

The Discipler

September 2022



Pie in the Face Contest

In case you missed the fun, Pastor Tyler was the recipient of the "Pie in the Face" contest. Surprise! Surprise! Due to Bill Groen's 2nd place finish, he had the fun of planting the pie on the pastor's face—and hair!! The contest raised \$376 for the *Love Meal* Mission! Thanks to everyone who voted/contributed to this fundraiser, and for attending the after-church picnic. The food was great!

Winner of the "Chicken Chuckin'" Contest was Noah Justis Congratulations, Noah!



Are We Helping?

The **Love Meal** ministry we started has received many grateful expressions from people about how helpful it has been for them and their families. We had an emergency room nurse who had a harrowing day in the ER and stopped by for a meal because she was worn out from her day. We have a number of families who cannot afford to pay, and we have many elderly who are getting meals delivered to them, and these are the people we are trying to help.

Where You Can Help!

The number of people who are getting our meals is now increasing (possibly with the onset of school starting) to approximately 145-160 and could very well go higher, and we need members to help in various areas. One of the areas where we have a hard time getting help is with the dishwashing on Tuesday nights. The time for that is 5 pm (changed from 6:30 pm).



If you are not able to help on Tuesday nights, there are other tasks where we need volunteers. We need people to come in and cook up ground beef and other meat, bake cookies (frozen/pre-shaped dough), debone chicken and other tasks. This can be done at your convenience. We also need people to pick up groceries at GFS or the Northern Illinois Food Bank. We send out emails to volunteers specifically asking for help in these areas, so if you can help, please let us know so we can include you in this email volunteer group.



Please check the sign-up sheet each week to see if you can help. This is an all-church mission! We are being God's hands and helping our neighbors. Please consider being part of this mission.

Financial Report as of , 2022



	<u>MO</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD /2021</u>
Operating Income	\$14,262	\$141,344	\$130,772
Operating Expense	\$14,178	\$134,733	\$111,724
Net Inc. or (loss)	\$84	\$6,611	\$19,048
Cash for Operations (General Fund, Capital)	\$164,365		\$156,650
Other Funds (Fellowships, restricted)	\$34,413		\$27,572

Legacy/Endowment Committee

Endowment fund values as of , 2022:

Norris Fund	\$43,976.07
Strub Fund	\$8,191.86
Jarret Fund	\$8,344.64
CD fund of \$5,000 (funded from Norris)	



Grant money is available from each of the funds, and for those who would like to apply, please contact the church office for application forms.

The Endowment Committee would like to mention that for those interested in a way to give to our church funds, one way would be to use an IRA required minimum distribution as a tax free charitable gift. Ask a committee member or your tax advisor for details.

The Legacy-Endowment Committee welcomes **new member, Lori Smith**. A big thanks to Lori for volunteering to serve! Committee members now are Cliff Freeman, Mike Gyorkos, Ron Beem, Tim Bohrer, Lori Smith, and Greg Wills. To anyone else from our church community, who has an interest in helping with the management of our Endowment Funds, you are welcome to visit or join this committee. It is always helpful to have different outlooks into investing monies to improve our investment funds. You are welcome to attend any of our meetings. We meet every other month or so, and meetings usually last only 30-45 minutes in length. Our next committee meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20th, 2022 at 6:30 pm.



The Basics of Medicare educational program will be returning on Wednesday, October 19th from 6-7:30 pm here at the church. All are welcome to attend this informative program. Please spread the word!

With your help, the Endowment/Legacy Committee seeks to ensure the church's endowed funds remain a vital force for the church and it's congregation for generations to come. A well-funded endowment will not only provide security, but it will help fund programs and outreach that would otherwise not be possible. Your donations to these funds, "Joy & Willis Strub Christian Education Funds", "Tom & Joan Norris Mission Funds" and "Fran Jarrett Music Funds", will help carry on great work at our church. Contact the Endowment/Legacy Committee with any questions or to see how you can help.



As September slowly rolls in to put a close on our summer, I can't help but think about the nature of time.

September was no surprise to anyone. It was on every calendar if we just turned the page enough times. Yet, it always seems to hit us and make us wonder what happened with the rest of the year. Weren't the kids just getting out of school a few weeks ago? And weren't the farmers planting their crops? Yet, soon homecoming and harvest will be upon us yet again.

Perhaps this is a symptom of having been in the church longer and getting to know people, but I've seen how people's lives have changed over this year. Some members have welcomed new family members, while others have lost their independence and health. Some members have moved away, while new ones have joined us. It's a little jarring to see all the changes. Yet the church remains regardless of the changes. We still continue to worship together and share in our community. I think that's beautiful.

It reminds me that the church is supposed to be a little slice of the eternal here on Earth. While it doesn't always live up to that, and it can't stop the flow of time, we are still reminded of God's timelessness.



There is a great comfort in the eternal God, one who does not change with time. God was, is, and shall always be the same. For time-bound beings like us, who are at the mercy of passing years and the change that it brings, God is the answer to our fears. God does not age, change, grow weary, or leave. God is a constant in a world of change. A pillar that remains despite all that may happen.

We are also offered a lasting peace through Christ, that one day God will defeat death. The thing that makes us fear time and its march onward will one day cease. As it is said in the book of Revelation: "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." (Revelation 21:4, ESV).

Peace be to you all this September,
Pastor Tyler Spellious



Thank You

We want to thank everyone for the sympathy cards, prayers and food during the passing of my brother [Wayne Bicksler]. He is so missed. It was all truly appreciated.

Tom & Dorothy Mahon

Pastor Tyler,

Thank you, your staff and the congregation for welcoming my mother and for everything that you all did for her.

Shirley Reber Family
Darrell, Lisa & Adam

Note From Don Drake

"Greetings from Pennsylvania. We are experiencing an unusually hot summer here as most everyone else. Even though it is a very warm summer it is a very beautiful area to live. So much different than the Midwest. Very few grain fields but many trees on the rolling hills.

I seem to spend a lot of time visiting my Doctors as most people my age are doing. They seem to be doing a good job as my health seems to not be an issue that is keeping me from doing what I want. Spending time with my sons and their families is high on my to do list...I enjoy reading the church newsletter and see all the activities that are going on there...pass my regards to Pastor Spellious and the congregation of our church.



Sincerely, Donald Drake



Illinois Conference Women's Retreat

Wholeness is the goal [of life], but wholeness does not mean perfection. It means "embracing brokenness as an integral part of life." Thus writes Parker Palmer in his 2018 book, On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity, and Getting Old. In these 48 sacred hours, we'll explore what's brave and beautiful about aging by means of contemplation, community conversation, and adventures in nature. Our time together will include a range of contemplative practices, community activities, rest, silence, and fun! Participants will be encouraged to read Palmer's book before the retreat.

Retreat leader, Rev. Jeffrey Phillips, is a UCC pastor and certified interfaith/ interspiritual spiritual companion. Participants will each have the option to spend thirty minutes with Jeffrey in a spiritual companionship session.

Guests will stay in one of our retreat centers, with their own bedroom, shared bathrooms, large gathering spaces, sunny decks and private fire circles. Meals include Supper on Sunday, and breakfasts / lunches on Monday / Tuesday. Retreat participants will go out for dinner on Monday. The Tower Hill Staff and Retreat Leaders are fully vaccinated and follow Berrien County Health Department guidance. All guests must be fully vaccinated to attend.

Cost for the Retreat is \$350 / person (scholarships may be available)

More than ever, kindness is desperately needed in our world today!

The Illinois Conference is holding a retreat for women of all types and ages, and they will gather at Pilgrim Park Camp starting Friday, September 30 and ending Saturday afternoon, October 1.

This 23-hour get-a-way is an opportunity to relax while engaging God's Holy Spirit as we reconnect with old friends, make new friends, and even bring along some friends. There is plenty of time to unwind, study the Bible in experiential ways, get to know one another, work on a service project tentatively planned for Project Linus, walk around the park and the labyrinth, take a nap, and shop the great selection from Global Villages. Remember, even Jesus needed to get away for a while and we do also so we can be fully present the rest of the time.

All bed linens and towels will be provided so just bring along casual clothing and shoes, personal items, flashlight, umbrella (just in case), and your Bible. If you want, bring snacks, soft drinks, etc. to share.

Check-in is on Friday, September 30 at 4:30 pm. (supper is at 6 pm). Late arrivals are okay. We're homeward bound on Saturday, October 1, around 3:30 pm.

Registration fee is \$140.00 (financial assistance is available), which includes retreat materials, dinner and lodging on Friday, breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Please register ASAP but no later than Friday, September 16, so everything will be ready when we arrive. Register **online: <https://outdoorministries.campbrainregistration.com/>** and if you have any questions or need more, call Carol Currier-Frighetto (815-277-6041) or Pilgrim Park (815-447-2390). All participants must be fully vaccinated and boosted as we follow all Covid guidelines.



NEIGHBORS IN NEED

The **Neighbors in Need** offering, which we will receive on October 2, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through our national Justice and Local Church Ministries office, <https://tinyurl.com/2bfyatb>, you can find resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates). Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hockak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.

BEHOLD! With your assistance, we together can help our Neighbors in Need Please give generously.

Mission Outreach



In August members of the Missions Committee served at the Northern Illinois Food Bank and packed **17,800 pounds of food, providing 14,833 meals for hungry neighbors, 599 produce boxes and 500 shelf stable boxes. WOW! THAT's** a lot of food! If you would like to volunteer for this very worthwhile outreach, the Missions Committee serves in this outreach about once a month. Contact Stan Sutton at ssutton56@yahoo.com or call him at 815-971-5855. **Thank you** Mission Committee for providing this service to our community!

Invite your friends and family members to United Church of Byron's age specific programs.



Sunday School meets Sunday mornings 9:30am-10:15am for children currently in grades K-5th.

Fuel: our new middle school program is for 6th-8th graders meets Sunday afternoons 3:30pm-5:30pm. We explore the bible in an age appropriate fashion with a focus on real world issues and how we can implement the teachings of the bible in our daily lives.

Fuel & Spark meet together for dinner at 5:00 pm.

Spark is for 9th-12th graders and meets 5:00-7:00 pm. Much like fuel, we explore the ways we can apply biblical teachings to our daily lives through age appropriate discussion and study. Questions? Please email us at: ucbyouthandchildren@gmail.com

September Adult Sunday CE

"Living the Questions" An Introduction to

Progressive Christianity

"LtQ" is an open-minded alternative to studies that

create an environment where participants can interact with one another in exploring what's next for Christianity.

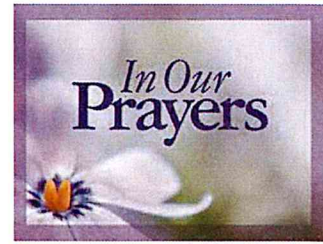
Join us on the front lawn for our family movie night on Friday, September



16th at dusk! This month's movie will be "Spiderman." Bring along your friends and family as well as lawn chairs, blankets and bug spray. Snacks and drinks will be available.

Potluck and Movie Night

We always have tasty food, fun conversation, and an interesting movie. If you've never attended, this is a great month to join us. We will be gathering for potluck and movie night on Friday, September 9th, at Art and Elaine Breck's at 9002 Hedge Road, . Potluck at 6:30 PM; movie (TBA) to follow.



- Edie Pierce
- Ellen Rippon
- Hal & Dixie Rowland
- Anna Saltzgiver
- Paul Saltzgiver
- Mary Sanders
- Randy Sarlo
- Diana Snodgrass
- Tori Spanbauer
- Linda Stein
- Barney & Sharon Sterbez
- Holly Stukenberg
- Stan Sutton
- Linda Tarpley
- Shelley Trussoni
- Karis Turner
- Diane Williamson
- Jerre Woodworth

Our Homebound, our first responders and health care workers, and those around the world in need of special prayers.

Jake and Jenny Schertz welcomed



their second child, Fiona Mae, to their family on August 15.

She was welcomed home by big brother, Jackson, 1½ years. Grandparents are Dave and Ann Schertz. Congratulations, and God's blessings to all!

Steve and Cheryl



Bonte are great-grandparents! Jordan and Tiegen Bonte welcomed son Caden James on August 21st. He weighed 7lbs. 15oz. and was 20 inches long. Congratulations and God's blessings to all!

- Denny Arjes
- Hannah Beintum
- Mark BelitRichard Bearman
- Cheryl Bonte
- Steve Bonte
- Jennifer Brandt
- Norma Browning
- Lisa Stevens Colbert
- Ginger Compton
- Jill Faber
- Joann Farris
- Joe Farris
- Cindi Frye
- Jan Frye
- Betty Grubb
- Gary Hahne
- Pat Ingram
- Wayne & Nancy Jaquet
- Kathy Johnson
- Janet Logan
- Tony Maanavi
- Tom Mahon
- Joanne McGhee
- Bill Michaux
- Betty Morris
- Meghan Newbold
- Pat Nicoloff
- Tim O'Hare
- Clyde Patterson
- Allan Petersen



Bob & Ruth Ann Goelitz celebrated 50

years of marriage on August 26th. We send our congratulations and wish them many more years to come!



Tatiana (Leon) and Jerick Orsted Stationed in Italy

Congratulations, Rebecca!

"Cricket" King earned second place in Special Olympics bowling tournament. Way to go, Cricket, and congratulations on your accomplishment! We are proud of you!



Men's Breakfast

The September Men's Breakfast will be at 8 am on Saturday, September 3rd and 17th, at the Swedish Pancake House. Come enjoy a time of fellowship and getting to know one another better. All men are welcome!





SERVING THE CHURCH

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled Sunday, please switch with someone and notify the church office of the change as soon as possible. Thank you!

September 2022

	<u>09/04</u>	<u>09/11</u>	<u>09/18</u>	<u>09/25</u>
Acolyte	K. King	C. King	M. Gyorkos	K. King
Scripture Rdr.	J. Eisfeller	Wilson	King	Tarpley
AV System	Gyorkos	Freeman	Jenkins	Gyorkos
Guest Center	King	Tarpley	K. Gyorkos	Trommer
Nursery	Wilson	King	Ingram	Schertz

Offering Counters for September: Ali Groen & John Gibson
 Communion Preparer for September: John Gibson

**People Helping People Collection Items:
 Hamburger Helper & Peanut Butter**

October 2022

	<u>10/02</u>	<u>10/09</u>	<u>10/16</u>	<u>10/23</u>	<u>10/30</u>
Acolyte	Smith	Benson	K. Gyorkos	Beitel	M. Gyorkos
Scripture Rdr.	M. Bohrer	Huls	Sutton	Smith	K. Gyorkos
AV System	Bonte	Freeman	Jenkins	Gyorkos	Bonte
Guest Center	Townsend	M. Gyorkos	K. Gyorkos	Johnson	Jenkins
Nursery	King	Wilson	Ingram	Schertz	King

Offering Counters for October: Brad Townsend & Lova Sutton
 Communion Preparer for October: Lova Sutton
 People Helping People Collection Items: Canned Beans & Rice

Altar Flowers



If you have a special event to celebrate or you just want to put flowers on the altar for the heck of it, please sign up on the flower chart laying against the window of the office. A number of Sundays are available, and there's room for more than one arrangement on the altar.



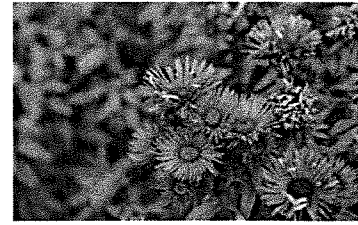
Help is needed in the nursery. If you can volunteer, please let the office know.



If you wish Pastor Tyler to visit you and bring communion, please call him or call the church office. Pastor Tyler's phone number is 309-230-4951, and the church office is 815-234-8777.



September 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																									
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Aug 2022</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Oct 2022</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<p>1</p> <p>12:00 PM Rotary Club</p> <p>7:15 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00 AM Men's Breakfast at Pancake Hse</p>
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<p>4</p> <p>2 pm Church Service at Neighbors by Pastor Tyler</p> <p>Communion</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Office Closed</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>9:00 AM Esther Circle</p> <p>3:30 PM Love Meal Prep</p> <p>6:00 PM -7:30 PM Cub Sct Mtg</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 AM Memorial Comm Mtg</p> <p>7:15 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 PM Potluck & Movie Night at the Breck's</p>	<p>10</p>																																																																																									
<p>Pastor Tyler is on retreat September 6th thru the 11th.</p>																																																																																															
<p>11</p> <p>4:30 pm Lydia Circle Picnic</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 PM BY-Y Badgers 4H Mtg</p>	<p>13</p> <p>3:30 PM Love Meal Prep</p> <p>7:00 PM Lydia Circle</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 PM Building & Grounds Mtg</p>	<p>15</p> <p>12:00 PM Rotary Club</p> <p>7:15 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Dusk: Family Movie Night, "Spiderman"</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00 AM Men's Breakfast at Pancake Hse</p>																																																																																									
<p>18</p> <p>11:30 AM Community Conn. Mtg</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:30 PM Stewards & Deacons Mtgs</p> <p>7:00 PM Council Mtg</p>	<p>20</p> <p>11:00 AM -2:30 PM Byron Women's Club in Fellowship Hall</p> <p>3:30 PM Love Meal Prep</p> <p>6:00 PM -7:30 PM Cub Sct Mtg</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:15 PM Choir Practice</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p> 	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>"Friends of the Poor Walk" UCB is a Stopover</p> 																																																																																									
<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:15 PM Missions Mtg</p>	<p>27</p> <p>3:30 PM Love Meal Prep</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:15 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>30</p> <p>5:00 PM -7:00 PM Youth vs Adult Challenge</p> 																																																																																										