

The Messenger

Volume 22 No 6

June 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,

In early editions of the "The Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church" (What we would refer to as the Book of Discipline), the opening page gives a brief account of the rise of Methodism, both in Europe and America, using words from John and Charles Wesley:

"In 1729, two young men, in England, reading the Bible, saw they could not be saved without holiness: followed after it, and incited others so to do. In 1727, they saw likewise, that men are justified before they are sanctified: but still, holiness was their object. God then thrust them out to raise a holy people."



From this movement grew one of the largest Protestant denominations in the world, the United Methodist Church. This denomination has been a mainstay of ministry and mission in the world since the 18th century. It has not always been easy and the Church has struggled with the balance between individual local church identity and the connectional global church mission. The last major event for the church was in 1968. Perhaps you remember when the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church formed the United Methodist Church.

Unfortunately, the United Methodist Church (UMC) is in a time of struggle and conflict. Perhaps you have read about the potential split in the UMC or the disagreements. I would like to take a minute and share what is happening, what it means to our local church and what the future looks like. Although there are several areas of disagreement in theology and polity, the fundamental struggle the UMC has been wrestling with revolves around LGBTQIA+ issues. The UMC is a connectional denomination and a democratic denomination. This means that all UMC laws must be voted on at the General Conference. (A meeting that happens every 4 years of UMC representatives from all over the world. The voting representatives are 50% clergy and 50% laity.) At each General Conference, the denomination struggled to find common agreement or understanding. This reached a boiling point at a special General Conference in 2019.

Consensus coming out of the 2019 General Conference was that the UMC was no longer viable as a unified denomination and a split was inevitable. Kenneth Feinberg, who oversaw the 9/11 victims' compensation fund volunteered to mediate a grace-filled and amicable split. Their work resulted in the "Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation", often simply called 'the Protocol'. This called for the formation of a conservative denomination with a payment from the UMC of \$25 million over 4 years and a path for UMC local churches to transition from the UMC to the conservative denomination as easily as possible. (There would be financial costs, such as paying their portion of the unfunded pension and such, but the church would retain their assets.)

May 2020 would see a vote at the scheduled General Conference, but our world was thrown into a global pandemic and the 2020 General Conference was canceled. The GC was rescheduled twice, but canceled due to pandemic and travel restrictions. The next GC is scheduled for 2024. This brings

(Continued on page 2)

us to our current situation. A small conservative wing of the UMC became impatient with the postponements and declared the formation of a new denomination immediately. The Global Methodist Church (GMC) officially came into existence on 5/1/2022. However, without the Protocol approved, churches are subjected to the rules of the Book of Discipline. Few churches have left the UMC. There is no split in the UMC. Instead, there is a very small group breaking away from the UMC. We respect their decision to chart a new course, but I worry of the difficulties of ministerial life that is isolated of the connectional ministry of our denomination. My belief is that over time, a small portion of the UMC will leave, but the overwhelming number of congregations will stay in the connection of the denomination.

What does that mean for the UMC and for our Church? Over the next 5 years, the UMC will begin to look different. It will mean a reduction in the ability to tackle humanitarian and social justice issues. It will create the need to re-evaluate and discern the value and power of being a United Methodist. However, it will hopefully sharpen our identity and focus on serving God by serving the world. The UMC will continue to grapple with sexual identity and sexual orientation issues. However, I predict that the UMC will adopt more confederate attitudes, allowing for Annual Conferences and local churches to have a more direct say of how they would like to proceed. It is crucial that we strive to make room in our denomination to people of all walks of life.

For our church, very little will change. We will continue to focus on being a church dedicated to serving and loving our community. We will continue to love all that come into our building and we will continue to be a family. We may feel the anxiety and stress of the UMC denomination to an extent, but our purpose is to focus on the people of our mission field. We will continue to be here for them. The United Church of Sandwich is a United Methodist Church in name and in spirit. We are called to seek community with each other and love those around us.

I like to joke that I am a United Methodist, because my father was Roman Catholic and my mother was Southern Baptist. The truth is that I am a United Methodist, because the United Methodist Church a block from my house had an after-school kids program. That opened the door to my baptism at 8 years old. The church cared for me as a youth in youth group and affirmed my call into ministry at the age of 18. In my studies I learned of John Wesley and the Wesleyan movement. I found a theological home in the teachings of Methodism. However, long before I understood what it meant to be a Methodist, I felt connected because I was loved by Methodists.

As the UMC faces trials and struggles in the coming months and years, I invite you to remember your baptism and your membership vows to uphold our church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. In a world and culture that often wants to divide and separate us, the United Methodist church has always been a home that I felt could bring us together. We may not always agree on everything and disagreements happen. However, in the end, we are family and we are one in Christ. If you have any questions and/or concerns about the ongoing UMC struggles, I would be happy to meet with you and help in any way I can.

God Bless!!

Pastor Tom Bourke



Sunday Scriptures & Sermons for June

June 5 Matthew 7:24-27 ~
Creating a Strong Cornerstone

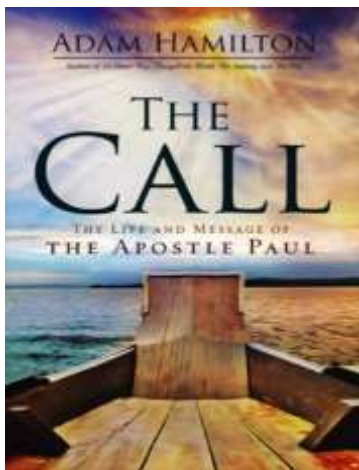
June 12 1 John 5:3-5 ~
Fun is Fundamental in Our Faith

June 19 Genesis 22:1-18 ~
Trusting God to Lead

June 26 Hebrews 10:19-25 ~
Beating the Summer Slump

Confirmation Sunday, June 5.

Please join us for a reception honoring our confirmands,
Owen Bourke,
Christopher Eipers
&
Elias Bourke,
immediately following worship service in the chapel.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY Tuesdays, @ 10:00am

June 7 concludes the Bible Study group following the journeys of Paul, beginning with his dramatic conversion, as he spread the Gospel through modern-day Greece and Turkey, traveling to the early church sites and exploring Paul's conversations with the Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians. This six week study experienced faith through Christ's greatest teacher and missionary. Bible Study will resume after the Fair in September. For information contact Pastor Tom.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

David Makoba



David Makoba's work in Senegal involves assistance to farmers in making their labor and the land more productive.


Senegal is a small country on the west coast of Africa. It lacks significant natural resources but is adaptable to the cultivation of millet and peanuts and the raising of livestock. The Senegal United Methodist Mission dates to 1989 and has some 19 congregations. Membership has grown steadily in the predominantly Muslim country

Thank you, The Missions Committee

Bible Quiz

Jesus was known for using a certain type of speech in his teaching. What was it?

- A. soliloquy
- B. parable
- C. lecture
- D. riddle



Answer: B (See Mark 4:33-34)



JUNE

ACTIVITIES



Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday, June 14th, at 4:30pm. If you are aware of any needed supplies such as paper towels, trash bags, water softener salt for the church notify the office to order.

Administrative Council meets Tuesday, June 14th, at 6:30pm.

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee will meet Tuesday, June 21st, 6:30pm.



U'Niter's will meet Monday, June 6th, 1:00pm. All women of the church are invited to join the meeting outing.

United Women of Faith meet Thursday, June 16, at 9:30 am in the chapel. All women of the church are invited to attend.

4th Weekend Drive

A load of *Thanks* for your continued support of the 4th Weekend Drives.

Catch the next one June 25 & 26 to donate Pantry items. *Requesting "Condiments!"*

If you are able, please bring accepted items such as, ketchup, mustard, relish, pickles, etc.

These items are donated to the Sharing Pantry and the local schools. Thank you! The Missions Committee



Our buildings and grounds are keeping us busy. We want you all to know about some large ongoing and upcoming necessary projects:

1. Replacing the large west windows in Fellowship Hall and the Chapel. (estimate - \$15,000)
2. Repairing stained glass windows in the sanctuary. (estimate - \$11,850)
3. Repair and sealcoat, plus stripe parking lot. (\$8,000 minimum)
4. Improve LED sanctuary lighting, add lighting to church parking lot entrance, cracked windows, repair uneven cement area.

We get bids for all work to be done, try to use local workers, and choose what is best for our 48 year old church and our church family. If you can help financially, we would appreciate it as our budget is being stretched.



While the Pastors Away

Pastor Tom will be out of the office, June 27th ~ July 7th. Please contact the church office for assistance information.
815-786-9216



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:

6/26/22

7/31/22

Sign Up For the Sandwich Fair Log Cabin

It is time to start thinking about the Sandwich Fair, September 7-11. The sign-up process has been improved and can be done 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!



PIE OF THE MONTH EVENT

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



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.

CALLING ALL PIE MAKERS!



It will soon be time to start making Fair Pies!
Please consider volunteering on one of the upcoming dates in July!
All days begin at **8am**.

Monday, July 11
Dough Making

Tuesday, July 12
Pie Making

Monday, July 18
Dough Making

Tuesday, July 19
Pie Making

Monday, August 8
Dough Making

Tuesday, August 9
Pie Making

Monday, August 15
Dough Making

Tuesday, August 16
Pie Making

HOT DOGS!
GET YOUR FREE HOT DOGS HERE!

UCS will host a 3rd Annual, Drive-Thru, FREE Hot Dog Lunch Event.

Served by our Congregation,
to our Community!

(11AM-12:30PM)

Saturday, June 18

&

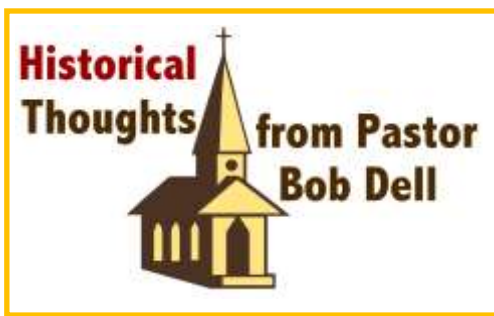
Saturday, July 16

Our Scheduling Rock Star,
Judy Anderson, will be calling
to ask for volunteers to work.

Your help would be greatly
appreciated!

Showing our Community that
we care about them is part of
our way to extend the
Hand of God to others.





A HISTORY OF MERGERS ~ My records go back to 1932 when a branch of the, mainly southern, Christian churches merged with the Congregational churches.

In 1946, the Evangelical and United Brethren came together to be followed by a merger with the Methodists in 1968.

The ecumenical movement of the 1920's brought together the Congregational Christian group with the Evangelical and Reformed group to form the United Church of Christ in 1957.

In 1956, I had the honor of attending the last national meeting of the Congregational Christian churches. It was remarkable not only in approving the merger, but that we had an all-night session. A small group of anti-merger people objected to votes taken earlier and so we stayed in session, all night, while all the minutes of that committee were read in their entirety.

It is noteworthy that the E&R group brought a tradition of supporting hospitals while the C-C were supporting colleges. My school, Carleton College, was among them. Today Advocate Aurora Health Care, a UCC related hospital is about to merge with Atrium, for total of 67 hospitals.

This brings us to 1970, right here in Sandwich and the merger of the Congregational and United Methodist congregations to form the United Church of Sandwich. Thanks for reading this bit of history.

JOSHUA ANDERSON Illinois State University
Grandson of Myrtie & Al Warren
Bachelors in Criminology

BAILEY CRONIN University of Arkansas
Granddaughter of Carole Cronin
Bachelor of Science in Biology

OLIVIA CRONIN Beloit Memorial High School
Granddaughter of Carole Cronin

NOAH HALLARON Southern IL University
Son of Todd & Jennifer Hallaron
Grandson of John & Pat Hallaron
Auto Mechanics Field

MCKENZIE HALLARON DeKalb High School
Daughter of Todd & Jennifer Hallaron
Granddaughter of John & Pat Hallaron
Continuing education at Indiana University
Majoring in Business

LILLY HEIMAN Sandwich High School
Daughter of John & Heidi Heiman
Granddaughter of Sandy Gillette

JOSHUA HEIMAN Waubensee Community College
Son of John & Heidi Heiman
Grandson of Sandy Gillette
Continuing education at
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater



AVERY NEHRING Yorkville High School
Daughter of Brian & Jill Nehring
Granddaughter of Tom & Pam Nehring
Continuing education at Rock Valley College-Rockford

REANNA PANILILIO University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Bachelor of Arts in Music
Daughter of Linda & Kevin Duy
Daughter of Rev. Noah Panililio
Continuing education at Roosevelt University
Performing Arts in Administration

ANDREW SALISBURY Leland High School
Son of Diane Salisbury
Grandson of Ron & Bonnie Miller
Continuing education at Waubensee Community College
Fire Science Program

ANNA SCHMIDT Naperville Central High School
Granddaughter of Andrea McNeal
Great granddaughter of Maxine Buchik
Continuing education at Hamline University
Forensic & Criminal Justice Profiling

ZACHARY SEYMOUR Berry College Georgia
Son of Robert & Karisa Seymour
Grandson of David Seymour
Nephew of Deb Seymour
Physics degree pursuing teaching

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>



Birthdays & Anniversaries

06/01	Quen Carpenter
06/02	Amber Mager
06/03	Colin Stahl
06/06	John Hallaron
06/07	Samantha Fox
	Clint Updike
06/09	Ryan Scharenberg
06/10	Kevin Richards
06/11	Robert Lovejoy
06/12	Joe Wig
06/18	Jeremy Mager
06/20	Joshua Eipers
06/23	Anna Bourke
	Ashley Stahl
06/25	Reanna Panlilio
06/28	Kris Calvert

06/08	Connie & James Mitchell
06/20	John & Heidi Heiman
06/23	Renee & Eric Eipers
06/24	Paul & Diane Pearson
06/26	Judy & Gary Anderson
	Scott & Debbie Richards
06/29	Doug & Melissa Reiners

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



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!



2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>FATHER'S DAY <i>June 19</i></p>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Confirmation Sunday <i>9:00 Children's Sunday School</i> <i>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)</i>	<i>1:00 U'Niter's Mtg & Outing</i>	<i>10:00 Adult Bible Study</i> <i>6:30 Administrative Council Mtg</i>		<i>7:00 AA Mtg</i>	<i>Strawberry Rhubarb Pie Order Deadline</i>	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<i>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online</i> <i>11:15 Coffee Hr Honoring Confirmands</i>		<p>FLAG DAY</p> <i>4:30 Board of Trustees Mtg</i> <i>6:30 SPRC Mtg</i>		<i>9:30 United Women of Faith Mtg</i> <i>7:00 AA Mtg</i>		<i>9:00-11:00 Peach Pie P/U</i> <i>11:00~12:30 FREE Hot Dog Lunch</i>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<i>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)</i>		<p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>		<i>7:00 AA Mtg</i>		<p>Canned Food Drive</p> <i>4th Weekend Drive Condiments</i>
26	27	28	29	30	<p>UCS Meals on Wheels Month</p>	
<i>10:00 Worship ~ Outdoors & Online</i>	Pastor Out of the Office Thru 7/7			<i>7:00 AA Mtg</i>		

The United Church
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — JUNE 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