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FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

248 Harding Way W.
Galion, OH 44833

Church E-mail: office@uccgalion.org

Rev. Meyer: pastor@uccgalion.org

Phone: 419-468-4380 www.uccgalion.org

- Rev. Bill MeyerMinister
- Jeanine Girard..... Office Secretary
- Mary Ann Stone-..... Financial Secretary
- Stephanie Sikora Sr. & Bell Choir Director
- Jennifer Arbaugh..... Organist
- Jessica Hammond..... Organist
- Martha SeeKitchen Custodian

First United Church of Christ

248 Harding Way West
Galion, OH 44833
419-468-4380



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

Volume 36 No. 6

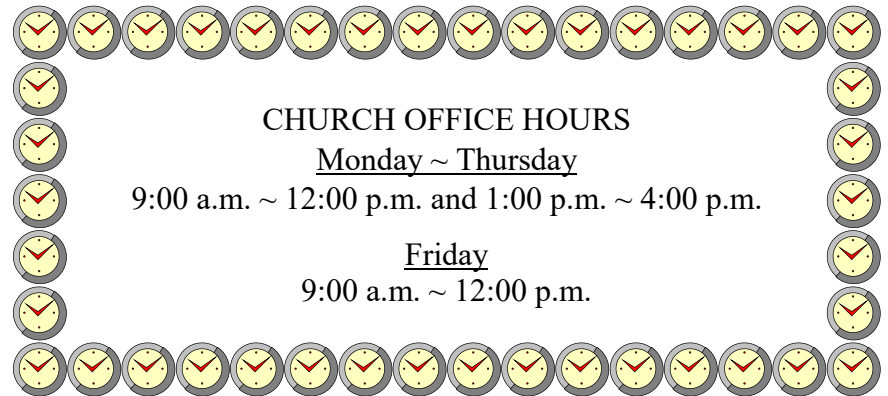
June 2022

Rev. Bill Meyer
Intentional Interim
Pastor



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.

THE INTERIM PASTOR'S NOTEBOOK:

Pentecost calls us to the upward, outward and inward journeys

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Easter, and now Pentecost, marks the real beginning, rather than the ending of the story of Christianity.

For the Disciples, Pentecost meant resuming the Jesus journey, but in a completely new and transformative way.

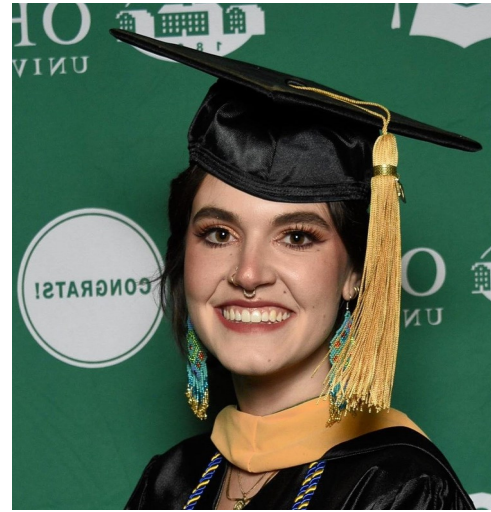
For us at First United Church of Christ, perhaps this Easter, and now Pentecost season, can also be a hinge moment as we again this year resume our journey of faith as a congregation and as individuals.

Perhaps as we reflect on these holidays, we can move forward with Jesus, positively, in a new and transformative way.

Perhaps we can be the leaven that will really make a fundamental difference in the way everything is in Galion.

Perhaps as we move through the Christian story during the year, we can discover and unlock yet-unexplored opportunities for growth and for community that God has given us.

During the Easter story, we noticed the Disciples in an upper room with Jesus. Then after the Resurrection, we notice them also huddled in a locked room, where Jesus essentially had to break in.



Name of Graduate: Lauren Rudolph

Parents: Todd and Karen Rudolph

School Ohio University,
Master of Social Work

Graduation Date: April 29, 2022

Awards/Honors: Summa Cum Laude, Phi Alpha Honor Society President, Dean's List

School Activities: Phi Alpha Honor Society, Variant Magazine, Student Social Work Association, Self-Discovery Club, conducted independent research at field placement

Community Activities: Southeast Ohio Food Bank food box distribution, served Thanksgiving dinner at Trimble Elementary, volunteered at The Gathering Place, a peer recovery organization for adults with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders; worked as a Qualified Mental Health Specialist at My Sister's Place, a domestic violence shelter; provided substance abuse counseling at Rural Women's Recovery Program, a residential facility for adult women with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders.

Share a memorable school moment(s) from your school experience: My most memorable school experiences are learning from passionate and knowledgeable professors and professionals. I am appreciative that I met so many peers, friends, and community members that share the same values and goals as myself. I will always remember the sense of belonging that came with seeing friendly faces every time I left my house, and I look forward to catching up with friends when I visit Athens.

What will you miss most? I will miss the unique sense of community of Athens, Ohio. I have enjoyed collaborating with so many wonderful people in the area and am grateful for the connections and lifelong friends I've made.

Share your immediate plans after graduation: I will be working with a community organization that serves families and individuals with intellectual disabilities and behavioral disorders. I am preparing for my licensure exam and hope to gain experience and knowledge in the meantime.



Caitlyn Koschnick

Lauren Rudolph

Megan Zier

Blessings to our 2022 Graduates!

Name of Graduate: Caitlyn Koschnick

Parents: Travis & Kerri Koschnick

School: University of Findlay

Major: Animal Science/
Pre-Vet. Minor: Chemistry

Graduation Date: May 8, 2022

Awards/Honors:
Vice President Wilderness Club,
Philanthropy Coordinator for Award

School Activities: Pre-Vet Club, CFFA,
Show Sheep Team, Show Cattle Team,
Block & Bridle, Wilderness Club

Community Activities: Coaching softball & basketball

Church Activities: Revive (Thursday night Youth Group in Findlay)

Share a memorable school moment(s):
Having my dog Koah with me on campus the last 2 years

What will you miss most? Being with my close friends in Findlay

Share your immediate plans after graduation: Working at Countryside Vet Clinic
and will attend Vet Tech school in Columbus.



We congratulate Megan Zier and wish her the best as she continues her career path. We apologize, we did not receive Megan's narrative prior to publication.

THE INTERIM PASTOR'S NOTEBOOK: (con't)

Then at Pentecost, all the fear and timidity was gone and they broke out into the world with a transformative message about times of refreshment for all people. The Disciples moved from their everyday lower-room experience, back to an upper-room experience with Jesus.

Then the message and ministry of Jesus just exploded into the world.

So this Pentecost season, 2022, I want to recommend a similar personal and group move from the lower-room congregational and personal experience to the upper room-congregational and personal experience with Jesus.

The lower-room experience settles for a defacto emphasis on place (usually a church building), personality (usually, but not always the pastor's), people (my friends) and programs. (In this lower-room description, I am indebted to material from church growth expert Will Mancini.)

In contrast, the upper-room experience involves a completely transformative and ongoing encounter with the risen Christ.

One way to kick it up to more of a transformative and exciting upper-room experience with Jesus might involve focusing on one or more of our three key Christian journeys.

The first is the upward journey. This involves moving toward a closer walk with God, mediated by Jesus Christ. The second is the outward journey.

THE INTERIM PASTOR'S NOTEBOOK: (con't)

This involves moving toward our neighbors – other people in a constructive, reconciling and positive way, mediated by Jesus Christ. The third involves the inward journey. This involves moving toward personal and spiritual healing of the self, mediated by Jesus Christ. In each of these personal Christian journeys, the key is the mediation by Jesus Christ himself.

We might wish to pray about which of these three Christian journeys Jesus might be calling us to stress right now, this Pentecost season.

Do we most need to strengthen our relationship with God? Or is our weakest Christian journey right now our relationship with other people – including family members and spouses, neighbors and fellow church members? Or do we have personal or spiritual wounds where we need inner healing to come from God, in order that we might better relate to God and others?

At this Pentecost, we celebrate God pouring his life-changing Holy Spirit on all people to perform great personal, congregational and global wonders.

All who believe will be stretched by the Spirit – as we journey with Jesus -- seeing visions of God's future for us, dreaming dreams of what God yet has in store for each of us, for our congregation and for our world.

At this Pentecost, we celebrate God pouring his life-changing Holy Spirit on all people to perform great personal, congregational and global wonders.



Fellowship and Outreach Meal

This month's Fellowship and Outreach Meal will be on Thursday, June 16 at 5:00pm. We are planning a picnic with hotdogs, macaroni salad, baked beans, and cake!

We need our bakers to make about 4 Texas Sheet Cakes. If you can help, please sign the sheet outside the office or call Jeanine and she will note it for you.

Thank you to all that helped with our Lasagna Dinner last month. Thanks to everyone that supports these meals by placing a donation

Strengthen the Church

Our mission for the month of May was Strengthen the Church. This mission is one of United Church of Christ 5 for 5 missions. Featured in this issue of the Visitor is the list of the donations for the geranium flowers.



Thank you to all who donated and to the Genesis Friends Circle for cleaning up the flower beds and planting them around our building! We can all enjoy their beauty this summer.

We also sent a donation to help churches grow & expand the love and the mission of the United Church of Christ.

Genesis Friends invites you ...

On June 14, 2022 we are taking a field trip to the Groovy Plants Ranch!! We will meet at 1st UCC at 1:30PM and carpool to the ranch!

We will have a free tour of the ranch and then we will be able to plant whatever we want!! We have to pay for the plants!! There is not a set price but it will be fun!!



Please join us for the fun field trip!!! We may even stop and get ice cream!!!

Please let Maggie Sulser (419) 617-8121 or Lisa Eichhorn (419) 569-1709 know if you want to come!!!

Thank you and I hope you can join in this field trip!!!!
(Submitted by Maggie Sulser, Genesis Friends)

The Great Outdoors

Our Seasonal Outdoor Worship Service begins Sunday June 26. (weather permitting, of course).

Rain or shine you can always Livestream us on FB or watch the service on our YouTube channel "Galion 1st United Church of Christ."

You can also watch on our website uccgalion.org or listen to the previous week's service by tuning in to WBCO AM 1540/FM 107.5 each Sunday at 9:00am.

THE INTERIM PASTOR'S NOTEBOOK: (con't)

All who believe will be stretched by the Spirit – as we journey with Jesus -- seeing visions of God's future for us, dreaming dreams of what God yet has in store for each of us, for our congregation and for our world.

Acts 2: 17-19a (NIV) reminds us:

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below... "May it be so – as we journey with Jesus – even among us. Amen.



Fraternally, Bill Meyer



Two of our members previously living at MillCreek have new residences now.

They would love to hear from you and would welcome your visits.

Their contact information:

Ruth Swick
Galion Pointe
925 Wagner Ave.
Galion OH 43338

Connie Eichhorn
Trueman Point Care Center
4660 Trueman Blvd.
Hilliard OH 43026

**Fairhaven Community
Volunteer Service Group Newsletter
May 16, 2022**



Due to pandemic, this meeting was held at Emmanuel UCC (Mud Church) 13898 Township R. 127, Upper Sandusky, OH.

President Barb Nigh called the meeting to order.
Devotions were given by Barb Nigh.
Roll Call: Volunteers -13, Staff – 2
Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.
A letter had been received from Rev. Dr. Kenneth Daniels, President and CEO of United Church Homes, acknowledging the group for receiving the Spirit Award.
Treasury Balance - \$3,108.76
Gift Shop Balance - \$1,106.04
Bingo Cup - \$13.00



VSG Business:

Castle Auction had been visited by Barb and Jean. Castle will arrange for the online auction and payment to be made by credit card at no charge to our group. We will need to furnish pictures and a detailed description of each item being made available for auction. We will also need to arrange for a place for all items to be kept until pickup following the auction. The group decided to go with this process. A letter will be drafted to be sent to all churches and other individuals as deemed necessary. The draft will be available for review at the next meeting. St. John's in Bucyrus offered for the items to be gathered and held at their building since close to Castle's.

Various items donated for auction in the past have been baskets containing teas, chocolates, movies, jellies from Coopers, OSU items, Pamper Chef items, and many more. Non basket items such as pictures, Kroger gift card, zoo membership, and sculptures have also been donated in the past. Sorry to say, the only item in the past not receiving a great response anymore are afghans. Donations are only limited by the individual's imagination. Will schedule the auction probably for November and have it run over a two-week timeframe. Arlene and Mary Louise have started working on boxing up the dolls at Fairhaven.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| JUNE 3rd | Mike & Sandy Powell |
| 10th | Ken & Nancy Green |
| 11th | Chris & Hannah Ruth |
| 13th | Frank & Jo Issacs |
| 18th | Steve & Lynda Eidt |
| | Keith & Cheryl Ketterman |
| 21st | Andy & Rachel Roesch |
| 23rd | Tom & Deb Jeffers |
| 25th | Terry & Janet Snyder |
| 26th | Ted & Robin Bruner |
| 27th | Jim & Ellie Heiser |
| 28th | Gary & Brenda Neal |

WELCOME TO ...



*Cooper Daniel Eichhorn born
Wednesday May 18 to
Adam & Cait Eichhorn.
Grandparents are
Dan & Lisa Eichhorn.
Cooper and was
8 lbs. 8 oz. and 20" long.*

Congratulations!



June

1st: Jordan Burgess
Ken Gledhill
2nd: Keith Cotsmire
Mary Jane Bays
3rd: Ethan Burkhart
Tom Jeffers
4th: Jacalin Lugo
Matt Powell
5th: Logan Pfeifer
6th: Cameron Arbaugh
Conner Arbaugh
9th: Martha See
10th: Leslie Swartzbaugh
Michelle Feik
11th: Angie Moore
12th: Carter McGrady
Carrie Lear
Amanda Marie Eidt
13th: Brenda Treisch
14th: Dedra Collins
Teri Ekleberry
Chuck Musselman

June

15th: Ed Pfeifer
16th: Brett Green
17th: Nick Brown
Carol Walter
18th: Dylan Black
Ryan Reed
20th: Karen Meyers-Reid
24th: Robert Reid
25th: Steve Lamontagne
26th: Sundie Brown
Marilyn Ulmer
27th: Ron Burkhart
28th: Rev. Darrin Harvey
Deb Jeffers
Dennis Garverick
29th: Isaac Black
Trevor Ray Black
Zechariah Kennedy
John Sikora
30th: Jean Pratt
Kevin Spore

It is a bigger project than expected. Marcy volunteered to help. Some of the dolls will probably be made available for auction once a value can be ascertained.

Lap blankets were made for Fairhaven residents by Lydia, and Dorothy made Memorial Day cards to brighten the residents' trays. Jan donated items for devotions and Arlene donated items for crafts. Barb announced that Bev Wheeler is wishing to step down from running the gift shop and asked for others to consider to take over for her. The residents are all missing the gift shop.

Door decorations will not be changed this month.

And a general call needs to be made to all the churches for more volunteers to attend the meetings and to plan and help with the events. The churches will be contacted concerning this and to see if transportation can be arranged for those who need it.

Staff:

Alyssa is working on fund raising for Fairhaven. They want to work on the two court yards to try to fix them up with possibly astro-turf, raised flower beds, bird feeders, and benches. She also needs volunteer labor to help with all of this.

Pastor Darla said that Jean Smith asked her to share that she is sorry she does not have more details yet on the remodeling of the building. Invitations will be sent for the presentation of the Spirit Award which will be at a reception as opposed to a dinner.

Pastor Darla closed the meeting by leading in "The Way" and with prayer. The next meeting will be held at Emmanuel UCC on June 20th at 10:30am. Tiffin St. John's is to have devotions. A sack lunch will be held following the meeting. Arlene, Mary Louise, and Jean will furnish pies to take to Fairhaven and assist with bingo. (Submitted by Jean Pratt)

Continued Prayers for Carol & Dale Miller

They would love to have friends & visitors come to see them!
They are currently at Magnolia Terrace, Rm 51.
The address is 1110 N Market St. Galion.

PRAYER
Concerns

Please notify Rev. Meyer or the Church Office if you are aware of any pastoral care needs.

Geraniums Are Given In Loving Memory of:

*Grant Michael Brocwell by Angie & Dave Brocwell
Sharon Cole, Jane Cole & Ruth Thew by The Cole Family
Departed Family by Dave Borden
Fritz & Betty Durtschi & Mindy Sheriff by The Durtschi Family
Lowell & Mabel Eichhorn by Dan & Lisa Eichhorn*

*Fred & Theresa Heitzman by Jim & Nancy Reid
John Heitzman by Mary Ann & our children
Our loved ones by Sandy Keller
& Lynne Goldsmith
Arpad & Teresa Kiss by First UCC
Ed McDaniel by Marlene & daughters*



*Harold and Jeanne Meyer by Rev. William D. Meyer
John Miller by Marcy Miller
Our parents, siblings & grandparents by
The Neal & Hayes families*



*Cloyd & Mildred & Don Rhinehart
by Jo & Dave Bosh
Robert Ruth by The Heitzman Family
Miriam Shifley by Bill & Lynne Shifley*

Flower donations are listed in alphabetical order by the last name of the person the donation is given for. If a name is not specified, the donation is listed by the donor's last name.

**Geraniums Are Given In Loving Memory of
(con't)**

*Susan Ritzhaupt by Dorothy Rhinehart
L. Dean & Louise Stone, Eric Stone, Lee & Marsena Brooks &
James Wittibschlager by Douglas & Mary Ann Stone
Chet & Alice Zimmerman by The Reynolds Family
Harold & Thelma Zimmerman by Their Family*

Flowers Are Given In Honor of :

*Elly, Joanna, Levi, Doran, Jemma & Cooper by Dan & Lisa Eichhorn
Our grandchildren by Keith & Judy Eichhorn
Cain and Julia Feik by Grandpa & Grandma (Happy Graduation!)
Dorothy Rhinehart by Jo & Dave Bosh
Janet Ruth by The Heitzman Family
Mike & Ronet' Ruth by The Heitzman Family
Paul Sulser by Maggie & Jim Sulser*

Flowers Are Given To The Glory of God by :

*Bruce & Betty Angell
The Courts
Kevin & Beth Cotsmire
Carol Moran
Douglas & Mary Ann Stone*

