

# Celebrating the Journey

February 2018

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847-658-5308 email: [algonquinucc@gmail.com](mailto:algonquinucc@gmail.com) website: [algonquinucc.org](http://algonquinucc.org)  
"Living Our Faith in Jesus Christ Through Acceptance, Service and Love."

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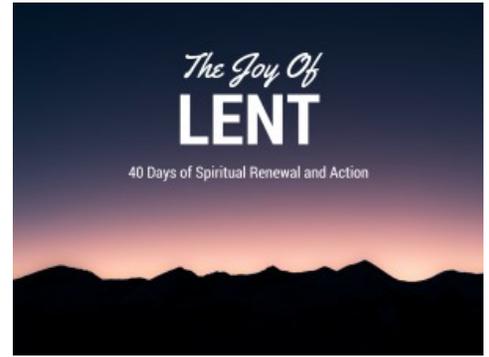
Celebrating the End of Epiphany  
The Last Sunday before Ash Wednesday  
Welcome ALL to the  
**DIXIELAND SUNDAY SERVICE**

February 11, 2018

10:00 am

Don't forget your Mardi Gras Beads!

# Rev. Brian Cope



Dear Friends

Lent is coming upon us again. If you are one of the many who don't greet this news well, it might surprise you to know that Lent is often referred to in the Church as a "Season of Joy". The word Lent means "Spring", and Spring is not a time for us to be sad and down-trodden. As one author described it, Lent is an opportunity, not a requirement. "It is meant to be the church's springtime, a time when, out of the darkness of sin's winter, a repentant, empowered people emerges . . . Lent is the season in which we ought to be surprised by joy. Our self-sacrifices serve no purpose unless, by laying aside this or that desire, we are able to focus on our heart's deepest longing: unity with Christ."

It is very simple to be happy, but it is very difficult to be simple.

One way to celebrate Lent is to commit to living a simpler lifestyle, "...living in a way that is outwardly simple and inwardly rich. This way of life embraces frugality of consumption, a strong sense of environmental urgency, and a desire to return to living and working environments which are of a more human scale." (Duane S. Elgin and Arnold Mitchell). Since winter begins in the Christmas shopping season and ends in tax season, making it too easy to become bogged down in a complicated, anxious-ridden lifestyle that requires too much time, too much stress and too little time of rest and contemplation, Lent is a good time to reset our schedules. Living a simpler lifestyle provides us with seven benefits that can help us to truly appreciate the blessed life that God has given us:

1. As an **act of intentional living** performed for the sake of personal integrity and as an expression of a commitment to a more equitable distribution of the world's resources.
2. As an **act of creation care** for ourselves and especially for our children and grandchildren against the earth-destroying results of overconsumption such as pollution, climate change, and resource wars.
3. As an **act of solidarity** with the majority of humankind, which has little choice about material affluence.
4. As an **act of celebration** of the riches found in God's creation, and the riches of community with others, rather than in the "poverty" of mindless materialism.
5. As an **act of spiritual discipline** ordering our lives to reflect the values of simplicity and just living taught by Jesus and teachers in other world religions.
6. As an **act of advocacy** for changes in present patterns of production and consumption.
7. As an **act of provocation** (ostentatious underconsumption) to arouse curiosity leading to dialog with others about affluence, and sustainable "**green**" living to redirect the production of consumer goods away from the satisfaction of artificially created wants toward the supplying of goods and services that meet genuine social needs.

In our church we invite you to welcome the Season of Joy in a big way: on **Sunday February 11** we will give the worship service over to praising with our **Dixieland Jazz Band**. We invite you to put on your Mardi Gras beads, and give yourself to the rhythm of the music. This year we are inviting you to continue the celebration with our **Men's Fellowship Chili and Soup Cookoff**.

And yet, even as it is a 'season of joy', Lent is also a serious time. As the same authors tell us, it is a time to confront 'the nagging sense that we have missed something important and have been untrue to ourselves, others and God.' It becomes an opportunity for us to let go of excuses for failings and shortcomings and face up to the personal need for repentance. That is why Mardi Gras is followed by the Ash Wednesday service: after the jazz celebration **join us for our Ash Wednesday service on Feb 14 at 10am & 7 pm**.

While you are here, pick up (or call for) a copy of our [Lenten Guide to Simpler Living \(72 Ideas for a Simpler Lifestyle\)](#) by Leo Babauta. I can't end with 'have a happy lent' but I can tell you to have a meaningful Season of Joy."

Rev. Cope

**“To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.  
Psalm 25:1 (ESV)**



## **RELIEVING THE DISTRESS**

**...The Psalmist wrote: “To you, O God, I lift my soul. I trust in you... relieve the distress of my heart...”**

My first computer was a used one. It was reported to be a “time saver” by the colleague who sold it to me. Never have I found that to be true. The computer can do great and amazing things, but for me, it does not always save time—especially when I have carefully word-processed a page, then accidentally touched a key that deleted the whole page. And it was gone—gone forever! What was one to do, besides fuss and fume for a time...then start over. Then I call it a “time-abuser!”

Computers clearly enable us to do things twice as fast as we could without them, so that we can do twice as much in the same amount of time. The pace of life is getting faster by the day. It is indeed the “age of instant” for almost everything.

The idea of having to wait for something is a thing of the past. Food is fast at the drive-throughs, world-wide communication is instant, money can be drawn out of bank accounts at ATMs in a matter of seconds and on and on...

The little things of life, the things that used to take hours—and sometimes days to do—the cooking, the shopping, the banking, the traveling from point to point—are speeding up to dizzying proportions. We rush from birth to death, from place to place, from natural conception to test tube cloning in record time, with little opportunity to evaluate them with our minds much less integrate them into our souls.

The professionals call this “stress”. The contemplatives call it “lack of balance”. One social analyst called it “Future Shock”—the inability to cope psychologically and spiritually with the increasing effects technology has on our daily lives.

But centuries ago, the Psalmist made it clear: “...distress is relieved by right-mindedness”. It is not so much what we do that determines the degree of stress it brings. It is the attitude with which we do it that defines its effect on us. It is the spiritual reserve we bring to our life situations that determines the toll it takes to manage the passing of time that has seemingly gone mad.

Blessings on the journey... Pastor Arn

# The Easter Season at CCA

## Ash Wednesday

We mark the first day of Lent,  
a time of reflection and penitence leading up to Easter

Wednesday, February 14, 10:00 am and 7:30pm



## Heavenly Chocolate Fest

Chocolate Vendors share their goods just in time to fill your Easter Baskets

Saturday, March 24, 10:00am to 3:00pm

## Palm Sunday

We remember Christ's triumphant entry into the city

Sunday, March 25, 8:00am and 10:00am



## Maundy Thursday Service

We share in Christ's Last Supper with a Dramatic Living Last Supper

Thursday, March 29, 7:30pm

## Good Friday Service

A meditative service, reflecting on Christ's crucifixion

Friday, March 30, 7:30pm



## Easter Egg Hunt

Fun for the Kids, story, craft, treats and egg hunt

Saturday, March 31, 10:00am

## Easter Services

He is Risen!! Come celebrate with us!

Sunday, April 1, 8:00am and 10:00am



## ***Our Group Studies Come in a Variety of Sizes!***

At CCA, we are committed to studying the Bible and learning how we can live our faith meaningfully in our lives. The following are our current group studies. Feel free to join us at any of the groups at any time

### **GROUP STUDIES AT CCA**

#### **Weekly**

**Christian L.I.F.E. Hour—Sundays, 9:00 am—10:00 am**  
(Shepherd University—Teen Faith in Action—Adult Studies) – all meet at this time  
**No Adult Study on 2/11 (Dixieland Sunday)**  
**Tuesdays with the Pastor—Tuesdays, 2:00 pm—3:30 pm**

#### **Monthly**

**Bi-Monthly Bible Study— 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, 10:00 am**  
**Bible and Brew—2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 6:30 pm**  
**Men's Fellowship Breakfast —2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, 8:00 am—9:30 am see page 7**  
**Women's Fellowship—now meeting only on the last Wednesday of each month—2/28**

### **THEMES FOR FEBRUARY**

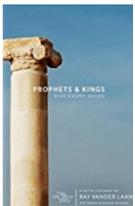
**Adult Sunday School (during Christian L.I.F.E. Hr.)** - Beginning Sunday, February 18, and continuing through Lent, we will be studying what it takes, and the meaning behind, "Living a Simpler Lifestyle."

**Tuesdays with the Pastor** - *for the winter months, we are meeting 2:00-3:30 pm*

**Essentials of Faith.** . . . What are the essentials of our Christian Faith? What are the things that we need to believe in order to have an authentic claim to be a follower of Jesus? Do you understand how to interpret the Bible? Can your belief hold up to others who interpret differently from you? Is your evangelical cousin a 'better' Christian than you are? What are the differences between UCC beliefs and Catholic, Baptist, or other Christian beliefs? This is what we will be exploring.

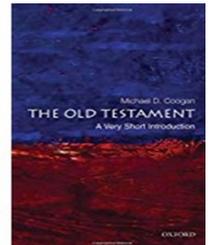


**Bi-Monthly Monday Morning Bible Study –**  
**Going through the Bible with Ray Vander Laan—February 5 & 19**



**Prophets and Kings.** In the second part of the *Series That the World May Know*, we will explore the turbulent history of Israel's prophets and kings and learn from their story how to build our own devotion and trust in God.

**Bible and Brew** - This month we will use the book, **The Old Testament, a Very Short Introduction**, by Michael D. Coogan, to gain an understanding of the books, character and writings of the Old Testament **February 8, 6:30, tbd**  
**(Please contact Rev. Cope if you would like to have a copy of this book).**



Peace Services will be held monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, at the **8:00 am service**, for the months of February and March.  
**February 18, 2018 & March 18, 2018**

# Remember in Prayer

- as well as with a card, call, or visit, the following individuals who are not always able to be with us:

Betty Blair Clare Oaks Rehab Center 825 Carillon Dr. Bartlett, IL 60103	May S. Lehnert The Fountains Retirement, Apt 5 965 N. Brighton Cir #124 Crystal Lake, IL 60114
Ed Brandwein Eastgate Manor 101 Eastgate Ct. #242 Algonquin, IL 60102	Ollie Lindgren 1735 Heather Dr Altonquin, IL 60102
Louise Dahm 1005 South Rd. Fox River Grove, IL 60021	Edna McCormick Citadel Health Care Center 180 S. State Street #242 Elgin, IL 60123-6429
Dede & Gary Gray 2001 W. Algonquin Rd #3416 Algonquin, IL 60102	Frances Newberg Church Creek 1250 W. Central Road #415 Arlington Heights, IL 60005
Marge Hanley 808 Menominee Drive Lake in the Hills, IL 60156	Thea O'Connor c/o Liberty Estates 2080 W. Navajo Dr. #341 Freeport, IL 61032
Joyce Horn Alden Terrace of McHenry 803 Royal Dr., Room 203 McHenry, IL 60050-4209	Helen Stauffer Valley Hi Nursing Home—Rm 102 2406 Hartland Rd. Woodstock, IL 60098
Erna Houdek Valley Hi 2406 Hartland Rd. Woodstock, IL 60098	Claudette Treadwell 731 Longwood Dr. Algonquin, IL 60102
Betty Imhoff 731 Oceola Drive Algonquin, IL 60102	Mary Westerbeck Gardens of Ocotillo Sr. Living 1601 W Queen Creek Rd. Unit 146 Chandler, AZ 85248
Claire Kent 865 Eineke Blvd Algonquin, IL 60102	Barbara Whitaker Fox Point Manor 3360 Charles Miller Rd. Memory Care Building #108 McHenry, IL 60050
Donna Krueger Sunrise Senior Living 790 N. Plum Grove Rd. Schaumburg, IL 60173	Ethel Yamashita Sunrise Senior Living 790 N. Plum Grove Rd. Schaumburg, IL 60173

Members who were hospitalized and/or entered into rehab during January. Keep these in your thoughts and prayers:



**Dede Gray, May Lehnert**

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Cody Colbert    Richard Dowdle    Eric Hertel  
John (Jay)    Jake Korbecki    Dominik Kneip  
Hogrewe  
Joey Mann    Owen Ritsema    Ben Sprouse  
*Do you know of persons who are currently serving in the military? Please let the church office know of their service, and their names will be included so we can keep them in our prayers.*

**Would you like a visit from Rev. Cope?  
Call the church office at  
847-658-5308 or email him at  
revcope.cca@gmail.com**

- ◆ Going into the hospital for surgery? He will pray with you before the surgery and during recovery.
- ◆ Want in-home communion?
- ◆ Have something troubling you?
- ◆ Lonely and want someone to talk with? Don't think he is too busy or that you are interrupting him—this is an important part of his job as your minister. Call!

**We also have members of the church who will come and visit or help you with transportation, food or errands.**



### HELP US HONOR OUR CHURCH MEMBERS

To help people who cannot come to church feel a part of our family, we are asking you for three things:

- ◆ Remember them in your prayers.
- ◆ Send them a note or card letting them know that you are thinking of them.
- ◆ If possible, call them to say "Hello."

This month we are lifting up two of our members: **Erna Houdek & Betty Imhoff**. You will find their addresses on this page. Let them know that they are a part of our family and that they are missed and thought about.



Friday, February 9,  
7:00 pm  
\$5.00—bring a  
dessert or  
appetizer to share  
Winner will determine  
the organization to  
which we donate.

### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Sign up in Fellowship Hall!

**Saturday, February 10,**

**8:00 am—9:30 am**

Hosting for February: **Bob Benjamin  
& Steve Guenther**



### Heavenly Attic Resale Shop

The Heavenly Attic Resale Shop stocks  
gently-used items and is open to the public. Proceeds from  
the Attic support the missions and ministries of the CCA.

307 South Main Street  
Algonquin, IL 60102  
Phone: 847-854-4552

Hours: Tuesday thru Friday  
10am to 4pm  
Saturday 10am to 2 pm

Algonquin Area

## Senior Center

TUESDAYS 9:00 AM – NOON

The Senior Center meets weekly at the CCA.  
It provides a gathering place for senior adults  
where fellowship, socialization, educational and  
enrichment opportunities are available.  
If you have any questions, please contact the  
church and leave a message for WynnAnn  
Roggeveen.

*Men's Fellowship is sponsoring*

*a **Chili / Soup Cookoff***

*Sunday, February 11, 2018*

*starting at 11:15 am*



*1. Buy a ticket—Tickets are \$5*

*Only those who have a ticket can vote!*

*2. Bring a Dessert to Share*

*3. Sign Up in Fellowship Hall*

*So we know how many are coming!*

*And to know if you need electric!*

*(We'll have crackers on hand)*

Are **you** up for  
the challenge?



### Woodstock Opera House Group

**THE LITTLE MERMAID**



FRIDAY, March 2, 2018,  
6:00 pm

**If you didn't purchase season tickets, you may  
join us for any individual show by calling the  
Woodstock Opera House box office directly at  
815-338-5300**

# LENTEN JUSTICE WORKSHOP

**SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2018 (2-5PM)**  
**Congregational Church of Algonquin**

The Fox Valley Association Justice and Witness Committee is offering a workshop which will be held here at our church. We will also be collecting items for a disaster relief bucket.

This is a wonderful opportunity to attend 2 workshops (about an hour each) selected from these 6 justice topics:

- \* Environmental
- \* LGBTQ
- \* Racial Inequality
- \* Gun Violence
- \* Immigration/Refugee
- ◆ Church and State



**It is also an opportunity to meet other UCC members  
from churches throughout the Association.  
Registration information will be available soon.**



**This Workshop will be held here at our church!**

**As the Host Church, we will need some helping hands.**

**Provide Simple Snack Item**

**Provide Beverages**

**Assist with Setup**

**Check In Tables**

**Be sure to look for the Sign-Up Sheet in Fellowship Hall.  
Tell us how you can be of help.**

**If you have any questions about this event, be sure to connect with Nancy Kneip.**

## DO YOU KNOW HOW TO PUSH A BUTTON?

Then this ministry is for YOU! Looking for folks to help with the power point presentation on Sunday mornings.

No experience necessary.

Come Sunday, **February 18, at 11:00 am**, and learn how to advance the slides for our worship services. We will go over everything you need to know, let you practice, and we will be by your side when you start each Sunday until you feel comfortable!

If you are unable to make this training date, but wish to join this group, please see Michelle Tarosas.



## Join the SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCATES ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

**Sunday, February 25**

**11:00 am**

**Fellowship Hall**

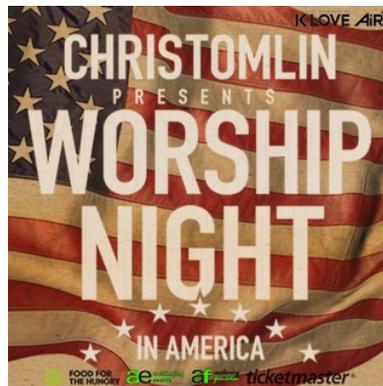
Watch for more Information



## WORSHIP NIGHT IN AMERICA

**Saturday, April 7—  
Sears Centre  
7:00 pm**

Chris Tomlin, Matt Maher  
and other outstanding  
Christian Artists



**Join us for an  
amazing night  
of song and  
worship!**

Contact Michelle Tarosas by February 11<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in more information.

**SAVE THE DATES**

# Go the Extra Mile and Give More!

We have been challenging ourselves to do just that. Towards this goal, we post monthly some of the needs of PADS, the Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Food Pantry, the Home of the Sparrow, and TLS Veterans—groups serving the needs of our community.

*I thank my God in all my remembrance of you. Philippians 1:3 ESV*

*Thanks*

**P**ublic  
**A**ction  
to  
**D**eliver  
**S**helter

## HOW CAN YOU HELP PADS?

P.A.D.S. = Public Action to Deliver Shelter

**Site Supplies Needed:** Paper dessert plates

**Donate Food Items for Lunches:**  
(See Current List in Fellowship Hall)

**Always in Need of:**

Socks, Men's Boots (L, XL, XXL), Coats, Hats with face cover, Sweatshirts, and Gloves



**Service Opportunities:**

Friday Nights Christian Fellowship—



Place items in labeled tub in coatroom.  
Call Wynn Ann Roggeveen for more information.



**Food Pantry Needs**

**Algonquin-Lake in the Hills Food Pantry**

**Suggested for February:**  
Tomato Sauce and Diced Tomatoes or Spaghetti Sauce

**Items for the Food Pantry may be left in the cart near the elevator.**

**Items for The home of the Sparrow may be left in the cart near the elevator or in the coatroom**



**Suggested for February:**  
Broom/Dust Pan, Dishwasher Detergent, Mop w/Washable Mophead, Laminate Floor Cleaner (Bona)



**There is a bin for these items in the coat room. Thank you for your help!**

- |            |                                       |                                    |
|------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Meats      | Nuts                                  | Peanut Butter                      |
| Beef Jerky | Canned Fish/Chicken                   | Crackers w/Cheese or Peanut Butter |
| Sardines   | Toilet Paper                          | Paper Towels                       |
| Hats       | Gas Cards                             | Protein Bars                       |
| Gloves     | Hygiene Items (shampoo, razors, soap) |                                    |

# 2017 Congregational Church of Algonquin Food & Cash Donations to the ALG-LiTH Interfaith Food Pantry



Month	Cash & Checks	Lbs. Food
January	\$78.00	66.5
February	\$96.00	26.5
March	\$174.57	38.0
April	\$97.30	3.5
May	\$81.89	105.0
June	\$65.62	11.5
July	\$206.08	55.8
August	\$200.15	35.5
September	\$107.71	28.5
October	\$222.22	51.0
November	\$87.27	41.0
December	\$107.32`	40.0
<b>2017 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,524.13</b>	<b>502.8 #</b>



LOVE OF NEIGHBOR



LOVE OF CHILDREN



LOVE OF CREATION



*... "Truly I tell you, whatever  
you do for the least of these,  
you do for me"*

*Matthew 25:45*

**THANK YOU**

## Global Ministries Child Sponsorship Program

Sometimes we skim over the parts of the Newsletter that repeat each month. We have found that many people just don't know about our participation in this Mission. Below are excerpts from the letters we have recently received from the kids. We invite you to *SEE* them today....perhaps for the first time

*Dear Auntie & Uncle*

*How are you? I am fine here. How are your family members? Here my family members are fine.*

*I wrote my quarterly exam in September. I got good marks in all the subjects.*

*We celebrated teachers day in our school. Children danced on the teachers day. Teachers enjoyed our programme. On November 28 we celebrated Christmas programme. I participated in a dance.*

*Now we are writing half yearly exam. Please pray for me and my exam. When I grow big, I want to be a doctor. Please pray for me.*

*I thank you very much for your help and support. You have helped me a lot.*

*Wish you a Joyoos New Year 2018.*

*Yours lovingly, C. Sheeba Jasmine*

*Dear Aunty and Uncle*

*How are you? I am fine. How's your climate?*

*Here, the climate is very cold. In my unit*

*exam I scored more marks. I am trying to get*

*first score. I have got more failures, but*

*failure is the first step to success. I know that*

*I can, and am trying hard.*

*In the school we celebrate Christmas pro-*

*gramme. I joined in dance and did very well.*

*Thank you for your support. It's because of*

*you I am able to study here.*

*Wish you a Happy Christmas and a Joyous*

*New Year 2018.*

*With Love,*

*Velmurugan*

The children's letters and drawings are posted on the Missions Bulletin Board



### Help us to continue sponsoring these two children in India!

Our church sponsors two children at King's Matriculation School at the Family Village Farm near Vellore, India. Their families cannot afford to send them to school, and our gifts cover tuition and lunch for them each school day.

Sheeba is a hard-working girl whose favorite subjects are math and English.

Velmurugan is an energetic, attentive boy who is cheerful and highly motivated.

While the members of the Faith in Action group contribute to the sponsorship fees (\$20 per child per month), we are asking the whole congregation to participate with us.

There is a **can on the desk in the narthex**, and anyone who would like to help us is encouraged to drop a few dollars or even your loose change into the box. **Or you may write a check** payable to CCA and designate it for "Child Sponsorship."

If you would prefer to help in another way, we need people willing to write to the children. If you are interested, please see Rev Cope.

We sponsor the children through the United Church of Christ Global Ministries Child Sponsorship Program. All of the money that we raise goes directly to the support of the children; there are no administrative fees.

Faith in Action

## The Ministry of Missions is looking for items of interest for the Missions Bulletin Board

Do you have an article, a letter, a notice, or  
a photo related to missions?

Please put your item into the mail slot  
marked Missions Bulletin Board



Please include your name

*Ministry of Missions*

## Justice and Peace Bulletin Board

Be sure to check out our bulletin board in  
Fellowship Hall for news about climate  
change and issues of concern  
for people of faith.



In addition, you will find the  
names and contact information of congress  
persons so that you may bend their ear on  
a regular basis about those issues that  
concern you!

## Do You Want to Know more about a charitable organization?



Look in the **Charity Research Notebook**  
in the church office. If the charity is not there,  
fill out one of the forms in the display holder near  
the Missions Bulletin Board and place it in the  
Missions mail slot...

Please be sure to sign your name.

*Ministry of Missions*



## Yarn Works

We knit, crochet, and do  
all other types of hand-  
work.

*New people are always welcome!*

We have supplies to get you started  
and absolutely lovely people to teach you, if you want to learn.  
Our work helps support our Prayer Shawl Ministry, Snug Hugs  
for Kids, and your own personal projects.

**Thursdays at 10:00 am Fellowship Hall**

**"Living our faith in Jesus Christ through acceptance, service and love"**



## FAIR TRADE February 11

February means Valentine's Day,  
which means....Fair Trade Chocolate!

Lovely cups of comfy tea! Rich, warm coffee in your favorite  
flavor! Treat the loves in your life to what they enjoy most;  
delicious products from around the world, while helping  
growers live better lives through the Equal Exchange purchas-  
es from their co-ops.

Our **regular sale date** is the 2nd Sunday of the month  
(**February 11**). For **Special Requests**, please order two  
weeks in advance of the sale (**by January 28**).

Thank you for your continued support.



# Literacy and ESL Tutoring (English as a Second Language)

## Do You Wish To Tutor?

You only need to be certified.  
You can do that by taking tutor training classes, available through:



### >The Literacy Connection of Elgin

[elginliteracy.org](http://elginliteracy.org) (12 hours of free instruction, plus \$35 purchase of textbook). Call to register: 847-742-6565

Note-They will then assign you to a learner primarily in or south of Algonquin.

## Current Tutor 2018 Training Calendar:

Location: Gail Borden Public Library, 270 N, Grove Ave., Elgin

February 6 & 7	9:30 am to 12:30 pm
February 26 & 28	9:30 am to 12:30 pm

March 6 & 7	6-9pm
March 12 & 14	6-9 pm

>**McHenry County College** - Volunteer tutor training is a blend of online lessons and face-to-face sessions. Volunteer trainees complete lessons online and then meet with the program coordinator in group sessions for discussion questions and further information. MCC also offers many developmental courses for existing tutors. visit [mchenry.edu/volunteer](http://mchenry.edu/volunteer).

**Note**—MCC receives requests for tutors in various areas. Volunteers can teach throughout the county in a variety of locations, including all public libraries in McHenry County, many churches, and on the MCC campus.

Brochures are available at the **Literacy Tutoring Display in Fellowship Hall** that explain more about the classes and tutor/learner assignments.

Questions? Please talk to Pastor Cope or JoAnn Schindler or visit the websites for either of these agencies:  
[elginliteracy.org](http://elginliteracy.org) & [mchenry.edu/volunteer](http://mchenry.edu/volunteer)



## Tutoring Update

JoAnn Schindler  
Ministry of Missions

It is February, and unless you are reading this on some sunny shore far from Algonquin, I think you will join me in celebrating that it is the shortest month of the year.

What better way to make these winter days fly by, than to get out and volunteer to be a literacy tutor.

Registration is recommended, but walk-ins are welcome.

To register, complete the online form at

<http://elginliteracy.org/how-to-help/become-a-tutor>,

call [847-742-6565](tel:847-742-6565), or email [info@elginliteracy.org](mailto:info@elginliteracy.org)

Include your full name, address, phone number, and the course dates you plan to attend.

You will receive a confirmation email within a couple of days!



Do you make purchases through Amazon? Would you like to support The **Elgin Literacy Connection**? Or the **Algonquin-LiTH Food Pantry**? Or another?

Here is a painless way to support these missions.

Simply use the site: [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com) to make your purchases. Find the group you wish to support in the search box. Items on this site are the same price and quality as on Amazon.

Making this donation is at no cost to you! Amazon created this site in 2013, dedicating a portion of the purchase price to a charity of your choice.



Think "smile" next time you shop with Amazon!



## 2018 One Great Hour of Sharing -

### Frequently Asked Questions

Words cannot capture the anguish of people when they lose everything in a disaster or have to leave it behind while fleeing war or conflict. Through One Great Hour of Sharing, lives are literally changed daily. Your support provides clean water, food, medicines, shelter, healthcare, education and so much more.

**1. What is One Great Hour of Sharing®?** One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Churches Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

**2. Who participates in One Great Hour of Sharing?** Seven Christian denominations - *American Baptist Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Church of the Brethren, Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church (USA), the United Church of Christ, and Church World Service* work together to develop common promotional materials thereby sharing ideas, costs, and a commitment to faithful service. Each denomination receives and manages its respective OGHS offerings, and together raise over \$10 million annually.

**3. How is the United Church of Christ's offering used?** Almost 60 percent of the UCC's offering supports international development initiatives, including annual support for missionaries. Currently there are 4 OGHS supported missionaries and 2 Global Mission Interns working in disaster relief, health care, education, sustainable agricultural development, and refugee support. The offering also funds disaster preparedness and response, and disaster related volunteer initiatives in the U.S.

**4. Where and how are OGHS funds shared?** The United Church of Christ responds to development, disaster, and refugee needs in 138 countries, and provides disaster relief and immigration assistance in the United States. Funding decisions are made by asking our worldwide mission partners, "What would you have us do with you?" The United Church of Christ responds as a member of organizations such as Church World Service and the ACT Alliance. We also support the direct mission efforts of churches and church-based organizations that the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) have direct partnerships with through Global Ministries. Nearly one-third of the UCC's offering is shared through Church World Service to support refugee, disaster, development, and advocacy programs.

**5. How many dollars are given to the UCC's OGHS offering?** In 2015, the OGHS offering received just over \$2.2 million. Nearly sixty-five percent of UCC congregations participate annually.

**6. What percentage of OGHS donations are used directly for mission?** On average, of every dollar given to One Great Hour of Sharing, 95 cents is used directly for mission programming, and the remaining 5 cents is used to create interpretation materials. Administrative costs are paid by gifts to Our Church's Wider Mission National Basic Support.

**7. How are decisions made to fund the various projects?** Currently, the Special Funds committee meets to review expenditures and to oversee large dollar grants for disaster relief efforts. In addition one can donate to a Specific Natural Disaster or Refugee Emergency - designate the emergency on the giving page or in the memo line of your check.

**8. How can I contribute to One Great Hour of Sharing?** *Envelopes will be available by the end of February. Our official collection date is March 11. You can stretch your dollars through a Matching Gift Program. Check with your employer or volunteer organization to see if you are eligible. You can also check online at [UCC.org/matching-gifts](http://UCC.org/matching-gifts).*

We will receive the OGHS offering on Sunday, March 11, 2018.

Watch for more information in the March newsletter.

**Ministry of Missions**

# Hello February

## Anniversaries

- 05 Fred & Nancy Ekstrom
- 10 David and Kathy Kistler

## Birthdays

- 02 Bob Woertendyke
- 05 Michelle Tarosas
- 06 Kathleen Dittmann
- 07 Seth Jolitz
- 08 Claire Kent
- 08 Nidia Kulack
- 09 Kelly Hellyer
- 11 Harold Knautz
- 12 Peggy Schwab
- 13 Mark Pocijewski
- 15 Andrew Brown
- 16 Dan Drasler
- 18 Nolan Pocijewski
- 19 Louis Licastro
- 27 Christie Drasler
- 27 Arina Szekely
- 28 Jeanine Woodman
- 29 Bob Feltes



### Treasurer's Report December 31, 2017

#### Total Operating Fund Income

Month of December	\$26,599.49
YTD	\$257,723.28

#### Total Operating Expenses

Month of December	\$17,679.68
YTD	\$254,007.70

#### Mortgage Balance

Mortgage was paid off in Dec 2017 to Home State Bank. New Balance reflects amount removed from Endowment fund to pay off mortgage. **\$120,000.00**

*If you would like a copy of the entire monthly Treasurer's Report, please contact the church office.*



## Thank You

Thank you for your continued support and recent donation of hats, scarves, and gloves, as well as the checks you sent for \$250, and \$93.72. As you know, our veterans rely heavily on the generous donations from individuals such as you, and your continued support of TLS Veterans is very much appreciated.

Laura Franz, Executive Director, TLS Veterans



**Please submit all items for the March Newsletter to the church office no later than noon, Thursday, February 15!**

**Items submitted after the 15<sup>th</sup> may not be included in the March edition.**

## Worship Assistants

Date	Ushers	Greeters	Announcer	Acolyte	Liturgist
2/4	Ron Martens Dave Carris	Nidia Kulack	Sally Cope	AJ Albandia	Bill Hellyer
2/11	Ron Martens Dick Elke	Lynn Brown	Sharon Stengel	Scott & Abby Kapusinski	None
2/18	Ron Martens Nidia Kulack	Lois Carpenter	Michelle Tarosas	Macy & Ella Barham	Diane Scheske
2/25	Ron Martens Lori Martens	Donna Brown	Sally Cope	Nolan Pocijewski	Norm Stengel



Thank you to these wonderful volunteers who will be taking our Styrofoam donations to the Village Public Works Recycling Area.

Please make sure your items fit into the barrel in the coatroom for your convenience.

Week	Volunteer
2/4	George Roby
2/11	Lori Martens
2/18	Art Nesser
2/25	Sue Kreibich



Date	Nursery Staff	Volunteer
2/4	Brittany Mainiero	Kathleen Sanders
2/11	Peggy Schwab	Cory Kirkpatrick
2/18	Pam Elliott	Wynn Ann Roggeveen
2/25	Brittany Mainiero	Sue Kreibich



**Meets Every Sunday**  
9:00 am

**February Teacher: JoAnn Schindler**

Weekly Assistants	
2/4	Barb Schmidt
2/11	Karen Guenther
2/18	Kim Carney
2/25	Wynn Ann Roggeveen

## Coffee Hour

- 2 / 4 Stengel & Szekely Families
- 2/11 Men's Fellowship Chili Event
- 2/18 Tarosas & Jazwinski Families
- 2/25 Ministry of Trustees



*The 2017-18 Schedule is posted in Fellowship Hall. If you cannot make your scheduled date or would like to volunteer for a Sunday, please contact the church office.*

*If you have a desire to serve in one of these volunteer positions, just give us a call in the office and we will connect you to the right people!*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28 <b>MISSIONS SUNDAY</b> 8:00 AM Worship Service 9:00 AM Christian L.I.F.E. Hr (Shep U &amp; Teen FIA only) 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Missions Dinner (Potluck)</p>	<p>29 4:00 PM Tutoring</p>	<p>30 PADS LUNCH SUPPLIES DUE 10:00 AM Tutoring 12:00 PM Tutoring 3:00 PM Tutoring 5:00 PM Westwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>31 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship 6:00 PM Worsh Coord 7:00 PM NA 7:30 PM Sr Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>1 9:30 AM Tutoring 10:00 AM Yarn Works 7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>2 6:00 PM Girl Scout Event</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 <b>1<sup>ST</sup> Sunday - Food Pantry Offering</b> 8:00 AM Worship Service 9:00 AM Christian L.I.F.E. Hr (Shep U/Teen FIA/Adult) 10:00 AM Worship Service- Sr. Choir 11:15 AM Council Meeting</p>	<p>5 10:00 AM Bible Study 4:00 PM Tutoring 7:00 PM Trails Swim Team</p>	<p>6 9:00 AM Senior Center 10:00 AM Tutoring 12:00 PM Tutoring 2:00 PM Tuesdays with the Pastor 3:00 PM Tutoring 5:00 PM Westwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>7 1:30 PM Visit Committee 5:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:00 PM Worsh Coord 6:45 PM Worship &amp; Music 7:00 PM NA 7:30 PM Sr Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>8 9:30 AM Tutoring 10:00 AM Yarn Works 6:30 PM Bible &amp; Brew  7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>9 Set up for Men's Fellowship Breakfast <b>BUNCO NIGHT</b>  7:00 PM BUNCO</p>	<p>10  8:00 AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast</p>
<p>11 <b>DIXIELAND SUNDAY</b> <b>Fair Trade Sunday</b>  8:00 AM Worship Service 8:45 AM Ministry of Trustees 9:00 AM Christian L.I.F.E. Hr (Shep U &amp; Teen FIA only) 10:00 AM Worship Service-DIXIELAND 11:15 AM Chili-Soup Cookoff</p>	<p>12 4:00 PM Tutoring</p>	<p>13 9:00 AM Senior Center 10:00 AM Tutoring 12:00 PM Tutoring 2:00 PM Tuesdays with the Pastor 3:00 PM Tutoring 5:00 PM Westwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>14 <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>  10:00 AM Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 PM NA 7:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service</p>	<p>15 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 9:30 AM Tutoring 10:00 AM Yarn Works 7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 12:30 PM Cub Scout Pack 155 PINEWOOD DERBY</p>
<p>18 8:00 AM Worship -Peace Service  9:00 AM Christian L.I.F.E. Hr (Shep U/Teen FIA/Adult) 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM PPT Team Meeting 11:15 AM Min of Christian Ed</p>	<p>19 10:00 AM Bible Study 2:00 PM Newsletter Committee 4:00 PM Tutoring</p>	<p>20 9:00 AM Senior Center 10:00 AM Tutoring 12:00 PM Tutoring 2:00 PM Tuesdays with the Pastor 3:00 PM Tutoring 5:00 PM Westwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>21 1:00 PM Pastoral Relations Committee 5:00 PM Ch Growth 5:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:00 PM Worship Coordination Team 7:00 PM BS Tr 151 7:00 PM NA 7:30 PM Sr Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>22 9:30 AM Tutoring 10:00 AM Yarn Works 7:00 PM Quilters 7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 1:00 PM Eagle Scout Court of Honor</p>
<p>25 8:00 AM Worship Service 9:00 AM Christian L.I.F.E. Hr (Shep U/Teen FIA/Adult) 10:00 AM Worship Service- Sr. Choir 11:15 AM Social Justice Advocates Round Table </p>	<p>26 4:00 PM Tutoring 7:00 PM Ministry of Deacons</p>	<p>27 9:00 AM Senior Center 10:00 AM Tutoring 12:00 PM Tutoring 2:00 PM Tuesdays with the Pastor 3:00 PM Tutoring 5:00 PM Westwind Martial Arts 6:30 PM Troop 151 New Scout Program</p>	<p>28 <b>Folding Team</b>  10:00 AM Women's Fellowship 6:00 PM Worship Coordination Team 7:00 PM NA 7:30 PM Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>1 9:30 AM Tutoring 10:00 AM Yarn Works 7:30 PM AA</p>	<p>2 5:00 PM Alg Preschool SPRING FLING 6:00 PM Woodstock Opera House Group - THE LITTLE MERMAID</p>	<p>3</p>



## SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

Scholarships may be awarded annually to one or more college-bound students, which include high school graduating seniors and adults who wish to continue their college education, provided that funds are available from income earned by the Endowment Fund. The award will vary by participant with a maximum individual award of not more than \$1,000.

The recipient (s) must be members of the Congregational Church of Algonquin and will be determined by the Scholarship Committee based on the following criteria:

### High School Seniors

1. Applicant's involvement in the life and ministry of the Congregational Church of Algonquin throughout four years of high school.
2. Applicant's involvement in school and community services.
3. Academic achievement.
4. Essay evaluation.

### Continuing Education

1. Applicant's involvement in the life and ministry of the Congregational Church of Algonquin.
2. Applicant's involvement in community services.
3. Essay evaluation.

### Scholarship Award

The scholarship check will be issued upon proof of acceptance at the college of their choice, and the funds may be used for tuition fees and/or books. Presentation of the Scholarship Funds to the recipient (s) will be held during a church service in June.

Application and Guidelines are available on the Narthex Table  
and will be accepted during February and March.

Applications are due to the Church Office  
no later than Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

*Ministry of Finance*



**The Congregational Church  
of Algonquin  
A United Church of Christ  
109 Washington Street  
Algonquin, Illinois 60102**

**Phone: 847.658.5308**

**Website: [www.algonquinucc.org](http://www.algonquinucc.org)**

**Email: [algonquinucc@gmail.com](mailto:algonquinucc@gmail.com)**

**Senior Pastor**

Rev. Brian Cope  
[Revcope.cca@gmail.com](mailto:Revcope.cca@gmail.com)

**Pastoral Counseling**

Rev. Dr. Arn Schaper

**Administrative Assistant**

Teri Franklin

## About CCA and the UCC

The Congregational Church of Algonquin is a congregation affiliated with the United Church of Christ. It is one of the oldest churches in McHenry County. Members have been worshipping in its current sanctuary since 1868.

The church is located a block east of Main Street (Route 31) and a block south of Algonquin Road (Route 62) in downtown Algonquin.

The United Church of Christ is a denomination with over 1.4 million members in nearly 6,000 congregations.

The UCC was founded in 1957 by uniting several different Christian traditions. From the beginning we were a church that affirmed the ideal that Christians did not always have to agree to live together in communion. Our motto - "*that they may all be one*" - is Jesus' prayer for the unity of the church. The UCC is one of the most diverse Christian churches in the U.S.

Affirming that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, the UCC claims as its own the faith of the historic church expressed in the ancient creeds and reclaimed in the basic insights of Protestant

reformers. Yet the UCC also affirms the responsibility of each generation and community to make faith its own in reality of worship, in honesty of thought and expression, and in purity of heart before God. It looks to the Word of God in the Scriptures, and to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to prosper its creative and redemptive work in the world.

For more information about the United Church of Christ, go to [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org).



**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**  
God is still speaking,

**THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALGONQUIN  
A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
109 WASHINGTON STREET  
ALGONQUIN, ILLINOIS 60102**

