



# THE VISITOR

March 2019

## ASH WEDNESDAY March 6th

5:15 – Kid's Club Family Night

5:15 – Beginnings Session

6:00 – **Pancake Supper**

Ham, fruit and pancakes with all the toppings will be served. All are invited. No RSVP needed.

6:30-7:00 – Carol Choir

7:00 – **Ash Wednesday Service**

Begin the Lenten season with this devotional service and the imposition of ashes.

7:30 – Chancel Choir



**Ash Wednesday**  
— Lent Begins

## YOUTH AUCTION

Sunday, March 17, following worship

SOLD! The Youth Auction is back and will be held after worship on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a live auction and a silent auction, both with awesome items on which to bid. Lunch will be provided, free of charge.



This year 5% the proceeds will be sent to Heifer International. The youth will be working at their ranch in Arkansas, June 23rd-28th. 5% of the proceeds will also be donated to next year's mission trip place of service. The rest of the proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards the Youth Mission Fund which helps the

youth attend their annual mission trips and helps with other local mission work that the youth participate in throughout the year.

There is still time to donate items for the auction! See Lisa Yeagley.

### Some items that will be auctioned off:

Ohio State tickets, Indians tickets, Orr Pool family pool passes, a beautiful knitted afghan, Vongseng's egg rolls, Cleveland Orchestra tickets, babysitting hours, Cleveland Monsters tickets, many items

donated/made by the youth, and so much more!

Please join us and help support our youth!



*Pictures from 2018  
Mission Trip*

## From the Ohio Conference

A member, Jim Nelson, from your congregation was elected to be a delegate of the Ohio Conference to the 32nd General Synod of the United Church of Christ, to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 21-25, 2019. The General Synod the biannual, national gathering of the UCC.

Each delegate's registration fee has been paid from Conference funds and a stipend of \$250 is given to each delegate by the Ohio Conference. Delegates are responsible for transportation, housing, and meals, totaling approximately \$800-\$900. In the past delegates have been generously sponsored by their local congregations.

We are writing to encourage you to financially support your delegate. It is not often that local churches have a delegate from their church to be a part of the Ohio Conference delegation.

We urge your church to prayerfully and generously underwrite all or most of the expenses that the delegate from your church will incur. Your support would be an expression of appreciation of the faith journey made with you in covenant with the entire UCC.

Sincerely,  
Rev. Nayiri Karjian  
General Minister  
Living Water Association, ONE

Rev. David Long-Higgins  
Transitional Conference Minister  
Ohio Conference, UCC

## From the Pastor's Pen

*Our life and our death is with our neighbor. If we win our brother [or sister], we win God. If we cause our brother [or sister] to stumble, we have sinned against Christ.* - Anthony the Great

We begin the season of Lent this month. One of the things I will be sharing with you from the pulpit is Desert Spirituality, a set of practices that has produced spiritual growth in my own life. To introduce this approach, I offer you a selection from the book by Rowan Williams, *Where God Happens: Discovering Christ in One Another*. Here he comments on the above saying from the first of the "Desert Fathers."

The church is a community that exists because something has happened that makes the entire process of self-justification irrelevant. God's truth and mercy have appeared in concrete form in Jesus, and in his death and resurrection, have worked the transformation that only God can perform, told us what only God can tell us: that he has already dealt with the dreaded consequences of our failure, so that **we need not labor anxiously to save ourselves and put ourselves right with God**. The church's [reason for being] is to be a community that demonstrates this decisive transformation as really experienceable.

A healthy church is one in which we seek to stay connected with God by seeking to connect others with God, one in which we "win God" by converting one another, and convert one another by our truthful awareness of [our own] frailty. A church that is living in such a way is the only church that will have anything *different* to say to the world. How deeply depressing [it would be] if all the church offered were new and better ways to succeed at the expense of others, reinstating the scapegoat mechanisms that the cross of Christ should have exploded once and for all.

Walking with you through Lent,

Pastor Mike

## Youth News

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### **Youth Fellowship (6th-12<sup>th</sup> grades):**

**March 3rd:** 6-8pm at the church, Youth Auction planning

**March 10th:** Movie Night "Run the Race", time TBD depending on movie time

**March 16<sup>th</sup>:** 10:30am Set-up for the Youth Auction

**March 17<sup>th</sup>:** Youth Auction, 11:30am, No YF that evening

**March 24<sup>th</sup>:** 6-8pm at the church, Mission Trip meeting after worship

**March 31<sup>st</sup>:** 6-8pm at the church

### **Kids Club (K-5<sup>th</sup> grades):**

**March 6<sup>th</sup>:** 5:15-6:00pm Family Night, pancake supper following at 6:00pm and the Ash Wednesday service at 7:00pm. The whole family is invited to everything.

**March 13<sup>th</sup>:** 5:15-6:30 pm

**March 20<sup>th</sup>:** 5:15-6:30 pm

**March 27<sup>th</sup>:** 5:15-6:30 pm. This is the last Kids Club until the Fall.

### **Kids Club Family Night:**

Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> will be a Family Night. Please meet in the Lower Room at 5:15pm. After our session, everyone is invited to stay for the annual pancake supper at 6:00pm and the Ash Wednesday service at 7:00pm

### **Mission Trip Meeting:**

On Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> following worship there will be a short mission trip meeting for everyone attending the youth mission trip this June and their parents. Meeting will be downstairs in the Conference Room.

## Consistory Highlights – Feb. Meeting

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- Youth Auction will be held March 17.
- Fellowship Committee reports that the Daughters Dinner is scheduled for March 9 at 5:00. Baby bundles will again be assembled.
- Property Committee is dealing with ways to keep steps safe when wet.
- Worship Committee is suggesting that there be two services on Easter Sunday, one a sunrise service and the other the traditional 10:15 service.
- Bridging Team is working on maps of the building.
- 150th Anniversary group has put up bulletin boards in the hallway and will be adding written historical information to the bulletin. Green Team notes that Stewardship of the Earth Sunday will be April 7.

## Daughters Dinner

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Wanted: all Daughters to mosey down to the Christ Church Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 6, at 5:00 for a boot scoot'n good time at the annual Daughters Dinner. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

## Tea Party

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The Christ Church Cancer Crusaders Annual Tea Party is scheduled for **April 6, at 1:30 p.m.** The Fellowship Hall will be transformed into an English garden where finger sandwiches, scones, and other dainty finger foods will be served, and a variety of teas to sip will be poured. Tickets will be on sale in the Gathering Area on March 17, 24, and 31. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 ages 3-10, age 2 and under are free. Proceeds go to cancer research through the CUCC Cancer Crusaders partnership with The James. Gather the lovely ladies in your life and join us as we spend a quaint afternoon enjoying each other's company.

## Sonnenberg Station to Perform at Christ Church

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Sonnenberg Station men's choral ensemble will hold a concert on March 16, 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Their repertoire features beloved classical pieces as well as contemporary selections and everything in between. Each season's selections draw from traditional spirituals, fun folk tunes, and always include a few lighthearted surprises, all covering a variety of cultures, eras, and styles. All are welcome!

## One Great Hour of Sharing—Special Offering, March 10

One Great Hour of Sharing enables the United Church of Christ to reach people affected by disaster, displacement or poverty.

Through One Great Hour of Sharing, we provide assistance to families and communities around the world, helping them to become stronger, healthier and better equipped to address the hardships and catastrophes.

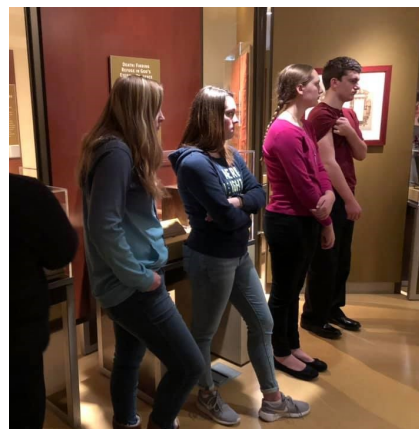
When we give, as the United Church of Christ—individuals, groups and congregations—it means that the church can stand strong, in the midst of need whether it is nearby or far away. When God's love abides in us, we are moved to respond with our own material goods to the needs of other members of God's family.

### Treasurer's Report

January 31, 2019

	Month of Jan. '19	YTD	Last Year
<b>Current Fund</b>			
Income	\$17,134	\$ 17,134	\$ 17,746
Expenses	\$24,341	\$ 24,341	\$ 24,788
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (7,207)	\$ (7,207)	\$ (7,042)
<b>Benevolent Fund</b>	\$ 1,756	\$ 7,756	\$ 8,292
Blanket Fund	\$ 574	\$ 574	\$ 858
Pastor's Emerg. Fund	\$ 342	\$ 342	\$ 670

Brian Amstutz, Treasurer



*The Confirmation Class and Youth & Mentors recently took a field trip to the Maltz Museum.*

### March Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### Birthdays

3/01 David Bachman	3/11 Hadyn Hostetler	3/21 Logan Lehman
Vicki Anderson	3/12 Craig Schmid	3/22 Ryan Findley
Jennifer Brown	Ruth Rock	Laura Scott
Erin Baer	David Stoll	Melanie Wellert
3/02 John Johnson, Jr.	Alex Bates	3/24 Bruce Smucker
3/03 Bonnie Slicker	3/13 Pat Keirstead	3/25 Elizabeth Wallace
3/04 Jim Bates	Jim Marr	Nick Yeagley
3/05 Kiley Thompson	Avery Louanglath	Jeremy Hofstetter
Kyla Hemphill	3/14 Barb Stoll	3/26 Cindi Clark
3/07 Dan Flory	Rachael LeFever	Connie Bowen
Shirley Weyrauch	Bruce Sigler	3/27 Scott Musser
Connie Duffy	3/16 Evelyn Lorson	3/28 Steve Malcuit
Denise Berkey	3/18 Lisa Yeagley	Emelie Schmid
Felicia Luangraj	Claudia Landis	Ryan Abel
Beckett Kropf	3/19 Lauren Hostetler	Norah Blasingame
3/08 Bruce Weeman	Connor Bupp	3/29 Pat LeFever
Landon Wellert	3/20 Janice Wisniewski	3/30 Marv Kragt
3/09 Roger Williams	Hank Bowen	Angela Smith
3/10 Kent Smith	Carter Orosz	Richard Moser
Doug Huffman	Greyson Savchuk	
Brandon Bupp		

#### Anniversaries

3/05 Bill and Connie Duffy
3/08 Erik and Sheri McGrew
3/10 Dean and Sally Perry
James and Linda Madigan
3/16 Bruce and Linda Smucker
3/18 Charles and Marian Craft
Bruce & Rebecca Sigler
3/19 Steve and Carole Hahn
3/22 Russ and Anna Davidson
3/27 Michael and Karen Donley
3/30 Gary and Jodi Cassidy



# March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:30a Zumba with Zara
3 9:00a Sunday School 10:15a Worship; Communion 11:30a Coffee Hour 11:30a Parish Nurses—BP's 5:00p Confirmation 6:00p Youth Fellowship	4 7:00p Spiritual Council	5 7:00p Pastoral Relations	6 <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 5:15p Kid's Club—Family Night 5:15p Beginnings <b>6:00p Pancake Supper</b> 6:30p Carol Choir <b>7:00p Ash Wednesday Service</b> 7:30p Chancel Choir	7	8	9 9:30a Zumba with Zara 5:00p Daughters Dinner
10 9:00a Sunday School 10:15a Worship 11:30a Coffee Hour 5:00p Confirmation TBD—Youth Fellowship	11 7:00p Consistory	12	13 5:15p Kid's Club 5:15p Beginnings 6:30p Bell Choir 6:30p Carol Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	14 6:00p Governance & Ministry	15	16 9:30a Zumba with Zara 7:00p Sonnenberg Station Concert
17 9:00a Sunday School 10:15a Worship 11:30a Youth Auction 5:00p Confirmation	18	19	20 5:15p Kid's Club 5:15p Beginnings 6:30p Bell Choir 6:30p Carol Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	21	22	23 9:30a Zumba with Zara
24 9:00a Sunday School 10:15a Worship 11:30a Coffee Hour 11:30a Mission Trip Meeting 5:00p Confirmation 6:00p Youth Fellowship	25 7:00p Christian Ed.	26	27 5:15p Kid's Club 5:15p Beginnings 6:30p Bell Choir 6:30p Carol Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	28	29	30 9:30a Zumba with Zara
31 9:00a Sunday School 10:15a Worship 11:30a Coffee Hour 5:00p Confirmation II & Mentor (Bread Baking) 6:00p Youth Fellowship						