

OCTOBER 2020

# CARILLON

**TO LIVE BY FAITH + TO BE KNOWN BY LOVE + TO BE A VOICE OF HOPE**



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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## PASTOR'S NOTE

You may have heard there is only one constant – CHANGE. This is certainly true this year!

The United Methodist Church has wisely provided an option for local churches govern in ways that accomplishes Christ's mission. This means that can reorganize our current leadership structure in ways we believe most effective and helpful to the local congregation. I want to propose a helpful change in our church structure.

We've been talking about these possible changes for a while among the church leadership. The big idea is that we could be more "nimble" in our decision-making processes. That way, we can respond to things that come up quickly, such as changes in Covid-19 protocols. I see this as the major strength of the structure change.

As an example, we currently have up to 9 members *each* on Staff-Parish Relations, Trustees and Finance for a total of up to 27 folks. Each committee meets and then reports back to Administrative Council. And then, a decision is usually made based on all the committee work.

You can already guess how much quicker a decision could be made when you only need a total of 10-14 decision makers. All of the decision makers are in the same room, and the decisions can be made without a bottle neck of waiting for more meetings to occur.

Another benefit of this structural change is that because fewer people are needed in committee work, more people are freed up to do ministry instead of attending more meetings. This helps us be a healthy church and in many ways, we'll avoid burn out and allow for rotation in leadership.

Keep your eyes out for information coming later. If you have questions, you can ask me, or other Administrative Council members about these changes we will be proposing. The overall purpose is so we can do our ministry better. This will allow us to be more effective and efficient with our time and resources.

Pastor Russ



### Prayer Requests During Service

We would love to pray for you during our Sunday services. Please submit your brief request by mail, email or by phoning the office by Thursdays each week.

920 235 8430 or  
firstumc@ntd.net

Pastor Russ will compile them for community prayers during our recorded Sunday morning services.

# CELEBRATIONS

## BIRTHDAYS

- 10-3 Autumn Zernzach
- 10-5 Eldon Pomplun
- 10-6 Jill Putzer
- 10-7 Matthew Faust  
Richard Kaltenbach
- 10-10 Peggy Paull  
Ann Tulip
- 10-13 Grace Luhman
- 10-14 Rachel Blackburn
- 10-15 Daniel Duffey
- 10-23 Morgan Selwitschka
- 10-26 Randy Husman
- 10-31 Ryan Jansen

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 10-3 Jason & Holly Selwitschka
- 10-8 John & Pat Paulick
- 10-10 Andy & Dede DeWitt
- 10-18 Chuck & Chris Chandler
- 10-26 Terrance & Paula Loker
- 10-29 Bill & Shirley Calkins

***"To live by faith, to be known by love, and to be a voice of hope."***

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## CHURCH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

### FUMC Members

- Carice Koch
- Rev. Marvin Rowe
- Marie Gerrits
- Chuck Schilling
- Bill Calkins

### Friends & Family of FUMC Members

- Glenn Christman (Pastor Nancy Green's Brother)
- Sandy Andrini (Friend of Patsy Pomplun)
- Cody Veith (Great-Nephew of Dorothy Kunz)
- Jeri Raddatz (Friend of Judi Weinert)
- Randy Carpenter (Son of Betty Carpenter)
- Kacie Carpenter (Granddaughter of Betty Carpenter)
- DaWayne Schatzka (Brother of Joan Hudson)



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# Giving

"Tis the Gift to Be Simple"

*'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free; 'tis the gift to come down where you ought to be...* (Simple Gifts/Shaker Hymn, Joseph Brackett)

During the Covid-19 pandemic, most of us are living under conditions of enforced simplicity. There are fewer luxuries and entertainments to spend money on and for most of us, less traveling, shopping, and visiting.

Although, some people find the forced confinement to be stressful itself, most people are, all in all, under less of the kinds of stress they usually experience.

John Wesley, in his sermon, "The Use of Money (#50)," insists that simplicity is essential for the Godly use of money. If we earn all we can honestly, then we are to save all we can, meaning retain all we can, by not using it wastefully. Rather than spending on luxury foods and personal ornaments (home, fashion, etc.), says Wesley, we should "be content with what plain nature requires."

Nor, should we lead our children into an extravagant lifestyle. Why, then are we saving? In order to serve God through 1) supplying your own simple needs, 2) and the needs of your family and

household, and then 3) giving your surplus to the "household of faith" and to other people for their simple needs. We are not the proprietors of creation, but rather the stewards of it.

So, when we are planning an expenditure, Wesley advises us to ask,

- 1) Am I acting as a proprietor or a steward?
- 2) Am I following Scripture?
- 3) Can I offer this as a sacrifice to God, through Jesus Christ? and
- 4) Will this action be judged as righteous?

There are plenty of churches and people in need during the pandemic. This is a good time to get even better at God's simplicity. As Wesley says in ending his sermon, "Give all ye have, as well as all ye are, a spiritual sacrifice to Him who withheld not from you his Son, his only Son."

*Jim Wells*

*Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation*



## Good News!

We have begun ordering  
Scrip cards again.

We will only order the cards you  
pre-order and pre-pay for, so  
there will not be any cards on  
hand to sell at this time.

I will take your order and a check  
made out to First United  
Methodist Church on the first and  
third Sunday of the month.

The cards will be available the  
following Sunday. This is an easy  
way to help our church  
financially.

Please see Sharon Wertsch for  
more info or to place an  
order. Thank you.



"Let every word you speak  
be drenched with grace and  
tempered with truth and clarity."

COLOSSIANS 4:6 TPT

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## Finance Committee Update

We have had several months with articles about FUMC's finances. The picture I painted was not great. *I would like to share some good news this time.*

Thank you to several church members and friends that continue to give regularly and also gave extra money during September.

The first Sunday of on-site worship in the sanctuary was September 20<sup>th</sup>.

We had a total collection of \$6524 from that service and the contributions that were mailed in that week.

We had the Vanco automated giving for September 15<sup>th</sup> of \$1984. This allowed us to finish September much better than we forecast.

The Finance Committee continues to monitor income with current and anticipated expenses.

We are still in a situation that is often described as living paycheck to paycheck or in the case of a church, contribution to contribution.

We thank you for your prayers and financial support; we encourage both on a regular basis.

Mike Thomas on behalf of the Finance Committee

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## The North Woods

Pine trees standing tall reaching for the sky.  
Eagles with wings spread soaring on high

Wood peckers wrapping, birds singing, chipmunks  
chattering, squirrels scattering, butterflies fluttering,  
hummingbirds humming.

Deer sauntering across the field,  
Such peaceful things the north woods does yield.

To see such glory will rest your soul,  
You can dream your dreams and set your goals.

The outside world just disappears,  
You can just sit back and forget your fears.

This is something no one should miss.  
A gift from God to render such bliss.

Nancy Sutton



*Colossians 3:15*



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## Are You Creative?

**If you would enjoy  
sharing a short  
devotional,  
photography or poem  
with us, please call the  
church office for  
consideration. We'd  
love to hear from you!**

## Pandemic

If all the people in this world  
Could live together in peace.  
To bury all their differences,  
and make their conflicts cease.

How sad I feel when people die,  
Or watch them starve,  
Or see loved ones cry.

I hope the day will come,  
When we can really love our neighbor,  
Without paying the price for some.

Nancy Sutton

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## **Because We Care**

Dean W. Sandeman

### **Fight Climate Change and Keep More of Your Money**

1. Weatherize and insulate windows, thresholds, attic and glass in porches.
2. Turn down the heat at night and when you are away.
3. Use an electric blanket or electric bed pad.
4. Use energy efficient LED lights.
5. Get a more energy efficient refrigerator.
6. Consider a solar panel investment.
7. Switch to an electric car.
8. Plant a deciduous tree to the SW corner of your house to shade the house in summer and when the leaves fall, the sun will warm the house.
9. Plant more native flowers which will take less watering.
10. If there is not a humidifier attached to the furnace, buy a small humidifier. The proper humidity will keep you warmer at lower temperatures.
11. In the winter use your oven more often. The oven cooks the food and warms the house.
12. Install a programmable thermostat.
13. In warm weather, cook using the microwave.

## **From the Historian's Desk**

Dean W. Sandeman

### **A Roman Custard From the Time of Christ**

2 cups of milk (goat's milk used in Jerusalem)  
1/4 cup of honey  
3 egg yolks  
1/4 tsp. of nutmeg (Additional can be used for garnish)  
Berries or other fruit optional

#### **Instructions:**

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Pour the milk into a bowl and mix with the honey. In a separate bowl whisk the egg yolks. Into a saucepan pour milk and honey mixture and heat briefly. Take the honey-milk mixture off the heat and add the well-whisked egg yolks. Add nutmeg and stir. Pour into a baking dish and bake for 15-20 minutes. Remove and let set for one hour. Garnish with additional nutmeg.

See: [www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/ancient-cultures/daily-life-and-practice/bar-test-kitchen-roman-custard](http://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/ancient-cultures/daily-life-and-practice/bar-test-kitchen-roman-custard)





## **Work Day Scheduled!**

*Saturday, October 3, 2020*

Approximately 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

The Board of Trustees has been sponsoring work days at church the last 3 weekends in September. There is another one scheduled for Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> and we will start about 8:30 AM and continue until about 4:30 PM. Please join in on this "home improvement" project any way you can. Thanks to all who have been helping so far.

Please bring your own lunch and a lawn chair. You can also bring paint brushes, rollers, roller pans and plan on wear painting clothes. We will continue to work our way around the building with a fresh coat of stain. It has been approximately 24 years since the building was stained, so it is a much needed project.

Along with staining we will continue the project of cutting down dying trees and trimming many more. Please remember, we are all responsible for the upkeep and care of this property. It is a big job and if we all work together I know we can get it done.

Beth Thomas, on behalf of the  
FUMC Board of Trustees:

- Phil Heinrich
- Dennis Knickelbein
- Gary Pinkerton
- Patsy Pomplun
- Beth Thomas
- Ann Tulip
- Pastor Russ Frees

### **A New Way to Help:**

Please consider  
'sponsoring' a gallon of  
stain! Each gallon costs  
\$36.00 and we have 15-  
20 more gallons to pur-  
chase. To sponsor this  
project, simply note on  
your check or donation  
that it is for the *Trustees'*  
*Work Day Projects.*  
Thank you!




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# First United Methodist Church, Oshkosh WI

## Guidelines for Resuming Onsite Services

*Observed safety during COVID 19*

1) Entering and exiting: We will have ONE-WAY traffic:

- Enter through the west side of the building at the double glass doors (those facing parking lot)
- Exit through the south entrance (main doors under portico).
- Per Governor Evers' mandate – **Everyone is required to wear a mask** (Certain situations allow for exemptions.)
- Please maintain safe social distancing, at least 6 feet apart (or  one cow length apart ☺)

2) Before entering the building: Please answer these common-sense questions about you and your family.

The questions help eliminate possible 'carriers' of the virus. All questions must be answered with no in order to enter.

- Have you traveled in the last 14 days to any area with high incidence of COVID 19?
- Have you been exposed to anyone known to have tested positive for COVID 19?
- Have you been in a high-density area with a COVID-19 outbreak?
- Have you had a fever, felt feverish, or the chills in the last 24 hours?
- Do you feel sick today?

3) As you enter the building:

- Proceed down the hall after answering "no" to all of the questions.
- Proceed to temperature check
- Touchless hand sanitizers will be available. If you forget a mask, handmade and one-use masks will be on hand.
- The safest way to enter the Sanctuary is front to back. Exiting will be the opposite. Ushers will direct those in the back of the Sanctuary to leave first (Out the Main Entrance)
- Families can sit together
- Be seated with social distancing in mind and where indicated by direction of the ushers

4) Our worship experience will be "different," but it will be great to gather again! All of these items are intended to lessen the risk of the virus and allow us to worship together.

- Bulletins and Communion elements (when we have Communion) will already be on the seats.
- Sing quietly or hum along with the songs and hymns with masks on.
- Words for all hymns and Scripture readings will be on the screen.
- Moms and Dads: Please keep your children with you in the pews. Currently, there is no timetable to restart Sunday School onsite. Online options are available.
- The worship service will be a bit shorter. Pastor will preach shorter sermons and Pastor will preach from the pulpit. The traditional Passing of the Peace will not take place.
- Your Tithes and Offerings will be gratefully received by the exit door. Thank you for your generous partnership and sensitivity to God's leading.
- After service, we invite you to take everything you used from the service with you (bulletins, communion wrappers, etc.)
- Currently, conditions do not allow for our Fellowship Hour, any visiting may be done outside in the parking lot.
- Exit the Sanctuary - back rows to front rows through front doors by direction of the ushers.
- If you need to use the rest room while in the building, disinfectant wipes will be available to you.
- The rest rooms in the education wing are available for diaper changes and are wheelchair accessible.

**Thank you for your partnership in these things!**



We will learn together and will show grace and care to each other.



*Thank you for protecting the folks we love best – Each of YOU!*

*May we continue to live by faith, be known by love, and be a voice of hope.*

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