

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



November
2017



Rev. Larry Gallaher
Pastor

513-443-4866
pastor@rossumc.org

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

Dear Church Family,

God is amazing. That sounds like a phrase we often think, maybe hear someone say it, but what is behind it?

He never leaves us without showing us new things. As an example, the fall season is upon us and He gives us change. We have all heard people say, "I know the snow is coming" or maybe "It's going to be a cold one this year." We have all heard stories about the color of the fuzzy little worms and what they mean for the winter season. My grandmother said if they are predominantly brown then it will be a moderate winter, all black ones "look out." Honestly, I can't remember ever thinking about it after the winter has passed. And November brings us to the start of the holiday season.

Thanksgiving Day has been an annual holiday in the United States since 1863. Not everyone sees Thanksgiving Day as a cause for celebration. Each year since 1970, a group of Native Americans and their supporters have staged a protest for a National Day of Mourning at Plymouth Rock in Plymouth, Massachusetts on Thanksgiving Day. American Indian Heritage Day is also observed at this time of the year.

There are claims that the first Thanksgiving Day was held in the city of El Paso, Texas in 1598. Another early event was held in 1619 in the Virginia Colony. Many people trace the origins of the modern Thanksgiving Day to the harvest celebration that the Pilgrims held in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1621. However, their first true thanksgiving was in 1623, when they gave thanks for rain that ended a drought. These early thanksgivings took the form of a special church service, rather than a feast.

In the second half of the 1600s, thanksgivings after the harvest became more common and started to become annual events. However, it was celebrated on different days in different communities and in some places, there were more than one thanksgiving each year. George Washington, the first president of the United States, proclaimed the first national Thanksgiving Day in 1789.

Happy Thanksgiving (for all our blessings)

Pastor Larry



Information Page

Ross Community Church

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE +

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.

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

@ 9:00 a.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/>

Prayer Chain

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



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

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.



"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

Altar Flowers

If you would like to place flowers on the altar in
memory or in honor of someone, please contact
Debbie Kunick at djkljkbutterfly@gmail.com



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.

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.

TRUSTEES



Submitted by Wayne Estep

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



Submitted by Judy Creasy

Since our church conference is coming up November 12, I thought it might be a great time for the trustees and the congregation to again review our responsibilities.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

- This team has oversight and care of all local church property, buildings, and equipment to further the mission of the church. This work is done in consultation with the pastor.
- This team and individual trustees need to engage in spiritual practices that build attentiveness to God's will and direction. Trustees need to hold one another accountable to the mission and vision of the church.
- Trustees receive and administer all gifts made to the congregation and make certain that trust funds of the congregation are invested properly.
- Trustees annually review property, liability, and crime insurance coverage on church-owned property, buildings, and equipment. They also review personnel insurance for protection against risk and consult with the pastor-parish relation's team about other personnel insurance.
- Trustees conduct an annual accessibility audit of buildings and grounds to discover and then work toward eliminating barriers that impede the full participation of all people.
- The team submits annual budget requests to the committee on finance for property maintenance and improvement and new property purchases.
- Trustees are accountable to the charge conference and the church council.

From the United Methodist Book of Discipline

The next women's meeting will be on Tuesday, November 14th at 10:00 AM at the church.

This year, starting October 22, the women will again be selling Terri Lynn Nuts and Candy. Pre-sales will start on October 15. There will be a list of items, with prices, showing what we will be selling.

We are having the annual Christmas dinner on Thursday, December 7, 2017. The praise band will be playing Christmas carols. Mark your calendars.

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



06	Tom Bevington	24	Randy Anderson
07	Lynnette Rheinfrank	26	Judy Wilson
10	Frank Auffinger	27	Tari Halcomb
11	Ann Montgomery	27	Ashley Snow
19	Wilma Spurlock	27	Kara Broughton



November

23 Jim & Sally Rechel

25 Jim & Lois Lynch

Question: "What does the Bible say about doubt?"

Answer: Doubt is an experience common to all people. Even those with faith in God struggle with doubt on occasion and say with the man in [Mark 9](#), "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" (verse 24). Some people are hindered greatly by doubt; some see it as a springboard to life; and others see it as an obstacle to be overcome. The Bible has something to say about the cause of doubt and provides examples of people who struggled with it.

Classical humanism says that doubt, while uncomfortable, is absolutely essential for life. René Descartes said, "If you would be a real seeker after truth, it is necessary that at least once in your life you doubt, as far as possible, all things." This is similar to what the founder of Buddhism said: "Doubt everything. Find your own light." If we take their advice, we would have to doubt what they said, which seems rather contradictory. Instead of taking the advice of skeptics and false teachers, we will see what the Bible has to say.

A working definition of doubt is "to lack confidence, to consider unlikely." The very first expression of doubt in the Bible is in [Genesis 3](#), when Satan tempted Eve. God had given a clear command regarding the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and had specified the consequence of disobedience. Satan introduced doubt into Eve's mind when he asked, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'" He wanted her to lack confidence in God's command. When she affirmed God's command, including the consequences, Satan replied with a denial, which is a stronger statement of doubt: "You will not surely die." Doubt is a tool of Satan to make us lack confidence in God's Word and consider His judgment unlikely.

Lest we think that we can lay all of the blame on Satan, the Bible clearly holds us accountable for our own doubts. When Zechariah was visited by the angel of the Lord and told that he would have a son ([Luke 1:11-17](#)), he doubted the word given to him. He logically assumed that he and his wife were too old to have children, and in response to his doubt, the angel said he would be mute until the day God's promise was fulfilled ([Luke 1:18-20](#)). Zechariah doubted God's ability to overcome natural obstacles – many people today share the same doubt. Any time we allow human reason to overshadow faith in God, sinful doubt is the result. No matter how logical our reasons may seem, God has made foolish the wisdom of the world ([1 Corinthians 1:20](#)), and His seemingly foolish plans are far wiser than man's. Faith is trusting God even when His plan goes against human reason or experience.

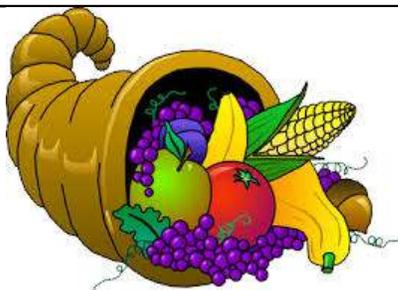
Contrary to the humanistic view that doubt is essential to life, the Bible says that doubt is a destroyer of life. [James 1:5-8](#) tells us that when we ask God for wisdom, we are to ask in faith, without doubt. If we doubt God's ability to respond to our request, what would be the point of asking in the first place? God says that if we doubt while we ask, we will not receive anything from Him, because we are unstable. "He who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind" ([James 1:6](#)).

The remedy for doubt is faith, and faith comes by hearing the Word of God ([Romans 10:17](#)). God gave us the Bible as a testimony of His works in the past, so we will have a reason to trust Him in the present. "I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago" ([Psalm 77:11](#)). In order for us to have faith in God, we must study to know what He has said. Once we have an understanding of what God has done in the past, what He has promised us for the present, and what we can expect from Him in the future, we are able to act in faith instead of doubt.

The most famous doubter in the Bible was Thomas, who declared that he would not believe that the Lord was resurrected unless he could see and touch Jesus himself ([John 20:25-28](#)). When he later saw Jesus and believed, he received the gentle rebuke, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." [Hebrews 11:1](#) says, "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." We can have confidence even in the things we cannot see, because God has proven Himself faithful, true, and able.

Recommended Resource: [Faith and Doubt by John Ortberg](#)

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-doubt.html>



**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!**

Worship Leaders

November	December	January
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05 Roger Creasy	03 Debbie Kunick	07 Roger Creasy
12 Jim Rechel	10 Tom Bevington	14 Jim Rechel
19 Nancy Beckman	17 Tim Zecher	21 Nancy Beckman
26 Debbie Gilman	24 Chip Schoepf	28 Debbie Gilman
	31 Greg Conrad	



Food Pantry

Food and personal hygiene items are needed on an ongoing basis. Our food pantry supplies of spaghetti and sauce, peanut butter and jelly, fruits, vegetables and soups are running low. If you can help, please drop off your donations in the kitchen.



NOTES FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

Jim Rechel will be speaking November 5 when I'm away participating in the Walk to Emmaus.

Our next message series will focus on Stewardship. Stewardship is about more than just money. In this series, I will share some principals on Stewardship that I am confident will literally change our thoughts about giving.

We are also looking for people willing to help teach the children's class. Instructional materials are provided—you just need to follow the curriculum. If you can serve for one week or more, please sign up on the sheet on the classroom door.

Pastor Larry

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

The United Methodist Women's nut and candy selection has arrived and the sale is underway! Please see Linda Estep or any UMW member for more information or to make a purchase.

Tom Turkey says:

"EAT CHICKEN!"





SOUTHERN GATEWAY CHORUS

PRESENTS

Christmas is for Children

- SATURDAY -
Dec. 9th
7:30 PM

Tickets: \$15 & \$25
Discounts for Children & Groups
Call Randy (513) 520-8569
Buy Tickets at:
www.Cincyticket.com

Princeton HS
Matthews Auditorium
100 Viking Way, Cincy, OH 45246



SOUTHERN GATEWAY CHORUS
Cincinnati, Ohio

Where Harmony Comes to Life
Songs You Know, In A Style You'll Love!

www.SouthernGateway.org

Do you love Christmas concerts like I do? There is a great concert coming up at Princeton High School. Church member Debbie Gilman's husband is in this 80-man choir and I understand he has a great voice. The choir sings acappella and has been known throughout Cincinnati for over 60 years. **I can't wait to hear them and hope you all can join us.** It's not just for church members — invite your family and friends also. We'll have a great time. Below is the information regarding the Christmas show.

Southern Gateway Chorus **Christmas is For Children**

(We're all children when it comes to Christmas)

Saturday, December 9

Princeton High School 7:30 PM

Tickets \$23 per person for a group of 10 or More.

Deadline for Tickets - Monday, November 13.

(Payment must be made with commitment.)

Sign-up Sheet Available at Church

Questions: Contact Brenda Brown (513-868-2338)

