performed dozens of tasks that weren’t in her job description. Why? Because this is her church, we are her family, and she loves the Avon Lake UCC.

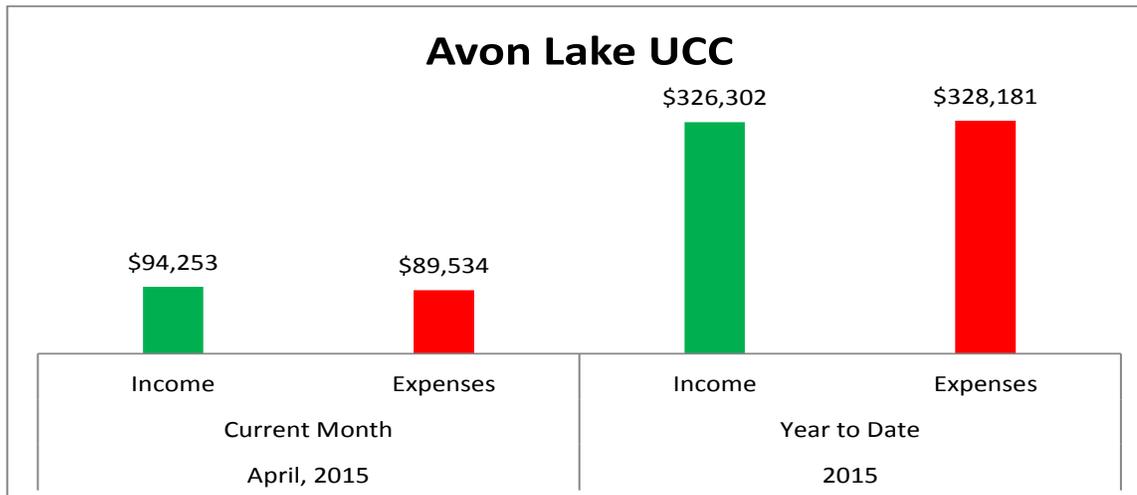
I am so grateful to Valerie for being who she is, and I am VERY grateful that she and Jim aren’t going anywhere...they will continue to be faithful leaders of this congregation. We are the beneficiaries of their generosity and discipleship.

Valerie, in the words of Matthew 25: “Well done, good and faithful servant!”

With appreciation and love, ~ Kelly

LET'S GET CONNECTED UPDATE: We had an overwhelming response to our Let's Get Connected event held Sunday May 3rd! Thank you for sharing with us your ideas! The Membership Team will be calling shortly to help get the group activities coordinated and hopefully started soon. Should you receive a call please prayerfully consider being a leader and helping get your group together! If you missed the event and are interested in being involved with a group or even have more ideas for getting together with church friends, stop by at the Welcome Center and sign up. We'll be happy to 'Get You Connected!'.

APRIL FINANCIAL UPDATE:



Summer slump? Summer hiatus? Not at ALUCC! We are gearing up for three months of activities, from Vacation Bible School to new offerings in Adult Education...just browse through this newsletter for a partial list of summer activities.

And our excellence in worship and hospitality continue to be important. Summer is often the season that attracts many guests to worship. People move over the summer and look for a new church home before the school year starts.

Thank you for your gifts of time, talent, and treasure, this and every season!

CHRISTIAN ED NEWS



SUMMER CAMP: Are you ready for summer? Looking forward to swimming and hiking? Do you want to eat s'mores around a campfire? Then you need to sign up for a OCUC Summer Camp! Registration is going on now at www.journeythehills.org . Our goal this year is to send 100 people to camp! The Christian Education Team offers an incentive fund that pays ½ the cost of most camps for our members. What a great deal! Don't delay because some of the most popular camps will get filled! After registering online, don't forget to fill out the bright blue ALUCC Camp Registration Form (outside the Chapel or find it on the website) and turn it into the church office. If you don't fill out a blue form, Julie won't know you're going to camp and the church can't send your incentive money to camp - so register online, fill out the blue form, and have a wonderful time at camp!

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS NEEDED: Are you good with kids? Do you have an hour to give in service to some of our most important church members? You are just the person we're looking for! Summer Sunday School leaders & helpers are needed for our two children's Summer Sunday School classes. You can sign up to lead once or several times - it's flexible! The lessons and crafts are all pre-planned - all you have to do is get the lesson from Julie and come a few minutes early on Sunday morning. It's lots of fun and a wonderful way to get to know our youngest members. Sign up on the sign up genius here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050f4ea5a82ea64-summer3> or contact Julie Reimer in the church office for more information.

MID-HIGH MAYHEM! all graduating 4th & 5th grade students are invited to the next Mid-high Mayhem on June 16 at 7pm. Join your friends for an hour of fun and games! Bring a friend - the more the merrier!!

DINNER AND A MOVIE: Please join us for Dinner and a Movie, Saturday June 27th at (new time) 6:30pm as we present Walt Disney's newly released movie - Into The Woods. The movie stars Meryl Steep, Anna Kendrick, Chris Pine, Johnny Depp and Emily Blunt. The movie is free, we only ask that you bring a dish to share. Beverages and Popcorn are always provided! The movie received a total of 55 award nominations! Into the Woods is a modern twist on the beloved Brothers Grimm fairy tales in a musical format that follows the classic tales of Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Rapunzel-all tied together by an original story involving a baker and his wife, their wish to begin a family and their interaction with the witch who has put a curse on them. Hope you will join us as we kick off the summer fun! PLEASE SIGN UP AT THE WELCOME CENTER. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Teri Ann Jasany at 440-864-2597.

TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND JANUARY 2016

Visiting the holy sites in Israel is one of those "once-in-a-lifetime" experiences. Being able to visit them with members of your church family is even more special. Please pick up a brochure by the Welcome Center, and contact Kelly if you have questions.

Our trip is being planned by Magi Travel - they have been bringing groups to the Holy Land for over 30 years and are very highly recommended. John Brady, the president of Magi Travel, will be here Monday, August 24, at 7 PM to answer questions about the trip.

MISSION TRIP: The Stives will be going back to the Dominican Republic July 18th to the 25th for the Vacation Bible School camp. The camp is attended by the deaf students and other children from the local area. Many people are needed to staff the camp. It is a real Joy to get to know and work with the children. The last day the staff will be at an all inclusive resort in Puerto Plata near the airport. If your would like more information about going with us call us at 440-933-9504. If you would like to sponsor a child call us for that information.

**Avon Lake United
Church of Christ**

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*Growing People to
Serve God and Others*

We are on the Web:
avonlakeucc.org
[Facebook.com/AvonLakeUCC](https://www.facebook.com/AvonLakeUCC)

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

PRAYER LIST: Prayers help connect us to God and to one another. Please keep these members and friends in your prayers this month. Many members want to know how the folks on the prayer list are doing. So if you submit the name of a friend or relative, be sure to send an update by each Drummer deadline. We keep names on the prayer list one month at a time, so that the list will stay current and updated. To keep your loved one's name on the list, kindly send us an update (call or email the church office: 440-933-3241; office@avonlakeucc.org)! Thank you.

GOD'S BLESSINGS, LOVE AND COMFORT FOR: Mary Ann Agler, Fran Baird, Dave Davis, Peg Ebner, Eric Fancher, Nick Hampe (Geoff's nephew), Jerry Kerwin, Barb Lindsay, Joshua MacDonald, Hugh Meabon, Rhoda Montgomery, Don Pettitt (Chris Spaetzel's father), Dennis Runyon, DeeDee Stech (Dan's mother), Kim Trask (friend of Updegraffs), Marion Walsh (Sid Stech's mother), and all who are homebound or in residential facilities.

SYMPATHY TO: The family and friends of Paul Burgess who passed away May 10; Ruth Williams and her family on the passing of her Aunt Frances
Please remember our members who are homebound and in rehab or nursing home care.

PARISH NURSE NOTES:

- **May is Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month.**
Warm, sunny days will soon be the norm (I promise!). Just a reminder of the importance of taking measures to Prevent skin cancer (it is the most common kind of cancer in the United States). Simple steps taken now may prevent skin cancer later in life - skin damage from the sun can start in childhood.
- **Simple steps to prevent skin cancer:**
 - * Cover up with a hat, long sleeves, and sun glasses.
 - * Try to stay out of the sun between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
 - * Wear sunscreen (apply 30' prior to exposure, use enough, and reapply every (2) hour or after swimming or 'sweating'). Use even on a cloudy day.
 - * Avoid indoor tanning.
 - * Check your skin for changes regularly.
- **Parish Nurse Hours:** Wednesdays 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.; Sundays between services. Evenings by Appointment. Contact information: cherylupdegraff@oh.rr.com or call the church office.

JULY DRUMMER DEADLINE is **Monday June 22**. If you would like any information included in the next monthly newsletter, please send it to the church office by email (office@avonlakeucc.org) or be sure to bring your items in by this date. News items/reminders may also be submitted for weekly email updates. (If you are not receiving the weekly email updates, please send your email address to membership@avonlakeucc.org.)

ARE YOU MISSING A DISH? If you have left a dish or other food container in the church kitchen, please reclaim it by June 7. After that date it will be available for purchase at the Good Neighbor Thrift Shop!!!

MISSION BOARD NEWS

HEAVENLY HELPERS: Mike and Christina Carr have stepped up to coordinate – yay! If you are in need of transportation to church, a doctor’s appointment, etc., contact them at goirishcarrs@gmail.com or 930-2894. You may also contact the church office or the parish nurse.

CRS and the Avon Lake Ministerial Association are organizing a Summer Snack Bag project for children, June through the middle of August. ALUCC is participating. Stay tuned for details.

RACHEL CIRCLE: after many, many years of monthly meetings for fellowship, prayer and education, Rachel Circle is disbanding. Their years of service with rummage sales, coffee hours, Haven Center and other Women’s League activities has come to an end as illness and relocation have taken their toll. Those who are able will still serve in whatever way they can. Our hearts are sad, but grateful for the time we had together. Most recent members are Doris Carlson, Evelyn Eisenmann, Mickey Farmer, Dorothy Haines, Phoebe Hostetler, Dottie Nygaard, Bernie Ogan, and May Palmer.

AVON LAKE FARMERS MARKET: A new Avon Lake Farmers Market has found its home at the ALUCC church. The market will run 3pm-7pm every Tuesday from June 2-September 29, providing Avon Lake and its surrounding communities with local produce and goods, including Black River Organics, Gray House Pies, Krav Food Truck, and Elk Creek Honey. A full list of vendors can be found online at AvonLakeFarmersMarket.org. Additionally, each week the market will feature a special guest from the community. Anyone looking to get involved can call Leanne Hoppe at 716-504-7552 or email her at leannehoppe@gmail.com.

STATUS OF 2015 BUILD

ALUCC’s recent volunteer and financial response was generous and enthusiastic. Ten thousand dollars from the Easter collection and Thrift Shop matching funds, was donated to Lorain County Habitat for Humanity for this year’s build. Dozens of volunteers have offered their services.

As with many enterprises requiring simultaneous coordination from multiple sources, this year’s build is currently in pause mode due to circumstances beyond HfH’s control.

Kelly La Rosa, HfH executive director, explains in a recent letter to volunteers:

“Habitat was blessed with five vacant lots on Warden Avenue (in Elyria) from a local foundation in 2008. When I began my work as executive director in 2011, I was excited with the prospect of building five new houses... But it saddens me to say that the projects to develop two new single family homes on Warden Avenue are being delayed after receiving new information about possible environmental concerns with these sites. On the day of our groundbreaking amidst all the happiness and celebration, I was made aware by a passerby that there may be issues with the soil. Upon hearing this, I contacted the City of Elyria who realized an oversight in regards to the location of these new homes and called for a full scale environmental review. The environmental review could potentially delay the project until October. Unfortunately, it is not clear if due diligence to determine the environmental viability for building on these lots was performed in 2008 when these lots were accepted as a donation.”

In the meantime Kelly La Rosa and HfH are working with the Elyria Finance and Community Development Committee and the County Land Bank to explore various possibilities and to move the environmental review process forward.

The same passion and commitment to build remain at our church and throughout the county with various businesses and corporations and the faith community. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available. Thanks so much for your generosity of spirit.

Doug Rider



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2015 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Rachel Anthony, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending Kent State University and studying Middle Childhood Education.

Greg Arebaugh, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending Cleveland State University where he will be studying engineering.

Kiley Crannis., graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending Ohio University, majoring in Early Childhood Education and Dance

Haley Elias, graduating from Brookside High School; attending Ohio University and she will be studying nursing.

Reilly Fouts, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending the University of Dayton and studying pre-med.

Dan Furrer, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending Indiana University and studying finance.

Trent Glasser, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending THE Ohio State University where he will be studying finance.

Corrine Harris, graduating from Avon High School; attending Lorain Community College and studying business.

Zach Jacobson, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending the University of Dayton and majoring in Criminal Justice.

Katherine Kotora, graduating from Bay Village High School; attending Bowling Green State University where she will be studying early childhood education.

Jordan Laird, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending Hofstra University where she will be studying journalism.

Kenny Pierson, graduating from Brookside High School; attending Notre Dame College, playing baseball and studying Sports Management.

Austin Rice, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending the University of Kentucky and studying Computer Science.

Rachel Vittardi, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending Ohio University and has not decided on a major.

Devin Warnke, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending Kent State and studying Child/Adolescent Psychology.

Raven Witzgreuter, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending Marshall University and studying Pre-Veterinary Medicine.

Nicole Ziembra, graduating from Avon Lake High School; attending Kent State and studying business.

BIKE AND BUILD AT ALUCC ON JULY 1ST, 2015

Help us celebrate with Bike and Build their 13th year of building across the United States and Canada.

Bike and Build returns to Avon Lake on Wednesday, July 1st. These College students spend their summer biking across the northern United States, raising awareness for Habitat for Humanity and stopping at various towns to work on Habitat builds. Their annual visit for the past 13 years has become a highlight of the summer for many of us, as they share their stories and enthusiasm with us.

How can you be involved?

1. **Sign up to host some riders.** This involves picking the riders up after the potluck dinner and the program on July 1st, providing laundry facilities and beds for them on July 1st, and returning them to the church bright and early for breakfast on Thursday morning.
2. Come meet the riders and share a **potluck at 6 pm on Wednesday night, July 1st**, followed by a Bike and Build presentation. Please bring a food item that will feed 12-16. (The Bike and Builders have huge appetites!)
3. Provide drinks (water and Gatorade) and snacks for their arrival on Wednesday afternoon.

If you would like to help in any way, please call the church office (933-3241) or Patty Greene (933-6637) or Mike Fowle (933-7017). Sign up sheets will be available at the Welcome Center starting June 1.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT ALUCC

For more information on each program, check the weekly Sunday bulletin, the weekly membership email, or the church website.

First Tuesday Book Study. All are invited to join us on **Tuesday, June 2 at 7 pm** to discuss *Jesus and Buddha: The Parallel Sayings*, edited by Marcus Borg. At the heart of Christianity, which defines much of Western civilization, and Buddhism, a driving force in Eastern cultures, lies the same essential wisdom. Though the two men lived 500 years and 3000 miles apart, their teachings about ethical behavior, discipleship, love, compassion, materialism, and the inner life have much in common. The group meets at the Sheffield Lake home of Lou and Deb Suarez. Please consider joining us. For more information, call 440-949-6611 or email lms728@yahoo.com.

ALUCC Book Club. Please join us on **Tuesday, June 16 at 7 pm** for a discussion of this month's selection, *American Priestess: The Extraordinary Story of Anna Spafford and the American Colony in Jerusalem* by Jane Fletcher Geniesse. Spafford, an enigmatic evangelist, was instrumental in founding The American Colony Hotel in Jerusalem, a well-known retreat for journalists, diplomats, pilgrims and spies. Branded heretics by Jerusalem's established Christian missionaries when they arrived in 1881, the Spaffords and their followers nevertheless won over Muslims and Jews with their philanthropy. But when her husband Horatio died, Anna assumed leadership, shocking even her adherents by abolishing marriage and establishing an uneasy dictatorship based on emotional blackmail and religious extremism. All are welcome. For more information, contact Judy Reich, bjreich@wowway.com.

Summer Bible Study, Sunday mornings, 9 am – 9:50 am, June 7 through August 30. Each discussion session will draw from a series called "Weekly Seeds," a United Church of Christ resource based on the readings of the Revised Common Lectionary. No previous Bible study experience or long-term commitment is expected or required. Drop in when you can and enjoy fellowship with other members and guests.

Schedule

- ❖ June 7, Scripture: Mark 3:20-35. Discussion Leader: Lou Suarez
- ❖ June 14, Scripture: Mark 4:26-34. Discussion Leader: Lou Suarez
- ❖ June 21, Scripture: Mark 4:35-41. Discussion Leader: Cynthia Kotora
- ❖ June 28, Scripture: Mark 5:21-43. Discussion Leader: Phil Wadsworth
- ❖ July 5, No Class
- ❖ July 12, Scripture: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19. Discussion Leader: Julie Marlin
- ❖ July 19, Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a. Discussion Leader: Scott Patterson
- ❖ July 26, Scripture: John 6:1-21. Discussion Leader: Richard Turner
- ❖ Aug 2, Scripture: John 6:24-35. Discussion Leader: Cynthia Kotora
- ❖ Aug 9, Scripture: Ephesians 4:25-5:2. Discussion Leader: Scott Patterson
- ❖ Aug 16, Scripture: 1Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14. Discussion Leader: Bill Schubmehl
- ❖ Aug 23, Scripture: James 1:17-27. Discussion Leader: Judy Reich
- ❖ Aug 30, Scripture: Mark 7:24-37. Discussion Leader: Phil Wadsworth

Faith is a journey. Walk in wonder, and expect the unexpected.

BE A PART OF GENERAL SYNOD!

1. Volunteer opportunities abound! For more information, go to: <https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll/ap?AP=217476303>.
2. Guests are welcome for worship on Sunday afternoon, June 28, and the exhibit hall will be open. Bus transportation is available from Lorain County. See the information on the bulletin board by Fellowship Hall.
3. Cookie-bakers are wanted. Northeast Ohio area churches are asked to supply 1000 dozen buckeyes! Sign up to help at the Welcome Center.