

Serving Us Today

Disciples: All Members

Organist: Ginny Beamish

Minister: Don Crist

Altar Decoration: Becky Pierce

Liturgist: Karen Spear

Head User: Mike Beamish

Choir Director: Becky Pierce

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Today, Sunday, September 11 th	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Worship
Monday, September 12th	6:00pm	Trustee Meeting
Wednesday, September 7th	10:00am	History Team
	11:30am	Women's Fellowship
	6:00pm	Choir

***Wi-Fi Network: Welcome
Passcode: hereiamlord***

God is Still Speaking,



September 11, 2022

**“You Are a Blessing of
Love to the World”**

St. John's United Church of Christ

130 S Walnut St

Troy, OH 45373

(937) 335-2028

Pastor Don Crist

INTROIT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Liturgist)

A friendly welcome to all! No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, you are welcome here.

BELLS TO WELCOME THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

PRELUDE "Meditation" Bach-Gounod

OPENING WORDS (Liturgist)

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.
(Psalm 100:5)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Come, Beloved of God, the blistering wind of life is not the end.

People: May the eye of the storm still us into wholeness and hope.

Liturgist: May the wind of God, turn us around toward trust in Holy promises.

People: May our promises to God be pressed anew into our hearts and minds.

Liturgist: May everything of excess be released and refined for Love's good work.

People: May God's vision of a world made new arise from God's wind in and through us.

Women's Fellowship

On Wednesday, September 14th Women's Fellowship will meet at the church at 11:30am to then go to New Bremen Park. Please bring a brown bag lunch. We will have dessert and will be stopping at Crossway Farms on the way back.

Pastor Don & Mary Ann on Vacation

Don and Mary Ann arrived in Amsterdam safely. Don emailed: "We are staying in Haarlem, outside of Amsterdam maybe 45 minutes by bus. It is a beautiful, quaint town. We are staying in a hotel above a small restaurant and on the edge of a large plaza which furnishes endless opportunities for people-watching! All around the plaza are many restaurants with outdoor seating, a church (Protestant) built sometime in the 1600's, bicycles going every conceivable direction at every conceivable speed. People are friendly and helpful. Most speak at least some English but Dutch, of course, is their favorite. Today we go to the Ann Frank house in Amsterdam."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Collection Today

Today the Membership and Outreach Committee will be collecting monetary donations for Church World Service (CWS). In America and around the world, your donation will help impoverished areas with basic needs and tools that will help them to sustain themselves and their families. During disasters, people often need blankets and much more. With our help Church World Service can be there for the long haul as families recover from disaster.

You will find envelopes for your donations on the table in the Narthex or you may add your donation to your weekly offering envelope and indicate CWS and the amount on the "other" line. Thank you.

Adult Sunday School & Worship Time

Adult Sunday School will be at 9:30am next Sunday, September 18th in the café. Next week's topic will be "*Can I Take It Pass/Fail?* – Making Our Faith Appealing to More People" with Mike Beamish facilitating. Hope to see you there!

St. John's Choir

St. John's Choir will assemble at 6:00pm this Wednesday, September 14th. There is plenty of room in the pews for more singers. Please join your singing friends for an hour of reviewing some old favorite tunes, and perhaps looking for a few new ones. See you then!

Church Picnic

St. John's Annual Church Picnic will be held at the Troy Community Park on September 24th beginning at 3:00pm. If you want to play in the cornhole tournament, please arrive at 2:30pm. We will also be playing Bingo. Please bring new or gently used items as prizes. Also, please bring lawn chairs, your own table service, and a covered dish to share. St. John's will provide chicken, chips and water. If you want a beverage other than water, please bring that with you. Come and enjoy a fun filled afternoon with our church family!

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (In Unison)

O Holy Wind of God, sweep through our lives. Pause us into your presence, slowing our breathless pace. Refine in us a renewed willingness to bear gracious goodness into the chaos of the world. Let our memories on this day, call forth an alternative to the easy response of violence for violence. Form instead a steady commitment to return love in the face of fear, hope in the midst of despair, and mercy for every brokenness of the world's design. By this, form anew the heart and mind of Christ in us, here, now, today. Amen.

*HYMN:#275 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" (Red Hymnal)

SCRIPTURE READING (Liturgist) John 4:7-16

A TIME FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES: Ginny will be leading us all in the singing of some children's songs. Children age 5 and under are invited to gather together in the Sunday School area at the conclusion of this time.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Mark Condy

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (In Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Blessing to the World"

Mark Condy

SILENT PREPARATION FOR LISTENING

We invite you to use these few moments of silence to welcome the Inner Teacher to speak to you as Mark shares the morning message.

SERMON “You are a Blessing of Love to the World”

OFFERTORY INVITATION (Liturgist)

Our lives are gifts not of our making. But by our consent to Love’s deep desire we are indeed remade. God is generous in this way, searching out every lost sheep or coin or beloved child until the fullness of joy rises in celebration. So we are invited to share in the sacred savoring that comes with self-giving that begins and ends in God. May our yes of giving grow Love’s delight in us.

OFFERTORY “His Holy Presence” Charles Sergisson

***DOXOLOGY: (In Unison)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***DEDICATION PRAYER: (In Unison)**

O Faithful One, accept these gifts of our hearts and hands. May they be multiplied and magnified as the living presence of Christ in the world. Amen.

***HYMN:# 575** “O for a World” (Black Hymnal)

BENEDICTION Mark Condy

POSTLUDE “God Is Our Salvation” Chester Nordman

(All hymns used by permission, CCLI License # 11076943)

PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

Jeff Shaw: Please keep Joyce Swank and her family in prayers as they grieve her cousin.

McKenzie Gibbons (age 5) daughter of David and Kirsten Gibbons, granddaughter of Barb and John Gibbons had extensive throat and palate reconstruction surgery August 19th. Prayers are needed throughout her long recovery.

Dot Thompson: Please pray for Earl Reives’ sister who home from the hospital and continuing to gain strength.

Wayne Cunningham: Please pray for Stephanie Strobe’s father. The cancer that he previously battled and defeated has metastasized into the bone and liver. He is now facing a very aggressive chemo regimen.

Brent Adkins: Please continue to pray for Brent’s improvement.

Fred Finney: Ginny Beamish’s brother is still at the Cleveland Clinic, but out of ICU. Please continue to pray for his recovery.

Em Finney: Please continue to pray for Ginny Beamish’s sister, Em, as she continues to battle health issues.

Michael Ham: Please pray for Michael as he continues to struggle with serious health issues.

Joe Valentine: Please pray for Barb Bartel’s son, Joe, as he continues to struggle with family issues.

Erika, Logan and Brianna Wilson: Please pray for Sharon’s grandchildren that they may know the love, peace and grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Remember our homebound in your thoughts and prayers. Cards are welcome:

Barb Bartel: 4675 Orbison Rd., Troy, OH. 45373

Beulah Bowers: 1220 N. Dorset, Troy, OH 45373

Carletta Gritzmaker: 2896 West Main Street, Troy, OH 45373

Joan Meredith: Garbry Ridge Room #103, 1567 Garbry Road, Piqua, OH 45356

Janet Walpole: c/o The Lindley Inn, 9000 Hocking Hills Dr, Room#144, The Plains, OH 45780

Please note: Updates and/or amendments to the prayer list are appreciated. Typically, prayer requests will be removed after 4 weeks. If you or a loved one needs to remain on the list, please contact Betty Schaffner at 937-335-6713. Thank you.