

PILGRIM'S Progress

January 2022

A monthly publication of Pilgrimage
United Church of Christ

PASTOR

Rev. Courtney Jones

pastor@pilgrimageucc.org



the simple (but annoying, I know!) things that we know help stem the spread of disease. If you are sick, stay home, but if you need anything, please be in touch with your deacon or me—we who are well can care for those who are sick.

As we close 2021 and greet 2022, I am unspeakably grateful to be the pastor of this beloved community that is dedicated to being the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

Love,

Courtney

Dear Beloved,

December has been a wild ride. We've done our best to have "normal" holidays, and yet again, nothing is normal. We are reminded yet again that we are powerless in the face of Covid, in the face of people who seek to harass us and vandalize our signs, in the face of a changing climate that brings December tornadoes.

New Year's is a time when we make huge changes, trying to overhaul our lives, often in an attempt to control what feels out-of-control. But in the end, we are still (to use 12-step language) powerless over people, places, and things. We can only do what is ours to do, to take life one day, one moment at a time. To love those to whom we belong. And to care for ourselves and one another body and soul.

One of the ways we can take care of ourselves and each other in this new year is to consider getting vaccinated, if we are able, and consider getting our booster shots if we're vaccinated. We can mask up, social distance, and do



We are working on having a "joining Sunday" in January!

If you would like to join Pilgrimage, please let Rev. Courtney or the office know of your intention so that we have an idea of how many folks are interested in participating in our next Joining Sunday.

pastor@pilgrimageucc.org

office@pilgrimageucc.org



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.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

JOHN 1:1-16

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Pilgrimage
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

CHRISTIAN ED

Janet Derby

pilgrimageucce@gmail.com

ADVENT DEVOTIONS

Thank you to the following people who provided us with devotions during the Advent season: Anne Mooney, Lily Appleton, Darlene Wagner, Courtney Jones, Becky Nelson, Trish Greeves, Laurie Spencer, Lynne Buell, Duke Yaguchi, and Janet Derby.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you to Reverend Courtney who led a sermon talk-back series during the month of December. Adult Sunday school will resume in person and via zoom in January. More information regarding those sessions will be available soon.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

A huge thanks to our children and youth for once again leading us on Christmas Eve. The children worked hard and presented a wonderful Christmas story with assistance from Hannah Alexander, Morgan Jones, Emma Roberts, Emily Stoddard, and Carson Stoddard. Thanks also to Paula Roberts, Diane Reese, and Matt Raisky for accompanying them on various occasions and to Julianne Heilhecker who directed them as they played the boomwhackers.



LITTLE LAMBS

Little Lambs returns in January. This program allows our younger children (Grade 2 and below) to partake in a craft and story time during the worship service. The children leave following the children’s sermon and return at the end of the service. To comply with our new safe church policy, we will need lots of volunteers, both youth and adult. Stories and crafts and supplies will be provided.

Please contact Janet Derby at derbyjm@gmail.com if you are willing to help with this important ministry.

DEACONS

By Juliann Heilhecker & Stephen Williams
Co-chairs

pilgrimageuccdeacons@gmail.com



During the year when there are five Sundays in a month, we ask for your support and donate to the Deacon Fund. We will be receiving this offering on January 30. The Deacon Fund specifically helps those in need with-in the Pilgrimage community. You can help support each other by contributing to the Deacon Fund. If you are able, let’s continue to love and help each other by making a donation to the Deacon Fund. You can mail a check to the church or use PayPal or ZellePay to send your donations. Please write "Deacons Fund " in the memo section of your payment. Thank you for your on-going support!

Address questions or concerns to Juliann Heilhecker or Stephen Williams, Deacon Co-chairs, at:

pilgrimageuccdeacons@gmail.com

WORSHIP

Diane Reese, Chair

pilgrimageuccworship@gmail.com



Rev. Courtney inspired us with her leadership and her messages during Sunday morning services and through the theme of “Journeying” through Advent. Courtney also provided an extra inspirational, quiet, and reflective time of Vespers on Zoom during the four weeks of Advent on Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m. She continues to lead all of us with guidance and help to all when needed. She is a peaceful, reassuring presence always and comprising when difficulties arise.

Thank you to the many folks who came on Saturday, November 27th to prepare the sanctuary for the Hanging of the Greens service on Sunday, November 28th. In addition, several very helpful folks stayed after the Hanging of the Greens service to put the finishing touches on the tree. It has been a blessing to have these beautiful decorations in place for Advent and Christmas 2021.

Many thanks to Rev. Heather Fosburgh who led the December 26th worship service while Courtney was on vacation.

Thank you to the scripture readers for the month of December.

- December 5: Sharon Getty and Monty Wyne
- December 12: Amy Jones, Morgan Jones & Duke Yaguchi
- December 19: Anne Mooney and Dick Mehlan
- December 26: Kathleen McNulty

Christmas Eve scripture readers were:

- 4:30 Family Service: Emma Roberts
- 10:00 Lessons & Carols: Constance Blair, Auggie Jones, Isaac Martin, Dan Wilson, Greg Kask, Katie Bridges & Pat Kask

It was so meaningful to have the Advent candles and Christ candles lit in person this year by:

- November 28: Sharon Getty & Noel and Rick Reitz
- December 5: Lois & Bill Dischinger & Monica Helms & Darlene Wagner
- December 12: Morgan Jones & Amy Jones & Reba & Courtney Williams
- December 19: Joyce Baker and Anne Mooney & Molly & Ken Moss

Advent and Christ Candle Lighters on Dec 24th were:

- 8:30 Family Service: Amy and Katie Bridges
- 10:00 Lessons & Carols: Allison Prah

A lovely, intimate Blue Christmas Service was held on Thursday evening, December 2nd both in person and online. Thank you to the readers for that service who were:

- Kathleen McNulty
- Anne Mooney
- Julia Shiver
- Chris Shiver
- Duke Yaguchi

Last, but not least, we would like to thank all of the volunteers who help in our weekly worship services from the tech support folks, to other adults who fill in as volunteers when needed; and to the children and youth who help make worship a peaceful experience.

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



We are very excited to announce that January 9 is the kick-off date for our Audio/Visual upgrade. By then the TV screens will be installed in our Sanctuary!

Many, many thanks to Ric Reitz who has been overseeing the entire process!



Message from MUST Ministries

“To Our Meal Providers,

*The current Elizabeth Inn Shelter was named for the Elizabeth Church building and Elizabeth Church Road where it is currently located. Because that geographical connection will no longer be valid (and to avoid confusion in the immediate years to come), the new shelter needed a name. After much discussion with leadership and board members, a name was selected that captures the essence of what will be provided there: **The MUST Hope House***

To preserve the history of the Elizabeth Inn, a part of the organization that has long been associated with the heart of our ministry, we have preserved the Elizabeth Inn steeple with plans to place it in our courtyard or other visible location. We will put a small plaque on the steeple to be sure all future generations understand the significance of our 33-year history at Elizabeth Inn.

With the Hope House over 90% complete, we are still on schedule for the timeline presented in the meal provider meetings in early November. You will receive future communication about tour and training times closer to the Spring.

Additionally, with the temperature dropping we are seeing an increase in the number of guests for each of our meals. Currently, we are seeing on average 50 individuals for breakfast, 65 for Lunch during the week, 55 for lunch on the weekend, and 55 for dinner. The kitchen anticipates this upward trend will continue as we get deeper into the winter, however I will communicate with you all if/when that happens.

As always, I appreciate each of you and your organizations' commitment to our neighbors in need.”

Sean McConnell
Volunteer Coordinator- Elizabeth Inn
678-218-4536 (Office)

On Sunday, January 9, we are scheduled to host a Family Promise family.

Many volunteers are still needed for a variety of tasks that are required in order to make our guests comfortable.

Anything from providing food to volunteering your time to act as dinner host or overnight host will help us to make our host week a success.

Questions can be directed to Sue Stanton at:

sstan35378@gmail.com

Please click on the link below for additional information and to view the online sign-up sheet.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a4baeaf2ca4fc1-family11>

January Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

01/01	Megan Soloman
01/08	Lindsey O'Neill
01/09	Mark Gomillia
01/15	Polly Yaguchi
01/17	Mia McMahill
01/23	Chris Lumpkin
01/25	Monty Wyne
01/27	Dana Martin
01/30	Clay Roth

ANNIVERSARIES

01/16	Pat & Greg Kask
01/31	Dana & Dawn Martin

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

STAFF

<p>Pastor</p> <p>Music Director</p> <p>Administrative Assistant</p>	<p>Rev. Courtney Jones</p> <p>Matthew Raisky</p> <p>Lynne Buell</p>
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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
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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

Jan.	2	<p>Worship 8:30 & 10:00AM Communion (both services)</p>
	9	<p>Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Take Down Christmas Decorations</p>
	16	<p>Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.</p>
	23	<p>Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. PFLAG Meeting (1:00 p.m.)</p>
	30	<p>Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Deacons Fund Offering</p>