

The Herald

First Congregational Church of Tallmadge UCC

*"Making God the Foundation of Every Day Living"
Serving Summit, Portage, Medina, Stark Counties
A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Date: August 9, 2011
Issue: 591

Worship Service 9 a.m.
Web site: www.FCCTALLMADGE.org
Phone (330)633-4931 Fax 330-633-7010

For Sunday Service of August 14, 2011

August Special Benevolence: Social Action Board

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Extended Session – Grade 2 & younger

The Rev. Dr. John M. Schluep will be giving the message.

Ushers JoAnn Wood, LaVerne Belcher
Greeters Gale and JoAnn Stem

Altar Flowers today are from:

David and Suzanne Kiewit in celebration of
their 34th Anniversary
and from
Bill and Ann Emmitt.



TO SING OR NOT TO SING



THAT is the question! You love to sing? You've practiced in the shower, and it's now time to move on to the next level? Your friends tell you that you have a nice voice? You sing at home or as you drive the car – with or without musical accompaniment?

Well, do we have an opportunity for you!

Join us on **Thursday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00pm** for fellowship, fun, choral inspiration and perspiration! Do you need to be able to read music? It helps, but we have many members who do not read music. Do they look worried on Sunday morning? Do they look fearful for what might happen during the choir number? No, because they have rehearsed with the choir and learn the music along with everyone else. You do NOT need to have a solo voice! We welcome anyone who would consider joining our family of singers. We hope to see you on **August 25**, 2011 in the choir room at church, followed by an ice cream social in the Fellowship Hall! *Nancy Lynn*

NOTICE: August 28 we return to
two services of Sunday worship:
8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.



The next HERALD Newsletter:

NOTE: The next *Herald* mailing date will be on **Tuesday, August 23**, 2011. The **deadline** for Lori to receive articles is **Friday, August 19**, 2011. *Thank You!*

Church Attendance

<u>July 24, 2011</u>	9:00 a.m. Worship	224
<u>July 31, 2011</u>	9:00 a.m. Worship	206
<u>August 7, 2011</u>	9:00 a.m. Worship	203



PASTOR'S SIDEBAR

On average, over a twelve month period, 35 to 40 weddings are performed through our church; sacred marriage vows solemnized by one of our pastors on staff or retired pastors who call First Congregational Church "home." Of the marriage ceremonies conducted, a small percentage are members of this church. This means we are opening our church to the wider community. We are blessed to have a wedding coordinator who assists the couple with logistical arrangements and the choreography of the ceremony. As a matter of course, I conduct a Genesis Pre-marriage class twice a year inviting all the couples who will be married within the next several months. At this class I review the biblical foundation of marriage, areas of communication, compatibility, family finances, and spiritual growth. The couples receive an orientation to the church building and meet Jane Huffman, our wedding coordinator. I remind the couples that they are asking for a sacred Christian ceremony inviting God to bless their vows, and that I am also licensed as an agent of Ohio to make this a legally binding contract.

The reason I am writing about this today is that I frequently am requested to perform wedding ceremonies outside Ohio. I have conducted marriage ceremonies on mountain tops of North Carolina and beaches of South Carolina, as well as a State Park in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. I even conducted a wedding at Henderson Settlement, a United Methodist Mission, in Kentucky. In every instance I have to check with the State's Attorney General to see if my credentials from Ohio will be recognized so that the marriage is legal.

I will be conducting a wedding in October in Washington, D.C. for a family friend who resides and works in Washington, D.C. Licensing for marriage in D.C. is the responsibility of the Superior Court of Washington, D.C. Marriage Bureau. So, I looked up the phone number of the Superior Court of Washington, D.C. Marriage Bureau and called. Five times I called. I followed the teleprompt punching in the appropriate extension number to speak with a clerk; all five times the phone rang for 12 minutes before I hung up and tried again. Finally, on the sixth attempt I got an answering machine, left a message. Two days later I received a call from "the" clerk.

Hello.

"This is Ms. White returning your call."

Oh, from Washington, D.C.?

"Yes. How can I help you?"

I am a pastor in Ohio and I will be conducting a wedding in D.C. in October. Is there anything I need to do or does the District of Columbia recognize my license?

"Have you been to our web page?"

Yes, and I called but there was no answer and I finally left a message on your phone when the answering machine picked up my call. Why didn't anyone answer the phone?

"That number has been changed. "

That would be good information to have on the web page. I dialed your number from another listing on the Superior Court listings of departments.

"If you have been to the web page then you read about the PDF file you can download. Fill those forms out completely. You will have to have a letter signed by one of your denominational leaders. We will need a copy of your diploma and credentials from your denomination. Everything must be notarized and mailed in to this office with a money order or certified check for \$35.00."

You're kidding?

"No, I'm not."

I've done weddings in four different states and I was given permission with nothing more than a phone call to the respective state's Attorney General's Office. Why does Washington, D.C. require all this? You don't trust me?

"No, we want to insure that you are of good moral character."

What? You work in Washington, D.C.! Has anyone ever thought about credentialing the "good moral" character of those inside the beltway?

And the Pharisees asked, "By whose authority did he do these things?"

Things that make my hair gray!

Dr. John



Mission Tour Reflections

- Matt Wooster

During the week of July 17-22, fourteen high school students and four adults traveled to Chicago for this church's 38th annual Youth Mission Tour. This year, we worked with a mission organization called DOOR - Discovering Opportunities for Outreach and Reflection, which was founded by the Mennonite church. DOOR hosts youth groups for service weeks in six large U.S. cities. They organized our service locations each day, and helped us to reflect on the Biblical call to justice and promise of God's care for every person.

I could not feel any better about the people of our church who represented this congregation in Chicago this summer. They were kind and enthusiastic about each day's service and learning. They brought energy and courage to each new challenge or adventure. I received compliments about them all week, from the DOOR staff, from people at our work sites, and from the leaders of our bicycle tour of downtown Chicago (with Hadley Eblen's tour company, who grew up in this church). They all told me how caring, fun, and loving this group was. We can all be proud of how God is at work in the high school students of our congregation. I asked two students to share reflections about their experiences. Laura is now a four year veteran of youth mission tours, and Adam was making his first tour this summer.

- Adam Pinkerton

The Chicago mission tour had a great impact on the way I view everyday things that I would normally take for granted. This trip really made me see the world in a new way and know that everybody doesn't live in the fashion that I do. Prior to my experience, I had little knowledge of what people went through on a day to day basis in those types of environments. Whether it was having to live in a shelter or waiting to stand in line for their next meal, or maybe not even knowing when their next meal would be are types of things I fortunately don't have to do, but I saw it on the faces of everyday people. On the other hand, I got to experience some great things that other people may never have the opportunity to do. I was able to sit down and talk to some of the most amazing people who would usually be classified as lowlifes or negligible to society. I was also given the rare opportunity to really know what it's like to be a minority every single day. This mission tour also allowed me to form some amazing new friendships with not only members of my church, but with other people from several different states. Overall, I would say that Chicago was a very eye opening experience and I can guarantee this won't be my last trip.

- Laura Anderson

When Rev. Matt asked me to write this letter about our trip to Chicago for the Herald I really didn't know where to start. We did so much on our Mission Tour to Chicago that I had no clue where to begin. I think I have to start with the first day we arrived at the First Church of the Brethren. We really didn't know what we had gotten ourselves into. When we looked outside the windows of the vans we saw how different the neighborhoods were than the ones we are used to. But I think as the week went on, we all learned to put our differences aside and lend a hand to someone who needs it.

We were told by the DOOR staff to look for the face of God in the people we meet. I certainly did see the face of God in all the people we met. We all did. We were all touched by someone at our work sites each day. We were split up into groups of three or four people from our church and were accompanied by a member of the DOOR staff to our work sites. We became close friends with the DOOR staff and the other church groups there. By the end of the week we had all become a family. The DOOR staff: Chris, Austin, Alissa, Halo, Martin, Salem, Erica, and Abigail are the best! It was fun getting to know them and being able to work with them at our work sites or going on adventures (aka getting lost).

The one thing that shocked us the most was how bad homelessness has gotten. No one should have to worry about where they will sleep next or where they will get their next meal from or what the future holds for them and their children. Going on this Mission Tour we all knew we couldn't get rid of homelessness but what we could do is make a difference in somebody's life. At the end of the trip each member of the DOOR staff told us that the work doesn't end here. Homelessness affects all states in America. This trip has totally changed my life. We need to stand up against homelessness and give a hand to those in need. It also means we need to continue to do God's work. We can change the world, one step at a time.



Sunday School Rally Day

September 11, 9:00 AM

All Sunday School Classes and Discussion Groups are invited to a kick-off breakfast in Fellowship Hall, sponsored by the Board of Christian Education. Information will be provided about programs for children, youth, and adults. Parents may register children for Sunday school classes – registration provides helpful information for our rosters. Following breakfast, families will have a chance to visit children's classes at about 9:30 AM.

8th Grade Confirmation I

Meeting August 28

All 8th grade students are invited to join our Confirmation program. On Sunday, August 28, there will be a meeting for students and parents to provide an overview of the Confirmation program at 9:00 AM in the David Bacon room.



Dear Rev. Dr. Schluep, Rev. Matthew Wooster, and Congregation --

Thank you for your prayers, love and concern for my father's (Richard Boyce) heart surgery. We cannot thank you enough for being there during a difficult time for our family. We're grateful for our spiritual family. *God Bless, Gwendolyn Porter*



Craft Nite



Mark your calendars! Join *Cherie Wade and Lori Heath*



for the **next night** of **Crafting!**



Friday night, August 19

And NOTE the TIME CHANGE of 5 p.m.!

We do Scrapbooks, Cross-Stitch, Latch-Hook, Painting, work with Zentangles, and even make Jewelry! Bring **your** "favorite thing to do" for fun, relaxation, & fellowship!

Bring friends – we set up in Fellowship Hall here at FCC!

😊 **and FREE!** All you have to bring is a smile! 😊

Call **Cherie at 330-630-3448 or Lori at 330-633-3853** if questions.



Thank you to Dr. John and all the congregators who called, visited, or sent cards. They all made me feel so good. Thank you, also, to those who made the Prayer Shawl. It's great! I really appreciate everything.

Howard Parson

I want to say **thank you** to the First Congregational Church of Tallmadge Scholarship Committee and to every member of our church. Our church is great because you have supported and encouraged me to serve the community. Participating in Confirmation and Youth Group opened my eyes to community service projects. These projects helped me to realize how much I enjoyed helping others. I am so lucky to be a member of a church that nurtures community service. I feel so honored to have received the Gilbert Memorial Scholarship for Nursing and I cannot thank you enough. The scholarship will help immensely with my tuition to Walsh University where I will be studying nursing. **Thank you! Corbin Wade**

Dear Congregation,

This note is to **thank you** for all the cards, phone calls, prayers, especially the prayers, and words of concern from my recent illness. I consider you all part of my extended family. Family always come thru in time of need. I'm grateful for being part of such a caring congregation. Just knowing you are there for me makes all the difference. I'm on the road to recovery, but have some way to go.

Fondly, Elaine Engle

I would like to **thank all** of you who continue to remember me with your prayers, cards, calls, etc., as I progress through my time of healing.

Your love and support really brighten my days, especially since I am still limited in what I am allowed to do! You are amazing and I truly appreciate all of you!

Jackie Parker

Thank you for your gift to the United Church of Christ Spring Storms USA Appeal Relief fund. We recorded your gift of \$300.00 on 7/15/2011.

To date, six states have been severely impacted by flooding, with more states likely to reach emergency status. The United Church of Christ's immediate response in working with local partners includes providing safety equipment (Tyvek suits, respirators, goggles, and gloves) to homeowners and volunteers cleaning up damaged homes.

Thank you so much for your support of United States relief efforts.

Susan M. Sanders,

One Great Hour of Sharing Administrator

STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Dr. John Schluep, *Senior Pastor* jschluepfcc@sbcglobal.net
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Nancy Beken, *Admin. Asst + Secry.* tallmadgefcc@sbcglobal.net
Lori Heath, *Receptionist, Herald, Bulletin* lorifcc@yahoo.com
Wendy Brown, *Dir. Christian Educ.* wbrownfcc@sbcglobal.net
Nancy Lynn Robinson, *Dir. Music* nrbgp@aol.com

Stephen Ristich *Head Custodian (Mon - Fri Day Shift)*
Teresa Snyder *Pt-Time Evening Custodian (Mo, Tu, We & Th)*
Larry Carlisle *Pt-Time Evening Custodian (Fri & Sunday)*

Stephen Leaders

Jana Caplinger (330 / 896-4320) jcaplinger@neo.rr.com
Jackie Parker (330 / 867-7149) jackieinministry@att.net
Ron Mitchell (330 / 633-4055) Mitchell_rd@hotmail.com



*Best Wishes to Joseph Hedrick
who turns a very young "96"
on August 20, 2011!
Happy Birthday Joe!!*

Fund Raiser Church Treasure If you have an item for donation, or are looking for a specific item to purchase, watch *The Herald* or call **Jim/Kathy Harris** at 330-630-9627 or e-mail kharris375@hotmail.com. There will also be an ongoing list of items available for donation and/or requests in the Atrium.

Items available For Sale:

Standard Walker (no wheels) \$25 Call Mike Collins
330/266-6128

Items Wanted:

Kendal Taylor is looking for Quilt tops. Please call her at 330-676-9986 if you can help her!

Mike and Ginny Collins are looking for the following items - please contact them at #330-266-6128 or email ginnv@MRNC.com if you can help! Bicycle rack(s) for the garage to hang bikes, Wood Chipper and Pressure Washer

Remember --- To Donate or put in your request:

Call Kathy / Jim Harris at 330-630-9627
or email them at kharris375@hotmail.com.



Worth Reading

"The Sword of the Lord" is on the book shelf in our church library. This book was written by a friend of mine, Andrew Himes. Andrew tells his family's story of Christian fundamentalism beginning with the colonization of America through the establishment of the Moral Majority. His renderings are thought provoking leaving the reader with the desire to get to the next chapter. The book has helped me understand the fundamentalist roots of some parts of modern Christianity and the mix of religion and politics. Andrew offers study questions for each chapter, so this would be beneficial for a study group.

Dr. J.

F.Y.I.

Women's Fellowship programs are held on the First Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted.

September 1, 2011 10:30 am: Field trip to First Ladies Library. Lunch following Bender's Tavern.

(See detailed "Field Trip" Article Below)

October 3, 2011 6:30 pm: "High Bridge Glens & Caves"
Local author and Glens historian, Mary McClure.

November 3, 2011 10:30 am: Col. Benjamin Tallmadge DVD; Local historian, Carolyn Mackey

December 5, 2011 6:30 pm: "Christmas Memories"

March 1, 2012 10:30 am: "BINGO"

April 5, 2012 10:30 am:
"Clara Driscoll and the Tiffany Girls"

Local historian, Linda Alexander

May 7, 2012 6:30 pm:
Jackie Kennedy Program and Officer Installation

Women's Fellowship FIELD TRIP!

**Women's Fellowship invites you to
our 3rd Annual Field Trip!**

First Ladies Library

Thurs., September 1, 2011

**Car pool leaves the church parking lot
at 10:15 am**

**Lunch following tour at Bender's Tavern
(12:30pm if you'd like to join us
for "Just Lunch"!)**

**SPACE IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 15!
Call or email Christie Speicher,
330-328-9289 crs995@sbcglobal.net
to place your reservation!**

SCRIP CARDS



It's that time again -- BACK TO SCHOOL!

We have Scrip Gift Cards to some of your favorite "Back-to-School" stores: Old Navy, JCPenney, K-Mart, Kohl's, Macy's, Sears, Target, etc.

Please stop by the **Gift Card table on Sunday** before you head out this week to shop and help pay down our debt!

Please Remember in Prayer



Virginia (Ginny) Acken
Ryan Anderson (*Beth Schlupe's student*)
Dominic Bell (*great-grandson of Carol Bell*)
Charles (Chuck) Baltes (*father of Jackie Parker*)
Richard Boyce
Carol Carter
Guy Coleman (*Hope Mitchell's brother-in-law*)
Milt Collins (*father of Mike Collins*)
Elaine Engle
Tom Grathwol (*Renee Creighton's grandfather*)
Grace Hausch
David Huth (*Jane Huth's son*)
Grace Kish
Zell Lambert
George and Pat Paler (*Pat - Select Specialty Hospital*)
Stephen Parker
Howard Parson
Gary and Vicky Rambler
Margretta Stocker - *Summit Villa*
Sherri Whittington (*Sandee Markulis' relation*)
John Zreny (*son-in-law of John & Wanda Strott*)
Wheels4Change
1st Battalion 145th Armored Regiment (Ohio Nat'l. Guard)
Prayers for Families who are Unemployed
(*Father, nothing can separate us from your loving presence. Lord, we trust in you. Amen.*)

For Sunday Service of August 21, 2011

August Special Benevolence: Social Action Board

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Extended Session - grade 2 & younger

The Rev. Matthew Wooster will be giving the message.

Ushers & Greeters -----

6:00 p.m. WJHM

Altar Flowers today are from:

Jon Sauerbrey in celebration of Karen's birthday (8/21)
and from Janet Scoville for Charles birthday.

PRAYER CHAIN



The Power of Prayer is needed today in all our lives. We have an active Prayer Chain at First Congregational Church. If you have a concern for health or strength and need help with our Prayer Chain -- call Dorothy Taylor at 330-633-3008 or Karen Sauerbrey at 330-920-1285

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Henri J. M. Nouwen said the following about caring and compassion: "We tend to look at caring as an attitude of the strong toward the weak, of the powerful toward the powerless, of the haves toward the have nots. . . Still, when we honestly ask ourselves which persons in our lives mean the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving much advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a gentle and tender hand. The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not-knowing, not-curing, not-healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is the friend who cares." This is a Stephen minister. Do you need one?

Stephen Ministry...is part of the healing ministry at our church. A Stephen Minister will walk beside you during difficult times. We are also here to support people in our community—perhaps someone you know? For more information contact Jana Caplinger @330-896-4320 or Rev. Dr. John or Rev. Matt @ 330-633-4931.

Stephen Minister Update—

We currently have 2 men in our Stephen Ministry program available to support you (in the Stephen Ministry program men support men and women support women).

"I trust in your faithfulness. Grant my heart joy in your help." Ps. 13:6

**Look What's Coming at Stewart's Caring Place—
Cancer Wellness Center...**

GENERAL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP...

Open to all people with any type of cancer
who are looking for mutual support
Monday—6:00-7:30 Aug. 15

CALENDAR



AUGUST 11 - AUGUST 25, 2011

Thurs., Aug. 11 6:30 – 8pm Chancel Ringers - Sanctuary

Friday, Aug. 12 ----- -----

Sat., Aug. 13 ----- -----

Sunday, Aug. 14 **9:00 a.m.** **Worship Service**
 9:30 a.m. Extended Session – grade 2 & younger

Monday, Aug. 15 7:00 p.m. WNI Planning Mtg (Off-Site)
 7:30 p.m. Heritage AA – Rm.100

Tuesday, Aug. 16 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study – Bagnoli home
 12:15 p.m. Pastor's Lectionary Study– Dr. John's Office
 6:30 p.m. Card Making Class - FH

Wed., Aug. 17 9:00 a.m. Quilters

Thurs., Aug. 18 6:30 – 8pm Chancel Ringers - Sanctuary

Fri., Aug. 19 5:00 p.m. Craft Nite (Cherie & Lori) - FH
 WJHM RETREAT – Red Bird Center – thru 21st

Sat., Aug. 20 Parade of Lights – Tallmadge Circle

Sunday, Aug. 21 **9:00 a.m.** **Worship Service**
 9:30 a.m. Extended Session – grade 2 & younger
 6:00 p.m. WJHM

Monday, Aug. 22 7:30 p.m. Heritage AA – Rm.100

Tuesday, Aug. 23 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study – Bagnoli Home
 12:15 p.m. Pastor's Lectionary Study – Dr. John's Office

Wed., Aug. 24 9:00 a.m. Quilters
 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministers – D. Bacon Rm. 200

Thurs., Aug. 25 9:30 a.m. WF Board Mtg – D.Bacon Rm. 200
 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
 8:00 p.m. Adult Bells



Warriors' Journey Home & Red Bird Center
Healing the Heart & Restoring the Soul
August 19, 20 & 21, 2011

www.warriorsjourneyhome.org

This retreat will provide time and place for the deeper healing of the soul. There will be time for quiet, meditative reflection; meaningful conversation; and spiritual awareness. We will start the weekend on Friday evening and conclude on Sunday morning. There will be a Healing Lodge, for those who wish to participate, on Saturday evening. The retreat will be held at Red Bird Center for Healing at Kimbolton, Ohio located in the beautiful rolling hills of Guemsey County. You will receive directions and a suggested packing list as confirmation of your registration.

*Cost - \$95.00 Includes lodging, meals, snacks and program.
Healing Lodge and ceremony are excluded from the cost of this retreat.*

Some scholarships are available by request.

(detach and return to First Congregational Church)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Dietary
Needs: _____

Special Health
Needs: _____

*I could benefit from a scholarship: _____
(Please check if you can use a full or partial scholarship)*

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
PO BOX 420
TALLMADGE OH 44278
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TALLMADGE OH
PERMIT No. 30

DATE: August 9, 2011

Spiritual / Pastoral Care Ministry Contacts

<u>Hearts in Service</u>	Barbara Rowles	330-733-2008	34babs@sbcglobal.net
<u>Life's Journey Ministry</u>	Leslie Taylor	330-687-0881	ltaylor@services4aging.org
<u>Pastoral Staff</u>	Rev. Dr. John Schluep	330-633-4931	jschluepfcc@sbcglobal.net
	Rev. Matthew Wooster	330-633-4931	mcwooster@yahoo.com
<u>Prayer Chain</u>	Dorothy Taylor	330-633-3008	-----
<u>Stephen Ministry</u>	Jackie Parker	330-867-7149	jackieinministry@att.net
	Jana Caplinger	330-896-4320	jcaplinger@neo.rr.com
	Ron Mitchell	330-633-4055	Mitchell_rd@hotmail.com
<u>Warrior's Journey Home Ministry</u>	Rev. Dr. John Schluep	330-633-4931	jschluepfcc@sbcglobal.net
<u>Yarning For Peace</u>	Dee West	330-633-4421	dwest890@aol.com