

TIDINGS

The Monthly Newsletter of Forks United Church of Christ
No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey...

you are welcome here!

What We've Been Up To...



Forks UCC Art Series



Movie Night

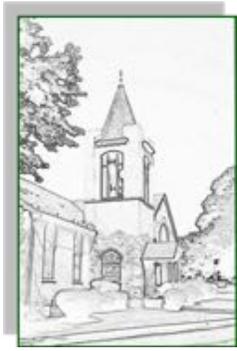


Rally Day



Forks Community Days





worked out pretty well.

It got me thinking about some of the dreams I've dreamed for my time here at Forks U.C.C., as we enter another program year here at the church, and I enter my eighth year as the pastor. I realize now that some of my dreams were, perhaps, unrealistic, and some of my dreams have been dashed, and some of my dreams have worked out pretty well. I reflect upon the fact that most of my dreams were concerned with measurable quantities- as in having and being MORE- more membership, more attendance, more giving, more activity. So many of you have been part of this church for a long time. And so I wonder, as we enter yet another program year, what are your dreams for this congregation? Is it to grow in number? Is it to grow in faith? Is it more opportunities for fellowship? Is it more opportunities to serve? Is it to fix up the building? Is it getting more young people involved? I would, as always, be interested in what you have to say.

We certainly, as always, have a lot going on here at Forks. As I write this, in a couple of days we will be participating in the Penn Northeast Conference's "Vitality Days" program. A week after that, we will be hosting the Conference's "Sleepout for Homelessness" here at the church. We have a variety of outreach- Chemo Bags, Thanksgiving meals, Holiday Hope Chest- and fellowship- pumpkin carving, Christmas caroling- activities planned for the Fall. And, of course, the Rummage Sale and Pork and Sauerkraut dinner are on the horizon.

This past weekend, we participated in Forks Community Days. After selling food at our stand for a few years, it was, honestly, nice this year to just hang out and do nothing. Well, not actually "nothing." We strove simply to be a presence, to let people know who we are and where we are, and to just have some conversations with people. We set up a rice box (which is like a sand box, but with multi-colored rice instead of sand) next to our tent (thanks to our Preschool Director, Pam Davis, for the idea) and it was a huge hit. We had kids and young parents at our tent all weekend. I had lots of opportunities to have conversations with people. I spoke with a Hindu woman and we spoke about the similarities in our religions. I spoke with some parents about our Sunday School. I spoke with people from other denominations who wanted to know more about the U.C.C. Will any of these young people join our church? I don't know. Maybe that's not the point. We had a chance to share the love of Christ with others.

Writer and speaker, Rachel Held Evans, says that what young people are looking for in a church, more than anything else, is simply a place to have some conversations. They are looking for, she says, "safe places to doubt, to ask questions, and to tell the truth, even when it's uncomfortable." Could we be that kind of place? Amid all of the other busyness that we encounter as we enter another program year, that seems to be a dream that is not only achievable, but a dream worthy of God's calling.

Blessings,

Pastor Bob

Evangelism and Outreach

Food Bank

Thank you for continuing to remember the urgent needs which our food banks seek to address. Canned goods and other non-perishables are always in demand. Please bring **anything** you think would be appreciated.

Please keep your cans coming and place them in the pantry shelf. We are collecting the following items for Thanksgiving baskets: canned corn, peas, sweet potatoes, stuffing mix, canned or jarred gravy and turkey broth. Thank you!

Emergency Prayer Chain

An outreach for prayer when you or someone you know and love has an emergency, unexpected surgery, accident, etc. The place to call is:

- Church Office - (610) 759-5676
- Lois Steward - (610) 759-3519
- Rita Blossey - (484) 373-0614

One of us will start the chain. Anyone who would like to join our Emergency Prayer Chain, please call Lois Steward or Rita Blossey at the numbers listed above.

Call the Church Office When...

- A member of your family is admitted to the hospital so the proper people are notified.
- Your home phone, email address, or mailing address has changed.
- An addition to your family has occurred.
- You want your birthday and/or anniversary added to our newsletter list.
- You feel the church can help you in any way.

Youth Group

There will be a meeting for those teenagers interested in becoming a part of the Youth Group after Worship on 10/7. If you cannot make the meeting but would like to be involved, please contact Lois Steward at 610-759-3519.

Rummage Sale

The Annual Rummage & Bake Sale is coming up October 19th & 20th. Help will be needed setting up starting October 8th. PLEASE do not bring items to the church until October 1st. If you absolutely must bring items before then, please contact Jacob Allen or Sandy Schaadt. Thank you!

Acolytes Wanted

Anyone in 3rd grade or older that would like to light the altar candles can contact Karen Bernecker. Please see her at church or call 610-703-2232. A training will be set up. Give it a try! No obligation.

Creative Worship

We have some exciting Worship services coming up. Please mark your calendar and join us:

October 7th - World Communion Sunday (variety of different breads for Communion!)

October 14th - Cancer Awareness Sunday (pray with us for a cure)

October 21st - Children and Youth Sunday (our children will lead us)

October 28th - All Saints Day (wear white)

Stained Glass Window

Have you taken notice that the stained glass window in the Social Hall is missing? It will be out for the next couple of months as it is being refurbished. This is just the third window being refurbished out of our 14 windows that need to be refurbished over the next few years. This is a very expensive process. How is it being paid for? Our fundraisers over the past couple of years have been designated for this expense, as well as portions of our Rummage Sale profit will be donated by the Adult Fellowship. We also have families who have donated their loved ones memorials to this project. If at anytime you wish to contribute to the window refurbishing projects please let the church office or Jacob Allen know or simply put your donation in the offering plate marked "Stained Glass". Thank you for your continued support.

Making ConneXions

We are eager to know more about the people who worship with us. If you would like to share yourself and "make a connection", please email Alice Hornbake (wmbornbake@yahoo.com) for the form. Thank you!

Featuring:

Warren Eberts from Stockertown, PA is a retired educator of Science in Bangor and has been attending Forks UCC between 6 and 7 years:

★If you had to describe yourself in five words, what would they be?

Devoted husband and teacher

★What accomplishment are you most proud of and why?

My term of 28 years as a Science teacher

★Where was your most memorable vacation?

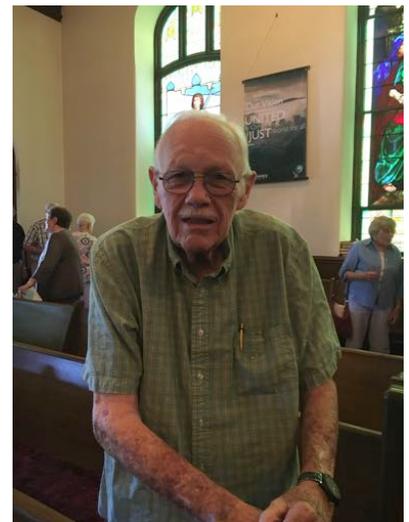
Our vacation to the Panama Canal

★What big life changes have you recently experienced?

Gone from being a happily married husband to a wife no longer available

★If you could change something in the world, what would it be?

Honesty and respect for all people



Neighbors In Need Offering

The Neighbors in Need offering, which we will receive on **Sunday, October 7**, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through ucc.org/justice, our national Justice and Witness Ministries office offers resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hocak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.



Sunday October 14, 2018

Starts at: St. John's Lutheran Church, 330 Ferry Street, Easton

Registration at 1pm; Walk begins at 1:30

See Lois Steward for details

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by religious groups, businesses, schools and others to raise funds to end hunger in the U.S. and around the world.

Upcoming Events for Evangelism & Outreach:

November 4th – 18th Collection for Thanksgiving Day Food Baskets

November 4th- 25th Operation Shoe Box Christmas Collection

FORKS U.C.C.

RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

4500 SULLIVAN TRAIL

STOCKERTOWN

Friday, October 19th 9am – 4pm

Saturday, October 20th 9am – 2pm

WE ARE IN NEED OF:

● YOUR HELP

● YOUR RUMMAGE

○ Please no donations after Wednesday Oct. 17th
and please no TV's or Upholstered Furniture.

● BAKED GOODS

● SOUP

Call (610)759-5676 or (610) 509-4570 for details



Barrels of Oil

2018-2019



GOAL – 180 Barrels

COST OF A BARREL = \$50

This year Forks U.C.C. entered into a Fuel Oil Contract with Fogel's Fuel. There we were able to get the best deal for our heat. We anticipate that it will cost around \$9,000 to heat our building for our Worship Services and programs.

To be able to meet this goal we need 45 people to commit to donating a barrel of oil for 4 months October, November, December & January. This extra donation will ensure that we are able to provide a warm place to minister to the physical & spiritual needs of our community. If you are unable to donate \$50 for 4 months; please keep in mind any donation will help get us to our goal.

Envelopes are available in the pews, each vestibule or in the Social Hall.

Check out our progress every week during coffee hour

Altar Flowers

If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, select your Sunday and affix your name and intention (“In honor of” or “In memory of” or “To the Glory of God”). The arrangements are \$30. Another way of showing your love is to opt out of having flowers, rather choosing to have a single candle on the altar and your flower money will be donated to a charity of your choice. This is a powerful way to honor the day but make a difference in our world. Please make checks payable to “Forks UCC” with the notation “Altar Flowers”. Simply drop your payment in the offering plate. Thank you.

Altar Guild for October - Amy Richard

Altar Flower Sponsors for October

October 7 - Mackenzie

October 14 - Jeff & Brenda Stoudt

October 21 - Lori Avery

October 28 - Dawn & Bob Trimble

November 4th is still available! See the chart in the Social Room.

Those Serving

Ushers/Coin Collectors

October 7 - Glenn Borger

October 14 - Jim Milham

October 21 - Ron Mumaw

October 28 - Sam Kemmerer

Greeters/Offering Collectors

October 7 - Lorna and Bill Dreisbach/Bob and Margaret Zabe

October 14 - Glenn and Sandy Borger/Sandy Perrine & Barb Huff

October 21 - Kim Starner & Rocky Starner/Joan Jud & Sarah Happel

October 28 - Bob and Dawn Trimble/Brenda DeLong & Alice Bartholomew

Celebrate with our Church Family

Happy October Birthdays

02 Sheri Burda	13 Laraine Kresge
03 Brian Schneebeli	13 Bob Gutekunst
04 Scott Kresge	13 Tom Gutekunst
05 Ruth Rinaldi	14 Tammy Angstadt
05 Samuel Jones	14 Matthew Ackerman
06 Makayla Fleming	16 Christopher Dewalt
06 Richard Taylor	17 Audrey Berger*
07 Ray Kromer*	20 Steve Dewalt
07 Linda Fleming	22 Leigh Ann Lively
09 Sarah Happel	22 Ashleigh Gaul
09 Cheryl Hahn	23 Christopher Flyte
10 Shelly Flyte	24 Isabel Ringhoff
10 Hunter Gares	26 J.R. Mitch
11 Glenn Borger	28 Deb Ackerman
12 Bill Dreisbach	29 David Phillips
	31 Alexandria Wood

Happy Birthday to Ray Kromer and Audrey Berger who celebrate their 93rd birthdays this month!

October Anniversaries

Carol & Dallas Labar	10/06/1972
Sue & Sean McCollian	10/10/1992
Gary Barraco & Eric Hanlein	10/16/2011
Diane & Steve Dewalt	10/22/1983
Linda & Gary Fleming	10/23/1982
Rhonda & Joe Herres	10/28/1995
Dawn & Bob Trimble	10/30/1965



Confirmands

Ashley Cressman, Hannah Gutekunst, Samantha Shook, Riley Williams

Visitation List

Please see the Church Directory or contact the Church office or a member of the visitation team for addresses. Earl & Dolly Abel, Fred Bolling, Corinne Eberts, Tony Jiorle, Dorthy Kortz, Marge Markley, Florence Saylor, Irene Tenges, Bonnie Warren

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Begin bringing items for Rummage Sale	2	3	4	5	6
7 20th Sunday after Pentecost Communion <i>World Communion Sunday</i> Neighbors In Need Special Offering	8 7PM Stewardship and Finance	9 6PM Spiritual Council 7PM Consistory	10 7PM Sanctuary Choir	11 6PM Rummage Sale assembly line	12	13
14 21st Sunday after Pentecost <i>Cancer Awareness Sunday</i> Wear pink	15 6:30PM Adult Fellowship	16 7PM Evangelism and Outreach	17 7PM Sanctuary Choir	18	19 9AM-4PM Rummage/ Bake Sale	20 9AM-2PM Rummage/ Bake Sale Stuff a Bag at NOON
21 22nd Sunday after Pentecost <i>Children and Youth Sunday</i> Ch. Ed. meeting after Worship	22	23 6:30PM Parish Life	24 7PM Sanctuary Choir	25	26	27 2-4PM Pumpkin Decorating
28 23rd Sunday after Pentecost <i>All Saints Day</i>	29	30	31 7PM Sanctuary Choir	Setting up for Rummage Sale will be from 10/8-10/17.		

Sundays
8AM - Meditative Worship
10AM - Worship

