

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. 11

November 2020



The VISITOR

SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday School

9:00 a.m.

Worship Service

10:00 a.m.





But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat. - Exodus 16:18

I find myself running out of things to talk about that haven't already been said about our current state of affairs in relation to the unfortunate ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Once again we have been forced to be closed for public worship and, as I write this, the increase of infections in our local area has never been greater. This is especially unfortunate as it now looks like our holiday plans will be compromised.

First of all, I want to note that our Covid team has decided that should our county return to level two, we will be able to once again return to public worship. In the meantime this means that worship will be closed for the public and we will be completely online. Decisions about in-person meetings and music rehearsals will be made on a week to week basis. It's already been determined that the annual Messiah performance we have hosted will not happen as well as all "Come Home to Galion" celebrations are cancelled. We are still planning on having our drive through November community meal which will be a special Turkey dinner. Updates will be provided on a weekly basis through email and over the phone.

I finished a book entitled "God and the Pandemic" by NT Wright, a noted British New Testament scholar. His insights gave me a few fresh ways to look at our predicament. The early church continues to give us a wealth of both positive and negative examples of discipleship. Wright observes that one of the reasons the early church grew so rapidly was that it cared for the poor. The above scripture from Exodus is quoted in 2nd Corinthians 8:15 in relation to Paul encouraging the wealthier Gentile churches in Asia Minor and Greece, like the Corinthians, to help the poorer Jewish Christian churches in Jerusalem. Considering the time period and culture they were in, caring for a group of people in a faraway city who you had a lot of differences with was very rare. The church stood out because of this kind of generosity for the poor and became appealing because of it.

Here in the 21st century the church can do the same thing. Caring for others who we might not know, have never met, live far away from and don't have a lot in common with will stand out and be noticed. While it has existed for many years, I have recently been lamenting what feels to me like a general sense of selfishness that pervades our culture. It seems as if most of us act primarily out of our own self-interest most of the time, myself included, without the effort of trying to consider what it is like in someone else's shoes and valuing their experiences.

An election season exposes our growing reality that many of us exist in our own thought bubbles. The advent of social media brought us together more but now it's being used to tear us apart. I believe God is encouraging us all to pray for, care and love one another when no one expects us to care for those who are unlike us. This is "loving our neighbor" at it's finest. The world desperately needs the same counter cultural values displayed that have been a part of the church at its best from our founding.

May God inspire our hearts with kinder and more caring hearts this season.

Pastor Darrin

Birthdays

1st: Ruth Swick	22nd: Elizabeth Kurtzman
2nd: Ken Green	Michael Swartzbaugh
7th: Jon Court	23rd: Elizabeth Hatfield
9th: Evan Collins	24th: Jim Dretzka
Linda Gulick	26th: Shelly Kurtzman
Marilyn Lucas	27th: Wendy Harvey
Megan Zier	28th: Alexander Moore
12th: Dylan Burkhart	Tyson Russell
14th: Charles Burkhart	29th: Tony Durtschi
Adam Eichhorn	Brad McKibben
16th: Pat Bash	Eileen Mountz
17th: Jack Koschnick	Mark Shock
18th: Jim Cole	
19th: Gary See	
20th: Drew Shifley	
21st: Drayton Burkhart	

Anniversaries

1st:	Ron & Marcia Burkhart
4th:	Ben & Amy McKibben
17th:	Don & Rhonda Harvey
18th:	Don & Linda Woodmansee
26th:	Keith & Judy Eichhorn
	Jim & Maggie Sulser

Joys & Concerns

HOSPITALIZATIONS

Brian Treisch, Kevin Spore, Jen Lugo

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.

DEATH

1st UCC extends sympathy to the family of Willie Buehrer, father of Rev. Sam Buehrer. Willie passed away on October 10, 2020. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

1st UCC extends sympathy to the family of Emery Shaffer. Emery passed away October 28, 2020. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.



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

PRAYER CHAIN

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

FOOD PANTRY

Needed: Noodles, rice, peanut butter, jelly, 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).

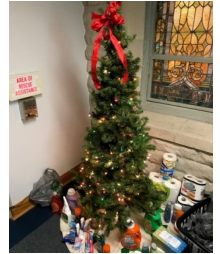
CARING CORNER

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!

MISSION CHRISTMAS TREE

We are again having a Reverse Advent Calendar for our Mission Tree. We will be passing out boxes after the November 22nd service or you may stop in the church anytime and pick one up. Simply put the item of the day in the box and at Christmas you will have a box full of food for the local food pantry and our hungry friends.

For those not comfortable coming to the church, a list of items will appear in our December Visitor. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a Mission Committee member or the church office.



GENESIS FRIENDS

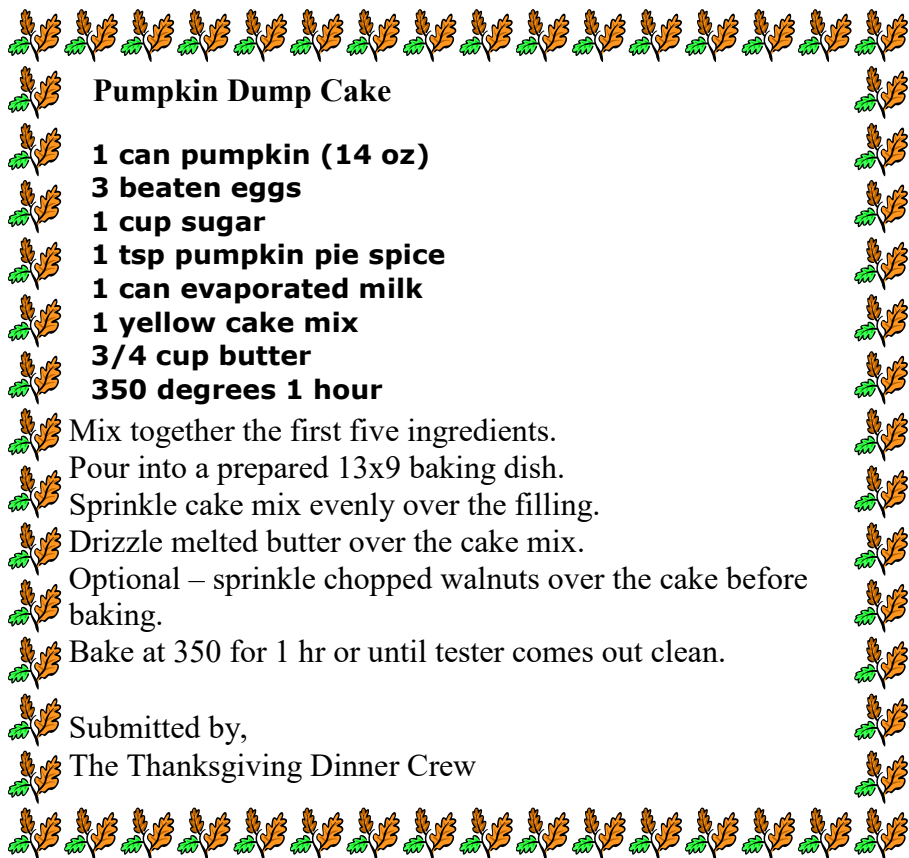
Genesis Friends welcomes all ladies to the next meeting on Monday, November 16 at 7pm. If the county is in Level 1 or 2, we will meet in the Heritage Room for a Bible study by Barb Nigh. If we are Level 3 or above, we will meet by zoom. We are collecting care packages for college students this month. Please bring your donations to the office by Monday, November 16, if you are unable to attend the meeting. We have 12 college students. Thanks for your support!

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee would like to extend a special thank you to everyone who participated in our October 4th Drive In Luncheon fundraiser. We raised over \$660 that will go toward tuition for this year's student applicants. Online and envelope giving added another \$105 to the fund.

This year's scholarship recipients include: Abigail Brocwell, Anna Court, Luke Eisnaugle-Treich, Douglas Harvey, Ellie Hocker, Lauren & Paige Rudolph.

Good luck to our college students during their upcoming "finals week" and know that your First UCC family is proud of your accomplishments.



Pumpkin Dump Cake

- 1 can pumpkin (14 oz)**
- 3 beaten eggs**
- 1 cup sugar**
- 1 tsp pumpkin pie spice**
- 1 can evaporated milk**
- 1 yellow cake mix**
- 3/4 cup butter**
- 350 degrees 1 hour**

Mix together the first five ingredients.

Pour into a prepared 13x9 baking dish.

Sprinkle cake mix evenly over the filling.

Drizzle melted butter over the cake mix.

Optional – sprinkle chopped walnuts over the cake before baking.

Bake at 350 for 1 hr or until tester comes out clean.

Submitted by,

The Thanksgiving Dinner Crew



FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH MEAL

The November meal will be on Thursday, November 19th at 5:00 p.m. The meal will be a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. We would like to share this meal with our members at home and those that we have not seen in several months. If you would like to have a meal delivered or put back for you, please contact the office so we can accommodate you as we need to know how many meals to prepare. We also have included in this month's Visitor the recipe for the pumpkin dessert that we traditionally fix. If you are interested in helping us by providing one of these desserts, please let the office know. If you have any questions, please contact Adair in the office.



NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Thank you to our faithful members who donated a votive that decorated our sanctuary on All Saints Day. The list of donors is included in this Visitor. Neighbors in Need is one of the 5 for 5 offerings of the United Church of Christ that helps our brothers and sisters here and around the world.

ADVENT DINNER

There will be no Advent Dinner this year. We hope to see you all next year.

COME HOME TO GALION

Due to the increase in the COVID –19 cases in Crawford County, the popular Christmas festivities on the square "Come Home to Galion" have been cancelled for this year. We will be making our famous turkey noodle soup and selling it to our church members in quart containers after church on December 6th. All proceeds will go to our church home Crossroad in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

HOLY JOE'S

We will still collect your coffee cup with cash on November 8th and purchase coffee for our troops. The Veterans slide show will be shown before our service that Sunday as planned. Our cookies and coffee will not be served that day but will be served when we return to having services in our beautiful sanctuary. Thank you all for keeping our brave men and women in mind this past month.

MESSIAH

The annual performance of Handel's Messiah has been cancelled due to COVID-19.



November

Week of November 1

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 November 8

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

Week of November 15

Sun. Hag. 1:1-2:9
Acts 18:24-19:7
Luke 10:25-37
Mon. Zech 1:7-17
Rev. 1:4-20
Matt. 12:43-50
Tue. Ezra 5:1-17
Rev. 4:1-11
Matt. 13:1-9
Wed. Ezra 6:1-22
Rev. 5:1-10
Matt. 13:10-17
Thu. Neh. 1:1-11
Rev. 5: 11-6:11
Matt. 13:18-23
Fri. Neh. 2:1-20
Rev. 6:12-7:4
Matt. 13:24-30
Sat. Neh. 4:1-23
Rev. 7:(4-8) 9-17
Matt. 13:31-35

Week of November 22

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 November 29

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



Christmas "Tree of Love"

The Fairhaven Community Volunteers invite you to place a holiday light on the "Tree of Love" which will hopefully be in the covered entryway at Fairhaven. You may purchase a light in memory or in honor of a loved one or friend. \$3.00 for one or \$5.00 for two. Your lights will benefit the various projects the Volunteers sponsor throughout the year. You, your family and friends are invited to join us for the "Tree of Love" lighting and dedication ceremony to be held tentatively on Monday, November 23, 2020. You will be informed of exact time and place when details become available.

Please send your check, made out to Fairhaven Community Volunteers, for the light(s) to:

"Tree of Love"
c/o Jean Pratt, Treasurer
3193 Kiess Road
Bucyrus OH 44820



Dedications must be received by Monday, November 16, 2020 to be included in the Dedication Booklet.

Donor's Name _____

Phone Number-----

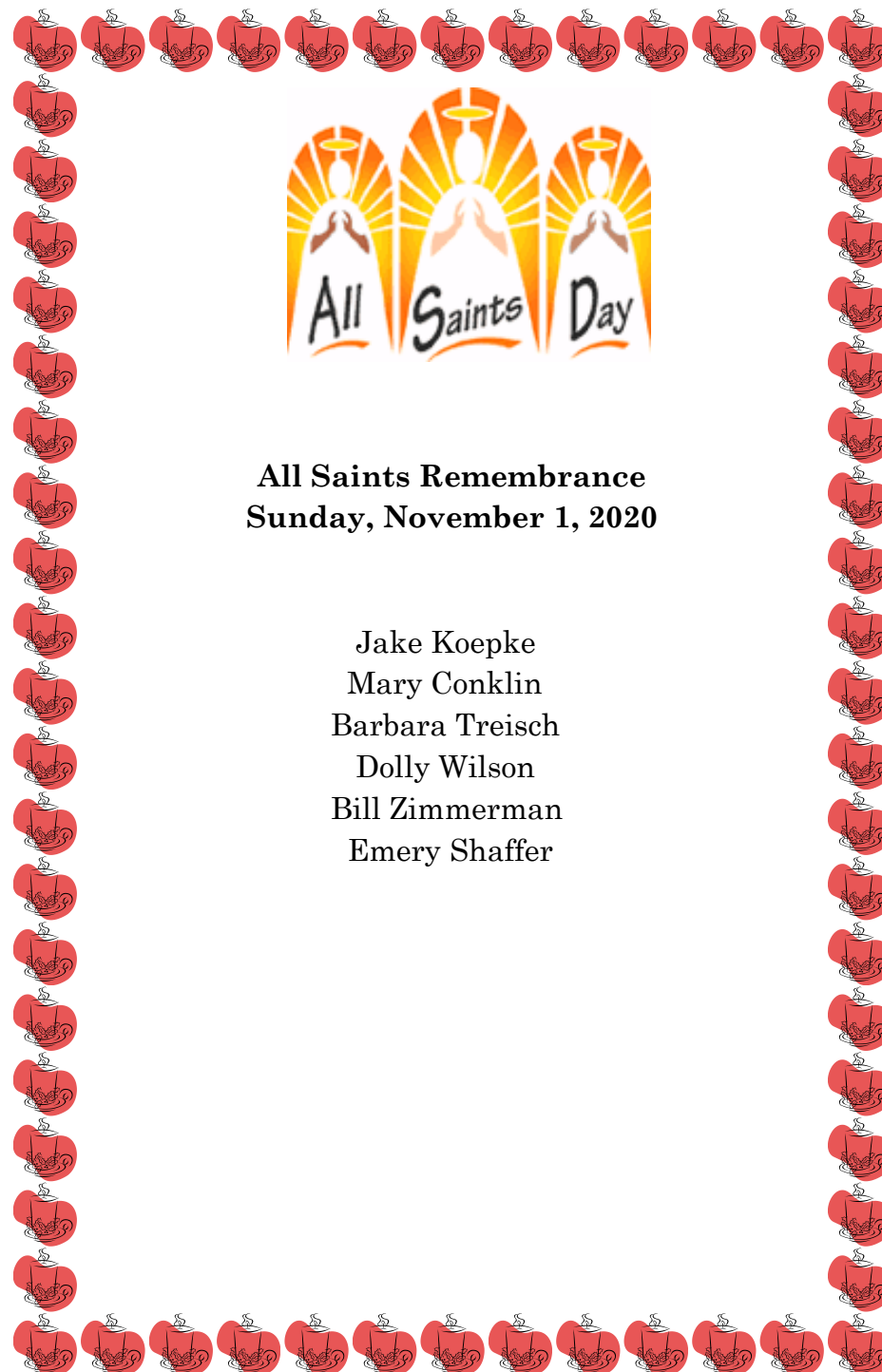
In Honor _____

In Memory _____



All Saints Remembrance Sunday, November 1, 2020

Jake Koepke
Mary Conklin
Barbara Treisch
Dolly Wilson
Bill Zimmerman
Emery Shaffer





Neighbors In Need *November 1, 2020*

Votive Candles are Given in Loving Memory of:

Lee & Marsena Brooks by Doug & Mary Ann Stone
Mary Conklin by Bruce & Betty Angell
Bill & Marjorie Court by their family
Mary Court by her family
Shannon Court by her family
Howard & Anna Deppen by their family
John & Arleine Deppen by their family
Nancy S. Doyle by Maggie Sulser
Betty M. Durtschi by The Fritz Durtschi family
Kaylee Jane Eichhorn by Keith & Judy Eichhorn
Lowell & Mabel Eichhorn by Dan & Lisa Eichhorn
Carol Flick by Bruce & Betty Angell
The Goldsmith family by Sandy Keller & Lynne Goldsmith
John F. Heitzman by Jim & Nancy Reid
Arpad & Teresa Kiss by The Mission Committee
Javon McQueen by his family
Our parents by John & Marcy Miller
Charles, Ruth & Linda Neal & Donald Hayes by The Neal & Hayes' Families
Cloyd & Mildred Rhinehart by Dorothy Rhinehart
Don Rhinehart by Dorothy Rhinehart
Susan Ritzhaupt by Dorothy Rhinehart
Our son, Randy by Gary & Martha See
Melinda M. Sheriff by The Fritz Durtschi family
Barb Thompson by Bruce & Betty Angell
Ken Welch By Darrin & Wendy Harvey
Richard Wiggins by Dorothy Wiggins
Jerry Winters by Pat Winters

Votive Candles are Given in Honor of:

Our kids & grandkids by Dan & Lisa Eichhorn
Our children by Jim & Ellie Heiser
Our grandchildren & great-grandchildren by Jim & Ellie Heiser
Loved ones by Doug & Mary Ann Stone
My children & grandchildren by Pat Winters

Votive Candles are Given to the Glory of God by:

Genesis Friends
John & Marcy Miller
Bill & Lynne Shifley
Pat Winters

**Fairhaven Community
Volunteer Service Group Newsletter
October 19, 2020**

Due to pandemic, the meeting was held at Emmanuel UCC (Mud Church), 13989 Township Rd 127, Upper Sandusky, OH.

President Barb Nigh called the meeting to order.

Devotions were given by Galion 1st UCC.

Roll Call: Volunteers – 17, Staff – 2

Minutes from September 1st Officer Meeting and September 21st Officer Meeting were read and stood approved as read.

Communications consisting of a letter from Bernice Durer stating she would no longer be able to be involved with the VSG and a Thank You letter from Fairhaven for the carts furnished by the VSG were read.

Treasury - \$1,818.64

Gift Ship - \$2,106.04

Bingo Cup - \$6.00

VSG Business:

Forms were passed out and returned to Barb with information of each member present so that improved communications can be obtained.

Barb reported that the Memory Bench for Phyllis Diederich, the sunroom curtains, the Rubbermaid carts, and residents' snacks have been provided by the VSG. Also, large print puzzle books, calendars, coloring books, magazines and drawing pads are being requested for the residents.

Harvest Fest donations of \$985 have been received thus far. Will continue to accept donations until the end of the year.

The slate of officers for 2021 will be presented at the next meeting.

Currently only have one application for the annual scholarship. Will decide at next meeting if we can do the normal \$1,000 or need to go with a lesser amount due to restriction on money raising activities.

Need to obtain audit committee report from 2019. Audit committee going forward will consist of Becky Blocksom and Arlene Main.

The VSG will again this year provide the donuts and cider for the residents' Halloween party. Becky will pick up what is needed and forward bill to Treasurer.

Any decision of VSG members being able to decorate the Christmas trees at Fairhaven are on hold.

The annual Tree of Love will proceed with some changes. The letters and donation forms are being mailed out as always. And the actual Tree of Love will be at Fairhaven as always. But if unable to hold the dedication of the Tree of Love at Fairhaven, the dedication will be held at Emmanuel UCC (Mud Church) with a substitute tree being used on November 23, 2020.

Christmas stockings will be done for the residents as in the past.

Thank you cards will be written for the donors for the Harvest Fest donations received following the next meeting November 16th. Members can bring any Thank You cards they have available for this project.

Staff:

Pastor Becky King will hold a Zoom Memorial Service November 1st from 3-4 for all residents who have died from April 1st thru September 30th. VSG member Ruth Adams will be included in this memorial.

Alissa Clouse reported she has been working diligently on obtaining grant money to help with the needs of Fairhaven. iPads are being utilized to give residents face time with family. The employee campaign is working on obtaining enough funds thru payroll deductions for a gazebo for family visitations.

Becky Blocksom reported that Fairhaven is currently covid free. The county is still orange rated and no visitors are currently allowed in the building. An announcement will be issued when that changes.

The meeting was closed with "The Way" and prayer.

Next meeting will be November 16th at 10:30am at the Emmanuel UCC (Mud Church). Devotions will be given by Bucyrus St. John's.

A Bakeless Bake Sale will be held and Tree of Love forms are due. A sack lunch will be held following the meeting.

Consistory Highlights

OCTOBER 20, 2020

- Community Dinners are continuing. November 19, 2020 will be a Thanksgiving Meal.
- The Genesis Friends topic for November will be Bible study with Barb Nigh. The meeting will be open to the entire church community.
- November 1st is All Saint's Day. Six people who have passed will be honored.
- The last Sunday in November is the first Sunday of Advent and will be Communion Sunday.
- If Crawford County goes to red on the COVID indicator, in house services will cease, but live stream will continue with minimal people in the sanctuary. All worship activities will be halted. All other building use arrangements will be on a case-by-case basis.
- Usual church office hours will be observed even if the county is red.

Organ Repair Payoff



The Sterrett Fund will contribute \$48,000. We need to fill the keys to get the rest. Over \$79,750 has been donated through Nov. 1, 2020. The balance due on the loan is now \$35,012.

The colored in keyboard above 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.

Report from the Finance Committee

The finance committee continues to watch year over year giving closely. We meet monthly and at this time we are working on drafting the 2021 budget.

The year over year giving comparison is:

2019 \$111,505

2020 \$108,650

We are blessed that we have been able to meet our obligations during this difficult year. We have not used any budgeted reserve funds to date. However, we are projecting we will end the year at approximately 94% of our budgeted giving amount.

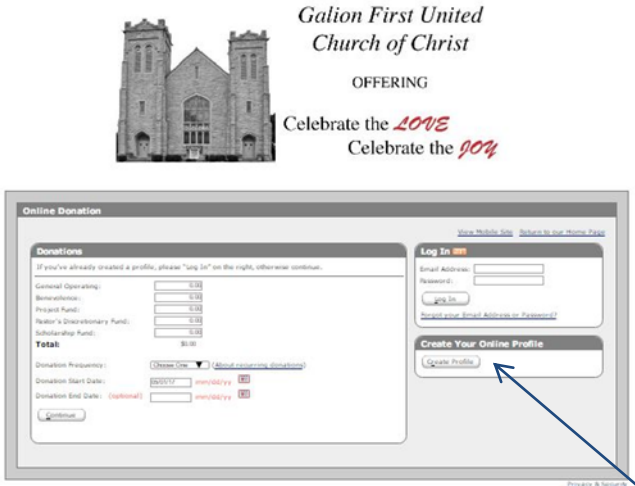
As we transition again to on line worship, offering envelopes can be mailed and the church office is staffed daily. As a reminder, on line giving is available and instructions are provided on a following page.

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.
-

Thanksgiving

WORD SEARCH

R U G Z L L G N I F F U T S F
 S U N P W U F R T G Q D E A S
 E B I L U M F U A F Z I L E R
 V A V S T M R K H T R L O J E
 S E I H W K P C N R I T D T H
 M H G T E E D K E A A T Y R T
 I O S Y Q J E B I T H L U A A
 R L K Z X U N T O N N T X D G
 G I N A B A E P O F Q P H I E
 L D A V R L X V F E A S T T C
 I A H C B S E Y L I M A F I O
 P Y T B H M A G E U D D S O R
 O T O P B P L Y M O U T H N N
 U G L E E I P I R I M H Q B T
 C O R N U C O P I A J Z R B Y

FALL	THANKFUL	NOVEMBER
GATHER	TURKEY	PLYMOUTH
HOLIDAY	CORNUCOPIA	STUFFING
PILGRIMS	FAMILY	THANKSGIVING
PUMPKIN	GOBBLE	CRANBERRIES
CORN	GRATITUDE	POTATOES
FEAST	PIE	TRADITION



HEARTFELT THANKS

Dear Friends,
 What a wonderful birthday I had & what a wonderful surprise it was. The drive by showed me the love from my church family & friends. It is a day I will never forget. I can't explain in words how awesome the day was. God Bless everyone & thank you,

Jim Heiser

I just want to thank everyone for the calls & all the beautiful cards I received on my birthday. That really made my day.

God Bless you all,
 Dorothy Wiggins

THANKSGIVING OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closed Thursday, November 26th & Friday, November 27th.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!