

# The Messenger

Volume 20 No. 7

July 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,*

This past week was planned to be a Disney vacation for the family. That trip was sidelined for next year. We did not get to have our big family vacation, but we are intentionally having family time together. We are trying to have the benefits of a vacation while at home; family time, relaxation, fun and games, and making memories. In reflection of my lost vacation I found a story a pastor wrote about his childhood vacation. In the story the pastor writes a description of an experience out west. The pastor writes: "From this place you can see the lowest point and the highest point of the continental United States." It's 1953 and Dad is reading from the sign at the viewing area located on Dante's View, Death Valley. "5,700 feet down at the foot of this mountain is Bad Water, Death Valley, with an elevation of 282 feet *below sea level*".



Simultaneously, Dad, Mom, and myself, lean forward and look cautiously past the sign to peek over the edge of the parking lot viewing area. Treated logs provide a barrier to the parking lot and the abyss. Mom instinctively grabs my shirt. Looking down the near vertical mile of the barren mountainside we see, tiny in the distance, the alkali splotch with the painfully accurate name, Bad Water. I'm still thinking about that "*below sea level*" and *trying to imagine the Pacific Ocean suddenly flooding into the valley, splashing spray on us up here on Dante's View. It would be so cool.*

Dad continues to read; "Looking due west 85 miles can be seen Mt. Whitney rising 14,496 above sea level, the highest point of the continental United States," And sure enough we see it, hazy in the distance, the highest point, Mt. Whitney, snow capped and serene above the in-rushing Pacific Ocean."

From this spot a person can see the highest reaches of the USA and the lowest depths. As children of God we often have terrible memories. When we are on our mountaintops it is sometimes easy to forget the storms of life. We begin to feel invincible and sometimes we even forget the need of the presence of God. When we are in the valley we struggle to remember that there were mountaintops in our lives. We assume the valley will be our permanent home and we begin to lose hope, as well as, our trust in God.

Occasionally, it is good to reflect while seeing the mountain and the valley simultaneously. Our past is filled with both and both dwell in our future as well. During the peaks of life, let us grow our relationship with our Lord in preparation of the valley. During the valleys, let us hold fast to our joys in surrounding blessings. High or low, you will never be alone. Our God walks with you and your church walks with you. My prayers and blessings are given to you this month.

God Bless,

Rev. Tom Bourke





All are welcome to attend United Church of Sandwich's outdoor / drive in worship on Sunday, July 12th at 10:00am, set up in the parking lot.

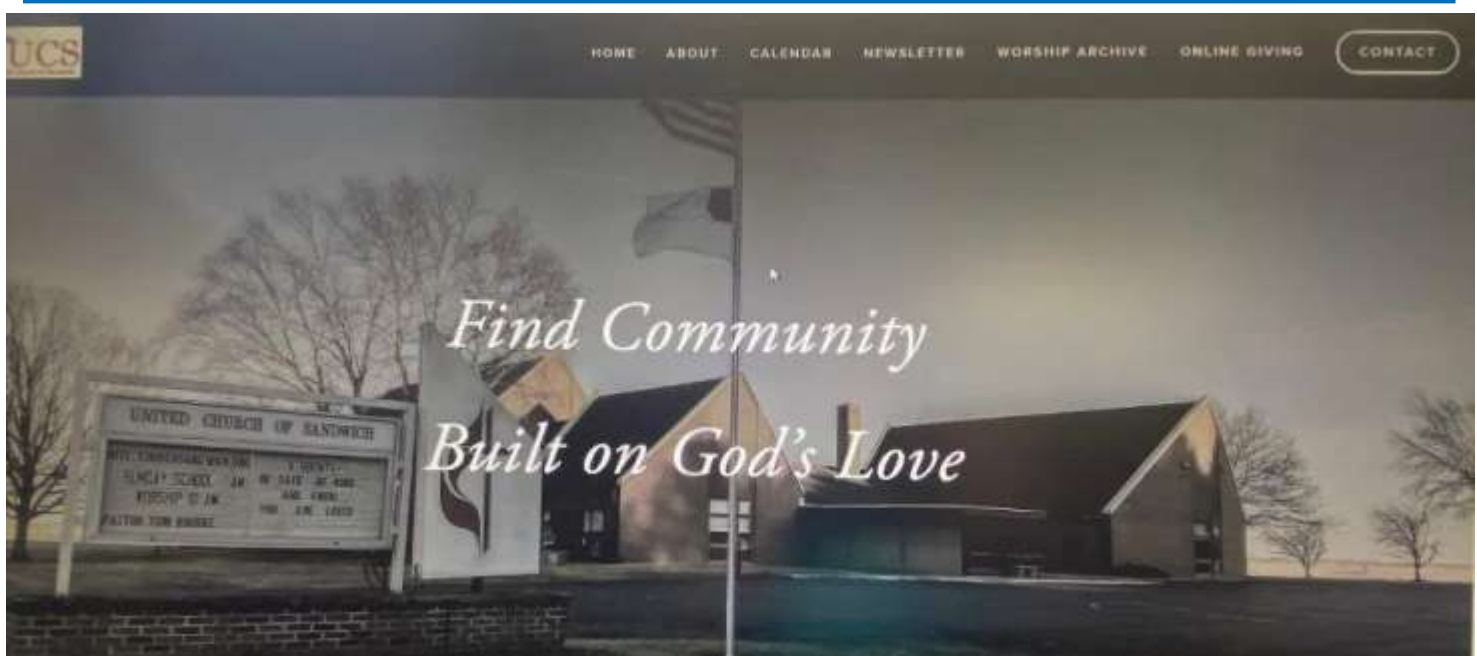
Please watch the guidelines video coming out July 1st with Pastor Tom and a couple of UCS leaders. The video may be found on the website, Facebook page or in the Monday Message. Any questions may be directed to the church office. 815-786-9216.

Everyone is looking forward to worshipping together (at a distance) again!

Online worship will still continue.



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





### ~Matthew Bible Study~

We've begun a Bible study on the book of Matthew, Monday evenings, at 6:45pm, via Zoom. We're studying the scripture each week and discussing what God is teaching us in that scripture. Zoom allows us to connect through our computers, our smart phones, and by calling in on our home phones. If you are interested in joining the Bible study, please call the church or email pastor Tom at [pastortomucs@gmail.com](mailto:pastortomucs@gmail.com)

We have two Zoom Devotionals every week. Wednesday mornings, at 10:15am and Friday evenings, at 7:15pm. Each devotional lasts about 30 minutes allowing time for sharing prayer concerns, fellowship and a short devotional. Here are instructions for joining us...

•On the Computer through Video Chat:

Click on the link

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6123355334>

When asked, enter the Member ID: 612 335 5334 Password: 2468

•On your Tablet or Smart Phone:

Go to the App Store on your tablet or Phone and search for 'ZOOM Cloud Meetings'. Download the app.

On the app will be an option to 'JOIN'. When it is time, click on 'Join' and when you are asked for your member ID, enter: 612 335 5334 Password: 2468

•By calling on your phone through a conference call:

Call the Number: [408-638-0968](tel:408-638-0968)

When Prompted for Meeting ID Number, enter: [612 335 5334](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6123355334) and then hit #

When asked for Participant ID, just hit # Password: 2468

### Children's Sunday School is now online



for a time of devotion and connection. We will Gather on Zoom Sunday, July 12th, and 26th. All children are invited to join. (We ask parents and / OR grandparents to assist kids in setting up the online video for Sunday School.) see Zoom instructions above.

Also catch kids story time with Mrs. Deb on facebook: united church of sandwich – 2020 click the links for Activity pages: [Ages 3-6](#) [Ages 7+](#)

### MISSION OF THE MONTH

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



Since the beginning of this year 2020, 25 families in need have been helped with their rent, and bills. This organization will begin their fifth 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.”

### ?? Bible Quiz ??

What seemingly small act did Jesus specifically say would be rewarded?

- A. Giving a child a toy
- B. Giving a lost traveler directions
- C. Giving someone a cup of cold water
- D. Giving a sad person a hug



Answer: C (See Matthew 10:42.)



# JULY

## Activities

Worship Committee meets Wednesday, July 1st at 6:30pm in the chapel, Zoom or conference call. Please contact Pastor Tom for questions and preference.



Administrative Council will meet Thursday, July 9th at 6:30pm in the chapel.

Trustees Board will meet Tuesday, July 21st at 6:30pm in the chapel or conference call.

Finance Committee meets Wednesday, July 22nd at 6:30pm.

### FREE FOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY

July 6, 1-3pm

Sandwich High School

(enter off Lions Rd towards the bus barn)  
All surrounding communities are welcome!

For more information visit:

<https://www.dekalbgardens.org/>



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



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

The United Methodist Women is the largest denominational faith organization for women with approximately 800,000 members whose mission is fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders and advocating for justice. Members raise up to \$20 million each year for programs and projects related to women, children and youth in the United States and in more than 100 countries around the world.

The Vision of United Methodist Women  
Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

### Celebrating At the Well

United Methodist Women

2020 Day of Spiritual Renewal

Saturday, August 1st - 9am-12pm

A group is gathering as a watch party to livestream the online event. Please let us know if you would like to join the watch party or participate at your home with United Methodist Women in the Northern IL Conference.

Registration Details Coming Soon!



## Birthday Open House:

It's time celebrate with Vivian McMaster for her

90th Birthday!!

July 18th, 11am ~ 3pm at UCS

Outdoor seating for social distancing will be provided.

UCS mission statement: "We are passionately United to feed all people-body, mind & spirit-to the Glory of God. With that being said we want to help our local neighbors with a free lunch!

**July 11, 2020 from 11AM-1PM**

This is strictly a drive thru event, with very little contact being made with the public and all safety guidelines being adhered to, such as, wearing masks, gloves and social distancing.

A very simple lunch of a grilled hot dog, bag of chips, a homemade cookie, and a bottle of water are placed in a paper lunch bag. We will need lots of homemade snickerdoodle cookies, so bakers get out your cookie sheets. The cookies can be made in advance, baked, and frozen. We will provide the recipe because we want them all the same. 12 volunteers will be needed for prep work and serving with various jobs available. This is an opportunity for our congregation to reach out to those in need showing them we care. If you can bake or work, please contact one of us. We will gladly accept any donation to offset our costs.

To God be the Glory!

Pastor Tom, Sarah, Gwen and Pam



## FREE HOT DOG LUNCH

July 11, 11AM ~ 1 PM

Drive-thru @

United Church of Sandwich

512 Lions Rd Sandwich

(across from Sandwich High School)

815-786-9243

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

Social Distancing and Safe Health Practices will be adhered to.

Please join us as we come together as a community!

## United Church of Sandwich



At home VBS  
July 20-24

Featuring Daily Videos  
w/ Music,  
Bible Stories,  
Crafts and  
Science projects

Each child receives a FREE personal VBS Kit when registering on the church website.

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

Armor up and join in on the FUN!!!

Please consider some volunteer time to help set up the 'at home' VBS kits, spread the word, and provide general support and help as we reach out to the families of the community.

We hope your children/grandchildren/ and kids in your life can join us! Email Pastor Tom to volunteer or to ask any questions.



"Got first place in Bible trivia  
by being a Noah't all!"

# JULY

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

07/02	Pam Anderson
07/03	Phyllis Whitehead
07/10	Reid Heinekamp Kim Henrich
07/11	Zach Gustafson
07/16	Kim Bource Colton Fox Margaret Gustafson
07/19	Joe Way
07/20	Bernice Nicholas
07/21	John Kell
07/23	William McMahan
07/24	Carol Larson
07/26	Noah Hallaron Ken Young III
07/29	Joshua Bauer

07/03	Linda & Albert Alvarez
07/10	Todd & Jennifer Hallaron Steve & Kelley Mindrup
07/11	John & Pat Hallaron
07/16	Carole & Eddie Forman

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

**Newsletter**  
JULY  
**21**  
**Deadline**

Please send any joys or concerns, photos, or in formational articles to the church office.  
815-786-9216

If you haven't already, please fill out the Members Information and Interests questionnaire and send it to the church office. Especially, at this time they have been very helpful in keeping everyone up to date and 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!

## Monday Message

Monday 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>



Thank you to all who helped deliver Meals on Wheels in June. Your help with this mission was greatly appreciated.

The Missions Committee



While Pastor Tom is on vacation July 28th ~ Aug 4th, please contact the church office for assistance information. 815-786-9216

# JULY 2020

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

<p>“America stands on two great pillars — faith and morality. Without these, our foundation <i>crumbles.</i>” —George Washington</p>	<p>1 10:15 Devotional Online</p> <p>6:30 Worship Cmte Mtg</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:15 Devotional Online</p>	 <p>INDEPENDENCE DAY</p>		
<p>5 10:00 Worship ~ Online</p>	<p>6 6:45 Matthew Bible Study Online</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 10:15 Devotional Online</p>	<p>9 9:30 United Methodist Women</p> <p>6:30 Administrative Council Mtg</p>	<p>10 7:15 Devotional Online</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 9:15 Children's Sunday School Online</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ Outdoor/Drive In</p>	<p>13 6:45 Matthew Bible Study Online</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 10:15 Devotional Online</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 7:15 Devotional Online</p>	<p>18 11:00-3:00 90th Birthday Open House for Vivian McMaster</p> 
<p>19 10:00 Worship ~ Outdoor/Drive In</p>	<p>20 11a At Home VBS</p> <p>6:45 Matthew Bible Study Online</p>	<p>21 <b>Newsletter DEADLINE</b></p> <p>11a At Home VBS</p> <p>630 Trustee's Board Mtg</p>	<p>22 10:15 Devotional Online</p> <p>11a At Home VBS</p> <p>6:30 Finance Cmte Mtg</p>	<p>23 11a At Home VBS</p>	<p>24 11a At Home VBS</p> <p>7:15 Devotional Online</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 9:15 Children's Sunday School Online</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ Outdoor/Drive In</p>	<p>27 6:45 Matthew Bible Study Online</p>	<p>28</p>  <p>Pastor's on Vacation - Aug 4</p>	<p>29 10:15 Devotional Online</p>	<p>30 9:30 Newsletter Assembly</p>	<p>31 7:15 Devotional Online</p>	



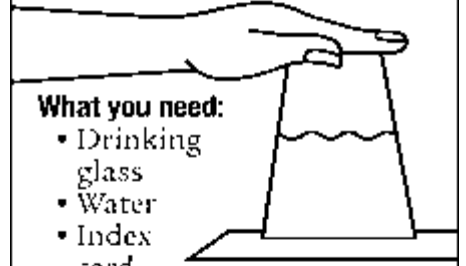
## FANTASTIC JOB!!

Thanks to everyone that helped make the FREE Hot Dog Lunch a huge success!

230 meals provided in Drive thru  
82 meals were delivered to organizations in the Sandwich & Somonauk communities!!

# UNSEEN BUT *active*

This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.



### What you need:

- Drinking glass
- Water
- Index card

### What you do:

1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.

## God's Creation SCAVENGER HUNT

You can easily spot God's beautiful creation not just in majestic mountains and vast oceans but also in the smallest bits of nature. Try this fun activity at a park, in your backyard or on a hike.



### What you need:

- Paper
- Pencils, pens or crayons
- Plastic cups or bowls

### What you do:

1. Write out the same list of items for each player. One person can do this ahead of time, or the group can determine what to hunt for. Items must be small enough to fit in the container provided. Suggestions include: flower, grain of sand or dirt, seed, blade of grass, feather, small stick, pebble, insect (preferably alive), leaf, thorn, berry and so on.
2. Give a list and a cup (or bowl) to each player.
3. Designate a place to search for items, as well as a time limit (for example, look in the backyard for 15 minutes).
4. During the scavenger hunt, enjoy seeing the beauty of God's creation in the tiniest things. Players should cross off items when found.
5. When time is up, compare items. Point out similarities and differences. Discuss why these items are so amazing. Share Bible verses or stories about some items (for example, Isaiah 40:8 talks about grass and flowers, 1 Corinthians 10:4 talks about Jesus' being our rock, etc.).



The United Church  
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd  
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — JULY 2020

**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 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
<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
CYM: Joint Youth Coop Rep.	Joanna Olson