



Sept 2023 Newsletter

- Come join us for Worship on Sunday mornings at 9 AM and virtually at uccmedford.org/media
510 E. Broadway Ave, Medford, WI 54451 715-748-3391 (church office)
Church website: www.uccmedford.org. Online worship ([Facebook live](#)) cuccofmedford@gmail.com
“Like” us on Facebook: Community United Church of Christ, Medford, Wisconsin

MESSAGE FROM CUCC COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Greetings to all,

Our Church began searching for a pastor to serve our congregation over two years ago. Our search committee worked hard, preparing a church profile, working with the Conference leadership and finally sending it out. I would like to thank those members who served on the search committee with me: Dan Hirt, Mike Goen, Jerry Penney, Anna Grube, Tamara Dassow, Pam Ouimette, & Linda Reynolds.

On August 6th, our church voted to call Tamara Dassow Cox to serve our Church as 1/4 time pastor. She will preach 2 Sundays a month and we will continue to utilize Pulpit supply on the other Sundays. This marks the end of one journey through our search and the beginning of another. Through our call, we ask and agree that this is a partnership between the person we called and our church membership. Our Church has a humble beginning and it took time to find a location and erect the building we worship in. Our church building has been remodeled several times to fit the needs of our members. We are blessed that our predecessors saw fit to invest in the buildings and furnishings we have these days. As we move forward; let us, the members, remember we are the Church. We meet in the church building, worship in the sanctuary, visit with fellow members in the fellowship hall, kitchen and other rooms in our church. We support the community through making our building available for meetings, providing food and other supplies to those in need. We have a rich history of supporting our community.

Now; as we call a new pastor, we must remember what this call truly means. This is where we must support, learn, grow and invest in our Church, our Pastor and our fellow members. Our offerings have met our expenses for the first six months of 2023. Thanks to all our members for the continued support of our church. Our fellowship hall has a new coat of paint, thanks to the Candlelight Guild. The Church Council, on advice from our financial advisors, moved funds from Bonds to CDs to take advantage of better interest rates. We are fortunate, as we see other local small churches closing.

We replaced the Gutters on the front of the parsonage, We replaced 2 window glass in the Church and now noticed another that will need to be replaced. The second story porch on the parsonage needs some work and we are gathering bids for that now.

As we begin this Journey with a new pastor, remember to be patient. Please; if you have concerns about services or something else, follow up with the appropriate person first. Five Practices group is filling the role of Pastoral Relations now and the Church Council receives monthly reports from this Group.

I end with this Prayer for Our Church. May we ask anew what it means to be the Church in our time, our place. And as we call a new pastor to our congregation, may we welcome according to your Spirit the one you are sending to us to lead us into the new days ahead. Amen.

Scott Knoff
Council President

CUCC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 8-10-2023

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

PRAYER OF GUIDANCE

PRESENT Scott K., Mark J., Jerry G.-P., Mark D., Jackie H., Paula J.

VISITORS Pam O., Cindy K.

ABSENT Gloria C.

CONSENT AGENDA

SECRETARY'S REPORT The June Meetings, Special Meeting Minutes, and Call Service Meeting Minutes and minutes were emailed prior to the meeting for preview per the Consent Agenda method. Jackie H. made a motion to approve the minutes. Mark J. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT The June Treasurer's Reports were emailed prior to the meeting and approved per the Consent Agenda method. Jerry G.-P. made motion to accept the report. Mark D. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

GROUP AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDING AND GROUNDS—Jerry G.-P. replaced the sign in the side garden and repainted the sign posts.

Cindy K. and Jerry G.-P. did a walk-thru of the parsonage. Getting estimates to repair the balcony above the back door.

Mark J. will replace the glass in the Fellowship Hall window that is chipped. Need to replace glass in a Fellowship window which is chipped.

FIVE PRACTICES—The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 6 pm.

CHRISTIAN ED—Nothing to report.

CANDLELIGHT GUILD—Reconvened from summer break in August. Planning Fall Soup Supper for October 14 and Holiday Fair on November 4. Asked if Five Practices will do Holiday Fair lunch.

SEARCH COMMITTEE—No report

NEW BUSINESS

Pastor Tamara's contract needs to be signed and sent into Conference Office.

Quicken Loans has been contacted to help Cindy K. organize monthly financial reports.

Council seats open for 2024: Jackie H. and Mark D.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID disinfecting continues weekly.

NEXT MEETING: Next Regular Meeting: September 14, 2023, at 6:15 live in the Fellowship Hall/Zoom optional.

CLOSED SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT After a closing blessing and reciting the Lord's Prayer, the Council members went directly into Adjournment with no Closed Session. Mark J. made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark D. seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pam Ouimette, Volunteer Recording Secretary

CANDLE LIGHT GUILD NEWS

The Candlelight Guild has set some dates for the upcoming fall and holiday season. We have a date set for the **Fall Soup Supper**, Saturday, October 14th from 4-7 and the annual **Holiday Fair** will be held on Saturday, November 4th 9-2.

The bucket raffle has been very popular and will start at the Soup Supper and winners will be drawn and prizes distributed at 1:00 on the date of the Holiday Fair. If you would like to donate a prize for the raffle, if possible, please have it to us before the start of the Soup Supper on October 14th. We again will place a sign up for the soup ingredients and helpers as the event draws near.

The next meeting of the Candlelight Guild will be held on Wednesday, September 6th at 6 pm. Join us for continuing traditions of our church and making new ones! Bring your ideas and join us!

For the CG Dawn

Hello all,

I'm writing this on a balmy (ok, downright HOT) day and I hope everyone is enjoying the waning days of summer as we end August. I want to offer a thank you to all of you. Thank you for putting your trust in me and being open to new ways of ministering within our church and within our community. I look forward to the journey we have ahead of us and am excited to be starting this journey at Community UCC of Medford. The road ahead is wide open and ready for us to take it on. I always look forward to feedback on what is working and what is not working; that's the only way we can grow together.

We are on the cusp of building our congregation into something even bigger than it already is--we can make impacts in our church, in our community, in our world. And it takes all of us together to accomplish this. So please, share your ideas. I hope to see too many ideas to implement! That would be a true blessing for our church.

Let's get this journey started with a great start to the school year for our children! We're starting up Sunday School again at 8:30 am on Sundays (unless there is no school on Friday before or Monday after) so please join us and send more kids in. Confirmation is taking a break this year and we will start up again next year with a new class. Our book study is continuing and will soon be looking at a new book.

First Wednesday of the month meditations are still ongoing at 5:30 pm. We are going to start using a Zoom link also so those who can't get to church can also watch. If you don't have your email with the church yet, please share it with the church office so you're on the mailing list! To start out our Zoom connections, I will be live on Zoom from Branson, MO on September 6th.

Also, if you know of people who need some home visits, please let the church office, a council member, or me know. I will be starting some home visits in September.

Thank you again for your faith in me. I'm humbled and truly honored.

Shalom,

Pastor Tamara





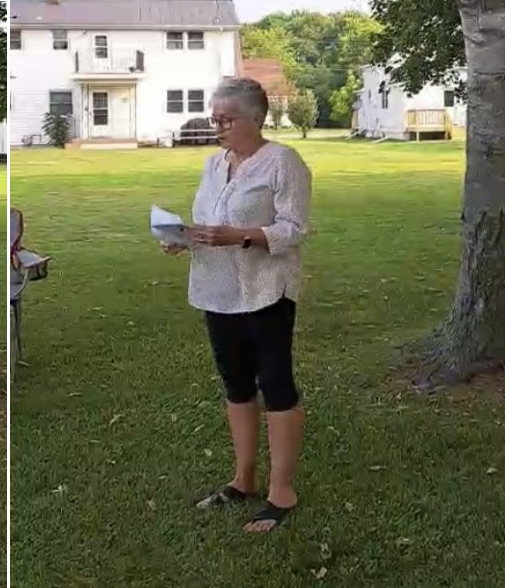
READERS FOR OUTDOOR SERVICE 8-20-2023



CINDY KNOFF



DAWN BRINK



GLORIA CHRISTIANSON



Offering delivered by: Amelia & Dylan Hoffmann



**Special music by:
PJ Prothero**



PRIDE TRIBE member Jerry Goen Penney announced (at the 8-20-2023 outdoor service) that \$1750 was awarded as the **MICHAEL GOEN PENNEY** School Scholarship for 2023.

CUCC JULY FINANCES:

As of July 31, 2023

Income \$6568

Expenses \$3659



Potluck held on 8-20-2023 after the outdoor service



Sunday School Starts Sept. 10th

Mark your calendars! CUCC Sunday School will begin again starting Sept. 10th at 8:30 am prior to the 9 am service meeting in the Pastor's office. We welcome all congregation children to attend and bring your friends/family to enjoy the fun and fellowship.



FREE FOR ALL

CUCC 5 Practices Group will again be participating in the Medford "City Wide Garage Sale Day" on Friday, Sept 8th from 9 am to 2 pm by hosting a "FREE FOR ALL". So be sure to gather up all those unwanted treasures you no longer have need of. All items donated to the church will be given away (Free will donations accepted). Donated items will be accepted at the church beginning Monday, Aug. 28th. (no electrical appliances, computer equipment or exercise equipment). If you are interested in helping or have any questions please contact the Church office for further information. (Mon or Wed 9 am—1 pm)

*Stepping
Stones* ^{INC}

TAYLOR COUNTY, WI

The congregation of CUCC is being cordially invited to attend a special presentation by **Stepping Stones** at the Medford United Methodist Church (287 E. Allman St.) on Wednesday, **Sept. 20**. Lunch will be served at **12:30** with the presentation commencing at **1:15 pm**, it'll be about 30—40 minutes with time for questions. Anyone interested please contact Meriam in the church office (715-748-3391) by Sunday Sept 17th (as we need to rsvp to them by the 18th so they know how much food to prepare).



Behold!

*"God saw everything God made
and behold, it was very good."*

Genesis 1:31



The **Neighbors in Need** offering, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through our national Justice and Local Church Ministries office, <https://tinyurl.com/2bfyatb>, you can find resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hockak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.

BEHOLD! With your assistance, we together can help our **Neighbors in Need**

Sept 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Worship & Communion 9 am Pastor Tamara Dassow Cox	4	5	6 Midweek De- votion Service 5:30 pm. Pastor Tamara Candle Light Guild mtg 6 pm	7 Book Study— <u>A More Perfect</u> <u>Union</u> 5:30 pm	8 “Free For All” 9 am—2 pm	9
10 Christian Ed. 8:30 am Worship 9 am Pastor Elizabeth Hazel	11	12	13	14 Council Mtg 6:15 pm	15	16
17 Christian Ed 8:30 am Worship 9 am Pastor Tamara Dassow Cox	18	19	20	21 Search Comm. Mtg 6 pm 5 Practices mtg right afterwards	22	23
24 Christian Ed. 8:30 am Worship 9 am Pastor Mary Wright	25	26	27	28	29	30