

The Carillon

United Church of Christ, Congregational
(585) 492-4530

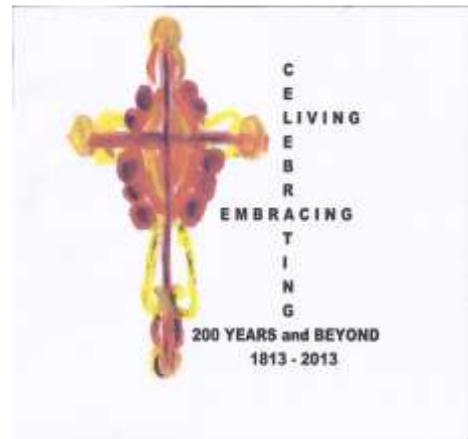
Editor: Marilyn Pirdy (585) 322-8823

May 2013

As May is rapidly approaching, we are gearing up for the splendors of this Merry Month. We anxiously and gratefully await the grandeur of the budding trees and shrubs, the lawns which are becoming green and increasingly lush, the birds busily gathering nesting materials for their about-to-be new families, and fields being diligently groomed and planted for the year's growing season. In addition to looking forward to experiencing all these splendors, I scan the calendar and can't help but think that May is really a month of **remembrance**. Let me share my reasoning, and perhaps you will agree.

May 1 is *May Day* – originally a day to remember the Haymarket Riot of 1886 in Chicago, Illinois. Even though the riot occurred on May 4, it was the culmination of unrest which began on May 1, thus it was remembered as a day of anarchy and socialist unrest. As time has progressed, however, May Day has become a day to commemorate the social and economic achievements of all the working class. Thus, we remember.

Then a little farther along in the month (on May 9) we commemorate the *ascension* (or heaven-bound raising) of our Lord Jesus, the Christ. From the *Book of Acts* we can deduce that Jesus proceeded to the right hand of God's heavenly throne from the Mount of Olives, a place within a day's journey from Jerusalem and from which many gospel accounts occurred (Jesus' procession into the Holy City on Palm Sunday, his teaching of the disciples, the agony and betrayal on Thursday evening of Holy Week in the Garden of Gethsemane among others). Occurring 40 days after Jesus' resurrection at Easter, Ascension Day is a time of joyful affirmation of his promise to his disciples (and to us) being fulfilled. The Book of Acts tells us Jesus told his disciples just before his ascension: "*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*" Hearing these words of our Savior and recognizing His rising into God's heavenly realm, Ascension Day truly **IS** a day to remember!



Then, just 3 days later in the month, we come to one of America's most favorite holidays – Mother's Day, May 12. On this day we honor our mothers – those persons who either by birth or by their actions are as mothers to us through love, kindness, compassion, caring, encouraging, and so much more. It's on this day we acknowledge our mother's influence on our lives, whether they are yet in our midst or have gone before us to God's heavenly realm. On this day also, we celebrate the blessing of the Christian Home. It's a special day, indeed – this day when we again remember our mothers!

And then, on May 27, we celebrate yet another day of tribute – Memorial Day. Originally called Decoration Day, instituted to memorialize those who gave their lives in the Union Army during the American Civil War, the day was expanded after World War I to include all who have died in any war or military action. In more recent years, Memorial Day has morphed, by tradition, into a day to fondly keep in mind all those who have died by decorating their graves with flowers and ornaments. Remembering is what Memorial Day is all about!

That's a lot of remembering, isn't it – at least for one month? But remembering is not just something we should do on special days set aside for that reason. It's something we should do, according to scripture, everyday!! Just as the Psalmist reminds us that God **remembers** His covenant (special promise) each day to be our God (Psalm 105.8) so must we – *just as often* – **remember** our special promise to be His people (Psalm 95.7) – to talk with God, listen to Him, be obedient in His directions, and put our full trust in Him (John 14.1). It's when we do this (to our fullest abilities) that our lives then become blessings – for God, for others, and for ourselves! And that's what **I** believe life is all about.

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.

May Greeters

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5 Lloyd & Helen Knose | 19 Pat Vadney & Shirley Kriedeman |
| 12 Kim Common | 26 Tom & Deb Scott |

May Readers

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 5 Marilyn Pirdy | 19 Sheila Vrenna |
| 12 Tom Scott | 26 Justin Romance |

May Nursery Schedule

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 5 Sharon Koch | 19 Stacey Lund |
| 12 Deb Wood | 26 Kathy May |

May Worship Coordinators

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 5 Bill Hall | 19 Bev Giles |
| 12 Wally Lowth | 26 Harv Roll |

May Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Rachel Boldt | 15 Alison Camp |
| 4 Ginger Comstock | 16 Katie Roll |
| 6 Adam Slocum | 17 Debi Lutz |
| 6 Andy Slocum | 19 Harv Roll |
| 8 Kelly Bechdel | 22 Caitlin Sopic |
| 9 Matt Roll | 29 Karen Shaper |
| 11 Gary Bray | 30 Kellie Schaefer |
| 11 Mike Giles | 31 Nathan Tillinghast |
| 12 Sandy Deinhart | |

May Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 1 | John & Kimberly Common – 3 yrs. |
| 1 | Liz & Wally Lowth – 43 yrs. |
| 10 | Glen & Molly Holland – 44 yrs. |
| 22 | Will & Audrey Erick – 31 yrs. |



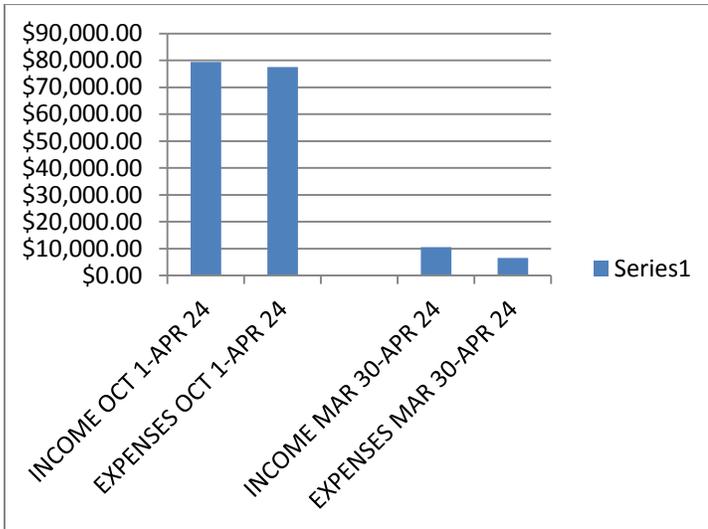
May Bible Readings

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 5 | Acts 16:9-15 | 19 | Acts 2:1-21 |
| | Psalm 67 | | Psalm 104:24-34, 35b |
| | Rev 21:10, 22-22:5 | | Rom 8:14-17 |
| | John 5:1-9 | | John 14:8-17, (24-27) |
| 12 | Acts 16:16-34 | 26 | Prov 8:1-4, 22-31 |
| | Psalm 97 | | Psalm 8 |
| | Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20,21 | | Rom 5:1-5 |
| | John 17:20-26 | | John 16:12-15 |

Worship in May:

- May 5: 6th Sunday of Easter
 The Sacrament of Holy Communion
 Scripture: Revelation 21: 10, 22-22.5
 John 14: 23-29
 Meditation: **Are You a Plum or a Pecan?**
- May 12: 7th Sunday of Easter
 Mothers' Day
 Ascension Sunday
 Festival of the Christian Home
 Scripture: Rev. 22:12-14,16-17,20-21
 Sermon: **Superwoman!**
- May 19: Pentecost Sunday
 Scripture: Acts 2: 1-21
 Sermon: **From THEY to WE**
- May 26: Trinity Sunday
 Memorial Day Sunday
 Scripture: Romans 5: 1-5
 John 16: 12-15
 Sermon: **Sealed With the Trinity**

FINANCIAL NEWS



Our non-pass-through expenses from March 30 through April 24 included \$2,516.48 pastor's salary and benefits; \$1,194.25 other salaries on April 15; \$1,049 workers compensation annual premium; \$362.50 routine maintenance; \$255 conference; \$254.30 copier; \$225 snowplowing; \$160 travel; \$133.20 phones; \$125 piano tuning; \$104.99 recognitions; \$96.45 bulletins; \$78.86 Easter lilies and breakfast; and 30.98 computer.

Thanks to everyone who donated to this year's Easter Memorial Blessings. The \$530 that was raised will go toward the expenses of our young people who will be spending a week in New Jersey in July to help with Hurricane Sandy relief efforts.

BICENTENNIAL NEWS

The Bicentennial Committee met on April 9 and firmed up dates and times for the next several months of Bicentennial events. You'll be hearing more details later, but please place the following dates on your calendar:

Sunday, June 2: Anniversary service highlighting the 1963-1988 period during morning worship.

Saturday, July 13: Bicentennial banquet at the Delevan Firefighters Training Center, with fellowship hour at 5:00pm and dinner at 6:00pm. Our UCC Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Marian Shearer, will join us.

Sunday, July 14: Anniversary service highlighting the 1988-2013 period during morning worship.

Sunday, July 21: our UCC New York Conference Minister, Rev. David Gaewski, will be with us for a special 4:00pm service.

Wednesday, July 24: our actual 200th anniversary date.

Sunday, September 15: our UCC General Minister and President, Rev. Geoffrey Black, will be with us for a special 4:00pm service.

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Congratulations to Jerry and Gwen St. John and their family on the recent births of Jerry and Gwen's three new great-grandchildren.

NEW PHONE SYSTEM

We recently switched to a new phone plan with Verizon Wireless that should save us quite a bit of money on our phone bills. The 585-492-4530 number remains the main church phone and will ring in the offices and Great Room.

The Council felt there should still be a landline phone in the kitchen/Wetzel Hall area in case of an emergency. That number is now 585-492-0942.

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 12 is **Mother's Day** – a time we set aside to recognize and celebrate all our mothers as well as those who are like mothers to us in what they do and say for us.

Here at UCC, Congregational it will be a special day indeed. We will start by having a Mother's Day Breakfast at **8:30am** for all mothers in our congregation and their guests (actually for everyone). The guest chefs for the morning will be the men of the church.

Following breakfast we will celebrate Mother's day in worship at our usual hour of **10:30am**. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for this special Mother's Day time together.



Choir Rehearsals: Do you like to sing? Is your heart full of praise for our Lord? Have you ever considered being a part of our choir at UCC, Congregational? We are always looking for additional voices in our choir, so why not consider coming out to our rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm and sharing the joy of praising God through song?

Religious Service Award

The Network of Religious Communities is an ecumenical group in Western New York comprised of all faiths, working in unity for programs emanating from God's unbiased love for *all* His children.

Each year, the NRC celebrates an Annual Appreciation Dinner, at which women and men are honored for their service to their respective religious and wider communities. This year, UCC, Congregational has nominated **Dona Roll** and **Sheila Vrenna** for this honor. The Appreciation Dinner will be held on Thursday, May 2 at Hearthstone Manor in Depew, beginning at 6pm.

Be sure to congratulate Dona and Sheila!

Pastor's Fund

Donations received during the month of April to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund of UCC, Congregational have been given by an anonymous donor, the UCC Endowment Committee, Frank Wood and Pastor Bob.

This fund is used at the Pastor's discretion to help area folk in times of special need, of which there have been many this year. All contributions are greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate, just send your check to the church, designated for the Pastor's Fund.



The Stewardship Committee would like to extend an invitation to all of our church family and friends to attend a **potluck dinner**, which will be followed by a short program. The date to mark your calendar is **May 19, 2013** immediately following the service. The Stewardship Committee will provide coffee and cold drinks as well as dinnerware and dessert. Please bring a dish to share and join us for fellowship and fun as we explore God's gifts to us!

Bulletin Scripture Inserts: Starting in June, the scripture bulletin inserts will no longer be our Sunday morning bulletins. If you would like to follow along with the readings each Sunday, we encourage you to follow the passages in the pew Bibles.

Memorial Day Parade

On Monday, May 27, our congregation is planning to participate in the Arcade Memorial Day parade in Arcade.

A float is being planned by several people from our congregation as we celebrate our 200th Anniversary.

You are each invited to share in watching the parade and cheering our float as it passes by. Watch the media for time and route of the parade!



Bible Study

Everyone is invited to join in our Wednesday evening Bible Studies. We gather at 7pm in the Great Room and share in reading, hearing and discussing God's Word.

We are stepping "outside the box" for a few weeks as we discuss and learn about some apocryphal texts: the Gospel of Mary Magdalene, The Gospel of Judas, the Gospel of Nicodemus, the Gospel of Thomas and the Gospel of Philip.

Please consider joining us, won't you?? We have fun and lots of fellowship.

WNYACIC Spring Meeting

The Spring meeting of our Western New York Area Churches in Covenant will be held on Sunday, May 5. This gathering will be hosted by Dunkirk Camp and Conference Center at Dunkirk from 1:30-5pm. This gathering will focus on the theme: **Celebrate! Recognize! Share the Joy!**

This gathering is not exclusively for delegates from our churches – it is for **everyone**. If you would like to attend, please see Pastor Bob **ASAP** for reservations and car-pooling. The cost is \$8 per person, and includes lunch. What a beautiful way to spend a Sunday afternoon – on the shores of Lake Erie.

Annual Conference

The Annual Meeting of our New York Conference, United Church of Christ will be held on June 7, 8 and 9 at Tarrytown, New York. Gordon & Ginger Comstock, Dona Roll and Pastor Bob will be attending from our church this year.

Please keep them and the entire conference in your prayers that a meaningful and spiritually uplifting time might be had.

Thank You to...

Dona Roll, Donna Warner and Audrey Erick for playing piano at our Holy Week Eucharistic Services, 9 am each day.

The Building and Grounds Committee for all the maintenance they have done throughout our grounds. Our Choir, organist Laurie Sledge and director Dona Roll for the spectacular Lenten and Easter music they have provided and continue to provide each worship service. Kathy May for everything she does for our church family as Office Manager. Though it is a little late, be sure to thank Kathy and wish her a Happy Administrative Assistant Day (April 24).

Thank you to JoAnn Sixt for purchasing the new coffee maker in the kitchen. This was purchased in memory of Jean Stokaylo.



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 on the 4th Sunday. Thank You.

COUNCIL CORNER

The April 23 meeting of the Arcade UCC Council was called to order at 7:00pm. Devotions were given by Bev Giles and based on Isaiah 40:31. Minutes from the March meeting were approved.

There were no questions on Pastor Bob's report. Ginger Comstock, Dona Roll and Pastor Bob will be attending the installation of our NY Conference minister, David Gaewski, in Schenectady on Saturday, April 27. Pastor will be performing a wedding on July 4. There are two requests for membership transfers to join Arcade UCC. Pastor Bob received a letter from Esther Sampson of the Allegany Bible Club. They host the religious education class that meets in Wetzel Hall on Friday afternoons. After 60 years, this will no longer be a release time activity, but an after school activity which will most likely shrink their program. Pastor will be attending a meeting at the school with Esther to hear what their reasons are for this change.

Jeff Mason presented his treasurer's report. Although pledges are falling behind slightly, we are still holding our own and it has not been necessary to borrow from our savings account as yet.

Frank Wood's Bereavement Support Group held their first two sessions on April 22. They will continue to meet every two weeks until the end of June.

Work will begin soon on updating our Policy Manual. An ad hoc committee will be formed for this purpose. The Youth Trip to New Jersey for Hurricane Sandy relief

is scheduled for July 22-28. There were no questions on the committee reports.

Following a closing prayer by Vanessa Adams, the meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Please pray for: Grace Gilbert, Sandy Deinhart, Linda Tomkiel, Ray Cagwin, Ron Deinhart, Gail Mikolajczhk, Bill Erick, Dorothy Warner, Ginny DeNise, Arline Martin, Kate Scriptor, Claire Mullins, Darla Mills, Nathan Lease, Lucille Drake, David Cagwin, Addison Rae Diate, Don Kensinger, Pierre Albrect-Carrié & family, Oliver Laub (Mike & Bev Giles one-year-old great nephew, brain cancer), Shirley Nellist (Carol Abel's sister), Joanne Lempges (Harv's niece), Justin Schuler (Lloyd & Helen Knose's grandsons) serving in Korea, Justin Schaefer, serving in Afghanistan.

May Calendar

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Choir – 6pm
 - 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Bible Study – 7pm
 - 2 Outreach – 6:30pm
 - 3 PAC Fish Fry – Hope Lutheran Church – 4:30pm
 - 4 UCC Concert Series – "Simple Faith" – 6pm
 - 6 Women's Fellowship – 1pm
 - 6 Bereavement Support Group – 1:30-3pm, 7-8:30pm
 - 7 Worship/Music – 7pm
 - 8 Workers Union – 1pm
 - 8 Building & Grounds – 7pm
 - 16 Anniversary Committee – 7pm
 - 18 Swiss Steak Dinner – United Methodist – 4:30pm
 - 25 Free Community Dinner – 4-6:30pm
 - 28 Council Meeting – 7pm
- NOTE:** Weight Watchers meets Wednesday evenings at 5:00pm in Wetzel Hall.

The Carillon is being compiled, printed and mailed by a committee of three – Audrey Erick, Marilyn Pirdy and Margaret Homan. 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 May issue is April 21, 2013.

Marilyn Pirdy

The Carillon

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- Office Phone:** (585)492-4530
- Office E-mail:** arc-ucc@juno.com
- Website:** arcadeucc.org
- Office Hours:** 9:00am – 3:00pm (T-Th)
- Worship Schedule:** 8:45am Sunday School
9:00am Choir Rehearsal
10:30am Worship

**Good Friends
Making Great
Music**

**May 4, 2013
6:00pm**

Simple Faith



**Featuring:
Julie Baker
Kerrie Pessia
Jamie Trask**

**Arcade United Church
of Christ
297 Main St
Arcade NY, 14009**

**Ice Cream Social
Immediately following
in Wetzel Hall**

Free Will Offering