

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Austinburg, Ohio

Sixth Sunday Of Epiphany

February 23rd 11 am.

"What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up, like a raisin in the sun? – Langston Hughes -

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

CANDLE LIGHTING/ PRELUDE/ BELL

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: God lifts us and helps us each day.

L: Lift up your voices.

P: God helps us to rise above the anguish and grief of our lives.

L: Lift up your hands.

P: For God calls us to rise to a higher life rooted in service.

ALL: We will offer our lives, our fortunes, and our honor in a sacred trust to serve all creation. Because, God lives, and God saves. We can do no other.

***HYMN: " Down By The Riverside" (see insert)**

***UNISON PRAYER:**

God of heaven and earth, we seek a vision beyond ourselves, and our immediate circumstances. Direct our thoughts toward the marvels of your creation, and the vast possibilities for good that you have placed within us. Gather us to yourself and link us to one another in ways that will build up your church and empower our service. In Jesus' name. Amen.

***PRAISE RESPONSE: (to be sung)**

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God. We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God. (see NCH # 526)

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE: Leviticus 19:1-2 and 19: 9-10

Psalm 119: 33-40

Matthew 23: 23-28

A MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN

***HYMN: "When Israel was in Egypt Land" (NCH/Black) # 572**

MESSAGE: " Inside and Out " Rev. Bill Terry

***HYMN: " Shall We Gather At The River" (NCH/Black) # 478**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

A TIME FOR PRAYER:

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer/ Silent Prayer /Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Prayer Response

A TIME FOR SHARING:

Friendship Folders

Mission Moment: Have A Heart- Give A Blanket

A Reminder To Send Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings To:

First UCC Church, P.O. Box 253, Austinburg, OH. 44010

Unison Prayer of Dedication:

You are worthy O God, of more honor than we can hope to bestow upon you. You are God of all creation, and the source of all things. We offer you these gifts of thanksgiving. Please receive them as symbols of whole hearted praise. Not, because this church needs money, but rather because , it is right to give you thanks and praise. So take what we bring, and convert them to actions which are according to your divine will. Amen.

A Doxology - (NCH/Black) # 780

PASSING THE PEACE:

: May God's love renew you, and give you peace.

: Love and peace for all.

HYMN: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" (NCH/Black) # 4

BENEDICTION

When all are invited to sing)

*lest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love
the fellowship of kindred minds, is like to that above*

POSTLUDE

= Those who are comfortable are invited to stand

1. Gon - na lay down my sword and shield,
2. Gon - na lay down my bur - den, down by the riv - er - side,

Leader
down by the riv - er - side, down by the riv - er - side; gon - na
gon - na

Response
lay down my sword and shield,
lay down my bur - den, down by the riv - er - side, gon - na

stud - y war no more. I ain't gon - na stud - y war no

more, ain't gon-na stud-y war no more, ain't gon-na stud-y

war no more, ain't gon-na stud-y war no more, ain't gon-r
stud-y war no more, I ain't gon-na

stud-y war no more, ain't gon-na stud-y war no more.

Unison

1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, Let my peo-ple go,
2 "Thus spoke our God," bold Mo - ses said, "Let my peo-ple go;
3 No more in bond - age shall they toil, Let my peo-ple go,
4 Oh, let us all from bond-age flee, Let my peo-ple go,

Op - pressed so hard they could not stand, Let my peo-ple go.
If not I'll smite your first-born dead, Let my peo-ple go."
Nor spill their blood on E - gypt's soil, Let my peo-ple go.
And let us all in Christ be free, Let my peo-ple go.

Refrain

Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land,

Tell old Pha - roah to let my peo-ple go.

Shall We Gather at the River 597 NCH large print

page 1

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
 3 As we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - ery bur - den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er,

Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand NCH 472 large print

p. 1

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the shad - ows ap - pear and the night draws near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 when my life is al - most gone,
 and the day is past and gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
 Hear me cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I fall:
 At the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

Refrain

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

In Our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers: Rev. Allison Milligan, Karen Taylor, Judy Williams, Maranda Rabenold, Randy Tackett, Sandy Fitzhugh Wagner, Rob Harrison, Zach Wilson, George Richards, Jinny Young, Eileen Kusar, Tony Schommer, Pat Yarbrough, Kris Tetrick, Rev. Frank Walford, Clayton Warner, Kathy Kline,

Please keep our service members in prayer: Robert "Nick" Grandy, and all our service members in the military.

Weekly Prayer: Pastor Robin Stanley Community UCC—Hertsgrove

~~~~ Calendar Notes ~~~~

Sun. Feb 23rd 11 AM — Worship
Tues, Feb 25th 10 am—Bible Study
5:30 pm— Yoga
Wed, Feb 26th 7 pm— Game Night
Thurs, Feb 27th 5:30 pm— Yoga
Sat. March 1st 9:30 am— Yoga
Sun. March 2nd 11 AM — Worship & Communion

First United Church of Christ Austinburg, Ohio February 23rd, 2025

Rev. Bill Terry, Pastor **Musician: Micheal Brown**
Choir Director: Bridget Sherman

Stewardship: Our financial needs for the Church remain. Please mail in your offerings to P.O. Box 253, Austinburg OH 44010. You also can sign-up for online giving at app.easytith.com/App/Giving/austinburgucc or sign up via our website.

Please maintain your stewardship so we can continue to reach out in Christ's name. Thank you!

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Previous Sunday's attendance: 14

Total Online Attendance for the February 2nd service: 31

General Fund Giving for February : \$2,295.29
General Fund Budget for February: \$10,059.38
Rev. William Terry ~ (440) 335-4031 ~ gintex4@twc.com

Check out our church website at austinburgfirstucc.org
Visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/AustinburgFirstUCC
or email austinburgucc@windstream.net

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Thurs, and Friday : 8 am—11 am

Announcements

Welcome to First UCC-Austinburg. No matter who you are, or where you are in life, you are welcome here. We welcome all ages, races, genders and orientations – because we welcome all who love the Lord with no exceptions. Please keep spreading the word we have something to share.

Prayers for the Church: Please submit any prayer requests directly to Pastor Bill. He will lift you in prayer each day and share with the Church Council and our Prayer Chain.

Counseling and Conversation: As always, you can call Pastor Bill directly at (440)335-4031.

Red Wagon Donations for the Geneva Food Pantry for February : We are collecting canned fruit.

Donations for the Blessing Box can go directly into the Box by our back door. Personal toiletries and feminine hygiene products are always needed.

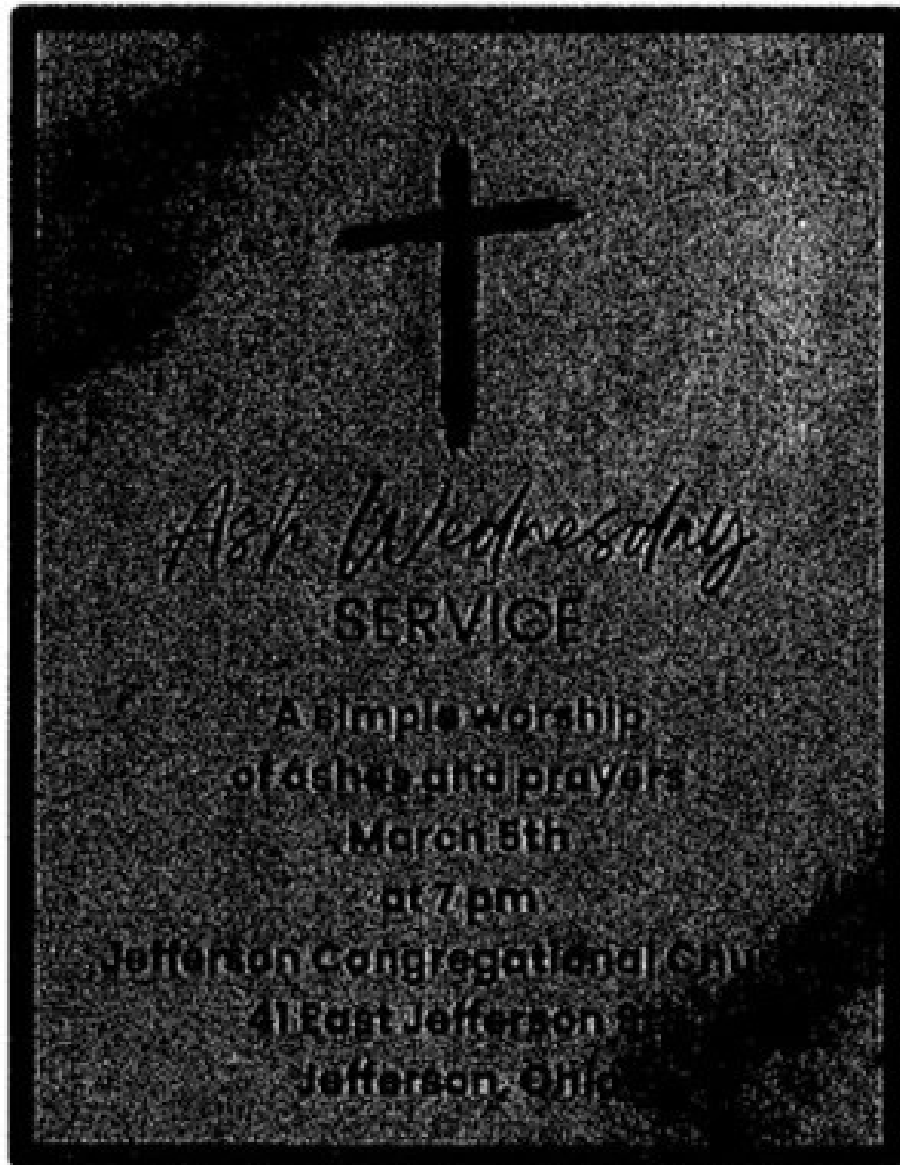
Bible Study We are studying the Book of John. Due to Construction, Bible Study will be in Fellowship Hall. Tuesdays at 10 am.

Yoga with Shanti Yoga Love: Yoga expert Leah from "Shanti Yoga Love" is now offering classes in the Upper Annex Classes are Tues.at 5:30 pm and 6 pm. Leah will also be here on Saturday Mornings at 9 am. There is a nominal fee for each class. \$15 for a single session/ \$8 if one becomes a regular.

**** Upcoming ****

FELLOWSHIP and STUDY for LENT

Each Wednesday in Lent
Join Pastor Bill
as the people of
First Congregational Church in Jefferson
invite us to Lenten Dinner and Videos
6 pm – 7:30 pm
March 12th, 19th, 26th, April 2nd, and 9th
Each day a meal will be shared
stay for "The Last Days of Jesus"
a video examination of Holy Week
with author Matt Williams
at 41 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson, OH



Ash Wednesday
SERVICE

A simple worship
of ashes and prayers
March 5th
at 7 pm
Jefferson Congregational Church
41 East Jefferson St.
Jefferson, Ohio



Music

Erie Heights Brass Ensemble
Playing Dixieland Music

Saturday, March 1st
4 PM

Free Pancake Dinner following Concert

First United Church of Christ,
Austinburg
2870 Rt. 307

DIXIELAND

Free admission
and will offering

Thank You!

Thank you to all who participated in our Community Dinner on Thursday. Whether you cook, wash dishes, serve dinners, or come to greet and meet new people, we are so glad you helped. You make these dinners a great success. We cannot do this without you!

