



Parish News

July 2020

First United Church of Christ

A Morning Walk

I awoke before dawn and after a quick cup of coffee decided to take a morning walk to commune with my creator and enjoy the beautiful natural world He has created for all of us. The sun was just peeking over the horizon, just beginning to *gild the skies*. I walked by my little flower bed where the *dew was still on the roses*. The foot path down to the valley floor was steep with numerous hairpin curves. About half way down the path a small brook crossed, where I paused and setting on an old log could *hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze*.

After my short break I continued down the trail, it wasn't quite as steep at this point and the trail wound its way through a strand of grass nearly two feet tall and I could of swore *I could feel Him pass*. As I finished my journey to the bottom of this beautiful valley. As I neared what I thought was the end of the trail a second creek joined the brook I had been following. At the confluence there was a wide meandering section of pathway that *led me beside still waters*.

By now my pathway had completed a switchback, I no longer was looking into the rising sun but rather could feel the Son's warmth on my back which felt like *sunshine in my soul*. I felt the first gentle raindrops against my face and noticed the bright sunshine had given way to *cloven skies*. I paused briefly under the shelter of a large oak tree intending on moving on *after the shower has gone*.

By this time I realized that I had been gone for a considerable spell, *my time was fleeting and shadows were gathering*. Retracing my walk and utilizing a shortcut I emerged from a forest onto an old, seldom used dirt road and I couldn't resisting stopping to *consider the lilies of the field* that grew so profusely from the ditch lining this road. Arriving back at home I realized that it was windy, very nearly dark and beginning to rain once more. As I sat on my porch thinking about the wonderful day I had been blessed to experience *I could see the stars and hear the rolling thunder*.

God speed

Bill Paxson



A Note from Your Pastor

Happy July!

What a month we are going to experience! We celebrate the birth of our country and are cautiously returning to our beloved sanctuary. I am so looking forward to it all and to seeing my church family!

As we celebrate our good fortune let us not lose sight of those who are less fortunate. Not everyone gets to experience the good things in life as we do. Even within our own community there are those who are less fortunate economically and that experience hatred and prejudices. We as Christians need to work for reform and to stamp out the sin of inequality. Jesus came for all and we must carry on His mission of love to all. We can no longer tolerate racial bias in any form, jokes, slurs, and stereotyping. This is not the work of Christ but rather the work of Satan. It breeds hate and contempt and must be removed from our society completely.

We should be working to bring more people to the Lord. That is our mission, sharing the loving Gospel of Christ with all. Not only in words but in action.

One of the greatest honors of being a pastor is the initiation of someone to the life of Christianity. The sacraments of baptism and confirmation hold a dear spot in the hearts of those commissioned to carry out these sacred events. On June 21st, 2020 I had the honor and privilege to baptize Miss Everly Kay Hartman, daughter of Emily and Lee Hartman, grandchild of Mark and Kay Leiby. Bringing a child closer to God is such a warm feeling and a memorable experience.

With our world being so mixed up right now it is pleasing to see God's hand at work! I hope you too feel His presence in your lives and that you realize that He loves you beyond measure and understanding. God cherishes each of us and wants us to prosper. He has repeatedly shown us His love and caring ways, so let us give Him thanks.

My hope for you is that your heart be filled with gladness and joy, knowing that your God loves you and has enabled you to enrich the lives of others. Now the choice is yours, will you make a difference?

God bless you all,

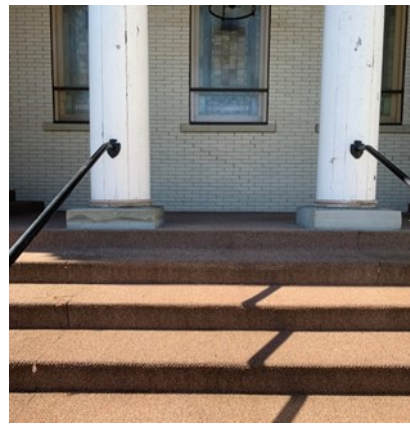
Pastor Gerry





Property Committee Report

The pillar painting project has begun. Nick's Painting started on the June 6th by replacing the bases under the pillars with new concrete structures. The concrete used is a high strength concrete and will have to cure for 30 days before they can be coated with any type of paint. In the meantime they will work on the wooden pillars. Nick's will sand them down, repair any problems with the wood. Then they will seal, prime, put on a base color, and finish with a satin finish paint to match what is currently there. The pillars will look very nice when completed.



Earlier this month I got a phone call from Bob Powell. He voiced his concern for Nancy's safety when it comes to people (strangers) coming to the entrance of the church building. He doesn't feel it is safe for her to open the door to speak to someone she does not know. He asked me to investigate a way that she may see the person who is at the door, and speak with that person without having to open the door. A video doorbell system would accomplish this. I put together a list of items needed to accomplish Bob's wishes and the cost of the items. He called me later that same week to tell me he received the letter and has sent the check so I can purchase the items.



(continued page 4)





Property Committee (continued from page 3)

The Ring Doorbell is a video and two-way speaker. When a person pushes the doorbell button the camera will show who's there on the Echo Show devices. The larger 8" Echo Show will go in the Church Secretary's office. The smaller 5" Echo Show will go in the sanctuary.

Another concern for Bob was the inability to remotely unlock the main entrance door. His wish is that Nancy or her substitute could unlock the door with the push of a button from the office. This would work nicely in conjunction with the video doorbell system. To make this a fully functional system, I would also have a remote button installed in the back of the sanctuary so whoever is watching the camera (doorbell) can unlock the door for late comers without leaving the sanctuary. We held a consistory meeting on the 8th of June. I brought Bob's request to the members of consistory and it was agreed to proceed. I have already contacted three companies who can install this system. There is only one of them that I feel confident can complete this job. I'm waiting for a quote from him.

Bob also asked me if there was anything else I was concerned with. I told him the brick structures flanking the stairs at the front of the church are in need of repair. I want to get estimates to have that done and hopefully pay for it with the balance left from the pillar painting project he funded. He told me just let him know what the cost is. So I will be doing that in the near future.

We are blessed as a congregation to have such wonderful people, such as Bob, and a few others that I don't know if I'm allowed to mention by name, so I won't. Because of the generosity of these folks our beautiful building is being repaired and kept functional for all to enjoy and use for our worship to the Lord. I personally am blessed to have had conversations with Mr. Powell and making a friend in Florida. I had a wonderful conversation with him on Friday. He has a lot of historical facts to share. And a sense of humor!

With all this Covid-19 stuff that's been going on the past months, I am grateful to have something to occupy my mind again. I live alone and was losing way too many arguments with myself! Now I have more to think about and even better than that, I have reason to get out of the house! I will keep you posted on the projects that are ongoing and God Bless you all!

Mark Gammon





Prayer List

Donna Beaver
Bill Bode
Joanne Bode
Sherry French

Don Howren
Betty Jamison
Betty Mark
Marlen Martin

Sue Torno
Gayle Vidovich
Mary Kate Zweidinger

Answers for a “Test for Us Older Kids” from June

1. The Lone Ranger left behind a silver bullet.
2. The Ed Sullivan Show
3. On Route 66
4. To protect the innocent
5. The lion sleeps tonight.
6. The limbo
7. Chocolate
8. Louis Armstrong
9. The Timex watch
10. Freddy, the Freeloader and “Good Night and God Bless”
11. Draft cards (bras were also burned), not flags as some have guessed
12. Beetle or bug
13. Buddy Holly
14. Sputnik
15. Hula-Hoop
16. Luck Strikes/Mean Fine Tobacco
17. Howdy Doody Time
18. Shadow
19. Monster Mash
20. Speedy

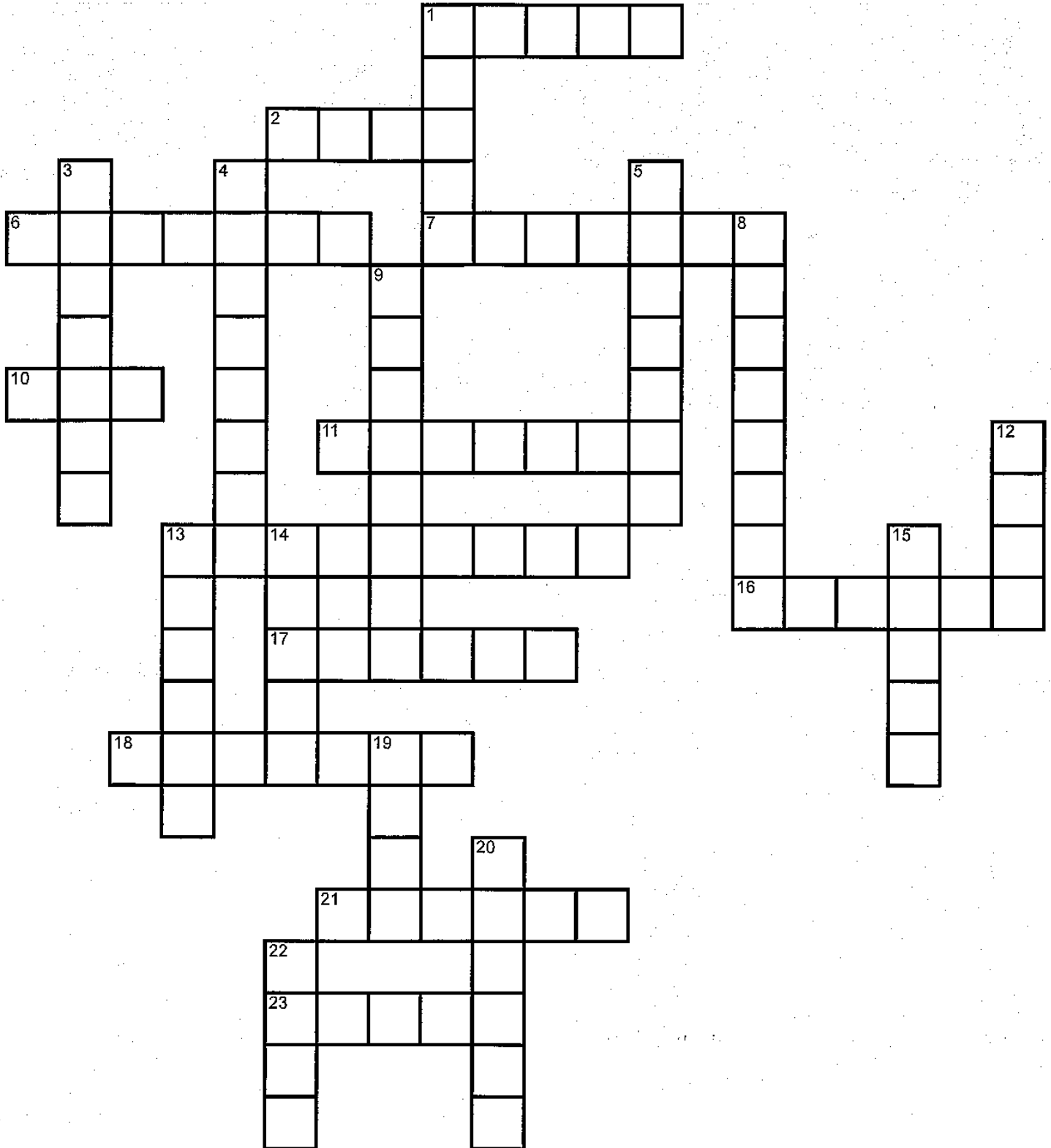
Emergency Fund

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.





Grilling Time!!





Across/Down

Across

- 1 Emissions
- 2 Flame
- 6 Ham _____
- 7 Red condiment
- 10 Uncooked
- 11 Gas flame source
- 13 Spices
- 16 Grilled treats
- 17 Green condiment
- 18 Hotdogs
- 21 Pink middle
- 23 Can make you cry

Down

- 1 Beef
- 3 Yellow condiment
- 4 Almost burned (two words)
- 5 Poultry
- 8 Good baked
- 9 Cooking media
- 12 Bread
- 13 Indirect cooking device
- 14 Cook protector
- 15 Cooker
- 19 Barely cooked
- 20 Eating outside
- 22 Comes from trees

Prayer 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 anyone would like to be added to the Prayer Chain, do not hesitate. There is always room for more. Just notify the church office (330) 394-4741 or fill out a prayer request card.



First United Church of Christ

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(330) 394-4741
Email: firstuccwarren@gmail.com



The church with the “golden dome”

website
www.firstuccwarren.org

Pastor: Rev. Gerald Gammon

Pastor Emeritus: Joe Doran
Everett Gould

Elder Emeritus: Al Conklin
Nick Fabian
Don Howren
Ed Gilbert
Glenn Mark
Sylvia Moyes
Bill Paxson
George Schneider
Bill Schoch
Charles Weller
Ken Wright

Deacon Emeritus: Dick Leiby



Consistory

President:	Bill Paxson	Elders:	Jim DeSavigny	12/31/21
			Craig Cozad	12/31/20
Vice President:	Ron Schoch		Donny Longworth	12/31/20
			Ron Schoch	12/31/21
Secretary:	Nancy Hamrick			
		Deacons:	Emily Burkett	12/31/22
Treasurer:	Donny Longworth		Sheryl Cozad	12/31/22
			Marian Gammon	12/31/22
Financial Officer:	Craig Cozad		Mark Gammon	12/31/21
			Brenda Hibbard	12/31/21
Bookkeeper:	Sheryl Cozad		Candy Lemasters	12/31/22
			Debbie Wimer	12/31/21

