

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
- Stephanie Sikora-----Sr. & Bell Choir Director
- Jennifer Arbaugh-----Organist
- Jessica Hammond-----Organist
- Martha See-----Kitchen Custodian
- Rev. John Miller-----Pastor Emeritus
- Larry Nigh-----Visitation Minister

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First United Church of Christ

248 Harding Way West
Galion, OH 44833

“United in Christ’s Joy we welcome, love and serve all”

Rev. Darrin Harvey
Minister

Volume 32 No. 7

July 2020



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,

June marked a return to live worship happening in our sanctuary every Sunday morning. I know for many this was something that you very much missed as there was no replacement for in person worship. My fear is that since numbers are beginning to increase again in our state that we might have to suspend live worship once again. I hope and pray that it does not come to that. A great deal of effort by many people has gone into keeping our church congregation up and running through all of this technically, financially, spiritually and organizationally. We have had to figure things out on the fly without a precedent for anything like this. We thank you for your patience and for complying with our guidelines on Sunday mornings with the wearing of masks and social distancing. We realize that there is a great deal of opinions about the necessity of such things but our compromises, I think, help people who might feel apprehensive about attending. I think it is a part of our mission that we establish a safe space that all people can worship without anxiety about their health. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and care for one another!

Beginning this month of July, we will begin outdoor worship in our pavilion. This is a time of year that many people look forward to and I know that it will be a blessing to gather in nature to worship. Our guidelines will remain the same as far as distancing and masks. We will still be broadcasting our worship on the radio as well as through YouTube and Facebook. Our technical team has been busy working on making this possible and upgrading our capabilities to enhance our online presence.

It is with great excitement that I am pleased to inform everyone that we are going to be hosting the First Presbyterian congregation at our location for the foreseeable future. More about this is explained later in this newsletter. Rev. Gary Proietti and I have been in discussion about this happening for quite some time and we are excited to see it come to fruition. We believe that it is a positive for both of our faith communities and for the community in general to have this taking place.

As we have said, this is not a merger, just an arrangement that allows them to transition to a new location when they are ready and able to do so. Their worship time is noon on Sundays, so if and when you see them at our facility, please make them feel welcome.

I would like to recognize Dale Miller who has been our custodian here at church since October of 2013. He has been a consistent and dependable presence at our church, and we were blessed to have him. Last month Dale stepped down as our custodian. Please join me in wishing him well and thanking him for his years of service.

Finally, many of you know that in the middle of June I had a bad accident and fractured my back in two places. Many of you have reached out to me with prayers and support and I appreciate that very much and thank you. This has been a very trying recovery, but I am improving. As I continue to improve, my presence on the job will increase as well. Thank you for your patience with me. May God Bless you and Keep You!

-Pastor Darrin

TWO SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

Perhaps you viewed the virtual recognition of our Reverend Emeritus John Miller's and Reverend Darrin Harvey's Ordination Anniversaries in May and June. Our church will be continuing the celebration during the July 12th service. Reverend Daniel Busch, representing the NW Ohio Association of UCC, will be presenting both ministers with a special certificate. Join, if you are able, this special Sunday of recognition at our church pavilion and congratulate these two special church leaders.



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

As the warm weather and picnic season is upon us, we are enclosing a recipe for macaroni salad that was used at the June Outreach Meal. Mac Salad is always a favorite at just about any picnic and was a hit at our meal.

Sheila's Classic Macaroni Salad

4 Cups uncooked Elbow Macaroni	1 C. Mayo or Miracle Whip
¼ C. distilled White Vinegar	¾ - ½ C. White Sugar (to taste)
2 ½ T. Mustard	1 ½ tsp. Salt & ½ tsp Pepper
1 large chopped Onion	2 Stalks Celery
1 chopped Green Pepper	2 T. chopped Pimentos

Bring large pot of lightly salted water to boil. Add macaroni & cook until tender about 8 minutes. Rinse under cold water and drain.

In large bowl mix the mayo, vinegar, sugar, mustard, salt & pepper. Stir in onion, celery, green pepper, pimentos and macaroni. Refrigerate at least 4 hours or overnight.



**Consistory Highlights
June 16, 2020**

- The Presbyterians would like to use rooms in our church since their church has sold. The Trustees will pull together all of the details.
- There will be no Diamond Dinner in 2020.
- If there will be a Corn Roast in 2020 it will be decided in July.
- Plans are being made for a possible graduate breakfast to be held in late August.
- Cleaning by Carrie, a local company from Iberia, has been hired to clean the church.
- WIC and Driver's Ed will continue to use the classrooms next year.
- Necessary equipment will be purchased to continue on-line-services long term.
- Discussion of wearing masks at the Sunday Service was discussed.



HOSPITALIZATIONS

None Reported

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.

PRAYER CONCERN

Prayers for Ruth Ritchey & family. Ruth has an appointment at the James Cancer Center on July 7th. Please keep her & her family in your thoughts and prayers.



FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH MEAL



It has been TWO years since we have started our Fellowship & Outreach Meals. We have had a wonderful two years thanks to the great support of the First UCC members. Our July meal will be on the 16th. We are looking for cookies bakers. If you would like to bake cookies, please contact Doug Court or call the office. Again, it will be CARRY OUT ONLY. Thank you to everyone for helping to make this such a successful mission!



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!

**THE LIGHT SHINES
IN THE DARKNESS**

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

For over 100 years, the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has been a way to ensure that a light of love and hope will always shine for faithful servants of our church who find themselves facing unforeseen financial need. Our July mission is the Christmas Fund or, as it is known at our church, Christmas in July. For decades, the Christmas Fund has helped provide supplemental monies for pension and health insurance premiums to clergy and lay employees and their families. Many of these ministers and retirees have a much smaller pension than current employees and this fund helps them to live lives with dignity. Look for the Christmas tree decorated at our pavilion or use one of the enclosed envelopes to drop a donation into the plate. The ministers have helped us get through both good and bad times and now we can help them.

DISASTER RESPONSE KITS

As we all know the month of April was anything but normal. Because of the lock down and the pandemic, the NWOA Spring Meeting was rescheduled to August 1st. The Mission Committee moved our collection of the clean up buckets and personal care kits to the month of July. Beginning on July 5th you may stop off at the pavilion and pick up a bucket or gallon bag with the list of needed supplies to fill either one. If you are still not comfortable to attend services, you may stop in the church during the week and we will also have some of the buckets and bags in the Heritage Room. If you do not want to pick up a physical item, but would still like to help with this mission, you can also send a donation into the church and a Mission Committee member will do the shopping for you. Included with this month's Visitor is a list of the items needed to fill our kits. We have 36 buckets to fill and would like to fill 36 personal care kits to send to the meeting in August. Won't you please help us? **Please return the filled buckets & bags by July 26th.**

CLEAN UP BUCKETS

(Please place in bucket)

SCRUB BRUSH

1 PAIR RUBBER GLOVES

1 LARGE HEAVY DUTY SPONGE

SEVERAL LARGE PLASTIC TRASH BAGS

PERSONAL NOTE

Please return your filled bucket to the

Heritage Room by **July 26th**. Thank you!

HEALTH KIT

(Place in Gallon Ziplock Bag)

1 BAR SOAP

1 WASH CLOTH

1 HAND TOWEL

1 DISPOSABLE RAZOR

1 SMALL CAN SHAVING CREAM

6 BAND AIDS

1 TOOTH BRUSH

1 SMALL TUBE OF TOOTHPASTE

1 COMB

1 DEODARANT

1 NAIL FILE

PERSONAL NOTE

Please return your filled Ziplock bags to the Heritage Room by **July 26th**. Thank you!



July

Week of July 5:

Sun. Ex. 6:2-13
 Rev. 15:1-8
 Matt. 18:1-14
 Mon. 1 Sam. 1:1-20
 Acts 1:1-14
 Luke 20:9-19
 Tue. 1 Sam. 1:21-2:11
 Acts 1:15-26
 Luke 20:19-26
 Wed. 1 Sam. 2:12-26
 Acts 2:1-21
 Luke 20:27-40
 Thu. 1 Sam. 2:27-36
 Acts 2:22-36
 Luke 20:41-24:4
 Fri. 1 Sam. 3:1-21
 Acts 2:37-47
 Luke 21:5-19
 Sat. 1 Sam. 4:1b-11
 Acts 4:32-5:11
 Luke 21:20-28

Week of July 12:

Sun. 1 Sam. 4:12-22
 James 1:1-18
 Matt. 19:23-30
 Mon. 1 Sam. 5:1-12
 Acts 5:12-26
 Luke 21:29-36
 Tue. 1 Sam. 6:1-16
 Acts 5:27-42
 Luke 21:37-22:13
 Wed. 1 Sam. 7:2-17
 Acts 6:1-15
 Luke 22:14-23
 Thu. 1 Sam. 8:1-22
 Acts 6:15-7:16
 Luke 22:24-30
 Fri. 1 Sam. 9:1-14
 Acts 7:17-29
 Luke 22:31-38
 Sat. 1 Sam. 9:15-10:1
 Acts 7:30-43
 Luke 22:39-51

Week of July 19:

Sun. 1 Sam. 10:1-16
 Rom. 4:13-25
 Matt. 21:23-32
 Mon. 1 Sam. 10:17-27
 Acts 7:44-8:1a
 Luke 22:52-62
 Tue. 1 Sam. 11:1-15
 Acts 8:1b-13
 Luke 22:63-71
 Wed. 1 Sam. 12:1-6 (7-15)
 Acts 8:14-25
 Luke 23:1-12
 Thu. 1 Sam. 13:5-18
 Acts 8:26-40
 Luke 23:13-25
 Fri. 1 Sam. 13:19-14:15
 Acts 9:1-9
 Luke 23:26-31
 Sat. 1 Sam. 14:16-30
 Acts 9:10-19a
 Luke 23:32-43

Week of July 26:

Sun. 1 Sam. 14:36-45
 Rom. 5:1-11
 Matt. 22:1-14
 Mon. 1 Sam. 15:1-3, 7-23
 Acts 9:19b-31
 Luke 23:44-56a
 Tue. 1 Sam. 15: 24-35
 Acts 9:32-43
 Luke 23:56b-24:11 (12)
 Wed. 1 Sam. 16:1-13
 Acts 10:1-16
 Luke 24:13-35
 Thu. 1 Sam. 16:14-17:11
 Acts 10:17-33
 Luke 24:36-53
 Fri. 1 Sam. 17:17-30
 Acts 10:34-48
 Mark 1:1-13
 Sat. 1 Sam. 17:31-49
 Acts 11:1-18
 Mark 1:14-28

Report from the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is back to meeting monthly. In May, we met in a socially distanced circle in the pavilion. It was nice to see everyone again!

Last month, we were running about 88% of budgeted giving in a year over year comparison. This month, we are pleased to report we are gaining ground through your continued support. As of Sunday, June 21, we are now at 96% of our budgeted giving. This is great news. We are truly thankful for the financial support of our congregation through this difficult time.

We are blessed that we have been able to meet our obligations and pay our bills. We will continue to keep a close eye on the budget in case we have to make adjustments as the year progresses. As of this date, we have not used budgeted reserve funds. As each month passes, it becomes more likely we can stay within our approved 2020 budget.

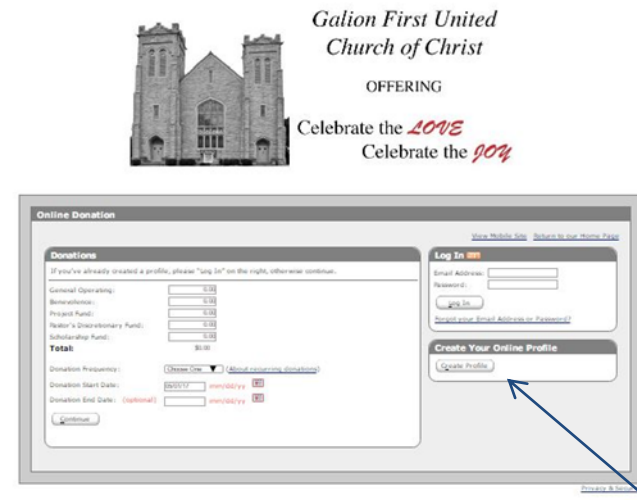
If you are in a position to give and not attending in person worship, offering envelopes can be mailed and on line giving is available. Instructions are provided below.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the missions and programs of First UCC.

Stacey Hocker, Finance Committee Chair

Instructions to access on line giving:

- 1) Visit the church website at www.uccgalion.org
- 2) Click on the **Giving** button in the important links section at the bottom of the home page. You should then see:



- 3) Click on the **Create Profile** button, then
 - 4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.
-

Organ Repair Payoff

The Sterrett Fund will contribute \$48,000. We need to fill the keys to get the rest. Over \$73,850 has been donated through June 1, 2020. The balance due on the loan is now \$43,650.



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.

PAVILION WORSHIP SERVICES

As we begin outdoor worship in our pavilion this Sunday, July 5, we are still being proactive in our corona containment efforts. While being outside in fresh air lessens corona transmission significantly, we are still applying the following guidelines.

1. Masks will be available and are strongly recommended, particularly for those who are in risk categories.
2. Rows of chairs will be set up 6 feet apart. Family and groups may space themselves in those rows as desired.
3. A video screen will have all liturgy and song lyrics as the inside service does. Bulletins and hymnals will be available for worshippers to pick up and drop off. (Deacons will not handle them.)
4. It is recommended that those who choose to sing do so gently or through a mask.
5. We would ask that parking spaces directly beside the pavilion be saved for worshippers who would prefer to stay in their vehicles while participating with the congregation.
6. We are continuing to broadcast the service via Facebook and YouTube channels.



Welcome Presbyterians



It is with pleasure that we can announce another joint venture with the Galion First Presbyterian Church. Inasmuch as the Presbyterians have sold their building and are without a worship center for an interim period, our consistory has invited them to share some of our less used space. This arrangement is temporary and is not a federation or merger of the two congregations. The Presbyterian congregation is actively seeking a workable space, either through the purchase of an existing building or a new building. A joint team is putting together a formal agreement. A tentative and likely incomplete outline of that agreement is below.

1. Presbyterians will share the bottom floor large room with the WIC program. During the week WIC will use the rooms as they are. During worship services the WIC equipment will be moved back, a folding barrier will be opened to separate the areas, and the worship center will be in the open space.
2. To accommodate the worship center, the very old and extremely used couches and chairs in the current youth room will be offered to others or, if unusable, discarded. Other materials in the room will be sorted, organized and placed in a usable location.
3. The Presbyterians have newer informal solid wicker furniture and tables which will be placed in the middle floor kindergarten room. Youth from both denominations will have access to this room.

4. The play equipment in the current kindergarten room will be moved to the top floor, which will be cleaned out and reorganized to make room.
5. The current jr. choir room will serve as the Presbyterian office. They will move in two file cabinets, two desks and use half of the built-in cupboards to store vestments and robes.
6. The congregations will hold independent worship services (10 AM UCC; 12 noon Presb.), independent activities, joint worship services when planned, joint activities when possible, and live together in harmony. God's Little Acre, a weekly farmer's market in the Presbyterian parking lot, will move to our pavilion area.

To accommodate these moves, the trustees of both denominations, with much volunteer help, will be painting the room on the bottom floor, removing loose tiles in the middle of the floor, replacing the tiles with waterproof laminate material, updating the ceiling and lighting in the room on the bottom floor and cleaning the carpets and affected areas. This is a formidable and likely incomplete list. We will be asking for volunteers with the skills and physical abilities to help.

The selling of the only home a congregation has known and sojourning in a city without a home of its own is an emotional and heart wrenching occurrence. Our prayer is that we might provide a calm loving atmosphere of peace for our neighbors and friends.