

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



Rev. Larry Gallaher
Pastor

513-443-4866
pastor@rossumc.org

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

To our family and friends,

2017 is proving to be an interesting year for us at Ross Community UMC. Here is an excerpt from my message on January 1, 2017. "I believe beyond any shadow of doubt this is our Year of Jubilee but it is going to take some effort on our part to make it a Year of Jubilee. In order for everything to come to pass we must all be in agreement and of one heart. There may be some things that concern or bother you. If that is the case let me say this:

- "Pray for the situation,
- Pray for the person,
- Then pray that your heart is right"

We need to shed ourselves of negative attitudes and bring our minds into a state of positive thinking. If we are not together then we are in the wilderness. This is what happened to the Israelite children when they got out of fellowship with God, they found themselves in the wilderness, we do not want to be there."

This is exactly where we are today as I write this to you. A couple of people have left and we miss them but they were not in agreement with the ministry plan of the Ad Council, and the Staff Parish Relations Committee. God always knows what is best and who is best for all churches. My prayer is that we continue to worship in unity as one.

Many people have said how much they appreciate the music, hopefully you're telling them. Many people have mentioned they appreciate the messages along with saying, "I needed that". That's not a coincidence; God helps us plan. Ever notice how the music ties to the message and vice versa. These happenings are not accidents.

God is moving and healing lives as well as healing bodies. We are going to see more healings in 2017 than we have and God is continuing to move us forward. Attendance has been excellent, giving is good, faith is growing and we haven't seen anything yet concerning the move of God in our midst. I'm excited and thankful that I am apart of it.

Psalms 103:1-5 ESV Of David. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Pastor Larry

Information Page

Ross Community Church

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

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Sunday School

9:15 – 10:00
(For All Ages)

+

Fellowship

10:00 – 10:30

+

Church Service

10:30

(Children's Church 1st & 2nd
Sunday's during summer)

+

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 Attendant: (Ages birth through four years)

Robin Montgomery 513-892-2295

Prayer Chain:

Vicky Foster 513-738-3748

Newsletter:

Phil Brown 513-868-2338

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

MONTHLY MEETINGS

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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
@ 9:00 a.m.

"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.

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

COMMUNION



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 call.

ALTAR FLOWERS



We pray that you enjoy the beautiful flower bouquets on the

Church Altar on Sunday mornings.

If you wish to have special flowers to commemorate or in memory of a special occasion or person please contact Debbie Gilman @ 513-923-9457 at least two weeks prior to the date you wish the special flowers to be displayed.



Please send your e-mail address to emily.fs.adams@gmail.com if you would prefer to receive your issue of The Ross Community United Methodist Church Newsletter by e-mail.

Thank You, Editor

Ross Community Church
United Methodist
Women
Faith, Hope & Love
In Action



Submitted by Judy Creasy

The next women's meeting will be on Monday, May 8 at 10:00 p.m. at the church. We will be getting ready for the "Victorian Tea" dinner. We are also meeting on Tuesday, May 9 at 1:00 p.m. to make sure everything is ready for the dinner.

The women's "Mother's and Special Others" dinner will be held on Tuesday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m. The theme will be "Victorian Tea". All women are welcome to invite their mothers, daughters or all friends to join us for a fun evening. **Linda Estep** will be selling dinner tickets up to the Sunday before the dinner.

We have received eight scholarship applications. We will be handing out all eight scholarships on "Graduation Sunday" in June.

If anyone wants to give a prayer shawl to an ill person please see **Carol Farmer, Brenda Oliver or Judy Creasy**.

The following women's meeting will be Tuesday, June 13 at 6:00 p.m. at a restaurant to be announced.

From The Church Office

What a great Easter weekend with the Good Friday service and the Easter celebration! Eighty-eight people worshipped with us at the ecumenical service on Good Friday. If you missed the service, you can hear it on www.rossumc.org. The music by our Praise Band was once again, just awesome. Easter Sunday, 120 members and friends gathered for worship. That message (along with other Sunday messages) can also be found on our website. There is so much more to Easter than Jesus' rising from the grave. Sunday's message was about exactly that--we are now seated on His right hand and He is seated next to God, the Father. What a thought!

Lay Pastor Training: I'm excited about the lay pastor training class we are starting in May. Five or six individuals have now expressed interest. If you are interested and have not yet told me, let me know on Sunday so I can prepare enough materials. I recently came across an article on visiting that I will share in our first meeting.

Miles for Matthew: For the last two years, we have supported a very worthwhile event called Miles for Matthew. This 5K run/walk was created to honor the memory of 8-year-old Matthew Jester, who lost his life in 2013 due to juvenile diabetes. To date, more than \$40,000 for Type 1 Diabetes Research has been raised in Matthew's name. You have been very generous in past years by providing gift cards for a raffle that supports the research effort. Over the next two weeks we are asking you to help in one of two ways: (1) Bring a gift card of any type and denomination (please mark the amount) to church and place it in the basket in the narthex or (2) make a cash donation (note "Miles for Matthew" on the check memo line) and we will purchase gift cards with the money donated. Either way, your support this effort will be appreciated by Matthew's family and the Miles for Matthew organization. Please see www.milesformatthew.com for more information.

Look forward to seeing you Sunday.

Children's Sunday School

The children's Sunday School class is in need of a few volunteers to teach the class for the summer and fall months. We have someone who is willing to do the month of July. **Can you do one Sunday or more?** Sunday School starts at 9:15 a.m. and ends at 10:00 a.m. If you are interested in doing this please let me know.

Thank You, Sandy Hogeback

May Birthdays

- 2 Kyle Rheinfrank
- 6 Katie Rheinfrank
- 6 David Flannery
- 9 Carolyn Foster
- 11 Linda Wright
- 14 Nicole Eppich
- 14 Karen Riehle
- 20 Del Foster
- 21 Rev. Grant Montgomery
- 23 Joyce Jones
- 27 Micky Eppich
- 27 Vicky Foster

MAY Anniversary's

- 7 David & Lynette Rheinfrank
- 21 Dell & Carolyn Foster

Worship Leaders

May

June

Sunday

- 7 Roger Creasy
- 14 Jim Rechel
- 21 Nancy Beckman
- 28 Debbie Gilman

Sunday

- 4 Debbie Kunick
- 11 Tom Bevington
- 18 Tim Zecher
- 25 Chip Schoepf

GET INVOLVED

Be a volunteer and reap the rewards

Church Administrative Council Meeting

Our **next** Church Ad Council **meeting** will be the evening of **Monday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m.** All members of our congregation are welcome to sit in on this meeting of your church council.

If you wish to address the church council I will need advance notice of the topic you wish to discuss so that it can be added to the agenda for the meeting.

We are in need of chairpersons for Nurture and Missions Committees. If you are willing to take on one of these committees please contact Pastor Larry.

Phil Brown, Church Ad Council Chairperson

Question: "What is the Year of Jubilee?"

Answer: The word "jubilee"—literally, "ram's horn" in Hebrew—is defined in Leviticus 25:9 as the sabbatical year after seven cycles of seven years (49 years). The fiftieth year was to be a time of celebration and rejoicing for the Israelites. The ram's horn was blown on the tenth day of the seventh month to start the fiftieth year of universal redemption.

The Year of the Jubilee involved a year of release from indebtedness (Leviticus 25:23-38) and all types of bondage (vv. 39-55). All prisoners and captives were set free, all slaves were released, all debts were forgiven, and all property was returned to its original owners. In addition, all labor was to cease for one year, and those bound by labor contracts were released from them. One of the benefits of the Jubilee was that both the land and the people were able to rest.

The Jubilee presents a beautiful picture of the New Testament themes of redemption and forgiveness. Christ is the Redeemer who came to set free those who are slaves and prisoners to sin (Romans 8:2; Galatians 5:1; 3:22). The debt of sin we owe to God was paid on the cross as Jesus died on our behalf (Colossians 2:13-14), and we are forgiven the debt forever. We are no longer in bondage, no longer slaves to sin, having been freed by Christ, and we can truly enter the rest God provides as we cease laboring to make ourselves acceptable to God by our own works (Hebrews 4:9-10).