



THE VISITOR



It is once again time to register for camp! Don't miss your chance to be a part of the fun at Templed Hills this summer! This is the last year that summer camp will be held at Templed Hills, but not the last summer for camp! The church will once again be paying 1/2 the cost of camp for any church members who would like to attend. You will need to use code "letscamp30144667" to get the 50% coverage from the church.

This summer Templed Hills will be offering a variety of camps for ALL ages.

Camp is a must. It's an experience unlike any other. It's a week that will challenge you, stretch you, inspire you, motivate you and, if you let it, it will change you forever, for the better. Give camp a chance, you won't regret it!



If you would like to read more about the camps that will be offered this year, scan the QR code to the right or log onto the Heartland Conference website. Have questions or need help picking a camp session that is right for you?

Contact Kaylene Holderman.



I Wonder as I Wander...

There are times that missional opportunities arise when you least expect them to, and it is to our Christian advantage to be both open to the movement of the Holy Spirit in our midst and nimble in decision-making process.

One such opportunity came up a few weeks ago when LIFE: A Dementia-Friendly Foundation approached us about hosting one of their Memory Cafés at Christ Church and Council approved the program.

Started in 2016 through the inspiration and vision of founder Carole Klingler, the LIFE program opened its first Memory Café in Lorain County to serve individuals living with dementia and their care partners. There are now six Memory Cafés in operation, and Orrville will become the seventh. There has been a Memory Café in Wooster since 2021, and its experienced service manager, Christen Uhl, will lead the Orrville program.

These Memory Café locations all offer a social space where individuals living with dementia and their care partners engage in art and music programs, pet therapy, physical exercise, and other stimulating group activities. Every week, there is a lunch provided by a community partner, and every week there is an opportunity for the care partners to connect with others who understand their journey and benefit from on-site educational and supportive resources.

The amazing part of this – there is never a charge or fee for participants who come to a Memory Café. Specific to Orrville, the Wayne County Community Foundation has provided a grant to establish this Memory Café. Many community partners provide in-kind services such as meals and activity leaders, while additional donations to the 501(c)(3) organization help cover the cost of purchased services and staffing. CUCC provides one of the in-kind services through the use of the building and a small amount of storage space.

The Memory Café we will host at CUCC will begin on Monday, March 25. The program runs from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and operates every week to allow for the consistent routine that benefits a person living with dementia.

If you would like to learn more about dementia or know of someone who could benefit from learning about dementia in general and the Memory Café program in specific, LIFE will host an educational program on Tuesday, March 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at CUCC. Lunch will be provided. For additional information, visit the LIFE website at www.DFLife.org. Updated brochures are at the printer and we will have some available for you to share in the near future.

Friends, this is one more way that we are offering an extravagant welcome to all God's people, no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Brian



CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

February 2024

Church Council Meeting Summary from February 13, 2024

Treasurer's Report – There is a deficit of \$3308. Expenses were up \$969. There were two large donations noted in December, from which we will draw \$1800/month in 2024.

Pastor Burke commended the day-to-day staff for taking on responsibilities in preparation for his retirement and transition to a temporary replacement during the search process.

Kaylene is working on a new logo and website.

Merry Cooks - please contact the church when there is a need!

Intentional Care Unit (ICU) Care teams are looking for volunteers.

Daughters' Dinner - Baby bundles will be prepared and donated to CAMO. Set up and cleanup help is needed. Contact Jennifer Howell.

Council met briefly with the General Minister of the Association about finding a pastor to cover the pulpit, visitation, funerals, and staff involvement as of April 1. We're looking for someone to be available ½ to ¾ time, with designated office days and times, hopefully in 3-month increments, until a settled pastor is called.

Council met with the director of LIFE Memory Café. It is a Dementia Friendly Foundation, which focuses education on the care partner while providing engaging activities for their loved ones with Dementia. It would be open every Monday, 10-2, with lunch provided. They are funded by the Wayne County Community Foundation. With no cost to the church other than providing a place to meet. Council extended an invitation to this community ministry. A brochure and further explanation of this ministry is on file.

Council approved replacing the church sign south of town near Smucker's. We would like to find a place north of town to display a second sign.

Next meeting is March 12, 7:00. All are welcome to attend.

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of Ryan Findley

Sylvia Hurst

In Memory of Bonnie Thompson

William Arnold

Treasurer's Report

January 31, 2024

Current Fund	Month of Jan 2024	Year-to-Date	Last Year
Sunday Offerings	\$ 20,551	\$20,551	\$ 23,557
Other Income	\$ 708	\$ 708	\$ 700
Expenses	\$24,568	\$ 24,568	\$ 23,598
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (3,308)	\$ (3,308)	\$ 659
Benevolent Fund	\$ 2,741	\$ 2,741	\$ 2,411
Christmas Fund/Vets Cross	\$ 660	\$ 660	\$ 910
Pastor's Emergency Fund	\$ 610	\$ 610	\$ 610

Pastor Emergency Fund Balance is \$1,091.

Brian Amstutz, Treasurer

Youth News

Youth Fellowship (6th -12th grades)

3/3: 6-8pm at the church.
3/10: 6-8pm at the church
3/17: 6-8pm at the church
3/24: Confirmation Sunday.
Reception to follow worship.
Whirlyball, leaving at 12:45pm
3/31: No YF. Happy Easter!



Youth & Mentor Outing:

Our next youth and mentor activity will be Sunday, March 3rd after worship. Lunch provided. Please let Lisa know if you cannot attend.



Kids Club Family Night:

Our last Kids Club will be Wednesday, March 27th. It's a Family Night, so the whole family is invited to attend. Dinner will be provided, followed by a fun activity the whole family will enjoy. RSVPs are helpful so we know how much food to prepare.

Lenten Family Night:

You're invited to dive into Lent on Sunday, March 17th from 5-7pm at our first ever Lenten Family Night. Come and explore in depth the season of Lent with us in an open house-style setup that will be fun for all ages! We'll have a light meal and different stations to explore in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend!

Orrville Day of Caring:

On Wednesday, May 1st the CUCC staff will be participating in Orrville's Day of Caring. This annual event partners businesses, individuals, and small groups with non-profit organizations in the community. Volunteers use their skills and talents to help community improvement in the Orrville, Dalton, and Marshallville areas. The day will begin (rain or shine) at 8:00am with a launch ceremony, followed by working on our assigned project from 9:00am-12:00pm.

Our staff are inviting other members of the congregation to join in this day of service. If you are interested in volunteering, there will be a sign-up sheet outside the office. The sign-up deadline is March 24th. If you have any questions or would like more information, please see Lisa Yeagley or e-mail her at: youth.cucc@zoominternet.net.

Art & Soul:

Devotions? Crafts? Yes, please! Join us on March 21st at 6:30pm in the Pole Room for an Easter-themed craft! Registration is not required but if you know that you are coming, please sign up outside the office so that we have an idea of how many supplies to purchase. Can't join us this month? Our next meeting will be April 18th.



Bigs & Littles:

Get ready to hop on down the bunny trail on March 12th and join us for our Bigs and Littles Easter Eggstravaganza! From 6-7pm, we'll hear the Easter story, enjoy activities, and wrap up the evening with a spectacular Easter egg hunt that you won't want to miss! This event is open to everyone, kindergarten and younger, with an adult. We can't wait to see you there!



A Heartfelt Thank You!!

Christ United Church of Christ,

I wanted to write you a personal note to thank you for your donation. We are so thankful for gifts like yours that help us to continue to provide all the services we have for over our 45 years of helping people in Wayne County.

At this point of 2023 we are starting to see with the extra cost of fuel, food and other nonfood items is an increase in need for financial help with utilities, rent and other home and health related needs. We, as every year strive to utilize every donation in the most cost-effective way to help us provide for more families in need in 2024.

Thank you for being a partner with us and blessing us with your gift, we do so greatly appreciate your support.

We believe the best thing we provide for people is the HOPE of a better tomorrow and encouraging words of support to help be the LIGHT of JESUS in our community.

Joe Szeker
Director of Operations
People to People Ministries

-Thank you for your support as we serve people in need together in Christ.

Dear Merry Cooks,

Thank you for bringing us dinner last evening. It was nice to have the “extras” like dessert (haven’t worried too much about that lately). I’m looking forward to being able to help with Merry Cooks again in the future.

Thanks again,
Julie Finney



“Kindly share my congratulations to the people of Christ UCC for their willingness to affirm the bold message of Christ’s inclusive love for everyone a public confession! There are many who have been hurt by churches who claim to be welcoming only to find that they are not. In fact, too often they are quite the opposite, resulting in much emotional and spiritual damage. To be able to let folks know that they will be welcomed and affirmed at Christ’s church no matter their station or description in life is a true gift you now offer. What a blessing you will continue to be to the world, now in ever new ways!

Blessings on you all!

Pastor Dave Long-Higgins
Your partner in ministry”



Birthdays

3/01 David Bachman
3/01 Vicki Anderson
3/01 Jennifer Brown
3/01 Erin Baer
3/02 John Johnson, Jr.
3/04 James Bates
3/04 Kyle Ritchie
3/05 Kiley Thompson
3/05 Kyla Christie
3/07 Daniel Flory
3/07 Shirley Weyrauch
3/07 Connie Duffy
3/07 Denise Berkey
3/07 Felicia Luangraj
3/07 Beckett Kropf
3/08 Bruce Weeman
3/08 Landon Wellert
3/09 Roger Williams
3/09 Michael Holderman
3/10 Kent Smith
3/10 Douglas Huffman
3/10 Brandon Bupp
3/11 Hadyn Hostetler
3/11 Jourdyn Lewis
3/12 Ruth Rock
3/12 Craig Schmid
3/12 David Stoll
3/12 Alexander Bates
3/13 Patrice Keirstead
3/13 Avery Louanglath
3/14 Bonnie Jackson
3/14 Barb Stoll
3/14 Bruce Sigler
3/14 Rachael LeFever
3/15 Craig Grimes
3/16 Evelyn Lorson
3/17 Mary Schantz
3/17 Gavin Findley
3/18 Lisa Yeagley
3/18 Claudia Landis
3/19 Michael Burkey
3/19 Lauren Hostetler
3/19 Connor Bupp
3/20 Janice Wisniewski
3/20 Hank Bowen
3/20 Carter Orosz
3/20 Greyson Savchuk
3/21 Logan Lehman
3/22 Laura Scott
3/22 Melanie Wellert
3/24 Bruce Smucker
3/25 Elizabeth Wallace
3/25 Nick Yeagley
3/25 Jeremy Hofstetter
3/26 Cindi Clark
3/26 Anderson Weyrauch
3/27 Scott Musser
3/28 Robert Boss
3/28 Steve Malcuit
3/28 Emelie Schmid
3/28 Ryan Abel
3/28 Norah Blasingame
3/29 Patricia LeFever
3/30 Marvin Kragt
3/30 Angela Smith
3/31 Geneva Johnson



Anniversaries

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



The CUCC Church Profile has been completed! If you would like to see the finished product, please visit the following link:

<https://opportunities.ucc.org/CustomerFTP/6066/Attachments/Christ%20Church%20Profile.pdf>

Coffee (or Tea) & Conversation

Women of all ages, come gather with us at Sure House Coffee in Orrville on Saturday morning, April 6, from 9:00 to 10:00. We'll start with a quick devotion and then enjoy time together catching up with our Sisters in Faith, sharing stories, and maybe even making some new friends. Wouldn't it be fun to just relax with a cup of coffee or tea and some good conversation?

Come join us! If you want to let Cheryl Diehl or Bethany Williams know you are coming, that's great but not necessary.

Give them a shout-out at church or send a text to Cheryl @ 330.201.4978 or Bethany @ 330.201.6796. You are more than welcome to just show up!



The Endowment Team is preparing to meet in a few weeks to discuss disbursement of the annual allocation of the endowment fund income earned through United Church Funds. As in past years, the funds are disbursed with 1/3 to Wider Missions (i.e. Disaster Relief - UCC, Back Bay Mission, Resettlement Refugee Fund - UCC, etc.); 1/3 to Local Missions (i.e. People to People Ministries, Friendship Meals, Augsburg Lutheran Church Brown Bag Lunch, etc.); and the balance to Local CUCC for Church Council to disburse.

Please provide your suggestions of agencies/programs that the Endowment Team should consider when distributing the funds. Forms to provide suggestions are available on the table in the Gathering Area. Please complete the form and leave it in the church office or Caitlin's mailbox.

The Endowment Team consists of Julie Finney, Ruth Harrington, Joi Hemphill, Bryan Troyer and Jacob Weyrauch. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Celebrating 20 Years of Ministry!

On Sunday, March 17th, we will be honoring Pastor Brian's 20 years of service in the ministry! Please join us for worship and then stay for a celebratory luncheon in the Fellowship Hall afterward. Lunch will be provided. See you there!

