

## Our Mission

“Centered in Christ”  
“Strength for Today”  
“Hope for Tomorrow”



October  
2018



Rev. Larry Gallaher  
Pastor

513-443-4866  
[pastor@rossumc.org](mailto:pastor@rossumc.org)

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

Dear Church Family,

This is the first paragraph from my letter to you last month: “As Christians we are called to serve God and follow Jesus doing His work on the earth. He has gifted each of us with certain gifts for work in the ministry of His church. Our God given gifts should go beyond the church into the world. One way we can take our ministry into the world is through a simple thing called evangelism.”

What do we do with evangelism? I have been reading a wonderful little book by Dietrich Bonhoeffer called “*Life Together*.” In it he says, “it is not simply to be taken for granted that the Christian has the privilege of living among other Christians. Jesus Christ lived in the midst of enemies. At the end all his disciples deserted him. On the cross he was utterly alone, surrounded by evildoers and mockers. For the cause he had come, to bring peace to the enemies of God, So the Christian, too, belongs not in the seclusion of a cloistered life but in the thick of foes. This is our commission...”

Who are our friends? Is it only those we worship with? Who throughout the week do we associate with? Who do we dine with, visit with, go to movies with? This is the very being of what Bonhoeffer was saying. Our ministry is to the lost people of this world. What are we doing to further the kingdom of God?

Jesus told us to be in the world but not part of it. He can give us the strength to minister and stay away from the temptations that come with it. Here are some suggestions:

1. Be spiritually prepared as you go out into the world. Pray each morning, read and meditate on God's Word daily.
2. Tell others how God has used something you said or did (not to glory in what we do) but to let people know He still speaks to us in today's world.
3. Share with others who need to hear the message of the gospel what it means to you.
4. Live out what we have learned. Be a role model for someone who needs to know how a Christian should live.

Don't let your message go unheard to someone who needs to hear.

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 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>  
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](mailto: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](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

## Altar Flowers

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  
[djklykbutterfly@gmail.com](mailto:djklykbutterfly@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](mailto:emily.fs.adams@gmail.com) if  
you would prefer to receive your  
issue of The Ross Community  
United Methodist Church  
Newsletter by e-mail.



## Why We Go to Church... or Do Not

**Dr. James Emery White**

According to the Pew Research Center, there are some definite reasons why people do – or do not – go to church. It might be good to eavesdrop since there has been “a decline in attendance at religious services from 2007 to 2014, with about a third of Americans now saying they worship weekly and about a third saying they go rarely or never.”

First, why people do go.

Among regular attenders of religious services, two in three go because of their kids. They also go for “personal comfort” or to become a “better person.” But the biggest reason of all? To feel closer to God. The irony is that one in five people usually don’t feel God’s presence when they do. One in four usually don’t feel a sense of community, and four in ten usually don’t feel connected to their faith’s history.

But let’s dig deeper into why those who don’t go to church don’t go.

Here’s what I like; really, really like. Among the top cluster of responses people gave for not attending church are things such as not finding a church they like, not liking the sermons, and reporting they don’t feel welcome. Why do I like that? Because it’s low-hanging fruit. Meaning, fixable. Easily fixable. We can help them find us. We can work harder on sermons. We can be more friendly. In other words, all we have to do is open the front door and do a better job at valuing them and their time. We can all do that... right?

Sources: Jeremy Weber, “Pew: Why Americans Go to Church or Stay Home,” Christianity Today, August 1, 2018, read online. “Why Americans Go (and Don’t Go) to Religious Services,” Pew Research Center, August 1, 2018, read online.

About the Author

James Emery White is the founding and senior pastor of Mecklenburg Community Church in Charlotte, NC, and the ranked adjunctive professor of theology and culture at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, where he also served as their fourth president. His latest book, Meet Generation Z: Understanding and Reaching the New Post-Christian World, is available on Amazon. To enjoy a free subscription to the Church & Culture blog, visit [ChurchAndCulture.org](http://ChurchAndCulture.org), where you can view past blogs in our archive and read the latest church and culture news from around the world. Follow Dr. White on Twitter and Instagram @JamesEmeryWhite.

*Submitted by Pastor Larry.*

**Ross Community  
U.M. Women  
Faith, Hope & Love  
In Action**



*Submitted by Judy Creasy*

The next UM Women’s meeting will be on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 in the church at 10:00 a.m.

In October the women will be selling Thanksgiving paper plates and napkins, along with taking presale orders of the Terri Lynn nuts and candy. We will be selling: Pecan Halves, Pecan Pieces, Mixed Nuts, Whole Cashews, Milk Chocolate Pecan Clusters, Dark Chocolate Mint Patties, Sweet & Salty Trail Mix and Milk Chocolate Jumbo Raisins.

All the proceeds of these sales will go to the Dorothy Gard Scholarship Fund. Watch “This Week at Ross” for more details.

We are hoping all the women of the church will attend the October meeting.

 **October**   
**Anniversary's**

**19**  
**Doug & Nancy Beckman**

**20**  
**Dave & Judy Wilson**

 **October**   
**Birthdays**

**06 Addy Rheinfrank**  
**06 Sharon Mortimer**  
**07 Jo Anderson**  
**07 Tim Zecher**  
**08 Gabrielle Truman**  
**12 Nichole Auffinger**

**14 Jeanine Biggs**  
**17 Ben Brown**  
**21 Sandy Hogeback**  
**24 Robin Montgomery**  
**25 Don Rechel**

<b>Hall &amp; Door Monitor</b>	
<b>October</b>	
<b>7</b>	Doug Beckman
<b>14</b>	Judy Creasy
<b>21</b>	Sharon Mortimer
<b>28</b>	Wayne Estep
<b>November</b>	
<b>4</b>	Jim Rechel
<b>11</b>	Phil Brown
<b>18</b>	Roger Creasy
<b>23</b>	Butch Foster
<b>December</b>	
<b>2</b>	Doug Beckman
<b>9</b>	Judy Creasy
<b>16</b>	Sharon Mortimer
<b>23</b>	Wayne Estep
<b>30</b>	Jim Rechel

<b>Worship Leaders</b>	
<b>October</b>	
<b>7</b>	Greg Conrad
<b>14</b>	Tim Zecher
<b>21</b>	Debbie Kunick
<b>28</b>	Roger Creasy
<b>November</b>	
<b>4</b>	Tim Zecher
<b>11</b>	Nancy Beckman
<b>18</b>	Jim Rechel
<b>25</b>	Debbie Gilman
<b>December</b>	
<b>2</b>	Chip Schoepf
<b>9</b>	Sally Rechel
<b>16</b>	Tom Bevington
<b>23</b>	
<b>30</b>	

### **Halloween 2018**

Halloween is an annual holiday celebrated each year on October 31, and Halloween 2018 occurs on Wednesday, October 31. It originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints; soon, All Saints Day incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, and later Halloween. Over time, Halloween evolved into a day of activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes and eating sweet treats.

#### **Ancient Origins of Halloween**

Halloween's origins date back to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in). The [Celts](#), who lived 2,000 years ago in the area that is now Ireland, the United Kingdom and northern France, celebrated their new year on November 1.

This day marked the end of summer and the harvest and the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death. Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred. On the night of October 31 they celebrated Samhain, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead returned to earth.

In addition to causing trouble and damaging crops, Celts thought that the presence of the otherworldly spirits made it easier for the Druids, or Celtic priests, to make predictions about the future. For a people entirely dependent on the volatile natural world, these prophecies were an important source of comfort and direction during the long, dark winter.

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To commemorate the event, Druids built huge sacred bonfires, where the people gathered to burn crops and animals as sacrifices to the Celtic deities. During the celebration, the Celts wore costumes, typically consisting of animal heads and skins, and attempted to tell each other's fortunes.

When the celebration was over, they re-lit their hearth fires, which they had extinguished earlier that evening, from the sacred bonfire to help protect them during the coming winter.

*Copied from <https://www.history.com/topics/halloween/history-of-halloween>*



**Happy  
Halloween!**



<http://disneycoloringbook.blogspot.com/>

