

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

248 Harding Way W.
Galion, OH 44833

Church E-mail: office@uccgalion.org

Rev. Harvey: pastor@uccgalion.org

Phone: 419-468-4380 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-----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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**FIRST
UCC
OF GALION**
*A place where everyone
grows in faith*

**First United Church
of Christ**

248 Harding Way West
Galion, OH 44833

**CELEBRATE THE LOVE!
CELEBRATE THE JOY!**

Rev. Darrin Harvey
Minister

Volume 31 No. 7

July 2019



*The
VISITOR*

SUNDAY SERVICES

Worship Service

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School

9:00 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,

Last month we talked about the history and identity of the United Church of Christ. Some of the sermons have ended up to be a bit of a history lesson. As someone who was required to take classes on these types of things, I think I have taken for granted that most people in our church know UCC history. But it's easy for local congregations to function independently without the larger context of denomination. So, I think these sermons have been interesting and helpful for us.

Most of us come to our church because they like this particular church, but it helps to know that we are not out there all by ourselves. The United Church of Christ is distinctive to our country with a long and rich history dating back to the pilgrims. The traditions and theology of the UCC can be tremendously helpful as a starting point for the development of our personal faith.

As I said in June, if it weren't for the UCC, I wouldn't be a minister today. I was drawn back into the fold because of the UCC way and its emphasis on social justice, outreach work, lay empowerment and its partnership with science. The UCC is a bold witness for the gospel and works towards the building up of the Kingdom on earth.

It is my hope and prayer that these messages might spark a re-evaluation of our mission and purpose. The next five years I feel are critical to the health of our faith community. I invite you to go online and read about the UCC and join us in our live conversations happening during our Sunday School hour. May God bless us in this holy work.

Pastor Darrin

Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 3rd: Katelynn Claus | 18th: Sandra Massie |
| Mitchell McKibben | Linnea Stone |
| Gail Spore | 21st: Jennifer Lugo |
| 5th: Mary Mills | 22nd: Jim Nigh |
| 6th: Sherri Murray | 23rd: Hannah Ruth |
| 7th: Connie Eichhorn | 24th: David Christman |
| 8th: Missy James | 25th: Kathy Kruger |
| 9th: Matt Jeffers | 26th: Doug Court |
| Chloe Schreck | 27th: Bruce McKibben |
| Amy Watts | Rose Crago-Roach |
| 13th: Betty Tucker | 28th: Jason Moore |
| Kathy Weithman | 29th: Beth Black |
| 14th: Erik Schreck | Michael Lovely |
| 16th: Alec Kruger | 30th: Rosemary McDaniel |
| Miriam Shifley | Riley Worthington |
| 17th: Brenda Badgley | 31st: Brad Hocker |
| | Heidi Repp |

Anniversaries

- | |
|---------------------------------|
| 2nd: Larry & Mary Shifley |
| 6th: Kevin & Kelly Spore |
| 7th: Adrian & Becky Sunday |
| 9th: Chris & Melissa Stiffler |
| 17th: Dale & Tracie Opperman |
| 19th: Edward & Rose Crago-Roach |
| 20th: Jack & Barb Koschnick |
| 24th: Alycia & Jason Palmer |
| 26th: Blaine & Susan Winegarden |
| 28th: Dennis & Judy Garverick |
| 30th: Dale & Carol Miller |

To the Congregation of the Galion First United Church of Christ:

Our church is proud of its history, and rightfully so. However, that pride is sometimes blinding us to the future. The UCC is a denomination based on fighting against social injustice and doing good in the community. Many of you are from a generation that clearly is the definition of change, the Baby Boomers, the counterculture. Why aren't we proud of the fact we are members of something that is doing good out there? We appear to be on the surface. We are 5 for 5. We do all the right things. This causes me to pause. The Great Commandments, we know them, we all do. Love the Lord with all your heart, your mind, your body and soul. We got that down pretty well. The second part, which is stated to be like it, and just as important, Love your neighbor as yourself.

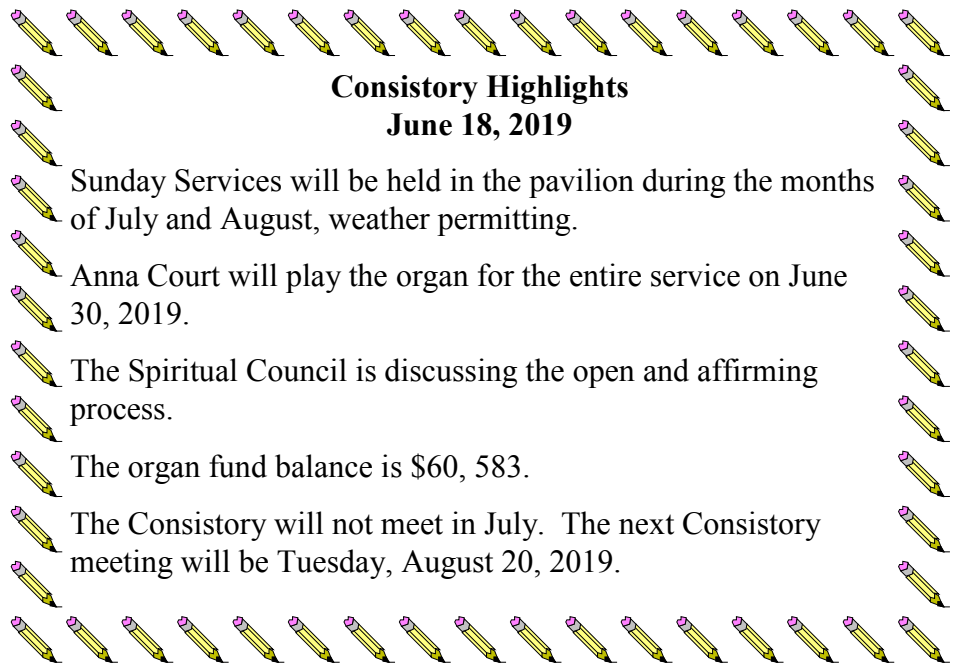
We are opening a dialogue about becoming a church that is an Open and Affirming. Clearly, there are those who are going to be against it. I've heard about it and I haven't been to church in a while. But I get it. We are from a Red County in the middle of Ohio and we like the way things used to be. We are also a UCC church, born out of differences, and what things could be. If you're having issues with this, talk. Let's see what those differences are and what we can do to meet in the middle.

I want to make something known. As a member of this church, I have been praying for us to become an Open and Affirming (ONA) church since I learned about what it was. Some of you might ask why? I am a member of the community it helps. I publicly came out three years ago. Without outing anyone else, I am telling you that there are more members of the church who are a part of the LGBT community. We have members who have children and who are part of it. We love our church and our church family no less than others in the congregation. I know for me, I didn't outright tell people because there are some people who would give some backlash to it. I hate to think I'll get some now, but I am prepared to take that chance. That possibility makes this all the more important though. This is a dialogue that needs to happen. Even if we don't become an Open and Affirming church we need to have this conversation. It's important.

I do want to say that there have been some events that have made me purposefully stay home and pray about where my spiritual journey is to go. I don't want to leave but there are some who are making it hard to stay. I grew up here and I love my church and the people in it, even those I have had issues with. I felt deeply that this needed to be written. If there are those who want to have a conversation about this, I am most easily contacted through Facebook and email.

God Bless,

Mark Shock



**Consistory Highlights
June 18, 2019**

- Sunday Services will be held in the pavilion during the months of July and August, weather permitting.
- Anna Court will play the organ for the entire service on June 30, 2019.
- The Spiritual Council is discussing the open and affirming process.
- The organ fund balance is \$60, 583.
- The Consistory will not meet in July. The next Consistory meeting will be Tuesday, August 20, 2019.

CHOIR ANNOUNCEMENT

The Senior Choir will perform Sunday, July 14th @ the 10am Worship. All Senior Choir members & Bell Choir members are welcome to stay after worship for the annual "Choir Picnic."

Fairhaven Annual Harvest Fest

Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019 10:00 - 2:00

The Fairhaven Volunteer Service Group is once again planning their annual fall fundraising event on Thursday, Sept. 25, 2019 from 10:00am-2:00pm. For 31 years the volunteers have counted on churches to participate and for that we are very grateful and will continue to be so.

This year we are making some changes in order to give the event new life and to simplify the work involved for those who volunteer. We are excited to share these changes with you. The theme this year is CELEBRATE FAIRHAVEN.

The lunch will be more of an ice cream social menu with sandwiches, relishes, chips, ice cream and pie. We will have a bake sale and an auction but instead of a silent auction we will have a LIVE auctioneer.

We will have a video SHOWING MEMORIES by staff and volunteers sharing events from the past. There will be entertainment and a raffle.

We hope many of you will be able to join us that day. If you don't have a job to do, come and enjoy! Please put it on your calendar. There is a sign up sheet on the office window for items you might contribute or you can call Marcy Miller (740) 360-4627. More information will follow.



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

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 scrambled eggs, ham & fruit. Last month we served 31 people outside the church. We are so happy we can help our neighbors in need!



HOSPITALIZATIONS

Don Harvey

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.

CONDOLENCES

1st UCC extends sympathy to the family of Barbara Thompson. Barbara passed away on June 7, 2019. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.

1st UCC extends sympathy to the family of Don Tucker. Don passed away June 30, 2019 at Mill Creek. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

HEARTFELT THANKS

Dear Galion Church,

I was so happy to visit with members of First Church who attended my celebration. Thank you to all the people who signed the card. You were most generous to send money to the El Salvador Mission in my name. The large piece of wood with the words "It Is Well with my Soul" is already hanging in my study. Thank you for remembering me in so many ways.

Blessings,

Frank Isaacs



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 WBCO 107.5FM on Sunday from 9:00am-10:00am.

PRAYER CHAIN

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

FOOD PANTRY

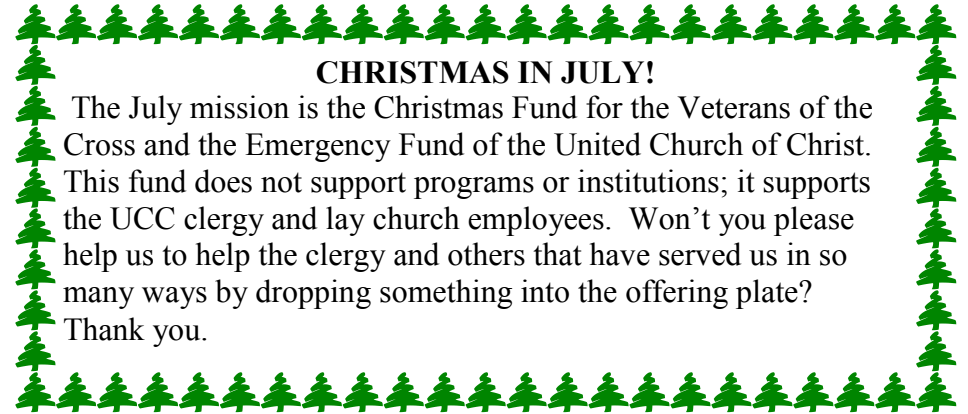
Pancake mix, pancake syrup, canned fruits, peanut butter, paper products, cleaning supplies, and personal care products are needed. There are containers at both entrances to the sanctuary.

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 at (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!



CHRISTMAS IN JULY!

The July mission is the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund of the United Church of Christ. This fund does not support programs or institutions; it supports the UCC clergy and lay church employees. Won't you please help us to help the clergy and others that have served us in so many ways by dropping something into the offering plate? Thank you.



FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH MEAL

It has been one year since we have started our Fellowship & Outreach Meals. We have had a wonderful year thanks to the great support of the First UCC members. Our July meal will be on the 18th. We are looking for cupcakes from our church bakers this month. If you can help, please sign the sheet outside the office. Thank you to everyone for helping to make this such a successful mission!

MISSION COMMITTEE MEETING

This is a reminder that the quarterly meeting of the Mission Committee will be held on Monday, July 29th in the Heritage Room.



IT'S PICNIC TIME

The Project Committee is having a picnic at the pavilion on Sunday, July 21st after service. We will be serving all your picnic favorites so plan to stay & enjoy a meal with all your church friends. See you on the 21st!

**Fairhaven Community
Volunteer Service Group Newsletter
June 17, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by President Barb Nigh.
Devotions were given by Tiffin St. John.
Roll Call: Volunteers – 24, Guests – 4, Staff – 3
Minutes of previous meeting were approved as corrected.
Communications – 2019 Fairhaven Community Donor Appreciation
Dinner to be held July 9th from 6-8pm. RSVP required by 06/25/2019.
Treasury - \$1,096.99
Gift Shop - \$3,094.69
Bingo Cup - \$16.00

VSG Business:

The Harvest Fest Committee reported the following:
Harvest Fest will be held at Fairhaven September 26, 2019 from 10am to 2pm.

The schedule is:

- 10-10:30 – Power Point presentation
- 10:30-11:30 - Auction by Ken Green (items to be displayed in hall – no silent auction this year)
- 11:30-1 – Serving lunch
- 1-1:30 – Entertainment of music by Becky Blocksom and Howard Cole
- 1-2 – Therapy Dogs with description of program starting at 1:30
- 2-4 – Tours available at request

There will be a bake sale organized by Galion 1st, popcorn by Larry Nigh, raffle organized by Bucyrus St. John’s in place of silent auction, OMA Display, resident interviews, and Wyandot Piecemakers Quilting Club. There will be no produce for sale this year nor any Treasures Old and New. Being offered for auction will be a lot of baskets being provided by United Church Homes, various churches, and individuals.

The lunch menu will be:

Sandwiches as follows:

BBQ by Dorothy Eckert, Bratwurst patties and condiments by Bucyrus St. John’s, Chicken by Tiffin St John’s and Upper Sandusky Emmanuel, and Sloppy Joes by Fireside Zion UCC and Republic UCC.
Buns furnished by Fairhaven.

Relishes by Fostoria St. John’s with dip by McCutchenville Trinity.
Potato chips by Findlay First
Ice Cream by Kenton St. John’s and Upper Sandusky Trinity
Pies by Bloomville Baseline, Bucyrus St. John’s, Galion 1st, and Salem United Methodist. Pies to be cut by Fireside Zion UCC.
Beverages to be furnished by Fairhaven and served by Sycamore UCC.
There will be no soup or salads this year.
Lunch ticket to be \$5.00 and include sandwich, pie, ice cream, relish, chips, and beverage.

All residents will be furnished a token to cover their lunch with the cost to be covered by an in-house fund.

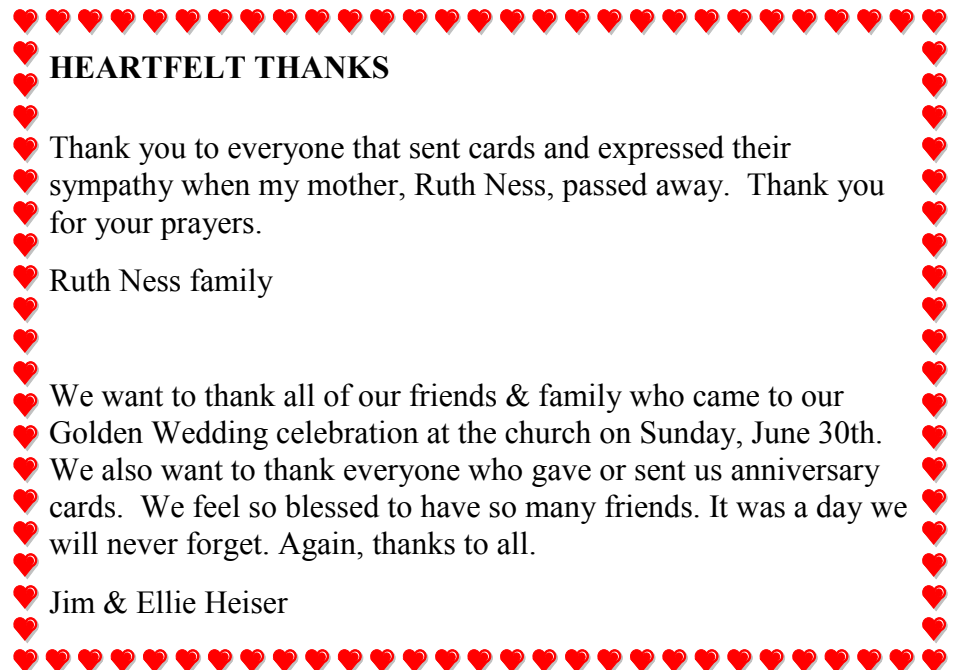
Set-up will be at 1pm on the 25th.

A letter composed by Marcy Miller and approved by the committee was passed out to go to each church.

Staff:

Becky Blocksom thanked all the volunteers for what they do. She then closed the meeting by leading all in “The Way” and prayer.

Next meeting will be July 15th. Devotions will be given by Upper Trinity. A potluck will follow the meeting with ice cream sundaes being furnished by the Gift Shop for the residents following bingo.


HEARTFELT THANKS
Thank you to everyone that sent cards and expressed their sympathy when my mother, Ruth Ness, passed away. Thank you for your prayers.
Ruth Ness family
We want to thank all of our friends & family who came to our Golden Wedding celebration at the church on Sunday, June 30th. We also want to thank everyone who gave or sent us anniversary cards. We feel so blessed to have so many friends. It was a day we will never forget. Again, thanks to all.
Jim & Ellie Heiser



2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 5:30pm Drivers Ed 7:00pm 12-Step	2 8:00am WIC 5:30pm Drivers Ed	3 8:00am WIC 5:30pm Drivers Ed 6:30pm Pound Exercise	4  Independence Day	5 8:00am WIC 5:30pm Drivers Ed	6
7 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Outdoor Worship begins	8 5:30pm Drivers Ed 7:00pm 12-Step	9 5:30pm Drivers Ed	10 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 5:30pm Drivers Ed 6:30pm Pound Exercise	11 6:00pm Finance 5:30pm Drivers Ed 7:00pm 12-Step	12	13
14 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:00am Choir picnic	15 City Wide Lunch Program 11:00am-1:00pm (all week) 7:00pm 12-Step	16 8:30am Head Start	17 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Pound Exercise	18 5:00pm Outreach Meal 7:00pm 12-Step	19 8:00am WIC	20
21 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	22 7:00pm 12-Step	23 7:00pm Elders	24 8:00am WIC 11:00am Tai Chi 6:30pm Pound Exercise	25 7:00pm 12-Step	26 8:00am WIC	27
28 8:00am Community Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	29 9:00am Drivers Ed 5:30pm Drivers Ed 7:00pm 12-Step 7:00pm Mission	30 9:00am Drivers Ed 5:30pm Drivers Ed	31 8:00am WIC 9:00am Drivers Ed 11:00am Tai Chi 5:30pm Drivers Ed 6:30pm Pound Exercise	Adair- Vacation July 29-31		



July

Week of July 7:

Sun. Eccl. 6:1-12
 Acts 10:9-23
 Luke 12:32-40
 Mon. Eccl. 7:1-14
 Gal. 4:12-20
 Matt. 15:21-28
 Tue. Eccl. 8:14-9:10
 Gal. 4:21-31
 Matt. 15:29-39
 Wed. Eccl. 9:11-18
 Gal. 5:1-15
 Matt. 16:1-12
 Thu. Eccl. 11:1-8
 Gal. 5:16-24
 Matt. 16:13-20
 Fri. Eccl. 11:9-12:14
 Gal. 5:25-6:10
 Matt. 16:21-28
 Sat. Num. 3:1-13
 Gal. 6:11-18
 Matt. 17:1-13

Week of July 14:

Sun. Num. 6:22-27
 Acts 13:1-12
 Luke 12:41-48
 Mon. Num. 9:15-23;
 10:29-36
 Rom. 1:1-15
 Matt. 17:14-21
 Tue. Num. 11:1-23
 Rom. 1:16-25
 Matt. 17:22-27
 Wed. Num. 11:24-33
 (34-35)
 Rom. 1:28-2:11
 Matt. 18:1-9
 Thu. Num. 12:1-16
 Rom. 2:12-24
 Matt. 18:10-20
 Fri. Num. 13:1-3,
 21-30
 Rom. 2:25-3:8
 Matt. 18:21-35
 Sat. Num. 13:31-
 14:25
 Rom. 3:9-20
 Matt. 19:1-12

Week of July 21:

Sun. Num. 14:26-45
 Acts 15:1-12
 Luke 12:49-56
 Mon. Num. 16:1-19
 Rom. 3:21-31
 Matt. 19:13-22
 Tue. Num. 16:20-35
 Rom. 4:1-12
 Matt. 19:23-30
 Wed. Num. 16:36-50
 Rom. 4:13-25
 Matt. 20:1-16
 Thu. Num. 17:1-11
 Rom. 5:1-11
 Matt. 20:17-28
 Fri. Num. 20:1-13
 Rom. 5:12-21
 Matt. 20:29-34
 Sat. Num. 20:14-29
 Rom. 6:1-11
 Matt. 21:1-11

Week of July 28:

Sun. Num. 21:4-9,
 21-35
 Acts 17:(12-21)
 23-24
 Luke 13:10-17
 Mon. Num. 22:1-21
 Rom. 6:12-23
 Matt. 21:12-22
 Tue. Num. 22:21-38
 Rom. 7:1-12
 Matt. 21:23-32
 Wed. Num. 22:41-
 23:12
 Matt. 21:33-46
 Rom. 7:13-25
 Thu. Num. 23:11-26
 Rom. 8:1-11
 Matt. 22:1-14
 Fri. Num. 24:1-13
 Rom. 8:12-17
 Matt. 22:15-22
 Sat. Num. 24:12-25
 Rom. 8:18-25
 Matt. 22:23-40

UCC General Synod 2019

Matthew 5: 13 “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.”



14 “You are the light of the world. A

town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

With these words from opening worship, Galion’s First UCC Delegates: Anna Court, Doug Court, and Elaina Hocker were challenged to let their light shine upon the church and within their life. Delegates were randomly assigned to this year’s resolutions in order to insure that a broad religious perspective was brought to each resolution. The amount of time required for resolutions varied, due to the controversial nature of some and simple nature of others. Most resolutions only required grammatical changes, whereas other, including Ellie’s, required substantial thought and perspective in order to reach a near consensus.

Resolutions on the structure of the denomination included the creation of a combined conference in New England, the validation of an ecumenical relationship with the United Church of Puerto Rico, the calling for a “listening campaign” to hear methods of witness that might guide our future and the beginning of the development of a manual on church to define the covenantal relationship between local churches and the UCC hierarchy. Social justice resolutions deplored religious bigotry, called for control of private prisons for profit, denounced forced migrations, supported survivors of rape and sexual violence with the observance of a break - the -silence Sunday and called on world leaders to pull back from the brink of nuclear war.

Love of creation was addressed with resolutions on the use of styrofoam, recognizing the opioid crisis and accepting the reality that the poor and underprivileged are most at risk from the effects of climate change.

Organizational changes included the re-election of Rev. John Dorhauer as General Minister and President, the election of Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson as Associate General Minister and 12 members of the 36 member Board of Directors of the United Church of Christ. Rev. Penny Lowes will serve as moderator of General Synod 33 to be held in Kansas City.



HEARTFELT THANKS

- ♥ Thank you for hosting the 2019 NWOA Annual Meeting.
- ♥ Your preparation of spaces for worship, forums, disaster buckets and kits, delicious meals and technical support was much appreciated.
- ♥ We want to thank all the people who provided assistance before, during and after the meeting. You were all very helpful.
- ♥ Blessings always,
- ♥ Rev. Daniel Busch,
- ♥ Association Minister

Organ Repair Payoff

The Sterrett Fund will contribute \$48,000. We need to fill the keys to get the rest. \$61,585 has been donated by parishioners through June 30, 2019. The balance due on the loan is now \$59,472.



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:

Veda Shifley

Wilbur Shifley

Doris Burkhart

Rev. Ruben Elliker

Richard & Gertrude Shifley

Marcia Burkhart

Dale & Carol Miller

Corn Roast August 7, 2019

Join us at 6PM in the pavilion.

Corn



Hot Dogs



Donuts

