

1st UCC News

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 06- Gretchen Hoffman & Layne Paviol

February 08- Linda Leshner & John Wert

February 10- Christopher Schwab

February 11- Bonnie Gutshall

February 12- Georgann Bailey & Cara Karper

February 13- Dorothy Coady

February 15- Brian Gish & Rachel Kramer

February 16- Ann Shatzer & Alice Schoffstall

February 17- Richard Burkholder & Caroline Makibin

February 19- Darwin Reich &

Darlene Whisel

February 20- Hans Kramer

February 22- Eric Bonshock

February 23- Donna Hale

February 24- Lynn Schultz

February 26- Jonathan Roley

February 27- Jonathan Roley & Dallas Bailey

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Linda Rutz- February 18



February



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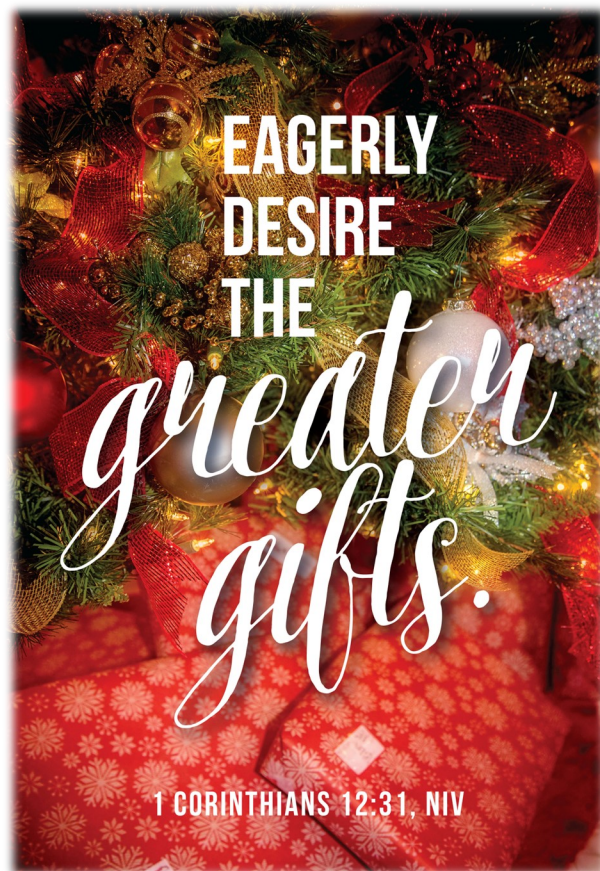
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Anyone who is interested in participating in Adopt a Family each year, reach out to Lyndsey (Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org) in October to be included in the preparation.

Adopt a Family for Christmas

Thank you to everyone who contributed their money and time to the Adopt a Family Project this year! We were able to raise \$1,700 and helped 5 families with 17 kids.

Thank you all for your wonderful kindness! One of the greatest gifts in life is to give to others. These families felt incredibly blessed to receive such a lovely gift from 1st UCC!



KEEP ON THE SUNNY SIDE

When Jesus Calls: You Answer

In the Gospel of Matthew 4:18-22 (NIV) Jesus called his first four disciples. They were fishermen; and, working on their boats, when Jesus called to them. Jesus instructed Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew to: “Come follow me, and I will make you “fish for people” (v. 19). Immediately, they “left their nets and followed Jesus (v.20). Jesus now accompanied by Simon Peter and Andrew, walk on. Jesus calls to two other brothers, James and John preparing their fishing nets in their boat along with their father, Zebedee. Immediately, they left their father in the boat to follow Jesus (v, 22).

I wonder how James’ and John’s father felt when he saw his sons get up and walk away with Jesus, Simon Peter, and Andrew. Did they say farewell to their father? The reader is not told. The Gospel’s focus is not on describing how the father felt; but, on the immediate decision of his two sons not to hesitate to accompany Jesus. No questions. I don’t know about you, but I don’t think they left because they were having a bad day, were bored with their jobs, or perhaps thought “Oh, Why not? Let’s go.” We are not told. It is not the point of the story. The point is: they went to become “fishers of men” because Jesus called them.

As either readers or listeners of the Gospel, we learn that when Jesus called his disciples, they neither asked questions nor asked for time extensions like the man in the Gospel of Luke who told Jesus “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family” (Luke 9:61, NIV).

No. When Jesus began his ministry HE called and the fishermen answered (non-verbally—just accepted Jesus “invitation” without any questions or excuses.) I believe they did not hesitate, ask questions, or requested time extensions because they were honored to be called because the Lord honored--selected them -- handpicked them, called them for a lifetime opportunity to serve the Lord. There was no blowing of the “shofar” ~a horn~ a ritual musical instrument, made from the horn of a ram or other animal, used on important Jewish public and religious occasions.

Many of us recall listening to the Gospel stories beginning after the Christmas Holidays when Jesus began his ministry by “calling” his disciples. In Sunday school and Confirmation classes, we learned about Jewish customs – including the shofar used to “call” the Israelites to enter the tent...the tabernacle to worship.

Listen for the sound of the shofar. God is calling you, calling all of us to make a difference in someone’s life.



SELF CARE WITH PASTOR RACHEL

Self-Care is Self-Love

1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Our scripture tells us that love should be first. Most importantly, we need to love ourselves first so we can better take care of others. Whether you have someone in your life to share this love, we still need to take time to honor ourselves. After all, think about when you are on an airplane, and the steward says, “when the oxygen mask drops down, put the mask over your mouth and nose first, before assisting someone else.”

We have to be able to BREATHE to help someone else breathe through a difficult time or moment.

This exercise below can help us rediscover ourselves and our value. Stand in the mirror and say one or more of these affirmations out loud in the mirror every day. I have found these affirmations changed my own way of thinking about myself for the better.

Have a beautiful February. You are loved!

Daily Self-Love Affirmations

- I love myself just as I am today.
- I choose to be kind to myself.
- I am my own best friend.
- It is natural for me to love myself.
- I am grateful to be the person I am.
- I love each part of myself.
- I honor my life.
- I appreciate all the ways that I am unique.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Please note the following message that will be seen periodically in the church bulletin, as well as posted on the sanctuary doors:

Good day to you! We are glad that you are choosing to worship with us today. Please note that the time before, during, and after the worship is livestreamed and videotaped. There is the possibility of anything you say may be recorded, and your image may be captured by the video depending on where you are in the sanctuary. By attending or participating in any event in the sanctuary, you are giving your consent to be photographed and/or video recorded, and you are waiving all claims regarding the use of your image and voice by 1st United Church of Christ – Carlisle. We tell you this so that you may be fully informed. Blessings to you.

The leadership of 1st United Church of Christ – Carlisle





FROM THE EDITOR

Random Facts Corner:

- ♦ The Eiffel Tower has the potential to be 15cm taller in the summer time due to the iron heating up, building kinetic energy, and taking up more space.
- ♦ The moon is 3400km in diameter and Australia is 4000km in diameter, which makes Australia wider than the moon!
- ♦ Did you ever wonder why we “raise a toast”? The Ancient Romans apparently used to drop toast in their wine for good health.
- ♦ “Kuchi zamishi” is the Japanese word for eating when you’re not hungry because your mouth is lonely.
- ♦ Love hiking? You can walk from Magadan, Russia to Cape Town, South Africa. You do not need boats or planes to walk this 14,000 mile distance.

Williams, Dusty Baxter-Wright and Sophie. “50+ Random Fun Facts to Have on Hand at Your Next Dinner Party.” *Cosmopolitan*, 9 Sept. 2022, <https://www.cosmopolitan.com/uk/worklife/a33367076/>

WORSHIP SERVICE UPDATES

Update on In-Person Services

♦ Colossians 3:12- Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

♦ Mark 12:31- You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Based on the fact that Covid cases continue to decrease in our community, Consistory decided at its February 21, 2022 meeting that starting this Sunday, February 27, 2022, not only will we return to in-person services, but those who have been fully vaccinated and boosted have the option to unmask if they so desire. They may remain masked if they want. Those who are not fully vaccinated and boosted are asked to remain masked while in the church. All attendees are asked to continue to social distance at all times, and when in the pews should stay at least six feet from other attendees who are not a part of their immediate family. Consistory feels that First Church can do this at this time if all remain careful, follow this policy, and do what is right for everyone. If you have any questions, please call Mike Coulson at 717-574-4595.

♦ Philippians 2:4- Not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others.

“Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.”- Colossians 3:12

Update on Locked-Door Procedure

Please know there is only one entrance to the church for office hours and worship days. It is the gray parking lot door.

Once the worship service begins, that door will be locked. If you happen to arrive slightly late to service, you can ring the church office doorbell to be let inside or call the church office. This will be monitored for up to 15 minutes into the worship service.

After 15 minutes, the church office will be empty, so please try to be timely when it comes to attending church services.

COVID Updates Provided by
Dr. Greg Lewis of 1st UCC.



COVID-19 UPDATES

There are no COVID-19 updates for February.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Consistory– 3rd Sunday Every Month

Church & Ministry– 1st Sunday Every Month

Advisory– Quarterly

Caring Fellowship– 2nd Tuesday Every Month

Christian Ed– 1st Sunday Every Month

Church & Community Connections– 2nd Tuesday Every Month

Property Management– 4th Wednesday Every Month

Stewardship– 2nd Wednesday Every Other Month

Special Mission– Samaritan Fellowship

*You can find all council reports on the church website (www.1ucc.org). If you would like a copy, please email Lyndsey (Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org). Check out the “Council News” for highlights!



COMMUNITY EVENTS

- ♦ Birch Tree & Cardinal Pottery Plate Paint Nite– Wednesday, February 1st from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at Create-A-Palooza.
- ♦ 18th Century Artisan Show– February 3rd & 4th at the Carlisle Expo Center.
- ♦ Carlisle Ice Art Festival– February 3rd–5th starting at 4pm on Friday in downtown Carlisle.
- ♦ Dying for a Drink Murder Mystery Dinner– Sunday, February 5th from 4pm to 6:30pm at the Castlerigg Wine Shop.
- ♦ Strengthening Families Program– Thursday, February 9th from 5:30pm to 8:00pm at the Carlisle YMCA.
- ♦ Carlisle Elks NMR Trio– Friday, February 10th from 6pm to 9pm at the Elks Lodge.
- ♦ Evening Mixer– Thursday, February 23rd from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at MainStay Suites Carlisle.



COMMUNITY CARES AND PROJECT SHARE DONATIONS

On the **1st Wednesday** of every month from **10am – 12pm**, there will be a table at the parking lot door of the church where ***Project Share*** donations can be dropped off (or handed to a volunteer). This is the day when we will receive packets of **Spaghetti and Spaghetti Sauce** for the organization.

On the **2nd Wednesday** of every month from **10am – 12pm**, there will be a table at the parking lot door of the church where ***Community CARES*** donations can be dropped off (or handed to a volunteer). This is the day when we will receive packets of **Ramen Noodles** for the organization.





BRING YOUR GOOD, USED CLOTHING, PURSES, AND SHOES TO CHURCH TO
BENEFIT PROJECT SHARE

COMMUNITY AID DONATIONS

First United Church of Christ is still collecting good used clothing, purses, and shoes year-round to benefit the community and our Community Aid Partner, Project Share.

Remember when you're organizing your closets and drawers, First UCC is accepting year-round donations of good, used or new clothing, coats, boots, shoes, socks, purses, hats and gloves for all ages. Place your items in the bin across from the Church Office during hours the building is open.

First UCC earns a monetary percentage of items donated to Community Aid. More importantly, our donations are made available free or at low cost to people who shop at Community Aid in Mechanicsburg.

When we hear of a specific need from Community CARES, our donations are taken to them directly. This winter First UCC donated numerous coats and cold-weather wear for all ages, which was greatly appreciated by CARES and the people they serve.

Items needed: Clothing for all ages and sizes, shoes, and purses. Please put donations in plastic bags, with shoes and purses in separate bags from clothing. Bags are available beside the cart, across from the Church Office.

Home Pick-up of donations is available - call Lyndsey at 717-243-2512 or text/ call Suzy at 717-580-8063.

Our cart is ONLY for clothing, shoes, and purses. If you wish to donate other items, you may take them to the local Community Aid Thrift Store - 4833 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg. Please let them know that you are a member of First UCC's Project Share partnership. Ask them to credit **Project Share Partner Number # 10166**, so those donations will count, too. Receipts are available upon request.



Questions? Contact Susan Coulson 717-580-8063 or sccoulson@comcast.net; or Lyndsey Hendricks in the Church Office 717-243-2512 or lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org.

For more information about Community Aid go to the website at <https://communityaid.org>.

This is a project of the Church & Community Connections Council of First United Church of Christ. We appreciate your support!

BOOK DONATIONS

Bosler Bookery Donations

Are you interested in donating books? Our local Bosler Bookery at 158 W High Street - inside the East Wing of The Bosler Library - accepts a variety of donations year-round. The Bookery sells gently-used or new books, puzzles, games, music, greeting cards, artwork, and many other items that have been donated by the community. Proceeds help the Bosler Library. Bookery guidelines are printed on flyers available in the hallway across from the Church Office. If you are unable to come to the church for a flyer, you may call to request one from the Church Office to be sent to you by mail. Or go to the Bosler Friends website (www.boslerfriends.com) on your computer and click on The Bookery section or call The Bookery at 717-243-3313.

SPY UPDATE

Did you know SPY was not just a summer program anymore? During the school year, on select days the children have off school, SPY holds "Fun Days" at UCC. This means so much to our single parents! On these days, many are faced with the choice of taking an unpaid day off or leaving their child home alone. Thanks to UCC, SPY has a spot during the school year to keep these children safe and fed and the parents can continue to work.

Monday, January 16th was our most recent SPY Fun Day and we had approximately 45 children in attendance. Dr. Martin Luther King and his accomplishments and contributions to our society were the focus of our morning activities. In the afternoon we had a special visit from the Chinese Cultural & Arts Institute. The children learned about the Chinese New Year, which began January 22nd, and watched live traditional performances. Check out the photos of the fun below! (attached). We are looking forward to more SPY Fun on Thursday, Feb. 16th and Friday, Feb. 17th.

We are so grateful to UCC for your hospitality and opening your doors for our children. Together we are making a difference!



THE BOOKERY'S DONATION POLICY

WE ACCEPT DONATIONS OF:

- Books** – hardback and paperback books in good, salable condition.
- Artwork** – All types – for the ongoing art sale
- Audiobooks**
- Books** – hardback & paperback
- Comics**
- Games** – board games and computer games
- The Great Courses** – on CD or DVD
- Greeting cards with envelopes**
- Magazines** – current 3 months
- Movies/TV on DVD**
- Music on CD/DVD**
- Puzzles**
- Records, Vinyl** – up to 25-30, no more at one time without prior approval from Bookery mgr.
- Textbooks** – published since 2016
- Unusual items** – contact The Bookery's manager if you have something else that you would like to donate. From time to time we have sold donated needlepoint pillows, antique teacups, etc.

WE DO NOT ACCEPT:

- Cassette tapes.**
- Condensed Books.**
- Damaged Books** - that are very dirty, smell, or have been wet. Rule of thumb - If you would not give us \$1 for the book you are donating, no one else will either!
- Encyclopedias** – we do not accept encyclopedias.
- Ex-Library Books.**
- Magazines** – older than the last 3 months. Including old Life, Look, National Geographic, etc.
- Old sheet music**
- Records in bulk** – to donate more than 25-30 talk to the Bookery Mgr. first.
- Textbooks** – with a copyright date older than 2016.
- VHS tapes**

What you can do with some of the things we don't accept:

- Books** - Chambersburg Waste Paper will recycle books 2047 Loop Rd, Chambersburg, PA 17202, 717-264-4890
- Magazines** – you can recycle any type of glossy paper in the Ronald McDonald dumpster generally located in the parking lot of one of the local McDonald's.

12/2021





WANT TO INCLUDE HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR COUNCIL?

If you would like to include any highlights of your council, please email Lyndsey (Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org) within the last week of each month. Your highlights will be included in the next month's newsletter.

CHURCH & COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

First UCC will collect **WINTER WEAR** in our **BACKDOOR BLUE BIN** during November & December 2022 and January & February 2023. Good Used Winter clothing for all ages and genders is needed.

DONATIONS may be placed in the **BLUE BARREL** right **INSIDE THE PARKING LOT ENTRANCE** of our church. **NEEDED ITEMS** are Coats, Gloves, Hats, Warm pants, Sweaters, Boots, and Socks.

Let's all take a look inside our closets. Help our community in need this winter!

Home Pickup can be arranged by calling Suzy Coulson at 717-245-0651 (landline - leave a message) or 717-580-8063 (cell- call or text a message).

NOTE: This is a **DIFFERENT** collection from our regular Community Aid donation in the Great Hallway. Regular donations may still be placed in the Community Aid bin, with Winter Wear going in the Community CARES Blue Bin.

Call the Church Office for information. (717-243-2512)

THANK YOU!

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

We have completed the HVAC air conditioning replacement. First UCC now has two separate HVAC systems to cool/heat the Fellowship Hall and to cool the Church Sanctuary.

These two systems run independently of each other and should allow for better performance, efficiency, and comfort in our beautiful 100 year-old facility. Over the next several weeks we will be monitoring and adjusting temperatures (if needed) to find a comfortable temperature for all. This may require a slight learning curve during this time.

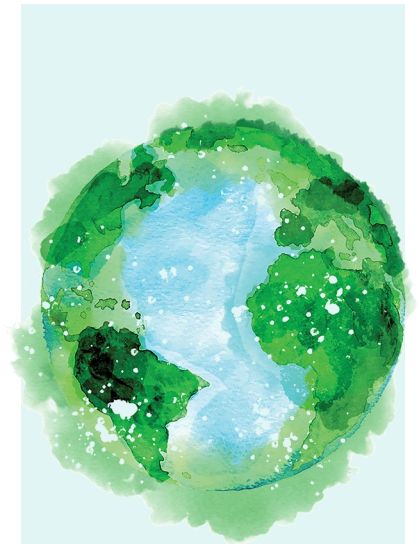
The Property Management Council appreciates your patience during this process. Please feel free to contact Dallas for any questions.

EARTH STEWARDS

February Tip of the Month

Our faith teaches us that we were put on this earth with the responsibility to be good stewards. We also know that our human lifestyles have led to problems affecting God's creation. This Lenten season, may we reflect on how we can do better. Let each of us change ONE thing (at least) to help God's creation. Below is one tip, and more are available from: www.creationjusticeministries.org@CreationJustice

STOP that Junk Mail! The average adult receives 41 POUNDS of junk mail each year. This requires 53 MILLION TREES and 56 BILLION gallons of water to produce. And most gets discarded! Visit www.dmachoice.org to help stop unwanted junk mail. Call companies to unsubscribe from their mailings or catalogues. Start with ONE today and make it a DAILY PRACTICE!



CHURCH GROUP UPDATES

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Mission: First United Church of Christ is a Christian community of faith united through worship, study, prayer, fellowship, and service by:

Seeking to create opportunities that empower members to grow spiritually and to serve the community.

Live a life of stewardship of God's gifts to us.

Proclaiming God's love as told in the Gospels of Jesus Christ.

Vision: First United Church of Christ strives to:

Foster an environment of intellectual openness.

Encourage members to grow spiritually through study and inspiring worship.

Provide opportunities for the church family to serve the community.

Encourage fellowship of members through activities and service bringing everyone together as one body.

Book Chat Update:

Book Chat members have recently read *The Diamond Eye* by one of our favorite authors, Kate Quinn. Quinn has done her usual extensive research to create a riveting story of a young Russian mother who becomes a sniper in World War II. Mila dedicates her life and skill to weaken Hitler's troop-strength, by eradicating Nazi officers and troops, including other snipers. The characters develop intense relationships based on the circumstances that war creates.

The drama continues in the United States when the sniper, Mila, is invited to join a group of Russian guests at the White House, hosted by President and Mrs. Roosevelt. Roosevelt is hoping to inspire the US to help Russia in the war. Unbeknownst to the characters, but known to the reader, there is a sniper with falsified credentials among the press corps. Quinn gives us insights into his observations and thought processes, as he watches and waits for his opportunity to carry out the assignment for which he has been hired.

Next on our list is *The Secret-Keeper of Jaipur* by Alka Joshi. It is a sequel to *The Henna Artist*, which was also a Book Chat selection. We are excited to read more about the engaging array of diverse characters we met in *The Henna Artist*, such as henna artist Lakshimi, her younger sister Radha, and Lakshimi's ward Malik, a precocious young street boy, whom we enjoyed greatly in the preceeding novel.

Book Chat meets the first and third Sunday of each month at 11:00 AM in the church parlor for devotions and discussion. Visitors and new members are welcome.



Color, Craft & Fellowship Update:

Yearning for some fun and fellowship? Well, come join us on **Wednesdays** from **2:00pm to 4:00pm** to **Color, Craft & Fellowship!** Bring your coloring books, markers, paints, crochet hooks, knitting needles, or whatever craft you feel like doing that day! If you are interested in joining, please contact **Lyndsey** at **Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org** or **717-243-2512**.



Lunch Bunch Update:

The Lunch Bunch Ladies will be meeting the following dates at **12pm**:

February 23rd– May's
March 23rd– N. Hanover St. Grille
April 27th– Hamilton Restaurant
May 25th– South Side Deli
June 22nd– Pizza Grille
July 27th– Hickory Ridge
August 24th– Leo's Ice Cream (time change @ 1:00pm)

If you are interested in joining, please call **Barb Simonton** at (717) 258-3250 for reservations.



30 N Pitt Street
Carlisle, PA 17013
Phone: 717-243-2512
E-mail: oneucc@1stuccofcarlisle.org

