

# *United Church of Christ*

Midland, Michigan • An Open and Affirming Church



Rev. Roger C. Pancost  
January 8, 2012  
First Sunday after Epiphany



\* **Unison Prayer** Before the Amen  
God, who spoke words of love for Jesus at his  
baptism, and who yet speaks words of love for  
us at the baptismal font, be present. Speak to us  
anew this day that we may speak boldly of you  
in a world that desperately longs to be re-  
created in your love. Amen.

**Children's Moments** *Like a Dove* Rev. Pancost

### **Order of Baptism**

**Anthem** *Winter Carol* Longfellow  
arr. Lovelace

### **Scripture**

Genesis 1:1-5

Pew Bible, page 1

Acts 19:1-7

Pew Bible, page 966

Mark 1:4-11

Pew Bible, page 867

**Sermon** *A Model for the New Year* Rev. Roger C. Pancost

\* **Hymn** *Crashing Waters at Creation* NCH (Black) #326

### **Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer** ("Debts" and "Debtors")

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come.**

**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, for ever.  
Amen.**

**Offertory**      *Three Kings of Orient*      Sue Mitchell-Wallace

\* **Doxology**      NCH (Black) #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* **Closing Hymn**      NCH (Black) #82  
*Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

\* **Benediction**

\* **Choral Response**

**Postlude**      *Lo Ballo dell'Intorcia*      Antonio Valente

**We Carry the Light of Christ into the World**

(Acolyte carries the Light from the Communion Table)



The child being baptized today is Lillyen Stacy. She is the daughter of Ben and Kate and the sister of Ryan.

**Acolyte:** Brandon Geib  
**Liturgist:** Neil Hawkins  
**Organist:** Edward Soehnlén  
**Director of Music:** James Hohmeyer  
**Director of Educational Ministries:** Rachel White  
**Sound System Operator:** Mike Humphrey  
**Head Usher:** Tom Wells  
**Head Greeter:** Mary and Jake Eichhorn

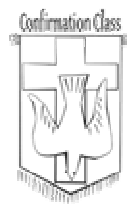


- It is important for everyone to use the **microphone** during Announcements and Joys and Concerns.
- This church is equipped with a **hearing assistance system**. Please ask an usher for a receiver.
- **Large print** bulletins and copies of today's hymns are available for your use. Please ask an usher 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](http://www.uccmidland.org)



**Please join us in Fellowship Hall following the service of worship,** for a time of fellowship and refreshments provided by the members of the Board of Deacons.

**“Unhanging” of the greens** will take place immediately following the service of worship on Sunday, January 8. Anyone interested in helping with this project is encouraged to join the Board of Fine Arts in the removal and storage of these items.

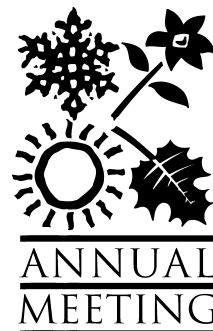


**Confirmation Class will meet today** from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. in the blue door room. **The Youth Group** will not meet today. **On Sunday, January 15th** the **Confirmation Class will meet** at 4:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. and then be joined by the **Youth Group** from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for a potluck.



**The Board of Fine Arts has prepared a brief survey for UCC-Midland members.** The survey will be distributed electronically around **January 10th**. Hard copies will be available in the church office for those who do not use e-mail. The questions concern your views about the interior and exterior appearance of the church building. The Board of Fine Arts will compile the results and make a report to the congregation in February. Please be on the lookout for your survey and complete it. It will require just a few minutes. The results will help the Board of Fine Arts respond appropriately to the suggestions and requests that occasionally come before us. Thank you!

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 2012 operating budget, install officers and board members, and any other church business. Please plan to attend your input is important! Childcare will be provided.



**A Wonderful Problem** — I am told that it has become increasingly difficult to find a parking space on Sunday mornings. This is both wonderful news and a challenge. It is wonderful that we have so many people attending worship that parking has become a problem. It is a challenge because people with mobility issues may have difficulty walking to the building. A friendly suggestion is for people who are able-bodied to park in the parking lot on the south side of Chestnut Hill Elementary School. The walk from the parking lot to the church is less than a block. Even in the colder months of winter this walk could be used as a time of prayerful preparation for worship. — *Roger*



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 Ladies that Lunch Bunch** will meet on Tuesday, January 24 at 1:00 p.m. at Shirlene's Cuisine at 1716 West Wackerly. If you have any questions please contact Sue Rhodes or Sondi Geminder.



LUNCH

BUNCH

**The Midland UCC and the Board of Christian Community** are sponsoring a co-ed adult volleyball team at the Midland Community Center. **WE NEED PLAYERS!** Games will start in February. This is a great way to join others in fun and fellowship and lose some holiday pounds. No volleyball experience is required. Just be ready to play and have fun. If you would like to join or have questions, please see Laura Gornicki or email her at [gornicki76@yahoo.com](mailto:gornicki76@yahoo.com). You can also ask any Board of Christian Community member for more information. There will be a sign up sheet starting in January. We look forward to you joining the team.

## Calendar of Events

<b><u>First Sunday after Epiphany</u></b>		<b><u>January 8, 2012</u></b>
Service of Worship - Sanctuary		10:00 a.m.
Removal of the Greens - Sanctuary		11:00 a.m.
Fellowship - Baumann Fellowship Hall		11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Class - Blue Door Room		4:00 p.m.
<b><u>Monday, January 9</u></b>		
Board of Fine Arts - Choir Room		5:15 p.m.
<i>Alcoholics Anonymous - Blue Door Room</i>		8:00 p.m.
<b><u>Tuesday, January 10</u></b>		
Staff Meeting - Pastor's Study		9:30 a.m.
Bible Study - Choir Room		12:00 noon
Board of Christian Community - Choir Room		7:15 p.m.
Board of Trustees - Blue Door Room		7:15 p.m.
Board of Deacons - Old Kitchen		7:30 p.m.
<b><u>Wednesday, January 11</u></b>		
Bible Study - Choir Room		7:00 a.m.
Bible Study - Choir Room		12:00 noon
<b><u>Thursday, January 12</u></b>		
Choir Rehearsal - on the Deck		7:00 p.m.
<b><u>Friday, January 13</u></b>		
<i>Alcoholics Anonymous - Blue Door Room</i>		8:00 p.m.
<b><u>Saturday, January 14</u></b>		
<b><u>Sunday, January 15</u></b>		
Service of Worship - Sanctuary		10:00 a.m.
Fellowship - Baumann Fellowship Hall		11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Class - Blue Door Room		4:00 p.m.
Youth Group - Youth Room		5:00 p.m.
<b><u>Monday, January 16</u></b>		
<b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Church offices closed</b>		
<i>Alcoholics Anonymous - Blue Door Room</i>		8:00 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.**