

Christ Church **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

THE CHRONICLES JULY 2020

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PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Christ Church,

Here in Wisconsin we are not strangers to harsh winters. When we head out into a winter storm, we first must wait for the plows to clear the snow and salt the roads. Before we head onto the streets, we must clear our own driveways and dust the snow off our cars. Before we get behind the wheel, we must warm up our cars. Even before that, we have got to bundle up. We all know there is a lot of preparation that goes into heading out into the crummy winter weather. The pandemic requires the same mindset, so we do not get ourselves into danger.

This June I received notice from Mayor Barret's Office that places of worship can reopen with 50% reduced capacity, and with sanitation/safety protocols in place. We are a small but faithful community at Christ Church, so I am convinced that we can safely resume small group and worship in person if we all play our part. If you are uncomfortable with where we are in the blizzard of COVID-19, please rest assured that we will continue to provide a recording of Sunday's worship service and send out materials for you and your loved ones.

I have been working diligently alongside our church leadership, staff, and volunteers to make sure we can head into this storm together. The roads have been ploughed, the sidewalks have been salted, but it is up to you now to do your part to bundle up for this storm and be cautious like you are driving on black ice. I want to be realistic with some of the needs we are going to have prior to reopening and upon reopening for worship in person in July. Think of these "needs" as a way of mentally preparing yourself for heading out into the winter weather.

We need you to *be patient and supportive* of your church staff, volunteers, and pastor. Nobody, including myself, ever anticipated that we would be dealing with a pandemic as a church family. We will be trained to do things that we have never had to do before as a congregation.

We need you to *be open* to how things have changed at this time. Things are going to be different than they were when we gathered last in person back in March. The environment is going to reflect what has been going on everywhere else in society. Sanitizers, masks, and signs are part of our new normal.



We need you to *be compliant* with the sanitation, physical distancing, and other safety protocols that we have put in place to keep everyone healthy and safe. You can become familiar with these protocols as they are listed in this month's *Chronicles*, on the website, Facebook, and will arrive to soon via a pastoral letter. If you do not feel safe attending in person, we kindly ask you to continue to join us for worship online.

We need you to *walk humbly*. If you are asked to do something, please realize that we are doing something new together. Things will eventually run like a well-oiled machine, but the first few weeks of reopening will have some growing edges for everybody. You should plan to arrive early for worship by at least 15 minutes.

We need you to *support* your church financially. If you regularly gave but have not made a financial contribution to your church since we last gathered in person, it would be helpful for you to try to catch up. We had a lot of unexpected expenses come up amid the pandemic. We need your help.

If you feel sick, *please stay home*. If it is discovered that you have a fever when you come to church and get your temperature checked, please go home, and take care of yourself. If you test positive test for COVID-19 after attending worship or an activity in the building, please contact the church immediately at 507-951-2856 or pastor@uccmke.org.

Finally, we need you to *remain calm*. We will be venturing into uncharted territory as we put these sanitation and safety protocols into practice, and I am doing my darndest to do this in a meaningful and worshipful way for you and your families. Things will look differently than they did back at the beginning of March, but God willing, we will get through this storm together. **We will return to worship July 26th and we will continue to have a recording of our services online.**

With gratitude for you,

Pastor Dan



PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

Like most of us I suspect I keep hearing the phrase that this is the “new norm”. You bet. Every morning we wake up our lives are the “new norm” it’s just that in the current Covid situation we are all in the uncertainty and pain together, not separately. Think about it. How many people every day receive terrible news about their health, or the health of loved ones, or are involved in accidents or traumatic emotional events including the death of a loved one? It’s almost impossible for us to fully identify with the pain, struggle, or sorrow of another person because we cannot fully identify with that person.

Now let’s think about what we, as Christians, profess. We profess that God created us and knows us better than we know ourselves. We profess that Jesus came to earth as a man and lived as one of us and knows our pain and joy. We profess that someday He will return and make all things new and right. If all that is true it must mean that God can truly identify with all our sorrows, Covid, racial injustices and otherwise. To have our perfect life all that is required of us is to treat each other with respect and brotherly love. We are not going to like everyone, because we are human, but we must love everyone because we were given that example and taught to do so. Easier said than done?

You bet. I truly believe that if we kept better track of own humanity and realize that we are merely visitors to this everchanging family of humanity and that we too will surely give way to the next generation of visitors that we might not take ourselves, and our selfish thoughts, so seriously. When the thought of our own importance, or the value we place on objects or money, pales compared to the importance we ascribe to our Creator then we will have the perfect life that is promised to us. That is really the “new norm” everyone wants, isn’t it?

Let’s keep trying to shape and reach our new norm every day by loving others as well as ourselves.

Dean Kothrade

ATTENDING WORSHIP DURING COVID 19

- *Welcome! Please enter using the Lenox St. door only. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early.
 - *Sanitize your hands upon entry either at the stairway or landing of the Lenox St. entrance.
 - *Have your temperature taken (must be below 100 degrees to attend worship).
 - *If your temperature is 100 or over you will be asked to return home to care for yourself
 - *Put on a mask (You can bring your own or a disposable one will be provided)
 - *Register with the usher. Provide your name and contact information.
 - *Using the 6ft social distancing markers make your way towards the Sanctuary.
 - *If you need to use the rest room please sanitize the room according to the posted instructions.
 - *An usher will escort you to a seat, (large print bulletins and hearing devices will be made available to those in need of them)
 - *Offerings and envelopes can be placed in the offering trays on your way in or out of the sanctuary.
 - *On Communion Sundays you will be invited to take a disposable wafer and cup as you enter the sanctuary.
 - *After worship, the ushers will direct you out of the sanctuary using the Lenox St. exit.
- At this time, we will not be hosting coffee hour.
- *Please use the hand sanitizer as you exit the Sanctuary.

Additional Information

- *Video Screens will be used for worship.
- *Collection plates will not be passed. Donations should be placed in the trays upon entering or leaving the Sanctuary.
- *Communion trays will not be passed. Disposable elements can be picked up prior to entering the Sanctuary.
- *Prayer requests will be announced by the Pastor. Please submit them to Pastor Dan or Debbie during the week by phone or email.
- *At this time there will not be any childcare or nursery care available.
- *The only rooms currently open for use on Sunday mornings are the Sanctuary and restrooms.
- *The Chapel will only be opened by an usher for seating if all seating is utilized in the Sanctuary.

CLASSES AND MEETINGS DURING COVID 19

If your group/class would like to return to meeting at the church building, please do the following so we can properly sanitize and prepare the room. *At this time no meetings can be held without a room being reserved:*

- *Contact the church office to reserve a room at least 1 week prior to your desired meeting date.
- *You will be assigned a room that will fit the size of your group for proper social distancing.
- *Upon entering the building wear a mask and use the hand sanitizer at the Lenox St. entrance.
- *Everyone should sign in on the attendance sheet on the clipboard that will be found in your room.
- *When your meeting is completed please clean all door handles, tables, chairs, and surfaces that were used or contacted during your meeting. Each room has a caddy equipped with wipes/spray, gloves and paper towels.
- *Initial the attendance sheet that the room has been sanitized.
- *Prior to exiting the building once again please use the hand sanitizer at the Lenox St. door.

ONLINE GIVING IN LIGHT OF THE CORONAVIRUS

Online giving is essential during this time! You can pay with an existing PayPal account. For first time users just go to the church website and click on the donate button and you can donate with a credit card. Feel free to contact Pastor Dan pastor@uccmke.org or contact the church for assistance at 414-481-3530 or office@uccmke.org.

SIGN UP: WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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

NEED: BVCC FOOD & INFANT FORMULA PANTRY

You can still donate to the pantry as the Food pantry part of the BVCC will remain open.

All other activities and classes have been cancelled for the time being.

They are in desperate need of the following: Canned Meats, Soups, Macaroni & Cheese, Peanut Butter and Jelly.

You can bring your food donations directly to the BVCC @ 1320 E. Oklahoma Ave.:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm.

DO YOU NEED FOOD ASSISTANCE? THE BVCC FOOD PANTRY IS HERE FOR YOU!

Typically, if you live in the following zip codes: 53207, 53215 (you must live south of Becher, East of 27th St., and your address must be 2000 and up), 53221, and 53235 you may come to the Food Pantry with a photo ID from someone in your household to receive food.



SCHEDULES FOR UPCOMING WORSHIP, EVENTS MEETINGS

Friday July 3rd: DI SOS bag lunch distribution at Christ Church 5:00-6:00pm

Saturday July 4th: Happy Independence Day!

Sunday July 5th: Worship online

Friday July 10th: Pending-DI SOS bag lunch distribution at Christ Church 5:00-6:00pm

Saturday July 11th: Usher Training 10:00am.

Sunday July 12th: Worship online

Monday July 13th: Usher Training & Property Committee Meeting

Tuesday July 14th: Quilters 10:00am in Quilters room

Friday July 17th: August Chronicles submissions by 10:00am please, Pending-DI SOS bag lunch distribution at Christ Church 5:00-6:00pm.

Saturday July 18th: Usher Training 10:00am

Sunday July 19th: Worship online.

Monday July 20th: Usher Training 7:00pm

Friday July 24th: Pending-DI SOS bag lunch distribution at Christ Church 5:00-6:00pm

Sunday July 26th: Return to in person worship! Welcome back! Worship 9:30am. Please arrive 5 minutes early for check in.

USHERS

We welcome and invite anyone interested in serving as an Usher to attend 1 or more of the upcoming training sessions. Training is a requirement. The sessions will be held Saturday July 11th & July 18th at 10:00am and Monday July 13th & 20th at 7:00pm. The sessions are anticipated to last about 30 minutes. Please contact the office if you would like to participate and to reserve a spot.

QUILTERS

The Piece and Plenty Quilters have been working on sewing projects from home. We're looking forward to sharing our projects with the group and congregation. We will resume meeting at church on Tuesday's at 10:00am on July 14th & July 28th. Randene Wick, Gloria Konkell, Julie Oren and Joyce Zieman.

SE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 10TH

This meeting will still be held at Christ Church. Anyone who volunteered to help will still be needed for the October 10th date. Please contact the Mayeshibas if you are interested in helping.



PENDING: CHRIST CHURCH BOOK CLUB MEETING DTBD

Inviting all Christ Church members and friends to join us on DTBD after church in the fellowship hall for our next book club discussion. We will be reading "Running for my Life" by Lopez Lomong with Mark Tabb. This is the true story of a Sudanese child refugee who became an Olympic star.

His life story is one of courage, hard work and having hope where there is hopelessness. Please join us for thought provoking discussion and fellowship. Books can be obtained through the library, ebay or Amazon. If you have any questions ask Carol Dohoney, Debbie Hansen or Mary Ann Mowery. Happy reading!

USHER SCHEDULE

7/26

Joan Amich
Debbie Hansen
Katelyn O'Brien
Fred Passow

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

7/26

Randene Wick

WEEKLY SCRIPTURES

7/5	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 and Psalm 45:10-17 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Zechariah 9:9-12 and Psalm 145: 8-14	Romans 7:15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
7/12	Genesis 25:19-34 & Psalm 119:105-112	Isaiah 55:10-13 & Psalm 65: (1-8), 9-13	Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9,18-23
7/19	Genesis 28:10-19a & Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24	Song of Solomon 12:13, 16-19 or Isaiah 44:6-8 & Psalm 86:11-17	Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
7/26	Genesis 29:15-28 & Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 128	1Kings 3:5-12 & Psalm 119:129-136	Romans 8:26-39	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL THESE WONDERFUL FOLKS!

JULY 1

Brad Charles

JULY 2

Fritz Jorgenson
Lori Pisarek
Gary Wegner

JULY 3

Ernestine Faja
Lynn Slattery

JULY 4

Allison Thomae

JULY 5

Rachelle Volz

JULY 6

William Scheske

JULY 19

Susan Belongia
Karen Engstrom
Bob Polachowski

JULY 11

Pat Koszuta
Debbie Zasada

JULY 12

Ruth Boretsky

JULY 13

Diane Bingheim
Aidan Vail

JULY 17

Tom Miksic

JULY 18

Gerald Goebel
Mick Mantie

JULY 20

Amber Urbaniak

JULY 22

Renolle Volz

JULY 23

Geri Luther

JULY 25

Austin Ast

PRAYER REQUESTS

Hear Our Prayers, O God...

For health & healing: *God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.* Ps. 147:3

We pray for:

- ~Pastor Dan's brother who was just promoted to Colonel in the Army. Prayers and congratulations!
- ~Kim, friend of Mary Ann Mowery who has been hospitalized 7 weeks for multiple health issues.
- ~The five healthcare workers within Gloria Konkell's immediate family.
- ~Everyone in our church community, family, and friends, those cut off from loved ones, medical and emergency personnel, scientists, researchers, leaders, workers, manufacturers, and patients in cities and states across our country and the world.
- ~Betty Budzien as she recovers from skin cancer surgery.
- ~Judy, friend of Doris Piacentine who had a stroke.
- ~Jan Breitzman, Debbie Hansen's best friend Pam's mother who recently found out she has cancer.
- ~The family of member Luise Stojanovic who died June 19th.
- ~Judy Dubrosky's father as he recovers at home after a hospital stay with testing from chest pains.
- ~Don Antoniewicz's family as they cope with the unexpected death of his stepsister.
- ~The family of Gordy Wicklund, friend and softball teammate of Andy Oren, after Gordy's unexpected passing recently.
- ~Linda who lives in Connecticut, daughter of Jackie Struck who is recovering from hernia surgery June 23rd.
- ~Emily, 30-year-old daughter of Paul and Doris Mayeshiba, who is beginning the 2nd round of an intensive chemotherapy treatment for Non-Hodgkin's large B cell Lymphoma which localized in her nasal passage. Prayers for the whole family. Thanks, from Paul and Doris for all of the prayers as she is handling the treatments well so far.
- ~Newborn preemie siblings Millie and Margot, nieces of a friend of Sonia Stark who after spending 9 months in the NICU will be going home in the next day or so. Prayers for the whole family as they adjust to a new way of life.
- ~Nick, Brad and Nancy Charles nephew, who is battling heroin addiction, is out of prison and now in halfway house placement. Prayers for his family as well.
- ~Alex, Brad and Nancy Charles friend's son who is battling drug addiction.
- ~Julene Flanagan's nephew who is dealing with Bipolar disorder and now out of the hospital struggling to get into a healthy daily routine.
- ~Those who suffer from anxiety and depression at this time. From Pam Kothrade
- ~Jean Goedel to find a job in the Milwaukee area. From Joan Amich.
- ~Julene Flanagan's husband's uncle from Alaska who is suffering from Kidney Disease and is now in assisted living and for his son who is going thru health issues as well.
- ~~Christopher, Paul and Doris Mayeshiba's daughter-in-law's brother as he now is on dialysis. Thank you for all of the prayers.
- ~Greg, son of Paul and Doris Mayeshiba who continues to travel the state with the National Guard assisting in setting up test sites long term and short term.

~Dawn, daughter in-law of Laurel and wife of Brad Dayton, as she recovers from several recent surgeries and multiple health problems.

~Amy Kempfer, high school friend of Nancy Charles who is battling Kidney disease.

~Joe and Laurie, son in law and daughter of Jackie Struck during his rehab process at the Franciscan Villa as he slowly regains his strength and physical abilities back.

~Duane Wielepski, father and father in-law of Ryan & Jamie Wielepski as his cancer has returned and will be treated with chemo.

Please contact the church office with any additional prayer requests. Also see additional prayer requests listed in the weekly worship bulletin.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate Sue Klockow who retired Friday June 12th from Aurora after working 15 years there and 40+ years in the medical field. We appreciate your caring dedication to helping patients. Sue has left the door open as to what she will do in her retirement but has purchased some paints and canvas to start her journey.

Best wishes for a well-deserved retirement Sue!

THANK YOU

~Thank you for your prayers for Brooke Goedel to find living arrangements in Florida as she attends college. She was successful in finding housing for when she starts college this fall at Florida State University. From Joan Amich.

~For prayers for Keith Whiteside, friend of Brad and Nancy Charles, who was battling a health crisis who is now doing better and found out he does not have cancer.

~We thank Mike Behling from the Property Committee for installing 24 sanitation stations, area closure fixtures, 2 plexiglass protectors, and 6-foot social distancing markers throughout the building. We appreciate your help in keeping us all safe!

~We thank and acknowledge all the police officers who go to work every shift and put their lives on the line while still making the safety of the community and safe protocols a priority in the most difficult situations. From Debbie Behling

GREAT SUMMER GAMES

Though this year's Summer Olympics were postponed, you can host friendly neighborhood competitions.

What you need:

- Masking tape
- Large craft sticks
- Paper plates
- Balloons
- Ribbon
- Scissors
- Green construction paper
- Craft glue

What you do:

Balloon Badminton: Make rackets by taping a stick "handle" to each plate. Blow up and tie a balloon. Use the rackets to pass the balloon back and forth, without letting it touch the floor.

Rhythmic Routines: Using tape, firmly attach one end of a 4-foot ribbon to a craft stick. Display style and skill by waving it around. Try choreographing a routine to a praise song.

Champion Crown: Cut a large hole out of the center of a paper plate. Cut 2-inch ovals from green paper. Glue those "leaves" to the ring as garland. Crown a winner of each game!



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915 East Oklahoma Avenue
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JULY 2020



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