



From Your Pastor...

As we approach the holiday known as *Thanksgiving* I am reminded of a study on gratitude conducted by Robert Emmons, a professor at the University of California, Davis. Emmons writes, “The notion of counting one’s blessing has long been known as a tool to improve one’s outlook on life. It goes back as far as the Bible, ancient philosophers and axioms such as, ‘Gratitude is riches, Complaint is poverty.’”

In order to conduct this study Emmons, and his research team, randomly placed people into three groups. One group was asked to think every day about five things that they were grateful for and then write them down in a journal. These individuals were also asked to record their moods and physical health.

A second group of people, known as “the whining and complaining group,” were asked to write down things that were wrong each day. These individuals were to keep a list of all the hassles and negative things that they experienced. A third group was asked to simply recall recent every day events.

In reflecting on this study, Emmons writes, “We found that, psychologically and emotionally, the people in the gratitude group were more positive, more alert – really happier, and had a better outlook on life.” He goes on to say, “Most actually talked about non-material things, such as friendship, family and interpersonal things. Or being out in nature, and a cosmic sense of being grateful for life itself. Or even if someone had been kind to them that day.” (Readers Digest, October 2007, Oakland Tribune, November 27, 2003)

Emmons shares that the most surprising thing about the study was the physical health benefits that appeared to be related to this expression of gratitude. He states, “The grateful people seemed to have fewer physical health complaints, or least noticed those complaints less.” In addition, these individuals had more restful sleep and felt more robust.

Professor Emmons, and his colleagues, also found that people in the gratitude group were perceived by others as being more optimistic and helpful. Emmons reflects: “This is not just something that makes people happy, like a positive-thinking/optimism kind of thing. A feeling of gratitude really gets people to do something, to become more pro-social, more compassionate. Food for thought!

Peace,
Roger

2018 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the congregation will take place on November 11 immediately following our service of worship. Please join us for this important meeting of the United Church of Christ, Midland. The purpose of this meeting is to elect board members and officers for 2019. The proposed budget will be presented as well. Please put this on your calendars today, a quorum of members is needed to conduct business.

Saturday, November 4 set your clocks back
before you sleep as
Daylight Savings Time Ends at 2:00 a.m.



A Thanksgiving Time Gathering of Friends

Each Thanksgiving we gather with friends and family. We take time to pause and reflect on what it is that we are thankful for. We are so thankful for the friends and family we have at the United Church of Christ, Midland. We look forward to spending Thanksgiving Day having dinner and connecting with you. Please join us for what has become a tradition, we will have a family style dinner at church on Thanksgiving. We gather for a traditional dinner and "church family" time together. Each year this group has grown and we still have room for more.

The dinner was started because we had several people who did not want to cook for just a few, but wanted the traditional Thanksgiving feast. So if you do not want to cook a large dinner and want to be a part of dinner, conversation and fun please consider joining us. We will have a sign-up sheet in the hallway. If you want to make a dish to pass please let us know what you will bring. The turkey will be provided. Do not feel you have to make a dish to attend; we ALWAYS have too much food. And we always have leftovers.

Please see your hosts Amy and Shawn McDonald. A signup sheet will be available very soon. We will meet starting at 2:00 p.m. And dinner will be served at 3:00 p.m. You are welcome to come earlier to chat and play games if you would like.

Amy and Shawn McDonald



November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:15 pm Music Committee 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	2 8 pm AA	3 9am Fall Clean-up (weather permitting) Daylight Savings Time Ends Fall Back One
4 All Saints Sunday 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship 11:30 am Handbells 2 pm Time for a Serious Talk Workshop 4 pm Youth Group	5 10 am Paint & Palette 7 pm Book Club 8 pm AA	6 9:30 am Staff Mtg. 12 n Adult Study 1:30 pm Fine Arts	7 7 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Bible Study 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	8	9 8 pm AA	10 9am Raindate for Fall Clean-up 2 pm Service Saturday 4 pm Service Saturday
11 Staff Recognition 10 am Worship Annual Meeting 11 am Fellowship 11:30 am Handbells	12 10 am Paint & Palette 12 n Worship Committee 8 pm AA	13 9:30 am Staff 12 n Adult Study 1 pm Juliets 1 pm Romeos 4:15 p Pastoral Relations 7:15 pm Christian Community 7:30 pm Deacons	14 7 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm Trustees	15 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	16 8 pm AA	17 9 am Movie Christian Community 1 - 4 pm Home to Stay furniture Pick-up
18 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship 11:30 am Handbells 4:00 pm Youth Group	19 Newsletter Deadline 10 am Paint & Palette 8 pm AA	20 9:30 am Staff Mtg. 12 n Adult Study 7:15 pm Church Council	21 Offices closing at noon	22 Thanksgiving Day 2 pm Gathering 3 pm Dinner	23 Offices closed 8 pm AA	24
25 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship 11:30 am Handbells	26 10 am Paint & Palette 4 pm Hanging of the Greens 8 pm AA	27 9:30 am Staff Mtg. 12 n Adult Study 7:30 pm Personnel Committee	28 7 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Bible Study	29 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	30	



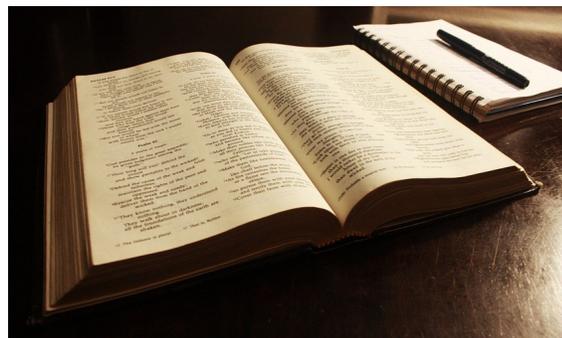
All Saints Sunday

Each year, on a Sunday close to All Saints Day, we pause to remember individuals from this congregation who have died over the past twelve months. During the 10:00a.m. service of worship we uplift the names of each individual and light a candle in their memory. Following the sharing of these names we invite those in attendance to offer the names of other people who they wish to remember. This year's All Saints Sunday will be held November 4th.

Joys & Concerns

Our thoughts and prayers are with . . .

- Phil Rice, who had surgery on October 9.
- Mary DuBuis, who had surgery on October 10.
- Connie Lesiewicz, who is undergoing chemo-therapy
- Sheree Clark Lovell, who had surgery on October 17.
- Janet Davis, who had surgery on October 25



November Lectionary Texts

November 4

Ruth 1:1-88
Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:11-14
Mark 12:28-34

November 11

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17
Psalm 127
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44

November 18

1 Samuel 1:4-20
1 Samuel 2:1-10
Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25
Mark 13:1-8

November 25

2 Samuel 23:1-7
Psalm 132:1-12, (13-18)
Revelation 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37

Keeping Up with the Congregation..

Javier and Crystal Oliveras have a new address:

4612 Quincy Drive, Midland 48642

Margaret Wilson: 2904 Swede Avenue, Midland, 48642

(989) 832-0546

Email: badeyesmarg@yahoo.com

Carol Willis: 610 Walnut Street, Midland 48640

(989) 423-1187

Email: cmwillis610@gmail.com

Nan and Jim Heffel: Email: nzheffel@outlook.com

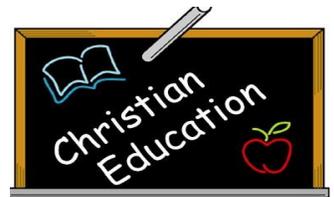
Doug and Shelley Koop's new address:

110 Bartram Drive, Beaufort, SC 29902

Phones and email addresses remain the same

Please remember to update the church by contacting the office by phone or email whenever you have a change of information.

From the Director of Educational Ministries



Dear Friends,

At the Annual Meeting of the UCC Michigan Conference, ten youth from around the state (six from UCC, Midland) got a chance to participate in the wider-church. The Annual Meeting provided access to an amazing preacher - Dr. Alice Hunt, cool music from the Olivet College Gospel Choir, and multiple experiences to learn about how other youth around the state are the church. Events like this are a stark reminder that church isn't just the place where you go on Sunday morning, and 4100 Chestnut Hill Drive isn't the only way to UCC.

I am a huge supporter of wider-church events, especially for youth, because I know that many of them will not stay in Midland after high school. As youth group advisors Roger and I value giving our teens the hands on experience to seek out ways to be UCC no matter where in the world their adult-selves land. This is a critical piece of what it means to Be The Church.

The theme for this year's Michigan Conference Annual Meeting was "Be Not Afraid." We live in a world where fear is a tremendous factor in what motivates (or paralyzes) us. When I listen to the voices of our teenagers as they share what their fears are, it shakes me to my core. They know and feel so much - and I wish that I could do more to bear their burden. The ten youth who were at Olivet College First Congregational UCC, Charlotte on October 12 and 13 wrote this Prayer of the People and shared it with those in attendance,

"Our world is so divided
by politics, race, religion, gender
As today's teenagers the expectations of the world are overwhelming
Our minds are full and conflicted
We ask for your help
We need your help
Our world is wounded
Please pray for safety and protection
Pray for those who can't help themselves mentally and physically
Pray for those stuck in abusive relationship
and those who don't feel safe to come out
We all deserve to be exactly who we are
Pray for those who are in need of finding forgiveness
We ask you to be strong
We ask for your courage
We need strength and courage for the future
As we lean in with our hearts and minds
Let us pray together that each of us can join in
to make a way for God's justice, healing, and love in the world."

This Call to Prayer was inspired by and followed by the song *Leaning In* by Christopher Grundy (which was also part of the Great Lakes Regional Youth Event in Elmhurst, Illinois in July 2018) You can listen to the talented Andra Moran of the Convergence Music Project sing it here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZh4A487tfM> This is a beautiful example of what some may consider progressive praise music.

As we continue to explore ways to Be The Church, I ask you to lean your hearts in to our children and youth. I ask for your prayers to help them find meaning in being a part of church in our wounded world. I

Continued from page 5

ask that you uplift and support them to live faithfully in a world full of fear. Let us walk with them in making a way God's justice, healing, and love in the world.

~ Jenn



Group at First Congregational UCC in Charlotte



Service Project



Hanging out together



Dinner at Tim's Pizza in Olivet



Lofty News



Wow! What a wonderful Founders Series concert on September 30! We were so fortunate to be able to hear Holly Near, as she shared her life journey interspersed with her music. She kept the audience entranced as she related how she moved from a tentative, somewhat shy activist to someone who is recognized as a leader in the social justice movement.

The next ambitious musical event at MUCC will be on December 16, Music Sunday, when the choir, bells, and instrumentalists will perform "The Glory of Christmas" by Lloyd Larsen. This cantata will take us

through the Christmas story, from the hope which is symbolized by the expectation that God would send a savior, through the glory of Christmas, with Jesus' birth symbolizing God's word made flesh. The overall message of the cantata is joy, and we can almost guarantee you will leave the service feeling uplifted, hopeful, and excited to once again celebrate Christ's birth.

As always, we invite you to share your musical talents, whether it be through your voice, your instrumental skills, or your willingness to sing with gusto during the service. If you want to join the choir, simply show up on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the loft. If you have instrumental talent, see Jim Hohmeyer and let him know what instrument you play.

UCC Family Choir

YOU ARE INVITED...

All those wishing to share their voices in song are invited to participate in our seasonal Church Family Choir.

This short-term choir is open to anyone, of any age, who would like to commit to rehearsals and singing for the Children and Youth Advent Program on Sunday December 9.

On 12/9, the Church Family Choir will sing a multi-part Children's Choir piece.

All voices are welcome!!

Joyfully, the song also highlights some of our youth instrumental talent.

Rehearsals are from 11:15-11:30 a.m. - immediately following worship

Sunday, November 4 - Sunday, December 2 in the UCC Parlor

(children will also rehearse during the Annual Meeting on 11/11)

Please email jenn@uccmidland.org for more information if desired

SEE YOU Sunday November 4 at 11:15 a.m.!!!

Jennifer Ringgold





Saturday, November 3 at 9:00 a.m. members and friends of the church, bring your rakes, leaf blowers, tarps, gloves and good spirits to prepare the church grounds for the upcoming season! Everyone is welcome to share in the clean-up and in refreshments!

This event is weather permitting, in the case of inclement weather, our rain date will be November 10! Please join us, the more hands the better! Donuts, coffee and cider will be available.

Service Saturday

November 10, 2018

Our church is the first in Midland to commit to a regular schedule of volunteer help for the Shelterhouse Resale Shop. We are excited to be the 'hands and feet' of God's work in this project. On a Saturday of each month, men, women and children 10 years and older are given the opportunity to sign-up and assist at the Resale Shop with sorting clothing donations, hanging and pricing items, organizing racks, assisting customers, as well as building maintenance tasks such as painting, minor repairs and clean-up.

We will be organizing two shifts: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. and 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

By signing up and volunteering our time and skills we can help to meet needs in our community.



Movie Morning- Saturday November 17th 9:30 a.m.

Please join us for another movie get together for our very own private screening of FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE CRIMES OF GRINDELWALD. This movie is rated PG 13 and has a run time of 2 hours and 14 minutes. If you have been a fan of Harry Potter and or enjoyed the first movie Fantastic Beast and Where to Find Them, this will be a fun viewing. Plus you get to experience it with friends from our church on opening weekend. We hope to see you there.

Tickets are \$5 and sign up and payment is needed by November 12.

“In an effort to thwart Grindelwald's plans of raising pure-blood wizards to rule over all non-magical beings, Albus Dumbledore enlists his former student Newt Scamander, who agrees to help, unaware of the dangers that lie ahead. Lines are drawn as love and loyalty are tested, even among the truest friends and family, in an increasingly divided world.”

Amy McDonald
Board of Christian Community

FOOD, SECURITY FOR EVERYONE...

The time of winter storms is approaching. Please consider some extra food security for yourself and others.

This would be a good time to buy enough non perishable food to feed your household for several days in case you can't get to the store or we have a weather-related power outage. Pick a variety of things you enjoy eating. Include food you can serve at room temperature or heat up with an outdoor grille. Canned fruits, vegetables and meats, rice and spaghetti are simple to prepare and store well. A few gallons of water and some paper towels could be handy. Include items you tend to run short of. An extra jar of peanut butter, tube of toothpaste, or bottle of cooking oil might save you a special trip to the store on a day when the weather conditions are poor.

Food packages have a date to "use before." Pick items which are good for a year or more. Six months from now, another reminder will come to bring what you bought in the fall into the church for donation to our local food pantry. If you have not needed the food due to weather, it will be a blessing to folks who struggle to feed themselves and their families.

Thank you.



Dine With Nine 2019

January * February * March

Looking for a great way to get to know people in the UCC a little better? Are you interested in a way to fill a chilly winter evening with warm conversation and a shared meal? Sign up sheets will be available in the information hallway throughout the month of November. You may sign up to participate in any or all of the three Dine With Nine gatherings. Anyone is welcome!

Here's how it works:

- Sign up will be available through November 25th. Fill in your information for each of the months you would like to participate.
- If you are willing to host and are flexible on timing, sign up for each month you would be available. Hosts are only assigned to one month. (If you are willing to host more than one month in case of host shortages, please make a note of this).
- Participants will be organized into groups and assigned to hosts (approximately 7-9 people in total). Lists of these assignments will be emailed by December 8th.
- Hosts will contact the participants within their group to arrange the date, time, and menu for the given month. While hosts will determine the primary menu, all participants will contribute dishes to the dinner.
- Any questions, please contact Diane Merrick at dkmerrick@sbcglobal.net or any other member of the Board of Christian Community.



Coming Soon to Fellowship Hall

Sharing Tree Tags will be out the weekend of November 3 and should be returned to the church by December 2, 2018. This is a wonderful way to directly support those in need in our community. Sharing tree is led by the United Way of Midland County. Request for gifts are given by nonprofits in the community or schools for individual and families. Each year I use sharing tree to help clients in need that I work with at Family and Children's Services. This year has been especially demanding and I personally have submitted 40 gift requests. I know our community is generous and I thank you all for the support

This year there are two ways to give back through the Sharing Tree Program.

Traditional Tags (Green)

We know that for many, picking out a tag from the tree and taking that trip to the store to buy a special gift for a family or child in need is a tradition of its own that continues to be at the heart of our program. Gifts should be around \$30 in value.

Online Impact Store

Through the ease and convenience of the online Impact Store, community members who don't have access to a tree—or may not have time to shop for a gift—have the option to purchase critical basic need items for families in our community. Items such as transportation tickets, utility money orders, clothing, cleaning supplies, baby supplies, etc. This will be a great opportunity to reach more people in our community and offers an impact and easy way for those in your organization to participate. Starting November 2 until December 23 to can go online to www.sharingtreemidland.com to buy needed items.

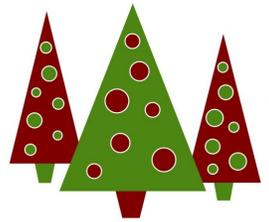
Amy McDonald
Board of Christian Community

Rummage Sale Wrap-up Meeting

There will be a rummage sale wrap-up meeting with dessert at the home of Bob and Gwen Snyder, 312 West Collins Street on November 5th at 7:30 p.m. Please sign up on the bulletin board across from the church office or call Gwen Snyder at 839-9644.

The 2018 Women's Christmas Party

The holidays are a special time of year filled with parties, family, and friends and of course food. Perhaps that's what makes this time of year so exciting for many. Once again the Women of the UCC will gather for a Christmas celebration and fellowship. We will meet and celebrate in the parlor here at church. Last year we had over 35 women join us for food laughter and fun.



The event will start at 6:00 pm on Monday December 10th. Please bring an appetizer dish to pass if you are able. We will provide drinks and serving items.

If you have not had a chance to join in the fun, you should consider joining us this year. The ever popular and sometimes competitive White Elephant gift exchange will be a part of the night along with all the tasty food. No one has ever left hungry from the Woman Christmas party, Please bring a small gift for the exchange.

We look forward to see you all here. A sign-up sheet will be posted. You can also confirm or for questions please contact Amy McDonald amycmu@yahoo.com (989) 506-3734



Did you know that in Midland County each year, over 500 families register for Salvation Army's Adopt a Family program, yet only around 135 sponsors offer to be matched with a family? This year, UCC has requested to adopt two families (one with 6 members, another with 4) in order to help more people have a happy Christmas. Last year, our adopted family said we had "given them the best Christmas" they'd ever had. We'll be matched with our two families in early November, and information will be posted in Fellowship Hall for you to sign up for anything you'd like to donate to family members. Deacons will also provide groceries for a holiday meal for each family. Thank you in advance for the kindness, generosity, and loving spirit that UCC shows to those in need in our community. Please contact Mary Haslam if you have any questions about this program.



2018 Cookie Exchange

The Board of Christian Community is hosting their annual cookie exchange (or excuse to unload extra holiday cookies) during Fellowship on December 30th, which will be in lieu of the traditional spread of snacks. If you are a baker who loves making cookies this time of year looking for another excuse to bake, if you have a recipe you've really been wanting to try, or if you just have an abundance of holiday treats left over, feel free to bring them in. After Fellowship, the leftover treats are free to be taken home in mix-and-match fashion.

November Benevolence Giving

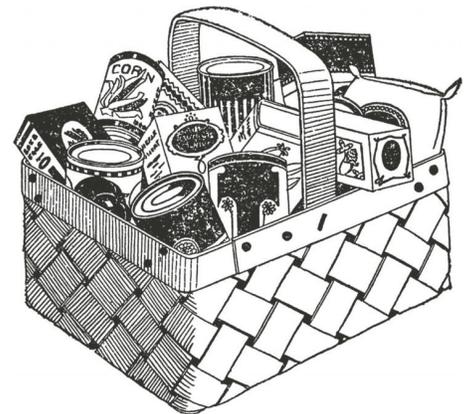
Your Gift Does Make A Difference

The special offering for November is the Pastor's Emergency Fund. Through our pastor, your resources can minister to the immediate needs of our Midland neighbors. UCC Midland averages 1-5 phone calls per week from individuals and families requesting help. Our church responds promptly to those seeking assistance with basic necessities or emergency needs. Gifts generally have been limited to \$50-\$100 to be used for such things as apartment rental fees and utilities. Requests typically come from individuals or families that are unexpectedly unemployed, under-employed, or dealing with steep medical costs. UCC Midland does not limit support to church members and friends, as is the case with many other churches. If you would like to give to the Pastor's Emergency Fund, simply put a note on the memo line of your check and place it in the offering plate or drop off your check in the church office.

Matthew Christianson

Benevolence Committee

Thanksgiving Food Baskets — Helping our community in need:



The Board of Christian Community invites you to once again help families in need here in Midland County. We are participating in the Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive. We will be collecting any packaged or canned food, nonperishable items, personal care items as well as cash and check donations. Checks should be made out to the United Church of Christ, Midland with Thanksgiving Pantry in the memo line. Checks and cash will be used to buy turkeys. These donations will help provide for over 400 families this year.

Items will be collected from October 28 until November 18 when the items are delivered to the Aldersgate United Methodist Church. The Board of Christian Community thanks you all for your concern and support of families in need in our community.

Food needs: Canned fruits & Vegetables, Cereal, Spaghetti Sauce, Noodles, Boxed potatoes, Rice, Canned Soups, Dessert Mixes, Juices, Stuffing, Jell-O, and Pie Mixes.

SAVE THE DATE for Hanging of the Greens!!



It's time to plan for Christmas decorating! We will gather at 4:00 p.m. on Monday evening, November 26 to decorate the sanctuary and church building for the Christmas season. There are lots of things to do – standing, sitting, reaching, hanging, designing, and climbing! After the decorating, the Board of Fine Arts will provide pizza, salad and Christmas cookies.

Come join the fun! We've even been known to sing along with some Christmas music while we decorate!

Proposed Slate of Officers and New Board Members UCC Midland 2019

Moderator: Mary Haslam

Past Moderator: Doug Webster

Moderator-Elect: Matthew Vannette

Treasurer: Kim Steinke

Assistant Treasurer: Kay Rochlitz

Financial Secretary: Andy Ault

Assistant Financial Secretary: Marsha Langhorst

Board of Christian Community: Amy Hutchinson

Board of Deacons: Laura Wolanin, Sheree Lovell and Deborah Reeves

Board of Educational Ministries: Ana Geib, Joe Knizacky,

Board of Fine Arts : Ben Fergun and Al Harrow

Board of Trustees: _____, _____,

Covenant Association Representatives: Mary Dubuis and Rev. Jean Winther

Nominating Committee Chair: Janet Danek

Pastoral Relations Committee: Karen Harner and Rob Reeves

Stewardship Committee: Rob Reeves, Carl Gillett, and Mary Haslam

Financial Summary

September 30, 2018
(75.0% of Budget Year)

	Current Year		Prior Year	
Pledges Paid through September 30	\$ 226,805	75.0%	\$ 220,008	75.2%
Budgeted Income through September 30	\$ 262,840	73.6%	\$ 256,743	74.8%
Funds Available for Budgeted Expenses	\$ 87,382	88 Days	\$ 56,861	60 Days
Budgeted Expenses Paid YTD	\$ 262,117	73.4%	\$ 256,997	74.9%

Pledges Paid include the total of all cash and securities received to fulfill annual pledges.
Budgeted Income includes all pledged, unpledged, loose, and supplemental offerings.
The percentage reflects the portion of the total amount pledged or budgeted.

Funds Available for Budgeted Expenses shows the amount on hand to pay future expenses and how many days these funds would cover if average budgeted expenses (\$29,761 / month) are incurred.

Donations for the September Special Offering, Neighbors in Need, totaled \$440 -- Thank you!

The current balances of the Pastor's Discretionary and Emergency Funds total \$2,112

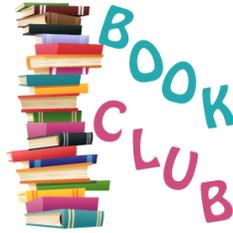
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$0
Pastor's Emergency Fund	\$2,112

Current overall financial picture is - **Excellent**



Larry Schroeder, Treasurer

Larry Schroeder, Treasurer



November Book Club

November book club will be reading *The Marsh King's Daughter* by Karen Dionne. We will meet at the home of Carol Locker on Monday, November 12th at 7:00 p.m.

November Birthdays

<i>Laurie Roberts</i>	<i>November 5</i>
<i>Julie Ratcliffe</i>	<i>November 7</i>
<i>Meagan Spyker</i>	<i>November 8</i>
<i>Barbara McGregor</i>	<i>November 9</i>
<i>Sam Ringgold</i>	<i>November 11</i>
<i>Lynn Weimer</i>	<i>November 11</i>
<i>Jon Truitt</i>	<i>November 12</i>
<i>Lily Taylor</i>	<i>November 18</i>
<i>Fran Hamburg</i>	<i>November 19</i>
<i>Jim Williams</i>	<i>November 20</i>
<i>Ben Fergin</i>	<i>November 20</i>
<i>Mary Goodwin</i>	<i>November 23</i>
<i>Susan Mercy</i>	<i>November 24</i>

THE BOOKS ARE BACK!

The books that the Social Concerns Committee has for sale are now back on their shelves in the Fellowship Hall. They are arranged and labeled by category, so it should be much easier to find what you are looking for. We are always happy to receive new contributions to our collection. We do ask a couple of things if you have books to contribute. Please don't put them on the shelves; instead, please leave them in the office with Janet and she will let us know. Please do not contribute paperbacks that are so old the edges of the pages have turned brown. Just drop those in your recycle bin. Please do not turn in college and graduate school text books. They do not sell here, but the library will be glad to take them off your hands.



Thanks to all who have contributed book, to those of you who will be contributing and to those who have supported us by buying books, and now....time to go shopping!



Newsletter Deadline
is the 18th day of
each month!



The Lunch Bunch

The Juliets will meet the SECOND Tuesday in November, so we hopefully do not interfere with anyone's Thanksgiving plans. We will meet at Panera Bread on Eastman, across from the Midland Mall, on Tuesday, November 13th at 1:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact either Sue Rhodes or Sondi Geminder.

The ROMEOs will be going to Coco Loco at 201 N. Euclid Avenue in Bay City. Meet at the church at 12:15 p.m. to car pool or be at the Coco Loco at 1:00 p.m. on November 20. Olé.

All are welcome to join us!



A Look Back at Rummage Sale 2018

I wish to dedicate this rummage sale to Connie Lesiewicz who has fearlessly led the Rummage Team for the last three years and was unable to do it this year due to medical complications. She has done an awesome job while serving as the lead person and we look forward to her being back to functioning for the 2019 year.

I cannot thank you enough for the support and work you provided when we ran into the perfect tsunami. We had others who were also sick, on vacation, the lack of publicity. You name it and we encountered it and all turned out successfully which is the bottom line. You came through with food to sustain the crew, merchandise to sell, you bought merchandise, you gave us hugs when we most needed them, you donated more time to helping. It was truly incredible.

Our youngest two workers were Caroline Fergin and Lainey Ringgold. Our most mature helpers were 90+. We had a number of first timers. We had a few who were there every day for most of the day. Our youth group showed up to help with clean up on Saturday along with some of our 90-year olds. Roughly seventy people worked, provided food, helped with set up and take down. This includes two ringers from other churches who come to us pre-trained in sorting & pricing rummage. I am deeply grateful for Roger, Janet and Jenn who gave so willingly to help me with this sale.

And now for the total. Our gift certificate of \$10.00 was issued to Marjory Ball for being the closest to our actual rummage receipts which we're claiming to be \$5,070.50, the figure you need to beat for 2019.

Your rummage team prays that two or three of you will step forward for 2019 to join the team. This event is so important to help us with our mission both within Midland and the world as we provide money for everything from scholarships for those in the congregation who wish to attend events to help us grow as Christians to assisting our brothers and sisters around the world and here at home. Your rummage team is currently composed of Margaret Clark, Connie Lesiewicz, Sue Rhodes, Gwen Snyder, & Sue Tipler.

Gwen Snyder, lead team member for 2018

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST *Midland*
an open and affirming church

4100 Chestnut Hill Drive
Midland, Michigan 48642-6206

Tel: 989-631-1136

Fax: 989-631-3840

E-mail: janet@uccmidland.org



We're on the web!
www.uccmidland.org