

# 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)  
Phone: 419-468-4380 [www.uccgalion.org](http://www.uccgalion.org)

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-----Youth Choir Director--Organist  
Jessica Hammond-----Organist  
Christine Coe-----Accompanist  
Dale Miller -----Custodian  
Martha See-----Kitchen Custodian  
Rev. John Miller-----Pastor Emeritus  
Larry Nigh-----Visitation Minister

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  
DATED MATERIAL

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 166  
GALION, OH 44833

## First United Church of Christ

248 Harding Way West  
Galion, OH 44833

CELEBRATE THE LOVE! CELEBRATE THE JOY!

Rev. Darrin Harvey  
Minister

Volume 29 No. 2

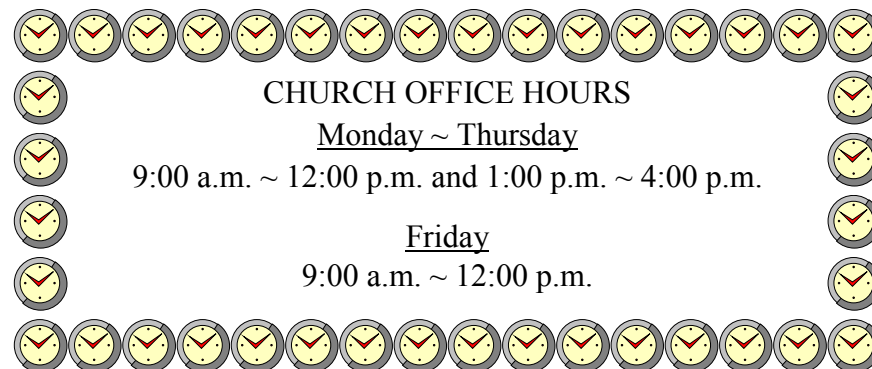
February 2017



## 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.

Dear Church,

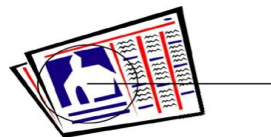
This is the month where we are really getting started into our new year. On New Year's Eve, we began our Saturday Evening Services at 5pm. Our goal for this is to allow it to evolve into something that will take on a life of its own and flourish. So far, we have been able to incorporate new musicians into our band, invite special guest musicians to come and present their music with us and we have started to have dinner following our worship. We have also been able to welcome people that have not felt as welcome in the past in traditional church worship services in our community. It's ok that it is small right now as we are in the beginning stages with getting the word out about it and changing some of our church culture to accommodate a service on Saturday evening. We are committed to maintaining it and investing in it so that we are reaching people in the community for years to come. If you are able, we invite you to come and attend for something different. It is contemporary, casual, creative and discussion based. This is also the month that we are having our "All-Church" Retreat. We are officially changing the name of it to reflect that we invite any church member to come have a voice in the direction of our church not just the people that are "leaders" with a title. This year our theme is "Spiritual Gifts." In the morning, we will be taking a survey to determine the spiritual gifts that we have represented and in the afternoon, we will be determining the needs of the church and our community. At the conclusion, we will be matching up our gifts with our needs. This will take place on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am until 2pm and lunch will be provided. We have gotten some great news about our organ project that we have been moved up in Muller's schedule and so they will begin at the end of this month and it will be completed at the end of next month.

This means that we should have a fully functioning and new organ for Easter Worship on April 16<sup>th</sup>. The week following, during our Sunday morning worship time, we are having a special musical worship service at 10am featuring Luke Tegtmeier, organist and tonal associate at Muller Pipe Organ. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our organ fund so far. There are more exciting changes that we can report coming soon. At our annual meeting, we voted to include in our organ restoration project television screens to be installed in our sanctuary to replace our projection screen to be used during worship. In addition, smaller monitors will be placed in our hallways that will run announcements about our church for those coming in for WIC and Head Start. The cost was amended into the project's cost and successfully passed with congregational approval so we can look forward to this being installed soon. For over a year now on our website we have had a link that says "Giving" that has led nowhere. We are happy to report that very soon it will lead to a link that will provide people with the opportunity to arrange giving to the church online and automatically. We believe that this will make it easier for those who normally manage their finances in direct ways to give to the church and in the long run lead to an increase in giving. Finally, I would like to report that we have made a change to the logo of our church that will begin to appear on all our communications. It was designed by an old college friend of mine, Len Peralta. I'm very happy with it and I hope that you will like it as well. These things and projects are building a foundation for what we hope will be a sustainable future well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We are excited for 2017 and so thankful that you are with us to celebrate the joy and love!

God bless you this month!

Pastor Darrin

**NEW CHURCH LOGO IS LOCATED ON "MISSIONS PAGE"**



## *News from Pastor Darrin*

### **February Worship**

Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> – Service of Holy Communion; Raising of the Widow's Son;  
Luke 7: 1-17

Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> – Are You the One?; Luke 7:18-35

Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> – Forgiven at Jesus Feet; Luke 7: 36-50

Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> – Transfiguration; Luke 9: 28-45



### **Now with Dinner included afterwards!**

Every Saturday at 5pm

Contemporary and Casual

**Special Musical Guest** – Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> – “Set Apart”

( Gospel Music)

### **Ministry at Magnolia Terrace**

Sunday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> – 1:30pm Worship

Tuesdays Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> – 10am – Bible Study on the Gospel of  
Luke

### **HOSPITALIZATIONS**

Donald Harvey; Leonard Ness; Ellie Heiser; Dani Court &  
Wanda Nixon

If you are hospitalized, it is 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.

### **CONDOLENCES**

1st UCC extends sympathy to the family of Barbara Perkins  
and Larry & Mary Shifley. Their loved one, John F. Shifley,  
passed away January 14, 2017. Please keep their family in  
your thoughts and prayers.

1st UCC extends sympathy to the family of Eldon Bauer.  
Eldon passed away on January 22, 2017. Please keep his  
family in your thoughts and prayers.

### **SCHOLARSHIP SOUPS & SWEETS**

The Scholarship Fund Committee will be having a fundraiser  
called “Soups and Sweets for Scholarships.” It will be held  
after the worship service on **February 12th**. Look for the  
committee table in the west vestibule of the sanctuary. We will  
be selling many of our popular soups and baked goods from  
prior years, plus several new recipes that will be sure to please  
the palate! Our goal is to raise \$2500 this year to support our  
First UCC college students.



# ***FEBRUARY***

## **Week of February 5**

Sun.: Gen. 24:50-67  
 2 Tim. 2:14-21  
 Mark 10:13-22  
 Mon.: Gen. 25:19-34  
 Heb. 13:1-16  
 John 7:37-52  
 Tue.: Gen. 26:1-6,12-33  
 Heb. 13:17-25  
 John 7:53-8:11  
 Wed.: Gen. 27:1-29  
 Rom. 12:1-8  
 John 8:12-20  
 Thu.: Gen. 27:30-45  
 Rom. 12:9-21  
 John 8:21-32  
 Fri.: Gen. 27:46-28:4, 10-22  
 Rom. 13:1-14  
 John 8:33-47  
 Sat.: Gen. 29:1-20  
 Rom. 14:1-23  
 John 8:47-59

## **Week of February 12**

Sun.: Gen. 29:20-35  
 1 Tim. 3:14-4-10  
 Mark 10:23-31  
 Mon.: Gen. 30:1-24  
 1 John 1:1-10  
 John 9:1-17  
 Tue.: Gen. 31:1-24  
 1 John 2:1-11  
 John 9:18-41  
 Wed.: Gen. 31:25-5  
 1 John 2:12-17  
 John 10:1-18  
 Thu.: Gen. 32:3-21  
 1 John 2:18-29  
 John 10:31-42  
 Fri.: Gen. 32:22-33:17  
 1 John 3:1-10  
 John 10:31-42  
 Sat.: Gen. 35:1-20  
 1 John 3:11-18  
 John 11:1-16

## **Week of February 19**

Sun.: Prov. 1:20-33  
 2 Cor. 5:11-21  
 Mark 10:35-45  
 Mon.: Prov. 3:11-20  
 1 John 3:18-4:6  
 John 11:17-29  
 Tue.: Prov. 4:1-27  
 1 John 4:7-21  
 John 11:30-44  
 Wed.: Prov. 6:1-19  
 1 John 5:1-12  
 John 11:45-54  
 Thu.: Prov. 7:1-27  
 1 John 5:13-21  
 John 11:55-12:8  
 Fri.: Prov. 8:1-21  
 Philemon 1-25  
 John 12:9-19  
 Sat.: Prov. 8:22-36  
 2 Tim. 1:1-14  
 John 12:20-26

## **Week of February 26**

Sun.: Prov. 9:1-12  
 2 Cor. 9:6b-15  
 Mark 10:46-52  
 Mon.: Prov. 10:1-12  
 2 Tim. 1:15-2:13  
 John 12:27-36a  
 Tue.: Prov. 15:16-33  
 2 Tim. 2:14-26  
 John 12:36b-50  
 Wed.: Prov. 17:1-20  
 2 Tim. 3:1-17  
 John 13:1-20  
 Thu.: Prov. 21:30-22:6  
 2 Tim. 4:1-8  
 John 13:21-30  
 Fri.: Prov. 23:19-21,  
 29-24:2  
 2 Tim. 4:9-22  
 John 13:31-38  
 Sat.: Prov. 25:15-28  
 Phil. 1:1-11  
 John 18:1-14



3rd:	Douglas Conklin	Annie Stone
	Scott Keller	23rd: Frank Isaacs
4th:	Doris Burkhart	Doug Stone
8th:	Thomas Keplinger	Maggie Sulser
9th:	Dan Eichhorn	24th: Ellie McKibben
	Ryan Neal	Kerry Weithman
10th:	Alycia Palmer	25th: Twila Hiatt
13th:	Travis Koschnick	Brock Ritzhaupt
14th:	Carole Schreck	Robin Zier
	Angela Young	26th: Zaine Furr
15th:	Sue Kindell	27th: Matt McClarren
	Eugene Toy	28th: Mary Jeffers
16th:	Megan Brown	29th: Matt Furr
	Marcheta Gibson	Cheryl Ketterman
	Kerry Riggs	
18th:	Blaine Winegarten	
	Jodi Merry	
19th:	Todd Rudolph	
20th:	Chad Burdett	11th: Bucky & Carol Walter
	Dan Hayes	25th: Tony & Anna Durtschi
	Jill Lusk	27th: Todd & Amy Guinther
	Chuck Swick	
21st:	Carla Russell	
22nd:	Marlene McDaniels	



## Fairhaven Community Volunteer Service Group January 16, 2017

The January meeting was opened by President Jan Young.

Devotions were given by Galion First.

Roll Call was: Volunteers – 20, Staff – 5.

Minutes of the November meeting stood approved as read.

Three communications were read.

Treasury Balance - \$3,694.72.

Gift Shop - \$2,870.81.

Bingo Cup - \$15.00.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Phyllis Dietrich will turn 101 on January 27<sup>th</sup>. A card shower is requested. Address and phone number corrections were made to the 2017 membership booklet. Because of the December meeting having been cancelled, Dorothy Eckert handled the stuffing of the stockings for the Fairhaven residents by herself, for which everyone was appreciative. Nancy Robinson donated lots of cards to the Gift Shop.

**Staff Report:**

Lori Marsh announced that Becky Blocksom is now a permanent employee with the title of Resident Engagement Coordinator. Kara Orians will continue to attend meetings. One of the 2017 goals is to achieve the Silver Quality Award. The Bronze Award has already been received. Kara Orians announced the Lunch & Learn meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup> with Mayor Washburn as speaker. One person has submitted application for scholarship. She is not employed currently but plans to be this summer. Karen announced the Fairhaven survey is completed with only minor citations which were easily corrected. Alyssa Clouse is now the Director of Gifts and Grants. Becky Blocksom will send the names of the volunteers to corporate office. Becky installed the new officers and closed the meeting with prayer and leading the group in "The Way."

The next meeting will be February 20<sup>th</sup> with a potluck being held. Cookies will be brought instead of pies for this date. Those bringing cookies are: Lori Marsh, Miriam Shifley, Carol Moran, Louise O'Briant, Jeannine Stucky and Karol Kirgis.



**CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS**  
**JANUARY 10, 2017 CONSISTORY MINUTES**

Magnolia Terrace Ministry is continuing.

Bible Study will begin again on February 23rd.

The Leader's Retreat is scheduled for February 11, 2017 from 10 AM-2PM. Lunch will be served. The topics of the retreat will be Spiritual Gifts and Asset Mapping. The people of the church hold lots of skills. Discussion will be held on how these special talents can help the church. A possible wall for a mural and a person to do painting were considered.

Video screens will be discussed at the annual meeting to be held January 22, 2017, along with a vote on the proposed budget. New pew pads, sanitizer etc. have been placed in the sanctuary by the deacons.

A quote has been requested to fix the "falling apart" stained glass window. Volunteers will be recruited to paint various areas of the church.

The repair of the organ has been started with Muller coming to take some of the pipes. The prior project being worked on was completed ahead of schedule so our time frame has moved up. Hopefully the repaired organ will be used Easter Sunday. All donations for the organ restoration will go to pay off the principle. Donations have now exceeded \$7800. Doug Court, Dan Brown and Stephanie Sikora are members of the Organ Fund Raising Committee. The committee is looking for more volunteers. Please contact one of the members, if interested.

Electronic giving will soon be in place for the churchgoers to use. Details will be coming soon.

Be sure to pick up your picture directory in the office.

Barb Koschnick— Secretary

***Send a hug around the world for Valentine's Day!***

Remember those you love with a gift to the Blanket Program. A donation of \$5.00 will purchase one blanket. Please fill in the form below and return it, along with payment, to the church office or place it in the offering plate.

**Donation deadline is February 19th**  
**Please use one form for each order.**

I would like to give \_\_\_\_\_ blanket (s) at \$5 each:

In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

In Loving Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

To The Glory of God \_\_\_\_\_

Given By \_\_\_\_\_



### BLANKET SUNDAY– HAVE A HEART!

On February 26th First Church will celebrate Blanket Sunday! Each year in the month of Valentine's Day, we are called to share our love with a gift of a blanket in honor or memory of loved ones or to the Glory of God! Each \$5.00 you contribute will purchase a blanket through Church World Service. These blankets have been a source of shelter or warmth for hurricane and flood victims in the United States, as well as to victims of natural and manmade disasters around the world. Some of the blankets have even assisted Crawford County residents. Show your heart and donate to this worthy cause.



### 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 French toast, ham & fruit. Last month we served 27 people outside the church.

**OUR NEW  
CHURCH  
LOGO**



### ALTAR FLOWERS

Please sign the "Flower Chart" on the bulletin board outside the church office. Let the office know what florist is to make the delivery.

### RADIO BROADCASTS

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

### PRAYER CHAIN

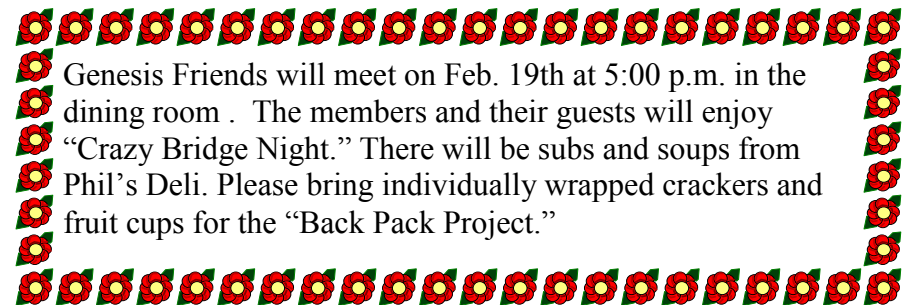
For prayer requests please call Nancy Green at 419-468-3296 or the office at 468-4380.

### 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!

### FOOD PANTRY

Canned meats, boxed potatoes, Jell-O, pudding, paper products, cleaning supplies and personal care products are needed. There are containers at both entrances to the sanctuary.



Genesis Friends will meet on Feb. 19th at 5:00 p.m. in the dining room. The members and their guests will enjoy "Crazy Bridge Night." There will be subs and soups from Phil's Deli. Please bring individually wrapped crackers and fruit cups for the "Back Pack Project."



# 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sr. Choir	2	3 8:00am WIC	4 5:00pm Sat. Night Alive
5 <i>Souper Bowl Sunday</i> 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 1:30pm Magnolia Terrace	6	7 8:00am WIC	8 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sr. Choir	9 7:00pm Finance	10	11 10:00am All Church Retreat 5:00pm Sat. Night Alive
12 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Soup-Bake Sale	13	14 8:30am Head Start 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Consistory	15 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sr. Choir	16 4:30pm Head Start	17 8:00am WIC 8:30am Head Start	18 5:00pm Sat. Night Alive
19 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	20	21	22 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sr. Choir	23 7:00pm Barb Nigh Bible Study	24 8:00am WIC	25 5:00pm Sat. Night Alive
26 <i>Blanket Sunday</i> 8:00am Community Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	27	28 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Elders				





## HEARTFELT THANKS

### THANK YOU!

Thank you to all that supported the Youth Spaghetti Dinner.  
Our Youth raised \$563.90. Thank you for your generosity!

The Youth Committee

Dear Family & Family of 1st UCC,

What a nice surprise to have carolers come & sing on such a COLD night. So enjoyable, also the yummy cookies & candy. Thank you, thank you. Thank you for the beautiful poinsettia that Nancy Green brought me. Enjoyed seeing & talking to Nancy. Thank you to all who gave flowers and those who delivered them. Plus, I want to say I really enjoy seeing pictures in the Newsletter. So nice to see faces I don't get to see now. Everything is deeply appreciated.

Thank you,  
God Bless you all,

Mary Conklin

## LEADERSHIP RETREAT

We are going to be having our annual leadership retreat on Saturday, Feb. 11th from 10am until 2pm. In our morning session we are going to be taking a "spiritual gifts" inventory and having a workshop surrounding that issue. In the afternoon, we are going to be analyzing the needs of our church and of our community and then finding ways in which we can match our gifts and resources with the needs that exist. You don't have to have an office in the church's structure to come! Your ideas are welcome and invited! Lunch will be provided.

## United Church of Christ News

During the last year, the United Church of Christ has undergone the process of rewriting their Purpose, Mission and Vision statements. Thousands of surveys were submitted and taken into consideration across the country and the General Minister and President, along with the Board of Directors, are prepared to announce their renewed statements.

The UCC purpose statement comes from the Gospel of Matthew: ***To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves.***

Mission statement: ***United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.***

And the vision: ***United in Christ's love, a just world for all.***

General Minister and President, the Rev. John Dorhauer, says that "We all bear responsibility for living out our shared mission. We will not achieve our full potential — nor maintain our full capacity for health, vitality, and relevance — without a clear sense of missional purpose and calling. This effort to identify that was a critical step in the direction of our future health and vitality — but it will only matter if we can all find common cause in this and commit fully, with passion, and without reserve to its undertaking."

We praise God for the work of the National Office and pray for the continued health and vitality of our covenantal faith that we share with Christians across the country. May we work together to create a more just world for all!

### **Summer Camps 2017**

Registration for Summer Camp at Pilgrim Hills is now open. If you are interested in attending this year, please see Pastor Darrin. Camperships are available from the church to help defray the cost of attending. Camps include Music, Arts, Sports, Swimming, Grandparent Camps, College Camps, Family Camps and more!



### **Association News**

Please pray for the delegation going to El Salvador this year from Northwest Ohio. They will be gone from February 8<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>. Our association has had a fruitful partnership with the Lutheran Church of El Salvador for several years. This year we are once again renewing that partnership during our Association Meeting in April. Last year Pastor Darrin went on this trip and found it life changing. Pray for our partners there and for our delegation's safe travel.



### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Back by popular demand the- “Unbirthday Party!” Please mark your calendar for Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> after the service in the dining room. We are looking for people to sponsor a table for this event. If you would be interested in decorating a table and providing the table service and dessert (cake/ cupcakes) for your birthday month, please let the office or Mary Ann Stone know. I am certain it will be a fun day for all!



Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, our church will be participating with other churches in this country in the “Souper Bowl of Caring.” On that Sunday, bring your cans of soup and/or money for our soup pots that will be in the sanctuary to support our local food pantry at Community Action Center this year. Our Mission Committee will match what is collected in dollars to the Co-operative Services of Galion. Cheer on your favorite football team and help us fill our pots with soup and cash that day. Sounds like a win, win for our local food banks!