

Immanuel United Church of Christ

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FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 2023 Newsletter

Pulpit Supply Pastor Bill Whitford

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July Newsletter

I attended the Wisconsin Conference UCC Annual Meeting June 9-10 at the Green Lake Conference Center. I saw friends from past classes at Lay Academy and the Damascus Project. One of the highlights was the installation of our new Associate Conference Minister Rachel Bauman. We are so pleased with her passion for her work and her caring for the UCC congregations of Southwest Wisconsin. We also installed Michael Jones as a new ACM for the Northwest Association, and a new director of The Damascus Project, Stephanie Perdew. We had inspiring worship with Andra Moran and Christopher Grundy. We had a great keynote from Sarah Drummond and an inspiring speech from Conference Minister Franz Rigert.

The most important item of business was the unanimous approval of a resolution focused on Mental Health issues. The resolution makes the Wisconsin Conference a WISE Conference. Many churches have begun studying how their congregation can become more WISE which means "Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged for Mental Health". The goal of WISE churches is to become more aware of those living with mental health challenges. Since current statistics say 1 in 4 Americans are living with a diagnosable mental health condition, it is certain there are people in our congregation or attending our services who may need supportive words and actions from the congregation. There are a series of steps and a Mental Health Network to assist the local congregations become WISE. More information is available from the Conference.

Bill Whitford



CHURCH COUNCIL

The June Church Council meeting was held on June 21, 2023.

Members present at the meeting: Roy Berrey, Fritz Hirsbrunner, Sheila Siegler, Nancy Slama, Dave Sutherland, Connie Ubersox. Absent: Jordan Hinderman, Brandi Ruf-Wepking, Kerry Black.

Review and Repair of the Agenda – Humpty Dumpty added to new business.

There was a correction to the May Minutes regarding the Humpty Dumpty contract. The contract was not signed by the May meeting but has been renewed now. The Council approved the May minutes with the correction. The financial report was approved as presented.

Reports

President Report – Roy proposed a thank-you card and monetary gift for Pastor Bill Whitford from the congregation. The Council approved giving a \$300 monetary gift and card. EF&G may be getting a gift, Roy will check with Janice Ruf and let her know of

the motion for gift by Council.

Christian Education Committee – still looking for teacher/teachers.

Building and Grounds Committee – outside weed control is ongoing, removal of trees near foundation. No new news from Allendorf Construction on the parsonage project.

Stewardship Committee – Sunday service June 11th was a success. Nothing more planned right now.

EF & G Committee – Over 80 party will be in August.

Worship Committee – Interim Pastors – Pastor Larry Balleine will provide 2nd and 3rd Sundays in July and 1st and 2nd Sundays in August.

Search Committee – interviews are ongoing. Last candidate removed her name from the running. A second interview with a candidate will occur here at the church.

Old Business

Parsonage Renovation - see the Building and Grounds Report above.

New Business

Rich Pleva on Leadership Forward. Rich addressed council on searching for a settled pastor and faithful/effective congregational leadership. Discussed the Damascus Project. A brochure was given to all council members further explaining the Damascus Project.

Humpty Dumpty – Radon issue ongoing. The contract has been signed. Lead/water test will have to be completed.

The next Council meeting will be July 19th at 6:15 p.m.



May 2023 Financial Information

	May 2023	Budget	Year to Date 2023	Year to Date Budget
Contributions/Other Revenue	\$ 8,059	\$ 7,538	\$ 45,394	\$ 39,465
Expenses	<u>\$ 3,784</u>	<u>\$ 4,068</u>	<u>\$ 31,121</u>	<u>\$ 29,430</u>
Net Gain/(Loss)	\$ 4,275	\$ 3,470	\$ 14,273	\$ 10,035



WOMEN'S GUILD

The annual outing for the Women's Guild will be July 19th at the Darlington County Club. I will make reservations for 11:30 so we will probably be eating around Noon. A signup sheet was passed around at the June monthly meeting but anyone who was not there and would like a to go please contact me at 608-726-2035 and let me know. Also, there will be no August meeting as that will be the Over "80" Party. Our next regular meeting will be September 13th at noon.

Also a reminder that we are still taking donations towards the Janitors Salary for this year. Envelopes are located in the back of the Sanctuary on the table. Thank you for any contribution you can make.

Debbie Loken
Women's Guild President



PASTORAL CARE

If you know of any church member that would appreciate a pastoral visit, please let Janice Ruf know and she will follow up with the contact. You can contact Janice at 608-553-4182.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 2nd – Pastor Bill Whitford's last day at Immanuel

July 4th – Independence Day

July 19 – Women's Guild Outing at the Darlington Country Club at 11:30 a.m.

Church Council Meeting at 6:15 p.m.

July 24 – Deadline for August newsletter articles

JULY BIRTHDAYS

3rd Rayna Wepking
6th Sara Gleason
7th Ruth Siegenthaler
Jenna Meier
9th Brooks Hinderman
12th Rose Reuter
15th Betsy Ellefson
21st Lyla Wepking
23rd Pam Hardt
Wayne Krebs
31st Ron Badertscher
Dawn Shawcross
Penny Walter



Deadline for the August newsletter articles is **July 24, 2023.**

JULY LITURGISTS

2nd Judy Huntington
9th Janice Ruf
16th Debbie Loken
23rd Judy Huntington
30th Kerry Black
August 6th – Pam Hardt



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

14th Julie & Al Hinderman