

The Messenger



Volume 20 No. 9

September 2020

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 write to you on the start of an unusual school year. My kids, along with all the kids in District 430 will begin school on September 8th. Many kids will be learning remotely. My kids join others in a hybrid model of 2 in-person days, and 3 remote learning days. Anna, our youngest took her big step in childhood last year by beginning kindergarten. In a normal year, September 2020 would be a joyous but comfortable moment. Our children would begin school for a new year of learning and adventure, but with a foundation of comfort and understanding due to their prior experience. Instead, we enter the school year like we are sending three children to school for the first time. There is excitement, yes, but also a lot of anxiety and nervousness.

New beginnings are exciting in the best of times. They are also scary, nerve racking, exhilarating, and fear inducing during times of hardship. However, a new experience is a moment of great opportunity. We cannot control the situations of the world around us, and those situations can change at any point. We can control our attitude and actions. My children can grow and mature, trust and find joy; be challenged and overcome. They begin the school year with enormous possibility of growth and hope. I also begin the school year with an opportunity to face the situation head on as a parent and lean into my relationship with God as I navigate this new journey.

We are also at a time of new beginnings in the church as we begin a new fall. Isaiah reminds us that, “But now, O Lord, You are our father; we are the clay, and You our potter; and all we are the work of Your hand.” God is molding us in His glorious image. Each day, each week, each month, each year brings a new time for us to be shaped by the one who created the heavens and the earth.

Our church is opening up with opportunities of worship, fellowship, discipleship, and service. How is God molding you this fall into connecting with Him, with the church, and with the world? I want you to read God’s word with a new mind. I want you to break bread with a new heart. I want you to worship with a new spirit. Our church will strive to provide those opportunities. We will have small groups. We are being intentional about providing Sunday school for the children, the youth, and the adults. We are going to continue to find ministry in the community that is impactful and relevant.

This fall will continue to be different than the past. This will bring new anxiety and worry. However, it will bring new understanding and hope. This fall God will again provide His potter hands. Our church will be the spinning wheel. Will you be the clay? Let me leave you with this passage written by Irenaeus from the 2nd Century.

It is not you who shape God; it is God that shapes you.

If then you are the work of God,

await the hand of the Artist

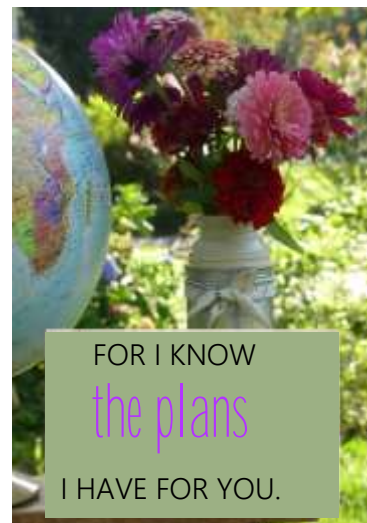
who does all things in due season.

*Offer the Potter your heart, soft and tractable,
and keep the form in which the Artist has fashioned you.*

*Let your clay be moist, lest you grow hard
and lose the imprint of the Potter’s fingers.*

God Bless,

Rev. Tom Bourke



Sermon Series & Sunday Scriptures for September

Plot Twist: The Story of Joseph

September 6 Genesis 49:33-50:3; 15-21 ~ Triumphant

September 13 John 8:1-11
Ephesians 4:11-12 ~ Teaching the Faith

Villians

September 20 Genesis 3:1-7
Romans 3:10-18 ~ How to Avoid Their Path of Destruction

September 27 Genesis 4:1-15 ~ Cain



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School will start on **September 20th at 9:00am**. The meetings will be outside as weather permits. Mark your calendars for your children and grandchildren to attend. If you have any questions, connect with Pastor Tom.



All are welcome to attend United Church of Sandwich's outdoor / drive in worship on Sundays, at 10:00am, set up in the grass area or parking lot. Please watch the guidelines video that may be found on the website, Facebook page or in the Weekly Message. Any questions may be directed to the church office. 815-786-9216. Online worship will still continue.

Outdoor/Drive In Worship

MISSION OF THE MONTH

United Methodist Homes and Services




Founded in 1898, United Methodist Homes & Services is the nonprofit, faith-based parent organization of Chicagoland Methodist Senior Services - the most extensive senior services network on Chicago's north side. Their continuum of care includes rehabilitation and subacute care, skilled memory support, memory support assisted living, customized supportive living, home care services, computer lessons and repairs, affordable housing for seniors with low incomes, and adult day wellness programming.

Thank you, The Missions Committee

Bible Quiz

Which of these was not one of the 10 plagues God brought against Egypt to persuade Pharaoh to let the Hebrew people go?

- A. an abundance of frogs
- B. the Nile River turned to blood
- C. the collapse of the pyramids
- D. thick darkness



Answer: C (See Exodus 7:14-12:32.)

SEPTEMBER

Activities

Trustees Board will meet Tuesday, September 15th at 6:30pm in the chapel or by conference call.



Finance Committee meets Wednesday, September 24th at 6:30pm.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee meets September 22nd at 6:30pm.

Administrative Council will meet Thursday, September 29th at 6:30pm in the chapel.

United Methodist Women will meet Thursday, September 10th, 9:30 am, in the chapel. All women are invited to join.

small groups

**Beginning the week of
September 13**

If you are interested in joining a *Small Group*, click on the link below.

[Join a Small Group](#)



**Chimes Practice
Resumes**

The adult music ministry, Chimes, has resumed practice Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm, in the Fellowship Hall.

Open to anyone interested regardless of experience. Some find it very therapeutic!!

Missing Your Slice of the Fair?

Fair Food Festival

September 12th 12:00 - 6:00pm

At

**United Church of
Sandwich**

512 Lions Rd Sandwich

(across from the Sandwich High School)



Even though the Sandwich Fair has been cancelled this year, UCS has partnered with other local non-profit organizations to offer their typical fair treats! Enjoy: BBQ Sandwiches, Egg Rolls, Brownies, Scotcheroots, Brats, Hot Dogs, Sweet Corn, Lemon Shake Ups, Chili, and Pie provided by St. Paul's Catholic Church, Sandwich Rotary, Growing Hope Globally, and United Church of Sandwich.

This is a totally drive thru event and will adhere to all Covid guidelines and social distancing. Come on out for some of your favorite foods!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Liturgists

09/06 Diane Pearson
 09/13 Kevin Duy
 09/20 John Hallaron
 09/27 Sarah Stevens

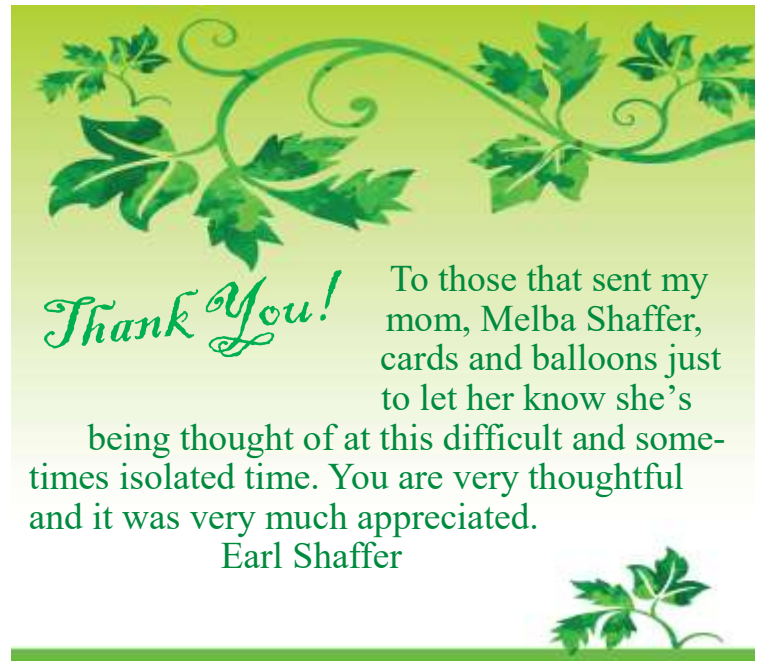
Greeters

09/06 Marilyn Steenwyk
 09/13 Deb Heinekamp
 09/20 Diane Pearson
 09/27 Pam Nehring

Traffic Controlers

09/06 Matt Olson
 09/13 Linda Alvarez
 09/20 Doug Reiners
 09/27 OPEN

Please contact the church office if you would like to sign up to be an assistant. Thank you.



WISDOM FROM THE WORD

God makes a special promise to people who study Scripture.

.....

Directions. Arrange the word list in alphabetical order. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Joshua 1:8, NIV.

	school	_____
	paper	_____
	wisdom	_____
	read	_____
	play	_____
	learn	_____
	grow	_____
	pencils	_____
	pray	_____
	art	_____
student	_____	
kids	_____	
apple	_____	

"... meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be _____ and successful."

JOSHUA 1:8, NIV

The Pork Chop Dinner was a Resounding Success!

There were 650 meals available for pre-sale and drive-up & they were sold out! Thank you to the 29 people that worked the dinner and countless more members that sold/bought tickets. The dinner had no issues or struggles. Everyone got their meal easily & quickly. What a blessing you all are to the church.

Grandparents Day is always celebrated on the first Sunday after Labor Day. Take the time to honor your grandparents that day! In 1978, President Jimmy Carter declared the first Sunday after Labor Day to be National Grandparents Day. Each year, the president issues a proclamation to keep the tradition going. The official flower is the forget-me-not, and the song is Johnny Prill's "A Song for Grandma and Grandpa." Both were chosen by the National Grandparents Day Council.



Ministry Opportunity

This year UCS is going to host a Trunk or Treating event at the church on October 31. *What is this?* Well, During 'trick or treat' hours, church members back their vehicles into parking spots and station themselves by their cars as they would sit on their front porch. Kids travel around the parking lot to trick or treat for candy. It becomes really fun when people decorate their trunks and dress up (or even just wear a funny hat). Hosting a 'Trunk or Treat' will allow a safe place for parents to take their children and experience a whole neighborhood of trick or treating in one location. We are welcoming as many people to participate as possible. However, we want at least 10 cars for our trunk or treat night. Please let pastor Tom know if you would like to join the Trunk or Treat crew this year. Let's continue to let Sandwich know that we are here for them!



Sunday, November 1, significant loved ones who have gone before us will be honored and remembered. During Holy Communion the names of UCS members, friends and family who have passed away since last November will be read. To add their name to the bulletin contact the church office. You may also add a word of remembrance for a family member or friend from previous years. A collective prayer will be given for them.

United Brat Fest

United Church of
Sandwich
October 6
Drive Thru 5 - 7:00 pm



SEPTEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

09/03	William Cassell Ron Miller
09/05	Christopher Eipers Allison McMahon
09/06	Al Whitehead
09/07	Vicki Scharenberg
09/09	Carl Gustafson
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
09/29	Kathe Schlapp

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

—STAYING—

CONNECTED

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 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!

Weekly Message

Weekly Message has returned! Keep up to date with Pastor Tom's weekly email. If you would like to receive this informational email please contact the church office, 7815-786-9243.

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://files.constantcontact.com/62925eb8001/c458dfc1-d3ad-496c-8b62-37c178f46739.pdf>



Please send any joys or concerns, photos, or informational articles to the church office.

815-786-9243

Thank you to those who have filled out the **member information cards**. If you haven't, please send any email, phone number, or address updates to the church. Especially, at this time they have been very helpful in keeping everyone up to date and connected.

SEPTEMBER 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2 <i>6:30 Chimes Practice</i>	3	4	5
6 <i>10:00 Worship ~ Outdoor/Drive In (Holy Communion)</i>	7 	8	9 <i>6:30 Chimes Practice</i>	10 <i>9:30 United Methodist Women</i>	11 	12 <i>12:00 - 6:00 FAIR FOOD FESTIVAL</i> 
13 <i>10:00 Worship ~ Outdoor/Drive In</i>	14	15 <i>Newsletter DEADLINE</i> <i>630 Trustee's Board Mtg</i>	16 <i>6:30 Chimes Practice</i>	17	18 	19
20 <i>9:15 Children's Sunday School</i> <i>10:00 Worship ~ Outdoor/Drive In (Holy Communion)</i>	21	22 <i>6:30 SPRC Mtg</i> 	23 <i>6:30 Chimes Practice</i>	24 <i>6:30 Finance Cmte Mtg</i>	25 <i>10:30 Newsletter Assembly</i>	26
27 <i>10:00 Worship ~ Outdoor/Drive In</i>	28	29 <i>6:30 Administrative Council Mtg</i>	30 <i>6:30 Chimes Practice</i>			

The United Church
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — SEPTEMBER 2020

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

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

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 2020

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
CYM: Joint Youth Coop Rep.	Joanna Olson

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 at:

www.unitedchurchsandwich.org