



**CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
112 Hall St., Watertown WI 53094 (920) 261-0736  
e-mail: watertownchristumc@gmail.com

**Jeff Meyer – Pastor**

*November, 2018*

### *New Heights*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With November arriving and as we enter the season of Thanksgiving, I am sure many reading this newsletter have many things to be thankful for this season. I would like to share some things I am thankful for as the Pastor of Christ United Methodist Church:

- \* I am thankful for the way you all care for my family and me.
- \* I am thankful for the rising attendance in worship every weekend.
- \* I am thankful for all the faithful volunteers and leaders who dedicate so much of their time and energy to the ministry of Christ United Methodist Church.
- \* I am thankful for everyone who faithfully is financially supporting the ministry of Christ UMC.
- \* I am particularly thankful for the sense of love and spirituality that was here when I came and appears to be spreading and growing to every member of our church family by the grace of God through Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I pray that all of us are thankful for Christ UMC and the many aspects of it. There are two exciting ways this month to express that gratitude to God for Christ UMC. One would be to attend the upcoming Mission and Vision Potluck Meeting on Saturday, November 10. The second would be to come to participate in the Thanksgiving Day of Prayer on Wednesday, November 14, in the Prayer Room at Christ UMC.

While the first potluck meeting revolved around looking at and discussing data about where we are now as a church, the potluck meeting on November 10 at 11:15 a.m.

will be about prayerfully discussing where God is calling us to go. It has been scheduled on a Saturday to avoid conflicting with the Packer game, so it would be wonderful if everyone can make their best effort to attend and be part of this second step in the Mission and Vision process, as well as **bring a dish to pass**.

Currently in the Narthex on the Blessed to be a Blessing table, there is a sign-up sheet to come to the Prayer Room and pray for CUMC during a twenty-minute time slot during the Thanksgiving Day of Prayer on Wednesday, November 14, somewhere between 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

There will be two boxes on the glass table in the Prayer Room. The first box will be for anyone throughout the day, whether they are signed up to pray or not, to prayerfully offer their 2019 Stewardship Pledge Cards that will be sent to you in the mail. The second box will be for anyone throughout the day, whether they are signed up to pray or not, that feels called by God to present a Holiday Gift or offering beyond their normal giving to support the ministry of Christ United Methodist Church.

These are both two wonderful opportunities to express our gratitude to God for Christ United Methodist Church. They are also spiritual opportunities to support the ministry of Christ United Methodist Church to spread a spirit of thanksgiving for what Jesus Christ did for us on the cross and through His resurrection to this community and to the world.

A Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving to You All! 😊

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**

**Discerning God's Mission and Vision  
for Christ United Methodist Church**

Mission and Vision Potluck Lunch  
Meetings

**November 10:** 11:15 am on Saturday

**December 1:** 11:15 am on Saturday

Please plan to attend all three meetings.  
Each is a step in the development of the  
Mission & Vision at Christ UMC.



**on November 4<sup>th</sup>**



### Turkey Dinner - Nov. 6

Our annual Turkey Dinner is Tuesday, November 6, from 4:00-6:30 p.m. Cost of tickets are: Adults - \$10 in advance/\$11 at the door; Children (6-12 years of age) - \$5; Children 5 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased at the church office or Breselow's Family Market. Everyone will need a ticket. Tickets are now available at the church office or after the worship services.

The menu includes: roast turkey, mashed potatoes & gravy, dressing, corn, coleslaw, jellied cranberry sauce, dinner rolls, apple or pumpkin pie and beverages. **Carryouts available.**

There will be a Craft Fair and Quilting Craft table, along with a Bake Sale in conjunction with the Turkey Dinner.

If you plan on selling your crafts, please contact Sarah Walter or the church office. We could use your help with some baked goods for the Bake Sale. Please have your baked goods here by Tuesday morning, November 6, the day of the Turkey Dinner.

### Thanksgiving Day of Prayer

Wednesday, November 14, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Prayer Room at Christ UMC. Sign up for a prayer slot on the sign-up sheet on the Blessed to Be a Blessing Table. Feel free to come throughout the day to just pray for Christ UMC, present your pledge card for 2019 to God and/or make a holiday offering to Christ United Methodist Church. You will receive a letter with a

pledge card in the mail next week. If not, please contact the church office.

**SAVE THE DATE**

### PJ'S & POPCORN MOVIE NIGHT!

You won't want to miss this INCREDIBLE event! (license rules prohibit us from advertising the name of the movie....but that was a big hint!) Join us on Friday, November 16, for our first PJ'S and POPCORN event! A light dinner of hot dogs and chips will be served at 5:30 p.m., followed by our movie at 6:00 p.m.

We will supply the drinks and the popcorn! All we need is for you to wear your most comfy pajamas and bring your pillows and your blankets and all of your friends!

If you have any questions or would like flyers to give to your family and friends, please contact JoAnn Meyer! See you then!

### Fall Book Club

#### ***"The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World"***

Join Jan Detrie as we read the five days of conversation between these old friends and great spiritual leaders, wherein they share their perspectives on how to cope with suffering and adversity and patience, love, forgiveness and acceptance.

We divided the book into two parts: On October 18<sup>th</sup>, we discussed *Day 1: The Nature of True Joy* and *Days 2&3: The*

*Obstacles to Joy.* On November 15, we will discuss *Days 4&5: The Eight Pillars of Joy.*

The Book Club will meet on Thursday, November 15, at 6:30 p.m. Please sign up if you are interested.

*Jan Detrie*



## *Advent by Candlelight*

*Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup> @ 3 p.m.*

*at*

*Christ United Methodist Church  
112 Hall Street, Watertown*

*United Methodist Churches of:  
Concord, Johnson Creek, Sullivan,  
Oconomowoc and Watertown*

## *“Christmas Gifts”*

“Advent by Candlelight” is an opportunity for all people: men, women and children of all ages (children need to be accompanied by an adult) to set aside the hustle and bustle of holiday preparation and focus their minds and hearts on the birth of Christ. It is an opportunity to “dejunk” our lives and make a positive change.

This year’s theme is **“Christmas Gifts.”** Come and enjoy spiritual rejuvenation through Bible readings of the Christmas story and singing carols.

We will be serving delicious homemade pies and beverages.

**Anyone interested in being a Table Hostess, please contact Mitch Behlke @ 920-988-0608.** Churches of our circuit, and their congregations, volunteer to host a table or tables by providing table settings, holiday table decorations and a variety of candles.

They are encouraged to **invite members of their congregations, family, friends and neighbors, regardless of whether or not they belong to a church.**

The human side of us all needs Santa and all the glitter that comes with the celebration of Christmas. But remember prayer. That, perhaps, is what Advent is all about. Just a little talk with God, thanking him for sending his son to us and blessing us during this holiest of seasons.



## **Concert Opportunity!**

TENTH AVENUE NORTH is performing in Madison at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>! JoAnn Meyer and Sarah Walter are organizing a group to go and see it! The tickets cost \$27. Right now, we have 10 tickets reserved. If you would like to attend, please get this slip and your \$27.00 to Annette at the

church office. The first 10 to respond will definitely have a spot! We may also have the opportunity to purchase more if we get over 10, as long as the concert does not sell out. Please see JoAnn or Sarah for more details!

\_\_\_\_\_ YES! I want to attend the Tenth Avenue North concert on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> in Madison at 7:00 p.m.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$27.00

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to the church office!

### *Holiday Parade of Homes*

#### *Fundraiser for*

#### *Weekend Food to Go & Grow!*

This year, the Holiday Parade of Homes committee has chosen Weekend Food as the beneficiary of half the funds raised from the annual Parade of Homes, to be held on December 2. As one of the churches supporting this program, we will benefit from the tickets sold. Several area homes will be beautifully decorated with Christmas themes for your enjoyment. At one of the homes, food we send home with the program will be collected as well. Please consider adding this event to your holiday schedule. Ticket sales will begin soon, with advance tickets sold at a discounted price. Articles describing the homes will appear in the Watertown Daily Times. The downtown Christmas Parade of Lights on November 24 will include a Parade of Homes float, with elves distributing flyers about the tour.

(It is possible that you may recognize some of the elves!) It is a fun event for a very worthy cause!

#### *Weekend Food to Go Grocery List*

We are now sending duffel bags of food home with the school children for the weekend. We are in desperate need of the following items:

Mac & Cheese 7+ oz. size  
Canned spaghetti sauce, 24 oz.  
Tuna Helper  
Rice-a-Roni (or similar boxed rice)

Some of these items are on sale now. Thank you for any help you can give us.



#### *Mission Sunday – November 11*

##### *Christmas Families 2018*

Soon you will notice a Christmas Tree in the narthex with tags attached to it. Each year, families that could use help providing a nice Christmas for their children provide us with a couple ideas per family member. We are Santa's elves; or, better yet, examples for our own families of the real meaning of Christmas: giving, rather than receiving. Are you a bit tired of receiving gifts you don't really want or need, or giving gifts to those who also don't need or want anything? Perhaps a NEW family tradition is in order! Consider asking for, or giving, a gift for a child who would really enjoy or need your gift. Notice

€

many of the tags are for basic clothing items. Sizes and gender are included on the tags.

Monetary donations are also being accepted to purchase items not chosen off the tree. This fund will be our November Mission Sunday recipient; so, please put your money in the cup or indicate on your check or envelope that your donation is for Christmas families. We ask that all items be wrapped with the tag attached so we can get things to the correct family. Please return all gifts to church by Sunday, **December 9**, so we can distribute them early that week. We also ask that you jot down the approximate value of your purchases in the small notebook for Mission recordkeeping purposes. We try to ensure that each child in a family receives similarly valued gifts.

Our Christmas families and your church family greatly appreciate your kindness, as always. May God richly bless your families in the coming year!

*Mission Committee*

### Operation Shoeboxes – Nov. 11

There are just a few shoeboxes left for you to pick up and fill for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, which will need to be returned by Sunday, November 11.



### Mitten Tree

In the narthex, a small tree will soon be put up to await hats, mittens, gloves, scarves and snow pants to be given to

our elementary school social workers and staff. They will distribute them throughout the district to those in need. When shopping for your holiday gifts, please consider grabbing some of these items. All children need some play time in the snow or need to stay warm as they walk to school. We try to get them to the schools both before Christmas break and after; so bring them in as soon as you are able. Thank you from all those who care for our kids!



### Cookie Walk 2018

Calling all bakers and candy makers (women and men, too)! It's time to start paging through your favorite cookbooks and shake out those aprons! Our Cookie Walk will be **Saturday, December 8** and we're hoping for several batches of goodies from each of you.

Almond bark, peanut clusters and Christmas candies are very popular. Decorated cookies go **fast**. The best cookie sellers are always the cutouts, gingerbreads, and anything colorful. We always sell out of those early and have disappointed customers. In fact, last year all the Christmas-y cookies were gone in under an hour!

This year, we will continue to offer "Gifts to Go" in the form of prepackaged cookies and candies. We also have a selection of Gifts in a Jar. You can select from Fudgy Brownie Mix,

Gingerbread Cookie Mix, and new this year—Pumpkin Cranberry Bread Mix. The Gifts in a Jar will be available for purchase at the Turkey Dinner, as well as the Cookie Walk. These are great options for gift giving.

We would like to have the cookies and candies at the church by 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Please pack one type of goody per container and be sure to label what is inside. A table for the contributions will be set up in the narthex the week of December 2<sup>nd</sup> and you can leave your treats there. Freezer space is available at the church if you'd like to start baking early.

The success of our sale is dependent on **lots** of homemade contributions from everyone. It takes so long to telephone and ask for contributions that this year we have decided to forego the phone calls. Please consider this article your personal request to contribute. This is an important project as all proceeds from our sale go towards general expenses and help pay our apportionments. **With everyone's help, we will have another successful year.**

So, crank up the Christmas carols, fill your home with the sweet smells of the holidays, get out those recipes and start baking!

Any questions, contact Beth Stuart (920-390-2332)  
Cookie Walk Chairperson.

### November Prayer List

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

Mike & Lauren Turtenwald Family  
Robin Trebitowski  
Al & Terry Toser  
Regina Thompson  
Ken & Judy Thiede  
Jean Tessmann  
Pat & Sarah Teska Family  
Candice Taylor  
Bonnie Sukow  
Doug & Beth Stuart  
Denise Strandell  
Jacquie Stenzel  
Sandra Steffen  
Patricia Stark  
Cy & Bev Spangler  
Kathy Sorenson Family  
Christa Sokolenko  
Jerry & Joan Snyder  
Travis & Gina Skrobak Family  
Jo Seibert



### **DEATH**

John Austin passed away on October 16, 2018. Our condolences to the family.

### Worship Hours

#### Sundays

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Worship  
8:45 a.m. Sunday School

#### Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

November Birthdays

- 1 Judy Farmer
- 2 Helen Foulke
- 3 Morgan Walter
- 4 Ryan Vander Galien
- 6 Bernie Cassatta
- 7 Al Toser
- 8 John Hurd  
Bill Welch
- 10 Tom Parmley
- 13 Matt Kreuser
- 14 Marilyn Peirick
- 16 Carole Bruce
- 18 Ralph Haumschild  
Jeremiah Meyer
- 19 Pam Schuhmacher
- 20 Jodi Nienow  
Laurie Purtell  
Barb Phelps
- 21 Connie Brake  
Brad Hermanson  
Shelby Mutter
- 22 Brad Walter  
Cora Yenser
- 23 Rob Higgins  
Candice Taylor
- 24 Kaitlyn Dittmar  
Christa Sokolenko
- 25 Christine Hermanson
- 27 Karen Williams
- 30 Randy Phelps

