

Heartbeat News



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

"It made no sense." It was that line that stuck out at me as I read the book "Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith", a memoir by Anne Lamott chosen for our September book club. The book begins with a long "overture" describing her early life. This was a life filled with alcohol, drugs, sex, and wild living. In the words of one of our members "I'm amazed she's still alive." Lamott described her coming to faith not as "a leap but rather a series of staggers from what seemed like one safe place to another". Whether it be the influence of Catholics, Christian Scientists, Jews or others Anne continuously found herself kept afloat by the faith of others even as she ardently avoided any sort of organized religion. Her parents, despite being children of missionaries, "despised Christianity". And yet Lamott acknowledges that she wasn't "remotely ready for Christianity" but never stopped believing in God from the day she read the story of Abraham and Isaac in Kierkegaard's *Fear and Trembling*. It was as she explained how that experience during sophomore year of college triggered her belief in God that, in a single paragraph, Lamott used the phrase "it made no sense" four times. Reading that phrase over and over I knew that this was indeed a book meant to be read in our book club. Because when we are honest, faith is a wild and crazy thing that truly makes no sense, and yet WE BELIEVE. Reading her memoir it makes no sense that this former addict would be a writer of Christian spirituality books, it makes no sense that she is not dead from the lifestyle she lived. And yet, it would seem that God is speaking through her life experience. Many of the stories of scripture

(Continued on page 2)



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COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR SEPT.

At its monthly meeting held on September 10th, the St. John Church Council:

- Welcomed Andy Boneski as Council Deacon.
- Set Church Council meeting start times to be 6:30 pm.
- Appearance by John and Ken Schaetzel from the Maintenance Committee to discuss recommendation for parking lot repair.
- Discussed plans to meet with all committee chairpersons.

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

Absent: none



Next Council meeting: October 8, 2015

“make no sense” to common wisdom. It makes no sense that Jesus was able to feed thousands of people with only a few small loaves. It makes no sense that an innocent man was willing to put himself on a path that led to crucifixion. It makes no sense to think that the body of a man dead three days will rise from the dead. It makes no sense that a small band of followers of a powerless Jewish peasant would grow into a massive movement of hope and justice that spans the globe two thousand years later.

The subtitle of Anne Lamott’s book is “some thoughts on faith”. Faith, per the apostle Paul, “is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don’t see.” Paul goes on throughout the 11th chapter of Hebrews describing all of our faith tradition, from Cain and Abel to the persecutions of the early church, as that which was done “by faith”. What do you do *by faith*? What crazy, insane act of love and hope are you finding yourself called to *by faith*? Faith is more than something to have, its not a membership card, or a warranty, it’s a call, a strength, an energy that compels us to act upon that which we have received, lived, and known. Each of us comes across an “Anne Lamott” in our own lives. What are we doing to live out our faith in relation to them? Who are we being called to see as a beloved child of God in need of our love, our care, our attention? As we go about life this month, I pray that we are able to keep our eyes, our hearts, and our minds open for opportunities to walk with others on their journeys of faith, that we may see God in them, and they may see God in their own life through our witness.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Tara

ALL SAINT’S DAY SERVICE

On November 1st we will be celebrating All Saint's Day. If there is an individual that has died in the past year that you would like us to include in this special remembrance, please submit the name to the church office by October 25th.

EDUCATIONAL & SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES



Monday Morning Bible Study: The Stories You Don't Hear on Sunday Morning. Join us for a weekly Bible Study as we explore biblical texts that are not included in the Revised Common Lectionary (the 3 yr. cycle of readings we read on Sunday morning). Topics for the fall will include Proverbs, Hebrews and an Advent Study. **Meets at Our Saviour's UCC, W172 N12533 Division Rd., Germantown, WI, from 11am-12:30pm each Monday beginning Sept. 14th.**

Learning Opportunity: Our Monday Morning Bible Study group invites you to join them in traveling to Lakeland College in Sheboygan on **Tuesday October 20th**, to hear a lecture by Dr. Stephen B. Reid of Baylor University. The title of his lecture is "The Beginning of Wisdom: Happiness, Success, and the Book of Proverbs. The lecture will be held at Lakeland's Bradley Theatre at 11am. A luncheon honoring Dr. Reid will be held after the lecture from 12:30-2pm for a cost of \$10. Contact Pastor Tara to sign up by Monday October 12th.

NEW OFFERINGS:

Slowing with the Spirit- Feeling overwhelmed and exhausted, yet wanting something more in life? Want to deepen your spirituality and expand your prayer life? Then this might be the group for you! "Slowing with the Spirit" will be a casual gathering time to explore and practice different spiritual disciplines. Possible topics and activities include: labyrinths, mandalas (a.k.a. coloring for grown-ups), guided meditation, and various other prayer techniques. There will be an emphasis on utilizing stress-reduction techniques to help participants open themselves to the movements of the Holy Spirit. Date and time to be determined based upon participant's interest/availability. Contact 262-251-0640 to sign up or for more information.

You and the UCC--Designed for both life-long members and those new to the denomination, this class will explore exactly what it means to be a member of the United Church of Christ and how we as individuals, and as a faith community can live into this identity. Sessions will explore topics related to: covenant, sacraments, how we read the Bible, our work in the world, and understanding our rich historical legacy and what it means for today. Date, time, and location to be determined based upon participant availability. Contact 262-251-0640 to sign up or for more information.

THANK YOU!!!!

A big thank you to all who made this year's Craft Fair a great success! The results of the Fair were not available before the newsletter deadline, so watch for more information in the November issue.



BOOK CLUB

Books for Starbucks book club for the Fall:

- October 21**-Take This Bread by Sara Miles
- November 18**-A Christianity Worth Believing by Doug Pagitt
- December 16**-Mudhouse Sabbath by Lauren F. Winner
- January(tba)**-The Shack by Wm. Paul Young

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

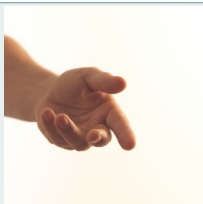
BLOOD DRIVE



A Blood Drive will be held at Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
(www.lclcgermantown.org) on **Thursday October 1st** from 1:00-6:00 p.m.
Anyone interested in donating can make an appointment by calling 262-361-2447.

PRAYER REQUEST FORMS can be found in the lobby of the church. Please fill out the form if you would like to include someone on the Prayer List.

WOMEN'S GUILD MTG. will be Wed., Oct. 7th at 7pm.



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 members and friends are welcome. Any question contact Sharon Reeder at 262-251-5946.

Dates Committees are serving Fellowship:

October 4th, 2015 – “**World Communion Sunday – Neighbors in Need**” - Pot Luck – Outreach Committee

November 1st, 2015 - Church Council

December 6th, 2015 – 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 TBA. We meet in the Fraederich Education room. Contact Caroline Romaine at 262-385-1327 for more information.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Our first Brat Fry's was held Saturday August 16th, 2015. Our Brat Fry sale profit was \$ 167.00. Proceeds from the profit will be used for future Outreach events and 10% of the proceeds will be given to Mission Alive.

Thank you to those who came out to enjoy a Brat! Thank you to those who volunteered at the Brat Fry Karen Becker, Andy Boneski, Rich & Cherie Bersch, Bob & Jeannie Lehmann, Chris Pickett, Caroline Romaine and Donna Tess.

Adult Fellowship planned the Brewer Game outing which was held on August 17th, 2015. 46 friends and members attended. Due to the uncertainty of the weather the tailgate outing was held in the St. John U.C.C. Fellowship Hall. Many different snacks, salads and desserts were served at the tailgate outing. We car pooled to Miller Park, game time was at 7:10pm. The Milwaukee Brewers played the Miami Marlins. Final score was Marlins 6, Brewers 2. Despite the loss fun was had by all. A special Thank you to Bob and Jeannie Lehmann for organizing the event.

Mark your calendars -

October 2015 –

Sunday October 4th, 2015 - World Communion Sunday

“ Neighbors in Need” – Pot Luck Dinner

On Sunday October 4th, 2015 we will be having a Pot Luck Dinner following church service to celebrate World Communion Sunday. 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.

Sunday October 11th, 2015 -CROP Hunger Walk – Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty

The Greater Milwaukee CROP Hunger Walk is a charity walk where groups of all faiths, cultures, and ages walk to raise awareness and funds for local hunger and poverty – fighting advocacy as well as international relief and development. Some 2,000 communities across the country take part each year. 30% of the donated funds stays locally to support anti-poverty advocacy work done by Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee.

Those who are interested in walking will get a packet with information about the walk. Ask a friend to walk with you or sponsor your walk. The walk will be held at McKinley Park near Marina – Milwaukee Lake front 2 or 5 mile walk. We will be carpooling to the CROP Walk location from St. John U.C.C. at 11:30am. See Caroline Romaine or Pastor Tara if interested in signing up for the walk.

GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS

First, the bad news: Ruby Tuesday has discontinued its Give Back Program
Then, the good news: We can now use our coupons at Ruby Tuesday! (The ones we always find in Valpak and the Journal-Sentinel, but couldn't use with the Give Back Program.)

MORE GOOD NEWS: Buy a Ruby Tuesday Scrip Card to help St. John!!

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.



Chocolate Zucchini Cake Luckow

Recipe donated by Judy

Recipe also found in St. John U.C.C. "Recipes from the Heart" page 112

Ingredients:

1/2 c. butter
1/2 c. vegetable oil
1 1/3 c. white sugar
2 eggs
1 tsp. vanilla
1/2 c. buttermilk
walnuts (or nuts of choice)
2 1/2 c. Flour

4 T. cocoa
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. baking powder
2 c. grated zucchini
1/2 c. chopped
1/2 c. chocolate chips

Directions:

Mix butter, oil, sugar, eggs, vanilla and milk. Add flour, cocoa, soda, salt, baking powder, and zucchini. Pour in a 9 x 13 – inch pan, greased and floured. Mix together 1/2 cup chopped nuts and 1/2 cup chocolate chips. Sprinkle on top of cake. Bake at 325 degrees for 45 minutes or when toothpick inserted comes out clean.

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!

The book of Psalms is one of the most beloved books of the Bible precisely because it offers such heart-felt 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. The psalm below was written by one of our members during last spring's Psalms Class.

A Psalm of Praise to Our Creator

It is you whom I fear. You, who are great, powerful and awesome in all our universe. You who build things with a speck of dust and destroy with a mighty blow.

You make the sun to shine and the moon to glow. You make rivers swell and dry up the lands.

You were, you are, and you always will be.

You are my quiet comforter when I am alone, afraid, or tormented by my enemies or my own thoughts.

My first father, before my earthly father...It is you who I go to for comfort for I no longer have an earthly father I go to you for guidance on my children, my relationship with my spouse.

I trust you, I praise you and thank you, O Lord.

OCTOBER

USHERS

4 Mike Szymik & Dick Wallander
11 Polly & Tom Weber
18 A. Skrober & M. Wundrock
25 M. Boettcher & M. Gabrielson

LITURGISTS

Merry Lison
Joan Schaetzel
Matt Lison
Caroline Romaine

GREETERS

4 Marilyn Gabrielsen
11 Andy Boneski
18 Karen Becker
25 Sue Hillstrom

IT'S A PUMPKIN PARTY!!

We will gather at Our Saviour's at **10am on Saturday October 10th** to carpool to Jim's Pumpkin Farm where we will take a hayride out to the pumpkin patch, you have the opportunity to select and purchase any pumpkin(s) you would like. Additionally Jim Klug has graciously offered that each person can get a small pumpkin to take back to the church to paint/decorate and deliver to an area nursing home in time for Halloween. There is also a corn maze to try out (small fee). After our fun at the pumpkin farm we will return to Our Saviour's for a free pizza lunch and pumpkin decorating. Please sign up at church or contact Pastor Tara/church office so we have a count for lunch. In the event of bad weather the rain date will be October 24th.

YOUTH NEWS

Be on the lookout for a special Youth Newsletter being sent to families in the coming week---information about upcoming events and details on a trip to Disneyworld will be included!

FREE FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. In honor of this, Friends of Abused Families is hosting a **Free Fall Family Festival on October 17th, from 2:00 – 5:00** at Fireman's Park in Germantown.

There will be games for children, free snacks, entertainment, activities, and more! For more information, or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Brad at 262-334-7298** or e-mail outreach-coordinator@fafinc.org



CELEBRATIONS: BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

12 Bonnie Pfeil
Sophia Delain
13 David Taylor
15 Tyler Ellingson

19 Jean Koedinger
28 Matt Lison
Ken Roskopf



OCT. ANNIVERSARIES

2 - Ken & Diane Ramthun
11 – Thomas & Polly Weber
13 – Ken & Karen Roskopf

OCT. EVENTS

4th—World Communion Sunday—Potluck to follow Worship

5th—11-am-12:30pm Bible Study (OSC)

7th—7pm Women's Guild

8th—6:30pm Council Mtg.

10th—10am—Pumpkin Party at Our Saviour's

11th—CROP Walk—meet at St. John's at 11:30am

12th—11am-12:30pm Bible Study (OSC)

4pm St. Ben's

19th—11am-12:30pm Bible Study (OSC)

21st—6pm Book Club at Starbucks

24th—10am-3pm Crafters Day—OSC

26th—11am-12:30pm Bible Study (OSC)

CRAFTER'S DAY

Welcome the cooler weather with a warm and fun gathering to work on all those projects that have been sitting in the closet all summer! Additionally, we will have supplies and instructors on hand for those who would like to make "cross in a pocket" gifts to be distributed at area hospitals and nursing homes. We will gather at Our Saviour's on **Oct 24th 10am-3pm**. Bring a snack to share and a bag lunch or money to order out (we often order subs or pizza). Pastor Tara will have her infamous Coffee, Tea, and Cocoa bar ready to serve up scrumptious hot drinks. See you

PEW BIBLES

"Your word is a lamp before my feet and a light for my journey." (psalm 119:105. Help light the way in our sanctuary by sponsoring a Pew Bible today! We have recently purchased new CEB (Common English Bible) Pew Bibles for the sanctuary. This is the translation that is typically read from during worship. To defray the cost of the Bibles, we are asking for a donation of \$10 per Bible. There are forms in the lobby if you are interested in sponsoring a Bible, or call the office and we can help you out.

PRAYER LIST

- ◇ Prayers for Mike Szymik
- ◇ Prayer for our church that it may grow
- ◇ Medical concerns for Erik K. and Dan R.
- ◇ Prayers for Mary Ann Toth, who received a pacemaker recently



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*

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

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