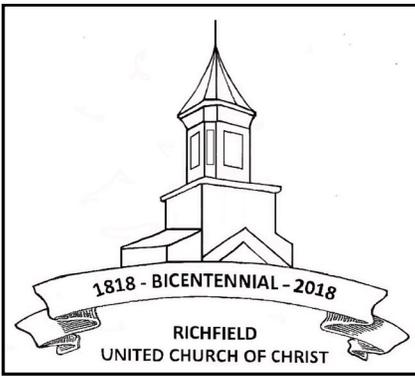


THE COLUMNS

November 2018



November Giving Collection

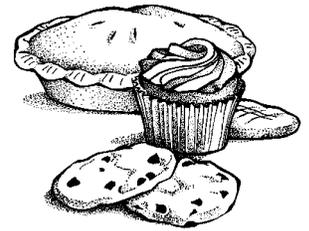


OPEN M has asked us to help fill Christmas baskets with **boxes of individually packaged hot chocolate mix, plain or with marshmallows.**

To help us meet our goal of at least 210 boxes, we will have a rematch of our competition between the piano-side and the organ-side pews. Help your team and the OPEN M families by placing your donations in the front pews during the month of November. The final count will be announced on December 4th and coffee-hour treats will be provided on December 9 by the losing side.

Election Day Bake Sale

The Mission Group, along with the Hobbitts Preschool, will be conducting an Election Day bake sale on November 6. We appreciate any baked goods you might provide or help at the sale tables from noon to 6:00. Baked goods for the sale can be brought to church on Sunday, November 4, or Monday, November 5, and placed in the church kitchen. Gluten-free items are also appreciated.



OPEN M Christmas For the Love of Children



We will be supporting OPEN M's project For The Love of Children again this year. We have asked to sponsor 20 children. Their names will be available by mid-November. Sponsor a child by purchasing one or two gifts (value of \$25 each). After you sign up, you will receive the name, age, gender and gift suggestions. Help put a smile on a child's face this Christmas and show our RUCC love.

Richfield Tree Lighting Ceremony November 23

RUCC singing voices are needed on Friday, November 23, at the Richfield Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6:00 pm. All ages are welcome. Meet at RUCC at 5:00 pm for a short practice. A great way to let the Richfield community know about RUCC.





Climate Change



UCC News Services has shared the following information, in an article written by Connie Larkman, which I wanted to pass along to you.

You can find this article at UCC.org/recent_headlines.

Twenty-one young Americans are suing the United States government in an effort to protect the planet. The case, Juliana vs. the United States, had been scheduled for trial in Oregon at the end of the month. The United Church of Christ Environmental Justice ministry is urging clergy across the country, and young people of all faith traditions to preach a sermon on their behalf.

It's part of a campaign called Justice for #EachGeneration organized by the Rev. Brooks Berndt, minister for Environmental Justice, with the assistance of the Rev. Jim Antal, retired Massachusetts Conference Minister who now serves as the Special Advisor on Climate Justice to the UCC General Minister and President.

"On October 29th, twenty-one children and youth will be taking the federal government to court over the government's role in causing climate change and violating the next generation's rights to life, liberty, and property—in addition to its failure to protect essential public resources," Berndt said.

The case and the sermon campaign are making national news, and have also garnered the attention of the World Council of Churches.

"One of the plaintiffs is Kiran Oommen, the son of Melanie Oommen, a UCC pastor," Berndt continued. The Oommens of Eugene, Ore., will be traveling to Geneva, Switzerland, in November to speak on Climate Justice as part of the World Council of Churches - UNICEF World Children's Day Celebratory Event. "While anyone can preach a sermon as part of the campaign, youth are particularly encouraged, and the early reports are that some incredibly powerful worship experiences have taken place as youth speak with passion about an issue that significantly impacts them."

Berndt is urging those who want to learn more about the sermon campaign or are ready to make a pledge to preach to access the campaign website. So far, 24 different organizations representing a variety of faith traditions have joined in sponsoring the effort. "The trial is expected to last until January," Berndt said, "so preachers will have plenty of time to plan and prepare how they want to give voice to their support and focus on one of the most important moral issues of our time."

The government has repeatedly tried to put a halt to the case, which has been making its way through the courts for three years. Late Friday, October 19, the U.S. Supreme Court got involved.

The young people argue that their Constitutional rights to live in a safe environment have been violated. They want a court-ordered mandate that phases out the use of fossil fuels nationwide.

"The recent United Nations IPCC report makes it clear that if life as humans have always known it is to continue, our generation must take immediate action on an unprecedented scale," Antal said. "As people of faith, we recognize that 'the earth is the Lord's and not ours to wreck. Let churches, synagogues and mosques amplify the voices of these young people. America must hear and embrace their urgent cry for climate justice.'"

—Rev. John King



November Scriptures

November 4: Scriptures: Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Mark 12:28-34 Sermon: "The Mezuzah"

November 11: Scriptures: Hebrews 9:23-28 Mark 12:38-44 Sermon: "The Mitey Widow"

November 18: Scriptures: Hebrews 10:11-25 Mark 13:1-13
Sermon: "It's the End of the World as We Know It—And I Feel Fine"

November 25: Scriptures: Revelation 1:4-8 Matthew 5:3-12
Sermon: "Once Upon a Time, in a Kingdom Not Too Far Away"





Moderator's Moment

It is fall. We are now in the fourth quarter of the year and heading fast toward 2019. Our Richfield United Church of Christ has had a wonderful year, full of great activities and meaningful worship.

I would like to thank **everyone** in the congregation for this year. Your hard work, active participation, and contributions make this church. I was going to try and add some superlatives here, but I suspect that it might be a bit different for each of us.

Of course, fall brings with it an annual pledge drive. You will be hearing plenty about that during the next few weeks. Thank you for considering what you can do financially to help keep our church strong and vibrant.

Newt Heston
Moderator



Gathering Room Gallery

Linda Kenski

Our Gathering Room Gallery will host Medina artist Linda Kenski during the months of November and December.



**OUR
MEMBERS
IN ACTION**

Linda uses alcohol inks to create vibrant abstractions and semi-abstract landscapes, among other things.

scapes, among other things.

***PROVIDE for the Future
SERVE the Present
HONOR the Past***

Our 2019 pledge drive is kicking off in November. You will hear from some of our Stewardship and Administration board members over the next few weeks.

You will also notice a big Giving Tree in the back of the sanctuary with both pledge cards and pledge leaves nearby. Take a pledge card and consider if you can pledge an amount to the church for 2019. After you make your pledge, take a leaf, fill out your name, and attach it to a branch of the tree. I would love to see the tree filled up with bright green leaves! I am challenging our congregation to have 80% of our members pledge—that would be about 100 leaves on the tree. I am confident that we can accomplish this and give our treasurer, Gary Obenauer, a clearer picture of what the budget will look like next year.

Thank you all for your continued support of our church. The seeds planted 200 years ago have grown into what you see today. Let's keep this church blossoming year after year by giving it the nurturing it needs. If you have any questions about the pledge drive or how to give electronically, please contact either Gary, Reverend King, or any member of the S&A Board.

The church is facing a budget deficit of about \$22,000 going into the fourth quarter. If each giving member can increase their donation by about \$184 (or \$18/week over the next 10 weeks), we can easily wipe out this deficit. I realize that not everyone can do this—some may be able to contribute more or some may be able to contribute less. Any additional amount

God be with you till we meet again.

Richfield Youth Group

An Open House for the newly remodeled Youth Room was held on October 7th to show off our new space. The youth served pizza along with the usual social hour treats to celebrate this day. A great big huge thank you to Todd Bard and the Adult Mission Trip group for their support, help and hard work with this project. We are still in the hunt for a person or persons who can assist us with recovering the couch cushions in the room. If you are interested, please let Marilyn Freeman know.

The youth have created a "Wish List" of items yet to be purchased for the room, and are exploring ways to do some extra fundraising to accomplish their vision. The items on the list are posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. If you are able to donate towards making some of these a reality, please see Marilyn Freeman.



November Youth Activities

November 4 — Youth Sunday

All youth in 6-12 grades are invited to come serve as ushers, greeters & readers at our

10:15 service and bring a dessert or snack for coffee hour as we serve it and clean up after.



Friday, November 23 — Feed

My Sheep

Join us as we serve others at the Feed My Sheep Soup kitchen. If you need a ride to the facility, we can meet at RUCC at 8:30 am. We will return around 2 - 2:30 pm.



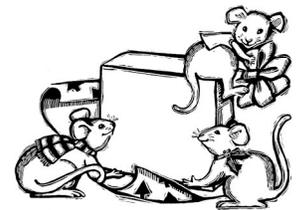
Hanging of the Greens

Christmas is coming and our church will be preparing by decorating on Sunday, November 25, following the 10:15 service. This is a huge project but, with lots of help, it only takes a little time. We need strong men, women and children who love decorating for Christmas. Come join the fun and give a hand, enjoy some fellowship and set the mood for a great Christmas season.

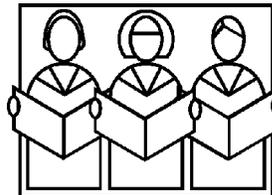
Advent Workshop

Craft Tables

The Christian Education Board invites you to sign up for a craft table and provide a craft at our annual Advent Workshop on Sunday, December 2.



The workshop is held in the Fellowship Hall following a congregation lunch. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.



Christmas Cantata

The journey from Advent to Christmas is filled with vivid images of beloved traditions: the lighting of candles, Christmas trees representing the light of Christ, decorations of evergreens, symbols of the promise of rebirth; the emergence of stars atop the trees to guide the pilgrim journey, and the presentation of gifts in celebration of God's great gift to us all. Throughout the centuries, believers have sung carols that celebrate these traditions.

In celebration of our congregation's 200th birthday, the RUCC choir again created its own Christmas cantata, selecting favorite songs, carols and hymns from cantatas performed in the past. The music is from seven different cantatas and tells the timeless Christmas story of Christ from prophecy to birth. Please join the RUCC adult choir, narrators, soloists, bell choir and instrumentalists for this inspiring performance on Sunday, December 9, at the 10:15 service.

Sunday School Teacher Sign Up

The Christian Education Board has posted a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for teaching the preschool—5th grade classes at either the 9:15 class or the class that meets



Ushers for November

November 4: Youth Group
Chuck Ellis Larry & Amy Harsey
Paul and Michal Swan

November Lay Readers

October 7: Youth representative
Diana Julien

November Boards and Council Meetings

Monday, November 12

S&A, Christian Ed, WPM boards meet at 7:00 pm
Church Council meets at 8:15 pm.

Hobbitts Church Board

The Hobbitts Church Board will meet on Tuesday,
November 13, at 7 pm in the Gathering Room.

Book Club

Book Club will meet on Monday,
November 26, at 7:00 pm. The selected
reading for November is *Blackbird
House*, by Alice Hoffman.



Men's Health Group

Men's Health Group will meet on Thursday, November
8, at 10:00 am in the Gathering Room.

The Men's Discussion Group

The Men's Discussion Group has been
meeting every Wednesday morning
from 6:30 to 7:30 for 25 years! Join us for
coffee and conversation.



200th Committee Meeting

The Bicentennial committee will wrap up this year of
celebration with their last meeting on Monday,
November 26. Committee members should meet at
Fisher's in Peninsula at 7pm.

Northeast Ohio Sheltie Rescue

Would you like to help? Acme Community Cashback
2018 is in full swing and Northeast Ohio Shetland
Sheepdog Rescue is collecting Acme receipts dated
8/9/18 through 12/29/18. Please drop off your receipts
in the church office or give them to Linda and Tim
Hnath.

November Birthdays

11/1 Joanne Cowden	11/14 Kathy Brown
11/3 Barbara Hayes	11/14 Staci Lindsey
11/3 Donna Nelson	11/19 Newt Heston
11/4 Albert Falther	11/19 Lois Eckart
11/5 Rosemarie Sprague	11/21 Gerald Dabernig
11/6 Allison Ellis	11/24 Marian Stertzbach
11/7 Robyn Patrick	11/23 Dawn Ward
11/9 Corey Linek	11/27 Laura Benedict
11/12 Kate Holan	11/28 Patricia Worton
11/13 Anne Gill	11/29 Elaina Weber
11/13 Tim Hnath	



Congratulations

Our congratulations and best wishes to Rebecca
(Wheeler) & Mike Kacprzynski on the birth of their first
child, Erin MaryAnne, on October 19.

In Loving Memory



We send our prayers to Megan and
Charlie and family on the death of their
father, Duane Simmons. Duane passed
away on September 30.

Bicentennial Items for Sale

RUCC 200th anniversary history book

The story of our church's past is now available. Our
thanks to Mark Mitchell and Kathy Hayes, who spent
countless hours making decisions about the photos and
copy and to Mike Wheeler and Novex Systems LLC for
their help in publishing our history. Books can be
purchased for \$15.

Commemorative Christmas Ornaments

Remember this year for years to come with a cast
aluminum ornament designed by Sally Heston and
crafted by Wendell August Forge. \$18

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again" note cards

One of our RUCC traditions is the holding of hands and
the singing of *God Be With You Till We Meet Again* at the
end of each Sunday service. Barbara Rosene has
created a beautiful picture depicting this lovely moment
around the church building. Package of 6 cards and
envelopes, \$8.

RUCC coffee mugs, \$7; RUCC t-shirts, \$10/\$12

Richfield United Church of Christ
4340 W. Streetsboro Rd.
Richfield, Ohio 44286

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GATHERING OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

EVERY SUNDAY

8:00 AM Early Worship Service
9:15 AM Sunday school
10:15 AM Worship Service

EVERY WEEK

MON 7:30 PM AA
WED 8:00 PM AA
SAT 8:30 PM AA

WEDNESDAY

6:30 AM MEN'S GROUP

THURSDAY

7:00 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

Like us on Facebook

[Facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/TheRichfieldUCC)

[TheRichfieldUCC](https://www.facebook.com/TheRichfieldUCC)

November Activities

November 4: Communion / Youth greet, usher and host coffee hour

Mission Group leaves for North Carolina

November 6: Election Day / Bake Sale

November 8: Men's Health Group meets in the Gathering Room at 10 am.

November 12: Church boards meet at 7:00 pm and Council meets at 8:15 pm.

November 13: Hobbitts Board meets at 7 pm

November 18: Pledge Sunday

November 22: Happy Thanksgiving / Office closed

November 23: Richfield Tree Lighting at 6 pm. Join the RUCC chorus !

**Richfield United Church
of Christ**

Phone: 330-659-3532

Fax: 330-659-2506

