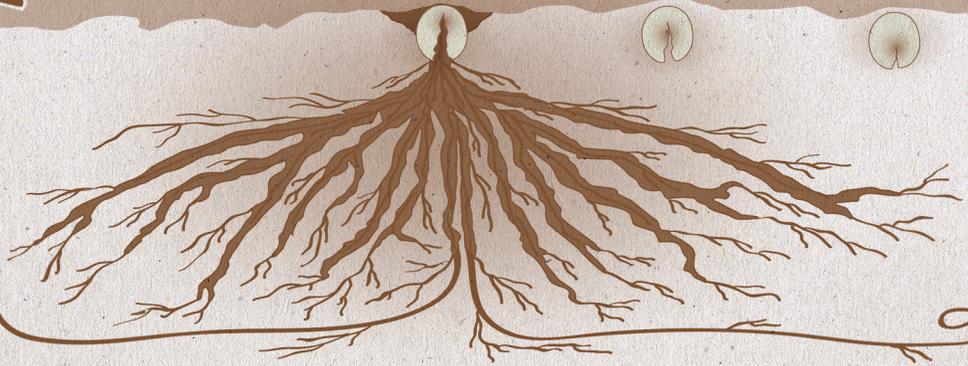
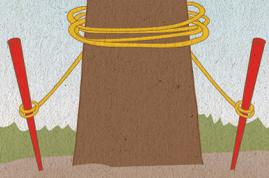
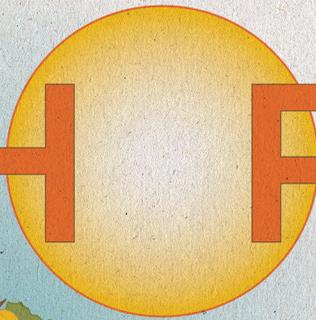


a future
with

HOPE



deeply rooted

friends of



Jubilee Cafe at
Community United
Church of Christ

Jubilee Café turned TWO this October. In these two years, we have worked diligently to provide a meal and a place where our guests have a sense of community every week. From the early planning stages, we wanted Jubilee Café to be a place where EVERYONE IS WELCOME! We serve our meal restaurant-style, instead of cafeteria-style, welcoming students from the University of Illinois, people from Community United Church of Christ (our host space), and community members including neighbors who do not have a permanent address, as honored guests. Our meals are made on-site, using fresh eggs and vegetables from local farmers, such as Sola Gratia and Jubilee Farms UCC.

Jubilee Café also partners with several local organizations to attract a wide variety of persons as volunteers. University of Illinois students, as well as faculty and staff, volunteer with us. We are in partnership with organizations like Community Choices, a local cooperative that works with adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We regularly have three individuals with disabilities help put our meal together, serve guests, and clean up afterwards. Another group that provides volunteers is RSVP, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. Jesus welcomed everyone to the table and called everyone to serve – so do we at Jubilee Café.

At Jubilee Café, we are committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive space to our volunteers and guests. Having a working elevator is one way we welcome individuals to our space who might not be able to navigate the stairs to our lower level. In addition, we use the elevator several times a week as we bring in supplies to use in preparing our weekly meal. Our building requires this, and other necessary improvements, to ensure we can continue to offer Jubilee Café.

So, what do we do now that our elevator needs to be repaired? This is where you can help us. Help us continue our mission of providing opportunity and access to ALL that wish to eat or volunteer at Jubilee Café by making a donation to the Deeply Rooted Capital Campaign. Capital improvements to address the elevator and other necessary issues help ensure that our wide and inclusive welcome continues. Radical hospitality is important to us. We think it is important to you too.

Sincerely,

Johnell Bentz, Jubilee Café Manager



Community United Church of Christ is a deeply rooted community of people who care about each other and the world beyond the walls of our building.

We are known as "the church with the flags" — the rainbow flag, the Black Lives Matter flag, the peace with justice flag, the coexist flag. Over 100 years ago, God planted us in the heart of campus to shine the light of progressive Christianity, to live Gospel love, to work for social justice, to welcome everyone as an open and affirming church, and to be a home away from home for students. Two years ago, we opened Jubilee Café, where we feed more than hungry bellies. We feed the need for belonging and connection across lines of difference.

Caring for our building shows our commitment to the campus and surrounding community as a place to worship, to belong, to serve, and to be loved for exactly who you are.

This fall, we come together to support the Deeply Rooted Capital Campaign that makes our building as welcoming as our people and supports our mission to the community and the world beyond.



I initially volunteered with my son to engage him in community work and to spend time with him serving others. However when our scheduled times together were over, I decided to continue. When I wasn't at Jubilee Café on a Monday I realized I missed seeing everyone in the Jubilee community. I realized I love spending time at Jubilee because we are not only feeding people, we are serving them. We are serving them nourishment, community, and respect. Jubilee Café is a true gem in our community and I will continue to volunteer when I can around my full-time work and busy parenting duties.



— **Stacie Young**, Jubilee Café VOLUNTEER

Jubilee Café feeds me in two ways. With a free, delicious meal and with a sense of my belonging to a community. Without the elevator, it is a struggle to get downstairs, but I sure do enjoy the added attention I get when people help me get downstairs!



— **Monica Vanko**, Jubilee Café GUEST

I started going because as a student with an unpredictable class schedule, I find it impossible to hold a job. I typically eat ramen for 12 meals a week (the cheap brick kind, not the bougie, complete meal kind). A warm meal is always welcome, and I keep coming back and volunteer when I can, because of the warm faces and attitudes.

— **Zac**, Jubilee Café GUEST



Jubilee Café is a place where I'm able to receive a warm, lovingly-made meal when much of my life as a student requires me to be on the go. Here, I'm able to get a meal, and time to chat with friendly and welcoming folks. This isn't something I always have access to as a student, and I find the experience invaluable.

— **Aida**, Jubilee Café GUEST

Good food, served with dignity, made with love – that's what our Jubilee Café volunteers do weekly. They dish up deliciousness, with a side of conversation and caring, to each and every guest.

Jubilee Café is held in the lower level of Community UCC. Our building turns 100 years old this year and she's in need of some major TLC with repairs to make and upgrades to undergo. Our leaky roofs need to be replaced and so does the elevator. A broken elevator hinders our ability to be inclusive. At Jubilee, our goal is to create a safe space that everyone can access. This includes our guests and volunteers with disabilities who rely on the building's elevator to reach the dining room. Unfortunately, this is no longer possible because the elevator is inoperable and the parts to fix it are no longer made.

Friends, you're always asking us how you can be of support. Here's how: We are launching a Capital Campaign to address these and other necessary issues. We want to invite you, the friends of Jubilee Café, and of CUCC, to participate in our Deeply Rooted Capital Campaign. Any donation is greatly appreciated. Would you make a donation and share our Deeply Rooted Campaign video on social media with your friends? Making capital improvements will ensure that we can continue ministries like Jubilee Café, progressive Campus Ministry, and support of LGBTQ folks for the next 100 years!

You can make your donation by going to our website community-ucc.org and clicking **donate**.

Or, if you prefer, mail your donation to:
Community United Church of Christ
attn. Deeply Rooted
805 S. 6th St., Champaign, IL 61820