

# The Messenger

Volume 22 No. 1

January 2022



The Newsletter of The United Church of Sandwich

*"Passionately united to feed all people — body, mind and spirit — to the glory of God!"*

Happy New Year!

We are not far removed from the winter solstice, December 21. It was the shortest day of the year when we have the least daylight. People might complain about how dark it is this time of the year. However, imagine living in the town of Barrow, Alaska, the farthest northern tip of the state of Alaska, above the Arctic Circle. If you think it's dark in Illinois this time of the year, you haven't seen anything. In Barrow, Alaska, the sun set in the afternoon, November 18, 2021 and it doesn't rise again until January 22, 2022. That is 80 days of darkness. 80 days when the sun doesn't shine on the land. The earth is tilted in such a way Barrow is away from the sun for an extended period of time. The earth spins and the clock turns, but darkness stays constant. Still, when the sun does rise in late January the whole town comes out to celebrate, because finally, there is light again.



Could the prophet Isaiah be speaking to the people of Barrow, Alaska when he writes "Arise, shine, for your light has come!"? It could feel like it, but what God's Word talks about here is a different kind of light, and a different kind of darkness. When this light that God speaks about begins to shine through that darkness the results are much more spectacular and joyful than anything you could experience in northern Alaska. January 6 is Epiphany. What does the word "epiphany" mean? An "epiphany" is when something reveals itself, or shows itself. For example, in Barrow, Alaska, after 80 days of darkness, the sun finally reveals its glory for everyone to see. That's an epiphany. In the church year, the Epiphany season is when The Sun of God reveals his glory for everyone to see. Starting on January 6, for two months, we will be in the Epiphany season. We will live in Epiphany until Ash Wednesday.

Basically, Epiphany is the transformation of darkness to light. Our world can be a very dark place. You can see evidence of that darkness all around. The world often feels dark, lonely and cold, but the joy is that much greater when a person moves out of the darkness and into the light of Christ. This is what happened to the wise men from the East. Every year, these Gentiles from a distant land are the focal point of the Epiphany season. They came from a place where no one knew about Christ. No one knew about the true God who was sending a Savior. But somehow, they knew. And when they saw his star, in some way they knew that the Messiah had come. Therefore, these men left their land to see and worship Christ. They made the long trip to Jerusalem, and they were probably surprised to see that this city was just as dark (spiritually) as the land they had come from.

Many people call Epiphany the "Gentile Christmas," because one of the biggest ideas of the Epiphany season is that Christ is a light for all people, all over the world. Epiphany reminds us that anyone living in the darkness can come and see the glory of God through the person of Jesus Christ. His grace and forgiveness is for every person on this earth. Remember, Barrow, Alaska? While it is true that right now, the sun never rises there. Six months from now, the earth will tilt a different way, and then the sun will never set. From June until August for almost three months, the sun will not stop shining. People call that place "the land of the midnight sun." And so it is with you. Once the grace and mercy and forgiveness of Jesus Christ rises in your life, it will never stop shining. No matter how dark the world gets around you, Christ's love will always shine in your life. May this Epiphany season be for you a time when you see ever more clearly the glory of your Savior, Jesus Christ. "Arise, shine, for your light has come. And the glory of the Lord rises upon you."

God bless,

Pastor Tom Bourke

## Sunday Scriptures & Sermon Series for January

**January 2** Matthew 2:1-12 ~ The Search of the Magi

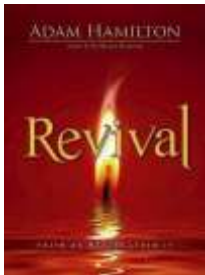
**January 9** 1 John 1:5-2:2 ~ Forgiving Our Sins

**“Courage Over Fear”**

**January 16** Joshua 1:1-6 ~ Transition

**January 23** Joshua 1:7-9 ~ Meditation

**January 30** Joshua 3:12-16, Galatians 5:1,16 ~ Walking in the Spirit



**Adult Bible** study resumes January 11, in the Chapel from 10:00-11:00 am. The book, **Revival** by Adam Hamilton will be studied. You are invited to join the journey to England, to follow the life of John Wesley and explore his defining characteristics of a Wesleyan Christian. Please let Pastor Tom know if you would like to participate and get a study book.

### MISSION OF THE MONTH

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND ~  
of the Sandwich-Somonauk Area Churches

The Good Samaritan Fund seeks to assist families and individuals with emergency needs in our area. Funded by the local churches and administered by the Sandwich Police Department. Vouchers may be redeemed at local merchants for baby needs, groceries or gas.

Thank you for supporting this vital mission.  
The Missions Committee

### Confirmation Class Meals Sign Up


**A sign up sheet for volunteering a meal for the confirmation class may be found in the narthex. Watch for a day that is convenient for you and provide a meal for approximately 6 people. For any questions contact Pastor Tom.**



**Bible Quiz**

After Sarah died, Abraham remarried. What was his second wife's name?

- A. Miriam
- B. Keturah
- C. Bathsheba
- D. Tamar



Answer: B (See Genesis 25:1.)

# JANUARY



## Activities



Missions Committee meets  
Tuesday, January 11th, at  
1:00pm.

Administrative Council meets  
Tuesday, January 11th, at  
6:30pm.

Finance Committee will meet January 16, right  
after worship service.

Pledge Cards may still be placed in the offering  
plate or turned into the office door mailbox.

Giving envelopes for 2022 are in the narthex.  
If you wish to have envelopes and there is not a  
box with your name, please let Pat Hallaron or  
the office know and one will be provided.  
PLEASE, destroy all old envelopes and only use  
those assigned to you for 2022. Thank You!

Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday,  
January 18, 4:30pm.



United Methodist Women  
will not meet in January.  
Their next meeting is  
February 13th.

**U'Niter's** not meet in  
January or February.



2022	Liturgists	Ushers
02 Jan	Myrtie Warren	Doug & Melissa Reiners
09 Jan	Marilyn Steenwyk	Gary & Judy Anderson
16 Jan	Bonnie Miller	Carole Strock/ Earl Shaffer
23 Jan	Sandy Whiteis	Connie Mitchell
30 Jan	Sarah Stevens	Ron & Kim Henrich
06 Feb	Pam Nehring	John & Pat Hallaron
13 Feb	John Hallaron	Gwen Fox
20 Feb	Doug Reiners	Carole Strock/ Earl Shaffer
27 Feb	Deb Seymour	Gary & Judy Anderson
Ash Wednesday 02 Mar	Myrtie Warren	Monty & Betty Reiners
06 Mar	Bonnie Miller	Connie Mitchell
13 Mar	Kevin Duy	Gwen Fox
20 Mar	Sandy Whiteis	Carole Strock/ Earl Shaffer
27 Mar	Sarah Stevens	Gary & Judy Anderson
03 Apr	Chris Bagwill	John & Pat Hallaron
10 Apr	Marilyn Steenwyk	Deb Seymour/ Chris Martner
Maundy Thursday 14 Apr	TBA	TBA
Good Friday 15 Apr	TBA	TBA
Easter Sunday 17 Apr	Deb Seymour	Carole Strock/ Earl Shaffer
24 Apr	Pam Nehring	Gary & Judy Anderson
01 May	John Hallaron	Reid & Deb Heinekamp
08 May	Kevin Duy	Josh & Mindy Chrestman
15 May	Marilyn Steenwyk	Carole Strock/ Earl Shaffer
22 May	Sarah Stevens	Matt & Joanna Olson
29 May	Chris Bagwill	Monty & Betty Reiners
05 Jun	Pam Nehring	Deb Seymour/ Chris Martner
12 Jun	Myrtie Warren	Connie Mitchell
19 Jun	Deb Seymour	Carole Strock/ Earl Shaffer
26 Jun	Kevin Duy	Reid & Deb Heinekamp

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANDWICH**  
**Leadership Team for 2022 - 2024**  
*Nominations/Lay Leadership Committee Report*

**Administrative Council**

*Discipline, 244.1-3; 252.1-6*

Chairperson	Sarah Stevens
Recording Secretary	Chris Bagwill
Lay Leader	Jim Bernhardt
Staff/Parish Relations	Gwen Fox
Finance/Stewardship	Pam Nehring
Treasurer	Linda Duy
Payroll	Pam Nehring
Financial Secretary	Pat Hallaron
Memorials/Endowments	Kim Henrich
Trustees Chair	Gary Anderson
Missions/Evangelism	Phyllis Whitehead
Fair Stand Chairperson	Reid Heinekamp
Worship and Music	Deb Seymour
Coop. Youth Ministry:	Joanna Olson
UMW President	Marilyn Steenwyk
UMM President	
Lay Member AC	Bonnie Miller
Alt. LMAC	Sarah Stevens

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**\*\*Asterisks preceding a name indicate the Chairperson:**

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**Pastor-Staff / Parish Relations Committee**

2024: Carole Strock, Marilyn Steenwyk, Jerry Brown  
2023: John Hallaron, Vivian McMaster  
2022: Gwen Fox, Jim Updike, Phil Tuggle  
*Ex-Officio: Lay Leader, Jim Bernhardt; LMAC Bonnie Miller*

**Board of Trustees**

2024: \*\*Gary Anderson, John Jerabek  
2023: Matt Olson, Jim Mitchell, Lynn Reeder  
2022: Harold Dannewitz, Bonnie Miller, Ken Young  
*On Call List for: Parsonage, Bonnie Miller;  
Outside/grounds, Gary Anderson; Supplies, Jim Mitchell;  
Inside building, Doug Reiners; Ex-Officio: Pastor*

**Finance / Stewardship Committee**

2024: Doug Reiners, Sandy Gustafson  
2023: Bill McMahan, Linda Alvarez  
2022: Judy Anderson, Debby Hill  
Treasurer: Linda Duy; Payroll: \*\*Pam Nehring  
Financial Sec: Pat Hallaron  
*Ex-Officio: Pastor; Lay Leader, Jim Bernhardt; Ad.C. Chair Sarah Stevens;  
LMAC Bonnie Miller, may also include: Trustee Rep; S/PRC Rep*

**Nominations/Lay Leadership Committee**

2024: Sarah Stevens, Judy Anderson  
2023: Pam Nehring, Ron Henrich  
2022: Gwen Fox, Carole Strock  
\*\*Pastor is Chairperson. *Ex-officio: Lay Leader Jim Bernhardt*  
**Elections to Nominations can be** "from the floor of Charge Conference or through the recommendation of Nominations" (247.7; 249; 258.1, 259.1d).

**Memorials & Endowments**

2024: \*\*Kim Henrich, Chris Bagwill  
2023: Carole Strock, Bonnie Bernhardt  
2022: Etta Stahl, Nancy Brown, Kim Henrich  
*Ex-Officio: Pastor; Trustee Rep*

**Fair Stand Committee**

\*\*Reid Heinekamp, Pam Nehring, Sarah Stevens,  
Jim Bernhardt, Earl Shaffer, Judy Anderson,  
Tom Bourke

**Worship Committee**

2024: Diane Salisbury, Deb Heinekamp, Connie Mitchell,  
Sandy Gillette  
2023: \*\*Deb Seymour, Betty Reiners, Phyllis Davis,  
Carole Strock  
2022: Melissa Reiners, Christine McMahon  
Music Staff: Kevin Duy, Choir; Carol Larson, Organist  
*Ex-Officio: Pastor*

**Missions Committee**

2024: Myrtie Warren, Phyllis Davis, Judy Brandow  
2023: Lynn Reeder, Connie Kirby  
2022: \*\*Phyllis Whitehead, Bonnie Bernhardt  
*Ex-Officio: Pastor*

**Prayer Ministry** – *(for Nurture, Outreach and Witness, 252.2-e)*

\*\*Myrtie Warren, Phyllis Davis, Pam Nehring,  
Sandy Whiteis, Pastor

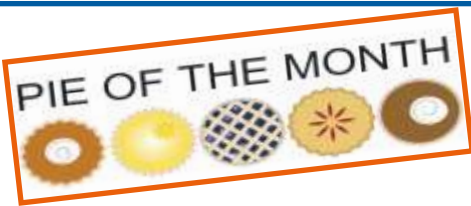
***Prayer Group Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays;***

Our purpose, according to the Discipline, 252.2-e is to encourage: "(1) the election of a Prayer Coordinator to promote prayer and mobilize the church to pray; (2) the establishment of a prayer room or designated place for prayer; and (3) encourage intentional prayer for the pastoral leadership..."

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## **PIE OF THE MONTH EVENT**

*Our expert pie bakers are ready to bake some delicious pies just for you!*

*Preorders and prepayment will be required.*

January:

Pie-Blueberry

Order Deadline-January 7

Pickup Date-January 15

February:

Pie-Cherry

Order Deadline-February 4

Pickup Date-February 12

March:

Pie-Apple (2 crust)

Order Deadline-March 4

Pickup Date-March 12

April:

Pie-Triple Berry (2 crust)

Order Deadline-April 8

Pickup Date-April 16

May:

Pie-Peach

Order Deadline-April 29

Pickup Date-May 7

June:

Pie-Strawberry Rhubarb

Order Deadline-June 10

Pickup Date-June 18

### **PIE OF THE MONTH MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE**

3 Month Membership - \$55.00 for pies offered  
January-March or April-June 2022.

6 Month Membership - \$105.00 for all pies  
January-June 2022.

The Membership gets you the pies at a reduced cost.

Memberships are not required to purchase  
any pie of the month.



Pies may be purchased baked or  
frozen (with baking instructions).

Pickup only — no delivery

The Church will be open from  
9AM-11AM on the Pickup date.

Please use the south entrance.

Checkout the UCS website:  
[unitedchurchsandwich.org](http://unitedchurchsandwich.org)

or

Call the UCS office to place an order.



*We appreciate your support and Happy Pie Eating!!*

Did you know your purchases on Amazon can now help the United Church of Sandwich! All you need to do is login at <https://smile.amazon.com/> with your normal username and password. When prompted to choose a charity of your choice, type "The United Church of Sandwich" in the search box, it will automatically save as your charity of choice! It's that easy!!! Once a quarter, Amazon donates back to the church 0.55% of all your purchases. It may not sound like a lot, but when everyone does it together, we can add to our revenue. What a great time to tell your family and friends!

### Northern Illinois Conference Reporter

United Church of Sandwich is a United Methodist Church and the connectional nature of our denomination is vital to our identity. Below is a link to the Northern IL Conference newspaper. Our Newsletter will begin to share the news of the UMC with you to give you the opportunity to learn and discover the events and opportunities of the UMC at large. Please contact Pastor Tom if you have any questions on any topic you read. He would be happy and honored to connect with you.

[https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/Reporter/6-7-2021\\_web\\_reporter.pdf](https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/Reporter/6-7-2021_web_reporter.pdf)

Tami Wig  
31068 E Earll Dr  
Buckeye, AZ 85396

Please send any email, phone number, and address updates such as winter addresses to the church office. Thank you!



# JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS ANNIVERSARIES

01/04	Danielle Bedford
01/05	Bryce Breon
01/06	Lori Updike
01/07	Judy Anderson
01/13	Mary Leach
01/14	Nancy Brown
	Blair Diemer
	Jason Heinekamp
01/16	Kevin Peterson
01/19	Amanda Anderson
	Scott Hallaron
01/25	Robert Henrich
01/26	James Mitchell
01/29	Phil Tuggle
01/31	Diane Pearson

**01/14                  Ron & Bonnie Miller**

If anyone's birthday or anniversary has been missed please contact the church office. Thank You



Please send any joys, concerns, photos, thoughts or informational articles to the church office.

815-786-9243

### Prayer List



If you would like to be added to the church email prayer list please contact the church office or Pastor Tom. If you are unable or uncomfortable leaving your home we have church members who are able to make necessary trips to pick up basic home and food staples. We want to be in support for you and let you know that you are family and are not alone. If you are one able to make short shopping trips for members, please let Pastor Tom know and you will be added to the resource list of people to call.

Thank You!

# JANUARY

# 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>Start the New Year with Prayer</p>						<p>1</p> <p>New Year's Day</p>
<p>2</p> <p>9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors &amp; Online (Holy Communion)</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Blueberry Pie Order Deadline</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors &amp; Online 11:15 Taking down Decorations</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00 Adult Bible Study 1:00 Missions Cmte Mtg 6:30 Administrative Council Mtg</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:00-11:00 Blueberry Pie P/U</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors &amp; Online (Holy Communion) 11:15 Finance Cmte Mtg</p>	<p>17</p> <p>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY</p>	<p>18</p> <p><b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b></p> <p>10:00 Adult Bible Study 4:30 Board of Trustees Mtg</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>4th Weekend Drive (Items for making Chili ~ spices, etc.)</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors &amp; Online</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00 Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:30 Newsletter Assembly</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors &amp; Online</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Glory to God IN THE HIGHEST</p>				

The United Church  
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd  
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — JANUARY 2022



**The United Church of Sandwich**

512 E Lions Rd, Sandwich, IL 60548-2417  
Church: 815- 786-9243

Email: [ucssandwich@frontier.com](mailto:ucssandwich@frontier.com)

website: [www.unitedchurchsandwich.org](http://www.unitedchurchsandwich.org)

Worship Schedule

Sunday 10:00 am

Adult Sunday School 8:45 am

**Children's Sunday School 9:00 am**

Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday

9:00 am—1:00 pm

*Pastor:* Rev. Tom Bourke

*Office Hours:* Monday–Thursday, 9:00 am — 1:00 pm  
or by appointment

*Email:* [tombourkejr@gmail.com](mailto:tombourkejr@gmail.com)

*Mobile:* 630-699-2474

Church Staff

*Secretary:* Donna Reiss

Tuesday–Friday 9:00 am — 1:00 pm

*Choir and Chimes Director:* Kevin Duy

*Organist/Pianist:* Carol Larson

*Ministers and Missionaries:* All Members

We are passionately united to feed all people —  
body, mind and spirit — to the glory of God!

Leadership Team 2022

Church Council Chair	Sarah Stevens
Recording Secretary	Chris Bagwill
Treasurer	Linda Duy
Payroll	Pam Nehring
Financial Secretary	Pat Hallaron
Finance/Stewardship Chair	Pam Nehring
Staff/Pastor Parish Relations	Gwen Fox
Lay Leader	Sarah Stevens
<b>Trustee's Chair</b>	Gary Anderson
Annual Conf. Delegate	Bonnie Miller
Missions/Evangelism Chair	Phyllis Whitehead
Memorial/Endowment Chair	Carole Strock
United Methodist Women	Marilyn Steenwyk
United Methodist Men	
Fair Stand Chair	Reid Heinekamp
Worship & Music Chair	Deb Seymour

**United Church of Sandwich's**

New Website

We invite you to view the new website for  
contact information and to learn more about  
United Church of Sandwich

[www.unitedchurchsandwich.org](http://www.unitedchurchsandwich.org)