

MAY 2025

May 1 *National Day of Prayer*

May 4 Worship Service & Sunday School 9:30 am

May 11 *Mother's Day* - Worship Service & Sunday School 9:30 am

May 17 *Armed Forces Day*

May 18 Worship Service & Sunday School 9:30 am

May 19 JUNE Call Newsletter Deadline

May 25 *Memorial Day Sunday* - Worship Service & Sunday School 9:30 am

May 26 *Memorial Day* - Church Office Closed

May 27 Call Collators 11:00 am

May 28 *Ascension Day*

FINANCIAL

NEWS

For the month ending March 31st 2025:

March Income to expense ratio was 86.5% and the January through March income to expense was 106.8%.

This congregation supports all the missions of the church: Financial, with donations to benefit all the many special projects, and with their time and talents. We appreciate all the wonderful support provided.

A detailed report of the Church expenses, by month, is always posted on the church bulletin board outside of the pastor's office. Your generous and regular financial support makes it possible for our church to do great things for our members, our neighbors, our community and our world. Thank you for all YOU do as we walk together loving and serving our Lord and Savior.

PLATTSBURG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Church Call



Board of Outreach

2025 Second Quarter Mission

The Mission Focus for April, May & June

LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS

Items Needed: Bottled Water - Gatorade

Individual packaged snacks such as (chips, beef jerky, granola bars, protein bars, trail mix, etc.)

Please Note: The Board of Outreach will be leaving 4 totes in the hallway area for collections throughout the year.

Totes will be labeled as follows:

Paper products only - Soup Kitchen
Toiletries/Hygiene
School Supplies

So if you are shopping and find a sale on any of these items, you can bring them in at any time.

Thank You!

Strengthen The Church - 2025 Special UCC Offering

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. The special offering will be taken on Sunday, June 8th 2025.

For those who receive the newsletter via postal service, the April 6, 2025 Board of Outreach Minutes will be printed on the back of the May 2025 Calendar. Thank You.

PLEASE cash any expense-reimbursement checks from the church in a timely manner. Checks that have not been cashed for two or three months make record keeping more difficult. Thank you.

Church Contributions: We understand that there still may be concerns about gatherings and attending worship service. If you are unable to attend worship service in person, you may mail your contributions to - **Plattsburg United Church of Christ - P O Box 699 - South Charleston OH 45368**. Your generosity is much needed and very much appreciated.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for individuals to volunteer to be Ushers or Greeters on Sunday mornings. The church is also in need of volunteers to teach Sunday School classes and be with the little ones in the Nursery during worship service time. If you are interested, please contact Joanna Rittenhouse. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to provide flowers for the church altar on a Sunday during 2025, a sign-up sheet has been posted in the front hallway for your convenience. In past years, we have had live flowers on the altar nearly every Sunday. You may wish to provide flowers in memory of loved ones, to commemorate a special anniversary or other important date, or just because. When signing up, please add any such information so that it can be included in the Sunday bulletin.

Thank you, Progress Club



Memorial Day - Monday, May 26, 2025

Sometimes during the holiday rush, the real meaning of Memorial Day can often get lost in the excitement of a three-day weekend. Let us all stop and remember all the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military and let us honor all the men and women who are serving now and have served in the past.

Graduates We will be honoring our 2025 Graduates on Sunday, June 1st. If you know of a graduate in our Church, please contact Jeanne Troxell.

Adult Sunday School - "...and then what?"

Charlie Miller will be leading an adult Sunday school class on the topic of the afterlife. This class will be discussion-based and last four (or more) weeks. It will begin on May 4 and occur each Sunday at 8:30 am in the fireside room.

Pastor Faith is on the Move!

The Solon family will be moving into our new home the second weekend in May. Our new address is 4007 Harper Rd, Mechanicsburg OH 43044. In order to help with the move, I will be taking May 11th off. The Deacons have secured a wonderful guest preacher, Luke Peart for that Sunday.

Summer Camp

While I was growing up, Church Camp was a highlight of my summers. Not only did I learn more about God, I met other young Christians, and perhaps most importantly – I had an AMAZING time!

While attending Church Camp may be new to the folks of Plattsburg UCC, I can personally vouch for Camp Christian in Marysville OH. I attended this camp beginning in the second grade, all the way into my adulthood. I even spent a summer on kitchen staff as a ministry associate. I have seen a Church Camp from every angle, Camper, paid staff, and volunteer counselor. I would highly encourage folks to consider attending camp – perhaps even for the first time.

The camps listed below span all ages. There are offerings for adults, for families to attend camp together, or for children to attend with a parent as counselor or solo. I want to stress that all adults are screened with background checks and trained. Many of these folks I have known for years.

If you are interested at all – please reach out to me. Scholarships are available so the cost to attend can be quite low. I am also willing to attend any week alongside anyone so that there will be a familiar face. This summer, please consider sending your kid to camp – or being a camper yourself!

- Camp Our Way – For those with Special Needs, ages 7 and up with an Adult Companion – May 16-18
- Disciples Fellowship Retreat – For folks of all ages (Families can attend together) – May 23-25
- Grandparent's Camp – For Children completing Kindergarten, 1st, or 2nd Grad and their Grandparent – June 8-10
- Ribbit Camp – For Children completing 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade who need an abbreviated Camp experience – June 29-July 2
- Otter Camp – For Children competing 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade ready for a full week at camp – June 8-14
- Created To Be Me Camp – For Students completing 8th grade – July 6-12
- Chi Rho Camp - For Youth completing 6th, 7th, or 8th grade – June 29-July 5 or July 13-19
- CYF (Christian Youth Fellowship) Conference – For Youth completing 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade – July 6-12
- Advance Summer Conference – Adults ages 19-30 – July 20-27
- Adult Conference (Held in Columbus, not at Camp Christian) – Adults age 30 and up – June 23-27

Pastor Faith

**AMENDED
BOARD OF OUTREACH MINUTES
APRIL 06, 2025**

Those in attendance were: Megan Agle, Kim Flax, Kelly Manion, Breanna Rittenhouse, Whitney Thompson and Jeanne Troxell.

The meeting opened with silent prayer.

OLD BUSINESS:

Game Day was a fun success. It was decided to cut back on the hotdogs and buns to five packages. The signs on the collection totes in the hallway were updated by Whitney. The new signs are more detailed regarding the collection drive.

The tentative date for the annual outdoor church service and picnic date was set for August 10, 2025. Jeanne will verify the date with Richard Flax and location with Peggy Bellows. Joanna Rittenhouse made her home a secondary location as an option for the picnic.

Distribution monies were finalized. Changes are as follows:

No longer funding - Heidelberg and Defiance college (5%) - IHN (5%)
- Habitat For Humanity (10%)
- OCWM (10%)

Additionally or newly funded - Soup Kitchen (10%)

- 4-H Camp Clifton (10%)
- Lifewise (10%)
- Church Camp (10%)

These changes were unanimously voted on. The group would like to keep the money local. Breanna is checking into the Crossroads Cluster and the church camp Pastor Faith is affiliated with for distribution. Further discussion regarding a 5% Rotary Club donation will be had upon her findings. Breanna is also checking into a possible donation to the warming center or having a drive through the church.

NEW BUSINESS:

May 11 2025 is Mothers Day. We will be distributing wooden crosses to the Mothers in the Congregation and Kelly will visit shut-ins. Graduating seniors will be honored on Sunday, June 1 2025 with a card and \$25 gift card that Kelly will be purchasing. Garrett Agle and Josh Kelly will graduate high school and Jake Zimmerman college. Jeanne will announce in church on Sunday, April 13 2025 for any additional attendees graduating.

Jeanne is reaching out to Peggy Bellows for a friend that needs a card and added Ed Kranz to the shut in list. He's currently at The Blue Bird in London, Ohio.

The next meeting was scheduled for Sunday, July 13 2025 after church. We will discuss the possibility of a bowling party in September.

Plattsburg United Church of Christ
Official Board Minutes
April 12, 2025

The April 12th Official Board meeting of the Plattsburg United Church opened with prayer lead by Pastor Faith Solon. Those in attendance were Bill Agle, moderator; Debbie Bell, treasurer; Peggy Flax, clerk; Charlie Miller, deacon; Jason Rittenhouse, trustee; Joanna Rittenhouse, Christian education; Jeanne Troxell, outreach; Pastor Faith Solon, and Richard Flax, representing the audit committee.

Copies of the minutes were distributed and read. Jeanne moved to accept the minutes as written, and Joanna seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Debbie presented the treasurer's report. It was noted that the "Income to Expenditure Ratio" was at 106.8 % at the end of March. A computer has been donated to the church for the exclusive use of the treasurer. Debbie will be vacating the treasurer's position at the end of 2025, and a new volunteer will be needed. Jason moved to accept the treasurer's report and Jason seconded the motion.

Deacons Report: Charlie reported that the Deacons met on February 9 following the church service. It was noted that the memorial service for Autumn Regula which Faith officiated was especially beautiful. A Maundy Thursday service will be held on Thursday, April 17th. A worship service will be held at 6 pm followed by a light supper. The Sunday morning Bible Study that is being held during lent will be ending on Easter. The deacons hope to continue with a similar offering lead by Pastor Faith or a volunteer. The Deacons' next meeting is scheduled for April 13th following church services. The 2025 officers are as follows: Richard Flax, Senior Deacon; Charlie Miller Junior Deacon; and Polly Agle, Secretary.

Trustees Report: Jason reported that the new outdoor sign has been installed and is in good working order. The sign was purchased from "Bright Now Signs" in New Carlisle. It is possible to program it remotely, and four of our members have agreed to be trained in its operation. Jason expressed thanks to those who helped facilitate this project, both physically and financially.

Outreach Report: Jeanne reported that the Outreach board has been researching the various designated charities to which the church contributes through Mission giving. Some major changes are in the works. Richard made the point that we need to continue to support SONKA as it is an important resource for the Board of Deacons especially in times of pastoral transitions. The high school and college graduates in our congregation are to be recognized on Sunday, June 1st. Three graduates have been identified to date. The summer picnic is planned for August 10, pending approval of Peggy Bellows, who has been hosting the picnic at her country home in recent years.

Christian Education: Joanna reported that there will be an Easter Egg hunt following Easter Sunday worship services. She expects excellent attendance. Plans for a movie night and a bowling outing are in the works. She has been securing Sunday School materials on her own and asked for suggestions for a possible source. There has been good turnout for Sunday School, and the children are enthusiastically participating in the program.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Faith reported that she will not be in the pulpit on May 11 as she and her family will be moving into a new home that weekend. She has been working on the Maundy Thursday service and has secured most of the 13 readers required. She reported that the Sunday morning Bible Study has been going well. Another Bible Study will likely be forthcoming, with no date(s) or time set. Faith gave a report on the status of our UCC camp. The UCC and the Disciples of Christ congregations have merged their efforts and camps will now be held at Camp Christian located on Maple Dell Road, Marysville, Ohio. There are various camping experiences available for those ages Kindergarten through 30 years old as well as a family camp. Scholarships are available.

New Business: The annual audit has been completed by the designated auditors Donna Rhoads and Richard Flax. Richard reported that the financial records of the Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Outreach Treasurer, Endowment Committee and Memorial Fund were all audited and found to be in good order. The enormity of the job of Church Treasurer was noted and Debbie was commended for meticulously carrying out her duties. He noted the constitutional requirement that expenses incurred which are above budget, even in an emergency, need Official Board approval--something that has been recently overlooked by the Trustees. (Section 2-H)

New Business: Jeanne brought up the possibility of having a June pork chop drive-through. Discussion followed with most agreeing that it would be difficult to accomplish due to the summer activities and vacation plans for many in our congregation.

The next Official Board meeting was set for Saturday, May 31st at 9 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Peggy Flax, Clerk

Plattsburg United Church of Christ
1715 S Urbana Lisbon Road
P O Box 699
South Charleston OH 45368

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL MAILED ON 4/29/2025
Church Phone 937-568-4102
Church E-Mail Plattsburgucc@gmail.com
Mitzi Holloway - Church Secretary
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00-11:00 am

DEVOTIONAL LIFE BOOKLETS

Devotional Life Booklets (The Upper Room) will be placed in a rack in the front hall for anyone who would like one. If you would like one delivered to your home or to someone in a Nursing Facility, please call the Church Office and let us know. (937-568-4102)

APRIL 2025 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

March 30	45
April 6	60
April 13 - Palm Sunday	56
April 17 - Maundy Thursday	23
April 20 - Easter Sunday	90

MISSION FOCUS FOR MAY 2025

Board of Outreach

2025 Second Quarter Mission (April-May-June)

Local First Responders

(See Newsletter article for more details)

FUTURE INFORMATION FOR THE CHURCH CALL NEEDS TO BE SENT TO THE CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS AT: Plattsburgucc@gmail.com or you may leave a note in the secretary's mailbox or call the church and leave a message