

October 2022

# BETHEL MESSENGER



Bethel UCC, W4225 County Line Road, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020  
[www.bethelucc-ada.org](http://www.bethelucc-ada.org) (920) 565-2977

## From the Pastor

For the second year in a row Tom and I headed to North Carolina to see family. Within months of our last visit two Uncles passed from this world to the next. Those visits were worth more than gold. There is a family story from the time I was a toddler that says that when it rained my Uncle Quentin put a chair over my footprints in the dirt so they would not be washed away. Uncle Quentin also took a film of me chasing a poor rooster around and around a bush. Break to me pointing for my brother to go the other way and break again to me holding that rooster.

There are pictures of me sitting at the kitchen table holding a rabbit dressed in a doll's dress. I would feed the cattle apples from a tree just outside their reach across the fence. Family tradition says that the cattle would come to the fence and bellow for weeks after we returned to Wisconsin hoping that I would come and feed them. I had all the fun of life on a farm without any of the hard work. Though there are many stories of the adventures and misadventures of my Father and his siblings it is highly unlikely any of them were as spoiled as I was.

In the 1960's there were students in my classes that had never been outside Manitowoc County. Many of us don't have to go back too many generations to trace our family trees to Europe. But that trip from one continent to another was usually a once in a lifetime journey. Family didn't drift too far from the homestead where they grew up. Perhaps there was a move seeking employment, but that was not the norm. Military service called young men far from home, Sandy Knier's great-grandfather into the Civil War, Ken

Dedering to Europe in the Second World War, Dan Huber to Vietnam.

But today travel outside the continuous United States of America is no longer an exotic adventure. Young people intern in Europe and take extended trips around Europe. Cassidy spent a summer in the Galapagos Islands. It is nothing to go to Mexico or Hawaii for vacation. Our neighbors had been the people down the road or across the street. As a child it seemed like such a long way from Manitowoc to Catawba. Today you could hop on a plane and be in Charlotte in two hours. In today's world our neighbors can be anywhere on the earth.

As we read through the Book of Jeremiah we hear about the exile of the people from Jerusalem to Babylon. It is about 500 miles, an hour flight for us today, but for the captured Hebrew people it was a long and treacherous walk. They had felt the Temple in Jerusalem was the dwelling place of God. The altar God's footstool. Now the temple and the city were destroyed. They were taken away as part of a practice of the Babylonian Empire. Removing the captured people from their homeland meant they were less likely to organize and gain power and rebel.

The Hebrew people found themselves in a new place amongst people who did not worship YHWH, God. Their language was different. They were starting their life over again, rebuilding homes and businesses. Their traditional dietary practices and worship rituals conflicted with the Babylonian worship of idols. It must have felt like a world away.

Jesus' journey from Capernaum to Jerusalem was about 80 miles as the crow flies. When we make that journey in our scripture readings it seems like such a long journey, from the "north" through Samaria and onto Jerusalem. But today it would be just a couple hour drive. I think about the scribe

asking Jesus who was his neighbor. Has our sense of neighbor expanded as our view of the world has expanded?

We turn on our television and see children displaced from Ukraine and girls being denied education in Afghanistan. We turn on our computers and read about fires in the Western USA and in Europe. We listen to the weather and hear of floods in the South and drought in the West. Our families are scattered, and our friends also live wherever their jobs or weather take them. Today perhaps we need to take some time to consider, who is my neighbor?

## IT'S CHILI SUPPER TIME!!

- Our Chili Supper will be on **Wednesday October 5<sup>th</sup>** drive thru only starting at 11:00 a.m. until 6:30 p.m.
- Prices are \$9.00 per order (no children's tickets this year).
- Each family unit or member to donate 2 pans of bars or cookies. We will begin filling take out containers starting at 8:00 a.m., so please bring to church between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. If you want to drop off **Tuesday** evening, text or call Pam Raquet 920-912-3235.
- Posters and sign-up sheets will be in the narthex.
- Monetary donations will be accepted to offset cost of cheese, crackers, diced onions, dice celery and other food expenses.
- Pre-Ordering is available and encouraged for larger orders!! Please email [iraquet@tds.net](mailto:iraquet@tds.net) or call/text Pam Raquet 920-912-3235.

Find your red Chili Supper T shirts !!!!



## Thank you

To All those who mowed and cared for the church yard during the spring, summer, and now into fall.



To Those who came to clean up the perennial beds: Rick, Jodi, Kim, Mardell.

To Those who planted grasses and cared for the beds around the front of the church.

To those who are on the Cemetery Committee and those who commit hours to keeping them looking neat and tidy.

To Julie and Robin Mueller for the donation of the beef for the Chili Supper!

To Pam Raquet and all those that will prepare, cook, and pack the Chili. To those who will make bars and cookies for the dessert containers.

To The many that do what is needed around and in Bethel but go unnoticed.

Thank you to Terry and Larry Spindler for taking down the large limb of the tree by the exit driveway.

To Floyd Voss for driving the tractor, and Julia Ziegler, Harrison, Lincoln, and Jackson Stuckmann, and Peyton Zimmermann for walking in the parade Mardell for organizing the march and the Rietbrocks for making a donation to the Ada Fire Department. We also thank the Ada Volunteer Fire Department for their time of training and bravery in action.

## Penny Pail

Penny Pail for September, October and November will go to dogs2dogtags. This is a non-profit in Sheboygan Falls that trains shelter dogs for comfort and service for Vets at no charge to them.

## Upcoming Events in October

**Crop Walk October 9<sup>th</sup> at Noon** starting in Memorial Park in Howards Grove.

Come and walk with us or consider making a financial contribution for one of the walkers. Funds will go to Neighbors around the world by Crop Walk and also to local pantries that help our neighbors in Calumet, Manitowoc, and Sheboygan Counties.



**United Church Men and Women Scholarship Banquet October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30** in Our Shepherd UCC Howards Grove. The UCM&W had traditionally raised funds for scholarships for students going into the ministry at Lakeland University and Seminaries. A third scholarship was created in honor of David Heckmann who passed away shortly after completing Seminary. In the last year the scholarship program has been opened to include those going into chaplaincy, licensed ministry, and other ministerial roles. Those taking Damascus Project(Lay Academy) courses may also apply for scholarships to help cover the cost of tuition and books.

### An Invitation To Share Your Talent on Thanksgiving Eve

**Bethlehem UCC** has offered to host the Thanksgiving Eve Worship. They are asking for volunteers to share musical talents for the worship service. Here is something to consider: Be part of a combined choir? Play a musical Instrument? Have a reading you would like to share? Want to participate in another way? Please let Pastor Diane know if you are interested.

## Consistory Minutes

September 13, 2022

Members Present: Kim Rietbrock, Rachel Voss, Mary Johnston, Steve Blohm, Jamie Weidemann and Pastor Diane Cayemberg  
The meeting was called to order at 6:25 pm.

### Regular Meeting

The secretary minutes from August were reviewed. There was a motion (Mary/Steve) to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

The treasurer reports were reviewed for August. There was a motion (Jamie/Mary) to approve all the treasurer reports. The motion carried unanimously.

### Staff Review

- Cindy Meyer (Secretary) – The only concern she had was the hinge on the mailbox. Steve will purchase a new mailbox and install it.
  - Cindy summarized her weekly duties as making copies, preparing bulletins & other documents. The group discussed file retention and storage.
- Chuck Grubisic (Technology Team) – Chuck mentioned he was very pleased with the upgraded internet connectivity and the new increased Wi-Fi. The church's internet access now has great upload speed which will benefit if broadcasting church services becomes feasible.

As far as budget considerations, Chuck mentioned:

- If church members want to pursue broadcast possibility or even to improve recording capability, we should consider installing a fixed camera in the church which would be user-friendly. This would also be beneficial if we wanted to record music and holiday events for

people to watch at home. We would need a team to run the camera. Chuck estimated a cost of \$2,500 to \$3,000.

- The church's laptop will likely need replacing in a year or two and he estimates it will cost at least \$1,000 to replace it.
- Chuck asked whether members would be interested in converting the conference room into a multi-purpose room which could be used for web conferences. If this is something the church wants to consider, he estimated approximately \$3,000 would be needed for equipment and installation.

#### **Pastor's Report:**

- We are still waiting on delivery of new copy machine. Our lease on the old printer will continue on a month-to-month basis until the new one arrives.
  - September 28<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation students will gather at Lakeland College to listen to Rev. Dr. Christopher Grundy.
  - The Consistory will be meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup>, the night before Chili Supper, so we will advertise that members can drop off desserts that night.
  - Confirmation students will serve as runners to assist with Chili Supper.
  - The Crop Walk is scheduled for October 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - October 20<sup>th</sup> - United Church Men and Women Meeting will be held at Our Shepherd UCC in Howards Grove.
  - Shout-out to the Sunday School kids who walked (in the rain) in the Ada Parade and to Floyd Voss for the usage of his tractor and for pulling the church sign in the parade.
  - Rev. Melinda Feller is available, if needed, during Pastor Diane's September vacation.
- The Long-Range Planning Committee is close to completing their review of the plan, and recommendations will be emailed to the Consistory in the near future for review.

#### **Old Business:**

- 1) Review of upcoming Schedule:
  - September 18<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School reconvenes – Bonnie Ziegler to lead worship
  - September 25<sup>th</sup> – Cary Knier Johannes will lead worship
  - October 2<sup>nd</sup> – Worldwide Communion
  - October 4<sup>th</sup> – Consistory Meeting & desserts drop-off
  - October 5<sup>th</sup> – Chili Supper
  - October 9<sup>th</sup> – Crop Walk – Will start at noon in Memorial Park in Howards Grove.
  - October 23<sup>rd</sup> – Bell Choir will perform.
  - October 30<sup>th</sup> – Bonnie Ziegler will lead worship.
  - November 20<sup>th</sup> – First Communion for Emersyn Voss & Elise Johannes/Bell Choir performs.
  - November 27<sup>th</sup> – First Sunday of Advent with Communion (No communion on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>)
  - December 4<sup>th</sup> – Dana Dunton will lead worship/ Bell Choir performs.
  - December 11<sup>th</sup> – Cary Knier Johannes will lead worship.
  - December 18<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School Christmas Program
  - December 24<sup>th</sup> – 6 pm Service
  - December 25<sup>th</sup> – CHRISTMAS DAY
- 2) Chili Supper – Drive-thru/Pickup service only.
- 3) Committee Review – Pastor Diane will revisit the committee list and consider consolidation.

- 4) Consistory discussed time-change suggestion to continue 9:30 worship service until Sunday School begins but decided to retain policy of summer worship time from Memorial Day to Labor Day.
- 5) The blacktop resealing price increased 15% from the bid that was provided earlier this year. We are tentatively scheduled for the resealing to be completed in summer 2023.
- 6) At the suggestion of a congregation member, the consistory is exploring options for possible on-site AED device. Mary volunteered to explore if LTC offers (AEDs) and CPR training.
- 7) Steve will purchase a new mailbox and install it.
- 8) The possibility of installing a keypad on the garage service door and church side entrance was discussed, since access to the garage has been challenging at times for members assisting with lawn or snow removal. Steve will explore possible costs.

**New Business**

- Tim Voss will be contacted to attend the next meeting to discuss possible building concerns or repairs needed. Steve will address the water in old boiler room that occurs when it rains and possible need for a chimney cap with the Building & Property Committee.
- Steve will discuss the wiring or building considerations involved in making the conference room into a multi-purpose room.

There was a motion (Mary/Steve) to adjourn at 8:25pm. The motion carried unanimously. We ended with the Lord’s prayer.  
Respectfully Submitted, Rachel Voss



# PUZZLE

## *Piles of praise*

Every autumn, the ground is overflowing with leaves.  
What does Paul encourage us to overflow with?

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*Directions: Use the key to match the leaves and complete the Bible passage.*

rooted

built

thankfulness

strengthened

continue

faith

overflowing

received

Lord

So then, just as you \_\_\_\_\_ Christ Jesus as \_\_\_\_\_ ,

\_\_\_\_\_ to live your lives in him, \_\_\_\_\_ and

\_\_\_\_\_ up in him, \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ as you

were taught, and \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ .

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7, NIV

Answer received, Lord, continue, rooted, built, strengthened, faith, overflowing, thankfulness