

# Tower Times

St. John's United Church of Christ

515 East Third Street

Dayton, OH 45402

## June 2018



At least once or twice a year, I try to encourage the congregation to “dream” with me. Who do we dream that St. John’s UCC might be? What do we dream that we as a church might undertake? Where might we as a loving body that represents the One, who is all love, go and be present? June, July, and August seem to be fitting months for us to take a little time and do a little of this type of dreaming. We’ve made it through the craziness of Lent and Eastertide; we’ve had one heck-uva’ party to celebrate Pentecost Sunday; very soon we’ll be finished with the whirlwind weekend that is, Dayton Pride Festival.

And then?

Well, after all of this, we get a little bit of a break. The school calendar isn’t the only thing that seems a little bare in the summer, the liturgical calendar is also rather quiet in these months. Don’t get me wrong, we’ve got a REALLY fun summer planned for our Sunday morning worship experiences. Still, there are no huge celebrations, festivals, whatever-have-you, until we get to World Communion Sunday on the first weekend in October. (And then we’ll jump right back into crazy with German Heritage, Reformation, Totenfest, Annual Meeting, and Advent!) But, for the here and now, we have ourselves a much needed and well-deserved break of sorts.

I would invite you, in this period of rest, to stop and dream of who you want the church to be, where we need to be present, and what we need to be doing. Don’t stop, however, with simply dreaming and scheming things that you’d like to see; come speak to myself and/or Church Council!



Let’s all step into a time of dreaming so that we might be a better “do-ing” church!

Tower Times – June, 2018

Vice President's Report:

VP Article:

Administrative Assistant  
Position:



We're currently restructuring the position. Through modern technology, we're able to do some things differently. Simply put, we've not found the correct person at this time. It's not for lack of effort.

Care for Care Givers:

Sat., June 23 – 1:30 PM at Wheat Penny

Caregivers are the wonderful people who hold many situations together.

We've enjoyed spending time together. Please join us!



Merry Christmas (Cards)!

YES, I got your attention. We have a supply of new Christmas Cards that were given to us. If you have ideas of how we can utilize them (fund raiser / good deed), please let myself or Building & Property know.

Chris van Breukelen  
Church Council VP





The Budget & Finance Committee met Sunday May 13, 2018. Present at the meeting were: Patty Staley-Chair, Doug Goudy-Vice Chair, Nick Schumacher-Secretary, Jeff Gerrior-Treasurer, Ron Duckson, Debbie Watts, Reverend Wirrig and guest Kim Kindred.

The meeting was called to order by Patty Staley, Chair.

The minutes from the April 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Jeff Gerrior reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2018 noting that Offerings are up over 2017 for the month in the amount of \$612 and year-to-date \$6,700. Expenses were a little high but typical for this time of year due to building insurance, payroll and employee insurance and the gas bill still higher this month due the weather (this should now not be an issue as we go into the spring/summer months). The deficit continues to trend lower than budget and if we continue as we are, year-end should be well under budget. Requests from Parking Ministry were made and are reflected in the RAMM Holding Account, the Organ Fund Account and the Discretionary Mission Holding Account. The \$25,000 request from the GBU Annuity has been processed and is reflected in the April report. There was a \$3,000 gift to the RAMM Account. Interest was received in the amount of \$853 for the Memorial Endowment. Easter/Holy Week contributions came in totaling \$1,307. A SONKA grant in the amount of \$500 was received to support our Stivers Program. As was the final payment of \$3,500 for the ESOL program space use for the year. The Martial Arts group continues to donate for their use of space.

In old business, it was noted that the Council Chair is working on compiling

council member recommended revisions to the Constitution and By-Laws for discussion at Council. Parking & Parking Ministry – ABM has now taken on parking. The transition has been fairly smooth. We should see something in the next 30 days from them (report/payment). The search is continuing for a new Administrative Assistant has been temporarily placed on hold to reassess the needs of the position and possible posting at a later date. The Director of Family Life Ministries has a potential candidate that will be interviewed and Committee will be updated as it progresses.

Stewardship and Legacy Giving were discussed. Each of the members will revise a section from last year's Stewardship program to personalize it and make it more about St. John's and more inviting to the congregation to use as the budgeting tool it was meant to be. Committee members will also review the Legacy Giving pamphlet prepared last year and make any recommendations for changes that need to be made.

Grants & Fundraising – The Committee revisited the need to be diligently reviewing grants and other fundraising options. While the focus will be building (interior and exterior) and ADA Compliance any funds that can be utilized by the Church should be considered including energy grants, program grants, etc. Patty is working on the matter of routine fundraising and the necessity to set up a limited liability company under which all the fundraising activities are handled to keep in line with the IRS Code regarding 501(c)(3) church entities. Bingo was suggested, Patty is gathering necessary information on the legal issues as there are some pretty strict regulations regarding Bingo and it would most likely have to fall under the limited liability company umbrella if pursued.

Financial controls were discussed in relation to requirements of the Insurance Board. Patty is getting the guidelines from the Insurance Board and will review at the next meeting. We will be reviewing all aspects of our accounting methods to make sure we are meeting the necessary requirements for the Insurance Board and General Accounting Standards and will make recommendations as needed. This is not a new requirement but a safety measure not only for the Church but the members filling these rolls.

Credit Card payment online & kiosk options. Patty is meeting with bank representative to update prior information she received and working on presenting to Committee next meeting and hope to roll out shortly thereafter with approval. And don't forget: ACH Transfer (regular automatic payments or one-time payments) directly from your Checking Account to St. John's is available for making your weekly or special contributions. To find out more, contact Reverend Wirrig or Patty Staley.

In New Business the Chairlift Repair/Replacement was discussed and based on the current quotes and requirements, we are looking at our options and sources of funding. Repair is not an option. Replacement brings with it several issues and added costs that are not included in the quote, including the potential for City to dictate additional ADA Compliance requirements during inspection for permitting for the replacement of the chairlift. Therefore the Committee was tasked with finding grants/funds as soon as possible to fund ADA Compliance and find a viable solution to the issue of the chairlift.

Reverend Wirrig has requested that the funds that he contributed to fund the Director of Family Life Ministry and that have not yet been used and are designated for payment of a bonus at year-end be reinstated into his salary as we have not yet hired for the DFLM position and such funds would have already been expended by this time had the position been filled. The Committee voted and agreed that the funds could be made available and will make such recommendation to Personnel and Council for the funds to be returned to Reverend Wirrig's salary rather than the year-end bonus.

One Call Now is up for renewal. It was discussed and since there are many other ways that the congregation is updated on various issues relating to the Church – cancellations, deaths, etc, the One Call Now system is not utilized enough to justify the continued cost. The Committee voted on cancellation of the One Call Now and the service will not be renewed.

Building uses. We are pleased to note that we are being contacted regarding space for use by different groups. This is very positive in that it not only means income but also the ability to reach others through our availability of space.

This is positive also in that it gives us an added benefit when seeking funds. Look for more information to come as new possibilities are explored.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned

The next meeting of the Budget & Finance Committee meeting will be on Sunday, June 11, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

If anyone has any questions or concerns regarding the information discussed here or in the Budget & Finance Committee, I welcome you to speak with me at any time. I also invite anyone who would like to attend the meetings to join us as a guest. If you have something that needs to be addressed at the meeting, let me know so that I can place the information on the agenda.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patty Staley, Chair

Budget & Finance Committee

P.S. Just a quick reminder that ACH Transfer (regular automatic payments or one-time payments) directly from your Checking Account to St. John's is available for making your weekly or special contributions. To find out more, contact Reverend Wirrig or Patty Staley.





## ***Percy Jones Scholars for Sacred Choral Music***

St. John's was blessed to honor Camryn Snapp, our soprano scholar for the last two years, after worship on the 6th of May. Camryn is graduating from Stivers and is heading to Belmont University, in Nashville, to study music. We have been truly blessed with Camryn's abilities over the last two years, along with her humor and fellowship. Truly, we will miss her as she journeys from St. John's. On a happy note, however, we are excited to welcome Logan van Bibber back with us for another year as our baritone scholar! We wish both of our students a great summer and look forward to hearing and seeing more of them in the future.

The scholarship fund, that allows us enjoy students like Logan and Camryn, ended the year with \$655 dollars. A humongous thank you to all who donated funds this year. Please remember that, even though we won't have Stivers students with us again until the fall, you can always donate towards the scholarship fund by using the envelopes found in the narthex.



## ***WORSHIP REPORT***

The *Summer Schedule* is on! Choir is off! But look at the music Jeff has planned for the month of June:

- 3 Jeff Campbell, vocal solo
- 10 Aaron Meece, tenor
- 17 Stephanie Llacuna, harpist
- 24 Kettering Senior Show Choir, Raymonde Rougier, Director

Jeff's lined up a full schedule of guest artists. July and August lists will be in the next Tower Times.

***Hymn Sings:*** the last Sunday of June/July/August. Early in June bulletin inserts will be available for you to note your favorite hymn(s).

**Worship Committee:** met May 16. Several items for the summer and early fall are in the planning stages – *Praygrounds*, a Sunday morning worship service designed to include children; *Indoor-Outdoor Picnic, Sunday July 29*, with worship, fellowship, food, in fellowship hall and grilling on the patio. Messy Church an inter-generational activity probably one Saturday a month beginning early fall.

Just a personal note. What a great day Pentecost was! We really CELEBRATED the birthday of the church with the sacrament of baptism for little 1 year old Anna Velasquez; the rite of confirmation for two of our young people, Dane Harker and Leeann Harker; the music, the preaching, the sanctuary decorated in red. Thanks to all who provided red geraniums. The spirit continued downstairs at the carry-in as our people were able to share a meal with the Velasquez and Harker families and friends. How nice to see several old St. John's folks there.

*Pat Kern*

Pat Kern

Worship Committee—Chair

### **GOOD GRIEF**

The Good Grief group will meet Saturday June 16 at Corner Kitchen, Wayne and 5th. Streets at 4:30 P.M. We share a meal together, offer some insights, laugh together, and get to know one another a bit better. 'It's a small world' one expressed after a couple members discovered they shared memories of living in northwest Ohio years ago. Grief, can be caused by loss, disappointment, upheaval and other big or small events in one's life. We are not a therapy group but exist as a support group for our congregation. Anyone is welcome to join us. Please note our starting time for this month is 4:30 pm.

Pat Kern





Hello everyone,

I recently delivered the items that were in the shopping cart to The Good Neighbor House. While I was there, I was informed that Good Neighbor House has a specific need: toilet paper. Surprisingly, toilet paper is an item that isn't donated to them on a regular basis.

St John's, it's OUR time to shine!!!  
June is now T-Paper Month!

Please donate toilet paper during June for The Good Neighbor House. Let's see if we can fill up our donation barrels with toilet paper for those who are struggling to get by! As usual, barrels will be in the lobby and will be present all throughout June!



For those who remember the Charmin TV Commercials, we will not scold you if you squeeze the Charmin, or any other brand of toilet paper that will be donated!



On June 17th, the Christian Nurture Committee will be honoring fathers, step fathers, uncles, brothers, and all gentlemen who have taken up the role of being a father with a small gift at the end of worship.

# Pentecost SUNDAY

Pentecost Sunday was indeed a very special day at St. John's! We were blessed not just to celebrate God's historic indwelling of the Holy Spirit in our worship, but also in sacraments of baptism and confirmation. Young Anna Velasquez was welcomed into the wider Body of Christ through baptism and Dane and Leeann Harker remembered and confirmed their baptism after completing a course of study with Rev. Adam. Vows were made, confessions were spoken, and God's Holy Spirit felt so-very-close for all present!

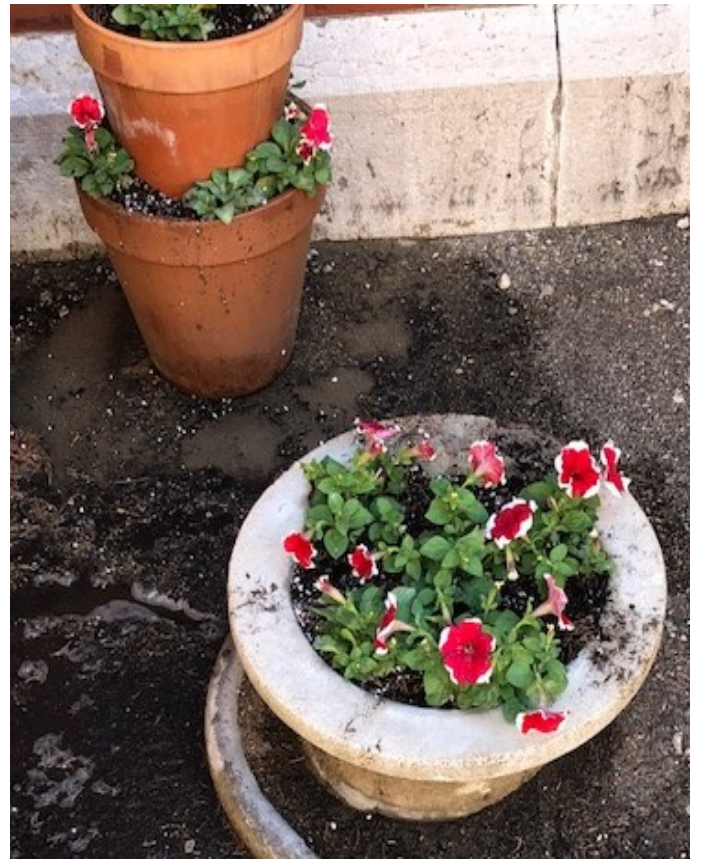








**WHETHER IN THE  
SANCTUARY OR IN THE  
GARDENS**



**ST JOHN'S IS IN  
BLOOM!!!**



## **June Celebrations**

### **Birthdays:**

04 - Christine Mandelik

15 - Douglas Norton

16 - Brian Watts

17 - Lee Singleton

24 - Brian Dunkle



## **Flowers & Fellowship**

Flowers for the altar in the sanctuary can be purchased each week to help beautify the worship service and then take and enjoy in your home. Sign ups for the flowers are on the corner by the coat rack beside Reverend Adam's office, and priced as follows: one bouquet is \$13.75 and two bouquets are \$27.50. Flowers can be dedicated in memory or in honor of a loved one or event. Checks can be made to the church with indication that they are for flowers. Thank you for participating in this tradition.

Fellowship hours are open for sign up as well. Please contact the church office if you can help supply snacks and refreshments for our weekly fellowship hour here at St. John's. A new sign up sheet is in the basement fellowship hall for your convenience.

### **Flowers**

6/3—Rev. Adam in memory of Ralph Rogers and all D-Day veterans.

6/10—Still Available

6/17—Still Available

6/24—Still Available

### **Fellowship Hour**

6/3—WOSJ in memory of Edie Jenkins

6/10—Fellowship Committee

6/17—Father's Day (No Fellowship)

6/24—Still Available

# *In Loving Memory*

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of Edie Jenkins by: Mr. and Mrs. Norm and Janet Neubauer, Ms. Anita Hedeker, and Mr. Steve Boggs.

A Memorial Contribution was made in memory of Ricky Griffin, by Mr. Steve Boggs.



# June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1	2
● 10:30am Worship Service			● 5:30pm Martial Arts		5pm Dayton LGBT Pride	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
● 10:30am Worship Service		● 6pm Christian Nurture Comm	● 5:30pm Martial Arts			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
● 9am Budget and Finance ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 12pm Building and Property			● 5:30pm Martial Arts ● 6:30pm Church Council		● 9am ESOL Health Fair	● 4:30pm Good Grief @ Korner
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
● 10:30am Worship Service			● 5:30pm Martial Arts ● 6:30pm Worship Committee			● 1:30pm Caring for Caregivers
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
● 10:30am Worship Service			● 5:30pm Martial Arts			

