

Ashland First United Methodist Church, 220 Sandusky St., Ashland, OH 44805



Volunteer Ministry Schedules

Welcome Center

January 7

Tim & Tracey Eagle
Clay Eagle

January 14

Brooks & Jenny Whitmore
Marilyn Thompson

January 21

Tim & Sandi Rowsey
Toni McKee

January 28

Mike & Susan Householder
Stacey Lucas

Connection Café

January 7

Tom Workman
Clay Eagle

January 14

Hazel Ritchey
Edna Cox

January 21

Jeff & Joy Reep

January 28

Dan & Georgene Aber

Assessment Team Meetings

7:00 pm
Ministry Team
at First UMC/Room 208

Administrative Team
at Christ UMC

Martin Luther King Day

Monday, January 15
OFFICE CLOSED

Combined Town Hall Meeting

Sunday, January 28
2:00 pm
Ashland Theological Seminary

Feast Night

Sunday, January 28
5:00 pm
Dauch Hall

Worship Liturgy Team

January 7

Tom Koop

January 14

Toni McKee

January 21

Kim Liston

January 28

Paige Squires

Communion Team

January 7

Marilyn Koop
Karen Cook

January Counter

Hazel Ritchey



Audrey Bowersock.....4
 Lynne Conway.....5
 Melody Barnes.....6
 Andrew Householder.....8
 Roy Turk.....14
 Susan Householder.....17
 Ron Stone.....21
 Holly Hildebrand.....24
 Sally Ann Hull.....30

If your name is not listed and you would like it to be, please call the church office.

Office Hours
Monday – Thursday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm
PHONE 419-289-7551

Sunday Worship Hours
Worship – 9:30 am
Sunday School – 10:45 am

Spire Deadline
 If you would like to submit an article for the February newsletter, the deadline is Monday, January 15, 2017.



Want to spread God’s love today? Why not drop a note to a shut-in or visit a church member who is in a nursing home.

Belmont Tower
 (2140 Center St., Ashland)
 Paul & Kathy Chorpeneing
 Faith Conner
 Verla Long
 Carolyn Lowe

Brethren Care
 (2000 Center St., Ashland)
 Doug Diercks
 Ruth Emmons
 Eve Gault
 Richard Kriens (Bradford House)
 Joan Wenrick

Brookwood Place
 (1998 Center St., Ashland)
 Mary Wirts

Good Shepherd Villa
 (726 Center St. Ashland)
 Sandy Benson

Kingston of Ashland
 (20 Amberwood Pkwy, Ashland)
 Carol Barnes
 David & Sandra Grindle

Lutheran Village
 (330 Davis Rd., Ashland)
 Cliff Hubler
 Bill & Needy Prosser
 Mary Puglisi
 Ireene Thomas

Attendance

| | <u>Worship</u> | <u>S. S.</u> |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 12/3 | 131 | 72 |
| 12/10 | 115 | 69 |
| 12/17 | 143 | 54 |
| 12/24 | (In February Spire) | |
| 12/25 | (In February Spire) | |
| 12/31 | (In February Spire) | |

Altar Flowers

If you would like to contribute flowers for the Altar in memory or in honor of a person or event, there is a new 2018 Altar Flower Sign Up Schedule on the wall in the entrance area. If you sign up for flowers and are having them delivered, please make sure that they are delivered on **Thursday** of that week. They will be placed in a refrigerator to keep them fresh for Sunday.



Please contact the church office if you would like to add someone to the Prayer Chain email list.

Financial Update

General Operating Ministry Budget

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 12/3 | \$ 6,639.00 |
| 12/10 | \$ 5,406.00 |
| 12/17 | \$ 5,846.00 |
| 12/24 | (In February Spire) |
| 12/25 | (In February Spire) |
| 12/31 | (In February Spire) |
| | |
| 2017 YTD Current Revenue | \$ 241,212.39 |
| 2016 YTD Current Revenue | \$ 279,697.44 |

GOOD NEWS! The newly signed "Protecting American's from Tax Hikes Act of 2015" makes certain "**Charitable contributions of IRA distributions**" provision permanent.

Note: Those American's subject to RMD's (required minimum distributions) can now elect to have their IRA Custodian send Charitable Contributions **directly from their IRA to an eligible charitable organization**. When these transfers are made directly from the IRA to the Qualified Charitable Organization, the event is nontaxable.

This provision can really be helpful for many senior citizens who have part of their Social Security and the IRA distribution become taxable by eliminating the IRA from coming into income altogether.

If you are subject to RMDs and are planning on supporting any qualified charitable organization, such as the church, please contact your IRA plan sponsor, your investment advisor or accountant.




Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church year round.

Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis.

Get started today!

Ask for an authorization form in the church office or visit our church website:
www.ashlandteamministry.org.

Pastor's **Bible Study**



Bible Study Offered Weekly

You are invited to join Pastor Jon and/or Pastor Allan each week for an hour of study on the Bible lessons for Sunday worship.

Two times are offered for your convenience:

Tuesday morning @10:00 a.m.
at Downtown Perks
145 West Main Street

Tuesday evening @7:00 p.m.
at Christ UMC
1140 Claremont Avenue

Bring your Bibles with you
and join the conversation!

**NOTE: There will be no Bible Study on
December 26th.**

Reflective Scripture Readings

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <u>Daily</u> Psalm 8 | <u>Mon., Jan. 8</u> Genesis 17:1-13 Romans 4:1-12 | <u>Wed., Jan. 17</u> Genesis 16:1-14 Luke 18:15-17 | <u>Thurs., Jan. 25</u> Deut. 3:23-29 Romans 9:6-18 |
| <u>Mon., Jan. 1</u> Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 Rev. 21:1-6a Matthew 25:31-46 | <u>Tues., Jan. 9</u> Exodus 30:22-38 Acts 22:2-16 | <u>Daily</u> Psalm 62:5-12 | <u>Fri., Jan. 26</u> Deut. 12:28-32 Rev. 2:12-17 |
| <u>Daily</u> Psalm 110 | <u>Wed., Jan. 10</u> Isaiah 41:14-20 John 1:29-34 | <u>Thurs., Jan. 18</u> Jeremiah 19:1-15 Rev. 18:11-20 | <u>Sat., Jan. 27</u> Deut. 13:1-5 Matthew 8:28-9:1 |
| <u>Tues., Jan. 2</u> Proverbs 1:1-7 James 3:13-18 | <u>Daily</u> Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 | <u>Fri., Jan. 19</u> Jeremiah 20:7-13 2 Peter 3:1-7 | <u>Sun., Jan. 28</u> Deut. 18:15-20 1 Cor. 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28 |
| <u>Wed., Jan. 3</u> Proverbs 1:20-33 James 4:1-10 | <u>Thurs., Jan. 11</u> Judges 2:6-15 2 Cor. 10:1-11 | <u>Sat., Jan. 20</u> Jeremiah 20:14-18 Luke 10:13-16 | <u>Daily</u> Psalm 35:1-10 |
| <u>Thurs., Jan. 4</u> Proverbs 3:1-12 James 4:11-17 | <u>Fri., Jan. 12</u> Judges 2:16-23 Acts 13:16-25 | <u>Sun., Jan. 21</u> Jonah 3:1-5, 10 1 Cor. 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20 | <u>Mon., Jan. 29</u> Numbers 22:1-21 Acts 21:17-26 |
| <u>Fri., Jan. 5</u> Proverbs 22:1-9 Luke 6:27-31 | <u>Sat., Jan. 13</u> 1 Samuel 2:21-25 Matthew 25:1-13 | <u>Daily</u> Psalm 46 | <u>Tues., Jan. 30</u> Numbers 22:22-28 1 Cor. 7:32-40 |
| <u>Sat., Jan. 6</u> Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12 | <u>Sun., Jan. 14</u> 1 Samuel 3:1-20 1 Cor. 6:12-20 John 1:43-51 | <u>Mon., Jan. 22</u> Genesis 12:1-9 1Cor. 7:17-24 | <u>Wed., Jan. 31</u> Jeremiah 29:1-14 Mark 5:1-20 |
| <u>Sun., Jan. 7</u> Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11 | <u>Daily</u> Psalm 86 | <u>Tues., Jan. 23</u> Genesis 45:25-46:7 Acts 5:33-42 | |
| <u>Daily</u> Psalm 69:1-5,30-36 | <u>Monday, Jan. 15</u> 1 Samuel 9:27-10:8 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1 | <u>Wed., Jan. 24</u> Proverbs 8:1-21 Mark 3:13-19a | |
| | <u>Tuesday, Jan. 16</u> 1 Samuel 15:10-31 Acts 5:1-11 | <u>Daily</u> Psalm 111 | |

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Jon Pickering (*Jane Betts*)
Bruce Starkey (*Ruth Ann Hiner*)
Don Herr (*Chuck and Hazel Ritchey*)
Mary Wirts (*Sally Valentine*)
Doyle Hoverstock (*Jim and Melody Young*)
Cappie Stone (*Stacey Lucas*)
A Secret Place (Christian Retreat Center in
Kentucky) owned by Tim and Julie Barnhart
(*Kattie Priebe's parents*) (*Kattie Priebe*)
Steve Budd, (*Marlene Brewer*)
Roger Shopbell (*Chuck and Hazel Ritchey*)
Naomi Koons (*Debbie Shanklin*)
Sondra Goard (*Cappie Stone*)
Heart of Ohio Emmaus/Chrysalis/Face to Face
Pilgrims (*Melody Barnes*)
Asher Kettering (*Mary Kettering*)
Dillon Crozier (*David Boyer*)
For the refugees coming out of Syria (*Anna Slade*)
Patricia Boyer (*David Boyer*)
Holly Fulmer (*David Boyer*)



Our sympathies to the family of
Corinne Hubler on her passing.



Reception for Debbie Shanklin Sunday, January 7 Following Worship

Come and join us for a reception on January 7
to honor Debbie Shanklin for her dedicated 20
years of service and commitment to First UMC.
We appreciate you, Debbie!



There will not be a Life and Lunch Program in
January. The next Life and Lunch is scheduled for
Monday, February 12th. More information will be
coming on future Life and Lunch events.

Office Closed

The church office will be closed
during the week of Christmas.

Celebrate Recovery

Please join us for the practice run of Celebrate
Recovery on Wednesday, January 10th, 6:30 p.m. at
First UMC. This is an opportunity to worship
together as well as learn about Celebrate Recovery
– the topic will be Newcomers 101.

After worship, we will have a group
training/information session for anyone interested
in serving in this ministry: greeters, food, resource
table, nursery, children and youth, group leaders,
musicians, vocalists, and prayer warriors.

Celebrate Recovery will be open to our
community starting January 17th and will meet
every Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m.



Priority Prayer "Watchnight"

January 1, 2018 at 7pm

First United Methodist

Let's make prayer a priority the first of the year!

In August, 1755 John Wesley celebrated the first of what would become at least annual services in the Methodist movement. They were celebrated when Wesley would visit a Methodist meeting and in London they were celebrated generally on January 1st. Reflecting on one of these first of the year services in 1775, he wrote: "It was an occasion for a variety of spiritual experiences ... I do not know that ever we had a greater blessing. Afterwards many desired to return thanks, either for a sense of pardon, for full salvation, or for a fresh manifestation of His graces, healing all their backslidings." It was a truly powerful experience as they reconnected to God and recommitted their lives to being God's covenant people, dedicating themselves again as the year began.

On the first day of 2018, we will have our normal monthly priority prayer meeting. Since this is also the first day of the year, we will incorporate some special elements of the Covenant Service, sometimes called a "Watchnight" service. Join us for prayer for ourselves, our churches, our community, our country, and our world!

1936 British Methodist Church – Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine.
So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen

**ASHLAND FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES
2018**

Administrative Board

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Chp. | Paige Squires |
| Vice Chp. | Joy Day |
| Secretary | Dottie Greene |
| Lay Leader | Tom Koop |
| Lay Delegate | Melody Barnes |
| Finance Chair | David Boyer |
| SPRC Chair | Rob Wally |
| Trustees Chair | Don Kettering |

At-Large-Members:

| 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Joan Stampfli | Jamie Burton | Marilyn Thompson |
| Kay Sayers | Jenny Whitmore | Joan Crissinger |
| Karen Cook | Russ Hedglin | Molly Wilson |

Finance Committee

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Chp. | David Boyer |
| Vice Chp. | Tim Rowsey |
| Chp. Adm. Bd. | Paige Squires |
| Chp. Trustees | Don Kettering |
| Chp. SPRC | Rob Wally |
| Treasurer | Delila Stiteler |
| Ex-officio Members | Co-Pastors - Pastor Jon Priebe, Pastor Allan Bevere Lay Leader - Tom Koop Lay Delegate - Melody Barnes |

At-Large-Members:

| 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Cathy Finks | Nevin Bowers | Chriss Stiteler |

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

| 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|--------------------|--|------------------|
| Donna Workman | Greg Squires | Rob Wally (Chp.) |
| Sandi Rowsey | Unie Kettering | Joe Murray |
| Colleen Free | Joy Reep | Chuck Ritchey |
| Ex-officio Members | Co-Pastors - Pastor Jon Priebe, Pastor Allan Bevere Lay Leader - Tom Koop Lay Delegate - Melody Barnes | |

**ASHLAND FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES
2018**

Board of Trustees

2018

Gary Coleman
Edna Cox
Laurie McFarlin

2019

Debbie Hamilton
Stacey Lucas
Fred Martinelli

2020

Charlie Barnes
Georgene Aber
Don Kettering (Chp.)

Leadership Committee

2018

Mary Coleman
Stacey Lucas
Ann Cadley
Ex-officio Members

2019

Aretha Alexander
Robin Hildebrand
Bonnie Hobson
Co-Pastors Chair - Pastor Jon Priebe, Pastor Allan Bevere
Lay Leader - Tom Koop

2020

Barb Kirkbride
Brooks Whitmore
Lynne Conway

Audit Committee

David Boyer

Scholarship Committee

Jean Diercks
Donna Weaver
Janet Fulk
Sandy Grindle
Carol Wally
Joan Stampfli
Tracey Eagle

Endowment, Memorials and Undesignated Gifts Committee (EMU)

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| EMU Chair | Tim Rowsey |
| Co-Pastors | Allan Bevere/Jon Priebe |
| Finance Chair | David Boyer |
| Ad Board Chair | Paige Squires |
| Trustee Chair | Don Kettering |