

Parish News

March 2020

First United Church of Christ

Things That Stick With Us

There are some things that we can only learn from mistakes. Every generation, sooner or later, comes to this same conclusion. The secret to our success is to avoid making the same mistake repeatedly. However, some times the same opportunity presents its self in camouflage and we fail to recognize it in the disguised form.

Every once in a while I find myself in a somewhat confused state of mind over an issue. As we grow older and more mature we tend to rely on past experiences. We recall times when we either made a bad decision or in some cases a wise one. When we get a few more years down our journey of life we can't remember which times we made our best choices. The reason I bring this up is because I recently heard; and so did all of you if you were in church on a particular Sunday, a wonderfully appropriate line from one of Rev. Gammon's sermons. When in doubt about something, log into the web site WWJD (what would Jesus do?) This works even better than Google.

Going back a few more months I caught another gem delivered from the pulpit. As I recall, it was during a discussion about losing a loved one and how painfully slow and difficult it is for the survivors to move on with their own mortal life. The sorrow can be overwhelming and can linger long enough to alter our personality in a negative way. Here is the short line from a sermon. " Life can seem so temporary and so short but fortunately for Christians so is death." I remember running this line over and over in my mind on the drive home from church until my wife told me to" be sure to write this down when I got home, otherwise you'll forget it." Well I did exactly that and I recall it every now and then, mostly when I think of my parents or my own loved ones who are already in paradise.

Do you remember the time we had a sermon about putting things off for various reasons? It was about the excuses we make up for not doing some task that we know sooner or later we are going to have deal with regardless of our excuses. This sounds like a case for WWJD but on this given Sunday the excuses suggested ran the gambit from financial to headaches to just plain sleeping in. This last one provoked a humorous response. "That's just an issue of mind over mattress."

See you in church, Bill Paxson



A Note from the Pastor

As we enter the liturgical season of Lent let us be mindful of what it means to us as Christians. Lent is a time of self-reflection to determine those things that might be interfering in our relationship with Christ. The season also affords us the opportunity for fasting and practicing self-denial as acts of preparation for the coming glory of our risen Lord. We can use this time to better our relationship with the Lord and to become better followers of Christ.

Lent is a season of love. Our love for Christ and celebration of the love we have received from Him. Lent is a good time to grow our outreach of love to others. We can do this through praying for others, assisting those in need, sharing the Gospel with others and devoting time to the spiritual growth of others. To give of ourselves and our resources is love in action. Just as our Lord gave of Himself for us, we too should be giving of ourselves.

Let us be mindful of what Lent means and the opportunities it presents us. Let us learn to love more, let us learn to give of ourselves more, and let us prepare for the coming of our Lord!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Gerry

Floating Five Collection 2/2/20





Update

Last month the Deacons hosted a very successful Heart to Heart celebration! Thank you to all involved.

Howard Matz went home to be with our Lord. May the Lord welcome him home and bless his soul eternally.

Hamilton Road will be performing at our church the evening of March 28th. A cookie reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

The Deacons are having a pie sale. Orders and monies are to be turned in by March 28th, pies will be available for pick up (at the church) Saturday, April 4th from 11 to 1. Order forms are in the lobby and can also be called in to the office.



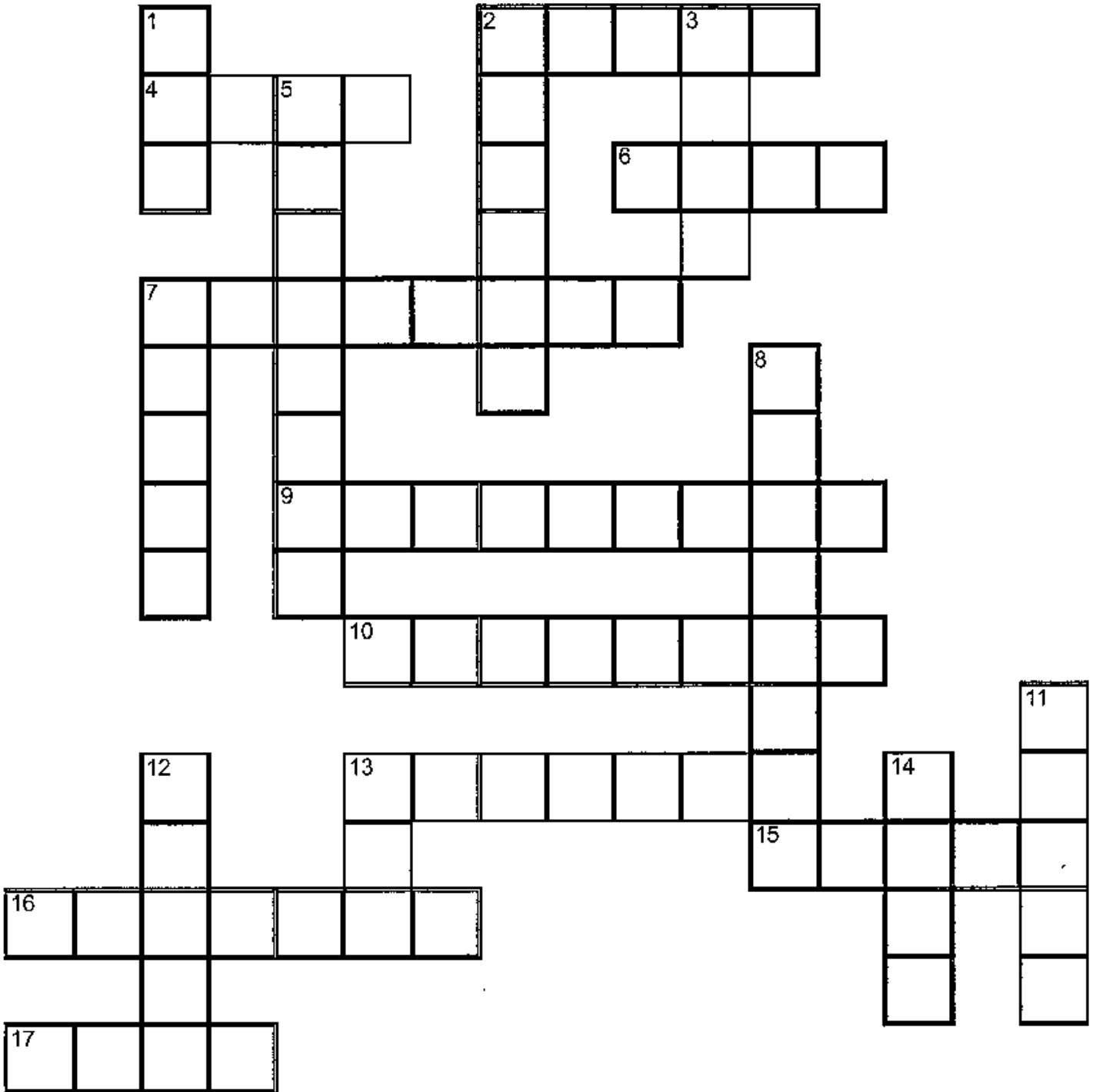
Pie Sale

The Deacons are holding a pie sale in time for Easter! Pies will be available the Saturday before Palm Sunday (April 4th). The price of the pies is \$6 each. There will be cherry, peach, apple, and mixed berry available for you to order. Order forms are available in the lobby. Orders should be paid for and turned in by March 28th. Pick up times for the pies will be Saturday, April 4th, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.





This and That





Word List

Across

- 2 Suns
- 4 Not difficult
- 6 Friday meal
- 7 _____ Road
- 9 Last Supper
- 10 English cookies
- 13 Where to find Kay
- 15 Wearing of the _____
- 16 Kunkle & Schoch getaway
- 17 Angels and Bill play one

Down

- 1 Stop color
- 2 They march in
- 3 Not snow
- 5 Clover
- 7 Trumpets
- 8 On a boat
- 11 Holy pastry
- 12 Singers
- 13 Flowers are planted here
- 14 Pre-Easter

Hamilton Road Quartet

They are once again coming to the First U.C.C. on Saturday, March 28, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. Admission is free and a “love offering” will be collected at the end. Please be sure to invite all your friends and family.





Prayer List

Clyde Baker	Marlin Martin	Janis Williamson
Donna Beavers	Ryan Petiya	Mary Kate Zweidinger
Bill Bode	Sally Spencer	
Fred Bode	Barb Sponaugle	Matz Family
Sheri French	Jerry Stephens	Harris (Eldora) Family
Don Howren	Sue Torno	
Betty Jamison	Gayle Vidovich	
Betty Mark	Joy White	

Prayer Ministry

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 our a prayer request card.

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.



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. 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

