

**First Congregational United Church of Christ
Sunday, September 29, 2019
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**



Every member is a minister in the community

Greg Briggs, Interim Pastor Leah Dice, Office Manager
Roger Waters, Music Minister Shelley Fisher, Music Minister
Lynette Webb, Childcare Supervisor Larry Minch, Custodian

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www.chxucc.org * Email: office@chxucc.org

Pastor Greg: pastor@chxucc.org, * 616.283.2971 cell

Office Hours 9 a.m.— 3:30 p. m. Mon—Thurs

Welcome to our church family!

You are invited to join us today for refreshments in our Fellowship Hall following the worship service. If you are a guest, please feel free to use the welcome cards available in the pew and place in the offering plate.

(indicates that all who would like and are able are invited to stand. **Bolded** text is to be read by the entire congregation. Traditional unison prayers are in italics and are also read in unison.)*

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Words of Welcome, Announcements, and Signing of the Fellowship Pads
Ringing of the Steeple Bell and the Lighting of the Candles

PRELUDE A Meditation on "O God Our Help In Ages Past" By Mark Albrecht

INTROIT Come to the Music ~ Joseph M. Martin

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul;

All: I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

One: Do not put your trust in worldly rulers,

All: For they are temporary, their plans will fall apart.

One: Happy are those whose help and hope is in God,

All: For God made heaven and earth, and all living things.

One: God executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry,

All: God sets the prisoners free, and opens the eyes of all.

One: God watches over those on the margins, the strangers, the widows and orphans;

All: And God will reign forever. Praise the Lord!

* **GATHERING HYMN #432** As Water to the Thirsty

* THE MORNING PRAYER

Holy One, we have brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it. May we live with this humility and rootedness especially when we feel trapped: grounded in fear, eager to run away, longing for more riches and power.

In the silence, may we be still and center on Your light

Where generosity and sharing ebb and flow.

This is Life that is really Life.

Pause in silence

* **ALLELUIA #736** Celtic Alleluia

WE PRAISE GOD AND GIVE THANKS THROUGH OUR GIVING

Invitation

Offertory Grace, Arranged by Mark Hayes

* Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

(Reminder, we are singing new doxologies for the next few Sundays)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

ANTHEM How Can I Keep From Singing, Arranged by Gwyneth Walker

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Page 1850

Luke 16:19-31

Page 1626

THE MESSAGE

Interim Pastor Greg Briggs

* **HYMN OF REFLECTION** #113 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

* **GOD'S PEOPLE IN PRAYER**

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith (see next page)

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Prayer of our Savior

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

* **HYMN OF PARTING** #438 On Eagle's Wings

* **BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE "Let us Talents and Tongues Employ" Arr. Annie Krentz, Organ

WORSHIP RESOURCES USED TODAY:

- Cover Art— Photo by Matt Collamer on Unsplash <https://unsplash.com/photos/8UG90AYPDW4>
- Call to worship —Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell <http://rev-o-lution.org>
- Morning Prayer—Worship Ways - Ashley Goff - <https://www.uccfiles.com/rtf/ww092919.rtf>
- Doxology #781 New Century Hymnal, Pilgrim Press

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith—adapted by Robert V. Moss

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, who is made known to us in Jesus our brother, and to whose deeds we testify:

God calls the worlds into being, creates humankind in the divine image, and sets before us the ways of life and death.

God seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

God judges all humanity and all nations by that will of righteousness declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, God has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the whole creation to its Creator.

God bestows upon us the Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

God calls us into the church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be servants in the service of the whole human family, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

God promises to all who trust in the gospel forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, the presence of the Holy Spirit in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in that kingdom which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto God.

Amen.

In the United Church of Christ, we generally believe in “Testimonies, not Tests, of Faith.” There is no single unifying creed that all members of a United Church of Christ must affirm to be a member. So this statement of faith is a testimony of the faith and beliefs of those who came together in 1959 to form the United Church of Christ. We hope that you find it inspiring and faith stirring.

Photo Directory

One of the great features of our church software program is that it can auto-generate church photo directories. Now that contact information has been updated, we are ready to start collecting pictures. You can get your photo added one of two ways

~Taken at church - Don Smith will be taking photographs of people during fellowship hour in October.

~Email us your picture – if you have a picture of you and/or your family doing something you love, email it to office@chxuucc.org. Please be sure to include the names of everyone in the photo.



John Warsler Sunday October 6, 2019

We will welcome John Warsler as our guest musician on World Communion Sunday, October 6.

He is an acoustic instrumentalist who performs traditional hymns in an easy listening style on vintage instruments. In his own words, “It is my hope that the music can put your mind and heart in a good place.”

He will have CDs available for purchase after worship.

We will be welcoming Jacob Atem, PhD. MPH, as our guest preacher on October 13, 2019.

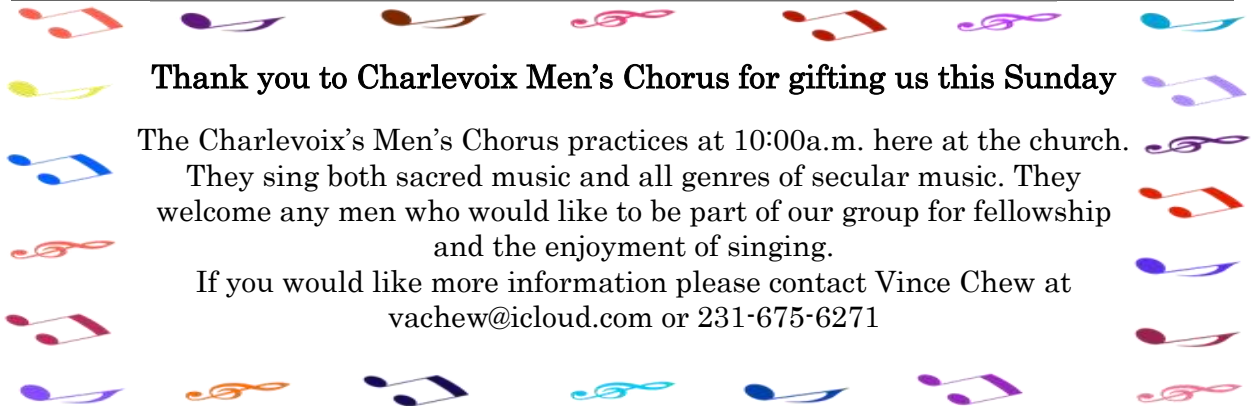
Jacob is the Co-founder of South Sudan Healthcare Organization and will give a presentation about his life and work in the fellowship hour after worship.

“My life as a Lost Boy gave me the experience and drive to help displaced people around the world.”
-Jacob Atem



www.jacobatem.com

Sunday 09/29	Mon 09/30	Tues. 10/01	Wed. 10/02	Thurs. 10/03	Fri. 10/04	Sat. 10/05	Sunday 10/06
9:00 am First Light Service	5:15pm Church Council Meeting	10:00am Bible Study At American House			10:00am Men's Chorus Practice	8:30am Crop Walk	9:00 am First Light Service
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship	6:00 pm Baby Diaper Pantry & Personal Care Pantry	6:15pm Search Committee Meeting		7:00pm. Choir Practice			10:30am Sanctuary Worship
Notice: The Annual Election Meeting will take place October 20th, at the church, after worship. Please plan on attending to elect church leaders							World Communion Sunday
							Christian Ed



Thank you to Charlevoix Men's Chorus for gifting us this Sunday

The Charlevoix's Men's Chorus practices at 10:00a.m. here at the church. They sing both sacred music and all genres of secular music. They welcome any men who would like to be part of our group for fellowship and the enjoyment of singing.

If you would like more information please contact Vince Chew at vachew@icloud.com or 231-675-6271

Gifts of Serving

THIS WEEK
SEPTEMBER 29TH

NEXT WEEK
October 6th

GREETERS/USHER:

Ron and Linda Moore

Jim & Carol Major

COFFEE HOUR:

Diaconate

Mike & Maryann Ogden

LAY READER:

Julia Heddle

Alice Pletz-Miller

Altar Flowers:

Lucy Witthoeft
*In Memory of Ivan, my church Family and
Crop Walk*

Alice Pletz-Miller

**Bulletin
Sponsorship:**

Bruce & Joyce Herbert

Julia Heddle

PRAISE AND PRAYER REQUEST LIST

Healing Diagnosed with Cancer	Rev. Ginny Titus Jan Smith Loretta Hasley (Julia Heddle) Don Wadlund (Bill Wadlund) Ted Dumbauld Jack Lehmkuhl Robert Rowe Ruby Hayward Tina Bowen	Michelle James Evelyn Schwartz (continued healing) Ann Chappelle Olsen (Alice P.M.) Donna Waters Jill Ostrum (Alice P.M.) Elaine Drury (MaryAnn Chew) Brody Roberts Amber Theriault (Lani Ochs)
Healing	Rev. Leroy Sutfin Donna Waters Marty Merz Betsy Teeuwissen Anne Banfield Verna Truman Mira Hobson Robin Messing Carol Mackenzie Caitlyn Cruzak (John Young)	John McKown Tyler Steffey Jerry Corley Judy Willey Aurora Sargent Brook Bixby (Gay Kiteley) Connie Doan (Chris Gengle) Chris Kenney (Betty Renton) John Peterman Amy Meyer (Alice P.M.)
Prayer	For our congregation Immigrants and Refugees Faith Leaders and World Leaders Victims of Natural Disasters	Those living with Mental Illness Susan Denomy (Betty Wadland) Jarrett Frye Sharon Himebaugh
Prayer	U.C.C. Church of the Month	First Congregational UCC—Benzonia Pastor Patty Higgins
Grieving	Family of Ken Wojan Jr. Family of Dana Gibbons-Amley	Family of Rev. Edwin Remaly
Military	Joshua Wojan Wesley Moulden SGT Ian Tompkins SFC Alex Weller	SGT Adam Soldan Captain David Knowles Jr. EMN3 Cary Tompkins (Linda Moore)

Please be sure to sign any Care Letters in the vestibule outside the Sanctuary. This is a tangible way to share our care, concern, and love with those who could use it.

Worship Attendance September 22 ~ First Light Service: 06 Sanctuary Service: 68
Bible Study, September 24 – 07

To reduce costs until church giving catches up to pledges, we've started printing the bulletins in black and white. This will save us over \$200 a month. You can help out by catching up on your pledge if you are behind on your giving. Thank you!

