



Community Congregational Church United Church of Christ



May 2018 Newsletter



Dear friends and members of Community Congregational Church,

Birthdays are wonderful things! They give us the opportunity to let those who make our lives special and bring us joy know how much they mean to us and how much they are appreciated. Did you know that in 2020 our church will be having a BIG birthday? We will be celebrating 100 years of ministry in this community! This is a blessed milestone and one that we'll all want to celebrate. Some of you may be asking, "Why should we celebrate the birthday of the church?" If we look through the Bible we read that our God wants us to pass-on the good works of our Lord from one generation to the next. One way we can do this is by celebrating the many and wonderful ways that God has blessed this church and its ministries, not only among ourselves but also with the entire community of New Port Richey. I recently read that when a church commemorates its history it is able to more clearly recognize the gifts that God has given the church as a faith community. It is also an opportunity for the church to reach-out to the community to let people join in the celebration. When a church has a well-planned celebration and invites the local community to attend the events, the church ends-up growing and welcoming many new members.

I know many of you have become frustrated with our budget and are suffering from budget fatigue. I have heard you *and I understand*. After much prayer, the Holy Spirit has spoken to me and has told me that we need to trust and begin planning our future. I also heard very clearly, that we should be putting our energies into planning our celebration and that we should use this opportunity to come together and strengthen God's church. Although it may seem that 2020 is a long time in the future, we all know that time has a way of running away from us. With this in mind, I would like to ask all of you to help us start the "Birthday Celebration" planning now. One hundred years is a very important milestone in the life of our congregation, so let's make 2020 our year to shine! Let's begin planning ways that we can reach out to the community to involve them in this very special occasion. If you have ideas on how we can make this birthday celebration a time for the citizens of New Port Richey to come together and help us mark this very special year, please share your ideas and join the planning committee (soon to be formed) God has blessed us in so many ways. Let's give God our praise by coming together to plan a celebration that praises the ministries of Jesus Christ, right here in New Port Richey!

We are all blessed with an Attitude; is yours one of Gratitude?

Pastor Victoria

Fundraising

Maureen Lang, Sydney Kenna and Sherry Richert have come forward and volunteered to be the first to help form a fundraising committee. As you all know, “Many hands, makes light work.” So, if you have a fundraising idea, are willing to share your time, and/or would like to be part of this fledgling committee, please contact Victoria.

Editor’s Note

We are beginning preparations for our **Centennial**. The Church building and the ministry will be 100! We would like to involve the community and will work to that end. The plan is to have a “*Festival Celebration*” and we are looking for people to become involved with planning. We are starting now so we can make it a wonderful *Festival Season*! The thought is to have the President of the UCC, the Mayor of NPR, possibly channel 9 and folks from Joy FM help us with our celebration. We are looking for food vendors, and perhaps Jim Wanker would like to have his kids perform outside! Does anyone have contacts with a local dance group or karate school? Reach out to me with ideas! No idea is too small or too big. To make this event a huge success, we’ll need lots of hands. *Thanks, Robin*

Welcome to New Church Member

Sherry Richert



Sherry is a Navy Veteran and transferred her membership from First United Methodist Church of Long Beach, Mississippi. She is interested in arts and crafts, music and computer graphics.

Our Gifts to God

	March	YTD
Budget	13,518.00	40,754.00
Received	13,754.32	47,785.41
Difference	236.32	7,031.41

The pledges were slightly more than the monthly budgeted amount due to two large contributions. Loose Plate offerings continue to be well over the budgeted amount. 😊

Our Expenses

Budget	20,726.00	45,998.00
Paid Out	19,034.59	43,574.80
Difference	1,691.41	2,423.20

During March we were able to keep our expenses below the budgeted amount. 😊

Outreach

Sunday May 27th we will kick off our Summer of Fun! Please plan to join us after service on the front lawn for a cook out. Menu: Hamburgers and Hot Dogs, and then Ice cream “Sundays” of course! Please bring salads, coleslaw and chips to share. We will invite anyone walking by to join us! We will need a couple of grills; can anyone loan us their grill for that day?

July 4 Celebration

Every year we get together in the best seats of the city to view the Firework Display. “Where is that, did I hear you say?” Well the answer is simple: on the front lawn of the church!! As we get ready for the 4th of July, we’re looking for some neat ideas to attract the public to our church. Got any ideas? Should we well chips and water or...? ***Please give us your ideas!*** Thanks!

Goal Surpassed

This is the first Year for the Pasco County Hunger Walk 2018 to Surpass the Goal of \$100,000.00 and we were part of that contributing effort. Thanks to all who participated!

The One Community Now Hunger Walk benefitting Pasco County Pack-A-Sack was held for the fourth year on Saturday, April 7, at Gulf High School. More than 1,000 people attended the walk, and this is the first year that the event organizers have reached their goal of 100,000.00.

A group from our church walked together for the Pasco County Hunger Walk 2018.

- Outreach Committee members: Faye Hartman, chairperson, Linda Leighton, and Sheila (Angel) Bartley.
- Deacons Karen Duffy and Robin Kenna
- Church Members Sydney Kenna and Sherry Richert

Pasco Pack-A-Sack

For some children, the only food they eat on the weekend or on a holiday break is what is given to them through Pasco Pack-A-Sack at school. Community Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, sponsors Pack-A-Sack for 30 children at Richey Elementary School just around the corner from the church. The Unity Fellowship also sponsors 30 children making a total of 60 children served at Richey. There is still a waiting list of 20 children waiting for Pack-A-Sack there.

Children in Pasco County are fed Breakfast and Lunch at school but on weekends and holidays many go hungry. The Pack-A-Sack program works with schools to identify the children most in need and provide food for them over the weekend and on holiday breaks.

Community Congregational Church recently received a letter from a little boy named Aspen, who is one of the children we sponsor serve. The letter says:

Dear Pack-A-Sack Volunteers:

Me and my parents appreciate that you are filling up my sack with healthy food choices, and food that I can share with my family. In return, I will bring back my sack every week, empty and not torn up in any way. I hope that YOU will appreciate ME for doing all these things to help the program. You can trust me.

Thank you, Aspen

If you would like to walk for The 2019 Hunger Walk (April 2019) sponsor our team in 2019, help pack for Pack-A-Sack, or donate to the cause, please contact Faye Hartman, chairperson, Outreach Community. Thank You!!

EASTER SUNDAY—how beautiful the Sanctuary looked



Holy Humor Sunday

Holy Humor Sunday (which is celebrated the First Sunday After Easter) was a wonderful success again this year! Here are a few photos from the Holy Humor Celebration. Don't you agree that our Director of Music, Mr. Jim Wanker, was the most humorously dressed person of the day? (If you can't pick him out, he's pictured on the bottom right of the collage) Enjoy!



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Kim Hoffman	4 May
Rev. Richard Wiggins	4 May
Nancy Cox	6 May
Del Smith	10 May
Ralph Stonier	13 May
Carolyn Pike	15 May
Lynette Grabowski	18 May
Eleanor Kaufman	24 May
Georgia Wengert	25 May
Janet Steiger	27 May
Dave Meachum	30 May

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Cindy & Richard Madden	5/10/86
Linda & Dan Rowland	5/15/65
Emilie & Solomon Evans	5/20/66
Bob & Lee Robida	5/20/94
Jan & James Shuman	5/26/



Daily Lectionary Scripture References
May 2018 (Year B)

Tues., May 1

Psalm 80
Isaiah 32:9-20
James 3:17-18

Wed., May 2

Psalm 80
Isaiah 65:17-25
John 14:18-31

Thurs., May 3

Psalm 98
Isaiah 49:5-6
Acts 10:1-34

Fri., May 4

Psalm 98
Isaiah 42:5-9
Acts 10:34-43

Sat., May 5

Psalm 98
Deuteronomy 32:44-47
Mark 10:42-45

Sun., May 6

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

Mon., May 7

Psalm 93
Deuteronomy 7:1-11
1 Timothy 6:11-12

Tues., May 8

Psalm 93
Deuteronomy 11:1-17
1 Timothy 6:13-16

Wed., May 9

Psalm 93
Deuteronomy 11:18-21
Mark 16:19-20

Thurs., May 10

Ascension of the Lord
Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47 or Psalm 93
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

Fri., May 11

Psalm 47
Exodus 24:15-18
Revelation 1:9-18

Sat., May 12

Psalm 47
Deuteronomy 34:1-7
John 16:4-11

Sun., May 13

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

Mon., May 14

Psalm 115
Exodus 28:29-38
Philippians 1:3-11

Tues., May 15

Psalm 115
Numbers 8:5-22
Titus 1:1-9

Wed., May 16

Psalm 115
Ezra 9:5-15
John 16:16-24

Thurs., May 17

Psalm 33:12-22
Genesis 2:4b-7
1 Corinthians 15:42b-49

Fri., May 18

Psalm 33:12-22
Job 37:1-13
1 Corinthians 15:50-57

Sat., May 19

Psalm 33:12-22
Exodus 15:6-11
John 7:37-39

Sun., May 20

Day of Pentecost
Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Mon., May 21

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Joel 2:18-29
1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Tues., May 22

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Genesis 11:1-9
1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Wed., May 23

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Ezekiel 37:1-14
John 20:19-23

Thurs., May 24

Psalm 29
Isaiah 1:1-4, 16-20
Romans 8:1-8

Fri., May 25

Psalm 29
Isaiah 2:1-5
Romans 8:9-11

Sat., May 26

Psalm 29
Isaiah 5:15-24
John 15:18-20, 26-27

Sun., May 27

Trinity Sunday
Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

Mon., May 28

Psalm 20
Numbers 9:15-23
Revelation 4:1-8

Tues., May 29

Psalm 20
Exodus 25:1-22
1 Corinthians 2:1-10

Wed., May 30

Psalm 20
Numbers 6:22-27
Mark 4:21-25

Thurs., May 31

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Samuel 1:1-18
Acts 25:1-12



This article has been shared from St. Michael the Archangel, Roman Catholic Church Newsletter.

Your Life is a Garden

What you plant, you will harvest. As you plant may I suggest the following Church newsletter rules?

Plant four rows of squash:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash criticism
3. Squash indifference
4. Squash prejudice

Plant Seven rows of peas:

1. Prayer
2. Promptness
3. Perseverance
4. Politeness
5. Preparedness
6. Purity
7. Patience

Plant eight rows of lettuce:

1. Let us be unselfish and loyal
2. Let us be faithful to duty
3. Let us search the scriptures
4. Let us not be weary in well-doing
5. Let us be obedient in all things
6. Let us be truthful
7. Let us love one another
8. Let us not complain

No Garden is complete without Turnips:

1. Turn up for Mass
2. Turn up for meetings, in prayer and Bible study
3. Turn up with a smile, even when things are difficult
4. Turn up with determination to do your best in God's service

After Planting, may you "Grow in Grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ..."
(11 Peter 3:18) ...and may you reap rich results

Community Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

May 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Please let the church office know of any changes or needed corrections. Thank you!		1	2 Victoria on Study Leave in Orlando 12 NA AH 5 Choir Practice 6:15 Bell Practice	3 12:30 to 3:30 Games Group AH 6:30 - 8 NA-AH	4 7 NA-AH	5 12 Noon NA - AH
6 10 Worship 11:30 Finance Board 11:15 Fellowship 7:30 NA - AH	7 5:30 – 7 Tai Chi AH	8 10 Deacons/ Outreach Committee Mtg-Parish House	9 12 Noon NA – AH 5 Choir Practice 6:15 Bell Practice	10 12:30 to 3:30 Games Group AH <u>2 Executive Board</u> 6:30 - 8 NA-AH	11 11 Women's Fellowship AH 7 NA-AH	12 12 Noon NA - AH
13 Mother's Day 10 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 12-5 ASC NA-AH 7:30 NA-AH	14 5:30 – 7 Tai Chi AH	15	16 12 Noon NA – AH 5 Choir Practice 6:15 Bell Practice	17 12:30 to 3:30 Games Group AH 6:30 - 8 NA-AH	18 7 NA-AH	19 12 Noon NA - AH
20 10 Worship 11:15 Fellowship/ Centennial Celebration Preparation Mtg. 7:30 NA - AH	21 5:30 – 7 Tai Chi AH	22	23 12 Noon NA – AH	24 12:30 to 3:30 Games Group AH 6:30 - 8 NA-AH	25 7 NA-AH	26 12 Noon NA - AH
27 10 Worship 11:15 Fellowship/ Bring A Friend Picnic 7:30 NA – AH	28 5:30 – 7 Tai Chi AH		30 12 Noon NA – AH	31 12:30 to 3:30 Games Group AH 6:30 - 8 NA-AH	Community Congregational Church United Church of Christ 6533 Circle Blvd. New Port Richey, FL 34652	