



Vol 25, Issue 8  
August 2025

## RUTH'S CORNER

Greetings from Rev. Ruth! I am Ruth Hopkins, your Designated Interim (part time) Minister. I am thrilled to be joining you, getting to know you and your community!

I want to tell you just a bit about myself. I grew up in Fairborn, Ohio and was raised in the United Church of Christ. After college, I married Bob Hopkins, and moved to Springboro, where we currently live with our collie, Sarah. I have worked in church settings as a choir director and administrator for over 15 years. I was ordained and called to Cross Creek as Pastor in August 2011. I trained to be an intentional interim in Cleveland in 2018.

I pastored at Cross Creek during the merger with Oak Creek UCC and was Designated Interim Pastor at Harmony Creek in 2020 to April of 2022. Since then I have been a supply pastor and work on several SONKA ministries, including Lay School, Faith Formation and the Post Ordination Team. I also serve on the Heartland Faith Formation leadership team. I enjoy music, film, dogs, and books.

Interim time can be a wonderful time of opportunity and challenge. So I ask for your patience as I learn your ways, and you learn mine, which will be a bit different for all of us. You can expect a few changes here and there, which are all a part of the interim process.

Part of my job during this time is to keep the machinery of the church running. But it is also part of my job to help you experience different ways of worshipping, different ways of pastoring; the things that come with a different pastor that are not what you may be used to.

Naturally I will do things differently, based on my training, sensibility, and theology. And so your next pastor will do the same.

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### Church Office Hours:

August office hours will vary. See the Sunday bulletin calendar for weekly office hours or email:

[info@lakeviewucc.com](mailto:info@lakeviewucc.com)

### Sunday Worship Services

- Sanctuary Service 10:15am
- Worship service available online at 2:00 pm via Facebook & Vimeo
- Communion is held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month.

## RUTH'S CORNER.....continued

It is a wonderful merging of the church's vision and mission, decided by you, the congregation; along with a pastor that can get you there, but who will be different, with different sensibilities and experiences to share.

As we embark on this transition together, I hope you will come to me directly with your thoughts, take advantage of the many ways to keep up with the process, and love each other even more deeply, so that you can make the important decisions that will propel Lakeview into an even brighter future.

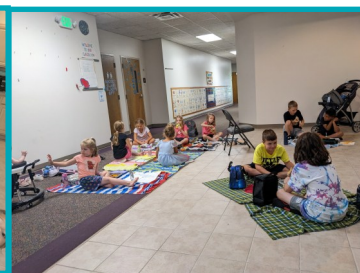
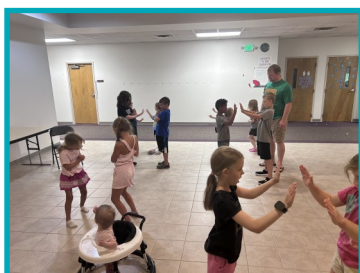
I would also ask that you remain faithful. We have some months to go before a new pastor is called. So stay the course, keep attending, keep giving, keep Lakeview in your prayers. We are at an exciting time together, you are planning your future, and discerning what God may be calling you as a community to do! Lakeview has a bright and beautiful future ahead!

Bless us all, bless this church. I am profoundly grateful to serve it.

*Pastor Ruth*

## CYF (Children, Youth and Family Ministry)

Check out these highlights from this Summer's VBS: *Hand in Hand!*



9 Dayne Friedhoff  
 13 Peggy Crews  
 14 Mike Maile  
 21 Marshall Cange

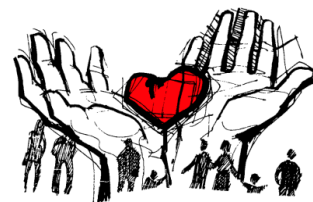


23 Emily Kronenberger  
 26 Karen Baumann  
 29 Lynn Potts  
 29 Laura Maile

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Mac McKenzie  
 Ernie & Karen (friend of Pam's)  
 Esther Friedhoff & family  
 The Paul Family  
 Tim (Pam's brother-in-law)  
 Adrienne (friend of Lisa Barrows)  
 Karen Baumann & Larry  
 Tom & Ruthie McCormack

The Anderson Family  
 Cindy Wood  
 The Bierkan Family  
 The Kievit Family  
 The McEleney Family  
 The Huber Family  
 The Massung Family



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



The August **Just for Lunch** will be held on Monday, August 25th at 12:30pm at deShā's. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office. Questions? Contact Rosemary.

All are welcome, but space is limited!



Thanks to everyone who has contributed to our music ministry this Summer so far! There's more to come!

**Mark your calendar-** the first chancel choir rehearsal of the season will be Wednesday, August 27th at 7:30pm in the sanctuary!



Natalie will be on vacation August 11-18th. If you need any assistance during this time, please contact Rev. Ruth Hopkins, (pastor@lakeviewucc.com) or Corey (cyfministry@lakeviewucc.com).



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



### Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 14th!

We are SO EXCITED to welcome **Freeway Brass** to Lakeview. This brass quintet will be joining us during our 10:15 worship service, AND performing a free, public recital here that afternoon. Time is still TBA, but Natalie will have flyers available for distribution soon if you would like to help spread the word.

You can read more about these talented musicians on their Facebook page or their website:

<https://www.freewaybrass.com/about-us>



Many thanks to Bob Sandman and Donna Maile for hosting Family Promise families with me on 7/21. Also thanks to Ann Tsui and Natalie Brown and her daughter April for spending the night at the facility in their “hotel suites”. And finally, thanks to Elyse Paul, Rosemary Ennis, Joyce Anderson, Janet Friedhoff, and Natalie Brown for providing a delicious dinner to the guests, including 13 very hungry children! It’s truly a team effort support these families, so cheers to everyone who contributed!

-Ellen Abel



### Sign Up to Help With Worship and Fellowship—WE NEED YOU!

In case you have missed it, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the lobby where you are encouraged to volunteer for Sundays. We are in need of greeters, scripture readers, help with Communion preparation/serving, and providing and/or serving refreshments/doing cleanup after worship.

# ACTION IN MISSION—(A.I.M.)



## August Mission of the Month

Last August we began the journey to support a refugee family through the Welcome Corps program. “The Welcome Corps” allows private US citizens to sponsor refugees who have been approved for resettlement in the US by the US Refugee Admissions Program. In groups of 5 or more, sponsors provide needed support for the first 90 days and continue to help them reach independence. On January 17, 2025, we welcomed Cesar, Maryory, and their two children, Cesar Arturo (14) and Marsella (11), refugees from Venezuela. Four of the five sponsor members are from Lakeview UCC and with the contributions of money and furnishings from the congregation the family has made great strides in beginning a new life in America.

Cesar Arturo and Marsella are enrolled and attend AWL (Academy of World Languages). Cesar and Maryory both have found work in a restaurant near their apartment off Dana Ave. Cesar recently passed his driving test and now has his Ohio driver’s license. Through their own savings and help from our Go fund Me site and the sponsors, the family now has a used car which will make them more independent and will open new opportunities for higher paying jobs.

In February of 2025 we received word that the Welcome Corp program had been terminated by Trump administration. This did not affect the status of the family, who have received social security numbers and state IDs, but it did eliminate the support staff that were helping our 5 member sponsor group under the Welcome Corp umbrella and eliminated the pathway for any additional refugees to enter the US. Recently the passage of the BBB bill will eliminate SNAP benefits at their next recertification appointment. When their used car was purchased, we knew new tires would be needed, however at this time it is not in their budget to afford this expense. Our August mission giving will enable the family to purchase the tires, be safe in driving, and help them locate better paying jobs. This is one of those rare times when you see clearly where your giving is needed and the people that it will help. We are the people that “We the People” refers to, and we can represent the welcoming people that we are called to be.

**Sponsoring Refugees.  
Strengthening Communities.**

<https://welcomecorps.org/>



August is a 5th Sunday month. Watch the Sunday bulletin for information on this month’s 5th Sunday Mission!

## ACTION IN MISSION—(A.I.M.)....Continued

### DONATIONS FOR KINGS FOOD PANTRY:

#### AUGUST URGENT NEEDS!

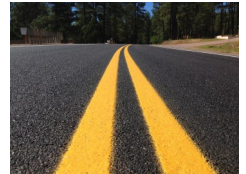
- Kids' Cereal (the stuff kids like)
- Condiments: ketchup, mustard, mayo, etc.
- Dry Spaghetti Noodles



Look for the bins under the bulletin board in the church lobby. Thank you for your generosity and the positive impact you continue to make in our community for those in need.

## 2025 Lakeview Capital Campaign

### PAVING THE WAY—AUGUST 2025



On Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the congregational meeting of Lakeview UCC, a vote was taken to extend the 2022 Capital Campaign. Now that the second mortgage has been paid off (February 24, 2025), extending the campaign will enable the church to gather funds for much needed property projects.

One of the projects is repairing the parking lot. Information is being gathered concerning the cost and it is approximately \$76,000.00. Generous gifts from the Lakeview Preschool and Lakeview Foundation are helping with this expense.

Second, in a few years, the church will need the roof shingles replaced and that will also be a major expense.

So, prayerfully consider extending your commitment to the capital campaign. **As of July 13<sup>th</sup>, we have \$8,176.96 already.** Any gift is gratefully appreciated. Please remember to mark your gift "Capital Campaign" so the Financial Secretary, Julie Peterson, can place it in the proper designation.

I will keep you informed about the progress each month in [The Link](#).

Karen Baumann, Treasurer

Contributions to the Lakeview Operating fund can be made during offering, by using the giving envelopes in the main aisle, via automatic bill pay at your bank, online using the Pushpay app or the QR code here. Your generosity is deeply appreciated!



## Pastor Search Committee

by Bob Sandman

The Settled Pastor Search Committee has been working diligently since March. Many of you responded to our survey, and there is a binder with results on a table in the narthex/lobby. Here are some highlights: We attend church primarily for the fellowship of community. We want a settled pastor to be engaging and friendly. The new pastor should focus time and energy on the worship experience.

Now that the survey is completed, the committee has started filling out the Local Church Profile. This will eventually be a 40-page document that will be posted on the UCC's Ministerial Opportunities website. Ministers looking for churches will scan this website to learn about possible new calls. The profile includes the details of the Position Posting, the vision of Who Is God Calling Us to Become, the description of Who Are We Now, and the background of Who Is Our Neighbor. Several church leaders have helped provide information to fill out sections.

In addition, co-chairs Lisa Barrows and Bob Sandman have reached out to Interim Minister Rev. Ruth Hopkins. Ruth is looking forward to working with the search committee, providing advice and an outside perspective.

As always, the committee welcomes your questions and opinions. And keep us in your prayers.

## PRESCHOOL



Lakeview Preschool is gearing up for a new school year. We are very excited to be partnering with the church to make parking lot improvements.

We do have a few openings available for the fall in the T/Th afternoon program. If your child will be 3 by December 31 or older, we have space available.



If you aren't a Kroger rewards member, or haven't set up your community rewards partner yet, it's very easy and free to do! When you think of Kroger for your Easter goodies you can contribute to LUCC at the same time. It really **does** make

a difference! Step-by-step instructions found here: <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>

The Lakeview App is the easy way to send a prayer request, receive notifications, make a donation, or check out the scripture reading for the week. Scan the QR code to download and use our keyword "GIVE2LAKEVIEW"



# TREASURER'S REPORT

## Lakeview United Church of Christ Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January 1 through July 27, 2025

	<u>July 27, 2025</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense Income				
Income				
40000—Operating Income	<u>199,514.93</u>	<u>180,146.88</u>	<u>19,368.05</u>	<u>110.8%</u>
Total Income	199,514.93	180,146.88	19,368.05	110.8%
Expense				
60000—Employee Expenses	56,316.91	92,057.33	-35,740.40	61.2%
50000—Operating Expenses	61,737.27	48,136.49	13,600.78	128.3%
72070—Cornerstone Mortgage	<u>45,847.36</u>	<u>45,694.95</u>	<u>152.41</u>	<u>100.3%</u>
Total Expense	163,901.54	185,888.77	-21,987.23	88.2%
Net Ordinary Income	<u>35,613.39</u>	<u>-5,741.89</u>	<u>41,355.28</u>	<u>-620.2%</u>
Net Income	<b>35,613.39</b>	<b>-5,741.89</b>	<b>41,355.28</b>	<b>-620.2%</b>

Checking Account Balance as of 6/30/25 \$47,962.44\*

Savings Account Balance as of 6/30/25 \$16,118.32

\*Contains \$2260.99 as of 6/30/2025 of capital campaign fund

Cornerstone Mortgage Balance as of 7/1/25: \$578,864.76



Thank you for your continued support and generous gifts to Lakeview.

Welcome to Pastor Ruth Hopkins as our new Interim Pastor!

Karen Baumann, Treasurer

Contributions to the Lakeview Operating fund can be made during offering, by using the giving envelopes in the main aisle, via automatic bill pay at your bank, online using the Pushpay app or the QR code here.

Your generosity is deeply appreciated!



Lakeview United Church  
Operating Fund  
https://www.givingsource.com



May Mission Totals-

*Strengthen the Church: \$ 798.50*

*United Church Homes: \$ 917.00*





**DO YOU KNOW LAKEVIEW'S LEADERSHIP TEAM?**

Position	Name	Primary Contact	Secondary
Interim Pastor	Rev. Ruth Hopkins	513-683-2073	pastor@lakeviewucc.com
Admin/Dir. of Music	Natalie Nolte	513-683-2073	info@lakeviewucc.com
CYF Ministry	Corey Nieman	513-262-9381	cyfministry@lakeviewucc.com
Director of Instr. Music	Irina Hall	513-753-0377	
Child Care	Faith Colwell	513-320-3255	

**Executive Committee**

Moderator/President	Adam Paul	adampaul.ap@gmail.com
Vice Moderator/V.P.	Rob Schorry	rschorry@gmail.com
Past Moderator/Past Pres	Steve Mays	scmays1@gmail.com
Treasurer	Karen Baumann	513-732-6880
Assistant Treasurer	Rosemary Ennis	513-265-2579
Recording Secretary	Sarah Huber	sarah.nicole.huber@gmail.com
Financial Secretary	Julie Peterson	julie.kay258@gmail.com
Facilities Coordinator	<i>Vacant</i>	

PACT Comm. Members: PACT is currently on hiatus during this time of search and call

**Standing Committees (contact person) / Delegates**

Assoc/Conf. Delegate	Lisa Barrows	828-489-2726
Alternate Delegate	Ann Tsui	513-683-8329
A.I.M. (Action in Mission)	Sandee McAlpine	513-608-0597
Membership/Welcoming	Linda Overholt	513-515-8870
Publicity/Social Media	<i>Vacant</i>	

**OPEN AND AFFIRMING  
COALITION**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST





The Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ advocates for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in the UCC, and equips UCC congregations to become effective witnesses to Christ's extravagant welcome.

<https://openandaffirming.org/about/>

**Lakeview's Mission:** We are a people called by God to intentionally welcome, nurture and send, so that we can grow God's church.

**Lakeview's Vision:** Reaching Out Through God's Spirit by Involving, Serving, and Learning

# August LUCC Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 PARKING LOT CLOSED	2 PARKING LOT REOPENS 8:30A-AA- rm 8
3 10:15A-Service 10A-Harmony- Rm8/9, CR, FH 11:30A- Harmo- ny mtg- rm 7 1P- Lumos Rehearsal	4 12P- AA- FH 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR 7P- Lumos Re hearsal 7P- Search Team mtg- Zoom	5 8P-AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	6 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 7:00P-NAR-Anon- rm 7	7 6:30p- BSA Cmmtee mtg- rm 7 7P-AA-FH 7P-Al Anon -rm8 7P- Lumos Re- hearsal	8	9 8:30A-AA- rm 8
10 10:15A-Service 1P- Lumos Re- hearsal	11 12P- AA- FH 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR 7P- Search Team mtg- Zoom 7P- Lumos Re- hearsal <i>Natalie-Vacation</i>	12 8P-AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	13 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 2:30P- Cub Scout Recruiting Event- Parking lot 7:00P-NAR-Anon- rm 7	14 7P-AA-FH 7P-Al Anon- 8/9 7P- Lumos Re- hearsal	15	16 8:30A-AA- rm 8
17 10:15A-Service 10A-Harmony- Rm8/9, CR, FH 1P- Lumos Re- hearsal	18 12P- AA- FH 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR 7P- Search Team mtg- Zoom 7P- Lumos Re- hearsal	19 6:30- Cub Scouts 8P-AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	20 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 6:30P-Girl Scouts- rm8 7:00P-NAR-Anon- rm 7	21 7P-AA-FH 7P-Al Anon -rm8 7P- Lumos Re- hearsal	22	23 8:30A-AA- rm 8
24 10:15A- Sanctuary Service 1P- Lumos Re- hearsal	25 12P- AA- FH 12:30P- Just for Lunch 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR 7P- Search Team mtg- Zoom 7P- Lumos Re- hearsal	26 6:30- Cub Scouts 7P- EC mtg- Zoom 8P-AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	27 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 4P- Preschool Ice Cream Social 7:00P-NAR-Anon- CR	28 4P- Preschool Ice Cream Social 6P- Lumos Dress Rehearsal 7P-AA-FH 7P-Al Anon -rm8	29 7:30PM Lumos Presents: <i>A Murder is Announced</i>	30 8:30A-AA- rm 8 7:30PM Lumos Presents: <i>A Murder is Announced</i>
31 10:15A- Sanctuary Service						

**Lakeview United Church of Christ**  
**8639 Columbia Road Maineville, OH 45039**  
**Phone: 513-683-2073**  
**info@lakeviewucc.com lakeviewucc.com**



**A Monthly Newsletter of Lakeview United Church of Christ**