

PLATTSBURG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 1715 S URBANA LISBON ROAD
 PO BOX 699
 SOUTH CHARLESTON, OH 45368

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL MAILED ON 2/22/2017

Church Phone 937-568-4102

Church E-Mail Plattsburgucc@woh.rr.com

Mitzi Holloway, Secretary

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00-11:00am

MARCH 2017 WORSHIP HELPER LIST

DATE	ACOLYTES	GREETERS	NURSERY	ALTAR FLOWERS
March 5	TBA	TBA	Jane Calliccoat & Ryan Flax	Jane Calliccoat
March 12	TBA	Mary Hall	Breanna Rittenhouse & Chaz Browning	Suzanne Howsmon
March 19	TBA	TBA	Ryan & Lindsay Daulton	OPEN
March 26	TBA	TBA	Peggy Agle	OPEN

DEVOTIONAL LIFE BOOKLETS Devotional Life Booklets (The Upper Room) will be placed in a rack in the front hall for anyone who wishes them. If you would like one delivered to your home or to someone in a Nursing Home please call the Church Office and let us know. (937-568-4102)



**MISSION FOCUS FOR MARCH
 CELL PHONE COLLECTION**

FEBRUARY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	
January 29	45
February 5	87
February 12	47
February 19	61

MARCH 2017

March 1 **Ash Wednesday** - Crossroads Cluster Lenten Serv 7:00pm @ First UCC Spfld - Choir 7:30pm
 March 2 Bible/Book Study 10:00am
 March 3 **World Day of Prayer** -IHN Annual Soup & Salad Fundraiser 5-7pm @First Lutheran Church Spfld
 March 5 **First Sunday in Lent** - Worship & Sunday School 9:30am - Fellowship following
 March 8 Crossroads Cluster Lenten Serv 7:00pm @ UCC Trinity Fairborn - Choir 7:30pm
 March 9 Bible/Book Study 10:00am
 March 11 **Daylight Savings Time Begins**—Turn your clocks forward One Hour
 March 12 **Second Sunday in Lent** Worship & Sunday School 9:30am - Fellowship following
 March 14 Deacons Meeting 7:00pm
 March 15 Crossroads Cluster Lenten Serv 7:00pm @ Highlands UCC Spfld - Choir 7:30pm
 March 16 Bible/Book Study 10:00am Food & Fellowship 12 noon (Place to be Announced)
 March 17 **St. Patrick's Day**
 March 19 **Third Sunday in Lent** Worship & Sunday School 9:30am - Fellowship following
 March 20 **APRIL CALL DEADLINE**
 March 22 Crossroads Cluster Lenten Serv 7:00pm @ South Vienna - Choir 7:30pm
 March 23 Bible/Book Study 10:00am
 March 26 **Fourth Sunday in Lent** Worship & Sunday School 9:30am - One Great Hour of Sharing Special Mission Offering will be taken - Fellowship following
 March 29 Call Collators 1:00pm - Crossroads Cluster Lenten Serv 7:00pm @ Knob Prairie UCC Enon - Choir 7:30pm
 March 30 Bible/Book Study 10:00am

FINANCIAL NEWS.....

For the month ending **January 31, 2017:**
 The income was 140% of the expenses. This is an **EXCELLENT** start to the new year! This congregation supports all the missions of the church: financial, with donations to benefit all the many special projects, and with their time and talents. We appreciate all the wonderful support provided during the holidays and throughout the year.
 Thanks to everyone for your faithful support. A detailed report of the Church expenses, by month, is always posted on the church bulletin board outside of the pastor's office.

PLATTSBURG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



CROSSROADS CLUSTER LENTEN SERIES FOR 2017

DATE	CHURCH	PREACHER
March 1, 2017 Ash Wed	First UCC, Springfield	Paul Forrey
March 8, 2017	Trinity UCC, Fairborn	Avery Sledge
March 15, 2017	Highlands UCC, Springfield	Scott & Karen Griswold
March 22, 2017	United Church of South Vienna	Gail Eastwood
March 29, 2017	Knob Prairie UCC, Enon	Gene Cline
April 5, 2017	West Liberty UCC	Bob Jencks

Please note: On March 1st, First UCC will host a pancake supper at 6:00pm. The remaining Lenten Services will all begin with a social time at 6:30pm.

Special Mission Offering One Great Hour of Sharing enables the United Church of Christ to reach people and communities affected by disaster, displacement or poverty. This year's 2017 theme for the offering is **"You are here."** When we give, as the United Church of Christ - individuals, groups and congregations - it means that the church can stand strong, in the midst of need whether it is nearby or far away. When God's love abides in us, we are moved to respond with our own material goods to the needs of other members of God's family.
 This year's offering will be taken on the **Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 26th.** Thank you for your support, whether you are a new supporter, or long-time supporter, every gift matters. Every gift allows us to say, **"You are here."**

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

The Food & Fellowship group will be meeting on **Thursday, March 16th at 12 noon.** The place will be announced at a later time. Watch for upcoming information. Everyone is Welcome.

Search Committee Update

The Committee continues to work diligently on the Church profile and the search to find a pastor to fill the pulpit. Watch for more information as it becomes available.
Search Committee

Your generous and regular financial support makes it possible for our church to do great things for our members, our neighbors, our community and our world. Thank you for all YOU do as we walk together loving and serving our Lord and Savior.

My Faith Journey (JT)

In the UCC the term “faith journey” is often used, and I like it. My journey began with baptism and attendance at Salem Evangelical United Brethren Church (EUB) in Wilkes-Barre, PA. My parents faithfully took my slightly older brother Jack and me to worship and Sunday school each week. This congregation had a wonderful Youth Fellowship group which met on Sunday evenings. All of us took turns presenting a topic and leading a discussion each week. When some of us were in our first and second years at a local college, we still attended the youth group.

College causes most of us to ask some kind of identity questions. Will I always call myself a Christian? Do some kinds of churches appeal to me more than others? In the middle of my second year of college, I did something new. For the first time in my life, each evening, I read a chapter of the New testament and offered to God a short prayer. Six weeks later I felt like a “new” person, and learned what some persons meant when they used the term “committed” Christian. I signed my name in the back of one of those small Gideon New Testaments beneath the words, “I confess and receive him (Jesus) as my personal savior.”

This gave me a great need to take in any and all religious programs I could find on the radio, such as Jack Wyrzten, Billy Graham, Kathryn Koulman and many others. I started teaching an adult Sunday school class at my local church and became the head of the college Bible Study group. What dawned on me slowly was that faith in God was not just something like a “hobby” in my life. It had become the foundation under my life. No wonder there was a positive hymn titled, “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation!”

As I was finishing that second year of college, I kept my grades up, but I knew I no longer wanted to become an electrical engineer. So I began my third year as a Psychology major, believing it would be a good preparation for attending the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. In three years of seminary classes, I learned many skills, one of which was to interpret the Bible very faithfully, but not always literally.

Another lesson was how to get along and enjoy doing faith activities with all kinds of people. I volunteered to work for two years at a “Saturday Morning Church School” program sponsored by the two Dayton districts of the United Methodist Church. We were located in the Arlington Courts Housing Project on McCall Street on the West side of Dayton. Each Saturday morning I had about 25 kids and three good teachers I had recruited from the homes in the project. I had fun leading the youngsters in fun songs like, “If you’re Happy and You Know it, Clap your Hands!”

In 1989 I was ordained in the United Church of Christ. For nine years I was the part-time pastor of First UCC on Edgar Avenue in East Dayton, I had served the congregation for two years already as a licensed minister and felt ready for all the responsibility of being ordained. I had become a “tentmaker” pastor, a term often used to describe St. Paul, who had been known as a maker of tents. I worked full-time for the City of Dayton for decades, supervising housing inspectors, many of whom were serving in the very successful historic district neighborhoods.

Let me say than you very, very, very much for the opportunity to serve here at Plattsburg UCC as supply pastor. In Bible times, if a person said something three times they were extremely sincere! There are so many people in this congregation who live by the “K and two Cs” - kind, caring and compassionate! Also, it is like having “icing on the cake” when we come together to play and sing inspiring, beautiful music. Martin Luther said, “Those who sing pray twice.”

In the days ahead I will have moments of teaching some idea, and learning ideas from many of you! I will lead you at some moments, and in others you will lead me into some new experience of faith. Above it all, we will be aware that God’s loving Spirit is helping us to be, and do, and give our best! To God be the Glory! Amen.

Pastor James Tredinnick



PARSONAGE AVAILABLE

Because interim Pastor Jim Tredinnick, has a residence in the area, the parsonage is available for rent. Given the search process for a new pastor usually takes on average between 6 months and a year, the availability will be somewhat short term. If you or someone you know has an interest in renting it, please contact Sam Roberts @ (937) 477-0060 or Ed Kranz @ (937) 568-4312.

FUTURE INFORMATION FOR THE CHURCH CALL NEEDS TO BE SENT TO THE CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS AT:
plattsburgucc@woh.rr.com. If this is not possible, you can leave a note in the secretary’s box or a message on the Church answering machine. Thank you.

Board of Deacons' Minutes January 2017

The meeting was called to order by Senior Deacon Gary Aldridge. In attendance was Gary, Bob Fannin, Jill Parker, Richard Flax, Bonnie Spahr, and Barb Kranz.

Our first order of business was election of officers.

Jill nominated Bob as Senior Deacon, second by Barb.

Nomination passed. Bob nominated Richard as Junior Deacon, second by Bonnie. Nomination passed.

Jill nominated Barb as Secretary, second by Richard.

Nomination passed.

Communion dates were established as follows:

February 19, 2017 Barb will furnish the juice and bread

April 13 - Richard will furnish the juice and bread

June 4 - August 13 ? - October 1 - December 3

It was reported money was given for food for one family and transportation for another. Deacons Gary and Bob were reimbursed.

We agreed to hire Rev. Jim Tredinnick as our supply pastor until a settled pastor is hired. His first Sunday is February 5, with a luncheon for the church following.

Richard asked for prayers for Cindy's father - in - law.

Gary reported on the progress of the search committee.

Our next meeting will be March 14 at 7 PM.

Jill moved to adjourn the meeting, Bonnie second the motion.

Meeting adjourned

Barb Kranz, Secretary

PROGRESS CLUB

The Progress Club will hold their annual election immediately following church on **Sunday, April 9th**.

Join us for "**Palm Sunday Sundaes**" downstairs.

Enjoy a sundae, a SHORT presentation and election of officers. If you think you would like to run for an office (President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer), please contact Kim Flax (937-605-9500). You do not have to be a church member and it is open to both females and males!

Noodles will be made and available for purchase prior to Easter. Look for more information soon on noodle making dates and when they will be for sale!

The HARDACRE Farm committee is actively working with the farm on some projects to benefit their farmers. The Progress Club will be hosting a "Spring Cleaning" supply drive for the farm. We will be collecting items that the farmers will be able to use for their farm work and crafts. Look for an upcoming list of items needed in the weekly bulletins. We will be collecting items the weekend of April 8th and 9th.

Spring is right around the corner and so is the Mothers and Others Banquet! The committee will be working on this annual spring event. Once they set a date, further information will be available.

Thanks

Progress Club

I sincerely wish to thank each person who has supported our Christian Education program this winter. As Plattsburg UCC makes strides to advance Christian education for people of all ages, your assistance and input are essential. Have you taken a moment to think about what you can offer to Christian Education? At this time, our focus will be concentrated on the nursery and Sunday School for those age 4 – 6th grade. As time passes, programming for teens and adults will be reviewed. A Board of Christian Education will begin functioning as per the current church constitution.

Please remember that nursery help and Sunday School teachers are needed every Sunday morning. It is my desire to schedule these folks a month in advance. Mitzi posts a sign up list for nursery workers in the front hallway. If you are willing to take a turn in the Sunday School classroom, please contact me. A lesson will be provided. Spending 30-45 minutes with our children on a Sunday morning is an invaluable investment in the future of Plattsburg UCC!

One of our most popular activities, Vacation Bible School, will be held in June. The dates have not been determined at this time. Leadership for VBS is currently needed. If you are willing to help with planning an exciting VBS week, please let me know right away. We need to select the VBS curriculum by mid-March.

It was wonderful to see nearly 60 people at the February 5 Super Bowl Soup Lunch and Birthday Celebration. Thank you to all who prepared and served food and helped with clean-up. Congratulations to Jayse and Bernice, our youngest and oldest Children of God for this quarter! Pete the Pig was fed quite well as \$9.27 was collected for the Springfield Rotary Club fund for those with disabilities. Once lunch expenses were deducted from collected monies, \$76.90 was forwarded to the general fund.

Hats off to the parents and grandparents who bring the children and teens to church on Sunday mornings. The youth breath new life and energy into the church building with their presence. It is my hope that we can meet their Christian needs and expectations in the coming year.

Marcia Flax
Church School Superintendent