

Heartbeat News



At the beginning of June I traveled to Green Lake, WI for our denomination’s Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting. While the keynote speakers are always good and I enjoy the privilege of having a voice and vote on issues at the business meetings the real highlight of this weekend for me has always been the various workshops. Whether you are passionate about music and worship, biblical studies, mission and outreach, the future of our denomination, camp and outdoor ministries, there is always something offered that is sure to pique your interest. This year I found myself drawn to workshops that talked about stewardship of our physical health (and how to live longer and healthier lives) and about “the spiritual practice of enough”. One of the great take-aways of these workshops for me was the importance of caring for myself both physically and spiritually. This is not about being selfish but about maintaining oneself in order to be able to provide quality care for the people and churches I serve. Honesty is important and I must be honest in saying that I struggle, at times, in my obedience to the commandment of Sabbath listed in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:8-11 and Deuteronomy 5:12-15). In my desire to meet the needs of others and offer my best to both churches I sometimes fall into the trap of thinking I must be constantly working, constantly striving to do more and more. The reality is that all this does is become a physical and emotional drain, and can lend to the false belief that it is all up to me, rather than to rest in God’s provision. So I hope you will be hearing me talk about Sabbath more in the future. What this means is that I am committing myself to take the fourth commandment seriously, to set aside one day of each week for rest and renewal (typically this will be Thursday or Friday, as church needs dictate). This does not mean I am not available in an emergency...I will most certainly be checking my messages and responding to any urgent needs. But it means I might not answer my phone right away, and non-emergency emails and phone calls will be returned the next day.

Sabbath is not a luxury, but a necessity, a call to trust in God and to recognize that we are truly to be “human beings” not merely “human doings”. It is to recognize that God is the one in control and that it is God who provides. All week long we work and strive, and so on one day of the week we are called to slow down, to reflect on the goodness of God, to recharge and renew

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St. John UCC

262-251-0640

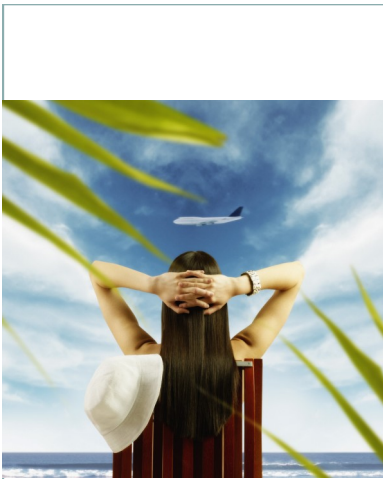
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Pastor’s Cell:

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ourselves with God's grace. And Sabbath-keeping isn't just for pastors; all God's people are called to obey these words and recognize and respond to God's creative work in our lives. Sabbath is not to be a burden or drudgery but a gift, another example of God's abundant grace and desire for us to live life with joy. In the gospels we often read of Jesus taking time away from his ministry to pray and rest. There is no one way to keep Sabbath...and as Jesus said "the Sabbath was made for humankind, not humankind for the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27). What matters is using the time to refresh yourself, to enjoy the goodness of God.

Now, admittedly, as one prone to saying "yes" to every request made of my time and my energy, the observance of Sabbath can be a challenge. It can even cause anxiety over what is left undone. But as Richard Carlson wrote in his best-selling book *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff*, there will always be things in our life left unfinished, things that must be left for another day. But this is one of those journeys that we can share with one another, speaking of the joys and the challenges of being faithful to this command. As I commit myself to this practicing of keeping Sabbath, I invite you to join me on the journey, let's hold one another accountable. I welcome your responses and reflections as you keep Sabbath in your own life. For those interested in reading more on the subject of Sabbath keeping, there have been a number of excellent books and articles written on the subject. Stop by my study and I would be happy to share these resources with you.

Keep the faith!

Pastor Tara

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

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR MAY

At its monthly meeting held on May 8th, the St. John Church Council:

- Agreed to publish the revised policies for member and non-member weddings and facilities use on the church website.
- Discussed the office secretary vacancy.
- Reviewed design proposals for new outdoor signage.
- Approved the summer service schedule with Our Saviour's UCC.

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

Absent: Cherie Bersch, Sharon Reeder

Next Council meeting: June 12, 2014

CAPUCHIN'S RUN/WALK FOR THE HUNGRY

The Capuchins' Run/Walk For The Hungry
At Germanfest (Summerfest Grounds)

Friday, July 25, 2014 7 pm

5K Run or 2 mile walk

5K (\$20 Adults \$10 Child)

2 mile walk (\$15 Adult \$5 Child)

Prices based on the team rate of 10 people or more if entered by July 12th. Participants Receive: A \$5 food/drink coupon & T-Shirt (with our church name on the sleeve), Admission to Germanfest for participant and unlimited guests with prize drawings, and 2 for 1 return ticket to Germanfest. Please sign up and pay by Sunday, July 6.

Interested individuals should see or call Karen Becker at 414-759-8123 or karenbecker69@gmail.com.

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UCC ANNUAL MEETING 2014

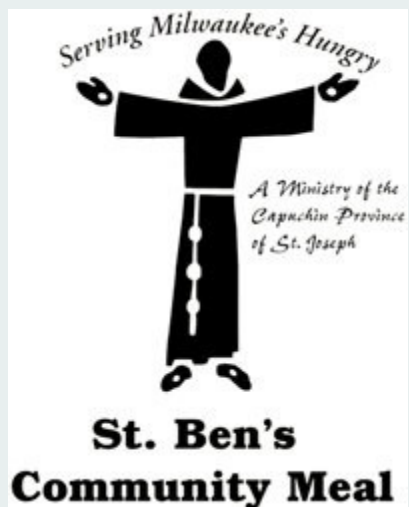
-Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of Wisconsin's Lay Academy. Lay Academy is a program of courses available to lay people that assists participants in deepening their faith and knowledge of church and scripture, grow in spiritual maturity, and strengthen Christ's church.

-Voted to become an Open and Affirming Conference. For those unfamiliar with this terminology: "Open and Affirming (ONA) is the United Church of Christ's (UCC) designation for congregations, campus ministries, and other bodies in the UCC which make a public covenant of welcome into their full life and ministry to persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions." <http://www.ucc.org/lgbt/ona.html>. This means that our conference office will not discriminate and will actively welcome individuals who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender in all of its conference level operations. While this does not directly affect our individual congregations it is a powerful witness to the call for us to treat all people as beloved children of God.

-Amazingly informative keynote speakers and workshops (see the pastor's letter to learn more about a few of these workshops).

-Update on search for new conference minister.

-Approval of the 2015 conference budget of \$2,151,751 which included \$409,000 in National Basic Support to the UCC, \$53,672 to the Wisconsin Council Health & Human Services ministry, and over \$150,000 in support of Higher education (which includes money to Lakeland College and Northland College here in Wisconsin). For a complete listing of the 2015 Wisconsin Conference Annual Budget, please contact the church office.



OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Report on Weed, Seed, and Feed – May 3rd, 2014 –

The weather was wonderful. 10 members were in attendance. We focused our efforts outside in the Community Prayer Garden. The outside flower gardens were cleaned and spruced up, bushes were trimmed.

Drivers Bob Lehmann, Rich Bersch, Andy Boneski, and Dick Wal-lander passed out fliers promoting our church. It was discussed that all of the new church brochures were passed out, it was discussed to order additional church brochures.

Lucky winners for the Scrip Raffle were Jeannie Lehmann and Andy Boneski. Thank you to Cherie Bersch for purchasing all the food, making sloppy joes and serving all who volunteered at Weed, Seed, and Feed.

Report on Adult Fellowship outing to Menomonee Falls Patio Players – Performance of “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers” May 4th, 2014 at 2:00pm. 19 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 16 members and friends met back at St. John U.C.C. for a delicious spaghetti dinner, beverages and deserts. Thank you to Bob Lehmann and Jeannie Lehmann for organizing the event. Next year performance will be Hair Spray.

Next meeting: Sunday July 13th at 10:45am

CELEBRATIONS: BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

July Birthdays

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

July Anniversaries

- 10 Eric & Susan Hillstrom

If someone's birthday or anniversary is missing or if the date is incorrect, please email the church at stjohnucc53022@sbcglobal.net



RECIPE CORNER

St. John U.C.C. has some wonderful cooks and bakers and during Fellowship or Potluck Dinners 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 send it to the church at stjohn53022@sbcglobal.net and we will put it in the Recipe Corner. This recipe and more can be found on our website under Fellowship/Recipe Corner.

Butter Horns

Recipe donated by Polly Weber

This was served during Fellowship on October 13th, 2013

Ingredients:

4 cups flour

1 cake of yeast, only! (purchase in refrigerated section in store)

4 eggs yolks

1 tsp. vanilla

1 tsp. salt

1 ½ cup butter

1 cup sour cream

Powder sugar for sprinkling

board

Filling:

4 egg whites; beaten

1 cup sugar

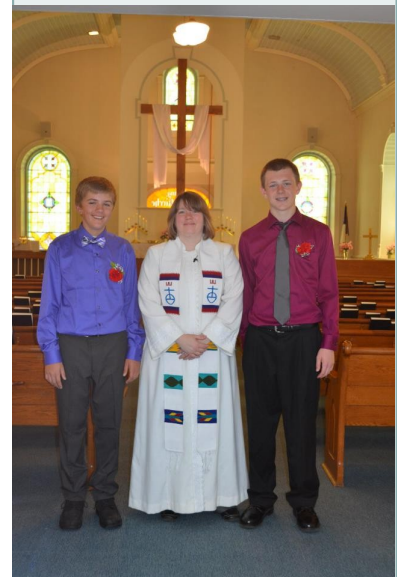
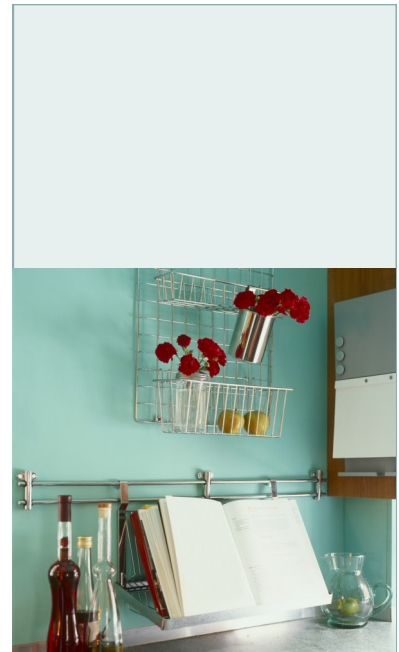
1 tsp. vanilla

1 ½ cup finely ground nuts

Sift flour, salt, and crumble the yeast together. Cut in butter with cutter. Blend in egg yolks, sour cream, and vanilla. Divide dough into fifths and chill one hour. Sprinkle rolling pin and board with powder sugar. Roll out thin; into circular shape size of round dinner plate, cover with filling and cut into 8 wedges and roll up into the shape of a horn. Bake @ 375 degrees for 15 minutes. Frost with a butter frosting.

CONGRATS COLTON AND GRIFFIN!

With great joy we celebrate with Colten Thomas and Griffin Lietzau as they affirmed their baptisms through the rite of confirmation. Congratulations Colton and Griffin!





COMMENTARY: IN AN UNEVEN WORLD, WHAT DOES SOLIDARITY MEAN?

Written by The Rev. Jon Barnes

June 26, 2014

I recently returned from a trip visiting international partners in Haiti. On the flight to Port au Prince, passengers boarding in matching t-shirts made it evident that the plane leaving Atlanta was full of church groups going on mission trips. One t-shirt read "GO.LOVE.HAITI!" Another, with the words emblazoned on a cross, said "Mission to the Least of These." When my wife and I lived and worked in South Africa, we would see the same phenomenon on planes bound for Johannesburg, many of the shirts referring to the need to "save" Africa.

These group journeys to help others, matching t-shirts and all, may be easy targets for us to mock. But I wonder if we mainline Protestants are that different? At Global Ministries, we partner with international churches and organizations in relationships of mutuality and solidarity. In addition, we have the opportunity to work with many churches and individuals in North America who want to make a difference in the world. And there is no doubt that this desire comes from our calling to follow God and to work for a world of justice and peace. But it is also evident that, due to our privilege as North Americans, many times we see ourselves as "doers" and agents of change, making it difficult to experience solidarity and learn from these relationships.

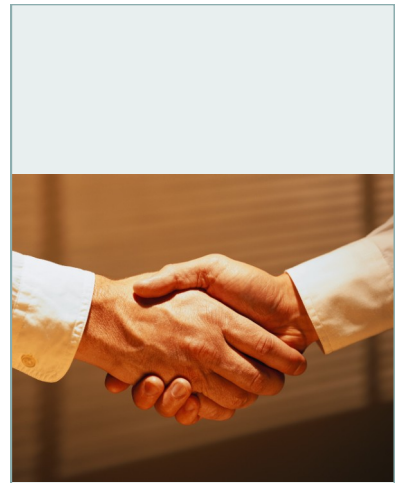
When we meet with international partners, one of the most important lessons we can learn is how U.S. political, economic, and military policies affect the lives of the most vulnerable. During the visit to Haiti, one of the comments we heard over and over is how Western aid, especially after the 2010 earthquake, has actually served to undermine Haiti's ability to respond to the many issues currently facing the country. The Rev. Patrick Villier, president of the National Spiritual Council of Churches of Haiti (CONASPEH), noted that true partnership is not about building independence in either Haiti or the United States, but should instead be rooted in our mutual interdependence.

Similarly, in *Solidarity Ethics*, Rebecca Todd Peters writes that while international partnerships usually begin by focusing on the needs and poverty of others, they instead need to start with the reality of privilege that many of us in the West take for granted. She goes on to note that "because a first-world ethic of solidarity begins from a position of privilege rather than a position of marginalization, analyzing and understanding privilege must be its starting point."

Yes, there are needs around the world. And yes, God calls us to minister to the "least of these." But when our solidarity with others begins with the premise of their poverty, it is very difficult for us to relate in any form other than donors or patrons. We must begin to understand that in a globalized world, it is not always our direct assistance or direction that others need. Rather we must recognize that our culture of hyper

individualism and over consumption is tied, both directly and indirectly, to the social realities and deprivations faced by millions around the world (including here in the United States). If we begin with our privilege as the starting point so that we might be encouraged to fight for change here, we may just have a chance at realizing relationships of mutuality and interdependence in our globalized and uneven world. And we don't even need matching t-shirts to do that.

The Rev. Jon Barnes is Global Ministries' Executive of Mission Interpretation and Constituency Relationships.



Summer church service with Our Saviour's U.C.C. June 15, 2014 – July 20th, 2014.
Summer church service at St. John U.C.C. July 27th - August 31st, 2014
Wed. night services at Our Saviour's U.C.C. 6:30 pm June 17th – July 23rd
Wed. night services at St. John U.C.C. 6:30 pm July 30th – September 3rd, 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

July

Blood Drive

Thursday, July 10, 1-6 pm at Lutheran Church of the Living Christ (ELCA) W156N10660 Pilgrim Road

Regional Youth Event

July 10-13th at Lakeland College

Brewer's Game

Monday July 21, 4:45 pm (First Pitch at 7:10 pm)

Sunday Worship Services move back to St John UCC, Sunday, July 27th at 9:30 am.

Vacation Bible School

Caretakers of Creation" VBS July 21st – 24th, 2014 9:00am - 3:00pm

Capuchin's Run Walk for the

Hungry – Friday, July 25th at 7:00pm

Brat Fry at Menomonee Falls

Appleton Ave. Pick n' Save
 Saturday, July 26th, from 10 am–3 pm. N77 W14435 Appleton Ave.

Church Picnic

Sunday, July 27th after Worship



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**

SUMMER SCHEDULE REMINDER

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