

# Heartbeat News



Greetings in the name of Christ,

In conjunction with our efforts to revitalize our church a team from St. John has been formed to spearhead efforts to revitalize our congregation so that it may continue to fulfill our mission in the world. This team consists of Eric Hillstrom, Mary Johnson, Bob Lehmann, and myself. Over the next several months we will be meeting with trained facilitators provided by the Wisconsin Conference of the UCC to study how we can enhance our church in the practices of Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity. The chair of each committee will be invited to attend the session relating to their committee so that we can all work together to plan and put into action practices that embody our call to mission and discipleship.

The purpose of our participation in this program is to increase our congregational health, vitality, and fruitfulness. Our goals in this are not simply to increase our attendance and membership but to help individuals grow in their faith and continue to build community.

The first “practice” we are focusing on is the practice of “Radical Hospitality” as we are reminded in Romans 15:7 to “Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” This practice goes beyond just saying hello and reminds us that the church exists, and its fundamental purpose is “to draw people into relationship with God through Jesus Christ.” Radical hospitality means that not only do we pray, plan, prepare, and work toward the purpose of helping others receive what we have received in Christ but doing so in a way that exceeds expectations, that engages in practices that are rooted in the life of Christ and that then radiate into the lives of others. As our team works through this process I would invite you to consider for yourselves what you receive from belonging to this community of faith and to consider what people need from the church? Out of those reflections, it is our hope that we are then able to further put into practice actions and practices that fulfill those needs and bring ourselves and others closer to Christ and closer in community with one another.

If anyone would like to learn more about the Church Renewal program or would like to read “Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations” by Robert Schnase (the book upon which the program is based), please talk to Pastor Tara or any of the other team members. I also ask you to pray for our team and church as we go through this process so that this may be a productive and energizing endeavor.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Tara



St. John UCC

262-251-0640

stjohnucc53022@sbcglobal.net

Pastor’s Cell:

262-293-6645

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## PASTOR TARA'S INSTALLATION

The Church And Ministry  
Team Of The Southeast Association  
of the Wisconsin Conference -  
United Church Of Christ and  
The Congregations of St. John  
UCC and Our Saviour's UCC  
Germantown, WI;

Invite all members and friends  
of the Southeast Association  
Churches to the Installation of  
Rev. Tara L. Tetzlaff  
2 pm February 16, 2014 at  
Our Saviour's UCC

W172N12533 Division Rd.  
Germantown, WI  
The Rev. Dr. Karl Kuhn will be  
preaching. Clergy are invited  
to robe with red vestments and  
process. Light refreshments  
will be served following the  
service. Also an offering will be  
received for the WI Conference  
Seminarium Fund.

*Just one more reminder that the Bible Study has moved to 12:30pm after the fellowship hour on Sundays. Feel free to bring a Bag lunch or a snack.*

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Calendar Planning Meeting  
— Sunday, Feb. 2nd, after  
service

Women's Guild—  
Wednesday, Feb. 5th,  
7:00pm

Annual Meeting – Sunday,  
Feb. 9th, 11:30am

St. Ben's – Monday, Feb.  
10th, 400pm

Women's Guild – Wednesday,  
Jan. 8th, 7:00 pm

Church Council – Thursday,  
Feb. 13th, 7:00 pm

Congregational Annual  
Meeting – Sunday, Feb. 9th

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

At its monthly meeting held on January 9th, the St. John Church Council:

- Appointed Andy Boneski, Cherie Bersch, and Marilyn Boettcher to serve as members of this year's audit committee.
- Discussed policies for non-member weddings and facilities use.
- Discussed the status of the new website hosting service.
- Discussed the office secretary vacancy.
- Discussed St. John's participation in the Wisconsin Conference church renewal program.

Present: Eric Hillstrom, Andy Boneski, Mary Johnson, Mike Szymik, Judy Luckow, Cherie Bersch, Marilyn Boettcher, Donna Tess, Sharon Reeder, Pastor Tetzlaff

Absent: None

Next Council meeting: February 13, 2014

## CHURCH FINANCIAL UPDATE

### December 2013 Income

Offering	14791.00
Other	206.12
Total	14997.12

### December 2013 Expenditures

Personnel	3158.71
Operations	1610.77
Program	89.00
Benevolence	600.00
Total Disbursements	5458.48

### Current Account Balances

Checking	13201.96
Savings	6031.31
Total Available	19233.27

Earmarked for Parking Lot	2300.00
Available to General Fund	16933.27
Disbursements due by 1/31/14	5444.95

Detailed copy of Treasurer and Financial Secretary's reports available by request in church office.

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The outreach committee has been quite busy planning a number of upcoming events and activities. The St. John UCC Rumage and Bake Sale will be held on Friday April 11th and Saturday April 12th. Start cleaning those cupboards and closets now so we will have a great selection of items to offer. We will be passing the sign up sheet around at the annual meeting for individuals or groups to volunteer to host after church fellowship. There are quite a few open spots that need to be filled in the upcoming months. Our next meeting will be held on Sunday March 9th at 11:30am in the Education Room.

### ARE YOU ON FACEBOOK?

St. John has a Fan page. Check us out at [www.facebook.com/STJOHNUCCGERMANTOWN](http://www.facebook.com/STJOHNUCCGERMANTOWN). Become a fan of our page by clicking the LIKE button on the page to receive posts informing you of upcoming events, cool articles, and important announcements. Facebook is also a great way of inviting your family and friends to "Come and See" (remember Pastor Tara's recent sermon!!) the great things happening here at St. John. By clicking on "Invite Friends" you can select friends that will then receive an invitation to view the St. John fan page as well.



## HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR THE PULSE?

Receive Events and Updates about St. John Delivered to your Inbox. The Pulse is a weekly email published every Sunday night/Monday morning that highlights that week's events at St. John as well as various articles and reminders regarding our faith community. If you would like to be included in this email you may sign up via our Facebook Fan Page, our website, or contact the church office.

## WOMENS GUILD

Thank you to all who brought and bought cookies for the Cookie Sale in December. Our profit was \$273.00. 10% of the profit and money from the Birthday Box will be sent to Commission to Every Nation for Bronner International Ministry. February 2, 2014 is Women's Worship Sunday. Women will be taking part in all parts of the service. We will also be collecting soup for our service project - Souper Sunday. The soup will be donated to the Food Pantry. Our next meeting is February 5 at 7:00 PM and we will be making valentines for the Sunday School students and our shut ins. Come and Join us.

## CELEBRATIONS: BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Elise Kubosch who graduated from UW Eau Claire majoring in Social Work.

### February Birthdays

- 7- Davis Lemke
- 10- Pamela Ruben
- 13- Jay Toth
- 14- Kate Wallschlaeger

If someone's birthday or anniversary is missing or if the date is incorrect, please notify Mary Ann Toth.



## CHRISTIAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Christian Board of Education met on Monday, November 11, Sunday, October 13 and Monday, September 16. The Board approved the following schedule for the remainder of the year - Session 4: Feb. 9 – Mar. 9; Session 5: Mar. 16 – Apr. 13, No classes April 20 (Easter Sunday); Session 6: Apr. 27 – May 18. No classes May 25 (Memorial Day weekend). June 1st will be the last day of Sunday school and Teacher Appreciation & Graduation Recognition.

Confirmation students meet on Monday evenings from 6-7:30 PM. We have two students enrolled in confirmation this year – Griffin Lietzau and Colton Thomas.

At our October meeting, we discussed the nursery and all agreed it was in need of an update. We met at church on Saturday morning, October 26 to clean, organize and sanitize the nursery. Pastor Tara joined us and helped as well. Our goal is to create an environment that is clean, friendly, and a room to be proud of for our guests and members to use. Our next step is to paint the room and get some signage outside the door.

There was a Youth Group Outing (for both churches) on Sunday, October 27 at the Sky Zone Indoor Trampoline Park in Waukesha from 1:30-3:30 PM. Everyone who attended had a great time!

At our November meeting, we discussed the possibility of changing our starting times next year for Sunday school. No decisions have been made and we agreed to revisit the topic in the spring. Mary Johnson and her daughter, Chelsea, cleaned out three Sunday school cabinets downstairs. They organized all the supplies and labeled everything in the cabinets. Thank you Mary and Chelsea for volunteering to do this!

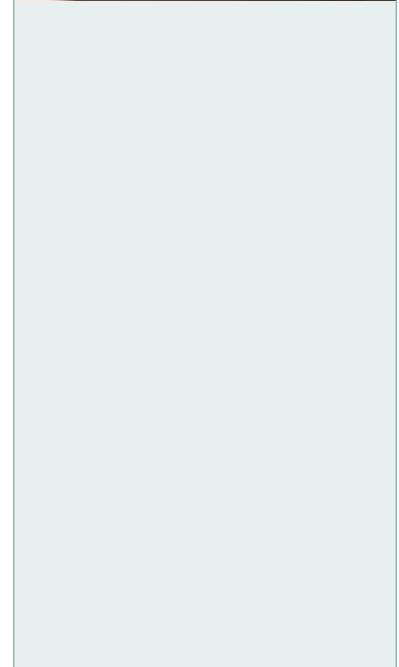
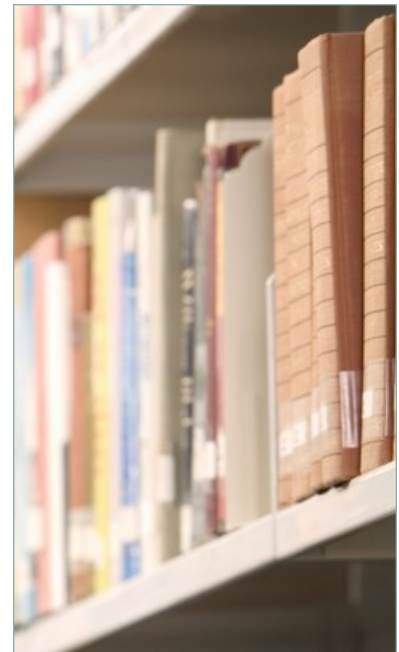
Pastor Tara told us that she will ask the confirmation students to begin taking a turn being the liturgist. The students may also be asked to take a turn being an usher...possibly other assignments as well. She would like the students to learn about the different parts of the service.

We are looking for more members to assist in our work. If you are interested in finding out more about the committee or in joining us, please contact Sue Hillstrom at (262)251-3519 or hillstroms@yahoo.com.

Submitted by Sue Hillstrom

## JOINT CHOIR FOR PASTOR'S INSTALLATION

To celebrate Pastor Tara's installation on Feb. 16th we are assembling a joint choir representing both St. John and Our Saviour's to sing at the service that day at 2pm at Our Saviour's. We will be gathering to practice on Thursday Feb. 13th from 5:30-6:30pm at Our Saviour's UCC. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Kannenberg.



## TOP 10 REASONS TO CHECK OUT THE UCC



### 10. What if church is like spinach ...?

You know, like something that you hated as a kid but you love as an adult because you eat it in ways that suit you much better. Guess what? A lot of people are having the same sort of experience with church . . . In the UCC, things are often quite different and worth checking out.

### 9. Variety...

UCC churches tend to tailor themselves to fit the people they feel called to serve in their local community. The result: A wide variety of musical traditions, expressions and values that have integrity and purpose. From conservative to liberal, we're not short on variety.

### 8. No apologies...

You are what you are...and so are we – we like ourselves just fine. Find a church where you will fit in, be nurtured and challenged to grow.

### 7. No waiting...

You don't have to join to be active in many UCC churches. If you want to get involved, many of our churches will find a place to help fulfill your need to give – whether or not you decide to join.

### 6. No boxes

God can blow the lid off any box, unfold it and turn it into a dance floor. We tend to be the "out of the box" people. Among our many firsts, we were the first mainline church to take a stand against slavery (1700), the first to ordain an African American person (1785), the first to ordain a woman (1853), the first in foreign missions (1810), and the first to ordain openly gay lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons (1972). We value education for all people. We founded Harvard and Yale, as well as many historically black colleges, six of which remain affiliated with the UCC to this day.

### 5. One God, One Faith, One Baptism for All

When we baptize you into our community, we promise that we will never take it back – no matter what you discover about yourself or what others discover about you along life's journey. We believe that baptism places each of us into the "body of Christ" and lasts forever. Some are baptized as infants, others as adults. Some are sprinkled. Others are immersed. Some reclaim their baptism from a previous church life. For each of us, however, baptism is big enough, strong enough and cleansing enough to last forever. We believe that everyone – old, young, straight, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, physically or emotionally challenged, rich or poor, sure or unsure, lost or found, Democrat or Republican has a place in the body of Christ. Baptism is like a badge that says, "you're a full member of the church and no one can take that away from you."

### 4. Good News People

We believe that No. 5 is good news!

### 3. "Party" Church

God is having a party and we are all invited. At God's party our spiritual hungering is fed and our thirsting is satisfied. At God's party we get strength, stamina and community support that helps us through the tough times that come to everyone. Feeding our spiritual hunger helps reduce those, "I can't believe I'm so stupid" moments – but we'll never eliminate them all. That's why we need friends and companions and not judges (no offense to judges) for the journey.

### 2. Spiritual Guidance...

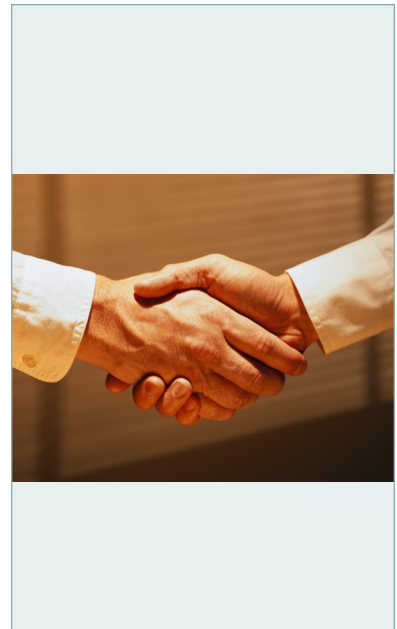
It's not about commandments. It's about relationships – even with God. The most important relationship is our relationship with God. Second most important is our relationships with the rest of the human family. In balance, these relationships produce justice amid injustice, kindness in the face of meanness, and the humility of self acceptance that comes as we sense the presence of a God who knows our inmost thoughts and loves us uncontrollably – just as we are. Spiritual journeys can be like the exercise equipment we buy and leave under the bed. Without coaches and workout partners, most of us don't stick with it. We're the "Journeys Wanted" people . . . bring yours.

### 1. We're waiting for you.

## GREETERS, USHERS, AND LITURGIST

Sunday, February 2, 2014 Altar Communion	Greeters: Mary Ann Toth Ushers: Judy Luckow and Donna Tess Liturgist: Joan Schaetzel
Sunday, February 9, 2014	Greeters: Dawn Taylor Ushers: Rich and Cherie Bersch Liturgist: Young Person
Sunday, February 16, 2014	Greeter: Carol Vanderlois Ushers: Bob and Jeannie Lehmann Liturgist:
Sunday, February 23, 2014	Greeters: Marge Wundrock Ushers: Eric and Susan Hillstrom Liturgist: Eric Hillstrom

NOTE: If you cannot make your commitment: please call Mary Ann Toth at (262) 251-0365.



*Please consider signing up for Fellowship following church services in our Fellowship Hall (a clip board with the signup sheet is located near the kitchen). Join us after church. Everyone is welcome. Any questions contact Sharon Reeder at 262-251-5946.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### February

Woman's Day and "Souper Bowl Sunday," February 2.

College Care & Armed Forces packages are due February 2nd.

Calendar Planning Meeting, Sunday, February 2, After service.

Valentine and College Care Packages, Sunday, February 9, 8:30am

Annual Meeting, Sunday, February 9, After service.

8th Annual Dart Ball Night, Saturday, February 15 at 6:00pm.

Pastor Tara Tetzlaff's Installation at Our Saviour's UCC. Sunday, February 16, 2:00pm.

Video Game Tournament/open play event will be held in February. Let Pastor Tara what games you are most interested in. Lots of options available! Watch for an-

nouncements on date and time soon!

### March/April/May

Milwaukee Bucks Game, Saturday March 8th at 8pm. Watch the Milwaukee Bucks play the Washington Wizards at "Faith & Family Night." All youth 14 and under will receive a free Bucks miniball. After the game there will be a free Christian concert. Tickets are \$15 each.

"One Great Hour of Sharing" Potluck. Sunday, March 30, After service.

Rummage Sale – Start cleaning out closets, basements, garages, for the 2014 Rummage Sale. Friday April 11 and Saturday April 12, 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Fellowship Outing: "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" at Menomonee Falls Patio Players. May 4 at 2:00pm.



**ST. JOHN UCC**

N104W14181 Donges Bay Rd.  
Germantown, WI 53022

Our Mission is to Celebrate, Reach  
Out, Enrich, and Welcome in the  
name of Jesus Christ .

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5



*God is still speaking,*  
**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep in your prayers: Polly Weber as she continues to recover from surgery on her wrist.. Tom Weber recovering from a sprained ankle. Eric Tess, who is currently a patient at the West Allis Care Center

Please contact Pastor Tara with any additions to the Prayer Concerns list.

### In The Event of Severe Weather

Any cancellations of worship services or other activities at St. John can be found by watching local television channels 4, 6, 12 & 58 (they also post this information on their respective websites), as well as by accessing the St. John website – [www.stjohnuccgermantown.org](http://www.stjohnuccgermantown.org).