

September 2022

BETHEL MESSENGER



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From the Pastor

Just as I am, though tossed about
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down;
Now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
With many a conflict, many a doubt
Fighting with, and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind;
Yes, all I need in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

It has been a beautiful day, sunny, warm not hot. The birds are singing and flying across the yard. The hummingbirds are stopping by the salvia for a quick meal. But I know it is only a short time until the leaves start turning colors and the frost brings the growing season to an end.

Knowing the fall was coming I decided to look ahead at the scripture readings. After reading them I thought of the hymn, *Just As I Am*.

Our church hymnal has 6 verses, but I have included only four of the verses on purpose. They speak to the Son of God who meets us where we are. In the next few weeks Jesus will be criticized by the Pharisees and

Scribes, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

I am very thankful that Jesus welcomed sinners, I certainly fall into that category. Most people, probably all people, fall into that category. If we believe we do not perhaps we are trying to fool ourselves and others. But this song reminds us that Jesus welcomes and pardons us.

Something I noticed for the first time as I am looking at the words is "many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings within, and fears without" and "healing of the mind" all speak of our internal feelings. I am also thankful that Jesus welcomed everyone with perfect love. Perfect love casts out fear – a fear of not being good enough.

Perhaps we are most welcoming when we recognize that we are an imperfect church, filled with imperfect people who are doing our best to learn to love as God loves – with perfect love.

Just as I am, Your love unknown, Has broken every barrier down, O Lamb of God, I come, I come. Amen.

We received this from the Wisconsin Conference:

"At the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Conference UCC, the Board of Directors presented a Resolution of Witness to declare the Wisconsin Conference a WISE Conference for Mental Health. This resolution was presented, and is supported, by the Wisconsin Conference WISE Team. WISE for Mental Health – the acronym stands for Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged – is an official designation offered through the UCC Mental Health Network to congregations, conferences, and other faith communities and organizations.

The process for adopting a Resolution of Witness calls for a vote of the Annual Meeting when first brought forth, followed by a year of study and engagement by local congregations, and a confirming vote at the next year's Annual Meeting. The confirming vote will take place if at least 30 percent, or 64, of the congregations in the Conference report that they have studied the issue. Such study can be in the manner chosen by the local church. The local study calls only for some discussion; it does not require that any action be taken or decision be voted on. March 1, 2023, is the deadline for reporting to the Conference that your congregation has engaged in study, reflection or discussion.

Although the resolution process requires that only 30 percent of our congregations study the issue by March, the Wisconsin Conference WISE Team has set an aspirational goal of having at least 10 percent, or 21, of our congregations designated WISE or working toward WISE designation by next June. Will your congregation accept that challenge?"

Expect an announcement about a study of the WISE resolution in the near future.

Dates to Remember

- September 11th** Ada Firemen's Parade and Picnic Sunday School Students are invited to walk in the parade.
- September 18th** First Sunday of Sunday School
- September 28th** Confirmation Event at Lakeland University
- October 5th** 11 AM to 6:30 PM Drive thru Chili Supper
- December 18th** 10:00 AM SS Christmas Program
- December 24th** 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship
- December 25th** 10:00 AM Christmas Day Worship
- February 5th 2023** Annual Meeting
- April 2nd 2023** Confirmation



September 18th "Faith In The Fall" Music Festival 10AM – 2PM
Our Shepherd UCC Howards Grove
Food Available Please bring your own lawn chair. canned Goods will be collected for the Sheboygan County Food Bank



Thank You

We would like to thank Karen Lisowe for the years she has spent on the Long Term Planning Committee. She remains on the Worship and Mission Committee.

We would like to thank Joyce Loy for her years of dedication to the Worship Committee. She is now joining the Mission Committee.

We would like to thank Bill and Mary Johnston for helping diagnose the telephone problem and their part in getting the problem fixed, as well as getting the WiFi fixed.

Food Bank

Immanuel UCC Food Bank is now open on Saturday Mornings. (they are no longer open Thursday afternoon)

HuTerra Fundraiser

Many of our local, most used businesses are no longer included by HuTerra. These were the businesses that we were making most of our funds from. Therefore it has been decided that we are no longer going to participate in this fundraiser. THANK YOU to all who have been using their app or turning in receipts to be submitted. We should be receiving their last check shortly.

Tentative Bell Choir Practices:

Wednesday, Sept. 14th	7 – 8pm
Wednesday, Sept. 21st	7 – 8
Wednesday, Oct. 12th	7 – 8
Wednesday, Oct. 19th	7 – 8
Wednesday, Oct. 26th	7 - 8
Wednesday, Nov. 2nd	7 - 8
Wednesday, Nov. 9th	7 - 8
Wednesday, Nov. 16th	7 - 8
Wednesday, Nov. 30th	7 - 8
Wednesday, Dec. 7th	7 – 8
Wednesday, Dec. 14th	7 – 8
Wednesday, Dec. 21st	7 - 8

Bell Choir will be playing:

Sunday, October 23rd
 Sunday, November 20th
 Sunday, December 4th
 Sunday, December 25th



Christmas Band

It's time to dust off your horn. We are gathering to play some Christmas music sometime during the month of December. Rehearsals will begin in November. *We will decide on rehearsal times and performance dates in October.

Even if you have just begun band lessons or perhaps you have not played in ? years, we will find music for everyone. If you are looking for an opportunity to play in smaller groups, we can find music.

Please let Jodi know if you are interested; need an instrument; need a fingering chart; or need some help getting back into playing form. Perhaps you are looking to play another instrument such as trumpet instead of french horn... please let Jodi know.

Sunday School Update

September brings us to another season of Sunday school classes. This year we will use the 'Hands On Bible' curriculum for both of our class groupings. There are 9--- pre-school through 3rd graders together and 8--- 4th through 6th graders. Classes will begin on Sunday, September 18th at 8:45a.m. Bring your Christmas project ideas. The youth Bibles will be presented to the 2nd graders on this Sunday. They are---Jackson Stuckmann—Theresa DuCharme—Leo Dunton.

On Sunday, September 11th, we are planning to march in the Ada Firemen's Parade. Please wear your V.B.S. crocodile shirt if weather permits. I will send information out to all the students beforehand.

Vacation Bible school in August was a blast. We had 24 students and enjoyed learning about Moses. The students did a great job of presenting the stories to the congregation on the following Sunday. The offering we collected for the week amounted to \$50.50 Special items for a cancer stricken child were purchased and delivered to Project Angel Hugs in Plymouth.

Sunday school superintendent, Mardell Blohm

Bell Choir

Have you been curious? Are you ready?
 Ready to explore playing handbells?

Did you or do you currently play an instrument or sing while in school? Or, perhaps you would like to try something new ... You are responsible for playing and reading music for two bells. No experience necessary.

If you have an interest in playing with the bell choir please talk to a member.

The bell choir will begin practicing in September.



Consistory Minutes

August 9th, 2022

Members Present: Kim Rietbrock, Randy Henschel, Mary Johnston, Steve Blohm, Rachel Voss & Pastor Diane Cayemberg. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Regular Meeting:

The secretary minutes from June & July were reviewed. There was a motion (Randy/Mary) to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

The treasurer reports were reviewed for June & July. There was a motion (Mary/Randy) to approve all the treasurer reports. The motion carried unanimously.

Staff Review:

- Mardell Blohm (Sunday School Superintendent)
 - \$50.50 was collected during Vacation Bible School, which will be donated to Project Angel House.
 - Seventeen students are expected to attend Sunday School in fall with students divided into two groups.
 - The first day of Sunday School will be Sept. 18th.
 - Teachers are NEEDED – if you are interested in helping, please contact Mardell!
 - A tax-exempt card was requested to make the purchasing of Sunday School Supplies easier on Group Publishing Site.
 - Sunday School kids will walk in the Ada Parade on Sept. 11th – with lunch being donated for participating kids by the Rietbrock Family (ticket will be good for a sandwich, soda, and a bag of chips).

- The Sunday School Christmas program will be during the church service on Dec. 18th.
- Janet Wesley (Music Team)
 - Kudos to Pastor Diane for getting music in earlier than requested – thank you!
 - Looking for someone younger for organ playing and the Worship Team.
- Jodi Voss (Music Team)
 - The Bells group is going well, and they have been practicing in quartets for the fall season.
 - A Christmas band will be organized, depending on interest.

Pastor's Report:

- Vacation Bible School was held August 2nd - August 5th. 24 kids attended with the program held on Sunday, August 7th.
- Visited Shut-Ins – Joan Meyer & Carol Eckhardt
- Boundary Training has been completed and the certification is good for 4 years.
- Information is being collected so that it can be presented at the annual meeting to the congregation to see if the church would like to be a WISE Congregation.
 - This will require $\frac{3}{4}$ of the congregation to study the WISE program before next year's vote at the Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Conference of the UCC.
 - The conference will send out materials however that is not the purpose of the material.

Old/Unfinished Business

- 1) Review of upcoming Schedule:
 - August 21st – Bonnie Ziegler will lead Worship.
 - September 11th – Church Service begins at 10am.

- September 18th – Bonnie Ziegler will lead Worship, and Bell Choir Quartet will perform.
 - Sunday School begins.
- September 25th – Cary Knier Johannes to lead Worship with Bell Choir Quartets to perform.
- October 2nd – Worldwide Communion Sunday

2) Long-Range Planning Committee – Karen Lisowe sent note of resignation. Carol Matzdorf and Faye Spindler remain on the committee and have scheduled meetings through the fall to review and update the existing Long-Range Plan. One or two more members for the committee would be welcome.

3) Existing Teams and Committees. The Consistory agreed to review the existing teams and committees at the September meeting to pare down the existing list to what is currently relevant.

4) Apple Pie Sale – No apple pie sale for 2022. Review of whether to continue this fund-raiser will be addressed at the Annual Meeting, and if continued, a new chairperson will be necessary, as Faye Spindler has resigned.

5) Resealing – Steve Blohm will contact Back2Black Sealcoat & Crack fill about resealing the parking lot next June or July.

6) Missing Shingles – The shingles that were reported missing will be replaced or and glued down by Tim Voss and David Voss

New Business

- Confirmation students will attend the event at Lakeland College with Rev. Dr. Christopher Grundy of Eden Seminary on September 28th.
 - Confirmation will be on Wednesday nights in September & October and may switch to Sundays in the winter months.
 - Campfire will be held at the Raquets – date to be determined.
- Communication from Chili Supper Chairperson was reviewed and approved: Chili supper will be held on Wednesday, October 5th with drive-thru

service only, serving from 11 am to 6:30pm. Julie Huber Mueller is generously donating all 80 pounds of beef that is needed.

- After a suggestion by a congregation member, the Consistory decided to donate \$500 from the Fund-Raising Savings to the Immanuel Food Pantry. There was a motion (Rachel/Mary) to donate \$500 to purchase scrip cards for Piggly Wiggly. The motion carried unanimously.
- The Annual Meeting will be held on February 5, 2023.
- A suggestion was made by a congregation member about purchasing a defibrillator for the church. The matter was tabled for further review.

There was a motion (Steve/Mary) to adjourn at 8:40 pm. The motion carried unanimously. We ended with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Voss

Sunday School Teachers Needed

We are looking for additional Sunday School Teachers. Last year the Sunday School split the children in to two age groups to enhance learning. We encourage anyone who enjoys working with young people to contact Mardell Blohm if you would like to help teach our children.

Planning Members Needed

We are looking for additional Long Term Planning Members. If you would enjoy developing a vision for the future of Bethel UCC we would invite you to join our planning team. Please contact Pastor Diane or Kim Rietbrock.



No kidding

Whatever our age, God calls us to model holy living for others.



Directions: Match the animal young with its parent. Then write the letter answers in order below to complete 1 Timothy 4:12, NIV.



- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. ___ bear | 9. ___ monkey | A. fry | I. hatchling |
| 2. ___ frog | 10. ___ platypus | B. fawn | K. foal |
| 3. ___ owl | 11. ___ alligator | C. gosling | L. owlet |
| 4. ___ horse | 12. ___ giraffe | D. cub | M. puggle |
| 5. ___ kangaroo | 13. ___ goose | E. kid | N. joey |
| 6. ___ deer | 14. ___ swan | F. cygnet | O. polliwog |
| 7. ___ goat | 15. ___ dog | G. infant | P. puppy |
| 8. ___ fish | | H. calf | |

“ ₁on’t let any ₂ne ₃oo ₄down o ₅ you ₆eca ₇us
 you ₈re youn ₉, but set an exa ₁₀ple for the bel ₁₁evers
 in spec ₁₂, in ₁₃onduct, in love, in ₁₄aith and in ₁₅urity.”

1 TIMOTHY 4:12, NIV

Answer: D, O, L, K, N, B, E, A, G, M, I, H, C, F, P