



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Jeffrey Meyer – Pastor

February, 2019



New Heights

Living in Wisconsin certainly has its challenges, doesn't it? As I write this, it is a snow day. A storm has dropped a half foot of snow and there is more to come, followed by some of the most bitter cold days I can remember since growing up in Wausau.

It is the same with being a Christian and being a church; especially, a growing church. I have always said it is much easier to be a member and a Pastor of a dying church. In a dying church, there is less and less to do and care about as membership goes down, ministries and programs diminish and parts of the church building are never used.

In a growing church, there are more and more people who often come to church because of some kind of an event in their life or in searching for some truth in a world full of biased opinions. There are more ministries and programs that exist and continue to be created to minister to more people. This requires more volunteers, support staff and stewardship. Every room in the church ends up being in demand with increased needs for maintenance.

Yet, just as there is no greater and more jubilant time than spring in Wisconsin, there is no greater joy than fulfilling our calling from God to make disciples of Jesus Christ! Being a witness to people bringing their souls, lives and even their families to Christ is one of the greatest honors and blessings God grants us. Also, as a Pastor, I hope you join me in the joy of increased attendance at worship services (at least when it isn't a polar vortex) and the joy of participating with others in praying, singing and praising God on Sunday mornings!

It will be harder and there will be many challenges individually and together as a church. But just as spring brings joy in Wisconsin, so will the busting out of the Kingdom of God this year as we conquer all these challenges together, by the grace of God, at Christ United Methodist Church!

In Christ,
PJ

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
We are called and empowered by Jesus
to love, to serve and to witness.
-Mission statement of Christ United Methodist Church

Valentine's Day PJ&Popcorn Night

On Friday, February 8, at 6:30 p.m., we will be having another PJ's and Popcorn movie event! Everyone is invited to attend this free event. Come in your comfy pj's, bring your blanket and pillow and we will learn all about LOVE, the veggie tales way! We will learn about how loving your neighbor means helping those in need. We will also learn how loving your family means thinking of others first. And we will look at how loving "stuff" keeps us from gratitude. Popcorn and drinks will be served! Feel free to invite all of your friends! See you there!



really great opportunity to bring your youth-aged friends, as this would be a band that I think they would enjoy. Hope to see you there!

Mission Sunday - February 10

February's Mission Sunday recipient on February 10 will be Human Relations Sunday. Your generous gift supports neighborhood outreach and advocacy through Community Developers and United Methodist Voluntary Services, both related to the General Board of Global Ministries, and at-risk teens through Youth Offender Rehabilitation, General Board of Church and Society.

Weekend Food to Go & Grow

More food in all categories are needed for Weekend Food to Go & Grow. Tuna Helper is our greatest need. We are sending home as many as 50 bags of food each weekend, feeding 135 kids plus adults. Food items needed include:

- Tuna Helper
- Mac & Cheese (6 oz. size)
- Canned spaghetti sauce (24 oz.)
- Spaghetti Noodles (1 lb. long)
- Flavored rice/red beans & rice

Thanks. *Ann Nienow*

Bread & Stone Concert-Feb. 9



Christian Concert opportunity! River Valley Alliance Church is sponsoring a free Christian concert featuring "Bread & Stone" on Saturday, Feb. 9, at 7:00 p.m. at the YMCA! This

would be a great opportunity to see a Christian band! There will be a group of us going from CUMC! We will meet at the YMCA and try to get a spot close together! This is great for all ages, but would be a

Sunday Funday - February 24

Looking for more ways to spend time with your CUMC family? On Sunday, February 24, we will be having our first SUNDAY FUNDAY! Join us in the fellowship hall following the 10 a.m. service. We will be having a light lunch (freewill donation) and then we will play games in the fellowship hall until 12:45 p.m. We will then head to Skate Express for an afternoon of Roller Skating from 1-4 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend! The cost to skate is \$5.00 per person. There are rolling walkers to use for our younger skaters (and our older skaters who need them) for an additional charge. All children and youth must be accompanied by an adult who is responsible for them and their transportation. PLEASE RSVP TO JoAnn Meyer, the church office or sign up on the blessed to be a blessing table at the church! Hope to see you there! Any questions, please let me know!

JoAnn Meyer

2019 Lenten Dinners

Every Wednesday Mar 6-Apr 17

Save the dates! This Lenten season, we will be having dinner and activities every week. It will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6, with a light Soup & Sandwich meal at 5:45 p.m. in the fellowship hall, followed by an Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Every Wednesday after that, we will meet in the fellowship hall for dinner at 5:45 p.m., followed by worship/activity also in the fellowship hall. We are in the process of working out the details, but wanted you to be able to save the dates for this important event! See you there as we prepare our hearts and minds for our risen Savior!



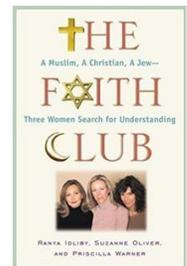
Circuit Chili & Soup Cook-Off - Mar. 10



The Circuit Chili & Soup Cook-Off will take place on Sunday, March 10, at the Sullivan Veterans Park Hall at 12 noon. Everyone is asked to bring a salad or dessert. The Churches involved include: Sullivan, Concord, Lake Mills, Johnson Creek, Hispanic Ministries, and Watertown. Come and enjoy chili and soups and vote for your favorite! Family and friends invited!

March Book Club—March 19

Our book for March is *The Faith Club: A Muslim, a Christian, a Jew—Three Women Search for Understanding*.



After 9/11, a Muslim woman living in New York realized other people had misconceptions about Islam, especially the children who went to school with her daughter. She sought out other mothers of the Jewish and Christian faith to write a children's book about the common heritage of the three religions. When they met, conflict ensued, and they realized they would have to settle their differences first. They agreed they would have to be brutally candid. As they persevered, they discovered more about their own faiths and eventually reached mutual respect and understanding.

Sign up on the sheet found on the Blessings Table in the narthex. Jan Detrie will be leading this.



February 18

All-Leadership Meeting Rescheduled

The Leadership Meeting for all leaders and committee members was originally scheduled for Tuesday, January 22. This meeting will now be held on Tuesday, February 26, at 6 p.m. with the Church Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. in room 202. This is the same meeting that Mother Nature has made us reschedule again!

This is an excellent opportunity for the leadership of Christ United Methodist Church to gather in prayer, fellowship and orientation in order to prepare for the exciting year ahead. I pray everyone can make it and am **asking everyone to RSVP via email, FB Messenger or by calling the office to let the church know whether you can attend.**

God bless you for answering His call and hope to see all of our leadership and committee members on Tuesday, February 26, 2019! (We hope!)

Faith Club



The Faith Club and the Youth Group are looking for new or gently used board games! If you have any that you would like to donate, we will be happy to have them for our game days! Some ideas are Monopoly, Sorry, Clue, Checkers, Chess, Perfection, Pictionary, Guesstures, Risk, Settlers of Catan, Ticket to Ride, etc. Thank you so much!

Glow Dance

We had a blast at the first annual Glow Dance On January 11, 2019! Many thanks go out to everyone that made that event such a success! We had over 70 people attend, many that were first time visitors! Here are some pictures of some of our fun!



For church cancellations due to weather, watch on TV Channel 12 WISN or wisn.com.

Shut-In Visitations

A number of wonderful, compassionate individuals have been sharing visitations of our shut-ins for the last couple of years. However, due to other responsibilities in their lives, they aren't able to continue doing so.

If this is something that you are interested in finding out about or considering participating in, please contact Linda Dietzel. The warm feeling one receives is well worth the half-hour each month spent with the shut-ins.

Thank you!

Linda Dietzel

Froehlich-CUMC Scholarships

Application forms for the Lysle & Dora Froehlich-CUMC scholarship are now available for high school seniors, vocational and technical school and college students who are members of Christ UMC. Contact the church office for an application and return it to the church office by April 1.

2019 Offering Envelopes

If you haven't already done so, please stop by the church and pick up your offering envelopes. They will not be mailed to you.

Watertown Food Pantry Thank You

"Thank you. The Watertown Food Pantry is so very appreciative of your gift of 14 bags of food in November/December.

The faces may change, but the number of families that the food pantry serves never decreases. Every food item received helps replenish the shelves of the pantry so that food is available to hand out to the many individuals and families who visit the pantry. No donation is ever considered too small!

The food pantry is operated with over 100 dedicated volunteers, which

includes buyers, drivers, stockers, workers, as well as board members.

All monetary donations received are used exclusively to operate the pantry. The biggest expense is purchasing food; and they are constantly watching sales and making bulk purchases. While the pantry purchases the staples, families enjoy the "special" and "extra" items which are donated.

There is a definite need for the Food Pantry in Watertown and the surrounding area. There are more people in the area who fall below the Federal Poverty Level than anyone realizes; and many who don't yet utilize the services provided. The Watertown Food Pantry is thankful for our congregations' continual support and assistance. Thank you and God Bless,"

Dawn Westenberg, Treasurer

Watertown Food Pantry

Holiday Thank You

"Thank you to my friends at CUMC for the very lovely poinsettia and bag of gifts. Blessings to all."

Yvonne Griffin

"To all of my friends at C.U.M. Church, Thank you all for the lovely Christmas gifts."

Nodra Richardson

"Thank you so much for the beautiful poinsettia and the lovely gifts you gave Don and me. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. Thank you, also, for the many prayers that have been offered on our behalf during this challenging time since Don's stroke in July. We are so blessed to be part of

God's loving family! May you all have a blessed Christmas and New Year.

Don & Kathy Klemp

Deaths

Alvin Drost passed away on January 14, 2019.

Winston Gifford passed away on January 16, 2019.

Condolences to both families.

February Prayer List

Please include Pastor Jeff and his family and three other families or individuals from the list below in your prayers each day.

Nadine Miller

Kay Meyer

Michael & Brooke Mechelke Family

Fay Martin

Robert & Diane Lund Family

Beverly Lund

Robert & Wendy Lippert

Amanda Lippert Family

Dale & Kathy Lindemer

Tammy Lee

Vicki Larsen

James & Bonnie Ladish

Matthew & Brianna

Kreuser Family

Richard & Rosalie Krakow

Kristine Krakow

Jeff & Cathy Krakow Family

Tom & Sue Kotur

William & Marilyn Knowles

Eric & Miranda Kluge



February Birthdays

4 Edward Bergren
Vicky Reimer

Tinley Schwartz

Lisa Walter

6 Jacob Griffin

8 Zoey Kreuser

9 Al Schott

Allen Williams

10 Claude Held

12 Jacob Meyer

Cora Reimer

13 Ann Nienow

Jacque Stenzel

18 Rod Johnson

James Pirkel

19 Harper Brigowatz

Judy Thiede

21 Evelyn Griffin

22 Ruth Ann Borbe

Robert Crupi

Brianna Norin

Verla Parmley

23 Daniel Bartz

Beverly Lund

Joshua Meyer

Porter Wendt

24 Kurt Peterman

25 Victoria Bezanson

28 Jan Detrie



CELL PHONE vs BIBLE!

I wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of an emergency?

This is something to make you go....
hmmm... where is my bible?

Oh, and one more thing....

Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

Makes you stop and think 'where are my priorities'?

And no dropped calls!

Please call the Church Office when:

- A member of your family is admitted to the hospital.
- Your home or cellular telephone number has changed.
- You are planning to move, whether out of town or locally.
- A baby arrives in your family.
- A death occurs in your family.
- You or a member of your family leave for college.
- You or a member of your family enrolled in the service.



