



# The Carillon

United Church of Christ, Congregational, Arcade

Pastor Josh Bower

(585) 492-4530

Editor: Shannon King

March 2025

**Arcade UCC Vacation Bible School  
was Out of this World!**





Arcade UCC held their Winter Vacation Bible School from February 18-20 this year. The theme this year was, "To Mars and Beyond!" 16 kids took part in this fun-filled event, along with many adults! The three days were filled with crafts, games, activities, snacks, Godly Play stories, music and more! The highlight of VBS was the culminating "blast off" of a rocket ship in the sanctuary! Thank you to everyone who made this wonderful outreach happen - from the volunteers who decorated the church in amazing out-of-this-world fashion, to all of those who participated as leaders throughout the three days! We couldn't do it without you! You have certainly touched the lives of all of these kiddos!



**THANK YOU!**

**A HUGE heartfelt THANK YOU to all who made our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Winter Break Community Vacation Bible School such a success! From decorating and planning, to working with the youth who joined us, we appreciate all of you!!!! What a spectacular week!**

**Upcoming Events at Arcade UCC**

- Gentle Exercise class - Mondays at 10 am. All are welcome!
- Coffee Break and Open for Prayer, Tuesdays from 9-11am, Arcade UCC library. Bible Study at 10 am. All are welcome!
- Women’s Fellowship meeting, Mon., March 3, 11:30 am, Great Room
- O & A Panel Discussion with congregation, March 9, following service in the sanctuary. See info in bulletin.
- Zoom book study begins, 7pm – see info in bulletin
- $\pi$  Night with Skip & Nick, Beer Justice, Fri., March 14, 5:30-8:30pm. Sign-ups on table outside of the sanctuary. Reservation limited to 30-35 people, sign up today!
- Community Dinner, spaghetti, Sat., March 29, 4-6pm, team 3 working
- One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering, March 30
- Palm Sunday Cantata, Sun., April 13, 3 pm, Hope Lutheran, 2 E. Main St., Arcade



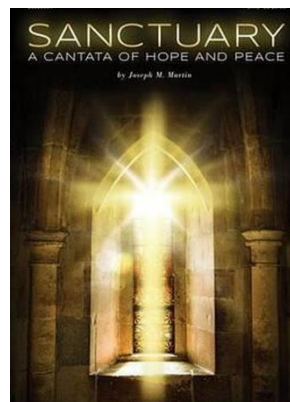
**March Bible Readings**

- 2 Ex 34:29-35 and Ps 99  
2 Cor 3:12-4:2  
**Luke 9:28-36 (37-43a)**
- 9 Deut 26:1-11 and Ps 91:1-2, 9-16  
Rom 10:8b-13  
**Luke 4:1-13**
- 16 Gen 15:1-12, 17-18 and Ps 27  
Phil 3:17-4:1  
**Luke 13:31-35**
- 23 Isa 55:1-9 and Ps 63:1-8  
1 Cor 10:1-13  
**Luke 13:1-9**
- 30 Josh 5:9-12 and Ps 32  
2 Cor 5:16-21  
**Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**



**March Birthdays**

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Mike Tanner        | 17 Michelle Karpinski |
| 12 Gwen Becht        | 23 Lois Anneler       |
| 15 Scarlett Caldwell | 27 Pastor Josh Bower  |
| 16 Diane Szpak       |                       |
- \*\*\*\*\*



**Palm Sunday Cantata News!**

**YOU are invited!**

This year’s Pioneer Association of Churches (PAC) Palm Sunday Cantata will be performed at Hope’s Community Center, April 13th at 3:00 p.m. Free admission! Accessible to all!

Pioneer Area musicians, dancers, and friends will present *Sanctuary: A Cantata of Hope and Peace* by Joseph M. Martin. Come and experience this musical journey of faith and discover a place of refuge in God's unfailing love and sanctuary of grace. Enter into Holy Week with us. Donations of toiletries and non-perishable food items will be collected to support our PAC Food Pantry and Satellite.



**Don’t forget to set your clocks 1-hour ahead! Begins at 2am on Sunday, March 9, 2025!**

## NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

### Arcade UCC's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Souper Bowl of Caring Worship Service



## SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY RESULTS!

Souper Bowl of Caring 2025 is in the books! Stats: Team Imagine That battled Team Hunger and came out with a win! Friends and family came out for the game on February 6<sup>th</sup> and, as always, were extremely generous. \$523.85 and 302 food items were donated to fight hunger in our community!

Thank you all for your generosity and continued support of this important mission.



Congratulations to Shirley Kriedeman on her upcoming 50th membership anniversary! She and Ron joined our church on March 23, 1975.

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If anyone has good news they would like in the upcoming issues of the Carillon, please contact Shannon King in the Church office via email [uccarcade@gmail.com](mailto:uccarcade@gmail.com) or 585-492-4530.



A safe driving course to reduce insurance is coming up in March. It's called Empire Safety Council Point Insurance Reduction Course. It will be held on March 22, 2025 at the Arcade Firehall. It costs \$35 and will reduce your car insurance by 10% for the next 3 years. To register, call Jeff Ely at 716-392-2981. Leave a message on his answering machine and he will get back to you with all the details.

## The 54th ANNUAL ARCADE WINTERFEST - A HUGE SUCCESS!



*The Arcade Winterfest parade was viewed by many down Main Street.*



*Eric Jones A&A sculpture at the Arcade Fire Hall*

The 54<sup>th</sup> **Arcade Winterfest** “made us want to shout!” the weekend of February 7-8. It began with the king/queen pageant Friday night at the Arcade Elementary school, followed by a day FULL of activities on Saturday! There was something for everyone! The Lion’s Club had their pancake breakfast at Arcade UCC beginning at 8am. The Women’s Fellowship of Arcade UCC opened their Bake Sale at 9am. The Craft Show at the elementary school began at 9am, followed by the parade at 11am. The women of Arcade UCC also participated in the chili cook-off this year!

The day continued with the library book sale, the Braving the Elements 5K, a Kids Fun Run, the Art Show at the old fire hall, dodgeball, horseshoe and hockey tournaments, horse-drawn wagon rides at the park, the scavenger hunt, the dinner and dance at the Arcade VFW and much more!!! Each event had an amazing turn-out and Arcade’s Winterfest spirit shone brightly!

This year, we actually had plenty of snow for the Winterfest snow sculptures! This tradition has been an important part of every Winterfest through the years, but the lack of snow over the past few years has put a damper on this fun activity. Not this year! Several local businesses even came together to sponsor Eric Jones, a popular snow and pumpkin sculptor from the area, to have him come out and do a surprise sculpture at the Arcade Fire Hall for all to see!

We are already looking ahead to next year’s Winterfest 2026 on Feb. 13-14! Mark your calendars!



*The women of Arcade UCC held a very successful bake sale during the Winterfest in the church library.*



*Adeline and Avery Gertis, with some help from mom, Stacy Gertis, created a sculpture to shout about!*

## Women's Fellowship Winterfest Bake Sale and Chili Cook-off!

The women of Arcade UCC's Women's Fellowship participated in the Winterfest this year in a couple of different ways. They entered the chili cook-off, selling 90 cups of chili! Although they didn't win the competition, they had so much fun being a part of the Winterfest festivities!

They also held a bake sale which was a big success as well! Combined with the chili sales, the women brought in \$522 which will be given to the Imagine That after school program and VBS! Suzanne Norton attributed much of their bake sale success to Pastor Josh, who made a wonderful sign that brought people in and kept the bake sale busy all day! Of course, the beautiful supply of delicious goodies from the church at large also played a large role in their successful sale! There were very few leftovers, and what did remain was placed in the freezer to be used for Tuesday morning's coffee break.

Great job to all who participated!



**Gentle Exercise Class**  
**Every Monday at 10 am**  
**in Wetzel Hall.**  
**All are welcome!**  
**See Shannon King with**  
**questions.**

**Coffee Hour, Open for Prayer and Bible**  
**Study Every Tuesday!**



Coffee Break and Open for Prayer continue on Tuesdays from 9am – 11am! Come enjoy free coffee, refreshments and good conversation! A Bible Study is held at 10am as well. Meet in the church library. Open to the community. Spread the word!

## UPCOMING FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

**Saturday, March 29, 4-6 pm**  
**Spaghetti dinner**  
**Eat-in only!**  
**Spread the word!**  
**Team 3 working.**

**Open & Affirming Panel Discussion**  
**March 9, immediately following worship**  
**service**  
**Discussion with O & A Committee, Pastor Josh**  
**will moderate the discussion. Held in the**  
**sanctuary with coffee and cookies.**  
**Opportunity for respectful questions and**  
**comments from the congregation. All are**  
**welcome to join.**

**Weekly Zoom Book Study begins Wed.,**  
**March 12 at 7 pm. "Unclobber - Rethinking**  
**our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality" by**  
**Colby Martin. For those without internet**  
**access, there will be a "Zoom Hub" at the**  
**church. Please email the church**  
**([uccarcade@gmail.com](mailto:uccarcade@gmail.com)) to sign up by March**  
**5 so books can be ordered. Pastor will email**  
**the Zoom info to those who sign up.**



**Food**  
**Collection**

**PAC Food**  
**Pantry Hours**  
**are as**  
**follows:**

**Food Pantry**  
**at the United Methodist Church is**  
**open weekly on Mondays and**  
**Thursdays from 12:30-2pm.**

**Food Pantry at Hope Lutheran is**  
**open on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each**  
**month from 4-7pm and the**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month from**  
**9-11am.**

## One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)



Orfelina works with families in the northern regions of Honduras to help them understand how to transform their families and communities through agriculture. The list of things she does is mindboggling: Checking on local farmers' harvest. Monitoring water projects. Teaching the women in the community how to prepare more nutritious meals for their families. Chatting up community leaders for support. Running workshops for things like creating organic fertilizers and sprays. But Orfelina doesn't just work with farmers and their families, she supports and encourages them. Visiting them in their homes. Bringing God's light to everyone she meets. And all of this is made possible through your giving to One Great Hour of Sharing. Because of your giving, projects like these and thousands more around the world are changing lives. Transforming communities. And spreading God's light. Be the Light. Give to OGHS.

When you give to OGHS, you are light for people in need. You are light when disasters strike, and when chronic conditions threaten families and communities. You are light not just in the immediate future, but also for the long haul. When you give, you restore not only structures, but also transform lives. Your gift ensures that no matter how difficult the situation, light shines. Be the light. Give to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Many churches will recognize OGHS in March. *Other ways to donate: mail checks to United Church of Christ, P.O. Box 71957, Cleveland, Ohio 44194 or give online via a secure donation form using this link: <https://support.ucc.org/ways-to-give/our-churchs-wider-mission/one-great-hour-of-sharing/one-great-hour-of-sharing-donation> or text OGHS to 41444 and follow the prompts to give securely.*



## Hope Lutheran Offers Respite Program for Individuals Living with Dementia

The second and fourth Thursdays of every month from 10:30am-2:30pm, Hope Lutheran of Arcade is offering a free respite program for individuals living with dementia. This program provides one-on-one social companionship, meaningful activities and active engagement provided by volunteers. Crafts, bingo, sing-a-longs, games, gentle exercise, pet therapy, lunch, snacks and more! The program does require registration and an evaluation to assure the program is a good fit for all involved. Please contact Hope Lutheran for further information at 585-492-2530 or [julie@hopearcade.org](mailto:julie@hopearcade.org).

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### Financial News

#### January 2025

##### Revenues:

Pledges: \$4,795.00  
Regular Giving: \$245.00  
Loose Offering: \$254.00  
Fundraisers: \$90.00  
Misc. Donations: \$15.00  
Online Service Charge: -\$10.61  
**Total Revenue: \$5,298.39**

##### Expenditures:

Benevolences: \$0  
Office/Administration: \$2,153.50  
Pastoral Administration: \$5,834.27  
Worship & Music: \$2,063.30  
Education Ministry: \$0  
Outreach Ministry: \$0  
Buildings & Grounds: \$1,379.65  
Pastor/Parish/Stewardship: \$0

**Total Expenditures: \$11,430.72**  
Deficit for January \$6,132.33

"Lent comes providentially to awaken us, to shake us from our lethargy."

--Pope Francis





## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **BUILDING & GROUNDS ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING January, 31, 2025**

In attendance: Bill Schaper, Randy Lutz, Bruce Dennis, Dona Roll, Kathy May, Ginger Comstock

The purpose of the meeting was to transfer information from the past Building & Grounds members and to organize the current members. Although Bill Schaper and Randy Lutz are no longer officially on the committee both have agreed to help the committee with whatever they can.

**Elevator:** Bill explained some ongoing issues we are having with the elevator maintenance contract and their quarterly inspections.

**Lawn Maintenance:** Our current lawn maintenance contractor has retired and we will need to contract with someone else.

**Basement Windows:** Randy Lutz discussed the information he and Debi had gathered regarding replacing the basement windows. After discussion, it was decided by the committee that the sliding windows would be more efficient from the standpoint of letting natural light in and ventilation. It was decided to go with local contractor, Jim McGarvey for nine basement windows and 1 window in the hallway leading down to the basement. Two bathroom windows will be obscured glass for privacy. Randy has agreed to be the contact person with Jim McGarvey on this project.

**Ceiling tiles:** Randy and Debi Lutz are interested in working on replacing the ceiling tiles in Wetzel Hall. Kathy May would be happy to work with them and would also like to see the stained ceiling tiles in the annex replaced. This project will be on hold until the basement windows are replaced.

**Sink fixture in small kitchen sink:** Randy has agreed to replace the faucet in the small kitchen sink.

**Carpet Cleaning:** Kathy May asked about the carpet cleaning that had been routinely done in the sanctuary and annex. Bill Schaper said it hadn't been done since the pandemic but probably should be scheduled. Kathy will check into this.

**Plowing:** Dona Roll mentioned some concerns about when the parking lot was being plowed on Sunday morning. It didn't appear to be done before worship the previous week. Kathy will get the number for the plow person from Mark Saladyga and talk to them about plow timing on Sundays. Randy also mentioned that he removes the curbs from the parking lot before plow season begins and puts them back in the spring.

**Cleaning:** Rich is in charge of the cleaning person, Mary, and any issues with the cleanliness of the building should be discussed with him.

**Roof Repair:** There are several missing shingles on the roof. Bill mentioned it's approximately \$2,000 to have any repair done due to the need for a lift.

Kathy also mentioned the louvres on the bell tower are in need of painting. Is it possible to get a lift rental for both items???

#### **Opening and Closing schedule:**

February: Ginger Comstock

March: Kathy May

April: Bruck Dennis

May: Dona Roll

Dona Roll has agreed to be the Convener of the Building & Grounds Committee and Kathy May has agreed to be the recorder.

**Next meeting: TBD**



## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Endowment Committee met following coffee hour on February 23. Jeff Mason was re-elected chair, and Randy Lutz was re-elected treasurer.

The amount we approved last year for motion-sensitive cameras for safety and security purposes in our buildings was reduced from \$7,000 to \$3,000, since the project has been scaled back to a do-it-yourself installation of cameras.

We approved the request to fund the purchase and installation of ten new windows for up to \$9,000. This project replaces one that was approved for a different contractor in 2023. Jim McGarvey will be doing the work this spring. It will involve the installation of six new sliding windows with screens in Wetzel Hall, two windows in the downstairs rest rooms, one window in the Women's Fellowship storage room, and one new double-hung window next to the door by the Church Street sidewalk.

We began the process of reviewing our committee's Statement of Investment Policy, which has not been updated since 1998.



### Upcoming Rummage Sale Info!

The Women's Fellowship is organizing a rummage sale to be held on **May 2 and 3 from 9am – 4pm. All profits will be donated to the general fund.** Everyone is encouraged to participate. The following is a **partial** list of suggested items that can be donated. As you do your spring cleaning, keep these in mind. Please have all items clean and ready for sale.

**We are unable to accept items until Sun., April 27. Please bring items directly to Wetzel Hall.**

**Clothing:** Baby and children's clothing – **ADULT CLOTHING accepted only with original sales tag.**

**Kitchen:** dishes, cookware, dish towels, pot holders, small appliances, utensils, heaters, canning supplies.

**Bedding:** blankets, sheets, quilts, bedspreads, comforters – **NO BED PILLOWS please.**

**Home:** afghans, throws, deco pillows, throw rugs, tablecloths, picture frames, knick-knacks, antiques, curtains, draperies, antique furniture.

**Bath:** small accessories, towels, washcloths, bath mats, scales, shower curtains (NEW shower curtains only please)

**Electronics:** DVD's and DVD players, CD's and players, radios, game systems, record players, fans, heaters, all in working condition – **NO TV'S OR COMPUTERS**

**Personal:** purses, scarves, gloves, jewelry, watches, belts. **NO SHOES**

**Crafts:** All craft items – yarn, buttons, craft books, thread, trims, fabric, batting, polyfill, scissors, etc.

**Kids:** Toys, games, car seats, booster seats, high chairs, strollers, baby furniture

**Outside:** lawn ornaments, urns, flower pots, gardening tools, lights, lawn furniture

**Books:** All books – **NO ENCYCLOPEDIAS**

**Sports:** Sporting equipment (especially kids) balls, bats, hockey sticks, shin guards, skates, helmets (biking, snowmobiling, motorcycle) adult and kids, skis, camping gear, hunting and fishing gear, sleds, games

**Hand tools:** Saws, hammers, drills and bits, trimmers, screwdrivers, etc.

### The Carillon

The Carillon is being compiled, printed and mailed by Shannon King and Audrey Erick. Please continue to watch for the deadline date for your articles and reports and submit them to the church office. We hope to produce a quality newsletter. Any suggestions are welcomed. The deadline for the April issue is March 20, 2025.

We welcome articles and written pieces from our congregation! For this reason, we need to add the disclaimer that the views written in the Carillon are not necessarily the views of the Arcade United Church of Christ, Congregational, but are those of the individuals who write the submissions.

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