

The Messenger



Volume 22 No. 2

February 2022

The Newsletter of The United Church of Sandwich

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

Greetings,

"Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. That proves God's love for us" (Romans 5:7-8)

Valentine's Day is February 14, and as such, February is often the month connected with the concept of love. Each Valentine's Day we see hearts, chocolates, cards, and flowers everywhere. There is even a newer holiday now on February 13 called Galentine's Day that focuses specifically on friendships and support systems that women have with each other. The concept of love at this time of year is important, but can also come off as cliché or cheesy. However, love is a critical and vital focus of the Christian faith. Our faith is built on the foundation of love.



You have most likely heard that the Greek language (the language the New Testament was written in) had multiple words for the concept of love. Each word said 'love' but meant a different type of love. The Greek language has four expressed types of love: phileo, agape, eros and storge. Phileo means brotherly love, the love that family members have for each other. Philadelphia is translated into the 'city of brotherly love'. Eros is the type of love most connected with Valentine's Day. It is romantic love. Storge is platonic love. It is the love a person has for a friend. Of these four words, the Bible uses three: phileo, agape and eros. Agape love is the foundation that the Christian faith is built on. Agape is unconditional love. This love is the very definition of the way God feels for God's creation. It is the reason that God came to us as a man, to die and rise for us that we may live and not die. It is the type of love that is giving and sacrificial.

We celebrate Valentine's Day as a romantic holiday. The holiday finds its origins in the 5th century when marriage was outlawed for young men, in order to make better soldiers. A priest named Valentine decided to officiate the weddings of young couples in secret. We celebrate the romantic/eros love of these couples in spirit with Valentine's Day. However, I want you to take a moment and look at the root of what Valentine's Day is about. It was not eros love that made Valentine's Day important. It was Agape love. It was the unconditional sacrificial love of a young priest to minister and support young couples in his midst. This agape love led to his eventual arrest and execution. St. Valentine modeled the love of God to others.

Philio, eros, and storge love are all gifts from God and can be celebrated this month. However, it is agape love that holds us up, keeps us going and brings us back to God. During this month, think about how you can celebrate agape love on Valentine's Day in the way that Valentine did. What are ways you can show unconditional love; sacrificial love for another person in your life? How can you show kindness to another? By doing so, you are showing them God's love through your actions! Have a blessed February and remember... God loves you and there is nothing you can do about it!

God Bless!

Pastor Tom Bourke

Sunday Scriptures & Sermon Series for February

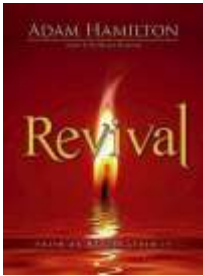
“Courage Over Fear”

February 6 Joshua 6:1-15 ~ Deliverance

February 13 Joshua 7:2-11, Ezekiel 1:15-23 ~ Omnipresence

February 20 Joshua 9:1-14 ~ God’s Counsel

February 27 Joshua 10:1-14 ~ Miracles



Adult Bible study resumed Tuesday mornings, 10:00-11:00 am, in the Chapel. The book, **Revival** by Adam Hamilton is being 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.



Children's Sunday School,

9:00am,

Sunday mornings.

Check out the

UCS website:

unitedchurchsandwich.org

for a link for the Children's Activity Bulletin.

Age appropriate worksheets may be found.


If you have any questions call, 815-786-9243

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.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

TREE OF LIFE MINISTRY

 This ministry with Lakota Native Americans addresses needs on the Rosebud and Pine Ridge reservations in South Dakota by “nurturing the body, strengthening culture, and enhancing the spirit.” This ministry provides groceries and meals to the hungry; repairs to substandard homes; and supports local teachers as they reclaim native culture and language.

treeofliferelief.org

Thank you, The Missions Committee

Bible Quiz

In the book of Revelation, who or what is “prepared as a bride, adorned for her husband”?

- A. The church
- B. The Spirit
- C. Mary Magdalene
- D. The new Jerusalem



Answer: D (See Revelation 21:2.)

FEBRUARY



Activities



Administrative Council meets
Tuesday, February 8th, at
6:30pm.

Board of Trustees will meet
Tuesday, February 15th, at
4:30pm. (Note new time!)

Finance Committee will meet Thursday,
February 17th, 6:30pm.

Year End Statements may be found in the
narthex. If you do not find it please let the
office know. Thank You!

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee will
meet Tuesday, February 22nd, 6:30pm.



1. Our committee is busy reducing our utility costs. Please turn off motion sensor switches when you leave a room!
2. We are repairing and/or replacing the four floodlights north of the church with LED bulbs to reduce overall cost.
3. Shipping delays have slowed the west window replacement in the Fellowship Hall and the arrival of our tall screen stands until February.
4. A new washing machine was installed in the parsonage. Bids are being gathered for more attic insulation for the parsonage. We discovered there is only 2" now.
5. A future project is inspecting and caulking our sanctuary stained-glass windows.



United Methodist Women will meet
Thursday, February 10th, at 9:30am.
They will be working on their
Valentine Visits to shut-ins.

U'Niter's do not meet in February.
Beginning March 7th, meetings will be
at 1:00pm in the Friendship Corner.



Administrative Council News

There will be a FREE Chili Drive-Thru lunch available on Sunday, February 13, 12pm-1:30pm. People willing to help work the event are encouraged to contact Pam Nehring or Judy Anderson. In addition, those taking advantage of the meal have a chance to win a free pie for a family dessert. Keep watching for details.

Speaking of chili — by the last weekend of the month, please consider donating some ingredients for making chili to be donated to the food pantry. Those items such as canned tomatoes, beans, or spices can be brought to the narthex.

We are pleased to have the musical talents of Edward Siebert, Barry Riskedal, Brad Haas, and Margaret Page during these first couple months while we are searching for a new organist.

The stands for sanctuary TVs have been delayed as have so many other shipping items. They are expected to be delivered soon and will be installed as quickly as possible.

A couple of new freezers have replaced ones which stopped working. Thanks go to the Fair Stand and Memorial Committees for providing the needed funds.



**FREE Chili Lunch
Drive-Thru**

SOUPE BOWL SUNDAY

Sunday, February 13, 2022

12:00 — 1:30 pm Drive-Thru Only

Safe Health Practices Will Be Adhered To

United Church of Sandwich
512 Lions Rd, Sandwich
(across from Sandwich High School)
815-786-9243
www.unitedchurchsandwich.org

Homemade Chili, Cornbread & Dessert

Even if you aren't a football fan, swing by to warm your stomachs and hearts so we can support each other as a United community! This is a gift to everyone in the community as an act of kindness and joy!!

All who attend can enter to win a free Homemade Pie!

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.



February: Cherry Pie
Order Deadline-February 4
Pickup Date-February 12

March: Apple Pie (2 crust)
Order Deadline-March 4
Pickup Date-March 12

May: Peach Pie
Order Deadline-April 29
Pickup Date-May 7

April: Triple Berry Pie (2 crust)
Order Deadline-April 8
Pickup Date-April 16

June: Strawberry Rhubarb Pie
Order Deadline-June 10
Pickup Date-June 18

PIE OF THE MONTH MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

3 Month Membership - \$55.00 for pies offered April-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 south entrance

Checkout the UCS website: unitedchurchsandwich.org



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you for all the many good wishes that were expressed for my retirement. The gifts from the church: the gorgeous flower arrangement and the beautiful engraved glass cube.

It reflects the sun beautifully on my table. The many special people and special moments shared over the years will always be remembered.

The times with the choirs was great ~ the children and adults and now the chimes choir ~ the many special services were all memorable.

It is hard to realize how many years have passed. I will miss you all tremendously; especially the wonderful organ.

Thank you again for all the beautiful cards and gifts and for coming to my retirement farewell.

My prayers for many blessings in the future and love to all. Carol



Wednesday, March 2,
Ash Wednesday will mark
the beginning of the Season
of Lent. A time to go deep
into our hearts, examine our
lives, and learn to be holy.



The World Thank Offering is one of United Methodist Women's five channels of Mission Giving. An opportunity for us to know that our blessings will be used in the areas of most need. "Our call to be the body of Christ to eradicate injustices in the world is a weighty task, but every gift we share has impact".

Life gets busy. It is easy to forget our blessings in the everyday. Word Thank Offering affords an intentional opportunity to count our blessings, pause every day, slow down, and be mindful to thank God for every blessing. As we fill our little box with blessings, we are encouraged each time to think about how far

those blessings will reach. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission and advocacy in the United States and round the world.

What comes from all of us praying together, sharing our gifts is felt by more than we can ever know. The power of prayer doesn't stop just because we are not saying something specific to God. Our lives are prayers, our actions are prayers, and our work is prayer. This set-aside time of World Thank Offering lets us see our prayer in action.

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

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!



FEBRUARY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

| | |
|-------|-------------------|
| 02/02 | Scott Rogers |
| 02/07 | Gerrad Dannewitz |
| 02/08 | Austin Carlson |
| | Jim Updike |
| 02/10 | Heidi Heiman |
| 02/18 | Kevin Duy |
| 02/24 | Joan Banko |
| | Pastor Tom Bourke |
| | Tucker Chrestman |
| 02/26 | Eleanor Anderson |
| 02/27 | Joanna Olson |
| 02/14 | Kevin & Linda Duy |

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

Newsletter Deadline

February 15

Please send any joys, concerns, photos, thoughts or informational articles to the church office.
815-786-9243










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!

FEBRUARY



2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|
|  <p>UCS Meals on Wheels Month</p> | | <p>1 10:00 Adult Bible Study</p> | <p>2 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4 Cherry Pie Order Deadline</p> | <p>5</p> |
| <p>6 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion) 6:00 Confirmation Class</p> | <p>7</p> | <p>8 10:00 Adult Bible Study 6:30 Administrative Council Mtg</p> | <p>9 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p> | <p>10 9:30 United Methodist Women Mtg</p> | <p>11</p> | <p>12  9:00-11:00 Cherry Pie P/U</p> |
| <p>13 12-1:30 FREE Chili Drive Thru 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online 6:00 Confirmation Class</p> | <p>14 Happy Valentine's Day </p> | <p>15 10:00 Adult Bible Study  4:30 Board of Trustees Mtg</p> | <p>16 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p> | <p>17 6:30 Finance Cmte Mtg</p> | <p>18</p> | <p>19</p> |
| <p>20 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion) 6:00 Confirmation Class</p> | <p>21 </p> | <p>22 10:00 Adult Bible Study 6:30 SPRC Mtg</p> | <p>23 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25 10:30 Newsletter Assembly</p> | <p>26 </p> |
| <p>27 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online 6:00 Confirmation Class</p> | <p>28</p> |  | | | | |

The United Church
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — FEBRUARY 2022



The United Church of Sandwich

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

Email: ucssandwich@frontier.com

website: 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

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 | Jim Bernhardt |
| Trustee's Chair | Gary Anderson |
| Annual Conf. Delegate | Bonnie Miller |
| Missions/Evangelism Chair | Phyllis Whitehead |
| Memorial/Endowment Chair | Kim Henrich |
| 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