



The Carillon

United Church of Christ, Congregational, Arcade

Pastor Josh Bower

(585) 492-4530

Editor: Shannon King

February 2023

A Word from Pastor Josh

To open our January council meeting, Deb Wood shared a devotion written by Pastor Joe McKeever, a Baptist minister from Alabama. My article for this month will be selected excerpts from this important and insightful devotion on **CHANGE**. So much of what we call “worship wars” is tied up in people’s reactions to change. Joe McKeever, (pastor, author, cartoonist, and much more) helps churches understand and cope with change. Joe says these words:

These days in my retirement ministry, most of the churches where I’m invited to preach have these things in common: Almost no one wears a necktie or suit. On the platform you find all kinds of musical instruments. Huge screens are mounted on the front walls, where the words of songs and scripture are projected. Many people in the congregation read Scripture from their phones. Worship leaders are often wearing jeans and sneakers. Fewer and fewer hymns are being sung, and when they are brought out, they’re given new treatments. Mostly, though, what’s being sung in worship was written in the past 10 or 12 years. Churches announce on their outside signs “blended” services, “contemporary” services, and/or “traditional” services. **The times, they are a-changing, friend.** (And they are not through

changing either. So you youngsters should not get too attached to the present innovations.) If you cannot adapt, you may find yourself living in the 1950s.

Recently I worshiped with an interesting church in Jacksonville, Florida. I have not known that church previously, but had learned a little of their story before arriving. As the neighborhood changed around them, most of their members had moved away. Since the church failed to make the necessary adjustments to reach new residents of their community, it was slowly dying. So, not long ago, the remaining membership—mostly senior adults—proclaimed that they would be willing to make whatever changes were necessary to turn this around. That takes great courage, let me say. Most “older” churches cannot or will not do this. The members are so wed to the ways of yesterday and the methods of the past that they prefer to let the church die rather than change.

Six months after they called a new, young pastor from New Orleans to shepherd this transitioning congregation, I showed up for three days of ministry. As always, before and after preaching, I sat at a table drawing people. I was pleasantly surprised by the large number of children and teens and young families throughout the buildings. Already, the church is flourishing. The longtime members of that little church are having to get used to a lot of change. The pastor does not wear a suit or tie or even a sport coat. Music is provided by a group composed of piano, several guitars, and a drum set. Four or five young adults were the praise ensemble. **It was a blessed service.** The singing was great, the people were happy and friendly, and the fellowship was sweet. They’re getting this right. Being with such a happy group of God’s people was such a joy.

Whoever heard of a church changing? Well - **churches are always changing...only the dead ones don’t.** May I repeat that? Churches are always changing—if they are alive. But unfortunately, we see the following scenario playing out again and again – You’ve belonged to that church for many years. You were attracted to it because of location

and ministry, because you liked the pastor and the people were friendly. You have served the Lord there in numerous capacities and your children grew up there. You have a history with that church. And now....**now, it's not the same church.** There's a new pastor and new leadership. They are attracting a different group of people from the lovely group that drew you in. You feel less and less a part of things. You're not at home with many of the innovations they're doing now. So...**WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?**

1) Recognize that churches are always in a state of change if they are alive. Every time someone joins your church or leaves it, the church changes. Every time a member begins to get serious about reading the Word or witnessing or tithing or ministering, the church changes. It is never static, never a frozen entity.

2) You yourself are growing and changing if you are alive. I grew up on a certain kind of church music, then grew past that. Later, my tastes changed and to no one's surprise, have changed again. Your needs and requirements change. It's called "life." After radiation treatment of the head and neck a full decade ago, many things no longer have a taste at all, while others are as wonderful as ever. I can handle spicy food better than before since I have fewer functioning taste buds. Life is like that.

3) Perhaps you're dragging your feet and resisting something new the Holy Spirit is trying to do in your life. Are you insisting that God do something again in the same way God did it before? Are you resisting God by rejecting the new things God sends your way because they are outside your comfort zone? Do you suppose Jonah felt comfortable going to Nineveh? That ministry was way, way outside of his comfort zone. **Are you open to new things? New ways?**

"Behold," the Lord said, "I make all things new" (Revelation 21:5). God wasn't just talking about Heaven, friend. He's making each one of us ever-new right now. Psalm 92:12-15 promises that.

"The righteous will flourish.... They will still bear fruit in old age. They will be full of sap and very green...."

So, what do you do when your church changes? Grow with it. And be open to seeing what amazing things lie ahead for both you and the church.

When everybody decides to put the things of Christ first, the ways of God first, the calling of the Holy Spirit first, and is willing to suffer loss that the honor and glory of Christ might be advanced, that is what brings harmony in a congregation. That is always the unifying factor in a church, and that is the mind we should have, the mind that does not consider itself the most important thing.

Article (***Shake-Ups Are Inevitable: How to Handle Surprise Church Changes***) taken from:
<https://churchleaders.com/pastors/pastor-articles/176486-joe-mckeever-handle-surprise-church-changes.html>



Upcoming Events

February

- Mondays at 10 am – Gentle Exercise in Wetzel Hall with Shannon. Dress comfortably!
- Feb. 10-12 – Arcade Winterfest!
- Sat., Feb. 11, 8am – 12pm – Women’s Fellowship’s “Books, Bakery and Bargains” sale
- Sat., Feb. 11 – Winterfest Chili Cook-Off, judging begins at 10 am, Arcade UCC outside in the alcove
- Sun., Feb. 12 – Souper Bowl of Caring
- Feb. 21-24, 9am-12pm – Winter Break Community Vacation Bible School, Grades preK-4th.
- Feb. 25, 4-6pm – Community Dinner

February Birthdays

3	Harrison Putnam	15	Tom Call
5	Megan Roll	19	Helena Vogt
5	Sydney Taylor	22	Yolanda Rogers
9	Kathy May	23	Wyn Roll
11	Nicole Bower		
12	Jeff Mason		

February Anniversaries

2/4 Bill & Madeline Hall – 51 years

2/23 Pastor Josh & Nicole Bower – 5 years

February Bible Readings

5	Isa 58:1-9a (9b-12) Ps 112:1-9 (10) 1 Cor 2:1-12 (13-16) Matt 5:13-20
12	Deut 30:15-20 or Sirach 15:15-20 Ps 119:1-8 1 Cor 3:1-9 Matt 5:21-37
19	Ex 24:12-18 Ps 2 or Ps 99 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matt 17:1-9
26	Gen 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Ps 32 Rom 5:12-19 Matt 4:1-11

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE



The Arcade UCC Choir celebrated Dona Roll and Laurie Sledge in appreciation of all they do! The festivities occurred at Randy's Up the River in Allegany, NY.



Arcade UCC held their first annual Christmas Extravaganza with the Arcade Elementary school! Just shy of 500 students participated over three days in mid-December. They saw beautiful decorations, heard a wonderful story, took part in an exciting science experiment with the Happy Scientist and were given a take-home craft upon heading back to school! We would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped to make this event happen! And a big thank you to all of the students who were so polite and fun! We hope you can join us again soon!



The Women's Fellowship enjoyed a wonderful Christmas luncheon at Chanderson's Restaurant, followed by dessert at Karen Schaper's home in December! Wonderful fellowship, lots of laughs and a great time was had by all!

If anyone has good news they would like in the upcoming issues of the Carillon, please contact Shannon King in the Church office via email uccarcade@gmail.com or 585-492-4530.

IN SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to Wally Fridman on the death of his brother, Joseph, on December 23, and to Grace Gilbert on the death of her brother, Robert Wulff, on December 26.

We also extend our sympathy to Ryan, Jennifer and Sarah Bechdel and their families on the death of their father and grandfather, William "Bill" Bechdel, on December 31.



Margaret with the Arcade UCC youth in December 2019. The youth had presented a program during service honoring Margaret and sharing about her life.



Margaret poses with the youth and members of the Christian Education committee following the Dec. 2019 program.

MARGARET HOMAN

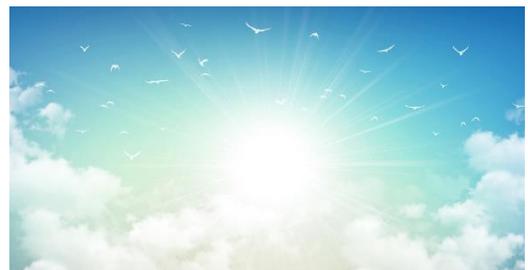
Submitted by Jeff Mason, Church Historian

Margaret Homan made her transition from this life on December 13, 2022 at her home. She and her beloved Hal joined our church on March 30, 1980, and she continued to be an important part of church life following his passing in 1999. Although Margaret and Hal were never blessed with children of their own, many people over the years thought of them as extra grandparents, and it was a role they loved.

Margaret grew up in Louisiana, and her Southern accent was matched by her abundant Southern hospitality when it came to welcoming visitors to church and welcoming people into her home. Worship services were always important to her, so she served for many years on the former Diaconate, and later on the Worship/Music Committee. More recently, she served on the Outreach, Memorial and Endowment committees. She was an active and committed member of the Workers Union and the Mary Hosford Fisher Women's Fellowship, where her talent helped produce quilts and other handicrafts to raise funds for worthy projects. During her long service as assistant treasurer, Margaret co-signed thousands of checks, but never signed a check unless she knew exactly what it was for.

She was honored at church with a special reception on her 90th birthday in 2014, and the children in Sunday School presented a "This is Your Life" program about her during a 2019 worship service. Margaret's 98th birthday coincided with our annual picnic in the park last August, and her niece and nephew came from out of state to join many other people in celebrating her birthday that morning.

Margaret's life will be celebrated at church at a later date.





I heard the sound of angel wings
 When they came to earth to pray and sing.
 Together they lifted each lovely voice
 To welcome Margaret . . . Rejoice! Rejoice!
 She left behind all earthly things
 As she donned her brand-new angel wings!
 They showed her the way to that heavenly
 place,
 The sweet ballerina of endless love and
 glowing grace.
 We mourned her passing after so many
 years,
 But put aside our fears and tears,
 For we know that she's joined the heavenly
 force,
 And walks with our loving God . . . of
 course!

Farewell, sweet Margaret!



December 13, 2022

Written with love by Cherry Carl



Jeff Mason, Church Historian, submitted this newspaper clipping from the Arcade Herald from the 1986 Winterfest and explained, "Hal Homan especially was known as a hugger, so Margaret (Homan) organized a hugging booth to raise money for the Springville League for the Handicapped when Matt Roll was little."

With all our love, we honor Margaret's memory and will forever hold her dear in our hearts.





Super/Souper Bowl Sunday 2023!

Our youth are once again participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring—a grassroots project started by youth across the country. On Sunday, Feb. 12th, we will celebrate the 24th Annual Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday and the 14th year of our participation here at Arcade UCC! While we won't be tailgating prior to Super Bowl LVII, we WILL have a wonderful worship highlighting food insecurity and how youth across the nation help!

Food and monetary donations will go to the PAC Food Pantry extension at Hope Lutheran. Following worship, you can pick up your pre-ordered soup in the kitchen in Wetzel Hall.

The soups are: **Taco Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, Split Pea Soup, Beef Barley Soup, Cabbage Patch Soup, Salami Bean Soup, Hamburger Soup**
Cost: \$7.00 per pint.

TO PRE-ORDER: See Debi Lutz or call her at: 585-492-4008

You are invited to support our youth in the following two ways: If you wish to drop off food at Arcade UCC, there is a table set up in the Dunstan room (behind the Sanctuary). If you wish to make a financial donation, you may use our online option. (Please tell Debi or send a message to the church so that we can alert our finance committee that it has been donated.) **-OR-** You can leave a check or cash in our soup pot on Souper Bowl Sunday. Make the check payable to Arcade UCC with Souper Bowl on your memo line.

Thank you for supporting our youth feeding the hungry! Please plan on joining us on Feb. 12th, as we help fight hunger! An additional component to Souper Bowl of Caring is asking youth to commit to another day of service or project prior to the game. The youth will be assembling Birthday Cake Kits, to be delivered to the food pantry. Thank you for your donations to this project!



ARCADE WINTERFEST

There are so many activities happening the weekend of the Arcade Winterfest, February 10-11! Arcade UCC will be participating in the Chili Cook-off again this year! If you would like to enter your chili, please be sure to fill out the form with the Arcade Herald office and then bring your culinary masterpiece to the alcove outside between the sanctuary and office entrance before 10 am on the 11th! See Bill Craft with questions.

Winterfest Schedule of Events

Fri., Feb. 10-Sat., Feb. 11

Friday, February 10

6:30pm – Opening Ceremonies & Royalty Pageant
Arcade Elementary School, \$3/ticket

Saturday, February 11

8am – Hockey Tournament, Arcade Park rink
8-11am–Lion's Club pancake breakfast, Arcade UCC
9-1pm–Basket Raffle and Snacks, Arcade Park cabin
10am-3pm –Arts & Crafts Show, Arcade Elementary
10am-3:30pm- Student Art Show, Old Fire Hall, Liberty St.
11am – Best Grill & Snack Food Truck, Arcade Park
11am – Chili Cook-off, Downtown Main St.
11am – Winterfest Parade, Main St.
11am-4pm – Boy Scouts Roast Beef & Hotdog Sale, Arcade Elementary Cafeteria
11:15am – Braving the Elements 5K Run/Walk
11am-5pm – Open bowling, Arcade Lanes
12pm – Horseshoe Tournament – Arcade Park
12-3pm – Free Activities – Arcade Elementary Auditorium
12-3pm – Free Horse-drawn Wagon Rides – Arcade Park
12:30-2:30 – Just for Girlfriends Lunch, Turkey Run
1-4pm – Hot Chocolate at Sledding Hill, Park
1pm – Train Ride, A&A Depot
2pm – Cardboard Box Sled Races, Park sledding hill
2pm – Cornhole Tournament, Firehall, North St.
3-7pm – Arcade VFW Prime Rib Dinner
6:30pm – Scavenger Hunt, Fire Hall, North St.
8pm-12am – Winterfest Dance, Arcade VFW, \$5 cover at the door

Free Community Winter Break Vacation Bible School at Arcade UCC!



February 21ST
UNTIL **February 24TH**
from **9:00am-12:00pm**

BIBLE STUDY
ARTS AND CRAFTS
FUN GAMES
SNACKS

OUR COMPASSION CAMP FOCUSES ON CHANGING THE WORLD WITH LOVE AND KINDNESS. BIBLICALLY FOCUSED THEME, FUN GAMES FOR THE CHILDREN, INTERACTIVE CRAFTS THAT SPARK IMAGINATION AND ENCOURAGE LEARNING.

Scan me 

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP OR SEE OUR WEBSITE AT [HTTPS://WWW.ARCADEUCC.COM](https://www.arcadeucc.com)

 **Arcade**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Arcade UCC is excited to offer our Community Winter Vacation Bible School called Compassion Camp! This is open to all kids in grades Pre-K - 4th. Be sure to watch the amazing transformation as the church becomes a beautiful and fun-filled camp in preparation for all our young campers to arrive! Click on this link to sign your kid up today!

<https://www.arcadeucc.com/vbs>

Mark Your Calendars!
Palm Sunday Cantata
Sunday, April 2, 3 pm
Location TBD
More information to come!

RUMMAGE SALE



Looking ahead!

Women's Fellowship Rummage Sale
Friday, May 5 and Sat., May 6 in Wetzel
Hall – More information to come!



Rides to Doctors' Appointments

Before her passing, Margaret Homan, a member of the Outreach Committee, had suggested we find a way to establish a mission or service to offer members of our church rides to doctors' appointments. We would like to launch this program and need volunteers from the congregation.

If you feel called by God or need more information about being a driver or need a ride, please call Sheila Vrenna, Outreach Chair, at 585-653-5046.

Financial News



Donations Please!

Women's Fellowship is asking for gently used books, jigsaw puzzles and DVDs to sell in their "Books, Bakery and Bargains" sale coming up on Sat., February 11. Please place all donations in the Quiet Room. Thank you in advance!

CHECK THIS OUT!

Books, Bakery and Bargains!

Women's Fellowship is holding a "Books, Bakery and Bargains" sale on Saturday, Feb. 11 from 8am -12pm at Arcade UCC during the Arcade Winterfest! There will be homemade chocolates, cupcakes, hot chocolate, Buffalo Bills crafts, gnome crafts, gently used books, puzzles and DVDs and more! Proceeds to benefit Women's Fellowship of Arcade UCC. Be sure to stop by!!



November 2022

Total Revenue: \$11,337.06

Expenditures:

Benevolences: \$1,278.00
Office/Administration: \$2,057.55
Pastoral Administration: \$4,892.86
Worship & Music: \$2,939.44
Education Ministry: \$109.00
Outreach Ministry: \$526.85
Buildings & Grounds: \$1,213.79
Pastor/Parish/Stewardship: 0
Total Expenditures: \$13,017.49
Deficit for November \$1,680.43

December 2022

Total Revenue: \$6,267.56

Expenditures:

Benevolences: \$150.00
Office/Administration: \$2,334.96
Pastoral Administration: \$4,858.97
Worship & Music: \$1,033.84
Education Ministry: 0
Outreach Ministry: \$295.57
Buildings & Grounds: \$2,034.57
Pastor/Parish/Stewardship: 0
Total Expenditures: \$10,707.91
Deficit for December \$4,440.35

As of December 31, 2022

YTD Revenue: \$41,813.98

YTD Expenditures: \$36,927.85

YTD Surplus: \$4,886.13

Neighbors in Need collected \$370

The Christmas Market raised \$2,064, which will be divided equally between the Arcade Beautification Committee and the Hope Lutheran Food Pantry. Christmas Memorial Blessing collected \$1,235 to be given to the Pioneer Schools Food Service Department to pay off students' overdue lunch balances.

Committee Reports

OUTREACH SUMMARY-ARCADE U.C.C.

Jan 8, 2023

Members present: Sheila, Ginger, Jo, Dirk, Cherry, and Kim. Minutes reviewed and approved.

- **Community Suppers:** Dec. served 56. There was no post in the paper for this dinner.
- **Shepherd's Program:** Cherry has volunteered to do birthday cards from Outreach.
- **Visitations:** Nursing homes are currently discouraging visitors due to spike in COVID.
- **Open for Prayer and Coffee Break:** Continues each Tuesday and is providing a very productive place for open exchange of ideas and for passing along information both church-related and also Arcade in general.
- **Random acts of Kindness:** Until we have a training session, no act is too big or too small.
 - **Food collection:** Planned for Nov. 12th at Brass's did very well with food going to both the Arcade food pantry at the Methodist church as well as the Lutheran church. There was also \$200 collected plus which was also equally divided between the two.
 - **Reverse Advent:** We did do an advent collection from Nov. 27th through Dec. 24th. This endeavor also did very well and all proceeds went to the Arcade food pantry at the Methodist church.
 - **Christmas Tree Tour:** Rebranded Christmas Spirit Extravaganza had 484 students and their teachers and aides.
 - **Rides to Doctors Appointments:** Is in progress after approval from the council. They will also review the forms that will be used once they are ready.

New Business:

- A suggestion was made about whether we can provide a door person for those individuals who need assistance once their driver drops them off or if someone could park the car so the driver could help their rider themselves. More discussion will continue next meeting.
- Cherry has volunteered to take notes for the next meeting.
 - **Adjournment and next Meeting:** The next meeting to be Feb. 5, 2023 after church.

Respectfully submitted, Kimberly Common

Workers Union

December 14, 2022

Shirley Kriedeman opened the meeting with eight women attending. The meeting began with a prayer said by Ginger Comstock in remembrance of Margaret Homan who passed away the previous day. Cares and concerns were shared. The Secretary and Treasurer reports were given. Both were approved.

Business was conducted with a need for replacing two offices. Kathy May agreed to fill the post of Assistant Treasurer and Edie Holmes is to be Second Vice. All approved.

After dessert and coffee (Margaret's favorite dessert was served), a wonderful program was given by Mike Giles. He showed slides of Yellowstone Park and the Tetons. Explanations of all the pictures and his conversation made the program very enjoyable. Several women who had been to the Park added extra to the conversation. Thank you, Mike.

The next meeting will be in March as we always omit January and February. Everyone is always welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted, Gwen St. John

Worship/Music January 12, 2023

Following devotions, a look back at Advent and the New Year's Day service was held. The casseroles which were made for the Christmas Day breakfast (which was canceled due to weather), will be served on Toast Sunday at the end of January.

Vacation Bible School: will be Feb. 21-24, 9-noon for preK-4th grades. Sign up is on the church webpage. Working on getting teenagers to help as leaders.

Super Bowl of Caring – Feb. 12, would like it to be kid-led. Still asking for food donations for food pantries. The mission piece is the cakes, frosting and candles.

Communion – provide training for those who serve. People can select their own cup. Pastor will wear a glove to hand out the bread.

Welcome station – adding greeters again – there will be a sign-up sheet for folks who wish to help with this.

Ash Wednesday – Pastor will do drive-thru ashes from 5:30-7:30am

Using less paper – changes will be made to the bulletin to use less paper

Lent – prayer stations for one of the Sundays

Technology – a new transmitter was ordered for the camera on the side wall.

Music – Palm Sunday Cantata: April 2nd, 3 pm. PAC event.

Next meeting: March 9, 7 pm, Great Room

Council Minutes January 26, 2023

Members present: Pastor Josh, Bill Schaper, Deb Wood, Vanessa Adams, Amy Tillinghast, Dirk Norwich, Jamey Craft, Jay May, Cailynn Call (via Zoom), Shannon King (secretary)

Following opening prayer, devotions and sharing celebrations and concerns, the consent agenda was approved unanimously following discussion on the change in the bulletin.

Pastor's Report-

- Paperwork from Sheila for providing rides to appointments for members was handed out.
- VBS update. 13 kids signed up at this point. Volunteers will have training Feb. 7 at 6pm and have a background check completed by Protect My Ministry.
- Pastor's CPE (Clinical Pastor Education) supervisor will be at Sunday's service.
- Christmas Memorial Blessings check was taken to the school.
- Ash Wednesday – drive-thru ashes from 5:30am-8:30am, then ashes with kids at VBS. No service at UCC.

Old Business –

- Dream On – congregation's suggestions were categorized and will be handed out

during a short meeting after service on Feb. 5.

New Business –

- New Shelter – Arcade UCC will let Village Board/Beautification Committee know that we would like to be involved in any future development of a shelter between church and village office.
- Sanctuary pews – the pew along west side of sanctuary is a fire hazard and will need to be removed. Seating plans were discussed.
- Women's Fellowship Winterfest Sale – this will generate funds for Women's Fellowship so they can continue to support the church and community. A question was posed about the WF scholarship - can students apply each year while in college? This will be discussed at WF meeting.
- Phone in Wetzel Hall – It was decided to cancel this phone – saves \$36/month. Phone in elevator is separate.
- Pastor's Mileage – motion passed to give the budgeted pay to pastor quarterly if it is feasible regarding pastor's tax plan
- Lion's Club breakfast – Feb. 11 in Wetzel Hall, 6:30am – kitchen crew starts, 8-11am serving.

Next meeting: March 2, 6 pm.



Keep in Touch!

Want updated information on what's happening in your church? Like to know what's coming up? Join us on Facebook, Arcade United Church of Christ, Congregational, or visit our website at www.arcadeucc.com for up-to-date information, pictures, calendar of events and more!

Live Streaming Services

We continue to have online services each Sunday at 9:30am through our Facebook page if you are unable to join us in person! Join us from anywhere!

Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast –

Sat., February 11, from 8-11am in

Wetzel Hall during Winterfest Weekend!

The Carillon

The Carillon is being compiled, proofed, emailed, printed and mailed by Shannon King and Audrey Erick. Please give your articles and reports to Shannon via email or written out. We hope to produce a quality newsletter. Any suggestions are welcomed. **The deadline for the March issue is February 20, 2023.**

We welcome articles and written pieces from our congregation! For this reason, we need to add the disclaimer that the views written in the Carillon are not necessarily the views of the Arcade United Church of Christ, Congregational, but are those of the individuals who write the submissions.

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Published 10 times per year by the United Church of Christ, Congregational, 297 Main St., PO Box 95, Arcade, NY 14009.

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Worship Schedule: 9:30am In person and
Online Worship