

The Carillon

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

Editor: Shannon King

April 2021

Recent data (as of the writing of this message) has shown that just over 30% of New Yorkers have received at least the first dose of one of the COVID-19 vaccines. This number will continue to rise quickly as eligibility is opened up to younger age groups. The US will soon surpass 100 million people who have received at least their first dose. Many of you have shared the great news that you have received at least one or even both of your vaccine doses already. Your family members are probably starting to get vaccinated as well. As the number of people who become fully vaccinated increases, we will begin to be able to return to some of the things we were able to do without thinking before the pandemic hit.

A number of you have told me that you are excited to see your children and grandchildren that you haven't seen in-person since the pandemic began. Many of you have family that live in other states that we haven't been able to travel to because of restrictions and quarantining. It will be so great when we are able to reunite with loved ones that we have only been able to see on our screens or hear on our phones. I am currently making plans to visit both sets of my grandparents, whose houses I haven't stepped foot in since Christmas of 2019.

Not only will we be able to see our families once again, but as our friends become vaccinated, our "pods" will be able to become larger again. We will be able to safely travel once again, something I know many of you enjoy doing. We won't have to worry when we go out to eat, or go to a sporting event or concert, or when we come to a church service.

But my prayer is this - as we are able to start doing more of the things we enjoyed doing prior to this pandemic, let us not allow them to once again become things that we take for granted. I pray that we would never again take for granted getting to visit with kids, grandkids, parents, and grandparents. I hope that we never take being able to see our best friends on a regular basis for granted again, or take traveling for granted, or crossing state lines in a car, or spending time with groups of people doing something that we enjoy.

As we slowly transition back into being able to do some of these things that we missed so much, let's cherish every single moment that we have as a gift from God, because that is what they are. Every time we see a smile on the face of a loved one is a gift from God; every time we get to spend time with friends and others that we care about is a gift from God; every time we are able to gather in-person and worship God together in community with one another is a gift from God. I challenge all of us to live our lives in this way moving forward, taking nothing for granted and cherishing every moment, even the small ones, that we get.

Blessings to you, my friends. Stay safe, stay healthy,
-P. Josh

April Birthdays

1	Molly Holland	19	Kristen Bechdel
1	Justin Schaefer	19	Debbie Roll
6	Madeline Hall	20	Skip Tillinghast
12	Bill Hall	24	Patty Langley
18	Jay May	24	Adaline Gertis
19	Edie Holmes	25	Jo Sixt

April Anniversary

Peter & Connie Roll – April 7, 21 years

April Bible Readings

4	Acts 10: 34-43 Ps 118: 1-2, 14-24 1 Cor 15: 1-11 Jn 20: 1-18	18	Acts 3: 12-19 Ps 4 1 Jn 3: 1-7 Luke 24: 36b-48
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11	Acts 4: 32-35 Ps 133 1 Jn 1: 1-2:2 Jn 20: 19-31	25	Acts 4: 5-12 Ps 23 1 Jn 3: 16-24 Jn 10: 11-18
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NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Congratulations to Courtney and Blake Caldwell for the birth of their daughter, Scarlett Valera, on March 15! She was five pounds, six ounces and 19 inches long. Congratulations also goes out to Deb Wood, Julie Wood and the entire Taylor family for this newest addition to their family!



Congratulations to Nick Tillinghast for being named Salutatorian of the Pioneer High School Class of 2021! Your church family is very proud of you and recognizes the hard work and dedication you have given to your education, especially throughout all that the past year has dealt to students everywhere! Commencement for the Class of 2021 is scheduled for Saturday, June 26th. More details to follow.



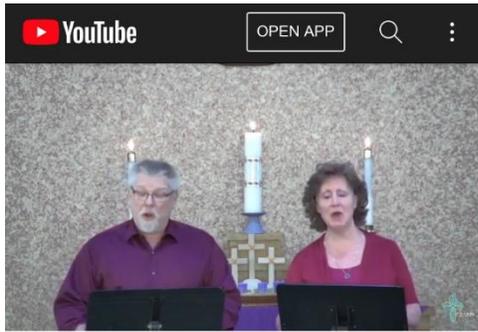
If anyone has good news they would like in the upcoming issues of the Carillon, please contact Shannon King in the Church office via email uccarcade@gmail.com or 585-492-4530.

Palm Sunday Cantata 2021 –

“Healing Power: A Musical Celebration” premiered on Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021, as a virtual celebration on YouTube! Musicians, dancers, an American Sign Language interpreter, and churches from the Pioneer Area came together to lift up the healing power of Jesus in our midst. In these extraordinary times, the performances inspired healing through love, music, and community.

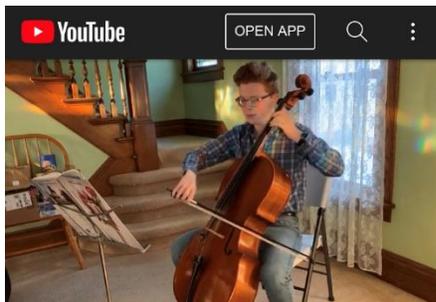


Far Cry performs during the Palm Sunday Cantata.



Healing Power: A Musical Celebration -
Pioneer Area Palm Sunday Premiere

Rich and Helena Vogt sang together during the Cantata.



Healing Power: A Musical Celebration -
Pioneer Area Palm Sunday Premiere

Nick Tillinghast performed on both the bass and piano during the musical celebration.

Church-Wide Garage Sale Coming in May!

Plans are in the works for a garage sale to be held as a fundraiser for our church during the Memorial Day weekend in late May. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, this will be held in a local garage at the same time as many other garage sales around the village.

More information about what to bring and what not to bring for the sale will be provided in the May Carillon and in the Sunday announcements. Since the sale won't take place at church, please do not drop any items off at the church.



Communion services will be held the first Sunday of each month. They will be done via an online video only until we are able to do them safely in-person.

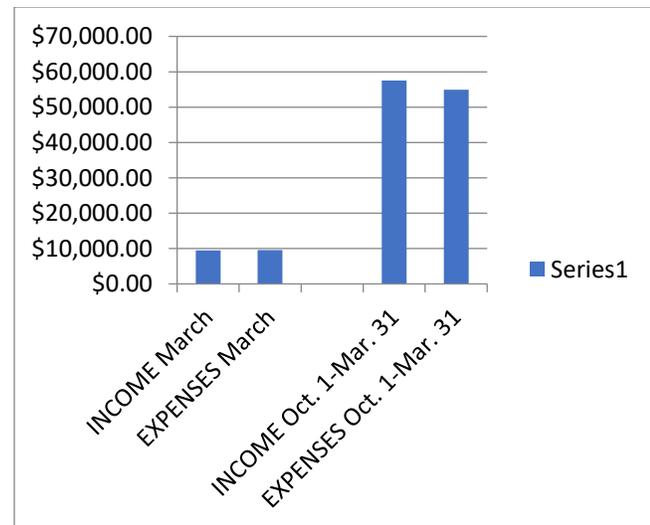
Financial News

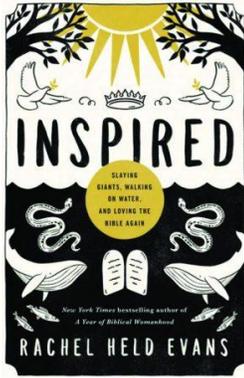
Our non-pass-through expenditures in February included \$5,062.31 pastor's salary and benefits; \$1,663.21 staff salaries; \$736.99 computer and accessories for worship; \$484.32 elevator maintenance; \$342 website renewal; \$340 village utilities; \$200.00 gas bill; \$160 snow removal; \$135.39 copier leases; \$105.98 phone bills; \$105.32 travel; \$79.99 online service; \$68 livestreaming license; \$46.50 2021 United Church of Christ Yearbook; \$40.50 postage; and \$36.90 PayPal charges for online deposits.

The Church Council approved an application for money from the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). Our application is now in final review, so we should be able to report on the results in the May Carillon.

INCOME March	\$9,502.32
EXPENSES March	\$9,607.41

INCOME Oct. 1-Mar. 31	\$57,538.46
EXPENSES Oct. 1-Mar. 31	\$54,952.18





Zoom Book Study with Pastor Josh

We will be beginning our next Zoom book study on Wednesday, April 7th at 6pm. The book is *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Josh or the office.

Books can be purchased on Amazon at the following link: <https://www.amazon.com/Inspired-Slaying-Giants-Walking-Loving/dp/0718022319>

If you need help purchasing the book, please let Pastor Josh know.

We Need Your Help!

Arcade UCC is looking for volunteers who could assist with the online services. You would be trained in the technology needed to help with this area. Please contact Pastor Josh or Vanessa Adams if you are interested.

Plymouth Crossroads has had to close their home for abused and homeless young men due to COVID, but they are still working to help those individuals. They are now located at Ebenezer UCC in West Seneca and are still in need of donations. If you are so moved, please send your donation to Arcade UCC with Plymouth Crossroads in the memo line so your contribution will be designated correctly.

Easter Basket Food Collection



Jamey Craft and Sheila Vrenna (missing from picture) collected food donations and helped to fill baskets for the local food pantries.

In an effort to continue to support local food pantries, Arcade UCC collected food for the Arcade Area (PAC) food pantry and the Great Valley food pantry for the upcoming Easter season. The Outreach Committee had suggested that we fill "Easter baskets" with our non-perishable food donations. Those who wished to donate items were able to bring them to the church on two separate days, during which times, Jamey Craft and Sheila Vrenna collected the items and helped to fill the baskets. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported our local food pantries!



Hope Lutheran Offers Respite Program for Individuals Living with Dementia

The second Thursday of every month from 10:30am-2:30pm, Hope Lutheran of Arcade is offering a free respite program for individuals living with dementia. This program provides one-on-one social companionship, meaningful activities and active engagement provided by volunteers. Crafts, bingo, sing-a-longs, games, gentle exercise, pet therapy, lunch, snacks and more! The program does require registration and an evaluation to assure the program is a good fit for all involved. Please contact Hope Lutheran for further information at 585-492-2530 or julie@hopearcade.org.

“Out of the Mouths...” Sent in by Cherry Carl

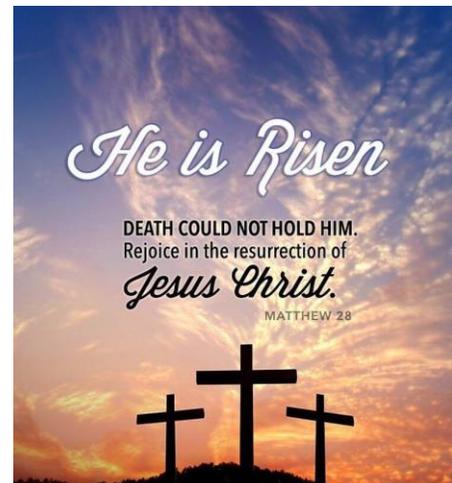
I have to tell you something that Colton (age 6) said to me last Wednesday during one of our tutoring sessions. I'm not sure how the topic of Heaven came up, but Colton turned to me and out of the blue said, "Miss Cherry, I'll be really, really happy for you when you go to Heaven!" I was too startled at first to make any response, but he continued, "That's because you'll get to see your husband again!" As they say, "Out of the mouths of babes!"

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 for up-to-date information, pictures, calendar of events and more!

HELP WANTED

We are looking for a church treasurer for the next term, following the 2020-2021 Annual Meeting. Jeff Mason will work with the interested person prior to the start date to ensure they have knowledge of what the position entails. If anyone is interested or would like more information regarding the responsibilities of the church treasurer, please email Pastor Josh, at Joshua.bower39@gmail.com



The Path to Spring

By Cherry Carl

There are beautiful blossoms on the purple
plum tree,

And new mown grass as far as the eye can
see,

Tall, tall tulips gladly greet us at each new
stair,

And yellow daffodils are coming up
everywhere!

A rowdy rainstorm pounds on the deck,
But our chatty chickens still hunt and peck.

They know that spring is spreading its
wings.

Can't you hear all the birdies sing?



Committee Reports

Worship and Music Minutes

March 4, 7pm, Zoom

Dona Roll gave the opening devotions and minutes from February were approved. Budget was reviewed and there were no changes except payroll. Next month there will be a cost for a new computer. We had a donation of a 5-disc DVD burner.

The "Reclaiming Christianity" sermon series continues through Lent. Zoom book study will be starting April 7 at 6pm. Deb Wood will be doing Godly Play during Children's Moment – Faces of Easter and video. Palm Sunday palms will be dispersed. FYI, March 22 will be 1-year for Pastor Josh!

Good Friday and Easter services will be similar to last year. Cantata Palm Sunday, March 28 at 3 pm – "Healing Power: A Musical Celebration" will be held virtually.

Technology – new computer will help with matching the sound and video. Pastor Josh will set up a YouTube channel for our church.

Reopening – Council would like in-person services for Easter. Pastor is looking at what other churches are doing. Return to church as long as positivity rate is under 5% for seven days in Cattaraugus and Wyoming Counties. Still requires social distancing, masks, no coffee hour and a total of about 44 with reservations needed for the Easter service.

Other – continue to discuss options for live music as we return to in-person worship.

Next meeting: April 8, 2021, 7pm.

Council Corner

March 25, 2021, 6pm

Members present: Bill Schaper, Pastor Josh Bower, Debi Lutz, Kim Common, Jeff Mason, Vanessa Adams, Deb Wood, Dirk Norwich, Wally Lowth

Devotions were given by Kim Common. Cherry Carl proposed offering a free reading program this summer at the church for first and second graders in the community. A few items will need to be looked into before a decision is made.

The consent agenda was approved.

Pastor's Report:

- Currently at 37 reservations for Easter Sunday. Can do two services if more than 40 people sign up. In-person services will continue as long as positivity rate is under 5% for seven days in Cattaraugus and Wyoming Counties.
- Palm Sunday Cantata is virtual, Palm Sunday at 3pm.
- Good Friday will be a "re-air" of last year's service on Facebook.
- The weekend of June 20, Pastor will be out of town – will work on finding pulpit supply.

Pastor-Parish Committee will meet after Easter.

Cleaning of church – Mary Palmer will begin cleaning the church weekly on Mondays.

AV Positions – request for volunteers to help with this will be made during service announcements.

Annex repairs – Endowment Committee will be contacted for approval for these repairs.

Church Treasurer position – three more people are needed to serve on the Financial Committee which will make financial decisions for church and divvy up Treasurer's responsibilities.

By-law revisions – a sub-committee has been working on updating and revising the by-laws. A separate Council meeting will take place to go over these and work toward approval.

Natural Gas Usage Comparison – cannot be sure the new boiler has lowered the cost, due to price of gas and factors like weather/temperatures. Possibly 15-20% less at this point.

PPP – Paycheck Protection Program – application has been submitted and is being reviewed. If approved, this will be used toward payroll, pastor's retirement/insurance, utilities, and operating expenses.

Upcoming garage sale church-wide fundraiser was discussed.

Pastor Josh closed by leading the group in the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: April 22 at 6pm.

Outreach

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

Minutes reviewed and approved.

Community Suppers: Discussions centered around the possibility of returning to community dinners as a drive through only. There are a lot of challenges to overcome so that this could be accomplished in a safe and efficient way.

Shepherd's Program: Margaret continues to send out birthday cards and letters of hope. Jamey Craft is working to relieve Jo who has served faithfully in this ministry for so long!

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.

Easter Food Collection: The Easter basket food drive is under way and information has been placed in both the bulletin and also the Carillon.

Ride for Roswell: Jamey has signed up for the ride and is waiting for more information to pass onto

anyone who is interested in riding. They will be doing the ride similar to last year.

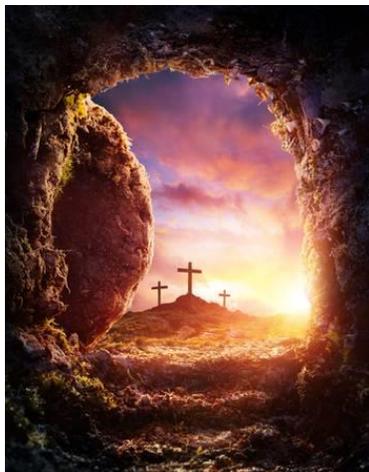
Park Cleanup: Sheila has not reached Deb yet to discuss the possibility of a collaborative work project with the youth to clean up the park for Earth Day.

Meeting was adjourned and next meeting April 13, 2021.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Common

Live Streaming Services

We will continue to have online services each Sunday at 9:30am through our Facebook page. We stream live each Sunday, as well as having in-person service. Visit Arcade United Church of Christ Facebook page to worship together from home.



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 the May issue is April 18, 2021.

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.

What is Today? Submitted by Jamey Craft

Did you know the word April comes from the Latin word, aperio, "to open" (bud), because plants begin to grow during this month.

April							2021
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
				1 Poetry & Creative Mind Day	2 National Peanut Butter & Jelly Day	3 Weed Out Hate Day	
4 Easter & Vitamin C Day	5 National Deep Dish Pizza Day	6 Hostess Twinkie Day	7 No Housework Day	8 Draw A Bird Day	9 National Former Prisoner of War Day	10 Safety Pin Day	
11 National Teach Children to Save Day	12 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day	13 Scrabble Day	14 Look Up at the Sky Day	15 Take A Wild Guess Day	16 Save the Elephant Day	17 Husband Appreciation Day	
18 Pinata Day	19 Bicycle Day	20 National Library Day	21 Banana Day	22 "In God WE Trust" Day	23 National Day of Silence Day	24 Save the Frogs Day	
25 License Plate Day	26 Pretzel Day	27 Morse Code Day	28 National Super-Hero Day	29 Zipper Day	30 Bugs Bunny Day		

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Office Phone:

(585)492-4530

Office E-mail:

uccarcade@gmail.com

Website:

www.arcadeucc.com

Worship Schedule:

9:30am Online Worship
9:30am In-person Worship, beginning Sunday, April 4