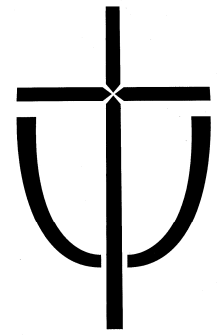


Still Speaking



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

June 2017

No July Newsletter

Still Speaking will take a break in July. Our next issue will be mailed Wednesday, August 9. Deadline for articles for that issue is Friday, August 4.

Have a wonderful summer!

The Inside Scoop

Our Church Family -----	2
Youth Sunday -----	3
Second Mile Campaign -----	4
Faith Family Field Trips -----	4
Our Graduates -----	5
All-Church Retreat -----	5
EPH News -----	6
Church Calendar -----	7
Progress Report -----	back page

When I was growing up, the Lutheran church down the street held a Vacation Bible School every summer. It was an adventure for me—mom walking me there at 9 a.m. and picking me up at noon, singing unfamiliar songs, exploring rooms and hallways that were new to me, creating mosaics of Jesus’ name out of colored macaroni. And there were tons of moms helping – a couple doing registration, some leading crafts, different ones teaching the music. I can’t say that I remember anything I learned about religion or faith at VBS, but it was a wholesome diversion that got me out of the house one hot week every summer.

My own experience of VBS has been on my mind as we re-think our summer programming this year. For quite some time, Union has collaborated with the other UCC churches in Brown County to offer a combined VBS, yet for several years, no Union children have participated. Nonetheless, we helped put it on in a gesture of collaboration.

But when the other churches also didn’t have children register for VBS this summer, we knew something needed to change. After talking with potential participants and volunteers alike, we learned that timing was significant. For a few households, the week we scheduled simply didn’t work for them, but for many more, a half-day for one week program just didn’t fit into their summer schedules. More and more parents are working all summer, and many of those who aren’t working are doing so because they need a break. That shapes the availability of children, too, as more and more children are in daycare or other all summer long programs.

Enter: Faith Family Fieldtrips (see page 4 for more information)

The idea is to provide a fun, faith-filled time for fellowship and learning at a time that works for a breadth of households. And just because these FFF are replacing VBS, don’t think they’re just for kids! Everyone is invited to come together to eat, and think, and pray, and play.

This inaugural year, we’ve taken on a nature theme – celebrating God’s gifts of earth, water, and fire! On the third Thursday of every month this summer, we will gather in a different location for a simple meal and faith formation, followed by FUN.

(continued on page 2)

Lectionary Readings**June 11****First Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 1:1-2:4a; Ps 8

2 Cor 13:11-13; Matt 28:16-20

June 18**Second Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 18:1-15, (21:1-7) •

Ps 116:1-2, 12-19 20 OR

Ex 19:2-8a • Ps 100

Rom 5:1-8; Matt 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

June 25**Third Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 21:8-21 • Ps 86:1-10, 16-17 OR

Jer 20:7-13 • Ps 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18

Rom 6:1b-11; Matt 10:24-39

July 2**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 22:1-14 • Ps 13 OR

Jer 28:5-9 • Ps 89:1-4, 15-18

Rom 6:12-23; Matt 10:40-42

July 9**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 •

Ps 45:10-17 or Song of Sol 2:8-13 OR

Zech 9:9-12 • Ps 145:8-14

Rom 7:15-25a; Matt 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 25:19-34 • Ps 119:105-112 OR

Isa 55:10-13 • Ps 65:(1-8), 9-13

Rom 8:1-11; Matt 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 28:10-19a • Ps 139:1-12, 23-24 OR

Wisd of Sol 12:13, 16-19 or Isa 44:6-8 •

Ps 86:11-17

Rom 8:12-25; Matt 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 29:15-28 • Ps 105:1-11, 45b OR

1 Kings 3:5-12 • Ps 128 or Ps 119:129-136

Rom 8:26-39; Matt 13:31-33, 44-52

(continued on from 1)

This month, join us at the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 15 as we celebrate God's gift of dirt and earth and then a naturalist will introduce us to some of the wild animals who live at the sanctuary. Please do RSVP, to help with meal planning, and bring a water bottle to cut down on the waste.

VBS was an interesting program that kept faith formation alive during the summer for a couple of generations, but we've learned that the model just isn't working for today's families. I'm excited to explore other opportunities and ways of sharing the faith, and wonder what other things we're doing in church that could use a little reimagining. Let me know if you have something in mind!

In Joyful Hope,

Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels

Our Church Family

This month we join together in praying in gratitude with **Nan and Terry Bush** as they celebrate the birth of their granddaughter **Allison Amanda Bush**, and **Betty and Steve Hartman** as they celebrate the birth of their grandson **Jackson Walter Steven Hartman**. We grieve with **Jeff Ash, Janet Roberts**, and the Ash family as they mourn the death of Jeff's father, **Raymond**. We rejoice with **Betty Bienash** as she recovers from hip replacement surgery, **Chuck Krueger** as he recovers from knee replacement surgery, **Marcia Martin** as she recovers from a heart ablation, **Marge Roshong** as she recovers her health after a long bout with influenza, and **Rick Johnson** as he recovers from gallbladder surgery. We wrap **Vern Lanoue** and **Paul Exworthy** in prayer as they anticipate surgery.

August 6**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 32:22-31 • Ps 17:1-7, 15 OR

Isa 55:1-5 • Ps 145:8-9, 14-21

Rom 9:1-5; Matt 14:13-21

August 13**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 37:1-4, 12-28 •

Ps 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b OR

1 Kings 19:9-18 • Ps 85:8-13

Rom 10:5-15; Matt 14:22-33

August 20**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Gen 45:1-15 • Ps 133 OR Isa 56:1, 6-8 •

Ps 67; Rom 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matt 15: (10-20), 21-28

Attendance

May	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
1st Sunday	148	134
2nd Sunday	150	159
3rd Sunday	157	147
4th Sunday	89	135
5th Sunday	—	101
Totals	544	676
Average	136.0	135.2



Story Time (L-R): McKenna Stueck (with microphone) and Isis Garrido-Palermo (holding a multicolored drawing), presented a story for the children during Children’s Moments.

Youth Sunday was May 7

The sanctuary was filled with the talents of the younger generation as the youth of Union Church led worship on Sunday, May 7. The service featured solos by Maddy Van De Hey and Nickolas Myers Olson, the cello playing of Emmaline Weist, a piece by Logan, Kaia and McKenna Stueck and Eli and Lily Gregg, and selections from the Youth Choir. Lauren Owens and Megan Danen, both seniors, reflected on their time in YCA.

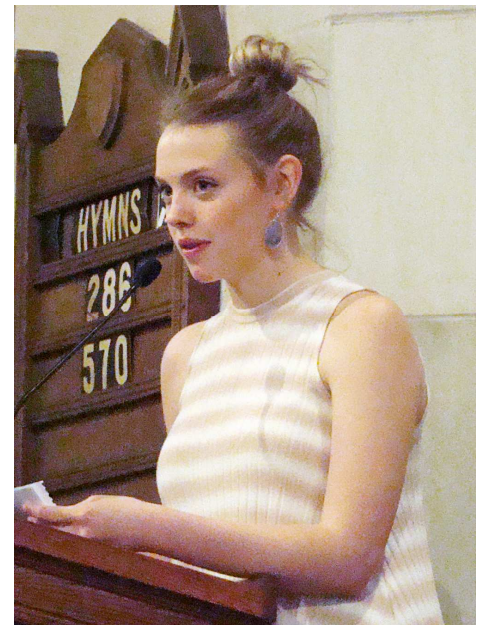


Eli Gregg, Lily Gregg and McKenna Stueck

The Seniors



Lauren Owens



Megan Danen

Every Member Canvas (EMC) Pledge Drive: Changing Lives 2017 Second Mile Campaign Update

How did we do? We received nearly \$40,000 in pledges from 89 responses! You met the commitment we all made at our January Annual meeting! Your pledges will provide funds to hire an Associate Minister for Faith Formation and Community Engagement. You made a start toward paying the assessment for Madison Street renovation; we will work on plans to cover the remainder. The Second Mile campaign is over. Of course, additional pledges are always welcome!

An Associate Minister Search Committee update can be found on the back page of this newsletter. Common Ministry will continue to manage frugally, and Second Mile contributions will be kept track of to ensure that the funds are available when the new Associate Minister is hired and when the street assessment is due.

Thanks to your support, Union is Changing Lives!

—David Thie, Stewardship chair

Faith Family Field Trips

Sign Up for the First Outing—Celebrate God’s Good Earth—Today!

Join First Congregational UCC De Pere and Union Congregational UCC as we collaboratively gather for



FAITH FAMILY FIELD TRIPS

We'll gather for simple food, faith formation, and lots of fellowship centered on the themes of

EARTH, WATER AND FIRE!

All are welcome: singles, families, couples, 0 to 100+ years!

- In case of inclement weather, notice of these events being canceled will be shared via both churches' Facebook pages.
- Meals will be simple and will not include peanuts. Those with dietary restrictions may choose to bring a brown bag meal.
- These events are planned for the entire household, not as a drop-off time for children. Parents/guardians, please plan to participate with your children. If you make arrangements for someone else to supervise your children, you will need to complete and return a permission form / liability waiver which will be available from the church office.

June 15 (5 to 7 p.m.) **Celebrate God's Good Earth**
 1 Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, 1660 East Shore Drive, GB
 • no cost • gather at the Outdoor Theater

July 20 (5 to 7 p.m.) **Celebrate the Gift of Water**
 2 Joannes Aquatic Center, 1430 East Walnut Street, GB
 • gathering place TBD • bring swim gear (suits, towels, etc.)
 • \$2.75 children/\$3.75 adults (scholarship funds available; contact your pastor)

August 17 (5 to 7 p.m.) **Celebrate the Power of Fire**
 3 First Congregational UCC De Pere, 1018 Cedar Street, DP
 • no cost • gather at the Fire Circle

RSVP to either church office: fccucc.net@gmail.com / 336-4038 OR office@unionucc.com / 437-9266.

Congratulations Graduates!

- **Evan Ash**, son of **Jeff Ash and Janet Roberts**, graduated from UW-Green Bay with honors, majoring in theatre and democracy and justice studies and will pursue a master's degree at Miami University of Ohio.
- **Frank Baretta**, son of **Steve and Rita Baretta**, graduated from UW-Madison with a bachelor's degree in business.
- **Megan Danen**, daughter of **Phil and Deb Danen**, graduated from De Pere High School and will attend Saint Louis University to study psychology and sociology in the fall.
- **Julia Delvaux**, daughter of **Paul and Elizabeth Delvaux**, graduated from UW-Stevens Point with a bachelor's degree in social work, a bachelor's degree in sociology and a minor in music.
- **Brittany Fahres**, daughter of **Julie Fahres** and granddaughter of **Bob and Anne Fahres**, graduated from UW-Madison with a bachelor's degree in art education.
- **Caitlin Hanamean**, granddaughter of **Sue Zanzig**, graduated from Georgia Cyber Academy which is the state of Georgia's online public school.
- **Josh Kryger**, son of **Rochelle and Sara Michael**, graduated from Northern Michigan University in December with a bachelor's degree in environmental science and is enrolled in the Disney College Program through the summer.
- **Megan Ludolph**, daughter of **Ted and Karen Ludolph**, graduated from Horry-Georgetown Technical College (Myrtle Beach, South Carolina) with an associate degree in science.
- **Rachael Ludolph**, daughter of **Ted and Karen Ludolph**, earned a bachelor's degree in therapeutic recreation in December. She is a recreational therapist at Munroe-Meyers Institute in Omaha, Nebraska.
- **Lauren Owens**, daughter of **Shawn and Melinda Owens**, graduated from De Pere High School and will attend the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to study architecture.
- **Joey Taylor** graduated from UW-Green Bay with a bachelor's degree in history.

Moon Beach All-Church Retreat September 15, 16 and 17

What is the Moon Beach Retreat? Where is Moon Beach Camp and what do we do there?

Moon Beach Retreat is a weekend of fun, fellowship and reflection. It is a great place to share worship opportunities, discussion and camaraderie, with new and old friends of all ages.

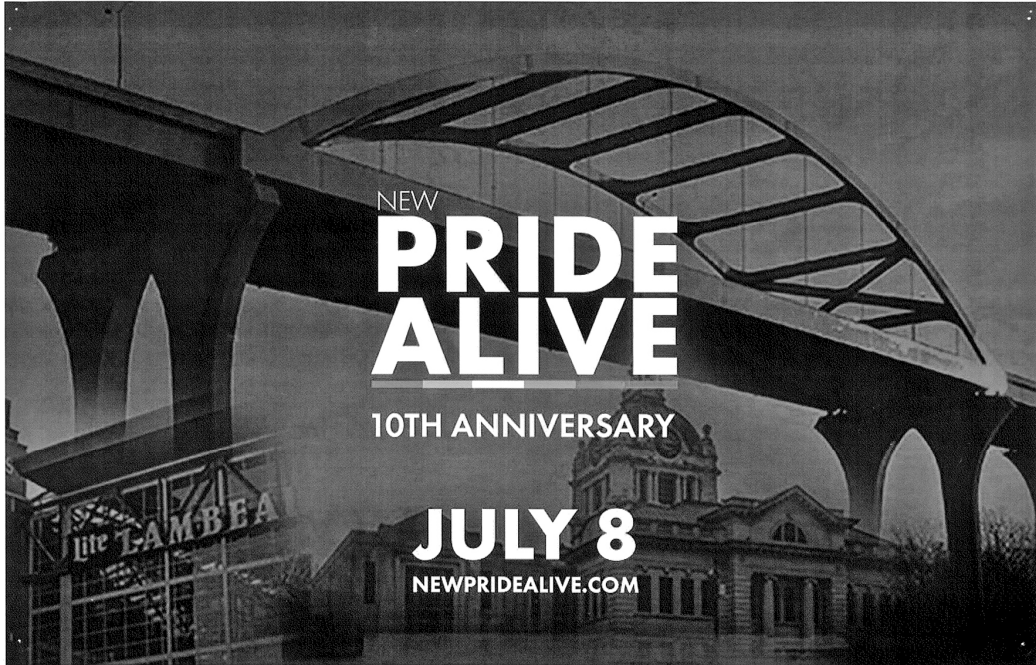
Moon Beach Camp is in St. Germain just west of Eagle River and is part of the Outdoor Ministry program of the United Church of Christ. It sits on the shores of Moon Lake and Little Saint Germain Lake. The cabins overlook Moon Lake and have been redone so each is furnished, heated and has a bathroom with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

Friday, after arriving and getting settled, 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 in the lodge (topic and leader to be determined). Children will have their own separate program. The afternoon and evening are up to you. There will be some activities and sometimes a short service project for benefit of the camp. There is a beautiful beach with a variety of watercraft, hiking trails and beautiful places to just sit, read and reflect. The evening is game time highlighted by ice cream sundaes and a bonfire.

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

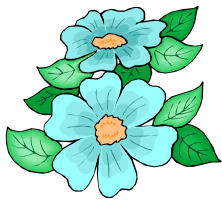
The cost for the retreat is \$140 per adult and \$25 per child. Financial aid is available (talk to Pastor Bridget). More information and sign-up sheets will be forthcoming.

—Your Retreat Committee



Sign up at Union Central to help staff Union's Pride booth.

Altar Flowers



With flowers in bloom, why not consider bringing some fresh cut flowers from your garden to place on our altar. The flowers can be placed there in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event or just to brighten up the sanctuary. These dates are available for you to provide flowers:

**June 18 and 25
All of July and August**

Please call the church office at 437-9266 or sign up on the board next to the office if you'd like to provide altar flowers. Thank you.

EPH News

Martha (her name has been changed) is a member of the family. At least it feels that way. She has been in one of our transitional living homes for over a year and is making significant progress. Martha shared her personal journey at our annual celebration and recognition dinner on May 1.

"I was in a very abusive relationship and felt very broken down inside to the point that I believed I could not or would not ever be anything in life. The Salvation Army (TSA) and Ecumenical Partnership for Housing (EPH) came along and gave me strength, hope and inspiration to prove to myself and anyone who didn't believe in me, wrong. You (EPH and TSA) gave me the chance to spend time with my girls like a family and set goals and healthy boundaries. Through your support, and my case manager, Kim, I was given the chance to heal from my domestic abuse and become a stronger woman, and mother. I am truly grateful to EPH and TSA for everything you have done to help me and my girls. Thank you, and God bless you all."

Also recognized at the dinner was The Salvation Army Transitional Housing team, celebrating 25 years in partnership. Terry and Chris Hasselbacher were awarded the Duane Howell Service award, which is given to volunteers who have a history of service and living the EPH values. Terry and Chris coordinate the pick-up of furniture, they track our inventory, and help place it in our homes.

Thank you, partnership churches, for providing safety and stability for the families we serve. You are making a difference, one family at a time.

—Sue Morzenti

Union Church Calendar

June 11—August 12, 2017

June 11 Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

June 13 Tuesday

5:00 p.m. Stewardship Ministry
5:30 p.m. Inreach Ministry
6:30 p.m. Common Ministry

June 14 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

June 15 Thursday

5:00 p.m. Faith Family Field Trip
to Wildlife Sanctuary

June 17 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

June 18 Sunday—Father's Day

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

June 20 Tuesday

5:30 p.m. Communications Meeting

June 21 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

June 22 Thursday

5:30 p.m. Advocacy Team

June 24 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

June 25 Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

June 28 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

July 1 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

July 2 Sunday

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

July 4 Tuesday

Happy Independence Day!
Church Office is Closed

July 5 Wednesday

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

July 8 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers
12:00 p.m. Pride Alive at Joannes Park

July 9 Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

July 12 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

July 15 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

July 16 Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

July 19 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

July 20 Thursday

5:00 p.m. Faith Family Field Trip
to Joannes Aquatic Center

July 22 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

June 23 Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

July 26 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

July 29 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

July 30 Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

August 1 Tuesday

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

August 2 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders

August 4 Friday

Deadline for August's *"Still Speaking"*

August 5 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers

August 6 Sunday

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

August 8 Tuesday

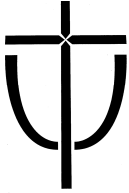
5:00 p.m. Stewardship Ministry
5:30 p.m. Inreach Ministry
6:30 p.m. Common Ministry

August 9 Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Wednesday Weeders
August's *"Still Speaking"* is published

August 12 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Saturday Snippers



Union Congregational
United Church of Christ
716 S. Madison Street
Green Bay, WI 54301

Address Service Requested

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

PERMIT NO. 53
GREEN BAY, WI

Progress Report from the Search Committee

The Search Committee for the Minister of Faith Formation and Community Engagement position is now at the interview stage of the process. We are screening candidates through close review of the Ministerial Profiles they provide. As we prepare for each interview, we draw on state and national UCC resources, and our own Local Church Profile. We pray together, mindful that we are seeking God's guidance in this process of discernment.

We conduct our initial interviews via Skype, exploring each candidate's strengths and call to ministry. During the interviews, the conversations begin with our team's prepared questions, which then lead into a more informal dialogue about this innovative two-fold position. We are a diverse committee in our experience in Union's life as a faith community, and depend on each other's knowledge as we respond to a candidate's questions. Each interview is uniquely challenging and encouraging. We ask for your support and welcome comments from the congregation as we move forward. Thank you.

Search members: Ben VerGiesen (chair), Elizabeth Gregg, Julie Harder, Todd Kane, Barbara McClure-Lukens, Deb Rose, McKenna Stueck.

Union Congregational United Church of Christ

716 S. Madison Street
Green Bay, WI 54301
e-mail: office@unionucc.com
(920) 437-9266

Bridget M. Flad Daniels

Senior Minister

Steven B. Hartman

Pastor of Visitation

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>