



October 27 through November 2, 2024

Beloved,

This past week I attended a continuing education workshop for Mental Health First Aid. I am happy to tell you more about it, but it got me thinking a bit about things we inherit - whether we want to or not - from our ancestors and the saints who have gone before us. I know in my own family that there have been lasting effects from my paternal great grandfather who chose to end his own life when my grandfather was a toddler, even today, with his great great great great grandson (my great great nephew) who was born earlier this year.

We fill out questions on our medical forms about family history of mental health. Mental health can be genetic or natural, and it can be something that is taught or nurtured, or more often, a lack of nurturing. Whether it is from a lack of sun or a genetic predisposition, we humans are delicate but hardy plants in need of water, good soil and food, enough room for our roots to develop, and kind words spoken in order to help us grow.

Sometimes, it can take time for us to figure out how to best help ourselves grow. It can take time for us to figure out how to help one another grow. Many of you have been here at Ohio UP since before the 200th anniversary celebration. Many of us have come to love and know Ohio UP in these past 25 years. We come hoping that we will be welcomed and loved for who we have been, who we are, and who we will become. We come hoping that we might be part of "The Next Chapter" of Ohio UP. In just my few short months here, I have already witnessed the welcoming, caring, love of Ohio UP.

I think sometimes churches can get lost in their focus, trying to figure out how to afford the building, how to afford the property. And it has been a delight to see our congregation, aware of the needs of our building, still continue faithfully to give in hopes of reaching out to our community. Friends, I give thanks for the steadfastness of our congregation, determined to remain a beacon, a light on a hill, for those who need to find their way home to the loving embrace of God.

Grace & Peace,
Kalyn





Worship

- We gather for worship Sundays at 10am
- 115 in Worship on October 20
- Choir rehearsal is on Thursday, October 31 at 7pm
- Youth Choir Rehearsal for Christmas Program is every Sunday through December 1 at 9am-9:45am

Congregational Care

- STORY TIME ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30 AT 9:30 or 10:30
- SAVE THE DATE–Thanksgiving Dinner is on November 6 at 6pm
- SAVE THE DATE–COOKIE BAZAAR IS ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

Missions

-

Operations

- September YTD Expenses– \$155,099 & YTD Receipts-\$154,209
- Per capita Expenses YTD – \$6,630 & Per Capita Receipts YTD-\$2,190

The **Ohio UP Safety & Wellness team** is holding a class at the church on November 2nd. It will cover First Aid, CPR/AED and Stop the Bleed. The hours are 7am to 12pm and the cost is \$120/person. You do not need to be a member of the team or the church to attend.

Youth who are interested in growing in their faith together are invited to attend a meeting **November 3rd, following service – snacks** will be provided. This will be to plan a small group/Bible study starting in January. Any questions, contact Casey Honess (casey.honess@gmail.com)

Hand Bells

Practices 7:00

October 28
November 11
December 9

Performances

November 24 – We Gather Together
December 15 – Oh Come Emmanuel

225th Celebration

In February 2010, Rev. Dennis turned in his resignation

In July 2010 Rev. Eric Powell began as the interim minister of the Ohio UP Church. From the start all of the church members were amazed at his ability to remember names so well. He quickly became a friend to all. Jennifer Davis related that Rev. Powell frequently came to hear her husband Jeff's band play and was a wonderful help when Jeff's parents, Bert and Bernie Davis, passed away. Unfortunately, Rev. Powell officiated funeral services for 37 church members in the 3 years he was here. Despite just getting to know people, he provided touching services and consoled many.

Rev. Powell was a lover of history and that carried over to the classic cars with which he loved to tinker. Eric was also a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and was very knowledgeable about many subjects but especially Biblical facts and philosophies.

By August 2013 the Pastor Nominating Committee was at their wits' end. They could not find a pastor who was a good fit for our church. The number of young couples and children was at an all-time low. Finally, Diane Kanitra called Executive Presbyter Alan Adams requesting any more possible candidates he might have. Ironically, at about the same time a young man named Nick Marlatt decided to throw his hat into the ring. Alan Adams received it and, as they say, the rest is history.

In September 2013 Nick was ordained and installed as the next pastor. From the beginning, energetic Nick and his equally energetic wife, Kortney, brought a refreshing change. They had one young daughter, which quickly turned into a family of three young girls. It wasn't long before the couple had welcomed many young families into the church due, in part, to their connections within the local schools. During Vacation Bible School, Nick told attendees that any day the attendance was over 100, he would get a pie in the face. Over the years, his face was often riddled with pie!

The number of members in the church gradually rose as many saw Nick as a "kid friendly" minister. But he could also be serious and a hard worker when needed. Nothing would test his faith as much as when COVID-19 hit. Watching the television or reading the newspaper, people saw many get sick and some even die. By March 2020, Ohio UP Church closed its doors to people. Nick however saw the need for everyone to turn to God more than ever.

Immediately he got together the members who would be necessary to broadcast a church service. Among his "crew" were Jeff and Jennifer Davis and Jon Moss and Donna Craig doing readings and singing while Alli Feszko accompanied. Running the soundboard were Rev. Nick, Rich Palmer, Simon Hunsberger, Nick Feszko, and Chris Otto. Every Sunday during the COVID lockdown a small church service was zoomed not unlike the usual one. Pastor Nick delivered a sermon and read the Bible while others played music. Soon Nick added a daily prayer time and the Davis/Moss/Craig quartet sang for a Wednesday night hymn singalong with Alli Feszko playing both traditional and contemporary music. Bonnie and John Martin related that they were able to have a communion service in their truck with Pastor Nick while coming home from their daughter's house.

All of this was taking a toll on the Marlatt family as the government issued a warning not to do any interstate travel to prevent the spread of COVID. Nick and Kortney's relatives were all living in Michigan. At the conclusion of COVID the Marlatt family made the decision to move to Michigan. By October 2022 Nick, Kortney, Maren, Peyton and Bella had dismantled the chicken coop and left Hopewell to move to Hastings, Michigan. For Pastor Nick's first call, he did an awesome job!

Again, Ohio UP Church had no regular minister but God, in his infinite wisdom, sent us Rev. Bob Goossen in February 2023. As Pastor Bob would say “It’s pronounced as if only one ‘o’ was in there.” I gave Pastor Bob the title of being the “Garrison Keillor” of Ohio UP after hearing his first sermon. He could tell a story like no one else and of course follow it with an appropriate Bible message. In church you could see the older kids that usually hung their heads during the sermon, sit up and take notice when Pastor Bob spoke. He was friendly with all and not afraid to give a hug, handshake or pat on the head to someone. Pastor Bob loved the kids in the church and gave them each a piece of candy after the Children’s Chat each week.

Pastor Bob was a great transitional minister and led us prayerfully along while the PNC looked for our next pastor. In May 2024 the PNC announced that they had found a new minister and Pastor Bob retired with his wife Chris Ann to their home he had remodeled himself. It seems he was not only good transitioning churches to a new face but houses as well.

In August 2024 Rev. Kalyn Stevwing began the call as our new minister. Who knows what will be next for Ohio UP Church? No one but God.

Highlights from the October Session Meeting

- **Beyond Parsley Catering will be catering the 225th Anniversary Luncheon.**
- **The date of this year's Cantata is scheduled for December 15th.**
- **From Mission Committee:**
 - **The Little Free Pantry is currently having a food drive collection although food donations can be made throughout the year.**
 - **Storytime has been a smash hit with 2 session times now, 9:30 and 10:30 on Wednesday mornings.**
 - **The 2015 Manna dates are:**
 - **February 25th**
 - **May 20th**
 - **September 2nd**
 - **Mission offerings will be distributed to the missions on a quarterly basis starting in 2025.**
 - **Communicycle and Aliquippa Impact are the Fall "Moment for Missions"**

Actions by Session

- **By consensus the Session agreed to sell the pool table in the Youth Group room because it’s taking up space and is not being used in any ministry at Ohio U. P. Church. An elder is researching for a proper price tag.**
- **Approved hosting a Presbytery Meeting in 2025. The target date is November 18, 2025 meeting. The Clerk will contact the presbytery office to secure the date if available. The March meeting would be the alternate choice.**

Joe Glatz, Clerk of Session

OHIO U.P. 25TH ANNIVERSARY SHIRTS. IMPRINT WILL BE THE SAME AS THE T-SHIRTS. CASH OR CHECK TO OHIO U.P. CHECK. T-SHIRTS ON MEMO LINE.

	TODDLER	2T	3T	4T	5T	6T	YOUTH	XS	S	M	L	XL	ADULT	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL
SHIRTS																			
LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT																			
GREY																			
RED																			
BLUE																			
2T - 6T - \$26																			
Y - ADULT XL - \$27																			
ADULT 2XL - \$29																			
ADULT 3XL - \$32																			
CREW NECK SWEATSHIRT																			
GREY																			
RED																			
BLUE																			
2T - ADULT XL - \$30																			
2XL - \$33																			
3XL - \$34																			
DRAWSTRING HOODIE																			
GREY																			
RED																			
BLUE																			
2T - ADULT XL - \$35																			
2XL - \$40																			
3XL - \$41																			
NAME																			
TOTAL SHIRTS ORDERED																			
AMOUNT OWED																			
PAID																			

DEADLINE 15 OCT. 27th.



<u>Anniversaries</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>
Ken Jones 10/5	Joe Gavita 10/3	Shanna Rastetter 10/12	Lillian Otto 10/19
Nancy & Kevin Hribar 10/11	Tom Owczarzak 10/3	Janis Lewis 10/13	Peggy Franzese 10/20
Caitlin & Nick Colesar 10/15	Patrick Gregory 10/8	Dana Gavita 10/14	Emmet Rastetter 10/22
Jeff & Jen Davis 10/16	Greg Holsinger 10/8	Breyson Hoth 10/14	Andrew Shaffer 10/22
Scott & Sharon Neville 10/16	Eleanor Pike 10/8	Brittany Smith 10/16	Peggy Atwell 10/24
Susan & Larry Palochak 10/23	Alaina Stroud 10/8	Patti Strominger 10/18	Keith Murdoch 10/24
	Lois Kearns 10/10	Calliope Hoth 10/19	Trent Nan 10/29
	William Arzberger 10/12	Kenneth Kearns 10/19	

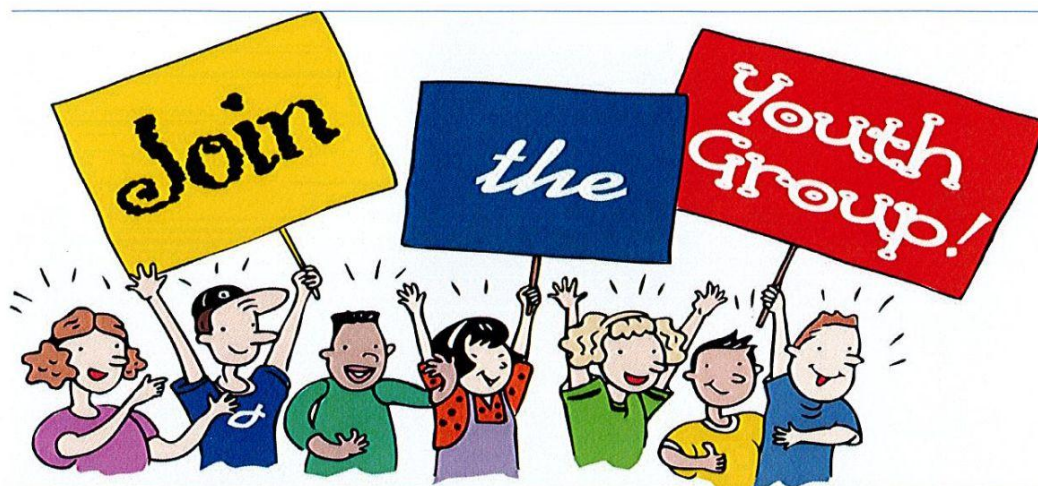
SESSION TEAMS AND LEADS

Worship Team Lead: Gina Arzberger
 Congregational Care Team Lead: John Martin
 Mission Team Leads: Casey Honess/Rayna Knox
 Operations Team Lead: Wendi Rybicki



- Lynn Smith–Grandson Owen had H1N1 flu; now has pneumonia & strep throat
- Rayna Knox–Co-worker Caroline needs our prayers
- Pastor Kalyn–Prayers for the family of Jan Adamski who passed this past weekend
- Dick Klein–Prayers for nephew Adam who has spina bifida; shunt not working and he has pneumonia
- Chris Otto Prayers for Grandma Jackson(97 yrs) who fell and broke her leg; home next week.
- Andrew Honess–Prayers for Casey’s mom who was diagnosed with ovarian cancer; will be starting treatment
- Alli Feszko–It is the anniversary of Nick’s dad’s passing. Received news that Nick’s Uncle passed at almost the same time this week.
- Jen Davis–Thanks for prayers. Adjusted blood pressure meds and got antibiotics.
- Shirley Fluharty–Prayers for brother.
- Missy Sardo–Continued prayers for Elias. Surgery went well.
- Diane Gennaro–Prayers for Jack. Sees Genetics Doctor and Oncologist this week.
- Dawn Psik–Continued prayers for son Jonathan who has COVID.
- Christi and Brad Bechtel thank all who prayed for daughter Sophie regarding eye surgery. She is home and playing as usual.

Please note: There will not be a newsletter next week



Please Note: Youth Group is now on
Monday from 7:00 - 8:30

September 30 – Youth Group 7:00 – 8:30

October 7 – Youth Group 7:00 – 8:30

October 14 – Youth Group 7:00 – 8:30

October 20 - 1:00 (**Sunday**) – Youth Group
Pumpkin Carving – Families invited

Please **RSVP** (light lunch made by YG kids)

October 21 – 7:00 – 8:30 Bonfire \ Lesson at
the Manse

October 28 – Windmill Scary Golf

Parents please volunteer where you can!