

Parish News

2024

First United Church of Christ

A Note from Your Pastor

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Ahhh, February, the month of love. Well, at least we use Valentine's Day to express our love to others. This year Valentines Day and Ash Wednesday fall on the same day, February 14th. How appropriate it is that we commemorate these two things on the same day. Ash Wednesday starts the Lenten season. The time we focus on the greatest act of love mankind has ever known, the anticipation of the miracle of Easter.

On Ash Wednesday, we bear the symbol of the cross upon our foreheads. This serves to remind ourselves to humble ourselves before the Lord and also serves as our response to the greatest valentine request of all time...when our Lord Jesus asked us to "be Mine". We are reminded that without Christ we are nothing more than dust, "from dust you came, to dust you shall return", for it is Christ who gives us purpose and the promise of eternal life, through His suffering, death, and resurrection.

It is my great hope that you all feel the warmth of love and that you are willing to share it with others. Perhaps you will experience a new love, a new friendship or rekindle an old one, and find the presence of the Lord in it. We are all so fortunate to be the children of such a loving God, He who has given us so many people to love and to be loved by. His love is never ending and beyond quantification, let us work to experience this love and grow it within our community more fully. God is good! God is love!

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A Note from Your Pastor

Let us focus our energy this Lenten season on repentance and expressing our love to God through Jesus. Let us also help the world to experience this love affair with God through our prayers, our words, and our actions. Love, like God, is for everyone!

May you know that you are loved beyond comprehension and feel His presence in your life always.

With much love and many prayers,

Pastor Gerry

Thank You

Thank you, friends, for all the special things you shared with us over the last few weeks. The cards, calls, and poinsettia (thank you Joanne). We're so thankful. Special thanks also to the Fumerola family for our bulletins and Upper Rooms during 2023 . . . so appreciated! We pray God's blessings for 2024. Happy New Year!

Dick & Marilyn Leiby

December Income	December Expenditures	December Net
\$5,678.72	\$5,868.28	-\$189.56





February Update

February, hmmm. Not my favorite month. At this point I'm getting really tired of winter. Thankfully February is the shortest month of the year, but then we have an extra day this year. Oh well.

Right now I'm using my time indoors to help Karen with cleaning out the basement. Not really a fun job, but a necessary one. On the bright side we often run into items that bring back pleasant memories of days gone by. Recently I've had the task of going through a lot of things that my mom had left behind. Currently my brother, sister, and I are getting ready to go through a number of pictures and other items of hers. This will be mostly a fun time with a few tears mixed in. But that's how our loved ones live on.

Much the same can be said of our church. We currently face many uncertainties. But no matter where the road takes us, we will always have pleasant and fulfilling memories of things we have accomplished.

Coming up, with early Easter date this year (March 31), we have an earlier Ash Wednesday date which will be celebrated on February 14 in our fellowship hall at 6:30 p.m. Please plan to attend this most meaningful service which marks the beginning of our Lenten journey.

A few days before, on February 11, our annual Heart-to-Heart luncheon will follow Sunday worship. The Deacons are planning a delicious chili lunch which will get us all warmed up for the Super Bowl later that day.

Till next month, please remember our shut-ins and see you in Sunday School.

Ron Schoch





Lenten Things

Z V O P S S E N E V I G R O F X J G S J F B
R
D O A L Y M Y A D S E N D E W H S A D O G V
M M V R
G A Z R E P E N T A N C E F B D T T O E G W L
T S M Y Q A
K V A W S N S W C O N F E S S Q L R N B I A
C O M E O Z E K
P M H I K Y G W C F P I L I H P U M P S B
I U T R M I Z D A
I A T J F U B F X D E N H O J Z D S N D X
P C A S H N L Z J X G
Q N M H Y B C Z O V R B P A P J O Z I Q H
S N K N Z T F P X Y N A B
Q T T B D Y G P C F A G M B G K F C G R A
O C S G O W P U W B S S S E R
V F U V G B Z O I N R U N Y Y V K N S P T
P N D L O R I S Z B O Y I O E P H
B O O E T E R A I W D S S I Y I L U O
A I T N Y A R D L Y X D E I O T P S L
P T T T R D F U H B R Y M V U P I T O
O A S H O R H J V C Q A S V M C S M
S P U P L F L E O V X A O J Y P E S A E
T I D K G I W R K L E E D I L W
L C H W R U B P I S U S E J R M G E D P K
E I Q U U F L P R W R F D X
S T U Q I P U D W R P A E C W A E S E Y P
U N Z M Z O L R A W Z J
R A X I Q L T I R I P S Y L O H D M R S N
W Z F K I N O K L W
X M T L S E S U E D D A H T Q O A H A M I
K G H M T Y B N
F O C O C C R O S S L F K O M Q N I X G E
W W E F E G
V Z R P J T N A N E V O C W E N K M Q D E
O N N M
U V U J W J Q A P E T E R L C H V E W Q E
N X L H A G T D C O M M U N I O N L L U O N I





Lenten Things Word List

WORD LIST:

ANDREW	CROSS	JESUS	PHILIP
ANTICIPATION	DISCIPLES	JOHN	REDEMPTION
APOSTLES	DUST TO DUST	JUDAS	REPENTANCE
ASH WEDNESDAY	FORGIVENESS	LAST SUPPER	SIMON
BARTHOLOMEW	GLORY TO GOD	LENT	THADDEUS
BREAD	GOD	MATTHEW	THOMAS
COMMUNION	HOLY SPIRIT	NEW COVENANT	WINE
CONFESS	JAMES	PETER	

Toy Drive 2024

We are once again holding our Toy Drive, from now until the end of November, for the Warren Family Mission. If you wish to participate, there will be a bin in the lobby where you can drop off any new, unwrapped toys at any time.

In late November or early December, we will take these toys to the Mission for their yearly Christmas give away. Please keep in mind that while it's fun to shop for the little ones, there are teenagers who need love and support at Christmas also.

Thank you in advance for your kindness. If you have any questions, please see Karen Schoch.

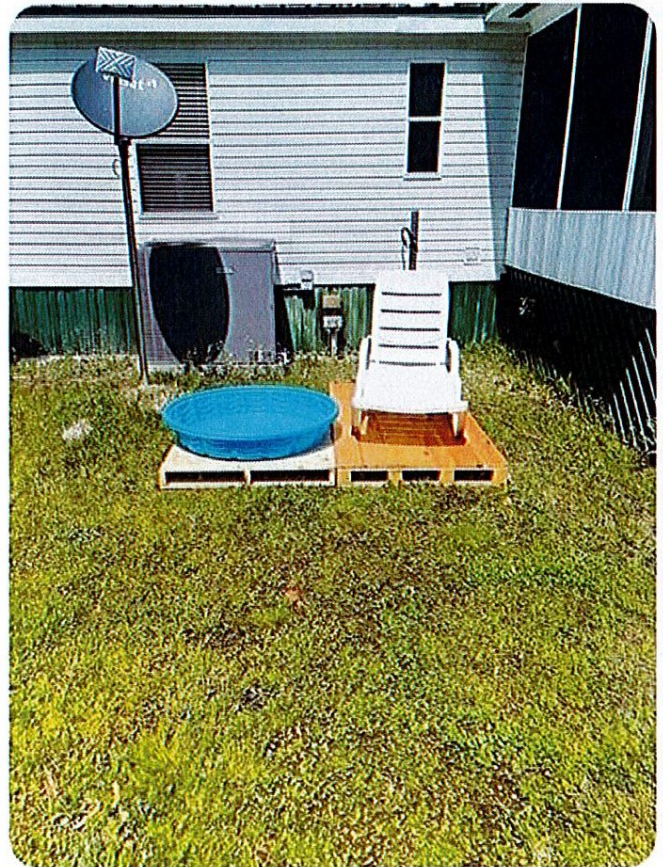




Friday Funnies



FINALLY FINISHED UP THAT DECK
AND GOT THE POOL INSTALLED





Prayer List

American People	Greg Lee	Those affected by	Shut-ins:
Donna Beavers	Dean Mahalick	the conflicts through	Donna Beavers
Becky Callahan	Peggy Marshall	out the world	Ruth Gilbert
Dave Davis	Larry Mattison		Betty Howren
Darlene Davis	Norma Patchin	The family of Betsy	Dick Leiby
Rodger Davis	Mary Sabol	Chapley	Marilyn Leiby
Steve Doran	Barb Ware		Glenn Mark
Phil Fletcher	Layes Wood		Norma Patchin
Ruth Gilbert			Barb Sponaugle

Floating Five Emergency Fund

In July 2009, the Floating Five Committee decided to start an emergency account to help those in the church having an unexpected need for money such as a car repair, medical bill, or legitimate need as recommended by church members or staff, etc. Please speak with Judy Fabian, Keith Burger, Karen Schoch, or Rev. Gammon should you have such a need.

This is a confidential service available to any church member, staff member, or anyone who attends regularly. This is not intended to be an ongoing source of income but rather for emergency situations which one might encounter.

Prayer Chain/List

The Prayer Chain has been slightly revised. As a reminder, names of people for the Prayer Chain with specific messages are prayed for regularly for that person for seven days. Be sure to begin your request by calling the church office or by filling out a prayer request card.

Names on the Prayer List in the weekly bulletin will be carried for that month unless requested it be continued on or removed prior to the end of the month.

**If you would like to be a caller and offer prayers for those on the prayer chain, please notify the church office (330) 394-4741 or fill out a prayer request card.



First United Church of Christ

280 E. Market Street
Warren, Ohio 44481
(330) 394-4741
Email: firstuccwarren@gmail.com



The church with the “golden dome”

website
www.firstuccwarren.org

Pastor:

Rev./Dr. Gerald Gammon

Pastor Emeritus:

Joe Doran

Everett Gould

Elder Emeritus:

Al Conklin

Nick Fabian

Ed Gilbert

Don Howren

Glenn Mark

Sylvia Moyes

Bill Paxson

George Schneider

Bill Schoch

Charles Weller

Ken Wright

Deacon Emeritus:

Dick Leiby



Consistory

President: Ron Schoch

Vice President: Bill Paxson

Secretary: Nancy Hamrick

Treasurer: Rev. Gammon

Financial Officer: Sheryl Cozad

Bookkeeper: Sheryl Cozad

Elders: Keith Burger 12/31/26
Jr. Fumerola 12/31/24
Linda Paxson 12/31/24
Bill Paxson 12/31/24
Karen Schoch 12/31/26

Deacons: Melanie Burger 12/31/24
Sheryl Cozad 12/31/25
Judy Fabian 12/31/24
Marian Gammon 12/31/25
Candy Lemasters 12/31/25
Sharon Longworth 12/31/25
Debbie Wimer 12/31/24