

# The CONGREGATIONAL CHRONICLE

Volume 42, No. 11

United Church of Christ

November 2018

## Moderator's View

### Why Pledge?

#### **“Together We Can Make a Difference”**

*Last October, Roger Smith wrote the following piece for the Moderator's Column to encourage stewardship and pledging. I'm reprinting it here because nothing else could come close to the heartfelt, moving message Roger shares. Nancy Keswani*

Being relatively new to pledging may make me an odd choice to address the surprising value of making a pledge commitment, but some members of our Stewardship team think that what I've learned from pledging might inspire some of you who haven't pledged in the past to begin doing so. And perhaps my words might also cause some long-time pledgers to think about pledging in a new way.

While I'd been a lifelong member of my family's church in Charleston and had always put money in the offering plate whenever I'd been there or at any other church around the country that I may have attended, however erratically, over the years, I can't remember ever making an annual pledge until shortly after I joined First Congregational a little over five years ago. And I can't even remember exactly why I decided to pledge that first year, except that I liked the church and wanted to help it prosper. Perhaps God made me do it.

Somewhere around that same time was my prep school class's 50<sup>th</sup> reunion, and as I wrote a check for a few thousand dollars for my contribution to that year's alumni reunion class gift, it occurred to me that adding to my alma mater's billion-dollar endowment wasn't quite as significant as making a similar contribution to the sustenance of this little church that was starting to become an important part of my life. So, when I was asked, I pledged. I pledged what seemed a reasonable amount for me, on a weekly basis, roughly equivalent to a nice dinner out on the town for my wife Maralee and me, although truthfully some of our dinners out cost considerably more than that first year's weekly pledge amount. So, even though it felt like I was doing something worthwhile by contributing to the church, I also knew that the amount I was pledging wouldn't really hurt much,

*Continued on next page*

### *...Moderators View continued*

that I wouldn't really miss the money, and that if necessary we could just go out to dinner a little less often to free up that amount. And it felt right, too, because I knew that among the good works that First Congregational does with its annual giving is to share at least 10 percent of it with non-profit agencies that feed the hungry and in other ways answer the desperate needs of "the least of these" in Henderson County and elsewhere in the world.

What I anticipated about pledging was that it would commit me to doing more than just digging into my pocket or wallet during the offering and pulling out a reasonably-sized bill to put in the plate. First of all, that reasonably-sized bill is not usually as big as a fifty, thus not nearly enough to buy a nice dinner out. And also, what about those Sundays when I'm not in church? Would I pull out two fifties the next time, to make up for last week? Not likely. So, one of the things that pledging does is to keep me on track to reach the giving intention that I set for myself at the beginning of the year, so that I won't be disappointed with myself at year's end.

What I didn't anticipate about pledging was that it would make me feel more a part of the church, that my commitment to giving regularly would soon translate into a feeling of belonging, that I actually had a stake in the game and a role in the life of this church community and its involvement in the life and well-being of the larger community. Next thing I knew, I was in discussion groups and on one or two Ministries, and thus putting down church roots for practically the first time in this rolling stone's life. It was a slightly surprising but very nice feeling. I guess that's what Jesus was getting at when he said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." By investing my treasure here, my heart apparently followed! And my heart now wants this church to grow and succeed.

And as important as that is, perhaps even more important is something much harder to explain – that by committing myself to more consciously support the church and its good work, and by every year increasing my commitment, I am getting back something even more valuable – a growing sense of connectedness with others and of doing a little bit of God's work, of making progress towards living up to the standards that Jesus set for us in his teachings, including his exhortations that we treat others as we would like to be treated, and not worry too much about holding onto our treasure.

While I realize and readily confess that I am a long way from giving as much as I could, the more that I do give the better I feel, and the act of giving helps free me somewhat from materialistic concerns and helps express my sincere gratitude for all the good things in my life, including being a part of this community. So, while it's crucial, of course, to help keep First Congregational in the black, to pay the salaries, and keep the lights and the air-conditioning running, and the buildings and grounds well-maintained, and to continue the mission work of the church, it's even more crucial to give for the sake of giving, and for what it does for one's own soul. I've discovered, and am still learning, that giving purposefully is a commitment to living a more generous, more spiritual, less materialistic life, and thus a more meaningful and fulfilling one. And it feels surprisingly good. I hope you will think so too, especially those of you who may be new to pledging, as well as those of you who may be used to thinking of it as an obligation, rather than as a wonderful opportunity.

## MUSINGS FROM PASTOR MIKE

While Stewardship time is always an important and necessary part of church life, thinking about motivational moments (or musings!) and sermons sometimes becomes a struggle. I suppose this is because there is always a challenge to motivate members and guests on this topic in a relevant way that includes all walks of life. Perhaps it is quite appropriate then, for me to use Roger's column last year as a self-starter which will enable me to motivate all of you as well.

Roger said: "What I didn't anticipate about pledging was that it would make me feel more a part of the church, that my commitment to giving regularly would soon translate into a feeling of belonging, that I actually had a stake in the game and a role in the life of this church community and its involvement in the life and well-being of the larger community." I echo this. When I came as your Transitional/Intentional Interim I was mostly concerned with providing good leadership during the transition time. Little did I know that I would fall in love with this community, that I would feel very much a part of every one of you, and that First Congregational will be a part of my heart long after I am gone. Is it even possible to fall in love with a church? After six pastorates behind me, this is the only time this has happened! Thank God for her amazing gift!

With that in mind I am leading out to pledge to First Congregational for 2019. Although my pledge may extend beyond the borders of my tenure, I intend to faithfully complete it. Additionally, I am increasing my percentage over this year as well. Being surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, Roger included, I hear that God is still speaking.

Let's work toward a great 2019 for FCC as we commit our time, talents, and treasures.

Blessings,

Pastor Mike

## Church Council Highlights

### October, 2018



- ◇ The Compassionate Action Group presented a new banner for the church and an accompanying t-shirt. These were approved.
- ◇ Going forward, the church will be paying for and obtaining refreshments for coffee hour based on a dwindling number of volunteers.
- ◇ Council approved the Human Relations Ministry Charter.
- ◇ The Preliminary Budget for 2019 was approved at the October 7 Congregational Meeting.
- ◇ Council approved an expenditure of \$22,000 for the church roof. Final approval will take place at a Special Congregational Meeting to be scheduled. A project overview will be available in advance.
- ◇ The Stewardship Campaign is on track.
- ◇ The need for church members to be welcoming to visitors was re-emphasized.
- ◇ The need for more lay leaders was discussed and several suggestions made. If you are ready for a leadership role, please let a Council member know!
- ◇ Pastor Mike is in the last stage of his call from the UCC.
- ◇ Pastor Mike and John Parris attended the WNC Association of Southern Conference meeting on October 6. Both reported that it was very worthwhile. John has joined the Nominating Committee.
- ◇ We have collected \$900 so far from congregants donating to the UCC disaster relief fund in response to recent hurricanes. Drive ends October 14. The church, through Missions and Service, will match the gift.
- ◇ Preparation for the upcoming Ashley Lecture is going well. John Parris distributed posters for Council members to place around town.
- ◇ It was announced that our Hunger Walk total of over \$23,000 was our best ever! Many thanks to all who walked and/or pledged.

# BE THE CHURCH

*Protect the environment. Care for the poor.  
Forgive often. Reject racism.  
Fight for the powerless.  
Share earthly and spiritual resources.  
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.*

**DRUMROLL, PLEASE:** Ericka Fagerlin and our Hunger Walk March team **BROKE LAST YEAR'S RECORD!** Roy Harris (to whom this year's walk was dedicated) is bursting with joy, no doubt, at FCUCC's 2018 grand total: over \$23,000! We are confident that Ken Whitney will lead the 2019 team to another record-breaking success.

What a generous congregational response to the Missions and Service Hurricane Florence matching fund appeal, too! \$900 toward our \$1,000 pledge to the national UCC Disaster Relief Fund had been donated as of October 11. Recognizing that Hurricane Michael's wrath would intensify the already-urgent needs, we voted to increase the matching pledge to \$1,500, keeping the original deadline (October 14).

This month's allocations:

- \$750 to Mountain True – \$500 earmarked for one year of water sample analysis at Wash Creek (bordering our church property); \$250 for French Broad River bacteria monitoring project. <https://mountaintrue.org/> (Bob Miles, liaison)
- \$400 to Relentless – half earmarked for AIDS kits; half for Relentless training manual translation project. <https://gorelentless.org/> (Bob Miles, liaison)
- \$1,000 to Safelight – general operating fund. <http://safelightfamily.org/> (Claudia Schopper, liaison)

Visitor Kathlyn McConnell, representing Blue Ridge Health (<https://www.brchs.com/>), shared detailed facts and figures about the agency's impressive outreach services. She indicated that FCUCC support has underwritten healthcare access for 31 individuals in the past 5 years.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, November 8, 10 a.m. Join us!

# Focus on Forum

November 2018



## **November 4-** Reclaiming Death

Michele Skeelee

We often find it hard to have conversations about death, ours or a loved one's. But as we find ourselves in the midst of shifts in consciousness, we have an opportunity to be agents of change in our culture. Contemplating a "good death" can be an important aspect of living fully. We are empowered to create end-of-life experiences that enrich our families and communities. Our options to create meaning as we leave these bodies are as varied and rich as we are.

Additionally, sustainability, a practice which has become critical for our planet, is not usually considered when we die. With a little forethought, we can plan for burial with the Earth in mind. Green options are available if you know where to look. We can reclaim death-care as part of the circle of our families and communities. Michele Skeelee is a Therapeutic Music Practitioner, Home Funeral Guide with the Center for End of Life Transitions in Asheville, NC, and certified by the University of Vermont College of Medicine as an End of Life Doula. On the board of the WNC chapter of Funeral Consumers Alliance, a national advocacy organization, she is passionate about bringing death back into the circle of life.

She can be reached by email at [skeelee@morrisbb.net](mailto:skeelee@morrisbb.net).

## **November 11-** China Today: Observations and Perspectives

John Bodamer

China is the world's most populous country and has the second largest economy. The Chinese have made tremendous progress since the "opening" of their economy in 1979. Yet, despite this opening up, the Chinese Communist Party remains firmly in control. Both the economy and the political system remain a mystery for most of us. What happens next in China is sure to have a substantial impact on the global economy.

John and Karel recently toured China and Tibet. They will share highlights of their trip as well as their experiences with a focus on the individuals they met and talked with-in a few cases in their homes. Then switching from this bottom-up, grass roots perspective, John will discuss China from a macro-economic and geo-political perspective.

John is a long-time member of FCUCC and a lifelong learner with interests in history and economics. This will be his third Adult Forum presentation. Expect an interesting presentation that will hopefully fill in some blanks as well as raise new questions.

**November 18** - Getting to Know the New Sanctuary Organ

Mark Acker

This past spring, through the generous donations of many members and friends, the FCC sanctuary organ was renovated and expanded. We invite you to this forum to see and hear all the improvements, repairs, and new sounds in this new instrument. Mark Acker will demonstrate why the organ is called "The King of Instruments" and how our instrument was designed to enhance our worship each Sunday. Please join us for a fascinating hour!

*THIS FORUM WILL BE HELD IN THE SANCTUARY!!*

**November 25**-The Technical Side of Non-Proliferation

Don Emon

The various ways to produce nuclear weapons grade material and efforts by U.N. inspectors will be presented. This will allow the audience to better understand U.S. efforts with North Korea and Iran.

Presented by Don Emon who has been the speaker many times at our congregational Forums, Dr. Emon has a Ph.D in Nuclear Science and Engineering. He was a Branch Chief for Safeguards and Security for many years at the U.S. Department of Energy. He started working for the Atomic Energy Commission and had working relationships with other developing atomic energy research organizations. He has visited many facilities in foreign countries.

*The Forum, an informal adult education feature of our church, is held from 9:00 to 10:15 on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall (before the 10:30 service). All are welcome to attend. Contact the coordinators, Romella or Ed O'Keefe, ([edrookeefe@att.net](mailto:edrookeefe@att.net)) if you would like to present a topic or recommend a speaker. Remember: all points of view are welcome...No*

**Ministry of Financial Resources**

The MFR manages the financial affairs of the church in a fiscally responsible way by reviewing the financial activity, including spending and new requests, on a monthly basis. We provide financial counsel for projects initiated by the ministries. An important responsibility at this time of year is the annual Stewardship campaign, its plans and execution and then recommending an annual budget to the Church Council based on Stewardship results and input from the ministries. The theme this year is, "Together We Can Make a Difference". We hope you will join us with your pledge to make a difference. Our church can be proud of its allocation of 16 percent of the church's offerings to charity through our Missions and Service team.



Fellowship Supper  
Tuesday, November 13  
5:30 pm

November's Fellowship Supper is scheduled for the second Tuesday in the month, November 13th. The supper is a week earlier than usual due to Thanksgiving.

Meredith Maiolo, Music Therapist with Four Seasons Hospice Music Therapy Program, will present a program that will blend information about the profession of music therapy and stories from those who have received these services, as well as an opportunity to sit, relax, and experience the healing power of music.

Meredith writes "that having personally experienced how transformative music can be, I felt called to serve those with unique needs, specifically individuals approaching the end of their lives. I have been working as a board-certified music therapist for almost 2 years, primarily in hospice and bereavement work. Dietrich Bonhoeffer tells us, "Music will help dissolve your perplexities and purify your character and sensibilities, and in a time of care and sorrow, will keep a foundation of joy alive in you". Companionship those walking their final steps homeward has shown me that, through life's challenges and changes, music remains our constant friend."

This is the last Fellowship Supper for 2018. Social time begins at 5:30, supper will begin at 6:00 and the program will begin at 6:45. **Bring a dish to share plus your utensils, plate and a mug for coffee or tea.**

### December/January Chronicle

There will be a double issue of The Chronicle for the months of December/January. Please have your submissions emailed to the Administrator, Sheryl, at her email [sheryl@fcchendersonville.org](mailto:sheryl@fcchendersonville.org) by Tuesday, November 20th. Please be mindful of the length of your submissions so everyone may be included.

**“If you can use the word ‘suicide’ in a sentence, you can save a life.”**

This is the message of the Soul Shop training presented at First Congregational Church on Sunday, September 30. If you missed it, the training will be offered again on Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 am to 11:30 am. We will also be inviting all faith communities in Hendersonville.

Suicidal desperation touches thousands of people in Henderson County who are impacted by deaths, self-injuries, anxiety for loved ones, and unrelenting suicidal thoughts. Due to the stigma surrounding suicide, most suffer alone. We can companion those who are suffering and protect our own lives as well by remembering our CALL to join Jesus in healing the brokenhearted.

**Commit** – If you ever find yourself considering suicide, COMMIT that you will tell someone who can help you.

**Ask** - If someone you know gives signs that they are at risk ASK them a question like, “Does it ever get so bad that you start thinking about suicide?”

**Listen** - Listen to them tell you how they began thinking about suicide with a question like “Tell me how suicide first became part of your thinking.”

**Lead-** Put them in touch with someone trained to evaluate their risk. One resource is the national hotline: 1-800-273-TALK.

Pastor Mike Cleland puts it this way: *“Being able to have a conversation about suicide, and to show empathy while doing so, may make the difference whether someone moves to the Second Day. I heartily endorse this ministry and believe clergy, church laypersons, and community leaders can benefit greatly.”* Stay tuned for more information.

## **PRAYER LIST**

*(alphabetical order by last name)*

Agudas Israel Congregation

Grace Berray

David Conner

Cheryl Crosby (friend of Kevin & Joyce Tierney)

Sue Easton

Mildred Gardner

Donna Gross

Sherry Haagenon

Ellen Honea

Mike Kirkman

Barbara Kohan

Gary Lowder

Anna Marie McCracken (great granddaughter of Bob & Dottie Koopman)

Jack Niemiec (friend of Kevin & Joyce Tierney)

Dell Orr

John Parris' family and friends

Joady Perrett

Ingrid Perry

John Sams

Diane Swift

Victoria Tatum

Eve Teerlinck

Lynn Thiel

Bud Werdelin (friend of Kevin & Joyce Tierney)



*Thank you for letting us know of people who need to be added to our prayer list as well as those that are ready to be taken off.*



**The FCUCC Book Club** The FCC Bookclub will meet on November 13th at 2pm in the church library to select the books for 2019. All interested in submitting their favorite titles should bring one of two choices. We will vote on 10 to be read and discussed next year. There will be no meeting in December.

## *Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner*

(sponsored this year by Metropolitan Community Church - MCC)



You and your guests are invited to join with your congregational family  
In sharing our joys and celebration in

### **The Feast of Thanksgiving**

There are so many blessing to be deeply thankful for and there is no better way to share in our  
bounty than by spending this time together.

We invite you to bring Thanksgiving poems, writings and stories that we will share during our  
time together.

Thursday, November 22<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00

In the Fellowship Hall

Signup sheet is at the reception desk. Please let us know by November 15th.

If you have any questions you may contact

Hilarie Glasgow-Hawkins 828-388-1889

## Human Relations Ministry

During its work in this time of change, the Transition Leadership Team (TLT), working closely with the Search Team, came to realize that we needed a more structured approach in supporting and nurturing both the paid staff and the lay leadership of our church. This will be even more important as we continue to grow in both attendance and the number of active groups and ministries.

With that recognition, we developed a new group, called the Human Relations Ministry (HRM). This ministry will work to develop caring, appreciative, and compassionate support systems for both the staff and lay leadership, using the guidance of a new Charter document. On the next page of this issue of the Chronicle is a Summary statement of the main concepts of the HRM and Charter and how and why they came into being.

The Church Council has approved the HRM and the Charter, and it will be authorized in the Bylaws. In the near future, we'll be giving you more information about this important new step in how we take care of our church leaders.

### Transition Leadership Team

Mark Fagerlin and Ed Argue, Co-chairs, Mark Acker, Ann Allen, Nancy Irving, Nancy Keswani, Dawn Kucera, Judith Nourse, Joady Perrett



# HUMAN RESOURCES MINISTRY

## CHARTER SUMMARY SHEET

### WHY

#### Major catalysts for the HRM

Request from Search Team for a document ensuring care of pastoral staff and the lay leadership, to show to candidates.

Realization that the Parish Advisory Council (PAC) was not in position to execute all the needs for supporting personnel within the church.

TLT feeling that the growing size/activity level of the church required a more nurturing approach.

### WHO

Establishes a five-person group of church members imbued with wisdom, compassion and objectivity, and potentially some with experience in personnel management. The team will be:

Five members elected to two-year terms each. Two will be elected in even-numbered years, three will be elected in odd-number years.

The HRM members will select the chair of the committee.

The HRM chair will be a voting member of the Church Council.

### WHAT

The Charter establishes the HRM to support the paid church staff and to promote the appreciation and well-being of the lay leadership.

Among these tasks are:

- Conduct gentle, compassionate, regular conversations with the paid church staff to ensure that they are thriving both personally and professionally. This is divided into two sections:
  - ◇ Job Wellness Discussions – Where the staff member self-assesses about the joys and frustrations of the job, sets goals for her/himself, and checks in on self-care. This is guided by a series of questions that will be re-visited with the HRM on a regular basis – to ensure the staff members know they are being heard. A guideline for these questions is in Appendix A.
  - ◇ Job Accountability Discussions – Where the HRM reviews the work of the staff person (the Pastor, and in collaboration with the Pastor, other staff members). A series of questions related to areas of affirmation and areas needing attention will guide the discussion. A guideline for these questions is in Appendix B.

Pay careful attention to the well-being of the lay leadership, and initiate programs that promote visibility and appreciation

The Bylaws establish the authority of the HRM. The Charter is intended to provide a broad outline of its responsibilities. It is not intended to be the detailed operating manual.

# MISSIONS AND SERVICE CORNER

By: Claudia Schopper, Missions & Service Facilitator

Missions & Service reserves a portion of our budget to match donations made by the congregation. This year \$6500 has been set aside. Each year, Mission's members thoroughly review each organization that receives donations to be sure that the values of our church are reflected in that organization's goals.

The list of pre-approved charitable organizations that have been reviewed is posted on the Missions and Service Bulletin Board, which is located in the hallway. Each member of the congregation will be limited to \$500 in donations to encourage more members to participate.

Any member of the congregation, who would like to contribute to an organization that is not on the list, will provide the Mission's facilitator with evidence and reasons that the church should support that organization. Contact Claudia for the form you will need for submitting this information. The intent is to ensure that the church is donating to charitable organizations that are consistent with the mission of the church and that most of the funds will be directed to programs that serve people in need, rather than paying for administrative costs.

The Missions & Service group asks for the understanding and cooperation of the congregation in the matching funds process. Donations to pre-approved organizations will be matched starting November 18, 2018 and conclude in mid-December. The exact ending date will depend on donations from the congregation and will be announced during a Sunday service. Checks should be made out to FCUCC, with the organization's name written on the memo line.

Charitable donations from the congregation have been a meaningful way for the church to contribute to agencies that assist those in need. We look forward to continuing this tradition and encourage members of the congregation to participate.

Contact Claudia during Coffee Hour or by e-mail at [cschopper1@gmail.com](mailto:cschopper1@gmail.com) if you have any questions.



**Time to change your clocks!** Daylight savings time ends Sunday, November 4th at 2 a.m. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 3rd!



## HUNGER WALK WRAP UP

Considering that Team FCUCC raised **\$23,338** in this year's Hunger Walk, I think our Walker Appreciation Dinner was extremely well deserved!

But the walkers and sponsors weren't the only ones I owe thanks to...

Dona Tyler, our Hunger Coalition liaison, talked me through the Hunger Walk steps from beginning to end. Sincere thanks to Sheryl Tellier, who made sure all my articles and notices got into all our publications at the right time and to Nancy Keswani and Stephanie Lowder for posting updates on Facebook and the FCUCC website.

Not only did Karel Bodamer take our group photo, but she took a myriad of shots on everyone else's cameras! Big thanks to Dawn Kucera for also taking pictures and compiling the list of professionals and businesses and to Steve Hogenboom for inserting them in the church bulletin.

There would have been no Appreciation Dinner if it weren't for Sammye Whitney, who answered my frantic call for help organizing and preparing for it and to Ken Whitney for providing the beverages. Incidentally, the proceeds from the bar added \$78 to our Hunger Walk total!

A very "sweet" thank you to Pamela Federlein, Jean Raymond, Claudia Schopper, Doreen Kinsey, and Joan Nobling who brought luscious creations for dessert and to all the many hands who helped with the cleanup.

I'll always be grateful to Roy Harris, who has been my mentor and inspiration, Mark Fagerlin who put up with me throughout this whole process, and all of you for your support, encouragement, and words of praise.

My saving-the-best-for-last thank you goes to Ken Whitney who has stepped forward to be our 2019 Hunger Walk Coordinator. He will be great!

Ericka Fagerlin  
Chairperson

## USHER IN THE ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON

Sunday, November 25th - Handel's "Messiah" sing-along. This event is held at the First United Methodist Church. You can come sing, play an instrument in the orchestra, or just come and listen. This is a community event, and is sponsored by the Henderson County Churches Uniting. Mark Acker will be the conductor.

2:00 pm - Rehearsal for those who are singing

3:00 pm - Presentation of "Messiah"

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If you love flowers and seeing them in the church, please consider joining the flower committee. We are in need of several volunteers to help. You can pick your Sundays and your flowers and will be reimbursed for expenses. No experience is necessary. Contact Joanne Kimmell (email [jokimmell@morrisbb.net](mailto:jokimmell@morrisbb.net) or call 891-9816). You will enjoy creating your own arrangements and we would love to have your assistance.

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### **IAM INTERFAITH ASSISTANCE MINISTRY**

Join IAM for the Warmth of Home Concert  
Monday, November 5th at the Flat Rock Playhouse Downtown

125 S. Main Street, Hendersonville

5:30 - 6:30: Heavy Hors d'oeuvres Reception

Concert begins at 6:30 pm

Seating is \$35 per person.

Call IAM 697-7029 or visit [iam-hc.org](http://iam-hc.org) to reserve a seat

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Seventh Annual

## HOLIDAY COOKIE SALE

Saturday, December 8, 2018, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.



The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookie Sale buzz is beginning! Excitement is growing about this special sale, which raises money for the Needs of the Church fund. Themed Gift Baskets will be raffled and the items included in the baskets will pleasantly surprise the winners.

There will be a Holiday Café open for guests to sip complimentary beverages while enjoying eating cake and listening to holiday music. A selection of fair-trade coffees, teas, cocoa and candy will be available for sale. There is something for everyone!

The sign-up sheets for the cookie bakers will be found in the reception area. If you are willing to make one, two, or more batches of cookies, **YOU ARE NEEDED** to make this year's sale spectacular! PLEASE no chocolate chip cookies or brownies. From past sales, it has been learned, that customers would prefer Holiday Cookies. (Recipes may be copied from the Holiday Cookie Recipe Book found with the sign-up sheets.)

Label your cookies and bring them to the Fellowship Hall on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup> or Saturday, before noon, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Do not wrap the cookies, as they will be plated. Label containers with your name and the name of the cookies. If you make the cookies ahead of the above dates, the church freezer is available.

The money in the Needs of the Church fund has recently been used to purchase new cook-tops for the kitchen, material for the picture hanging gallery in the hallway, a TV for the choir room, forty chairs for the choir room, a new chair for the Church Administrator, two coffee urns for the kitchen and a desk-top copier for the reception area.

So, cookies are needed to make this sale a success. If you would be willing to help on December 7<sup>th</sup> and/or 8<sup>th</sup>, please contact Claudia Schopper, chairperson, at 697-1569 or [cschopper1@gmail.com](mailto:cschopper1@gmail.com).

Birthdays - November 2018

- 1: John Sams
- 2: Linda McFadden
- 4: Wes Simmons
- 11: Walter Larsen
- 15: Marion Chase
- 17: Mireille Soss
- 19: Nicholas Pence
- 25: Anna Helfand
- 26: Tom Kimmell
- 27: Anne Rutledge Thomas
- 28: John Walters
- 28: Luther Dowdy
- 28: Judith Nourse
- 29: Marilyn McComas
- 29: Jeannie Stewart
- 30: Matt Henderly
- 30: Estelle Taylor
- 30: Trish LaGrange

Anniversaries - November 2018

- 7: Emery Gill & Joel Matthews
- 20: Jim & Victoria Tatum

## November Lectionary

### **Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost November 4**

Ruth 1:1-8 • Ps 146 or

Deut 6:1-9 • Ps 119:1-8

Heb 9:11-14

Mk 12:28-34

**Wherever You Go**

### **Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost November 11**

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17 • Ps 127 or

I Kings 17:8-16 • Ps 146

Heb 9:24-28

Mk 12:38-44

**Risk and Restoration**

### **Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost November 18**

I Sam 1:4-20 • I Sam 2:1-10 or

Daniel 12:1-3 • Ps 16

Heb 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25

Mk: 13:1-8

**Praise the Holy One**

### **Reign of Christ November 25**

2 Sam 23:1-7 • Ps 132:1-12, (13-18) or

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 • Ps 93

Rev 1:4b-8

Jn 18:33-37

**A Wise Reign**

## **ATTENDANCE**

Worship	Sunday School
10/7: 155	5
10/14: 146:	5
10/21: 155	5
10/28: 160	

Average Worship Attendance:: 154

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**Next Chronicle deadline is November 20**

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An Open and Affirming Congregation