



1st Congregational UCC

Opening the Doors of Possibility

An Open & Affirming Church



Sunday, January 18, 2026

(Jan/Feb Reaching Out Focus: Affordable Housing Initiative)

FAN

or

FOLLOWER



**"If any of you wants to be my follower,
you must give up your own way,
take up your cross daily, and follow Me."**

- Luke 9:23

Welcome to our church family!

Gathering Music

Tolling of the Bell - our reminder to quiet ourselves inside *and* out for worship

Welcome

Opening Hymn - #552 “We Are All One in Mission”(v. 1, 2, & 4)

1st Scripture Readings - John 3:1-15 & Mark 14:32-50

Music for Reflection

2nd Scripture Reading - Mark 15:33-16:8

Morning Message - “Living the Story as Followers”
Offered by Toby Jones

Message Hymn - #551 “As a Fire is Meant for Burning”

Offering

Choral Offertory - “Here I Am, Lord”

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Her above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost, Amen*

Morning Prayers

Congregational Response: “God, help us live this dream into being”

Closing Hymn - #574 “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

Choral Benediction

Postlude



Annual CONGREGATIONAL Meeting

immediately after service
to approve budget for 2026

JAN | 25th | 2026



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CharleVOICES: “In a Pickle”

February 20, 2026
1st Congregational UCC

Call for Storytellers

Have you ever found yourself stuck, cornered, or caught in a situation with no easy way out?

“In A Pickle” invites true, personal stories about those moments when life left you brined in uncertainty - emotionally, morally, relationally, or hilariously.

What We’re Looking For:

- True, personal stories (no fiction)
- Honest moments of tension, humor, insight, or growth
- Stories that reveal something human and relatable

What to Know:

- Stories are told live on stage
- Five storytellers will be chosen
- Stories will be chosen to include a variety of tales
- Story length should be 8-10 minutes and told, not read from a page.

You don’t need to be a performer - if you’ve lived it, you can tell it. Contact Betty Wadland at (231) 330-5441 to submit a story idea, or for more information. Please be sure to leave a message.

Sunday 1/18	Mon 1/19	Tues 1/20	Wed 1/21	Thurs 1/22	Fri 1/23	Sat 1/24	Sunday 1/25
10:30a Worship	6p Personal Pantry	10a Prayer Group	12p Lunch n Learn	6:30p Choir Rehearsal		12p GLCO Auditions	10:30a Worship
11:30a Coffee & Conversation <i>Hosted by Suzanne Balter</i>							11:30a Coffee & Conversation <i>Potluck Collaboration</i>
11:45a Church Council Meeting							11:45a Trustees Meeting

**Prayer Requests/
Celebrations:** To submit a
Prayer Request
please visit our website at
chxuucc.org or call the office
at 231-547-9122

Please be sure to get
permission from the person
needing prayers.

Please pray for the peaceful resolution of the division in this country, and the respectful and dignified treatment of all people in America.

Please pray for the peaceful resolution of the crisis in Iran.

Please continue to pray for Linda Weller and her family as they cope with the passing of her father, Earl Bennett.

Please continue to pray for Ron & Linda Moore as Linda recovers from surgery due to a broken arm.



Hosted by:

Suzanne Balter



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*Toby Jones, Pastor * Shelley Fisher, Music Minister
Stacey Luoma, Office Manager
Lynette Webb, Childcare Supervisor*

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