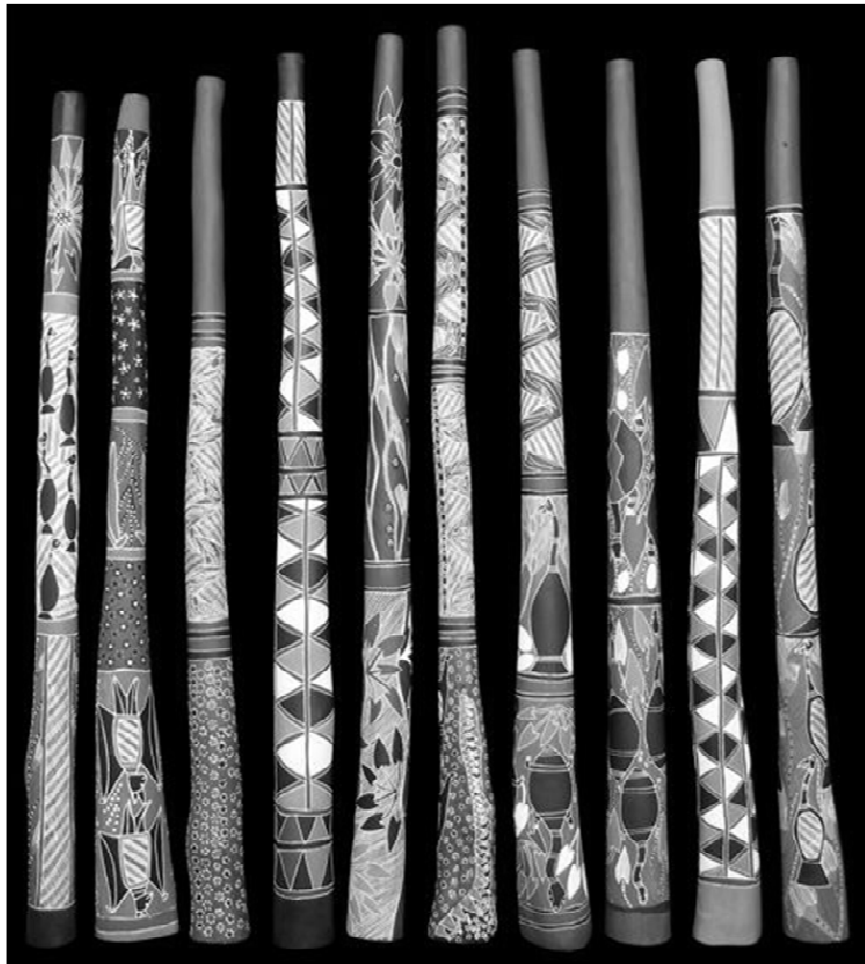


United Church of Christ

Midland, Michigan • An Open and Affirming Church



Rev. Roger C. Pancost
January 29, 2012
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

* **Prayer of Confession** Seasons of the Spirit

God, sometimes we live with troubled spirits. We are disturbed by grief or guilt, shame or restlessness. Sometimes we live with hurt spirits, in pain from physical or mental illness, relationship heartaches, betrayal, disappointment. Sometimes we live with faltering spirits, overcome with worry, fear, doubt, uncertainty. Sometimes we live with spirits that keep us isolated because we are misunderstood, or unable to communicate or interact. We bring our spirits to you, whatever they are like today, trusting in your abiding love. Amen.

* **Words of Affirmation**

L: When our spirits are troubled, God brings peace.

P: When our spirits are hurting, God is our source of healing.

L: When our spirits falter, God gives us strength to carry on.

P: When our spirits alienate us from others, God reconciles us to community.

L: In God who is peace and healing, strength and reconciling love, we trust.

All: Amen.

Children's Moments *I can't play a didgeridoo* Rev. Pancost

Special Music Wendy Hohmeyer, flute
Jim Hohmeyer, piano

Scripture

Psalm 111

Pew Bible, pages 528-529

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Pew Bible, page 996

Mark 1:21-28

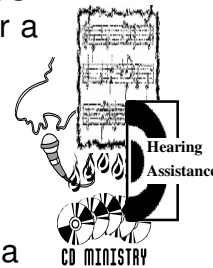
Pew Bible, page 867

Sermon *By What Authority?* Rev. Roger C. Pancost

Acolyte: Nathan Lowrey
Liturgist: Ken Burch
Organist: Edward Soehrlen
Director of Music: James Hohmeyer
Director of Educational Ministries: Rachel White
Sound System Operator:
Head Usher: Tom Wells
Head Greeter: Mary Eichhorn



- It is important for everyone to use the **microphone** during Announcements and Joys and Concerns.
- This church is equipped with a **hearing assistance system**. Please ask an usher for a receiver.
- **Large print** bulletins and copies of today's hymns are available for your use. Please ask an usher for a copy.
- **Audio CD's** of the worship service and a CD player may be borrowed from the office.
- **The church website** is updated weekly and contains worship bulletins, sermons, calendars, newsletter and other offerings. Please visit www.uccmidland.org



Please join us in Fellowship Hall for a celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary of George and Quita Shier who are providing treats for everyone to enjoy. Refreshments are being provided by the Board of Deacons.

The Board of Educational Ministries will meet today, Sunday, January 29 immediately following the service of worship in the purple door room.



The special offering for the month of January is for **Crossroad**. Crossroad helps youth (ages 6 to 21) not only by treating those who live on the campus in Fort Wayne, Indiana, but by helping children and families who live at home but visit the campus, and also by serving the community. It also has special services for special kids such as those who are medically fragile or developmentally disabled. Crossroad employs about 150 counselors, teachers, therapists, housekeepers, cooks, groundskeepers, chaplains, nurses, and others.

Crossroad programs are helping to create futures for children and our financial support is needed. To make a contribution, please put a note on the information line of your check and drop it in the offering plate or turn it in at the church office. Gifts will be collected **through January 29**.



The United Church of Christ Midland will hold its **Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 12** immediately following the service of worship. The purpose of this meeting will be to receive annual reports, vote on the 2011 operating budget, install officers and board members, and any other church business. Please plan to attend your input is important! Childcare will be provided.

The flowers on the communion table this morning are provided by Quita and George Shier in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary, January 28.



The Flower Chart for 2012 is posted on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary. Please sign up if you wish to donate flowers for a specific Sunday worship service in 2012.

A Gathering of Open and Affirming Churches

Edgewood United Church UCC of East Lansing and the UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns are hosting a gathering for individuals from ONA churches on Saturday, February 11, 2012. The purpose of the gathering is to provide an opportunity to talk with other ONA Churches and reflect on what it means to be ONA in the current political climate. The guest speakers will be Mr. Andy Lang, Executive Director of the Coalition and the Reverend Cheryl L. Burke, Acting Conference Minister, MI Conference, UCC. The event will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please speak with Reverend Pancost if you are interested in attending.

Art sale Howard Garrett is having a sale of his photomicrograph artwork. Many of us are familiar with his microscope photographs of crystals, that were recently displayed here at the church. The sale prices will be one third of the original art fair prices, and Howard is generously donating all proceeds to our church.



ART SALE

The art sale will be held at his home, 2107 Sylvan Lane on Wednesday, February 1, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and again on Saturday and Sunday, February 4 and 5, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Prints will be available in many sizes and formats from 8 x 10 to 30 x 40, framed, matted, or print only. Come see the many beautiful designs and scenes found in the tiny crystals. Take a few home for yourself or as gifts. Howard would love to explain the process to anyone interested in the science behind the art.

If you would like to help work at the art sale, please contact any member of the Fine Arts Board.

Calendar of Events

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2011

Service of Worship - Sanctuary	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship - Baumann Fellowship Hall	11:00 a.m.
Board of Education Ministries - Purple Door Room	11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Class - Blue Door Room	4:00 p.m.

Monday, January 30

<i>Paint and Palette - Choir Room</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Alcoholics Anonymous - Blue Door Room</i>	<i>8:00 p.m.</i>

Tuesday, January 31

Staff Meeting - Pastor's Study	9:00 a.m.
Bible Study - Choir Room	12:00 noon

Wednesday, February 1

Bible Study - Choir Room	7:00 a.m.
Bible Study - Choir Room	12:30 p.m.
Art Sale - Howard Garrett's home	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 2

Choir Rehearsal - On the deck	7:00 p.m.
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Friday, February 3

<i>Alcoholics Anonymous - Blue Door Room</i>	<i>8:00 p.m.</i>
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Saturday, February 4

Art Sale - Howard Garrett's home	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
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Sunday, February 5

Service of Worship - Sanctuary	10:00 a.m.
Fellowship - Baumann Fellowship Hall	11:00 a.m.
Art Sale - Howard Garrett's home	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Confirmation Class - Blue door room	4:00 p.m.

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Rev. Pancost's Office Hours:

**9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon, Monday through Thursday
and by appointment**

Rachel White, Director of Educational Ministries is

available in the building on

Sunday - Tuesday mornings

9:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

or via phone or email at your convenience.

CORRECTION—Please use the following link to reach our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/United-Church-of-Christ-Midland/173263842769070>