



The Messenger



First Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

36363 Center Ridge Road
North Ridgeville, OH 44039
440.327.2921 ~ www.fccalive.org

July 2013

Interim Minister

Dave Howell
pastor@fccalive.org
216-496-8776

Director, Christian Education

Mary Karlovec

Moderator

Regenia Comerford

Vice-Moderator

June Yost

Chair, Christian Education

Karen Veliconia

Co-Chairs, Deacons

Diana Goode
Keith Schoonover

Chair, Outreach

Edie Phillips

Chair, Trustees

Roy Dreger

Treasurer, Secretary

Linda Matis

Pastor's Pen – Pastor Dave

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven....Ecclesiastes 3:1

The summer solstice is upon us and reminds us that time is moving on. I have been with you 6 months as interim pastor and I can honestly say that it has been a very satisfying 6 months for me and I hope it has been for you. With the coming of summer we begin to think ahead to seasons before us and all the things that come with them through end of 2013 – the coming of Vacation Bible School, the beginning again of church school and fall programming for the whole church, the continuation of the season of Pentecost, the coming of Advent and beyond that Christmas.

In the church perhaps more than some other institutions, seasons coming and going have so much more depth of meaning. It's not just the passage of time or the cycle of the seasons in the outside world but also the passage of the church year and its seasons. So I invite you to join me of the continued journey. To give you some insight into my own perception of time, I'd like to share a quote from a favorite sermon of mine shared by the wife of one of my former professors in college, the Rev. Dr. Joanna Adams. She shared these thoughts on the nationally syndicated radio broadcast entitled "Day 1" (formerly known as The Protestant Hour).

"Preachers are not the only ones who have to keep track of time. We all do. There are deadlines to meet, busses to catch, papers to be turned in. Calendars and clocks have become our masters in modern society. In his book Time Wars, Jeremy Rifkin writes that the idea of our lives and the events in them being controlled by blocks of allocated time is, in terms of centuries at least, a relatively new idea. The idea comes from the Benedictine monks whose passion for organizing and filling every minute of the day grew out of St. Benedict's conviction that 'idleness is the enemy of the soul.' Not until the 15th century did clocks begin to rival churches in the town squares of Europe. Not until the 17th century did those clocks have minute hands.

Surely much has been gained in terms of production and organization, but when life became divided and subdivided into seconds, minutes, and hours, many things were lost. We experience those losses every day. Our distance from the natural rhythms of life keeps increasing. Hardly anything is really seasonal. You can get tomatoes, summer's most luscious offering, anytime of the year now, though where I live, the ones you buy in January are likely to have been shipped 1,000 miles and will taste like cardboard. We

*To
Share
Faith,
Hope
and
Love
with
all.*

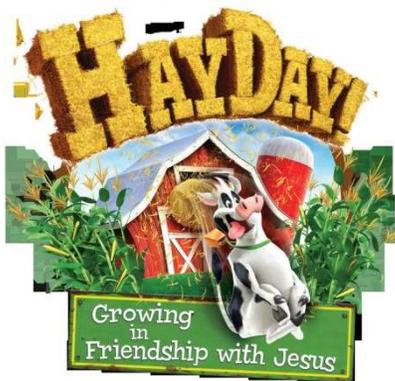
also live at an increasing distance from the ancient but timeless understanding that each day, each moment, is an unearned gift from a gracious God, rather than a commodity to be traded or spent for something else."

Time isn't something simply to be organized and used up. Dr. Adams reminds us that it is first and foremost a gift from God to be used wisely by us as God's "good stewards." As we move ahead in the year together let us truly wisely use our time together to gain the best products we can in thanksgiving to the "creator of all life," God our creator, Redeemer, Sustainer and Friend.

I was deeply moved by the church's generous gift to me to mark my graduation and reception of the Doctor of Ministry degree from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Please accept my warmest thanks for your kindness to me over the last six months and particularly in your gift. ~Pastor Dave

Christian Education Corner – Mary Karlovec

Back by popular demand is Vacation Bible School! This year's theme is "HAY DAY-Growing in Friendship with Jesus!" We are going down



on the farm for three exciting nights! Please join us on July 28 through 30 (Sunday through Tuesday) from 6-8:30 p.m. We will start each evening with dinner and

end each evening with a Hoe Down Celebration in the sanctuary.

This is an INTERGENERATIONAL VBS and EVERYONE IS INVITED!

There will be crafts, music, games and Bible Study for both children and adults. The cost is \$5.00 for an individual or \$10 per family. You can download registration from our web site or paper copies are available in the office, narthex or table in the Sunday School wing. The deadline to register is July 25 (so we can

purchase food supplies). Grandchildren and neighbors are most welcome! Please come join the fun as we will have a "MOO-VING" good time!

****If you are interested in helping with Vacation Bible School, we need help preparing the meal, crafts, games and Bible story time for kids. Please see Mary Karlovec or Karen Veliconia if you are willing to help.****

I am still looking for people to volunteer to oversee the Grade 2 and under summer Sunday School class during church. If you can help, please see me. Everything is ready for you; all you have to do is teach. I am especially in need of someone for July 7 as I will be out of town.

A Note from Your Endowment Committee

Together we **can** make a difference. The North Ridgeville First Congregational UCC Endowment Fund was established years ago in the bylaws of our Constitution. You can contribute to this fund at any time and the gift will be invested and the income used to help our church meet its goals and expenses. You can designate your gift as being in memory of or in honor of a person, group or occasion and they will be honored in a future issue of *The Messenger*. You can contribute to this fund by placing your gift in the offering plate, mailing it to the Treasurer of First Congregational or handing it to a member of the Endowment Fund Committee, just be sure to indicate on the envelope that it is for the Endowment Fund and who you want to pay tribute to. Together we **will** make a difference.

Bill Elliott, Krista O'Neill, and Roy Dreger

Outreach Committee News – Edie Phillips

Storms, loss of lives and property damage; these seem to be regular occurrences in the tornado belt. How can we help these people and know the ones needing the help are receiving it? By giving through World Vision we can be assured the help is getting to the people who need it. Before the storm in Oklahoma City

cleared, World Vision relief teams began loading trucks with emergency supplies and preparing assessment teams to deploy from its disaster response warehouse in Grand Prairie, Texas. The Outreach Committee voted to send \$200.00 to World Vision for the tornado victims.

Community Care: Don't forget our neighbors here in North Ridgeville who need a hand. Keep bringing food items to church with you on Sunday morning. Items needed are:

- ✓ Peanut butter and jelly
- ✓ Macaroni and cheese
- ✓ Cereals and other breakfast foods
- ✓ Cans of soups, ravioli, SpaghettiOs, etc
- ✓ Any nonperishable items

We are part of Community Care so let's continue doing our small part.

Hospitality With a Heart: This month's menu is: Hamburger or hot dog, potato chips, baked beans, watermelon, dessert. Thanks to all who bring in baked goods for dessert whenever requested. I think this program has been a success thanks to everyone's help. There are some people I know will be there every month and others who come whenever they can make it. I would name you but if I leave out even one person I would feel bad. You know who you are and I appreciate your help.

And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and the stranger. I am the Lord your God.

Leviticus 19:10

God's call for holiness among God's people was a call for compassion to strangers and generosity to the poor.

Submitted by: Outreach Committee members Barb, Nancy, Ann, Edie, Jean, and Peg

Pastor Parish Committee

The Pastor Parish Committee mailbox is a special communication area where the congregation can submit a written communique

for the pastor or committee to review and hopefully resolve for all parties involved. The mailbox is located in Fellowship Hall by the back exit doorway. If you have any questions, please contact any of the following Pastor Parish Committee members: Nancy Franks, Edie Phillips, Bob Franks or Pat Kyle. Thank you.

From the Deacons' Desk

During the choir's summer hiatus we are seeking out individuals and/or groups who would be interested in sharing their musical/singing talents with the congregation during a worship service. If you would like more information, contact Pastor Dave or Kathleen Bosl, our music director. Sign up sheets are available in the Winckle's Room and Fellowship Hall.

"Praise the Lord!

*How good it is to sing praises to our God;
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting."*

Psalm 147:1



Trustees' Turn – Roy Dreger

I have just been up to the church and noticed that the wood around the base of the roof has been repaired and it looks really good! The gutters still need to be replaced, but even without the gutters it looks much better. I know that the painting of the sanctuary ceiling is still waiting to be done (and may have to wait until fall), but I think it will prove to be for the better since the roof repairs needed to be done first anyway.

I want to thank everyone that showed up for the spring cleanup on Saturday June 8, including the members of 4-H. I think the church looks much more inviting with the flower beds in good repair and the bushes trimmed. I think this is what is termed "curb appeal." Hopefully people driving by will take notice and maybe even stop in! And a "thank you" also goes to those who cleaned inside. I peeked into the kitchen and it really looked nice. I hope that it will stay that way and that people using it will leave it as clean as they found it.

The Trustees are in charge of changing the sign out front and are always looking for new ideas. Anyone that has a saying they would like to see put on the sign can submit their ideas to any Trustee. Just remember there are three lines (maximum) available and there are only 17 spaces on each line, so all sayings need to be brief. Personally I would like to see the sayings limited to 2 lines so that our website address stays posted; but that's just me. Three lines are fine if needed.

It is summertime and that means vacation time for many of us. But as you plan for your travels, please remember your pledge; and as always, the Trustees thank you for your continued financial support.

From the Parish Nurse

Summertime & Picnic Time Tips

- Keep foods safe when dining out doors.
- Choose mostly foods that don't need to stay cool.
- Pack any perishable items in a cooler with plenty of ice, including cut-up veggies and fruit.
- Bring along alcohol based hand sanitizer or wipes. Clean hands-a must before touching food. Don't forget to have kids clean their hands.
- Don't set food out until it's time to dig in.
- After eating throw away food that's been out for more than 2 hours-1 hour in temperatures of 90 or warmer.
- Marinade food in the refrigerator. If some marinade is to be used as a sauce on the cooked food, reserve a portion before putting raw meat in it.
- Fill ice chests as full as possible. Consider packing drinks in a separate cooler so the food cooler is not opened frequently.
- Get more tips at www.foodsafety.gov.

Sun Safety

- Most kids rack up a lot of their lifetime sun exposure before age 18.
- Avoid strongest rays of the day, usually between 10AM until 4PM. If kids must be in the sun between these hours, be sure to apply and reapply protective sun screen. Most

sun damage occurs as a result of incidental exposure during day to day activities, not at the beach.

- Use cover up-clothes that will screen out harmful rays, hats, umbrella.
- Do not apply sunscreen to babies under 6 months of age. Keep them out of the sun.
- Use sunscreen consistently. For kids 6 months and older, select SPF of 30 or higher that protects against both UVA and UVB. Reapply every 2 hours. Apply 15 to 30 minutes prior to sun exposure.
- Sun exposure damages the eyes as well as the skin. Even 1 day in the sun can result in a burned cornea. Purchase sunglasses that provide 100% UV protection.
- Get more tips at SunSafety-kidshealth.org.

Have a safe, fun summer!
Parish Nurse, Karen Dreger



Past to Present Car Show September 8, 2013

We need you!! We'll be needing as many of you that can help on Sunday, September 8 from right after the worship service until the show is over at 4:00 p.m. and the church ground and building are cleaned up. This is one of our all church fundraisers for the year ***so let's make it a huge success!!***

Look for the insert for ways YOU can help out. Remember to wear a blue t-shirt and a smile on that Sunday so everyone will know you are a member of this happy church family.

Bob, Alex Jane and I are looking forward to making this event the best one we've ever had. Please mark the date on your calendar and get yourselves in gear for this year's "Past to Present" Car Show. Fun for everyone!

Thank you to the person who provided all the men with flowers for Father's Day...and to the Christian Ed committee for the nice Coffee Hour after the service.



**Matt Karlovec
Benefit
Crushers Game
Night**

Saturday, August 24
Gates open 6:00,
game time 7:05 p.m.
Tickets are \$9.00

Matt interned with the Akron Aeros and loves baseball. When he found out that there was a Crushers' game fundraiser planned with the possibility of him throwing out the first pitch, his eyes lit up and he flashed the biggest Cheshire grin. He has a goal!

Please help us achieve that goal by helping us sell at least 100 ticket vouchers! The money raised from the ticket voucher sales will be given to Matt, Mary and Bob. The amount raised is dependent on the number of tickets sold. Below are the package perks according to the number of tickets sold.

100-249 Ticket Vouchers Sold

- \$3.00 back per ticket sold
- Ceremonial first pitch thrown out by rep from our organization
- Concourse table to showcase our organization at game
- P.A. announcement welcoming our group
- Lake Erie Crushers team autographed baseball

250-499 Ticket Vouchers Sold

- All of the above, plus an option to sell 50/50 raffle during the game

500 or more Ticket Vouchers Sold

- All of the above
- Option to sell Launch-A-Ball during the game
- Rep from our organization will sit in on live radio broadcast (1/2 inning)
- Pre-game giant check presentation on the field

If you are unable to attend the game but still would like to help, we can donate your ticket(s) to Community Care to give to a client, thus helping two causes!

Send ticket form and money to First Congregational UCC, 36363 Center Ridge Rd. North Ridgeville OH 44039 or put in offering plate on Sunday.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE GAME!

Ushers & Greeters

July	
7	Youth Members
14	Barb Zinsmeister, Shirley Sunyak, Joe Pesch, Ric Sasse
21	Gayle Hannold, Vonnie Packard, Tom Packard, June Yost
28	Bill Elliott, Charis Meehan, Bill Meehan, Ed Connolly
August	
4	Youth Members
11	Krista O'Neill, Gayle Hannold, Lynne Petroff, Joe Pesch
18	Charis Meehan, Bill Meehan, Ric Sasse, Millie Gilly
25	Barb Zinsmeister, Bill Elliott, Tom Packard, Vonnie Packard

Please note: If you would like to be removed from the Usher List, please contact Becky Williams at (440) 327-1891.

JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|------|--------------------------|
| 7/5 | Jodie Fine |
| 7/6 | Joan Bier |
| 7/6 | Dahlia Wolanski |
| 7/10 | Charlotte King |
| 7/14 | Bob Karlovec |
| 7/15 | Edie Phillips |
| 7/25 | Diana Goode |
| 7/3 | Bob & Nancy Franks |
| 7/4 | Greg & Kim Cromwell |
| 7/18 | Bob & Mary Karlovec |
| 7/21 | Brian & Barb Zinsmeister |
| 7/22 | John & Dawn Alpine |



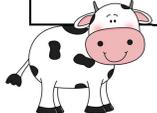
CORN FESTIVAL PARADE FLOAT MEETING

Wednesday, July 10, 7:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Plan to attend!

Nancy Franks, 327-9647

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Jazz 9:30am/6pm AA Women 7:30 pm	2 CE 7 pm Jazzercise 6:30 pm AA 1 st Step 8:30 pm	3 Jazz 9:30 am only	4 Independence Day OFFICE CLOSED  No 4-H No Jazzercise Al-Anon 8 pm	5 Jazzercise 9:30 am	6 Jazzercise 9 am Married Couples Recovery 7 pm
7 Summer bible study 9-9:45 am Communion	8 Trustees 7:30 pm Book Club 7 pm Jazz 9:30am/6pm AA Women 7:30 pm	9 Jazzercise 6:30 pm AA 1 st Step 8:30 pm	10 Corn Festival parade float meeting 7:30p Jazz 9:30 am/6pm	11 4-H 6:30 pm Jazzercise 6:30 pm Al-Anon 8 pm	12 Jazzercise 9:30 am	13 Jazzercise 9 am Married Couples Recovery 7 pm
14 Search Committee 9 am Summer bible study 9-9:45 am July birthdays celebration	15 Jazz 9:30am/6pm AA Women 7:30 pm	16 Newsletter articles due Jazzercise 6:30 pm AA 1 st Step 8:30 pm	17 Jazz 9:30 am/6pm	18 4-H 6:30 pm Jazzercise 6:30 pm Al-Anon 8 pm	19 Jazzercise 9:30 am	20 Jazzercise 9 am Married Couples Recovery 7 pm
21 Summer bible study 9-9:45 am Communion	22 Jazz 9:30am/6pm AA Women 7:30 pm	23 Jazzercise 6:30 pm AA 1 st Step 8:30 pm	24 Jazz 9:30 am/6pm	25 4-H 6:30 pm Jazzercise 6:30 pm Al-Anon 8 pm	26 Hospitality w/a Heart meal 4-6 prep, 6-7 serve, 7-? clean up Jazzercise 9:30 am	27 Jazzercise 9 am Married Couples Recovery 7 pm
28 Search Committee 9 am	29  Jazz 9:30 am only No AA Women	30  No Jazzercise No AA 1 st Step	31 Jazz 9:30 am/6pm			
		<p>“Hay Day” Intergenerational Vacation Bible School 6 pm – 8:30 pm</p>				



**“PAST TO PRESENT” CAR SHOW
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2013
ALL-CHURCH FUNDRAISER
12:30 UNTIL 4:00 P.M.**



WE NEED YOU!! Working together on an all-church project can be fun as we raise much needed funding for the restoration of our church building. Plan to wear a blue t-shirt (so everyone will recognize you as a church member) and plan to help out in one of the areas listed below. To be a success, we need to fill all these areas with one or more persons. (The number in parenthesis indicates how many people are needed.) Please circle areas you choose to help at.

Inside	Outside	Food/Beverage/\$\$\$
Greeter/directions entrance	Set up Saturday	Diet Pepsi: 6-12 packs
Bakery area (2)	Park show cars (3)	Diet Coke: 6-12 packs
Beverage area (2)	Show car sentry (3)	Water: 6-24 packs
Coffee, pop, money (3)	Register cars (3)	Pepsi: 6-12 packs
Church tours (2-3)	50/50 sales (2)	Coke: 6-12 packs
Kids Korner (3)	Chinese auction (2)	\$\$ for buns, beef, condiments, hot dogs, ice, coffee, etc.
Decorate hall/Sat. set up	Announce door prizes (2)	
Runners in & outside (4)	Food grill, orders, money (7)	Bakery items/finger food
Clean up inside, clean up outside Sunday (as many as possible)		

We would like lots of **DOOR PRIZES**: car stuff, gas cards, dining cards, service coupons (haircut, tire rotate, car wash, baseball, hockey, football, soccer passes/tickets, theater tickets, auto memorabilia, etc.), things you would like to get! Mark items “Car Show” and place in last room by the stairs in the undercroft.

Questions? Contact Nancy at 327-9647. Thank you very much!!!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Return to Nancy personally or by way of secretary or offering plate.



**First Congregational United Church of Christ
Night with the Lake Erie Crushers**

**Lake Erie Crushers vs. Schaumburg Boomers
Saturday, August 24**

Gates open 6:00; Game time 7:05 p.m.

**\$9.00 Home Box Seats
(Rows 3-9)**

**ORDERS DUE:
AUGUST 18**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

_____ Home Box Seats @ \$9 ea = _____
(Total enclosed)

Please make checks payable to:
First Congregational UCC
36363 Center Ridge, N. Ridgeville, OH 44039

____ I am unable to attend the game but would still like to help.
Please donate my tickets to North Ridgeville Community Care
so that someone else can enjoy the game!

Fundraiser proceeds to benefit Matt Karlovec & family

Past to Present CAR SHOW

September 8, 2013

1 to 4 pm

First Congregational UCC Church

36363 Center Ridge Road

North Ridgeville, OH

440-327-9647



CHURCH FUNDRAISER

Motorcycle corral



Door Prizes

REGISTRATION \$8.00

KIDS GAMES

Trophies

Music

Food

50/50 drawing