

# The Carillon

United Church of Christ, Congregational, Arcade

(585) 492-4530

Editor: Shannon King

## November 2020

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Greetings Friends!

As has been usual over the last few months, I will use this space to update you with the latest information regarding the reopening of the church building. As I mentioned last month, a Reopening Committee was created by the Church Council as a temporary committee with the task of making decisions about the safe and responsible reopening of the building. When the committee first met, we had planned to attempt to reopen the church building at the end of October. However, those plans were put on hold once we learned that COVID cases were beginning to arise in the local community.

**Recently, the Reopening Committee met once again and decided that the reopening date of the church building, with the congregation invited to attend, will be Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.** As of the writing of this article, we are still on track to reopen the building to the congregation on this date. **Service will continue to begin at 9:30am.** In preparation for this reopening date, two “warmup” services will be conducted, the first on November 1<sup>st</sup> and the second on November 8<sup>th</sup>, with very limited attendance from members of the Church Council and Worship & Music Committee. Over the next few weeks, you will notice that I will begin to

wear a mask at all times during the service and there will be some changes to the service structure and bulletin so that we make sure to abide by the guidelines we have set for in-person worship.

Within the next week, I will be posting a video on our church Facebook page and sending an email with the video attached showing what entering the building, participating in worship, and exiting the building will look like. Please be on the lookout for that, as there will be important information in that video.

I also want to make one thing very clear. It is okay to make your own, personal decisions about returning to the church building. Please do not feel pressured in any way to attend the service if you do not feel comfortable doing so at this time. If you feel that you are ready to return to in-person worship...wonderful – I will greet you with a socially distant and masked wave in the church building on **November 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am**. If you do not feel comfortable yet, that’s also wonderful, and I’ll greet you with a *very* socially distant wave on our Facebook live stream at the same time.

Friends, the church building may be slowly opening, but that does not mean that you need to rush back if you do not feel comfortable doing so. Talk to your family about what is best for you, in-person or online. And whatever you choose to do, please remember that you are all beloved and valued members of this local church community and of God’s family.

Peace and Health,

P. Josh



**November Birthdays**

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>3 Robert Dievendorf</b> | <b>18 Collin Tuttle</b>  |
| <b>3 Audrey Erick</b>      | <b>20 Leanne Pokigo</b>  |
| <b>8 Lary Schaefer</b>     | <b>27 Grace Gilbert</b>  |
| <b>13 Helen Boling</b>     | <b>27 Payton Romance</b> |
| <b>15 Brad Gertis</b>      | <b>28 Suzanne Norton</b> |
|                            | <b>30 Carol Abel</b>     |

**November Anniversaries**

- I Blake & Courtney Caldwell – 6 years**

**November Bible Readings**

- 1 Josh 3:7-17 and Ps 107:1-7, 33-37  
Mic 3:5-12 and Ps 43  
1 Thess 2:9-13  
**Matt 23:1-12**
- 8 Josh 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Ps 78:1-7  
Wisd of Sol 6:12-16  
1 Thess 4:13-18  
**Matt 25:1-13**
- 15 Judg 4:1-7 and Ps 123  
Zeph 1:7, 12-18 and Ps 90:1-8, (9-11), 12  
1 Thess 5:1-11  
**Matt 25:14-30**
- 22 Ezek 34:11-16, 20-24 and Ps 100  
Ps 95:1-7a  
Eph 1:15-23  
**Matt 25:31-46**
- 29 isa 64:1-9  
**Ps 80:1-7, 17-19**  
1 Cor 1:3-9  
Mk 13:24-37

**UPCOMING EVENTS  
NOVEMBER**

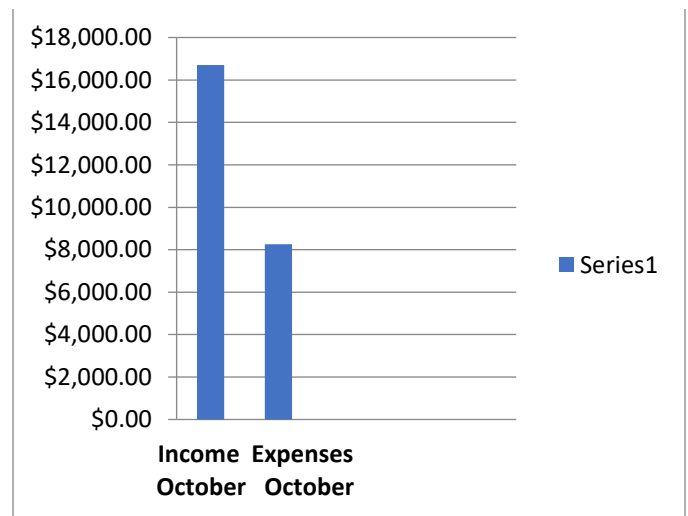
- 4 - Christmas Greens ordering deadline
- 14-18 – Food Collection at Arcade Market for local food pantry
- 22 – Moderator Description congregational vote
- 29 – Advent begins. Reverse advent details to follow.
- 30 – Great Glass Works orders due

**Financial News**

Our non-pass-through expenditures in October included \$4,040.59 pastor’s salary and benefits; \$1,293.72 staff salaries; \$800 Our Church’s Wider Mission for the state and national UCC; \$336 support for Western Area UCC; \$340 village utilities; \$190 gas bill; \$169.91 cleaning supplies; \$135.39 copier leases; \$105 boiler inspection; \$104.55 phone bills; \$100 lawn mowing; \$79.99 online service; \$35.06 PayPal charges for online deposits; and \$30.25 postage.

Huge thank-yous go out to Rich and Rick Vogt and everyone else who was involved with preparing, cooking and selling our famous beef/chicken chowder on October 24. This was our first fundraiser of the new fiscal year, and it raised \$1,097.

INCOME October	\$16,706.94
EXPENSES October	\$8,264.29





## Christmas Greens are Back!

**F.I.S.H. (Friends in Service & Hope) are happy to report our wreath-maker is back in business!**

**Wreath Price           \$22.00**  
**(red or burgundy or plaid bows – no color options on the plaid colors, depends on her distributor)**

**Swag Price             \$20.00**  
**(same ribbon color options as above)**

**Dish Arrangement Price           \$15.00**  
**(no color options – wreath maker’s discretion)**

**Email your order to: [bob41243@yahoo.com](mailto:bob41243@yahoo.com)**  
**Or**  
**[Vanessa spas@yahoo.com](mailto:Vanessa_spas@yahoo.com)**

**Make checks available to:**

**Arcade UCC and indicate on the memo line “FISH fundraiser”**

**Orders will be taken on or before November 4<sup>th</sup>. Place your check in Vanessa Adams’ or Deb Wood’s Church mailbox.**

**Pick-up at Church will be Thanksgiving Weekend – details to follow.**

**Thank you for supporting F.I.S.H.!**



## NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE



Thank you to everyone who donated their time, efforts, money and ingredients to our homemade beef and chicken chowder sale! Our in-house pre-sale fundraiser was a huge success! It was a sell-out with 126 quarts!!!! Thank you once again to Rich and Rick Vogt and crew for the all-night cooking, Helena Vogt, Vanessa Adams, Bill Schaper, Pastor Josh and Dona Roll, for prep work and more, and Debi Lutz and Deb Wood for organizing the event. We hope everyone enjoyed their delicious chowder!

*\*\*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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### 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! Communion services will be held the first Sunday of each month and Pastor Josh will bless the elements virtually at your own table.

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### Pastor Josh Office Hours at the Church

**Tentatively: Tuesdays 2-6pm  
and Thursdays 10am-2pm**

Anyone who would like to stop in during these times, please email Pastor Josh at [Joshua.bower39@gmail.com](mailto:Joshua.bower39@gmail.com) to schedule a meeting. Please also follow physical distancing and mask rules during the meeting time. Thank you!



### 2019-2020 Annual Report Updates

The 2019-2020 Annual Report passed unanimously. Thank you again for all who worked on committee reports and made phone calls for the congregational vote.

Please note the following correction for the 2019-2020 annual report: The Endowment report should state that they paid Stacey Thompson \$13,381.57 and Hope Lutheran \$5,000.00 for a donation to the Community Center.



**Election Day, November 3**

Don't forget to vote this Tuesday, November 3, if you haven't voted already in the early voting!  
Your voice matters!



### Reverse Advent!

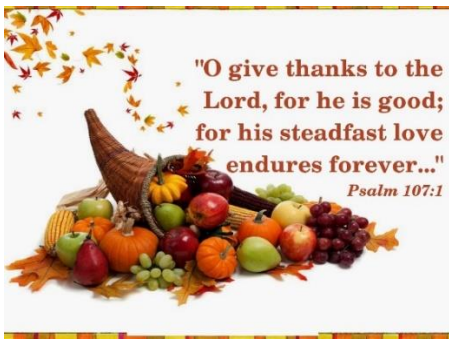
Once again reverse advent is happening! We will begin this year on the first day of advent, Sunday, November 29, 2020. The idea for this project is to set aside a food item each day of advent rather than remove a treat or item from the more traditional advent calendars. The food items we gather will then go to benefit our local food pantry which has been very busy lately.

If you feel so moved, a word of Christmas encouragement could be written on the food items such as Joy, Hope, Wonder, etc... Food can then be dropped off at the church for transfer to the food pantry or for those who might find this difficult, the Outreach committee members will arrange pick up after Christmas which can be arranged by calling any of the Outreach members or by leaving name and a call back number as a message on the church answering machine.

If you are in need of ideas for what they may need, they have recently expressed interest in any kind of side dishes, canned fruit, and vegetables for which they will be very grateful. Last year we did well with this project and we hope that we can do even better this year! We thank you all in advance for your faithful help as we are able to serve others in this way!







## Food Collection at the Arcade Market to Support the Local Food Pantry

Arcade UCC's Outreach Committee is setting up a food collection again this year to support the local food pantry. The collection will take place at the Arcade Market (formerly Shur-fine) from November 14-18. Although they will not be collecting in-person, Liz Lowth will be creating a poster telling who is collecting and who will be receiving the donations, which will be posted at the collection spot. One committee member will pick up the donations daily during the collection timeframe and Sheila Vrenna will be finding out the best time to take all of the donations to the local food pantry at the Arcade Free Methodist Church. Any and all food donations are greatly appreciated!

## 2020 Giving Tree

The Pioneer Giving Tree is a program through the Pioneer schools that takes donations and gives them to students in need within the community. Clothing, a small toy or gift, and gloves/winter hats are a few of the items that are given to these students. This year, however, the Giving Tree is only accepting monetary donations because of COVID-19. If you would like to make a donation, please send it to the church and Arcade UCC will send one check for the total of all donations. Please be sure to put "Giving Tree" in the memo line of your check so we know where your donation is designated. You may also send it directly to one of the schools, also labeled for the Giving Tree in the memo. The Pioneer Giving Tree committee gave suggested offerings of \$65 for Elementary-aged student, \$75 for Middle School and \$90 for High School. Your generosity for this important community project is greatly appreciated!

## Moderator Description Change Congregational Vote

The following is the change to the Moderator's description, which would be an amendment to the by-laws following approval through congregational vote. This vote will take place in-person on Sunday, November 22 (or by calling in to the church office – 585-492-4530, if members are not attending in-person that day. Leave your name and vote in a message.)

### Amendment To The Church Bylaws - October 2020

"The Moderator shall be elected at the annual meeting to preside then at all succeeding congregational meetings in the fiscal year and assist in services deemed appropriate by the Pastor and/or Church Council. He/she shall be an ex-officio member of the Council with voice and vote. The Moderator shall oversee the preparations for the next annual church meeting and the publication of an annual report booklet".

### Moderator Description Update (Will Replace Current Description):

The Moderator shall be elected at the Annual Meeting to preside then and at all succeeding congregational meetings in the fiscal year. They shall be an ex-officio member of the Council with voice and vote. They will also serve as the co-chair of the Council, keeping the meeting in order and will fulfill the duties of the other elected co-chair, if they are unable to attend the meeting.

In addition, if a situation of conflict should arise between members of the congregation who are unable to come to a private resolution, the parties involved shall inform the Moderator. If, after using appropriate conflict resolution strategies, the Moderator and involved parties cannot come to an agreement, the conflict will be presented to the Pastor upon the recommendation of the Moderator.

If the Moderator is one of the involved parties in a conflict, the conflict shall be presented to the other Council co-chair. If involved parties consist of both Council co-chairs, the situation will be presented to the Pastor.

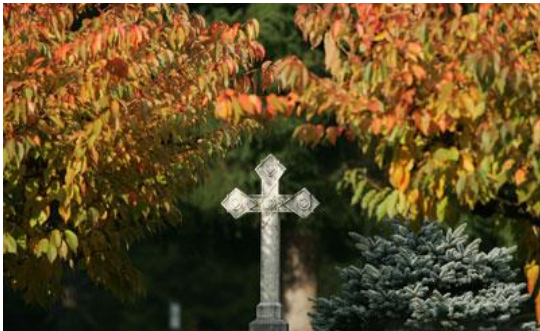
The Moderator is expected to maintain complete confidentiality of involved parties throughout the conflict resolution process and at all times thereafter. The Moderator reserves the right to involve or consult the Pastor concerning the conflict resolution at any time during the resolution process at the Moderator's discretion.

Finally, the Moderator shall assist in services deemed appropriate by the Pastor and/or Church Council and shall assist with the preparations for the next annual church meeting and the publication of the annual report booklet.

## NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

This is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the [Council for American Indian Ministry](#) (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

Our church traditionally supports this special offering. If you care to donate, please indicate "Neighbors in Need" in the memo line of your check or specify "Neighbors in Need" if you donate online. We will be forwarding donations to the UCC New York Conference at the end of November.



## Committee Reports

### Outreach Committee October Minutes

OCTOBER 13, 2020, ZOOM MEETING

Members present: Sheila, Ginger, Jo, Dirk, Kim, Cherry, and Wally

Minutes reviewed and approved.

Community Suppers continue to be on hold while options are being evaluated. Shepherd's Program Jo and Margaret continue to send out cards and letters of hope. Personal visitations remain on hold also at this time. "Open for Prayer" and Coffee Break is currently being maintained through our telephone calls until we can once again offer this service. This calling has become a valuable avenue for the committee to pass on important information as well as to inquire if members need additional help or services.

Plymouth Crossroads update: Dirk has reported that they are closing their resident facility and selling the building but hope to continue to offer their programs which have an 87% success rate.

The November food pantry collection is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> -18th with an unmanned donation box labeled with who is making the collection and to whom it will go. Some specifics are still pending.

Reverse Advent will happen again! An announcement will be in the Carillon as well as a church announcement with contributions to also benefit the food pantry. Any monetary donations will be used by the food pantry through "food link" to purchase additional supplies.

Meeting was adjourned until November 17, 2020.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Common

## **Building and Grounds Committee September 23, 2020 Minutes**

Old Business:

- 1] The boiler room was painted by Debi and Randy Lutz, who did a great job!!!
- 2] The lawns were mowed.

New Business:

- 1] The annex woman's bathroom fan has quit working. Lary has removed it, will get it repaired and reinstalled.
- 2] Some of the emergency lights are not working. Lary has ordered batteries for them and will replace them.

Respectfully submitted, Mike Giles - Chairman

### **Worship & Music October Minutes**

Following opening devotions and prayer, the budget was reviewed and following discussion, there was consensus approval.

A list of types of cameras and ways to use them was addressed to eliminate the need for running back and forth during the live-streamed services.

The recent outdoor worship had 33 in attendance and the committee wishes we could do more.

Jamey has taken over the flowers for the altar. Sheila's flowers are done. If anyone wishes to do flowers on certain Sundays, please let Jamey know.

A discussion was held about Advent and ways to connect people. Christmas Eve service was also addressed. The committee will think about what would be most meaningful in a Christmas Eve service.

Council approved the Choir rehearsing and recording in the sanctuary. Bill created a chart of where to sit or stand to keep safety measures in place.

The in-house chowder sale was also discussed.

The next meeting will be November 5 at 7pm.

## **Council Corner October 22, 2020 Minutes**

Following opening prayer and devotionals by Pastor Josh, the consent agenda was approved. The pastor report included a video on gender identity and pronouns and an introduction video made by Leo W.T. who will be joining our church this Sunday! A Local Church Committee has been formed, consisting of Pastor Josh, Vanessa Adams, Dona Roll, Bill Schaper and Ginger Comstock to assist Leo on their way through the ordination process.

The cleaning of the church was discussed and a final decision on the hiring of a outside service will be made at the November meeting.

The final Moderator description was handed out and it was emailed to the congregation that night, giving 30 days before an in-person (or call-in) vote to approve this amendment to the By-laws.

Council voted to remain in Step 2 with an amendment of 34 people allowed for in-person worship. There will be a trial run on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> with Council and Worship/Music committees attending the service if they wish. If all goes well, November 15 will be the first in-person worship service within the sanctuary.

The new sign board has been ordered and the permit was received from the village.

Three panels of plexiglass will be ordered to use as a shield for the audio/visual area of the sanctuary.

Bill Schaper is going to be creating three different glass work styles (a large angel, small angel and a cross) to sell as a fundraiser for the church. He will donate time and materials. Each style will have a limited number of pieces created. Information and ordering process will be placed on the church webpage and Facebook page.

The Christmas Memorial Blessings will once again go to Crabb Oil for help in paying heating bills for local customers in need.

Jeff Mason discussed the Wilmington Trust, which will be going to 20 beneficiaries (including Arcade UCC). Money from this Trust will be placed in Endowment.

The meeting adjourned at 8pm. The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 19 at 6pm.

## Prayers for Kenya: (Adapted from the AACC assembly worship)



By Phyllis Byrd on October 12, 2020

Transforming God, We bring to you during this time of uncertainty our worries, our joys, our convictions, and our confusions. We come with our deep longing for the church to not go back to where we were before. We stand as a broken church and communities in deep need for a true and just society. Transform us so that we live each day as transforms. Help us to break down the walls of separation within our lives and communities. Enable us to move from silo to ubuntu. Transform your church that we will become authentic bearers of light and life, in our world, Light and life in situations of stale theologies Life and light in situations of selfishness and greed Life and light in situations of all forms of discrimination Life and light in situations of environmental abuse, economic unfairness, and all situations of violence. Life-giving God, we stand in need of radical new ways of being your witness in the world. Finally, Merciful God, like the church in Thessalonians we pray that this new opportune time we are in is a new lease of life for the church. As we service the world the work you have appointed us to do will be produced by faith, our labor prompted by love, and our endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Mission Stewardship Moment from Kenya:

This past July, I opened my email and was humbled by the letter of appointment you sent me. The appointment letter stated (I have paraphrased): Phyllis M. Byrd ... be appointed on behalf of the members of the United Church of Christ (UCC) and The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to serve a four-year term with the Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC) beginning August 1, 2020. Over the past thirty years, I've served in Kenya, I have received several reappointments; yet this one was different. The reappointment to service on your behalf in 2020 comes at a kairos moment in the history of the world. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused: Church buildings to close, massive job losses, health, and economic crisis, Schools and Universities closing and moving to online learning, etc. Reappointment in 2020 comes at a time when the veil that prevented some from seeing the harsh realities within the USA has been torn. We have come face to face with the deeply rooted chasm in the structure of the USA that was present before COVID-19 but made even more visible. Poverty and inequalities within the USA and the rest of the world have been enhanced due to the pandemic.

The torn veil in the case of the USA made it easy to see clearly the socioeconomic, racial, etc. inequalities.

The veil of the temple that was torn after Christ uttered his last words on the cross was a transformational moment. The torn veil was symbolic of the radical change that occurred in the world with the death and subsequent resurrection. The torn veil enabled a new relationship with God as well as with each other. In 2019 you commissioned me to go out on your behalf, to serve. This commissioning (as I captured in one of my previous newsletters) came at a time when I was physically sick and did not even know it. Once the doctors pointed this out to me I knew I was in deep need of a personal transformation in my life. I could not serve the church fully in my present state of being. This is a difficult and deeply personal admission. At the same time, it is a safe place to have this conversation with the family of God. In 2019 I made a mental shift and vowed to myself: "By the time of my next appointment, in 2020 I would be in better physical health." This would enable me to serve on your behalf not laboriously but with love and free from the disturbance of health challenges. I thank God, I have been able to start the process of transformation from where I was in 2019 to where I am now in 2020.

I am not fully where I need/want to be, but I am not where I was before thanks be to God. I owe a big thank you to all of you, it was your confidence in me that gave me the impetus to begin the process of transforming my physical self.

2020 has been difficult for all the aforementioned reasons and more, at the same time I am grateful for 2020. I appreciate this Kairos year, because of the clarity it brings to the global Church, it has made visible the symbiotic nexus between poverty, injustices, social inequalities in the USA as well as in other parts of the world. Paul's final instructions to the church in 1 Thessalonians 5 challenge the church to action, each day giving us an opportunity to do good to one another and to all. 1 Thessalonians 5:15 "The labor of love invites us to serve together and seek sustainable solutions that are local and global." Thank you for challenging me to embark upon a journey of healthy living and transformation.

Thank each and every one of you for reappointing me to serve on your behalf. I am looking forward to forging closer links with you over the next four years. I hope we will have the opportunity to have Zoom meetings with the various churches across the USA. Please continue to pray for me as I continue the journey of transformation.

Phyllis Byrd serves with the Organization of Africa Instituted Churches (OAIC) in Kenya. Her appointment is made possible by your gifts to Disciples Mission Fund, Our Church's Wider Mission, and your special gifts. [https://www.globalministries.org/phyllis\\_byrd](https://www.globalministries.org/phyllis_byrd)

More information on Kenya:

<https://www.globalministries.org/kenya>





### **The Carillon**

The Carillon is being compiled, printed and mailed by a committee of three – Audrey Erick, Margaret Homan, 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 submissions for the combined December/January issue is November 20, 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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