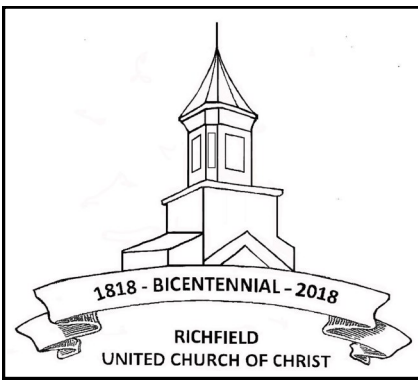


THE COLUMNS

October 2018



HISTORIC CEMETERY WALK

Sunday, October 7 at 1 pm

We will visit the graves of some of the earliest Richfield settlers, church founders and pastors, honoring their memory. We will meet at 1 pm by the flag pole in the West Richfield Cemetery on Broadview Rd. The cemetery walk will include the West Cemetery, site of the Old Church on the corner of Rt. 303 and Brecksville Rd. and the East Cemetery, located on Brecksville Rd. While this might be challenging for those with ambulatory difficulties, for those who are able, this walk will help you reconnect with our historic roots. The tour is one of our bicentennial events and will be led by Mark Mitchell.



Richfield United Church of Christ

...the heart of the community for 200 years

Potluck Lunch and Farm Fun Sunday, October 14



Celebrate the fall season with an afternoon of fun which begins with a potluck lunch at RUCC after the church services. The WPM Board will provide sloppy joe sandwiches, drinks and table service. Congregation members are asked to sign up to bring a side dish, salad or dessert.

Following lunch, travel down the road to the Luther Farms for an afternoon of fall fun to include face painting, a corn maze, hayrides, a corn pit, pumpkin cannon, petting zoo, hay maze and pumpkins galore. Cost will be \$5 payable at the farm entrance tent.

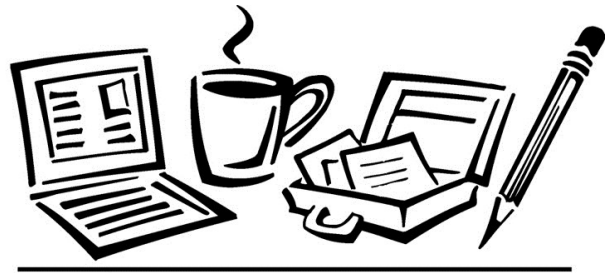
Neighbors In Need Special Mission Offering Sunday, October 7



The United Church of Christ's annual Neighbors In Need special mission offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, including the Council for American Indian Ministries, justice and advocacy, and direct service projects supported by Justice and Witness Ministries. Neighbors in Need helps make a Just World For All possible. Our Neighbors in Need offering will be on Sunday, October 7. Giving envelopes can be found in the Sunday bulletin and pew pockets.

Fire

*"Love is a burning thing
And it makes a fiery ring
Bound by wild desire
I fell into a ring of fire."
-Johnny Cash*



Jesus and Johnny Cash both have a thing for pyrotechnics. "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!", Jesus said in Luke 12:49. This fiery theme is seen throughout scripture. Here's a short list:

- The Spirit came in the form of "tongues of fire" and rested on the disciples on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2:3)
- On Easter evening, the Risen Christ walked alongside two fellows. And when they talked about it later, they marveled, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32) Their hearts were on fire!
- Apollos "spoke with burning enthusiasm" about the Way of the Lord (Acts 18:25)
- When Jeremiah had suffered terribly from his ministry, he decided to keep quiet. But it became "like a burning fire shut up in my bones." (Jeremiah 20:9) He felt compelled to speak out!
- Hebrews 12:29 is short and sweet: "Our God is a consuming fire."

Fire is an energetic transformation, an oxidation that takes place so quickly that gas gets ionized into plasma. On a gentler, less intense level, it is the same oxidizing combustion that heats your body to nearly 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

The fire the Bible talks about fuels the spirit. Beyond chemical oxidation, this is an energetic transformation of your core being, a quickening of the soul, a motivation right down to your bones that changes us; it drives us; it energizes us. I am on fire with a love of Jesus Christ! I am on fire for God and God's ways!

Moses saw a burning bush in Exodus 3. But what got his attention was not the fire. It was the fact that the fire kept going. It would not go out. This, ongoing, unending fire was a sign of the presence of God.

From the time I first heard the call to ministry many years ago, a lot has changed in my life. But the fire has kept burning. It has not gone out. This much has remained constant from the days I led youth retreats as a teenager. The Word of God is a burning fire in my soul. God has placed within me a burning love for God's people. The ministry has led me to different languages and cultures, to prisons, hospitals, farms, gangs and even churches. Through denominational changes, theological growth, marriage and family, it is the fire of God's love that remains constant.

Sometimes the fire of the Spirit rages like a forest fire. Sometimes I feel God's love in a passionate, emotionally exciting way. I hope you feel that kind of fire too, perhaps in a fiery Gospel hymn, or maybe even a fiery sermon. Or, sometimes spiritual fire is more like the slow combustion that gently warms your body, a steady, spiritual liveliness that burns with love and quickens your spirit day after day. Fast or slow, fire means energy and change.

So go ahead, fall into a "burning ring of fire." Let God's spirit alight on you head as it did with the disciples in Acts 2:3. May we be consumed by the transformative energy of God's love.

—Rev. John King

October Scriptures

October 7: Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 11:17-26 Mark 14:16-25

October 14: Scriptures: Amos 5:6-15 Mark 10:17-31

October 21: Scriptures: Job 38:1-7, 34-36, 40:3-5 Mark 10:32-45

October 28: Scriptures: Job 42:1-6, 42:10-17 Mark 10:46-52



Adult Mission Group



OUR
MEMBERS
IN ACTION

The Adult Mission Group will be traveling to Fayetteville, NC to assist hurricane victims from November 4-10.

Our plans were initiated in the spring, and surprisingly we are needed now more than we would have imagined. Many congregation members express gratitude for this outreach of the church and are unable to accompany our group for various reasons. We are asking

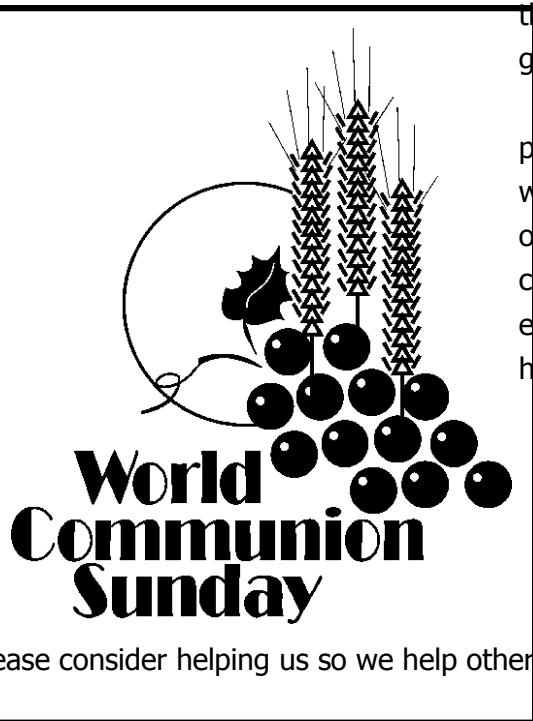
for your prayers, but also need your help in another area.



We will be participating in the

Election Day Bake Sale, along with the Hobbitts Preschool. Because we will be out of town on Tuesday, November 6, we need bakers and folks to man the sale table from noon until 4pm. Might that person be you? There will be a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship

Hall as date
closer. All
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help to
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food,
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etc. Please consider helping us so we help others.



Richfield United Church of Christ

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Bicentennial Celebration News

Once a month, at our Sunday services, Mark Mitchell presents a Bicentennial Moment of RUCC history.

Richfield Historical Society Presentation

Open to the public

Mark will be making a presentation to the Richfield Historical Society on Sunday, October 28, that is a combination of all his monthly Bicentennial Moments. That 2:00 meeting is open to the public.

200th Celebration Tree Planting

Three new trees, celebrating our past, our present and our future, have been planted on church grounds, along with a plaque commemorating our bicentennial year. Our thanks to Constantine's Nursery for its help in the selection and purchase and to Pieter van der Meer, Brody Bard, Scott and Wade Luther for planting the trees.

Additionally, 200 trees have been donated by RUCC to the children and youth initiative Plant-for-the-Planet in honor of our bicentennial.

Bicentennial Items for Sale

RUCC 200th anniversary history book

The story of our church's past is now available, with over 100 pages of photos and personal histories. 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

Richfield Youth Group

Sunday, September 16th was a great day for a picnic! A very big thank you to Greg & Beth Gerber for hosting us in their backyard. Eight youth attended. We make lists of things we would like to do this year based on Service, Social and Spiritual activities. Devotions around the campfire focused on honoring the unique skills and gifts we each bring to the group, and a covenant to respect boundaries and make our group times together
A safe gathering space for all.

The Youth Room makeover is nearing completion. The new carpet is installed and furniture will be moved back in soon. We are planning an Open House on October 7th to show off our new space. 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.

New Cushion Covers—Can You Help?

We have a vision to recover the cushions on the wood-framed couches, and some new storage ideas. We are collecting fabric samples and are looking for sewers to help us with this process. Please see Marilyn Freeman if you can assist in making new cushion covers.



Wish List

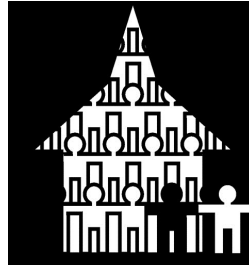
The youth are creating a *wish list* of items yet to be purchased for the room, and are exploring ways to do some extra fundraising to accomplish their vision. This wish list will be available at the Open House in October.

October Youth Activities

Sunday, October 7th - Youth Sunday
Ushers ~ Greeters ~ Serving Social Hour

Caring Companions

Join us for an informative presentation and dialogue



The Caring Companions invite you to join them on Wednesday, October 24, at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Room. Our presenter is Mary Jo McGuire OTR/L,

OTPP, FAOTA Director of Home and Community Based Services Occupational Therapists in Private Practice. This will be an informative presentation and dialogue. The topic is learning how to cope with transitions as we ourselves age and caring for loved ones dealing with these life changes. If you have any questions, please see JJ Schweikert or Dawn Schilling.

Third Graders' Bibles

On Sunday, the Christian will present third-graders during Chil-



October 7th, Education Board Bibles to the dren's Time.



Ushers for October

October 7: Youth Group
Victor Stanko Gary Summer
Karen and Tom Kiska

October Lay Readers

October 7: Youth representative
Rosemarie Sprague



November Lay Reader: The month of November is open for a lay reader at our 10:15 service. If you can help out, there is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall on the We Can Make It Happen bulletin board.



October Boards and Council Meetings

Monday, October 8

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

Book Club

Book Club will meet on Monday, October 22, at 7:00 pm. The selected reading for October is "Anything is Possible" by Elizabeth Strout.



Men's Health Group

Men's Health Group will meet on Thursday, October 11, 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.

Join the Bell Choir

Our Bell Choir meets on Thursday evenings at 7 pm for practice. If you are interested in learning to play the bells, we would love for you to join us. Questions? Contact Sharon Muhlheim at 330-523-9295.

October Birthdays

10/1 Katie (van der Meer)Wilson	
10/1 Robert Ballinger	
10/5 Kayla Hamilton	10/20 Mason Aquino
10/6 Lorelei Shankland	10/21 Scott Luther
10/8 Paul Swan	10/22 John Sikora
10/10 Greg Gerber	10/23 Alicia Stanley
10/10 Camryn Supelak	10/23 Mary Summers
10/13 Sam Gill	10/23 Pamela Supelak
10/16 Max Monegan	10/26 Elizabeth Schreiner
10/16 Maddie Rosene	10/27 Gordon Brown
10/16 Sean Wheeler	10/27 Duane Simmons
10/17 Jean Krankowski	10/29 Shannon Best
10/18 Donald Venus	10/31 Candi Venus
10/19 Shellie Hart	

October Anniversaries

10/2 George & Anne Walker
10/5 Terry & Ceec Bard
10/12 Paul & Michal Swan
10/15 Greg & Beth Gerber
10/16 Thomas & Jeanie Kerns
10/20 Emily & Jason Keppler
10/30 Larry and Amy Harsey
10/31 David & Karen Butera



Boy Scout Popcorn Sale

We will have an opportunity to purchase popcorn from our local scouts that meet at RUCC on Sunday, October 7. They will have a table set up in the Fellowship Hall. This is an annual fundraiser for the troop.



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 you can give them to Linda and Tim Hnath. Thank you for helping us to help the Shelties in our care, we truly appreciate all of you who are able to help!



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

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

October Activities

October 7: Communion / Youth greet, usher and host coffee hour
3rd graders receive their Bibles / Youth room open house
Cemetery Walk at 1:00 Meet at the West Richfield Cemetery

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

October 10: Red Cross Blood Drive at RUCC 1:00-6:00

October 11: Men's Health Group meets in the Gathering Room at 10 am.

October 14: Potluck luncheon following the 10:15 service followed by an afternoon of fun at Luther Farm

**Richfield United Church
of Christ**

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