

Welcome All. Tell The Story. Grow As Disciples.

www.RELC.org

3500 Main St., Hilliard, OH 43026

614-876-7926

October 2025

I find that out in the world beyond the boundaries of the strange little community we call church few people are outright hostile to the idea of faith. I can think of only a few rare occasions where someone directly challenged the notion that I believed and trusted in the promises of Jesus. Most people who are not themselves a part of a worshipping community find faith an acceptable choice. Even more than mere acceptance, I find that a lot of people are open to believing something more than just the material and the provable. Belief in astrology is on the rise, all sorts believe in sports curses, good luck rituals are common. Even when it comes to Jesus himself, I have encountered few people who are hostile to our savior directly. People's problems with the church are not the same problems of a rational atheist.

So, if people are at the very least not hostile and at the best vaguely curious about faith, why is there a decline year after year in the number of people actually showing up to worship? My answer is that while people may be open to the idea of faith, they have found little justification for the institution we call church. Many are OK worshipping Jesus, but why would I need to wake up on a Sunday morning, or sacrifice being a part of the local sports club, or deal with all the drama of a group of people in order to worship? It doesn't help that the church is responsible for a whole host of large and small abuses that are both public and sometimes private. Why devote time to such a flawed and potentially harmful institution? Put another way, in addition to answering the question "why faith in Jesus" we have to answer another question: why church?

Answering this question is hard for those of us inside the church. Congregational life is so normal and so regularly life giving that answering the question "why church" is like trying to answer the question why breathe. It just seems automatic and necessary. However, we now live in a world where one, perhaps two depending on where you live, generations of people have not just stopped going to church, but have no memory of ever going. Worshiping in community is truly an alien thing for some.

So in order to bridge the divide between the world out there and the strange set of people in the church here are four of my answers to the question "why church." I do not presume to say that these are the only four answers. There are many others, but these four are a good starting point.

1. God said so and we've always done it that way before

"God said so" is one of those reasons that is terribly unconvincing at first glance. It is an answer that has been used to justify all sorts of nonsense and sometimes quite awful actions. Similarly, "we've always done it that way before" rarely leaves anyone satisfied and has been the stated reason for all sorts of apathy. Yet, if you stick with me for just a moment, you will see the unsatisfying answers can also be true.

The book of Hebrews states the case plainly in **Hebrews 10:23-25**:

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Similarly the book of **Exodus** says that *"we are to Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy."* Jesus assures us that wherever two or three are gathered in his name he is present. The Book of **Colossians** says that *"we are to let the word of God dwell richly within us."*

As to "we've always done it that way before" it is clear from scripture that from the moment Jesus was raised from the dead the little band of people called Christians have been gathering together to worship. **Acts** describes the disciples as *"joined together in constant prayer"* (**Acts 1:14**). This trend continues as the disciples are described as constantly being devoted to teaching, fellowship, prayer, and breaking bread together.

Now all this is terribly unconvincing if you are not already convinced that God exists. But if you do think that there is an almighty God, and you are at least willing to entertain the idea that this strange group of people in the church might be on to something then the question "why church" at least starts with admitting that God desires this group of people to gather and worship together and that the faithful have tried their best to follow that request from the beginning.

 substack



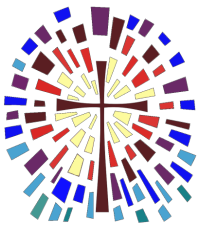
This is an excerpt, to see more go to Pastor Dave's blog *Diary of a Suburban Pastor*

~Pastor Dave

found at [substack.com @davidkamphuis](https://substack.com/@davidkamphuis)

Diary of a suburban pastor

Reflections of a suburban pastor on
church and whatever else crosses my mind



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PRAYER REQUESTS

Please send any Prayer requests and updates (on treatment or healing regarding people you have placed on the prayer list) to prayerteam@relc.org or contact the office at 614-876-7926, or by email office@relc.org



Bible Study with Pastor Dave



- *Zoom Co-Ed Bible Study Thursday at 4:30 pm via zoom (Email pastordave@relc.org or office@relc.org for the ZOOM link)
- *In person Co-Ed Bible Study Tuesdays at 11 am (Room 7)
- *Men's Bible Study is October 18th 8:30am in (Room 7)



Weekly at home Bible Study!

Know The Story lessons are great to do with your family or a friend. Don't forget there are 3 binders in the Narthex with all the lessons created so far, they are also online. (link below) Feel free to take a few home and get back into working on learning more about Knowing the Story so you can share the story. Great to do at home with your family or with a few friends. These are designed to highlight important stories in the bible.

Know the Story to Tell the Story. <https://www.relc.org/know-the-story/>



Adult Forum every Sunday before service at 9am

Vicar Keith is teaching the class about Lutheranism and immigration and its history in the American Story in Room 7 on Sunday mornings before 10am worship. All are welcome!



Visiting with the Vicar,

Grace and Peace to you from our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the one who was, who is, and yet to come, Amen.

I can't believe it's almost October. Speaking of October, the Church celebrates a major 'feast' or festival called Reformation Day or **Reformation Sunday. This year, it falls on October 26th.**

We all know, from our Confirmation classes, Sunday School, Adult Education, or even history classes, that historians and the Church consider October 31st, 1517, as the official start of the Protestant Reformation. On that day, Martin Luther sent a letter to his Archbishop, Albert Von Brandenburg, Archbishop of Mainz and Magdeburg. In the letter, he included his *95 Theses*, addressing issues related to practices and theology. The *95 Theses* mainly targeted



the Church, especially concerning the imposition of indulgences on the German Church by the See of Rome, which Archbishop Brandenburg approved. The indulgences were raised to fund the construction of a new St. Peter's Basilica in Rome—another issue that troubled the young monk and priest. Tradition says these theses were posted on the door of All Saints Church, also called Castle Church, on All Saints Eve, now recognized as the day marking the Reformation.

While there is debate about how this happened, some traditions say he was the one who posted it on the door; others suggest that his friends at Wittenberg University might have been responsible. What is known is that it sparked a reform movement led by Martin Luther, Philip Melancthon, Justus Jonas, and others, aiming to reclaim what they believed were the true Catholic Christian theology and practices that had been corrupted over the past several centuries. It also changed understandings of the sacraments, the issue of priests being married, and confirmation and catechism, among other things.

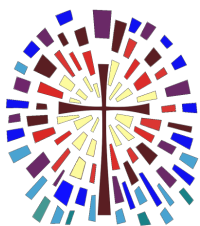
However, while reforming, they also realized that certain elements needed to be preserved to maintain proper order, such as the structures of the church with bishops, pastors/priests, and deacons, along with the theological stance of the Office of the Keys. And while the mass was reformed, it still retains a Western Rite, Catholic structure in the Lutheran liturgy.

Additionally, as Lutheranism and Protestantism grew, the idea developed that the church should continually reform. Like many of you, I find several parts of tradition comforting, and I see them as blessings passed down to us by our ancestors over the centuries. At the same time, I wonder how tradition can hold us back from trying something new or experimenting, or how it might prevent or even hinder our ongoing reform of both ourselves and the Church.

As we reflect on the Reformation and its various aspects, let's also reevaluate our spiritual lives, both individually and as a Church, and continually commit to reforming.

May the Peace of Christ be with you always, ~Vicar Keith





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CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

>Prayer Team

Email: prayerteam@relc.org



>Rev. David Kamphuis, Pastor
Email: pastordave@relc.org
Office: 614-876-7926 (call) except Fri.
Cell: 616-745-7788 (call or text)

>Dr. Jae Hyeong Park,
Director of Music
Email: Jae.Park@relc.org
Phone: 614-876-7926

>Altar Guild, Kathy Rotolo
Email: kathy.rotolo@relc.org
Cell: 380-212-7052 (call or text)

>Vicar Keith Monroe, Pastoral Intern
Email: keith.monroe@relc.org
Office: 614-876-7926 (call)
except Wednesday

>Katherine Hunt,
Office Administrator
Email: office@relc.org
Phone: 614-876-7926
Office Hours: 10:30-2:30pm (M-F)

>Church Council
Council President- Renee Mushalko
Council Vice President - Michael Boring
Council Secretary - Elaine Puckett
Council Treasurer - Bridget Daniels
Others- Drew Nelsen, Michael Biggert,
Nick Lungociu

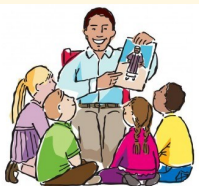
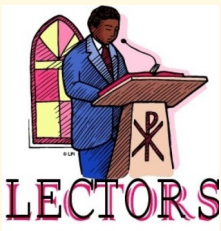


October Worship Assistants (Assignments for Assisting Minister and Lector are set through October.
If you are interested in volunteering for either of these positions, please see Pastor Dave or Kathy Rotolo.)

**Assisting Ministers will be 10/5 Andy Ohler, 10/12 Tricia Ohler,
10/19 Barb Emmets, and 10/26 Michael Boring**

**Lectors will be 10/5 Shirley Rush, 10/12 Marty Bretz,
10/19 Dan Mushalko, and 10/26 Elaine Puckett**

**Children's Leaders will be 10/5 Patty Eakins and all other dates are
open and need a volunteer.**



Worship Assistants –Thank You to all who volunteer to serve :

**NOTE: If you would like to serve as Usher, Greeter, or Children's Church Leader
Please use the sign-up sheet that's on the desk in the narthex.**

<HELP NEEDED> Children's Church volunteers, Remember when you were a young child, how hard it was to sit in church, listening to things you didn't understand...and you had to sit still and be quiet? I certainly remember! Children's Church is kind where kids get a little break from all the sitting and being quiet. Children aged 4 -10 are welcome to leave the worship service when the readings begin and gather in one of the classrooms to hear a lesson, and color a picture related to the story. Or they can just feel free to talk and play until time to go back to worship to Share the Peace with the rest of the congregation. There are a few members who have volunteered to lead this session but we could use more! So, please consider helping out – teens, ladies, guys are all eligible. Team up with someone if you like. If you need more information see Kathy Rotolo or Katherine in the church office.

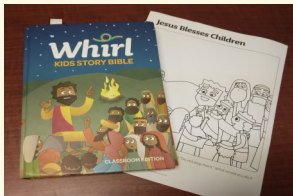
There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you are interested in helping.



Two Greeters or Ushers each Sunday is ideal!

Greeters welcome members and guests as they arrive. both jobs are simple and open to all.

***Reach out to Kathy with questions or sign up in the narthex, if you would like to serve as Usher, Greeter, or Children's Church.**



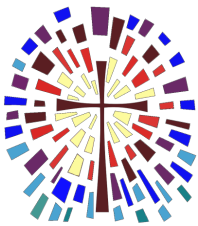
Q & A with The
Pastor and the
Recovering
Heretic

If you've ever had questions about your faith, or questioned if you should even have faith, join us for **The Pastor and the Recovering Heretic** every Sunday after service. It's an open discussion about anything you've ever wondered about religion. As a recovering heretic, Dan Mushalko takes no Church teaching at face value...while Pastor Dave Kamphuis taps his vast knowledge of Church history and theology to fill in the gaps of our doubt. Most importantly, they take *your* questions, too. Join us around 11:15am live in the WLC, or on our live YouTube stream at <https://bit.ly/RELC-QA>.



Church in Space RELC's innovative podcast exploring the ground between science fiction and religion. Pastor Dave Kamphuis sees the seeds of a Bible lesson. Tune in on your favorite podcast platform, on Podbean at <https://bit.ly/ChurchInSpace>, or on the RELC website at www.relc.org/podcast-2/.





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BUDGET STRESS AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

We are in the midst of assembling the Mission Plan for next year, yet our current budget is under stress. It's common in the summer for giving to drop off a bit: along with a drop in attendance due to vacations and such, giving often wanes as well. This pattern happens every year. Then, there can be a mad dash to catch up to meet the pledged amount in the fall.

Another stressor on our budget is any kind of increase in utilities, fees, and other expenses that rise beyond what was allowed for in our budgeting process. This year, we are seeing an increase in the utilities all around. This has an impact on personal budgets, too, and this pressure impacts giving as well. Additionally, some ministries have seen impacts because the expenses of their activities have gone up, like food costs, for example.

Our current budget is under strain because of all of these items. We are analyzing what all is contributing (analyzing the building use expenses is pretty involved). Here are the key areas we are seeing increases in:

- **Electric bill** (next year AEP is projecting at least a 30% increase for businesses, so this will continue to be a challenge; see article on Thermostats and Building Use later in the newsletter)
- **Fees for Vanco automatic payments: these have gone up significantly this year**
- **Water bills: the rate has increased, but replacing the toilets has helped reduce our water use overall.**
- **Increased food costs for First English and reduced corporate donations for B.O.L.D. even as the line grows longer with people in need**
- **Increased service contract costs**
- **Giving is down compared to pledges from last year**



So, what are we doing to address this strain? Here are just a few of the items.

- **All ministries will have their requests modified for next year.**
- **We will not host Festa in the summer of 2026 due to the electricity costs of hosting them.**
- **We are investigating why the Vanco fees have jumped so much.** There are 7 households that provide their offering through Vanco, and we suspect we do not have enough participants to meet their minimum threshold for a lower fee structure. Once the reasons are determined, we will discuss this situation with all Vanco users. (Note: Tithe.ly also charges a processing fee, and users do have the option of covering those fees for the church, which most users are doing, so the fees here to the church (currently) are low.)
- **Investigating the pros and cons of any subscription services as they stand now** (examples being our phone, internet, website...anything along that line) **and determining if savings can be gained with a change.**
- **Deferring some maintenance** (however, there are downsides to this down the road if this goes on for too long, which we have struggled with over the years due to previous deferrals).
- **Developing a grant-writing program.**
- **Strategic use of Thrivent mini-grants.**

UTILITIES:

This is a special category in our review of expenses. Rates are generally going up in this area, which is not something we are able to control. HOWEVER, we do have some control over our energy use, so that is where our focus is and where we feel we can have some very positive impacts on our budgetary strains. See the article on Thermostats and Building Use for details about this effort.

ACTIONS FROM RELC MEMBERS AND GUESTS:

God has called us to mission. That really never stops (we may not always be listening, but the calling continues and we pray for his enlightenment for our path). It is important to not lose sight of the call in this.

Here are a few things all of us can do:

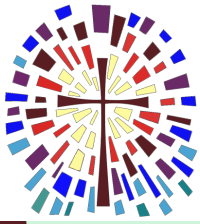
- * **DOORS:** make sure doors are latched (this reduces energy waste) and locked (security).
- * **LIGHTS:** turn off lights when your event is over, including bathroom and hallway lights.
- * **PLEDGE:** If you are able to meet your pledge for this year, that will help (we know this is not possible for everyone; God is with us here). Please prayerfully consider increasing your pledge for next year, if you are in a position to do so.
- * **LISTEN:** for opportunities to improve building use, find savings, and other ways to ease costs, and volunteer to help implement things you discover.

The resilience of RELC is always a marvel to behold. This church body takes action and is very committed to the work of God. We are not in crisis here. We are just seeing a trend and trying to stem its negative impacts. Positive things will come of these challenges too, and through it all, God walks with us as we walk with one another. Thank you for your part in making this all true about RELC.

There will be additional communications as we further develop our plan to address these issues. Let me, Council members, or Financial Stewardship team members know if you have any questions. We might not have an answer immediately, but we'll get one. It's a process that will require work from all of us.

Peace, Renee Mushalko, RELC Council President





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PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY - Prayer shawls and patches were blessed by Pastor and the congregation on August 31st. There were 28 shawls and 214 patches. 6 pink shawls will be taken to the Women's Health Center at Mt. Carmel St. Ann's for breast cancer patients, and 6 shawls will be taken to the Chaplaincy Department at Mt. Carmel East Hospital. With this last

amount of patches, we now have 500 for the OCC shoe boxes. Thanks to everyone who made shawls and patches. Along with the shawls that go out from the congregation - we are now low on supply. So please consider making a shawl to add to our supply. Yarn is available in the cabinets in the sacristy. ~ Any questions, see Barb Emmets or Judy Miller



Men's Bible Study
will meet at 8:30am
October 18th in
Room 7.
All ages welcome.



Theology on Tap

Tuesday, October 28th at 7pm in the new restaurant

Wilson's Bar & Grill
at 5242 Cemetery Rd,
Hilliard, OH

Join us in discussing how our faith influences the world around us. This location used to be Yabo's Tacos, which is now under a new name. Check out the menu options on their site here. <https://wilsonshilliard.com/>



REL C Lunch Ladies

will meet here at REL C
Saturday, **October 18th**
to eat and watch a film
together. Meet in the Resurrection worship life
center at 11:30am. There will be a cost. More
information to come. Please RSVP to Sue Owen
or Katherine in the church
office. office@relc.org



MEDIA TEAM

Please be mindful
of Media Team's
service prep and
sound check
from 9:15-9:40
am on Sundays.



Team Fundraiser
Neighbors of Mercy-REL C Hilliard Fundraiser
Login
Current Team Members:
1



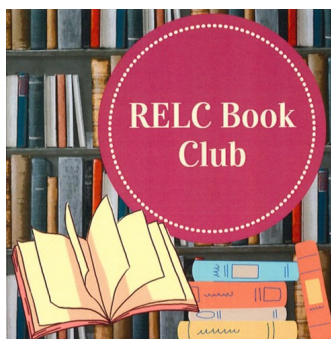
Donate

Join



Neighbors of Mercy
+ A ministry of REL C +

REL C Book Club will meet Tuesday,
October 21st at 7:00 pm . We will



discuss
How Hard Can It Be
by Allison Pearson.

Next month-
Nov. 18th Ask
Again, Yes by
Mary Beth Keane

Any questions see Pam Davis.

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Blood Drive
Resurrection Evangelical
Lutheran Church

3500 Main Street
Hilliard, OH 43026

Thursday, October 23, 2025
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: RELC to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Come to give blood Oct. 20-Nov. 16 for a \$10 e-gift card + chance at \$5K prize! redcross.org/harvest

Please call 1-800-Red Cross
(1-800- 733-2767) or

visit RedCrossBlood.org and

enter: RELC to schedule an appointment.



Noisy Collection for Domestic Violence Awareness Month
in October. Bring
your spare change 10/12 & 10/19.



Community Refugee & Immigration Services' 12th Annual 5K + Community-Wide Event

Sat October 4, 2025
Columbus, OH 43215 US

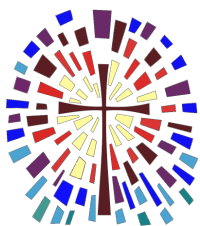


REL C Hilliard is working to help raise funds for our partner, Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS). Their major annual fundraiser is the CRIS 5K Run/Jog/Walk. We have a team, and are raising funds as a part of the Neighbors of Mercy team. You can also still join our team for the 5K too. If you would like to help support this wonderful organization, please consider donating here

<https://runsignup.com/neighborsofmercyrelc>

Thank you for helping our neighbors at this time of need.





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THERMOSTATS AND BUILDING USE

There is a group of people at RELC tackling an assessment of our energy use at RELC. Our “campus” has one very enormous building that has some challenges regarding energy use because of things like single-pane windows (covering lots of wall surface), deteriorating doors, old sealants, doors that don’t want to close properly, and so on. These and many other features of our building make efficient energy use difficult. But, we are not at the mercy of these things. We may not be able to control rising utility rates, but we can take action to reduce our energy use.

BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE TIDBITS: Our building has 14 active, programmable thermostats!

The various HVAC units replaced over the past few years do positively impact heating and cooling. We still have at least one unit to replace, BUT all units are on a service contract now to maximize the efficiency and lifespan of the new units.

Toilets replaced in the WLC earlier this year are having a positive impact.

Two kinds of lighting in the WLC have two different impacts on our energy use (see later).

ENERGY USE ASSESSMENT

Our energy assessment team is digging into the details of our energy use, looking for ways to improve the efficiency of energy use in the building without impeding the ministry work that happens in it. This will take a multipronged approach.

THERMOSTATS AND LIGHTING:

◇ PROGRAMMING OF THERMOSTATS:

- ◆ All active thermostats in the building have been preprogrammed at a temperature for when the room is NOT in use.
- ◆ If the temperature is changed to a **temporary setting**, it will return to the preprogrammed setting after 4 hours and would not require someone to reset them

◇ PROBLEMS WITH THERMOSTATS:

- ◆ SETTING TO PERMANENT HOLD: Often, when the thermostat temperature is adjusted, it gets set to “permanent hold”, which means that the temperature will NOT return to the preprogrammed temperature after the 4 h cycle unless someone resets it manually. Thus, we are paying extra to heat or cool empty rooms.
- ◆ COMPETING HVAC SETTINGS: Occasionally, when multiple thermostats are in a given room, one will be set for a heat setting and the other will be set for an AC setting at the same time, and they end up competing with one another and thus both running continuously.

◇ LIGHTING ISSUES:

- ◆ WLC LIGHTING: There are two types of lights in the WLC, incandescent and sodium. They are on different banks of switches near the double doors into the WLC and the sodium lights are clearly marked. This is because these lights are very expensive to operate and minimizing their use is desirable.
- ◆ LIGHTING ELSEWHERE: Lights get left on constantly in the building. Hallways are often neglected, as well as bathrooms, for example.

While we are still assessing how energy is utilized in the building, we have already identified areas to begin tackling or to start researching for improvements.

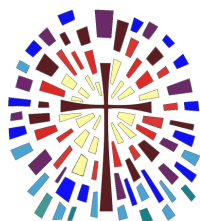
IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

- INFORMATION ON THERMOSTAT USE: We have started discussions with the various groups using the building, particularly with respect to lights and electricity, gas, and water use to enlist their help in minimizing utility expenses. This will take a little time and will be followed up with written guidance. The focus will be on the following:
 - * Efficient use of the thermostats (familiarizing group leaders with how to set them for greatest efficiency)
 - * Teaching people about the “zone” energy setup in the building and how to use doors to contain HVAC operations within a given zone when an area is not in use.
- INFORMATION ON LIGHTING USE: Again, informing groups about things to reduce energy use for lighting:
 - * Avoid use of sodium lights, when possible, in the WLC.
 - * Turn lights off in bathrooms at the end of an activity.
 - * Turn lights off in hallways at the end of an activity.
 - * Turn lights off in classrooms or the office at the end of an activity.
- INFORMATION ON DOORS:
 - * Ensuring doors are latched completely (this helps with energy use as well as security).
 - * Ensuring doors are locked.
- RESEARCH: We are researching several things we might invest in to help our energy efficiency (mostly short term, at this time; anyone interested in looking into additional possibilities should let Katherine know in the office).
 - * Remote controlled thermostats that would allow manual adjustment back to “empty room” status at the end of the day without the need for someone to physically go to the building.
 - * Light sensors that could turn off lights after inactivity for a period of time.
 - * Alternative lighting for the WLC, including sun tubes and LED lighting
 - * Large ceiling fans for the WLC that would circulate the air and reduce pockets of heated or cooled air that don’t reach the occupants due to the high ceiling or poor circulation.
- MINISTRY PAUSE: Cooling the building for Festa activities in the summer is costly. As a result, we have decided that we will pause this ministry effort for 2026 (unless something significantly changes to help cover those expenses).
- TOILETS: Earlier in the year, the toilets in the WLC bathrooms were all replaced. That did not keep the rate from going up, BUT our bills have remained steady because we are no longer paying for water use from leaking/constantly running toilets, so that investment is already having a positive impact.
- IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS: There is a growing list of items from all around the building that could be fixed or improved to provide more energy efficiency. We will be setting an energy efficiency improvement day soon to tackle some of these items, so watch for this volunteering opportunity.

We are not seeking to make energy use super-restrictive in the building. That is not very conducive to good mission work. Our goal is to be more cognizant of our energy use, teach people how to effectively operate in the building to help with energy use, and address infrastructure flaws that can contain more of the energy in the building.

~Renee Mushalko, RELC Council President





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READY, GET SET, GO!!!

Just a reminder that Neighbors of Mercy will be partaking in Community Refugee and Immigration Services' biggest fundraiser of the year, the CRIS 5K! The CRIS 5K will take place on October 4th and start at 10 a.m. at Genoa Park in downtown Columbus. The start and finish will be right next to COSI. You are invited to come and cheer on the Neighbors of Mercy team as we walk, jog, and run to support CRIS and immigrants and refugees here in the greater Columbus area. Will Vicar Keith beat Pastor Dave across the finish line?? Find out more!

Plus, if you want to come out and tailgate at the event, that's okay! The tailgate event will feature vendors, music, food, and an Advocacy and Education Fair.

So far, we have raised over \$430 thanks to your support, and the Neighbors of Mercy Team gives thanks before God for your generosity in helping those in need.

Still want to join the race as a member of our Neighbors of Mercy Race Team? Join here:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/Register/RaceGroup-1901887?raceId=62146>

If you would like to contribute to our fundraiser, you can do so here:

<https://runsignup.com/neighborsofmercyrelc>



The next meeting will be after Church on October 12th at 11:15 am.

*Thank you for blessing this ministry,
Vicar Keith on behalf of the Neighbors of Mercy Team*

1st English Ministry

We provided 2 meals in September to our friends at First English -- breakfast on the 14th and dinner on the 25th.

* Breakfast menu included scrambled eggs, sausage, tater tots, fruit and a breakfast sweet. Thank you to the prep team and the serving team.

* Dinner included homemade macaroni and cheese (HUGE thank you to Nancy Knudsen for preparing this marvelous dish). We also served breaded chicken strips, green beans, rolls, fruit salad, and cookies (another HUGE thank you to all who provided cookies).

* The prep and serving teams included: Amelia Jones, Donna Suain, Patty Eakins, Connie Boring, Del Boring, Mark Docter, Vickie Dengg, Michael Boring, Judy Miller, Charlie Anderson. (Apologies if I've missed anyone!)

We will not serve dinner again until January, but we do breakfast every month on the 2nd Sunday. If you would like to join the team please let me know, all are welcome to cook and/or serve.

~ Kathy Rotolo ~ (email kathy.rotolo@relc.org)



COME SHARE THIS EXPERIENCE WITH US. WE PROMISE THE SAME JOY WILL COME TO YOU.



DONATE
Donate to a family in need.



VOLUNTEER
Help us build and deliver beds!



SPONSOR
Help us continue our mission.

More details to come later in the bulletin.



NO KITS HERE

Our bunk beds are built from scratch and built to last a lifetime.



NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

The builds follow SHP's simple and easy-to-follow bunk bed design and require no previous woodworking experience.



READY TO SLEEP

Each bed is delivered and assembled to an appreciative home, complete with mattresses, pillows and bedding.



SHP and their partner organization schedules an event called a "Build Day" where volunteers build bunk beds:

- Inexperienced volunteers are trained and supervised by experienced ones from SHP
- All power/hand tools are supplied by SHP who will be on site for the Build Day
- Volunteers learn valuable trade skills
- Build Days let employees network and build relationships
- Volunteers provide necessary and critical support to the local community
- Follow us on social media to learn about volunteer opportunities

Scan the below QR code to make a purchase from our Amazon wishlist!

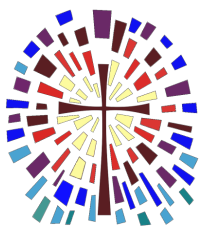


Learn more about volunteer opportunities, become a core team member, donate or become a bunkhead at shpbeds.org



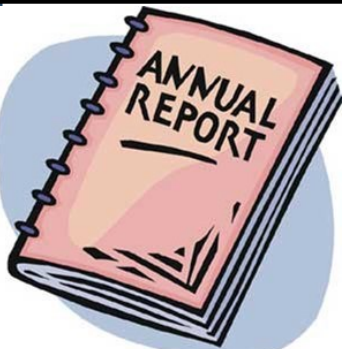
NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!

We will have a collection October 19 -26 to collect bedding for Sleep in Heavenly Peace here in Hilliard. Please bring in new twin bedding or pillows and it will be collected end of the month. Click on the QR code above to see Any questions see Charlie?



Welcome All. Tell The Story. Grow As Disciples.

Do You Know...



..that it's almost Annual Report time?

Katherine really needs an annual report from each and every ministry by October 6th. A picture of each ministry would also be lovely as well.

Please reach out to your favorite office administrator to get a copy of the form, a copy of your ministries report from the

last 3 years or to just turn it in and say hi! Katherine can be reached at office@relc.org or call 614-876-7926 (Mon-Fri. 10:30-2:30pm)

Save the Date for the Annual Meeting November 16th, 2025!

More details to come.



Giving Garden News - October 2025

It is officially the season of fall and that means an endless number of leaves to rake or mulch. Unfortunately, the early leaf drop because of the drought means that the trees will not be very showy in terms of brilliant fall foliage colors we are use to this time of the year. I came across some fun folklore about falling leaves.

Folklore says that if you catch a falling leaf before it touches the ground:

- It will bring you good luck
- You will be happy for a year
- You won't catch a cold during the winter

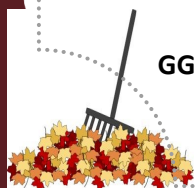
Not sure how many of you are going to try and catch a single leaf in mid-air this fall for good luck or for happiness or to be sniffle free but know that God will be there to catch you mid-air when you are feeling like nothing is going right or you are sad, or sick. All you have to do is pray for healing in both body and mind and know that God hears your prayer petitions.

As fall time ushers in cooler temperatures and less daylight the GG will be losing our productive summer crops but there will be some cool crops we can still harvest. This year the fall cool crops in the GG include beets, carrots, radishes, and kale.

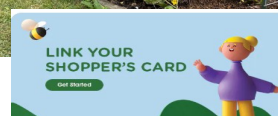
GG harvest total to date is 860# with 302# coming from the first 3 weeks of September!!

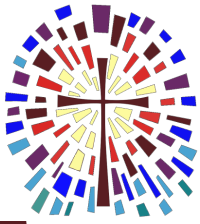
Enjoy the fall season. Winter is not far behind 🍂

~Carol Williams



Don't forget to link your Kroger's card to donate to RELC (SK398)





Welcome All. Tell The Story. Grow As Disciples.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - 2025

-We are about one month from the **packing party for OCC on Sunday, November 9th at 5:30 PM**. We encourage everyone to come out and pack boxes. All the supplies will be out on the tables in the Life Center. You just pick up an empty box , decide if you want to pack for a boy or a girl, what age (2-4,5-9,10-14) and then fill up the box. There will be wonderful Christmas piano music and cookies and hot chocolate. (hopefully it will be colder by then) The finished boxes will be placed along the platform, **for a blessing by pastor and the congregation on Sunday, November 16th**, and then the shoe boxes will be taken to Upper Arlington Lutheran Church to be loaded on trucks , which then take them to the processing centers.

We encourage you to mark November 9th down on your calendar - it is an experience you don't want to miss. If you haven't packed before -consider giving it a try. We can make a difference in the lives of many children, with a shoe box gift and the message of Jesus Christ. RELC, you have worked hard all year -donating supplies, donating money and praying for this ministry - Let's make it happen!

Any questions - see Barb Emmets or Pam Davis

NOTE - at this time we could still use small toys donations or monetary donations and we will shop for you.



LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES - FAITH MISSION (Men and Women), CHOICES and FAITH ON 8TH are some of the locations served by LSS. All donations

of supplies come to the Donation Center at the Mission and are sorted and placed on shelves in that facility. Items are then sent out to the different locations as they are needed.

At this time, there is a **need for gender neutral lotion, gender neutral body wash, men's deodorant, travel size lotion and body wash, and men's bar soap**. Items can be brought into

the church and left in the tubs in the Donation Station in the narthex.

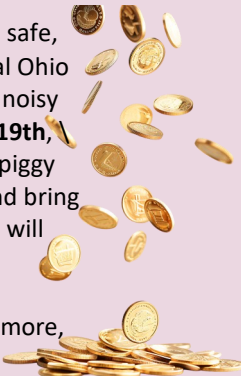
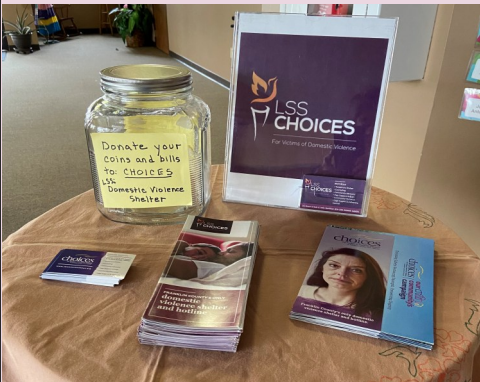
~Any questions? See Barb Emmets



OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

-CHOICES has been providing a safe, secure shelter for victims of domestic violence in central Ohio for almost four decades. We would like to again have a noisy collection during church services on **October 12th and 19th**, to support the mission of CHOICES. Please check those piggy banks and change containers you have in your home and bring that change to church on these dates. A glass container will be passed around during the offering and let us let that noise ring out a donation to the CHOICES shelter. (please note that many people do not carry change anymore, so paper money is also acceptable).

Any questions - see Barb Emmets



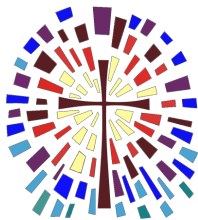
CHOICES is also having a Halloween party for the children in the shelter at the end of the month, and has asked if RELC would be able to **donate some bags of individually wrapped candy for the children**. A box will be available in the narthex for these donations. *Many thanks. Barb*



All Saints' Sunday



November 2, 2025 is All Saints' Sunday! Please contact the church office with names of those whom we have lost this last year. (November 2024-November 2025) You can call the church office 614-876-7926 or email Katherine at office@relc.org Please get all names to the office by 10/27.



Welcome All. Tell The Story. Grow As Disciples.



Choir is back! Thursdays at 7pm and 8:30am Sunday mornings. Have you thought about joining choir, or sharing your musical instrument talents with us? Contact our Music Director Dr. Jae H. Park Jae.Park@RELC.org

🎵 Recruiting Drummer and Praise Team Singers 🎵

Since launching our Praise Team this past March, we have been steadily growing and strengthening together in worship. It has been a joy to see the team take shape, and we are excited for how God is continuing to lead us.

Currently, we are still looking for a **drummer** and additional **singers** who are passionate about worship and eager to serve. Joining the Praise Team is a wonderful way to share your gifts, grow spiritually, and be part of a close-knit community that leads our congregation in praise.

📅 **Rehearsal & Gathering Time:** Sundays at 9:00 AM 📍 **Location:** WLC

If you or someone you know feels called to join, we would love to welcome you. Please come see us on Sunday or reach out for more details. Together, let's continue to build a team that brings glory to God through music and worship!



Collegium Musicum of Ohio Orchestra

Sponsors:



GREATER COLUMBUS ARTS COUNCIL



Homepage QR Code

Musicians and Singers needed

RELC Family

Recital for supporting Christmas Child Join us on Sunday, November 2nd at 3:00 PM for a special event showcasing the talent and generosity of our church members. This afternoon of talent donation will feature performances and creative offerings from across the congregation, celebrating the gifts within our community. All are welcome to attend and support this heartfelt expression of faith and fellowship!

Email Jae if you are interested in participating. Jae.Park@RELC.org



Collegium Musicum of Ohio Orchestra had a successful event. If you would like to learn more about this group Jae has formed check out the QR code above.



Activities that are included in Price of Admission:

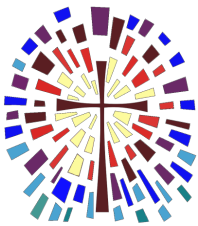
- Hayride & 1 free Pumpkin
- Corn/Hay maze
- Outdoor Games, Sports Inflatables
- White Barn Open for Relaxing and Eating
- Horse-N-Round Fun: Pony Rides & Other Animals
- Petting Zoo

Vendors: (Food Not included in price of Admission)

- The Apple Dumpling Gang Food Truck: Oct19th
- Hope Essentials Drink Truck(Smoothies, Slushies, Cider, Lattes, Teas & More): Saturdays & Sundays in October
- The Iron Grill Food Truck: Sundays Oct19th from 11-4

Join our Evangelism Team for a fall outing
October 19th at 2pm over at Kuhlweins Farm.

Don't forget to wear your blue shirts.



Welcome All. Tell The Story. Grow As Disciples.



Children are always welcome at RELC

and we offer a soft space option for families with littles that wish to keep their kids in church and need a little entertainment.



Children's Church is open to all children aged 4-10, and takes place during the bible readings and sermon during worship. Pastor Dave releases the kids with an adult leader for a lesson and activity. Everyone comes back during Share the Peace. **Please consider volunteering to help this ministry, we need more volunteers. See Kathy with questions.**

Sunday School
4th thru 7th grade
twice a month
10/5 & 10/19
BIG BANG



Youth Group will host a Trunk or Treat Event.
Sunday, October 26th from 4-5pm.
Church family we need your help to make Trunk or Treat a success! We are hoping to have a great turn out to show our youth that we support them. Can we fill up the parking lot? Please fill out the following form so that we can plan for the event. Let us know if you will be bringing a Trunk, Table or running a Game. We will be providing a teal pumpkin and non-food treats for you to pass out alongside your candy.
<https://forms.gle/Zw3hgPrEQ9raNW1M9>
Set-up 3:30-4pm. Event 4-5pm



FUSION
ROMANS 12:1-2

YOUTH GROUP

Save the Date—November 23rd from 2-4:30pm
Fusion is hosting a snackluck for the entire church on Sunday 11/23 from 2-4:30 pm while we watch the film, The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian. **Please bring your favorite snack to share.**

Sunday School for Preschool thru 3rd Grade

Godly Play

Sundays at



Children's Sunday School programs are at 9am *(check bulletins for actual dates and cancellations)*



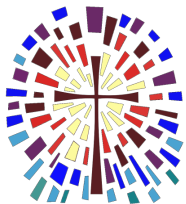
- ~**Godly Play** (preschool—3rd grade, meets in Godly Play Room) **every Sunday**
- ~**Big Bang** (for all kids that have aged out of Godly Play) **meets twice a month, 10/5 & 10/19**
- ~**Fusion Youth Group** (currently all kids are welcome) meets about once a month.
- Trunk or Treat will be October 26, at 4pm. Movie night November 23rd.**
- ~**Adult Sunday School** (all adults, meet in Room 7 before service)
Vicar Keith is currently leading these classes.



October Birthdays



10/2 Alex Neill	10/7 Billy Eymold	10/14 Becky Rader	10/20 Charlie Anderson
10/5 Lydia VanVleet	10/7 Gloria Davis	10/14 Sungmin Park	10/21 David Heath
10/5 Doreen Bretz	10/10 Judy Miller	10/16 Brenda Boring	10/26 Judy Horn-Miller
10/5 Doug Castle	10/13 Dan Suain	10/20 Chris Kibbe	10/29 Donna Suain
			10/31 Amy Ruolo



October Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Starting October 12th, CenterPoint Church will be using the RELC Chapel on Sundays for service starting around 11:30am and 2:30pm. They will also be using classrooms 3 and 7 from 3-6:30pm, so make sure to let the church office know about all meetings and events. These weekly rentals are not listed on the calendar below. Only extra events from CenterPoint. 			1) 6:30pm Boy Scouts 672 Meeting (WLC/ Classrooms) 	2) 6:30-9pm 4-H Serendipity Club meeting (WLC, room 7 and narthex)  6:30 Fishermen Practice (choir room) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsals (Choir Room)	3)	4) 9:30am BOLD Prep (Room 6 & 7) 10:00am CRIS 5K
5) 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Education Classes—Godly Play, Big Bang & Adult Education (adult –Room 7) 9:00am Praise Band Practice 9:15-9:40am Media Sound Check (WLC) 10:00am Worship Service (WLC) 11:15am Q&A: (WLC) 11:15am Handbell Choir 6-9pm Private Basketball rental (WLC)	6) 5:30pm BOLD (Parking Lot)  7-9pm Cub Scout Committee Meeting (WLC) 	7) 11:00am Bible Study (Room 7) 1:30pm Staff Meeting (Church office) 6:15pm Evangelism Team Meeting (church office) 7:00pm Communication Meeting (church office) 7:00pm Cub Scout Pack 672 Meeting (WLC, Classrooms) 	8)  1:00pm Quilting Club (WLC) 6:30pm Boy Scouts 672 Meeting (WLC/ Classrooms) 	9)  4:30pm Bible Study (Zoom) 6:30 Fishermen Practice (choir room) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsals (choir room) 	10)	11)  9:00am FELC Breakfast prep (kitchen) 9:30am BOLD Prep (Room 6 & 7) Cub Scout pack 672 popcorn selling (parking lot) 
12) 7:30 am First English Breakfast (1015 E Main Street, Cbus, OH) 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Education Classes—Godly Play & Adult Education (Adults Room 7) 9:00am Praise Band Practice 9:15-9:40am Media Sound Check (WLC) 10:00am Worship Service (WLC) with noisy offering 11:15am Q&A: (WLC) 11:15am Neighbors of Mercy Meeting (narthex) 11:15am Handbell Choir 6-9pm Private Basketball rental (WLC)	13) 5:30pm BOLD (Parking Lot) 	14) 11:00am Bible Study (Room 7) 7:00pm Cub Scout Pack 672 Meeting (WLC, Classrooms) 7:00pm Financial Stewardship Meeting (church office) 	15) 12:00pm Hilliard Area Ministerium (RELC narthex) 6:30pm Boy Scouts 672 Meeting (WLC/ Classrooms) 	16) Council Ministry Reports Due 4:30pm Bible Study (Zoom)  6:30 Fishermen Practice (choir room) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsals (choir room) 	17) Katherine not in office LSS/ RELC volunteer team help at Donation Center (LSS)	18) 8:30am Men's Bible Study (Room 7)  9:30am BOLD Prep (Room 6 & 7) 11:30am Lunch Ladies (RELC) 
19) 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Education Classes—Godly Play, Big Bang & Adult Education (adult –Room 7) 9:00am Praise Band Practice 9:15-9:40am Media Sound Check (WLC) 10:00am Worship Service (WLC) with noisy offering 11:15am Q&A: (WLC) 11:15am Handbell Choir 2:00pm Evangelism Team Outing (Kuhlwein's Farm) 6-9pm Private Basketball rental (WLC)	20) 5:30pm BOLD (Parking Lot)  Katherine on	21) Newsletter Deadline 11:00am Bible Study (Room 7) 7:00pm Council (Room 3) 7:00pm Cub Scout Pack 672 Meeting (WLC, Classrooms) 7:00pm RELC Book Club (office)  8:00pm Intern Committee Meeting (Room 8, Zoom) _____ vacation _____>	22) 6:30pm Boy Scouts 672 Meeting (WLC/ Classrooms)  Vicar Keith out	23) 11-5pm Red Cross Blood Drive (WLC, narthex)   American Red Cross 4:30pm Bible Study (Zoom) 6:30pm Fishermen 7:00pm Choir Rehearsals (Choir Room)  of office _____>	24)	25) 9:30am BOLD Prep (Room 6 & 7) _____>
26) Reformation Sunday 8:30am Choir Practice 9:00am Sunday School—Godly Play & Adult Forum 9:00am Praise Band Practice 9:15-9:40am Media Sound Check (WLC) 10:00am Worship Service (WLC) 11:15am Q&A: (WLC) 11:15am Handbell Choir 4-5pm Trunk or Treat (parking lot) car setup 3:40pm 2-5pm Private Event (WLC)	27) 5:30pm BOLD (Parking Lot)  -Vicar Keith -	28) 11:00am Bible Study (Room 7) 7:00pm Cub Scout Pack 672 Meeting (WLC, Classrooms) 7:00pm Theology on Tap (Wilson's restaurant, 5242 Cemetery Rd)  Out of office _____>	29) 6:30pm Boy Scouts 672 Meeting (WLC/ Classrooms) 	30) Hilliard Trick or Treat 6-8pm 4:30pm Bible Study (Zoom)  6:30pm Fishermen 7:00pm Choir Rehearsals (Choir Room) 	31) Halloween	