

# The Messenger



Volume 21 No. 2

February 2021

The Newsletter of The United Church of Sandwich

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

*Greetings,*

I read a short story I would like to share with you. The story is about a person who dreams of a conversation with the eternal God. "I dreamed I had an interview with God. God said "You would like to interview me?" "If you have the time, I said. "What surprises you most about mankind?" God answered, "They get bored of being children, are in a rush to grow up and then long to be children again. They lose their health to make money and then lose their money to restore their health. By thinking anxiously about the future, they forget the present, so they live neither in the present or the future. They live as if they will never die, and they die as if they had never lived."

May the Lord bless you  
and keep you.  
May the Lord make his  
face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you.  
May the Lord lift up his  
countenance upon you,  
and give you peace.

"What do you want your children to learn?" - "To learn they cannot make anyone love them, but to let themselves be loved. To learn it takes years to build trust and a few seconds to destroy it. To learn that what is most valuable is not what they have in their lives, but who they have in their lives. To learn that it is not good to compare themselves to others. All will be judged individually on their own merits, not as a group on a comparison basis! To learn it only takes a few seconds to open profound wounds in persons we love, and it takes many years to heal them. To learn there are persons who love them dearly, but don't know how to express it. To learn that two people can look at the same thing and see it totally differently. That they may be forgiven by others, but they have to forgive themselves." God added, "I'm here 24 hours a day. All you have to do is ask for me, and I'll answer."

We have arrived in the month of February. We are safely heading back inside to worship together. The Children have begun to have in person school again. We are closing in on the anniversary of the pandemic. We have finished a year in the pandemic, but we are beginning a new year. This new year will have challenges and struggles, but will also have opportunities and hope. On February 17, we will have Ash Wednesday worship. This will mark the beginning of Lent for 2021. As we wrap up one year and begin a new year; as we wrap up one church season and begin a new one, I think it is a wonderful time to pause and reflect on the present. Sometimes we spend so much time in the past or the future that we lose track of the moment we are living in right now. This month might be a wonderful time for you and your family to reflect on the current blessings and callings that God has put in our lives.

Our family just got back from a family trip together. It was a wonderful time. Several people have asked if we had a good vacation. We like to joke that when we travel without the children, we have vacations and when we travel with the kids we have trips. It was not a restful vacation, but it was a wonderful family trip. We were up early and often on the move. It was busy and eventful, but also meaningful. One thing we were intentional about was to be present in the moment. We focused on only the day we were in and gave that our full attention. We fully embraced the sights, sounds and experiences as they were happening and that made for a more lasting impression.

Now that we are back home we have time to rest. My goal is to take the same attitude of my family trip and bring it into my normal life. I want to focus on the day I am in and fully take in the blessings and challenges that God has placed before me. I want to use this month as a time of reflection and discovery. I want to experience the present as a gift this month. This is a gift I want for you as well. Embrace the present as the gift from God that it is for you. Take a moment every once in a while and 'stop to smell the roses'. I hope you can find a few moments here and there to enjoy where your relationship with God is right now. God Bless,

Pastor Tom Bourke

**United Church of  
Sandwich will begin Indoor Worship on  
February 6 & 7, 2021**

**(Pending No Additional COVID Restrictions)**

**Saturday, February 6** will have a worship service at 5:00pm.

**Sunday, February 7** will have worship service at 10:00am.

**Online Worship will still be available**

As we head inside for worship, we are implementing a few changes.

Below will detail all those changes for worship at United Church of Sandwich. We are limited to 50 people in the sanctuary and 10 people in the Chapel for each worship service. The pews have temporarily been replaced with folding chairs to ensure social distancing. Masks and reservations will be required for worship. Please go to the church website and click on the link or the one provided below with number to attend and your service time preference. Or you may call the church office 815-786-9243. Communion kits will continue to be offered. The sanctuary will be disinfected after each service. Hope to see everyone soon!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAD2DA2FAC70-saturday>

**Sermon Series & Sunday Scriptures  
for February**

**Breakthrough (Stories of Radical Change)**

**February 6-7** Mark 5:1-20 ~ Control

**February 13-14** Luke 19:1-8 ~ Mercy

**Lent: Remembrance, Repentance, Renewal**

**February 20-21** Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 ~ Original Sin

**February 27-28** Genesis 2:4-15 ~ Wandering



**Watch for  
Updated  
Children's  
Sunday  
School News  
now that we're  
moving to indoor worship.  
9:00am Sunday mornings!**

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**



UMCOR provides humanitarian relief and disaster response in the United States and internationally. These undesignated funds allow UMCOR to allocate funds to disasters as they arise.

Thank you, The Missions Committee

**Bible Quiz**

What was the name of Moses' wife?

- A. Miriam
- B. Jochebed
- C. Zipporah
- D. Leah

An illustration of a woman's face, likely Zipporah, wearing a blue and white striped headscarf. The background is split into green and orange sections.

Answer: C (See Exodus 2:21.)



# FEBRUARY

Activities



THE PURPOSE OF THE UNITED  
METHODIST WOMEN



Missions Committee will meet Tuesday, February 9th, 1:00pm in the chapel.

Worship Committee will meet Sunday, February 14th, after services, 11:15am.

Trustees Board will meet Tuesday, February 16th, at 6:30pm.

Finance Committee meets Thursday, February 18th, at 6:30pm.

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the Global Ministries of the Church.

UCS UMW meet February 4th, at 9:30am. All women of the church are invited to attend the first meeting of 2021 in the chapel.



On the General Conference evaluation in December, Trustees noted that the 35 year-old parsonage furnace/AC units needed to be replaced. Sunday, January 17th, the furnace stopped heating! Two days later, Trustee, Gary Anderson presented bids from two dealers with six options. Trustees approved a choice at its scheduled meeting January 19th. This quick action means no more space heaters for the Bourke family!

Two other necessary improvements were already underway; 1. Replacing two large church windows due to rotting, (in the Fellowship Hall and Chapel.) 2. Replacing ceiling fans in two bathrooms at the parsonage and venting to outside to remove mold issues. This year's budget does not cover all of these improvements. We are now appealing to our church family to help us complete our furnace/AC project. If you are able, please send a donation designated "furnace" to our church office.

(It will be "warmly" received!) Thank You



*Adult Chimes has resumed on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm. Both current and traditional music is selected. The Adult Chimes group is open to anyone interested regardless of experience. Come join in on the FUN!!*



**UNITED CHURCH OF SANDWICH  
512 LIONS RD, SANDWICH  
815-786-9243**

**PIE OF THE MONTH EVENT**

Remember that “special someone” for Valentine’s Day!  
Our expert pie bakers will be gearing up to bake some  
delicious pies just for you!

Preorders and prepayment will be required.

February: Cherry

Order deadline: Fri, Feb 5<sup>th</sup>

Pickup date: Sat, Feb 13<sup>th</sup>

May: Peach

Order deadline: Fri, Apr 30<sup>th</sup>

Pickup date: Sat, May 8<sup>th</sup>

March: Apple

Order deadline: Fri, Mar 5<sup>th</sup>

Pickup date: Sat, Mar 13<sup>th</sup>

June: Strawberry-Rhubarb

Order deadline: Fri, June 11<sup>th</sup>

Pickup date: Sat, June 19<sup>th</sup>

April: Triple Berry

Order deadline: Fri, Mar 26<sup>th</sup>

Pickup date: Sat, Apr 3<sup>rd</sup>

**PIE OF THE MONTH MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE**

Brighten up Grandma & Grandpa or Mom & Dad’s day with a “special treat”.  
UCS is offering a 3 Month Membership for the months of April – June 2021.  
The Membership gets you the pies at a reduced cost. These pies can be purchased baked or frozen (with baking instructions).

A ‘Pie of the Month’ Membership is not required. You can also order a pie for any one month for \$20.00.

\*\*All pies will have to be picked up at the Church-no shipping or delivery.

Only preorders and prepayment-“Thanks!”

Check our Website: [unitedhhurchsandwich.org](http://unitedhhurchsandwich.org) for further details.

Call our Church office today to place your order.



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY  
FREE CHILI LUNCH

Sunday, February 7, 2021

12:00 — 2:00 pm

Drive-Thru Only

United Church of Sandwich

512 Lions Rd, Sandwich

(across from Sandwich High School)

815-786-9243

[www.unitedchurchsandwich.org](http://www.unitedchurchsandwich.org)

Homemade Chili, Cornbread & Dessert

Even if you aren't a football fan, swing by to warm your stomachs and hearts so we can support each other as a United community!

*All Safe Health Practices Will Be Adhered To*

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/Feb2021\\_reporter\\_web.pdf](https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/Reporter/Feb2021_reporter_web.pdf)



**2021 Offering Envelopes.** Please pick up your 2021 offering envelopes and destroy your outdated 2020 envelopes.

**Extra Pledge Cards,  
Annual Church Conference Packets,  
Upper Room Booklets, Lost & Found Items,  
Pie of the Month/Membership Order Forms**

# February

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

02/02	Scott Rogers
02/07	Gerrad Dannewitz
02/08	Austin Carlson Jim Updike
02/10	Heidi Heiman
02/18	Kevin Duy
02/24	Joan Banko Pastor Tom Bourke Tucker Chrestman
02/26	Eleanor Anderson
02/27	Joanna Olson

02/14 Kevin & Linda Duy

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



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

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



### Prayer List



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!



# February 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	 <p>Groundhog Day</p>	3 6:30 Chimes Practice	4 9:30 United Methodist Woman Mtg	5 Cherry Pie Order Deadline 	6 5:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)
7 12p-2p Souper Bowl Chili Drive Thru  10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)	8	9 1:00 Missions Cmte Mtg	10 6:30 Chimes Practice	11	12	13 8-12 Pie P/U  5:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online
14 Valentine's Day  10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online  11:15 Worship Cmte Mtg	15  Presidents Day	16 NewsLetter DEADLINE  6:30 Board of Trustees Mtg	17 ASH WEDNESDAY 	18 6:30 Finance Cmte Mtg	19	20 5:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)
21 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)	22	23	24 6:30 Chimes Practice	25 10:30 Newsletter Assembly	26	27 5:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online
28 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online	29					

The United Church  
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd  
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — FEBRUARY 2021



**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)

Sunday Schedule

Worship 10:00 am

Adult Sunday School 8:45 am

**Children's Sunday School 9:00 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](mailto: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:* Carol Larson

*Ministers and Missionaries:* All Members

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

Leadership Team 2021

Church Council Chair	Ken Young
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	Sarah Stevens
<b>Trustee's Chair</b>	Matt Olson
Annual Conf. Delegate	Bonnie Miller
Missions/Evangelism Chair	Phyllis Whitehead
Memorial/Endowment Chair	Carole Strock
United Methodist Women	Myrtie Warren
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](http://www.unitedchurchsandwich.org)