

July
2022



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

The Congregationalist

Monthly Newsletter

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Dear Members and Friends of Webster UCC, Congregational,



"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed... nothing would be im-possible to you." These words from Matthew 17:20 have guided me for many years. It's where I came up with the title for my monthly newsletter articles to you. But it has even more meaning...

When I was about 9 or 10 years old, my mom and my grandmother were arguing about how much faith one needed – seems my mom didn't think my grandmother had enough faith, and my grandmother responded with that verse – Matthew 17:20. "So if I have at least that much, I'm doing just fine!" And being an inquisitive 9 (or 10) year old, I asked, "How big is a mustard seed?" So, my mom went to the cupboard and brought out a little spice tin of mustard seeds, and she put a few in the palm of my hand. I was shocked at how tiny they were!

"See," my grandmother said, "that's all the faith you need. Jesus even said so!" And I went off wondering if that was enough faith – and did I have at least that much – or how much faith did I think I had... I never really figured it all out. How ever much faith I have – or have had – it seems to have been enough. For me. I think...

This week, I was pondering faith and mustard seeds once again. And tried to think of the times when my faith was merely the size of a mustard seed and the times when it was maybe more than that and times when it may have been less than that. I realized that in the past several weeks I was running a little low on mustard! Probably a little less than one tiny seed.

I began to wonder – with the stock market situation and inflation growing and prices going higher and interest rates on the increase – was this the best time to be retiring? I was skeptical. VERY skeptical! Will our house sell? Will my investment portfolio be enough or will I have to get a part-time job? How long will it last? My mind wandered and my anxiety went through the roof! And then I had my colonoscopy and was told "every-thing looked good, except for a little tiny polyp that was removed and sent to the lab – but don't worry!" Yeah right! Another thing to worry about. C'mon!! AND... while there were plenty of showings on our house, we hadn't gotten any offers. So, my mustard seed seemed to be getting smaller!

Well... we got an offer on the house, then another, and another, and we accepted one! Then we met with our financial planner and he assured us that we were in great shape for retirement. Then I got an email from my doctor that the lab report was fine – that little polyp was benign. So my grandmother was right! Having that one little diminutive mustard seed of faith was all I needed! Things worked out. I'm not sure that I'm at the point where I believe that *nothing* is impossible, but I am reassured that much more is possible than I thought could ever be with my faith *"the size of a mustard seed..."*

So hold on tight to that mustard seed! And if you have faith the size of an entire tin of mustard seeds, GOOD FOR YOU! May your anxieties and worries be minimal, and your blessings on the increase!

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow!"

Light, Life, and Love,

Carl

"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed... nothing would be impossible to you."
- Matthew 17:20

Prayer Requests for July 2022

Sometimes the warmth of summer gets to be a little much for some people – especially those who suffer with breathing disorders. As the temperatures rise, please check-in on neighbors, family and friends to make sure the heat and humidity is not causing them despair. Help them find refuge in air-conditioning comfort, share water for hydration, and just practice the ministry of “being there.” While most of us welcome these warmer days, some may be struggling alone and in silence.

As we continue to fervently pray for Ukraine, the homeland of our beloved accompanist, Oleksandra Yurchenko, we also raise prayers of joy for her sister who has been granted temporary asylum in the United States. She arrives on June 26th and will be staying with Oleksandra!! Please, continue those thoughts, prayers and powerfully positive energies for peace in Ukraine and an end to all conflict.

Please, also keep in mind, thoughts and prayers for those who are facing loss, hunger and homelessness, and unemployment! Continue to pray for God’s presence in all lives, hearing our prayers and bringing hope and blessing to so many who live in the midst of such uncertainty. In your mercy, Holy One, hear our prayers!

Here are some of the requests for prayers that have been shared during our "Time of Sharing" during Sunday morning services of worship. And if you've got a minute - after you read this - please add one more prayer, or send some positive vibes and energies through the cosmos for each and every one!

Thank you...

- + As we continue with COVID, we continue prayers and healing energies to those suffering, and give thanks for vaccines, and the ability to receive them!
- + Prayers for the family and friends of Larry Akins, a long-time member of our church family who died recently.
- + Continued prayers for all the refugee resettlement work going on in our area and the nation.
- + We pray for ALL who are seeking and struggling to make a home to the US.
- + Healing energies for those who face new or returning diagnoses of illness and supportive energies for those who care for them...
- + Prayers for those facing surgery and/or hospitalizations and subsequent rehabilitation.
- + Prayers for a healthy and safe summer for teachers and students as summer vacation time begins!

You may wish to include those of our church family who are living in health-related facilities or at home:

- + Effie Wysocki @ The Landing of Brighton
- + Ted Ellstrom @ Sage Harbor, Baywinde Senior Living Center, Webster
- + Fern Pellet @ Fairport Baptist Home in Fairport
- + Rene Nogaj @ The Maplewood, 100 Daniel Drive, Webster.
- + Bob Daly, Andrea Oestreich and Marian Payne @ home.
- + Nancy Schlaffer @ Leo Center for Caring at St. Ann’s Community, 1500 Portland Ave. Rochester, 14621
- + Ron Orchard @ Webster Comfort Care, 700 Holt Rd., Webster.

Those now living in independent or assisted living centers are:

- + Alan Hunderup @ Chapel Oaks, St. Ann’s, Rochester
- + Norma Fitzpatrick, Linda Battaglia & Betty Watkins @ CDS Monarch Senior Living Center, Webster
- + Mary Jane Nudd @ Castlepointe, Baywinde Senior Living Center, Webster
- + Jan Kujawa @ home with family in Buffalo
- + Bruce & Angie Clair @ Traditions of Deerfield, 3455 Nantucket Circle, Apt. 248, Loveland, OH 45140



Caring Community Concerts

A Summer Concert Series to Benefit Our Community.

July 13: Allegro

Benefit for Webster Comfort Care Home...Free will offering

Allegro is Western New York's premier party band! The 8 piece group has performed for thousands of satisfied customers over the past 20 years. Allegro is known for playing many different styles of music, from straight ahead jazz to today's current hits.

July 20: Rochester Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra

Benefit for Webster Community Chest Meals on Wheels & Food Support...Free will offering

Established to foster the preservation, education, and celebration of music known as big band, the band performs favorites such as Count Basie and Duke Ellington as well as well-known standards sung by Ella Fitzgerald and Natalie Cole. A favorite at the Rochester International Jazz Festival, the orchestra continues to perform jazz in the tradition of the Count Basie Orchestra.

July 27: GateSwingers

Benefit for Webster Public Library BookBox for Kids and Teens...Free will offering

Rochester's original dance band, the GateSwingers Big Band is an exciting 15 piece band. The band features dance music from the 40's, 50's, 60's and present day for your dancing and listening pleasure. The GateSwingers play the big band standards in the authentic traditions of the great dance bands like Count Basie, Frank Sinatra, Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller and Doris Day. For more than 30 years the GateSwingers have been a favorite of upstate New York audiences.

August 3: 8 Days a Week

Benefit for Webster Community Chest...Free will offering

The 60s were defined by the music of The Beatles. The band 8-Days-A-Week will bring back many of those memories! They've been entertaining in the Rochester area for more than ten years. Whether -Days-A-Week always provide a wonderfully nostalgic and authentic sound. You will enjoy the timeless classics of The Beatles recreated by this talented quartet!



**Concerts to be held on front lawn of Webster United Church of Christ
570 Klem Road - Webster, New York 14580**

Bring a blanket, Bring a friend...Bring a picnic, or Choose from our picnic menu.

Concessions open at 6:00 pm

For additional information contact the church office at (585) 671-3757

Mission Moment -

Strengthen the Church offering, 1 of 4 that help make us a 5 for 5 church, will continue to be received through July. Checks payable to UCC Congregational may be placed in offering plate or mailed to church or donations may be made online. Please note Strengthen the Church in memo. Thank you!

The **Strengthen the Church** Offering supports the efforts of our conferences and the national ministries of the United Church of Christ to support leaders, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. **Together, we all grow stronger.**



Recently Baptized...

On Sunday, June 12th following the morning worship service, Leo Matthew Novelli Smith was baptized in our sanctuary. Leo is the daughter of Jake & Felicia (Novelli) Smith. It was great to have several members of both the Novelli and Smith families present for the baptism!

Prior to the service, at 9:00 AM on Sunday, June 26th, Olivia Wynter Dreier was baptized here at Webster UCC. She is the daughter of Ryan & Jenna Dreier who reside in Maryland, with family here in Webster.

Welcome to the Body of Christ, Leo and Olivia!

Special Thanks...

...to Judy & Norm Short for their work in helping to beautify the front of the church – weeding, trimming and landscaping. It looks wonderful!

(If anyone would like to join their "team" in the future, please get in touch with the Short's! All are welcome!)

SAVE THE DATE.....August 27

SAVE THE DATE.....August 27!!! Come and bring the family for Carl's Farewell BBQ Party on the lawn as we celebrate our pastor's 12 years with us , his 28 years of ministry and his upcoming retirement!!

The party starts 4:00 p.m. with appetizers and beverages including wines from Liberty Vineyard; dinner, catered by Mission BBQ, will be 5:30 p.m.

A short program will end the evening.

Reservations will be needed and information about that will follow soon. Hope to see everyone to share heartfelt Best Wishes to Carl and his family!!

-Party Planning Group

Community Garden

If you appreciate gardening, then we have an outreach project for you. The harvest from the Community Garden goes to Webster Hope (formerly Hope House) and our WUCC outdoor giving pantry. The idea is to have many hands this summer doing all the wonderful work of the garden. There are three main chores

1. watering
2. weeding
3. harvesting

We have an irrigation system set up. The hose stays connected to a faucet on the east side of the building. You will see the hose crossing the driveway from the garden entrance to the faucet. To turn on the system, just turn the key in the brick wall next to the spicket. Turning left turns it on. Please email Wendy or text her to let her know you turned on the irrigation so she can go over and turn it off. wlesko88@gmail.com (585)746-1965

If you pull weeds, please do not throw them in the composter. Instead toss them on the weed pile which will be located on a tarp outside the fence by the composter. Or throw the weeds in the woods or dumpster.

If you harvest, please let Wendy know. You can drive the produce to Webster Hope or leave it in the outdoor pantry. Either way, please email or text

In theory, if we all pitch-in, no single person would be overwhelmed and the garden will stay in good shape all season.

Here's the link to the calendar. Just write your name in the squares you are claiming. We'll keep it going all summer. Thank you in advance.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1o_FX_IVDAIz4d71P9gDvsV29rWWV9VNTeTiegqsLOdE/edit?usp=sharing



May 2022 as of June 20, 2022

	May	YTD
	Actual	Actual
Church Resources		
Balance at BOM	\$20,003.27	\$16,722.47
Receipts	\$31,008.52	\$123,870.04
Disbursements	-\$23,279.73	-113,338.45
Noan pass through receipts	\$15.00	\$5,313.00
Non Plan pass through disbursements	-\$1,673.00	-\$6,493.00
General Fund (Checking Account) - EOM	\$26,074.06	\$26,074.06
Less Cumulative Non Plan Pass Thru Not Disbursed	\$14,709.42	\$14,709.42
Available to Support Annual Plan	\$11,364.64	\$11,364.64
Total Resources	\$11,364.64	\$11,364.64

Stewardship, Fundraising, Donations and Other Sources of Income to Enable Ministry Plan

	2021	2021	2022	May	YTD
	Plan	Actual	Plan	Actual	Actual YTD
Income					
Cash Offering	\$178,000.00	\$158,306.69	\$160,000.00		
Pre Paid Pledge	\$7,000.00	\$2,688.50	\$3,000.00		
Pledge recovery	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Sunday School	\$5,000.00	\$5,900.00	\$5,000.00		
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Stewardship Sunday Giving	\$190,000.00	\$166,895.19	\$168,000.00	\$15,482.00	\$72,228.00
Stewardship Fundraising	\$3,300.00	\$828.50	\$0.00	\$358.00	\$358.00
Finance /Misc	\$750.00	\$132.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$2,680.89
Congregational Life	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Spiritual Nurturing	\$12,100.00	-\$488.00	\$10,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Youth Fundraising	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Building Use Donations	\$25,110.00	\$25,267.08	\$27,300.00	\$15,168.52	\$23,595.41
Office & Admin	\$1,200.00	\$35.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$7.74
Worship & Music	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mission	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Summer concert ministry	\$16,000.00	\$7,013.25	\$7,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$249,260.00	\$199,783.02	\$214,500.00	\$31,008.52	\$98,870.94

Cost of our Ministries, Outreach, Pastors and Staff, Building and Grounds, and Administrative

	2021	2021	2022	May	YTD
	Plan	Actual	Plan	Act	YTD
Ministry Expenses					
Staff and Human Relations	\$218,580.11	\$214,379.68	\$217,246.95	\$16,832.81	\$87,323.33
Admin/Office/Communications	\$8,500.00	\$7,117.99	\$8,350.00	\$341.60	\$2,389.92
Building & Grounds	\$39,600.00	\$39,266.00	\$38,600.00	\$2,561.95	\$15,719.90
Worship & Music	\$2,100.00	\$700.78	\$2,100.00	\$38.95	\$371.43
Spiritual Nurturing	\$16,500.00	\$4,344.90	\$14,500.00	\$2,689.70	\$3,863.67
Congregational Life	\$2,900.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mission Outreach Tithe	\$17,863.00	\$15,812.06	\$16,763.00	\$215.92	\$3,071.40
Mission Awareness Project (MAP)	\$7,489.72	\$7,489.72	\$7,619.62	\$0.00	\$0.00
Summer concert ministry	\$16,000.00	\$10,060.42	\$10,000.00	\$598.80	\$598.80
TOTAL MINISTRY EXPENSES	\$329,532.83	\$299,171.55	\$315,379.57	\$23,279.73	\$113,338.45
Surplus/(deficit)	(80,272.83)	(99,388.53)	(100,879.57)	7,728.79	(14,468.41)
Transfer from Endowment - 6%	\$44,938.00	\$44,938.00	\$45,718.00	-	\$25,000.00
Transfer from Endowment - 1% (MAP)	\$7,489.72	\$7,489.72	\$7,619.62	-	\$0.00
Transfer from Memorials and Special Gifts	\$0.00	\$5,374.03	\$0.00	-	\$0.00
Additional transfer from Endowment to balance budget	\$28,100.00	\$20,062.00	\$48,000.00	-	\$0.00
Special gift for sound system	\$0.00	\$8,400.00	\$0.00	-	\$0.00
Estate contributions	\$0.00	-	\$0.00	-	\$0.00
Net surplus/(deficit) after xfer from Endowment, M&SG	254.89	(13,124.78)	\$458.05	7,728.79	10,531.59

Community Dinner at Methodist Church

This was presented to the Webster Council of Churches as an “in addition to” the regular community meal at Assembly of God, to help bridge a gap for people in need.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Pasta Dinner

creating a stronger community one meal at a time

Saturday, July 23rd | 4:30-6pm | UMC Webster Fellowship Center
169 E Main St Webster
umcwebster.org

CONTACT WENDY MCVEIGH
FOR MORE INFORMATION: 585-309-6510
PASTORWENDY@UMCWEBSTER.ORG

No cost to attend | Donations accepted
Children's Activities provided

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the food pantry
(as you are able)

Happy Birthday



July Birthdays

Did we miss anyone? If you know someone who has an anniversary or birthday in July who isn't listed please contact the church office.

07/01 Thomas Hondorf	07/16 Ella LaDuca	07/26 Victor Raguso
07/01 Deena VanHousen	07/17 Ethan Sharp	07/27 Doris Kittredge
07/02 Rosemary Shull	07/17 Neil Sood	07/28 Casey Biuso
07/03 Audrey Dunn	07/19 Louise Andrews	07/28 Timothy Craft
07/03 Sharon Mathiason	07/19 Konner Lieberman	07/28 Edward Maeske
07/04 John Abbett	07/20 Cheryl Hendrickson	07/29 Joe Monachino
07/04 Scott Daniels	07/20 Thomas Kohler	07/29 Charlotte Story
07/05 John LaDuca	07/20 Cheryl Liberty	07/29 Cameron Tsai
07/06 Chris Hendrickson	07/20 Kyle Lieberman	07/30 Devyn Phelps
07/06 Courtney Levy	07/21 Jim Dolan	07/31 Michael Cerame
07/06 Lindsay Levy	07/21 Marybeth Gilbert-Young	07/31 Craig Pratt
07/07 Talia Cholach	07/22 Denny Gent	
07/07 Ron Wheeler	07/22 Ruth Heidorn	
07/09 Nell Herman	07/22 Emily Marushak	
07/10/ Norma FitzPatrick	07/23 Joseph Bechtold	
07/12 Jacqueline Hermenet	07/23 Robert Daly	
07/12 Erwin Tschanz	07/23 Nicholas Syracuse	
07/14 Sienna Duga	07/24/ Brandon Johnson	
07/15 Gretchen Cannan	07/24 Jessica van Wichen	
07/15 Peyton John Sanfilippo	07/25 John Piucci	
07/16 Ethan Daniels	07/26 Lowell Edwards	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



July Anniversaries

07/02 Jennifer & Ted Brazener	07/27 Scott & Despina Mitchell
07/02 Beverly & Jack Guild	07/31 Sharon & John Randall
07/04 Jeff & Kristie Cimo	
07/09 George & Margot Hanley	
07/09 Debbie & John Peterson	
07/10 Kelly & Vincent Kozlowski	
07/11 Matthew & Kristi Chatfield	
07/13 Melissa & Gregg Minichiello	
07/16 William & Mindy Spencer	
07/21 Marcia & James Morath	
07/21 Judy & Ken Scott	
07/23 Jessica & Kyle Hegedorn	

Sunday worship is at 10am each Sunday. Services are in-person and livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube. See our website for the link. Watch our website and your email for updates.

JULY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 10am Combined Worship	27 9am VBS 6:30pm Cub Scouts Pack 113	28 9am VBS 7pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure	29 9am VBS	30 9am VBS 9:30am Thursday Study Group	01-Jul	2
3 10am Combined Worship	4 Independence Day	5 7pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure	6	7 9:30am Thursday Study Group	8	9
10 10am Combined Worship	11 6:30pm Women's "Fill Your Cup"	12 7pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure	13 6:30pm Caring Community Concert #1	14 9:30am Thursday Study Group	15 Cameron Com- munity Ministries Field Day at Webster UCC	16
17 Strengthen the Church special offering 10am Combined Worship	18	19 6pm WISE group 7pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure	20 6:30pm Caring Community Concert #2	21 9:30am Thursday Study Group	22	23
24 10am Combined Worship	25	26 7pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure	27 6:30pm Caring Community Concert #3	28 9:30am Thursday Study Group	29	30
31 10am Combined Worship	01-Aug	2 7pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure	3 6:30pm Caring Community Concert #4	4 9:30am Thursday Study Group 2:30pm Planning committee	5	6

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Sunday Schedule

*10:00 AM
Worship Service
also live stream on Facebook & YouTube*

*“The United Church of Christ,
Congregational of Webster is an Open and
Affirming community of faith. We welcome
and affirm God's people of every sexual
orientation, gender identity, gender
expression, race, ethnicity, marital status,
mental ability, physical ability, economic
circumstance, and spiritual tradition to
fully participate in the life and ministry of
our church family.”*

Webster UCC Staff

the Rev. Carl J. Richter, Sr. Pastor
Wendy Lesko, Director Christian Education
Ronald Milliman, Music Director
Doug Hall, Office Manager
Oleksandra Yurchenko, Accompanist
Lorraine Speer, Nursery Coordinator
Scott Loiacono, Custodian