



July 2019

**Our Mission**  
"Centered in Christ"  
"Strength for Today"  
"Hope for Tomorrow"



**Rev. Larry Gallaher**  
Pastor

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Ross Community Church UMC  
2943 Hamilton Cleves Road  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Dear Church Family,

As I was thinking over the recent weeks about what can be done to revitalize our church, I asked myself what is the real mission of the Church of Jesus Christ. It seems to me that there could be many reasons for what Jesus has called us to do for the kingdom. Here are my thoughts.

One of the missions of the church is to glorify Christ and lift Him up. Paul wrote to the Ephesians and said "In Christ we were also chosen ... in order that we ... might be for the praise of His glory" Christ established His church to represent His life-saving work to the world. Christ wants to show the world what a free and forgiven people can experience.

Secondly, we are to build up and encourage His followers. The church is to encourage and comfort its individual members (1 Thessalonians 5:11; 2 Corinthians 13:11). 2 Corinthians 12:25 tells us there should be no division in the church. Jesus Christ designed His Church to be God's family on earth, so that the world outside can see how God builds His family around Jesus Christ and how that family cares for one another.

The third thing I see is this. There is also the mandate of the church to make disciples. Jesus commissioned His disciples when He said: "Go into all the world, make *disciples* (italics added) of all nations by baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe everything that I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:19-20). A disciple is a follower, someone who attaches himself to his leader. I have said that Bonhoeffer said, "a disciple is someone who has given everything he has been given to another." Therefore, we can say Jesus sent the church on its mission to show people who He is. As the church makes disciples, people can admire, worship, trust, follow, and obey Jesus as their Savior and Lord. When Christ Followers having become sold out on Jesus, they will add disciples to His church.

Let me encourage you as we look to the month of August to introduce our theme "Reclaim Ross Thru Revitalization." We have a mission to build the church of Jesus Christ and I believe this is our hope for the future,

Pastor Larry



Ross Community

United Methodist Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Submitted by Judy Creasy

The Ross U.M. Women are going to help Nancy at her sharing closet on Tuesday, July 16th.

We help her sort and wash clothes that have been donated to her sharing closet, before the RAM third Saturday giveaway.

The Sharing Closet is located in the Ross School Administration building, at the first door behind the right side of the building.

# July Birthdays

02 Mae Prentice  
04 U.S.A.  
05 Leslie Fisher  
10 Bud Kottman  
14 Maggie Schoepf

16 Jim Lynch  
19 Phil Brown  
20 David Rheinfrank  
25 Jill Foxx  
29 Brenda Oliver



# July Anniversary's

16  
Paul & Debbie Gilman

19  
Don & Barb Rechel

## Worship Leaders

**July 2019**  
7 Debbie Kunick  
14 Tim Zecher  
21 Roger Creasy  
28 Nancy Beckman

**August 2019**  
4 Debbie Gilman  
11 Jim Rechel  
18 Sally Rechel  
25 Greg Conrad

## Hall & Door Monitor

**July 2019**  
7 Jim Rechel  
14 Gary Mortimer  
21 Mike Ratliff  
28 Roger Creasy

**August 2019**  
4 Butch Foster  
11 Doug Beckman  
18 Judy Creasy  
25 Sharon Mortimer

**September 2019**  
1 Wayne Estep  
8 Phil Brown

**Matthew 6:6 New International Version (NIV)**  
6 But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

### Prayer Chain

Stephanie Motz – dealing with healing of hip post surgery  
Craig Fraley – lung cancer going thru treatments  
Mickey Coulter – battling kidney cancer  
James & Megan Brown – birth of new baby  
Don & Barb Rechel – health issues  
Father of Sally Rechel – health issues  
Richard Torbeck – moving to a new location



Dear RCUMC Members and Friends,

**Sunday Worship:** This week we begin a six-part series on the subject of grace as it pertains to our lives in Christ. The West Ohio Conference is sponsoring this study, based on passages from the book of Galatians, and has asked all area pastors to participate. I hope you can be here for the full series and that you will review the applicable Scripture passages each week. Topics are:

1. "Grace that Transforms" - Galatians 1:13-16, 23-24
2. "Grace That Embraces" - Galatians 2:9-10
3. "Grace That Clothes Us" - Galatians 3:23-29
4. "Grace That Forms" - Galatians 4:4-7, 19-20
5. "Grace That Bears Fruit" - Galatians 5:15-23
6. "Grace That Sustains" - Galatians 6:1-12

**"Reclaim Ross Through Revitalization:"** I am planning a meeting in a few weeks to discuss church revitalization as it pertains to our congregation. I'm reading several resources and will be sharing ideas from them, along with my plans for my own pastoral activities and thoughts about what our members and friends can do. Reclamation and revitalization will be our theme for the remainder of 2019. As we begin the process, please keep in mind the saying "If it's to be, it's up to me." Emily is creating a logo for the project to help make the materials recognizable and consistent.

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

*Pastor Larry*

**NOTES FROM THE OFFICE**

Mark your calendar and save the date! The **annual church picnic** will be Saturday, August 24, starting at 4:00 p.m. and hosted by Judy and Roger Creasy at 2651 Morgan Ross Road. This will be a covered dish potluck with fried chicken and grilled pork tenderloin provided.

Brenda Brown has several **screen protectors and cases for iPhones** Models 4 and/or 5 to give away. They're on the spare desk in the office; if you think you can use one or more, please help yourself!

Pastor Larry still has **car wash tickets** from Father's Day at \$9 each. See him to purchase.

Carol Farmer is leading an effort to **collect plastic grocery bags**, which can be crocheted into waterproof mats for homeless persons. It takes an incredible 600 bags to make one mat. If you can help with this worthy effort, please leave your contributions in the collection bag just behind the welcome desk.

*Congratulations to Our Graduates*

*Kara Broughton  
Ross High School*

*Carolyn Conrad, MSW  
Miami University*

*Emma Schoepf  
Ohio State University*

*Congratulations to the 2018 U.M.W. Scholarship Recipients*

*Brandon Armstrong  
Melody Conrad  
Alex Daiker  
Sara McCullough  
Emma Schoepf*

*We are proud of your accomplishments and so glad to be able to help you reach your educational goals.*



The Declaration of Independence was the first formal statement by a nation's people asserting their right to choose their own government. When armed conflict between bands of American colonists and British soldiers began in April 1775, the Americans were ostensibly fighting only for their rights as subjects of the British crown. By the following summer, with the Revolutionary War in full swing, the movement for independence from Britain had grown, and delegates of the Continental Congress were faced with a vote on the issue. In mid-June 1776, a five-man committee including Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and Benjamin Franklin was tasked with drafting a formal statement of the colonies' intentions. The Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence—written largely by Jefferson—in Philadelphia on July 4, a date now celebrated as the birth of American independence.

### **America Before the Declaration of Independence**

Even after the initial battles in the Revolutionary War broke out, few colonists desired complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did—like John Adams—were considered radical. Things changed over the course of the next year, however, as Britain attempted to crush the rebels with all the force of its great army. In his message to Parliament in October 1775, King George III railed against the rebellious colonies and ordered the enlargement of the royal army and navy. News of his words reached America in January 1776, strengthening the radicals' cause and leading many conservatives to abandon their hopes of reconciliation. That same month, the recent British immigrant Thomas Paine published "Common Sense," in which he argued that independence was a "natural right" and the only possible course for the colonies; the pamphlet sold more than 150,000 copies in its first few weeks in publication.

In March 1776, North Carolina's revolutionary convention became the first to vote in favor of independence; seven other colonies had followed suit by mid-May. On June 7, the Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies' independence before the Continental Congress when it met at the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall) in Philadelphia. Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee's resolution and called a recess for several weeks. Before departing, however, the delegates also appointed a five-man committee—including Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, John Adams of Massachusetts, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania and Robert R. Livingston of New York—to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain. That document would become known as the Declaration of Independence.

### **Thomas Jefferson Writes the Declaration of Independence**

Jefferson had earned a reputation as an eloquent voice for the patriotic cause after his 1774 publication of "A Summary View of the Rights of British America," and he was given the task of producing a draft of what would become the Declaration of Independence. As he wrote in 1823, the other members of the committee "unanimously pressed on myself alone to undertake the draught [sic]. I consented; I drew it; but before I reported it to the committee I communicated it separately to Dr. Franklin and Mr. Adams requesting their corrections...I then wrote a fair copy, reported it to the committee, and from them, unaltered to the Congress."

As Jefferson drafted it, the Declaration of Independence was divided into five sections, including an introduction, a preamble, a body (divided into two sections) and a conclusion. In general terms, the introduction effectively stated that seeking independence from Britain had become "necessary" for the colonies. While the body of the document outlined a list of grievances against the British crown, the preamble includes its most famous passage: "We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

### **The Continental Congress Votes for Independence**

The Continental Congress reconvened on July 1, and the following day 12 of the 13 colonies adopted Lee's resolution for independence. The process of consideration and revision of Jefferson's declaration (including Adams' and Franklin's corrections) continued on July 3 and into the late morning of July 4, during which Congress deleted and revised some one-fifth of its text. The delegates made no changes to that key preamble, however, and the basic document remained Jefferson's words. Congress officially adopted the Declaration of Independence later on the Fourth of July (though most historians now accept that the document was not signed until August 2).

The Declaration of Independence became a significant landmark in the history of democracy. In addition to its importance in the fate of the fledgling American nation, it also exerted a tremendous influence outside the United States, most memorably in France during the French Revolution. Together with the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence can be counted as one of the three essential founding documents of the United States government.

#### **Article Title**

Declaration of Independence

#### **Author**

History.com Editors

#### **Website Name**

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# Independance Day



July 4, 2019



# Information Page

Ross Community Church

## SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

+

### Sunday School

9:15 – 10:00

(For All Ages)

+

### Fellowship

10:00 – 10:25

+

### Church Service

10:25

+

### Thursday Service

Praise Music  
&

Message

7:00 p.m.

## CONTACTS

### Pastor:

Rev. Larry Gallaher 513-443-4866

### Church Office:

Emily Adams 513-868-2923  
emily.fs.adams@gmail.com

### Lay Leader:

Jim Rechel 513-521-5223

### Church Council:

Phil Brown 513-868-2338

### Pastor Parish Chair:

Brenda Brown 513-868-2338

### Trustees:

Wayne Estep 513-896-5851

### Sunday School Superintendent:

Sandy Hogeback 812-593-2984

### Nursery Attendants:

Vicky Foster / Gabrielle Truman

### Prayer Chain:

Vicky Foster 513-738-3748

### U.M. Women

Judy Creasy 513-738-0441

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

+

### United Methodist Women

Second Tuesday of the month  
@ 10:00 a.m.

+

### Trustees – Nurture & Missions

First Tuesday of the month  
@ 6:30 p.m.

+

### Church Council

Second Monday of odd months  
@ 7:00 p.m.

+

### United Methodist Men

Last Saturday of the month

Visit the Ross Community United Methodist Church web page at: <http://www.rossumc.org/>

### Prayer Chain

To have someone placed on the Prayer Chain please call Vicky Foster at 513-738-3749 or email [vfoster@zoomtown.com](mailto:vfoster@zoomtown.com).

If you wish to be added to the Prayer Chain send Vicky your email address.

## LORD'S Supper



If you are **home bound** and would like to **receive communion** please contact the church office at (513) 868-2923. Rev Larry Gallaher will return your

**“Prayer Shawl Ministry”**

Please spread the word: -----If anyone has a family member, friend, etc. that is gravely ill, please let me know in the Sunday service, or email me at [www.carolfarmer90@yahoo.com](mailto:www.carolfarmer90@yahoo.com). Also contact me for more information. This program is 100% voluntary, and the Church has not spent a penny. We can also use more volunteers. Have a great day in the Lord.

Submitted by Carol Farmer



If you would like to place flowers on the altar, in memory or in honor of someone, please contact Debbie Kunick at 513-490-0381 or

Office: Emily Adams, Administrative Assistant: Office hours 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Tuesday & Thursday;** 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Wednesday.**