



January 2022 Newsletter

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

510 E. Broadway Ave, Medford, WI 54451

To contact Mike the Church Secretary call 715—748-3391 (church office) 9-1 Monday thru Thursday

Church website: www.uccmedford.org. Online worship ([Facebook live](#))

cuccofmedford@gmail.com

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES December 9, 2021

OPENING Scott K. called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

PRAYER OF GUIDANCE

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

ABSENT Mark D.

CONSENT AGENDA

SECRETARY'S REPORT The November minutes were emailed prior to the meeting for preview per the Consent Agenda method. Mark J. made a motion to approve the minutes. Gloria C. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT The November Treasurer's Reports were emailed prior to the meeting for preview per the Consent Agenda method. Pam O. made motion to accept the report. Jackie H. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT None

GROUP AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

- The committee met to review the 5-year Building and Grounds project list:
- **PRIORITY:** Church bathrooms; combine to create unisex, disabled accessible facilities; Jerry G.-P. to procure bids by next month for 2022 budget
- Tabled for future discussion:
 - Parsonage upstairs flooring
 - Parsonage windows and upstairs exit door over balcony
 - Parsonage furnace
 - Church parking lot blacktop
 - Parsonage garage; possibly work with High School tech ed on project tech ed through high school for project

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FIVE PRACTICES

The Five Practices Team distributed the 2021 Advent Blessing Box Calendar via weekly email and will distribute copies with bulletins on Sunday mornings in December.

- The Team suggested placing a Christmas ad in the Shopper on December 14 and December 21. Ad shared with the Council and approved for placement. Pam will place ad.
- Team decided not to host a Fellowship Around the Fire Ring until Spring
- The Team decided not to organize a Caroling Choir this year.

- The team talked with Tamara about the design of the service and the inclusion of the Children's Faith Formation group and Confirmants.

CANDLELIGHT GUILD

- The Guild met for a Pot Luck Supper and Church Decoration on November 30. • They will not be meeting again until January, and at that time they will discuss donating to the cost of the new Smart TV.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

- Rob MacDougal is to send profiles for review at the next meeting.
- The next meeting date is to be determined.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Council decided that we send an Christmas card to Joanie D. with member signatures. Pam O. will purchase card and members will be encouraged to sign at Sunday services in December.
- Will send a plant from church when she's feeling better
- Change in Sunday Service Hours
 - o The vote to change or retain Sunday Service hours will be part of the Annual Meeting Agenda
- Annual Meeting
 - o Date: January 30, 2022
 - o Committee reports deadline: January 6 in editable version (MS Word or Google Docs)
 - o Letter from Council President and Annual Report completed for pick up in Church: January 12
- New Council Members: We will begin recruiting new Council members in December and January.

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.OLD BUSINESS

- 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.

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

- Sunday worship volunteers, appeal in

- o Readers: Mike G.-P. to arrange Sunday Readers

- o Greeters: We will make email and church announcement appeal to members to sign up
- o Video: Scott K., Mike G., Jerry G.-P.

- Mike distributed copies of the 2022 budget for review prior to the meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Next Regular Meeting: January 13, 2022 at 6:15 pm via Zoom and live in the Fellowship Hall.

CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT After a closing blessing and reciting the Lord's Prayer, the Council members went directly into Adjournment with no Closed Session. Jerry G.-P. made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Pam O. seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm.

Letter from Council President (Scott Knoff)

Greetings,

As we progress through this holiday season, end of year and the season of cold, we begin to look forward to this next year. We will process the end of year finances, end of year reports from our committees and groups and prepare our annual report for our members.

As we look forward to this next year, we are looking for members to join our Council. We are looking for members who would consider being a greeter for worship. There are so many things that are behind the scenes made possible by a dedicated core of volunteers cleaning and decorating our church, making decisions that make worship, meetings and events a pleasant experience.

I and my family wish each of you a blessed and joyful year 2022. May all your hopes and dreams come true.

I hope to see you attend our Church's Annual meeting on Sunday Jan 30, 2022. We will elect Council members for a three year term and discuss our budget plans and make decisions for our church's future.

God Bless,

Scott Knoff

Council President



Hello Community United Church Of Christ,

How are you doing? Answer honestly.

For me, it feels like the shortened sunlight, virus variants, and deadly storms are weighing heavily. I don't always have the right words of hope to share. Thankfully, we are blessed with many great teachers of faith. Here are some words that I needed to hear from Kenneth L. Samuel, Pastor of Victory for the World Church, Stone Mountain, Georgia.

"Advent is all about a light that refuses to go out. It's about an expectancy of new life that refuses to surrender to the scorching rays of distress. It's about a star of hope that will not surrender its light to any searing season of turmoil. Faith is relentless."

We also know that having something to look forward to can help and we are hoping you are looking forward to 2022 UCCI camps, events, and retreats as much as we are. There are some important updates to our policies surrounding Covid-19. For 2022, all registered guests and event participants ages 5 and up will be required to submit proof of Covid-19 vaccination or a negative test result from a test administered within 24 hours of arrival. Friends, please don't view this as a burden, view it as an opportunity to love your neighbor. You can find more details along with some Q&A on our website.

Here is our 2022 digital event brochure – grab your calendars, a cup of coffee, and start planning – REGISTRATION OPENS on Saturday, January 8, 2022, at 9:09 a.m.

In this season, we want you to know that Outdoor Ministry is here for you. If you need a change of scenery, change of pace, some time to restore your faith, please come be our guest. Let us serve you and share our hospitality.

Peace,

Glenn Svetnicka

Executive Director

glenn@ucci.org

Annual meeting information

Community United Church of Christ's annual meeting will be after Worship on January 30, 2022. Annual meeting packets will be available in the Fellowship hall for pick-up after January 15, 2022. Council President will be getting out the letter to congregation (members) for the Annual meeting on January 12, 2022 by mail. Please join us, look forward on seeing you there. God bless and stay safe and healthy.

Michael Goen-Penney

Church Secretary/Bookkeeper/Office Manager/NWA treasurer

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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

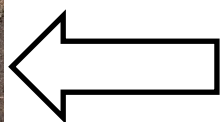
Please share this information:

***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!

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:



Church Council Meeting, January 13h, at 6:15 [in](#) person and on Zoom

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.

The Candlelight Guild met on Tuesday, November 9th at 5:30.

The Candlelight Guild hosted the Christmas decorating of the Sanctuary with a pot luck to follow on November 30th. Octogenarian gifts were delivered mid December. We headed two funeral luncheons in the last 4 weeks. Thank you to everyone who was able to bake and prepare salads for these luncheons. Thank you to those who came out to cook, serve and clean up following these important events in the life of our church. The Candlelight Guild will hold their next meeting with the 5 Practice team on January 4th at 5:30. All are welcome! Please join us! For the CG, Dawn



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

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 January 1, 2022 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 11-01-2021 at 6pm

Attendance: Mike, Jerry, Scott, Tamara, Anna

No update (no change)

Next meeting: To be determined

Meeting was adjourned at 630pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Michael Goen—Penney.

*Bear in mind that the results of
our choices can be incredibly
significant.*

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.

Dear God,
On this day I ask You to grant this request?
May I know who I am and what I am, every moment of every day.
May I be a catalyst for light and love, and bring inspiration to those whose eyes I meet.
May I have the strength to stand tall in the face of conflict, and the courage to speak my voice, even when I'm scared.
May I have the humility to follow my heart, and the passion to live my soul's desires.
May I seek to know the highest truth, and dismiss the gravitational pull of my lower self.
May I embrace and love the totality of myself? My darkness as well as my light.
May I be brave enough to hear my heart? To let it soften so that I may gracefully choose faith over fear.
Today is my day to surrender anything that stands between the sacredness of my humanity and my divinity.
May I be drenched in my Holiness and engulfed by Your love.
May all else melt away.
And so it is.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

President- Scott Knoff (2022)
Vice President– Gloria Christianson (2022)
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
We are looking to fill 3 positions



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 or call 715-748-3391 and ask to be added to the email newsletter list

DECEMBER FINANCES:

As of 12-30-2021
Income \$ 5,835.97
Expenses \$ 6,250.48

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <i>Faith Formation 9:30</i> <i>Worship and communion at 1000am with Pastor Tamara Dassow</i> <u>Worship and communion on Facebook 1000am</u>	3 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	4 <i>Mike 9-1</i> <i>Candlelight guild and Five practices meeting together at 530 pm</i>	5 <i>Mike 9-1</i> <i>Confirmation 330 to 500pm</i>	6 <i>Mike 9-1</i> <i>Reports due from committee chairs</i>	7	8
9 <i>Pastor Tamara Dassow doing Worship 1000am</i> <u>Worship on Facebook 1000am</u>	10 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	11 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	12 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	13 <i>Mike 9-1</i> <i>Council meeting 615 pm via Zoom and in person</i>	14	15
16 <i>Pastor Elizabeth doing Worship at 1000am</i> <u>Worship on Facebook 1000am</u>	17 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	18 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	19 <i>Mike 9-1</i> <i>Confirmation 330 to 500pm</i>	20 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	21	22
23 <i>Pastor Jill C. doing Worship at 1000am</i> <u>Worship on Facebook 1000am</u>	24 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	25 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	26 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	27 <i>Mike 9-1</i>	28	29
30 <i>Pastor Elizabeth doing Worship at 1000am</i> <u>Worship on Facebook 1000am</u> <i>Annual meeting after Worship</i>	31 <i>Mike 9-1</i>					

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)**

**Communion on the first Sunday
of the month**

**"Faith Formation Time
with Children" 9:30**