



The Visitor

St. John United Church of Christ, Reading, OH

July 2025

From the Pastor

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In the United Church of Christ, there is an emphasis on the educational training of clergy. Ordination is de-

pendent upon both a college degree and a Master's degree, along with other training and classes and experiences. The next logical step would be to get a doctorate, which is something I thought about 10 years ago... but never followed up on!

Rev. Dr. Victoria Front – it does have a nice ring to it, doesn't it?! But, alas, I did not pursue that path, so Rev. Torie will suffice! However, I would like to make a 'prescription' for you, just like any medical doctor would make a prescription for a physical ailment, I'd like to

make a spiritual prescription for you.

What is it that's ailing you? Are you anxious? Try reciting Philippians 4:6-7. Are you worried? Read Jesus' words in Matthew 6:25. Is the craziness in the world getting you down? Take a look at John 14:27. If you are feeling down, remember the words of Jesus found in John 16:33.

Overall, one prescription I think would benefit all of us can be found in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

If you think you might need another spiritual prescription, please let me know – I do make house calls!

-Rev. Torie

Thanks to all who participated in the Popcorn Planning Session on June 22! It's not too late to submit more ideas—please email Haven or Charlotte.

Ministry Board of Christian Nurture

The Ministry Board of Christian Nurture exists to encourage and nurture our members' faith by providing education and fellowship opportunities for all ages.

There are no ministry board meetings in July. Christian Nurture's next meeting is Tuesday, August 5, at 2:15 pm.

Lunch Bunch meets on Sunday, July 13 at the Kitchen Social restaurant, 9340 Montgomery Rd., Montgomery.

On July 20th, plan for a fellowship outing to the **Traders World Market** in Monroe. Details to come!

Join us the week of August 3 for some good old-fashioned **sing-alongs** with some of our Saints at Home! Modeled after our

annual Christmas caroling routes, we'll go to 3-5 different Saints at Home on three different days, and do an old-fashioned sing-along. Our songbook will only contain a few easy-to-sing oldies (such as *America the Beautiful*, *I've Been Working on the Railroad*, *Oh! Susanna*, *She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain*) that everyone knows. Sign up now and start warming up your voices to bring a smile to the



faces of our Saints at Home! All welcome!

August 3 – after worship

August 5 – 10:00am

August 7 – 5:45pm

Save the Dates

Sunday, Sept. 7—Church Picnic & Outdoor Worship

Sunday, Sept. 14—90th Birthdays Party (all are invited!)

Ministry Board of Christian Nurture

Our June 1 worship service and potluck with UCC Pohnpei was a fun experience for all!



WYOMING WINDS

2025 FREE SUMMER CONCERTS

GREENHILLS COMMONS

GAZEBO

24 FARRAGUT ROAD

JUNE 11, 7-8 PM

BLUE ASH

BLUE ASH NATURE PARK

4337 COOPER ROAD

JULY 8, 7-9 PM

NEW RICHMOND

NEW RICHMOND BAND STAND

116 SUSANNA WAY

AUGUST 8, 7-8 PM

See wyomingwinds.org for details

Please bring a chair or blanket to enjoy the show

Ministry Board of Elders

The Ministry Board of Elders exists to spiritually support the body of the church by creating meaningful worship.

There are no ministry board meetings in July. Elders' next meeting is Thursday, August 14, at 2:00 pm.

Children's Chats will be offered each Sunday over the summer, but children will remain in worship. We have a few Activity Bags for the kids to use in worship, and are looking for someone to 'adopt' this

ministry outreach and keep the bags up to date each week.

Be sure to stop by the church at 3:30 pm on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month (right before Feed My Sheep) for the new Contemporary Praise & Worship services! We welcome Pop-Up Praise and Mystique as our guest musical artists.

Lectionary

Scripture	Bible Study	Sermon Date
<i>Through the Bible in a Year</i> Readings for June 24-30	July 1	July 6
<i>Through the Bible in a Year</i> Readings for July 1-7	July 8	July 13
<i>Through the Bible in a Year</i> Readings for July 8-14	July 15	July 20
<i>Through the Bible in a Year</i> Readings for July 15-21	July 22	July 27

The Visitor

Ministry Board of Property and Finance

The Ministry Board of Property and Finance exists to be stewards of the building and finances of the church.



Our next Workshop Day is August 9, as we cancelled the one in June and will not do one in July.



With all the earlier rain and coolish temperatures we have had, the courtyard garden is flourishing, including a vigorous crop of weeds ! These weeds were sprayed with an herbicide earlier and it has taken several weeks for them to finally die, however, many more have sprung up in the meantime. It has been very difficult to keep up with all the weeding! Anyone is invited to lend a hand and pull weeds...they are patiently waiting for you to give them a big hug and a yank! Let me know if you are interested and I can point out all the different intruders. July promises to be a hot month and supplemental watering may also be needed in the garden. We are still planning on re-landscaping many areas once the new sign is installed.

We are hoping to see that new sign yet this summer. We expect an update on the progress at any time and an anticipated

date for installation. We are ready!

Since our gutters were cleaned and the downspouts unclogged we are seeing a somewhat noticeable drying of the damaged wall in the sanctuary. Hopefully this indicates that overflowing gutters could be the reason for the wet and damaged wall. We will continue to observe this area hoping that no further wetness or damage will occur, and that it might be possible to start the repairs. We did receive a second proposal for gutter replacement for the church and for the parsonage which is under review.

Our next Workshop Day is August 9, as we cancelled the one in June and will not do one in July. In the meantime, we are always open for anything that you would like to do around the church.....just let us know what you want to do and we can help

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Ministry Board of Property and Finance

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get you started. We appreciate any and all help.

We have purchased a new projector and speaker for the audio/video system in the sanctuary. We look forward to its arrival and installation for immediate improvement to the sound and visuals of the worship service.

We are soliciting proposals for remodeling the kitchenette outside the Cozy Corner. It is way past due for a total update that will make it more useful, functional and attractive.

As always, give us your thoughts and prayers, and let us know how we are doing.

Enjoy the summer!

Peace and blessings from P&F.

Special Music in Worship This Month

Thank you to all those who are sharing their musical gifts with us over the summer!

July 6 - Emily Hogeback, violin

July 13 - Gary Kurtz, solo

July 20 - Diane Magill, guest flutist

July 27 - Bart Choate, guest organist, and Rev. Torie, trumpet



Celebrations in July

Birthdays

July 10 - Wilma Schulte

July 11 - Ann Feldman

July 15 - Ann Seebohm

July 23 - Shirley Martin

July 24 - Denise Hall

July 24 - Whitney Reardon

July 25 - Glenda Richardson

July 28 - Sandy Graves

Anniversaries

July 6 - Joana & Nick Eddelmon



St. John UCC Regularly Scheduled Events

Weekly			
Event	Day	Time	Location
Handbell Choir (Sept.-May)	Sunday	9 am	Sanctuary
Fellowship Time	Sunday	9:15 am	Cozy Corner
Worship	Sunday	10 am	Sanctuary
Bible Study (Afternoon)	Tuesday	1 pm	Bible Study Room
Bible Study (Evening)	Tuesday	6:30 pm	Mt. View Terrace
Chancel Choir (Sept-May)	Wednesday	6:15 pm	Choir Room
Feed My Sheep	Thursday	4:30 pm	Fellowship Hall

Monthly			
Event	Day	Time	Location
Communion	1st Sunday	10 am	Sanctuary
Deacons	Last Thursday	2:30 pm	Fellowship Hall
Lunch Bunch	2nd Sunday	After Worship	Various
Men's Group	Various Sundays	11 am	Various
Property & Finance	2nd Tuesday	5 pm	Bible Study Room
Christian Nurture	1st Tuesday	5 pm	Bible Study Room
Elders	2nd Thursday	2:30 pm	Bible Study Room
Euchre	3rd Tuesday	2:15 pm	Church
Church Council	3rd Thursday	6 pm	Bible Study Room
Work-ship Day	Last Saturday	8 am	Church

A S L E A O Y M W K N K J Y G H U S T X B T A E
 E V U O H C K O P S K R O W E R I F R E E D O M
 Y Q F C M U Y N R W Z Y I C J E F F E R S O N Q
 P U I C L B L C V C I N C I P P G G X G C P O J
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 W J P G U R W A W B S U Z A I E C D L R P F B U
 M U L F E M R N X Y Y V V V P R G O D T O H I C
 G C A Y Z K H O G F I Q V J S M M G I I W H B R



America

Barbecue

Beautiful

Britain

Declaration

Fifty Stars

Fireworks

Freedom

Hamburger

Independence

Hot dog

Jefferson

Justice

Liberty

Picnic

**Red, white
and Blue**

Swimming

Thirteen Stripes

Washington

Watermelon



St. John UCC
READING, OHIO



CONTEMPORARY PRAISE & WORSHIP



2nd and 4th
Thursdays

3:30 PM

Outdoors
(weather
permitting)



729 Jefferson Ave., Reading

Guest Artists

**POP UP
PRAISE**

2nd Thursdays - Pop Up Praise
(popuppraise.net)

Mystique

4th Thursdays - Mystique
(iammystique.com)



St. John United Church of Christ

729 Jefferson Ave. • Reading, OH 45215

Phone: 513-821-1740

stjohnuccreading49@gmail.com

stjohnunitedchurchofchrist.com

facebook.com/StJohnUCCCincinnati/

