

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

Dates to Remember!

Youth at First UMC

Sunday, January 6
6:00 PM

Trustee Meeting

Tuesday, January 8
7:00 PM Library

SPRC Meeting

Tuesday, January 8
6:30 PM
Room 208

Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 10
6:00 PM
Library

Feast Night

Sunday, January 27
5:00 PM Dauch Hall

Volunteer Ministry Schedules

Welcome Center

January 6

Tim and Tracey Eagle
Dorothy Reader

January 13

Brooks and Jenny Whitmore
Marilyn Thompson

January 20

Tim and Sandi Rowsey
Toni McKee

January 27

Mike and Susan Householder
Stacey Lucas

Connection Café

January 6

Tom Workman
Donna Weaver

January 13

Debbie and John Shanklin

January 20

Dan and Georgene Aber

January 27

Tom and Marilyn Koop

Worship Liturgy Team

January 6

Paige Squires

January 13

Tom Koop

January 20

Toni McKee

January 27

Leanna Wally

Communion Team

January 6

Marilyn Koop
Karen Cook

January Counters

Hazel Ritchey



Altar Flowers

Audrey Bowersock.....	4
Lynne Conway.....	5
Andrew Householder.....	8
Roy Turk.....	14
Susan Householder.....	17
Ron Stone.....	21
Eve Rogers.....	23
Holly Hildebrand.....	24
Sally Ann Hull.....	30

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)
Kathy Chorpening
Verla Long

Brethren Care

(2000 Center St., Ashland)
Ruth Emmons
Richard Kriens (Bradford House)
Cappie Stone (Wasen) #119

Crystal Care

(1251 E. Main St., Ashland)
Steve Chorpening

Good Shepherd Villa

(726 Center St. Ashland)
Sandy Benson

Kingston of Ashland

(20 Amberwood Pkwy, Ashland)
Carol Barnes #313
David & Sandra Grindle

Lutheran Village

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

If you would like to contribute flowers for the Altar in memory or in honor of a person or event, there is an 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.

Spire Deadline

If you would like to submit an article for the November newsletter, the deadline is Monday, January 21, 2019.

Attendance

Worship

12/2	100
12/9	108
12/16`	113
12/23	116

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



Weekly Scriptures Offered

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

Two times are offered for your convenience:

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

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

Bring your Bibles with you
and join the conversation!

Financial Update

General Operating Ministry Budget

11/4	\$ 7,848.00
11/11	\$ 3,343.00
11/18	\$ 3,808.00
11/25	\$ 2,817.00

2018 YTD Current Revenue \$ 213,915.56

2017 YTD Current Revenue \$ 220,953.39

GOOD NEWS! The newly signed "Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015" makes certain "**Charitable contributions of IRA distributions**" provisions permanent.

Note: Those Americans 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.

Update from the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee of the church would like to give an update on our finances. For the past three years we have been able to fully fund our denominational apportionments, pay our bills and build a small reserve. However, our giving has declined recently. Our 2017 giving was about 10% below prior year giving and for the first six months of 2018 we are down another 10%. This puts us about \$15,000 behind last year's giving. Our reserves from prior years are nearly exhausted and the Finance Committee wanted to make the church aware that we need about \$30,000 more in giving by the end of the year to match last year's giving level and to be able to pay all of our apportionments and fully fund the ministries of our church. We appreciate all of the faithful giving of the congregation. We just want to clearly lay out the need for funds to continue our current ministries. We would encourage our entire congregation to give as God continues to bless and give to us.

Reflective Scripture Readings

Daily

Psalm 147:12-20

Tues., Jan. 1

1 Chronicles 28:1-10
1 Cor. 3:10-17

Wed., Jan. 2

2 Chronicles 1:7-13
Mark 13:32-37

Thurs., Jan. 3

1 Kings 3:5-14
John 8:12-19

Daily

Psalm 72

Fri., Jan. 4

Isaiah 6:1-5
Acts 7:44-53

Sat., Jan. 5

Jeremiah 31:7-14
John 1:1-18

Sun., Jan. 6

Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Daily

Psalm 72

Mon., Jan. 7

Daniel 2:1-19
Ephesians 4:17-5:1

Tues., Jan. 8

Daniel 2:24-49
Ephesians 5:15-20

Wed., Jan. 9

Numbers 24:15-19
Luke 1:67-79

Daily

Psalm 29

Thurs., Jan. 10

Ecc. 1:1-11
1 Cor. 1:18-31

Fri., Jan. 11

Ecc. 2:1-11
1 Cor. 2:1-10

Sat., Jan. 12

Ecc. 3:1-15
1 Cor. 2:11-16

Sun., Jan. 13

Isaiah 43:1-7
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17,21-22

Daily

Psalm 106:1-12

Mon., Jan. 14

Judges 4:1-16
Ephesians 6:10-17

Tues., Jan. 15

Judges 5:12-21
1 John 5:13-21

Wed., Jan. 16

Numbers 27:1-11
Luke 11:33-36

Daily

Psalm 36:5-10

Thurs., Jan. 17

Jeremiah 3:1-5
Acts 8:18-24

Fri., Jan. 18

Jeremiah 3:19-25
1 Cor. 7:1-7

Sat., Jan. 19

Jeremiah 4:1-4
Luke 11:14-23

Sun., Jan. 20

Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Cor. 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

Daily

Psalm 145

Mon., Jan. 21

Isaiah 54:1-8
Romans 12:9-21

Tues., Jan. 22

Song of Solomon 4:1-8
1 Cor. 1:3-17

Wed., Jan. 23

Song of Solomon 4:9-5:1
Luke 5:33-39

Daily

Psalm 19

Thurs., Jan. 24

Isaiah 61:1-7
Romans 7:1-6

Fri., Jan. 25

Nehemiah 2:1-10
Romans 12:1-8

Sat., Jan. 26

Nehemiah 5:1-13
Luke 2:39-52

Sun., Jan. 27

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
1 Cor. 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

Daily

Psalm 119:89-96

Mon., Jan. 28

Jeremiah 36:1-10
1 Cor. 14:1-12

Tues., Jan. 29

Jeremiah 36:11-26
2 Cor. 7:2-12

Wed., Jan. 30

Jeremiah 36:27-32
Luke 4:38-44

Daily

71:1-6

Thurs. Jan. 31

2 Chronicles 34:1-7
Acts 10:44-48

**Ongoing Prayers for Our Church
and Community**

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Chuck Ritchey

Victims of Hurricanes Florence and Michael

Don Larson (Chuck and Hazel Ritchey)

Vicki Johnson (*Jenny Moore*)

Barbara Fenn (*Sally Ann Hull*)

Jon Pickering (*Jane Betts*)

Cappie Stone (*Stacey Lucas*)

Steve Budd (*Marlene Brewer*)

Naomi Koons (*Debbie Shanklin*)

Heart of Ohio Emmaus/Chrysalis/Face to Face

Pilgrims (*Melody Barnes*)

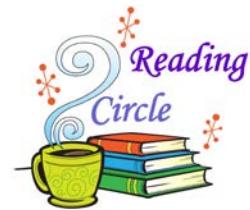
Asher Kettering (*Mary Kettering*)

For the refugees coming out of Syria (*Anna Slade*)

Patricia Boyer (*David Boyer*)

Holly Fulmer (*David Boyer*)

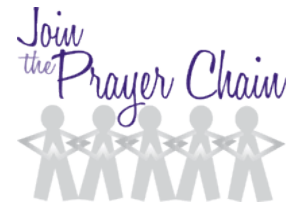
*(Please call the church office if you would like
to add someone to the prayer list.)*



WSC Reading Circle

*The next meeting for the WSC Reading Circle is
January 23 at 3:15 in the Library. Each person is
to read a Christian novel and will share the story
with the group.*

Feel free to join us if you enjoy reading.



Please contact the church office if you
would like to add someone to the Prayer
Chain email list. Please email at
afdebbie@zoominternet.net or call the
church office at 419-289-7551



PRIORITY PRAYER GATHERING

**THERE WILL BE PRIORITY PRAYER
MEETING THIS MONTH WILL BE AT FIRST
UMC ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 1.**

Women
Serving
Christ



From the
First United Methodist Church

**The next meeting of the WSC will be
Tuesday, January 15th at the church. Please
see Sandi Rowsey if you have any
questions. We hope to see you there!**

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

We appreciate the generous donations of toiletries and taxable items for our Feast Night guests.

*Jeff Reep and Stacey Lucas,
Ministry Chairs of Feast Night.*

**A BIG THANK YOU TO MY
CHURCH FAMILY**

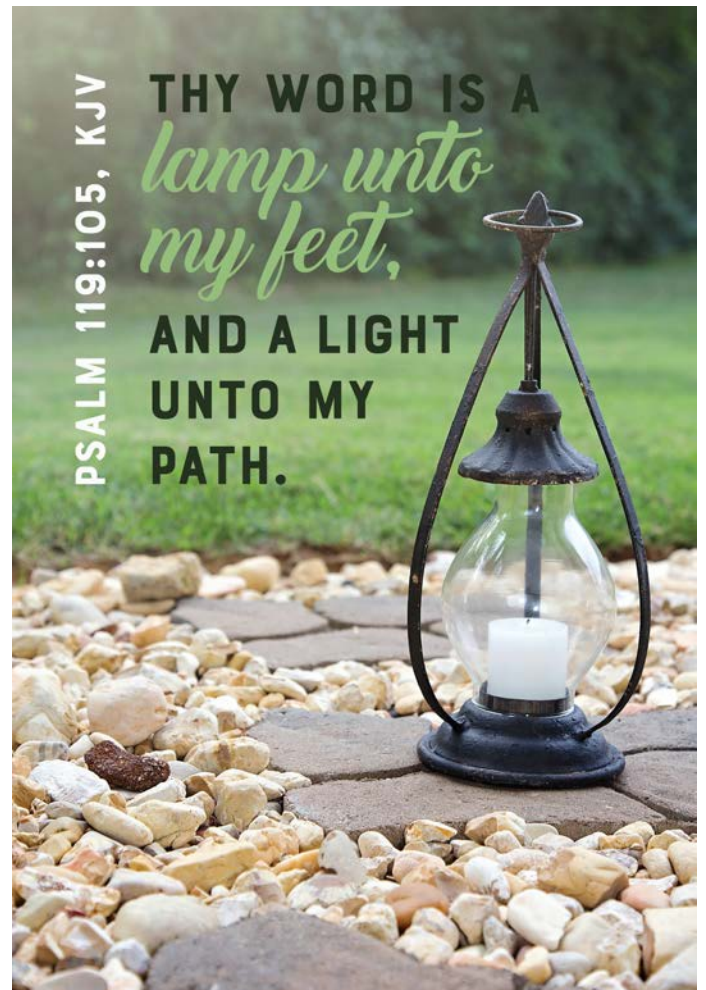
What a great surprise it was to open a door to a crowd singing “HAPPY BIRTHDAY”, WOW! I was overcome by such a welcome, it couldn’t be for me. That Melody, she has such ability to organize and pull off such a surprise but, I must thank all of you for participating in that surprise. To see friends and family gathered to share love, food, laughter and pictures was a real blessing. A big thanks to my Melody and all of you. Let’s ring in the New Year with the same vigor as the party to make our Church strong and grow.

Charlie Barnes

WSC is collecting taxable items for our Feast Night guests such as:

Shampoo, conditioner, soap,
Feminine Hygiene Products, toothpaste,
toothbrushes, mouth wash, toilet paper,
shaving cream, razors, aftershave lotion,
hand lotion, lip balm, deodorant, Q-Tips
cotton balls, hairbrushes and combs,
Kleenex, cough drops.

If you can help bring in these items, please place the items in the box in the Narthex. Thank you for serving the Lord by serving others in our community. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



**HIS LIGHT SHINES
NEW YEAR'S EVE
CELEBRATION AT FIRST UMC
8:00 PM**

**COME JOIN US AS WE PLAY
GAMES, EAT, HAVE
FELLOWSHIP AND WATCH
THE BALL DROP!**