

****From Our Members****

Keep In Prayer

**Donna W Ellie J Eugene K Pat B
Dot S Izzy R Carol J Helen P**

Congratulations to **Rebecca Schild and Jordan Jenks** who were married June 23, 2018 in the church by Rev. Chasney.



Our sympathy to **Helen Payne** on the death of her sister, Josephine McQuain, August 19, 2018 in Parkersburg, West Virginia. Helen's little dog, Foxy, died August 22 following an accident on Monroe St.

Thursday Evening Worship, 6:30pm
Sunday Morning Worship, 10:00 am

Lead Usher for September: Terry Meyers

Sunday, September 2, worship begins at 10:00 am.

Sunday, September 9 we will return to the sanctuary and celebrate with Communion

Health Ministries will be taking blood pressures after worship on Sept. 9

Worship Sponsors, for the week of:

Sept. 2 – Eloise Horn, in memory of Walter Horn

Sept. 9 – Penny & Randy Sparks, in memory of Jason Sparks

Sept. 16 – Becky Sparks, in celebration of September birthdays

Sept. 23 – Ruggles Families, in memory of Verna Ruggles

Sept 30 – Dan Mack, with hope for a safe harvest

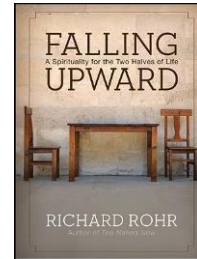
Thank you to all our sponsors!

Suggested donation of \$5 goes toward our Local Mission fund.

Carriage House: Pastor Wayne leads worship at the Carriage House on the third Sunday of the month, 1:30pm

All Church Read: "Falling Upward" by Richard Rohr

Most of us tend to think of the second half of life as largely about getting old, dealing with health issues, and letting go of life, but the whole thesis of this book is exactly the opposite. What looks like falling down can largely be experienced as "falling upward." In fact, it is not a loss but somehow actually a gain, as we have all seen with elders who have come to their fullness. (from Amazon.com)



Get your copy today. Some copies are available at the library and Pastor Wayne has a few copies to borrow. Our first discussion will be Thursday, Sept. 27, 7:15pm. This book is a good read no matter where you are on life's journey.

**COUNT YOUR
BLESSINGS.
NAME THEM ONE BY ONE.
COUNT YOUR
MANY BLESSINGS
SEE WHAT GOD HAS DONE.**

Financial Report
July 2018

Income

Building	\$718
Christian Ed.	\$0
Current	\$6368
Local Mission	\$19
Non Food Bank	\$23

Expenses

Building	\$0
Christian Ed.	\$0
Current	\$4858
Local Mission	\$100
Non Food Bank	\$190

Account Balances

American Legion	\$2333
Building	\$1576
Christian Ed.	\$1147
Current	\$257
Local Mission	\$930
Memorials	\$2668
Non Food Bank	\$11,526
Youth Fell.	\$3827

Reserves

American Funds (5/14)	\$48,196
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CELEBRATE! It has been a long time since we ended the month of July with a positive balance in our Current account. Thank you to everyone who supports the ongoing ministry of the church. Through all our gifts we are truly making a difference in our community and our world.

A full financial report is available upon request.

**Come and join with us,
To know God,
To share God's love,
And to serve God together!**



****Mission and Ministries****

2018 Mission Focus: CLI Inc.

Community Garden

Help yourself to tomatoes, peppers, beans and, hopefully soon, corn.

This has been another wonderful outreach into the community that has gotten people talking about our church.

Community Lunch

Friday, September 21 between 11:30 and 1:00.

Sloppy Joes and Macaroni Salad

This is a free community meal for fellowship and to support CLI Inc.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!

Non Food Bank

Next Date: September 19, 9:00am to 2:00pm

We are collecting toothpaste

In August we served 183 households and gave away 98 brand new children's books to kids as the head back to school!

Little Free Library – Take a Book, Give a Book

Keep checking out the LFL as the books change week by week. We are thankful for those who take a book and those who leave a book. Tell your friends and share your favorite reads!

Christian Education

On the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, Christian Ed will be offering learning and growing activities for children and their families after worship in the North Room. This fall we will be looking at "God and Goodnight Moon: Finding Spirituality in Storybooks for Children." Each session will look at a favorite children's book and have a brief activity for children and families. Everyone is welcome to come and take part as we encourage our children to grow in faith.

If you have any of the following books, could we borrow them?

Brother Eagle, Sister Sky	God's Paintbrush
Goodnight Moon	Guess How Much I Love You
The Hello, Goodbye Window	Kitten's First Full Moon
The Patchwork Quilt	The Runaway Bunny
The Snowy Day	Stranger in the Woods
This Land Is Your Land	What's Wrong With Timmy

The Neighbors in Need offering, which we will receive on Oct. 7, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through ucc.org/justice, our national Justice and Witness Ministries office offers resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice.

Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hocak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.

Neighbors in Need helps make A Just World Possible for All.

For this to occur, it needs your support.

Please give generously. And remember, contributions to Neighbors in Need can be made online anytime:

ucc.org/nin

September's Noisy Offering will go to Neighbors In Need

**Monroeville Congregational Community United Church
of Christ**

Council Minutes of August 8th 2018

Present: Becky Sparks, Scott Horn, Brian Sparks, Terry Meyers, Wayne Chasney, Shane Zehnder

Wayne opened with prayer; all repeated the mission statement.

June Council Minutes were reviewed by Council Members. Scott motioned to accept the minutes as read, Brian second the motion.

Pastor's Report: The Remember Our Fallen event will be at the Monroeville High School August 17 through the 19th. Wayne will attend this events opening and closing ceremonies.

The Monroeville's Pot Luck and Prayer Service during the Sesquicentennial Celebration is scheduled for September 9th at 12:15. Wayne will not be available to attend. Terry will represent our congregation by reading one of the opening prayers.

During Thursday night August 23rd worship our church will be hosting Missionary Visitor Rev. Loren McGrail, who serves in Palestine/Israel. We will be inviting St. Johns UCC along with other local congregations to attend worship that night.

Average worship attendance in June was 50.5 and July was 42.2.

Treasurer's Report: We ended the month of July \$256.00 to the good, mostly due to CLI's rent money. We will continue to place the parsonage rent in the Building Account.

Brian motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as read, Shane second the motion.

Mission Committee: Will meet August 9th

Christian Education: Will meet sometime in August

Welcoming/ONA/A2A: We received our certificate

Non Food Bank: August 15th there will be a children's Book giveaway. Non Food Bank received donations from 1st Presbyterian, St. Vincent de Paul, Laudato Si, Youth Grant Making Council, Oxlan Homemakers, Fireland's Electric Co-op, Norwalk Area Food Bank. Wayne will have speaking engagements regarding the Non Food Bank at Oxlan Homemakers and Norwalk Rotary.

Building: Parking lot has been resurfaced, still need to address the corrosion on the boiler pipes, front steps need repaired and repainted. Paint for the front steps will be paid for from the Verna Ruggles Memorial. The Ruggles Family has offered to take care of the painting.

Other Business: All church read – "Falling Upward" written by Richard Rohr \$13.56

Discussed Online/Mobile Giving through Vanco Payment Solutions. Council decided against it.

Discussed another church t-shirt. No interest at this time.

Fall Stewardship Theme Materials needed. Wayne found them available for download from UCC Resources at a cost of \$39.95. Scott motioned to spend the money for the materials, Shane second the motion.

Next Council Meeting September 12th.

Minutes submitted by Shane Zehnder

From the Pastor

Do you sometimes find yourself getting discouraged and upset at the state of the world today? We live in a world of political division and social and cultural chaos. Globally, we face the greatest refugee crisis in history and we continue to fight wars that seem to have no end. Anger, distrust and hate seem to be the rule of the day. Now are you discouraged?

One way we fend off the discouragement and nurture a sense of hope is with a strong spiritual foundation. In our faith stories we see God's presence in moments of crisis and upheaval, from the exodus through the growth of the early church. As we grow theologically, we discover deeper meaning in everything we do, far beyond the superficial façade of much of our world. As we open ourselves to God's will we find courage to confront the struggles of each day and the strength to hold our heads high and stand up for what is right.

However, this spiritual foundation doesn't just happen. While we are born with a longing to connect deeply with God, that connection has to be nurtured and grown. It takes work on the part of each one of us to grow theologically and find the deeper meaning of life in this world.

Worship is an important place to start. In worship, hearing the scriptures, singing the songs of faith, offering prayers and praise and our gifts, we open ourselves to that deeper connection with God through Jesus Christ. But even there, effort is needed. We have to actively engage with each other and what we are doing. And we must work to actively listen to the words spoken, asking how the different ideas fit into our own views of faith.

Our Christian Education is committed to starting children on the path toward a deeper spiritual foundation. The opportunities after Sunday worship for kids is one way to impress upon them the importance of growing their faith.

This fall I am also encouraging everyone to read, "Falling Upward" by Richard Rohr (see the synopsis elsewhere in this newsletter). The language may seem strange for those who haven't spent time thinking about their spirituality, but most of the people I've talked to who read the book told me they were thankful for lessons it taught.

The church exists to serve God's kingdom and carry on the ministry of Jesus. But for each of us to take part in that work requires some effort and openness on our part. We have to actively build a relationship with God. It won't "just happen."

When we do, while the world can still be a discouraging place, it will not overwhelm us and we will still be able to live in hope.

Pastor Wayne

Fisher-Titus Medical Center Health Ministry Program

Healthy Habits-Newsletter/ Bulletin Insert
September 2018

According to the website fruits and veggies matter more, 90% of adults and children do not get the recommended amounts of fruits and vegetables a day. There suggestion is to fill half your plate at each meal, as well as snacks with fruits or vegetables. Countable fruits and vegetables are fresh, frozen, canned, dried or 100% juice. A note to remember is that dried fruits and juices can be highly packed with calories. Fresh, frozen or canned in no added sugar or salt is best.

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” Romans 12:21