

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. 8

August 2020



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.



Recently we have begun to share our space with the First Presbyterian congregation of Galion. They have sold their building to Wesley Chapel who has begun to occupy their old building and we are pleased to be hosts for them as they discern their way forward. You will see that they are occupying three rooms in our educational wing. In addition, on Saturday mornings we are hosting “God’s Little Acre” at our pavilion. We are blessed to be able to share facilities and to be able to help them on their path.

We are not sure how long this partnership will last but we want them to feel welcome and comfortable. While this isn’t a merger of our two faith families, we do expect that we will share some times together in worship and fellowship. Rev. Gary and myself have had many conversations and prayed for a fruitful time together. They worship at noon so, when and if you see them or run into them, please greet them.

On behalf of the trustees, Doug Court has worked closely with them in the details, especially while I was out with my back injury and surgery. I want to thank him for his time and thank you for all of your support, prayers and cards. It meant so much to receive them and know that there were people behind me. I am feeling much better but I still have days where I struggle. I’m thankful I’m able to work more now and expect to improve.

As the challenging times we are in continue, know that we are committed to our mission to reach all people with the love of God. We are going to continue to have our worship online and have made investments in equipment to assure that that experience remains a quality effort. I am also going to continue to have Wednesday Night prayer service and perhaps add an online Bible Study during the day as well.

Despite struggle, know that God is with us no matter what. As Romans 8 says - “nothing can separate us from the Love of God.” We can draw on that strength to help carry us through.

Blessings,
Pastor Darrin



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 9:00 am-10:00 am.

PRAYER CHAIN

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

FOOD PANTRY

Spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, canned vegetables, pastas, 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!

CHOIR NEWS!

Please watch future Visitors for upcoming announcements regarding Fall Bell & Senior Choir.

Organ Repair Payoff



The Sterrett Fund will contribute \$48,000. We need to fill the keys to get the rest. Over \$76,750 has been donated through Aug 1, 2020. The balance due on the loan is now \$39,245.

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.



Back to School



BOOKS
DESK
ERASER
GLUE
LUNCHBOX
MATH

NOTEBOOK
PAPER
PENCIL
PLAYGROUND
READING
RECESS

RULER
STUDENT
TEACHER
WRITING



Report from the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee continues to meet monthly. In July, we met in the pavilion once again.

Last month, we were running about 96% of our three year average giving. This month, we are gaining ground and stand at 98% of the three year average. As of Sunday, July 26, we are projecting to be at 93% of our budgeted giving amount at year end.

The year over year comparison is:

2019 \$80,838.11

2020 \$76,055.97

We are blessed that we have been able to meet our obligations and pay our bills during this difficult time. We will continue to monitor 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 the budget approved at the congregational meeting in January. We would like to extend a hearty thank you for your support!

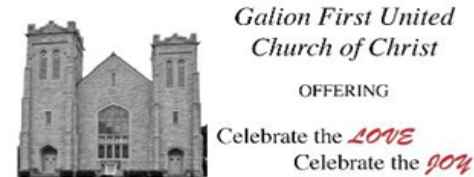
If you are in a position to give and not attending in person to worship, offering envelopes can be mailed and on line giving is available. Instructions are provided on a following page.

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.
-



Birthdays

4th:	Barbara Keller	21st:	Evelyn Ekleberry
5th:	Kaylee Wise		Clayton Lusk
	Ethan Weithman		Edith Stevens
6th:	Justin McDaniel	23rd:	Richard DeWitt
7th:	Keith Ketterman	24th:	Janet Lugo
8th:	Anna Court		Lauren Neal
9th:	Dale Opperman	25th:	Amy Neal
10th:	Abigail Brocwell		Lynne Shifley
	Leonard Ness	26th:	Kevin Feik
12th:	Jerry Badgley	27th:	James Gibson
	Dale Miller	30th:	Ciera McKibben
13th:	Julie Court	31st:	Joe Deppen
	Ken Eichhorn		Katelyn Stone
	Eric Powell		
14th:	Trudy DeWitt		
	Don Woodmansee		
15th:	Doris Van Allen		
17th:	Zach James		
	Linda Woodmansee		
18th:	Larry Shifley		
19th:	Mason McKibben		
	Dominic Pittman		
20th:	Jenay Pfeifer		



Anniversaries

3rd:	Dylan & Beth Black
5th:	Steve & Mindy Lamontagne
7th:	Chuck & Linda Swick
8th:	Johnny & Jodi Merry
9th:	Jay & Jennifer Arbaugh
10th:	Chuck & Maureen Neal
12th:	Ryan & Kristin Reed
14th:	Bruce & Betty Angell
	Dan & Pam Hayes
19th:	Darrin & Wendy Harvey
	John & Sandy Gibson
	Emery & Marjorie Shaffer
22nd:	Brad & Cindy Smith
23rd:	Charles & Tami Burkhart
27th:	Chris & Kim Burkhart



AUGUST

Week of August 2

Sun. 1 Sam. 17:50-18:4
Rom. 10:4-17
Matt. 23:29-39

Mon. 1 Sam. 18:5-16
(17-27a) 27b-30
Acts 11:19-30
Mark 1:29-45

Tue. 1 Sam. 19:1-18
(19-24)
Acts 12:1-17
Mark 2:1-12

Wed. 1 Sam. 20:24-42
Acts 12:18-25
Mark 2:13-22

Thu. 1 Sam. 20:24-42
Acts 13:1-12
Mark 2:23-3:6

Fri. 1 Sam. 21:1-15
Acts 13:13-25
Mark 3:7-19a

Sat. 1 Sam. 21:1-23
Acts 13:26-43
Mark 3:19b-35

Week of August 9

Sun. 1 Sam. 23:7-18
Rom. 11:33-12:2
Matt. 25:14-30

Mon. 1 Sam. 24:1-22
Acts 13:44-52
Mark 4:1-20

Tue. 1 Sam. 25:1-22
Acts 14:1-18
Mark 4:21-34

Wed. 1 Sam. 25:23-44
Acts 14:19-28
Mark 4:35-41

Thu. 1 Sam. 28:3-20
Acts 15:1-11
Mark 5:1-20

Fri. 1 Sam. 31:1-13
Acts 15:12-21
Mark 5:21-43

Sat. 2 Sam. 1:1-16
Acts 15:22-35
Mark 6:1-13

Week of August 16

Sun. 2 Sam. 1:17-27
Rom. 12:9-21
Matt. 25:31-46

Mon. 2 Sam. 2:1-11
Acts 15:36-16:5
Mark 6:14-29

Tue. 2 Sam. 3:6-21
Acts 16:6-15
Mark 6:30-46

Wed. 2 Sam. 3:22-39
Acts 16:16-24
Mark 6:47-56

Thu. 2 Sam. 4:1-12
Acts 16:25-40
Mark 7:1-23

Fri. 2 Sam. 5:1-12
Acts 17:1-15
Mark 7:24-37

Sat. 2 Sam. 5:22-6:11
Acts 17:16-34
Mark 8:1-10

Week of August 23

Sun. 2 Sam. 6:12-23
Rom. 14:7-12
John 1:43-51

Mon. 2 Sam. 7:1-17
Acts 18:1-11
Mark 8:11-21

Tues. 2 Sam. 7:18-29
Acts 18:12-28
Mark 8:22-33

Wed. 2 Sam. 9:1-13
Acts 19:1-10
Mark 8:34-9:1

Thu. 2 Sam. 11:1-27
Acts 19:11-20
Mark 9:2-13

Fri. 2 Sam. 12:1-14
Acts 19:21-41
Mark 9:14-29

Sat. 2 Sam. 12:15-31
Acts 20:1-16
Mark 9:30-41

Week of August 30

Sun. 2 Sam. 13:1-22
Rom. 15:1-13
John 3:22-36

Mon. 2 Sam. 13:23-39
Acts 20:17-38
Mark 9:42-50

Tue. 2 Sam. 14:1-20
Acts 21:1-14
Mark 10:1-16

Wed. 2 Sam. 14:21-33
Acts 21:15-26
Mark 10:17-31

Thu. 2 Sam. 15:1-18
Acts 21:27-36
Mark 10:32-45

Fri. 2 Sam. 15:19-37
Acts 21:37-22:16
Mark 10:46-52

Sat. 2 Sam. 16:1-23
Acts 22:17-29
Mark 11:1-11



FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH MEAL

It's too hot outside to cook so let us do the cooking for you. Our next Fellowship and Outreach meal will be on Thursday, August 20th from 5-6pm. We are looking for cookie bakers this month. If you are able to help, please call the office. Again, this is a CARRY OUT ONLY MEAL. See you on the 20th!

ON-GOING FOOD COLLECTIONS

Please keep in mind that food items continue to be collected throughout the year. There is always a need for pantry items at our local food pantries and especially this year. The grocery carts inside the church are available for any donations. Thanks so much.



HOSPITALIZATIONS

Sandy Keller; Rev. Darrin Harvey; Jen Lugo; Ruth Ritchey; Nancy Reid; Rev. John Miller

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.



CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Thank you to all who supported our Christmas in July/Veterans of the Cross mission this month. We collected \$400 for this mission. This money will go a long way to supporting the many faithful pastors and lay leaders that have supported us through the years.

STUFF THE BUS/ MEDICINE CABINET

Last year we stuffed the bus with bathroom cabinet taxable and personal items. Our collection was a huge success and much needed. We will again collect these items. Some of these items are laundry soap, toilet paper, paper towels, sanitary napkins, tampons, Clorox wipes, hand and body soap, toothpaste and brushes and shampoo. Look for our display on Sunday mornings and help us fill the bus and cabinet for our local friends in need.

DISASTER RESPONSE KITS

The buckets and personal care kits are in. We have put together 32 buckets with cleaning supplies and 22 personal care kits. These items will be taken to the Association to be used whenever a disaster or need arises. Our congregation is always so generous to the folks in need. Thanks for supporting this mission.

Church services, to which we were accustomed, changed this past March. Every member was impacted differently, but significantly. Weekly face to face gatherings were put on hold. Though second best, we have been fortunate to provide a live video stream of our worship services on Sunday mornings on Facebook and YouTube. During the height of the pandemic we served an average of 60+ viewers and continue to serve 20+ viewers since we have reopened. This was accomplished by piecing together inexpensive and borrowed equipment from several sources. However, we know this arrangement will not be practical when we again gather in large numbers inside the sanctuary. At its June meeting, Consistory recognized this ministry and the importance to our congregation as well as the potential for outreach and other unique uses such as the Wednesday night prayer session with Pastor Darrin. With Consistory approval, our streaming services will continue through and after the end of the pandemic.

Live streaming comes with a real dollar cost in addition to acquiring new skills and procedural changes. We thank Doug Stone for his leadership and direction in this area. In terms of real dollars, we are fortunate that we have a Broadcast Ministry Fund that is used for similar expenses. That fund was used for some of the early smaller expenses. However, the solution in our sanctuary will require spending about \$7,500 which will deplete that fund. While this is an unbudgeted expense, due to the use of the Broadcast Ministry Funds, these costs will not negatively impact our annual budget.

We could use your help to shore up the Broadcast Ministry Fund. Many members past, present and at some distance, have expressed their thankfulness and compliments for our efforts to bring Sunday morning services into their homes. Would you please consider donating to help offset this expense and allow us to continue this ministry?

If you found value and would like to donate, please mark your check or envelope “STREAMING or VIDEO” and mail it to the church.

We encourage you to continue to watch our services on Facebook and YouTube. Past services are always available on those platforms and we are providing convenient links on our website. Please feel free to comment in the interactive sections and let us know how you are doing. We understand not everyone has the capability to use this ministry. You can always listen to our Sunday service a week delayed on our local radio station WBCO 107.5 FM. First Church is looking for creative solutions, so if you have a suggestion or idea, please let the office, pastor or a consistory member know. We look forward to hearing from you.

