

It's that time of year again. Somehow, we blinked and the summer is all but over. Many of the youngest among us are back in school, or will be soon. Pencils and crayons and various and sundry supplies have been purchased. I remember stocking up on looseleaf notebook paper like there was no tomorrow. You've got to look for the deals! I just might still have a bit of a weakness for school supplies, truth be told.

This season also brings more than its fair share of angst and anxiety. Whether a kindergartener or a college freshman, the mind reels. "What if I don't like my teacher?" "What if my teacher doesn't like me?" "What if I forget my locker combination?" "What if no one wants to sit with me at lunch?" Sometimes, the what-ifs become what-nows, but as often as not, we worried needlessly.

Every new year, every new beginning, promises new challenges, new struggles, new lessons to learn, new mistakes to make. As we grow, we draw on what we've learned before, what we know to be true, building a strong basis for new insight, new information. We ask questions and learn how important it is to check our work. We strive to appreciate the subtle distinction between trying too hard, and not trying hard enough. We make those mistakes. We try again. And again.

These lessons, it seems, we learn and relearn at every stage of our lives. We are blessed to be able to do this within a sense of community, as a people of faith, serving a living and loving God. Thanks be to God!

Take good care~ Erica

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# Greetings from Gabby!

I'm excited for the new school year. I hope I will learn lots of new things. I hope I will make lots of friends. I'm excited, but I'm also a little bit scared.

It's hard to do new things. I don't know whether I will be good at them.

But I will never know unless I try.

Will you try with me?

~ Gabby



## **OPERATION SHOELEATHER**

Thanks to the congregation for once again supporting the Outreach Committee's effort to provide new school shoes for children in need. This year we were able to provide 50 children with \$25 gift cards.

## HOWLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

~ A House of Prayer for All People ~



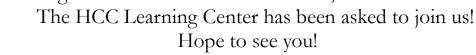
## ALL ARE WELCOME •

Our Annual Smokey's Autumn Festival will be joined with Grandparent's Day this year!

Bring your grandchildren! We will meet September 8th immediately following the worship service in the South Hall.

Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided.

Please bring a covered dish with NO NUTS, salad or dessert to share.





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# Client Choice Pantry

Our food pantry is scheduled for Friday, September 20th during the usual hours of 3-5 pm. Optimally, we require 10-12 church member volunteers for a smoothly running pantry. We will always require volunteers to help us unload and stock our shelves and freezers, generally the day before the pantry each month. We would also appreciate any volunteers who can come to help our clients carry out their groceries on the day of our Food Pantry.

Volunteers are always welcome and needed!

Linda Hitmar

#### DIACONATE DIACONATE ptember Schedule DATE **ELDER SANCTUARY** KITCHEN (All Month) (All Month) Brooke Sept 1 Schubert **Barry Dunaway** Captain Gretchen Sept 8 Sanctuary Leanna Hrusovsky Karen Brown Dunaway **JHR** Sept 15 Barb Turvey Rita Bobco Gary Arblaster Preston Thigpen Barb Sept 22 Layfield Bryson Thigpen Sept 29 Katy Kell

### **Lectionary for September**

#### Sept. 1, 2024

Song of Solomon 2:8-13 Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9

Psalm 15

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

#### Sept 8, 2024

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalm 125

Psalm 146

James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

#### Sept 15, 2024

Proverbs 1:20-33

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 19

Wisdom of Solomon 7:26-8:1

Psalm 116:1-9

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

#### Sept 22, 2024

Proverbs 31:10-31

Wisdom of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 1

Psalm 54

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

#### Sept 29, 2024

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalm 124

Psalm 19:7-14

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50



Joint Annual Gathering of the Heartland Conference UCC and Regional

Assembly of the Christian Church in Ohio (Disciples of Christ)

Friday, September 27 and Saturday, September 28, 2024

Northwest Christian Church, 1340 Fishinger Rd., Columbus, OH 43221

Being The Community Of Christ - Together

Romans 1:11-12

For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine.

Our two preachers for the event both represent Global Ministries, our common UCC/DOC ministry around the world. On Friday afternoon we will hear from Dr. Nibedita Pramanik, Director of the Evangelical Mission Hospital Khariar, India. On Saturday Afternoon our preacher will be the Rev. Dr. LaMarco Cable, President of Disciples Overseas Ministries and co-executive of Global Ministries (UCC/DOC).

The Keynote Speaker for the joint event, the Rev. Elizabeth Hagan, is Senior Pastor of First Christian Church of Athens, Georgia and author of "Brave Church: Tackling Tough Topics Together." Rev. Hagan will those of us gathered to explore ways to stay in community even when we have very different perspectives on faith and the social and political issues confronting us.

There will be two 'Musical Reflectors' for the event: Rev. Andra Moran and Rev. Christopher Grundy. Rev. Moran is familiar to Disciples of Christ as she has been musician at many General Assemblies, plus several of her songs are in our Chalice Praise." Both Andra and Christopher have recorded several albums.

Both denominations will have separate meetings to conduct their respect business. Several sessions will allow attendees to network and connect with others around like-minded ministries as well as interests. And there will be the familiar booths from denominational and ecumenical partners!

If you are interested in attending, talk with Erica for more information!



Monday, October 7, 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



Thank you to all who prepared a dish for Katie Stoian, our HCC Learning Center Director.

Please continue to keep her in your prayers.





#### **HOWLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH**

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#### WE'RE ON THE WEB:

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## **ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED**



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.



Monday—Thursday 9:00AM—4:00PM Friday 9:00AM—Noon



Articles for Next Month's Newsletter are Due Sept 20th Reverend Erica Brown, Senior Minister
Andrew Purdum, Director of Music
Rita Bobco, Finance Manager
Linda Mikula, Administrative Assistant
Minta Pitts, Custodian