

The Messenger



Volume 22 No 5

May 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,

There is a common phrase that you have most likely heard. The idiom goes, 'April showers bring May flowers.' The statement originates in the UK, going back at least to the 16th century. The exact origins are unknown, but a book called 'Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandry' by a Thomas Tusser had a poem called: "Sweet April showers, Do bring May flowers".

Although we don't know who first said it, we have all experienced it. Rather a person was in England, or the US we have seen that April brings warmer weather that causes the polar jet stream to bring moisture from the Atlantic or the Pacific oceans and dumps it across the continents. Those 'showers' can happen quickly, dropping a lot of water in a short time, and move on out of the area. This abundance of rain, combined with the melting of snow, soaks the soil and plants that have survived the winter.

All that water brings a blooming of flowers and greenery that shouts the presence of Spring. We recognize that the cause of the actions of April's weather will have effects on the conditions of May's environment. This has many similarities to the spiritual focus of our lives. The April showers can represent the burdens in our lives. They can come quickly and feel overwhelming. Those burdens can disappear just as quickly or stay for a prolonged period. Those burdens, spiritually, could happen in any month and not just April. They could be financial struggles, health issues, relationship problems. Those burdens could show up at work, in the home, with family members, or while facing the problems of the community or world. No one is spared the reality of struggles and burdens in life.

May flowers is a reminder and a sign of the hope that God gives us. We experience 'April showers' but can trust that we will also have 'May flowers'. We face burdens and struggles in our lives, but can also trust and know that God is with us. 'May flowers' are coming our way. The Apostle Paul shares in his letter to the Romans...

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

Romans 5:1-5

We begin with faith. Faith brings the spiritual gifts we need to persevere. Those gifts bring peace and hope. This is a progression of support from God. This is important to hold onto when the struggles of life comes our way. Paul states that when suffering does come, it can produce perseverance, character, and finally hope. This is all made possible because of God's love which is poured out on us. We have had the showers in April. Let's keep an eye out for those flowers in May! No matter what you are going through right now, know that God is with you to help you through it and there is always hope! God Bless!! Pastor Tom Bourke



Sunday Scriptures & Sermon Series for May

“Origin Stories: Leaders in Church History”

May 1 Genesis 1:1-8, 26-31 ~ Irenaeus

May 8 1Corinthians 13:1-8a ~ Susanna Wesley

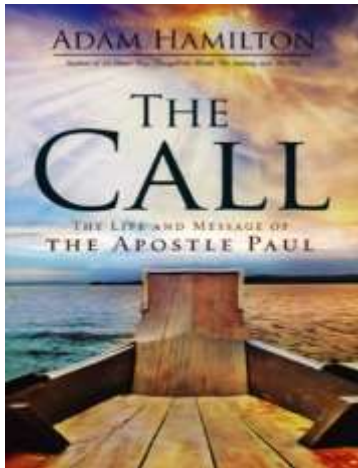
May 15 Hebrews 2:10-18 ~ Athanasius

May 22 Isaiah 1:12-17 ~ Basil the Great

May 29 Psalm 46:1-11 ~ Augustine of Hippo

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.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY Tuesdays, @ 10:00am

Follow the journeys of Paul, beginning with his dramatic conversion, as he spreads the Gospel through modern-day Greece and Turkey. Travel to the early church sites and explore Paul's conversations with the Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians. In this six week study, you are invited to experience faith through Christ's greatest teacher and missionary. To participate contact Pastor Tom.



MISSION OF THE MONTH

*Nigeria Health Board
Health Systems*

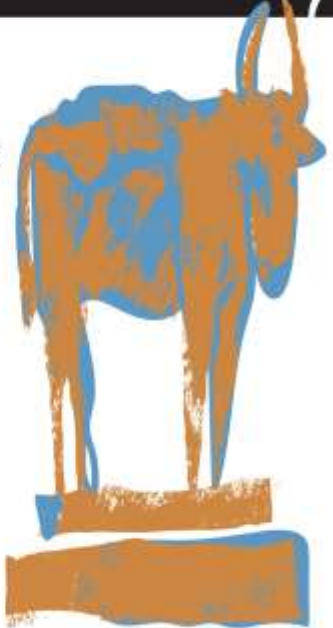
Primary Health Care (PHC) facilities, the cornerstone of health care in Nigeria, are often the first point of contact for Nigerians seeking medical care. PHCs benefit the country's poorest and most isolated who would otherwise go without medical attention. Effective delivery of PHC services requires availability of adequate infrastructure, functioning diagnostic medical equipment, essential medications and well-trained medical personnel. Jalingo Hospital, built and equipped with the support of Global Ministries through its Global Health unit in 2017, has seen an improvement in quality of care, resulting in an increased patient load.

Thank you, The Missions Committee

Bible Quiz

When Moses was on the mountain for a long time, who made a golden calf for the people of Israel to worship?

- A. Joshua
- B. Levi
- C. Caleb
- D. Aaron



Answer: D (See Exodus 32:1-6.)



MAY

Activities



Worship & Music Committee meets Sunday, May 1st, at 11:15am following service.

Agenda discussion: Graduation Sunday, May 15th and Confirmation, June 5th

Administrative Council meets Tuesday, May 10th, at 6:30pm.

Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday, May 17th, at 4:30pm.

If you are aware of any supplies needed such as paper towels, bags, water softener salt for the church notify the office to order.

Finance Committee will meet Thursday, May 19th, 6:30pm.



U'Niter's will meet Monday, May 2nd, 1:00pm.

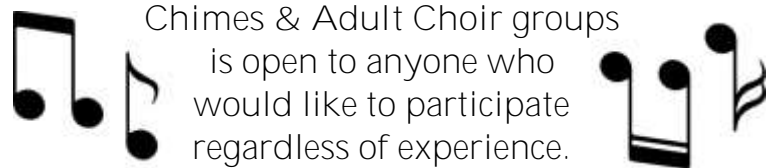
All women of the church are invited to join the meeting in the Friendship Corner.

United Women of Faith meet Thursday, May 12, at 9:30 am in the chapel. All women of the church are invited to attend.



Graduation Sunday, May 15

The worship committee will be honoring graduates on Sunday, May 15. Please plan to attend this special day as we celebrate the accomplishments of our church family graduates during worship. A special coffee fellowship will follow the service. If you have a graduate, please call the church office ASAP so we may honor them during this service.



Chimes & Adult Choir groups is open to anyone who would like to participate regardless of experience.

Practices are Wednesday evenings, 6:00pm and 7:00pm, respectively. Both current and traditional selections are enjoyed. Contact Kevin Duy or Pastor Tom for more information about joining. Choir practice dates May 4 & 18



4th Weekend Drive

Thank you for the continued support. The next drive is May 28 & 29. Requested items are Pet Foods. If you are able please bring items such as canned or dry pet foods, treats, etc. The Missions Committee



Oink Oink!!

Can you smell those
Pork Chops Cooking!

United Church of Sandwich's 3rd Annual
Pork Chop Drive Thru Dinner Fund-Raiser
Sunday, May 1, 4:00-6:00 PM.

2 Pork Chops, Beans, Coleslaw,
Applesauce & a Roll ~ \$15.00



PIE OF THE MONTH EVENT

*Our expert pie bakers are ready to bake
some delicious pies just for you!
Preorders and prepayment is required.*



May ~ Peach Pie
Order Deadline-May 4
Pickup Date-May 7



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

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



Memorial Day commemorates the men and women who **died** while in the military service of their country. Traditionally, people visit cemeteries and memorials, and volunteers often place American flags on each grave site at national cemeteries. A national moment of remembrance takes place at 3:00 p.m. local time. In 1971, Memorial Day became a national holiday by an act of Congress; it is now celebrated annually on the last Monday in May.

In the war-torn battlefields of Europe, the common red field poppy was one of the first plants to reappear. Its seeds scattered in the wind and sat dormant in the ground, only germinating when the ground was disturbed—as it was by the very brutal fighting of World War 1. John McCrae, a Canadian soldier and physician, witnessed the war first hand and was inspired to write the now-famous poem “In Flanders Fields” in 1915. He saw the poppies scattered throughout the battlefield surrounding his artillery position in Belgium.

“In Flanders Fields”

by John McCrae, May 1915

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*



There will be outdoor worshipping this summer on the last Sunday of each month. This is an opportunity to worship under the sun, in good weather and be surrounded by God's creation. For inclement weather, worship will be indoors. Please bring a lawn/camping chair with you and join us in our Summer outdoor worship!

Outdoor Worship will be on Sundays at 10:00am:

5/29/22

6/26/22

7/31/22

Sign Up For the Sandwich Fair Log Cabin

It is time to start thinking about the Sandwich Fair. This year it is 9/7-9/11.

We have improved the sign-up process to be online and in-person.

Check out the link on the church website to volunteer and sign up.

The early bird gets the worm. The people who sign up early get the best volunteer spots!

Once you click on the link. You will see every work shift and position available for sign up. If a position has a number beside it, that position requires that many people for that shift. Select the number of shifts you want then hit submit at the bottom. You will be taken to the webpage that will show you the shifts you have signed up for and will be asked for your:

Name, Phone Number & Email

If you have any questions, please call or email the church. You may also call the church and have the office sign you up for your shifts. Thank you!



A Little Explanation of Apportionments in the United Methodist Church

Have you heard the term ‘apportionments’ in church? Apportionments (Sometimes called ‘Connection Giving’ is one of the founding ideas that the United Methodist Church was built upon. Participating in connectional giving helps us to be in mission with people and congregations around the world - giving every church, regardless of size, a larger mission footprint. Apportionments demonstrates our connectedness to one another, to God and to the body of Christ. Apportionment giving is based upon the desire to meet the needs of God’s family NOT just in our neighborhoods, but around the world. Apportionments are also based on our need to give in order to be spiritually healthy, complete children of God. Apportionments provide avenues for giving so that we can be strong local churches & annual conferences and a strong connection throughout the world as we seek to be in mission and ministry together.

The basic idea behind apportionments is that local congregations send some of the money they collect to accomplish things that are either beyond their ability to do as individual congregations or that can be done more effectively or efficiently together. The connections of the church are more than institutions; the connections are the means God uses to convey grace to the world. For example, apportionments cover the best costs of the special ministries of the UMC. When special offerings are taken for U.M.C.O.R. (United Methodist Committee on Relief), Imagine No Malaria, and others, 100% of the special offering goes to that need.

Northern Illinois Conference Fund Apportionments are derived from the financial experience of each church, including United Church of Sandwich. It takes the previous five years of metrics into consideration. The highest and lowest numbers of the five are removed, and the other three years are averaged. Below are charts that lay out where our apportionments go. A part of our apportionments stays in the Northern Illinois Conference to support the mission and ministries of our Conference. A portion goes to the General Church fund to support the global ministries and missions of the United Methodist Church. As we are faithful in our trust in God and the mission God has given us in the UMC through our apportionments, the number of people in this world who experience God’s grace grows.



Service to Local NIC Churches - 45% The main goal of the conference is to give support and service to the local churches.

Goal 1 - To Grow and Reach New Disciples of Jesus Christ - 30%
The funds in this section support:

- o New faith communities and Church redevelopment programming
- o Board of Higher Ed & Campus Ministries, and Outdoor & Retreat Ministries
- o Board of Laity, Pembroke Institute, Discipleship Strategic Goals (ACST) and Spiritual Formation Ministries

Goal 2 - To Live Out the Conviction that Racism is Incompatible with Christian Teaching - 13%

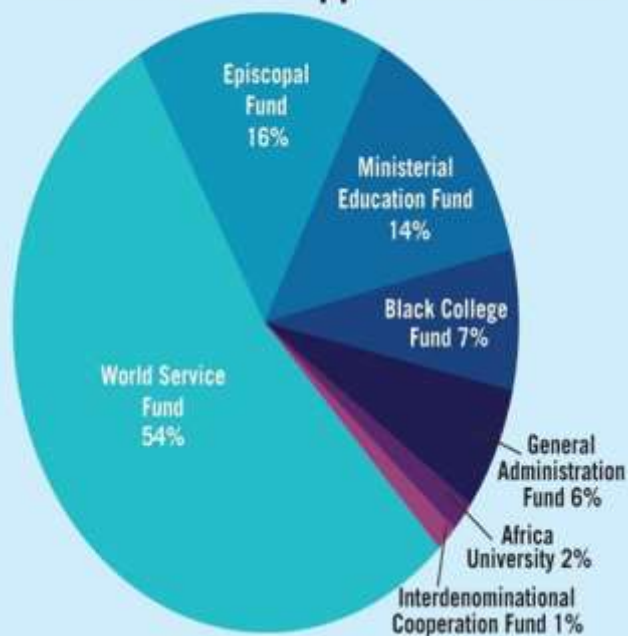
The funds in this section support:

- o Anti-racism Shepherding Team (ACST)
- o Discipleship Strategic Goals (ACST)
- o Commission on Race & Religion, Black Family Link in the Chain, and Urban Youth Initiative
- o Justice for Our Neighbors, Global Justice: Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America (CRLN), and Refugee support

Goal 3 - To increase the Number of Highly Vital Congregations - 13% The funds in this section support:

- o Congregational Redevelopment Grants, Creative Ministry Grants, NIC Ministerial Education Fund, Vital Congregations Strategic Goals (ACST) and Leadership Development
- o Accessibility Ministry, Media Resources and Safe Sanctuaries training
Asian American Fellowship, Black Church Mobilization, Hispanic Ministry Team, and Native American Community Support

General Church Apportioned Funds



World Service Fund - 54% When UM congregations give to the annual General Church apportionments, they contribute to work that is done around the world. This fund supports all UMC general agencies and supports missionary personnel and administrative costs of many areas.

Episcopal Fund - 16% Provides for UM bishops worldwide, including salaries, housing, office expenses and travel costs of active bishops, and provide pension and health benefit coverage for bishops and family members in a bishop's household.

Ministerial Education Fund - 14% Provides funds for recruitment of clergy candidates and provides financial support for 13 United Methodist seminaries, including Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

Black College Funds - 7% Supports the programs and ministries of 11 historically black colleges and universities, including one medical school. These gifts reflect the value our Church has on education, especially those who have been historically excluded.

General Administration Fund - 6% Helps maintain a system of management oversight and fiscal accountability, and underwrites General Conference and the Judicial Council

Africa University Fund - 2% Supports the first fully accredited UM-related institution on the African continent. The University promotes independence and empowerment through a diverse student body from across the continent.

Interdenominational Cooperation Fund - 1% Supports UMC's with ecumenical and interreligious partners such as the World Council of Churches, Churches Uniting in Christ, and World Methodist Council.

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/March%202022%20Reporter.pdf>



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!



05/02	Phyllis Davis
05/03	Delores Lies
05/05	Macie Chrestman
05/06	Renee Eipers Andrew Salisbury
05/07	Shirley Basler
05/09	Jim Bernhardt Betty Reiners
05/11	Tom Nehring
05/12	Sandy Gustafson
05/13	Darrell Lohmeier Bev Lowe
05/15	Grace Benson
05/16	Gary Anderson
05/18	Linda Duy
05/19	Ron Henrich Lilly Heiman
05/26	Heath Dannewitz
05/27	Jane Heyer Vivian McMaster Scott Richards
05/28	Dakota Heiman
05/29	Richard Hill
05/30	Sandy Gillette
05/29	Mindy & Josh Chrestman

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



2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion) 6:00 Confirmation Class	2 1:00 U'Niter's Mtg	3 10:00 Adult Bible Study	4 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice	5 National Day of PRAYER  7:00 AA Mtg	6	7 9:00-11:00 Peach Pie P/U 
8 MOTHER'S DAY 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online 6:00 Confirmation Class	9	10 10:00 Adult Bible Study 6:30 Administrative Council Mtg	11 6:00 Chimes Practice	12 9:30 United Women of Faith Mtg 7:00 AA Mtg	13	14
15 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion) 11:15 Coffee Hr Honoring Grads 6:00 Confirmation Class	16	17 10:00 Adult Bible Study  4:30 Board of Trustees Mtg	18 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice	19 6:30 Finance Cmt Mtg 7:00 AA Mtg	20	21
22 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online 6:00 Confirmation Class	23	24	25 6:00 Chimes Practice	26 7:00 AA Mtg	27	28  4th Weekend Drive Pet Foods
29 10:00 Worship ~ Outdoors & Online 6:00 Confirmation Class	30  MEMORIAL DAY	31	 Military Appreciation Month			

The United Church
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE MESSENGER — MAY 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

Children's Sunday School, 9:00 am

Adult Bible Study, Tuesdays, 10:00 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:

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