

THE LINK

Volume 68

Issue 7

Christ UMC to Celebrate 150th Anniversary

The history of a church only has meaning when it is foundational for ongoing ministries and continually renewed source & mission.

Two of our members, Becky Dorr and Jan Haberman have been going through items in the archives room in preparation for the 150th anniversary celebration.

Here is an excerpt from a brief article written about the history of Christ UMC:

The roots of Christ United Methodist Church were in a tiny congregation of the United Brethren in Christ Church located on East Walnut and Arthur Streets in 1887. The church continued to grow in numbers, and by the early 1950's "church boom," had severely outgrown its quarters. The foresight of our mothers and fathers in the faith was the purchase of the property at our current location in the mid-1950's.

Christ Church is represented well in the greater Ashland community through members involved in local educational, service, social, justice, athletic, and arts programs.

Christ Church has always had a strong mission emphasis with support of local, national, international, denominational, and interdenominational missions. Our youth and adults go on an annual Appalachian service trip and many members volunteer in local service

agencies and their programs.

We not only believe in the life-changing power & the divine in every human life but in translating that holy energy into daily acts of service and love.

On Sunday, November 12th, 2017, we will celebrate the 150th anniversary

of the formation of our church. Following the Worship Service and Sunday School, we will have a pot-luck dinner in the Fellowship Hall with displays of many historical items, photo albums, copies of church directories, bulletins and other memorabilia of Christ Church.

If anyone has photos or items of interest you would like to have displayed, please bring them to the church office by the first of November.

Mark your calendar to join us in celebrating our 150th birthday!



September 2017

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Be sure to check us out on Facebook or at our website:
www.ashlandteamministry.org

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY -THURSDAY
9AM - 4:00PM

PHONE: 419-289-0507
FAX: 419-289-1541
christum@zoominternet.net

*Christ United Methodist Church
Loving God, Loving Others,
Bringing People to Christ*

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

WORSHIP ~ 9:15AM
CHURCH SCHOOL ~ 10:30AM

TEEN'S—SUNDAY EVENINGS

“LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME!” And come they did...

over 50 children filled our church with happy noise the week of August 7. Peter Slade, his guitar, and his daughter Anna had us singing, shouting, stomping, and clapping from the get-go with songs like *God's not Dead!*, *Father Abraham*, and *Dry Bones*.

With morning wiggles mostly depleted, we found Africa on the map and discussed Pastor Allan's trip to Zimbabwe where he will visit with ZOE children. The ZOE mission enables orphaned children in Africa to become self-sufficient by helping them start small businesses. We watched short vignettes featuring the ZOE children and dedicated our VBS mission offering toward providing children with pairs of rabbits for \$10 apiece. We quickly filled our map with bunny cutouts as the VBS children brought bags weighed down with change to put in either the boys' or the girls' rabbit feeder. By the end of the week we had graduated to raising money for a pig or a goat at \$50 each.

Once our hands were free of the offering, we could settle in to hear stories in the bible where children played an important role. We learned that Samuel, at age 3, was helping Eli at the temple when Samuel heard God calling him. Watching out for her baby brother Moses, when he was hidden in a basket from the Pharaoh, was 6-year-old Miriam. Josiah, at age 8, became king and followed the laws written on the scrolls. As a young teenager, David trusted God to protect him as he fought the Philistine giant Goliath. Mary and Joseph lost Jesus, as a young boy, for several days when he stayed at the temple to listen to the rabbis teach about God.

And then they were off! We rotated in two age groups through music, art, games, and snacks. There were wonderful youth and adult helpers (see list) at every turn who kept us focused and safe.



Songs are a great way to remember the stories so Megan Studer taught us the words to some fun songs with catchy tunes. *There was a boy named Samuel*, *Rock-a-bye Moses*, *Josiah was a very good King*, *Only a Boy named David*, *What's in the Bible*, *Come as a Child*, and *A Place in the Choir* were some of our favorites.

Providing us with the opportunity to create tangible reminders of our VBS experience, Nancy Boyer led us in ambitious art projects. Using Q-tips we painted a picture of where we listen for God and we wove baskets using raffia and plastic bottles. We were fascinated by the marbling technique used to create beautiful bookmarks using shaving cream. We were even more wowed by the coasters we made by coloring tiles with permanent markers and using a straw to gently blow drops of alcohol resulting in an abstract design. On the last day, the oven baked our clay cross beads with the imprint of WWJD (What Would Jesus Do?) and the leaders fashioned a bracelet for each of us. How fortunate that Bob Quackenbush (a.k.a. Mr. Boomer), former coach and PE teacher, was available to run our games this year! Thoughtful planning resulted in relays, water play, life jackets, hula hoops, and noodles used to reenact part of the daily stories. We played

outside and then gratefully descended into Fellowship Hall for some delicious snacks planned by Becky Dorr. Picture a Sour Patch candy placed in a Frito scoop sitting upon a pile of pretzel sticks and you have baby Moses in a basket among the reeds! Take a Fruit roll-up and wrap the ends around two thick pretzels and you see the scrolls where King Josiah read God's laws. And somehow we always manage to have popcorn and ice cream during the week. On Sunday morning, most of us wore the yellow VBS shirts as we shared all that we had learned in story and song at Bible School this week. **The congregation participated in our mission offering and we actually raised over \$1100 which is enough to purchase two cows!** The ZOE mission is supported by our conference and the money will go to a country and the children who need it most at this time.

The story of Vacation Bible School would not be complete without mentioning the colorful banner that Ruth Wilkerson made and on which the children placed painted handprints. Hannah Boyer painted a replica of the design on a lap quilt for honorary VBS helper, Marilyn Kieft. It includes the children's handprints and their names.



And Vacation Bible School would not be possible without the prayers, and the physical and financial support of a myriad of people. Thank you to all who helped in any way!

Are you a Veteran??

Please join us for a **FREE Veterans' Dinner**
 Wednesday, November 8th at 6:00pm
 Christ UMC Fellowship Hall

Registration deadline is November 1st

Tickets are required.

To get your complimentary ticket, see:
 George Bringman, Bob or Carolyn Norris, or Jack Cadley

ATTENTION VETERANS

It has been quite awhile since we have updated our veterans plaque located in the narthex. If you are a veteran and a member of Christ UMC and your name isn't included, please contact Bob Norris at 567-217-1922 or George Bringman at 419-651-2464 and we will have your name engraved and proudly placed on the plaque with all the others.

"SPRC'S 2 NEW HIRES"

The Pastors/Staff-Parish Relations Committees of both Christ and First UMC's are pleased to announce the hiring of two new joint part-time Staff members. The first is the Rev. Tom Snyder as Pastor of Visitation. Rev. Snyder will supplement the visitation ministry of our present Co-Pastors, Jon Priebe and Allan Bevere. The second is Jenny Whitmore as Coordinator of Witness and Service Ministries. Jenny will lead both churches' efforts to reach out and serve the spiritual, relational and physical needs of the Ashland community.

Both Pastor Tom and Jenny will begin their work with us this Friday, September 1st. May God richly bless their efforts to spread and deepen the Kingdom in Ashland City and County. Please pray for these new hires for our Ashland Team Ministry!

DID YOU KNOW???

Martha Buckner is the new director of the Beacon After School Program at Trinity Lutheran Church and she says, **"We need volunteers!"**

Do you have a love for children and a desire to help them be successful students? Then Beacon can use your help. Many hands make 'light' work and the more volunteers we have, the more children we can assist and do great things.

We meet every day after school from 3:00 to 5:30 at Trinity Lutheran Church. Homework help is typically from 4:00-5:00. We can also use help with snack from 3:00-4:00. You can volunteer every day, just one day a week, or even just a couple days a month.

Are you a snowbird? We need you! We have great need for volunteers at the beginning and end of the school year as our student workers are often busy with other activities and aren't as available to us. We are grateful for all of the loving help we can get. If interested please contact Martha..



5 Things You Can Do to help Victims of Hurricane Harvey

1. Please continue to pray for those whose lives have been impacted by hurricane/tropical storm Harvey. Please also pray for the Early Response Teams, disaster coordinators, and many volunteers in [The Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church](#), [Louisiana Conference of The United Methodist Church](#), [Rio Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church](#) and [Central Texas Conference](#) who are working tirelessly to provide relief after Harvey.

2. [Make relief kits](#), send complete kits to [our relief-supply depots or an affiliate warehouse](#). [Download the packing list and shipping label](#).

3. Give to UMCOR's relief and recovery efforts: [U.S. Disaster Response, Advance #901670](#)

4. Please wait for an invitation to volunteer.

5.. Donate only those items requested

To keep relief supplies in stock, [give to Material Resources Advance #901440](#).

UMCOR - United Methodist Committee On Relief is grateful for your relentless prayers and support.

PLEASE NOTE...

When giving money for any special giving, in order to receive credit for it, please remember to always use an envelope marked with what the money is designated for. The envelope is the only thing that our financial giving secretary, Brenda Gardner has to work with when recording giving. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda or the church office.

Stewardship Update	
August	\$ 16,802.42
Needed each week	6,066.60
Monthly Need	\$ 26,794.12



A CALL TO PRAYER

September is a big month for all of us at Christ and First United Methodist Churches. We will be voting on the future of the United Methodist presence in Ashland, Ohio and the decisions we make are significant for us and the community. Because Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead, the church of Jesus Christ has always moved into the future in hope. We believe the words of Jesus when he said that the gates of hell would not prevail against the church (Matthew 16:18). The Holy Spirit is leading us, but that does not absolve us of our responsibility to cooperate with the movement of the Spirit.

As the pastors of the Ashland Team Ministry, with the strategic prayer team, we are calling all persons in both congregations to be in prayer for the month of September for the conversation we will have and the decisions we must make as we position ourselves for the future. Enda McDonough says, "prayer is the way we let God loose in the world." We believe that earnest and fervent prayer will let God loose in our midst so that we can be faithful in our continued mission in Ashland, Ohio.

Just what is that mission? It has not changed since Jesus gave it to his church two thousand years ago. "Go into all the world and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). We believe that two things are mainly responsible for mainline decline in the United States: the failure to be centrally focused on making disciples, and the neglect of our presence as the Body of Christ in the neighborhoods in which we find ourselves. We believe that in United Methodism this has been a failure of clergy and laity alike. It has been said that if you build a church you will not get disciples, but if you make disciples you will get the Church.

We believe that it is not too late for the United Methodist Church in Ashland, Ohio. Through the power of prayer and attending to our mission we can fulfill the Great Commission Jesus gave to us in our community. This commission is the will of God for us, the question we face in this present moment is what decision will we make on September 24 that will best position us to do God's will and move into that vital future?

Over the next few weeks, please be in fervent pray for your pastors, the laity who lead at both churches, and for everyone in both congregations that we might discern with confidence God's will for us and for our churches, sense the leading of the Holy Spirit, and begin to step into the path on which God is leading us.

Let's pray together, **"How can we best fulfill God's mission to make disciples in Ashland?"**

Wishing you God's richest blessings!

Pastor Allan

Allan

Pastor Jon

Jon

4

Women
Serving
Christ



From First United Methodist
Church

Pastor Appreciation Sunday!

When: October 1, 2017

Where:

Ashland First United Methodist
Church – Combined worship
Services with Christ Church

We will be showering our pastors
with cards of appreciation and
thankfulness.

A card box will be on the welcome
desk for you to place your cards for
our pastors.

*I will give you shepherds after my own
heart, who will lead you with
knowledge and understanding.
Jeremiah 3:15*

A BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

Learning is a gift from God.
As we begin this new school year,
we give thanks that God has given
us the ability to learn many things
in many ways.

Loving God, sometimes a new
school year seems exciting or
scary or both.

Help us remember to show our
thanks for your gifts of learning by
doing our best every day.

We ask that you bless our schools,
teachers, classmates and friends.

We ask that you bless those who
prepare our lunches, those who
drive us to school, and those who
keep our schools clean and safe.

We ask God's blessing on this new
school year, that it may be a time
when we appreciate and fully use
God's gift of learning. Amen.

Our Congregational Congratulations to:

Luke & Levi Short Gebhart who were united in marriage on Sunday, August 6th at their home. Pastor Jon Priebe assisted Rev. Karen Liddy, of Peace Lutheran Church, who officiated the ceremony.

Chad & Nancy Hasman Fogle who were joined in marriage on August 26th at Geneva on The Lake. Officiant was Rev. Tom Snyder. Chad is the son of the late Ed & Rhonda Fogle.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS! In preparation for sending out care packages to your son or daughter in college, we are collecting names and addresses for this school year. Please give to any God's Group member or email to mary.mcnaull1@gmail.com.

Here's what's happening with our

**Next Meeting:
September 7 @ 1:30pm
In room 15**

**New Beginnings: A Community
of Women Empowered for
Economic Justice**

Leader: Karen Stradling

Devotions: Karen Stradling
Beverage: Janet Rockenfelder

**ALREADY PREPARING FOR THANKSGIVING**

Again this year Helping Hands Circle will be collecting Thanksgiving food items for the Urban Mission in Steubenville. They hope to collect 1800 of each of the items listed below.

Our collection will take place in the Café from September 3 to October 8.

These are the requested items:

Chicken noodle soup	Canned peaches
Canned sweet potatoes	Yellow cake mix
Vanilla frosting	

A specially marked box will be available for donations.

**ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR**

The sign-up calendar for 2017 is on the bulletin board outside the office for those wanting to furnish altar flowers in memory or honor of a particular event or person. The cost is \$24.

Flowers are pre-ordered and delivered. Payment can be mailed to the church or placed in the offering by marking your envelope "altar flowers".

PRAYER GROUP

Wednesday Mornings 10:00 – 12 noon

You are welcome to join us in the lounge as we share together in discussion and prayer.

The 2017 Farmer's Market is busy once again in the parking lot on Saturday mornings from 9:00am to 11:00am. Volunteers are needed to help Pastors' Jon & Allan at the prayer booth from 8:30-11am to pray with people who stop by. Contact Pastor Jon to have your name added to the rotation. This is an exciting opportunity to help take God's message of love for his people outside the walls of the church into the parking lot.

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!!

FALL STUDY ANNOUNCED

Rev. Tom and Kitty Snyder will be offering a Fall study for our Ashland Team Ministry churches and other congregations on Adam Hamilton's insightful book, *Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other things the Bible Doesn't Say*. Challenging conventional wisdom so popularized as to be attributed to the Bible, Hamilton asks us to look at the biblical counterparts to these sayings, asking us to discover what the Bible really says.

Adam Hamilton is pastor of the 4,000-member United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, one of the most influential mainline churches in the US. Tom and Kitty heard him speak at First Community Church, Columbus in May. He preached the installation service of the new pastor there. A prolific author, he is also a sought after speaker at annual conferences throughout United Methodism.

The five-week class will be held at Christ UMC, Monday, October 23, 30; November 6, 13 and 20; 7-9 pm. The books are available @ \$17 each, and will be available after September 1st at both First and Christ churches. **A sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board outside the church office.**

The 5 messages we learned during VBS week when we discovered that God calls children to do important things:

It is important that children listen to/for God.
(1 Samuel 3:10)

It is important that children help others for God.
(Exodus 2: 4)

It is important that children answer to/are responsible to God. (2 Kings 22: 2)

It is important for children to stand up for God.
(1 Samuel 17: 37)

It is important for children to learn about God.
(Luke 2: 52)

CARING FOR THIS WORLD AND THE PEOPLE IN IT BY OUR PRAYERS, PRESENCE, SERVICE AND WITNESS, AND OUR GIFTS.

There are many sad events happening in our community, our state, our country, and our world, giving me concern of how do we bring the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to others. Jesus said in Matthew 22:37-29 "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all you soul, and with all your mind". This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself"

I forget at times that to bring the love and forgiveness to others begins with me. Simply by serving, caring, loving, helping and praying for others. By sharing the Love of Jesus with others, it will change lives and how they see themselves and how they treat and respect others. Your Prayers, Presence, Service and Witness and your Gifts not only support our Church and our Mission to Love God, Love Others and Bring People to Christ, but will make a difference to our community, our state, our country and our world. God loves us unconditionally and wants us to love him.

Currently members of CUMC and FUMC are being asked how we want our churches to be ministered, to carry out Gods work. I pray each day for Gods wisdom and guidance to lead me and I ask for you to pray daily for his wisdom and guidance to lead you.

Isaiah 6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

God Bless, Bill Whipple Stewardship Leader



Carol Beck, Mike Bonnell,
Bruce Bookmyer, Ron Clawson,
Jane Eshelman, Marilyn Kieft,
Marybelle Landrum, Helen Lent,
Doris Plice, Marylynn Reep,
Carol Sommers, Bob Stone,
Norma Underwood
those we name in our hearts ♥

PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer concern that you would like the Prayer Chain members to lift up, please contact Ellen Moore @ 419-606-8482. If you would like to be a member of the Prayer Chain please let Ellen know.

CONFIRMATION

Youth and Parents Orientation Potluck
Sunday, October 8, 12:00 p.m. at First UMC
All youth 8th through 12th grades that have not been confirmed are welcome to join the 2018 confirmation class. We will meet approximately two Sundays a month (from October through early May) at noon alternating between Christ and First UMCs for lunch, fellowship, and a time to learn about our faith. Please call the church office to register.
All families in attendance on the 8th are asked to bring a dish to share. Materials and a schedule will be provided at that time.
All young persons 8th through 12th grades who have not yet been confirmed are encouraged to participate.



Calling all YOUTH...

We will have a
kick-off party

on Wednesday, September 6

from 6pm—8pm

At Honey Haven Farm

(1327 Co Rd 1475)

There will be a Bonfire, Food & Games
Bring a Friend!!

Wednesday evenings will now be the regular
meeting day for the youth activities.

September 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9am-11am Farmer's Market—parking lot
3 Communion Blood Pressure clinic—café area Strategy Team Report distributed	4 LABOR DAY Church Office Closed No Scouts mtg	5 10 Pastors @ Downtown Perks 7 Pastors group—lounge	6 10 Prayer Group Choirs Practice 6 Yth Kick-off Party @ Honey Haven Farm	7 1:30 UMW Circle—fh 4:45 Prayer group—lounge 7 Trustees—rm 15	8	9 9am-11am Farmer's Market—parking lot
10 'BACK TO CHURCH' SUNDAY !! With recognition of SS teachers 2 joint Congregation mtg @ ATS	11 12noon Life & Lunch @ FUMC 6:30 Scouts—rm 6 & fh 7 Emmaus Bd—rm 108	12 9 Gloriosa Gardeners—rm 15 7 Pastors group—lounge	13 10 Prayer Group 1 Quilt Guild—rm 15 1 Pastors Spirit formation—lounge Choirs Practice 6 Yth group meets	14 4:45 Prayer Group—lounge 7 Ch Council—rm 15	15	16 9am-11am Farmer's Market—parking lot
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
ASHLAND COUNTY FAIR						
	6:30 Scouts - rm 6 and fh	10 Pastors @ Downtn Perks 7 Nominating committee—rm 15 7 Pastors group—lounge	10 Prayer Group Choirs Practice 6 Yth group meets	4:45 Prayer Group—lounge 7 Outreach & Witness—rm 15		9am-11am Farmer's Market—parking lot
24 2 Congregational meeting w/ Vote	25 6:30 Scouts - rm 6 and fh	26 9 Quilting Knotters - counting room 10 Pastors @ Downtn Perks 6:30 Quilt Guild—fh 7 Pastors group—lounge	27 10 Prayer Group Choirs Practice 6 Yth group meets	28 Newsletter sent out 4:45 Prayer group—lounge 7 SPRC	29	30 9am-11am Farmer's Market—parking lot 9am-11am Ashland Care Center Life Walk—church lawn

WILLING SERVANTS OF THE CHURCH FOR SEPTEMBER

Greeters

- 3 Charlene Brown
- 10 Doris & Bob Quackenbush
- 17 Dawn & Wayne Fryback
- 24 Janet Boyd and Sharon Ihrig

- Carolyn & Bob Norris
- Warren Gebhart
- Evelyn & Bob Nusbaum
- Ruth Wilkerson

Greeters are asked to arrive no later than 8:45, wear your red name tag, and stand at the front entrance (Claremont) or in the Foyer area at the Glass entrance (Broad St). Please consider contributing to this ministry of hospitality. If you are interested in helping, contact Lee Marr @ 419-289-1793.

Ushers

- Bill Aten—Head Usher
- Kevin Oberholtzer
- Terry Harper
- Roger Hazen
- Larry Portner

Altar Guild

Denise & Paul Jackson

Scripture Readers

- 3 Barb Raudebaugh
- 10
- 17
- 24

If you would like to be a part of the worship service by reading scripture, please add your name to the sign-up sheet outside the office.

Acolytes

- 3 Nehemiah Priebe
- 10 Haylee Bond
- 17 Caleb Moore
- 24 Madison Hagen

Serving as acolyte coordinator is Betsy Chapman.

We are in need of some new acolytes to add to the schedule. If there are any children that parents feel are mature enough to handle a fun responsibility in our weekly service. The typical age for our acolytes is 2nd Grade through 8th grade.

If you are interested in adding your child to the rotation please call Betsy Chapman @ (419) 606-1194

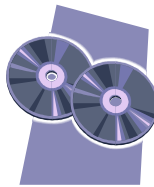
Altar Flowers

- 3 Norris
- 10
- 17
- 24

To add to the beauty of the service by donating flowers in memory or in honor of someone or an event, see the sign-up sheet located outside the church office.

The flowers are pre-ordered & delivered at a cost of \$24.00. **Please send payment to the church** either by mail or put it in the offering with your envelope marked "Altar Flowers".

SOUND BOOTH HELP NEEDED



We are in need of more volunteers to be trained on running our sound equipment. There are a few weeks coming up that our regular people will be unavailable. If you have an interest in sound equipment, please speak with Pastor Jon, Pastor Allan or Ken Woode.



Counters

- Kevin Oberholtzer
- Sandy Baker
- Ron Baker



- ~ Kattie & Pastor Jon Priebe and family on the death of her grandmother, Mildred Andrews.
- ~ the family & friends of Mary Miller, age 89, who died on Saturday, August 19th



**COLLECTING FOR
ASH CO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER**

Below is a list of items that are needed for the families that stay at the domestic violence shelter. Donations may be left in the blue tote located next to the Associated Charities grocery cart in the north entryway at the back of the sanctuary. All items must be new.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Canned fruit & veggies | Cleaning Supplies |
| Kitchen Towels | Baby Wipes |
| Trash Bags | Baby Diapers |
| Bath Soap / Body Wash | Paper Towels |
| Pasta Sauce & Pasta | Tissues |
| Kool Aid | Magic Erasers |

This is an outreach project of our church serving the community. If you have any questions, please contact Claudia Guenther-Snyder.



Next Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the *October issue of the Link* are due in the church office by **September 15th**.
Send Email to: braudebaugh@zoominternet.net

Heartfelt Thanks

♥ Thank you very much for providing a scholarship foundation for our church. It has helped many people through the years including myself. Attending this church has given me many special opportunities whether working in the nursery or going to JOSHUA. Thank you for always supporting me in my journey. Always remember my times at this place.

Love, *Jonah Moretz*



♥ Thank you to everyone who helped with the All God's Children meal in Mansfield on Tuesday, August 22. We served meat loaf, cheesy potatoes & green beans to 86 people and received many appreciative comments. Again, thank you for your donations of banana, cookies, money and time!

Becky Dorr, meal coordinator

**REMEMBERING OTHERS FOR
THE ASHLAND COUNTY FOOD BANK**

With this busy summer, we so look forward to your donations each week! Thank you for caring for others in need. Our current needs are:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Peanut Butter & Jelly | Mac & Cheese |
| Kids Juices of any kind | Boxed Cereals |
| Tuna & Canned Chicken | Applesauce |
| Pancake Mix & Syrup | Egg Noodles |
| Manwich / Sloppy Jo cans | Soups |
| Ketchup, Mustard & Mayo | Coffee & tea bags |
| Ravioli & Spaghetti-o's | Sugar |
| Toothpaste & toothbrushes | Kleenex |
| Feminine products | Bath Soap |
| Shampoo & Conditioner | Dish Soap |
| Laundry Detergent | Toilet Paper |
| Deodorant (male & female) | Paper Towels |

Thank you!! Items can be placed in the grocery cart in the north entry way at the back of the sanctuary.

HELPING LOCAL SCHOOLS

Along with soup labels & stamps, the UMW also has a box for the "box top labels for education". The labels collected are then given to local area schools to be used for needed items for the students. If you have any questions about this or need more information, contact Jim Pifer.



DETAILS FOR RELEASE OF FINAL REPORT AND SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS
APPROVED BY THE
**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF CHRIST AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCHES**

From the Strategy Team of the Ashland Team Ministry / July 16, 2017

Date of Release and Schedule of Meetings

The following schedule for release and implementation of the Strategy Team Report:

Sunday, September 3: The final report of the Strategy Team is released in hard copy at both churches and subsequently by email on Monday morning. Hard copies will be available at the offices of both churches.

Sunday, September 10 at 2:00 p.m.: A joint congregational meeting at Smetzer Auditorium at Ashland Theological Seminary for a time of Q & A and comments with the Strategy Team.

Sunday, September 24 at 2:00 p.m.: Each congregation meets separately in their respective church buildings for a time of further conversation and then a vote on the three options available for the future of the churches.

Method of Voting

The meetings of September 24th will involve two votes: The first vote will be upon the three options available: **Option 1**—the congregations return to two separate congregations each with its own pastor; **Option 2**—to keep the shared ministry in place; **Option 3**—to move toward an assessment for *possible* merger.

(see other side of this insert for clarification on option #3)

The results of the first vote will be reported to the congregations at that meeting. The option receiving the lowest number of votes will be dropped and a second vote will be held on the remaining two options with the results being reported at that meeting.

Execution of the Vote

Both votes will be cast by paper ballot to be counted by the lay leader, a member of Administrative Council/Administrative Board, and a member of the SPRC of each church. The chair of the Administrative Council/Administrative Board will select the member of Administrative Council/Administrative Board, and the chair of SPRC will select the member of SPRC.

Absentee voting will be allowed within specific parameters (see below)

PLAN FOR ABSENTEE VOTING

1. Absentee ballots will be available from Monday through Thursday at the church offices from September 11 through September 21.
2. All ballots must be made by request from the person voting. No one may request a ballot for another person. No absentee ballots will be mailed. All ballots must be received in person.
3. All completed ballots must be placed in the accompanying sealed envelope with the person's name on it. Any ballot returned that is not in that envelope will be invalidated.
4. There will be persons designated from each church that will be able to take absentee ballots to shut-ins that wish to vote. Only those designated persons will be able to return completed ballots to the church offices.
5. The ballots will remain sealed until the meetings of the churches September 24 when all votes cast will be counted.

FROM THE STRATEGY TEAM
Ashland Team Ministry / Christ and First United
Methodist Churches

CLARIFICATION ON OPTION #3

(from report on page 11)

On September 24, both congregations will decide on one of three options for the future of our churches: Option 1—the congregations return to two separate congregations each with its own pastor; Option 2—to keep the shared ministry in place; Option 3—to move toward an assessment for possible merger.

There has been some confusion as to what option #3 really means. If option 3 prevails does that mean that the congregations have voted to merge? The short answer to that question is no. According to the Book of Discipline there can be no official vote on merger until after an assessment is undertaken by both churches to study how a merger between both congregations might work both administratively and missionally. But in order to begin an assessment both congregations must first vote to have one. That is the option 3 vote we will be taking on September 24. If an assessment is undertaken, those involved in the assessment will release their report to both churches and after that the congregations will have to gather again to vote yes or no on a merger.

While it is not within our purview to come up with a timetable for an assessment, it will hopefully be concluded by early spring for a decision which should be made by the spring of 2018.

But to emphasize again—option #3 that will be decided upon on September 24 is not a vote to merge, but to pursue an assessment of possible merger, which will finally be voted on when the assessment is completed.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

We need big feet,
little feet, skinny feet & fat
feet for the annual



Ashland Co. Crop Walk!
The **2017 CROP Walk will be held on Sunday,
October 1st @ 2:00pm.**

Our coordinator is Jim Pifer. If you want to walk (or cannot and would still like to pledge) please contact him at 419-289-6848.



Keeping up with
Our Senior Members...

Bradford House

Connie Workman

Brethren Care

Doris Pllice

Brookwood Place

Portia Abrams

Mary Ellen Budd

Good Shepherd

Paul Lifer

Lutheran Village

Bertina Schwartz

At Home

Beulah Miller

Frances Stafford

If you know of someone not listed above who would enjoy having a CUMC parish visitor, please contact Jan Haberman or the church office.

ASHLAND TEAM MINISTRY

**COMBINED
WORSHIP 2017**



We will be holding four combined worship services during 2017.

Each service will be held

at 10:00 a.m. Both churches are being asked to cancel Sunday school those mornings. We will also gather after each service for a potluck meal in order to spend time in fellowship after worship.

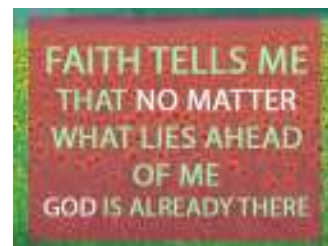
The last combined worship schedule for 2017:

Sunday, October 1, 2017 at First (World Communion Sunday)

We will gather for worship, the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and fellowship afterward.

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 1140 CLAREMONT AVENUE
 ASHLAND, OH 44805
 419-289-0507

Address Service Requested



2017

Dated Material . . .
 Please deliver promptly



EQUIPPING THE CONGREGATION FOR MINISTRY

The Church phone number is 419-289-0507. Extension numbers are listed following the names.

Pastors	Rev. Jon Priebe	afcumcjon@gmail.com	ext 101
.....	Rev. Dr. Allan Bevere	arbevere@yahoo.com	ext 101
Pastor Emeritus & Pastor of Visitation	Rev. Tom Snyder	profsnyder@gmail.com	
Organist.....	David Roepke	opera@bright.net	
Chancel Choir Director	Jane Ruggles	gruggles@zoominternet.net	
Way of the Good Shepherd Coordinator	Denise Jackson	deniseabaker11@gmail.com	
Administrative Assistant	Barb Raudebaugh	braudebaugh@zoominternet.net	ext 100
Treasurer	Nichole Lang	nlangCUMC@zoominternet.net	ext 104
Financial Giving Secretary	Brenda Gardner	bgardnercumc@zoominternet.net	
Coordinator of Witness & Service	Jenny Whitmore	jbwhitmore@zoominternet.net	
Custodian	Stephanie Knowlton		
Kitchen			ext 107
Administrative Lay Leader	Bill Achberger		
Staff Parish Relations	Rev. Roger Moore	rbmoore007@aol.com	
Education/ Youth Associate Lay Leader	Carol Oberholtzer	CaObeho@ashlandcityschools.org	
Parish Visitors	Jan Haberman	Ejhaberman@zoominternet.net	
Trustees	Kenny Oberholtzer	kenny@ashlandqualitystorage.com	
Outreach and Missions Associate Lay Leader	Janet Bonnell	janetbonnell@zoominternet.net	
Stephen Ministry Leader	Ron Johnson	ronnie7@bright.net	
Volunteer Office Personnel			
Bulletin Board Volunteer	Bea North		
Greeter Coordinator	Lee Marr		
Mailing Volunteers	Velma Pifer & Claudia Guenther-Snyder		
Weekly Bulletin Volunteers	Claudia Guenther-Snyder, Velma Pifer, Jan Haberman		
Sunshine Table	Ann Roepke		
Witnesses for God's love	everyone who is a part of Christ UMC		