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LIGHTING THE CHURCH

If you would like to light the church, please contact Claire Chomentowski at 485-7779.

WEDNESDAY VIDEO SERIES

Our video group resumes meeting on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 5 to 6 PM. Please contact Rich Smith if you have recommendations for movies and/or documentaries.

FOOD SHELF

The food shelf is open from 12 to 1 PM every Wednesday. Many thanks to all who volunteer, especially Linda and Barb, helping to serve the members of our community.

MANY THANKS

To Reggie Brown for mowing our lawn. To Barb, Linda, and others, for their continued help each Wednesday. To Paul Littlefield who faithfully does the dishes each Sunday.

QUILT RAFFLE

Congratulations to Barry and Sherry Brickey, who won Susan D'Amico's beautiful hand-crafted quilt! Many thanks to Susan for her generosity in donating it.

HELP IS NEEDED

The UCC has launched a Pakistan Relief Fund. Torrential monsoons since June have dumped nearly five times as much rain as the country usually gets. So far, the resulting floods have:

- Killed more than 1,400 people
- Affected 30 million people and displaced 800,000
- Damaged or destroyed 1 million homes, as well as farms, livestock, roads, bridges, schools and more.

“The situation in Pakistan remains dire as more than a third of the country is still under water,” said the Rev. Josh Baird, who heads the UCC’s Global H.O.P.E. team. “The most pressing needs are for food, clean water and sanitation, and emergency housing.

“In areas where the water has not receded, people are forced to construct temporary shelter on whatever dry patch of land they can access — often on the edge of roads.”

“At its peak, 73 percent of Pakistan’s districts were impacted by flooding,” the appeal’s web page says. “... More than half of its districts have been declared ‘calamity hit’ by the government — a number that is expected to rise as the rain continues and floods flow through the Punjab and Sindh provinces.”

ROXBURY UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, U.C.C.
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You can help by donating this fund. Please consider mailing a check made payable to the United Church of Christ, PO BOX 71957 Cleveland, OH 44194. Please be sure to note "***Pakistan Response Fund***" on your check in the memo section.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Did you notice that Fall arrived right on time! As we welcome this beautiful season of change, perhaps we might think about the trees. The leaves become brilliant, fulfilling their lives and then tumble to the ground to further nourish the earth. The trees enter a time of rest and hidden growth before sprouting new leaves and new growth with the arrival of Spring. Change happens constantly all around us, especially in nature. Yet we also see a rhythm that promises new life following change.

We are surrounded by other changes in our lives that are challenging and difficult to deal with. The death of loved one; the loss of a precious relationship; a change in our health; loss of home and/or income. These are changes that make it difficult for us to look forward with hope. It is difficult to let go, to acknowledge how little control we have over life's circumstances, ours, or others.

Nature teaches just as scripture does that all life is a rhythm of birth, growth, death, and transformation to new life. It happens to us all the time in big and little ways. So welcome Fall! Welcome falling leaves and dropping temperatures. We, too, will let go and enter a time of rest, of hidden growth and of transformation.

