

The Messenger

Volume 23 No. 10

October 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,

Happy Fall Y'all! As we approach the first Sunday of October, we are reminded of the significance of World Communion Sunday in the life of the Church. This is an important day in the Christian Calendar. This day holds a rich history and deep theological meaning for the Church. It unites Christians around the world in the sharing of the Lord's Supper

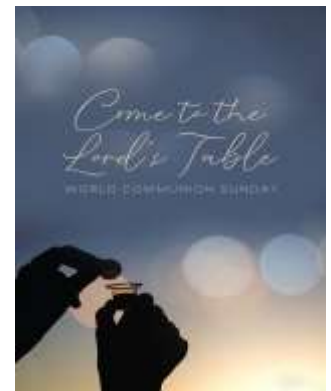
World Communion Sunday was first celebrated in 1933 at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It was initiated by Dr. Hugh Thomson Kerr, who envisioned a day each year when Christians from different denominations and cultures could come together to partake in Holy Communion as a sign of their unity in Christ. This idea resonated with many people, and it quickly spread to other churches and denominations. The practice of a world communion Sunday gained further recognition when it was endorsed by the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches) in 1940.

For United Methodists, World Communion Sunday carries a significant theological significance. It reminds us of our belief in the open table, where all are invited to partake in the bread and cup, regardless of their background, ethnicity, or denomination. This practice echoes the words of Jesus when he instituted the Lord's Supper, saying, "**Do this in remembrance of me**" (Luke 22:19). It is a reminder that we are part of a global Christian family. Our unity is not man made, but we are bound together by our common faith in Christ.

In the United Methodist Church, the observance of World Communion Sunday is not mandated and forced. It is encouraged as a way to express our unity with Christians worldwide. United Methodist has resources that help us recognize and appreciate the diversity of cultures and traditions within the universal Church while emphasizing our shared faith in Jesus Christ. We will use some of these resources in our service on October 1. We will sing hymns that build up or faith in the Lord's Supper. As we prepare to celebrate World Communion Sunday, let us remember the words of the Apostle Paul: "**For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes**" (1 Corinthians 11:26). This day is a call to unity, a reminder that our faith transcends borders and differences. It is an opportunity to strengthen our commitment to Christ's mission of love and reconciliation in a fractured world. As we approach World Communion Sunday, may we pray for the unity of the Church, the peace of the world, and the transformative power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Let us come to the table with open hearts and open minds, ready to share in the bread and cup, and to be a part of something much greater than ourselves—the worldwide body of Christ.

God Bless!

Pastor Tom Bourke



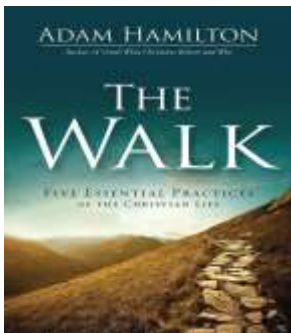
Sunday Scriptures & Sermon Series for October

“Discovering the Magic”

- October 1 1 Corinthians 11:23-32
World Communion Sunday
- October 8 Luke 6:46-49, Ephesians 5:15-16
Designing Our DNA
- October 15 Matthew 25:31-45
Everyone is a VIP
- October 22 James 1:19, Hebrews 12:7-11 ~
Traditions Training
- October 29 1 Corinthians 9:19-23
The EPCOT Church



Children's Sunday School begins
at 9:00am each Sunday morning.
Mark your calendars for your children
and grandchildren to attend.
All are welcome! Have them bring a friend!!



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 group will meet beginning **Tuesday, October 3, at 10:00am,**
and **Sunday, October 8, at 8:45am.**

(Note there will not be a meeting Sunday, October 1 as initially scheduled.)
Adult Bible Study Books are in the church office for those interested
in participating. Contact Pastor Tom for more information.

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 is going strong! We usually have between 12-16 children each day. I say this often, but I just love that our church doors are open and welcoming to children every single school day! We could not be more appreciative of the support of our volunteers. Our volunteers help prepare and clean up snack, supervise free time, play board games and catch, help with reading and math fluency, and show our children God's kindness and love every day. If you are interested in volunteering and would like to visit the program after school, please do! You do not need to go through training and background checks unless you are committing to being a regular volunteer that supervises children. Visitors interested in seeing what we do each day are welcomed and encouraged. Another way to support our program is with yummy snacks! It really helps to keep the cost of this program down by relying on donated snacks. Favorite snacks include: Goldfish crackers, apple juice, pretzels, cookies, rice crispy treats, apples, animal crackers, and graham crackers. At this time, we have no children with food allergies or dietary restrictions. Thank you for your prayers and support of this new program!! Kim Bourke

UKAS IN PICTURES!





Worship Committee will meet Sunday, October 8th, following the service.

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

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

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee will meet Tuesday, October 17th, 6:30pm.

Finance Committee meets Thursday, October 19th, at 6:30pm.

U'Niters meet Monday, October 2nd, 1:00pm in the Chapel. Bonnie Bernhardt is hostess. **ALL women of the church are welcome to attend!**

Adult Chimes & 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. If you would like to join contact Kevin Duy or Pastor Tom.



MISSION OF THE MONTH

Living Well with AIDS

Members of the Northern Illinois Conference began this program in 2012, to assist in AIDS education and support. Empowering and enabling people to understand HIV/AIDS and its impact on the community. They engage communities to develop a plan that is action oriented. Showing that testing and treatment is the key to reducing the virus in the community. Eastern and Southern Africa is home to half of the world's population living with HIV, including 48% of the world's new infections among adults, 55% among children and 48% of AIDS related deaths. The project has demonstrated that with proper tools and methods, communities in one-year campaigns can reduce HIV infections, increase testing to 82% of the community, and care for families of those lost to the virus. Thank you, The Missions Committee

4th Weekend Drive

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

The request will be "Holiday Foods" for the October 28 & 29 Drive.

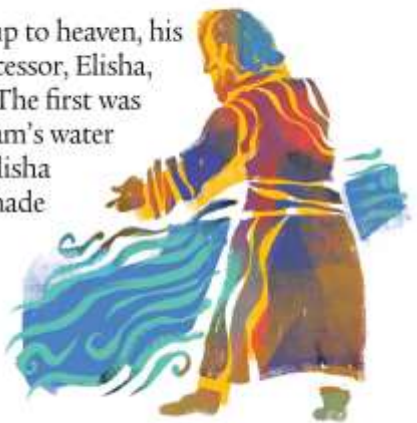
If you are able, please bring accepted items such as, canned vegetables, gravy, stuffing, boxed potatoes, etc. These items are donated to the Sharing Pantry and the local schools.

Thank you! The Missions Committee

Bible Quiz

After Elijah was taken up to heaven, his newly commissioned successor, Elisha, performed two miracles. The first was making a poisonous stream's water safe to drink. What did Elisha toss into the water that made it wholesome?

- A. a stick
- B. a new bowl
- C. bread
- D. salt

An illustration of Elisha, a prophet, standing by a stream of water, with his hands raised as if performing a miracle.

Answer: D (See 2 Kings 2:19-22.)



Friday, October 13
&
Saturday, October 14

The United Church of Sandwich
512 E Lions Road, Sandwich
(across from high school)

Friday, October 13

Saturday, October 14

9:00 am — 5:00 pm

9:00 am — 12:00 noon

Good quality adult and children's clothing,
glassware, kitchen items, books, holiday décor, furniture,
and many miscellaneous items!

Come check out all the hot deals!



UNITED BRAT FEST

United Church of Sandwich
512 E Lions Rd, Sandwich

Sunday, October 22, 2023

Drive thru 4:30 to 6:00 pm

\$15 for 2 brats, cole slaw, sauerkraut, baked beans, and cookie

\$7 for hot dog, chips, applesauce, and cookie

Tickets available at: The Church Office: Tues - Fri, 9am - 1pm, 815-786-9243

Balloons Aloft: 704 E Church, Sandwich, 815-786-6266

or

Church Members

Serving brats from Ream's Meat Market.

Ron Henrich & Matt Olson will be grilling up some delicious Brats & Dogs!

Come join us as we celebrate together with an October tradition!!



Want to savor the sweetness of a fresh baked pie without all the baking fuss! Beginning in November, UCS will offer a Pie of the Month Event! Pie lovers may order a pie by month or purchase a membership. Watch for details!



As a reminder, Thank offering boxes will be collected November 19th, Thanksgiving Sunday.



Mark you calendars for annual Charge Conference, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 7pm. Report forms that need to be completed will be available in the office.



This is a time to remember lost loved ones in a special moment of prayer. All members and friends of UCS who have a relative or friend that has passed away since November 1, 2022, and would like their name to be lifted up during the worship service are encouraged to share a picture with their name and birth date ~ death date. We will then lift up a group prayer for all people who have passed away at any time. Please send a digital photo by email or submit a physical photo to the church office so it may be scanned by Wednesday, November 2.

Please remember: _____
 During the All Saints' Sunday service.

Date of Death: _____ Relationship: _____

Your Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Families who wish to honor a family member that has passed in previous years are welcome to bring a picture and article about the person and they will be displayed in the narthex.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Liturgists

10/01 Bonnie Miller
10/08 Pam Nehring
10/15 Deb Seymour
10/22 Yvonne Perillo
10/29 John Hallaron

Greeters/Ushers

10/03 Ron & Kim Henrich
10/10 Deb Seymour & Chris Martner
10/15 Monty & Betty Reiners
10/22 Carole Strock & Earl Shaffer
10/29 Matt & Joanna Olson

October Communion Minister
Diane Salisbury

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/Sept%202023%20Reporter%20web.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



Birthdays & Anniversaries

10/05 Jordan Flowers
10/11 Linda Alvarez
10/12 McKenzie Hallaron
10/13 Earl Shaffer
10/18 Keith Bedford
Derek Rogers
David Seymour
10/20 Kelley Mindrup
10/26 Chris Mitchell

10/11 Monty Betty Reiners
10/14 Ron & Kim Henrich
10/16 Brenda Gillispie & Bob Grotkowski

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



2023

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>1 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)</p>	<p>2 1:00 U'Niters</p>	<p>3 10:00 Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>4 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>5 7:00 Al-Anon Mtg</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 8:45 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 10:00 Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>11 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>12 7:00 Al-Anon Mtg</p>	<p>13 9-5 UMW Rummage Bake Sale</p> 	<p>14 9-1</p>
<p>15 8:45 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 10:00 Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>18 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>19 7:00 Al-Anon Mtg</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 8:45 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 10:00 Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>25 6:00 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>26 7:00 Al-Anon Mtg</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 4th Weekend Food Drive</p> 
<p>29 8:45 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Reformation Day 10:00 Adult Bible Study</p>				

The United Church
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — OCTOBER 2023

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: 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