



## THE PARISH VISITOR SEPTEMBER 2020

Dear Friends,

Rev. William K.  
Riegle, Pastor



On Sunday, August 9th at 10:15 a.m., we were able to do something we had not done together since the middle of March. We were able to gather together in our sanctuary to offer God our worship, our praise and our thanks. During the intervening months, we found news ways to worship together. We gathered together on our computers, tablets and phones, surfing through numerous technological glitches along the way. We met in the parking lot for “Drive-in” worship, remaining in our cars, and surfing through all that weather-related glitches Mother Nature put in our way.

Finally, on August 9<sup>th</sup>, following the guidelines set out by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Illinois Department of Public Health, we once again gathered together wearing our masks and bathed in the Holy Spirit. I was standing in the narthex talking to Jim Ashby that morning. I have to admit, when Arlene hit those first chords on the organ, chills sent up and down my spine. It had been so long since I heard her play the organ in church that I had almost forgotten how beautiful it sounds.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued physical and financial support of our church. I have spoken with many of my colleagues over the last few months. Some of them have shared sad stories of serious drop-offs in giving when they had to discontinue their weekly services, even after finding alternative ways to worship together. I am so grateful to report that our congregation has continued to support the church at the same level we were giving before the pandemic began. With the continued good stewardship of the Church Council and the reduced use of the building, I am happy to report the financial condition of the church is very sound! A more detailed report on finances and other important aspects of our ministry together will be available at our Annual Meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup>. I hope you can join us that day for the meeting, and this Sunday for Worship and Communion. And yes, everyone will be able to take off their masks as we celebrate Holy Communion together. Until then, may the peace of Christ be with you all, praise God!

Peace,  
Pastor Bill

### NEED TO CONTACT US?

Church Office:  
630.556.3986

Pastor's Cell:  
630.746.1782

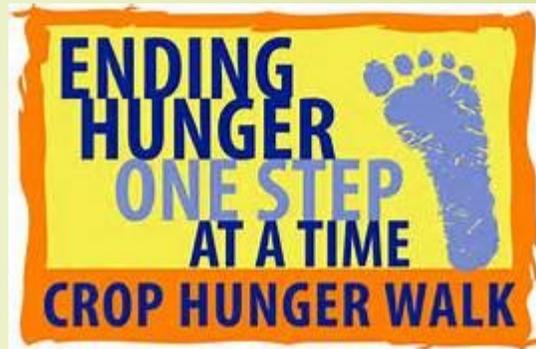
Pastor's email:  
revriegs@gmail.com

Church Secretary's  
email:

ecuccsecretary  
@gmail.com

Church web-  
site  
[www.ecucc.org](http://www.ecucc.org)

## 2020 CROP Hunger Walk



A meeting of participants in our Annual CROP Walk was held to determine how we might be able to hold this year's event in the midst of the pandemic. Consensus among the group was that each community would hold its own event on our normal first Sunday in October. The date for this year's walk will be October 4<sup>th</sup>. Each church was given one contribution envelope so all contributions will be turned in under the church's name. I will walk at the track around Big Rock Park that day, and anyone who wishes is welcome to join me. If you can contribute to this year's walk, you may give your donations to me. Checks can be made payable to CROP. We wanted to carry on with the event because hunger around the world never stops, and our CROP walk helps to support both the Helping Hands Food Pantry in Somonauk and the Hinckley Area Food Pantry in Hinckley. Thank you in advance for your support.

Peace,  
Pastor Bill

### PASTOR'S VACATION

Rev. Riegle will be taking a couple of weeks off in September. He will be off from September 7-20. Jim Ashby and Roger Hatfield will fill the pulpit in Pastor's absence. Also, there will be no ZOOM Worship on September 13 or September 20.

Thank you.

The **Hinckley Area Food Pantry (HAFP)** serves the communities of Big Rock, Hinckley, Maple Park, and Waterman and provides food assistance to our neighbors in these communities.

**Thank you for your support and donations to the Hinckley Area Food Pantry! The Hinckley Food Pantry needs include: kidney beans, chili beans, ramen noodles, pasta sauce, canned pasta, macaroni, noodles, sugar, flour, Bisquick, baking supplies, canned meats, Jell-O, pudding, lunch box stuff (individual serving sizes fruit, desserts, chips, etc.), toilet paper, Kleenex, toothpaste, laundry soap, bath soap, condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, relish) and juice.**

**If you wish to make a direct monetary donation to the Hinckley Area Food Pantry, without going through ECUCC? Their address is: Hinckley Area Food Pantry, PO Box 463, Hinckley IL 60520. They will send a tax donation letter to you at the end of the year, also:) They can actually buy MORE food with your donations.**



**HAPPY LABOR DAY**

The Church Office will be closed on Labor Day.  
Have a happy and safe holiday with your family and friends.

## NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

We will be collecting our Neighbors In Need Offering on Sunday, October 4th. This is one of our Five-For-Five offerings with the United Church of Christ. Two-thirds of the offering will go to support the UCC Justice and Witness Ministries, which continues to work on issues like voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties and environmental justice. The other one-third supports the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations with historical roots in churches established by our UCC ancestors. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. We ask everyone to give as generously as you can.





The Executive Council has called the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held on **Sunday, September 27th**. Please mark your calendar with this date. Everyone is urged to attend.

### VICE MODERATOR NEEDED

Our Annual Meeting will take place on September 27th. The Church Council has been working on filling all of the offices for the next year. All offices have been filled with one exception. We are still in need of someone to volunteer to be out next Vice Moderator. If you would like to volunteer, or you wish to nominate someone for the position, please contact Rev. Riegle or Jim Ashby.

### ANNUAL REPORTS

Pam is working on putting this year's annual report together. If you are responsible for providing a report from a Ministry Group or church organization, please submit your report to Pam as soon as possible. Thank you.

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"GROWING A FAMILY OF FAITH"  
2020 VISION STATEMENT

Visit our website at:  
[www.ecucc.org](http://www.ecucc.org)