

AUGUST 2021

# Christ Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## THE CHRONICLES

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## PASTOR'S LETTER

Church,

A few years ago, a colleague that I knew quite closely died at her desk of a heart attack. I'll never forget hearing about her passing. Something made me think of her this week and made me realize that I won't be around forever...not just on earth in general, but as your pastor, specifically. I've been the pastor of Christ Church for six years. It's been a good but challenging first call. My family and I love our church and Milwaukee, but seasons change, and the wonderful and scary thing about life is that nothing is for certain.

I've been out of town for 24 days for military service, yet, miraculously, and unsurprisingly, the church lived on. I never questioned the survival of our church, and I am confident it will continue to survive whenever I'm not around. I say this because the Apostle Paul once wrote, *"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ...for the body does not consist of one member but of many."* - 1 Corinthians 12:12, 14.

This means that although the church is not one person (your pastor), it is one body (all of you). Each member has a role to play and makes up the entire body of Christ. The Body cannot exist without each of the individual members and the things they bring to the table. Paul knew each role was important to the health and wellbeing of the body.

In John 13, Jesus tells Simon, Peter, and the disciples, *"Where I am going you cannot follow."* He said this to prepare his friends for the time he wouldn't be around any longer. Church, we have a lot of body parts right now with nobody manning them. We survived over the last month because of our hard-working staff, volunteers, leaders, and my colleagues who were able to pull the slack. However, it's important for the health and wellbeing of your church that we fill these roles. We need help with tech on Sunday mornings. We need Sunday School teachers. We need people to help with Confirmation (if we have it). We need more people on our Council. Our Property Committee needs knowledgeable people or folks who are willing to learn. We need a Stewardship Team. We need folks to help with Membership. Right now, there are either too few or no people on these teams. We may have survived this July due to being in summer stasis, but fall is right around the corner.

When the apostle Paul wrote his letter to the church at Corinth, he knew that everybody had a role to play, and it was all hands-on deck. What will we do and what action and course will we take as we round the corner of August and head into September? This means we must determine what kind of future we want to create together in this new day. What will we prioritize? What will we do, let go, and let die? What programs are in their sunset at Christ Church and which ones are just taking off? I've been your pastor for 6 years this August, but as I said with my colleague - you never know what the future holds. I want to make sure that whatever the case this church is in a better place than when I started, if the time should arise that I cannot be here anymore. The church is a body with many members. What will you do?

Pastor Dan Stark



## **SIGN UP: WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

If you're interested in receiving the *Christ Church Weekly*, please contact Paula, the Church Administrator ([office@uccmke.org](mailto:office@uccmke.org)) to be added to the list (414-481-3530).

## **Note from the Council President**

Now that we have reconvened in-person worship, the number of in-person worshippers has diminished as compared to prior to the pandemic. Fewer people attending church after the blessing of a world-wide pandemic subsiding seems kind of backwards to me; but nonetheless, that is the reality. The question now is how do we proceed? The church still needs committees, liturgists, SOS volunteers, property upkeep, a governing council, people to share their musical talents; you know, all that "churchy" stuff we've become accustomed to.

Ideally, I would love everyone to read and memorize Isaiah 6:8 and repeat it whenever you're asked to help at church.

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" -Isaiah 6:8 (NRSV)

As our church family settles into a different configuration, you may be asked to share your talents - and please consider doing so. We have an older, beautiful building to maintain, new visitors (almost weekly) that need connections, companionship, and some role modeling, and we still have the outreach programs at church like SOS (serving meals to the homeless) and supporting the Bay View Community Center. Whether we choose to worship God in a sanctuary on Sunday morning or in our homes during the week we are still members of the body of Christ and can accomplish many needed services.

Pam Kothrade has switched her talents to bring the bell choir back to church. She would love to have more bell players.

Joan and Dick Gaeth have organized a church clean up day. There are many jobs available, and more hands are needed.

Randene and Jim Wick organize and coordinate the Divine Intervention meal pick-up on Fridays at church. They are also the people representing Christ Church most often. More help would be appreciated there.

Do you have an idea of a service project and/or community outreach that you would like our church involved in? Please ask Pastor Dan or a council member.

I know it's hard for me to get started if what I'm starting is something new and unknown to me. That is not the case at Christ Church. You have friends, mentors, brothers, and sisters to show you how to praise God through music, to serve God by serving the homeless, and honor God by keeping his house clean and welcoming to all who seek Him. Plus we will enjoy "fellowshipping" together.

Now, what are you going to say when God speaks to you directly or through one of your mortal siblings? (Hint, read Isaiah 6:8)

Dean Kothrade



# CHRIST CHURCH BOOK CLUB

**We are excited to resume our Christ Church Book Club. Our next meeting will be October 24th, 2021. We will meet at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall to discuss *Cutting For Stone* by Abraham Verghese.**

**All Christ Church members as well as family or friends are welcome to join us. You can get this book at the library, book store, or online. We look forward to an interesting discussion and fellowship time. If you have any questions please contact us.**

**Thanks,**

**Debbie Hansen, Mary Ann Mowery**



## Christ Church UCC CLEAN-UP SATURDAY

August 21, 2021  
10:00 am to 2:00 pm



Followed by a cookout at 2:00 pm

On Saturday, August 21, 2021, we will gather to help spruce up our building in preparation for the upcoming church season, beginning in September.

Projects may include cleaning and waxing the wooden surfaces in the Sanctuary and Chapel, cleaning and waxing the floors in the lower level, cleaning the church school rooms, and everybody's favorite, cleaning the kitchen. This can be a lot of fun if enough people join in to help. Many hands make chores go faster.

Following our workday, we'll relax, mingle outside (weather permitting), and enjoy great food from the grill, along with BEVERAGES.

Please sign up on the sheets posted at the Lenox Street entrance or in the Fellowship Hall. Questions? Contact Joan & Dick Gaeth at 414-481-4435.

Submitted by Joan & Dick Gaeth



**CROCHET CLASS IS OFF THROUGH AUGUST**

# Fermenting the Faith a social gathering

**August 18th - 6:30 pm - Humboldt Park Beer Garden**

Fermenting the Faith will meet again at the Humboldt Park Beer Garden. Our discussion will revolve around Pastor Dan's sermon series: *For the Bible Tells Me So...* things we believe that we have heard about the Bible, but aren't actually in it.

Questions --- contact Jim Wick 414-614-2612 or [jameswick73@gmail.com](mailto:jameswick73@gmail.com)

Donate Now

## ONLINE GIVING IS STILL AVAILABLE

It's as easy as clicking the donate button here!

Or, go to the church website and click on the donate button at [www.uccmke.org/donate](http://www.uccmke.org/donate). Feel free to contact Pastor Dan at [pastor@uccmke.org](mailto:pastor@uccmke.org) or Paula at [office@uccmke.org](mailto:office@uccmke.org) for assistance. Thank You!

## Arts and Science Literacy Camp (ASLC)

ASLC extends learning opportunities for children from disadvantaged backgrounds and a range of learning abilities. **We are supporting their efforts by providing snacks for the 60 campers for the week of August 23.** Following is a list of items or cash we will be collecting from now till August 18<sup>th</sup>. All donations will be appreciated and no gift is too small.

### ASLC needs for week of August 23

60 each Breakfast fruit bars

60 each organic fruit snacks

60 each snack packs of goldfish, pretzels, cheez-it, teddy grahams, etc., or similar

Money or Outpost gift card for bananas and clementine oranges . (\$20 - \$30)

### Additional Items used weekly are

Paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, bottled water

***A large plastic tote labeled ASLC is near the office*** for collecting your donations. Cash, checks, or gift cards can be given to Jim or Randene Wick or mailed to the church office. Checks can be made out to Christ Church, attn: ASLC Camp. For more information about ASLC, visit the Tippe Church website at <http://www.tippechurch.org/arts-and-science-literacy-camp-for-kids.html>

Thank you for your support.

Remember: We do need snacks for 60 campers a day! We prefer organic and some gluten free.

*Needed: Bottled water, pretzels, breakfast bars, fruit snacks, gold fish, grapes/oranges/bananas work great...or a gift card to Outpost! Paper towels, tissues, and toilet paper are needed weekly. Let's include those with the snacks we provide. Think 60 kids daily.*

Submitted by Randene Wick

# AUGUST 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour	2 5pm Tap Lessons	3	4	5 5pm Voice Lessons	6 5pm DI - SOS Meal	7
8 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour	9 5pm Tap Lessons	10 10:00am Quilting 7pm Council Meeting	11	12 5pm Voice Lessons	13 5pm DI - SOS Meal	14
15 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour	16 <small>National Airborne Day</small> 5pm Tap Lessons	17	18 6:30pm Fermenting the Faith	19 5pm Voice Lessons	20 5pm DI - SOS Meal	21 10:00am Work Day 1:30pm Baptism
22 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour	23 5pm Tap Lessons	24 10:00am Quilting	25	26 <small>Womens Equality Day</small> 5pm Voice Lessons	27 5pm DI - SOS Meal	28
29 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour	30 5pm Tap Lessons	31	1	2	3	4

# DIVINE INTERVENTION

## SHARE OUR SUPPERS

Friday nights have been busy at Christ Church! We have hosted an average of 25 guests each week with all 45 hot meals distributed, as well as, an average of 50 bagged lunches. We are grateful to the families, churches, and organizations who prepare 80 bagged lunches and bring them to Christ Church at 5:00 pm each Friday. Larry Under the Bridge takes 15 lunches, Share Our Suppers hands out lunches to the guests, and the remaining bagged lunches are taken to Hope House for their use.

Thank you to all who have volunteered this summer, representing Christ Church. We are in need of more volunteers for hosting. It's a quick and easy way to help out. If you can spare your 4:45 pm to 6pm, one Friday night a month, please contact Jim or Randene Wick 414-614-2622 or Pastor Dan.



### AUGUST 1

Loretta Johannsen

### AUGUST 2

Casey Schmeling

### AUGUST 3

Tom Dohoney  
Andy Boyle

### AUGUST 4

Heather Strausbaugh

### AUGUST 5

Jon Simons

### AUGUST 7

Sarita Gwinn

### AUGUST 11

Jade Ertel

### AUGUST 14

Clancey Fritsch

### AUGUST 17

Melissa Bloor

### AUGUST 21

Tyler Santos

### AUGUST 23

Amanda Flynn  
Laura Smith

### AUGUST 24

Arron Boyle  
Jacob Key

### AUGUST 28

Michael Slattery

### AUGUST 30

Cameron Flynn



**CHRIST CHURCH**  
**United Church of Christ**  
915 E Oklahoma Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Place  
Stamp  
Here

**ADDRESS SERVICE  
REQUESTED**

# **THE CHRONICLES**

## **August 2021**

\_\_\_ Send me The Chronicles Newsletter via US Mail  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please submit this information to the church office)*

\_\_\_ Send me The Chronicles Newsletter via email  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please submit this information to the church office)*

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If you want to know more about the happenings at Christ Church, visit our website at [www.uccmke.org](http://www.uccmke.org)  
Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbayview/> and get links to important events and weekly sermons!