

PILGRIM'S Progress

May 2022

A monthly publication of Pilgrimage
United Church of Christ

PASTOR

Rev. Courtney Jones

pastor@pilgrimageucc.org



Dear Beloved,

Usually, the season after Easter is a calm season in the life of a congregation. People are busy with end-of-school activities and preparing for summer vacation. This year, our common life is full. It's everything the first Easter was: life and loss and hope and resilience.

We lost our music director, Matt, which was unfortunate, given how much he did for us as we moved back to in-person worship. At the same time, we gained an opportunity to reassess our needs for our music program and the resources it will take to achieve that, including the formation of search teams to staff our music program. The NGH Committee is in negotiations to purchase the NGH. The nominating team is actively working to build a slate for the next Council, and they are simultaneously dreaming about who might feel called to

be on various committees so that the chairs don't have to rebuild committees from scratch. We are working to add liturgists to the worship volunteer rotations in the coming months. And this is all just the immediate business of being church—it doesn't even take into consideration all the exciting things that are ahead in the coming months!

For these reasons and more, I hope you'll attend the Town Hall on May 15 either in person or on Zoom, just to stay informed of all the amazing things we are up to as a congregation. It's a great opportunity to ask questions so that we might dream together about where God is calling us in the future. And our future is so bright, dear Church!

Love,
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.**

*"Blessed are
those who
mourn,
For they shall be
comforted"*

MATTHEW 5:4

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Pilgrimage
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

CHRISTIAN ED
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
pilgrimageucce@gmail.com



Vacation Bible School

VBS will be held this year the week of June 20-24. Our theme this year is *A Little Child Shall Lead Them*, with stories of how God calls our children to do God's work in the world. Registration is now available on our website at:

<https://www.pilgrimageucce.org/vacation-bible-school-2020>.

You may also email pilgrimageucce@gmail.com with your child's name, age, and grade level or with any questions. Registrations must be submitted by Sunday, May 8. We are also looking for mid-high and high school youth helpers who will lead our children.

VBS Volunteers Needed!

We again will need adults and youth to lead our children through a fun week of missions, crafts, snacks, and music. If you are willing to help the week of June 20-24, please contact Janet Derby, derbyjm@gmail.com.

VBS T-Shirts

Each year, we have fabulous t-shirts for our children and volunteers with a design created by one or more of our children or youth. We are looking for a design for this year, but we are short of time, so the image must be turned in by May 15. The picture should be simple and dark lines to show well on the shirt. The image should reflect the theme of *The Peaceful Kingdom, A Little Child Will Lead Them* which comes from Isaiah 11:6.

*The wolf will live with the lamb,
and the leopard will lie down with the young goat;
the calf and the young lion will feed together,
and a little child will lead them.*

Please send your design to Janet Derby at:

derbyjm@gmail.com

...or drop it off in the church office.

WORSHIP

Diane Reese, Chair
pilgrimageuccworship@gmail.com



Rev. Courtney Jones led us with inspirational and encouraging messages every week throughout Lent relating to the theme of "Interconnectedness." Easter Sunday was so well attended at both the Sunrise Service and the 10:00 Worship Service, including a scrumptious potluck breakfast between the two services. It is wonderful to be able to access the service both in person and online. We appreciate being able to listen and watch the sermon and more parts of the service later on Sunday and other days, as well. The sound and video quality are so well done.

Welcome to the folks who became members of PUC on Easter Sunday. They are, Lee & Melissa Fadeley, Ken & Molly Moss, and Ellen Osborne.

Scripture readers for the Sunday services in April were:

April 3: Sharon Getty and Pat & Greg Kask

April 10: Anne Mooney and Monty Wyne

April 17: Duke Yaguchi

April 24: Janet Derby & Joyanna Wyne

Maundy Thursday: Trish Greeves, Anne Mooney, Kathleen McNulty, Sharon Getty, Katie Bridges, Chris Shiver, Reba Williams, Julia Shiver & Courtney Jones.

Thank you to all who came out and helped with many parts of worship both on Maundy Thursday and throughout Holy Week. We are also grateful to the individuals who volunteered to open the sanctuary for prayer time on Good Friday.

Now that we are in the season of Easter, more opportunities continue to be available in our worship space at Pilgrimage United Church of Christ. If anyone is interested in being a scripture reader on a rotation schedule or just at times and dates you prefer, please email the worship committee at:

pilgrimageuccworship@gmail.com

Please consider whether you may have interest in being part of a search committee for a Part Time Music Director and/or the search committee for a Part Time Piano Accompanist. If you know of any pianists who may be interested in playing hymns and other piano accompaniments in some of our summer services, please reach out to the worship chair or the office. We have some pianists scheduled for certain dates but would be grateful to have others who would be willing to play for the Sunday services while earning some income as well.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank all the many volunteers who help in our weekly worship services and fill in when needed; and to the children and youth who help make worship a peaceful experience.

VBS...Very Soon & Very Fun!

“Bling Your Nametag” & “Snack Wizards”

VBS is early this year. . .so with less than 2 months to go, we all have to think “VBS NOW”

Bling Your Nametag

VBS veterans will understand the meaning of the wild name tag decorations dazzling the congregation. Join us in releasing your inner child; wearing an extravagantly-decorated name tag is a fun and childlike way to show you love our PUCC kids, to help welcome neighborhood kids who choose to participate, and to support our hard-working and faithful volunteers!

This year’s blingy nametag distribution is a do-it-yourself event. First, admire the fancy tree sprouting spectacularly unusual “blossoms” and choose a name tag that reflects your personality. As you unclip your new wearable art, clip some green back onto the tree. We suggest \$10 for one tag or \$5 per tag for a family.

(Transfer the paper name insert from your current, plain-Jane badge into your new tag, then just clip the blingy badge onto the empty original. Easy-peasy.) The nametag funds go to support the VBS program and also support the mission project the kids choose every year. Who knows? Once you get attached to the wild and wonderful bling of a name tag, we encourage you to come to Sunday worship with as much additional bling as your clothing will sustain!

Here’s another way to support VBS while still keeping your day job: Become a...

Snack Wizard!

Wizards make snacks magically appear for the VBS children; no magic wand needed! You’ll be given a specific list of items with instructions for preparation. You’ll drop them at church at the assigned time. Poof! You’ve turned into a Snack Wizard who performs VBS magic—creating happy, healthy children.

Karen Clark
(770-973-9297 or
karensclark@comcast.net)

...will be the point of contact for these two programs and will be at church most Sundays in May for in-person sign-ups.

DEACONS

By Juliann Heilhecker & Stephen Williams
Co-chairs

pilgrimageuccdeacons@gmail.com



Colossians chapter 3 quotes... *“clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”*

Many of our members of PUCC are shining examples of these qualities. Every year, the deacons ask for nominations for Dr. of Friendship. The purpose of this award is to acknowledge a member who has humbly given of themselves to our community through generosity, love, and kindness. These can be acts of helping a family who is grieving, helping a person who needs some temporary help with food, giving rides, lending a kind ear, just to name a few ways of showing compassion.

If you know of someone who stands out in your mind, please send that nomination to the deacons. Please, do NOT just give a name. Please give a description of how this person has helped and why you think they should be nominated. Just a few rules: please don’t nominate a chairperson on council or anyone who has received this acknowledgement in the past 10 years. These past recipients are:

- Ric Reitz/The Heilheckers
- Beth & Jimmy Loyless
- Ben & Janet Alspach
- Sally & Tony Prah
- Kathy Mateer
- Neil & Karen Clark
- Lynne Buell
- Dick & Rita Mehlan,
- Sarah Holliday
- Karen Cox

Thank you,

Juliann Heilhecker and Stephen Williams
Deacon Co-chairs



Join Us at Our Town Hall Meeting

There is so much going on at PUCG this Spring! Join us for a Town Hall on May 15th after the 10:00 AM service to hear about the purchase of the Next Generation House, plan for Music Director and accompanist positions, and preparing for Courtney's maternity leave. In addition to the in-person meeting, we will be offering a Zoom option as well. Please send any questions or you might have in advance to:

pilgrimageuccvicepresident@gmail.com

This will allow us to make the Town Hall meaningful and helpful! See you soon!

Susan Volentine, President
Rochelle Lofstrand, Vice President

On Tuesday, May 31, we will serve the guests of MUST Ministries a nutritious lunch. We will be serving at the new location, MUST Hope House 1297 Bells Ferry Rd Marietta GA 30066. We will need 3 - 5 volunteers to help cook and 3 - 5 volunteers to help serve starting about 11:30 a.m. Volunteers must enter through the front door and clear security before coming to the kitchen.

There will be an orientation for kitchen volunteers on Saturday, May 28, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. If you have never helped with the lunch, I recommend trying to make this orientation. The new facility is fantastic!

Cash donations will be needed to buy chicken and side items since we can't pick chicken up at church. Donations can be sent to the church by check, or you can make your payment through PayPal or Zelle.

If you would like to help cook and/or serve, please contact Dick or Rita Mehlan at:

re_mehlan@bellsouth.net
or
rmehlan@bellsouth.net

May Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

05/02 Ella Dorsey
05/02 Juliann Heilhecker
05/02 Nick Shiver
05/03 Pat Kask
05/04 Danny Schnitzlein
05/11 Launa Richardson
05/17 Donald Stoddert
05/24 Jeanette Gillespie
05/26 Jeff Durkee
05/28 Paula Roberts
05/28 Joyanna Wyne
05/31 Tom Query

ANNIVERSARIES

05/15 Helene & John O'Neill
05/16 Kellyn & Jan Nally
05/29 Kerry & Danny Schnitzlein

If we missed someone, please let Lynne know at: office@pilgrimageucc.org

STAFF

Pastor Music Director Administrative Assistant	Rev. Courtney Jones Matthew Raisky Lynne Buell
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Pilgrimage UCC's Emails

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

Meeting Schedule for Committees & Small Groups

Book Club via Zoom (Fran Howard)	1st Tuesday of the month—7:00 p.m.
Pilgrimage Council (Susan Volentine, 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. https://pflag.org/chapter/pflag-marietta

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.

The Month in Sundays

May	1	Worship 8:30 & 10:00AM Communion (both services) Family Promise Week Begins
May	8	Worship 8:30 & 10:00AM
May	15	Worship 8:30 & 10:00AM Town Hall Meeting (11:45AM)
May	22	Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. PFLAG Meeting (1:00 p.m.)
May	29	Worship 8:30 & 10:00AM Deacons Fund Offering