

**March
2018**



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

The Congregationalist

Monthly Newsletter

Rev. Carl Richter, Sr. Pastor
Doug Hall, Editor

Email: office@uccwebster.org
Website: www.uccwebster.org

570 Klem Road, Webster, New York 14580
Phone: 585-671-3757
Fax: 585-671-3765

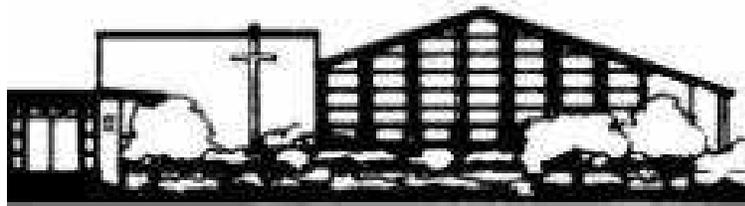
Dear U. C. C., Congregational Members and Friends,

Two months down and one to go....until things begin to return to what we consider somewhat normal here at UCC, Congregational. On April first our Senior Minister, Carl Richter will return Springtime fresh, ready to celebrate Easter Sunday with us, no foolin'!

In the meantime, we will keep on keeping on, thankful for those pastors in the Genesee Valley Association who have shared and will continue to share their skills in the leadership of our Sunday services. We are grateful too for the Lenten opportunities provided by our Director of Christian Education, Wendy Lesko. Please take note of the Maundy Thursday Labyrinth Walk and the Good Friday devotional service as well.

Please know that we want to be available to meet your pastoral needs. In an eventuality that we aren't, two area pastors are available should pastoral emergencies arise; they are The Rev. Heidi Tyler (Immanuel UCC, Ontario office: 315-524-7210); and The Rev. Michael Ware (First Baptist Church, Webster: 585-216-7275).

The Rev. Roger Reed, Minister of Pastoral Care, Webster UCC (office: 671-3757; home: 315-553-2047).



Palm Sunday, March 25th:

Palm Sunday Worship 9am & 10:45am

Maundy Thursday, March 29th:

Meditative Labyrinth Walk

Good Friday, March 30th:

Good Friday Worship Service 7pm

Easter Sunday, April 1st:

Easter Sunday Worship 9am & 10:45am

Roger's Ruminations

For the March 2018 *Congregationalist*

Dear U.C.C., Congregational Members and Friends,



How many times have we heard a person of credibility say something like, "Never make assumptions." Even folk lore declares affirms this. Many of us have heard (and may have repeated) what assuming can do!! Regardless: It is not possible for you and me not to make assumptions in certain circumstances; making them almost seems innate in us.

Not long ago a situation to which I became tangentially related demonstrated the complications that can develop when one person assumes another person understands what the first person meant to communicate.....but didn't say in just so many words; **and** the second person assumes he/she understood what was being requested when she/he didn't really.

Nothing unique, is it? It seems to happen more frequently in our conversations with others than we'd like to admit. We say, "How did the other person misunderstand? It was clear in **my** mind what I was asking." Or, when dealing with a misunderstanding we say, "How did you get **that** out of what I said?" And the other person responds with something like, "I just assumed it from how you said what you said!"

Our choice of the words we use makes a difference in the assumptions that get made, too. We all have life experiences that cause us to associate certain meanings with particular words. The words we use may have no special association for us, but they may well have connotations for others. We know that is particularly true geographically. What a given word or phrase may mean in one section of our nation can carry a very different vibe in another.

Jesus at times seems to have spoken in a way that was sometimes easily misunderstood. At this time of the year I'm reminded of his statement in the Gospel of John 2: 13 – 22. (Specifically verse 19: "Destroy this temple and in 3 days I will raise it up.") What he stated and how the authorities back then received how he expressed himself were very different.

It may well sound very labored, repetitive or unnecessarily specific to another person, but making sure the other person understands what we are saying, even at the risk of being redundant, is the better way to go. If it is important for us to say it, it is worth knowing we have been understood. Equally important is making sure we understand what another has chosen to share with us.

Sincerely ,
Roger Reed

Lunch Bunch

The March Senior Lunch Bunch will take place on Wednesday, March 21st at noon.

Our guest will be Ed Harding, local amateur archaeologist who grew up in Webster. While digging a post hole in his back yard on May of 2012 he found a projectile point dating back 3,500 years. Since then he has conducted multiple digs in the area. He will bring examples of his digs. Poster and sign up sheet will be in the Narthex on March 11th.

This will be a very interesting presentation. See you there. Melissa and your committee

Easter Basket food collection

Instead of collecting food this year, we will be collecting items for the soup mixes that the Webster Comfort Care Home makes and sells at the Webster Farmers Market and local churches. We will collect packages of dry lentils, split peas and kidney beans. There will be a labeled box in the Narthex. Please place your donations in the box during the month of March.

Caring Community Concert Series

Yes, of course there will be concerts on the lawn this summer. The line-up of bands is well underway. Look for more information in the near future. In the meantime, plan for great music supporting great causes on Wednesday evenings this summer.

WISE

We are officially underway in our effort to become a **WISE** congregation. **W**elcoming, **I**nclusive, **S**upportive and **E**ngaged. If, as a congregation, we can offer a safe place to talk about illnesses that are often hidden, then we will be moving in that direction.

The next meeting will be held sometime in March. Watch for an email announcement. Anyone who has interest may attend.

CROP Walk 2018



CROP Walk 2018 is May 6th.

The 2018 Webster CROP Walk for Hunger is fast approaching. The UCC CROP Walk committee could use **YOUR** help to make this a bigger and better Walk. As a church we've done well in the past to raise funds to help fight hunger both at home and around the world - let's make sure this year is no exception. The job isn't big but it needs to get done. Perhaps you could make an announcement in church or distribute envelopes after services. If you can help please call or text me at 261-2898 or email me at bsuter1028@gmail.com
Thank You!

Prayer Requests for March 2018

In Paul's letter to the Philippian church he writes (in 4:6, 7) "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus"

It is in response to Paul's encouraging guidance that prayer is not only a part of our Sunday services of worship but a part of our daily lifestyles too. Below are some of those concerns shared in the Time of Sharing in our Sunday services recently. You may wish to include them in your personal times of meditation, reflection and prayer.

- + thanksgiving for successful surgeries and completion of chemotherapies
- + gratitude that a missing child has been located
- + compassion and empathy for those impacted by the school shooting in Florida
- + healing ministries for those who are hospitalized
- + travel mercies for those who venture far and near
- + safety for all Olympic athletes, their friends, families and all who support them
- + the transmission of caring love to those who are restricted to health care facilities

+ prayers that our elected leaders will take action to better insure the safety of our students nationwide
You may also wish to include our church family members specifically who are now residing in health care facilities.

They are: Jane Peters @ The Care Center, Cherry Ridge Community, Webster; Doris Shoemaker @ St. John's Meadows, Rochester; Emily Jones @ Cranberry Landing Legacy, Irondequoit; Irving Hill and Effie Wysocki @ The Landing of Brighton, Rochester; Judy Haskins @ The Home of the good Shepherd, Malta, NY; Beverly Clum @ 142 Neptune Drive, Brunswick, ME; Jane Guenther @ Maplewood Nursing Home, Webster.

Those convalescing at home are David Mitchell, Janet and Larry Akins, Wayne Ferry.

Church family now residing in Independent Living Centers are: Shirley Reynolds @ Cherry Ridge Apartments; Norma Fitzpatrick and Linda Battaglia @ CDS Monarch Independent Living Center; Fern Pellett, Jan Kujawa, Angie and Bruce Clair, Arline Diller, Mary Jane Nudd and Allene Covey @ Castlepointe Senior Living Center, Baywinde, Webster.

One Great Hour of Sharing

On March 11 we will collect and dedicate this special offering. It is one of our 5-for-5 special offerings, along with basic support, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and the Christmas Fund.

1. What is One Great Hour of Sharing®?

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Churches Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

2. Who participates in One Great Hour of Sharing?

Seven Christian denominations - American Baptist Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Church of the Brethren, Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church (USA), the United Church of Christ, and Church World Service work together to develop common promotional materials thereby sharing ideas, costs, and a commitment to faithful service. Each denomination receives and manages its respective OGHS offerings, and together raise over \$10 million annually.

3. How is the United Church of Christ's offering used?

Almost 60 percent of the UCC's offering supports international development initiatives, including annual support for missionaries. Currently there are 4 OGHS supported missionaries and 2 Global Mission Interns working in disaster relief, health care, education, sustainable agricultural development, and refugee support. The offering also funds disaster preparedness and response, and disaster related volunteer initiatives in the U.S.

4. Where and how are OGHS funds shared?

The United Church of Christ responds to development, disaster, and refugee needs in 138 countries, and provides disaster relief and immigration assistance in the United States. Funding decisions are made by asking our worldwide mission partners, "What would you have us do with you?" The United Church of Christ responds as a member of organizations such as Church World Service and the ACT Alliance. We also support the direct mission efforts of churches and church-based organizations that the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) have direct partnerships with through Global Ministries. Nearly one-third of the UCC's offering is shared through Church World Service to support refugee, disaster, development, and advocacy programs.



Join the Prayer Shawl Group during Lent

Looking to do something different for Lent? The Prayer Shawl Group will continue its tradition of meeting every Wed. during the Lenten season except for Ash Wed. We will gather in the lounge from 6:45 pm – 8:00 pm February 21 – March 28. Part of that tradition is the challenge to complete a shawl during those weeks. All are invited to stop in as they are able or to knit at home. Shawls are given to those experiencing the highs and lows of life. Just ask if you know someone who could use the warmth, hugs, and prayers the shawl holds.

Recent shawl recipients include:

Wayne Ferry

Bill, friend of Sharon Pratt

Jan, family relative of Ellstrom family

Bonnie Ferry's mom

Kathy Jo, friend of Kathy Brush

Sadie, young friend of Kathy Brush

The number 3 is significant to the shawls. It may represent Father, Son, and Holy Ghost or birth, life, death, or yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Shawls use 3 skeins of Lion Brand Homespun yarn. Pattern is simple – cast on 57 stitches and then knit 3, purl 3, knit 3, purl 3, etc for every row starting and ending each with knit 3. Shawls finish 54" to 60" long and usually have fringe applied to the ends. Contact Linda Ims at lindaims63@gmail.com or 671-1101 with questions.

Gathering of Hearts

serving coffee & community

Saturday March 17 at 6:30 pm
in Fellowship Center
Webster United Church of Christ, Congregational
570 Klem Rd, Webster, NY 14580
www.uccwebster.org



Gathering of Hearts is a non-traditional Christian faith community. We hope to provide an inclusive and affirming space for all people no matter what their spiritual path. Gathering of Hearts involves open discussion and creative expression of our faith in action in today's world.



Daylight saving time 2018 will begin at 2:00 AM on Sunday, March 11



Faith Filled Bible Adventures !!!
@ 10:45 March 18 through March 25

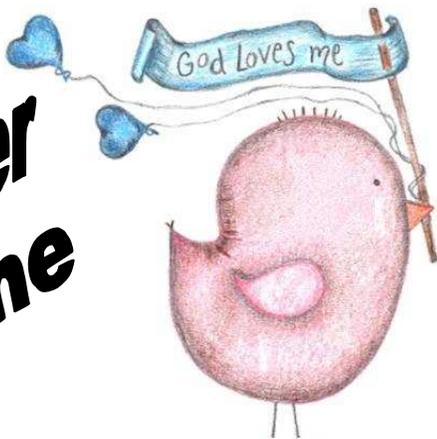
Adventures include The Call of the Disciples, Jesus Calming the Storm, the miracle of loaves & fishes, Peter's heartbreaking denial of Jesus, the last supper and the palm parade ! Here are the birds that will lead the adventures:



Feeding 5000

A Special Sunday Happening during the 10:45 service !
The children will take part in a "miracle".
Yes there will be loaves and "fishes" !!

**register
online
now**



Good Friday Camp

For children preschool through grade 3
(Fourth graders are invited to be staff in training
but still register online.)

Friday March 30, 9:00 am to noon

\$10 per camper

online registration open:

Interactive storytelling
Games

Crafts

Cooking & snack
Easter Egg Hunt

REBEL BEAT YOUTH MINISTRY

The BIG Show

We NEEDED your "talent".

April 14 "Talent" Show
To support youth mission

Will you perform at the Big Show?
Contact Wendy Lesko or Sarah Norton
if interested.

THE DISCIPLE DIARIES

Sunday mornings @ 10:45



Sundays at 11:15
Carrying one another's burdens
while finding our light.

the CARE project

phase 4

Phase 1 During MISSION WEEK 2015 we delivered 1,188 Care Kits to agencies serving people in need in Rochester.

Phase 2 During MISION WEEK 2016, we delivered thousands of diapers and tons of baby/toddler supplies to area shelters for women and children.

Phase 3 During Mission Week 2017 we delivered 160 FRIENDSHIP BAGS to agencies serving families in need in Rochester. 111 more bags were delivered in August and September

Phase 4 More Friendship Bags. Goal TBA

We are collecting :

For adults: pillowcases, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, wash clothes, hand towel, soap or body wash

For children: pillowcases, small stuffed animals, play dough, small toys, socks

I'll GO Where YOU Send ME

GO

GO be the hands, feet & heart of Jesus

GO be the hands, feet & heart of Jesus

GO be the hands, feet & heart of Jesus



March Birthdays

Did we miss anyone? If you know someone who has an anniversary or birthday in March who isn't listed please contact the church office.

- | | | | |
|-------|-----------------|-------|----------------------|
| 03/01 | Ana Chatfield | 03/17 | Barbara Henry |
| 03/02 | Hannah McAdoo | 03/17 | Lindsay Shull |
| 03/02 | Susan Mitchell | 03/19 | Norman Seitz |
| 03/03 | Cleda Kuttruff | 03/20 | Peter Zarcone |
| 03/03 | Tony LaDuca | 03/21 | David Babcock |
| 03/05 | Donna Fonda | 03/22 | Fritz Kilian |
| 03/05 | Margaret Tsai | 03/23 | Ian Fellows |
| 03/06 | Marcia Baxter | 03/23 | Alison Reindel |
| 03/06 | Emily Duga | 03/23 | Jayne Stephens |
| 03/06 | Amanda Dunn | 03/24 | Clive Barnsbee |
| 03/07 | Taylor Peterson | 03/25 | Garrett Reeves |
| 03/07 | Daniel Wooster | 03/26 | Bethany Patterson |
| 03/08 | Lori Kilian | 03/26 | Becky Sollame |
| 03/09 | Joelle Boland | 03/28 | Tamra O'Donnell |
| 03/10 | Shannon Liptak | 03/28 | Michael-Ann Peterson |
| 03/10 | Marian Payne | 03/29 | Jim Beachner |
| 03/11 | Lyn Foster | 03/29 | Sarah Bila |
| 03/11 | Danielle Hollis | 03/29 | Chester French |
| 03/11 | Holly Marushak | 03/29 | Michael Green |
| 03/11 | Debbie Miller | 03/30 | Anthony Biuso |
| 03/11 | Josh O'Mailey | 03/30 | Kaitlyn Minichiello |
| 03/12 | Joyce French | 03/31 | Jan Farling |
| 03/13 | Trey Breedy | 03/31 | Joseph Gerard |
| 03/13 | Wendy Lesko | | |
| 03/13 | John Norton | | |
| 03/14 | Ethan Bell | | |
| 03/14 | Benjamin Karam | | |
| 03/14 | Carole Roth | | |
| 03/15 | Jack Bickford | | |
| 03/17 | Clare Boehly | | |



March Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------|-------------------------|
| 03/22 | Dan & Donna VanHousen |
| 03/24 | David & Shirley Babcock |
| 03/25 | John & Sue Murray |
| 03/31 | Craig & Sheryl Akins |

« » March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 25	26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3
				8:30am Rockers; Nutcracker 9:00am Woodside 2-year olds; FC 9:30am Bible Study Group; LG 6:30pm Book Group; LG	5:30pm Drama Kids; CH	10:30am OEA meeting; LG
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00am Traditional Worship; SANC 10:00am "Connections" - fellowship and outreach; FC 10:45am Be the Church; SANC 12:00pm Confirmation Group; FC	9:00am Salem Nutrition Center, at Salem UCC, Rochester 9:00am Woodside 2-year olds; FC 6:30pm Illustrate Your Faith; FC	WM 3:00pm Hill Haven Service, at Hill Haven 6:30pm Webelos, pack 113; CH 7:00pm WISE group; LG	9:30am Friends of Seniors; LG 6:00pm Troop 113 committee meeting; FC 6:30pm Woodside board and work night; LG, KIT 6:30pm Celebration Singers; SANC 6:45pm Prayer Shawl group; LG 7:00pm BSA 113; CH, FC 7:30pm Chancel Choir; SANC	9:00am Woodside 2-year olds; FC 9:30am Bible Study Group; LG 6:15pm Girl Scout troop 60853 ; CH, FC 6:30pm Book Group; LG	5:30pm Drama Kids; CH 7:00pm Cub Scouts pack 113; FC	10:30am OEA meeting; LG
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Daylight Saving Time starts 9:00am Traditional Worship; SANC 10:00am "Connections" - fellowship and outreach; FC 10:45am Be the Church; SANC 12:00pm Confirmation Group; FC	9:00am Salem Nutrition Center, at Salem UCC, Rochester 9:00am Woodside 2-year olds; FC 6:30pm Illustrate Your Faith; FC		6:30pm Celebration Singers; SANC 6:45pm Prayer Shawl group; LG 7:00pm BSA Troop 113; CH, FC 7:30pm Chancel Choir; SANC	8:30am Rockers; Nutcracker 9:00am Woodside 2-year olds; FC 9:30am Bible Study Group; LG 6:30pm Leadership Council; FC 6:30pm Book Group; LG	5:30pm Drama Kids; CH	St. Patrick's Day 10:30am OEA meeting; LG 7:00pm Gathering of Hearts; FC, KIT
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00am Traditional Worship; SANC 10:00am "Connections" - fellowship and outreach; FC 10:45am Be the Church; SANC	9:00am Salem Nutrition Center, at Salem UCC, Rochester 9:00am Woodside 2-year olds; FC 6:30pm Illustrate Your Faith; FC	WM 6:30pm Webelos, pack 113; CH	12:00pm Senior Lunch Bunch; FC, KIT 6:30pm Celebration Singers; SANC 6:45pm Prayer Shawl group; LG 7:00pm BSA Troop 113; CH, FC 7:30pm Chancel Choir; SANC	9:00am Woodside 2-year olds; FC 9:30am Bible Study Group; LG 11:00am Lunch Bunch Steering Team; NAR 6:15pm Girl Scout troop 60853 ; CH, FC 6:30pm Book Group; LG	5:30pm Drama Kids; CH	10:30am Baber Hot Meals; Baber AME church 10:30am OEA meeting; LG
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Palm Sunday 9:00am Traditional Worship; SANC 10:00am "Connections" - fellowship and outreach; FC 10:45am Be the Church; SANC	9:00am Salem Nutrition Center, at Salem UCC, Rochester 9:00am Woodside 2-year olds; FC 6:30pm Illustrate Your Faith; FC		6:30pm Celebration Singers; SANC 6:45pm Prayer Shawl group; LG 7:00pm BSA Troop 113; CH, FC 7:30pm Chancel Choir; SANC	Maundy Thursday Labyrinth Walk; CH 9:00am Woodside 2-year olds; FC 9:30am Bible Study Group; LG 6:30pm Book Group; LG	9:00am Good Friday Camp 5:30pm Drama Kids; CH 7:00pm Good Friday Worship; SANC	10:30am OEA meeting; LG

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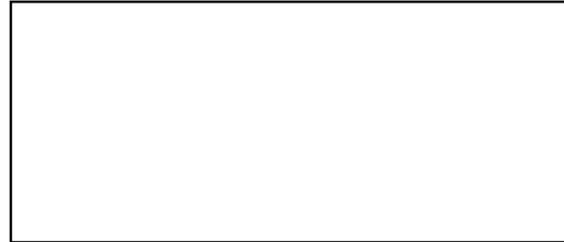
SANC - Sanctuary; LG - Lounge; MS - Middle School room; CH - Congregational Hall;
FC - Fellowship center; SHL - Senior High Lounge; NAR - Narthex

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday Schedule

*9:00 AM
Traditional Style Worship Service*

10:00—10:45 AM Coffee Hour

*10:45 AM
Be The Church Worship Service
Sunday School, Youth groups
Nursery care is available*

*“The United Church of Christ,
Congregational of Webster is an Open and
Affirming community of faith. We welcome
and affirm God's people of every sexual
orientation, gender identity, gender
expression, race, ethnicity, marital status,
mental ability, physical ability, economic
circumstance, and spiritual tradition to
fully participate in the life and ministry of
our church family.”*

Webster UCC Staff

the Rev. Carl J. Richter, Sr. Pastor
the Rev. Dr. Roger J. Reed, Minister of Pastoral Care
Wendy Lesko, Director Christian Education
Ronald Milliman, Music Director
Doug Hall, Office Manager
Oleksandra Yurchenko, Accompanist
Jennifer O'Neill, Nursery Coordinator
Scott Loiacono, Custodian