

**PASTOR**

*Rev. Courtney Jones*

[pastor@pilgrimageucc.org](mailto:pastor@pilgrimageucc.org)



and provide much-needed support for preachers during my parental leave.

There will be plenty of opportunities to offer your particular gifts and skills as we move through the next few months. I invite you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to participate in the enterprise of church.

God loves you, and so do I.

Love,  
 Courtney

Dear Beloved,

It's (almost) Fall, y'all! We are settling into our routines and looking ahead to a busy season. In order to flourish as a congregation, which I know we all want, we will need to be engaged in crafting a mission and vision. Then we will need to be mutually invested in the vision God places on our hearts.

Please consider coming to the events during Rally Weekend (September 9-11). The theme of the weekend is "We Are the Church Together," using Acts 2:37-47 as our guiding Scripture. It'll be a time to play and pray together and to begin our visioning work in earnest. We need as many people as possible to participate in these events, because "we are the church together!"

Another way we are asking folks to engage is in worship. Liturgy means "the work of the people," and we need liturgists to bring more voices into the experience of worship. Please consider attending a brief training on September 18 after worship so that we have a full rotation—that will spread out the work, offer more diversity in our leadership in worship,



*"What does a Liturgist do during worship?"  
 "Maybe this is something I might be interested in."*

Rev. Courtney has been mentioning that soon we will be adding Liturgists back to our 10:00 worship service. If you have asked yourself these two questions, you are invited to attend Liturgist training following the 10:00 service on Sunday, September 18. This brief training session will be led by Rev. Courtney.



**We seek to grow in worship, learning and service as a faithful people of God, bringing hope, comfort and friendship to all, welcoming everyone in Christ.**

*"They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them."*

ACTS 2:45

**WHAT'S INSIDE**

- Pres. Mssg...2
- Worship...2
- Christian Ed...3
- Climate Change...3
- Parish Life...4
- Stewardship...4
- Pastor's Mo. Report...5
- Safe Church Policy...5
- Sept. Celebrations...5
- Deacons...6
- World Comm. Sunday...6
- Church Work Day...7
- Sept. Book Club...7
- PUCC Misc...8

## CONGREGATION PRESIDENT

By Rochelle Lofstrand

[pilgrimageuccpresident@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimageuccpresident@gmail.com)



## WORSHIP

Diane Reese, Chair

[pilgrimageuccworship@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimageuccworship@gmail.com)



On Saturday, September 10th from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM, we will spend time together thinking and planning for the future of Pilgrimage. We will be asking ourselves three questions:

- Where are we headed? Where do we feel God is calling us?
- How will we get there?
- What is important to us now?

We will ask ourselves questions: What will worship, Sunday School, and giving look like in 5 / 10 years? What staff will we add? What one thing, if done very well, will make the biggest difference?

By going through this exercise, we hope that we will have a clear vision for our future. This will make all of our decisions, including our budget and spending, much easier as we align our work with a focus on where God is leading us.

Join us for this exciting exercise!

Rochelle

Rev. Courtney provided pastoral leadership including providing us with inspirational worship services during her summer series about the Book of Revelation. Her messages are continually thought provoking each week. She also continues to provide many opportunities for folks to reach out to her and to one another.

The positions for both Part Time Music Director and Part Time Accompanist are still posted, and submissions of applicants are being thoroughly reviewed by our search committees. The search committee for the music director position is in the process of having in-person interviews with candidates. We hope to have a music director in place by mid to late September!

In the meantime, music for Sunday morning services is being provided by substitute accompanists and short-term interim accompanists.

Scripture readers for the month of August were:

August 07: Anne Mooney & Molly Moss

August 14: Morgan Jones & Reba Williams

August 21: Michelle Brumfield & Isaac Martin

August 28: Janet Derby & Melissa & Lee Fadeley

If anyone is interested in reading scripture during worship on a rotation schedule or just at times and dates you prefer, please email the worship committee at:

[pilgrimageuccworship@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimageuccworship@gmail.com)

We can always use more folks to assist with ushering and greeting. Please reach out to us if you are interested.

Thank you to everyone who contribute during our worship services each Sunday!

## CHRISTIAN ED

Janet Derby & Darlene Wagner, Co-Chairs  
[pilgrimageucc@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimageucc@gmail.com)



## Rally Weekend

On Friday evening, September 9, we will have a church-wide chicken supper, with Parish Life providing the chicken. During this time, the children will have a story time with music, and the youth will have an activity to help prepare for Saturday.

On Saturday, September 10, from 10:30-12:30, while the adults are involved in a church visioning session, the children will have a typical VBS day with story time, crafts, music, missions, and of course, a snack. They will then participate in the worship service on Sunday, September 11. We would love to have youth helping out. Our theme will be *"We are the Church Together"*.

More information will be forthcoming, but meanwhile, in order to prepare for this weekend and ensure we have enough food, we need to know how many people will be in attendance. Please let the office know if you plan to be there Friday and/or Saturday.

[office@pilgrimageucc.org](mailto:office@pilgrimageucc.org)

## Children's Bibles

On Rally Sunday, we will give out Bibles to our children. If your child has never received a Bible from Pilgrimage, please let Janet Derby or the office know.

## Acolytes

We are planning to begin scheduling our Acolytes in September. If your child would like to be on the list, please let the office or Janet Derby know.

[derby.jm@gmail.com](mailto:derby.jm@gmail.com)

[office@pilgrimageucc.org](mailto:office@pilgrimageucc.org)

## CLIMATE CHANGE – A Christian Concern

By Hugh Lowrey

The recent climate legislation is wonderful news, because it means that our country is finally taking a significant step to slow climate change, joining the nations that make a real effort. It does not mean that we – or they - have solved the problem.

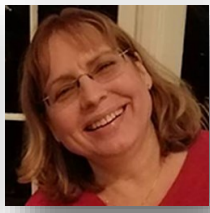
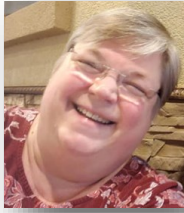
Last month, I wrote optimistically about opportunities to overcome much of the climate crisis with technological advances. That is certainly one of the possibilities, but recent items in the news emphasize that our situation may be too urgent to permit dependence on that approach. Solutions to the scientific and engineering problems will take time.

Carbon capture and sequestration is being done, but in insignificant quantity at a cost that prohibits scale-up. Sequestration problems also bedevil hydrogen manufacture because carbon dioxide is a by-product. We can probably come up with answers, but not quickly. The heat waves in Europe and our Northwest, the fires in west coast states, the continuing drought that threatens the existence of the Colorado River, the floods in St. Louis and Kentucky and the impending famine in Somalia and elsewhere all tell us that our time is expiring.

Apparently, the about-face vital to continuing our way of life – particularly and urgently, elimination of fossil fuels – is such a huge hurdle that politicians are baulking at it. So, avoiding or ignoring it, they busy themselves with less critical concerns. All the while, "Rome burns." They must be made to understand that the path they have chosen leads to misery or death for multitudes here and worldwide, far earlier than they had thought possible. The situation calls for prayer and for communication with Congress to awaken its members. We can all help.

## PARISH LIFE

Susan Volentine & Carol Hill, Co-Chairs  
[pilgrimageuccparishlife@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimageuccparishlife@gmail.com)



Parish Life's August 7th potluck after the Installation of the 2022-2023 Council Members was a great success due to everyone's participation - by bringing food, helping to set up or to clean up afterward - and we thank you!

Coming up in September, we have two more events planned. First, on Friday September 9th, Parish Life will be kicking off Rally Weekend with a Chicken Picnic and Potluck! There is an online Sign Up Genius link below. You will be able to sign up to bring your favorite main dish, side, dessert or drinks to share, or donate toward buying the chicken (fried chicken and chicken fingers). Set-up will begin at 5:30, dinner will start at 6:15 and run until 8 PM. If the weather is clear, we'll be eating outside (cross your fingers!). Please come when you can and enjoy a fun evening with each other!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094baeab2da6fb6-rally>

On Sunday September 18th, after the 10:00 service and after the liturgist training, Parish Life is pleased to sponsor a Baby Celebration for Courtney and Auggie! Cake and drinks will be provided. If you would like to bring something, coffee hour snacks are welcomed. We will have coffee hour until approximately 11:30 and then cut the cake when Courtney is finished with her training.

Here is the link to Courtney and Auggie's registry:

<https://www.babylist.com/baby-reg-august-jones>

As always, if you would like to be part of Parish Life - AKA the Party Committee - please let Susan or Carol know. We'd love to have you join us!

## STEWARDSHIP

Anne Mooney, Duke Yaguchi, Co-Chairs  
[pilgrimageuccstewardship@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimageuccstewardship@gmail.com)



When Anne and I first received our Commitment Campaign materials from the UCC and I saw the theme, my first reaction was, "Boy, this is a mouthful!" My second reaction was, "I don't get it." But after examining the materials and thinking about our church, it makes sense.

First of all, what do the bread and cup represent? Jesus instructed His disciples to remember Him whenever they should break bread and drink from the cup. Do we believe in the last supper? Do we believe in Jesus?

As we move to present day faith, in our church, we practice open communion. Everyone is welcome. No matter if you've been coming to church a little or a lot. No matter whether you believe with all of your might or if you might have doubts in your beliefs. You are welcome to join us at our table. The faith you bring adds to our communal faith strength.

As we move on to giving, God gave His son for us. What can we give for our faith community and the larger community around us in response?

We will kick-off our Commitment Campaign on Sunday, September 25. It will culminate with Commitment Sunday, October 30. During this time you'll hear from members of the congregation on what Pilgrimage and the UCC means to them. I am seeking congregants who are willing to share their perspectives via newsletter articles, bulletin inserts, Facebook posts as well as testimonials during one of the Sunday services. If you would like to participate in this year's campaign in one of these ways, please contact me via phone, text or email. We look forward to hearing you share your faith journeys.

From bread and cup, to faith and giving.

Gratefully submitted,

Duke Yaguchi, Co-chair Stewardship  
[dukeyaguchi@gmail.com](mailto:dukeyaguchi@gmail.com)

# Pastor's Report for July 15—August 11, 2022

*Worked an average of 42 hours a week; took one week of vacation including Sunday, July 31*

## Worship Related Responsibilities

- Wrote sermons/preached 8:30 worship, 10:00 livestream, Wrote liturgy for worship weekly, except the week Heather filled in while I was away. Also offered two children's sermons during the Revelation series.
- Revelation Summer Sermon Series is going well—sparking lots of good conversation.
- Wrote weekly blurbs for e-tidings
- Met with Worship Team (Diane, Lynne, Janet, Anne) weekly.
- Worked with Diane Reese and our accompanists on music for worship each Sunday, including picking hymns.
- Worked with Heather Fosburgh in preparation for my Sunday of vacation, 7/31.
- Installed Council on 8/7; potluck after was fantastic!

## Various Commitments

- Offered invocation at Cobb County Board of Commissioners Meeting 8/9/22
- Wrote Newsletter article
- Wrote draft ad for nursery worker
- Met with Rochelle, Pat, and Diane to jump start the interview process for Music Director position.
- Met with Music Director Search Team after reviewing applications

## Pastoral Care

- Offered pastoral care via phone, text, email, Zoom, and in-person visits/appointments (approximately 25 hrs/week).
- Worked with Deacons around facilitating pastoral care and questions of Communion

## Edification/Instruction

- Breathing Room is on summer hiatus, to return 8/18.
- Confirmation Class is on summer hiatus.
- Attended weekly SECUCC clergy zoom meetings

## Meetings

- Attended Cobb County Board of Commissioners Meeting
- Met with Janet about Rally Weekend
- Met with Safe Church Committee
- Met with Stewardship Chairs
- Met with Clergy Community of Practice.

## Safe Church Policy

In November 2021, we had a congregational meeting when we ratified the Pilgrimage UCC Safe Church Policy.

As part of the policy, it is the Vice President's responsibility to review it with the congregation on Rally Sunday, which is September 11th. Ken Moss, who is our Vice President, will be traveling that weekend. In his place, Susan Volentine, as the chair of the Safe Church Task Force, will review the highlights with the congregation on Rally Sunday.

You can review this policy ahead of time because it is posted on our website.

Go to our website at [pilgrimageucc.org](http://pilgrimageucc.org). Click on "More", next "Member Information", and then you can select and click on "Safe Church Policy" to view the document. (You will need to use your Member Login; if you do not have one, you can create your own personal login.)

## September Celebrations

### BIRTHDAYS

09/02	Riley Maulden
09/06	Morgan Jones
09/08	Ric Reitz
09/09	Kimberly Ortiz
09/12	Noah Ortiz
09/14	Dawn Martin
09/15	Janet Derby
09/16	Tony Mills
09/16	Victoria Owens
09/17	Ugena Whitlock
09/18	Robert Howard
09/18	Isaac Martin
09/22	Gary Dorsey
09/23	Courtney Jones
09/23	Jessica Ward
09/24	Samantha Heilhecker

### ANNIVERSARIES

09/04	Jaime & Jason Fulsang
09/11	Paula & Andy Roberts
09/18	Trudy & Donald Stoddert
09/19	Angela Gula & Michelle Kozak

## DEACONS

By Juliann Heilhecker & Stephen Williams  
Co-chairs

[pilgrimageuccdeacons@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimageuccdeacons@gmail.com)



Congratulations to Diane Reese; this year's recipient of the Dr. of Friendship Award!

On Sunday, August, 21<sup>st</sup>, the congregation celebrated with Diane on her well-deserved honor. In case you missed it, this is a special honor that the members of the congregation nominate. The purpose of this award is to celebrate a member that has humbly given their gifts of love and generosity.

Here is just one quote from the many nominations she received: *"She is always there whenever anything is going on at church. She helps with Little Lambs, Handbell Choir, providing food for Properties workdays, and probably lots more that goes unseen. And there couldn't be anyone humbler about all that they do than Diane. And it is all done with a heart-felt smile and a great laugh."*



## Calling All Bakers!



## World Communion Sunday

We will be back in full swing for our special communion worship on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, and we are beginning to plan for World Communion Sunday.

If you have never experienced World Communion Sunday at PUCC, you are in for a treat. We have 2 tables set up at the front of the sanctuary with breads from different regions around the world including gluten free breads.

If you would like to bake a bread that represents your heritage or just bake your favorite ethnic bread, please contact Stephen Williams or Juliann Heilhecker at:

[pilgrimageuccdeacons@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimageuccdeacons@gmail.com)

We look forward to sharing our bounty with you!

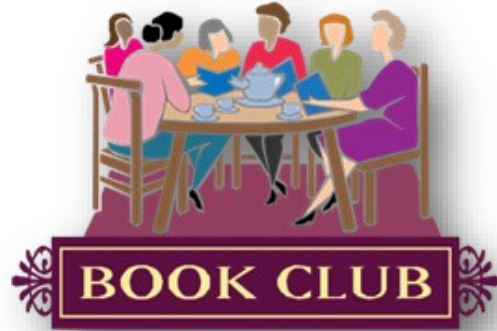


# CHURCH WORKDAY

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The Properties Committee is planning a **Fall Workday**, tentatively scheduled for **Saturday, October 15th**. Workday initiatives will include both indoor and outdoor projects such as NGH repair/improvements, mulch and pine straw spreading, storage room clean-out, paint touch-ups, and more.

Look for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex!



Book club would like to welcome new folks to join us and read a large variety of books, have interesting discussions and have a chance to make new friends!

We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7 PM— sometimes at church and sometimes in members' homes.

This is a meeting that is very informal, no pressure to attend monthly, reading the book is not a strict requirement—and it IS FUN!

**Our next meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 6, 7:00 p.m. at the church.**

**The book for review is  
"The Pull of the Stars"  
by Emma Donoghue**

*For meeting information contact:  
Fran Howard or Janet Derby*

[roberthow@aol.com](mailto:roberthow@aol.com)

[derby.jm@gmail.com](mailto:derby.jm@gmail.com)

## STAFF

**Pastor**  
**Administrative Assistant**

**Rev. Courtney Jones**  
**Lynne Buell**

### Pilgrimage UCC's Emails

Pilgrimage UCC Website:	<b>www.pilgrimageucc.org</b>	Worship:	<b>pilgrimageuccworship@gmail.com</b>
Pastor-Rev. Courtney Jones	<b>pastor@pilgrimageucc.org</b>	Christian Education:	<b>pilgrimageuccce@gmail.com</b>
Office-Lynne Buell:	<b>office@pilgrimageucc.org</b>	VBS-Janet Derby:	<b>pilgrimageuccvbs@gmail.com</b>
Council:	<b>pilgrimageucccouncil@gmail.com</b>	Communications:	<b>pilgrimageucccommunications@gmail.com</b>
Council President:	<b>pilgrimageuccpresident@gmail.com</b>	Missions	<b>pilgrimageuccmissions@gmail.com</b>
Treasurer:	<b>pilgrimageucctreasurer@gmail.com</b>	Properties	<b>pilgrimageuccproperties@gmail.com</b>
Council Fin. Secretary:	<b>pilgrimageuccfinsec@gmail.com</b>	Stewardship	<b>pilgrimageuccstewardship@gmail.com</b>
Deacons:	<b>pilgrimageuccdeacons@gmail.com</b>	Parish Life:	<b>pilgrimageuccparishlife@gmail.com</b>

### **Meeting Schedule for Committees & Small Groups**

Book Club via Zoom (Fran Howard) .....	1st Tuesday of the month—7:00 p.m.
Pilgrimage Council (Rochelle Lofstrand, Pres.)....	Second Thurs. of the month—7:00 p.m.
Sandwich Club Support (Trish Greeves) .....	Quarterly Meetings—3:00 p.m. Saturday
Spiritual Seekers' Group (Trish Greeves).....	4th Tuesday of the month—7:00 p.m.
PFLAG .....	4th Sunday of the month—1:00 p.m. <a href="https://pflag.org/chapter/pflag-marietta">https://pflag.org/chapter/pflag-marietta</a>

*This listing includes the group name, followed by the coordinator or director in parenthesis then the meeting days and times. If your group should be added to this list, please e-mail [office@pilgrimageucc.org](mailto:office@pilgrimageucc.org).*

## The Month in Sundays

Sept.	4	<b>Worship</b> <b>8:30 &amp; 10:00AM</b> <b>Communion (both services)</b>
Sept.	11	<b>Rally Sunday!</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>8:30 &amp; 10:00AM</b>
Sept.	18	<b>Worship</b> <b>8:30 &amp; 10:00AM</b> <b>Liturgist Training (11:15 a.m.)</b> <b>Baby Celebration (11:30 a.m.)</b>
Sepr.	25	<b>Kickoff 2022 Stewardship Campaign!</b> <b>Joining Sunday</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>8:30 &amp; 10:00 a.m.</b> <b>PFLAG Meeting (1:00 p.m.)</b>