

The Carillon

United Church of Christ, Congregational, Arcade

Pastor Josh Bower

(585) 492-4530

Editor: Shannon King

September 2026

5th Annual Free School Supply Giveaway!



Volunteers handed out the backpacks to local families.



Dirk Norwich headed up the project this year and did a fabulous job!



Volunteers pack backpacks with the school supplies.

For the fifth year in a row, Arcade UCC provided a free school supply giveaway for Pioneer Middle and High School students. While the elementary schools within the district provide the needed supplies for their students, families of middle and high school students are given the opportunity on a first-come, first-serve basis to gather their school supplies at Arcade UCC.

Dirk Norwich spearheaded the project, purchasing the school supplies, organizing the efforts and setting up for the day of the giveaway. Thank you for all of your time and work on this incredible project, Dirk!

The Arcade Salvation Army generously supplied the backpacks for this giveaway again this year and members of the church spent a few hours filling those backpacks with the school supplies provided by the church and generous donations. A special thank you to Margie Rung and Dawn Harrison for coordinating this donation from the local Salvation Army for us this year!

Another special thank you to Arlinda and Mile Fleck for their generous donation of 10 boxes filled with packs of loose-leaf paper for the supply giveaway!

In all, 174 backpacks were filled and handed out to families in the Pioneer community! All backpacks were given out well before the end of the time allotted for the giveaway!

This outreach program has had great success over the past five years and is met with sincere appreciation from area families. We thank all of our volunteers who helped to make this happen! Our community is so grateful!!

(Photo credit: Bonnie Cady, Debi Lutz, Dirk Norwich and Ginger Comstock)

Rev. Josh Bower's ordination service will be held at St. John's UCC in Columbus, OH on Sunday, September 20th at 2 pm. Please see Bill Schaper for details if you're interested in attending! The service will be shared online as well. Arcade UCC will also recognize this special occasion at a later date. More information to follow.

Congratulations, Pastor Josh!



September Birthdays

7	Bruce Dennis	
7	Linda Korczak	16 Autumn Osburn
9	Ashley Romance	19 Len Mason
10	Chris Karpinski	22 Jaleesa Sledge
14	Wally Lowth	25 Vanessa Adams
16	Courtney Caldwell	29 Dona Roll

September Anniversary

David & Karen Czesak, 9/21, 41 years

September Bible Readings

2	Gen 32:22-31 and Ps 17:1-7, 15 Isa 55:1-5 and Ps 145:8-9, 14-21 Rom 9:1-5 Matt 14:13-21
9	Gen 37:1-4, 12-28 and Ps 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b 1 Kings 19:9-18 and Ps 85:8-13 Rom 10:5-15 Matt 14:22-33
16	Gen 45:1-15 and Ps 133 Isa 56:1, 6-8 and Ps 67 Rom 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matt 15:(10-20), 21-28
23	Ex 1:8-2:10 Ps 124 Isa 51:1-6 and Ps 138 Rom 12:1-8 Matt 16:13-20
30	Ex 3:1-15 and Ps 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b Jer 15:15-21 and Ps 26:1-8 Rom 12:9-21 Matt 16:21-28



NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Culinary Arts Sunday Service

Upcoming Important Dates at a Glance

- On **September 6**, we will celebrate **Commitment Sunday** – a time when we prayerfully and generously respond to our commitment in support of our congregation for 2026-27. PLEASE, plan on joining us for worship that day as we commit to God our financial support.
- **Women's Fellowship meeting, Sun., Sept. 7**, following the service
- **Workers Union meeting, Mon., Sept. 21, noon**, Lois Anneler's home
- **Free Community Dinner, Sat., Sept. 26, 4-6 pm**, sloppy joes, Team 4 working
- **Sept. 27** -Deadline for non-financial **annual reports from committees**.
- **Budget Meeting – Sun., Oct. 4** after service
- **Fall Festival – Sat., Oct. 10**

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Reminder to Committees/Groups!

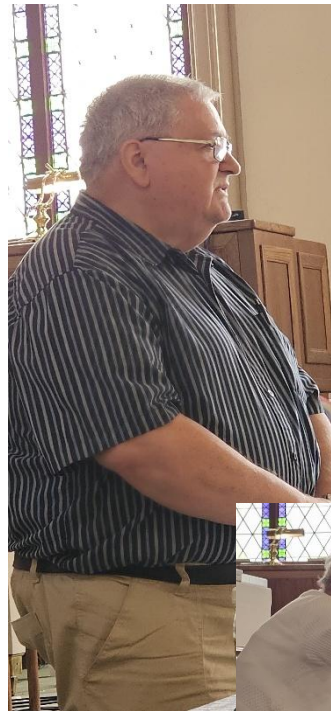
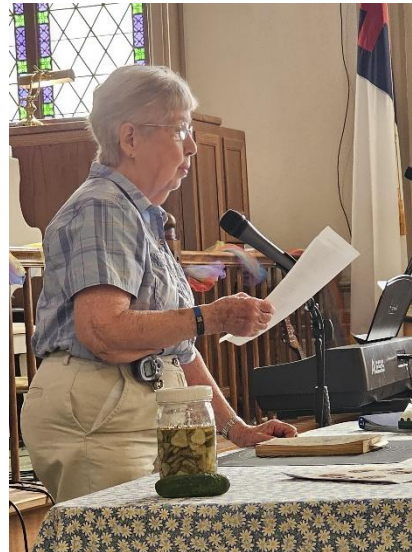
Please submit your non-financial annual reports for 2025-2026 by September 27th!

Email them to Shannon at

uccarcade@gmail.com if possible! Thank you!



The Nominations Sign-up sheet for the upcoming Annual Meeting will be available on the sign-up table outside the Sanctuary door from September 3rd – September 27th.



On Sunday, July 12, Arcade UCC held an Alternative Worship Service entitled, "The Sacred Art of Cooking," during which a few of the culinary artists among us were celebrated. Sharon Hawley shared her journey of stewardship through home canning and preserving. Ginger Comstock shared the art of Beth-lehem or baking bread (in Hebrew, beth=house and lehem=bread). Sheila Vrenna shared the art of community through sharing recipes and connecting with others. Dirk Norwich shared the art of hospitality through his journey from his mom's tutelage to becoming Arcade UCC's Chef Extraordinaire. Edie Holmes shared her act of faith through owning a bakery and baking many cakes through the years. Each of our artists also contributed one of their culinary creations for the Coffee Hour. Dona Roll organized this service to recognize our culinary artists and assisted with the coffee hour contributions as well. It was a wonderful service presented by many of our talented members!

(Photo credits: Dona Roll)

Music with a Meaning Service



Laurie Sledge joins in the fun of the 60's-70's theme for the "Flash Back Sunday" service.



Bill Schaper led the service wearing a Nathan Greenbaum shirt, which was also the cover picture for the Sunday worship bulletin.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Sydney and Krista Taylor on the birth of their daughter, Gemma Julie, on June 25.



Crew and Scarlett sit proudly next to their new baby cousin. (Right)



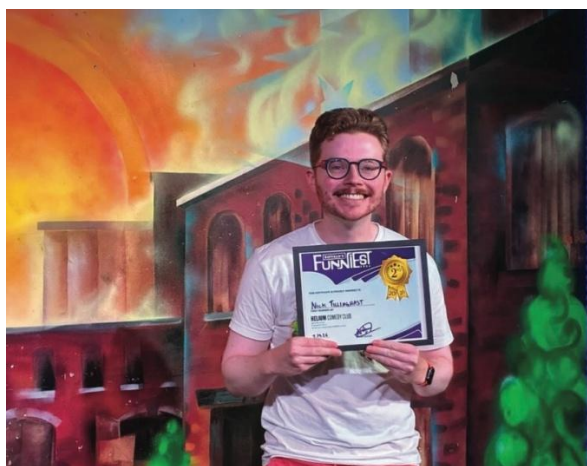
The July 19 worship service was a "Flash Back Sunday - Music From the 60's & 70's." All performance music during the service was from that time period. The congregation was invited to dress for that time period - tie dye, paisley, bright multi colored clothing, rock band or any musical t-shirts, church t-shirts, head bands... anything that might have been worn in the 60's or 70's. Bill's sermon was entitled, "Spirit in the Sky," which was Nathan Greenbaum's one hit wonder. Ironically, Bill learned that Pastor Josh has a connection with Greenbaum, having

interviewed him during his time as a disc jockey. Pastor Josh still has Greenbaum's phone number in his phone. 😊 Everyone enjoyed this groovy "Music with a Meaning" service.
(Photo credits: Ginger Comstock)

Congratulations, Cailynn Call!

Congratulations to Cailynn Call on her new position as the Administrator for School Culture and Climate at Glendale Elementary School in the Sweet Home Central School District.

Congratulations, Nick Tillinghast!



Our own Nick Tillinghast took part in the Buffalo's Funniest 2026 competition, hosted by the Helium Comedy Club in Buffalo. Competing against 59 other participants, Nick made it past three rounds and finally landed second place in the finals round! The preliminary round gave him a three-minute set, but by the time he got to the finals, he had to do a nine-minute set! Congratulations, Nick! We are so proud of you!



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



Stewardship – Commitment Sunday

Sunday, September 6 is **Commitment Sunday**, a time when we prayerfully and generously respond to our commitment in support of our congregation for 2026-2027. A pledge card has been mailed out with a letter from Bill Schaper, our Moderator, Council Co-Chair, and member of the Finance Committee. Your card can be returned by dropping it off in the offering plate when you attend in person service or by mailing it to the church (PO Box 95, Arcade, NY 14009.) Your commitment for the 2026-2027 year is greatly appreciated.

Quilt Tickets – Fall Festival Women's Fellowship Scholarship Fund



Be sure to get your quilt raffle tickets! Kathy May once again created a beautiful quilted masterpiece! Thank you so much, Kathy, for your time and hard work! The raffle will be held at 3 pm at the **Fall Festival** on **Sat., October 10**. Tickets can be purchased for \$2 each or 6 for \$10. See a Women's Fellowship member to get them or stop by the church office. Proceeds will go toward the Women's Fellowship Scholarship Fund. The women are excited for the Fall Fest and will be ready with their **baked goods, cookbooks** and **quilt raffle**! Be sure to stop by and see them on October 10th!

**Worker's Union Meeting
Lois Anneler's Rushford home, Mon.,
Sept. 21 at noon.**



**Arcade Area Food
Pantry**

The food pantry located at the
United Methodist Church on
the corner of Pearl and Main
Streets is open every Monday

and Thursday from 12:30-2pm. During this time,
bags of food are brought out to the vehicles.

On the following Thursdays, a food truck will be
at the Arcade Park from 10am-12pm for drive-
thru pick-up on the following Thursdays:

September 17, October 15, November 19.

The PAC Food Pantry located at Hope Lutheran
will be open each month on the first Wednesday
from 4-7pm and the third Saturday from 9-11am.
Anyone in need is welcome! Please spread the
word!

**A Special Sunday Service with
Plymouth Crossroads**



(Jenn McAndrew is joined by two boys from Plymouth Crossroads, along with Vanessa Adams – 1st pic, Dirk Norwich – 2nd pic, and Justin Chernogorec – 3rd pic. Photo credit: Dona Roll)

(The following post was taken from Plymouth Crossroads' Facebook page, Wednesday, August 26, 2026.)

Feeling blessed and grateful to our friends
at **Arcade United Church of Christ,
Congregational**, where we shared a
beautiful service this past Sunday! The
boys felt very welcome and we enjoyed
meeting so many wonderful friends. Many
church members are pumped to come and
volunteer at Plymouth, and plan to
continue to donate food and wish list
items. There were 44 people in
attendance, INCLUDING our contingent
from Plymouth, and the church raised an
awe-inspiring \$1,238 and a few gift
cards!!! WOW! We are completely
overwhelmed and truly humbled! Plus,
Justin was selling tickets for the **Orchard
Park Lodge 187 Odd Fellows** holiday
raffle, and raised even more money for us!
And it was super neat that Dirk (longtime
friend of Plymouth) wore his vintage,
limited edition 🥰 Bluesfest shirt to service
to show his support! THANK YOU!!!!
#blessedandgrateful



With Deep Gratitude

Dear Rich V., Bill S., Jeff M., Dona R. & Friends
(Sharon H., Ginger C., Sheila V., Dirk N., & Edie H.),
Laurie S., and Deb W.,

Thank you for the generous gift of your time, your voices, and your hearts during this season of sabbatical. Each of you stepped forward to preach, teach, and share in ways that strengthened our community and helped carry the ministry with faithfulness and care.

Your willingness to prepare, speak, lead, and offer what God placed on your hearts was a blessing. You helped create space for rest, renewal, and reflection, while also reminding us that the work of ministry is shared by many faithful hands.

We are deeply grateful for the care you showed, the wisdom you offered, and the spirit with which you served. Thank you for being part of this meaningful season and for blessing others through your words, presence, and faithfulness.

With sincere appreciation,

Vanessa Adams and the Worship & Music Committee



Arcade UCC's Budget Hearing will be held on Sunday, Oct. 4 following the worship service.

FALL FEST AT ARCADE UCC!

Chowder, Basket Raffle, and all the usuals!

This year's Fall Fest will happen on
Saturday, October 10, 2026.

Doors open at 11:00 am and Ticket

Drawing will begin at 3:00.

(Ticket Booths will close at 2:30 this year.)

Reverse Bingo begins at 2:30.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:

BUFFALO FOOTBALL

BASKET RAFFLE!

Basket includes a **Josh Allen Jersey** along with other **Buffalo Bills' items!**



Tickets are now available from Vanessa Adams, Debi Lutz, or Deb Wood, at Arcade Marketplace, Turkey Run and of course, at Fall Fest for \$10.00 each or 3/\$25.

Stay tuned for details on our Arcade UCC FB page!! Proceeds go to the Arcade UCC General Fund and a portion of the proceeds will be given to the Community Center at Hope Lutheran and the UCC NY Conference 'Together in Love' initiative.

We currently **have 80 baskets**. We are a little over halfway to our **goal of 150 baskets**. Thank you to all who have already brought baskets and basket items in. **Committees** start talking about what you would like to do this year! If you need basket ideas please check in with us! Be creative....have fun.... If you need an empty basket, just bring your items in and we will provide the basket!



Arcade's Arts & Antiques Festival

**Sat., Sept. 12
10 am – 5 pm**

For the Arcade Arts and Antiques Festival, the Women's Fellowship will be displaying the homemade quilt and selling raffle tickets. Refreshments will be for sale as well. And Debi Lutz will be selling tickets for the Fall Festival Bills Basket. Join us in the alcove between the large display windows off Main Street!



Submitted by Karen Schaper

NEIGHBORS IN NEED



The Neighbors in Need offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. In 2026, the suggested offering date is **October 4**, but churches collect the offering for a month or any other season throughout the year. Thank you for your support and generosity!



To make a donation to Neighbors in Need now, simply click the link:

<https://support.ucc.org/ways-to-give/our-churchs-wider-mission/neighbors-in-need/neighbors-in-need-donation>

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 new website with a whole new look, (same address) 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! Worship bulletins are sent via email in advance. If you do not already receive these, please contact the church office to ask to be placed on the email list. (585-492-4530).



In Memoriam

We extend our sympathy to Shirley Wright and the rest of her family on the loss of her husband, Thomas Wright, who passed away on August 7 while in Hospice care. In addition to worshipping with us, Thomas and Shirley were enthusiastic supporters of our community dinners in a variety of ways, especially in the kitchen. Shirley's address is 10699 Warner Gulf Road, Chaffee, NY 14030.

We also send our condolences to Carol Abel, Karen Czesak and the Abel family on the passing of Carol's daughter, Lori. Lori passed on August 13 at STAR Hospice House. A time of visitation and memorial service were held at the Lind Funeral Home on Thursday, August 20. The link for Lori's obituary is:

<https://www.lindfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Lori-E-Abel?obId=49255287>



NY/HELP Honduras

Though there was not a trip to Honduras during the summer of 2026, we are hoping to have one in the Spring of 2027.



The elementary schools did get school supplies and are always happy to show them off for the camera.

At this point we are looking for funds for our two main priorities: salaries and medicines for the Gordon Comstock medical clinic in La Laguna, and school supplies for the area schools. We are looking for donations to help with this long-running mission to Honduras. If you can't afford \$50, maybe \$25, or even \$5.00. Any amount will be put to good use.



A donation can be made by using the QR code below, or by sending a check, made out to NY/HELP, and send to NY/HELP, Arcade UCC Congregational, c/o Ginger

Comstock, PO Box 95, Arcade NY, 14009.



Financial Report

June 2026

Revenues:

Pledges: \$4,910.22
Regular Giving: \$440.00
Loose Offering: \$279.00
Fundraisers: \$1,877.40
Misc. Donations: \$0
Online Service Charge: \$13.99
Total Revenue: \$7,492.63

Expenditures:

Benevolences: \$1,933.50
Office/Administration: \$2,432.68
Pastoral Administration: \$5,710.66
Worship & Music: \$1,497.89
Education Ministry: \$0
Outreach Ministry: \$0
Buildings & Grounds: \$2,786.78
Pastor/Parish/Stewardship: \$0
Total Expenditures: \$14,361.51
Deficit for June \$6,868.88

Budgeted Revenue: \$117,244.00
Expenses: \$161,018.49
YTD Revenue received as of June 30, 2026:
\$88,373.99 + \$20,000 from savings + \$15,000
from Endowment
YTD Expenses as of June 30,
2026: \$108,205.01

July 2026

Revenues:

Pledges: \$6,689.11
Regular Giving: \$180.00
Loose Offering: \$243.00
Fundraisers: \$65.00
Misc. Donations: \$87.00
Online Service Charge: \$10.61
Total Revenue: \$7,253.50

Expenditures:

Benevolences: \$0
Office/Administration: \$3,139.44
Pastoral Administration: \$6,210.66
Worship & Music: \$2,310.84
Education Ministry: \$0
Outreach Ministry: \$257.30
Buildings & Grounds: \$1,997.84

Pastor/Parish/Stewardship: \$0
Total Expenditures: \$13,916.08
Deficit for July \$6,662.56

Budgeted Revenue: \$117,244.00
Expenses: \$161,018.49
YTD Revenue received as of July 31, 2026:
\$95,627.49 + \$20,000 from savings + \$15,000
from Endowment
YTD Expenses as of July 31,
2026: \$122,121.09



Committee Reports

COUNCIL MEETING – July 26, 2026

In attendance: Bill Schaper, Rich Vogt, Dirk Norwich, Jay May, Vanessa Adams, Kim Common, Bonnie Cady, Amy Tillinghast, Kathy May (subbing for Shannon)

Opening Devotional: Jay May – “A Heart that Trusts God.” **Devotions for September meeting (Date to be determined):** Amy Tillinghast

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Josh on sabbatical – no report available

Old/Continuing Business:

Vanessa Adams thanked everyone for all the support during Pastor Josh’s sabbatical. Services have been inspirational and attendance has been great!

Roof repairs have been completed. Due to the age of the roof and the continuing issue with missing shingles, we asked Neth and Son to provide an estimate to completely shingle the west side of the roof. When other estimates have been received, Jay will pursue any grant monies available.

New Business:

Vanessa asked that any loose offering from the August 23 service be given to Plymouth Crossroads,

a home for homeless and runaway youth in need. Anyone wishing to donate to them will also be encouraged to do so. Council unanimously agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15am following reciting The Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting – September, 2026 – day to be determined.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING July 12, 2026

Members present: Sheila, Ginger, Dirk, and Kim

•Call to Order & Cares and Concerns and Opening

Prayer: Meeting begins 11:23 am with prayer. Prayers for Sarah B., Thomas, Carol A.

•REVIEW of Minutes:

 Minutes from May accepted

•Community Suppers Update:

 April served 119 and collected \$310. May served 94 and collected \$147, June served 47 and collected \$127.

•Shepherd's Program:

 Karen Schaper has agreed to help us with this mission since Carol Able and Karen Czesak have found it difficult to continue.

•Open for Prayer and Coffee Break:

 Continues each Tuesday. With Pastor Josh on sabbatical this summer, Kim Common offered to do a Bible Study at 10:00 taking a look at a Max Lucado's book called "What Happens Next, A Traveler's Guide Through the End of this Age."

•Rides to Doctors' Appointments:

 No new requests have been noted.

•Food Pantry Collection:

 The food collection at Brass went to Hope Food Pantry and a thank you note was received.

•Picnic in the Park:

 The pavilion has been planned for Aug. 30, 2026.

•New Photo Directory:

 Prizm will print this for us more cost effectively than we could do it in house. Our question was the weight of the proposed paper? It didn't seem as heavy as we

anticipated when we saw an example of what the new directory would look like.

•New Business:

•School Supplies Giveaway:

 Dirk is leading this project since Pastor Josh is away. He has sent a letter on our church letter head to Walmart. Shannon added a second page with exact supplies needed. Walmart had indicated that they may be able to help with this endeavor. Dirk has not heard back yet with regard to a possible donation. We did receive 150 backpacks from the Salvation Army.

Adjournment and next Meeting: A motion to adjourn made by Dirk and 2nd by Kim. Meeting ended at 11:45 am. Next meeting: Aug. 9, 2026

Respectfully submitted, Kimberly Common

The Carillon

The Carillon is being compiled, printed and mailed by Audrey Erick and Shannon King. Please continue to watch for the deadline date for your articles and reports and give them to any of the above members. We hope to produce a quality newsletter. Any suggestions are welcomed. The deadline for the October issue is September 20, 2026.

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.

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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Website:

www.arcadeucc.com

Worship Schedule:

9:30am worship, in person and live-streaming on our Facebook page

