

# The Carillon

United Church of Christ, Congregational, Arcade

Pastor Josh Bower

(585) 492-4530

Editor: Shannon King

## June 2020

Greetings Friends -

At the time of writing this article, it appears that the eyes of the nation are fixed upon houses of worship. The current partisan rhetoric coming from both sides of the political isle seems to also be focused directly on the church. People around the country, whether religious or not, are wondering how churches will respond to statements and instructions from the president and governors around the country. The church is once again in the forefront of national discourse and I think that there are two questions that are on everyone's mind right now:

1. Are churches essential?
2. Will churches begin to re-open?

To answer the first question - yes, the Church is essential to the call that God has placed on our lives to spread the loving and liberating message of Jesus. However, to address the second question - the Church has never been closed. Let me say that again, **the Church has never been closed.** Church *buildings* may be locked, but through this time of pandemic, all of you, dear followers of Jesus, have continued to be the Church through acts of loving kindness to your neighbors near and far. I have heard countless stories of people reaching out to those that are most vulnerable

during this time of pandemic. Whether it be phone calls to check in on those that live alone, Zoom birthday parties, drive-by parades, phone calls through windows at nursing homes, socially distant volunteering at local food pantries and other non-profits that care for their communities, fundraising for those that are unable to support themselves right now, local businesses rallying together to make sure their village, town, or city is cared for. These are just some examples of the Church being open during this time of pandemic, and I could continue to list more of them, but I would run over my word limit. Friends, the Church is open, it is alive and well, it is thriving.

However, there is another essential aspect of church – corporate worship, where we come together and lift our praises to God. Again, I have seen so much promise and innovation from clergy and layfolks in an attempt to continue to build community and lift our praises to God together through online worship services. Whether they be on Zoom, Facebook Live, YouTube, or some other streaming service, the Church has continued its purpose during these times by innovating and creating online community. Specifically, here at Arcade, we have moved forward and implemented about 30 years of technological advancements in only 10 weeks. We are now streaming live every Sunday morning on Facebook thanks to the hard work of dedicated volunteers. Online church attendance and participation is higher, across the board, than it was when most church worship was strictly in-person. Once again, the Church is open, it is alive and well, it is thriving.

**And it is because of the facts listed above, and out of an abundance of love and caution for our neighbors, that myself and the church leaders of Arcade UCC are in no rush to return to in-person worship.** We will continue to build our online and remote presence moving into the future to stay connected with one another and continue fostering relationships as a church family. We will also keep a close eye on directives from the CDC and UCCNY Conference guidelines for re-opening church buildings. We will continue to love our neighbors as ourselves by making sure that we are keeping one another safe and healthy - that is our top priority at this time.

## June Bible Readings

During the Last Supper, Jesus left his disciples with a "New Commandment". From John 13:34, the words of Jesus: *"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."* **The way that we love one another right now, especially those that are in the high-risk categories of this virus, is by making sure that we do everything we can to stop the spread of COVID-19. This includes keeping our church buildings closed until we know we can safely return to in-person worship without having a high risk of transmission.**

- |    |                                                                                    |    |                                                                    |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7  | Gen 1:1-2:4a<br>Ps 8<br>2 Cor 13:11-13<br>Matt 28:16-20                            | 21 | Gen 21:8-21 &<br>Ps 86:1-10, 16-17<br>Rom 6:1b-11<br>Matt 10:24-39 |
| 14 | Gen 18:1-15 (21:1-7)<br>& Ps 116:1-2, 12-19<br>Rom 5:1-8<br>Matt 9:35-10:8, (9-23) | 28 | Gen 22:1-14 &<br>Ps 13<br>Rom 6:12-23<br>Matt 10:40-42             |

## **FINANCIAL NEWS**

We will make sure to keep you all updated with this process as we move forward together as a church community. We appreciate all of your continued love and support as we live into our new way of sharing the love of Jesus with those around us and lifting our praises to God.

Peace Be with You,

Pastor Josh

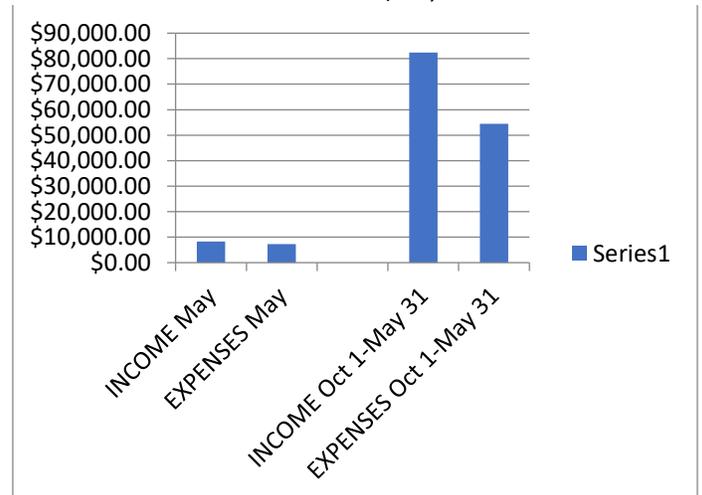
Our non-pass-through expenditures in May included \$3,258.49 pastor's salary and benefits; \$1,220.54 livestreaming equipment; \$861.54 staff salaries; \$400 gifts in honor of essential workers; \$371.63 balance of Christmas cantata; \$340 village utilities; \$171 gas bill; \$135.39 copier leases; \$132.25 oil for candles; \$79.99 online service; \$64.13 birthday postcards; \$59.40 streaming license; \$49.50 postage; \$39.99 phone bill; \$26.58 disability premium; and \$7.87 PayPal charges for online deposits.

### June Birthdays

- |    |               |    |                 |
|----|---------------|----|-----------------|
| 1  | Bev Giles     | 19 | Bill Schaper    |
| 4  | Kim Common    | 21 | Amy Tillinghast |
| 5  | Terry Hobin   | 23 | Shannon Rogers  |
| 7  | Rich Vogt     | 24 | Joel Ferry      |
| 7  | Rich Snyder   | 25 | Sam Tillinghast |
| 11 | Hailie Sopic  | 28 | Jack Heppner    |
| 14 | Laurie Sledge | 29 | David Czesak    |
| 17 | Jax Bechdel   |    |                 |

INCOME May	\$8,330.00
EXPENSES May	\$7,218.30

INCOME Oct 1-May 31	\$82,464.13
EXPENSES Oct 1-May 31	\$54,487.00



### June Anniversaries

- Art & Grace Gilbert – June 10, 70 years
- Randy & Debi Lutz – June 15, 18 years
- Wyn & Debbie Roll – June 28, 40 years
- Terry & Jeri Hobin – June 30, 47 years

**Remember to stay tuned at the end of our online services for the 1-minute videos from our congregation and for our announcements!**

## **MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES**

Four of our members have five-year membership anniversaries on June 12. Carol Abel joined our fellowship on June 12, 1980. Deb Wood, Stacey Lund Fudela and Helen Boling all officially became members on June 12, 2005. Although they are no longer with us, we fondly remember John Abel, Bob Wood and Lloyd Knose, who all joined the church with their wives on those dates.

## **OUR SYMPATHY**

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Barbara Newman on the loss of their mother, sister, stepmother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Barb grew up in this area and lived in Oregon for many years. After she and Charles Newman married in 2005, they alternated between living in Arcade and Oregon. After they settled permanently in Arcade, Barb joined our church in 2015 and became a member of the Christian Education Committee. She passed away on May 20, and a private service will be held at the convenience of her family.

## **NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE**

We hope everyone had a safe and wonderful Memorial Day weekend. We honor those who have served and continue to serve our country.

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.  
I John 3:16

A Children's Salute to Soldiers  
by Cherry Carl

We hope for all a world of peace,  
and wish that every war would cease.  
We hope for all sweet liberty  
and wish each man security.

We hope for all a life of friends,  
and wish for courage to defend  
our right to freedom, one and all,  
as we walk with pride and stand up tall.

Our soldiers make the sacrifice  
and often pay a painful price  
to protect and serve the USA  
so we can be here on this day.

We salute those men and women, too,  
who serve the red and white and blue.  
We honor them, the proud and brave,  
as we raise the flag and watch it wave.



In honor of Father's Day, Cherry Carl submitted this description of her father and the poem she wrote in honor of him.

"I wrote this one for our dad. It really depicts what kind of a man he was. He was six foot four and the sweetest, most giving man you'd ever want to meet. I guess you could say he was the model for my four sisters and I and that's where we learned how to give and to share with others. There were people grieving at his funeral that none of us even knew, including my mother and his brothers and sisters and parents. They were just somebody that he helped out sometime in his life. He never said a word about most of those people. My parents lived in Arkansas in the sixties and until he died in the

late eighties. Back then the race war was still going on and there was a strong line between the blacks and the whites, but my father had no sense of that at all. One of the families that he helped out over the years was a black man and his wife and children. My parents didn't have much, but my dad always found a way to take that family a large box of groceries at least once a month. Amazing. Just Amazing. People ask Jamey and I and my other sisters where we learned how to give so generously. What can I say? We lived with love, kindness and generosity. Anyway, that's the reason I picked this particular poem for you. His presence was felt and it felt loud, but it wasn't. That's why I called it "So Quietly Loud."

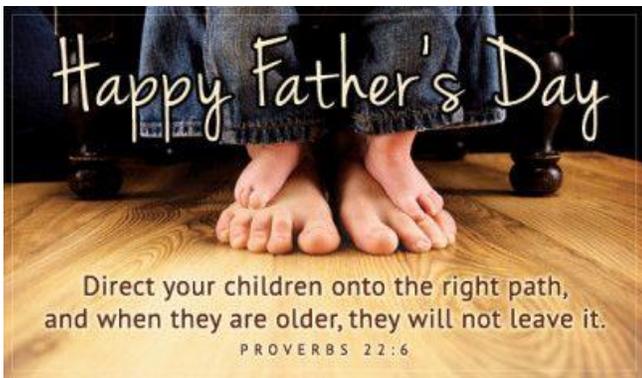
So Quietly Loud  
By Cherry Carl

He gave all he had, whatever it took, With only a gesture, or one gentle look, Touching our lives by the way that he lived, Showing us all how to quietly give.

He was never unkind in word or in deed, Always so willing to help one in need, Cherishing days with his wife and his girls, Polishing each like new shiny pearls.

That gentle man walked tall and proud. He'd said it all . . . so quietly loud.

Written as a tribute to my dad, Paul Oliver



**Perspective**

By Shannon King

We wear masks to protect and inhibit our exhale,  
While Mother Earth takes a deep cleansing breath  
on a much wider scale.

Learning within school walls put on hold,  
While more connecting, exploring and stories are told.

Distancing is a necessity during these days,  
While it has brought us closer in so many ways.  
Sports have come to a halt, taking athletes out of the limelight,

While doctors, nurses and essential workers are the rightful heroes in our sight.

Visits with family and friends are on pause,  
While with lives slowed down, we connect more with a cause.

I look forward to when a long distance wave can be replaced with embrace,

And to see that smile upon a stranger's face.  
We put our trust and faith in God's plan for what is ahead,

And hope that kindness will next be what is spread.  
As things begin to return to what we have always known,

Let us remember the lessons we have now been shown.

Maybe this year will give us a better perspective on the future to be,  
2020 vision is a much better way to see.



*\*\*If anyone has good news they would like in the upcoming issues of the Carillon, please contact Shannon King in the Church office, [uccarcade@gmail.com](mailto:uccarcade@gmail.com) or 585-492-4530.*

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## PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND



*Jane Brass provided curbside delivery of the donations*



*Jeff Mason helped with the delivery of the food*



*Pastor Josh Bower carried boxes at the drop-off*



*Brody and Bryson King, Pastor Josh and Jeff stand with the donations for SnackPaks for Kids*

Some of our members give regularly to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. The fund had grown during the months when we did not have a called pastor, so the Council voted in April to use \$250 from the fund to assist the SnackPaks for Kids program, which provides food to the families of children in the Pioneer district to help them with meals on days when school is not in session.

Barb Agen, who coordinates the program, gave us a list of food items that were most needed. Shannon King then gave the list to Jane Brass at Arcade Market Place, who did all of the shopping and delivered the groceries to Shannon's car. The food for the program is kept at the Yorkshire Free Methodist Church, so Pastor Josh and Jeff Mason put on their masks and joined Shannon, Brody and Bryson King as they unloaded the donations.

We are sure the needs of families in our community will continue as the pandemic continues. If you would like to donate to the fund, please indicate that when you make your donation to the church.

**reminder**

**Please Remember!**  
**Send your 1-minute videos to Ryan Bechdel ASAP (as early in the week before the next Sunday's service), as you can! We would love to see what you're up to and hear from you! These are shared each Sunday after the online live-streamed service on Facebook.**



## Communion Sundays

We have communion the first Sunday of each month. Pastor Josh will bless the elements virtually during our online service.

Please prepare your special table at home with your own elements for Pastor Josh to bless. We look forward to sharing this special time with all of you as we practice being together while apart.

## Live Streaming Services

**We will continue to have online services each Sunday at 9:30am through our Facebook page until we are able to reconvene at church. We are now streaming live each Sunday! Visit Arcade United Church of Christ Facebook page to worship together while we are apart!**



Additional Easter Memorial Blessing not listed in last month's Carillon:

In memory of... Our son, Thomas

Given by: Rich & Helena Vogt

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## Council Representative Needed

**Our Council is looking for one more individual to serve as a representative on their committee. They meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. You must be a member of the church to serve on Council. Please see a Council member if you are interested.**

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## Arcade UCC Needs YOU!

**Several church positions have opened up that need to be filled.**

**We are in need of:**

**1 Outreach member**

**1 Council member**

**If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Rich Vogt (Council), Sheila Vrenna (Outreach) or the church office.**

## Keep in Touch!

Want updated information on what's happening in your church? Like to know what's coming up? Join us on Facebook – Arcade United Church of Christ, Congregational, or visit our website at [www.arcadeucc.com](http://www.arcadeucc.com) for up-to-date information, pictures, calendar of events, online giving opportunities and more!





*When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.  
Acts 2:1-2*

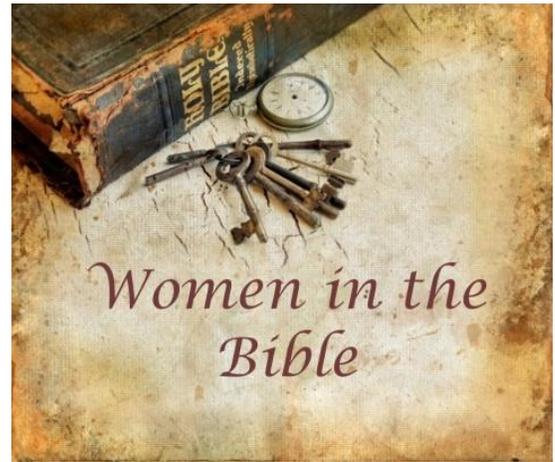
## ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE

Although the church office is closed and we are still physically apart, most of our expenses continue. We now have a third way to support the church with our gifts. You can go to our website at [www.arcadeucc.com](http://www.arcadeucc.com) and click on the "Donate" button. (You can also find a link to our webpage at the top of the posts on our Facebook page.) Or you can mail your offering to the church at PO Box 95, Arcade, NY 14009. Or you can arrange for your financial institution to automatically mail your offering directly to the church.

### Sunday School Corner

The Arcade UCC youth have been meeting through Zoom meetings with Pastor Josh, Deb Wood and Vanessa Adams almost weekly since the social distancing mandates began. They have had the opportunity to get to know their new pastor, interact with each other, share work they have done and play fun games/activities. We would like to thank Deb, Vanessa and Pastor Josh for staying connected with our youth through this difficult time of separation.

Mark your calendars! Sunday, June 14 will be the youth's worship service. They will record this service in advance using safe social distancing practices. We hope you can join us for this special service on our Facebook page!



**Submitted by Jamey Craft**

Who are the women of the Bible? Why are they important? Continue reading along with me as we discover their stories.

Priscilla: Church Builder

Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus: Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. Romans 16:3-4

Priscilla and Aquila were tent-makers and their home, in the weaving sections of Corinth and Ephesus, became a place for those wanting to know more about the new faith. They were two of the first missionaries and leaders of the church. Along with her husband, Aquila, Priscilla risked her life for the apostle Paul. Priscilla helped establish the early church in an atmosphere of great hostility, risking her own life for the sake of the gospel she loved.

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### Pastor Josh Hosts "Meet and Greet" Meetings Over Zoom

Pastor Josh recently hosted two Zoom meetings to provide a "meet and greet" opportunity for the congregation of Arcade UCC to introduce themselves to him and to have the chance to get to know him better as well! These meetings gave everyone who participated a chance to tell about their connection with our church, something interesting about themselves and visit with each other as well. This was a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet our new pastor until the day comes when we can all come together again in person!

# Committee Reports

## Worship & Music

May 5, 2020 6:30 P.M. Zoom

Present: X Vanessa Adams, X Ryan Bechdel, X Pastor Josh Bower (ex-officio), X Ginger Comstock, X Margaret Homan, X Dona Roll (ex-officio), X Helena Vogt, X Rich Vogt

● **Opening Devotions and Prayer: Margaret** – Spirit, feeding your spirit. Taking time for yourself. Spiritual vitality is the well-spring for all of your other activities. Incorporated a prayer from Pastor Josh: Spirit of new hope and promise...

● **Devotions –June: Rich**

● **Minutes – April 2020** – Discussion -Consensus approval – Approved

● **Budget Review** – Discussion- Consensus approval – Approved

Margaret is going to donate \$100.00 toward Worship DVDs –Accepted

● Pastor Josh:

Boundaries

o Days off–Monday

o Pastor’s Sabbath–Friday, Saturday

o Communication –calls, texts, emails, etc. anytime before 9 p.m.

Other

o Coming Back to Worship –Hans Kuhn –Catholic Theologian –Medieval, Reformation, Enlightenment –and this is probably one of those times when how we do church will change. Scary. Walking into a world of unknown.

o God at the forefront will see us through. We, as Church and local congregation, need to keep God as our Guide.

o Would like to host Zoom “Meet-and-Greet with Pastor Josh” next Monday @ 6:00

● **Worship: New Normal Worship**

o #1 priority has to be people’s health and safety.

o Logistics

▪ When –Don’t come back too early.

▪ Cleaning and sanitation is a challenge. Virus lasts less than 7 days.

▪ Outside? --Picnic, Drive-in, Other

▪ Entering back –let people know that they can stay home and get the same experience if they are more vulnerable

▪ One door in, one door out; Dismissed by pew; Seating; No choir, no hymns,

o One more thing –resist the urge to have to do what everyone else is doing --know that our priority is health and safety.

May 17th–Pastor out of town? NOPE!

Together While Apart Watch Party Recap–

o Lord’s Prayer –print words if not traditional– maybe anyway for our un-churched friends – Hospitality!

o #s drop after people click in initially and see announcement slides--Need to move the announcements to the end. “New hits don’t stay.”

o Viewers –70% women, over 65, no surprise there!

o Suggestions for Opening

▪ Introit of some kind that translates better to video format

▪ Older Far Cry Videos, Skip, others

o Virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom so people can see and talk to one another?

o Offering –ok to put a time in for people to donate and think on how they contribute their time, talents and treasures, add Laurie

• o Check with Skip re: Royalty-free video and picture sources

• o Next Friday –live recording rather than edited.

• o Need a note about one-minute videos in the bulletin–ask Shannon

• Equipment

• o very difficult to get b/c of backlogs

• o need a faster computer

• o Ryan has a live-streaming unit

• o ordered 2 switcher-units to switch from side to side.

• o Skip has a “Video capture card” that we can use.

• Need an Ethernet cable from Shannon’s Office to Sanctuary –ask Debi Lutz take this to Building and Grounds

• Rich change the drape and paraments to **red** by May 27 for Pentecost

• Virtual Children’s Service –June 14, idea to film family-by-family at church

- **Music**

- Tablets for Far Cry: requesting funds from Memorial Committee
- Have someone sing the melody of hymns each week—Choir is meeting every Wed. @ 7. Dona will schedule by family
- Best way
  - o have songs done ahead
  - o stick to favorites
  - o Thank you Laurie!!!
- Calendar (rotation: Vanessa, Helena, Ginger, Rich, and Ryan)

May 3- Ginger August 2- Vanessa  
June 7- Rich September 6 - Helena  
July 5- Ryan October- Ginger

- **5/12: Pastoral Relations Committee meeting: Second Tuesday, once a quarter @ 6:30**
- **Next meeting: June 2, 2020; 6:30pm**
- **Closing Prayer – Pastor Josh**

## Outreach

May 12, 2020

PRESENT: Sheila Vrenna, Jo Sixt, Kim Common, Ginger Comstock

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 6PM. Sheila opened the meeting with prayer.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: Review of April 2020 meeting approved as read after motion from Jo Sixt and a second from Sheila Vrenna.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Community Supper - No community dinners have been served.
- Shepherd's Program and Letter Writers Wanted - Jo continues to send out many cards. Approx. 21 during April and May to date with more planned.
- Visitations - Outreach continues with no visitations as previously determined in addition to recent concerns complying with local, county, and state mandates.
- "Open for Prayer" and Coffee Break - There have been no gatherings at the church but the committee has been calling church members weekly to inspire hope and to let them know that their church still cares for them!

This calling is also an avenue to pass on important information as well as to inquire if members need additional help or services.

- The program called "Talk saves lives" was presented by Kristen Fisher on March 10, 2020. Kristen is the Assistant Director for Adult Services Coordinator of the Wyoming County Suicide Prevention Coalition. In addition to the presentation, coffee and pie was served during a "open for questions" time following the formal presentation. All who attended were very pleased with the presentation and had lots of new ideas to take away.

NEW BUSINESS:

- May food collection for the PAC food pantry that had been scheduled for May 16th had to be cancelled. Sheila has been contacting Roger Roper with regard to the status of the current stock on hand. He has reported at least a doubling of participants but added that the community has stepped up donations so that they continue to be well stocked to date. He will keep Sheila advised of need. There was also a small amount of donated food left at the church which Ginger will take to the pantry.
- Previously we had discussed someone from Plymouth Crossroads coming to our church for a presentation so that members of the church could better understand what they would be supporting with their donations, but that has been tabled until further notice. It seems that they are currently not open for residence but have some programming available. They will reassess at the end of May the housing component.
- Picnic in the park plan has been started with Shannon reserving a shelter which we will continue to keep with the hope of being able to have our picnic.
- There was some discussion with regard to the possibility of continuing a "drive through" community dinner. Sheila will discuss with Dirk to see how he feels about that and Ginger will contact Deb Howard from the Methodist church which is currently providing something similar. This is Purely an information gathering period to see if this could be feasible for us in the future.
- There is a plan for a "Ride for Roswell" which will take place but in a different way than has happened in the past. Sheila is getting more

specific information about how people could participate.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE:

- Next meeting for June may be a Zoom meeting but will be determined as we are directed by NYS.
- Ginger moved to adjourn and Jo 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 7:51PM

Respectfully submitted, Kim Common

## **Council Corner**

### **April 2020**

**Present:** Rich Vogt, Bill Schaper, Pastor Josh Bower, Dirk Norwich, Debi Lutz, Vanessa Adams, Kim Common, Deb Wood, Jeff Mason, Ryan Bechdel, Shannon King

**Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Rich Vogt, Pastor Josh opened with prayer.**

The order of agenda was switched so that Ryan Bechdel could share out on live streaming. Information regarding equipment, locations, etc. had been sent out to members in advance of meeting. Jeff Mason asked about switching the camera angles/locations. Ryan stated that we need more space in the back of the sanctuary to accommodate the extra equipment. They may need the space where the extra coat rack is. One person can control all of the camera angles. Pastor Josh told that the cameras would be stationed on platforms that would pivot. Dirk Norwich asked if we would need someone in addition to the person who operates the sound now? Yes. Kim Common asked if everything would be up and out of the way. Yes. Ryan shared the locations diagram. A magnetic mount would be used for quick/easy changes and movement. Ryan also shared the Facebook viewing data – a very large increase in views on Facebook since our online services started. Services are being seen all over the world (Honduras, Mexico, just to name a couple) – numerous countries are being reached. We hit a peak of 41 viewers (screens) which is the best we've ever done. Pastor Josh explained that the process for recording and editing as it is having to be done now with pre-recording is very time consuming – Ryan and Josh work on this every Friday and Saturday. Live streaming will drastically reduce the time required. Once we are back in church, there is no need for Facebook Premiere

services (pre-recorded). Ryan stated that live streaming will allow for those who aren't able to physically be in church to see the service (even after we are able to be back in church.) Bill Schaper made a motion that a budget of \$2500 be allocated to equipment to begin the process of live streaming. Kim Common seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed. Ryan explained that some equipment is available now and he will put in the order in hopes to have things within a week. He has the TV, computer, HDMI cords ready. Ryan will use his credit card to place the orders and turn in a receipt for reimbursement.

**Devotions** – Vanessa Adams shared regarding a bible study that Pastor Shawn Hannon had been providing on essential elements of our faith. Peace, faith, hope and love through God and God's word are all elements and antibodies for our worry and anxieties.

**Devotions for May meeting** – Rich Vogt

**Celebrations and Concerns were shared**

**Consent Agenda** –

The Consent Agenda consisted of the March 24 Council minutes, March 31 Council minutes, April 14 Council minutes, Treasurer's Report, March Workers Union report, March Women's Fellowship report, March 25 Worship & Music report. With no questions or changes to the agenda, Jeff Mason moved to accept the consent agenda. Debi Lutz seconded and the agenda was approved.

**Old Business:**

**Key changes** – Rich said he wants to get one more keyless lock for the office door which will happen when we return to church.

**Pastoral Care** – Pastor Josh expressed for anyone in need to reach out to him. He can do phone calls until visitations are allowed. Jeff Mason spoke about clarifying pastor visitations. We pay mileage and other expenses with Council approval. In the past, the pastor would provide Council with a Pastor's Report showing mileage at the bottom with any other reimbursements. Pastor Josh stated that he would keep track of mileage and can get the report to Council monthly. Rich Vogt told that the report could consist of what Josh had done, wants to do, problems, etc.

**By-laws** – tabled until we are able to meet together in person.

**Boiler** – Bill told everyone that Stacey Thompson requires half the money before he starts and the other half when he finishes. Debi Lutz checked with Randy and no news regarding the boiler from the Building and Grounds committee. This will stay on the agenda to follow-up.

#### **New Business:**

**Online Giving** – Worship & Music voted to send this to Council for discussion. Someone has to investigate it and see if it fits what we would like to do. Are there charges? Pastor Josh spoke about Donor Box – up to \$1000/month there is no charge other than a small service fee out of each donation. He mentioned that Paypal is an option with approx. 2.2% taken out of offerings and no other costs. It is simple, easy and effective. Many giving online right now. Vanessa stated that Amy Tillinghast is aware and fine with whatever is decided. Pastor Shawn and Pastor Elizabeth have seen huge increases in online giving. Worship & Music talked about how this would help those people who are watching online have an avenue for giving (outside of our own members.) Rich knows there are people out there waiting to donate. Deb Wood told that Pastor Shawn said it is amazing where the donations have come from for Hope Lutheran. Dirk agrees we should do it – receive money from new sources. Kim agrees also – not losing any money with no up-front costs. Pastor Josh says it can be set up online with bank account info. entered into the secure service. We can put the link to giving on our Facebook and Web pages. Bill made the motion to do online giving through Paypal and include links on Facebook and Webpage. Rich seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Vanessa asked how the financial secretary is made aware of giving online. Josh said she would receive an email. Vanessa said we need to use Amy's email rather than the church's email to keep giving confidential. The online giving can be seen monthly, quarterly, yearly and seen at the financial secretary's leisure.

**Pastor's Discretionary Fund** – We have \$300 in checking account, \$190 in Tops gift cards (\$10 each), \$70 in cash. Bill and Madeline Hall send money monthly to this. Rich said if any Council member knows of someone in need to help them out through this fund. Kim said the food pantry is in good shape and serving about 40 families right now. Deb mentioned the schools' food pick-up –

Jeff said that is paid for by the school and is from 11am-1pm each "school" day. Shannon will check with the principal at Arcade and Barb Agen, Debi will check with the middle school to see if they are in need of financial support. Jeff agreed that if we hear of someone who could use help, we would just give them the money or gift card without needing Council approval. Pastor Josh agreed as well.

**Fall Festival** – Deb Wood would like to keep re-visiting this but is questioning whether we will be able to do it – possible still social distancing in the fall. Pastor Josh questioned what the festival entailed. Vanessa explained the preparation and the festival itself.

**Return to Church** – Pastor Josh spoke on the process for this. Dona had provided him with some articles regarding this. We will need to focus on social distancing, limiting the number of people, how to safely return to church, state and federal guidelines, methodical and careful processes, UCC guidelines (Dirk mentioned the UCC weekly updates), etc. Pastor Josh will have meetings about this leading up to coming back to church. Bill asked about doing two services. Josh said that is an option, but we would need to clean/sanitize between services (within an hour time frame).

**Paycheck Protection Plan** – Pastor Josh spoke about a woman he spoke with who applied for this. All salaries are included. They received \$19,000 based on payroll expenses. Loan comes from the bank and the bank has the application. Dirk stated that we don't have the need. Jeff agreed and said that four years ago he would have pushed to apply for this but not now. Bill stated that with having Pastor Josh and our connection with Hope Lutheran with future endeavors, he foresees a positive future and doesn't feel we should do PPP. It should be used by small business and churches who truly need it. Debi agreed. Jeff will put a blurb about this in the Carillon.

Dirk mentioned a concern regarding the number of projects/amount of outgoing money. How are we paying for everything (boiler, sign, etc. will add up.) Jeff mentioned that the boiler would come half from savings and half from Endowment. He doesn't believe we are over-spending.

Bill asked if the Search Committee has become our Pastor-Parrish Relations Committee. Vanessa said that all members agreed to this.

Rich asked Pastor Josh how things are going. Josh feels very welcome and said things are going very well. Rich wanted to thank Dona once again for letting us use her Zoom account.

Pastor Josh led the group in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm. Financial Assistant for May 2020: Nate Tillinghast. **Next meeting will be held: May 26, 2020 at 6:30pm, unless we need to meet sooner. Zoom will be used if still needed.**

### **The Carillon**

The Carillon is being compiled, printed and mailed by a committee of three – Audrey Erick, Margaret Homan, and Shannon King. 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 18, 2020.

We welcome articles and written pieces from our congregation! For this reason, we need to add the disclaimer that the views written in the Carillon are not necessarily the views of the Arcade United Church of Christ, Congregational, but are those of the individuals who write the submissions.

### **The Carillon**

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9am-1pm (Th)  
\*\*Upon returning to church

**Worship Schedule:** 9:00am Choir Rehearsal  
\*\*Upon returning to church when mandates allow  
9:30am Worship (online only until further notice)