



## October 2021 Newsletter

Come join us for Worship on Sunday mornings and virtually at [uccmedford.org/media](http://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](http://www.uccmedford.org). Online worship ([Facebook live](#))

[believe417@gmail.com](mailto:believe417@gmail.com) or [cuccofmedford@gmail.com](mailto:cuccofmedford@gmail.com)



Dear friends,

I am writing these words to you today, September 29, 2021. As of October 1, 2021, I am submitting to you my 30-day notice of resignation as your Pastor.

I am excited as I look ahead to new possibilities in my life, as well as to the possibilities in the journey of faith that our congregation continues to live out. I know already that I will miss each one of you and will always think fondly of our mutual ministry during these past six and a half years.

I have been called to serve as full-time Interim Pastor at Pilgrim United Church of Christ in Fond du Lac, WI. The start-date is within the first or second week of November, depending moving arrangements.

Watch what God is up to in our midst and never forget that God can and will make a way where there sometimes seems to be no way! I will hold you in my heart and in my prayers.

Blessings and sincere thanks,

*Pastor Mary Jo*

### Isaiah 43:16-19 New Revised Standard Version

- <sup>16</sup> Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,  
<sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
<sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.  
<sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

## **Important information from the Wisconsin Council of Churches: With One Body And One Spirit: Returning To Church 3.0**

If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. (1 Corinthians 12:26-27 NRSV)

**INTRODUCTION** With One Body and One Spirit is the third major update to the Wisconsin Council of Churches' ongoing guidance to churches on making safer choices during the COVID-19 pandemic. This document builds on the recommendations contained in By Faith We Stand Firm: Ministry in the Era of COVID Variants, Returning to Church 2.0, Bearing with One Another in Love and Love Builds Up.

**With One Body and Spirit:** Situates Christian life in the context of the pandemic and articulates a holistic, community-based vision of health in response to COVID. Suggests mitigations for unsafe, safer and safest conditions that can reduce (but never eliminate) risk, particularly if they are layered together in use.

Introduces the concept of risk budgeting, a method of allocating acceptable risk and making trade-offs to "spend" risk intelligently. Provides reflections on best practices, such as universal masking standards, vaccination requirements, livestream vs. hybrid worship, and responding to COVID exposure in the congregation.

### **CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS (IN BRIEF)**

1. Discern carefully the level of acceptable risk, both for your community and its individual members. Consider particularly the needs of those who may have lower risk tolerance, certain medical conditions, or who care for vulnerable people. Once you have decided how much risk you are willing to take on, spend your risk budget wisely, looking for ways to offset high-risk activities.
2. Practice layered mitigations. The forms of risk reduction suggested in With One Body and Spirit are not intended to be an all-or-nothing package. The more mitigations you are able to add, the more risk of COVID transmission can be eliminated, but adding even a few of them will make your church a safer environment. View the full document for additional details.
3. Know when to say no. A "Very High" COVID transmission level in the state or county (1450 cases per day statewide or 25 cases per 100,000 people per day in a county) should be a warning signal that changes in behavior and practices are necessary. We strongly urge that at a level of 50 new cases per 100,000 people per day, if you have not already done so, your faith community move to its strictest COVID protocols. [WCC maps relevant county-level metrics](#) (vaccinations, new cases, and positive test results) on its website, and provides state-level data on Facebook, updating each week.

[Download Full Document](#)

Peace and good health to you,

From your colleagues

at the Wisconsin Council of Churches



# Wisconsin Conference United Church of Christ

Grace and peace, dear friends.

One of my greatest passions is climbing Colorado's "fourteeners" – the 58 mountain peaks exceeding 14,000 feet. In my office are 14 little stones, with the names and altitudes of peaks I have summited thus far. Most of the climbs are physically and mentally grueling. One particular challenge of mountain hiking is that often when you think the peak is in sight, it is actually still a few peaks away.

This is what COVID feels like to me right now – a mentally and physically grueling experience with too many peaks. The combination of the fast-spreading Delta variant and vaccine resistance has thrust us into a fall season we did not expect. Frustrations are high and patience is waning.

"How long, O Lord" pleads the Psalmist. "How long must I bear pain in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall this enemy be exalted over me?" (Psalm 13:2)

I imagine the Israelites felt this agony as they wandered in the desert for years. Seven centuries later, they endured the anguish of captivity in Babylon. The great prophets experienced exasperation not unlike we feel today, trying to convince stubborn people to prioritize the common good and take special care of the poor and vulnerable. And surely the early Christians were fatigued and afraid as they dealt with the challenges of church planting.

Sometimes, ministry feels like ascending a mountain: The only way to continue is to count 25 steps in the thin mountain air, then stop for a breath. The journey through COVID is the same way, so don't forget to pause for a deep breath. We will make it. Yes, we have faced conflict, stress and loss. We have stretched ourselves to adapt, and we have had to remind ourselves that we are stronger together.

The Church will survive, and thrive, partly because of our faithful efforts, but mostly because the Holy Spirit is a powerful and persistent agent of God's transformational goodness. We are partners in this Jesus-led labor of love and, despite our collective lament, we have things to celebrate. New modalities for worship and meetings. New perspectives on work/life balance. New faces in the spiritual seekers, from whom the United Church of Christ has been the best-kept secret, who are now discovering a heartfelt message of grace and a commitment to justice.

Some of you have asked about the latest guidelines for COVID protocols at church. Although a small proportion of our congregations remain virtual only, most are meeting carefully in person and online. We continue to encourage outdoor worship as long as the weather allows, socially-distanced seating indoors with masks, individual Communion sets, stationary offering plates and distanced passing of the peace. Every congregation is different, so we encourage careful and prayerful discernment around your community's life.

continued

We remain grateful for the guiding work of the Wisconsin Council of Churches (provided to you by your OCWM gifts). Here is a part of a recent WCC communication with some useful links:

Churches across the state are reassessing their fall ministry plans. With the [rapidly spreading Delta variant](#), many congregations are choosing to re-instate universal masking, go back outdoors, or go back online. Our latest Returning to Church supplement, [By Faith We Stand Firm: Ministry in the Era of COVID Variants](#), offers advice and theological grounding for congregations as they have these important conversations.

Two final thoughts . . . First, it strikes me that even as we worry about rebuilding congregational life, most of our communities have been spared from devastating natural disasters. Fires continue to rage in the West and storms have surged from the South all the way through the Northeast. Thousands of Afghans find themselves in need of a home and a community. As always, the United Church of Christ invites your contributions to our [disaster relief](#) and [refugee resettlement efforts](#).

Finally, as most of you know, our dear staff colleague the Rev. Lorraine Cenicerros has been called to be the next Conference Minister for the Kansas-Oklahoma Conference! We will send her forth with cheers and prayers in mid-November. We already have launched a search for a new Associate Conference Minister in our southern region. Details can be found here. Within a week or so we will have a Search Team in place to begin the process of prayerful discernment.

Wishing you strength and spiritual endurance for the days ahead,

Franz

### **The Candlelight Guild met on Tuesday, September 14 at 5:30.**

We are planning a Holiday Fair for Saturday, November 6th 9-2. If there is someone interested in a vendor space please call Dawn at 715-748-3295. At this time there is still available space.

We will be selling baked goods, cookies and candies in sealed containers. Accepting craft items and 2nd time around Christmas items. We will again have a bucket raffle and will be in need of prizes for the raffle. We appreciate your interest in the Holiday Fair and are excited to bring it back!

More information will be given after the next meeting of the Candlelight Guild. Join us on Tuesday, October 12th at 5:30.

For the Candlelight Guild, Dawn



# COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2021

**OPENING** Scott K. called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m. and Pastor Mary Jo led the group in a prayer of guidance.

**PRESENT** Mike G.-P., Jerry G.-P., Scott K., Gloria C., Pastor MJ, Mark J., Paula J., Jackie H., Paula J., Pam O.

**ABSENT**

### CONSENT AGENDA

---

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** The August minutes were emailed prior to the meeting for preview per the Consent Agenda method. Jackie H. made a motion to approve the minutes with changes. Gloria C. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** The August Treasurer's Reports were emailed prior to the meeting for preview per the Consent Agenda method. Jerry G.-P. made motion to accept the report. Pam O. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**PASTOR'S REPORT** The August Pastor Report was distributed to the Council Members for review. Gloria C. made a motion to accept the report with change. Jerry G.-P. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### GROUP AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

---

#### BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Jerry G.-P. had nothing to report on the dishwasher and front door issues.

Mark J. contacted Dan H. to schedule a B&G meeting regarding parsonage updates. Meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Jerry G.-P. replaced the furnace filters and will schedule a maintenance check for the Spring.

#### FIVE PRACTICES

Pam O. reported that the Free for All is scheduled for Saturday, September 11 in the church parking lot. The church will also be collecting new quilts and blankets for Afghan refugees.

Scott K. is sourcing a new fire ring for the Prayer Park to be donated by Five Practices.

The Pride Tribe is planning a meeting in the Prayer Park on Friday, September 24.

The next meeting is TBD.

#### CHRISTIAN ED

Pastor MJ reported that she sent a letter to parents of children who are approaching confirmation age to check interest in beginning a two-year, 22-session confirmation study scheduled after school every other week.

Pastor MJ reported that for the past year there has no formal Christian Ed Committee. Scott K. will check with former members to see if they are still interested in serving on the Committee.

Pastor MJ will check with parents of children currently attending Faith Formation to check on their interest in serving on the committee.

## **CANDLELIGHT GUILD**

Gloria C. reported that the Guild is still discussing the feasibility of a Holiday Fair and Fall Soup Supper and would like the Council's input.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14 at 5 pm.

## **PARSONAGE COMMITTEE**

No meeting scheduled.

## **SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Meeting scheduled for September 23 at 6 pm with Rev. Franz Riegert in attendance to offer guidance in the search process.

Mike G.-P. reported that we have one application's profile for consideration. Applicants will receive letters of acknowledgement of their application from the committee.

Mike G.-P. reported that Rev. Riegert suggested that we review applicants every few months for possible interviews.

Jerry G.-P is seeking an additional person to sit on the Search Committee.

Scott K. suggested that we outline the search process to share with the congregation in next month's newsletter.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

---

Ushers schedule for September: Pam – 9/12, Jackie – 9/19, Jerry G.-P – 9/26, Gloria C. offered to be an alternate in case a person cannot make it for date scheduled.

No changes to COVID protocol, although we will recommend wearing masks to protect those who are not vaccinated, those who are immune compromised, and those children who are not eligible for vaccination. We will also still comply to social distancing and hand sanitizing.

Mike G.-P is preparing the documents Council members will require for our budget planning next month.

The Kiwanis will pick up the Coats not taken during the Free for All events for their annual Coat Collection. The Council has decided, in light of the COVID surge, the church will not be a drop-off or pick-up location for the Coat Collection this year.

The Council discussed the Safe Church Policy's requirement for new employee background checks. Current employees are "grandfathered in" but new employees will need to have background checks. According to our policy, it doesn't say how often checks need to be performed. Mike G.-P. will check with our insurance provided to check on what we may need to require to comply with our liability insurance.

Scott K. reported that we are continuing to sanitize church on Mondays and Fridays each week.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

---

None discussed.

**NEXT MEETING:** Next Regular Meeting: October 14, 2021 at 6:15 pm via Zoom and live in the Fellowship Hall.

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

**ADJOURNMENT** Gloria C. made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark J. the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

If it feels like you don't know where you're going, that's okay. Here's something that can help you reflect on what God might have in store for you and your congregation.

## Can We Talk?

**Let all of us speak the truth to our neighbor, for we are members of one another. Be angry, but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger. Ephesians 4:25-26**

In this, like many of Paul's letters, he advises the new Christian community on how they should communicate with one another during times of difficulty and stress.

What might Paul advise the church today?

Last spring, with the availability of effective vaccines, we thought the COVID crisis was finally behind us and we could return to the "before times." We were back in the sanctuary for worship and reuniting with our community of faith. But then COVID infection rates began rising and we are once again having to make difficult decisions that cause the community stress.

We want to sing together, share Communion, and reunite with our family of faith, but how do we do it safely?

How would Paul guide us to be faithful to God and to our relationships with one another today?

These stressful times can lead to disagreements about how to proceed, different ideas about masks, anger over conflicting perspectives on the vaccine and — most important — misunderstanding about our mutual purpose as a Christian community.

In Ephesians, the early church is called to speak truth in love (4:15), to put away all bitterness, wrath, anger, wrangling and slander, together with all malice. And to be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as Christ has forgiven us (4:31-32).

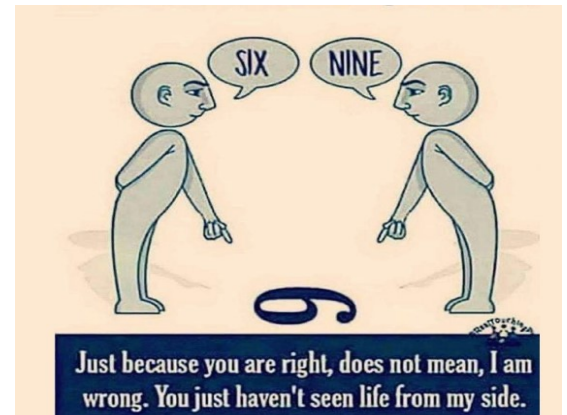
How do we speak the truth in love: truth about how we are feeling, truth about what we want, truth about where we believe God is leading us as a community of faith?

Speaking the truth -- sharing thoughts and ideas openly and honestly -- requires courage, vulnerability and safety. Speaking the truth in our church communities as we seek to build up the body of Christ requires the creation of sanctuaries where people can speak without fear.

In the book *Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes Are High*, the authors write that when you build safety you can dialogue about almost anything. This isn't something that just happens; "safety has to be made."

In a crucial conversation opinions vary, stakes are high, and emotions run strong. How do we talk openly? How do we work through high stakes and controversial issues honestly and respectfully and still remain together as a community of faith?

(continued)





According to the authors of Crucial Conversations, successful conversations encourage the free flow of information and “start with heart”: working on ourselves first and recognizing what we really want (our motives), and developing our personal dialogue skills.

People who are gifted in dialogue, based on their research, keep a constant vigil for safety because nothing kills conversation like fear. For them, the first condition for safety is mutual purpose, which means that others perceive that we are working toward a common outcome, that we care about their goals, interests and values, and vice versa. Finding mutual purpose means that we really must care about the interests of others – not just our own.

At the same time, the authors of Crucial Conversations are clear that “while it’s true that there’s no reason to enter a crucial conversation if you don’t have Mutual Purpose, it’s equally true that you can’t stay in conversation if you don’t maintain Mutual Respect.”

To be able to speak our truth and for others to speak theirs, there must be Mutual Purpose and Mutual Respect -- truth spoken in love. In the letter to the Ephesians (5:1-2a) that means we are called to “be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love as Christ loved us.”

As we continue to learn how to BE CHURCH in new circumstances, may we build safety for crucial conversations seeking mutual purpose while respecting each other, learning to love as Christ loved us.

Questions for discussion

1. What advice about communication do you think Paul would give the church today?
2. Is your congregation a safe place for a crucial conversation? How was that safety built? Or how could it be built?
3. Do you remember a time when you entered into a crucial conversation that was a positive experience? What conditions made that possible?
4. Could you identify a mutual purpose for an upcoming crucial conversation in your congregation? Where is God in that purpose?

**NEED FOOD?** \* If you know of anyone who would benefit from a little help with groceries?

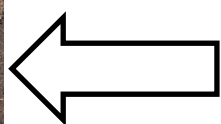
Please share this information:

**\*Indianhead Food** Pantry is open Tues, Wed- Friday from 9-2.

Please wear a mask.

Food is being distributed by drive-up only. Address: 508 S 8th St  
(across from “Brass Rail”)

**The Blessing Box outside our church’s back door has non-perishable food: open 24/7**



Keep in mind that the temperatures will soon fall below freezing when you donate items for the Blessing Box. Thank you!





**Community  
United Church Of Christ  
Invites you to our**

# **Holiday Fair**

**510 E Broadway Ave.  
Medford, WI 54451  
Saturday  
November 6, 2021  
9:00 - 2:00**

**Featuring**  
**Crafts, homemade baked goods,  
candles & cookies, Terri Lynn Nuts  
Crafts from the Little Store. Knit Items  
Creative Hideaway  
Green Hydrangea Designs - Wood signs  
Sweater mittens and Maple Syrup  
Scentsy Products  
Handmade Gifts and Cards  
Doll Clothes  
and much more!**

**Bucket Raffle**  
**(License #R0034120-B-41443)**

**Serving lunch**

**Event could be cancelled due to Covid-19 recommendations.**



## Harvest days

**FRI, OCT 29 AT 6 PM**

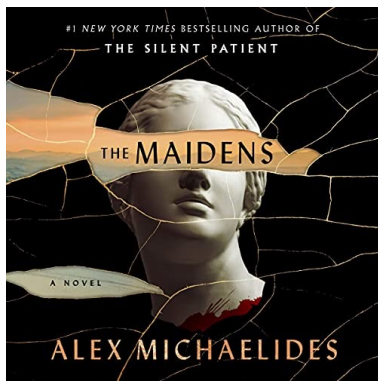
Adult Trick or Treat

**SAT, OCT 30 AT 10 AM**

Harvest Days - Family Day

**SAT, OCT 30 AT 6 PM**

Spooky Path



## Pageeturners meeting by Zoom and at the parsonage **date**

"Between the three of them, author Alex Michaelides and narrators Louise Brealey and Kobna Holdbrook-Smith cast a spell that will have listeners glued to this suspenseful novel every chance they get." (AudioFile Magazine, Earphones Award winner)

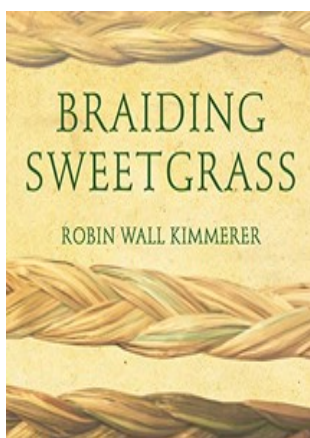
"The audiobook is narrated primarily by actor Louise Brealey, who has given life to complex female characters in the audio editions of *The Girl on the Train* and *The Silent Patient*, Michaelides' first novel. Here, she does an excellent job of conveying Mariana's confusion, courage and determination to solve the mystery at any cost. Actor Kobna Holdbrook-Smith's nuanced performance as

the killer reminds us that monsters are made, not born, and that within even the most heinous murderer is a shattered, lonely child." (Booklist, starred audiobook review)

"Listeners will not be disappointed with this suspenseful and intelligent thriller." (Booklist, starred review)

From the number one New York Times best-selling author of *The Silent Patient* comes a spellbinding tale of psychological suspense, weaving together Greek mythology, murder, and obsession, that further cements "Michaelides as a major player in the field" (Publishers Weekly)

Cerebration on Wednesdays at 630 pm visa Zoom ; We will be discussing several chapters at each session:



October 6, Tending Sweetgrass

October 20, Picking Sweetgrass

November 3, Braiding Sweetgrass

November 17, Burning Sweetgrass, to the end

this book is the WI Conference UCC **all church read**,

*"Braiding Sweetgrass, Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants,"* by: Robin Wall Kimmerer

The book is available on Audible (audio book) on [thriftbooks.com](https://www.thriftbooks.com) and on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) All are welcome to join us. We meet on Zoom. Email Pastor Mary Jo for the link: [believe417@gmail.com](mailto:believe417@gmail.com)



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 get together “virtually”! Save these dates:**

Faith Formation Time with Children, Sundays at 9:30, [in the sanctuary](#)  
**and on Zoom**

Pastor MJ’s Office Hours on Thursdays, 10-12

*Cerebration* Wednesday at 6:30, October 6, Wednesday October 20th at 630pm

Church Council Meeting, October 14th, at 6:15 [in person and on Zoom](#)

Candlelight guild 530 pm on October 12th

Five Practices, October 18 at 6:30 [in person and on Zoom](#)

Page Turners, October 11th, at 6:30, **on Zoom** and in person [at the parsonage](#).



**If you have not yet tried Zoom, here’s how:**

On your computer, your tablet or phone: click on the link that is in our weekly email

Follow the prompts. Be sure to you allow your audio and video to be accessed.

Or...on your cellphone: download the free Zoom APP; “open” it. Touch “join.” Enter in the meeting ID and passcode when prompted.

or...call the number on your landline. (This will give you audio only.)

Enter the Meeting ID and passcode when prompted.

**Readers needed for our Worship Services!**

Please call Pastor Mary Jo (715-351-0450)

if you are willing to read in-person and/or

*to be recorded* reading the scripture

for our online recorded services



## GIVING MADE EASY

### Did you know we offer electronic giving?

You can contribute anywhere, anytime right from your computer, smartphone, or tablet.

Give online by visiting our website at  
[secure.myvanco.com/L-YRWC/home](https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YRWC/home)

or

Download our free and new Vanco app from the App store or [Google Play](#)

Get started today! Download our mobile app or visit our online donations page to set up your online giving



**Vanco**

Please be aware as of September 30th, 2021 the Give Plus app will be no longer. You will be redirected to this new Vanco app (for non recurring donations). People who are set up for recurring donations need to do nothing unless you want to make changes in the future.

Any questions feel free to call Mike at the Church (715) 748-3391  
Between 9-1 Monday's through Thursdays

### Search committee met on 9-23-21 at 6pm

Attendance: Anna, Mike, Jerry, Rebecca, Scott, Tamara

Special guest: Franz Rigert

Franz talked to the Search committee about the church profile. He talked to the committee about how to read a candidate profile and things to look for on each profile. Franz described the interview process for a candidate, extending an invitation to call and the protocols in the process.

Franz explained that confidentiality is very important in this process. The committee can not share the names or locations of the candidates.

The Search committee has the charge to find the candidate that is a good fit for our church. The Church Council has the authority to approve the financial package offered to the new pastor.

The Congregation has the final say (vote) on the candidate.

The Search committee will communicate to the members of the church on the status of the process through the newsletter.

Next steps of the committee is to come up with questions to ask candidates during the interview process.

Committee will meet again on October 7th at 6pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 7pm.



MOON BEACH is nestled in the Northwoods, **between** Eagle River and St. Germain on the shores of Moon Lake & Little Saint Germain Lake. Cabins overlook Moon Lake amongst the native pine, oak and birch trees. Here you'll enjoy clear waters, mixed forests with numerous nature trails, and a wide variety of wildlife. Enjoy the peaceful quiet of northern Wisconsin at Moon Beach Camp.

**RELAX, UNWIND, DISCONNECT, RECONNECT, BREATHE,  
AND BE WITH OUR CREATOR**

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

WE WANT TO GIVE SO MUCH MORE! WE WANT TO HELP YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES DO SOMETHING THAT IS NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE IN SOCIETY TODAY ... WE WANT TO HELP PROTECT THE SABBATH! THE CRAZINESS OF OUR 24/7, SOCIAL MEDIA-INFUSED, "PULLED IN EVERY DIRECTION" LIVES HAS TRAMPLED ALL OVER ANY CONCEPT OF SABBATH. WE OVERSCHEDULE, OVERCOMMIT, AND OVERWHELM SO MUCH THAT THERE IS NO ROOM TO LISTEN TO GOD.

LET'S GIVE CONTROL BACK TO GOD. TAKE TIME RIGHT NOW TO MAKE  
A DATE WITH THE DIVINE!

**[REGISTER](#)**

UPCOMING EVENTS

**[SEE FULL CALENDAR](#)**



all children have the right  
to simply be children...

*'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me — you did it to me.'* — Matthew 25:40 (The Message)

DONATE

**Neighbors in Need (NIN)** is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the [Council for American Indian Ministry \(CAIM\)](#). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

Most UCC congregations will receive the NIN offering on **August to September, 2021** as part of their World Communion Sunday observance. However, some local churches select another date. NIN contributions can be made online at any time [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.

## A Prayer For Inner Strength

Dear God,

Please give me the strength to face the day and to see the many blessings that it contains.

Give me the courage to walk on, no matter how long the path or how many turns the road holds.

Guide my thoughts so that I walk in love and peace and with gratitude stamped on my heart.



Ramblings of the Clairy

## COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

President- Scott Knoff (2023)  
Vice President- Gloria Christianson (2023)  
Recording Secretary- Pam Ouimette (2023)  
Financial Sec.- Jerry Goen-Penney (2023)  
Treasurer- Mark Jensen (2022)  
Mark Dassow(2024)  
Paula Johnson (2023)  
Jackie Hierlmeier (2024)

Year exiting in February



## Scrip cards

Please give me a call (Mike) at 715-748-3391 Monday thru Thursday 9-1 to make arrangements for pick up. Thank you in advance

Shopping?

Why not use SCRIP?

SCRIP cards make nice gifts.

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

County Market, Kwik-Trip, Arby's, Subway, Amazon, Fourmens, Fleet farm, and Maurice's are available



## #digitalonly-Newsletter

You can receive this newsletter by email. If you would like to try the digital option, send an email to: [cuccofmedford@gmail.com](mailto:cuccofmedford@gmail.com) or call 715-748-3391 and ask to be added to the email newsletter list

## SEPTEMBER FINANCES:

As of 9-30-2021

Income \$ 7,193.50

Expenses \$ 5,896.04

# October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> Zoom : Faith Formation 9:30 Worship 1000 and Communion <a href="#">Worship on Facebook 1000am</a>	<b>4</b> Mike 9-1	<b>5</b> Mike 9-1	<b>6</b> Mike 9-1 Cerebration at 630pm via Zoom	<b>7</b> Mike 9-1 Pastors office hours 10-12	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Zoom : Faith Formation 9:30 Worship 1000 <a href="#">Worship on Facebook 1000am</a>	<b>11</b> Mike 9-1 Page turners via Zoom at and Parsonage 630 pm	<b>12</b> Mike 9-1 Candlelight meeting at 530pm	<b>13</b> Mike 9-1	<b>14</b> Mike 9-1 Pastors office hours 10-12 Council 615 pm Zoom and in person (church)	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> Zoom : Faith Formation 9:30 Worship 1000 <a href="#">Worship on Facebook 1000am</a>	<b>18</b> Mike 9-1 Five practices 630 pm zoom	<b>19</b> Mike 9-1	<b>20</b> Mike 9-1 Cerebration at 630pm via Zoom	<b>21</b> Mike 9-1 Pastors office hours 10-12	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Zoom : Faith Formation 9:30 Worship 1000 <a href="#">Worship on Facebook 1000am</a>	<b>25</b> Mike 9-1	<b>26</b> Mike 9-1	<b>27</b> Mike 9-1	<b>28</b> Mike 9-1 Pastors office hours in person and Zoom 10-12	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> Zoom : Faith Formation 9:30 Worship 1000 <a href="#">Worship on Facebook 1000am</a>						



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.”**



**Worship at 10:00 on Sundays  
or virtually on Facebook live,  
(click on link below)  
Community United  
Church of Christ  
(Facebook live)**

**"Faith Formation Time  
with Children" 9:30  
(click on link below)  
[VIA Zoom](#)**