

## **205TH ANNUAL MEETING OF UCC CONGREGATIONAL**

Debi Lutz, Moderator, called the Annual Meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. on October 29th, 2017. Debi opened with prayer, thankful for all of our abundance. There were 30 in attendance.

Motion was made by Ginger Comstock to accept the 204th Annual Meeting minutes. Wally Lowth seconded. Motion was carried. Jo Sixt motioned to accept the Budget Meeting minutes of 2017, Helen Knose seconded. This motion also carried.

We then reviewed reports from:

Pastor and Pastor's Discretionary Fund: Report stands as written.

Church Clerk: Report stands as written.

Church Historian: Report stands as written.

Council: Report stands as written.

Christian Education/Sunday School: Report stands as written, except there is a need for volunteers. We recognize the contributions of Deb and Bob Wood to CEC.

Stewardship: Report stands as written.

Outreach: Report stands as written.

Endowment Committee: Report stands as written.

Building and Grounds: Report stands as written.

Workers Union: Report stands as written.

Mary Hosford Fisher Women's Fellowship: Report stands as written. Dona Roll gave thanks for their good works.

Memorial Committee: Report stands as written.

Worship/Music: Report stands as written. Vanessa Roll thanked everyone who helps, and Dona said thank you for Vanessa.

NY Help/Honduras: Report stands as written. Gordon Comstock thanked everyone for their continued support.

Debi Lutz asked for a motion to adopt the reports as written. Helen Knose motioned and Dona Roll seconded. Motion was passed.

Debi then turned the meeting over to Jeff Mason. Jeff drew our attention to each line of Financial Reports, as follows:

100's - 2017-2018 -	Self explanatory.
200's -	Self explanatory.
300's -	Self explanatory.
400's -	Self explanatory.
500's -	Self explanatory.
600's -	Self explanatory.
700's -	Self explanatory.
800's -	Self explanatory.
Income -	Self explanatory.

Jeff asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report. Jim Vrenna asked about the Verizon Contract. Jeff explained that Aerosmith gets the Verizon contracts for antennas. Originally it was \$6,000.00 per year, then \$4,200.00 per year plus a signing bonus, then Aerosmith said \$2,400.00 per year. We responded that we would sign for \$4,200.00 per year, and if not, we wanted \$200.00 for attorney fees. Jeff Mason is waiting for word from Aerosmith. If not, the \$200.00 bill will go out and the Attorney General will be notified. Note: the first contract can be nullified, but the second one cannot.

Jim Vrenna asked if any other churches have dealt with Aerosmith? Pastor answered that the church in Warsaw has an antenna, but he doesn't know who they dealt with. A church in West Amherst is getting \$1,000.00 per month. We will be sending a letter to Aerosmith, requesting reimbursement of attorney fees, with a copy to Verizon and Attorney General.

Deb Lutz asked for a motion to accept Treasurer's Report. Dona Roll moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Jo Sixt seconded, and the report passed.

Nominations Report: Add Dirk Norwich to UCC State Conference Delegates. Add Sandy Dinehart to Outreach. Remove Leanne Pokigo from Worship/Music. Debi Lutz asked for a motion to accept the Nominations Report. Margaret Homan moved and Wally Lowth seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor Bob ended the meeting with prayer. The meeting closed at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Liz Lowth, Church Clerk*

## **BUDGET HEARING SEPTEMBER 23, 2018**

Debi Lutz, moderator, called the congregational budget hearing to order at 11:23 a.m. with a prayer. Debi brought to our attention the lists of positions on the back counter. There were 32 present for this Budget Hearing.

Debi then turned the meeting over to Jeff Mason, treasurer. Jeff advised that this is a tentative proposed budget and proceeded to hand out copies.

Explanation and discussion of the tentative proposed budget for 2017-2018 followed.

**Expenditures:** Jeff explained each column and then the pass-throughs. Jeff also explained when a special project develops, we will take a special collection.

**Office/Administration:** Council is requesting an increase in Shannon's hourly rate. There were no questions.

**Pastoral Administration:** These numbers are conference guidelines for obtaining a pastor, but these are not locked in, because some prospective pastors have not attended seminary and others are not ordained. The increase of \$18,630.92 reflects full time ministry, which is a conservative estimate.

**Worship/Music Ministry:** Council requests raises for the organist and choir director.

**Education Ministry:** No Questions.

**Outreach:** Stayed the same, and there were no questions.

**Building/Grounds:** We now have Jean's Cleaning Service for custodial service.

**Pastor and Parish Relations:** Still at zero.

**Stewardship:** No Questions.

**Expenditures Summary:** \$148,442.87 proposed.

**Income:** All pledge cards are not in, but Amy T. will have more information at the Annual Meeting. Suzanne asked if Weight Watchers pays if they are not there? Jeff responded, "No".

Jeff estimated the ages of pledgers: 89% are over 55, 84% are over 65, 40% are over 75 and 9% are over 85.

Jeff advised that we have neither taken from Endowment nor Savings this fiscal year. We have actually put \$5,000.00 into Savings.

Dona Roll thanked Council for projecting a full-time pastor.

Leanne Pokigo said we need to be realistic. Suzanne stated we need to see what the Search Committee brings back to us. Jeff responded that the Search Committee needs a profile with numbers and guidelines of what we can offer. What is realistic? The Search Committee needs help.

Dona asked if the interim pastors will get paid, and if so, from where? Jeff answered yes and out of 400's. Suzanne asked when Pastor Bob went on 3/4 time, was it because of his health or finances? It was mainly finances but also life changes, etc. Margaret Homan asked if benefits are negotiable? Jeff responded, Yes, anything is negotiable. Jeff said the Search Committee would determine pay, whether start at 3/4 time then to full time, or something else.

Jeff asked if there were any other questions?

Suzanne asked at what time would the Search Committee need to know whether full time or 3/4 time? Jeff responded that we will get the Budget to Search Committee in a couple of weeks.

Wally, as co-chair of Council nominated the following six (6) people for the Search Committee:

Ryan Bechdel, Vanessa Adams, Skip Tillinghast, Nick Tillinghast, Denielle Romance and Ginger Comstock. Suzanne made the motion and Dona seconded. All approved, motion passed.

Wally closed in prayer.

Debi L. moved to adjourn, and Vanessa seconded. All approved. The Budget Hearing closed at 12:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Liz Lowth, Church Clerk*

## PASTOR'S REPORT

Little did I imagine that I would be writing this annual report no longer as your Pastor. In speaking with God, family and myself – I came to the realization that the time was right to begin another adventure in my life as I embark upon retirement. Since I retired, officially, 11/12 into our fiscal year, I was asked to write the Pastor's Report for 2017-2018.

As I pen these words, it appears that again this year we will close our books with a financial surplus. For this I, and I hope each of you, praise and thank God. Through the diligence and hard work of ALL of you, we have seen our way **in the black** once again, allowing us to put some monies aside for future programs, ministries and purposes that enhance and praise God.

I am deeply indebted to each and every group within our church that have worked so hard this past year to continue sharing Jesus, the Christ, with our congregation, our community and beyond. I won't try to mention every committee/group, nor will I attempt to name individuals for fear of missing someone. BUT, I will extend my most warm and heartfelt thanks to you all for the work you have done and continue to do on behalf of the ministries of our church. I will, however, say a special thank you to our Church Council and our Moderator, Debi Lutz, who have helped forge our path this past year. Your leadership and work are tremendously appreciated, even though it is too often unacknowledged.

2017-2018 has seen a continuation of several successful ministries in our midst: our youth programs and the mission trip which they participated in; our music ministry, providing an important adjunct to our Sunday worship; our dedicated outreach to the community through our Food Pantry involvement and food collections; our Bible Studies – though not great in numbers, our commitment to learning and sharing the Word of God shone brightly; our expansion to an Alternative Worship Experience the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month where we participated in *Far Cry's* lead in a different worship style; our rummage sale sponsored by our women of the church as well as our Fall Festival with hard work and leadership provided by many dedicated folk; the committed work of maintaining our building in many varied areas. This list could easily go on and on, but I want to save time for a few personal remarks. Therefore, know that you ALL are to be lifted up for your part in keeping our church's mission "alive and well" as we venture into our 206<sup>th</sup> year.

While we, as a congregation, are always willing to "step up to the plate" as we work together to accomplish what God sets before us, sometimes we face (or create ourselves) resistance and controversy. As the Apostle Paul tells us, we are like a body – we have many different parts which have different functions. Yet, when these parts work together as they are intended, we are one in spirit and in our desire to follow Jesus, the Christ, and accomplish all that God desires to make God's kingdom flourish and be vibrant.

I'd like to leave you with two final thoughts, both in reflection of the past year and looking ahead to the future:

1) ALWAYS, but always be in prayer for direction and assistance. We have not "lived" 205 years as a congregation by doing our own thing!! Our fore-parents continually and regularly called upon God to guide, direct, and provide all the things which allowed us to accomplish God's purposes here in Arcade and beyond. And I have absolutely no reason to believe that this is not going to continue.

2) Always remember (and believe) the passage from Jeremiah 29: "... For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future..."

I have shared this passage many times with you because I truly believe it and pray that you do as well. None of us know what the days ahead might hold for us – either as a church or as individuals. God tells us through the prophet Jeremiah that God indeed has a plan for us, so be open, be flexible, be willing to go down paths that you've perhaps not traveled before.

I sincerely pray with thanks for all with which you have blessed me as your Pastor. I also sincerely keep you in prayer that your paths ahead might be always God-led. Be committed to 2018-2019 at Arcade United Church of Christ, Congregational and be filled with God's gift to all of us – God's Holy Spirit.

Shalom, my dear friends,

*Former Pastor Bob*

### **PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

This fund was used at the Pastor's discretion to assist folk in times of special need and/or special circumstances, as well as ministries in and about Arcade ((including prescriptions, gas, food, study materials, household expenses etc.)

Balance beginning October 1, 2017	\$361.81
Deposits	\$900.00
TOTAL	\$1,261.81

Funds spent to assist with various community needs	\$966.74
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ENDING BALANCE JULY 23, 2018	\$295.07
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After announcing he would be retiring on August 31, Rev. Dievendorf also announced he would no longer be accepting donations to this fund, since he would be closing out the account. He issued a check from the discretionary fund account to the church in July, and it is included in the Misc. Income line of the 2017-18 Treasurer's Report.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeff Mason*

## **REPORT OF THE CHURCH CLERK 2017-2018**

Total membership as of September 30, 2017	111
New members	3
Loss by death	7
Request for transfer	0
Withdrawals	0
<b>Total membership as of October 1, 2018</b>	<b>107</b>

### **Members Deceased: 7**

Robert Wood--October 24, 2017  
John Common--December 4, 2017  
Pastor Gloria Hewson--December 5, 2017  
Diana Stiles--December 20, 2017  
Sandra Deinhart--February 18, 2018  
Patricia Scott--July 8, 2018  
Martha Bray--August 19, 2018

### **New Members: 3**

Patricia Scott, received by Profession of Faith--April 15, 2018  
Ellianna Lang, received by Confirmation--May 20, 2018  
Payton Romance, received by Confirmation--May 20, 2018

### **Baptisms: 4**

Adaline Mae Gertis—February 11, 2018  
Ellianna Lang—May 20, 2018  
Christian Lang—May 20, 2018  
Crew Robert Caldwell-- August 26, 2018

### **Weddings: 2**

William Ryan Bechdel & Kristen Marie Rickey--May 26, 2018  
Rev. Robert Dievendorf - Officiant  
Helen Knose & Gary Boling—August 3, 2018  
Rev. Robert Dievendorf - Officiant

## **REPORT OF THE CHURCH HISTORIAN**

I continued the ongoing process of collecting, saving and organizing new materials. Once an event takes place, it becomes part of our history. Part of my role involves writing an item for the Carillon whenever one of our members passes away.

I taught two classes about church history to our confirmands in the spring of 2018. These classes involved walking around the church building, looking through some of the church archives, and studying the Tree of Life. This was the first time I had been asked to teach church history lessons to the confirmation class, so it was a welcome opportunity.

Also, this spring, I met with Dr. Beverly Wright when she came from Delaware to Arcade to donate a quilt to the Arcade Historical Society. Her great-great-grandfather, Rev. Lewis Frost, was the pastor here from 1857 to 1862. In 1858, a group of over 30 young women from the church surprised Rev. Frost's wife, Maria Goodell Frost, with a quilt they had made. Each woman signed her square. Dr. Wright is downsizing and felt the quilt should return to Arcade. After meeting with her at the Gibby House, I brought her to the church to show her some original letters from Rev. Frost in our archives and showed her how he fits in to our Tree of Life. More information about the Frost family and the quilt can be found on pages 235-237 in our church history.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeff Mason, Historian*

## **CHURCH COUNCIL**

Our 2017-2018 Church Council members included Rich Vogt (Co-Chair), Wally Lowth (Co-Chair), Vanessa Adams, Dirk Norwich, Leanne Pokigo and Nathan Tillinghast. We are joined by Pastor Bob Dievendorf (up until his retirement on August 31, 2018), Treasurer Jeff Mason and Moderator Debi Lutz. Our Office Manager, Shannon King, (previously Kathy May until leaving the position at the end of January 2018), continues as recording secretary for our meetings.

A large project was completed in December 2017 when the downstairs bathrooms were renovated. In April, the front annex windows were struck by a vehicle in an accident and had to be replaced. The dishwasher needed several repairs in May.

As always, thanks to Jeff Mason for his service as our treasurer. He continues his thoughtful and knowledgeable management of our church finances.

Kathy May resigned as Office Manager at the end of January 2018. Shannon King was hired to take her position and Jean Gagnon was also hired for the cleaning of the church.

A church website was created in the late winter/early spring of 2018. It is [www.arcadeucc.com](http://www.arcadeucc.com). Shannon King and Josh Taylor worked on this together to get the website up and running. This is updated regularly, as well as the church Facebook page.

Pastor Bob Dievendorf announced his retirement at the May 22 Council meeting. Council then began preparations for compiling a Search Committee. Six members came forward to volunteer for the committee. Voting occurred on September 23, 2018 during the Budget Hearing and the installation of the six Search Committee members was held during service on September 30, 2018.

Visioning, church policies and by-laws, sanctuary church, church website, church budget, and many more topics were addressed throughout the year within Council's monthly meetings.

The Council will continue to serve as your leaders with guidance and input from you, the congregation. Please feel free to share your thoughts or concerns with any one of the Council members. Your input is always welcomed and appreciated!

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

This past year has been a very difficult one for our committee. The passing of long-time member and teacher Bob Wood and Deb Wood's mourning has dwindled our committee to just Liz Lowth and Jim Vrenna.

The Committee would like to thank Pastor Bob, Debi Lutz and all the dedicated teachers for pulling together with the help of God in this difficult time to continue Godly Play.

The Committee hosted special events and receptions throughout the year including Rally Day, Christmas Program, Confirmation Sunday and the Year End Program.

Our youth conducted the worship service in February for the Souper Bowl of Caring to fight hunger in this country, as they raised money and food items for our local Food Pantry. They assisted at our Community Dinners, the Fall Festival and Rummage Sale. They were also seen from time to time helping in our Community Garden. In March, our youth attended the State Youth Event in Painted Post, NY. In June, they went on a mission trip to Boston, MA.

On a local, state and national level our youth are well represented and respected at various meetings. Quite a compliment for our small congregation!

A special thank you to Vanessa Adams who gave generously of her time to help and assist our youth on numerous occasions.

Sheila Vrenna has taken over for Bob as Adult Sunday School teacher. She has lined up a list of exciting new books to read and discuss. This class is fun and set in a very relaxed atmosphere. Everyone is invited to attend every Sunday morning at 9:00 in the Great Room. Coffee will be served.

Finally, the Christian Education Committee would like to thank the Congregation of Arcade UCC for supporting our educational programs.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jim Vrenna, Chair*

## **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

A biblical world view of stewardship can be defined as “Utilizing and managing all resources God provides for the glory of God and the betterment of his creation.” (Wikipedia)

However, too often the idea of stewardship is associated only with church budgets and building programs. Bill Peel at [The High Calling](#) wrote an essay entitled *Leadership Is Stewardship*. In this essay, Peel suggests that there are four important principles regarding stewardship.

The first of these, is the principle of ownership. The psalmist begins the 24<sup>th</sup> Psalm with, *The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it*. It is clear that people were created to work and that work is the stewardship of all of God’s creation.

The second principle is responsibility. We are called as God’s stewards to manage all that belongs to God. While we have been graciously entrusted with the care, development, and enjoyment of everything God created, it is our responsibility to manage all of his creation well and according to his desires and purposes.

Accountability is the third principle. We will need to give an account of how we have administered everything we have been given, including our time, money, abilities, information, wisdom, relationships, and authority.

The fourth principle is reward. In [Colossians 3:23-24](#) Paul writes: *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

This past year, we as a congregation, have been asked to give of our time, talents and treasures. We hope you were inspired to prayerfully consider the many ways you are blessed by God and the many ways you can use your blessings to help others and to give to your church and its many programs and missions.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Shannon King*

Adapted from **Four Principles of Biblical Stewardship, Hugh Whelchel**  
**November 26, 2012**

## **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

The Outreach Committee, consisting of members, Liz and Wally Lowth, Jo Sixt, Dirk Norwich, and Sheila Vrenna with Pastor Dievendorf as advisor and inspirer continue to work on the mission:

**“to render loving service toward all humankind.”**

We ask each of you to take a look at our projects and see how they fulfill our mission and how, in this time of transitions, we may be able to better outreach:

- **Shepard Program and Letter Writers Wanted** — Jo Sixt has taken on the leadership of this project for our congregation to stay in touch with our members and friends who are unable to worship regularly with us because of health issues, distance or any other reason that might arise. She regularly sends out many cards or notes of encouragement, sympathy and congratulations. Volunteers from the congregation also help to stay in touch with shut-ins. We want to thank all who have sent cards and notes as a result of the names that are listed in our weekly bulletins. Now, without Pastor, it is especially important that all of us call and visit our sisters and brothers to let them know we care and are willing to help.
- **Free Community Suppers**—This year about **620** meals were served to members of our community, bringing the total since the mission was started in Feb. 2009 to over 8,000 meals. Wally Lowth and Dirk Norwich. lead this effort and we thank them so much for helping our church reach out to so many. Thanks also to all team leaders and workers. Surely this is a way to render loving service to our community and beyond.
- **Food Pantry Collection**—This annual food collection will be held at Brass’s Sure Fine on Nov.10th between 10am and 4pm. Please come and donate food or volunteer to work with us in asking others for food or monetary donations for the PAC Food Pantry. Often people who donate are quite generous and thank us for providing them with a way to reach out to those who need a boost.

- **Christmas Tree Tour and Cookies**—In rendering loving service to the children and staff at Arcade Building of the Pioneer Central School we make lots of kids happy with yummy Christmas cookies and a tour of our Sunday School rooms, as well as a story. This year Women’s Fellowship, reportedly had a grand old time mixing, cutting, baking and decorating over 800 Christmas cookies together. Thanks so much, Women’s Fellowship, for those cookies and for volunteering to do it again this year!
- **Picnic in the Park**—On August 26th our annual outdoor worship service was held in the park with special music from Far Cry. With this coinciding with Pastor Bob’s retirement party, we had plenty of family and friends attending. Please help to spread the word about this joyful outdoor worship service, so we have many people to enjoy it with each year. There always is plenty of food!
- **Plymouth Crossroads and Bluesfest**—Dirk Norwich organized an outreach that our committee began last year. Bluesfest is the major fundraiser for Plymouth Crossroads, a mission of our UCC denomination that benefits homeless youth in the Buffalo area. With the congregation’s help we were able to send \$351 to this worthy cause. Thank you, Dirk, for all you do.

Many thanks to everyone at Arcade UCC for all the outreach you do. “Rendering service to humankind” is a tall order to be both Human and Kind, as our signboard reminded us several weeks ago!

Love and Blessings,

*Sheila Vrenna, Chair*

**MEMORIAL COMMITTEE**

Balance as of October 1, 2017	\$3,978.98
Interest earned	\$43.26
Deposits	<u>\$1,610.00</u>
TOTAL	\$5,632.24
Withdrawals	\$-1,854.70
Balance on September 30, 2018	\$3,777.54

Donations were made this year in memory of Robert Wood, John Common, Diana Stiles, Robert Holmes, Mary Lee Harnden, and Patricia Scott. Ten new leaves were added to the Tree of Life, and the Memorial Fund paid for new Godly Play materials and part of the Christmas cantata.

Respectfully submitted,

*Debi Lutz*

## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Unless otherwise specified by the donor, the principal amounts of gifts to the Endowment Fund are retained and preserved, and only the income earnings from the managed investments of the principal may be spent.

Of these total earnings, one-half **may** be spent annually for a specific project or program, and at such other times as deemed necessary and/or feasible for capital improvements and/or major buildings and grounds maintenance programs of the church. These funds may roll over from year to year. The current balance is \$5,466.66.

This Year's Disbursements:

Remodeling Downstairs Bathrooms	\$3,308.21
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One fourth shall be spent annually for outreach into the Community, Western New York State and Overseas. These funds **must** be allocated annually. The current balance is \$2,154.49, which must be spent by the end of 2018.

This Year's Disbursements:

Dunkirk Conference Center	\$200
PAC Food Pantry	\$200
St. Luke's Mission of Mercy	\$150
NY Help (Honduras)	\$300
Pioneer PRO (Giving Tree)	\$250
Plymouth Crossroads	\$200
Genesis House, Olean	\$200
Pastor's Discretionary Fund.	\$400
Springville League for the Handicapped	\$300

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,200</b>
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One-fourth **may** be spent annually for any purpose listed above. These funds may roll over from year to year. The current balance is \$12,677.36.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Beverly Giles, Chair*  
*Randy Lutz, Treasurer*

## **BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

### October 2017

- The kitchen faucet was repaired.
- The shrubs were pruned.
- The fall festival sign was put up.
- The inside mouse traps were baited.
- The sanctuary roof was repaired.
- The Janitor's room faucet was repaired.
- The lawns were mowed.

### November 2017

- The outside mouse traps were baited.
- The curb stops were moved for plowing.
- The sidewalks and steps were shoveled.

### December 2017

- The basement bathrooms were renovated.
- The basement hallway and both stairways were painted.
- The sidewalks and stairs were shoveled.

### January 2018

- The sidewalks and stairs were shoveled.
- Preventative maintenance was performed on the boiler.

### February 2018

- The sidewalks and stairs were shoveled.

### March 2018

- A faucet in the annex woman's room was repaired.
- The hot water tank in the kitchen was turned down.
- The sidewalks and stairs were shoveled.

### April 2018

- The curb stops in the parking lot were re-positioned.
- An estimate was received to repair the annex front windows that were damaged when a car ran into them.
- The sidewalks and stairs were shoveled.

### May 2018

- The dishwasher was repaired.
- The broken annex windows were replaced.
- The outside spring cleanup was completed.
- The front and rear annex windows were power washed.
- The lawn was mowed.

### June 2018

- Weeding was done on the west side of the church.
- The lawn was mowed.

### July 2018

- The lawns were mowed.

### August 2018

- Weeds around the church and annex were sprayed.
- Some of the shrubs were pruned.
- The lawn was mowed.

### September 2018

- The remainder of the plants around the church was pruned.
- Asphalt was added to the back parking lot, by the annex, to bring the grade back up where it had sunk.
- The handicap ramp was removed from the west side of the church.
- The lawn was mowed.

Many thanks to the members of the committee: Darwin Anneler, Gordon Comstock, Peter Roll, Randy Lutz, and Lary Schaefer for their hard work. Also, thanks to Debi Lutz [light bulb replacement], and Ginger Comstock [spring cleanup] for their assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mike Giles, Chairman*

## WORKERS UNION

### WORKERS UNION ANNUAL REPORT – 2017-2018

Checking Account Balance 10/1/2017 \$ 1,170.58

**Income:**

Pennies for People	\$ 17.50
Misc. Deposit	49.50
Putnam (Diversified A)	303.09
Putnam (High Yield A)	712.44
Southern Company	<u>311.52</u>

**TOTAL INCOME** \$ 1,394.05

\$ 2,564.63

**Disbursements:**

Upper Room	\$ 27.50
NY/Help	100.00
Community Action	100.00
Basket for Fall Festival	50.00
Snack Packs for Kids (school)	50.00
Stamps	4.90
Pennies for People	40.00
Friends of the NY Conference	100.00
NY Conference UCC (OGHS)	100.00
Gifts	550.00
Salvation Army	50.00
League for the Handicapped	50.00
Neighbors in Need (for disaster)	200.00
NY/HELP (for Pastor Hobbs)	<u>50.00</u>

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS** \$ 1,472.40

Five Star Bank Checking Account Balance 9/30/18 \$ 1,092.23  
(Cash on hand \$44.00)

Respectfully submitted,

*Sharon Hawley, Treasurer*

## MARY HOSFORD FISHER WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Total of Checking and Savings	\$6,279.38
Quilt Fund Reserved for Scholarships	\$3,253.30
Available Funds	\$3,026.08

Women's Fellowship is comprised of women from our congregation who wish to serve God in our church, in our community and in wider missions by organizing several fundraisers each year. Our main fundraising events are the Fall Festival Bazaar, sale of RADA products, Homemade Candy Sales and the Quilt Raffle. We are grateful to many other members of the congregation for stepping up to help us in these efforts. Fifteen percent of the profits from the Fall Festival Bazaar are deposited into the general fund. The proceeds from the Quilt Raffle are used to fund college scholarships.

Responding to the needs of our church family and the community, as well as missions, we have been able to provide the following in the past fiscal year.

Donations in the amount of \$700.00 were made to the following missions:

- Angel Action
- Heifer Project International
- N Y Help a Child
- PAC Food Pantry
- Wings Flights of Hope

We were also able to fund the following:

Share of Profits from Fall Festival Bazaar	\$200.00
Donated to the General Fund	
Funeral Luncheon – Hosted 3 and Provided Take Out Food for 3	
Generous donations were made by family members for some of the luncheons this year, resulting in minimal grocery expenses for WF.	
Desserts and some food items were provided by WF members and others.	
Kitchen staples and paper products were supplied by WF.	
Kitchen Replacement Equipment, Supplies	\$197.13
and Coffee Hour Staples	
Provided Homemade Cookies for the Elementary School's	
Christmas Walk Through	
Christmas Gifts of Appreciation for Staff	\$300.00
Kathy May's Recognition Coffee Hour	\$67.99
Pastor Dievendorf's Retirement Gift	\$105.40
Fall Festival Basket	\$25.00
College Scholarship – Josh Taylor	\$500.00
Dunkirk Camp Scholarship – Nick Tillinghast	\$100.00

PAC Advent and Lenten Luncheons were provided and prepared by Women's Fellowship members.

The total proceeds from the May rummage sale and basket raffle, in the amount of \$1,317.00, were directly deposited into the general fund. Vintage and antique items that did not sell were taken by Sheila and Jim Vrenna to their booth at the Arcade Junction. The Vrennas are continuing to sell them and make deposits to the General Fund of Arcade UCC. The proprietor is graciously not charging us anything for the separate inventory number assigned to us. Thanks to Jim Vrenna for appraising and all of those who donated and/or shopped.

Women's Fellowship welcomes every woman from our congregation. Meetings are held the first Monday of every month from September to May at 1 pm in the Great Room. We encourage all women affiliated with Arcade UCC to attend. We also welcome your input and suggestions.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Women's Fellowship*

2017-2018 Officers:

Co-Chairs – Suzanne Norton and Sharon Hawley  
Secretary – Liz Lowth  
Assistant Secretary – Margaret Homan  
Treasurer – Bev Giles  
Assistant Treasurer – Shirley Kriedeman  
Devotions – Gwen St. John

### **NY/HELP HONDURAS**

Since 1989, NY/HELP Honduras (a project of the NY Conference of the United Church of Christ) has been working with the indigenous people of La Laguna and surrounding communities to help them empower and improve their lives in these remote mountain communities. This year, 2018, we have had both successes and difficulties. A mission trip was scheduled for February 2018 but was postponed several times because of widespread unrest after the disputed Honduran presidential election in late January. This trip finally occurred in June, when five folks finally traveled to the mountainous area. The trip was greatly facilitated by the organizational work done by our coordinator, Joel Ramirez. (One big advantage: two of the group's members – Rev. Justo González and Shelsea Ochoa – were fluent in Spanish!)

This trip accomplished several objectives: NY/HELP's sewing project is progressing

nicely. A dozen women from six villages, completed their year-long sewing course under the tutelage of Aracely Garcia, a skilled seamstress from the village, and graduated, wearing skirts and blouses they had designed and sewn themselves. The next stage of the project will be to purchase six more sewing machines (treadle-powered because of the lack of electricity!) which will be shared amongst the villages. We are encouraging the development of self-sufficiency in this project, perhaps starting with the making of new school uniforms for the primary students. Connie Frisbee Houde is deeply involved in stitching together this project.

Our school projects continue: scholarships for 19 students in the Centro Básico (middle school); Judy Toner organized distribution of desperately needed school supplies, and Scott Reinhart is developing a continuing-education program for the primary school teachers, many of whom have not had training in education. Finally, the “lower villages” of the tribe are beginning to work with NY/HELP to see if a second Centro Básico could be constructed down in the valley on the other side of the mountain. This would serve the students in the valley, who otherwise have to walk 4-5 miles uphill to get to the current middle school in Mataderos.

The medical clinic continues to serve the people of the tribe, under the care of our nurse, Mirtila Garcia.

Plans for 2019 include a mission trip next February, where we would like to work with the lower communities of the tribe on a new Centro Básico; continue working with the sewing project on ways to make the program self-sufficient; continue support for the primary school teachers as they begin a new school year; and of course, continue support for the clinic.

NY/HELP's mission trips have given a dozen members of our congregation the chance to see how “showing our faith by our actions” has affected people thousands of miles away. If you are interested in participating in this mission experience, contact Gordon or Ginger Comstock!

Respectfully submitted,

*Gordon Comstock, MD*

## WORSHIP/MUSIC COMMITTEE

“Worship is a way of seeing the world in the light of God.” --Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:** Worship is one of the central elements in the life of this church and the lives of many members of this congregation. Our church members have varied religious pasts and experiences with regards to worship services. Coordinating with the Pastor, the committee tries its best to make the worship service meaningful to all. Behind the scenes to make the worship experience meaningful and make church “happen” there are readers, liturgists, greeters, acolytes, Communion servers, ushers and worship facilitators. If I have missed mentioning something it is because worship is a very busy and demanding but meaningful experience within our church walls.

### **SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES AND OPPORTUNITIES:**

- **Bible Study:** Wednesday Evenings 7pm; Lenten studies “ Jesus’ Final Week” (February 14, 2018 – March 21, 2018) begin @ 6:30pm, light soup supper
- **Fall Sermon Series:** The Lord’s Prayer along with the Cantata: Our Father: A Journey Through the Lord’s Prayer by Pepper Choplin, September 17<sup>th</sup> through October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.
- **Hanging of the Greens:** Nov. 26, 2017
- **Advent:** Sermon series “Peaceable Kingdom”
- **PAC Advent Services and Luncheons:** Wednesdays, 11am at Hope Lutheran (December 6, 2017- December 20, 2017)
- **Children’s Pageant:** December 10, 2017:  
Participants: Brody and Bryson King, Payton, Adam and Jacob Romance, Ellie and Christian Lang, Nathan and Nick Tillinghast.
- **Christmas Cantata:** December 17, 2017 at 3pm Joy: A Gospel Celebration of Christmas by Joel Raney; Conductor: Dona Roll; Accompanist: Laurie Sledge
- **Christmas Eve;** 7pm service. Lessons and Carols.
- **Souper Bowl of Caring (F.I.S.H.)** February 4, 2018; \$325, 275+ food items collected for the Arcade Food Pantry
- **Baptisms:** 2/11/18-Adaline Gertis- Daughter of Brad and Stacey Gertis; Granddaughter of Debi & Randy Lutz, 5/20/18- Elliana and Christian Lang; children of Darlene Lang, 8/26/18- Crew Caldwell Son of Blake and Courtney Caldwell; Great-Grandson of Deb Wood
- **PAC Lenten Services and Luncheons:** Wednesdays, 11am @ Hope Lutheran (February 14, 2018-March 14, 2018)
- **Holy Week-** 7pm Good Friday March 30, 2018 @ Yorkshire Free Methodist; Palm Sunday March 25, 2018 many scripture readings and reflections
- **Easter Sunday-** April 1, 2018; 10:30 service

- **PAC Easter Cantata:** March 25, 2018; 3pm- Our Father: A Journey Through the Lord's Prayer by Pepper Choplin; directed by Dona Roll and accompanied by Donna Warner (Organ) and Jared Burch (Keyboard). New St. Mary's Catholic Church, Arcade NY.
- **Children's Sunday:** May 20, 2018: Love of Children
- **Confirmation:** May 20, 2018; Elliana Lang and Payton Romance
- **55th NY Annual Meeting "Building Faithful Community Boldly":** June 8-9, 2018; Syracuse, NY; 3 people attended; Dr. Gordon and Ginger Comstock and Dona Roll
- **Pulpit Supply:** *May 6:* Love of Neighbor – "He Can't Even Say His Name" – Excerpt from Rob Bell's: What Is the Bible?  
*September 2:* Hymn Sing  
*September 9:* Rich Vogt  
*September 16:* Rally Day: F.I.S.H.- Mission Trip Recap- "Love Wins"; Breakfast at 9am. Sign up for Sunday School  
*September 23:* Budget Hearing, Far Cry Sunday. Service called "building your Ebenezer"; also think about where we'd like to go – building our future?  
*September 30:* Mission Sunday (Dona, Gordon and Ginger)
- **WNY Boston Work Trip:** July 16, 2018- July 22, 2018 "Love Wins" adult leader: Vanessa Adams, Junior Leader: Autumn Osburn, Youth attendees: Elli Lang, Payton Romance, Nathan and Nick Tillinghast- Boston MA
- **All-Church Picnic:** August 26, 2018 10:30am; Pastor Bob's last service, Rev. Scott Thomas, WNYACIC Church & Ministry and Rev. Ryan Henderson, Associate Conference Minister, in attendance. Retirement open house following picnic at the park cabin.

**CHOIR/MUSIC:** Our music program, under the leadership of Dona Roll, continues to be a source of inspiration and joy. The choir sings a variety of anthems and cantatas—stand up and clap to the most beautifully somber. We thank Dona and Laurie Sledge, our organist, for all of their efforts. Regular participants: **Sopranos:** Vanessa Adams, Linda Korczak, Leanne Pokigo, Helena Vogt, **Altos:** Lois Anneler, Penny Rutledge, Jo Sixt, **Tenors:** Autumn Osburn **Bass:** Harvey Roll, Rich Vogt. We thank all of our special friends who joined us throughout the year; Pastor Bob, Kim Common, Karen Mensing, Becky Roll, Denielle Romance and the Zehr family. We appreciate their musical gifts so willingly shared throughout the year and hope that new members feel free to join to praise God through song. No musical experience necessary! Join any time throughout the church year. Rehearsal is Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary 6pm-7pm and before services. Soloists and small groups are always welcome. The choir sings most Sundays plus Christmas and also participates in other church events that call for music.

**FAR CRY:** They are a team of artists leading people into the presence of God through music and worship. They continue to enrich our worship life on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. Regular members: Guitar/Vocals: Skip Tillinghast, Keyboard/Vocals: Dona Roll. Vocals: Vanessa Adams and Denielle Romance.

**LOOKING FORWARD:** We appreciate everyone's patience throughout the coming year. We are striving to have meaningful worship during this time of transition. We welcome your feedback and suggestions on things you would like to see included in the way we worship. Please contact Vanessa Adams or any member of our committee.

**THANK YOU:** One of the things that are irreplaceable is your time. You can't go back in time, you can't buy more time, you get to use time only once and then it is gone. The Worship Committee would like to express deep appreciation for the many persons who have facilitated our worship experience.

*We offer worship as an outpouring of gratitude and awe and a practice of opening ourselves to God's still, small voice of comfort, to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge. Through word, music, art, and sacrament, in community and in solitude, God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world.*

*We sing with trust. Scripture is our song for the journey, the living word passed on from generation to generation to guide and inspire, that we might wrestle a holy revelation for our time and place from the human experiences and cultural assumptions of another era. God calls us to be doers of the word and not hearers only.*

From A Song of Faith: A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada (2006)

Sincerely in Christ's Peace and Love,

*Vanessa Adams, Chair; Ginger Comstock, Secretary; Ryan Bechdel, Margaret Homan, Helena and Rich Vogt. Ex officio: Reverend Robert C. Dievendorf (October 2017- August 2018), and Dona Roll – choir director*

## 2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORTS

### GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT #xxx-xx532-8 AT FIVE-STAR BANK

<b>Beginning balance on 10/1/17</b>		<b>\$76.98</b>
<u>Regular Income</u> (see budget spreadsheet)	\$129,292.39	
<u>Pass-Through Income</u>		
Benevolences	\$5,281.89	
Office/Administration	\$10,675.55	
Pastoral Administration	\$456.54	
Worship/Music Ministry	\$292.39	
Christian Education Ministry	\$823.00	
Outreach Ministry	\$1,851.00	
Buildings & Grounds	<u>\$5,424.31</u>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$154,097.07</b>	
<i>Our income figures are checked every month against the bank statement. Amy Tillinghast, Financial Secretary, and Jeff Mason, Treasurer</i>		
<u>Regular Expenditures</u> (see budget spreadsheet)	\$120,740.86	
<b>Transferred to Savings</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	
<u>Pass-Through Expenditures</u>		
Benevolences	\$5,360.89	
Office/Administration	\$6,937.96	
Pastoral Administration	\$456.54	
Worship/Music Ministry	\$292.39	
Christian Education Ministry	\$761.00	
Outreach Ministry	\$2,019.57	
Buildings & Grounds	<u>\$4,096.40</u>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$145,665.61</b>	
<b>Ending balance on 9/30/18</b>		<b>\$8,508.44</b>

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Unspent pass-through money on October 1, 2018	\$1,280.04	
Amount from 10/1/17 spent by 9/30/18	(\$562.89)	
Amount from 10/1/17 remaining on 9/30/18	\$717.15	
New unspent pass-through money from 17-18	\$5,442.82	
Unspent pass-through money on Sept. 30, 2018	<u>\$6,159.97</u>	

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### CHURCH INVESTMENT ACCOUNT #xxxx-6141 AT TRUBEE, COLLINS CO.

Account beginning balance on 10/1/17	\$31,365.96
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**Parsonage/pastor's housing sub-account**

Beginning balance on 10/1/17	\$14,802.35
Interest income	\$108.76
Unrealized losses in value	(\$170.20)
Management fees	(\$162.40)
<b>Ending balance on 9/30/18</b>	<b>\$14,578.51</b>

**Regular savings sub-account**

Beginning balance on 10/1/17	\$8,585.34
Interest income	\$89.14
Deposits	\$5,000.00
Unrealized losses in value	(\$144.81)
Management fees	(\$138.16)
<b>Ending balance on 9/30/18</b>	<b>\$13,391.51</b>

**FISH (youth) sub-account**

Beginning balance on 10/1/17	\$1,560.34
Interest income	\$11.89
Payments for mission trip	(\$669.00)
Unrealized losses in value	(\$17.86)
Management fees	(\$17.04)
<b>Ending balance on 9/30/18</b>	<b>\$868.33</b>

**Music Fund sub-account**

Beginning balance on 10/1/17	\$480.74
Interest income	\$45.05
Withdrawals for music	(\$443.40)
Unrealized losses in value	(\$1.34)
Management fees	(\$1.28)
<b>Ending balance on 9/30/18</b>	<b>\$79.77</b>

**Insurance claim sub-account**

Beginning balance on 10/1/17	\$1,254.37
Interest income	\$2.85
Withdrawal for shingle repair	(\$1,257.22)
Unrealized losses in value	(\$0.00)
Management fees	(\$0.00)
<b>Ending balance on 9/30/18</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Community dinner sub-account**

Beginning balance on 10/1/17	\$732.69
Interest income	\$7.02
Unrealized losses in value	(\$10.98)
Management fees	(\$10.48)
<b>Ending balance on 9/30/18</b>	<b>\$718.25</b>

**Memorial Fund sub-account**

Beginning balance on 10/1/17	\$3,950.13
Interest income	\$45.47
Deposits	\$1,000.00

Payments for memorials	\$1,265.00
Unrealized losses in value	(70.72)
Management fees	(\$67.48)
<b>Ending balance on 9/30/18</b>	<b>\$3,592.40</b>

**Account ending balance on 9/30/18 \$33,228.77**

As of September 30, 2018, the value of this account is allocated as follows: \$4,261.92 in cash and cash equivalents; \$5,816.00 in exchange traded funds (ETFs); and \$23,150.85 in socially responsible mutual funds.

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**ENDOWMENT INVESTMENT ACCOUNT #xxxx-0023 AT TRUBEE, COLLINS & CO.**

**Account beginning balance on 10/1/17 \$228,854.02**

Money fund value on 10/1/17	\$539.01
Money fund value on 9/30/18	\$1,410.35
Mutual fund value on 10/1/17	\$228315.01
Mutual fund value on 9/30/18	\$219,215.68
Fixed income value on 10/1/17	\$0.00
Fixed income value on 9/30/18	\$19,946.40

**Account ending balance on 9/30/18 \$240,572.43**

**Value of Endowment Fund CD at the UCC Cornerstone Fund \$40,017.17**

**TOTAL VALUE OF ENDOWMENT FUND ON 10/1/17 \$268,871.19**

**TOTAL VALUE OF ENDOWMENT FUND ON 9/30/18 \$280,589.60**

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**ELLIS COOPER MUSIC FUND CD #xx-xxxx8002**

**AT UCC CORNERSTONE FUND**

**Beginning balance on 10/1/17 \$2,000.21**

Interest earned	\$43.95
Deposited in Trubee, Collins account	(\$43.95)

**Ending balance on 9/30/18 \$2,000.21**

We have a 36-month CD at 1.525 percent interest that will expire on April 23, 2020. Interest is paid quarterly and is directly deposited in the Trubee, Collins account.

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**GRANTS**

- Received a \$1,500 Western Area grant for the community dinners in 2015-16. As of September 30, \$573.96 remains from the grant.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Jeff Mason, Treasurer*













## THE NOMINATIONS REPORT - October 2018

### PASTOR PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Charles W. Hobbs

#### OFFICERS: (Elected Annually)

Moderator:  
Clerk:  
Assistant Clerk:  
Treasurer:  
Assistant Treasurer:  
Financial Secretary:  
Assistant Financial Secretary:  
Historian:

**2018-2019**  
\*Dona Roll  
Liz Lowth  
Helena Vogt  
Jeff Mason  
Margaret Homan  
Amy Tillinghast  
Randy Lutz  
Jeff Mason

### CHURCH COUNCIL

Dirk Norwich  
Nathan Tillinghast

Leanne Pokigo

Wally Lowth  
Rich Vogt  
\*Kim Common

Vanessa Adams – Search Committee Liaison

#### DELEGATES (Elected Annually)

UCC State Conference  
UCC Western Area (4 persons)

Vanessa Adams, Ginger Comstock  
Vanessa Adams, Ginger Comstock,  
Dirk Norwich, \_\_\_\_\_

Pioneer Assoc. of Churches (PAC) Margaret Homan, Shirley Kriedeman, Dona Roll (Alternate)

#### COMMITTEES (Elected and/or Appointed Annually)

Endowment: Molly Holland, Dona Roll, Bev Giles  
Randy Lutz, \*Margaret Homan, \*Gwen St. John

Memorials: Gwen St. John, Molly Holland and Debi Lutz

### STANDING COMMITTEES

Outreach: Sheila Vrenna (Chair), Liz Lowth (Secretary), Jo Sixt, Wally Lowth,  
Dirk Norwich

Worship/Music: Vanessa Adams, Helena Vogt, Ginger Comstock, Ryan Bechdel,  
Margaret Homan, Rich Vogt, Dona Roll (ex-officio)

Christian Education: Jim Vrenna, Sheila Vrenna, Liz Lowth, \*Debi Lutz, \*Shannon King,  
\*Rich Vogt, \*Dona Roll, Deb Wood (ex-officio)

Stewardship: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Building/Grounds: Mike Giles, Lary Schaefer, Darwin Anneler, Gordon Comstock, Randy  
Lutz, Peter Roll

Finance: Jeff Mason (Treasurer), Amy Tillinghast (Financial Secretary)

### OTHER COMMITTEES

Global Missions: Gordon Comstock, Ginger Comstock, Dona Roll

**Agenda for the 206<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
And  
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Annual Report**

**October 28, 2018**

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III.	Review and adoption of 2017-2018 reports from:	
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IV.	Review and adoption of 2017-2018 financial reports	
	Financial Reports	23-25
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VI.	Review and adoption of 2018-2019 budget	
	Budget	28-31
VII.	Nomination and election of officers	
	Nominations Report	32
VIII.	Other new business	
IX.	Adjournment	

Cover photos: Top left photo taken of the United Church of Christ, Congregational, Arcade in 2017. Top right photo is from Pastor Bob Dievendorf's last service before his retirement, August 26, 2018; the presentation of the gift given by the congregation. The bottom left photo is from the Inter-generational Godly Play service on October 7, 2018. The bottom right photo is the induction of the Search Committee on September 30, 2018.

