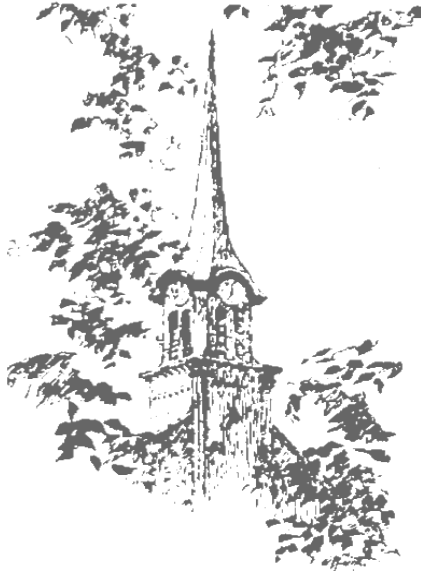


The Homer Congregational Church United Church of Christ

Feb 12, 2017

6th Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 am Worship



Gathered on the Green in 1801- Still Gathered Doing God's Mission

Worship Service
Participants

Ushers and Greeters

Worship Leaders

Tracy Bertram, Darci Gumaer

Liturgist

Elijah Smith

Acolytes

Flowers

Nursery Volunteer

Tracy Bertram

Fellowship

Leslie and Gene Wright

Attendance

January 29: 81

Our giving 2/5/17:

Operations - \$2,808.00

Missions - \$599.00

Life in the Parish
Week of February 12

SUNDAY – February 12

10:30 am – Worship

12:00 pm – CEM meeting
(after worship)

MONDAY – February 13

7:30 pm – Al-Anon meets

TUESDAY – February 14

2:00 pm – Senior Fellowship

6:30 pm – Deacons meet

7:00 pm – Homer Brass rehearsal

WEDNESDAY – February 15

Newsletter deadline!

7:00 pm – Choir rehearsal

THURSDAY – February 16

11:30 am – Bible Study

4:30 pm – Endowment Committee

FRIDAY – February 17

Office closed

SUNDAY – February 19

9:15 am – The Well

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Service of Worship

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2017

10:30 AM

Now I don't know if it happened this way or not, but I know this story is true.

~ a storyteller's introduction

*those who are able, please stand.

THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude
Chimes

"Voluntary"

Boyce

Call to Worship

One: Welcome Church!

Many: Welcome sister and brothers – children, youth, adults and elders!

One: This Tuesday we will celebrate love on Valentine's Day!

Many: Jesus taught, over and over, how we can be God's valentines for the world!

*Hymn #113

"Jesus Loves Me"

Prayer of Invocation

God of Grace, you do not stand there with a ruler in your fist, ready to smack our hands whenever we do wrong, but you are that gentle Parent who wants only the best for your children. You do not look at us through the lenses of judgment, but you see us as your kids who have wandered away, and so you reach out and take our hands so we might walk together. You do not hold anything back, but you fill our empty lives with the waters of grace, so we overflow with your gifts. During this time of worship, please fill us so that your love, wonder, joy, and hope overflow into this community, this county, this nation, this world. Amen.

GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW

Children's Moment

Matthew 5:13-16

Anthem

Scripture

Matthew 5:21-30

Sermon

“It Ain’t Necessarily So”

SCRIPTURE, Reason, Tradition and Experience

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

*Hymn #535

“Faith, While Trees are Still in Blossom”

(vs. 1,2 & 4)

Prayers of the People

Our Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

Invitation

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

God, our teacher, you graciously provide direction to guide us through Scripture. Thank you for the joy we feel when we do what is right and live according to your ways. By your Spirit, nurture our growth as individuals and as a congregation. Let our community of faith readily share with our neighbors the love we recognize in your son, Jesus. Accept our offerings in his name. Amen

GOD'S PEOPLE DEPART TO SERVE

*Hymn #494

“They’ll Know We Are Christians”

*Benediction

Chimes

*Postlude

"Prelude and fugue in F Major"

Bach

NOTES AND NOTICES

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MISSION AND FELLOWSHIP

This week, **Senior Fellowship welcomes Kris Behnke of Cortland Repertory Theater.** Kris has worked with CRT since the summer of 2009, and she currently oversees the Youth Program in addition to educational opportunities. Kris will tell us about the rich history of CRT, and everything that happens, soup-to-nuts, for a successful show. Come join us and hear about this wonderful cultural opportunity right in our neighborhood! Senior Fellowship will meet **Tuesday, February 14 at 2 pm in the Russell Fellowship Room.**

The **Homer Nursery School** has an **Amazon wish list!** If you are able to help out with a donation, please consider something from the following list: <http://bit.ly/HNSAmazon>.

OUR CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY

SUNY Cortland has published an article about our own **Rachel Ditch being appointed Protestant Campus Minister.** To read the article, you may visit <http://bit.ly/rachelditch2017> or keep a look out on church bulletin boards.

STAFF UPDATE

New office hours for Rachel Ditch: Rachel's schedule varies, but her regular office hours are Monday 3 pm - 6 pm and Wednesday 9 am - 12 pm. She can also be reached at christianed@homercc.org or (607) 749-2604.

STEWARDSHIP

Thanks to all who have submitted **2017 pledge cards.** Pledges are still being accepted and available in the Russell Fellowship Room. To date \$ 104,065 has been pledged: \$ 89,432 Operating, \$ 14,633 Mission. **Envelopes** for 2017 are also available in the Russell Fellowship Room. If you need to request envelopes, please contact Bev Berry at finsect@homercc.org.

NOTES AND NOTICES

OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

Free tax preparation services are offered for Cortland County residents through **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)**, beginning January 23. For more information or to set up an appointment, please call (877) 211-8667 or visit cortlandfreetaxes.org.

Join **Rev. Rachel Ann Morse** for a **new community book discussion program at Homer First United Methodist Church**. Each month, you are invited to read the selected book and join in a 90-minute discussion about the book. In the month of February, we will be reading *Between the World and Me*, a book by Ta-Nehisi Coates, one of the more important and profound books on race in our time. Rev. Morse will offer two times for discussion, to accommodate different schedules: **Tuesday, February 28th at 11:00am or 7:00pm**, at the Homer First United Methodist Church, 16 Cayuga Street in Homer.

Hospicare & Palliative Care Services, the hospice care provider for Cortland and Tompkins counties, **is looking for volunteers**. These volunteers offer support, companionship, and dignity to our friends and neighbors during a difficult time. Volunteers are an integral part of the team who can offer companionship, read aloud, run errands, or simply sit with patients so family members can take a break. **Anyone interested in being a volunteer can visit their website at hospicare.org/volunteers. For more information, please contact Wendy S. Yettru at wyettru@hospicare.org or by calling (607) 271-0212.**

Church Staff and Music Ministry

Rev. Vicki Burtson, Pastor
Lisa Clark, Homer Nursery School Director
Rachel Ditch, Director of Christian Education
Joseph Ford, Director of Music
James N. Shultes, Organist
Jan Jeffers, Chapel Bells
Gary Harrington, Sexton
Sheila Shea, Church Administrator

Church Office Hours:
Mondays through Thursdays, 9am-Noon, closed Fridays.

Pastor Vicki's time in the office varies each week, but she is available to visit those with special needs or to meet for any other reason. Please feel free to contact her via email: pastor@homercc.org or via her cell phone: (607) 624-9940

HCC website - homercc.com

Follow Homer Congregational Church on Facebook!

Monthly newsletters can be found at each entrance to the sanctuary and online at homercc.com/resources.

Our digital calendar can be viewed at homercc.com/calendar.

Contact the office to receive our mid-week email, *Weekday Words*.

Welcome - We are glad that you have chosen to join us for worship this morning. If you would like additional information about HCC please speak to the pastor or worship leader and plan to join us for refreshments and community time after the service.

Children - We believe children of all ages have a place in worship and in the life of the church. A children's bulletin and "Busy Bags" are available at the entrance to the sanctuary. Nursery care is available.

Prayer request sheets are placed at each entrance. Prayers will be offered later in today's service.

Accessibility - Individual listening headsets are available to provide hearing assistance to any in need. Contact one of the ushers for help.

Miss a Sunday and want to review the bulletin? You can find weekly bulletins at our website: <http://www.homercc.com/resources>. Share with a friend.