

The Connection

The Newsletter of Shiloh Church, UCC

July 2025

F R O M T H E



PASTOR

As the **"Rooted in Summer, Growing in Spirit"**

July has arrived in all its sun-drenched beauty seasons of cookouts and campfires, of family road trips and flower beds growing with color. It's the month when the world seems to slow just enough for us to breathe deeply, feel the warmth on our skin, and marvel at the sheer gift of creation. A true reminder of God's still speaking voice into our soul and nature.

But even in these easy, and relaxing days, our spiritual life doesn't pause—it pulses with possibility. The very rhythm of summer reminds us that growth doesn't happen only in the busy seasons. Just as gardens flourish in the heat, our relationship with God deepens when we stay rooted in prayer, compassion, and the living Word. Whether we're on vacation, tending a flower or garden, or sharing laughter with loved ones, God is there inviting us into ever more generous love.

At Shiloh, we are called to *"Live the Word, by Serving the World."* That call doesn't take a vacation. In fact, summer is a vibrant time for us to be the prophetic voice of love in our community. It's in the neighbor who needs a meal, the child in need of school supplies, and the lonely soul who needs a kind word. We carry the torch of Christ's compassion wherever we go.

Let us also take time to give thanks for the good and faithful work of our ministries: our ever-expanding food pantry continues to meet the basic needs of so many, and every can of soup and whatever we can do to volunteer or donate carries the message of Christ's love. Our outreach efforts are more than service; they are a direct reflection of a sacrament. And next month, on **August 16**, we look forward to our **Shiloh Charity Golf Outing**—a joyful tradition that supports local families in need. Your participation and support turn fairway fun into tangible grace for those who are struggling.

So, as you travel or garden, as you sip iced tea on a shaded porch or dive into a new book, I encourage you to keep asking: *How is God showing up in my summer? And how am I showing God's love to others?*

May this season bring you both rest and renewal. And may our shared faith continue to bloom in acts of kindness, justice, and welcome—for all, with no exceptions.

With grace and gratitude, **Rev. Jay D. McMillen** Shiloh Church UCC

When a family member or friend within the congregation is ill or in need of assistance, please call the church office and notify us of that need.

June Health Concerns

Jacob Bench, Rick Bowman, Shirley Foreman, Lona Bowman, Brian Kremer, Stephanie Solomon.

Long-term Concerns

Dar & Leanne Anstaett, Larry Baumgardner, Michael Belcher, Esther Brown, Tarri Bryant, Betsy Clapp, Dean Crandall, Janice Eichelberger, Jenn Ferguson, Shirley Foreman, Janet Haynes, Linda Homan, Marlene Hunnell, Martha Kirkland, Bonnie McCarthy, Mary McFarland, Al Michael, Lisa Neff, Mary Alice Newbauer, Tami Rhoads, Lillian Smith, Lori Stevenson, Janey Townsley

Bulletin & Connection Article Deadlines for July

All bulletin articles and Connection articles can be sent to apack@shiloh.org

Bulletin articles are due by noon the Wednesday preceding the Sunday it should appear.

Connection articles are due by noon on Wednesday, July 23 for the August Connection.

July Actioneer



This month our actioneers is none other than, Janet Ferguson, Jill Sleppy, and Connie Neef. These three ladies each and every week make Monday a truly special day as they count and organize all the gift giving that takes place on Sunday, records and deposits these funds for the mission and ministry of Shiloh Church UCC. Janet's gift of her time and talents has also been a tremendous help while we still look for a permanent replacement in our business office. She has learned some more skills and also gained some valuable knowledge of programs and how our software operates. And with Connie and Jill, we have maintained our checks and balance approach to each individual giving. Without these three ladies and their caring attitude and skills that they continue to share with you the congregation is truly an asset to their love of what they do, but also of the church itself. They do this not for the recognition but for the supporting of ways that we are the church both internally and externally in the ways we serve. Thanks to the big three of Janet, Jill and Connie for showing us all how "To Live the Word, by Serving the World."

Blessings to you three,

Rev. Jay D. McMillen

Bake Shoppe News...

Cookies, Breads, Pie, Oh, My! Yes, it is time to make preparations for those delicious Holiday Goodies!

Making all the different kinds of pie for the Bazaar takes many volunteers. We made over 400 pies last year. I am asking for help to make pie crusts this year. If you make pie, or even if you would like to learn how to make pie - *I will teach you.* Please talk to me about volunteering your time and talent to Bake Shoppe.

I thank you for your support of Shiloh's Bake Shoppe. Patty Farinet

Shiloh's Annual Garage Sale

Thanks to all who donated items, came and helped sort/price and sell items at this year's Shiloh's Annual Garage Sale. A BIG Thank-You to all who stayed to bag and box all the items left after the sale!! We appreciate the time Trotwood Thrift and the Library on Abbey took out of their day for coming and picking up the leftover items after the sale Saturday.

Many thanks for a successful sale!

Shiloh's Women's Board

CAR SHOW

★ Ice Cream Social ★



Sunday, July 27, 2025
11:40am-1:00pm



Cook-out lunch and ice cream
\$ 8 adult \$5 child

Shiloh
Church 
Living the Word by Serving the World

5300 Philadelphia Drive
Dayton, OH 45415

Ice Cream Social & Car Show

Sunday, July 27 11:40 – 1:00

Please join us for lunch, ice cream & check out the cars. Know someone who has a cool car, motorcycle, truck invite them to join us. There is no fee they get one free lunch for bringing their vehicle to the show. There will be flyers on the green table. Hope you will join us.

Shiloh Church - UCC
Summary of Income and Expenses for Ministries

For the period of January 1 through May 31, 2025

	Actual	Budget	Variance
MINISTRIES INCOME			
Covenants & Offerings	111,806.71	131,000.00	(19,193.29)
Seasonal Offerings	2,691.00	2,100.00	591.00
Use of Building (Including Weddings)	2,525.00	2,900.00	(375.00)
Misc (Lamp of Faith, Tapes, etc.)	50.00	25.00	25.00
Fair Income	11,747.18	12,000.00	(252.82)
Rebates	422.13	625.00	(202.87)
Interest Income	3.78	-	3.78
Coffee	232.91	325.00	(92.09)
Total Income	129,478.71	148,975.00	(19,496.29)
MINISTRIES EXPENSES			
Pastoral Expenses	42,197.20	42,726.61	(529.41)
Christian Education	6,618.03	7,248.26	(630.23)
Church Boards & Design			
Deacons	156.40	275.00	(118.60)
Stewardship	280.91	250.00	30.91
Growth & Marketing	884.03	1,075.00	(190.97)
Worship Board - Music Ministry	37,162.98	37,526.85	(363.87)
Worship Board - Media Ministry	1,645.47	6,257.42	(4,611.95)
Property Committee - Building	67,956.47	79,952.07	(11,995.60)
Administrative	38,015.36	41,820.58	(3,805.22)
Total Expenses	194,916.85	217,131.79	(22,214.94)
 Income minus Expenses	 \$ (65,438.14)	 (68,156.79)	 2,718.65

Where were we a year ago?

	<u>As of 5/31/24</u>	<u>As of 5/31/25</u>
Covenants and Seasonal Offerings	112,283.58	114,497.71
Other Income	18,309.17	14,981.00
Total income	130,592.75	129,478.71
 Total expenses	 192,963.85	 194,916.85
 Income minus Expenses	 <u>(62,371.10)</u>	 <u>(65,438.14)</u>

Other Transfers in

Endowment - Div., Int., Growth only	25,000.00	25,000.00
Memorials	500.00	210.00
	<u>26,115.00</u>	<u>25,210.00</u>
 Endowment - Baseline	 1,178,575.60	 1,438,591.02
Endowment - Actual Balance	1,440,199.20	1,396,406.64

Shiloh Church's 19th Annual Charity Golf Outing:

Join Us for a Day of Giving and Fellowship!

Shiloh Church is excited to announce our **19th Annual Charity Golf Outing**, happening Saturday, **August 16!** This cherished tradition brings together our church family and local businesses in support of a beautiful mission: serving families and organizations in need during the Christmas season.

Whether you're a seasoned golfer or just looking for a meaningful way to give back, there's a place for you on the green. The cost is **\$90 per golfer**, which includes a fun-filled round of golf. Afterward, we invite everyone to enjoy a delicious **dinner and auction** for just **\$25**. It's the perfect time to connect, celebrate, and continue giving from the heart.

We also offer **sponsorship opportunities ranging from \$50 to \$3,000**. We encourage you to give as you feel led—every dollar makes a difference in the lives we're blessed to serve.

This event is one of our **biggest fundraisers of the year**, and we would love to have you be a part of it. For more information, please contact us at the church office at **937-277-8953**, or reach out directly to **Rev. Jay D. McMillen** at jmcmillen@shiloh.org.

Let's come together in faith and generosity to spread the blessings of God throughout our community!

— *Rev. Jay D. McMillen*



Save the Date

October 26, 2025, 4:00 pm -5:00 pm *Trunk of Treats* at the parking lot by gazebo. Start to get your decorating ideas ready for your trunks. Partner up with another family from church or your committee etc.

SOCK DROP

One count is in....and it continues to grow! Thanks to my Shiloh Family, and many other friends for supporting my 90th Birthday Celebration "SOCK DROP"! Our Valerie Elementary public-school partner and our annual Christmas Tree blessings will benefit from this effort. Many persons will enjoy protected and adorned feet. Our own, Hank Vaughan, will coordinate the donations. To date, 2,501 pairs of socks have been donated and the count continues to increase! Thanks Shiloh for your support!

In Christ's Spirit,
Terry Ogletree

Make a difference by helping students at Valerie Elementary School!

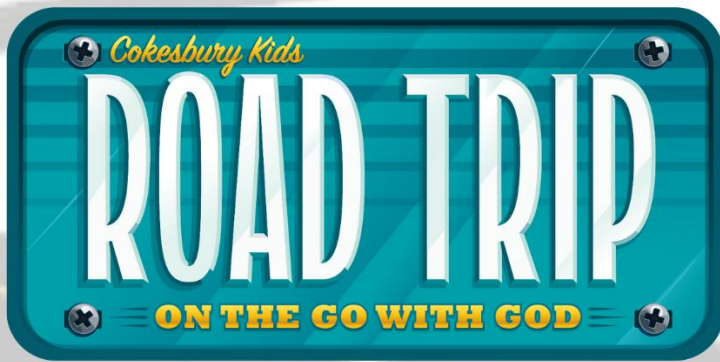
It's hard to believe but the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year is only weeks away! Where did the summer go? Once again Shiloh Church will be helping to support students at our adopted school Valerie Elementary. Our church has been supporting Valerie for over 20 years now in various ways such as volunteering to assist students with learning, donating school supplies and volunteering for school events like Science Fairs and special programs.

Once again, we are only collecting cash donations to buy school supplies for students at Valerie. **NO SCHOOL SUPPLIES WILL BE COLLECTED.** Hank Vaughn, our buyer, is able to save anywhere from 25% - 60% or more off each item because of sale prices, no sales tax, and a teacher discount. Mark donations 'Valerie School' when you place it in the offering plate. The last Sunday to donate is August 10.

Last school year, 2023-2024, 2,905 school supply items were donated to the school. Some of these items were: 540 composition notebooks, 400 small glue sticks, 300 boxes of crayons, 737 two-pocket folders and 100 boxes of Kleenex. The regular price would have been as much as \$4,051. However, all the items were bought for \$1,372. About \$96 was saved on state sales tax alone because of the church's and school's tax exempt status.

On behalf of the kids and teachers at Valerie, THANK YOU for your generosity in helping them getting started with essential school supplies needed at the beginning of another great school year!!!

Missions and Social Concerns Committee



Vacation Bible School 2025

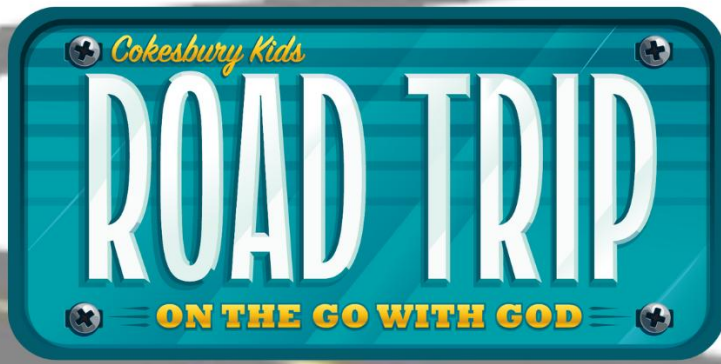
What an incredible journey we had in June on our Road Trip with Vacation Bible School!! We had a lot of fun making crafts, listening to stories, playing games, and singing and dancing. The youth (and adults) learned that throughout our life journeys we are never alone, God is always with us.

To every volunteer that gave their time, talents, and treasures—THANK YOU! None of it would have been possible without you. From making decorations and set-up, leading groups and activities, and cleaning up...everyone had an important role.

You showed our kids what it means to follow God wherever the road leads. You made this VBS not just fun, but meaningful—and for that, we are truly grateful. Thank you again for supporting the youth of our church and community.

See you again on our next adventure!

**Always counting blessings,
Karyn**



Vacation Bible School 2025





WORSHIP WITH US!

July 6, 2025 (Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

Galatians 6: 7-10

Luke 10: 1-11

Topic: "Be the Message"

Theme: The message is shared to all.

July 13, 2025 (Fifth Sunday after Pentecost)

Galatians 1: 3-8

Luke 10: 25-37

Topic: "Show Mercy"

Theme: Mercy is shared to all.

July 20, 2025 (Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

Colossians 1: 21-23

Luke 10: 38-42

Topic: "Distraction Vs Spirit"

Theme: Don't be distracted stay on point in Spirit.

July 27, 2025 (Seventh Sunday after Pentecost)

Colossians 2: 16-19

Luke 11: 1-10

Topic: "Molded in Prayer"

Theme: Prayer becomes a foundation in Spirit.

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

Meredith Fisher 07/04
Dawn McMillen 07/04
David White 07/04
Charles Banks 07/05
Anthony Ragan 07/07
Mary Lou Stevenson 07/07
Lillian Smith 07/08
Robin Wolfe 07/08
Doug Farinet 07/10
Lindsay Hofferberth 07/10
Patty Farinet 07/11
Daniel Craine 07/12
Pat Reid 07/17
Ted Patton 07/20
Martha Kirkland 07/21
Larry Schnabel 07/21
Russell A. Worley Jr. 07/21

Connie Neef 07/22
George Safley 07/23
Jerry Engel 07/25
David Kentner 07/25
Kathy Wall 07/25
Elizabeth Van Tine 07/27
Darin Cronebach 07/29
Robert Kell 07/29
Melinda Hofstetter 07/30