

# The Messenger

Volume 23 No. 9

September 2023



The Newsletter of The United Church of Sandwich

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

*Greetings,*

As we enter the beautiful month of September we feel the simultaneous notions of excitement for the events and activities ahead of us, and nervous for the list of things we need to do in the church and in our lives. This September, let's embrace a season of renewed vision and energy here at United Church of Sandwich. We continue to prayerfully seek God's guidance as we envision a future that is deeply rooted in our faith and commitment to serving Him in Sandwich. Through our collective efforts, we are focused to passionately live out our mission statement. I know that without a doubt we will keep enhancing our impact in the lives of our congregation and community.



As we strive towards our church mission, remember that the heart of our church community lies in the unity, love, and support we offer one another. In times of triumph and challenge, we stand together as a faith community, bound by our shared commitment to Christ's love and grace for each other. As we grow in our faith, let us also grow in our ability to lift each other up, extend a helping hand, and offer a listening ear. We show the love of Christ in loving our brothers and sisters in Christ. It is through our interconnectedness that we truly reflect the love of Christ and become that light on a hill for the community around us.

We will see this support as we engage in the Sandwich Fair. We become the hands and feet of Christ in our efforts at the fair. Friendships are created and grown. God's mission is served. We will then engage in the CROP WALK. We will join together in the Autumn Rummage Sale in October and the Community Craft Day at the end of September. We are seeing the hands and feet of Christ in the new after school ministry as we model Christ to the children and parents of the community. We will begin another adult Bible Study on Tuesdays and Sundays. And we continue to worship together in praise and prayer to God. Below are a few benefits of the church community. As we enter into September, take a moment to reflect on some of these. As yourself, where can I engage more? Where can I help others grow?

**Spiritual Growth:** Our church can provide a supportive environment for individuals to deepen their spiritual beliefs, explore questions of faith, and grow in their understanding of Christ's teachings. We will continue to do this through regular worship services, and Bible study groups.

**Fellowship:** Our church can create a space for people to connect with others who share similar beliefs and values. This sense of belonging and camaraderie can combat feelings of isolation and loneliness, fostering a supportive network of friends and family.

**Emotional Support:** Our church can bring support during times of personal struggle, grief, or crisis. People often find solace in knowing that they have a community willing to walk alongside them through life's challenges.

**Service and Outreach:** Our church can engage in various forms of community service. This involvement allows us to contribute to the betterment of our community and the world and provides a sense of purpose beyond our individual needs.

**Mental Health Benefits:** Our church can offer a space to find solace, peace, and a sense of purpose. Participating in communal worship and engaging in practices like meditation and prayer can have positive effects on mental well-being.

**Generational Connection:** Our church can often span generations, fostering connections between older and younger members. This intergenerational interaction can lead to valuable exchanges of wisdom, experiences, and perspectives.

*(Continued on page 2)*

As always, let us remember to lift each other up in prayer. As we embark on this journey of renewed vision and energy into this new season, let us remember the words of 1 Corinthians 12:27: "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." Let our actions, our words, and our support for one another be a testament to the love that flows through us as a faith community. May God's blessings be upon us as we step forward into September with hearts full of faith, hope, and love.

God Bless!

Pastor Tom Bourke

## Sunday Scriptures & Sermon Series for September

September 3 Galatians 6:2-10 ~ Holy Labor, Holy Rest

### **"Renew the Vision"**

September 10 Haggai 1:1-15 ~ Honest Worship

September 17 Haggai 2:1-9 ~ Promised Worship

September 24 Haggai 2:10-23 ~ Blessed Worship



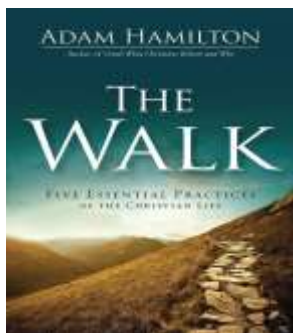
Children's Christian Education  
ministry kicks off

September 17th, at 9:00am.

Mark your calendars for your  
children and grandchildren  
to attend. All are welcome!

Have them bring a friend!!

Please let Pastor Tom know if  
you have a 3rd or 4th grader so  
they may be presented with  
a bible during worship.



Join us for a 6 week Bible study during October & November. We will host a Bible study class on Sundays at 8:45am and Tuesdays at 10:00am. The first Sunday class will begin on October 1 and the first Tuesday class will begin on October 3. Each study book is \$14. We would love to have you join our groups as we study the scripture to grow in our relationship with God. Below is a description of the study...

Examine five essential spiritual practices rooted in Jesus' own walk with God.

How do we walk with Christ—daily follow him, grow in him, and faithfully serve him?

In the Gospels, Jesus modeled for us the Christian spiritual life. The apostles taught it in their writings. And the Church has, through the last 2,000 years, sought to pursue this Christian spiritual life.

In *The Walk*, Adam Hamilton focuses on five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Each of these practices is intended as part of our daily walk with Christ while also being an essential part of growing together in the church.

In each chapter, Hamilton explores one of these practices, its New Testament foundation, and what it looks like to pursue this practice daily in our personal life and together in the life of the church. Deepen your walk with Christ as we explore the five essential practices of worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to our faith.





United Kids After School has gotten off to a great start! We are excited to have 16 kids enrolled, with space for a few more. Kim has placed an updated wish list on the UKAS info board. (There is a new stack of orange wish lists on the board.) Together, the kids enjoy yummy snacks, playing outside, foosball, ping pong, YouTube art lessons, reading books, board games, puzzles, and more! Our awesome volunteers have been wonderful helpers serving snacks, cleaning up, reading to children, and playing board games. Contact Kim if you'd like to start the process of becoming a UKAS volunteer, 630-699-2328 or [ucs.unitedkids@gmail.com](mailto:ucs.unitedkids@gmail.com)

Be sure to "Like" our United Kids After School Facebook page. Thank you to all who have shown us support with snacks, books, toys, and monetary donations! We truly appreciate all of our volunteers and supporters. Thank you! See how much fun everyone has in the photos below!!



READING & STUDY TIME



Board Games



YOUTUBE ART LESSON



OUTDOOR FUN!  
Even the volunteers join in!!

# September ACTIVITIES

## BOARDS & COMMITTEES MFM MEETING-FREE MONTH



United Women in Faith will meet Thursday, September 14th, 9:30am in the Chapel. ALL women of the church (and your Christian friends!) ARE WELCOME!

The UWFaith **Prairie South District Annual Meeting** will be held on **Saturday, September 16** at Channahon UMC, 24751 W Eames St, from 9am to Noon [breakfast 8:15-9:00!]. UWFaith members **and friends** are invited to a morning of learning and inspiration! The guest speakers:

- Linda Osikowicz, UWFaith NIC Social Action Coordinator, will present “It’s More Than the Three Rs,” highlighting the roots of climate action, how women have advocated for climate justice and what that looks like, and suggestions for action.

- Rev. Eunbah Doe, Pastor of Channahon UMC, will present "Immigration—My Journey," a personal reflection on his experiences as a South Korean living and working in the United States.

The names of Jane Heyer, Vivian McMaster, Eleanor Anderson and Marlene Cook will be memorialized along with others in Prairie South District who have passed away since mid-2022.

**Please contact Phyllis Whitehead to coordinate carpooling to Channahon [815-498-3522].**

**Many hands make light work!**

**SAVE THE DATES for the RUMMAGE SALE:**

**Friday-Saturday, OCTOBER 20-21, 2023.**

Sorting and displaying will begin Monday, Oct 16 and continue through Thursday the 19.

**World Thank Offering boxes** are available. Notify Phyllis Whitehead or Marilyn Steenwyk IF anyone would like to save coins, as expressions of thankfulness, until the collection in November.

## Finance Corner



To God be the Glory! Summer can be financially hurtful in many congregations, but thanks to your continued faithfulness and financial commitments we are continuing to stay strong and to take care of some building issues. This spring a new window was installed in the chapel and the stained glass windows in the sanctuary were repaired to hold them securely in place. The General Fund was able to help Trustees cover these two large items. As of July 31, we have \$19,656.44 remaining from our 2022 Fairstand profits! As summer comes to an end and fall begins, help us stay financially healthy by continuing with your pledges, tithes, & offerings! If you have questions or would like to learn more, please see Pam Nehring or Linda Duy.

### General Fund

	July 2023	YTD 2023
<b>Income:</b>		
<b>Pork Chop Dinner</b>	\$ 0.00	\$ 7,293.24
<b>Pie of the Month (net)</b>	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,531.84
<b>Giving Income</b>	\$ 11,911.78	\$ 94,020.84
<b>Easter Offering</b>	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,472.00
<b>Christmas Offering</b>	\$ 0.00	\$ 375.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 11,911.78	\$ 104,692.92
<b>Expenses:</b>		
	\$ (15,375.39)	\$ (107,262.72)
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ ( 3,463.61)</b>	<b>\$ (2,569.80)</b>
<b>Transfer to Trustees</b>		\$ (9,773.76)
<b>2022 Fairstand Transfer</b>		\$ 32,000.00
<b>Remainder 07.31.23</b>		\$ 19,656.44
<b>1.1.23 GF Balance</b>		\$ 59,600.93
<b>7.31.23 GF Balance</b>		\$ 79,257.37



The Sandwich Fair is upon us!

Be sure to visit the Log Cabin, work a few shifts, and invite friends to EAT MORE PIE!!



# WORSHIP WITH THE UCS

Sunday, September 3rd  
Worship Service  
10:00 am

## **Sandwich Fair Grounds**

In the Fair Stand  
Potluck to Follow

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



## 4th Weekend Drive

Thank you for your continued support of the  
4th Weekend Drives.

The request will be *"Boxed Meals"* for the  
September 23 & 24 Drive.

If you are able, please bring accepted items  
such as, Hamburger &/or Tuna Helper, mac &  
cheese, rice or other pastas. These items are  
donated to the Sharing Pantry and the  
local schools.

Thank you! The Missions Committee

## SANDWICH FAIR DATES FOR THE LOG CABIN/FAIR STAND

Saturday, September 2, 8am - 12pm (food arrives)  
Wednesday, September 6 – Fair Begins  
Sunday, September 10 – Fair Ends  
Monday, September 11  
Start clean up and move out



Adult Choir Resumes  
Practice begins  
September 20, 7:00pm  
and open to anyone  
who would like to  
participate regardless  
of experience.

Chimes Practices are Wednesday  
evenings, 6:00pm.

Both current and traditional selections are  
enjoyed. If you would like to join  
contact Kevin Duy or Pastor Tom.



## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

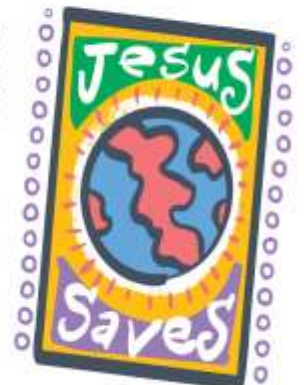
Please send any joys, concerns,  
photos, thoughts or  
informational articles  
to the church office  
by September 19  
815-786-9243



## Bible Quiz

Not long before Jesus' arrest, he  
said: "I did not come to \_\_\_ the  
world, but to \_\_\_ the world." Fill  
in the blanks.

- A. judge; save
- B. hate; love
- C. condemn; teach
- D. disrupt; conform to



Answer: A (See John 12:47, NIV)



# Quilt Raffle

For the 3rd year, UCS will be offering tickets to win a quilt at the Sandwich Fair. The quilt measures 84" x 101"

Donated and pieced by Darlene Sebby, and quilted by Sarah Stevens. Tickets may be purchased from the church office or UCS members at \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

The drawing will be held at 6:00pm on September 10, 2023, at the Log Cabin. Good Luck!!

## Sign Up For the Sandwich Fair Log Cabin



Its not too late to sign up! Volunteers are still needed to work the Sandwich Fair, September 6-10. The sign-up process may be done online and in-person. Go to the church website to volunteer and sign up. 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 signed up for and be asked your:

Name, Phone Number & Email

If you commit to 3 different days throughout the week, a pass will be purchased for your use. For questions, call or email the church. You may also call the church and have the office sign you up for your shifts. Thank you!

### MISSION OF THE MONTH

*Wesley Woods Conference Center*

Wesley Woods provides facilities and staff for NIC Summer Residential Camps, Summer Day Camp, Adult and Youth Retreats, and numerous community service and missional projects. These funds are used to maintain and improve facilities, furnishings and equipment, as well as to support specific ministry opportunities that sometimes arise outside the annual programming and budgeting process. These funds function as a site-specific discretionary fund for Wesley Woods that enables the site staff and Board to direct funds where they will have the most impact at the time of need.

Thank you, The Missions Committee







The Community CROP Walk will be held at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Hinckley, Sunday, October 1 starting at 2:00pm. Please contact Phyllis Whitehead to sign up as a walker or to sponsor a walker. You can help make a difference in local and global hunger. 25% goes to the local Sharing Pantry. When you walk, you are raising money to help fight hunger but you are also walking in solidarity with all those people around the world who are walking for food, for water and for firewood each day. More information may be found at [www.crophungerwalk.org](http://www.crophungerwalk.org)



**UNITED  
BRAT FEST**

Sunday,  
October 15, 2023  
Drive thru ~ 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.



Friday & Saturday, October 20 & 21

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 and plan to attend!!



**HARVEST DAY**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21**  
**SANDWICH FAIRGROUNDS**  
**[WWW.GROWINGHOPEGLOBALLY.ORG](http://WWW.GROWINGHOPEGLOBALLY.ORG)**

- **LUNCH SERVED**
- **FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES**
- **DISPLAYS & DEMOS**
- **AUCTION**

# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

## Liturgists

09/03 Fair Stand  
09/10 Marilyn Steenwyk  
09/17 Sarah Stevens  
09/24 Chris Bagwill

## Greeters/Ushers

09/03 Fair Stand  
09/10 John & Pat Hallaron  
09/17 Carole Strock & Earl Shaffer  
09/24 Diane Salisbury & Craig Johnson

## September Communion Minister

Phyllis Davis

PLEASE CONTACT DEB SEYMOUR OR PASTOR TOM IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AS A LITURGIST, GREETER, USHER OR COMMUNION MINISTER.

### 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. 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 that you read.

<https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/Reporter/July-August 2023 pdf>

If you would like to be added to the church prayer list, please contact the church office, 815-786-9243 or Pastor Tom, 630-699-2474.

We want to be in support for you and let you know that you are family and are not alone.

# PRAYER list...

# 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

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



Carole Cronin  
601 Lutz Rd Apt 2207  
Bloomington, IL 61704



# September 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2 8:00-12:00 Final Set-Up @ Fair Stand
3 10:00 Worship ~ At the Fair Stand With a Potluck to Follow	4 	5	6 	7 7:00 Al-Anon Mtg	8	9
10 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online	11 	12	13 6:00 Chimes Practice	14 9:30 United Women in Faith Mtg 7:00 Al-Anon Mtg	15	16
17 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)	18	19 	20 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice	21 7:00 Al-Anon Mtg	22	23 
24 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online Coffee Hr Hosts Trustees	25	26	27 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice	28 Hill Family Craft Show @ The Fair- grounds 7:00 Al-Anon Mtg	29	30

The United Church  
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd  
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — SEPTEMBER 2023

**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

**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:* [tombourkej@gmail.com](mailto:tombourkej@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

*Pianist:* Abi Mogge

*Ministers and Missionaries:* All Members

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

Leadership Team 2023

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

Jerry Brown

Lay Leader

Jim Bernhardt

**Trustee's Chair**

Gary Anderson

Annual Conf. Delegate

Ken Young

Missions/Evangelism Chair

Phyllis Whitehead

Bonnie Bernhardt

Memorial/Endowment Chair

Bonnie Miller

United Methodist Women

Marilyn Steenwyk

Fair Stand Chair

Reid Heinekamp

Worship & Music Chair

Deb Seymour

**United Church of Sandwich's**

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)