

# PASTOR JOHN'S PAPER BLOG



COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
14700 WATERTOWN PLANK ROAD, ELM GROVE, WI 53122

## THE WELCOME WORD

We are about to slide into two of the most spiritually focused times of the entire calendar year. In a couple of weeks, we will come to Thanksgiving which (although) not specifically a Christian holiday is built around the concept of taking time to be thankful for what we have received. Thanksgiving (and in particular giving thanks to God) is at the core of who we are as followers of Jesus.

Shortly after Thanksgiving comes Christmas, when we pause to celebrate Jesus' birth and acknowledge that our God became like us in order to save us from ourselves.

Both of these celebrations are fundamentally about being thankful AND although being thankful sounds easy, it is always a challenge for us because both of these celebrations have been filled up with distractions that make something as simple as being thankful difficult for us.

Now, to be honest about it, there isn't some evil genius out there who has hatched a dastardly plan to make us forget to be thankful. Some of us actually would feel better about it if there was an evil genius in the mix because then we could blame our failure to keep God the focus of these two precious holidays on someone else.

But the reality is that no one is making us put our thankfulness on the back burner. Our lives are too easily filled up with a thousand good things that force us to choose how we will spend our time and where we will focus our heads and our hearts.

I mentioned in my Sunday school class that we tend to think of temptations as being bad things that keep us from doing good things or the right thing. But the reality is that most of us are more often tempted by things that we think of as good. It's always a conversation about deciding what is "best."

We might then ask ourselves some questions that all Christians should be asking. *"What would God want my Thanksgiving to be like?"* and *"What would God want my Christmas to be like?"* *"What would make each of these celebrations the best that they can be?"*

At the very least both of these holidays (at some point) should be focused on all of ways in which God has blessed our lives.

I'm bringing up all of this now because time slides by so very quickly and if we don't take some time **now** to think about what we would want our holidays to be like when they arrive, we will miss the opportunity to make the extended holiday season the best it can be. Decide today to let our faithful God be at the core of all you do over this extended holiday season.

Think about it ...

John



### Inside this issue:

Birthdays	15
Calendar	13-14
Christian Education	10
Church Family News	4
Food & Fellowship	5
In the Spirit	3

Missions	4, 6-7
Pastor's Article	1
Servant Leadership Team	8
Women's Ministry/UMW	8 & 11
Worship & Music	2-3
Youth Ministry	9

## Attention All Singers!

Twice a year, in Advent and again in the spring, a Festival Choir is formed in order to present a worship service devoted to music of the season. Rehearsals begin about 6 weeks ahead of time and everyone is welcome to sing. Our 2017 Advent offering is:

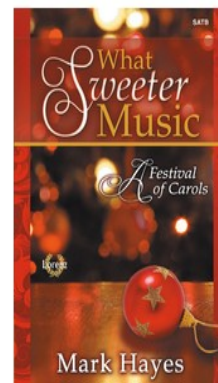
***What Sweeter Music* by Mark Hayes**  
**December 10, 8:30 and 11:00 Services**

Weaving familiar carols and songs throughout original music, this cantata is a joyous celebration of God's greatest Gift to the world. Our Children's Choir and Youth Choir will be joining our Festival Choir as well as narrators and a surprise soloist. A guest chamber orchestra will accompany.

**Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 in the Choir Room they began October 25.**

Please contact our Music Director, Martnie Mortellaro with any questions:

[martnie@cumceg.org](mailto:martnie@cumceg.org).



## Interfaith Worship Service at CUMC

CUMC will host an Interfaith Thanksgiving presented by the Brookfield-Elm Grove Interfaith Network (BEGIN) on Thursday, November 16 at 7 pm in the sanctuary. Come join our neighbors of many faiths as we express thanks to God for our blessings and community. Singers interested in a pick-up choir led by Martnie Mortellaro arrive by 6:30 to run through the music. Approximately 300 people attended this event last year. You won't want to miss it!

There will be numerous opportunities for CUMC members to extend Christian hospitality. We will need singers, bakers, ushers, people to serve refreshments and people to clean up. Watch your bulletins and email to sign up to help, or contact Katy Wilson at 262-797-8857.



## Church Financial Report September, 2017

The financial results for Community United Methodist Church for September, 2017 is as follows:

	Year-To-Date Actual	Year-To-Date Budget	Difference
Giving and Other Revenues	\$ 573,084	\$ 631,370	(\$ 58,286)
Expenses	<u>\$ 593,409</u>	<u>\$ 643,118</u>	<u>\$ 49,709</u>
Income/(Deficit)	(\$ 20,325)	(\$ 11,748)	(\$ 8,577)

The results for the first eight months of 2017 shows that CUMC continues in a significant deficit situation. As you can see below a deficit in September is not uncommon. We have improved from the deficit in August (\$47,155) but only because of a \$40,000 payment from Mother's Day Out for 2017 facility expenses. Without that payment we would have a \$60,000 deficit which would cause us to begin to think about reducing expenses. Giving is \$66,000 below budget and \$26,000 below giving as of September 30, 2016. We know giving goes down substantially in Summer, but September is usually the month we see an uptick in giving. That did not happen this year. Please pray that we see an increase in giving in October.

Our expenses are quite consistent from month-to-month and management of these expenses is also consistent month-to-month. As a result, expenses are almost \$50,000 below budget because we have spent \$4,000 less than budgeted for missions, \$3,000 less than budgeted for ministry, \$7,500 less than budgeted for youth ministry, \$11,000 less than budgeted for education and \$23,000 less than budgeted on maintaining and operating the church properties. If expenses had been at budgeted levels the deficit for CUMC would have been \$70,000. As discussed in the last paragraph that would be serious. We will continue to carefully manage expenses, but we would be encouraged by an increase in giving. Please continue giving to CUMC as generously as you are able. Thank you.

Past Year-to-Date Surplus or (Deficits) as of September, 30 were: 2015 (\$7,958), 2016 (\$31,323)

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP

Services at 8:30 and 11:00 am

**ONLY ONE SERVICE ON NOVEMBER 19 AT 9:45 am**

Pastor John Wells preaching except as noted

### November 5 - Communion All Saints Day Celebrated

*God Brings Peace*

Genesis 13; Psalm 107

#### Music:

8:30 & 11:00 am Chancel Choir

### November 12

*God Knows Everything*

Genesis 15:1-8; Psalm 70

#### Music:

8:30 am Clarion Bells

11:00 am Praise Team

### November 19 - 9:45 am

*God Works in Many Ways*

Genesis 18:1-19:29; Psalm 95

#### Music:

9:45 am Praise Team

### November 22 - 7:00 pm

**Thanksgiving Eve Service**

Music: Chancel Choir

### November 26

Rich Rubietta at 8:30 & 11:00 am



## IN THE SPIRIT

By Mel Johnson

*Come, ye thankful people, come ...*  
Henry Alford

I have been sorting through boxes and boxes of cards, notes, and letters that I have saved. Some, a lot actually, I read and put right back in the box. A few I throw out. Some offer encouragement, others affirmation, still others are simply lovely and beautiful. I will read them again some day if I am wondering if my life is moving in the right direction. All are handwritten. Handwritten notes in a family Bible are meaningful to many as are handwritten recipes. These are things we keep because they were written by someone we love or who loves us. There is something heartwarming about seeing the handwriting of others who have been important to us. Recipes especially come to mind this time of year and soon someone in Dave's office will ask, "When is Mel going to make her pumpkin bars for us?" You likely know the kind, the kind with the fabulous cream cheese frosting! And so I will pull out the recipe card with its familiar handwriting and remember. Come, ye thankful people, come.

Pumpkin, autumn and Thanksgiving all go together. Days are cooler and shorter, trees are bare and we turn to being indoors and gathering together. The feast of Thanksgiving brings family, friends, food and football together. Many of us will use one or more recipes handwritten by someone who may or may not still be among us. There will be stories told. Some may start with, "Do you remember ...." I will always remember the year Aunt Sheila dropped the vegetable casserole on the kitchen floor, scooped it up, and put it back in the dish! Now many years later when our family gathers our granddaughter, Anna, always starts the circle by asking each of us to say something for which we are thankful. Come, ye thankful people, come.

Come, ye thankful people, come, ... are words from a hymn most likely first written by hand. It continues with an invitation for us to raise the song of harvest home. Wherever you are on Thanksgiving, alone or with others, working or on vacation, may you find moments to be thankful to the God of all things and raise the song of harvest home. Amen.





## Health & Wellness

Greetings!

As we enter a month that celebrates thankfulness, I reflect: what am I most thankful for? I feel it is easy to say family, friends, and prosperity because all those entities bring me joy. I recently read an article on Facebook written in the perspective of "from the future," noting that the era we are currently living in has been come to be known as the *Age of Judgement*. Ironically, I made a quick judgement and noted that it is human nature for people to have their own opinions, but then I really sat back and looked at the broader picture and realized that there seems to have never been, at least in my lifetime, a time when people have put so much energy into intensely judging others for their beliefs. It seems like many have lost the ability to have thoughtful discussion, to listen, and to engage with their peers of a different mindset. This is troubling as many of the opinions are about complex topics that require just that: thoughtful discussion on all sides with the ability for all to listen and engage with one another in order to come up with a solution. As an optimist, I am hopeful, though. I gain hope every time I hear about an act of kindness being performed or a symbolic olive branch being extended. This hope is what leads me to continue in a career where I am able to help others. So, when thinking about what I am most thankful for, I am thankful for hope. Fred Rogers noted it best: "My mother would say: 'look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' To this day, especially in times of 'disaster,' I remember my mother's words and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers—so many caring people in the world." Let's all be helpers.

Blessings and good health,

Tammy

**There will be no blood pressure screening on Sunday, November 19.**

**The next blood pressure screening will be on Sunday, December 17.**



### **Our Congratulations to:**

The family of John and Julie Wells following the birth of twin grandchildren, Owen & Lola.

### **Our Condolences to:**

The family of Russ Matson whose brother passed away.

The family of Kay Graf who passed away on September 27.



**Daylight Savings Time Ends**

**Sunday, November 5**

**The Thanksgiving Offering Will Be Shared Between Selah Freedom and Northcott Neighborhood House**





### Up-Coming Events:

**November 16:** Socialize at 11:30 am followed by lunch at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall. **Gary D'Amato**, *Journal Sentinel* sports columnist, will present **"Mudbaths and Bloodbaths: The Inside Story of the Bears-Packers Rivalry."** Reservation deadline is Monday, November 6.

**December 14:** 11:00 am **Annual Holiday Luncheon and Program** at **Westmoor Country Club.** **"The Kat Trio"** will entertain. Reservation deadline is Monday, November 27.

Check the OWLS bulletin board in the office hallway for more details on these and other upcoming programs or download them online from our website, [www.cumceg.org](http://www.cumceg.org).



The **OWLS** (Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors) invite the congregation and their friends to join us at our **Annual Holiday Luncheon**, Thursday, December 14 at Westmoor Country Club. The **Kat Trio** will present **"The Kat Trio Christmas Concert."** This classical ensemble was born in 1998 in Ekaterinburg, Russia and is comprised of Victoria Gorbich (violinist), Vladislav Gorbich (clarinetist), and Joseph Ross (pianist). Community United Methodist Church was the host of this group at a concert in July, 2007. OWLS is pleased to welcome them back. *Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, so please respond as soon as possible to reserve your place.* Download a reservations form at [www.cumceg.org](http://www.cumceg.org).

### PLEASE JOIN OUR "SMALL GROUP"

We are not a new "Small Group," but we would love more folks to join us!

**The Card Ministry meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month from 6-8 pm in the Disciple Room.** We make lovely cards for the staff to use for our shut-ins and folks going through a rough time in their life right now. Our Notes of Love group mails these cards for the church.

**In November, we will be making Holiday cards for the staff to use.**

There is no charge, and Karen Onasch and Dianna Haugh will lead you through the process of making something lovely for someone else. **NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY. THERE IS NO CHARGE!**

This ministry is very much appreciated by those who receive these cards. And we have fun making the cards for our "family members."

**Please join us on November 20 at 6 pm in the Disciple Room. Save the date to have some fun and be creative.**



### COFFEE HOUR IS NOW BEING HOSTED BY SMALL GROUPS

Do you belong to a small group who would like to host Coffee Hour? This just means you will provide the "treats" for Coffee Hour.

**This would give your group a perfect opportunity to "advertise" what your group is all about.**

Each group is asked to host 2 Sundays during the year (maybe 3 if necessary). The hope is that new people will be bringing treats and meeting new people through the Coffee Hour time

Your group does not need to set up or clean up—just provide treats for the 9:30 am coffee hour by 9:15 am on Sunday morning. You could bring them earlier in the week and leave them **in the refrigerator** in Fellowship Hall clearly marked for coffee hour.

We need small groups to volunteer for a couple of Sundays in 2018. This year is filled, thanks to the wonderful response from several small groups.

**Thanks so much to all those who have so generously and frequently helped with this welcoming ministry in the past years. Your treats have been very much appreciated.**

**Let's make this a time of getting to know new people and sharing what our small groups are doing.**

**If your small group is interested, please call Dianna Haugh at 262-782-8774 or email [dmhaugh2@gmail.com](mailto:dmhaugh2@gmail.com).**





**QUARTERLY MISSION FOCUS: Selah Freedom  
October, November and December**

Selah Freedom is a national organization providing education and training throughout the country, as well as prevention programs for teens, outreach, and safe housing in the Midwest and Southeast regions of the United States.

Selah Freedom actively confronts the issue of human trafficking and is being upheld as the model for how to effectively bring solutions to survivors of trafficking and exploitation. Selah is a Hebrew word which means to pause, rest, and reflect. They give survivors a chance to do just that. Women in their programs have an opportunity to dream again; to discover who it is they were created to be.

In 2010, Selah Freedom's founders discovered the horrifying truth that local children were being bought and sold right here in our own communities - that's right, American children! What began as the grassroots initiative of women from across the country to be a voice for the voiceless, has quickly transformed into a thriving organization with four foundational programs: Awareness, Prevention, Outreach, and Residential. Selah Freedom closely partners with law enforcement, legislators, and influential leaders to not only shed light on the staggering statistics, but they are working together to change those statistics by changing lives!

CUMC has partnered with the recovery home in Kenosha where women will go straight out of the trafficking world. This home is currently under renovation and hoping to be open to help human trafficking victims by the end of fall. They were pleased to hear our focus for the year was on water. Our aim is to, by assisting with water bills and groceries, alleviate some of their financial worries so they can focus solely on working with the women rescued from human trafficking and creating a plan for their recovery.

**Third Quarter Mission Focus Update  
Paul Webster  
(our missionary in Zambia, Africa)**

A total of **\$7,745.39** was raised for Paul Webster's project to extend the water lines to the workers' houses at the Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre. (\$4,120.39 was from loose coin and donations; \$125 from recycled shoes; and \$3,500 from the Church rummage sale.) Thanks to everyone who supported him during this quarter. Paul visited with us at CUMC the end of June.



**Food Hygiene Drive for United Methodist Children's Services (UMCS)**

The Family Resource Center of United Methodist Children's Center (UMCS) has the following suggestions for needed items: protein (canned tuna, chicken, ham, etc.) and healthy snacks (crackers, nuts, granola bars, etc.) as well as always needing toilet paper and bars of soap. Other donations are welcome too. They may be left inside the bins in the entry way off the patio and will be delivered monthly for you. Thanks for your support and sharing with those in need.



**Save the Date  
Mission Gift Festival 2017  
Sunday, December 3  
9:30-11:00 am  
Fellowship Hall**

The following organizations will be represented that morning: Food Pantry of Waukesha County, Friedens Community Ministries, Hebron House, Heifer International, International Needs, Military Bible Sticks, Milwaukee Rescue Mission, Northcott Neighborhood House, Paul Webster, Selah Freedom, Sojourner Family Peace, The Gathering, Waukesha Women's Center, United Methodist Children's Services, and UMCOR.

**More information to come ...**



## Northcott Giving Tree

We will again be making a child's Christmas brighter by purchasing gifts for boys and girls at Northcott Neighborhood House. The tree, names of children and gift suggestions will be at church starting Sunday, November 19. Details will be included in Sunday bulletins.

**The  
Giving  
Tree**

Helping Those  
in Need



## Missions Update ...

Lots going on in missions right now, and with your help we are able to make a significant impact to various organizations, nationally and internationally. As you know our rummage was a huge success and we have divided up that money amongst a few different areas.

The youth worked so hard during their car wash at the rummage sale event, that we have agreed they should get to decide what they would like to do with the money they raised. They raised \$367.

\$3,500 of that money raised will go towards Paul Webster's mission in Africa, bringing the total raised for the third quarter, to \$7,745.39! Thank you all for your commitment to helping others!

The remaining \$1000 we have decided we would like to go to an organization called Water With Blessings. You may be familiar with them since the Honduras mission also has used them. They are an organization that works hard to get clean water to areas that need it. They also have a Christian focus in what they do. We are specifically designating this money towards the purchase of clean water filter kits that will be going directly to Puerto Rico. An area we can all agree that needs our support right now. Thank you again, for your support.

For our 4th quarter, we will be supporting Selah Freedom, an organization that aids in helping people combat Human Trafficking. This is something that is prevalent in many areas including our own area, and we feel it is one worth educating people about. Your support for that so far has been fantastic, with \$300 in loose coins in just two Sundays! (As of October 8). Keep it up! If you missed the representative from Selah Freedom on October 15, no worries, they will also be present at our Mission Gift Festival on December 3! Save the date, please show your support. Our Christmas and Thanksgiving offerings will be split between Selah Freedom and Northcott Neighborhood House this year.

One last thing, we would love to have your suggestions for organizations to support next year for each of our quarterly focus efforts. If you have any suggestions and would like to help get something up and running, please contact [go.mission.cumceg@gmail.com](mailto:go.mission.cumceg@gmail.com). In particular, we love to support organizations whose mission it is to bring people to Christ!

Thank you!

Shelley Botchek

Your church is here to help!

Would you like a visit? Do you know someone who would find a visit helpful? Would you like to be a visitor?



# Visitations

Pastor Karen and CUMC members make home and hospital visits, offering listening, prayer and communion. Pastor Karen can be contacted at 414-852-6782 or [revkklatt@gmail.com](mailto:revkklatt@gmail.com).



## Newcomers are welcome in these on-going events anytime:

**Tuesday Women's Bible Study** - Meets every Tuesday at 1:00 pm for Bible study in the Hearth Room

**Women's Books & Breakfast** - meets at Brookfield Family Restaurant on Wednesdays at 7:30 am. Any woman is welcome, anytime!

**Prayer Group** – Tuesdays, 2:30 pm, Library Conference Room - Contact: Dianna Haugh or Shirley Bigelow

**Greeting Card Ministry** – Meets the third Monday, 6:00-8:00 pm, Disciple Room - Contact: Dianna Haugh 262-782-8774 or [dmhaugh2@gmail.com](mailto:dmhaugh2@gmail.com)

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** - If you are interested in re-starting this ministry, please call the church office.

*For more information about any of these groups, please contact the church office 262-782-4060.*

## SERVANT LEADERSHIP TEAM CASTING A VISION FOR CHRIST



Greetings from the SLT!

As one of the fresh faces on SLT, I thought I would like to share a few unsolicited words of encouragement regarding the *YEAR OF DISCIPLESHIP* [trumpets playing for dramatic effect].

It has been said that "Showing up is 80 percent of life" (Woody Allen). This saying has survived for about 40 years, and it seems like most of us who hear that would respond *that seems about right*. Let's chew on that for a few seconds ... 80% ... for nothing more than showing up. Showing up is apparently worth a LOT.

So why is showing up so valuable? Most things are valuable because they are uncommon. We humans apparently aren't very good at showing up. If we are not very good at something, we generally consider it to be hard. Showing up is hard.

So ... if showing up is the *hard part* ... then everything ... after that ... is ... *Easier* ...? BINGO!

Since June, I've been waking up extra early every Monday to muster my half-awake self to church by 6:30 for Monday Morning Bible Study. Showing up is *definitely* the hard part (especially today when the sun didn't come up until after I walked inside). Staying for an hour of study and fellowship is quite enjoyable and easy. This group has quickly played a rather significant role in helping to renew my understanding of the Word.

Since February, I've been chairing the Christian Education Leadership Team. We meet at least twice a month to coordinate programs, plan events, discuss vision, and set goals. That might sound like a lot of work (and sometimes it is) ... but it's not *hard*. It's purposeful, enjoyable, and the room is filled with smiling faces and positive energy. The *HARD* part was gathering up the wherewithal to stand up in front of a room of semi-familiar faces and volunteer to lead the endeavor.

So now ... the *YEAR OF DISCIPLESHIP* [trumpets]. Five commitments! All in one year! That sounds *HARD!*

I'm going to be perfectly honest. I haven't filled out my card yet. I figure I will get to it. Little temptations bounce into my head about how "I'm doing enough" or "maybe next year" or "what if I don't fill it out, but I just kinda do it on my own." I know full well that these little temptations are rather poor excuses, but they are real so I thought I would share. I'm guessing most of you who are still reading this have had quite similar thoughts.

Whether you take it from a famous quote or from me, I have faith that the hardest part about the *YEAR OF DISCIPLESHIP* [trumpets] will be writing your name on a small piece of paper and turning it in (yes actually turning it in is part of the deal). Everything after that is going to be easy, especially if we do it together.

P.S. If you see me, please remind me to fill out my card ... should I stop writing right now and go do it? I could ... well, maybe I will finish the article first then go do it ... well what's the difference if I just do it the next time I am at church ... yes, Sunday. I will fill out my card on Sunday. If the confirmands can sign a Confirmation Covenant, surely I can sign a little card. Like I said ... if you see me ... please remind me ....

I can't wait 'til we get to the easy part. God Bless, Donavan Haidinger, *Your* Servant Leadership Team





## Faith and Mental Health

On November 12 from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm we are having a high school suicide prevention night. (Be on the lookout in January for a church-wide suicide prevention night that will be open to all ages.)

Suicide is not an easy subject to talk about. It's not a topic that fits neatly into what we'd like our day-to-day lives to look like. It can be especially difficult to talk about in a faith community, where it's so easy to fall into the lie that to be a Christian means to have it all together. The reality is, though, suicide is an enormous public health problem that affects us all. In order to serve and love our community, it is important that we begin to have stigma-breaking conversations that create an environment that fosters healing. We can begin to do this by equipping ourselves with skills to assist those going through suicide crisis: this is the purpose of our suicide prevention nights.

Please contact Ellie for more information, and be on the lookout for the all-church suicide prevention class in January.

## A Curious Thing Happened in the Disciple Room

Just after the last Sunday in September, a neat little blue sign disappeared from the bulletin board in the Disciple Room of our church. It said, simply, WAR IS NOT THE ANSWER. The following Sunday a roomful of people noticed it was gone. So, having another sign, it was put up the very next Sunday: WAR IS NOT THE ANSWER. The very next Sunday, October 15, the second sign was gone.

Neither staff members nor Pastor John know what happen, even after inquiry. The sign almost certainly was taken down purposely. Ardys Van Stavern would like to talk to the person who did this and ask: Why?

Although the sign is not there now, does not the sign say what Jesus lived and died to affirm: WAR IS NOT THE ANSWER.

## church library Community United Methodist

### Library Board Opening

If you are looking for a fun and meaningful way to help our church, please consider serving on our church library board. The library board helps improve and maintain our fully-automated church library ministry of nearly 3,000 Christian resources. Other board members include Patty Johnson, Diane Bodalski, Judy Down, Jennifer Klett, and staff liaison Tracey Magyar. The library board meets for one hour, six times a year on the first Tuesdays of the month at 9:00, in the church library. Meetings for 2018 will be held in February, April, June, August, October, and December. Please contact library board president Jennifer Klett at [rudeklett@gmail.com](mailto:rudeklett@gmail.com) by November 15 if you are interested.

Special thank you to Sandy Uelner, who has retired from the library board after serving for over 4 years.





## Christian Education News:

Sunday school is off to a great start! Please consider joining the Adult Sunday school class at the same time (9:45 am).

Sunday, October 15 was the start of Children's Choir (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade). On choir days, please have the children report to the choir room at the start of Sunday school (9:45am). They will go to class after choir for the remainder of the hour.

## Volunteer opportunities!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday mornings 9:45-10:45 am  
Help teach in any of the classes, K3-High school

Morning Bible Study - Faith, Food and Fellowship would like to invite you to ...

### *Journey to Bethlehem*

*<sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup>Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.*  
Luke 2:10-11

Please join us for a Journey to Bethlehem. As Christians, we will study, discuss and apply to our lives the Journey to Bethlehem. This is a 5-week study that will cover the following discussions:

- His Coming Foretold
- His Coming Prepared
- The Child is Born
- His Childhood and Youth
- His Incarnation Explained

This study will begin on November 20 and run each Monday morning from 6:30-7:30 am until December 18. We will hold this study at Panera located at Ruby Isle in Brookfield. Please contact Paul Magyar at (414)-406-3363 or at [pmagyar@hotmail.com](mailto:pmagyar@hotmail.com) if you would like to more information.



church library   
Community United Methodist

## Read It Forward For Advent

***The Case for Christmas***, by Lee Strobel, is yours to read for the Advent Season. The booklets will be available on November 29. Simply pick one up from the **Read It Forward** table close to Pastor John's office, read it at your leisure, then sign your first name inside the front cover and pass it on to someone else to enjoy. ***The Case For Christmas*** will help believers reaffirm their faith and guide seekers to solid answers about the miraculous occurrence of Christmas. AND, you'll get to pass it on to the person of your choice. What a wonderful gift to share with someone!



United  
Methodist  
Women



UMW  
*Reading Program*

Congratulations to the 6 women who completed one of the UMW Reading Plans. Several readers were short just one book. Lets have more readers read some of these outstanding books and complete a plan be reading just 5 books.

Plan I Diane Bodalski  
Sue Bellin  
Charlotte Fabritz  
Joan Plopper  
Diana Swartwout

Plan IV Jeanette Friedl

## UMW Reading Program Book Reviews

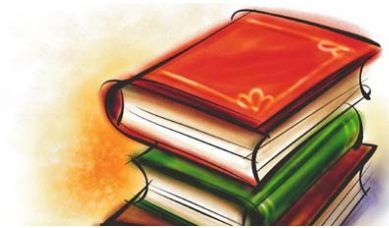
by Jeanette Friedl

### ***Break the Cycle: Healing from an Abusive Relationship*** by Tracy S. Deitz

This book is about saving yourself. It is about facing the truth about the relationship whether the abuse is because of alcohol or drugs, a controlling or self-centered personality, or psychological manipulation.

This book is divided into 3 parts. Part 1 describes how domestic violence begins and reveals common characteristics of the person who has lost individual identity. Part 2 shows the gradual withdrawal from the abusive situations. Part 3 covers the behaviors that reflect confidence to stand on our own.

Included is a list of "Warning Signs of an Abusive Relationship." There are suggestions of things you should do when you are abused.



### ***Strong Was Her Faith*** by J. Ellsworth Kalas

In this book, Kalas writes about the life and times of 11 different women of the New Testament. He examines scriptures to show the strong personalities and faith each woman possessed in a culture which was different for women.

Each chapter is self contained which makes for easy reading. (A discussion guide is included.)



December is fast approaching, and UMW will again be holding the annual holiday Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 2 in Fellowship Hall. This is one of UMW's best fund-raisers of the year, so each woman of the church is invited to start planning now. An extra batch or two of your family's favorite cookies or candy will be more than welcome. Customers each year are thrilled with the wonderful assortment that they find at our sale, so all varieties are accepted. Below you will find a sign-up sheet. Please complete it and place it in the offering plate or in the UMW Board mailbox in the church workroom. Proceeds from this

event are donated to charities in the Milwaukee area, such as United Methodist Children's Services, the Waukesha Women's Center and Literacy Services. Please plan to bring your donations to Fellowship Hall between 9:00 am and noon on Friday, December 1. If you have questions, please call Wendy Tefelske at 262-782-6866 or 414-322-4930.

### **Cookie Walk 2017**

Yes, I am willing to bake and donate \_\_\_\_\_ dozen cookies.

I plan on making (what kind): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I can help with set up on Friday, December 1

\_\_\_ I can help sell cookies on Saturday, December 2



## ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA PLANTS

This year we again will offer poinsettias for you to purchase in memory of or in honor of someone. Gifts will be listed in the Christmas Eve and Sunday bulletins.

Christmas poinsettias will be in the sanctuary beginning Sunday, December 17. We will have red and white plants priced at \$10.00 each.

Please place this form in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office with your check before December 4. Please note on the check "poinsettias."

Plants may be taken after the 10:00 pm service on December 24.

### Christmas Poinsettia Plants

I/we wish to order \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia plants. (\$10.00 each)

Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_ White

\_\_\_\_\_ In lieu of a poinsettia plant(s), I would like to make a donation to Northcott Neighborhood House and Selah Freedom.

My/our check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

I/we wish the bulletin to read (please print):

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

or

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_



## AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU!

Do you ever make a purchase from Amazon using the Internet? Your answer is likely to be "Yes" since over 240 million people throughout the world are Amazon customers. Would you like to make purchases from Amazon that also benefit Community United Methodist Church? Amazon has a Foundation, called the AmazonSmile Foundation, that quarterly makes donations to eligible charitable organizations by electronic funds transfer. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of items purchased on-line through Amazon to the customer's selected charitable organization. Community United Methodist Church is an eligible charitable organization on AmazonSmile.

It is so easy to make this donation. First you have to use a special link to access Amazon which is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-0891382>

Second, when first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a charitable organization from almost one million eligible organizations. In order to ensure the donation is made to our church, enter Community United Methodist Church Elm Grove WI. Then begin shopping on Amazon just as you have in the past. Make your purchase and 0.5% of the dollar value of that purchase will be used to support our church. Funds received will go to support our activities.

So easy and so beneficial, right? Please start using AmazonSmile on your next visit to Amazon. Thank you.



The **Fall Session Term 2** courses are quickly coming to an end. However, there is still time to register for the following classes: **Kindertransport: Escaping Nazi's – My Mom's Story; What You Need to Know About the Opiate Epidemic in the U.S.A.; Journey – From 1980's China to the U.S.A.; Fair Trade: Shopping with a Conscience; Civil War Stories 2: The Cushing Brothers; Stories from the Decades; Paint Your Pet's Portrait; and Peace of Mind Seminar – Funeral Pre-planning.**



## November Calendar

### Wednesday, November 1

All Saints Day

7:30 am Books & Breakfast – Brookfield Family Rest.  
9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Highland Room  
9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Disciple Room  
6:15 pm Clarion Bells – Harmony Room  
6:30 pm Love & Logic Class – Disciple Room  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir – Choir Room

### Thursday, November 2

8:00 pm AA – Disciple Room

### Friday, November 3

World Community Day

9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Highland Room  
9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Disciple Room  
5-9 pm Christian Youth Theater  
8:00 pm AA – Disciple Room

### Saturday, November 4

MS YF Retreat – away

8:30 am-2:30 pm Christian Youth Theater

### Sunday, November 5

MS YF Retreat

All Saints Day Celebrated

Daylight Savings Time Ends

8:30 am Worship Service

9:30 am Coffee/Fellowship Hour – Fellowship Hall

9:45 am Pre-K – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Sun. School – Classrooms

Middle School Sun. School – Middle Youth Rm

High School Sun. School – Front Youth Rm

Gospel of Mark – Library Conf. Room

Pastor's Class – Revelation Room

Progressive Christianity Class – Disciple Room

11:00 am Worship Service

**NO Bleach, Youth Choir or Flux**

### Monday, November 6

6:30 am Morning Bible Study – Disciple Room

9:00 am Pastors' Meeting – Office Conf. Room

9:30 am Visitation Meeting – Office Conf. Room

### Tuesday, November 7

9:00 am UMW Board Meeting – Highland Room

Library Board Meeting – Library

10:00 am Staff Worship Planning – Office Conf. Room

11:00 am Staff Meeting – Office Conf. Room

1:00 pm Women's Bible Study – Hearth Room

2:30 pm Prayer Group – Library Conf. Room

6:00 pm CELT Meeting – Library Conf. Room

7:00 pm Pastor's Class – Disciple Room

7:30 pm Contemporary Rehearsal – Revelation Room

### Wednesday, November 8

7:30 am Books & Breakfast – Brookfield Family Rest.

9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Highland Room

9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Disciple Room

6:15 pm Clarion Bells – Harmony Room

6:30 pm Love & Logic Class – Disciple Room

7:30 pm Chancel Choir – Choir Room

### Thursday, November 9

8:00 pm AA – Disciple Room

### Friday, November 10

9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Highland Room

9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Disciple Room

5-9 pm Christian Youth Theater

8:00 pm AA – Disciple Room

### Saturday, November 11

Youth Service Project – The Guest House

8:30 am-2:30 pm Christian Youth Theater

### Sunday, November 12

8:30 am Worship Service

9:30 am Coffee/Fellowship Hour – Fellowship Hall

9:45 am Pre-K – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Sun. School – Classrooms

Middle School Sun. School – Middle Youth Rm

High School Sun. School – Front Youth Rm

Gospel of Mark – Library Conf. Room

Pastor's Class – Revelation Room

Progressive Christianity Class – Disciple Room

11:00 am Worship Service

4:00 pm "Bleach" – MS Youth Fellowship – YC

5:30 pm Youth Choir – Choir Room

6:30 pm Youth Dinner

7:00 pm "Flux" – HS Youth Fellowship – YC

### Monday, November 13

6:30 am Morning Bible Study – Disciple Room

9:00 am Pastors' Meeting – Office Conf. Room

9:30 am Visitation Meeting – Office Conf. Room

### Tuesday, November 14

10:00 am Staff Worship Planning – Office Conf. Room

11:00 am Staff Meeting – Office Conf. Room

1:00 pm Women's Bible Study – Hearth Room

2:30 pm Prayer Group – Library Conf. Room

7:00 pm Pastor's Class – Disciple Room

7:30 pm Contemporary Rehearsal – Revelation Room

### Wednesday, November 15

7:30 am Books & Breakfast – Brookfield Family Rest.

9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Highland Room

9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Disciple Room

6:15 pm Clarion Bells – Harmony Room  
6:30 pm Love & Logic Class – Disciple Room  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir – Choir Room

**Thursday, November 16**

11:30 am OWLS Meeting – Fellowship Hall  
7:00 pm BEGIN Interfaith Thanksgiving Service  
8:00 pm AA – Disciple Room

**Friday, November 17**

**Welcome Word Deadline**

9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Highland Room  
9:00 am-3:00 pm EGS4LL – Disciple Room

**NO Christian Youth Theater**

8:00 pm AA – Disciple Room

**Saturday, November 18**

**NO Christian Youth Theater**

4-6 pm YF Family Thanksgiving – Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, November 19**

**Consecration Sunday**

9:30 am Blood Pressure Screening – Office Conf. Room  
9:45 am Worship Service  
11:00 am MDO 50th Anniversary Reception –  
Fellowship Hall  
4:00 pm “Bleach” – MS Youth Fellowship – YC  
5:30 pm Youth Choir – Choir Room  
6:30 pm Youth Dinner  
7:00 pm “Flux” – HS Youth Fellowship – YC

**Monday, November 20**

6:30 am Morning Bible Study – Panara, Ruby Isle  
9:00 am Pastors’ Meeting – Office Conf. Room  
9:30 am Visitation Meeting – Office Conf. Room  
6:00 pm Greeting Card Ministry – Disciple Room

**Tuesday, November 21**

10:00 am Staff Worship Planning – Office Conf. Room  
11:00 am Staff Meeting – Office Conf. Room  
1:00 pm Women’s Bible Study – Hearth Room  
2:30 pm Prayer Group – Library Conf. Room  
6:00 pm CELT Meeting – Library Conf. Room

**NO Pastor’s Class - Thanksgiving**

7:30 pm Contemporary Rehearsal – Revelation Room

**Wednesday, November 22**

MDO Thanksgiving Break  
7:30 am Books & Breakfast – Brookfield Family Rest.  
6:15 pm Clarion Bells – Harmony Room  
7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service

**NO Chancel Choir**

**Thursday, November 23**

**Thanksgiving – Office Closed**

8:00 pm AA – Disciple Room

**Friday, November 24**

**Office Closed**

MDO Thanksgiving Break  
8:00 pm AA – Disciple Room

**Saturday, November 25**

MDO Thanksgiving Break

**Sunday, November 26 – Guest Pastor Rich Rubieta**

United Methodist Student Day Offering  
8:30 am Worship Service  
9:30 am Coffee/Fellowship Hour – Fellowship Hall  
**NO Sun. School, Youth Choir or YF**  
Progressive Christianity Class – Disciple Room  
11:00 am Worship Service

**Monday, November 27**

6:30 am Morning Bible Study – Panara, Ruby Isle  
8:00 am Welcome Word Assembly – Middle Youth  
9:00 am Pastors’ Meeting – Office Conf. Room  
9:30 am Visitation Meeting – Office Conf. Room  
Quilting Group – Disciple Room  
3:00 pm Stephen Ministry Cont. Ed. – Highland Room  
7:00 pm Servant Leadership Team Meeting – Everyone  
Welcome – Disciple Room

**Tuesday, November 28**

10:00 am Staff Worship Planning – Office Conf. Room  
11:00 am Staff Meeting – Office Conf. Room  
1:00 pm Women’s Bible Study – Hearth Room  
2:30 pm Prayer Group – Library Conf. Room  
7:00 pm Pastor’s Class – Disciple Room  
7:30 pm Contemporary Rehearsal – Revelation Room

**Wednesday, November 29**

7:30 am Books & Breakfast – Brookfield Family Rest.  
11 am – 1 pm EGS4LL Luncheon – Fellowship Hall  
6:15 pm Clarion Bells – Harmony Room  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir – Choir Room

**Thursday, November 30**

8:00 pm AA – Disciple Room





## THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS

Jonathan Forbes	1	Richard Ludwig	15
Charles Debbink	2	Cynthea Rollo	15
Ian Debbink	2	Nicole Wolf	15
Nicholas Potter	2	Don Morton	17
Ryan Potter	2	John Meser	18
Jana Reichel	3	Suzanne Schwartz	18
Lillian Atkinson	4	Kim Vetuschi	18
Nicole Mortimer	4	Katherine Turmel	19
Cameron Quinn	5	Kristy Melby	20
Mackenzie Quinn	5	Sandra Barry	21
Jacob Lenell	6	Matthew Hayes	21
Hailey Harwood	7	Abigail Hunter	22
Nicole Hauser	7	Conner Freedy	24
Claire Lutzen	7	Dianna Haugh	24
John Ochotnicki	7	Annabella Thiel	24
Rachelle Ruppel	7	James Gannon	25
Anna Forster	8	Marilyn Robinson	26
Janet Isbister	8	William Haack	27
Lisa Nordin	8	Marianne Ludwick	27
Monique Hoff	9	Margaret Hader	28
Debra McLaughlin	9	Rev. Carol Smith	28
Pauline Brown	10	Donald Hinkle	29
Allison Kelly	10	Michelle Lehnhoff	29
Gaylyn Reske	10	Steven Uelner	29
Joan Georg	11	Kaylee Borkowski	30
Scott Kosinski	12	Donna Burke	30
Erin Bellin	13		
Selina Shannon	13		
Thomas De Grave	14		
Lori Uelner	14		
Megan Uelner	14		
James Hunter	15		
Katherine Klundt	15		



**Daylight Savings  
Time Ends  
November 5**

## CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS / DEADLINES

*Respond to Kitty or Deb on these matters:  
[kitty.kaehler@cumceg.org](mailto:kitty.kaehler@cumceg.org) or  
[deb.cornell@cumceg.org](mailto:deb.cornell@cumceg.org).*

### IN CASE OF EMERGENCY ...

When the church office is closed, if you have a pastoral emergency that cannot wait until the next business day, you can reach Pastor John on his cell phone at 920-723-5378.

### WEEKLY CUMC EMAILS

To receive CUMC's weekly emails to prepare you for Sunday's worship and inform you about things that need immediate action, send an email to Kitty or Deb.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE: Wednesday noon**, prior to the Sunday you want the notice to appear. Announcements can run for up to three weeks per your request. If you want to add a separate insert in the bulletin, you or someone from your committee/group must come in on Friday morning to help assemble the bulletins.

### WELCOME WORD DEADLINE

Articles for the December Welcome Word are due by Friday, November 17. Email submissions are preferred when possible, otherwise drop it off at the church office. Articles may be edited for content.

**CUMC'S QR CODE TO  
SCAN FOR GIVING!**



Invite - Nurture - Serve - To Make Disciples

# COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Periodical Postage Fees  
Paid Permit #135  
Elm Grove, WI 53122

14700 Watertown Plank Road  
Elm Grove, WI 53122



**Welcome Word deadline for December is Friday, November 17.**

## Servant Leadership Team

Robert Botchek (Chair, Mentoring & Management), Shelley Botchek (Missions), Tylan Farrokhnia (Trustee), Christian Fuller (Worship - A/V), David Griffin (Confirmation), Donovan Haidinger (Education & Vice Chair), Dianna Haugh (Worship – Hospitality & Mentoring), Dean Johnson (Worship – Ushering, etc. & SPRC), Paul Magyar (Small Groups & Trustee), Tracey Magyar (MDO & Sunday School), Tom Twinem (Worship – Content & Treasurer) Katy Wilson (Membership Care, Prayer Ministry and Church & Society)

### “Serving Christ Together”

All of Us  
John Wells  
Karen Klatt  
Kitty Kaehler  
Deb Cornell  
Martnie Mortellaro  
Tracey Magyar  
Ellie Duening  
Suzanne Kofroth  
Dan Baker  
Mike Sturino  
Nickie Bryant  
Susan Krechel & Janet Smith  
Tammy Moyer

Ministers  
Pastor  
Visitation Pastor  
Office Manager  
Secretary  
Director of Music & Wedding Coordinator  
Education Coordinator/MDO Director  
Youth Director  
Treasurer  
Building Superintendent  
Contemporary Music  
Bell Choir Director  
Organists  
Parish Physician Assistant

Regular Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 7:30 am—4:00 pm; Friday 7:30 am—3:00 pm  
Sunday Worship: 8:30 am & 11:00 am  
Phone: 262-782-4060 FAX: 262-782-1146 Website: [www.cumceg.org](http://www.cumceg.org)

**Mother’s Day Out**  
Monday thru Thursday 8:30 am—3:30 pm; Friday 9:00 am—Noon (September—May)  
Phone: 262-782-4267  
Tracey Magyar, Director

The Welcome Word (USPS673-680) is published once a month by Community United Methodist Church, 14700 Watertown Plank Rd, Elm Grove, WI. Postmaster: Second class postage paid at Elm Grove, WI. Send address changes to **The Welcome Word**, 14700 Watertown Plank Rd, Elm Grove, WI 53122.