

The Messenger



Volume 21 No. 6

June 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,

These are the lyrics of an old Christian song often sung by children in church. It is lighthearted and simple and profoundly truthful. We are Christians. Our identity rests first with our association with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are Christians. However, as Christians we have a more specific identity. We are United Methodists as members of the United Church of Sandwich. As Christians, we understand our faith through the lens of the United Methodist Church. Our Methodist identity does not supersede or displace our Christian identity. Instead it helps us to understand who we are as Christians and who Jesus is as our Lord.

I am a C, I am a C-H,
I am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N
and I have C-H-R-I-S-T in my
H-E-A-R-T and I will
L-I-V-E-E-T-E-R-N-A-L-L-Y

The last several years has been trying for the United Methodist Church. The church is a global community of tens of millions of people. We bring different opinions, traditions, and cultures to the table. The idea that we can be a global Church despite our differences is a sign of God's grace and Power in our lives. Still, our United Methodist differences have brought struggle and dissension in our denomination. Before the Pandemic struck, the global United Methodist Church was scheduled to meet to discuss the best way to move forward. The UMC General Conference has been postponed until 2022. However, there have been some changes in the Northern IL Conference of the United Methodist Church. It is important to understand some of these changes and how they can affect our church. Our actions as a local church have the most impact on the life and health of our church and community. However, we are a connectional denomination, and the changes of the greater church can impact our church in small and large ways. I wish to share a few of these changes with you.

First, Bishop Sally Dyck retired at the end of 2020. The Northern IL Conference (NIC) received retired Bishop John Hopkins as our interim bishop. The Bishop of a conference is akin to the principle of a school. Bishop John Hopkins will serve as our Bishop until the Jurisdictional Conference meets to select a new Bishop. The NIC could receive a new Bishop, or we could be yoked with a neighbor conference. Being yoked would mean that we would continue to be our own conference, but share a bishop, akin to two churches sharing a pastor.

Second, traditionally, the NIC has been divided into 6 districts with each district presiding over about 60 churches and under the leadership of a district superintendent. Traditionally, United Church has been in the Aurora District. The NIC is restructuring on July 1. We are changing from 6 districts to 5 districts with the Aurora District no longer existing. (The **Conference's rationale and districts may be found on pg 2.**) Instead, United Church falls within the boundaries of the Prairie South District. Our New District Superintendent will be Rev. Brian Gilbert. Our new Eastern Boundary is roughly Rt 47. Our new northern boundary is roughly Rt 64. Our District goes west to the IA border, and south to our Southern Conference Boarder (Roughly the IL River/I-80)

These changes do not change our church's structure, mission, and focus. It is important to understand the changes as we continue to be connected with Christians in other churches. However, none of the changes will impact our ability to continue to be the church we know and love. I leave you with this Methodist Prayer for Christian unity.

Let us ask the Lord to strengthen in all Christians faith in Christ, the Savior of the world.

Let us ask the Lord to sustain and guide Christians with his gifts along the way to full unity.

Let us ask the Lord for the gift of unity and peace for the world. Let us pray.

We ask you, O Lord, for the gifts of your Spirit. Enable us to penetrate the depth of the whole truth, and grant that we may share with others the goods you have put at our disposal. Teach us to overcome divisions. Send us your Spirit to lead to full unity your sons and daughters in full charity, in obedience to your will; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Karol Wojtyla (Pope John Paul II) Poland, 20thc, UMH #566

God Bless,

Pastor Tom Bourke

The new five districts are...

- Prairie South – Rev. Brian Gilbert
- Prairie North – Rev. Fabiola Grandon-Mayer
- Prairie Central – Rev. Jeffrey Bross
- Lake South – Rev. Jacques Conway
- Lake North – Rev. Brittany Isaac

The Conference shared the rationale for the change in this announcement...

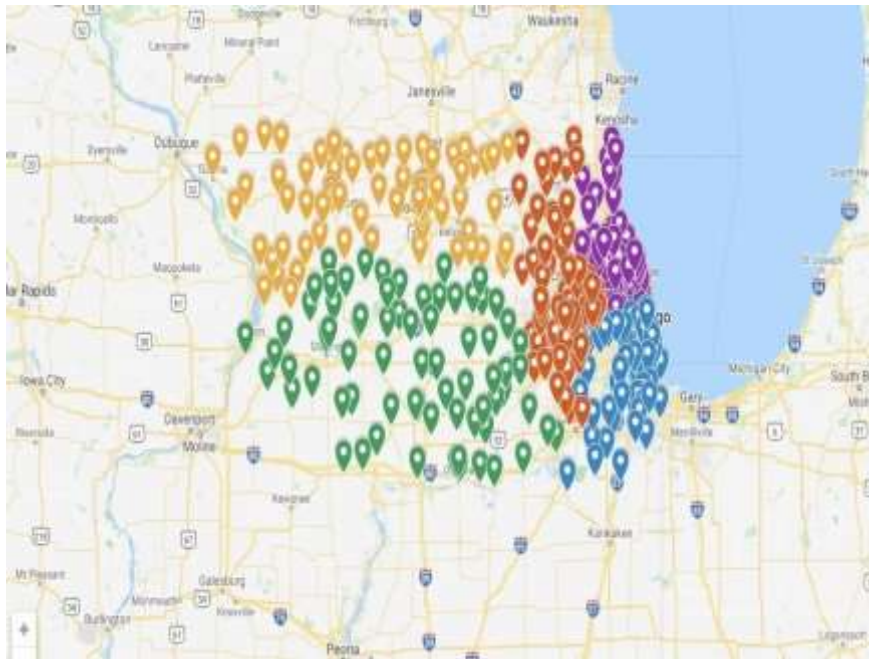
Why reduce the number of districts?

First, there have been many changes in population, demographics, church membership and the number of churches in the NIC. For instance, we've gone from 426 churches 30 years ago (when we last redistricted) to 350 in 2020.

Over the last several years, we have seen how technology enhances the work of a district superintendent (DS) through the use of digital files (when I was a DS we lugged big suitcases of files around!), electronic submission of forms, and other ways to expedite a DS's work. Out of necessity during the COVID-19 pandemic, we have utilized communication technologies (mostly Zoom video conferencing) that bring clergy and laity together for many conversations. In-person meetings and gatherings will resume when possible, but we have learned that there are times when we can do our work together via Zoom (and reduce travel time).

We also believe that reducing the number of districts helps position us for an uncertain future. We don't know how COVID-19 will continue to affect us as a conference with the potential for fewer churches. We know that there is a potential loss of churches due to the separation of the UMC that could result in fewer churches in a short period of time.

However, we feel that five instead of four districts helps keep the DSs in touch with churches. The DS has become more of a program consultant than in past years because we have fewer program staff in the conference. Therefore, a manageable number of churches is important. We have also learned from other conferences who have redistricted that it's possible to reduce too much and lose more in terms of oversight and presence than is gained financially as a conference.



Sunday Scriptures & Sermon Series for June

“The Prince of Egypt”

- June 6** Exodus 3:1-17 ~ The Burning Bush
- June 13** Exodus 4:1-17 ~ Aaron & the Staff
- June 20** Exodus 5:22-6:4 ~ God Promises Deliverance
- June 27** Exodus 11:4-8, 12:12-13 ~ The Passover (Outside Worship)



Sunday, June 27th worship will be outdoors, weather permitting. Please bring a lawn chair.



June Activities



Board of Trustees will meet
Tuesday, June 15th, at 6:30pm.

Finance Committee meets
Thursday, June 17th, at 6:30pm.



Adult Chimes & Choir groups are open to anyone who would like to participate regardless of experience. Both current and traditional selections are enjoyed. Chimes practice begins at 6:00 pm & Choir begins at 7:00pm. Social distancing will remain part of the practice procedures. For questions contact Kevin Duy or Pastor Tom.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

**St. Vincent DePaul Conference
St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church**



Many families in need have been helped with their rent, and bills. This organization will begin their sixth year serving Sandwich this fall. In addition to financial support, help with groceries, gas cards, and diapers is also provided.

Their motto is "A hand UP, not a hand out."

Thank you, The Missions Committee

HOT DOGS!
GET YOUR FREE HOT DOGS HERE!

UCS will host a 2nd Annual, Drive-Thru, FREE Hot Dog Lunch Event.

Served by our Congregation,
to our Community!

(11AM-1PM)

Saturday, June 19

&

Saturday, July 17

Our Queen of Scheduling, 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.



Bible Quiz

What word can be placed in all four blanks to complete this Bible passage?

"But just as he who called you is _____, so be _____ in all you do; for it is written: 'Be _____, because I am _____.'"

- A. righteous
- B. holy
- C. loving
- D. merciful



Answer: B (See 1 Peter 1:15-16, NIV.)

PIE OF THE MONTH EVENT

June is the last pie for this event! How about ordering a homemade pie baked by our expert pie bakers!

Preorders and prepayment are required.

June: Strawberry-Rhubarb
Order deadline: Fri, June 11
Pickup date: Sat, June 19

The June pie may be ordered for \$20.00, baked or frozen (with baking instructions). All pies are pick up only at the Church no shipping or delivery. Please use south door.

Check the Website: unitedchurchsandwich.org
for further details or call the church office to order!

Rhubarb – Rhubarb – Rhubarb ~ Our Pie-of-the-Month for June is Strawberry Rhubarb, so we will be needing some, yes, you got it, *Rhubarb!* If you have extra or know of anyone who has some and is willing to let the Church have it, please call the office. The Sandwich Fair Association is planning on having a Fair this year, if COVID is under control, so we will also be making Fair Pies.

Rest up, we are going to get busy!

Fair Pie Supplies ~ Every year there has been a card table set out to collect flour, sugar, and shortening. This year is different! We are not asking you to shop for these things but to please make a Monetary Donation. Many people either can't or don't want to go into the stores these days so we will do the shopping. Often times we are able to find our ingredients on sale because we can buy them in bigger quantities. When making your donation, please indicate on your giving envelope or check. The donation will also be used for purchasing any fruit we need. We are always looking for free fruit so if you know of any please let us know. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps tremendously to offset the costs. Hopefully this will make it easier for everyone. In the months to come we will be deciding on the schedule for Fair pie making. We will post articles in the newsletter and on Pastor Tom's Monday Message. Thanks for all your help! Blessings!



Pam, Betty & The UCS Pie Crew



UCS lifts up a special thank you to Ron Henrich, Gary Anderson, Earl Shaffer, Pam Nehring and Betty & Monty Reiners for going above and beyond in giving of their time, energy and resources for work done on the outside of the church building. Thank you to Ron and his crew for spraying the dandelions, roto-tilling a rhubarb bed, and laying down mulch, dirt, and wash rock. In addition, Ron provided the materials needed at no cost to the church! Gary Anderson has fixed all the downspouts of the building with wash rock to stop the erosion of the ground. Each week Gary and Earl Shaffer mow and care for the church grounds. They have put in many hours keeping the outside looking great. In addition, Earl has taken care of many projects inside and outside that would have otherwise gone unnoticed. Betty & Monty Reiners have cared for, planted, and tended to the church garden by the front doors. Their care and focus for the flowers and plants have benefited every person who has walked in and noticed the beautiful colors. Pam Nehring led the implementation of a rhubarb patch in the back of the church with the foresight and faith of the church growing its own rhubarb for our pies. We lift you up in prayers of appreciation and the gifts of support in Christ.

Pork Chop BBQ

Many hands make light work for everyone and we did just that, hosting the 2nd Pork Chop BBQ Drive Thru on May 2. It isn't all about work but connections that our congregation makes with one another through laughter and fellowship. After the harsh year of 2020 we need to join together as a Church Family united in our pursuit to fulfill our promise to God with Our Prayers, Our Presence, Our Gifts and Our Service. Not all the work was done on May 2, we had individuals who sold tickets without even leaving home and for them and everyone involved we are so very grateful. The support of this Church Family is fantastic! Almost 700 meals were served which provided us with a profit of about \$7500!



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/5-2021_web_reporter.pdf

Paul & Diane Pearson
 115 Ashley Dr Apt B
 Russellville, AR 72802

Deb Seymour
 422 Deerfield Dr
 Oswego, IL 60543



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	Ashley Stahl
	Anna Bourke
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

SUBMIT
Newsletter
 ARTICLES



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!

June 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>UCS Meals on Wheels Month</p>	1	2	3	4	5	
<p>6 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online</p>	7	8	<p>9 6:30 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	10	<p>11 Strawberry-Rhubarb Pie Order Due</p>	12
<p>13 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:30 Board of Trustees Mtg</p>	<p>16 6:30 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	17	18	<p>19 8-12 Pie P/U 11:00~1:00 FREE Hot Dog Lunch</p>
<p>20 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Honor Graduates)</p>	<p>21 Pastor Out of the Office Thru 6/26</p>	22	<p>23 6:30 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	24	<p>25 10:30 Newsletter Assembly</p>	<p>26 4th Weekend Canned Food Drive</p>
<p>27 10:00 Worship ~ Outdoors & Online (Holy Communion)</p>	28	29	<p>30 6:30 Chimes Practice 7:00 Choir Practice</p>			

2021 United Church Fair Stand

“...God is with you in all that you do.” Genesis 21:22



It is time to plan for a successful 2021 Fair Stand year. We would like to fill as many positions within the schedule as completely as possible. *We call everyone* to sign up for as many shifts as you can and in the positions you feel the most comfortable.

Remember, it takes eighty-one (81) 4-hour shifts each day to run our stand.

— *Thankfully God is with us in all that we do!*

Please fill in when you are able to work at the fair, in which jobs you feel the most comfortable, and return the form to the church. We also need people who are flexible to float where needed. If an individual is able to commit to a complete 4 or 5-hour shift for *three (3) different days* throughout the week, the church will purchase a pass for your use. We do not receive free passes from the fair — we buy them.

Fair Dates for 2021

Wednesday, September 8, 2021
thru
Sunday, September 12, 2021

Job Descriptions Below:

Grill Cook (grilling meats for sandwiches; am sausage and hash browns)

Fry Cook (french fries and tenderloins; am pancakes)

Kitchen (prepare chili and cold sandwiches, chop onions, wash pans)

Steam Table (wrap sandwiches, dish up chili; and dish up breakfasts)

Cashier (take orders, handle money transactions)

Counter Server (collect food onto tray for customers)

Drinks (dispense pop, coffee)

Pies (slice and serve pie and ice cream)

Dining Room (refill condiment counter, wipe tables and trays)

Floater (put anywhere needed)

“Back at the Range” (baking pies at the church, transporting pies to the fair)

Thank you for your help. We look forward to fellowship with our church friends.

Sign-Up on next page

2021 United Church of Sandwich Fair Schedule

Job Descriptions are on opposite page.

Please indicate your choice of job requested by listing your 1st, 2nd or 3rd choice. See example. This will help when making out the schedule. Thank you, Judy Anderson

Grill Cook	Fry Cook	Kitchen	Steam Table	Cashier	Counter Server	Drinks	Pies	Dining Room
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Date: _____ **Shifts/ Times** _____

Example: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 6 am-11:30 am

		2			1			3
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Wednesday, September 8, 2021	6 am - 11:30 am								
	11:30 am - 4:30 pm								
	4:30 pm - 10 pm								

Thursday, September 9, 2021	6 am - 11:30 am								
	11:30 am - 4:30 pm								
	4:30 pm - 10 pm								

Friday, September 10, 2021	6 am - 11:30 am								
	11:30 am - 4:30 pm								
	4:30 pm - 10 pm								

Saturday, September 11, 2021	6 am - 11:30 am								
	11:30 am - 4:30 pm								
	4:30 pm - 10 pm								

Sunday, September 12, 2021	6 am - 10 am								
	10 am - 2 pm								
	2 pm - 6 pm								
	4 pm - Closing								Clean-up and re-packing items to return to church.

Building Clean-Up before the Fair			
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Clean-up and re-packing items to be returned to the church		Building Clean-Up after the Fair
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Name: _____ Phone: _____ Date: _____

Note: All shifts and jobs will be filled on a first come basis as this form is received. You will be called if the position is already filled, and asked to work at a different time. Please place this form in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office. ASAP!

I am working 3 shifts and need a pass. Yes No

The United Church
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — JUNE 2021

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

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 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

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
Trustee's Chair	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