

Pilgrim United Church of Christ's Look into Our History....

...any settler who considered himself a Congregationalist, found two opportunities for worship according to their own customs, neither of which was entirely satisfactory. There was a church in Stow, but it was not an especially strong church, so it is not surprising that most preferred the church at Tallmadge, but it was an ox-cart journey from home. The only other Congregationalist institution was a Sunday School carried on at the home of Mrs. Sophia Wetmore. In response to this, a meeting was held on December 8, 1833, "at the School House at Cuyahoga Falls to consider the Expediency of forming a [Congregationalist] Church at this place." The meeting was attended by Rev. Benson Baldwin, Elisha Sill, Henry Newberry, Birdsey Booth, Jabez Hamlin, Ogden Wetmore, Frederick Upson, and "several ladies." Apparently the meeting was a success, for **on the 14th of February, 1834, the group met again and founded the First Congregational Church of Cuyahoga Falls.** Actually the attendance at the second meeting was a little different—Jabez Hamlin was not present, although he did become active in the new church, but a Rev. J. C. Parmelee of Tallmadge was there. Furthermore, the "several ladies" were identified as Mrs. Elizabeth Newberry, Miss Fanny Newberry, Miss Mary Newberry, Mrs. Julia Newberry Wetmore, and Mrs. Charlotte Lawson, who had moved to Cuyahoga Falls in 1832 with her husband, William A. Lawson. The new congregation chose Rev. Baldwin as its first pastor, although he would have to alternate between First Congregational Church and the First Presbyterian Church of Middlebury, as part of Akron was known in those early days. Services were held at the Lyceum, erected on the southeast corner of Front and Broad, until the present church building was completed in 1847.

The first organizing document of the church was the Confession and Covenant, adopted at the February 14, 1834 meeting....It was on March 2, 1835, that the First Congregational Society, consisting of Birdsey Booth, Ogden Wetmore, Henry Newberry, and ten other men, was incorporated.

Endeavoring to Walk Worthy by Brian L. Ewart, Church Historian, p. 3

Acolyte: Thank You!

Altar Flowers:

Helen Hapanowicz

Greeters: Everyone present today!

Ushers: Thank You!

PowerPoint: Cheryl Bruce

Liturgist: Helen Hapanowicz

Fellowship: Team #2

Steeple Lighting:

Thank you!

Pilgrim United Church of Christ Staff

Pastor, Rev. Kirk W. Bruce: pilgrimpastor@ameritech.net

F.F. Director, Marilyn Freeman: pilgrimce@ameritech.net

Secretary, Kelly Gerstenberger: pilgrimoffice@ameritech.net

Music Director, Kyle Kelvington: kelvingtonk@gmail.com

Cleaning Services, Peter Paugh

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

A Caring Church for Thinking People

130 Broad Blvd † Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 † 330.928.4847

www.pilgrimcf.org †



Sunday, February 12, 2017



Love Is . . .

Rev. Kirk W. Bruce

Mission Statement:
*God calls us to live our faith as disciples
Sharing the love of God
Revealed through Christ
In the community and the world.*

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

A Caring Church for Thinking People

Sunday, February 12, 2017 † The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

THE PRELUDE *Pastoral* Anton Bruckner

*HYMN (Red Hymnal) *Now thank We All Our God* No. 29

OPENING OURSELVES TO GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 119)

One: Come into my heart O Lord and teach me to walk according to your ways.

All: Bless me as I strive to live my life by your calling.

One: Teach me to trust in your presence all through my life's journey.

All: And I will praise you with an upright heart today and always.

*THE INVOCATION, OUR LORD'S PRAYER (Unison) Helen Hapanowicz
**God of love, teach me how to be faithful in my love of You and one another.
Let me know the example of Your great love and live it out in my everyday
ways. Assure me of Your presence all along my life's journey. Hear me
know as we pray together the prayer Your Son taught us, "Our Father . . .
"[debt, debtors]**

*THE GLORIA PATRI (Red Hymnal) No. 513

OPENING OURSELVES TO GOD AND EACH OTHER

*GREETING EACH OTHER IN CHRIST

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM *How Can I Keep From Singing* Denise Bacon

WE GIVE TO GOD

AN OFFERTORY INVITATION

***all who are able may stand**

THE OFFERTORY *It's So Wonderful* Ralph H. Good Pasteur

*THE DOXOLOGY (Red Hymnal) No. 515

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CALL TO PRAYER (Black Hymnal) *What A Friend We Have in Jesus* No. 506

**What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a
privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we often
forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.**

THE MORNING PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE

*HYMN (Black Hymnal) *Take My Gifts* No. 562

GOD GIVES TO US

SCRIPTURES Helen Hapanowicz

Leviticus 19:9 - 18 (page 99)
I Corinthians 13:1 - 13 (page 153)

SERMON *Love Is . . .* Rev. Kirk W. Bruce

WE RESPOND TO GOD WITH SERVICE

*HYMN (Red Hymnal) *Love Divine All Love's Excelling* No. 228

*THE BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Spirit Song* John Wimber
(We invite you to join hands as we sing)

**Oh, let the Son of God enfold you with His spirit and His love. Let Him fill
your heart and satisfy your soul. Oh, let Him have the things that hold you,
and His Spirit like a dove Will descend upon your life and make you whole.
He'll descend upon you life and make you whole.**

POSTLUDE *Pastorale* Arcangelo Corelli

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 12 - Racial Justice Sunday

9:30 a.m. Faith Formation for all ages
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Team 2
 11:30 a.m. Music Committee Meeting, Rev. Greene Room
 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Youth Group Valentine's Dance, Social Hall & Kitchen
 Girl Scout Troop #501 Meeting

Monday, February 13

1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Absorbent Minds Montessori School - TKD, Social Hall
 6:30 p.m. Trustee Board Meeting, Adult Library

Tuesday, February 14

10:30 a.m. Bible Study, Adult Library
 8:00 a.m. - 12 Noon, Absorbent Minds Montessori School Valentine's Day, Social Hall
 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Knit & Crochet Group, Rev. Green Room
 7:00/8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School Planning/Faith Formation Board Mtg, Adult Library
 8:00 p.m. Fruits of the Spirit Alcoholics Anonymous (FOTS AA), Heritage Room

Wednesday, February 15

1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Absorbent Minds Montessori School-Dance, Social Hall
 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School-Violin, Children's Library
 4:00 - 8:30 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School-Cello, Adult Library
 6 - 7:30 p.m. J.O.Y. Kids Club, Kitchen & Class Rooms
 6:00 p.m. Confirmation, Heritage Room
 Girl Scout Troop #840 Meeting
 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. EOA/WRA Pastors Gathering, Social Hall
 7:00 p.m. Bible Study, Heritage Room
 8:00 p.m. Hand Bells, Music Room

Thursday, February 16

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. WRA/EOA Oversight Committee on Ministry, Heritage Room
 6 - 8 p.m. Cub Scout Den Meetings, Child & Adult Library, Nursery & Classroom
 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Emotions Anonymous, Heritage Room

Friday, February 17 - Spire Deadline

Girl Scout Troop #169 Meeting
 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Crooked River Alliance of Time Banks - Cuyahoga Falls Hub, Social Hall

Saturday, February 18

12 Noon - 2:00 p.m. Western Reserve Suzuki School-Cello, Children's Library
 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous, Social Hall

Sunday, February 19

9:30 a.m. Faith Formation for All Ages
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary ~ Rev. Kirk Bruce ~
 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Team 3, Social Hall

Please Turn Electronic Devices To Silent Thank You!

SIGN-IN

There are worship pads on each pew in the sanctuary.

We joyfully welcome all visitors!
 Please sign in to let us know you are worshipping with us today.

Please join us again!
 We are so glad You are Worshipping with Pilgrim United Church of Christ!

Invite your family, friends & neighbors to . . .

**Youth Group Valentine's Dance
 Moonlight Serenaders**

TODAY
 Sunday, February 12, 2017
 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Light Refreshments, raffle
 baskets, wonderful music &
 dancing

Donations to SOS Steeple Fund.

Lent is just around the corner!

Wednesday, March 1, 2017
Ash Wednesday
 Dinner at 6:30 p.m. &
 Service at 7:30 p.m.

Interested in . . .

An Intentional Caring Team,
 End of Life Issues,
 Refugee Situation?
 Call the office 330-928-4847

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Spire Deadline
Fri., Feb., 17th

Donatos Night
 5 - 8 pm
 Thurs., Feb. 23rd

Tuesdays,
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 pm
Rev. Greene Room

Learn to Crochet OR Knit

Youth Group has
SOUP to sell -
Pints \$5 & Quarts \$8.
See a Member of the
Youth Group today!



Pray for:

The family & friends of Lois Shook who are in mourning.
 A teacher's daughter that is fighting cancer
 Donna at National Church Residences on E. Bath Rd.
 Alice for patience, strength and endurance.
 Peace & healing for people who are hurting & dealing
 with life's' struggles.
 A good friend who is struggling and needs prayers of
 comfort & support.
 Our elected officials on the national, state, county & city
 levels.
 Our First Responders and their families.
 Refugees in the caught in the middle of uncertainty.

February 29, 2017 is Seminary Sunday.

A **Special Offering** will be taken for:

Chicago, United & Eden (CUE) Seminaries of the United Church of Christ.

Feel free to use your offering envelopes that day and Write "CUE" on the other line.

There are a few envelopes available in the office. Thank You! The Stewardship Board

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