



COMMUNITY
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
August 2020 Newsletter

Come join us for Worship on Sunday mornings at uccmedford.org/media

510 E. Broadway Ave, Medford, WI 54451

To contact Pastor Mary Jo Laabs, call: 715-351-0450 (cell phone); 715-748-3391 (church office)

Church website: www.uccmedford.org

believe417@gmail.com or cuccofmedford@gmail.com

Dear friends,

This is how God works in and among us. When I was out in front of the church building early on Saturday morning, watering the flowers and tomatoes, a car pulled up. As the window was opened I realized that

it was Larry Littlegeorge. He is a member of Ho Chunk UCC in Black River Falls, WI. I first came to know who he is when he spoke at one of the WI Conference UCC Annual Meetings. As a member of the Ho-chunk Tribe, Larry has become passionate about repudiating the "Doctrine of Discovery" and its effects on Native peoples. When you read his story you'll understand why this is a major focus in his life.

https://www.ucc.org/repudiating-doctrine-of-discovery-is-life-s-work-for-ho-chunk-church-member-06232019?fbclid=IwAR2pKKtPG44Mpo2n31QAAHfj6rLCFW2yYyf7OrtZfKvZX_lmP9GYIsZevg

Larry is a 4-year Lay Academy Graduate. He is the person, who along with his church in Black River Falls, and their Pastor, Rev. David MacBride, who welcomed a group of us from the NW Association UCC for a "Ho-Chunk Immersion" last summer. We experienced the "Blanket Story," shared conversation about the Doctrine of Discovery, got to know some of the members of the Ho-Chunk UCC, shared some delicious home-cooked food and were "on our way to share" what we had learned.

Last Saturday, in God's perfect timing, I heard a whisper, "You better water the plants before it gets too hot today." What a wonderful *God-moment*, that I would be out in front of the church when Larry was driving by! He was getting his morning coffee before attending a Golf Outing in Medford. I am inspired every time I hear him speak!

This leads me to tell you what I had on my mind before Larry Littlegeorge ever drove into the church driveway: The Three Great Loves. We haven't spent much time talking about it, but, it's time that we do. The Three Great Loves express the core commitments of the United Church of Christ as we live out Jesus' call to share God's love. Across our Christian movement, we embody God's love in three ways:

Love of Children

Love of Neighbor

Love of Creation

The ways God's love is shared in any one congregation may not look the same as the ways another United Church of Christ congregation witnesses to God's love. Our priorities may differ. But we're united in a shared commitment to be God's hands and feet in making a more just world for all. Please visit 3greatloves.org to read how other churches are committing to three great loves.

The theme for the WI Conference Annual Meeting in June, (by Zoom,) took the "Love of Creation" theme and called it: "Healing Our Earthly Home." Rev. Franz Rigert, our WI Conference Minister, wrote this in the Annual meeting program booklet: "Our Conference Creation Care team has provided a beautiful worship service, (which we posted on our website the first weekend in June, 2020) reminding us that our planet is both precious and strained, and that we have an urgent responsibility to care for God's good Earth now."

We are deeply grateful for this incredible team. They have curated vast resources on climate crisis and earth care, and brought to us an idea, indeed a challenge; the challenge of engaging the "Kairos Call to Action" - a series of 10 steps over several years we can all take in our homes and our churches to rescue the Earth."

Here is the **KAIROS CALL TO ACTION**

In April, we celebrated the Jubilee Earth Day in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. On the first Earth Day in 1970, our nation was torn by civil rights and antiwar unrest. But somehow the environmental attention and activism of Earth Day survived, adapted and grew. Now the whole world is torn by the pandemic, and it may be hard for us to imagine responding to another global threat. But the pandemic has an ecological silver lining: the Earth is enjoying its first real Sabbath, if not Jubilee, since the industrial revolution. Pollution of air and water is down, as are carbon emissions that contribute to global warming. So, let's keep the Earth Day Jubilee going!

The United Church of Christ Council for Climate Justice issued a Kairos Call to Action just weeks before any of us had heard about a new coronavirus. Kairos Call to Action takes advantage of what Martin Luther King, Jr. called "the fierce urgency of now" to urge UCC congregations to begin a decade of focus on one of our "3 Great Loves," Care for Creation. Kairos calls us to seize this moment to begin taking ten practical actions to reduce our carbon footprint and keep the Earth Day Jubilee alive.

The first calls to action are prayer and study of the environmental crisis. Subsequent actions deepen our commitment and widen our influence. **The Wisconsin Conference encourages every congregation to dedicate the next ten years to acting on these ten calls to heightened Care for Creation.** Start where you are and go as far as you can. Ten actions. Ten years. Climate science tells us that the next decade will be critical in interrupting the dangerous course we are on. This is the time for faithful action, to turn from our destructive ways and live. Let's do our part to see that the *Earth Day Jubilee* extends beyond the public health crisis, as we look forward in hope for a healthier home for all God's creatures. At this 2020 annual meeting of the Wisconsin Conference United Church of Christ, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, we covenant with one another to seize this moment and commit ourselves to this Kairos Call to Action, as a Conference, as congregations, as households and as individuals, joining in the healing of our sacred earthly home. (continued on the next page)

The full Kairos Call to Action can be found at: https://www.ucc.org/a_kairos_call_to_action

Here are the ten ways that churches can “mobilize:”

1. Enter a period of study and immersion.
2. Plan inspired worship that focuses on the Kairos movement.
3. Know your environmental justice history and become a “Zero Waste Church.”
4. Cultivate, gardens, landscapes and appetites in the struggle for justice.
5. Become a carbon neutral/carbon negative/climate positive church.
6. Divest from fossil fuels and move money out of “dirty” banks.
7. Make every election a time to call for values-based voting that expresses care for creation and justice for all.
8. Through townhalls, delegations, candidate forums, emails and petitions, call upon elected officials and candidates for office to support the “Green New Deal.”
9. Become a Kairos mobilization “Hub.”
10. Throughout the process of mobilizing, tell your story!

In July, we, at Community United Church of Christ, began *a period of study* of the book, “*Cathedral on Fire*” by Brooks Berndt. There are 14 people in our Zoom study group! The topic is “creation care,” focusing our attention on the unique and vitally needed gifts that churches can offer to care for creation. Rev. Traci Blackmon, Associate UCC General Minister for Justice and Local Church Ministries, in describing the book, writes this:” Finally, a practical “how-to-and-why-to” manual that walks with our communities of faith from conviction to change.

Our last excuse for complacency has been removed.”

We have had some interesting discussions! If you would like to join the Tuesday evening Zoom at 6:30, call me. Books are available for \$5. Stop by and pick one up! Short chapters and a lot of talk!

My friends, do what you can in your homes to care for the earth. Recycle and re-use. Cut back on plastic use. Plant some trees. Use energy saving light-bulbs. Do not use Styrofoam. Do some composting. Have an energy audit done....and start imagining ways that we, as a church can care for creation.

I pray that we all will continue to follow the physical distancing guidelines. We will not be meeting together in person. Please wear facemasks when you are out in public places and keep at least a 6-foot distance from others. The virus is not gone. It is contagious and still spreading.

It is up to each one of us to “love our neighbor” and “love the children” by adhering closely to the guidelines.

We will continue to keep our church building closed to public gatherings of any kind.

This Sunday, August 2nd we will share the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Shortly, we will implement video-services that will be posted online, thanks to the recommendation of our 5 Practices Team!

Let this Sunday be the Sunday that you pop in for our Zoom coffee hour at 10am. Signing in is easy. Click the link, follow the directions and enter the password...and there, in front of your eyes, will be some of the members and friends of our church family. Let’s chat! Click here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83105711931?pwd=MGMMySDJGZzJydDZUSUphcTloYmJIUT09>

Meeting ID: 831 0571 1931 Password: 275883 Or by phone:1 312 626 6799

Peace be with you and be safe! Pastor Mary Jo

NEED FOOD? Just so you know: Indianhead Food Pantry has lots of food available.

They are using precautions: masks, etc. Food is distributed by drive-up only.

Address: 508 S 8th St (across from the Brass Rail) It is open Tues, Wed- Friday from 9-2.
If you know of anyone who would benefit from having extra food, please share this information.

The Medford Clergy will lead a **Zoom Service of Prayer for the 2020 Graduates** in our community at 6:30 pm on August 5th. Please share the link with your graduates. A Medford High School Alumnus, Ethan Hemer, will be the "keynote" speaker.

Here is the Zoom link: Wednesday, Aug 5, 2020, 6:30 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83131370410?pwd=all3UU1SdjlmRmVqck82Z2xsM1Avdz09>

Meeting ID: 831 3137 0410 Passcode: 799930

Council meeting minutes from July 9th,2020

OPENING Randi H. called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and Pastor Mary Jo read a prayer of guidance.

PRESENT Randi H., Mike G.-P., Jerry G.-P., Mark J, Pam O., Anna G., Paula J., Gloria C., Joyce C.

ABSENT Scott K.

CONSENT AGENDA

SECRETARY'S REPORT The minutes from the June 2020 meeting were emailed prior to the meeting for preview per the Consent Agenda method. Gloria C. made a motion to accept the minutes. Mark J. seconded the motion. Motion passed without discussion.

TREASURER'S REPORT The June 2020 Treasurer's Reports were emailed prior to the meeting for preview per the Consent Agenda method. Pam O. made motion to accept the report.

Joyce P. seconded the motion. Motion passed without discussion.

PASTOR'S REPORT The June 2020 Pastor Reports were distributed to the Council Members for review. Jerry G.-P. made a motion to accept the June reports. Mark J. seconded the motion. Motion passed without discussion.

GROUP AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Jerry G.-P. reported that the stained glass window is complete and installed. The bill is \$1,500 (30 hours of labor) additional to the original estimate. Balance due and the additional 30 hours of labor totals \$2,925.00. Pam O. made the motion to pay the balance. Gloria C. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mark J. reported that the window has been ordered for the office and will be in next week and a time scheduled to install. The cost is \$122.08 and Tammy and Mark J. have volunteered to pay for the cost. Randi H. will send a thank you card from the Council.

Jerry G.-P. had two plumber estimate the installation of hot water for two bathrooms. Both suggested that we install a small water heater under the sink in the ladies bathroom. Neubauer estimated \$700 and Kramer Plumbing and Heating estimate \$875. We need an electrician to install an outlet for the water heater power. Mark J. suggested that we get the total cost including the electrician before deciding on suppliers for the project. Jerry G.-P. will get the electrician's estimate and will email the Council members with the details to gain approval of the suppliers and estimates.

Jerry installed an AC in the Parsonage that was found upstairs.

FIVE PRACTICES

Next meeting Monday, July 20 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

Pam O. reported that the Five Practices team looked into the purchase of a camcorder for video recordings that can be archived in YouTube to enhance the member experience in this time of COVID shutdown.

Pam O. will email the Five Practices team to see if the group can pay for the camcorder of their \$720.97 fund and will share the decision with the Council by email.

CHRISTIAN ED

Pastor Mary Jo reported that the Virtual Faith Formation/Sunday School is being well attended.

CANDLELIGHT GUILD

Candlelight Guild paid John P. for mowing.

(Continued on next page)

NEW BUSINESS

Pastor Mary Jo has spoken with the Wisconsin Council of Churches and Wisconsin UCC Conference has recommended to stay closed since the number of cases in the state and the county are still rising. The Council decided to stay closed at this time and monitor the situation from month to month.

Mary Jo reported that her annual contract is due for renewal with signature due in August 2020.

Pam O. made the motion to renew the Pastor's contract for August 2020 – August 2021. Randi H. and Mike G.-P. will attend to sending the new contract to Rob MacDougall. Joyce P. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pastor Mary Jo is working with Tamara C.-D. to update our Safe Church Policy and will ask her to give us a report on what she believes should be included in our update.

Pastor Mary Jo reported that the Medford Clergy would like to hold an Evening Prayer Service for high school and college graduates and their parents on August 6, 2020. Former Medford High School graduate Ethan Hemer will speak at the service.

Mike G.-P.'s schedule for August will be tentative due to Jerry's surgery.

New Adult Education session starts on July 14 at 6:30 pm for six weeks. The discussion book is Cathedral on Fire and available for \$5.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 5 pm via Zoom.

CLOSED SESSION After reciting the Lord's Prayer, the Council members went directly into Adjournment with no Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT Joyce P. made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark J. seconded the motion Meeting adjourned at 6:13 pm.

Pandemic of Grief: Interaction and Dynamics

by Jane Anderson and The Conflict Transformation Team

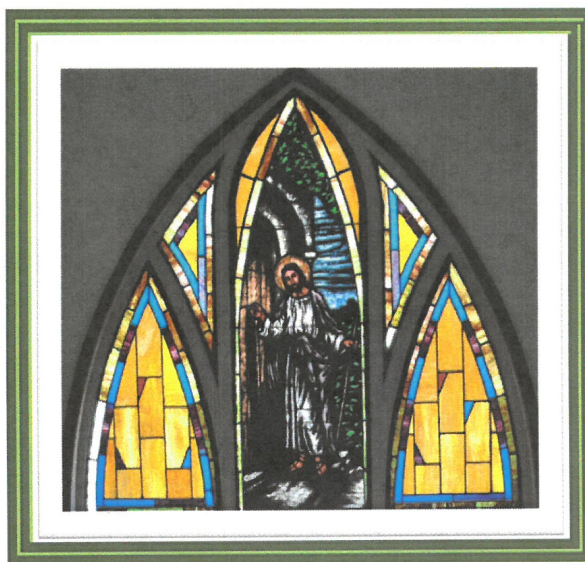
This pandemic has taken a toll on us and the longer it goes on the greater the toll. In the US, more than 3 million people have contracted the virus and over 130,000 people have died. If that wasn't alarming enough, the ways that it is affecting the very fabric of our society is taking a huge toll. Initially, we saw how people pulled together and did whatever was necessary to help one another stay well and stay safe. But, now, in our grief we are pulling one another apart.

David Brooks, a columnist for the NYT, has said this has proven true throughout history. That in the early stages of a pandemic we see people exercising patience and understanding, care and compassion. But as it wears on, not only do people die, but compassion dies.

I fear we are beginning to bump against this phase of the pandemic. [Continue reading article](#)

Below is some information on the stained glass window the congregation got repaired.

Community United Church of Christ



“Behold I stand at the door
knocking”

If anyone listens to my voice and opens the door, I will be his guest and dine with him. There is no door knob on the outside of the door. This means we must open the door (our heart) to let Jesus in.

*Placed by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Frels.
Repaired in 1975. In memory of Mrs. Lyddon
(Litz) (Ruth) Ruesch
Restored 1988 Harold & Delores Ruesch.*

Commentary: Fellow White People, Let's Unpack This

Written by Jessica Quinn

Those who know me, know I love using the phrase, “Let’s unpack that.” When a friend is sharing a trouble or worry from their personal life, I immediately begin with, “Ooh, we need to unpack this.” It is my way of showing interest, really leaning in, and trying to address the root.



When I began on the path toward anti-racism and toward examining my whiteness, I had to get comfortable being uncomfortable – lean in, and try to address the root. I had to greet feelings of shame, defensiveness and nervousness, and encourage them to take a seat because we were going to be here a while. It’s important to use the same approach that I share with others when things are hard: I need to unpack this.

Unpacking shame means addressing my underlying thoughts: Why didn’t I start sooner? How have I benefited? Perpetuated? Ignored? In college while reading *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander, I expressed my disbelief that I could not have known and reddened with shame as my TA reminded me that I could have known, and that my privilege afforded me ignorance.

Unpacking defensiveness means addressing the ways in which my identity has not matched the impact of my actions. It means admitting I have centered myself in conversations about race. Unpacking my defensiveness means admitting to times where I may have played the “well-intentioned, progressive white woman.” It means remembering that my work as a justice advocate does not give me a better understanding than someone with lived experience.

Unpacking nervousness means accepting that I have made and will make mistakes, but that worrying about messing up inappropriately centers myself in the work. Unpacking my nervousness means opening up to, and welcoming, comments and criticism of how to do better. It means being grateful for instruction from my Black loved ones, friends, and colleagues, but also not relying on them to deliver the information that is available in many resources.

Fellow white people, come “unpack things” with me. Our Black neighbor, our indigenous neighbor, our nonwhite neighbor is, and has been, hurting from the racism in which we participate. Perhaps recent events have encouraged us to seek more information; let’s not allow discomfort to prevent us from doing the work or continuing the journey. Let discomfort remind us of the emotion and exhaustion tied to the Black experience in this country. Let’s acknowledge that privileges afforded by whiteness have allowed many of us to avoid these feelings of shame or guilt. Let’s do this work without expectation of thanks, because it is our responsibility as people of faith to do so.

I am called by my faith towards anti-racism. I will be traveling this path the rest of my life. There will be times for me to sit and listen, and times for me to stand and educate. I am committed to making this world a safer and more just place for every Black person. I still have much to learn, and a long way to go. Let’s unpack this.

Jessica Quinn is the Online Communications Specialist for the United Church of Christ.

Returning to Church

Possible, Prudent and
Pastoral Choices



Choices^[1]

Released 6/12/2020

In the wake of the Wisconsin Supreme Court decision in *Legislature v Palm*, there have been many questions from church leaders about how to assess for relative safety of returning to gathering in physical space – either outdoors or in our church buildings – given the realities of the COVID-19 epidemic and the lack of a statewide plan.

We offer this guide to assist faith communities seeking reasonable benchmarks for their own leadership decisions, in the absence of external authorities setting firm guidance. In all cases, we urge you to follow the most cautious rules or guidelines available to you: whether those are federal/state/local government authorities, ecclesiastical authorities, the decision-making body of your local church, or your personal conscience. Your re-entry plan should factor in the needs of the most vulnerable and most isolated of the community, the logistical concerns of following your established plan, and the care and safety of your staff. It is also wise to consult your insurance company for their guidance.

These recommendations have been set following consultation with our public health advisers and after listening to the questions of many churches in Wisconsin and beyond. We rely upon a framework of **possible, prudent, and pastoral** as we consult with faith leaders. What is legally or practically possible for us, may not always be prudent. Even once it is prudent, the available option may or may not be a pastoral choice.

Before leaping into what is possible, take some time to consider whether it is a prudent and/or pastoral choice. Ensure that you have a careful plan in place for how you will implement your gatherings – whether staff, volunteer, community ministry, small group, or wider assembly. If you have not already, we recommend that you convene a re-gathering team so the burden of planning and decision-making does not rest solely on one person.

Continued on page 7

The following pages contain a decision tree and a set of answers to frequently asked questions. Council staff has been consulting with churches statewide and we'll be glad to answer questions by email or telephone.

Decision Tree

Monitor the “gating criteria” at dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/prepare.htm.

The phasing below is aligned with the *Badger Bounce Back*. Your municipality or county may have a different phasing. Please review the source documents if there are any questions.

1. Ideally, we would wait until all indicators are **green**, to go to plans for “Phase One” of return. See our recommendations in *Returning to Church*, or your judicatory, county or municipal guidance.^[2] We know there are many factors to consider, including mental, emotional and spiritual health, which may lead you to a different choice. *If* you choose to advance to gathering in person while some indicators are still red, we urge you to consider the less risky options available to you: meeting outdoors/increasing airflow, beginning with smaller groups rather than the entire assembly, gathering for short lengths of time, wearing cloth face coverings, and keeping at least 6 foot distance between households. Ensure you have a plan for sanitation physical distancing, and re-evaluating your choices based on local conditions.
2. Because indicators of viral spread have a time lag, wait for three weeks before going to “Phase Two.” It takes time for infected people to show symptoms, to seek medical attention, receive test results, and begin to impact the medical system. Additional rounds of infection will begin to become apparent after several weeks. Do not go to Phase 2 if the gating criteria deteriorate in those three weeks.
3. Likewise – once you have moved from Phase Two, wait another three weeks. Do not move to Phase 3 if a any of the gating criteria deteriorate those three weeks.
4. .Be willing to move backwards in your phased plan if conditions deteriorate substantially.

This decision tree does not guarantee safety or health for those you serve, but it does represent a way to monitor external indicators; to be watchful, prudent leaders and not rely on hunches.

What if?

- **Q: Do we really need to tell our elders and vulnerable people to stay home? And the people who live with them?** A: The risk to older members of the population when they contract COVID-19 is of a significantly more severe course of illness with more complications and a higher risk of hospitalization and death. We know of similar risks for people with common health conditions like high blood pressure, diabetes, and others that reduce their immune response. People who live with them, and those who care for them, can bring the virus into the home. It is important to realize that many members of your community will have good reason to stay away from crowds for a substantial period of time. Out of love for these members, and a commitment to accessibility, we not only urge you to continue to provide remote ministries on an ongoing basis, but also consider how you might continue to normalize large group ministries gathering online for the longest time possible, and only smaller groups gathering in person, to minimize risk.
- **Q: My church has already moved to Phase 1, but the gating criteria aren't green yet!** A: Phase One allows for gathering of up to 10 people. Stay at Phase 1 until everything is green/improving, and wait another three weeks before deciding whether or not to advance to the next phase.
- **Q: We're all the way at Phase 2. What should we do?** A: Phase 2 allows for gatherings of up to 50. Our public health advisers recommend going back to Phase 1 if possible. If that is not feasible, please stay at Phase 2 until all criteria are green/improving and stay there for a minimum of three weeks before evaluating what to do next.

Continued on page 8

Q: What we are doing aligns with Phase 3 (unlimited gatherings, social distancing only for those at high risk).A: Current conditions do not warrant public gatherings at this size. Please strongly consider going back to Phase 1 if possible (or Phase 2 if you cannot see returning to Phase 1) and stay there until all the gating criteria are green/improving for 3 weeks. Then consider slowly stepping back up.

Q: We'd like to start with outdoor worship. Is that safer? A: Outdoor worship represents a trade-off. You gain from better airflow and more ability to spread out. You do lose the assistance of sanctuary furniture to help you manage people and proximity. Make sure you have a plan for maintaining 6+ foot physical distancing, wearing cloth face coverings, and who will help ensure it is followed. A shorter time together is better than longer, and please refrain from singing for safety's sake.

Q: Is drive-in worship an option? A: Drive-in worship does help with physical distancing. The best recommendations of our advisers are that we maintain one empty spot between cars and avoid visiting between cars. If you can't keep an empty spot between cars, make sure that everyone is masked or that car windows are closed, so there is at least a 6-foot distance between people. (As seasons pass and it gets progressively warmer, closed windows could present a safety concern unless you meet very early in the day.) A shorter time together is better than longer, and please refrain from singing.

Q: Our church is in a rural area without many cases of COVID-19. Do we really need to be this cautious? A: You have the built-in benefit of the ability to physically distance, fresh air, and plenty of room to spread out, which is a gift! However, there are additional challenges of more limited access to medical facilities, and the exponential growth of this virus. While for a long time it might seem like there is not a major problem, exponential growth means the situation can quickly transform from looking like it is low-level and manageable to extreme in numbers. The low number of cases you have is in part a result of your success in being protective. Please keep up the good work!

Q: What if people refuse to wear a mask? A: Some communities have established covenants, which all participants agree to, as a condition of participating in public worship in person.[3] These covenants include such items as the commitment to wear masks when coming to the building, not coming if you feel even the least bit unwell, and committing to frequent handwashing. It is no less a part of creating a safe atmosphere than "Safe Church" plans that many churches have established to protect children and vulnerable adults. It reasonable to expect this of one another.

This document was developed by Wisconsin Council of Churches staff with input from religious leaders, local church pastors, and public health experts. This is not a formal policy statement of the Council. We recommend that you consult your ecclesiastical authorities and insurance providers for final guidance. Released 6/12/2020.

[1] This document is a supplement to "Returning to Church," which can be accessed online at wchurches.org. We also recommend that you consult "

[Church Music in the Age of COVID-19."](#)

[2] <https://www.wchurches.org/2020/04/23/returning-to-church/>

[3] [Sample from First UMC of Grand Prairie, TX](#)

Download a PDF version of this document

Have you appreciated or benefited from our crisis response ministry with respect to the coronavirus? Please share a word of testimony, or [make a donation](#) to sustain this work, which is helping clergy and churches here in Wisconsin, and across the nation.

GIVE PLUS⁺

YOUR CHURCH GIVING APP

With GivePlus, you can quickly and easily give to your church using your smartphone. Enjoy the convenience of making credit or debit card donations as a guest user, or create an account to set up recurring donations and view your giving history. Either way, GivePlus offers a safe, secure way to make one-time or recurring contributions to your church. GivePlus is free to use and available for download at the App Store. If you have questions or would like to learn more, search our FAQs and check out our user guides below

FAQS



[Search now](#)

HOW TO



[Learn Now](#)



Go to the Apple
or Google Play and



Store

search "give plus church":click above to download

Strengthen the Church Special Offering

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Most congregations will receive the STC offering anytime!



Please give me a call (Mike) at 715-223-9403 to make arrangements for pick-up from 9-1 on Mondays and Thursdays during this challenging time.

Shopping?

Why not use SCRIP?

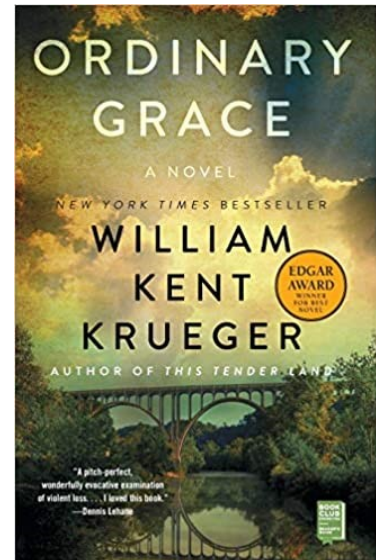
SCRIP cards make nice gifts.

Our Church gets a percentage of the cost of each SCRIP card purchased.

Call the Church office, 715-748-3391 to order SCRIP. Arby's, Maurice's, Foreman's, Old Navy, Kohl's, Buffalo Wild Wings, Barnes and Noble, BP, Walgreens, Aldi's, Famous Footwear, Best Buy, Burger King, Bed, Bath and Beyond, ULTA, Target, TJ Maxx, Taco Bell, KWIK TRIP, Subway, Hardees, Ace Hardware, Applebee's and more.

PAGE TURNERS

Our August book is "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger. We will meet on Monday, August 31 at 6:30 by Zoom.



Dear friends, OUR Mission Statement:

As an open-minded and inclusive community of faith, Community United Church of Christ, Medford, WI, welcomes everyone as Jesus would.

MISSION STATEMENT

We are the church – an open and affirming community in which diversity is celebrated as an asset and fully embraced into our life, leadership, ministry, community, worship, rites, sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings without qualification or discrimination because of ability, age, ethnicity, gender, race, or sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. It is our mission to serve, to pray, to love, and to hold true to these words:

“No matter who you are and where you are on your life’s journey, you are welcome here.”

LET US PRAY...

For those with health concerns: friends and family; those anticipating medical testing; those at home recovering from surgery; for those who are suffering with the flu; those traveling; those serving our country here and abroad; leaders of our communities; our President, Medford faith communities, those who lives have been affected by fires, flood and hurricanes; those who have been separated from us by distance or difference of opinion; those who are grieving the loss of loved ones; the hungry and the homeless, that caring people will help them.



ZACH WILLIAMS & DOLLY PARTON
THERE WAS JESUS

AS SEEN ON THE CMA AWARDS, 2019

Hope you enjoy this song. I heard on the way to work. Please click on the picture to listen.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

If any questions should ever arise, please feel free to contact any of our Church Council members.

President- Randi Hirt (2021)

Vice President- Joyce Peterson (2021)

Recording Secretary- Pam Ouimette (2023)

Financial Sec.- Jerry Goen-Penney (2023)

Treasurer- Scott Knoff (2022)

Gloria Christensen (2022)

Mark Jensen (2022)

Anna Grube (2021)

Paula Johnson (2023)



DIGITAL NEWSLETTER:

You can receive this newsletter by email. If you would like to try the digital option, send an email to: cuccofmedford@gmail.com and ask to be added to the email newsletter list

AUGUST FINANCES:

As of 7-30-2020

Income \$ 5,455.00

Expenses \$ 10,034.49



**DON'T FORGET
YOUR MASK!**

August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Matthew
<p>2</p> <p>Romans 9:1-5 Communion</p> <p>Zooms : Time w/children, 9:30 Coffee: 10</p>	<p>3 Mike 9-1</p> <p>Romans 9:6-13</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Romans 9:14-26</p> <p>Cathedral on Fire, 6:30 Ch.4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Prayer Service for Graduates, 6:30 Zoom</p> <p>Romans 9:27-33</p>	<p>6 Mike 9-1</p> <p>Genesis 32:22-31</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Psalm 17:1-7, 15</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Isaiah 55:1-5</p> <p>Graveside Service; Leona Brink 11:30</p> <p>Wedding, Sarah & Ben 4pm</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Matthew 14:22-34</p> <p>Zooms : Time w/children, 9:30 Coffee: 10</p>	<p>10 Mike 9-1</p> <p>Romans 10:1-15</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Romans 10:18-21</p> <p>Cathedral on Fire, 6:30 Ch.5</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28</p>	<p>13 Mike 9-1</p> <p>Psalm 108</p> <p>Council meeting 5pm via Zoom</p>	<p>14</p> <p>1Kings 19:9-9-18</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Matthew 15:1-9</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Matthew 15:10-28</p> <p>Zooms : Time w/children, 9:30 Coffee: 10</p>	<p>17 Mike 9-1</p> <p>Matthew 15:29-39</p> <p>5 Practices 6:30</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Romans 11:1-10</p> <p>Cathedral on Fire, 6:30</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Romans 11:11-24</p> <p>Christian Ed 600 via Zoom</p>	<p>20 Mike 9-1</p> <p>Romans 11:25-36</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Genesis 45:1-15</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Matthew 16:1-12</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Matthew 16:13-20</p> <p>Zooms : Time w/children, 9:30 Coffee: 10</p>	<p>24 Mike 9-1</p> <p>Matthew 16:13-20</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Romans 12:9-21</p> <p>Cathedral on Fire, 6:30 Ch.7</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Exodus 8:1-15</p>	<p>27 Mike 9-1</p> <p>Psal</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Psalm 124</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Isaiah 51: 1-6</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Matthew 16:21-28</p> <p>Zooms : Time w/children, 9:30 Coffee: 10</p>	<p>31 Mike 9-1</p> <p>Exodus 8:16-32</p> <p>Page Turners, 6:30</p>					

Community United Church of Christ
510 E. Broadway Avenue
Medford, Wisconsin 54451



Open and Affirming

“No matter who you are or where you are on your life’s journey, you are welcome here.”



Due to the Covid-19 pandemic please be sure to check your options in the calendar for Worship and Sunday school etc. Also you can listen to Pastor’s sermons by clicking below or by going to uccmedford.org