

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR *MAY 29, 2022*



### RESULTS

This past week, NCCC's Governing Board has had the opportunity to meet with Holy Cow representatives and discuss their findings and interpretations of the Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT) surveys. Now, it is time for the board to take what they have learned and begin to plot the next steps for this congregation. In order to do that, they have divided the findings into sections, and each board member will give a summation of that section to Board President, Nancy Clem. (*Results con't on pg 4*)

### IN MEMORIA

As we prepare to celebrate this Memorial Day weekend, we are stricken by the loss of those not old enough to serve or to vote. This time a school shooting at an elementary school has shattered lives and broken hearts. This time the ripple of tragedy begins in Uvalde, Texas, where a teenager shot and killed 19 children and 2 teachers.

"Beautiful, innocent second, third, fourth graders. And how many scores of little children who witnessed what happened see their friends die as if they're on a battlefield, for God's sake. They'll live with it the rest of their lives.

There's a lot we don't know yet, but there's a lot we do know.

There are parents who will never see their child again, never have them jump in bed and cuddle with them. Parents who will never be the same.

To lose a child is like having a piece of your soul ripped away. There's a hollowness in your chest, and you feel like you're being sucked into it and never going to be able to get out. It's suffocating. And it's never quite the same.

And it's a feeling shared by the siblings, and the grandparents, and their family members, and the community that's left behind.... So, tonight, I ask the nation to pray for them, to give the parents and siblings the strength in the darkness they feel right now."

- President Joe Biden

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# NEW COVENANT

COMMUNITY CHURCH



PENTECOST

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

“We plan and God laughs” is identified as a Yiddish proverb, the title of a book or two and the headline of multiple online articles meant to help people navigate periods in life when personal plans seem to disintegrate in front of our eyes. When we hear or read the proverb, it can be difficult not to nod along, especially when the phrase encapsulates something most of us have experienced: a perfected resume or proposal sent, but no word back; a flawless itinerary dissolved by the smallest delay; an event set to begin, upended by a storm; a setback or an entirely “new normal.”

As much as we might nod along, the proverb points us in the other direction, too. And if not the proverb, Scripture certainly does.

In the Book of Jeremiah, the tone and task are predominantly focused on God’s judgment, but then Jeremiah shares the statement: “I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans... to give you a future with hope” (Jeremiah 29:11). These words were sent by the prophet Jeremiah to the Israelites who had been taken into Babylonian exile. These striking, comforting words reminded them that, despite their present circumstance, God’s gesture, thoughts and plans for them — and for us — are peaceful, abundant and hopeful. “We plan and God laughs”? Perhaps. But it is just as possible that “we plan, and God imagines a future with so much more.”

At Pentecost, we celebrate that God offers more than we can plan. Our gifts to the Pentecost Offering connected with God’s hope and future, support ministries for children, youth and young adults by building a life of faith. Through the Young Adult Volunteer program, Presbyterian Youth and Triennium, the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” initiative, as well as a chosen local ministry, we connect young people with one another and with caring communities, and help shape lives and futures beyond what we could plan.

Please give generously because, when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Let us pray~ *God of hopeful futures, make your plans in us. May they be beyond our imagining, so that our children, youth and young adults may see your kin-dom come and your will done. Amen.*

## BUILDING A LIFE OF FAITH!

*“We plan and God laughs”?  
Perhaps. But it is just as possible  
that “we plan, and God imagines  
a future with so much more.”*

## NEW INITIATIVES

Mitzvah Day is set for June 25-26, 2022. The list of this year’s projects are at [mitzvahdayakron.com](http://mitzvahdayakron.com). (Paper copies of the list are on the hall table.) You can view various opportunities. Cathy King can answer any questions and help get a few people from our congregation to events.

In addition to those projects, on June 26, in person or on Zoom, you can join a discussion on mental health with well-known people in the field. The program will run from 3:00-4:30 p.m. at Temple Israel.

As a conclusion to the two-day activities, everyone is invited to supper on the portico at Temple Israel beginning at 5:00. You can sign up to assist or bring a side dish, or just show up.

*Nancy Williams*

# WORSHIP PRAISE TO GOD

JUNE 12  
5:00 PM



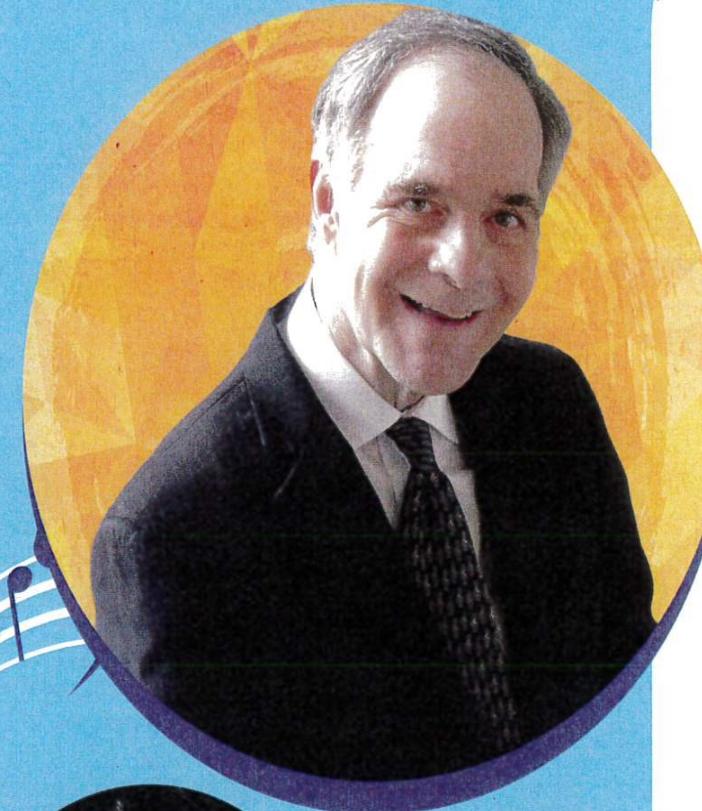
AN EVENING FULL OF  
MUSIC SURE TO BRING YOU  
WORSHIP, AND RENEWAL

\*FREE ADMISSION

—  
**ALLENSIDE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

410 REXFORD ST  
AKRON, OH  
44301

**FEATURING MUSIC BY  
COMPOSER, PAUL  
FISCHER**



FIONA COUGHLIN,  
SOPRANO SOLOIST

OLIVIA ROBERTS,  
SOPRANO SOLOIST

PAUL FISCHER - A RETIRED PCUSA PASTOR  
NOW LIVES IN AKRON, OH AND HAS BEEN  
COMPOSING SONGS OF PRAISE TO GOD AS AN  
AVOCATION FOR MANY YEARS. HIS SONGS ARE  
CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN IN STYLE WITH THE  
FOCUS ALWAYS ON GOD.

**COMPANY  
IS  
COMING**  
Sunday,  
Allenside and  
Firestone Park  
Presbyterian  
Churches will  
come worship  
with us, at  
NCCC, while  
Francie Fischer  
is out-of-  
town.

Our shared covenant, blesses us with the opportunity to worship with our sisters and brothers in the faith, and give our pastors a chance to travel, rest and renew!

*(Note: Paul Fischer is Francie's brother)*

## **FELLOWSHIP**

### **MEETING**

Thursday,  
June 2, 10:30  
Fellowship  
Hall

Lots of planning for some fun fellowship events coming up.



**FREE ADMISSION**  
**FLIGHT ONE**  
**&**  
**SPIRIT OF FREEDOM**  
**LIVE IN CONCERT**

**LOCK 3**      **200 S. Main St**  
**Akron, OH 44308**

**May 28th 2022**  
Events start at 4pm Concert Starts at 6PM

## POTLUCK PICNIC AND A PLAY AT PORTHOUSE THEATRE OUTING

JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> PRODUCTION - 8:00 P.M.



Jackie Horton is collecting \$25/ticket (make checks out to her). You'll receive your ticket at the play.

The Fellowship Committee is planning a potluck picnic on the lawn at 6:30,

and will provide wine, iced tea, chicken, paper plates, napkins, cups, and eating utensils.

Please sign up to bring appetizer(s), salads (pasta, fruit, etc.), vegetable casserole(s), and desserts.

Coffee can be purchased there.

**Come see me, Seymour!!!**

### CHANGE IN PLANS

Six of us ladies changed plans for lunch last week. Rainy conditions prompted us to move the meal from the Nature Realm to Shea Brewing in the Valley. An easy, adaptable group!

(Results from pg 1)  
Here is what that breakdown looks like:

- Hal is focusing on Next Steps
- Jackie is looking at NCCC's Financial Health
- Jim is looking at the Flexible Style Index (how open are respondents to changes)
- Margie is focusing on the Theological Index and Perspective (views on social change)
- Nancy is looking at Governance Index (do members trust the decision-making process)
- Susie is focusing on the Top Three Priorities
- John is looking at the Overall Satisfaction & Energy

Then on June 5, Pentecost, Nancy will deliver those summations to the congregation. The board chose to wait until after the holiday weekend when more of you will be in attendance. They also found Pentecost Sunday to be a fitting date to focus on new beginnings.

Reesá Mathews