



CHRIST CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OCTOBER
2025

THE VISITOR

Fall Camp is Back—And It's Brand New!

November 7-9 at Camp Wanake

Theme: "Let's Do Something New!"

Get ready, Christ Church family—it's time to pack your bags, gather your sleeping bags, and head out for a weekend of fellowship, fun, and fresh experiences at **Fall Camp 2025!**

This year, we're excited to be heading to a brand-new location: beautiful **Camp Wanake**, where the crisp autumn air and peaceful surroundings will help us reconnect with each other—and with God.

Dates & Details:

Departure: Friday, Nov. 7 at 6:00 PM from the church

Return: Sunday, Nov. 9 by noon

Register now at christucc.com



Our theme this year is "**Let's Do Something New!**"—a reflection of both our new camp setting and the new things God is doing in our lives. Whether you're a longtime camper or thinking about joining us for the first time, this is the perfect opportunity to step outside the usual routine, embrace new friendships, and explore your faith in new ways.

Cost:

- \$60 per adult
- \$40 per child
- \$150 family max (so bring the whole crew!)
- Includes 4 delicious meals and 2 cozy nights at camp



There's something truly special about gathering around a campfire, singing songs of praise under the stars, and hearing the rustle of leaves as we reflect on the ways God is always doing a *new thing* in our hearts (Isaiah 43:19). Whether you're young, old, or somewhere in between—this weekend promises spiritual growth, laughter, and memories that will last a lifetime.

So—let's do something new together this fall. Don't wait—register today!



Pastor's Page

This summer, Route 30 has been under construction all the way from Wooster to the Stark County line. There have been orange cones set up, moved, and moved again to direct the traffic. I have seen more than one traffic jam along this route. Then suddenly the cars and trucks move on through. Yesterday, Steve and I came home from Canton and noticed that almost all the cones were gone and the construction is complete (at least for now).

It was fifteen months ago that I was called out of retirement to begin as your Bridge Pastor. This time of construction has lasted longer than I expected but sometimes that is how it is with building projects. There have been a few traffic jams along the way but no major wrecks. (God has been with us!) Now it is time to move ahead. It is time for a new settled pastor to take over.

On October 5th, I will lead worship. This will be my last Sunday as your Bridge Pastor. The new pastor will arrive the next day. I will return to Trinity UCC in Wooster where I've been a member for some time. Chances are we may run into one another at the grocery or Healthpoint, but I will adhere to clergy ethics and intentionally stay away from Christ Church for a year or so.

This congregation has been so understanding and gracious to me. I know that you called me and needed me to serve with you, but I feel like God led you to me because I needed you.

I'm not sure you are aware of this, but before Rev. Chris Nichols came to you, the Living Water Association had called me to see if I would be willing to serve as your Bridge Pastor. At that time, I had just been released from the hospital after being death-threatening ill. I was still so weak, fatigued, and frail. I said, "Absolutely not!" I needed to get better. I knew that I was not strong enough to lead a church this big and active. Finally, I relented and said, "Let me rebuild my strength and if they still need a pastor in July call me again." Guess what, they called me again. I believe that God used Christ Church to bring me healing. You served me even more than I served you. For this I am eternally grateful.

Goodbyes are never without tears for me...tears of joy and tears of sadness...

The tears are visible signs that Love was shared. "Where love is, God is."

Blessings Always,
Rev. Joyce E. Schroer
The Bridge Pastor



CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

September 2025

Church Council Meeting Summary from September 9, 2025

Minutes from the August meeting were approved and are on file.

Treasurer's report and staff reports are on file.

CCCNS has begun their year. Suggested help with expenses: a fundraiser, giving tree, special offering.

Fellowship Committee has a tentative schedule: 3rd Sunday potluck will resume in October; Halloween party October 26; Home for the Holidays November 28, with punch and cookies served to the community; Daughter's Dinner March 7 with a theme "Living in Full Bloom."

The Salvation Army is requesting twin bedding and blankets. A bed build will take place, with delivery September 17 or 18.

The security cameras are in place. OPD will have access to videos. The public will not have access. The parking lot resurfacing is complete.

An audit was completed by Contax on the church financial records. "The account was reviewed, and no discrepancies were found."

An HR committee and a Pastor Relations committee were formed.

Pastor Schroer's last Sunday is October 5. Rev. Michael Howard from the association office will preside over the Liturgy for Release. Rev Schroer will not have contact with church members or participate in church events for one year. A celebration of her ministry will take place in fellowship hall on October 5 following worship.

The next council meeting will take place Tuesday, October 14, 7 pm.

Third Thursday Church Potlucks will resume on October 19th!

The Fellowship Committee would like to invite the congregation to join them on the third Sunday next month for our first potluck of the season. Bring a dish to share, your table settings, and get ready for an enjoyable meal with our church family! Questions? Contact Jennifer Howell.



Treasurer's Report

August 31, 2025

Current Fund	Month of Aug 2025	Year-to-Date	Last Year
Sunday Offerings	\$ 21,477	\$169,040	\$165,470
Other Income	\$ 754	\$ 7,513	\$ 7,890
Expenses	\$ 18,350	\$156,908	\$150,246
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 3,881	\$ 19,645	\$ 23,113
Benevolent Fund	\$ 2,829	\$ 23,706	\$ 22,027
Samaritan Fund (Formerly PEF)	\$ 707	\$ 4,815	\$ 4,077
Strengthen the Church	\$ 125	\$ 870	\$ 240
CAMO	\$ 320	\$ 440	\$ -

Samaritan (Formerly Pastor Emergency) Fund Balance is \$2,117.

Brian Amstutz, Treasurer

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Fellowship Schedule:

10/5: 6:00-8:00pm at the church
10/12: 6:00-8:00pm at the church
10/19: 6:00-8:00pm at the church
10/26: 11:30am Youth & Mentor activity,
6:00-8:00pm Youth Fellowship



Kids Club and Carol Choir

Kids Club and Carol Choir begin October 1st! Kids Club runs from 5:30pm-6:45pm. Our program starts with a kid friendly meal, followed by a Bible lesson. Carol Choir will start right after Kids Club at 6:45pm-7:15pm.

Can't make it the first week? No worries! Kids are welcome to join any week—come whenever it works for your family.

We're excited to see our younger kids, learning, and having fun together!

Bigs & Littles Fall Festival

Tuesday, October 7 | 6:00–7:00 PM

For ages birth through kindergarten (with an adult)

You're invited to a playful, hands-on celebration of the fall season at our Bigs & Littles Fall Festival—an evening designed especially for young children and their grown-ups.

We'll begin with a story and then move into a variety of fun and engaging activities, including:

- Sensory exploration stations
- Fall-themed crafts
- Simple games
- Tasty snacks
- And plenty of opportunities to play and connect

This event is open to **all families** with children from **birth through kindergarten**, accompanied by a parent, grandparent, or other caring adult. It's a great chance to enjoy quality time together in a warm, welcoming environment where little ones can learn, explore, and grow.

No registration required—just come and enjoy the fun!





It's coming.....

(Insert Jaws Theme)

Ba du..... Ba du..... Ba du, Ba du, Ba du, Ba du,

The Halloween Bingo Party is back!!!!

On **October 26th**, from **5:00-7:00** the Fellowship committee would like to invite the congregation to an intergenerational **Halloween BINGO** party. Costumes are encouraged, but not necessary. (There will be costume contests with different categories to win!) We will be playing several different games of BINGO throughout the evening as well as having some Halloween activities in between rounds so all ages can get in on the fun! We will start the evening with pizza, snacks, and drinks, followed up by the Halloween bingo high jinx!

Watch the bulletin for more info! Grab your friends and family, start thinking about your costumes, if you'd like to dress up, and join us for Halloween Bingo!

The Ladies of Light welcome fall with a bonfire at **Connie Duffy's house!** Join us Saturday, October 4th at 6:00pm for a cozy night under the stars, where laughter crackles as loudly as the bonfire! Grab a blanket and come enjoy great company and stories that get better with every spark. Connie's address - 1991 Eby Rd, Wooster.

Support our mission project! In November, the Ladies of Light will be creating Period Packs for Church World Services. Not sure what a Period Pack is? Period Packs give women and girls the essentials they need to feel clean, be healthy, and live with dignity during their menstrual cycle. Last year we assembled 50 packs and are hoping to increase our number this year as there is currently a great need! Please support this effort by purchasing some of the supplies needed for the packs. Cards with various items to purchase will be posted outside of the church office. Take a card, purchase the item(s), and place the card and item(s) in the box under the table across from the Parlor.



Notable Church Events in October

Kids Club and Carol Choir Resume - 10/1
Ladies of Light Gathering - 10/4
Bigs & Littles Fall Festival - 10/7
Newsletter Deadline - 10/17
Halloween Bingo - 10/26

Birthdays

10/01 Jon Gresser	10/14 Lana Findley
10/03 Linda Combs	10/16 Beth Lammrish
10/04 Art Shupp	10/17 John Weyrauch
10/04 Matthew Abel	10/17 Thomas Fletcher
10/04 Donovan McGrew	10/18 Lori Arnold
10/05 Barb Wyant	10/18 Kyler Graber
10/06 Wilbur Steiner	10/19 David Edwards
10/07 Betty Auble	10/19 Bethany Weeman
10/07 Doug Diehl	10/19 Kaylene Holderman
10/08 Lynette Marr	10/21 Paige Baer
10/08 Robert Graber	10/21 Payton Baer
10/08 Lisa Nussbaum	10/22 Amanda LeFever
10/09 Morgan Wyss	10/24 Carol Yeagley
10/10 Jim Huntsberger	10/24 Nicole Lacy
10/11 Joanne Burkey	10/24 Andrew Marr
10/11 Adam Weyrauch	10/24 Ethan Keirstead
10/11 Henry Fletcher	10/25 Sack Luangraj
10/12 Marie Boss	10/25 Charles Finney
10/12 Alisha Musser	10/26 Nancy Hranko
10/13 Vongseng Luangraj	10/27 Aarica Kirtley
10/14 Larry Yates	10/27 Mackenzie Donley
10/14 Frank Duffy	10/27 Cooper Haley
10/14 Kayla Luangraj	10/28 Judy Browne
	10/28 Ted Schantz
	10/28 Alex Huffman
	10/28 Kaitlyn Boggs
	10/30 Amy Walter
	10/31 Larry Singer



Anniversaries

10/03 John & Judy Kropf
10/03 Jim & Linda Bates
10/04 Bill & Pat Lytle
10/09 Bob & Florence Duemmel
10/11 Jon & Nikki Jones
10/12 Sith & Susan Luangraj
10/12 Dwaine & Joi Hemphill
10/13 Irv & Karen Gresser
10/15 Bob & Jennifer Howell
10/19 Lester & Ashley LeFever
10/21 Richard & Carol Jones
10/24 Nathan & Angela Craft
10/28 Nevin & Kathy Nussbaum
10/31 Thong & Na Phaphouvaninh

hello
FALL



Christ UCC Stewardship Team

As we turn from August to September, we have completed 2/3's of 2025. The most recent report to Council shows a positive current fund balance of \$19,645. Some of this balance may be attributed to a decrease in salary expenses as we haven't had a settled pastor. Overall giving is up \$3193 for the year compared to last year and benevolent giving has increased \$1679.

We will be starting our Annual Stewardship Campaign at the end of October and appreciate your continued devotion and support of the ministries of Christ UCC.



World Wide Communion Sunday October 5, 2025

On this day we join millions of Christians around the globe to celebrate World Communion Sunday. From Africa to Asia, from Europe to the Americas, from the islands of the Pacific to the deserts of the Middle East – the family of God gathers at one table: different languages, different cultures, different traditions, yet one loaf, one cup, one Savior.



October's special offering will support Friendship Meals: Each week Friendship Meals cooks 180-200 full meals. They are fully volunteer run, including cooks, purchasers, treasurer, servers and board members. They rent the basement kitchen of our church and serve dinner every Thursday (except the 1st of the month.) Their model has always been that they don't ask questions and allow deliveries to anyone picking up food.