



ERICA EXTEMPORANEOUS

It is hard to worship when you are responsible for leading worship. It's all too easy to get caught up in making sure all of the moving pieces are going in the right direction. Paying attention to the "how" of what we are doing, the "why" sometimes gets lost: Why is the candle on this side burning with a flame two inches higher than the candle on that side? Do we have enough bread for communion... looks like a big crowd. Did I hit the mute button on my microphone by mistake? What did so and so say to me about such and such just as the chimes started?

Every now and again, an unscripted moment appears, startling me, calling on me, to pay attention. It asks me to notice what could never be planned. That's what happened on Pentecost Sunday. There was tremendous energy in the sanctuary. The red paraments and stole, not to mention much of the congregation in red, "tongues as of fire" crafted from lengths of ribbon, and the music! A rousing African American spiritual rattled the rafters. "Shut de door!"

Our closing hymn was a bit more sedate, almost contemplative. I moved from the chancel to offer the benediction while we sang together. One of our young people stood in the front vestibule, preparing to help with clean up. He had a plastic grocery bag, and the door was open. The bag caught the breeze and the young man played perhaps the most graceful game of "keep it up" that I have ever seen. Completely unselfconscious, his movements were fluid, effortless. My heart was filled with the Holy Spirit. "When you send forth your spirit, we are renewed." The spirit of God comes upon us and moves among us in unexpected ways. Keep your eyes and your heart open.



Take good care~Erica

Greetings from Gabby!

Summer is almost here! Are you excited? When it is really nice outside, I like to go to the beach and play in the sand. We don't have many beaches very close to us, do we? Just Mosquito Lake. Who decided Mosquito Lake was a good name? I don't like mosquitos. I especially don't like them when they bite me! Very itchy! I guess they are just hungry. Speaking of which, is it time for lunch yet?



~ Gabby

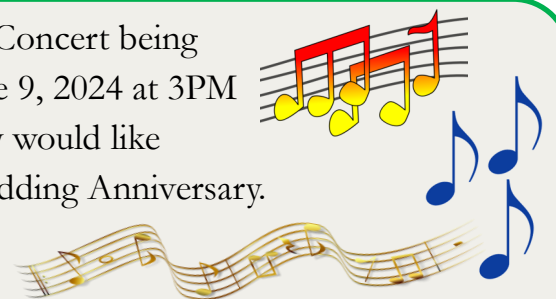
Every year, Howland Community Church submits information to both the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ. Once this data is compiled, it provides an overview of the life of the church across the denomination. Within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), sixty percent of our congregations have an average worship attendance of less than fifty people. Howland Community Church's average falls within the range of fifty to one hundred people, along with thirty percent of our congregations. The median annual offering is \$100,000. Our pledges alone com in just over \$95,000. This is wonderful news, on both counts! Perspective is helpful. We can feel good about the health of our congregation, remaining ever mindful of opportunities for growth. This information was gleaned from the State of the Church address our General Minister and President delivered at a recent meeting of the General Board. The entirety of her report is available on-line: <https://disciples.org/office-of-the-general-minister-and-president/2024-state-of-the-church/>



50
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATING



You are cordially invited to attend a Musical Concert being held at Howland Community Church on June 9, 2024 at 3PM in the afternoon. Barry and Leanna Dunaway would like for you to share in celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Client Choice Pantry



Our June food pantry is scheduled for Friday the 21st of June, during the usual hours of 3-5 pm. Volunteers are always welcome and needed. Optimally, we require 10-12 church member volunteers for a smoothly running pantry. We intend to have a Second Harvest food delivery on Thursday, the 20th of June, so we'll be doing our usual unloading and restocking then. AND AGAIN, A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO DONATE YOUR TIME AND ENERGY TO ASSIST WITH OUR COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY WORK.

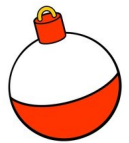
Linda Hitmar



Lectionary for June

Jun. 2 2024

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)
Deuteronomy 5:12-15
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Psalm 81:1-10
2 Corinthians 4:5-12
Mark 2:23-3:6



Jun. 9, 2024

1 Samuel 8:4-11,(12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)
Genesis 3:8-15
Psalm 138
Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
Mark 3:20-35

Jun. 16, 2024

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13
Ezekiel 17:22-24
Psalm 20
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17
Mark 4:26-34

Jun. 23, 2024


1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49
1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16
Job 38:1-11
Psalm 9:9-20
Psalm 133
Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32
2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 4:35-41

Jun. 30, 2024

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
Psalm 130
Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24
Psalm 130
Psalm 30
Lamentations 3:23-33
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43

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DATE	ELDER	DIACONATE SANCTUARY (All Month)	DIACONATE KITCHEN (All Month)
Jun. 2	Tom Hitmar	Anna Marie Ottney Captain	<u>Sanctuary</u> Linda Raphoon
Jun. 9	Jeffrey Morrison		
Jun. 16	Alan Purdum	Linda Raphoon	<u>JHR</u> Jane Walters
Jun. 23	Brooke Schubert	Becky Philbin	
Jun. 30	Katy Kell	John Layfield	

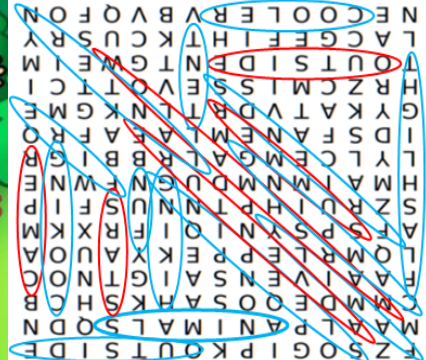


Camping WORD SEARCH FOR KIDS

F Z S O G I P K O U T S I D E
 M A A L P A N I M A L S Q D N
 C M M D E Q O S A H K S H C B
 F A A I V E N S A I G T N O C
 L Q M R L E P P E K Y A U O A
 A F S P S Y N I Q I F R X K M
 S Z R U I H P T N N U S F I P
 H M A I M N M D U G N F W N E
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 L A C G E F I H T K C U S R Y
 N E C O O L E R V B V Q F O N

- Sleeping Bag
- Lantern
- Hiking
- Family
- Cooking
- Marshmallow
- Camping
- Camper
- Summer
- Stars
- Adventure
- Outside
- Outside
- Fire
- Tent

- Friends
- Animals
- Cooler
- Flashlight
- Fun



Finance	April Activity	YTD Balance	Budget YTD
Income	\$ 25,227.26	\$ 96,878.79	\$ 93,828.00
Expenses	<u>\$ 26,271.25</u>	<u>\$ 96,210.64</u>	<u>\$101,489.84</u>
Difference	\$ (1,043.99)	\$ 668.15	\$ (7,661.84)

If you have questions, please contact Patty DiGiacobbe.

Monday, June 3, 2024

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IN NORTH HALL

Donors may report to the North Hall from 12:00-6:00 p.m.
 Call 1-800-733-2767 to make an appointment



BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



American Red Cross



HOWLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	2024	JUNE				1 1P—NA Mtg—NH 6P—AA Mtg--NH
2 9:30A Youth Group 10A-Worship Rick Clark	3 Red Cross Blood Drive 12-6P	4 	5 6P—Trustees 1P Women's Group Amy Waid	6 ♥ John & Susanne Shaulis 6-8P Girl Scouts (NH)	7 	8 1P—NA Mtg—NH 6P—AA Mtg--NH
9 9:30A Youth Group 10A-Worship	10 7P Elders	11 Barry Dunaway	12 1P Women's Group Katherine Morrison	13 	14	15 ♥ Leanna & Barry Dunaway 1P—NA Mtg--NH 6P—AA Mtg--NH
16 9:30A Youth Group 10A Worship ♥ Keith & Pat Walker 	17 6:30P Finance 7P Official Board 7P Boy Scouts-NH ♥ Tom & Sandy Caldron	18 Tracy Fessler	19 OFFICE CLOSED 	20 <u>July Newsletter Articles Due</u> ♥ Brendan & Judith Minogue Summer Begins 6-8P Girl Scouts (NH)	21 3-5P Client Choice Food Pantry (NH) Lucas Morrison	22 ♥ Andrew & Melissa Bickerstaff Bryson Thigpen Mara Turvey 1P—NA Mtg—NH 6P—AA Mtg--NH
23 9:30A Youth Group 10A-Worship ♥ Bob & Leeann Tucker	24 7P Boy Scouts-NH	25 	26 1P Women's Group Jeff Morrison	27 Jordan Becker Brooke Waid ♥ Ronald & Regina Whitsel	28 ♥ Bob & Jean Holinbaugh	29 FFM 11-12:30P (SH) Cory Dyett 1P—NA Mtg--NH 6P—AA Mtg--NH
30 9:30A Youth Group 10A-Worship ♥ Robin & Natalie Sanders Kevin Vencel						

HOWLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH
198 Niles Cortland Rd. S.E.
Warren, Ohio 44484

WE'RE ON THE WEB:
HOWLANDCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG

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June 2024

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
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PERMIT No. 163
Youngstown, Ohio



ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



The Community Messenger is the monthly newsletter of the **Howland Community Church** (affiliated with the Disciples of Christ, United Church of Christ, and International Council of Community Churches). Our church is **"A House of Prayer For All People."** We offer Sunday School for children and a fellowship gathering after Worship. Communion is served every Sunday.



OFFICE HOURS



**Monday—Friday
9:00AM—1:00PM**

Don't Miss the

DEADLINE!

Articles for
Next Month's
Newsletter are
Due June 20th

Reverend Erica Brown, Senior Minister
Danny DeMarco, Youth Pastor
Andrew Purdum, Director of Music
Rita Bobco, Finance Manager
Linda Mikula, Administrative Assistant
Minta Pitts, Custodian