

The Messenger



Volume 22 No 9

September 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,

A story from Scotland tells of a mother's dramatic rescue of her child. Workmen were blasting rock in a quarry. One day after they had attached the fuse and retired to a safe place and gave the alarm, they saw a three-year-old child wandering across the open space where danger threatened. Every passing second meant death was closing in on the child. The workmen called to the child and waved their arms, but he only looked at their strange antics with amusement. He did not understand the danger nor the immediacy of harm.

Not one man dared to run forward knowing the explosion was only seconds away. The child most certainly would have been killed, had not his mother appeared at this moment of crisis. The mom seemed to not factor into the situation the amount of time left before the explosion or the risk of her health or life. She simply acted in a way that her heart was called to do so. She did not run toward her son or yell to frighten him. Instead, she knelt down, opened her arms wide and smiled for him to come. Instantly the child ran towards her. Shortly thereafter, the area shook with the force of the explosion, yet no one was hurt that day. The child was safe in his mother's arms.

The world is filled with people who are just like the boy in the story. There are people wandering in life unaware of the danger around them. Or they are living with loneliness, sadness, anxiety, or pain. Our first reaction may be to jump and scream and shout the danger that we see and they do not. We may want to judge them, or look down at their choices. We may try to force them to see the situation the way we see it. This is rarely, if ever successful. Perhaps we can learn from the mother in the story. For the mother the best move was to get on her knees and place herself on her child's level with arms wide open. It was to be a loving, safe place for the child to be.

That is exactly what Jesus Christ did for me. He came to my level with his arms wide open. Instead of hollering at me or yelling at me, Jesus reached out to me. He did the same to you as well. This fall we enter a new school year for the church, I am excited at the opportunities before us in ministry worship and mission. Each week we have an opportunity to reach out and open our arms to the Sandwich community. Let's renew our covenant to be the vessels carrying God's love to those in need. Hearts and minds can be transformed. Lives can be changed. However, it all starts with love.

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. 1st John 4:9-12

God Bless!! Pastor Tom Bourke



Sunday Scriptures & Sermons for September

The Messy Middle

Sept 4 John 19:25-27, Acts 2:44-47
~ The Need for Genuine Connection

Sept 11 Luke 13:10-20 ~ Suiting Up & Going In

I Love This Place

Sept 18 Matthew 26:17-30 ~ What is God's Plan?

Sept 25 Ephesians 2:11-22 ~ What is the Church?



Children's Christian Education ministry

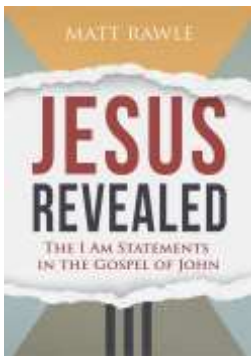
kicks off September 18th, at 9:00am.

Mark your calendars for your children and grandchildren to attend.

All kids are welcome!

Have them bring a friend!!

Please let Pastor Tom know if you have a 3rd or 4th grader, there will be a Bible presentation for them in September.



Adult Bible Study will start on Thursday, October 6th, at 10:00am and last six weeks.

In, *Jesus Revealed: The I Am Statements in the Gospel of John*, author Matt Rawle explores the "I Am" statements in John as works of art that resonate throughout the Gospel and all of

Scripture. He shows these words point beyond themselves to the deep mystery of Jesus Christ. Join Matt on this journey and experience the profound truth at the heart of the "I Am" statements: that Jesus is light and life, and he calls us to himself and offers us the hope of resurrection.

Chapter topics include:

1. I am the bread of life (John 6:48)
2. I am the light of the world (John 8:12)
3. I am the good shepherd (John 10:11)
4. I am the resurrection and the life (John 11:25)
5. I am the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6)
6. I am the true vine (John 15:1)

Please contact Pastor Tom to order a book for the class. Each study book costs \$13. Hope to see you there and look forward to wonderful conversation and Bible study

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Abounding Ministries

Abounding Ministries seeks to make disciples of Jesus Christ through dynamic Worship, Motivational Speaking, Retreats and Print Resources. The NIC Conference Evangelist circuit-rides among our local churches facilitating inclusive, upbeat worship experiences that strengthen the spiritual life, mission and evangelism of congregations, while offering Training and Print Resources., this full-time appointment within the NIC is non-salaried. Jane Rubietta partners with Rich as an Author and Conference Leader focusing on Women's issues, spiritual formation,, and strengthening relationships between congregations and clergy families.

Thank you, The Missions Committee



Bible Quiz

Besides being known for his proverbs about wise living, King Solomon was knowledgeable in other fields, including which of the following?

- A. zoology, including ornithology and ichthyology
- B. botany
- C. herpetology
- D. songwriting
- E. A and C
- F. B and D
- G. All of the above



Answer: G (See 1 Kings 4:29-34)



September Activities



Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday, September 20th, at 4:30pm.

Administrative Council will meet Thursday, September 22nd, at 6:30pm.



The Dog Days of Summer are upon us and keeping cool is on our minds. With the extra use of our air conditioning comes higher bills.

Please keep the Church in mind for your continued giving. Cooler weather will hopefully be around the corner for Fair Week. God Bless the congregation of the UCS for your hard work and continued support.



United Women in Faith meet Thursday, September 15, at 9:30 am in the chapel. All women of the church are invited to attend.

SANDWICH FAIR DATES FOR THE LOG CABIN/FAIR STAND

Saturday, September 3, 8am - 12pm (food arrives)

Wednesday, September 7 – Fair Begins

Sunday, September 11 – Fair Ends

Monday, September 12

Start clean up and move out

WORSHIP WITH THE UCS

Sunday, September 4th
Worship Service
10:00 am

Sandwich Fair Grounds
In the Fair Stand

All are Welcome to join the
United Church Family
for this Special Service



Quilt Raffle

For the 2nd year, UCS will be offering tickets to win a quilt at the Sandwich Fair. The quilt has been made and donated by Darlene Sebby. The tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The quilt will be on display at the Log Cabin during the fair. The drawing will be held at 6pm on September 11th, at the Log Cabin.





4th Weekend Drive

Thank you for your continued support of the 4th Weekend Drives. The request will be "Boxed Foods" for the September 24 & 25 Drive. If you are able, please bring accepted items such as, Hamburger & Tuna Helper.

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

The Missions Committee

 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.



Rice Meal Pack

SEPTEMBER 16-19 | SANGAMON RIVER DISTRICT EVENT

Help us pack **15,000 Rice Meal bags** that will feed **90,000 people in Ukraine.**

Put your faith into tangible action and be the hands and feet of Jesus by alleviating hunger. Learn more about partnering with Midwest Mission to do easy mission activities at your church.

GET INVOLVED

Be a part of this great mission volunteer experience for all ages and abilities.

give

Help us raise \$30,000 to fund the meals that will be packed. Each meal costs 34 cents. Fun and experiential activities are a great way to get other people involved.

Donate to the project:
midwestmission.org/donate

promote

All meals are going to Ukrainian refugees to meet basic needs in war-torn areas. We need your help to get the word out. This is for those both in church and not involved in church to experience the joy that comes from serving. Visit midwestmission.org/help-ukraine for more info.

serve

There are two Rice Meal Pack opportunities in Springfield, IL. You can volunteer in 1-hour shifts. For more info and to sign up: midwestmission.org/help-ukraine Questions? Contact Gene: 217-457-4400 gene@midwestmission.org

ONE

September 16-17
8:30am-3:30pm
Midwest Mission
1001 Mission Dr.
Pawnee, IL 62558

TWO

September 18-19
8am-1pm
Springfield 1st UMC
2941 S. Koke Mill Rd.
Springfield, IL 62711

Be a Prayer Partner

Let Pastor Tom know if you would like to be included in setting aside time to pray for a Prayer Partner each week. Share a joy and a concern in prayer and you will find there are many benefits to praying for a Prayer Partner.

Hill Family Craft Fair September 29

UPCOMING EVENTS



Friday, & Saturday, October 14 & 15

Items for the United Women in Faith's Rummage Sale may be collected in the southeast corner across from the youth room. Accepted items are: clothing, jewelry, household and kitchen items, books, games, furniture (not LARGE pieces), etc.

We cannot accept any televisions, computer equipment or large appliances.

All items should be clean and in good condition (something you would buy for yourself.) Nicer clothing items should be on hangers. Pass the word to attend!!



The Community CROP Walk will be held at Bethany Lutheran Church in Leland, Sunday, October 2, starting at 2:00pm. Please contact Phyllis Whitehead to sign up as a walker or to sponsor a walker. More info may be found at www.crophungerwalk.org

UNITED BRAT FEST

Sunday,
October 9, 2022

Drive thru ~ 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.



The Missions Committee will be collecting hats & mittens for schools starting in November.



Thank you to my United church family for all the prayers, cards and well wishes.

Vivian McMaster

Did you know your purchases on Amazon can help the United Church of Sandwich! All you need to do is log-in 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 or an issue may be found in the narthex. 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/September%20Reporter%202022.pdf>

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



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

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

09/03	William Cassell Ron Miller
09/05	Christopher Eipers Allison McMahon Joe Benson
09/06	Al Whitehead
09/07	Vicki Scharenberg
09/10	Dave Scharenberg
09/13	Eli Bourke
09/16	Judy Brandow
09/17	Laurie Prickett
09/19	Chet Carpenter
09/22	Anna Olson
09/23	Monty Reiners
09/24	Fred Hunter
09/28	Marilyn Bulson John Heiman Sarah Stevens






09/01	Ed & Roberta Dahmer Greg & Kelly Nehring
09/03	Dick & Barb Bark
09/07	Eric & Danielle Bedford
09/08	Bill & Christine McMahon
09/21	Vicki & Dave Scharenberg
09/26	James & Barb Deimer
09/27	Reid & Deb Heinekamp

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



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!

September 2022

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
 <p>September 11 Grandparents Day</p>				1 7:00 AA Mtg	2	3 8:00-12:00 Cleaning @ Fair Stand
4 10:00 Worship ~ At the Fair Stand	5  LABOR DAY	6	7 Sandwich Fair Begins 	8 7:00 AA Mtg	9	10
11 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online	12	13	14	15 9:30 United Women in Faith Mtg 7:00 AA Mtg	16	17
18 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)	19	20  NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 4:30 Board of Trustees Mtg	21	22 6:30 Admin Council Mtg 7:00 AA Mtg	23	24 4th Weekend Drive Boxed Foods
25 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online	26	27	28	29 Hill Family Craft Show @ Fair Stand 7:00 AA Mtg	30	

The United Church
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — SEPTEMBER 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