

# The Grapevine

The e-newsletter of Church of the Redeemer UCC

August 2018

## Staff Information

### Staff Hours and Contact Information

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Church of the Redeemer United Church of Christ  
is an [Open and Affirming](#) and [Just Peace](#) Congregation.  
**All are Welcome!**

## In this Issue:

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- \* Monthly UCC Devotional
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- \* And much much more

## Coming Events and Information

### All About Us -- Redeemer News

**BRIEF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AUG. 19** There will be a brief meeting following worship on Sunday, Aug. 19 so that the congregation can vote on a slight budget adjustment. The meeting will be short, so there will be plenty of time to enjoy coffee hour afterwards, sponsored that day by our Caregivers!

**MORE SCREAMING FOR ICE CREAM!!** Join your friends for the last get



together for fellowship and ice cream for the summer: **Aug. 8 between 7 and 8 p.m. at Mitchell's Ice Cream, 26161 Detroit Road, Westlake.** Nothing tastes better than ice cream with friends! We hope to see you there!

**REDEEMER THEATRE NIGHT AT CLAGUE PLAYHOUSE!** We are planning to go to Clague Playhouse on **Sept. 22 at 8 p.m.** to see **The Murder Room**, a crime thriller spoof. Mavis and her lover plan to rub out her wealthy husband, and they seem to have succeeded all too easily ... **BUT HAVE THEY?** A sophisticated and witty gem of a play!



### **CLAGUE PLAYHOUSE**

**Cost: \$16/person -- group rate -- we need 20 people to get the group rate! You must reply and pay by Aug. 12 if you want discounted tickets and want to sit with our Redeemer group.** See Andy Bischof with questions. Sign up on the signup

sheet on the bulletin board, and turn in your money to Andy or leave for Andy in the church office.

**CONGRATS LOGAN EVANS!** Sandy and Dave Evans' grandson, Logan, was an alternate on Westlake High's Academic Challenge Team. Not only was Logan the only freshman on the team, but the team was named #1 in the state this past year. Way to go, Logan!

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR CHURCH GREEN THUMBS!** A special thank you to all of the Redeemer folks whose hard work and/or cash donations this summer has made our outside space look beautiful. Your work has made Redeemer's green space a welcoming and restful place. Thank you!

A particular shout-out to these gardeners: Andy Bischof; Bonnie Hawver; Al Svette; Cory Svette; John Thomas; Dorothy Earl; Megan and Matt Moran; Chuck and Carol Mealy; Julie, Aaron, and Zach Barnes and Elaine Freed; Lisa Gilmore; Erin and Russ Williams; Diane Kvasnicka; and Melissa, Andrew, and Elizabeth Hille. Additional helpers: Alex Tomoff; Mary Kanzeg; Donna Greenwell; and John Michelich.

**ALL-CHURCH RETREAT AUG. 26, 10:30 A.M. - 2 P.M.** Join us at Elmwood Cabin, 600 Elmwood Road, Rocky River, for Redeemer's all-church retreat, including worship, a potluck picnic, and activities as we roll out MESSY CHURCH! See the Faith Formation department in this issue for more information.

**TAKE A MINI-SABBATH IN THE CHAPEL** Don't forget to take a moment to visit the station Margaret Borrelli has set up in the chapel. A great way to take a brief time out and get spiritually filled!

**CHILDCARE RECOMMENDATIONS SOUGHT** Holly & Jonathan MillerShank are seeking childcare recommendations for weekday business hour care for their daughter Corrina. If you have a recommendation for either someone who cares for children in their own home, or who is available to go to their Rocky River home, please contact Holly (cell 717-926-2150 or email [hollyleem@hotmail.com](mailto:hollyleem@hotmail.com)). They need coverage for September and October.

**THANKS TO A WHOLE TEAM OF PEOPLE** for a different and delightful worship service on July 29. The special feeding of the loaves service was enjoyed by all. Kudos to Pastor Brooke, Julie Barnes, Lisa Thomas, Margaret Borrelli, Rudy Duscha, Leslie Patzwahl, Cory Svette, Cal Zunt, and Jason Aquila. A special shout out to the Rocky River Heinen's for all of the wonderful bread, as well as to the church members who brought in some delicious loaves! From the music to the message to the prayers to the bread itself, the worship service was unique and meaningful. The team packed the leftover bread into Pastor Brooke's car for delivery to a community meal in Lakewood on July 30.

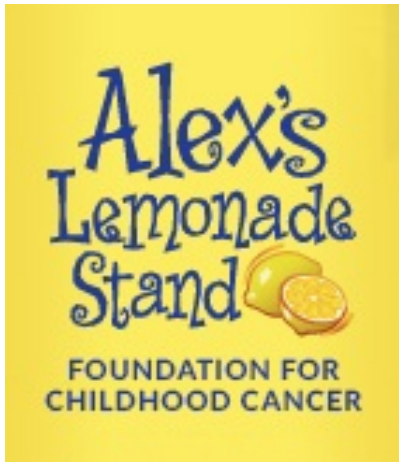
**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS** is Sunday, Aug. 19, during worship. See the Faith Formation department in this issue for more information.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** Homecoming Sunday is Sept. 9. A potluck picnic on the lawn will follow worship, featuring those exceptional ZAUGG DOGS!!!!

**JEWELRY SALE** Char Robertson will be leading another jewelry sale for the benefit of Redeemer following worship on Sunday, Sept. 23. Donations welcome. Contact Char for more information.

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## Hille/Foote Lemonade Stand Another Success!



From Christine Foote:

Together with your help, Andrew, Elizabeth, Nola, and Graham raised \$3,388 for the Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation.

Church members are always so generous with this annual summer event, and we are very appreciative. All the money goes to funding research to find a cure for childhood cancer.

Thank you!

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## Life Line Screening in November

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings will be at Church of the Redeemer **Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2018**. Ultrasound screenings to identify risk factors for Cardiovascular disease include; Carotid Artery (plaque buildup-a leading cause of stroke), Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (an enlargement or weak area in the main blood vessel that carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body), Peripheral Arterial Disease (hardening of the arteries in the legs), a Heart Rhythm Screening (an EKG to detect Atrial Fibrillation-irregular heartbeat) and an Osteoporosis Risk Assessment for men and women. Being proactive about your health by knowing your risks helps you and your doctor address problems early.

Register online at [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle) and receive your "Community Circle" discount and your Preferred Appointment! Questions? Contact [Nurse Gayle](#).

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## Caregivers Meeting

There will be no Caregivers meetings during the summer. The next Caregivers meeting will be following worship on Sunday, Sept. 16.

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## Men's Spiritual Discussion Group

This group meets the second Sunday of each month at 8:45 a.m. They are reading *Origin* by Dan Brown Next meeting: Aug. 12 in the lounge.

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## Science and Religion Discussion Group

The Science and Religion Group, led by Jim Stone, meets the third Sunday of the month after worship in the lounge.

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### Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga classes are on Mondays at 11:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Yoga is healthy, relaxing, rejuvenating ... and FUN! You know you want to join in!

Questions? Ask class members Janet Kramer or Bonnie Hawver, or ask Nurse Gayle!

Namaste!

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## Prayer List Information Update

The Sunday bulletin prayer list is cleaned out approximately every four weeks. If you wish to have someone remain on the current list, please notify Emma Kozar (440-899-6221).

### From Our Pastor

#### A Message from Pastor Brooke



Pastor R. Brooke  
Baker

Greetings Friends,

Where oh where has the summer gone? It seems impossible that the stores are filled with back to school materials, vacations are coming to an end, and Labor Day weekend is a little more than a month away. But that is chronos time and as followers of Jesus we are called to live in Kairos time -- God's time. I certainly understand that is not easy, but in Kairos time, we are not focused on what is to come, but the presence of God with us in this time. So let's enjoy this time with each other -- this sacred

Kairos time -- as we move one day at a time, experiencing the presence of God.

We will have a guest preacher August 5 so that I can attend the ordination of a seminary classmate and friend in Washington, D.C. The Rev. Kathryn Matthews is the retired Dean of Amistad Chapel at the National Offices of the United Church of Christ as well as a mentor and a friend. In addition, she writes the weekly Sermon Seeds for the UCC and is an excellent preacher. We will subsequently celebrate communion on August 12. August 19 will be a treat for both Church of the Redeemer and for me. The Rev. Kelly J. Burd and I are going to do a pulpit swap. You all will have the privilege of welcoming back a familiar friend to the pulpit, and I will have the opportunity to preach again in front of the Pilgrim congregation.

On August 26, we will gather as a community at Elmwood Cabin in Rocky River for more of an informal worship service, followed by the breaking of bread together during a potluck and our own exposure to exactly what Messy Church is all about. Bring your Sunday best attitude, but wear your park attire.

I continue to enjoy my time with you as I learn and grow with and from you. We will have one last time for ice cream on August 8 at the Mitchells in Westlake. It has been wonderful to gather over a cone or sundae this summer -- I hope you can make it for the last one.

So as the summer winds to a close, take a deep breath and listen for where our Still Speaking God is leading you in God's time.

*See you in church!*  
*Pastor Brooke*

## Mission Outreach

### **August In-Gathering: 'Back to School' supplies!**

In conjunction with the August offering benefiting Lakewood Community Services Center, the August In-Gathering will be "back to school" supplies and food for the center. Thanks in advance for giving generously!

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### **August Offering: Lakewood Community Services Center**

[Lakewood Community Services Center](#), with its partners, serves the community by providing basic needs assistance and personalized resource and referral services with the goal of empowering each individual to move toward greater self sufficiency.

Lakewood Community Services Center (LCSC) was founded in 1982 by 12 Lakewood churches with the purpose of providing food assistance to Lakewood residents in need. For 27 years the organization maintained its presence out of storefronts with space limitations that significantly limited the scope and quality of the organization's services. In 2009 LCSC relocated to its current 5,200 square foot space, which has had a positive impact on the quality and the scope of the programs and services offered to the community. All LCSC staff have been hired since the relocation in an effort to provide appropriate and professional services to the community. The LCSC professional staff is supported by 60+ volunteers who share LCSC's commitment to providing the highest quality services in the most respectful environment.

## Faith Formation

### **Messy Church Volunteer Sign Up Starting Sunday, Aug. 5**



Messy Church is a once-monthly time when families come together to enjoy being together, making things together, eating together, and celebrating God together

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With Messy Church we are trying to be a worshipping community of all ages, centered on Christ, showing Christian Hospitality -- giving people a chance to express their creativity, to sit down together to eat a meal and have fun within a church context.

This is your chance to VOTE as to whether or not we should move forward with this new worship experience called MESSY CHURCH. Your "vote" will come in the way of

you signing up to help. If you are excited about this opportunity, look for the sign up board.

To make this happen we will need enough people willing to be the hands and feet. If you have any questions, see Margaret Borrelli or any other member of the Planning Team -- John Thomas, Lisa Thomas, Dorothy Earl, Julie Miller, and Al Svette.

## **Confirmation Field Trip Monday, Aug. 13, 11 a.m.**



Our confirmands will be making their way downtown to visit and tour the UCC Church House, 700 Prospect Ave, accompanied by Pastor Brooke Baker and Margaret Borrelli. This is a great opportunity to see the larger church at work in our community and in the world. We will travel by way of the public Rapid Transit and will have lunch at a downtown eatery. If any other adults wish to join us, please contact Margaret

Borrelli. There will be considerable walking involved.

## **Blessing of the Backpacks, Sunday, Aug. 19, During Worship**

The start of a new school year is an important milestone in each child's life. Sometimes it means starting at a new school. But it almost always means new friends and new teachers. It will be one way to recognize that God has their back throughout their new school year. Children will come forward during the children's message to receive a blessing and a special keychain.



## **Mark Your Calendar Now for an All-Church Retreat**



**Sunday, Aug. 26, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
**Elmwood Cabin**  
**600 Elmwood Road, Rocky River**

This year instead of going to our church camp for a church retreat, we've decided to hold a day retreat so that more people could participate.

On Sunday, Aug. 26, we are going to close the church building and gather at the beautiful Elmwood Cabin right here in neighboring Rocky River. Not only will we be holding our regular Sunday Morning Worship at the cabin, but there will be a potluck lunch as well. The main dish and drinks will be provided by the church. Bring your favorite picnic dish to share. Table service will be provided. If you wish to sit in the park following worship, you may want to bring a lawn chair.

Attendees will also be the first to experience Messy Church. For an hour or so following lunch, we will walk through what a typical Messy Church Session will look like -- complete with lots of fun activities. There will be a chance for you to share your evaluations and suggestions, so that we can fine tune the experience before we role it out to the community. We hope that everyone will want to join us for all or part of this fun day.

## **Summer Faith Community**

While we no longer need donations of empty cereal boxes, our CEREAL: AN OUT OF THE BOX EXPERIENCE continues through August, where children meet together to discover how the cereal on our breakfast tables can reveal truths about God's love.



Here are our themes for August:

- Aug. 5 APPLE JACKS: God wants us to grow closer
- Aug. 12 HONEY NUT CHEERIOS: It's important to take time for God
- Aug. 19 CAPN CRUNCH: Stay Faithful when people bully you
- Aug. 26 WHEATIES: Being a Champion means serving others
- Sept. 2 COCOA PEBBLES: Jesus can transform lives

## Homcoming Sunday, Sept. 9

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW for our annual Homecoming Sunday on Sept. 9. There will be a Potluck Picnic on the Lawn, including ZAUGG DOGS! The celebration will be a great way to usher in the start of the new church year.



## F.R.O.G.: Fully Rely on God



We have decided to choose a theme for our program year, which begins Sept. 9. This year it will be Fully Rely on God, or FROG.

The children will be receiving a frog keychain for their backpacks as they return to school. And you will be hearing about a fun way that the whole congregation will be involved in hunting for frogs.

Did you know that frogs can only move forward? Not backwards, not even sideways. Not a bad metaphor as the church moves into a new future!

We can only move forward, but we don't do it alone. We can fully rely on God.



*Blessings,*

*Margaret Borrelli  
Faith Formation Minister*

## Music Ministry

### August News from the Music Department

Greetings!

It's hard to believe we are already into August! Thank you to all who provided special music in June and July, and to those who will be sharing this month. We are so thankful to God for blessing our church with outstanding talent!

If you would like to be part of our music family, please contact Carol Peddie or Jason Aquila. Rehearsals for Chancel Choir and Bell Choir begin on Wednesday, Sept. 5.

Thank you for continued prayers and support of our music program.



*Blessings to all,*  
*Carol Peddie*  
*Director of Music*

## Community Nurse and Caregiver Ministry

### Happy Family Day!

Greetings!

Summer is winding down, and it is time to wish you a Happy Family Day. There are many definitions to the word family but the core attributes remain the same. I understand the healthy family to be two or more people who have a shared sense of identity, are committed and contribute to the emotional nurturance of all members.

In the U.S. we celebrate national family day on the first Sunday in August. The international celebration is traditionally Sept. 25. Whatever form your family takes, this is a good time to reflect upon the blessing of your life. I do not believe you will find a fancy card or a special gift aisle at the mall. This is a day you can share a much more valuable and unique gift. This is a day to honor your relationships with your time and attention. You do not need to plan a complicated list of events.

Consider a day of conversation and activities to affirm each other and honor the core values of your family. Throughout the Bible we read many stories of family life. In every case the strong family provides refuge and security for difficult challenges of living. Today we all need to have confidence in our source of strength and refuge to maintain resilience needed for healthy living.

**On Thursday, Sept. 13, we will be touring Parkvue Senior Living Community in Sandusky, Ohio.** Parkvue is one of the United Church Homes' senior communities. Parkvue is described on their website as "... a full service senior living community that refreshes the spirit." In addition to the many traditional amenities of senior living, Parkvue also provides a salt water pool for swimmers. We will tour a model cottage, the health center, independent and assisted living apartments. Questions and answers will be taken during a light lunch. Parkvue will provide transportation from CORUCC parking lot.

Our trip will begin at 9:45 a.m. with our return at approximately 2:30 p.m. **Please sign up no later than Sept. 5** on the bulletin board in information center or leave a message in church office.

Have a question about families or senior living? Please give me a call or send me an [email](#).



*Blessings,*  
*Gayle Donahue*  
*Community Parish Nurse*

## Monthly Devotional

*Each issue of the Grapevine will feature a UCC devotional for meditation.*



# Everyday Virtue

**By Richard Floyd**

*Pray for us; we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things." -- Hebrews 13:18*

People frequently conflate religion with morality, as if they were the same thing. When we are children we imagine that if we are good, God will reward us. But the Christian faith insists that God loves us as we are. As Paul put it: "God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

Those who are honest before God in prayer know their flaws and foibles, their various sins of commission and omission. As comedian Steven Wright so eloquently put it: "A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory."

Still, we humans are capable of great kindness, decency and noble acts of courage. And, though religion isn't morality, religion can and should foster it.

For a society to function humanely there needs to be widespread commitment to what I call "everyday virtue." To "act honorably" towards others is needed now more than ever. One only needs to read the comments section on practically any post in social media to know how viciously mean we can be toward one another.

New information technologies make communicating around the globe easier, but with them have come a coarsening of public discourse. It is easier to fling harsh and hurtful words anonymously across an electronic medium than it is face to face.

The world would be a better place if we all tried to exercise everyday virtue: to watch our words, to tell the truth, to do the right thing and to strive to have a clear conscience.

## **Prayer**

Forgive us, O God, for all the coarse and unkind words and deeds we have done. And guide us to act honorably in all things.

## **About the Author**



*Richard L. Floyd is Pastor Emeritus of First Church of Christ (UCC) in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. A writer and author, his most recent publications are *Romans, Parts 1 and 2* (with Michael S. Bennett), new titles in the "Listen Up!" Bible Study Series. He blogs at [richardlfloyd.com](http://richardlfloyd.com).*

## Deadlines and Reminders

### **Deadlines to Remember**

**Sunday bulletins and screens:** If there is a church event you want listed in the Sunday bulletin, please turn in the information and contact name/number to the church office by Monday morning at 10 a.m., or it will not make it into that week's bulletin.

**Grapevine:** The deadline for getting information into the monthly Grapevine is the third Tuesday of the month. Anything received after that will not make it into that month's Grapevine.

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**We Need YOU to Sign Up!**

Sign-up sheets for flowers and the bulletins, and many other events and activities, are on the main bulletin board in the hallway.

Please DO remember to sign up as you pass by!

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## Phone Guide

Trying to reach someone at the church? Here's a handy list of extensions:

Worship Times 1  
Faith Formation Minister Margaret Borelli 3  
Parish Nurse Gayle Donahue 4  
Main Office 0

## Birthdays, Anniversaries, Joys, & Concerns

### August Birthdays

3 Richard Shank  
Norma Rike  
Ricky Andrews  
Jeanne Livingood  
Chris Davies  
4 Lori Widmer  
8 Grace Forristal  
9 Konnie Wenneman  
11 Donna Greenwell  
14 Samuel Forristal  
16 Ginny Stepler  
18 Melissa Hille  
20 Geoffrey Gens  
21 Benjamin Andrew Miller  
26 Samantha Earl  
28 Lois Schultz  
30 Chuck Zaugg  
Kaitlyn Holt  
31 Kyle Schlitter

### August Anniversaries

8 Vern & Jeanne Long  
21 Chad & Jennifer Bernard  
22 Alex & Karen Tomoff  
Jeff & Marsha Reitz  
26 Eugene & Lori Widmer

## 2018 Leadership Team Members

### Elders:

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Treasurer: Alex Tomoff [alex@tomoff.com](mailto:alex@tomoff.com)

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