

**The Homer Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ**

**October 27, 2019**

**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

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**10:30 a.m. Worship**



*Gathered on the Green in 1801 -  
Still Being Transformed as We Do God's Mission*

**Homer Congregational United Church of Christ**  
*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Serving us in ministry today:

Bonnie Smith ~ Deacon of the Day  
Jenna & Delaney McConnell ~ Acolytes

Jenelle, Russ & Terry Pedersen &  
Joanne Cincotta ~ Ushers  
Mark & Tracy Bertram ~ Nursery

The flowers are given by Shirley Osterhoudt  
in loving memory of Edward Osterhoudt  
and  
by Paula Harrington  
in celebration of Buzz's & Olivia's birthdays.

TODAY

The Homer Congregational banner will be carried in the 50<sup>th</sup> **CROP Walk**. Come to Grace & Holy Spirit Church (13 Court Street) at 1:00. After opening ceremonies, we will walk at 1:30. Can't walk today? Why not sponsor someone who is walking? Checks can be made to **Church World Service** (or **CWS**). Our friends at UPC have raised over \$760. We are just over \$500...

*Attendance October 20: 120*



# Service of Worship

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## For Quiet Meditation

Let's fight against hunger together

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events that bring people together in a common mission: helping hungry people at home and around the world.

I'm excited to be part of it and would love to have you join me on this journey. The steps we take - and the funds we raise - will make a real impact!

~ Carol Costell Corbin, who has walked in the CROP Walk  
for 16 years and counting!

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## **WE GATHER**

*\*those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude  
Chimes

Praise To The Lord

Walther

Call to Worship

Oh Happy Day!

*Conducted by Whoopi Goldberg*

Oh happy day (Oh happy day) *repeat*

When Jesus washed (when Jesus washed) *repeat*

He washed my sins away!

Prayer of Presence

## GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW

Scripture                      Jeremiah 31:31-34

Children's Moment

Anthem

Scripture                      James 1:22-25

Sermon                              Reformed!

### OUR RESPONSE

*Silence is kept*

Prayers of the People

**Right here, right now, right where I am, I pray.**

**Right here, right now, right where I am, I pray.**

The Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

Stewardship Moment

Jack Bertram

Offering

Invitation to Give

Offertory                      A Mighty Fortress

Hanff

\*Doxology (tune: Tallis' Canon)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.**

**Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Good and gracious God, we bring our gifts of time, talent and treasure. May all that we give bring good news to those in need. Amen.**

**BLESSING**

Announcements

\*Hymn

Pass it On

#477

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

Prelude and Fugue

Bach



THIS WEEK:

Monday

5:15 Disciple II

Tuesday

5:00 Centering Prayer

Thursday

Happy Halloween!

No Sacred Conversation on Race today

COMING UP:

Sunday, Nov. 3

9:30 Faith Formation for Children

Adult Faith Formation

*Holy Envy* – chapter 2 led by Bonnie Smith

10:30 Worship with Communion

2:00 Communion at the Brewster House

6:00 Jr. High Youth Group - HCC

Monday, November 4

9:30 Staff Meeting

4:45 Disciple I                      5:15 Disciple II

Tuesday, November 5

5:00 Centering Prayer

Wednesday, November 6

6:00 Worship & Music

Thursday, November 7

6:30 Sacred Conversation to End Racism

## Stewardship Sunday

It is a holy day, *Stewardship Sunday*, for this is the day when we think about our lives, using *God's* glasses!

Writing about GRACE, Frederick Buechner said:

The grace of God means something like: *"Here is your life. You might never have been, but you are, because the party wouldn't have been complete without you. Here is the world...It's for you I created the universe. I love you."*

God whispers to each one of us "I love you." God's lenses reveal love, and the unique giftedness we each bring to the world.

Stewardship Sunday is not about guilt-ing you into a thing. It is about realizing the blessings in our lives, including that most of us have enough to share! It is about listening to Jesus talk about those two laws...love God; love neighbor as we love ourselves (despite the flaws that we can quickly point out to anyone who will listen.) Love God. Love neighbor.

As God looks through those lenses crafted in love, what does God see in you? Giftedness. Material blessing. Time. *Stewardship Sunday* suggests that we can express our love for God and for one another by sharing some of our abilities...some of our wisdom...some of our time...and yes, some of our money.

Today you will receive a booklet describing our ministry in 2019. Let it tickle your thinking into the possibilities for 2020. Set aside some time to think and pray. And then come on **Sunday, November 10** ready to offer your gifts, as you feel called to share with this family of faith.

## CROP Walk at 50

George Sturgeon genuinely cared about people around the world, and he wanted the next generation to care, too. While driving to a youth retreat in Bismarck, ND, he heard a radio program talking about walking for a cause. George's idea began to take shape: **would youth sacrifice their own steps so that someone around the world would have enough food and water?** In 1969, that's exactly what happened. Teens and young adults who heard George's idea pioneered this **Walk** concept in Bismarck, raising funds for families around the world through...Church World Service. The seeds were - quite literally - being planted for the CROP Hunger Walk.

It was Rev. Bill Sowers in York, Pennsylvania who took the next step forward. His congregation was already engaged with CWS, but Rev. Bill knew that the York community was hungry to do more...so he invited them to **Walk** in 1970. Margaret Horn, the youth leader from a neighboring congregation, responded to this invitation with a call to action of her own: **"I will walk, will you walk with me?"** Her question is repeated every year as new walkers encourage their friends and family to join this movement, this movement to end hunger.

