

## FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

248 Harding Way W.  
Galion, OH 44833

Church E-mail: [office@uccgalion.org](mailto:office@uccgalion.org)

Rev. Harvey: [pastor@uccgalion.org](mailto:pastor@uccgalion.org)

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Rev. Darrin Harvey-----Minister  
Adair Pittman-----Office Secretary  
Mary Ann Stone-----Financial Secretary  
John Sikora -----Sr. Choir Director  
Stephanie Sikora-----Bell Choir Director  
Jennifer Arbaugh-----Organist  
Jessica Hammond-----Organist  
Christine Coe-----Accompanist  
Dale Miller -----Custodian  
Martha See-----Kitchen Custodian  
Rev. John Miller-----Pastor Emeritus  
Larry Nigh-----Visitation Minister

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October 7, 2018



First United Church of  
Christ

248 Harding Way West  
Galion, OH 44833

CELEBRATE THE LOVE!  
CELEBRATE THE JOY!

Rev. Darrin Harvey  
Minister

Volume 30 No. 10

October 2018



*The*  
**VISITOR**

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**Sunday School**

9:00 a.m.

**Worship Service**

10:00 a.m.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday ~ Thursday

9:00 a.m. ~ 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. ~ 4:00 p.m.

Friday

9:00 a.m. ~ 12:00 p.m.



"The king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me--that is my petition--and the lives of my people--that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." – Esther 7: 1-4

Dear Church,

Every year in October we highlight the work of the larger church of the United Church of Christ through our Neighbors in Need offering. The Neighbors in Need offering is one of the five special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ that support ministries of justice and compassion throughout our country. You can read more about this in this newsletter and throughout the month. This offering is one of the ways that we can, as a church, express our courage to work for our community. This summer, we spent time in the book of Ruth. Similar to this book is the book of Esther. It's a short story with a female heroine that doesn't directly use the name of God. Esther is the Hebrew Queen of the Persian King and she advocated for the protection of her people who faced persecution as a matter of national policy. Esther goes so far as to risk her life on behalf of God's people. The Festival of Purim, celebrated in the Spring, commemorates the saving of the Hebrew people. One of the things that Purim emphasizes is helping of the poor. Where do we stand up for those in our community? Is there something that we are known for? Are there people in our communities that need an advocate, someone to stand for them? I pray for the strength and courage of our church to be able to respond when the need arises. O God, our guide and help in alien and contentious places, as Esther worked courageously for the deliverance of your people, strengthen us to confront the oppressor and free the oppressed, so that all people may know the justice and unity of your realm. Amen.

Blessings, Pastor Darrin

## *News from Pastor Darrin!*



Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> – World Communion Sunday – Dreaming with Joseph

Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> – The World Enslaved – Exodus 1

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> – An Intriguing Opportunity – Exodus 3

Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> – Singing and Dancing with Miriam – Exodus 15

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Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> – Men's Prayer Breakfast – 8am – The Bistro

Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> – Saturday Night Alive – 5pm

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Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> – Magnolia Terrace Worship - 1:30pm

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> – Mill Creek Nursing Home – 2pm

### HEARTFELT THANKS

Dear First UCC,

Thank you so much for the school supplies and clothes! Our staff and students are very appreciative! These are items we can always use.

Sincerely,  
Galion Primary Staff

Thank you to all who contributed to the Scholarship Fundraiser this fall. We raised \$178.00 in monetary donations and \$596.00 at the Scholarship Dinner. Thank you for supporting our college students!  
*The Scholarship Committee*

## Birthdays

3rd:	Barbara Koschnick	21st:	Terry Shifley
4th:	Rachael Worthington		Rhonda Harvey
5th:	Riley Lusk	24th:	Brayden Black
	Chuck Neal	25th:	Daniel Burkhart
	Katelynn Spore		Jim Heiser
10th:	Marcia Burkhart		Dorothy Wiggins
11th:	Matthew Burgess	27th:	Tami Burkhart
	Lindsey James		Pat Winters
12th:	Stone Musselman	28th:	Marci Brown
	Eric Neal	29th:	Justin Cole
	Kendra Spore		Mary Shifley
14th:	Nancy Reid	30th:	Grant Pfeifer
15th:	Barbara Treisch		Sandy Powell
16th:	Karyn Christman	31st:	Paige Rudolph
	Ella McGrady		
17th:	Janet Snyder		
18th:	Patsy Rowland		
19th:	Kenneth Feik		
	Carol Flick		
	Todd Murray		
	Veda Shifley		
20th:	Tracie Opperman		
	Judy Garverick		

## Anniversaries

3rd:	Phil & Sundie Brown
9th:	Dan & Lisa Eichhorn
10th:	Jason & Angie Moore
12th:	Gary & Martha See
14th:	David & Connie Eichhorn
	Todd & Jill Lusk
15th:	Loren & Annie Stone
16th:	Terry & Lee Anne Shifley
17th:	Todd & Karen Rudolph
20th:	Dan & Twila Hiatt
	Gene & Faye Toy
25th:	Cody & Jennifer Gledhill



Now that classes are back in full swing, please notify the church office of your son's/daughter's college address. This is helpful to the Genesis Friends Circle when they send out College Student Care Packages. Please call 419-468-4380 or email the office at [office@uccgalion.org](mailto:office@uccgalion.org).

# Organ Repair Payoff



The Sterrett Fund will contribute \$48,000. We need to fill the keys to get the rest. \$44,060 has been donated through September 30, 2018. The balance due on the loan is now \$78,924.

The colored in keyboard on the right represents the progress in paying for our organ repair. Every \$500 fills a key, and when all keyboards from bass to treble are filled we will be “paid off.” Contributions of all sizes are appreciated. If your contribution is in honor or memory of someone, indicate that.

**Additional keys have been dedicated in memory/  
honor of:**

**Frank and Jo Isaacs  
Chalmer & Jane Miller and  
Lloyd & Lucille Harris  
Dan Ritchey  
Rev. Reuben Elliker  
Richard & Gertrude Shifley  
Bing & Jean Bogan**



## **HOSPITALIZATIONS**

None to report

If you are hospitalized, it is very important that you (or a family member) inform the church office. Remember, hospitals can no longer provide us with this information. Please call 419-468-4380.

## **BIRTH**

Zachary and Caitlyn Gledhill are proud to announce the birth of their son, Parker Nicholas Gledhill. He was born September 19th, 2018 at 4:56 p.m. He weighed 6 lbs 13 oz and was 20 in long. Proud grandparents are Kevin and Beth Cotsmire, Chris and Debbie Horning, and Ken and Joy Gledhill. Great grandparents are John and Marcy Miller.

## **GENESIS FRIENDS**

Genesis Friends meeting is Oct 15th at 7:00 in the lounge. It is our Make It, Bake It, Grow It, Cheat It Auction (with an awesome auctioneer)!!





### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Please sign the "Flower Chart" on the bulletin board outside the church office.

### **RADIO BROADCASTS**

The cost is \$70.00 per broadcast. Please sign the chart posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Listen on **107.5FM WBCO** on Sunday from 9:00am-10:00am.

### **PRAYER CHAIN**

For prayer requests, please call the office at 468-4380.

### **FOOD PANTRY**

Boxed meals, boxed potatoes, canned fruits, Jell-O, paper products, cleaning supplies and personal care products are needed. There are containers at both entrances to the sanctuary.

### **VISITATION MINISTRY**

The Visitation Ministry ministers to our shut-in members who are physically unable to attend church. If you are interested in making visits, or if you need a visit, please contact the church office(419-468-4380).

### **CARING CORNER**

We continue to have cards to sign in the Caring Corner. If you know of any member, friend or relative who could benefit from visits or cards, please let the office know! Also, please continue to fill the pull tab jar. Little things mean a lot so save those tabs for the Ronald McDonald House!



### **NEIGHBORS IN NEED**

Enclosed is an envelope & insert for our special Neighbors in Need offering. This offering supports ministries of justice & compassion throughout the United States. You may make a donation in the enclosed envelope or you can use the enclosed insert to light a candle on our altar in memory or honor of a loved one on All Saint's Sunday November 4th. Just complete the form and return it to our office by October 28th. All donations are greatly appreciated.

### **PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

The Mission Committee and Pastor would like to thank you for your generous contributions to his Discretionary Fund. This fund is used by the Pastor to help folks in our church or community that have an emergency need.

### **FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH MEAL**

Thank you to everyone that is supporting our Fellowship & Outreach Meals. Thursday, October 18th is our next Fellowship & Outreach Meal. We are looking for 6 individuals that would like to cook an apple dessert for this meal. If you have a favorite recipe and would like to help by providing a dessert, please call the office and let us know. Providing the dessert is such a BIG help to our teams that are cooking. Remember this meal is on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 5-6:00p.m. All church & community members are welcome. Won't you help?

**Fairhaven Community  
Volunteer Service Group  
September 17, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by President Barb Nigh.  
Devotions were given by Bucyrus St. John's.  
Roll Call: Volunteers – 24, Staff – 3  
Minutes stood approved as corrected.  
A Thank You was received from Lori.  
Treasury Balance - \$1,174.50  
Gift Shop - \$3,189.93  
Bingo Cup - \$21.50

**Bills:**

It was agreed to buy advertisement in local Upper Sandusky paper to advertise for Harvest Fest. It was also suggested to list on website of United Church Homes, The Vine, and Fairhaven Facebook. Marcy suggested all volunteers with Facebook to list Harvest Fest also. Also, it is recognized that Marcy will incur expenses for Harvest Fest supplies. It was agreed that she could submit these bills and be reimbursed without waiting for the next meeting.

**Old Business:**

Marcy recapped donations thus far received for Harvest Fest. Need backup persons to help with registration. Set up will be day before Harvest Fest (the 26<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm). Items for Silent Auction to be brought in at that time if possible. The auction will be cut off at 12:30 pm the day of the event. Reminder that all checks received need to be made payable to Volunteer Service Group.

**New Business:**

Next month's meeting need to have Tree of Love material ready. Becky King will bring in the list of addresses to which letters need to be mailed for Tree of Love.

**Staff:**

Lori Marsh announced that Fairhaven participated in the Alzheimer Walk and the local fair. They also have a new intern in the Therapy Restorative Department and she explained the importance of having sufficient staffing in this area. She shared the steps being taken to confirm that new personnel are satisfied in their positions so that good staffing can be maintained. They have had the kick-off of the Employee Giving Campaign. This is the third year and thus far 66% of staff has donated which already exceeds the dollar amount from last year. This will continue until November 16<sup>th</sup>. They are also in the Budget Forecasting Season.

Becky Blocksom once again thanked all volunteers for all they do and offered to assist in Harvest Fest as needed.

Becky King shared that the residents have selected the Wyandot Historical Society to be the recipient of their offerings for this month. Also, the Giving Tree this month is collecting canned goods for the Open Door Resource Center for their food pantry which is open to anyone who requests food. Next month the Giving Tree will be collecting cat and dog food, kitty litter, etc. for Charlie's Pantry who makes these things available for persons who cannot afford to buy these supplies. November and December they will be collecting mittens, scarves and hats for those in need during the winter months. Also, Spiritual Care Week will be October 21<sup>st</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was closed by Becky King leading the group in "The Way" and prayer.

Next month's meeting will be October 15<sup>th</sup>. Galion First will have devotions. A potluck will be held following the meeting. Cookies will be furnished for the residents following bingo. Those who signed up to bring cookies are: Donna Randell, Kathryn Adams, Lydia Guithrie, Dagmar Rinderknecht, and Dorothy Eckert.

## UPDATE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

As we close the third quarter, we have good news to report. We ended the summer months with no borrowing of reserve funds. Regular envelope giving is up over last year and is close to the level it was two years ago. As noted at the annual meeting in January, a small increase of just \$4 per week helps make up our budget shortfall and many of you have responded. While we anticipate some use of reserve funds in the last quarter, we project it to be much less than originally anticipated in the approved 2018 budget. The Finance Committee would like to extend a big thank you to the congregation. We are so grateful for your response!

Year to date giving is as follows:

**September 2018: \$103,963.00**

**September 2017: \$95,496.00**

In the last quarter of the year, we are preparing the 2019 budget. Please contact any member of the Finance Committee as soon as possible, if you are aware of any out of the ordinary expenditures we should consider for next year. Thank you for your support of First UCC.



## **COMMUNITY BREAKFAST UPDATE**

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Community Breakfast!!! Remember the breakfast is the last Sunday of every month! If you are donating breakfast items, please make sure that your items are at the church no later than the Friday before the breakfast. There is a sign up sheet for donated items on the office window. This month we are serving hash, toast & fresh fruit. Last month we served 36 people from our community. We are so happy we can help our neighbors in need!

## **Consistory Highlights**

**September 11, 2018**

- Security for the front door including cameras, buzzers, and intercom are being explored. It is felt all doors need to be watched.
- The boiler needs some repairs that were found by the “boiler inspector” inspection.
- A new storm door will be installed in the kitchen.
- Confirmation will start meeting Sunday, September 16, 2018.
- Children through grade 6 will have Children’s Church with Middle School assisting.
- Sr. High students will have Sunday School downstairs.
- Pastor Darrin and Doug Court will attend the Ohio Conference meeting at the end of September. Doug is a delegate.
- Men’s Prayer Breakfast will be held Saturday, September 15, 2018 at the Bistro at 8am.
- The Thursday evening meal will be held September 20th (3rd Thursday) with Doug Court’s team hosting. BORN will be speaking and have available private sign up for those in need.
- The loose change fund, Sunday, September 16, 2018 will

## **Scholarship Applications Due October 14th**

- Scholarship applications are available for currently enrolled First UCC college students. Applications are available at both the East and West deacon's benches. Please complete and return to the church office by October 14th. The Scholarship Committee will review and make awards the following week. Scholarships have recently been \$500 per full time student.



# 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9:00am WIC 6:30pm Mother's Club	3 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sr. Choir	4 <b>7:00pm Finance</b> 7:00pm 12-Step	5 8:00am WIC	6
7 <i>World Communion</i>  9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 1:30pm Magnolia Terrace	8  7:00pm 12-Step	9  <b>7:00pm Consistory</b>	10 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sr. Choir	11  7:00pm 12-Step	12	13
14  9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	15  <b>7:00pm Genesis Friends</b> 7:00pm 12-Step	16  8:30am Head Start	17 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sr. Choir	18  7:00pm 12-Step	19 8:00am WIC	20
21  9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 2:00pm Mill Creek Worship	22  7:00pm 12-Step	23	24 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sr. Choir	25  7:00pm 12-Step	26 8:00am WIC	27  5:00pm Saturday Night Alive
28  8:00am Community Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	29  <b>7:00pm Mission</b> 7:00pm 12-Step	30	31 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sr. Choir			





# October

## Week of October 7:

Sun. 2 Kings 17:1-18  
Acts 9:36-43  
Luke 5:1-11

Mon. 2 Kings 17:24-41  
1 Cor. 7:25-31  
Matt. 6:25-34

Tue. 2 Chron. 29:1-3:30:1  
(2-9) 10-27  
1 Cor. 7:32-40  
Matt. 7:1-12

Wed. 2 Kings 18:9-25  
1 Cor. 8:1-13  
Matt. 7:13-21

Thur. 2 Kings 18:28-37  
1 Cor. 9:1-15  
Matt. 7:22-29

Fri. 2 Kings 19:1-20  
1 Cor. 9:16-27  
Matt. 8:1-17

Sat. 2 Kings 19:21-36  
1 Cor. 10:1-13  
Matt. 8:18-27

## Week of October 14:

Sun. 2 Kings 20:1-21  
Acts 12:1-17  
Luke 7:11-17

Mon. 2 Kings 21:1-18  
1 Cor. 10:14-11:1  
Matt. 8:28-34

Tue. 2 Kings 22:1-13  
1 Cor. 11:2 (3-16)  
17-22  
Matt. 9:1-8

Wed. 2 Kings 22:14-23:3  
1 Cor. 11:23-34  
Matt. 9:9-17

Thu. 2 Kings 23:4-25  
1 Cor. 12:1-11  
Matt. 9:18-26

Fri. 2 Kings 23:36-24:17  
1 Cor. 12:12-26  
Matt. 9:27-34

Sat. Jer. 35:1-19  
1 Cor. 12:27-13:3  
Matt. 9:35-10:4

## Week of October 21:

Sun. Jer. 36:1-10  
Acts 14:8-18  
Luke 7:36-50

Mon. Jer. 36:11-26  
1Cor. 13:(1-3) 4-13  
Matt. 10:5-15

Tue. Jer. 36:27-37:2  
1 Cor. 14:1-12  
Matt. 10:16-23

Wed. Jer. 37:3-21  
1 Cor. 14:13-25  
Matt. 10:24-33

Thu. Jer. 38:1-13  
1 Cor. 14:26-33a  
(33b-36) 37-40  
Matt. 10:34-42

Fri. Jer. 38:14-28  
1 Cor. 15:1-11  
Matt. 11:1-6

Sat. Jer. 52:1-34  
1 Cor. 15:12-29  
Matt. 11:7-15

## Week of October 28:

Sun. Jer. 29:1, 4-14  
Acts 16:6-15  
Luke 10:1-12;  
17-20

Mon. Jer. 44:1-14  
1 Cor. 15:30-41  
Matt. 11:16-24

Tue. Lam. 1:1-5 (6-9)  
10-12  
1 Cor. 15:41-50  
Matt. 11:25-30

Wed. Lam. 2:8-15  
1 Cor. 15:51-58  
Matt. 12:1-14

Thu. Ezra 1:1-11  
1 Cor. 16:1-9  
Matt. 12:15-21

Fri. Ezra 3:1-13  
1 Cor. 16:10-24  
Matt. 12:22-32

Sat. Ezra 4:7, 11-24  
Philemon 1-25  
Matt. 12:33-42

## **2018 HURRICANE RELIEF**

Hurricane Florence caused catastrophic and prolonged significant river flooding to the Carolina coast and even inland. Rainfall totaled 40" in 3 days in some areas. More than a million Carolinians were ordered to evacuate, with 10 million in warning or watch areas left with power outages and damage to their homes or livelihood. More than 40 people lost their lives with this storm. The wide spread impact from this storm has prompted UCC Disaster Ministries to establish a 2018 Hurricane Relief Effort in response to the wide spread flooding and damage. If you would like to donate to the Hurricane Relief Effort, please put your donation in an envelope in the offering plate and mark it "Hurricane." All donations will be sent to the UCC to help these individuals rebuild after this devastating storm. Please continue to keep these folks in your prayers as they rebuild their lives and thank you for your donation.

## **THANK YOU!!!**

On behalf of the Fairhaven Volunteer Service Group, I want to thank you for all you did to support Harvest Fest again this year. In fact, you did more than usual. Thank you to our regular volunteers who provide activities and refreshments for the residents once a month and help with this event.

Thank you to those who came over for the day to help take care of the Bake Sale.(An additional job for our church this year.) Thank you to those who brought items for the silent auction basket, bake sale and pies to serve for lunch. Thank you to those for making the potato salad.

Thank you to those helping make the vegetable soup this year. (Another new job for our church.) Thank you to Genesis Friends for again making a cash donation. Thank you to those for helping assemble the Longaberger snack basket.

Without your continuing support and other UCC churches in this area, we could not continue this annual money- making event that allows the volunteer group to purchase items which benefit the residents.

Marcy Miller

## **Ohio Conference News!**

Rev. Darrin and Doug Court represented you at the fall gathering of the Ohio Conference of the UCC. The underlying issue facing the conference was an awareness that the current structure of a central conference and five independent associations under its umbrella may have been appropriate for 1958 but does not seem sustainable in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The explosion of technology and the current relative ease of travel provide opportunities for efficiency of efforts. Membership and attendance in our local congregations have already led to the merger of two associations into one and to a significant financial crisis for all parties.

Our two keynote speakers emphasized different perspectives but the same message of the impact the turbulent year 1968 and the half century following has had in their worlds. Rev. Andreas Muller from our partner church Evangelische Kirche in Westphalia, Germany spoke of the few young Christians who started a movement, behind a now defunct iron curtain, that has led to gender equality, social justice and immigration actions. Rev. Starsky Wilson, President and CEO of the Deaconess Foundation, spoke of the root causes of the sanitation worker strike in Memphis leading to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. Jim Crow laws may have been stricken and there are legal protections in place for minorities, but much still needs to change in the underlying economic and social systems. The realities, that only a man could have the skills to be president of the Deaconess Foundation (always been that way), Nazi sympathizers are attempting to get on German and U.S. ballots, and children are removed from their families as a deterrent, require a response from those of us who have been called by our baptism to be the Love of Christ in action.

The assembled delegates then put aside self-interest and association ego to move forward toward the unification of the Ohio Conference. This is the next step in a process that will take a few years as all Associations have constitutions and endowments to individually deal with. Currently a proposal has one conference body with three regional support centers. Each region would have a minister whose area of expertise would be shared by all of the conference. There would be one conference minister and one budget and accounting system with each support center having a budget within the shared budget. This proposal is more of a sand castle than a marble sculpture. There will be much negotiation and much compromise over what is likely to be a minimum of two years.