

October 1, 2017

### United Church of Christ Reaches Out in Love

A Disaster Ministries team from the national United Church of Christ is traveling this week (Sept. 20-26) to parts of the country ravaged by hurricanes Harvey and Irma to learn more about the mission work in which local churches are involved and to plot long-term recovery plans. It's part of the UCC effort to love stricken communities in Texas and Florida back to life.

Team members are travelling first to Florida to help church communities prepare for the next steps in recovery, to look at setting up response networks, and to see what type of ministry work will be needed for long-term recovery from the hurricanes. In Texas, the Disaster Ministries team is already well into planning and launching long-term recovery.

On Sept. 24, the Disaster Ministries team will be worshipping with a congregation on Marco Island ravaged by Hurricane Irma. The team is working with local churches to ensure that UCC has a personal presence to help people as they decide how they need to recover and to assist those who may fall through the cracks.

The team will meet with the UCC Florida Conference disaster coordinator who reported that assessments as to what needs to be done in the state have been proceeding slowly, as areas become accessible, and the power returns.

The Disaster Ministries team will also be monitoring current recovery work, to see how the gifts to the UCC Hurricane Irma appeal can best be used, now and going forward. For instance, the UCC just sent a solidarity grant to the Miami Shores Community Church. With no power, and under a boil water advisory, the church had been distributing ice, canned food and drinking water to anyone who needed it and using the building's generator to charge cell phones and tablets.

The grant, using money from funds designated for Hurricane Irma recovery, may help the congregation realize plans to offer a hot meal to feed the families in their neighborhood who have not been able to cook.

The team will also work with the disaster coordinator to determine the best timetable for volunteers. Volunteers will soon be sent out on a very limited basis as part of the early response with more volunteers assigned in six to eight months to focus on housing recovery and rebuilding work.

UCC will be present in these areas of devastation as long as there is a need, being what the church is called to be.

- taken from article written by Connie Larkman on ucc.org website

## UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 1, 2017

Sunday Morning Worship

10:00 AM



### Welcome

in Christ's name to all who are visiting.

We are an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. Please let us know you were here by filling out one of the guest cards provided by the ushers. We are blessed by having you here. May you also be blessed because you worshipped God with us.

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
14 NORTH MAIN STREET, CHURCHVILLE, NY 14428-0123 (585) 293-1665  
Email: [unionucc@frontier.com](mailto:unionucc@frontier.com) Website: [churchvilleucc.com](http://churchvilleucc.com)

**October 1, 2017**

**10:00 AM**

**GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

**Music for Quiet Reflection**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude:**

**Call to Worship (responsive) (Psalm 100)**

L: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**P: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.**

L: Know that the Lord is God, who has made us and claimed us.

**P: We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.**

L: Enter into the gates with thanksgiving, and into the courts with praise.

**P: Give thanks to our Creator, bless God's name.**

L: For the Lord is good; with steadfast love that endures forever.

**P: God's faithfulness endures to all generations. Praise the Lord!**

**Opening Hymn** "Bringing In the Sheaves" #444 green hymnal

**Opening Prayer (unison)**

**Oh Great Creator, we bow before you on this day with gratitude and thanksgiving. We see your presence in all the world and thank you for blessing us with your infinite love. Thank you for being our shepherd in a world that can feel frightening and confusing to us at times. Help us to remember to look to you as our shepherd and to have faith that you will watch over us. Lead us in the path you would have us follow. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

**GOD'S PEOPLE LISTEN**

**Anthem** "I Felt the Hand of God Today" by Darrell Archer

**Learning Community Conversation**

(Children leave for Sunday School through the Fellowship Room afterwards)

**\* Fellowship Hymn:** "Take Time to Be Holy" #342 green hymnal

**Reading from Scripture** Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56 pew Bible #38 NT

L: God is still speaking to us through the Living Word.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** "Shepherd-less Sheep"

**Anthem** "Feast of the Lord" by Pepper Choplin

**GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND**

**Responding in Prayer**

Sharing Celebrations & Concerns

Morning Prayer

**The Lord's Prayer** (using debts and debtors)

Response

**Responding through Giving**

Invitation to Giving and Receiving of Gifts

Offertory:

**Hymn of Praise:** "The Doxology"

**\* Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

**Divine Love, through me, blesses and multiplies all that I am all that I have, all that I give, and all that I receive. May these gifts be used to spread the good news of God's love for all of creation. Amen.**

**GOD'S PEOPLE FEAST**

**Communion Hymn:** "Break Thou the Bread of Life" #320 green hymnal

**Celebration of Holy Communion**

**GOD'S PEOPLE LEAVE TO SERVE**

**\*Closing Hymn** "Sweet Hour of Prayer" #110 green hymnal

**\*Benediction**

**\*Response**

**Organ Postlude:**

**\*Congregation:** Please rise in body or in spirit.