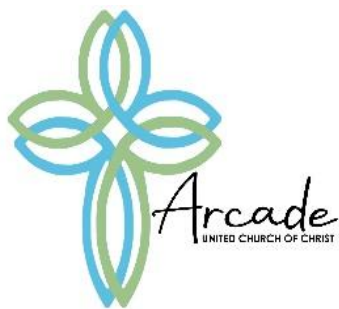




The Carillon

United Church of Christ, Congregational, Arcade

Pastor Josh Bower

(585) 492-4530

Editor: Shannon King

October 2026

Rev. Joshua Bower is Ordained!

(Photo and caption credits: Jeff Mason

Photo credit: Vanessa Adams)



Nicole and Pastor Josh before the start of the ordination service. Pastor's parents are in the background.



The ordination took place on September 20, 2026 at St. John's United Church of Christ in downtown Columbus, Ohio. This is the church where Pastor Josh's long journey to ordination began, before he became our pastor.



Over 20 people from the Arcade area made the 300-mile drive to Columbus to attend this special event in the life of our church. Those who arrived early were treated generously by Josh and Nicole's families to a dinner and breakfast, and the people of St. John's hosted a special reception after the service.



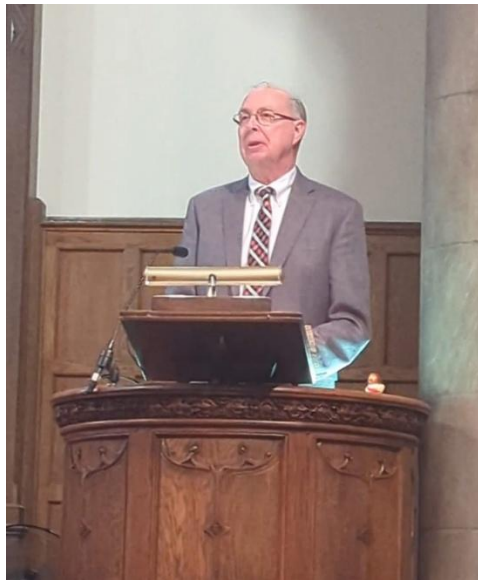
Pastor Josh delivered the sermon at St. John's regular morning service. At the ordination service in the afternoon, he read the Gospel and led A Time to Wonder.



The members of St. John's praise band shared the abundant vocal and instrumental talents at both services.

What Does Ordination Mean for Rev. Bower and What Does it Mean for Our Church Family?

By Pastor Emeritus Rev. Robert Dievendorf



The sermon at the ordination service was given by our moderator, Bill Schaper. He described the process by which our church and Pastor Josh came together in March 2020, and described the work Pastor has done for our church since then.



The Rev. Patricia Battle, the Association Minister of the South Central Association of the Ohio Conference, authorized the ordination on behalf of the United Church of Christ.

As your Pastor Emeritus at Arcade United Church of Christ, I want to express, on your behalf, the heartiest and most sincere congratulations to the Reverend Joshua Bower on the occasion of his Ordination in the United Church of Christ on September 20, 2026.

Ordination is the process by which individuals are consecrated, that is, set apart and elevated from the laity class to the clergy, who are thus then

authorized (usually by the denominational hierarchy composed of other clergy and laity) to perform various religious rites and ceremonies. Ordination is the recognition of an individual's divine call to minister to humankind on God's behalf and in conjunction with God's leading. It entails a lifelong commitment to a prayerful undertaking of service in response to God's direction and is multifaceted. Rev. Bower has already exhibited a dedicated undertaking of his call in his role as Pastor of Arcade UCC and, I pray, with his ordinal vows, will only grow in his ministry. Ordination is not something that is quickly or easily conferred. Many years of prayerful study (including personal reflection, theological writings, societal trends, and experiential training) are required for ordination, not merely for the preparation of ministry, but also for the duration on the ordinand's service to God and the Church of Jesus Christ. And again, Rev. Bower has clearly exhibited his fulfillment of this requirement and his desire to continue to study and learn in order to be who God has created him to be.

Ordination brings with it the right and privilege of the use of the title Reverend, one who is worthy to be revered and entitled to reverence. But ordination also brings with it the four-fold responsibility of Prophet, Priest, Pastor and Teacher. As prophet, the ordinand serves and is called to relate the words of God to the people. These words can be uplifting and encouraging as well as, sometimes, corrective. But these prophetic words are from God. As priest, the ordinand is empowered to administer the rituals and rites of the church including, but not limited to, the sacraments, funerals, weddings and other sacred times in the life of the church. The priestly role represents a mediatory role between God and the people. As Pastor, the ordinand walks with the people in their journey through life. This includes just about every situation imaginable and requires wisdom, listening, ingenuity and lots of respect and love. Lastly, but certainly not least among the responsibilities is teacher. The ordinand is empowered to teach people about God, Christ, the

church and life in general. This is done best by example, but may also be done through preaching, worship format, bible study and any number of creative ways that stimulate and educate people, bringing God and humankind into a closer relationship.

Having achieved ordination is not an ending to years of preparation. It is a beginning. A beginning of a new journey of service on God's behalf to all humankind whether in a church setting or out in the world. As such, it is imperative that we keep Rev. Bower in prayer constantly, beseeching God to extend God's unending love and mercy and grace and leading upon him always. It is important to assist Rev. Bower in any and all ways we can, not just waiting to be asked, but to step forward when we see a need. As we have a covenantal relationship with God, whereby God is our God and we are God's people, so do we have a covenantal relationship with Rev. Bower. He is called to be our shepherd and we have committed to be his flock – a flock that interacts with the shepherd and listens to him, follows him, encourages him and assists him however we can.

Congratulations, again, Rev. Josh Bower. Know that you are prayed for constantly and loved eternally by God and all of us.



Rev. Bower received a new pastoral stole that was made by Nicole's aunt, who was unable to attend the ordination.



October Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Christopher Mahiques | 18 Nick Tillinghast |
| 2 Michael Ferry | 19 Kylie Karpinski |
| 9 Nick Taylor | 21 Liz Lowth |
| 12 Keith St. John | 30 Darwin Anneler |
| 16 Michael Sopic | 30 Avery Gertis |
| 18 Connie Roll | 31 Kristin Sledge |

October Anniversaries

- 6 – John & Vanessa Adams – 19 years
 6 – Tadd & Shannon King – 19 years
 6 - Lee & Marilyn Pirdy – 75 years
 14 -John & JoAnn Sixt – 65 years

October Bible Readings

- 4** Ex 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Ps 19
 Isa5:1-7 and Ps 80:7-15
 Phil 3:4b-14
 Matt 21:33-46
- 11** Ex 32:1-14 and Ps 106:1-6, 19-23
 Isa 25:1-9 and Ps 23
Phil 4:1-9
 Matt 22:1-14
- 18** Ex 33:12-23 and Ps 99
 Isa 45:1-7 and Ps 96:1-9, (10-13)
I Thess 1:1-10
 Matt 22:15-22
- 25** Deut 34:1-12 and Ps 90:1-6, 13-17
 Lev 19:1-2, 15-18 and Ps 1
 1 Thess 2:1-8
Matt 22:34-46



Upcoming Important Dates at a Glance

WEEKLY: Gentle Exercise class - Mondays at 10 am. All are welcome!

WEEKLY: Coffee Break & Open Prayer, Tuesdays from 9-11am, Arcade UCC library. Bible Study at 10am.

- **Budget Hearing, Arcade UCC – Sun., Oct. 4, following service**
- **Fall Festival, Arcade UCC – Sat., Oct. 10, 11 am**
- **Annual Meeting – Sunday, Oct. 25, following service**
- **Free community dinner, spaghetti: Sat., Oct. 24, 4-6 pm, Team 3 working**

Carol Abel and family would like to extend our heartfelt and sincere thanks to everyone for all the love, prayers, cards and kindness you showed us during our time of loss. Your thoughtfulness and support brought us great comfort as we grieved the loss of our loved one, Lori.

We are deeply grateful for each of you and for the love and compassion you have for our family during this difficult time. May God bless you all.



NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE



Bryson King and his dad, Tadd King, are at it again! They have four giant pumpkins, all averaging around 1500 lbs. at this point in the season! They plan to take their best three to competition weigh-offs. One pumpkin already went to Saratoga Springs on Sept. 26, and took third, weighing in at 1675.5 lbs. One will go to Clarence on Oct. 3 and the final one will go to Canton, OH on Oct. 10!

Bryson King and his dad, Tadd King, are at it again! They have four giant pumpkins, all averaging around 1500 lbs. at this point in the season! They plan to take their best three to competition weigh-offs. One pumpkin already

CONGRATULATIONS TO MSGT. CHERNOGOREC!

We offer our congratulations to Army Master Sergeant Justin Chernogorec as he transitions into retirement after 26 years with the Army and the Army National Guard. He was deployed several times over the years, most recently in 2025-26. He came home from that deployment in Kuwait last winter, shortly before the start of the current conflict in the Middle East. We wish Justin and long and productive retirement!

***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.*

We are so incredibly blessed and grateful to have the amazing talents of Stacy Gertis displayed on our Main Street windows! A wonderful welcome back to school on the office window and a gorgeous tribute to Fall/Fall Fest on the large display windows. Thank you so much, Stacy, for your time to beautify our church-front and for adding so much color, talent and beauty to our community!



On the first day of school, Pastor Josh and Shannon headed out to greet students on their way to school and wish them the best year ever! Prayers and best wishes to all our teachers, staff, bus drivers, and students for a wonderful 2026-2027 school year!



In Memoriam

LEN MASON

We extend our sympathy to Roger and Ilene Mason and their family on the death of their father, father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather, Leonard Mason. Len died on April 27 in California, where he had moved a few years ago to be closer to his family. Len was a 70-year member of our church. He and his late wife, Connie, joined our church on March 25, 1956, along with the late Art and Grace Gilbert. Len was a church trustee in 1965-66 and church treasurer from 1969 to 1972. For several years before he moved, he enjoyed volunteering in December when the elementary students made their annual visits to the church annex. Len was also very active in Masonic lodge activities and served the community as the chair of the Town Zoning Board. He was also the father of the late Scott Mason.

GARY BRAY

We extend our sympathy to James, Mark, David, Lyle and Lary Bray and their wives on the death of their father, father-in-law, brother, brother-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather, Gary Bray, who died on September 19. Gary was a 65-year member of our church, having been confirmed on March 26, 1961. A lifelong farmer, Gary and his late wife, Martha, continued to operate the family farm previously owned by his parents, Ken and Wilma Bray. In more recent years, Gary was known over a wide area as a maple producer. He enjoyed meeting people at events where he sold Bray Farms Maple products, and he took pride in explaining the maple production process at the farm every year during Maple Weekends.



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.

**Annual Meeting of Arcade
United Church of Christ will be
held on Sunday, October 25
following worship service.**





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!

Donate online if you wish by clicking the link below:

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

Autumn Prayer

Lord, thank You for the beauty of this season.
As the leaves fall, remind me that change can be good, and that letting go makes room for new beginnings. Fill my heart with gratitude for every harvest, every blessing, and every lesson learned. Help me rest in Your timing, trusting that You are at work in every season of my life.

Amen.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

October & November Readers & Greeters

Reader Greeters

10/4 Al Hummer Diane Szpak & Edie Holmes

10/11 Jay May Jim & Sheila Vrenna

10/18 Jeff Mason Bill & Karen Schaper

10/25 Debi Lutz Ginger Comstock & Jo Sixt

11/1 Rich Vogt Jay & Kathy May

11/8 Amy Tillinghast Randy & Debi Lutz

11/15 Vanessa Adams Dirk Norwich &

Mike Tanner

11/22 Dona Roll Diane Szpak & Edie Homes

11/29 Mike Tanner Jeff Mason &

Nate Tillinghast

Community Dinners

October 17 – spaghetti, Team 3

November 28 – spaghetti, Team 2

Dec. 19- mac & cheese, Team 1

Team 1: Randy & Debi Lutz, Molly Holland, Jay & Kathy May, Mike Tanner, Shirley Kriedeman, Linda Korczak, Sharon Hawley, Jo Sixt, Shirley Wright, Dirk Norwich, Justin & Janelle Chernogorec

Team 2: Jay & Kathy May, Randy & Debi Lutz, Edie Holmes, Diane Szpak, Ginger Comstock, Shirley Kriedeman, Linda Korczak, Sharon Hawley, Jo Sixt, Shirley Wright, Dirk Norwich

Team 3: Jim & Sheila Vrenna, Shirley Wright, Suzanne Norton, Helen Boling, Jeff Mason, Chet Weir, Bruce Dennis, Lary Schaefer, Shirley Kriedeman, Linda Korczak, Sharon Hawley, Jo Sixt, Dirk Norwich

Team 4: Rich & Helena Vogt, Dona Roll, Judy Feine, Kim Common, Amy & Nate Tillinghast, Shirley Kriedeman, Linda Korczak, Sharon Hawley, Jo Sixt, Shirley Wright, Dirk Norwich

Report from the NY Conference 2026 Annual Meeting

Submitted by Ginger Comstock

Photos by Ginger Comstock



Our New York Conference Annual Meeting this year was in mid-May at the

Silver Bay YMCA Retreat Center on Lake George in the Adirondacks. A beautiful setting!

The last time I had been there for an Annual Meeting was more than 7 years ago, before Gordon died, and we had gone together to represent NY-HELP. So, this was a very different experience for me.

The afternoon before the official start of the business sessions there were



Education classes for clergy and any interested lay people. I opted out of these in favor of spending some quiet time along the lake shore near the boat house doing some meditating, reminiscing, and taking pictures. I spent time enjoying the sight and sound of the water lapping up on the shore and remembering how much Gordon and I both enjoyed this part of being at Silver Bay. It was sad, yes but also comforting at the same time – to be at a place we both had enjoyed coming to whenever the Annual Meeting was here at this beautiful setting.

The letter we received prior to the meeting said it was expected to be more than a business meeting, but a sacred moment of spiritual revival and renewal. This first afternoon proved to be exactly that for me. Then I was ready for the business sessions, workshops and a wonderful worship experience.



God is pure light,
undimmed by darkness
of any kind.

1 John 1:5



**Arcade United Church
of Christ's**

Annual Fall Festival

**Saturday, October 10,
2026**

Doors open at 11am

297 Main St., Arcade, NY 14009

**Basket Raffle, Homemade
chowder, Homemade quilt
raffle, Music & much more!**

**Ticket Drawing begins: 3 pm.
(Ticket Booths will close at 2:15.)**

Reverse Bingo begins at 2:30.



**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:
BUFFALO FOOTBALL BASKET
RAFFLE!**

**Valued at over \$350! Josh Allen jersey
included!**



***Fall Fest – Women's Fellowship
Highlights***

Homemade quilt raffle:

Tickets \$2 each/\$10 for 6.

**Raffle held the day of Fall Fest –
you don't need to be present to win!**

**Proceeds go toward the Women's
Fellowship Scholarship Fund.**

Also selling delicious baked goods!

We hope you can join us!



**Be sure to get your quilt raffle tickets! This
beautiful handmade quilt was created by
Kathy May. Her talent is undeniable!!
Thank you so much, Kathy, for your time
and hard work!**





Bible Study/Coffee Break

From 9-11am each Tuesday, Arcade UCC is hosting a "Coffee Break" for the community. It is held in the church library. Coffee and goodies are served free of charge and the community is welcome to stop by to enjoy good conversation, Bible study at 10 am and a hot beverage. Good for the body and soul! Welcome all!



Margaret Homan Memorial

"Rides to Doctors" Mission is

intended to help members of our congregation get to regularly scheduled appointments when no family members or friends are available. It is not for emergencies. Please always call 911 for emergencies. To sign up for a ride to your doctor's appointment please call Kim Common at 716-796-4396, Sheila Vrenna at 585-653-5046 or the church office at least a week to ten days before your appointment.



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:
October 15, November 19, December 17.

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!

Financial Report

August 2026

Revenues:

Pledges: \$10,953.89

Regular Giving: \$390.00

Loose Offering: \$538.25

Fundraisers: \$0

Misc. Donations: \$0

Online Service Charge: \$21.22

Total Revenue: \$11,860.92

Expenditures:

Benevolences: \$1,300.00

Office/Administration: \$2,136.74

Pastoral Administration: \$5,710.66

Worship & Music: \$1,641.22

Education Ministry: \$0

Outreach Ministry: \$341.85

Buildings & Grounds: \$1,392.93

Pastor/Parish/Stewardship: \$0

Total Expenditures: \$12,523.40

Deficit for August \$662.48

Budgeted Revenue: \$117,244.00

Expenses: \$161,018.49

YTD Revenue received as of August 31, 2026:

\$107,488.41 + \$20,000 from savings +

\$15,000 from Endowment

YTD Expenses as of August 31,

2026: \$135,143.49

Dear Friends at UCC,
Thank you for the generous donation to the food pantry! We appreciate your continuous support of those in need in our community.
Blessings!
Food Pantry Team and
Sue Dressel ☺

Committee Reports



ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Endowment Committee met twice in September, on the 13th and 27th. The committee voted on the 13th to make a total of \$2,500 in donations: \$1,000 to Plymouth Crossroads, and \$500 each to NY/HELP Honduras, Charlotte House in North Java, and J&E Infant Awareness in Olean. The successful school supplies giveaway in August for high school and middle school students had a difference of \$433.79 between donations and expenses, so the committee voted on the 27th to transfer that amount to the church operating account to make up the difference.

The Endowment Committee had been discussing its statement of investment policy since the spring of 2025. The policy had not changed since 1998, so we voted on September 27 to approve several revisions. We also have been monitoring the situation with the deficit in the church budget, and on September 27 we approved several proposed amendments to Article IX of the church by-laws that we hope will partially reduce the deficit. The proposed amendments will be available at the budget hearing on October 4 and will be voted on at the annual meeting on October 25.

COUNCIL MEETING

September 24, 2026 – 6PM

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

Opening Prayer: Pastor Josh

Opening Devotional: Amy Tillinghast - Journey of Change - from Philippians 4:8

Devotions for November meeting: Bill Schaper

Pastor's Report: Pastor thanked everyone for all the love and support for the ordination in Columbus and in our sanctuary on September 20. Thanks also for all the support leading up to ordination day. Pastor also gave a huge thank you for the sabbatical and it was truly a gift. Pastor wishes everyone could experience a sabbatical. A great reset for everything.

Pastor/Parish Committee: Vanessa reported all is well at this time. Will be meeting again in November.

Old/Continuing Business:

Cameras – 5 installed so far. More will be done in the coming weeks. Pastor Josh is the only person able to access the cameras at this time. Council needs to decide who will have access in addition to him. After a brief discussion it was decided Shannon King as Office Manager, Deb Wood as Christian Ed Chair as well as the Chair and Vice Chair of Council should have access. Currently our Chair, Bill Schaper, and Vice Chair, Rich Vogt will have access. The system stores about 1 month of data and will delete as time goes on. Policy for camera access – when someone leaves their role as specified, the app needs to be deleted from phone.

Regarding AI issues – We are adopting a new policy - No new identifiable pictures of children will be used on social media and we will erase what is currently there. When streaming, only show hands or backs of heads. No faces!

New Business:

Building & Grounds – start putting together a maintenance plan for the building.

After closing prayer, meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Next Meeting – November 19, 2026





Celebration for our newly ordained

***Rev. Joshua Bower
Saturday, Oct. 24th***

***@ 1:00 pm
Arcade UCC
297 Main St.
Arcade NY***

***Please RSVP
by Saturday Oct. 10th
Call or text: 716-258-1022
Or call the office:
585-492-4530***



Carillon Newsletter

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 November issue is October 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.

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).

Office Phone:

(585)492-4530

Office E-mail:

uccarcade@gmail.com

Website:

www.arcadeucc.com

Worship Schedule:

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

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!

