

Heartbeat News



Greetings in the name of Christ,

As I write this it has been less than twenty-four hours since I returned from the Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin UCC Conference, where over 400 members and pastors from UCC churches all over Wisconsin gathered for 3 days of worship, learning, talking, and sharing as we worked to “Be the Church”. On the second day of the conference I attended a workshop entitled “Embracing Tension”.

What do you think of when you hear the word “tension”? I often link it to words like “headache”, “stress”, and “conflict”. But “tension” doesn’t have to be a negative word. Think of the strings on a musical instrument, if there isn’t tension, it becomes impossible to strum a guitar or play a note on the piano. The real challenge of embracing tension is in finding a balance. When we experience tension in our lives we are often quick to try to find resolutions, to take sides, to label things “good” or “bad”, “right” or “wrong”. The reality though, is that there will always be tension in our lives, tensions between our ideals and our realities. In Parker Palmer’s book, *Healing the Heart of Democracy*, he speaks of “5 Habits of the Heart”. These habits include: Understanding that we are all in this together, an appreciation of the value of otherness, an ability to hold tension in life-giving ways, a sense of personal voice and agency, and a capacity to create community.

The key to all of these “habits of the heart” may be found in the third habit: the ability to hold tension in life-giving ways. This is the one that is so very challenging. Tension can be painful, it can cause stress, and it stirs up a bevy of emotions. But tension can also help us to grow, to see

(Continued on page 2)



St. John UCC

Pastor: Rev. Tara Tetzlaff

262-251-0640

stjohnucc53022@sbcglobal.net

Pastor’s Cell:

262-293-6645

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Council Report2
- Gardening with God.....3
- VBS3
- Craft Fair.....3
- Run/Walk for Hunger.....3
- Outreach4
- Recipe of the Month.....5
- Call Your Pastor.....5
- Women’s Guild.....6
- Maintenance.....6
- Usher Schedule.....6
- Zoo Outing.....6
- The Summer of David.....6
- Book Club.....6
- Writers in our Midst.....6
- Anniv. and Birthdays.....7
- VBS Needs.....7
- Upcoming Events.....7

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR JUNE

At its monthly meeting held on June 11th, the St. John Church Council:

- Welcomed Greg Schwartz to the Council. Donna Tess has been appointed to the Council Elder term vacated by Andy Boneski. Greg has been appointed to serve Donna's term as Council Deacon.
- Appearance by Maintenance Committee chair John Schaetzel to discuss water well abandonment and bids to repair the retaining wall. Council authorized Maintenance Committee to seek bids on abandoning well as required by the Village of Germantown.
- Discussed recent visitors at worship services and the importance of being welcoming as a congregation to our guests.
- Discussed the financial accounts of church committees and monthly financial reporting to Council.

Present: Eric Hillstrom, Mary Johnson, Donna Tess, Marilyn Boettcher, Cherie Bersch, Judy Luckow, Greg Schwartz, Pastor Tetzlaff

Absent: Sharon Reeder, Jim Koedinger

Next Council meeting: July 9, 2015



(Continued from page 1)

things from different perspectives. Think of the tension between the suffering we experience today and the promise of hope we have in the Kingdom of God (Romans 8:14-27). Without hope, we are stuck in the misery of the moment, unable to see beyond our present struggles, we get caught in this cycle that everything relies on us, and we are doomed. But what if we balanced that struggle, that fear, that suffering, with the hope and the love of God and the grace offered us in the life of Christ?

But once again, as we turn toward that hope, we must hold it in tension with the concrete, lived experience. To be a Christian is to **follow in the way of Christ**. When we read the stories of Jesus healing, and feeding, and helping and speaking, and praying and loving, with and for others, we must remember that our lives as Christians aren't meant to be lived in passive waiting, but in active waiting. There is that tension between trusting and hoping in God and living the reality that God empowers us through the Holy Spirit to participate in the bringing forth of the kingdom by following Christ through our words and actions. This is where the words of Romans 12:9-21 speak to our hearts and minds; encouraging us in the ways of Christ that lead us to eternal life. Where we must strive to "be happy in your hope", and "associate with people who have no status", to "live at peace with all people" to the best of your ability.

Tension is an ever-present reality in our lives. But it is in relying on the grace and hope offered by God and following in the actions of Jesus that we may embrace the tension in a way that is both life-giving and life-affirming, that creates in us a sense of agency and voice and that builds and grows a community of many from different backgrounds, ages, classes, and economic situations, all drawn together in the tension of seeking to love and serve the Living God.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Tara

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Please add the enclosed Amendments to your Constitution and By-Laws of St. John UCC (as approved at our last annual meeting). If you do not have a copy of our Constitution please feel free to stop in the office and pick one up.

EDUCATIONAL & SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

GARDENING WITH GOD

Come join us on Tuesday mornings, from 9:30-11:30am for Gardening with God. Devotions and refreshments are at approximately 11:15. Please join us for part or all of this activity.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The theme for 2015 Vacation Bible School is "Make a Joyful Noise" and will focus on praising God through music and dance. VBS will be held **Mon.-Thurs July 13-16th from 9am-3pm** (early and/or late childcare may be available). Cost is \$10 per child and will include a t-shirt, meals, and all activities. Open to ages 2-1/2 to 12 (teens are welcome to sign up as junior leaders). Watch for your VBS packets in the mail. If you know of a family that might be interested in VBS, please give us their information.



30TH ANNUAL FALL ART AND CRAFT FAIR

The Craft Fair Committee is busy planning for our 30th anniversary this September.

Postcards and flyers/posters will be available in late June/early July to promote the fair with potential exhibitors or to post at your favorite businesses or at your place of work. Stop by the office and pick up whatever size works best for you!

Unfortunately, we haven't been able to secure a quilt for the Quilt Raffle this year. We're evaluating other options but will likely replace that raffle with jewelry with diamonds and/or pearls. (Diamonds and pearls are the gemstones for 30th anniversaries.) If you have any leads for a quilt donation or know someone in the jewelry business who might be willing to donate or discount items, please let a craft fair committee member know.

Always a big draw at the Fair is the theme basket raffle. This year, we have a goal of having 30 baskets to raffle in celebration of the 30th anniversary. We ask that you please help us by signing up to make one. Remember, they don't have to be large; small, practical or creative are all appealing!

We also want to thank those of you who have already donated cash or prizes to the Raffle. For those of you still considering it, we need your help! While the cash raffle has been extremely popular, we also gladly accept other raffle items as well. Gift cards for gas, restaurants, fast food, grocery stores and bookstores are popular items but we welcome any donations of new items for this raffle. If you opt for gift cards, remember to order them through Script and the church benefits twice!

If you are interested in donating cash for the youth raffle, there are envelopes on the bulletin board on the landing. We would like to purchase a savings bond or two for the youth raffle. As far as other donations for the youth raffle, gift certificates are always popular. Again, we welcome any item.

Raffle ticket packets will be available in the Narthex in late June/early July. Please pick your packets of tickets up in person and save us the cost of postage we'd have to pay if we mail them.

If you are attending other craft fairs or know someone who would like to exhibit at our fair, please help spread the word to these crafters. Applications can be picked up or e-mailed from the church office or even downloaded from the St. John web site! Don't forget flyers and post cards advertising our fair to vendors are also available.

THE CAPUCHINS' RUN/WALK FOR THE HUNGRY

Join the St. John Team on Friday, **July 24th, at 7pm** in Lakeshore State Park. Teams of 10 or more runners, walkers or both are eligible for a \$5 discount per person. Team name on shirt sleeve if registered by deadline, July 12th.

5K Run—A certified and chip timed/scored race. \$20 Adult, \$10 Child (\$30 & \$20 after July 12). Child must 12 or younger on race day.

2 Mile Walk—Non-competitive walk in Lakeshore State Park. Not eligible for scoring or awards. \$15 Adults, \$5 Child (\$25 & \$15 after July 12th)

Participants receive free entry into German Fest, \$5 food/drink card, a 2-for1 coupon to return to German Fest, and are eligible for a variety of prizes—must be present to win..

Any questions, contact Karen Becker: 414-759-8123 no later than July 12th.





Please consider signing up for Fellowship following church services in our Fellowship Hall (a clip board with the sign - up sheet is located near the kitchen). Join us after church. All member and friends are welcome. Any question contact Sharon Reeder at 262-251-5946.

Volunteers needed:

Volunteers will be needed to provide rides to church members who do not have transportation to - from church. Please contact the church office or Pastor Tara Tetzlaff if interested in volunteering at 262-251-0640.

Outreach Meetings: Any members wishing to join the committee are welcome. The next Outreach Committee meeting will be Sunday, July 12th, 11:30am. We meet in the Fraederich Education room. Contact Caroline Romaine at 262-385-1327 for more information.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Report on Adult Fellowship outing to Menomonee Falls Patio Players – Performance of “ Hair Spray” May 3rd , 2015 at 2:00pm. 14 Members and friends from St. John U.C.C. and Our Saviour U.C.C. attended the performance. The performance was wonderful. Following the play members and friends met back at St. John U.C.C. for Arby's roast beef dinner, beverages and desserts. Thank you to Bob Lehmann and Jeannie Lehmann for organizing the event.

July 2015

Church Picnic - Sunday July 19th, 2015 following the church service.

Please join us for this Fun Family Event – Church Picnic to be held Sunday July 19th, 2015 following church service. Food will be provided by the Outreach Committee. We will have a variety of games and a special guest musician. There is no cost to attend this event. Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors. Look for a sign – up sheet posted on the bulletin board on the stairwell landing.

August 2015

St. John U.C.C. Brat Fry Day's - Pick n' Save in Menomonee Falls

Saturday August 1st, 2015 & Sunday August 16th, 2015

Time: 10:00 am – 3:00pm

*****Note location change.** Located at Pick n' Save in Menomonee Falls N.77 W.14435 Appleton Ave. (Across from Menomonee Falls High School and North of Lilly Rd.).

Volunteers needed. A sign – up sheet will be posted for those who would like to volunteer at the Brat Fry's during the summer.

Brat Fry proceeds will benefit future Outreach events and 10% of our sales will be donated to Mission Alive

August 2015 -

Mark your calendars-

Miller Brewer's Game is scheduled Monday August 17th, 2015.

Brewers vs Miami Marlins – 50 tickets are on reserve. We will have a sign-up sheet posted for St. John U.C.C. Cost of the ticket is \$10.00 which includes tail gate food / snacks and \$ 5.00 toward parking. We will tail gate at 4:45pm from St. John U.C.C. Game time is 7:10pm.

RECIPE CORNER

St. John U.C.C. has some wonderful cooks and bakers and during Fellowship, Potluck Dinners or Vacation Bible School we have had requests for some of the recipes. Each month in the Heart Beat Newsletter the Outreach Committee will enter a new recipe. If you have one you would like to submit, please drop it off in the church office, clearly labeled and we will put it in the Recipe Corner.



CRAB SALAD (with cucumber and tomatoes) Recipe by Ashley Skrober

- 1 lb (16oz) package imitation crab meat- chopped/shredded up into small pieces
- 1 cucumber, diced small
- 2 medium tomatoes (I used Roma tomatoes not as juicy and usually firm enough to take out all the seeds) diced and drained of any excess juice
- 1/4 cup green onions-chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, finely chopped or pressed
- 1/2 cup mayo

Chop all the ingredients place into a large bowl. Stir in 1/2 cup of mayo. You can add more mayo if desired. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

ENJOY!!!!

CALL YOUR PASTOR!!!



Just a reminder that to protect your privacy federal HIPAA laws prevent doctors, hospitals, and nursing homes from contacting or sharing information with anyone (including your church or pastor!) when you are a patient. If you or a loved one is hospitalized or needs pastoral care PLEASE call the church office or Pastor Tara directly (or request the hospital to do so). If you don't call, we have no way of knowing of your situation. By informing us of these events, you are helping us to provide you with the spiritual care needed in these often difficult times. Business cards with Pastor Tara's contact information are available in the church lobby or can be obtained from the church office, a handy way for you to have the numbers you need in an emergency.

Writers in our Midst!

In the Monday morning Psalms class we have been studying the various types of psalms and their styles. The book of Psalms is one of the most beloved books of the Bible precisely because it offers such heartfelt expressions from ordinary everyday people of God sharing their praise, their complaints, their cries for justice, their expressions of faith and trust, hopes, fears, angers, and more. In our last few sessions, participants have begun writing their own psalms and they are just great! Each month for the remainder of the year we will be sharing one or two of these psalms in the newsletter in the hopes that they will be a source of inspiration. If you would like to try your hand at writing one too, just talk to Pastor Tara!

A Psalm of Praise

“Rejoice in the Lord for God hears our prayer.

Rejoice because we know he loves all people, good and bad.

Rejoice for he gives us comfort.

Rejoice and give thanks!”

MAINTENANCE

It is lawn cutting time again. We have contracted with a lawn service. As in the past year we would encourage our members to contribute to this service to help defray this expense. Please place your contribution in the offering plate and indicate that it is for the lawn service. Thank you.



JULY

USHERS

5—Cherie & Rich Bersch
12—Eric & Sue Hillstrom
19—Gary & Mary Johnson
26—Karen Becker & Chris Pickett

LITURGISTS

Caroline Romaine
Rollie Pieper
Joan Schatzel
Vanessa Tetzlaff

CELEBRATING CREATION AT THE ZOO

Due to popular request we are planning a group outing to the Milwaukee County Zoo on August 26th. Outing will include a tour of the zoo, opportunity to view the special summer exhibit "Expedition Dinosaur" and more! Cost is \$15 for adults, \$12 for ages 3-12, under 3yrs is free. Cost includes admission, one voucher for use on train, zoomobile, carousel, sea lion show, OR Expedition Dinosaur, and money towards parking (we will be car-pooling, so any vehicle with 4 or more will receive money to cover parking fee). Sign up sheet available at church entrance.

THE SUMMER OF DAVID

This year we will be running a 9 week sermon series on stories of David from 1st and 2nd Samuel. Stories will include: David and Goliath, Dancing King, David and Bathsheba, Abigail the Peacemaker, Absalom's Rebellion, and more! Special surprises in store for worshippers of all ages! This is a sermon series you won't want to miss!

BOOK CLUB

Books for Starbucks book club for the Fall (dates to be determined):

- September**---Traveling Mercies by Anne LaMott (available for \$8.50 in church lobby)
- October**-Take This Bread by Sara Miles
- November**—A Christianity Worth Believing by Doug Pagitt
- December**—Mudhouse Sabbath by Lauren F. Winner
- January**—The Shack by Wm. Paul Young

If you would like to reserve a copy of any of these books, please contact the church office.

CELEBRATIONS: BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

JULY BIRTHDAYS

5 Sierra Thomas 22 Karen Becker
Judy Park-Schlenz Sam Schneider
6 Carrie Schaezel 23 Candy Huth
9 Emily Romaine 24 George Marsh
19 Diann Schaezel 26 Greg Pickett



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

10 Eric & Susan Hillstrom

VBS NEEDS.....used aluminum pie tins, buttons (various sizes—more colorful the better!), yarn, ribbon (1/2" wider or thinner), jingle bells, sequins, felt (various colors—need pieces at least 6"x3"), tongue depressors, rubber bands, paint (colorful, preferably acrylic), cylindrical containers with lids (like oatmeal or bread crumb containers)—to make drums, shoe boxes or other similarly sized boxes,.....watch for food list to be posted at church!!!! Please drop any of these items at church by July 8th. Thank you!!!!

JULY EVENTS

7th—9:30-11:30am Gardening with God
- **4:30pm** Christian Bd. Of Education Mtg.
9th—7pm Council Mtg.
12th—11:30am Outreach Mtg.
13th—9am-3pm VBS
- **4pm** St. Ben's
14th—9am-3pm VBS
- **9:30-11:30am** Gardening with God
15th—9am-3pm VBS
16th—9am-3pm VBS
19th—Church Picnic

20th—6:30pm Craft Fair Mtg.
21st—9:30-11:30am Gardening with God
24th—7pm Run/Walk for the Hungry—Lakeshore State Park
28th—9:30-11:30am Gardening with God

PLEASE NOTE: Pastor Tara will be out of the office from June 22 thru July 5.



Carter Bradley was born to Matthew and Malory Luckow, on June 5, 10:00 pm, 6# 7 oz. 18 1/2" long. Grandparents, Mark and Judy Luckow and great grandmother, MaryAnn Toth, and Aunt Melissa Luckow. Congratulations to all!!!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



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



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

WORSHIP SERVICES

*Sunday Worship Service at St. John UCC—
10:30am*

No Sunday School during summer months

*Sunday Worship Service at Our Saviour's UCC—
8:30am*

**There will be NO Communion Sunday on July 5th,
due to Pastor being out of town. Communion Sun-
day will take place on July 12th.**