

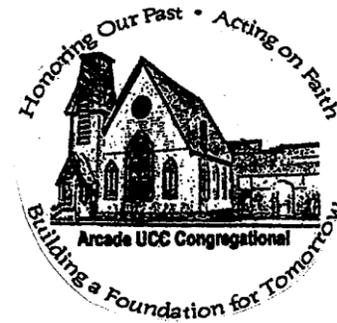
The Carillon

United Church of Christ, Congregational

(585) 492-4530

Editor: Kathy May

March 2015



I guess some would say I have too much time on my hands. But the fact is, sometimes I just wonder about strange things. For instance, I've often wondered (and I thank Pope Francis for finally settling this for me) *do pets go to heaven?* Or, how does a delicate budding flower manage to protrude through something like a concrete driveway? Or, why is it colder in Buffalo, NY than in Anchorage, AK? Well, I have another query for ponderance: why is this season of the Christian year called *LENT*? I thought lent is something you did when you gave money to someone in anticipation of being paid in return?

After some searching, here's what I found. The word "Lent" comes from the old English, "lencten," which means "spring." In Middle English are derived the words, *lenten*, *lente*, *lent*; related to the Dutch, *lente*, the German, *lenz*, also rendered "spring." In Old German are found the related words: *lenzin*, *lengizin*, and *lenzo*, which probably comes from the same root as "long" and referring to "the lengthening days," as the earth moves from the winter solstice toward the spring equinox. In the Christian Church, Lent refers to the period of abstinence preparatory to the Feast of Easter. As this fast falls in the early part of the year, it became confused with the season, and gradually the word Lent, which originally meant spring, was confined to this liturgical use. The Latin name for the fast is *Quadragesima* derived from the Sunday which was the fortieth day before Easter.

So, it was through confusion of the human mind that our liturgical season of Lent is called "spring"! Okay! But maybe it wasn't so coincidental after all!!

What do you think of when you think of spring? Well, I think we would agree that newness, freshness, new starts would describe the word spring to most of us. It's that time of year when

trees begin to burst forth with new leaves, grass starts to green and lengthen, gardens are planted and perennials peek their colorful heads through the ground in a kaleidoscope of colors. It's that time of year when new life emerges from the winter's hiatus.

Lent is much the same. You see, it is during Lent that we Christians look toward a renewal of our very beings; a time when we self-examine and introspect that which challenges our relationship with God so that our foibles might be righted and our rightful relationship with God might be restored and renewed. Using the disciplines of Lent (self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love) we look to make right that which is wrong in us and focus on the new life that is ours through the death, the burial, the resurrection and the ascension of Jesus Christ!

Lent is the time when we prepare ourselves for the blessed promise of everlasting life that comes to us through the sacrificial love of Christ Jesus on the cross.

So you see, like so many, many things in life, I can see God's hand in the naming of Lent and not just the coincidental confusion of the human mind by our Christian forbears.

But whatever the reason for the name, let us be intentional in our disciplines this Lent so that we might journey through a more meaningful Lenten season and be blessed by the work we do to become more like those whom God has created us all to be.

Shalom,

Pastor Bob



If you or someone you know would like to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion at home, please let Kathy in the church office know. You may reach the church office at 585-492-4530 or via email at arc-ucc@juno.com.



Anyone from 9th grade up is invited to share with us in our music ministry. Rehearsal is at 8:45am on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm.

March Greeters

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Debi & Randy Lutz | 22 Wally & Liz Lowth |
| 8 Donna Horning | 29 Jeff Mason |
| | & Jeri Hobin |
| 15 Jim & Sheila Vrenna | |

March Readers

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| 1 Josh Taylor | 22 Rich Vogt |
| 8 Mike Tanner | 29 Sam Tillinghast |
| 15 Joel Ferry | |

March Nursery Schedule

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Deb Wood | 22 Amy Tillinghast |
| 8 Denielle Romance | 29 Shannon Hobin |
| 15 Kathy May | |

March Worship Coordinators

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Tom Scott | 22 Shirley Kriedeman |
| 8 Bev Giles | 29 Jo Sixt |
| 15 Margaret Homan | |

March Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Mike Tanner | 20 Barbara Comstock-King |
| 2 Bryson King | 21 Justin Romance |
| 5 Ryan Bechdel | 23 Lois Anneler |
| 17 Dan King | 24 Kelsey May |

Pastor's Fund

During the month of February contributions for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund have been given by Pastor Bob. This fund is used in helping area folk in times of need. Your donations are greatly appreciated and may be given to Pastor or mailed to the church, indicated for the Pastor's Fund.

March Bible Readings

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Gen 17:1-7, 15-16 | 22 Jer 31:31-34 |
| Psalm 22:23-31 | Psalm 51:1-12 |
| Rom 14:13-25 | Heb 5:5-10 |
| Mark 8:31-38 | John 12:2-33 |
| 8 Ex 20:1-17 | 29 Mark 11:1-11 |
| Psalm 19 | Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 |
| 1 Cor 1:18-25 | Phil 2:5-11 |
| John 2:13-22 | Mark 14:1-15:47 |
| 15 Num 21:4-9 | |
| Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 | |
| Eph 2:1-10 | |
| John 3:14-21 | |

Worship in March:

- March 1: 2nd Sunday in Lent
 The Sacrament of Holy Communion
 Scripture: Daniel 7: 13-14; Micah 4: 1-7
 Revelation: 18: 1-2, 9-13, 17-20
 Sermon: *Praying for Heaven*
- March 8: 3rd Sunday in Lent
 The Sacrament of Holy Communion
 Scripture: Exodus 16:1-4; Isaiah 58:10-12
 John 6: 1-12, 32-35
 Sermon: *Praying for Provision*
- March 15: 4th Sunday in Lent
 The Sacrament of Holy Communion
 Scripture: Colossians 2: 13-14
 Matthew 6: 9-15
 Sermon: *Praying for Relationships*
- March 22: 5th Sunday in Lent
 The Sacrament of Holy Communion
 Scripture: Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-6; 4: 1-8
 Matthew 4: 1-11
 Sermon: *Praying for Faithfulness*
- March 29: 6th Sunday in Lent
 Palm Sunday
 The Sacrament of Holy Communion
 Scripture: Mark 11: 1-11
 Sermon: *Ripe for What?*

LENTEN WORSHIP

During Lent, we will have the opportunity for several special times of gathering in our church and in our community. Our Wednesday Lenten services continue at Hope Lutheran Church. March 4, 11, 18 & 25 we will gather for worship at 11am followed by a luncheon, hosted each week by one of our PAC churches. This year's theme for worship will be *Facing the Cross*.

Then, at Arcade UCC, we will gather **each Wednesday evening at 6:30pm** for a Soup and Bread Supper followed by a Lenten Bible Study (March 4, 11, 18 & 25) focusing on the Parables of Lent and our journey during this Holy Season.

Everyone is invited to share with us in this time of fellowship and learning. If you have any questions concerning any of our Lenten gatherings, please call the church office.



A Reminder: The 4th Sunday of every month is designated as "Food Pantry Sunday" at which time we receive non-perishable goods for our Arcade Food Pantry, sponsored by PAC. Please feel free to bring your items to worship with you on the 4th Sunday. Thank You.

Reminding You of an Opportunity!

It's painless and it's so easy – no strings, no fuss, no muss!! It's the opportunity YOU have to give to the church.

You know those refundable bottles and cans you accumulate and aren't quite sure what to do with or how to dispose of them? All you have to do is take them to *Isaac's Redemption Center* at 34 Liberty Street, Arcade, NY (bagged and rinsed clean). Tell them you wish for your refund to go to the UCC Church and instead of getting a refund for your cans/bottles, our church will get the monies AND our Church Council is considering matching these monies in some fashion. All these funds will be used for our Youth Ministry at Arcade UCC. If you are unable to get your cans/bottles to Isaac's yourself, call the church office and we will pick them up once a month and take them for you! How much easier could this be??

Won't you consider helping out our youth program? We sure would appreciate it!!! Thank you.

Game Night

Had enough of the winter blahs? We've got the perfect remedy!! On Thursday, March 19th (weather permitting), we invite you and your family and friends to a GAME NIGHT from 6-8 PM in Wetzel Hall. Bring along your favorite board game and some finger snacks to share (if you like). Then get together with others and just have a great time of fellowship and conversation and snacks!!

If you've not played a certain game before – that's okay! We'll teach you – just come along!! If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Bob. See you there!!!

Palm Sunday



During Worship on Sunday, March 29th (Palm Sunday) we will bless and distribute palms for everyone. Please join us on this special day as we recall Jesus' triumphant and joyous entry into the Holy City of

Jerusalem as a prelude to the events of Holy Week.

Then, that afternoon at the Arcade United Methodist Church, PAC will sponsor their annual **Palm Sunday Cantata**. This year, the cantata will be *Who Do You Say That I Am?* Cookies and punch will follow the presentation. Mark your calendars to join with us.

Potluck Luncheon

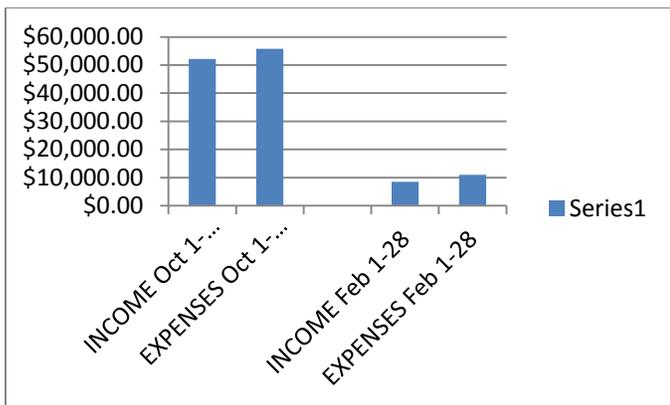
On Sunday, March 8, we will enjoy together our *2nd Sunday Pot Luck* immediately following worship. Please bring a dish to share. Table service will be provided as will drinks.

This is a great way to get to know each other a little better!! See you there.

Fundraiser!

Women's Fellowship is planning a Rummage Sale for Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2. All profits will go to the UCC General Fund.

Members of the congregation are encouraged to begin collecting items to donate as they do their spring cleaning. Household items as well as gently used baby and children's clothing will be welcome. Adult clothing cannot be accepted.



FINANCIAL NEWS

Our non-pass-through expenditures in February included \$5,577.48 pastor's salary and benefits; \$2,476.38 other salaries; \$635.76 elevator service; \$376.34 insurance; \$356.56 village utilities; \$336.84 gas bills; \$263 travel; \$245.54 copier lease; \$160 cleaning; \$150.90 candle oil; \$107.70 phones; \$87.50 plowing; \$79.98 online service; \$63.32 Sunday School expenses; \$59.61 front windows; and \$21.23 paper products.

Our young people presented the annual Souper Bowl of Caring service on Sunday, February 1. During the soup luncheon that followed the service, \$317.11 was raised for the PAC Food Pantry in Arcade.

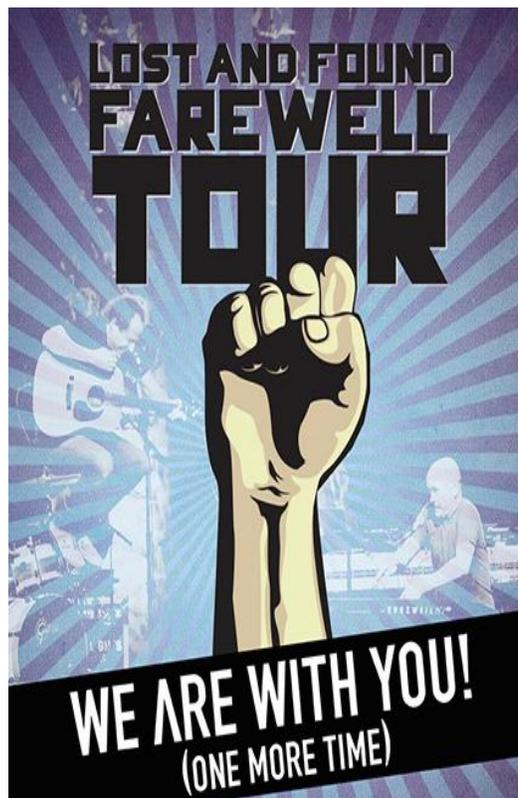
Although the weather on February 21 prevented some people from attending our church roast pork dinner, our church members purchased the "leftovers" after worship the next morning. The final bills are not in yet, but we expect our profit to be over \$800.

News of Our People

We extend our sympathy to Michael and Joel Ferry and their family on the death of Michael's mother, Doris Ferry, on February 8, to Dona Roll and her family on the death of her husband, David Cagwin, on February 12, and to Donna Horning, Jeri Hobin, Shannon King and families on the February 24 death of Donna's sister, Betty Whiting.

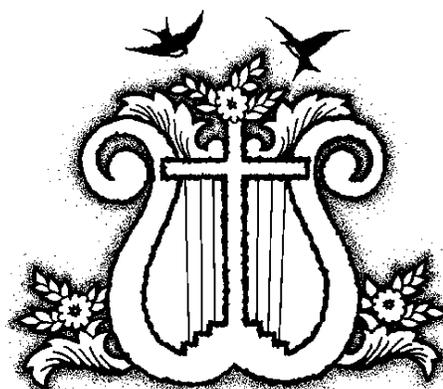
MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Shirley Kriedeman on her 40th anniversary of church membership on March 23 and to Diana Stiles on her 60th anniversary of membership on April 3!



You won't want to miss it! It's the farewell Concert of the nationally known Christian Team: *Lost and Found*. They will be performing in concert right here in Arcade at the Elementary School at 7pm on Saturday, March 28. Ticket information will be forthcoming.

Mark your calendars NOW and plan on joining us for this inspiring and fun-filled concert.



FOR YOU MAKE ME GLAD BY YOUR DEEDS,

O LORD;
I SING FOR JOY AT THE WORKS OF YOUR
HANDS.

P S A L M 9 2 : 4



Conrado Rivas, a farmer in Leyte, Philippines lost his crops and other means of livelihood during Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) in the Fall of 2013. The typhoon inflicted widespread damage in the Philippines – from Cebu to Manila.

As part of their recovery efforts, the United Church of Christ Philippines (UCCP) provides training to farmers who lost their crops in the storms. They receive seeds and learn new methods of growing food, including organic farming.

Farmer Rivas now has a crop that provides food for his family and brings in income year round.

The UCCP is a partner church of the United Church of Christ through Global Ministries. This disaster recovery is supported by gifts from One Great Hour of Sharing and special funds designated for Typhoon Haiyan Relief.

In 2013, the UCC received more than \$2.5 million through the offering and an additional \$1.8 million for specific relief efforts such as Typhoon Haiyan. Together we are responding to disasters in the United States and around the world.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering reaches those near and far, sometimes changing the life of someone in distress in your own community, while at other times impacting the lives of those we may never meet, such as Farmer Rivas. God provides the resources so that we can give back.

Our abundance becomes their need and their need becomes our abundance. What if we all lived as if this is our call?

We would change the world.

Will you give to One Great Hour?

Thank You

From the family that was sponsored by Women's Fellowship and our members this past Christmas:

I cannot thank you enough for all you have done for my children during this holiday season. I am so thankful you have made it easy to smile on this Christmas Day.

I am grateful that there are people as special as you who make Christmas so special and that go out of their way for a family in need.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart and wish you a wonderful Christmas and New Year!

March Gatherings

- 1 Palm Sunday Cantata Rehearsal – 1pm
Arcade United Methodist Church
- 2 Women's Fellowship – 1pm
- 3 Worship/Music - 6:30pm
- 4 Outreach – 1pm
- 4, 11, 18, 25 – Lenten Worship Services @ Hope Lutheran Church – 11am with luncheon following worship.
- 4, 11, 18, 25 – Choir Rehearsal – 6pm
- 4, 11, 18, 25 – Bible Study – Lenten Soup & Bread Supper @ 6:30pm, Bible Study – 7pm
- 8 Potluck luncheon – following worship
- 11 Workers Union – 1pm
- 11 Building & Grounds – 7pm
- 24 Council – 7pm
- 28 Community Dinner - 4-6:00pm
- 29 PAC Palm Sunday Cantata – 3pm – Arcade United Methodist Church

NOTE: Weight Watchers meets Wednesday evenings at 5:00pm in Wetzel Hall.

The Carillon is being compiled, printed and mailed by a committee of four – Audrey Erick, Margaret Homan, Marilyn Pirby and Sheila Vrenna. Please continue to watch for the deadline date for your articles and reports and give them to any of the above members. We hope to produce a quality newsletter. Any suggestions are welcomed. The deadline for the April issue is March 22, 2015.

The Carillon

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Office Hours: 9:00am – 3:00pm (T-Th)

Worship Schedule: 8:45am – Sunday School

9:00am Choir Rehearsal

10:30am Worship

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