

# Hello JUNE

## Parish News

2023

### First United Church of Christ

#### A Note from Your Pastor

Summer! June officially brings in the season of summer! A time packed full of activities: graduations, weddings, picnics, cookouts, fishing, camping, boating (hopefully), and more! There is so much to do! Of course, there are also chores like lawn mowing, gardening, weeding, painting, and such, but it seems most of us do better in the sunny and warmer weather. Our spirits seem to lift in the sun just as plants rise to grasp the rays of sunshine.

I know there are some that prefer the coolness of the other seasons, but I am definitely a sunshine person. I enjoy being able to get around without the coats and galoshes. Traveling is so much safer for the most part without the rain or snow-soaked roadways. And cold seems to exacerbate my aches and pains. I like the summer season! And I hope that you all have an enjoyable summer too!

Summer also reminds me of the glory of God. How the sun warms not just my exterior self but my inner self. I can almost feel God wrapping His arms around me and feel the warmth that can only come from knowing Him. My heart is refilled with a love so strong and so pure. The glory of nature sprouting and thriving is like witnessing the presence of our Lord in my soul. There is so much to do, so much to enjoy, so much to live.

I realize many of us can't do the things we once did. Believe me all too well. But even sitting outside and enjoying the warmer weather brings me solace that I cannot find during the cold seasons. God is so ever present in the summer. His joy spills over to the laughter of children as they celebrate during summer festivities. Family gatherings can often be expanded because traveling is easier and safer, bringing with them the sharing of the old and the new.

Whatever you experience this summer and this June I hope that it is joy filled and Spirit filled. You all remain in my thoughts and prayers...

Blessings,

*Pastor Gerry*



## Update June 2023

Hello everyone! My favorite sport is baseball. Even though I love watching Major League baseball with all the talent and expertise the players possess and display on a daily basis, still my favorite games are in the youth leagues. I so enjoyed watching my son play all the way from T-ball through high school. My daughter played softball for a while and I even got to coach her team in a summer rec league. Now that I'm older I have the pleasure of watching two grandsons and a granddaughter as they participate and learn the intricacies of this wonder sport.

This brings me to the subject of curve balls. In baseball a curveball is a pitch which does one of two things. It either deceives you into thinking the ball is not going to be a strike or it entices you to swing and miss as the ball curves away from where you think it might go. In life we get metaphorical curveballs thrown at us all the time. On May 13, we planted 40 geraniums here at the church as dictated by a custom centered around Pentecost. The middle of May is the time when the threat of frost is generally behind us. Lo, and behold we had a frost warning on May 17. That led to my wife and I coming down to the church that day to cover the newly planted geraniums to protect them from frost. They did survive as we worked around that curveball.

I'm sure you have had similar experiences in your lives as all of us have. Sometimes we handle the curveball and other times we swing and miss. But we always get another at-bat. It's like that with our relationship with God. You want to make God laugh? Just tell him your plans! We all miss the curveball at one time or another but God is there for us whenever we swing and miss, or when we hit a home run.

Speaking of those geraniums, thanks to everyone who donated money to purchase the plants. We collected \$225.00 which covered the cost plus a little extra. Also thanks to Bill Paxson for arranging the purchase and pickup of the plants. And thanks to those who helped with the planting. The flowers look beautiful.

We are into our summer schedule with Sunday services beginning at 10:00 a.m. through Labor Day. Summer is busy for all of us, but please try to come to church as often as possible as God's work never gets a day off. Also, please remember those on our prayer list in your daily prayers and stay in contact with our shut-ins.

Until next month, watch out for those curveball.

Ron Schoch





## Dear Brothers and Sisters at F.U.C.C.

All Praise, Honor, and Glory to the Lord, our God through His only begotten Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, by way of the Holy Spirit. I write to you in regards to my upcoming move back to Elmira, New York.

When I first moved to Ohio, I had planned to move back to New York shortly after the passing of the friend I came here to help take care of. Next month will mark two years since her passing. I have family and friends of thirty plus years and a church family in New York, which is the reason for my desire to move back. I also will have better public transportation, which would trim back the use of my vehicle to just a few times a week.

I would prefer to be here for about thirty days after my replacement starts so if they have any questions, I can be here to help them.

Because I have breathing issues, I do not believe that I can move during the cold weather. Carrying my belongings from my apartment into a truck and then from the truck into where I will be staying, in the cold, I strongly believe, would kill me. Therefore, I believe that moving in the winter is not an option. Since I now have the money to move, I believe that it is now or never. Therefore, my move will happen as soon as the church can replace me as janitor, but I have to be moved no later than September 30, 2023.

I also believe that there is a strong possibility that my help would be needed and appreciated in Elmira from August 11 through August 27. If that is the case, it would make it less expensive for me, as well as easier, if I have completely moved no later than early August, which I would prefer to do.

I hope this will give you all a sense for where I am at with my upcoming move. I love you all! May God bless each and every one of you beyond measure!

Your brother in Christ

Jeff Robinson





## Friday Funnies

Every time we try to eat healthy, along  
comes Christmas,  
Easter, summer, Tuesday or Friday  
and ruins it for us!

## Toy Drive

From now until the end of November we will be holding a toy drive 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.

April Income

April Expenditures

April Net

\$7,127.75

\$5,927.15

\$1,200.60





## Prayer List

American People  
 Becky Callahan  
 Betsy Chapley  
 Roger Davis  
 East Palestine People  
 Phil Fletcher  
 Peggy Marshall  
 Mary Sabol

Bob Spencer  
 Ukraine People

Shut-ins:  
 Donna Beavers  
 Ruth Gilbert  
 Betty Howren  
 Betty Jamison  
 Dick Leiby  
 Marilyn Leiby  
 Glenn Mark

Norma Patchin  
 Sue Schoch  
 Bob Spencer  
 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.

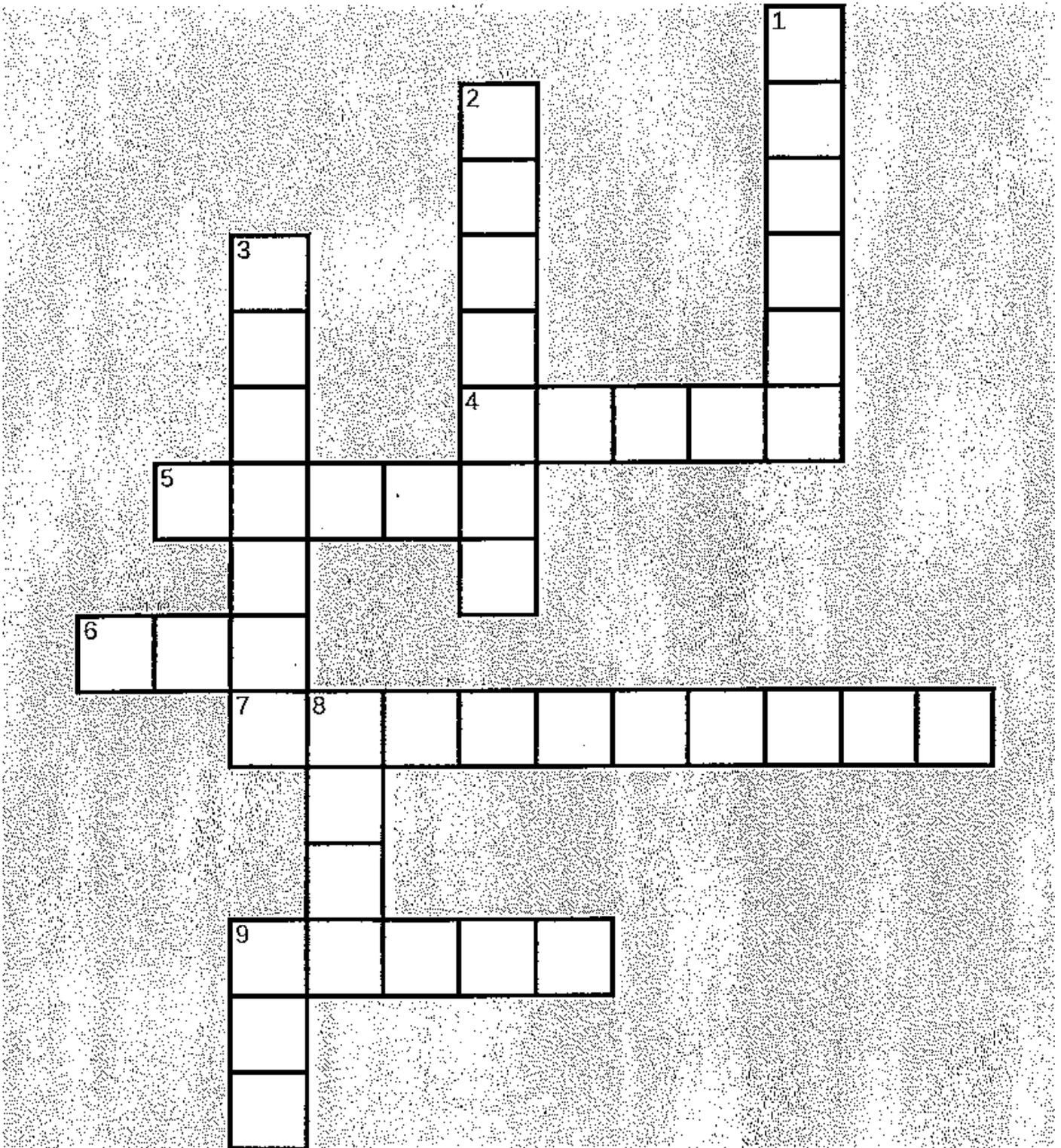
Names on the Prayer List in the weekly bulletin will be carried for that month unless requested it be continued on or removed prior to the end of the month.

\*\*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.





# Father's Day Puzzle





## Father's Day Puzzle Across/Down

### Across

- 4 \_\_\_ Father's Day!
- 5 Your mom's brother is your \_\_\_.
- 6 Three-letter word, short for soda.
- 7 We \_\_\_ all of the fathers/father-figures on Father's Day!
- 9 An American term of endearment for father.

### Down

- 1 Father's Day is always the second \_\_\_ in June.
- 2 Your male sibling is your \_\_\_.
- 3 You dad's dad is your \_\_\_.
- 8 A word used in many languages as an affectionate term for father.
- 9 Three-letter word, short for father.

## Friday Funnies



## 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](http://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

|                           |               |                 |                  |          |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|
| <b>President:</b>         | Ron Schoch    | <b>Elders:</b>  | Keith Burger     | 12/31/23 |
|                           |               |                 | Jr. Fumerola     | 12/31/24 |
| <b>Vice President:</b>    | Bill Paxson   |                 | Linda Paxson     | 12/31/24 |
|                           |               |                 | Bill Paxson      | 12/31/24 |
|                           |               |                 | Karen Schoch     | 12/31/23 |
| <b>Secretary:</b>         | Nancy Hamrick |                 |                  |          |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>         | Rev. Gammon   | <b>Deacons:</b> | Melanie Burger   | 12/31/24 |
|                           |               |                 | Sheryl Cozad     | 12/31/25 |
|                           |               |                 | Judy Fabian      | 12/31/24 |
| <b>Financial Officer:</b> | Sheryl Cozad  |                 | Marian Gammon    | 12/31/25 |
|                           |               |                 | Candy Lemasters  | 12/31/25 |
| <b>Bookkeeper:</b>        | Sheryl Cozad  |                 | Sharon Longworth | 12/31/25 |
|                           |               |                 | Debbie Wimer     | 12/31/24 |