

The Carillon

United Church of Christ, Congregational

(585) 492-4530

Editor: Kathy May

June 2017

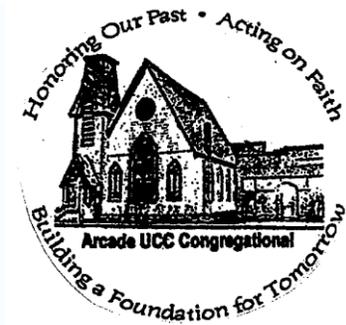
In Pastor Bob's absence, we asked Josh Taylor to share his winning "Voice of Democracy" essay with us for the June issue of "The Carillon." Thanks, Josh and congratulations!

Past. Present. Future. As I started considering "My Responsibility to America" these three words came to mind. We first need to understand the past before we can look to the future. We must acknowledge the positives and the negatives of our history especially since "history repeats itself." Respecting previous generations becomes imperative. We must understand their history - the personal sacrifices they made for their families and their country, the injustices they lived through and worked so diligently to correct, and the odds that they overcame to become productive parts of the American way of life.

Historically, we must also focus on learning about and remembering those who sacrificed to make America's future productive and promising. As I consider my obligations in the present tense, we cannot ignore the past. We must learn our history and tell and retell it to keep the memories of our past generations alive. We must never forget the atrocities of war and unrest whether domestic or foreign.

While young people today are not faced with the same responsibilities previous generations had such as government imposed conscription or rationing during wars, we still have the responsibility to respect and honor those people who served and those who still serve today. Both of my great grandparents served in World War II. My great-grandmother was, in fact, the first female veteran to join the VFW in New York State. It will be easy for me to pass on my family's service history, but my generation needs to help future generations remember all of America's past history, especially since our World War II veteran numbers are declining.

In 2016, the VFW Commander in Chief, on the occasion of the 150-year anniversary of Memorial Day wrote: "With each passing year, the significance of Memorial Day fades in the public mind." This effort to keep honoring, remembering and respecting those who



served America becomes one of my present-day and future responsibilities.

And what of my current personal responsibilities beyond remembering and passing on our history? I see my status as a high school student as a commitment to attain information that will allow me to be productive and use my knowledge as a pathway to the future. By educating myself, I can better serve my family, church, school, and community by promoting the ideals of those who fought on foreign soil to preserve our homeland freedoms. Those same values that will lead to tolerance, trustworthiness, and perseverance. I am obligated to assume responsibility for my own actions and to help others see beyond the rhetoric of social media to dictate their lives. I know many people believe that my generation only lives in the present but I hope to be a force with my peers to promote ethics and standards to root me, and them, as we become the future promise of America.

I will develop personal character which will show kindness to those who feel they do not fit into society and defend them when they face adversity. To paraphrase a military slogan, my primary responsibility currently is to "be the best person I can be" in order to help create a future America that can "be the best it can be."

And what of my, and your responsibility to America in the future? I must help prepare future generations for the changes we will meet by teaching them our past histories and serving as a role model. We need to regain our pride in personal achievement and accomplishment - by not relying on others for our emotional or financial support, and especially, not relying on a government to provide for us. We must provide for ourselves. While hand-outs are proven to be non-productive to society, a hand-up may be necessary for those who are unable to help themselves whether because of tragedies, or illnesses - physical or mental. A hand-up will be a promise of my responsibility to future generations.

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Another promise is to acknowledge service to others on a daily basis instead of only during those weekly, monthly awareness campaigns. I can do this even more subtly by displaying and respecting the American flag properly. I can continue supporting causes and organizations with membership, time and donations. I can also contribute to the promise of America with my responsibility to treat all people, whatever their station in life, with respect and reverence.

My responsibility to America is to work to adopt the same work ethic and resiliency that our past generations used to get them through hard times: economic depressions, separation from family members or unemployment. They became survivors rather than victims.

My responsibility to America is to promote knowledge of our past, prepare myself and others for the future, and perhaps, the most crucial responsibility I have, is to help produce a future which develops the growth and strength of America.



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 6pm.

June Greeters

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 4 Bill & Karen Schaper | 18 Jim & Sheila Vrenna |
| 11 Gordon & Ginger Comstock | 25 Tillinghast Family |

June Readers

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 4 Nathan Tillinghast | 18 Dona Roll |
| 11 Tom Scott | 25 Lois Anneler |

June Worship Coordinators

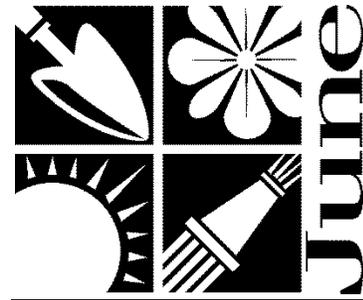
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|------------------|--------------|
| 4 Margaret Homan | 18 Bev Giles |
| 11 Ryan Bechdel | 25 Jo Sixt |

June Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Bev Giles | 14 Laurie Sledge |
| 4 Kimberly Common | 19 Bill Schaper |
| 4 Sharon Nichols | 21 Amy Tillinghast |
| 5 Terry Hobin | 24 Joel Ferry |
| 7 Shirley Mosher | 25 Sam Tillinghast |
| 7 Rich Vogt | 29 David Czesak |

June Anniversaries

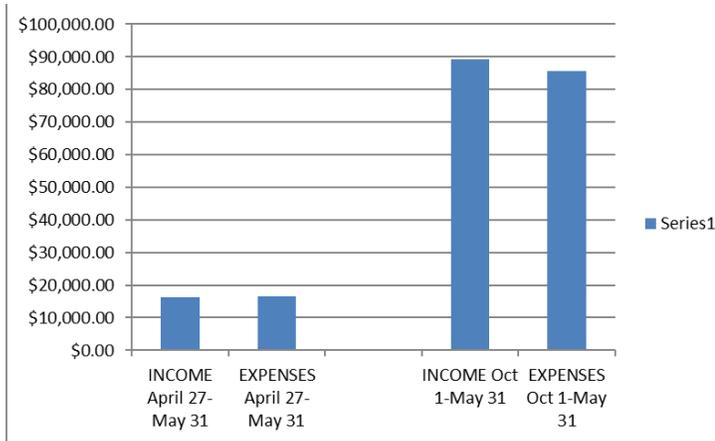
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|----------------------------------|
| 10 Art & Grace Gilbert – 67 yrs. |
| 15 Randy & Debi Lutz – 15 yrs. |
| 28 Wyn & Deb Roll – 37 yrs. |
| 30 Terry & Jeri Hobin – 44 yrs. |



June Bible Readings

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 4 Acts 2:1-21 | 18 Gen 18:1-15 |
| Psalm 104:24-34, 35b | Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 |
| 1 Cor 12:3b-13 | Rom 5:1-8 |
| John 20:119-23 | Matt 9:35-10:8 |
| 11 Gen 1:1-2:4a | 25 Gen 21:8-21 |
| Psalm 8 | Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 |
| 2 Cor 13:11-13 | Rom 6:1b-11 |
| Matt 28:16-20 | Matt 10:24-39 |

FINANCIAL NEWS



Our non-pass-through expenditures between April 27 and May 31 included \$8,501.62 pastor's salary and benefits; \$3901.66 other salaries on April 28 and May 15 and 31; \$1,400 part of our pledge to the national and state UCC; \$490.64 copier lease; \$439.59 elevator service; \$350 part of our support to the Western Area; \$310 village utilities; \$200 Pioneer Association of Churches; \$200 NY/HELP Honduras; \$194 gas bill; \$125 pulpit supply; \$107.64 recycle bins; \$82.69 phone bills; \$64.80 Sunday School supplies; \$39 online service; \$30.01 birthday postcards; and \$19.96 paper towels.

You have perhaps noticed we've maintained a small surplus for most of this fiscal year, as opposed to the deficits of the past several years. Please keep in mind that the main reason for this change is that our pastor generously offered last fall to reduce a quarter of his salary. At the same time, he also announced his intention to retire in January 2020. While this might seem to be in the very distant future, the time will soon be here when we need to give serious thought as to how much salary we will be able to offer to our next pastor.

FUNDRAISERS

We had two very successful fundraisers in May. Nearly everyone in the congregation was involved in some way before, during and/or after the rummage sale and basket auction on May 5 and 6, but we especially thank the members of the Women's Fellowship who organized it. The total profit was \$1,830.75.

We also thank Debi Lutz for organizing the talent auction that was held after worship on May 22. The profit was \$750.

Looking ahead to October, it's not too soon to begin gathering items that would make good baskets at the Fall Festival.

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Congratulations to Justin Romance and Ryan Bechdel on the 25th anniversary of their confirmation into membership on June 7, and to Nick Taylor on the 10th anniversary of his confirmation on June 3.

Congratulations are also in order for our recent college graduates, Sydney Taylor from St. Bonaventure, Kelsey May from Syracuse, and Shannon Rogers from Hilbert, and to Chelby Rogers, who received her doctorate in physical therapy from Daemen College.

Congratulations to Dona Roll on being elected Moderator of the New York Conference United Church of Christ. Also, congratulations to Vanessa Adams on being named a Delegate from the NY Conference to General Synod 31 which will be held in Baltimore, MD June 30 – July 4.

We extend our sympathy to Ken Lingenfelter and his sister, Lois Yauchzy, on the death of Ken's wife, Grace, who died on May 26.



Graduate Recognition

On Sunday, June 18 our congregation will honor our 2017 High School graduates. During worship we will recognize **Josh Taylor** for his achievements as he becomes an alumni of Pioneer Central School.

Join us, won't you, both during worship and following worship at a special reception for our graduate in Wetzell Hall.

Baccalaureate

It's that time of year again when we prepare to honor the graduates of the Class of 2017 for their accomplishments and endeavors. You are all invited to join our community for the 5th Annual Baccalaureate Service to be held on Thursday evening, June 22. Our PAC community has once again been invited to lead this special gathering beginning at 7pm in the High School Auditorium.

Please join us to support our graduates at Pioneer Central for this meaningful and uplifting time of worship.



Calling all fathers!! On Sunday, June 18 we at Arcade UCC will honor fathers, both by birth and by influence, during our morning worship. Join us for this special worship service.

Father's Day Poem

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it... Dad - *Anonymous*

We Need YOUR Help!

Have you ever walked past the front of our annex and noticed the beautifully arranged windows and the displays which adorn them? They are indeed a treasure for our church to have such a wonderful means of presenting ourselves to the community!!

BUT the windows don't just happen. It takes dedication and time to create these masterpieces. That's where YOU can help. We are looking for people who would donate some time and energy as well as those who would assist in creative ideas for our front windows from time to time.

If you can help us and would like to do so, PLEASE contact Pastor Bob. Thank you in advance for your much-needed help!!

Did You Know?...

On Sunday, June 25, 2017, our United Church of Christ will be **60 years old!** She came upon the world scene on June 25, 1957. Take a moment that day and give thanks for all the UCC means to you!



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 6pm and sharing the joy of praising God through song?

WORKERS UNION

Workers Union met in the Great Room on Wednesday, May 10.

After prayers and concerns, Shirley Kriedeman gave a program on Mothers. Everyone was involved with stories of their mother and women who made a big difference in their lives. Sometimes the word "mother" represents beautiful and wise women who help to channel our lives in positive and inspirational ways! What a treasure of stories we enjoyed.

Our next meeting is June 14 at noon at the home of Gwen St. John. We welcome anyone who would like to join us!

Gwen St. John, secretary

Strengthen the Church Offering

How does your church vision the future of Christianity? Many UCC congregations are asking a range of questions on this subject, from "Who are we, and who is God calling us to be?" or "How do we think beyond our walls to impact the community around us for the better?" to "Where are the younger Christians?" Maybe your church knows what it does best, and you are pouring yourselves into that mission with deep intention.

One way your church is already involved in imagining the future is through giving to the UCC's Strengthen the Church Special Mission Offering. Taken on or near Pentecost, this offering is used to envision and invest in the many voices of what church can be – to invest in the future of Christianity!

With your gifts to this offering, we are able to fund new ministries that experiment with church beyond the walls of our buildings. We are able to resource and inspire churches seeking to do a bold new thing for the sake of the Gospel. We help churches work together in visioning who they are and who they can be in 2017 and for years to come.

Look for your "Strengthen the Church" offering envelopes in this issue of the Carillon or in the church narthex and please give generously to this worthwhile offering.



Please note our summer schedule will begin with our July 2 worship service. Service will begin at 9:30am and will continue at this

time through September 4. We will return to our regular 10:30am hour beginning on September 10, with Sunday School celebrating Rally Day on September 17. Please make note.

Don and Maryjane Westra, Global Ministries Mission Personnel in Honduras, will be joining us for a presentation during worship on June 11. The Westras' will also join us for a potluck fellowship following worship. Here is their story:



Introducing Don and Maryjane Westra 2017

Don and Maryjane Westra are Global Ministries Mission Personal in Honduras. They are completing their fourth year of service in Honduras and our eighth year with Global Ministries. They have

served in Zimbabwe and Honduras with a short stint in Mozambique.

In their words: " We are often asked how we ended up overseas and the answer is, well, we are not quite sure. The short story is, for our whole married life we planned to do international work. We considered joining the Peace Corps when we were young, but instead we got jobs, babies and a large mortgage. We did short term mission work, hosted foreign exchange students and administered an organization that provided medical treatment for foreign children. Our last baby moved out of the house in 2009 and we looked at each other and said, now's the time. We were invited to Zimbabwe. We had to look it up on a map before we remembered that the country was named Rhodesia when we were learning geography."

After three and a half years in Zimbabwe, in 2013 they were invited to work and live in Honduras. In Zimbabwe Don was working in agriculture and Maryjane was working beside the administrator of a mission hospital and a children's home. In Honduras, they work alongside the teachers and administrator of a technical training school in a small town setting.

Ephesians 2:17-20 ¹⁷*He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.* ¹⁸ *For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.*

¹⁹ *Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of God's household,* ²⁰ *built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone.*

Although, technically, missionaries are sent by a religious organization on a mission, Don and Maryjane prefer to be called mission partners or mission personnel. The term missionary has some historical connotations with which they do not like to identify. (Read Barbara Kingsolver's **The Poisonwood Bible** to illustrate the point.) Living among God's people until no longer strangers is our calling. It can be challenging to embrace new customs and new ideas. And they found it was extremely challenging to work outsider their native tongue. But, the rewards are many when barriers are broken and cultural understanding begins. The Westra's feel that by allowing oneself to be vulnerable in a strange land, one can begin to develop deep understanding that will help make the world a small, safer and more prosperous place.

When they are not living overseas, they are in Minnesota with their eight children, five grandchildren and Maryjane's sweet sister Martha. You may find Don swinging a hammer on a home project or under the hood of a classic car. You may find Maryjane in front of her piano or harp (still learning) or at the helm of one of her sailboats.

June Gatherings

- 6 Worship/Music – 6:30pm
- 7, 14, 21, 28 - Choir Rehearsal – 6pm
- 13 Outreach – 7pm
- 14 Building & Grounds – 7pm
- 14 Workers Union – noon at the home of Gwen St. John
- 24 Community Dinner - 4-6:00pm
- 27 Council – 7pm

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

The Carillon is being compiled, printed and mailed by a committee of four – Audrey Erick, Margaret Homan, Kathy May, 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 July/August issue is June 25, 2017.

The Carillon

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- Website:** arcadeucc.org
- Office Hours:** 9:00am – 3:00pm (T-Th)
- Worship Schedule:** 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
10:30am Worship

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