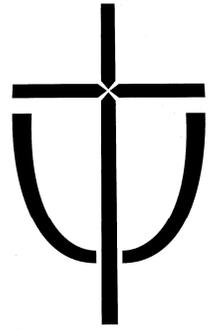




Still Speaking



Indeed, the word of God is living and active...
-Hebrews 4:12

June 2019

No July Newsletter

Still Speaking will take a break in July. Our next issue will be mailed on **Wednesday, August 14**.

The deadline for articles for that issue is **Friday, August 9**.

Have a wonderful summer!

The Inside Scoop

Our Church Family ----- 2

Ellington Worship Service ----- 3

Welcome New Members ----- 4-5

Responding to the Call ----- 5

Pride Alive is July 20 ----- 5

Pastoral Relations Committee --- 6

Church Calendar ----- 7

Congrats, Graduates! --- back page

The Power (yes, power) of Sunday School Teachers and Youth Leaders

We misunderstand power when we confuse it with “force,” and we misperceive what’s important in life accordingly. True power is the capacity to act in concert, that is, to act together with others. And deep power, the deepest, is when that acting together engages love, reasoning, and trust.

All of those things go into making a good Sunday School teacher or youth leader. I was fortunate to have an amazing trio of Sunday School teachers I’ll never forget. They are, along with many others, responsible for forming my sense of faith and shaping my vocation. The first was Iris Knowlton. Iris ran the pre-school program in my congregation, Faith Lutheran Church in Appleton. She had a beautiful voice, and among my earliest memories (age 3 or 4) I remember sitting on my mom’s lap singing “Jesus Loves Me” along with Iris Knowlton. The beauty of her music exemplified the message of the song.

Then, there was Ruth Weber. Ruth taught 5th grade. She was a lawyer. And she thought critically. She knew how to set texts in their contexts, and to read them faithfully but reasonably. It was from her that I was prepared very early on for the kinds of critical reasoning AND faithfulness that has marked the best biblical scholarship down to today.

And, finally, was the pastor who confirmed me, and who taught the Sunday School class during my 8th grade year, Henry E. Simon. He made us memorize Luther’s Small Catechism, but he also trusted me. He let me preach on Easter Sunday (my first sermon, at age 13!), and he let me organize and lead a youth group trip to New Orleans (my first church administrative assignment!).

The point isn’t about my experiences. The point is that these people passed on their love of God, and they gave me a sense of power with them—power as love, power as reasoning, and power as trust.

Ask our current Sunday School and youth group leaders, and they’ll tell you those things are happening today, too. Yes, there are the everyday details of choosing curriculum and setting schedules and ensuring safe church practices.

But when it comes down to it, being a Sunday School teacher or youth leader is a way to share one’s own gifts, skills, and love of God with a group of young people—and to encourage them! It’s an amazing way to pass a few hours a month.

(continued on page 2)

From the Family of Vivian Stewart

Thank you for the outpouring of love my family received after our mother's recent passing. So many of you honored her memory with your attendance at her celebration of life, and she would have been very pleased with that. We appreciate all of the cards, notes, flowers and stories that were shared with us. We also thank you for the donations in her memory that were given to the Ecumenical Partnership for Housing and the PEO Sisterhood.

We received several memorial gifts of cash that were without a name. If you did not receive a thank you note from Vivian's family, please let me know so that you can be properly thanked for your generosity.

Union Church was very special to Vivian, and we appreciate all the love and kindness that was shown to her, especially in her last few years.

—Sara Stewart and family

Attendance

| May | <u>2019</u> | <u>2018</u> |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1st Sunday | 119 | 114 |
| 2nd Sunday | 122 | 154 |
| 3rd Sunday | 153 | 136 |
| 4th Sunday | 90 | 76 |
| Totals | 484 | 480 |
| Average | 121.0 | 120.0 |

(continued from page 1)

Sometimes, honestly, it's a thankless gig. Children and youth often only know with retrospect how powerful their faith formation experiences were, and often as a teacher or leader you don't know in the moment whether you're making a difference, or not. That's why I gave a gift of a basil plant to all of our educational leaders this past year because you can SEE BASIL GROW. The results of a little cultivation are evident.

And it's that way with faith formation, too. When we work together with young people to deepen trust, reasoning, and the love of God, it's an incredible joy, with a power all its own.

But you can't experience that joy if you aren't with us! We need Sunday School teachers and aides, PF leaders and cooks for Wednesday night. PLEASE join us! The rewards are ample, and the opportunities plentiful. Our goal is to have plenty of leaders, so that no one is responsible for every week.

Contact Nancy Gibson (njgib@aol.com) or me (jon@unionucc.com) to express interest. No special skills needed other than the ability to love, to think, and to trust youth to discover the power of God's love.

We hope you'll join us for the 2019-2020 year!

Dr. Jon Pahl

Our Church Family

Celebrate America by Celebrating America's Music

Duke Ellington Worship Service, June 30

Join us for worship at Union Church on June 30 at 10 a.m. when we worship God and celebrate America by celebrating one of its greatest composers: Duke Ellington.

A group of musicians—Rissel Peguero on piano and vocals, Matt Hillman on guitar, Dr. Bill Sallak on drums, Andrew Bader on bass, and Dr. Jon Pahl on alto and tenor sax—will lead us in worship by weaving prayer and preaching around the music of “Sir Duke.”

Come hear how prayer to God is like a “Prelude to a Kiss,” even if you have “Mood Indigo.” Come listen to why it’s wise to “Do Nothin’ Till You Hear from Me” (that is, till you hear from God), and how maybe after prayer you’ll be able to say: “I’m Beginning to See the Light!” And, of course, “It Don’t Mean a Thing (If it Ain’t Got that Swing)” is what it means to live with the Holy Spirit, no?

Join us on June 30 at 10 a.m. for a distinctive and uplifting worship service that celebrates American jazz and the living God whose Spirit brings joy!



Union's Church Picnic was June 2

photos by
Cathy Putman



Union Church Welcomes New Members!

On June 2, it was our joy to welcome nine new members to the faith and fellowship of Union Church.



Kathleen Caylor

Pulaski, WI

Phone:

Kathleen found out about Union Church when her son, Adrian, began participating in Proud Theater. Since then, she has learned more about Union's mission and values, she has brought her husband, Eric, and daughter, Lorelei, to Sunday services and, ultimately, she decided to become a member of the Union Church community.

Kathleen is a photographer and has run her own studio—photographing children, families, high school seniors and weddings—for the past 20 years. Ask her about Broadway musicals or NPR podcasts for a lively conversation!



Tracey and Philip Klickman

De Pere, WI

Phone:

Phil and Tracey Klickman recently moved here from Cumberland, Maryland, where they lived for 10 years. Prior to that, they lived and worked for many years in the Chicago area.

Phil is a music professor at St. Norbert College. Tracey has worked in international travel and international education and is seeking employment in her field. Both are musicians—Phil (French horn, piano); Tracey (clarinet)—and ring in Union's handbell choir.

The two enjoy traveling, art, reading, and cooking and are always on the look out for interesting restaurants. Phil and Tracey live in De Pere with their rescue dog, Liza.



Wendy Christian

Green Bay, WI

Phone:

Wendy is a mom to three daughters, with three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She has lived in three states, worked 45 years, and is very glad to be retired and to live in Green Bay with Julie and Stacie. She has a very good life, thanks be to God.



Sindy Oakley and Anna Gallagher

Green Bay, WI

Sindy and Anna married five years ago, but they have been together 18 years. Sindy is originally from Menasha and Anna is from Green Bay. Sindy is a graduate of UW-Green Bay (B.S., earth science) and Anna is a graduate of UW-Oshkosh (B.S., criminal justice). Sindy is currently attending NWTC obtaining an arts education in woodturning, and in July Anna will celebrate 21 years of service as a probation and parole agent with the state of Wisconsin.

Anna and Sindy enjoy spending time with their dog, Roger, who is a cocker spaniel. They also like collecting '80s and '90s pop culture and playing Pokeman Go together.

All-Church Retreat at Moon Beach Camp



What is the All-Church Retreat? Where is Moon Beach Camp and what do we do while we are there?

The All-Church Retreat is a weekend full of fun, fellowship and reflection. It is a great place to share worship opportunities, discussion and camaraderie, with old friends and new, of all ages.

Moon Beach Camp is in St. Germain just west of Eagle River and is part of the Outdoor Ministry program of the United Church of Christ. It sits on the shores of Moon Lake and Little Saint Germain Lake. The cabins overlook Moon Lake and have all been redone so each is furnished, heated and has a bathroom with shower. There is a large lodge and the camp is staffed with wonderful, helpful people. The camp offers the peaceful quiet of northern Wisconsin amongst the native pine, oak and birch trees.

Friday, upon arrival at the camp and after getting settled in your cabin, there will be snacks and fellowship time around the fireplace in the lodge. We are treated to three delicious meals on Saturday prepared by the camp and then a fabulous brunch Sunday morning. Saturday, after breakfast, adults are invited to meet with our leader/facilitator. The youth will have their own program led by members of the camp. The afternoon and evening are up to you. There will be some activities, both planned and impromptu. There is a beautiful beach with a variety of watercraft, hiking trails or places to just sit, read and reflect. The evening is fellowship time highlighted by ice cream sundaes and a bonfire.

Sunday morning is check out, so we pack up, enjoy brunch, have an informal worship service by the fireplace and then we clean up the cabins and are usually on our way home around 11 o'clock.

The cost for the retreat is \$140/adult and \$25/child. Financial aid is available (talk to Pastor Bridget). Sign up sheets and registration forms are available at Union Central. Questions? Contact your retreat committee: Karen Ludolph, Christie Reese, Liz Delvaux, Bev and Dick Lathrop, Jon Pahl and Pastor Bridget.

Summer Learning, Summer Fellowship

Adult Education at Union Church, Summer 2019

Unless noted, all events take place on Sunday in Bagby Chapel

June 16, 9 a.m. — UCC Big Read: “Evicted”

Join Jon Pahl in a discussion of Matthew Desmond’s “Evicted: Poverty and Profit in an American City.”

June 23, 9 a.m. — Islamophobia in America

Jon Pahl leads a discussion of the contours, causes, and consequences of fear of Muslims and Islam in U.S. policy and practice.

June 30 and July 7 — NO ADULT EDUCATION

July 14, 9 a.m. — Ending Islamophobia

Jon Pahl wraps up the series by engaging a discussion of why it might be a good idea to end fear of Muslims and Islam in U.S. policy and practice, including ways Union Church might be involved.

July 21, 9 a.m. — The Importance of Pride—It Could Save Your Life

Jon Pahl leads a discussion of the book he edited, “An American Teacher: Coming of Age, and Coming Out—the Memoirs of Loretta Coller,” which contains lessons about the importance of pride in one’s being, one’s gender identity, and one’s sexual orientation, and the perils of silence.

July 28, August 4, 11 — History of Pride: The Untold Story of the Christian Fight for LGBTQ Rights

Jon Pahl will lead a discussion of research he has underway for his next book project, “A Coming Religious Peace,” which focuses on the way Christians led (yes, led) the way toward LGBTQ equal rights.

Youth, Family, and Friends Fellowship Events, Summer 2019

Please join us for three upcoming fellowship events—a great way to get to know people outside of the congregational setting.

Oneida Pow-Wow: Friday, June 28 (weather permitting). Norbert Hill Center Pow-wow Grounds, N7210 Seminary Road, Oneida. Grand Entry is at 7 p.m. Join us at 5:30 (meet at the site—call Jon at 610-909-7107 to coordinate) to get good seats and enjoy native food and art. Bring cash (\$7) for the entry fee [over 60/under 5 are free], food, and any art/gifts you might want to purchase. Bring a lawn chair and/or blanket. Lots of food trucks and art exhibitors. The regalia is amazing, and the dancing a truly sacred time. Fun for all ages.

Bay Beach Fellowship: Wednesday, July 17, 5:00 p.m. (weather permitting). Come share a simple meal (hot dogs, chips, watermelon provided) and fellowship with fellow Union members, and enjoy the rides. Enjoy conversations with fellow Union members, and good summer comfort food. Bring a lawn chair and a simple side dish to share. Pavilion location TBA.

Wolf River Lazy River Float: Saturday, August 10, 11 a.m. (weather permitting), Wolf River Campgrounds, E8130 Fleese Road, New London. Enjoy a 2.5 hour (or so) Lazy River Float for \$15 that includes inner-tube (you can also bring along your own kayak, inflatable boat, canoe, or tube—but will be charged the same price). A shuttle runs us from the campground to the put-in. Cooler tubes available for coolers with cans/plastic bottles only. No glass bottles, please.

Responding to the Call to Immigration Justice Ministry

Union's Immigration Advocacy Team welcomes news of support for one of our ongoing efforts: Common Ministry has approved the team's request to the Gifts and Memorials Ministry for funding for the immigrant justice work of the Shadow Rock, UCC church, a congregation in Phoenix. The request for \$4,000 was approved at the April meeting of Common Ministry.

Shadow Rock participates in a coalition of churches and faith-based groups organized to meet the immediate needs of people fleeing violence in their home country. Shadow Rock Sr. Minister Rev. Ken Heintzelman has a clear vision for this ministry: "Hospitality is one of the ideals we hold as people of conscience in this country...we are responding to what's come to our doorstep." The church provides sanctuary for families facing final orders of deportation who need time to pursue a legal remedy. It also provides overnight housing, food and hospitality, and sanctuary for those requesting asylum.

Looking ahead, the Immigration Advocacy Team envisions a growing relationship with Shadow Rock, with hopes to develop new ways to partner in the future. Within this calendar year, Shadow Rock will provide a report to Common Ministry, documenting how the funding has been used. Our Advocacy Team is grateful for this funding approval.

Immigrant Advocacy Team: Marty Berry, Betty Bienash, Heather Collins, Judy Larmouth, Barbara McClure-Lukens, Lou Ann Norsetter, Christie Reese, Lloyd Schaefer, Dr. Jon Pahl.



Mark Smith
Oconto Falls, WI
Phone:

Mark is a retired electronics business owner and a part-time community organizer and activist who also spends much time in contemplative solitude. Mark is interested in Union Church due to its excellent leadership, living God approach, and social justice efforts. For these reasons, Mark has become a member.



Rebecca Taylor and Richard Larson
De Pere, WI
Phone:

Richard and Rebecca live in De Pere with their cats, Buster and Beatrix. Richard is a native, born and raised in West De Pere. Rebecca was raised in Waukesha and moved to the area a year and a half ago. Recently engaged, they are excited to begin their new faith journey together at Union.

Pride Alive is Saturday, July 20

Union will again host a booth (staffed from noon to 6 p.m.) at Pride Alive which, this year, will be held at the Brown County Fairgrounds. Sign up for a 2-hour shift to offer "Glitter Blessings," "Made in God's Image Selfies," and help our LGBTQ+ community know there is a Christian congregation in Green Bay that values and welcomes all!

Lectionary Readings

Jun 16—1st Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8
Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

Jun 23—2nd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a and
Psalm 42 and Psalm 43 or
Isaiah 65:1-9 and Psalm 22:19-28
Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

Jun 30—3rd Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 and
Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 or
1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21 and Psalm 16
Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

Jul 7—4th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 5:1-14 and Psalm 30 or
Isaiah 66:10-14 and Psalm 66:1-9
Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Jul 14—5th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-17 and Psalm 82 or
Deuteronomy 30:9-14 and
Psalm 25:1-10
Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

Jul 21—6th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:1-12 and Psalm 52 or
Genesis 18:1-10a and Psalm 15
Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

July 28—7th Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 1:2-10 and Psalm 85 or
Genesis 18:20-32 and Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19); Luke 11:1-13

Aug 4—8th Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 11:1-11 and Psalm 107:1-9, 43
or Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12:14; 2:18-23 and
Psalm 49:1-12
Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

Aug 11—9th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 and Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
or Genesis 15:1-6 and Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

Aug 18—10th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 or
Jeremiah 23:23-29 and Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

Union's Pastoral Relations Committee is Here to Help!

Q: What is Union's Pastoral Relations Committee?

A: Union's bylaws state: "The purpose of the PRC is to actively promote a healthy relationship between and among the Pastor(s) and the congregation, and to act as an advisor and support for the Pastor(s). ... [it] shall meet at least quarterly, and ... each scheduled meeting shall provide opportunity for each Pastor to meet separately with the Committee, as well as an opportunity for both ... Pastors to meet together with the Committee" (Section 13).

Q: What topics or issues does Union's PRC address?

A: The PRC:

Listens to the congregation's thoughts and concerns regarding the pastors, and provides this feedback to the pastors.

Listens to the pastors' thoughts and concerns, including those regarding
Their relationship with the congregation
Life/work balance
Personal stressors

Other concerns about their ministry that do not naturally fall under the umbrella of other church committees

Offers the pastors moral support and helps with problem solving

Advises the pastors regarding any issues that have arisen between a pastor and the congregation and/or between the two pastors, always with a goal of working for improved relations, in a way that avoids destructive conflict.

Q: How can the PRC be an opportunity for you to provide feedback to the pastors?

A: Of course, the ideal method of communication is directly; however, we understand that from time to time someone might not feel comfortable speaking directly with a pastor about a concern (or if you just want to pass on affirmation/appreciation). The PRC can relay your thoughts to them. Just contact one of the four members (see below). Since we meet quarterly, our next meeting will be in early September, but additional meetings can be scheduled should the need arise.

Q: Who is on Union's current PRC?

A: The four members are chosen by mutual agreement of the Nominating Committee and the Pastors and serve four-year terms. Each year, one member retires and a new member is added. The current members are:

Julie Harder (chair) 920-465-0752; jblackharder@gmail.com

Michael Vinson 404-630-1237; vinson.mike@gmail.com

Barbara McClure-Lukens 920-676-3010; mcclureb@uwgb.edu

Gail Carels 920-499-7097; gscarels@new.rr.com

—Submitted by Julie Harder

Union Church Calendar

June 16—August 15, 2019

June 16 Sunday—Father's Day

9:00 a.m. UCC Big Read: "Evicted"
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

June 19 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

June 22 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

June 23 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Adult Education:
Islamophobia in America
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

June 26 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

June 28 Friday

5:30 p.m. Oneida Pow-Wow

June 29 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

June 30 Sunday

Duke Ellington Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

July 3 Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group
8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

July 4 Thursday

Church Office Closed

July 5 Friday

Church Office Closed

July 6 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

July 7 Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary
with Holy Communion

July 10 Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

July 13 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

July 14 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Adult Education: Ending
Islamophobia
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

July 17 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders
5:00 p.m. Bay Beach Fellowship

July 20 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers
12:00 p.m. Pride Alive at Brown
County Fairgrounds

July 21 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: Importance of
Pride
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

July 24 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

July 27 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

July 28 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: History of Pride
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

July 31 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

August 3 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

August 4 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: History of Pride
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary
with Holy Communion

August 6 Tuesday

4:30 p.m. Outreach Ministry
5:30 p.m. Worship Ministry
6:30 p.m. Education Ministry

August 7 Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group
8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

August 8 Thursday

6:00 p.m. Common Ministry

August 10 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers
11:00 a.m. Lazy River Float

August 11 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: History of Pride
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

August 13 Tuesday

5:00 p.m. Stewardship Ministry

August 14 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders
5:30 p.m. Safe Sanctuary Training

August 15 Thursday

5:00 p.m. New Member/Inreach
Ministry



Union Congregational
United Church of Christ
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GREEN BAY, WI

Congratulations, Graduates!

Evan Ash, son of **Jeff Ash and Janet Roberts**, has earned a master's degree (history) at Miami University in Ohio. He will begin Ph.D. studies (history) at the University of Maryland in August.

Lydia Hanamean, granddaughter of **Sue Zanzig**, graduated from Green Tree Academy of Excellence and will attend Gwinnette College in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Annie Putman, daughter of **Cathy and Scott Putman**, earned a Ph.D. in the Geology and Geophysics Department at the University of Utah. She's a climate change specialist looking at what stable water isotopes can tell us about changes in the precipitation cycle.



Union Congregational United Church of Christ

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Rev. Bridget M. Flad Daniels

Senior Minister

Dr. Jon Pahl

Minister of Faith Formation
and Community Engagement

Sandy Polarek

Moderator

Church Office Hours

Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For more information about us,
visit our web page
at <http://www.unionucc.com>