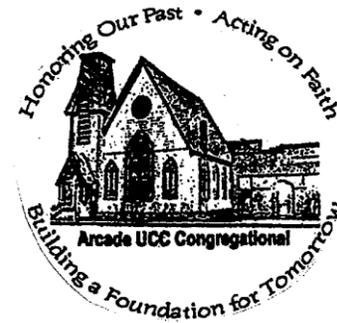


The Carillon

United Church of Christ, Congregational

(585) 492-4530

Editor: Kathy May



September 2015

Eight weeks to some seems like an eternity, but having just returned from an eight-week sabbatical, I can truthfully say it actually seems not-so-long at all! I guess the old adage that *time flies when you're having fun* holds true for my sabbatical. But before I share with you some of my thoughts about my sabbatical, let me first **thank** each and every one of you who (through our Church Council) granted me the privilege of this time away from my pastoral duties. I know a change in routine is never easy and these past eight weeks have not been the routine you have been familiar with. BUT, I firmly believe the experience of a fill-in preacher (Sara Campbell) has been a good experience for all. I thank you for your faithful diligence and Sara for accepting this offer to occupy our pulpit this summer. I truly appreciate the experience.

Now, what did I glean from my sabbatical? First, for both Cathy and I, these eight weeks have been a time to reconnect and make ever firmer our life partnership. We dealt with some on-going medical issues and re-affirmed through our everyday living our commitment as partners in a life given us by God. Each and every day of these eight weeks, God's blessings were (and still are) made apparent to us in a variety of ways and circumstances. From my sabbatical, I have learned how important it is to take the time to be a more active part of our family.

Second, my sabbatical has given me the gift of what I call, *getting my head on straight!* Dealing with the everyday mix of joys, sorrows and challenges of pastoral ministry can be very taxing and lead a pastor (if she or he is not careful) down the path of burnout. Physical, emotional and spiritual exhaustion do no one any good. These past eight weeks, I've been blessed to step back and "re-group." Through relaxation, reading, puttering and lots and lots of prayer, I feel I have been re-nourished physically, emotionally and spiritually for the days, weeks, months and years ahead. I have come back with a renewed sense of call to my ministry and enlivened service to my Lord Jesus, the Christ.

Third, these past eight weeks have been uplifting for me in that I have reaffirmed the truth that YOU, our congregation, are, in your own right, a strong congregation who can and does carry on in the spirit of Jesus Christ. And you do so because the Holy Spirit is "*alive and well*" in our midst. Our structure as a congregation has proven itself to work as intended, and those whom we elected to be our leaders and representatives have done just that – led us and represented us in the day-to-day activities of our church. The role of a pastor is to equip a congregation to take the helm, so to speak, and carry on even in the pastor's absence. You have shown your ability to do this during my sabbatical, and I am forever grateful to you for that. I pray you will continue to be the leaders of this congregation in Arcade.

Lastly, you probably see a pattern in my observations from my sabbatical. That is, the ever presence of God in every single thing I, you, all of us do!! One of the great joys of my eight week sabbatical has been to look from a different perspective and see God's handiwork in everything. From Cathy's and my partnership, from my being re-energized for my ministry, to seeing (with admiration and contentment) your carrying on in my absence, God has made clear that we are God's people whom God will never, ever abandon in any circumstance. This truth should bring, to each of us, a sense of peace as well as a sense of thankfulness which we express in our service in and for the Church, our giving and our just attitudes for the entire world.

Again, mindful of the gift you have permitted me to have – my eight week sabbatical – I say a deeply sincere "Thank You!" I hope you can envision from my sabbatical perspectives the same sense of love and commitment of God that I feel first-hand.

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.

September Greeters

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 6 Debi Lutz & Molly Holland | 20 Gwen St. John & Mary Lee Harnden |
| 13 Gordon & Ginger Comstock | 27 Lois & Darwin Anneler |

September Readers

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 6 Darwin Anneler | 20 Josh Taylor |
| 13 Rich Vogt | 27 Jeff Mason |

September Nursery Schedule

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 6 Gwen St. John | 20 Sharon Koch |
| 13 Sheila Vrenna | 27 Deb Wood |

September Worship Coordinators

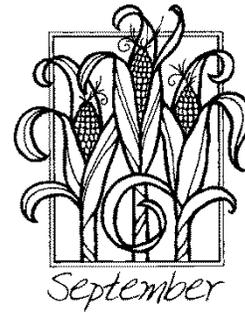
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|------------------|----------------------|
| 6 Ryan Bechdel | 20 Shirley Kriedeman |
| 13 Molly Holland | 27 Jo Sixt |

September Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 3 Doris Grenchon | 17 Brody King |
| 3 Donna Horning | 19 Len Mason |
| 7 Linda Korczak | 22 Jaleesa Sledge |
| 14 Wally Lowth | 25 Vanessa Adams |
| 16 Courtney Caldwell | 29 Dona Roll |

September Anniversaries

- 6 Justin & Denielle Romance – 12 yrs.
- 21 David & Karen Czesak – 30 yrs.
- 25 Rev. Robert & Cathy Dievendorf – 44 yrs.
- 29 Geoff & Kimberly Mortstock – 2 yr.



September Bible Readings

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 6 | Prov 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-10, 14-17
Mark 7:24-37 | 20 | Prov 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37 |
| 13 | Prov 1:20-33
Psalm 19
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38 | 27 | Est 7:1-6, 9-10
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50 |

Worship in September:

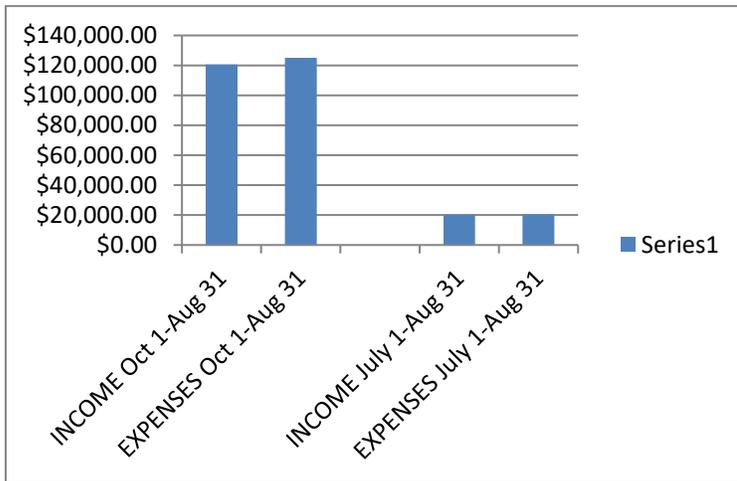
- September 13: 16th Sunday after Pentecost
Rally Day/Commitment Sunday
The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Scripture: Mark 8: 27-38
Sermon: *Who Are You, Jesus?*
- September 20: 17th Sunday of Pentecost
Dedication of Sunday School Staff
Scripture: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9: 30-37
Sermon: *Wunderkind!*
- September 27: 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture: Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10;
9:20-22
Sermon: *We Are Here!*

Pastor's Fund

Donations received during the months of July and August to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund of UCC, Congregational have been given by 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.

FINANCIAL NEWS



Our non-pass-through expenditures in July and August included \$11,154.96 pastor's salary and benefits; \$4,952.76 other salaries; \$1,028.07 carpet cleaning and regular cleaning; \$791.68 insurance; \$640 village utilities; \$500 Our Church's Wider Mission for the national and state UCC; \$478.30 copier lease; \$408 gas bills; \$168.67 phones; \$116 Sunday School activities; \$104.17 Father's Day and picnic; \$90 fire extinguisher maintenance; \$74 travel; and \$57 online service.

We are grateful to the Endowment Committee, which paid for the summer re-paving of the parking lot and for Pastor Sara's salary and travel, and to the Memorial Committee, which paid for new artwork for the Sunday bulletin covers.



Rally Day

You are cordially invited to share with us on **Sunday, September 13**, as Arcade UCC, Congregational celebrates Rally Day! The day begins at

9:30am, when everyone participating and/or interested in Sunday School (children, youth, and adults) will gather in Wetzel Hall for registration and continental breakfast. Then we will gather in our sanctuary for worship at **10:30 am** (summer hours are over!).

Spread the word - invite your family, friends and neighbors! Our Sunday School Program can only be a success with YOU! Come, join us for our fall "kick-off", won't you??

Bible Study

Our Wednesday evening Bible Study will re-gather beginning on **September 16** to resume our study of God's Word.

Everyone is invited to join us as we begin again in September – Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the Great Room. It's a great time for discussion, thinking, fellowshiping and learning.

Commitment Sunday

Sunday, September 13th is *Commitment Sunday* at Arcade UCC. During our worship service, everyone will have the opportunity to turn in a commitment card for our 2015-2016 financial campaign.

This is a VERY important Sunday in the life of our congregation, as it provides for our church leaders the foundation upon which to base next year's budget.

Please plan on joining with us that day. If you are unable to be at worship this Sunday, please mail or bring your Pledge Card to the church Office by September 20th.

2nd Sunday Pot Luck

Beginning on Sunday, October 11, we will renew our 2nd *Sunday Pot Luck* immediately following worship.

This is a time of fellowship and great food, so plan on joining us for dinner the 2nd Sunday of each month after worship. Please bring a dish to share. Drinks and table service will be provided.

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

Congregational Boundary Training

On Saturday, September 26, the Western Area Church and Ministry Committee is sponsoring a Congregational Boundary Awareness Training at Faith UCC, 1300 Maple Road in Williamsville.

The event will run from 9-12 noon and is intended for ALL congregations in our Western Area. Pastor Bob is a facilitator for this training and he encourages all interested members of our congregation to attend to learn about good boundaries in our churches. Car pooling will be available. The event is free of charge. Please see Pastor Bob to make your reservation.

Council Corner

The August 25 meeting of the Arcade UCC Council was called to order by Council Chair, Rich Vogt. Devotions were led by Debi Lutz. Rich Vogt will lead devotions for the September meeting. Minutes of the July 28 meeting were approved. The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved. The tentative proposed budget for 2015-16 was reviewed and several adjustments made.

Several modifications were made on the new Policy Manual which will now be emailed to the congregation. Several hard copies of the manual will also be kept in the library in the annex.

The Visioning Committee lead by Bob Wood has met. Another meeting has been scheduled for September.

Planning meetings have begun for the Fall Festival. Vanessa Adams reports that there will be no major changes to the format. A suggestion was made to publish the work schedules a couple of weeks prior to the Festival to make sure there are no overlaps in time schedules.

Water damage in the annex has been repaired. Warren's Commercial Cleaning will now clean the carpets in the Great Room and Godly Play Room.

Financial assistants for the month of September will be Bev Giles and Nathan Tillinghast. The next meeting of the church Council will be Tuesday, September 22 at 7pm.

Budget Hearing

On Sunday, September 27, we will hold our annual Budget Hearing after worship. This meeting of our congregation is for the purpose of viewing and commenting on the tentative budget for 2015-2016.

Please plan on attending this hearing, as we cherish and need your input as the 2015-2016 budget is presented for your approval.

Did You Know?

Did you know we would be happy to mail your Carillon electronically?? In our effort to be more environmentally friendly and more cost conscious, we are trying to increase the number of Carillons going out electronically rather than the traditional mailing method.

If you have not already signed up to receive your Carillon via email and would like to, please contact the church office at arc-ucc@juno.com with your email address.

GERMAN DINNER

Friday, September 18, 2015

4:30pm - ?

**United Church of Christ, Congregational
Corner of Main & Church St.,
Arcade, NY**

Sauerbraten, Spaetzle & Gravy, Applesauce,
Sauerkraut with Bratwurst, Sweet & Sour
Red Cabbage, Pickled Beets, Assorted
Breads, German Chocolate Cake, Beverages

**Kids Menu Available – Macaroni & Cheese
(Kids Under 5 FREE)**

Building is Handicapped Accessible
Sponsored by UCC Women's Fellowship

MEMBER MILESTONES

Congratulations to Kellie Schaefer, who was married recently in Indiana.

Congratulations to Laurel Becht, whose 15th anniversary of church membership is on September 17.

We extend our sympathy to Laurie Sledge and her family on the recent death of her partner, Moe Ramadhan.

We learned recently of the death of Linda Goodwin (formerly Linda Wood), who served as our church financial secretary from 1981 to 1985 and was an active member of the Women's Fellowship during its early years before returning to her native New Hampshire. Linda's former husband, Brian Wood, died in Buffalo in August.

Worship Time

Just a reminder that on Sunday, September 13 our worship time returns to **10:30am**. Please note this time change, which will remain in effect until July 2016.

Mary Hosford Fisher Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship met on August 31 at 1pm in the church annex. Ten members were present.

All were welcomed and Gwen St. John led devotions. Minutes of the June 1 meeting were approved. Treasurer's report was accepted. Correspondence was received from NY/HELP and a "Make-a-Wish" catalog. The Hope Lutheran Church Quilt Show will be held October 2, 3, & 4. The upcoming German Dinner was discussed and work assignments made.

Secretary Marilyn Piridy submitted her resignation. Margaret Homan volunteered to take Marilyn's place if someone would take the secretary's position for Workers Union. Gwen St. John accepted the Workers Union position.

The Fall Festival will be held October 18 from 11am – 3pm. Women's Fellowship will again sell chocolates. New arrangements regarding the layout of the Great Room were discussed. Candy making was scheduled for October 5.

The next meeting will be held October 5 at 1pm in the Great Room.

Thoughts on Stewardship

The UCCNY Stewardship Committee reports that a good number of churches do not want to use on-line credit card giving because of the fee involved. So instead, it was suggested that people who pay bills online pay the church the same way. If the church is added as a payee, the bank will print a check and mail it to the church. There are no fees involved for either the person sending the money or the church. The church can also be set up as a recurring payment. Our church employees at Arcade UCC are paid this way.

Just another way to make your life easier!

Note from Building & Grounds:

Please do not put anything in the Boiler Room, especially flammable items! We will be subject to a fine if the room contains flammable items when the inspector comes. There should be a 48" circumference around the boiler with nothing in it. If it's broken – throw it out! Or let someone know that can throw it out for you. Thanks for your help with this.

Quilt Tickets

Quilt tickets are available for the annual quilt raffle. If you are interested in purchasing tickets or would like tickets to sell, please see Margaret Homan.

The raffle will take place on Saturday, October 17 at the Fall Harvest Festival.

September Gatherings

- 1 Worship/Music – 6:30pm
- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Choir Rehearsal – 6pm
- 2 Outreach – 1pm
- 9 Workers Union – noon at the home of Gwen St. John.
- 16, 23, 30 – Bible Study Resumes – 7pm
- 18 German Dinner – 4:30 - ?
- 22 Council – 7pm
- 26 Free Community Dinner – 4-6pm
- 27 Budget Hearing – following worship

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, Margaret Homan, 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 October issue is September 20, 2015.

The Carillon

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

Wedding Bells

From September 28 to October 13, Pastor Bob and Cathy will be traveling west to prepare for and attend their son, Eric's, wedding on October 4 in California. Eric and Amanda have honored Pastor by requesting he officiate at this wonderfully joyous occasion.

In the event of a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact the church office at 585-492-4530. Thank you.

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