



The Messenger
NEW COVENANT
COMMUNITY CHURCH
A WEST AKRON NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH

From the President's Pen

September
2022

Greetings Everyone,

While Bev Cinovec was off gallivanting in the Scotland Highlands, Betsy Davis and her grandson, Andrew Meyer, took over in the garden weeding, watering, harvesting, and delivering our bounty of produce to Genessaret. Lovely to observe the generations working together to see that others eat well.

I hope you have noticed our fine, refurbished parking lot with crisp white lines and sealant to preserve and extend surface life. Thanks to Trustee folks for alerting us to this need.

During this busy time of transition we have three new committees working to guide us.

- **Pastoral Nomination Committee** meets regularly to find our new pastor.

- **Long-Range Planning Pilot Team** is grappling with where we might be five to ten years from now. Lastly,

- **FIT, Faithful Innovation Team** is working with an area-wide team to listen, learn, and dream a way forward in the church's physical community. You will be hearing from all of these as they are able.

Lastly, I want to continue with suggestions I started last month from The Courage Way to enhance trust, belonging, and understanding.

3. **Extend Invitation, Not Demand**—Participation by listening with care is no less a contribution than participation by speaking with care.
4. **Speak Your Truth in Ways that Respect Other People's Truth**—When you are getting to know people, it's vital to share stories across lines of difference, not to debate who's right or wrong, and not to cast blame or slander.

Be of good cheer, my friends. We proceed steadily.

- Nancy Clem, Governing Board President

**Reminder of Points 1 & 2
from The Courage Way**

Give and Receive Welcome

Extend hospitality, and presume welcome, too. This includes welcome and support for diverse perspectives, opinions, and approaches...

Be Present as Fully Possible

Bring all of yourself – your doubts, fears, and failings as well as your convictions, joys, and successes, your listening as well as your speaking –to the work....



The Pastor's Page

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.
And there are varieties of ministries, but the same Lord.
And there are varieties of activities
but the same God who works all things in all persons.
But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-7*

As the lazy days of summer quickly draw to a close and the school activities begin to burgeon, the Holy Spirit of God continues to enliven and refresh God's people for service and ministry. In fact, God is *always* showering believers with a variety of gifts that enable us to contribute significantly to the work of Jesus Christ through the church.

Even now, our Governing Board is discerning how to lead our congregation into the future, and our Pastor Nominating Committee is already diligently at work. Through the West Area Collaboration of Eastminster Presbytery, we have inaugurated our Faithful Innovation Team that is seeking ways in which our church can more effectively shine the light of Jesus Christ in our community. In addition, as we are still enjoying the rhythms of the steel drums at the Caribbean Party hosted at the Williams' home, our Fellowship Committee is looking to plan other activities that will heighten our comradery with one another, and at the same time our Mission Committee is continuing their great work in reaching out to our fellow human beings in the world. Similarly our wonderful gardeners offer a model to us by joyfully sharing the fruits of God's blessings that not only nourish our sisters and brothers at Gennesaret, but also equip us for service in the world.

...seeking ways in which our church can more effectively shine the light of Jesus Christ in our community.

Indeed, whether we utilize our talents in the kitchen or on a committee, whether we are interested in music or in mission, whether our talents lie in technology or with tools, God has blessed each one of us with at least one gift that we can share for the work and witness of Christ's church. In offering ourselves to the work of the church, something more than the lazy days of summer draw to a close; a new future begins to dawn, where God is revealed among us in new and unexpected ways, and where we are able to participate with God in the life-changing and life-renewing work that Christ will accomplish. And, isn't that something in which we would like to invest our gifts?

Blessings,
tom

Caribbean Nights

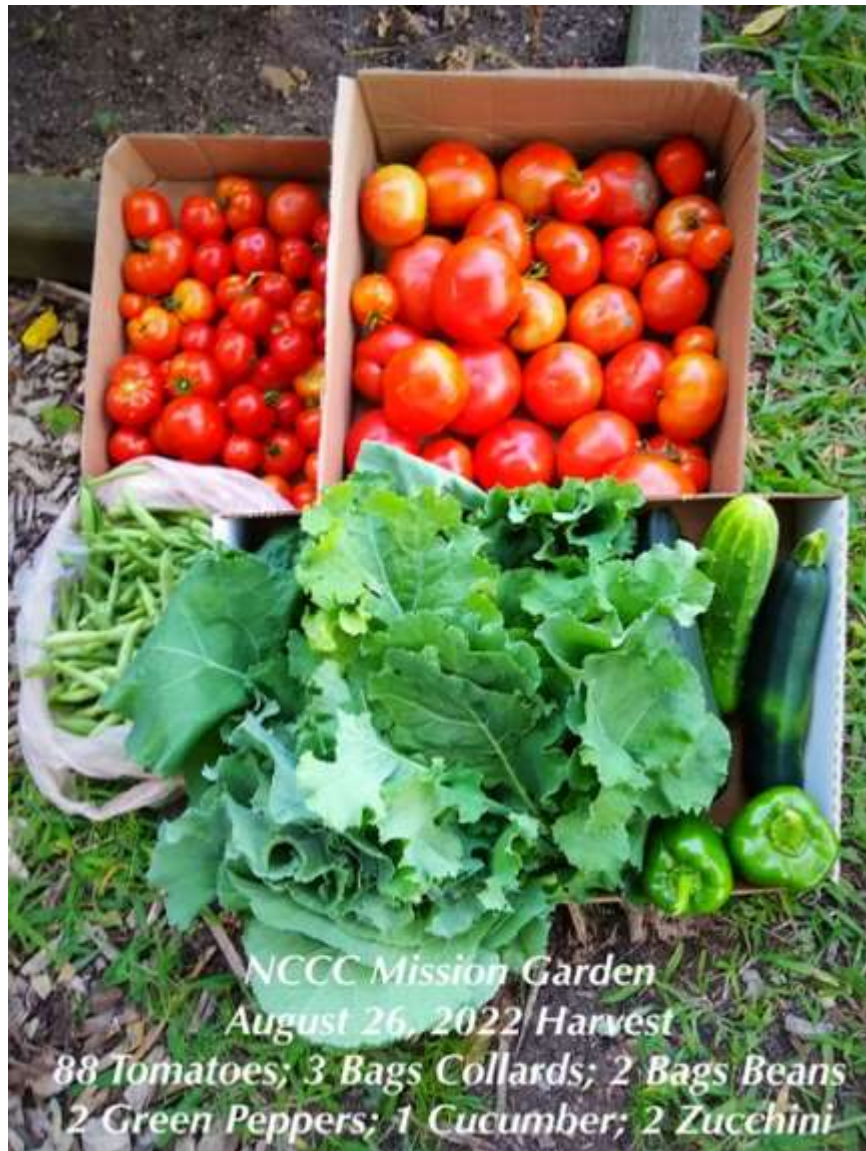
What a grand ending to summer! Yes, the evening of August 27 was perfect for our Caribbean Nights Party. The varied recipes our committee handed out were exceptionally prepared-- the shrimp ceviche, the tropical coleslaw, fried plantains, jerk chicken, and yes, (the spicy green beans with the “Slap Ya Mama” seasoning on the side), to the elegant pig picking cake, gelatos, and everything in between.



Our entertainers, Matt Dudack and son Max ,played away on their steel drums with Matt also explaining the history of steel drums and how they are made. Good questions from our people were expertly answered. Thanks to all who attended and brought the requested food. Wish we could have had the entire church at our house. As someone mentioned going home, “Thanks for getting us together.” Also, a huge thank you to Robert Roth for parking everyone’s cars and retrieving them at the party’s conclusion.

Ken & Nancy Williams





NCCC Mission Garden
 August 26, 2022 Harvest
 88 Tomatoes; 3 Bags Collards; 2 Bags Beans
 2 Green Peppers; 1 Cucumber; 2 Zucchini

HOT DOG ROAST

The Fellowship Committee is planning a hot dog roast for **Thursday, October 6** at **5:30 p.m.**, at the church. The committee will work around the weekly PNC meeting




FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, **October 27,**
10:30 a.m.
 Fellowship Hall
 Christmas and early 2023 activities are on the agenda.
 Everyone is welcome.

Ladies' Lunch

The next fellowship event is the Ladies' Lunch at **The Akron Woman's City Club,** 732 W Exchange St., on **Thursday, Sept. 15, 11:30 a.m.**

Ten to twelve places have been reserved in a private room. But, we need you to sign up on the sheet on the lobby table by September 11th, so we can have a more accurate head count. We will be ordering from the menu. The prices at AWCC are reasonable. (Because the menu changes daily, we can't give you a preview.) If you have any questions, please see Jackie Horton.

NEW INITIATIVES

Please, watch the announcements to see when the New Initiatives Group will meet in September. Some of the items that will be discussed are the annual parking lot Trunk or Treat, and The Akron Interfaith Immigration Association (AIIA) collection drive and possible Christmas party for North Hill immigrant families.



MINUTE FOR MISSION

Wow!!! Hard to believe Fall is almost upon us. With the kids back in school now, we will soon be looking forward to our Portage Path Fall Book Fair as plans ramp up for the Mission committee. But first... Lev Anderson heard the call from his home state of Kentucky to help the people so hard hit by the flooding in July of eastern Kentucky and Virginia. There will be great need for some time and the Mission committee has decided to collect donations through the month of September (for the next 3 weeks) and donate through PDA (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance) to get help where it is needed the most. Please send donations to the church office or give to John Sezna and mark PDA- flood relief for Kentucky. Thank you so much for your generosity!



-Margie Frlich

(Picture courtesy Presbyterian Disaster Assistance)



AAIC Meeting

The September 6th meeting will only be available on Zoom, from 12:00 -1:15 p.m. The meeting will have details on up-

coming programs including:

- Anti-Semitism programs which will be held in September, October, and November
- The Sojourner Truth Project
- Abolition of Death Penalty Education Forums.

The meeting ID is 834 12885849, and the passcode is 783407. Nancy & Ken Williams and Tom Ulrich and Reesa Mathews are members of AAIC, associated with our church. All are welcome and invited to join in.

Vocal Concert by Fiona Coughlin

Friday, September 2,
7:00 PM

Allenside Presbyterian
Church, 410 Rexford St.

Fiona Coughlin, is one of the top ten finalists for the Ohio "Shining Star" high school vocal competition. Prior to participating in the final competition, Fiona will perform at the Allenside Church this coming Friday, at 7:00 p.m. Fiona has invited other talented high school soloists - Austin Prince, Talia Greene, and Jackson Bird – to sing with her at the concert. Come and enjoy the beautiful music!

A reception will follow the concert.



**SAVE YOUR ACME RECEIPTS DATED
BETWEEN AUGUST 4 - DECEMBER 24,
2022, AND DROP THEM OFF AT CHURCH**

**EARN 5% 
COMMUNITY CASH BACK**
For Your Local Non-Profit Group!



Bringing Hope
to the forgotten

Salsa Sizzle

LIVE EVENT

We are ALL grateful for your
years of support!

\$10

DANCING
ONLY TICKET
9-11 P.M.

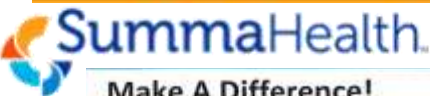
\$50

PER GUEST
FESTIVE ATTIRE
ENCOURAGED

6-11 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 17 • 2022
6-11 P.M.

GREYSTONE EVENT CENTER | 50 RIFFEL ROAD WOOSTER, OH



Make A Difference!

Are you looking for a rich and rewarding way to give back to the community? Make a difference today by volunteering! Here's what volunteering means to one of our current volunteers, Sam.

Volunteering at Summa Health is just a part of Sam Fiorentino's weekly routine. Sam has been a volunteer with us for over 2 years. Currently, he is a Wayfinding Volunteer at our Main Info Desk. He worked in the dairy industry from 1982 up until the time he retired in 2020. When Sam was asked why he chose to volunteer after retiring, he said "I've always wanted to volunteer. When I retired, I had the chance to finally give back and help others; it's very satisfying to me."

Summa Health has more than 15 different volunteer opportunities, including pastoral care, patient experience, Wayfinding, and much more! The Akron, Barberton and Wadsworth Campus is in need of other volunteers, like Sam, who want to help people and make new friends. Whether you work full-time, are retired, or attend school, we can find an opportunity that will work with your schedule. We would love to have you as part of our team! Volunteer applications can be found at summahealth.org/volunteer or they can be mailed to you directly if you prefer.

Questions? Contact Hayley Lockard at lockardh@summahealth.org, or call 330.375.7595.