



OHIO UNITED
Presbyterian Church

June 21 through June 27, 2026



Dear Friends in Christ,

Last Sunday was such a beautiful day for our church—exceptional music, pews filled with children and families, and the love of Christ filling the room. I felt compelled to ask Pastor Jim for his blessing to share a few thoughts from my heart.

I had tears in my eyes watching the children perform the songs they learned during their week at VBS. I was overwhelmed with joy, nostalgia, and deep love for our church and the wonderful people who make it so special. Watching my four-year-old daughter grin from ear to ear as she sang about the light Jesus shines on us filled me with pride and carried me back to my own childhood—the memories I made at Ohio UP and the faith this church helped plant in my heart.

I grew up at Ohio UP. My family and I spent nearly every Sunday in its pews, receiving the Word of Christ. My sisters and cousins and I attended VBS every year, all the way through high school. It was a steady and meaningful part of our summers—surrounding us with kind, loving people and filling us with God’s amazing grace.

There have been seasons in my life when I was less engaged in the church, when busy schedules and other priorities pulled my focus elsewhere. But God’s plan always seemed to lead me back to Ohio UP—a place where God’s enduring love and faithfulness feels especially clear.

During Pastor Jim’s sermon, he spoke about our church “enduring” despite obstacles and challenges. That stayed with me, because VBS has certainly faced its share of challenges over the years—directors moving on, fewer families raising their children in faith, and an ever-changing world where darkness sometimes seems to creep in. And yet, despite it all, VBS not only lives on, but continues to thrive. To me, that is a testament to God’s will for our church and its future.

The pews may not be filled with quite as many children and families every single week, but the seeds of hope are there. I feel that hope in VBS, and I pray that we will all carry that same hope with us as we seek the pastor God has in store for our church.

Yours in Christ,

Christi (Fouse) Bechtel

CALL PROCESS CHECKLIST

1. Dissolution of pastoral relationship (Ministry & Vocation, Congregation)
2. Discern the next stage of the life and mission of the church (Transition Team, Session, Congregation, MVC)
3. Self-Study Approved (Session, Congregation)
4. Assess the financial capability of the congregation (Session, MVC)
5. Call details and criteria for the new Position (Session, MVC)
6. Elect Pastor Nominating Committee, representative of the congregation
7. MVC trains Pastor Nominating Committee on Call process
8. Session shares criteria for the new Position with the PNC
9. PNC prepares the Ministry Discernment Profile
10. Session and MVC approve the MDP
11. MVC invites Clerk of Session to access Church Leadership Connection system.
12. PNC enters MDP into the CLC system
13. MVC trains PNC on Personal Discernment Profile review and interview process
14. PNC receives and reviews PDP (Candidate) matches and referrals
15. Reference & background checks (PNC, MVC)
16. Select a Nominee (PNC)
17. Extend a Call (PNC)
18. Negotiate terms of Call (PNC, Session)
19. Approve terms of Call (PNC, Session)
20. Call Congregational meeting to elect the pastor, introduce Candidate (Session, PNC)
21. PNC presents the Candidate to the congregation
22. Candidate sermon, congregation votes (If congregation votes "No", back to step 16)
23. Sign the call. (PNC, Session, MVC)
24. Welcome the new Pastor to the Congregation and community (PNC, Congregation)



Worship
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sunday School for children 3yr.-6th grade is during worship after the children's chat• Adult Sunday School this Sunday at 9am.• 126 in church on June14
Congregational Care
Mission
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
Operations

Special Congregational Meeting—The OUPC Session has called a Special Congregational Meeting for Sunday, June 28, immediately after worship, to receive the Self-Study, as prepared by the Transition Team.

Church

FAMILY



—PRAYER LIST—

- Pastor Jim—Praise the Lord for Vacation Bible School
- —Ed Kanitra is in AGH
- —Jen Davis is healing
- —His sister had a procedure this week
- Charlie—Several close friends have lost loved ones this week
- —Pastor Jim be more careful this week
- Diane Gennaro—Cousin Cindy has ovarian cancer and cousin Sandy has breast cancer. Prayers for healing and comfort
- Andrew Honess—Casey put in a great week in VBS! She is thankful for all the work and effort this week.
- Jen Davis—Mark Douglass finished third and last chemo to keep his cells weak so they'll accept his new T-cells. He was admitted to Shadyside on Tuesday to the transplant wing. Prayers that he keeps on fighting and that the new treatment is successful.
- John Smith, a former member of the church, passed on Monday. Prayers of peace and comfort for the family.
- Dawn Psik—Her sister Sue started radiation treatment on Tuesday. Keep on praying!



Anniversaries	Anniversaries	Birthdays	Birthdays
Amy & Mark Muslin 6/3	Rich & Dolly Kerlin 6/24	Kristen Nan 6/1	Susan Burak 6/10
Marcus & Jesseca McCowin 6/9	Robert & Chris Humi 6/25	Kenneth Tamburrino 6/2	Richard Kerlin 6/10
Ivonne & Greg Holsinger 6/15	Nick & Kasey Hoth 6/27	Larry Palochak 6/3	Willow Honess 6/12
Andrew & Whitney Shaffer 6/15	Bob & Karen Keller 6/28	Marcy Zombeck 6/6	Paul Kulha 6/13
Kim & Tom Hughes 6/16		Bryan Cronin 6/7	Andrea Tamburrino 6/26
JoAnne & Bill Polizotto 6/21		Caitlin Colesar 6/8	Dolores Hartley 6/27
Doug & Sherri Murdoch 6/22		Penelope Hoth 6/8	Andrew Honess 6/28
			Drew Lewis 6/30



