

# Heartbeat News

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Greetings in the name of Our Savior Jesus Christ,

This month we have a special mission offering in the United Church of Christ known as “One Great Hour of Sharing.” This offering is one of four special offerings collected each year as a way for us as a church to make a collective positive impact and common witness in one or more areas of critical human need. The “One Great Hour of Sharing” offering seeks to respond in places lacking health and educational resources and/or where disaster has struck. The funds support partner ministries in various countries to fund health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and disaster response both in the United States and internationally. The funds are administered by Wider Church Ministries, Global Sharing of Resources. Offerings like these exist out of a call to live out the words of Jesus and to draw closer to God by engaging in those actions that our scriptures lift up as being righteous and holy.

In the apostle Paul’s letters to the early churches we read reminders that as members of the church we are so closely connected that we can think of ourselves as parts of one body. Throughout the New Testament, the followers of Jesus are referred to as “brothers and sisters”, or “family”.

Many churches live this out when someone is sick, grieving, or in crisis. You show up. You are there for your loved ones in need. You show that love in tangible ways: casseroles, cards, calls, and hugs. These acts of kindness let your brothers and sisters in Christ know that you are with them. They know they are not alone because of your presence with them. They know that they are not forgotten in their times of trouble. When someone you care about suffers your best words and most loving actions declare: “I am here.”

The Bible tells us that God is like us in this respect. When one of God’s beloved children suffers, God declares, “I am here.” God hears the cries of the poor and the oppressed (Exodus 3:9, Psalm 10:17, Psalm 69:33). God is near to the brokenhearted and

*(Continued on page 2)*



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## DISCRETIONARY FUND

St John has started a new Fund at our Church. The newly formed Discretionary Fund is financially supported by the Mission Alive Committee. The purpose of the fund is designed to help church members and their families in cases of unusual or unexpected financial burdens. Pastor Tara has money set aside for this emergency. If you are experiencing a financial hardship, please talk with Pastor Tara. Pastor does not report use of this fund to any committee or church member (this is a private matter). This Fund has been approved by the Church Council and the Mission Alive Committee.

## THANK YOU

- ♦ *Thank you for thinking about me and sending me a care package. It is much appreciated! I hope all is well with you and God Bless!*  
*Brady Ellingson*
- ♦ *Would you please pass this note along to those who helped in making the Valentine care packages? I wanted to express my gratitude, but I did not know to whom to send the note.*  
*Thank you!*  
*Kate Wallschlaeger*

to all who call God's name (Psalm 34:18 and Psalm 145:18). God's great covenant with us is this commitment to be with us; a promise reiterated in Genesis and Revelation and everywhere in between.

When we see the latest tragedy on the news, we might wonder "Where is God?" But we already know the answer---God is *there* and God is *here*. God is always to be found with those who are hurting.

When Jesus tells the parable of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25:31-40), he reveals a mystery to us. God is most visibly present in this world where there is hunger, thirst, inadequate clothing and shelter, sickness, or imprisonment/oppression. Christ cares for people who suffer and is so much in solidarity with them that he says that when you feed the hungry, offer drink to the thirsty, provide for the destitute, care for the sick, and welcome the stranger---you are feeding, caring, and welcoming Christ himself. In Matthew 25:40, Jesus says, "I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me."

Your sisters, your brothers, your children, are not just those who are members of your own church, or people who think or look like you---everyone in need, everywhere in the world, is part of your family---the human family---God the Creator's family. Their needs might seem different than the people you live next to or see on Sunday, but your tangible gifts to support mission (such as through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering) declare the same message: "I am here." By reaching out to those who suffer from natural disasters, war, or systemic poverty, you let them know that they are not forgotten. Even when the need seems far from here, by working together as the body of Christ, we are able to be present for members of Christ's family. Through our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing we are there providing well pumps for clean water, seeds and training for sustainable agriculture, and staples and cooking supplies to provide nourishment. We are present through medical kits, school supplies, temporary shelters, and safe housing projects where there is the greatest need.

In our words and in our gifts may we be present where the need is greatest, showing the greatest love, that others may come to know and experience the goodness of God and the grace of Christ through us.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Tara

*(This month's letter is adapted from the 2017 Leaders Guide for One Great Hour of Sharing, published by UCC resources)*

## EDUCATIONAL & SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

### MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Meets at Our Saviour's UCC, W172 N12533 Division Rd., Germantown, WI, from 11am-12:30pm each Monday. We are currently studying the events of Holy Week: **The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach about Jesus's Final Days in Jerusalem** by *Marcus J. Borg & John Dominic Crossan*. Cost of the book is \$8.

**3/6**—Chapter 4—"Wednesday"    **3/27**—Chapter 7—"Saturday"  
**3/13**—Chapter 5—"Thursday"    **4/3**—Chapter 8—"Easter Sunday"  
**3/20**—Chapter 6—"Friday"

The group will take a break for Easter and resume **April 24**.

### MORAL MONDAYS

Through a combination of videos, articles, Bible Study and conversation we explore how these important issues affect our lives and how we can respond as people of faith living out the call to be disciples of Christ. A large component of the group is learning to share stories of our own experiences, to hear the stories of others, and seek to find ways to respectfully and meaningfully talk with others even when we may not agree. We meet **weekly on Mondays, 5:30-7:00pm** in the Education Room at St. John UCC. We are currently working through the UCC curriculum **"White Privilege Let's Talk; A Resource for Transformational Dialogue"**.

### BOOK CLUB

We meet at Latitudes Coffee House (corner of Pilgrim and County Line) on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6pm. Due to a number of scheduling conflicts we will not meet in March. Our next meeting will be:

**April 19th**—A Grief Observed by *C.S. Lewis*

### WOMEN'S SUNDAY

What's in your recipe box? In conjunction with Women's Week in the UCC, we are celebrating all of our foremothers. All of the cooks in your family have had recipes handed down from a female member of their family—mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, etc. When you come to the service on **March 5**, please bring along a favorite recipe that has been handed down and tell us a little about it if you can. Why is it special? For what occasion do you make it? A funny story connected to it or anything else you would like to share. (Men, this includes you too!). And please plan to stay for lunch provided by the Women's Guild.

### ATTENTION KNITTERS AND CROCHETTERS

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is engaged in knitting and crocheting prayer shawls and



lap blankets for those facing physical challenges, the homebound, newly baptized and others. These gifts are meant as tangible signs of God's love and the prayers of our congregation for that individual.

The group meets at Latitudes Coffee House (corner of Pilgrim & County Line Rd.) on the 2nd Wed of the month from 2-4pm.

**Our next meeting is March 8th**

### CRAFTER'S CLUB

Whatever your hobby, bring projects you want to work on and join with other crafters for a day of fun. Drop in for an hour or stay for the day. Coffee, Tea, & Cocoa bar provided. Meets one Saturday a month from 10am-3pm. **Next Craft Day: March 25th at Our Saviours**





### **Fellowship**

**“Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.” - Psalm 34:8**

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.

***Dates available for members to sign – up for Fellowship:***  
**April 30th**

***Dates Committees are serving Fellowship:***

**March 5<sup>th</sup>– Women’s Guild**  
**April 2nd—Constitution,, Maintenance, & Mission Alive**

### ***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 is March 12th. We meet in the Fraederich Education room. Contact Caroline Romaine at 262-385-1327 for more information.

## **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

**St. John U.C.C.**

### **Heart Beat Newsletter March 2017**

Thank you to all the members who helped donate items for the Valentine Care packages. The packages were put together on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017. 22 packages were sent out.

### **Mark your calendars - *Up Coming Events:***

#### **March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - “One Great Hour of Sharing” – Pot Luck Dinner**

On Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 we will be having a Pot Luck Dinner following church service to celebrate “One Great Hour of Sharing”. A sign - up sheet will be located on the bulletin board on the stairway landing to the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up to bring a dish, salad or dessert to share.

**We encourage you to invite your friends, neighbors, and families to the Pot Luck Dinner.**

#### **April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Adult Fellowship is planning an outing to the Menomonee Falls Patio Players production of the Musical **“Spam – a – Lot” April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 2:00pm**. Following the play we will meet back at St. John U.C.C. for a meal. Ticket prices: \$ 15.00 for the ticket and \$ 20.00 for meal, including beverages. A sign-up sheet will be posted. **Pay in advance by April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. For more information contact Jeannie Lehmann at 262-251-1756.

#### **May 2017**

**Roberts Frozen Custard Fundraiser**  
**Monday May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 3:00pm – 10:00pm**

**Join St. John U.C.C.**

**at Robert’s Frozen Custard Restaurant**  
**N.112 W.16040 Mequon Rd. Germantown**

We will be having a Fundraiser from 3:00pm – 10:00pm. Invite members , friends, neighbors, co-workers and relatives to join you at Robert’s Frozen Custard. **St. John U.C.C. will receive 10% of all sales** , dining in or at the drive up window. **No coupon is necessary**. More information at [www.stjohnuccgermantown.org](http://www.stjohnuccgermantown.org) . All proceeds from this sale will benefit future Outreach events at St. John U.C.C. See Caroline Romaine for more information on the Robert’s Fundraiser.



## 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.



### White Texas Sheet Cake

*recipe donated by Jeannie Lehman-  
from Taste of Home Magazine - served at Fellowship January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017*

#### INGREDIENTS

2 cups all-purpose flour  
2 cups sugar  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon baking soda  
1 cup butter, cubed  
1 cup water  
2 large eggs  
1/2 cup sour cream  
1 teaspoon almond extract

#### FROSTING

1/2 cup butter, cubed  
1/4 cup 2% milk  
4-1/2 cups confectioners' sugar  
1/2 teaspoon almond extract  
1/2 cup sliced almonds

#### Directions:

Preheat oven to 375°. Grease a 15x10x1-in. baking pan.

In a large bowl, whisk the first five ingredients. In a small saucepan, combine butter and water; bring just to a boil. Stir into flour mixture. In a small bowl, whisk eggs, sour cream and extract until blended; add to flour mixture, whisking constantly.

Transfer to prepared pan. Bake 18-22 minutes or until golden brown and a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack 20 minutes. For frosting, combine butter and milk in a large saucepan; bring just to a boil. Remove from heat; gradually stir in confectioners' sugar and extract. Spread over warm cake. Sprinkle almonds over cake. Yield: 20 servings.

## COLLECTION IS EASY!!!

We are collecting UPC's and Boxtops for Crossroad Child & Family Services, Inc., Fort Wayne, Indiana, which is a member of CHHSM—the Council for Health and Human Service Ministries of the United Church of Christ. Campbell's UPC codes are also needed. There is a collection box in the lobby.

## FOOD PANTRY NEEDS UPDATE

- \* Baked beans
- \* Boxed or bagged potato mix
- \* Canned peas
- \* Canned pasta
- \* Hamburger Helper mixes
- \* Chunky soup
- \* Mandarin oranges, pineapple, mixed fruit
- \* Flavored rice mixes (Rice-a-roni type)
- \* Salad dressing/BBQ sauce
- \* Cookies/snacks
- \* Refried beans
- \* Low sodium vegetables
- \* Dry soup mixes
- \* Sugar and flour
- \* Cake frosting
- \* Pickles and olives
- \* Dish Soap
- \* Stuffing
- \* Chicken Noodle Soup
- \* Lotion, Shampoo, Deodorant

Anything you can donate will be appreciated.

## **MARCH**

### **USHERS**

- 5 Cherie & Rich Bersch
- 12 Joan & Ken Schaetzel
- 19 Donna Tess & Carol Vanderlois
- 26 Carol & Greg Schwartz

### **GREETERS**

### **LITURGISTS**

- 5 Rollie Pieper
- 12 Eric Hillstrom
- 19 Caroline Romaine
- 26 John Schaetzel



**We are in need of Liturgists and Greeters. If you are interested in either of these, or both, please contact Pastor Tara for more information.**

### **WOMEN'S GUILD**

We made Valentines for the Sunday School Students at our February Meeting. Women's Guild Theme Basket for the 2017 Craft Fair will be Fall. **Women's Worship Sunday is March 5.** Our service project is to collect items for the Friends of Abused Families of Washington Co highly needed list. These items are dish soap, powdered dishwasher detergent, toilet paper and paper towels. We will collect these items for the month of March. We will be serving a lunch after the church service of roast beef sandwiches, cheesy potatoes, salad, veggie and dip and dessert. Please see additional article in this newsletter on the collection of old family recipes. Our next meeting is **TUES March 7.**

### **2017 SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION OF THE WISCONSIN CONFERENCE OF THE UCC ANNUAL MEETING**

Keynote speaker will be Hon. Rev. Everett Mitchell, Circuit Court Judge of Dane County and pastor of Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church. This event will take place on **Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>**, from 9am-3pm at Trinity United Church of Christ in Brookfield, WI. Each church is expected to send two members as delegates. This is a good opportunity to become more engaged in the wider church, meet other UCC people, and participate in the direction of our denomination. If you are interested in attending this, please contact Pastor Tara or Mary Johnson.

### **MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER**

On February 19, we were delighted to welcome **Cheryl Matic** as the newest member of St. John UCC. Cheryl has been active in our church for some time now but wanted to "make it official." Cheryl is the daughter of Dick Wallander and has already been quite active in various activities at St. John including Vacation Bible School, Craft Fair, and more.

Cheryl grew up and was confirmed in the United Church of Christ, and has attended other UCC churches in the Milwaukee area. She and her husband Zar have been married for 18 years and lived in Franklin up until about a year ago when they moved in with Dick in Brown Deer. Cheryl received both her bachelor's and master's degrees in Education from Cardinal Stritch University. For 21 years she taught early childhood, spending much of that time at a private preschool in Wauwatosa. We were delighted to have her expertise and enthusiasm in VBS this past summer as her love for children was quite apparent.

Cheryl is a big fan of the classic film "Gone With the Wind." As an avid reader, Cheryl enjoys finding the Little Free Libraries (like ours at St. John!) throughout the area. You can often find Zar and Cheryl going for walks together on the east-side of Milwaukee. Cheryl's additional interests include animals (all kinds, but especially cats) and hunting for vintage items and other great deals at thrift shops. I hope everyone takes a moment to get to know Cheryl better and experience her warm and joyful attitude.

## CELEBRATIONS: BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Ann Wallschlaeger	15 Janelle Lietzau
3 Rollie Pieper	16 Andy Boneski
6 Brady Ellingson	20 Brynn Thomas
7 Elizabeth Johnson	25 Lauren Kubosch
10 Aiden Pieper	27 Marilyn Gabrielsen
12 Vanessa Tetzlaff	31 Kendel Thomas
Jennifer Andrae	Kenzie Thomas
14 Mike Szymik	



### PRAYER LIST

- ◇ Prayers for Mike Szymik
- ◇ Prayers for our church that it may grow
- ◇ Prayers for Mary Ann Toth
- ◇ Prayers for Kirk (Lois Cozzuli's son) and Nicole (Lois Cozzuli's daughter)
- ◇ Prayers for Laura W., as she battles cancer
- ◇ Prayers for Tim Roskopf, son of Karen Roskopf
- ◇ Prayers for Virginia Wendt
- ◇ Prayers for Henry Dieringer
- ◇ Prayers for Stacy C., recovering from injury, daughter of Janet Robinson
- ◇ Prayers for Lois Cozzuli, recovering from surgery
- ◇ Prayers for Kathleen DeWall, recovering from surgery
- ◇ Prayers for Serena, sister of Mary Johnson

### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Scott & Kathy Maly
- 29 John & Stacie Delain
- 30 Sam & Jodi Schneider



### MARCH CALENDAR

**1st—6:15pm** Light Supper  
**-7pm ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE** at Our Saviour's

**5th—WOMEN'S SUNDAY—Lunch to follow**

**6th—11am** Bible Study at Our Saviour's

**5:30pm** Moral Mondays at St. John

**7th—7pm** Women's Guild Mtg.

**8th— 2-4pm** Prayer Shawl Ministry at Latitudes

**- 6:15pm** Light Supper

**- 7pm Lenten Service at OSC**

**9th—6:30pm** Council Mtg.

**13th—11 am** Bible Study at Our Saviour's

**4:30pm** Christian Bd. Of Ed. Mtg.

**5:30pm** Moral Mondays at St. John

**15th—6:15pm** Light Supper  
**- 7pm Lenten Service at OSC**

**20th—11am** Bible Study at Our Saviour's

**5:30pm** Moral Monday's at St. John

**22nd—6:15pm** Light Supper  
**- 7pm Lenten Service at OSC**

**25th—10am-3pm** Crafter's Day at Our Saviour's

**26th—One Great Hour of Sharing** (Potluck to follow)

**- Worship Mtg. to follow service**

**27th—11am** Bible Study at Our Saviour's

**5:30pm** Moral Monday's at St. John

**29th—6:15pm** Light Supper  
**- 7pm Lenten Service at OSC**

**ST. JOHN UCC**

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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**

***ASH WEDNESDAY—MARCH 1—7PM AT  
OUR SAVIOUR'S UCC***

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

*Sunday School: 11:15-Noon at St. John UCC*

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