

# Christ Church

UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

THE CHRONICLES FEBRUARY 2021

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## PASTOR'S LETTER



Dear Friends,

*The light shined in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.* Throughout the month of January, we have been exploring scriptures which reveal or show forth the identity of Christ during worship. This season is called Epiphany. Every Gospel lesson shows us a glimpse about whom Jesus was, what he did, and what he stood for.

Our month began with a distressing situation that took place at the US Capitol building in Washington DC on January 6<sup>th</sup>. We took the opportunity to talk about the significance of being careful with our words and the intentional word choice used by the evangelists to describe Jesus' baptism by John. How odd and curious that God's Beloved would also come alongside us to be baptized in the Jordan River—a rite of repentance and renewal! Words are important in the Bible. We, too, should be careful with our words.

We also talked about Jesus being rejected for preaching a difficult word of change and justice in his hometown congregation. The people who knew him as a child wanted to throw him off a cliff for preaching about the breadth of God's love and justice. We remembered the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr who also preached a message that was not easy for people to hear. In fact, his vision would lead to his assassination.

Throughout January we have had a whirlwind of challenging events as a country. Many of us jokingly thought that 2021 would be some sort of cosmic *tabula rasa* where we would all start with a clean slate. However, between the events of January 6<sup>th</sup>, the impeachment of the president a second time, the threats of violence surrounding the inauguration, and the ever-present threat of the pandemic and its economic fallout have led many of us to lose hope. But, in a world of darkness, the light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome it.

Throughout the rest of the Epiphany season, we will continue to talk about Jesus and the light he brought into the world through stories that illuminate who he was and who he came to serve.

I am hopeful that this light can shine in each of us so that we can help illuminate the dark spaces of our world and the corners of our own hearts.



As the season of Lent approaches halfway through February on Ash Wednesday, I am hopeful we can take the lessons from Jesus to heart and prepare ourselves for our 40-day wilderness journey. It is hard to believe we are still worshiping remotely and amid a pandemic a year later, but the light shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it.

Have a Blessed Epiphany,

Pastor Dan Stark



## **PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE**

I suspect I am like most people because I really enjoy going on vacation. Seeing different things and doing more fun things than you usually do at home. Pam and I just returned from a 2 week vacation in Florida. One of the highlights of this trip was watching 3 dolphins swimming alongside the tour boat we were on. They kept up with the boat's speed and just jumped and rolled in the wake that the boat made. We supplied a wake for them to play in and they supplied us with 15 minutes of entertainment, awe, and joy.

We also visited several nature preserves. Many of those preserves have "boardwalks". A boardwalk is literally a wooden sidewalk, with handrails on both sides, and raised about 4' above the swampy area you are in. Except for the boardwalk you are in an area of very dense growth of trees and other plants. If there aren't many people near you can hear the wind through the trees and some animal sounds. Standing in the warmth of the sun, smelling the fresh air, and seeing all the colors of nature on a January day is heaven to me. As you can imagine I think about those memories often and I cherish them. I think about how beautiful our world is and how could it possibly be better than someplace like Florida (for me).

Now, I read Bible verses like Revelation 21, verses 1 to 27 wherein we are promised a completely new earth where death will be no more and all tears will be wiped away. Can we even envision no crying or pain or death? I admit that while I'm standing on that boardwalk there's still things, troubles, that go through my mind. Medical issues, financial issues, death, anxieties from things I have done and left undone. Even simple issues like being tired or hungry or hurt. I can block those thoughts for a few moments in that sunshine and enjoy my heaven on earth but the thoughts return almost immediately because they are so entrenched in my humanity and my enjoyment diminishes.

While we are diverse enough to all have our own idea of a "heavenly spot on earth" we are all alike enough to desire the new earth that will bring peace, security, and the love offered to us through faith in Christ. Since we know for sure that our time on earth is finite maybe we should be making our vacation plans for that destination that offers complete and total paradise freely to us. After enjoying my life on earth so much it really makes me wonder, and long for, something that is promised to be so spectacular that my imagination can't even conceive it. We are all promised that kind of new life by God.

Dean Kothrade

## **2021 GIVING ENVELOPES**

The 2021 Giving Envelopes are available to be picked up during church office hours. They are located outside of Pastor Dan's office. Even if you normally give electronically, the box of envelopes also has other special giving opportunities to assist the church with utility, building, mailing costs as well as missions.



## 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- [www.uccmke.org/donate](http://www.uccmke.org/donate). Feel free to contact Pastor Dan [pastor@uccmke.org](mailto:pastor@uccmke.org) or contact the church for assistance at 414-481-3530 or [office@uccmke.org](mailto:office@uccmke.org). Thank You!

## SIGN UP: WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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

## 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.

- \*Contact the church office to reserve a room for 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 please wear a mask and use the hand sanitizer at the Lenox St. entrance.
- \*Sign 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.

## NEED: BVCC FOOD & INFANT FORMULA PANTRY

You can still donate to the pantry as the Food pantry at the BVCC remains open. The community center is requesting the following donations:

CANNED: Jam/Jellies, Peanut Butter.

SINGLE SERVING SNACKS: Applesauce, Fruit cups, Granola Bars, Crackers/Chips, and Fruit Snacks.

PACKAGED: Rice, Beans, Pasta and Cereal.

Monetary donations are always appreciated as well.

*Donations can be dropped off at the BVCC @ 1320 E. Oklahoma Ave.:*

*Tuesdays thru Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm.*



## NEED: SHARING OUR SUPPERS (SOS) VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Every Friday our church is the food distribution site for 40 restaurant prepared meals, bottled water, and 45 bag lunches. Those who come for food are homeless or referred to us from Bay View Community Center. Since the pandemic, Divine Intervention has been unable to provide face to face services for the homeless in Bay View. Pastor Karen from Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church has coordinated this meal distribution through a variety of church contacts and organizations along with Jim Wick. The restaurant meals are provided through Meals Matter Movement and the lunches are prepared by individuals from churches in the support group for Divine Intervention.

### How can you help?

Be the Christ Church building representative. Responsibilities include: Disinfect and set up of the outside serving table, signage and cones for distancing; bring up the water from the refrigerator and coolers for keeping food cold/warm; assist with meal drop off and distribution; Disinfect and return coolers, signage, table, to the basement and sanitize the areas used before leaving the church. The time required is 4:45 PM to approximately 6:15 PM on a Friday night of your choosing.

Donate heavy duty disposable plastic forks and knives. Please drop them off at church during office hours or on a Sunday. They can be left outside of the church office.

If you would like more information please contact Jim or Randene Wick, 414-614-2622, [wickl.51@gmail.com](mailto:wickl.51@gmail.com).



## **NEED: PLEASE SUPPORT JIM DANDY'S PUB & GRILL FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO DI-SOS**

Jim Dandy's Pub & Grill

**Address:** 8900 S 27th St, Oak Creek, WI 53154,

**Phone:** (414) 304-8136

**WEB:** <https://www.jimdandysgrill.com/>

Jim Dandy's Pub & Grill has graciously provided Divine Intervention – Share Our Suppers (DI-SOS) with 45 hot meals each Friday evening, since early July, to be distributed at Christ Church through the DI-SOS ministry. Any support you can provide to this restaurant during these difficult times would be greatly welcomed and appreciated. Consider ordering online for pick up or mask up and socially distance at their restaurant. Also, mention that you are thankful for their support of DI-SOS.

Jim Wick



## **UPDATE: CHRIST CHURCH BOOK CLUB**

We would like to have every reader able to enjoy our book club discussions. We are going to see how the reopening at church proceeds and also small group meetings. While we all miss our time together for now the book club will take a break. When we do resume, we will give you enough notice so you can have time to read the book. Stay safe and healthy!

Carol Dohoney, Debbie Hansen and Mary Ann Mowery

## **UPDATE: JEAN DUERMEIER**

Jean Duermeier has now happily returned back to her home after recuperating at her family's home. She is thankful for all of the cards, well wishes and communications from her Christ Church family. She is settled in and is happy to continue receiving your calls again.

## **EVENT: ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**

Wednesday February 17th is Ash Wednesday. We will have an online service.

## **SCHEDULES FOR UPCOMING WORSHIP, EVENTS & MEETINGS**

Monday February 1st: Tap lessons 5:00pm

Tuesday February 2nd: Ground Hog day!

Friday February 5th: DI SOS 5:30pm-  
Building Reps.: The Kothrades



Sunday February 7th: Worship online

Monday February 8th: Tap lessons 5:00pm

Tuesday February 9th: Quilters 10:00am

Friday February 12th: DI SOS 5:30pm-Building Reps.: Volunteer(s) needed

Saturday February 13th: Crochet Class 10:00am

Sunday February 14th: Worship online, HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!



Monday February 15th: President's Day, Tap lessons 5:00pm

Wednesday February 17th: ✚ Ash Wednesday, Worship online.

Friday February 19th: DI SOS 5:30pm-Building Reps.: Andy Oren & Sharon

Sunday February 21st: Worship online

Monday February 22nd: Tap lessons 5:00pm

Tuesday February 23rd: Quilters 10:00am

Friday February 26th: DI SOS 5:30pm-Building Reps.: The Wicks

Saturday February 27th: Crochet Class 10:00am

Sunday February 28th: Worship online



## QUILTERS

The Piece and Plenty Quilters will meet at church on Tuesday February 9th & February 23rd at 10:00. Randene Wick, Gloria Konkel, Julie Oren and Joyce Zieman.

## CROCHETERS

Crochet class will be held Saturday February 13th & 27th at 10:00am in the music room. For information, please contact Ken Klockow.

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURES

<b>2/7</b>	Isaiah 40:21-31	Psalms 147:1-11, 20c	1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39
<b>2/14</b>	2 Kings 2:1-12	Psalms 50:1-6	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Mark 9:2-9
<b>2/21</b>	Genesis 9:8-17	Psalms 25:1-10	Peter 3:18-22	Mark 1:9-15
<b>2/28</b>	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Psalms 22:23-31	Romans 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL THESE WONDERFUL FOLKS!

### **FEBRUARY 1**

Ashley Lisowski  
Brayden Thomae  
Joyce Zieman

### **FEBRUARY 2**

Michael Zvara

### **FEBRUARY 3**

Randene Wick

### **FEBRUARY 5**

Carol Dohoney

### **FEBRUARY 6**

Linda Koszuta  
Matthew Miksic  
Sophia Stezala  
Kim Stezala

### **FEBRUARY 7**

Joan Amich  
Katie Seguin

### **FEBRUARY 9**

Ray Blankenberg

### **FEBRUARY 12**

Presley Pisarek  
Chuck Terlinden  
Nancy Wareham

### **FEBRUARY 13**

Michael Baran

### **FEBRUARY 15**

Susie Klockow  
James Wick

### **FEBRUARY 17**

Mallory Thomae

### **FEBRUARY 18**

Sandy Oleson

### **FEBRUARY 19**

Blair Goedel

John Popp

### **FEBRUARY 22**

Greg Mitchell

### **FEBRUARY 26**

Cyndi Kroening

### **FEBRUARY 27**

Chelsea Clark



## PRAYERS



**Hear Our Prayers, O God...For health & healing:** *God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.* Ps. 147:3 We pray for:

- ~Ian, husband of Molly Pufall Brown that his biopsy of a mass next Monday yield promising results and show good treatment prognosis for lymphoma. Prayers also for wife Molly and their children.
- ~The Porn family as Dave's brother Steven recently passed away.
- ~Betty Budzien as her knees heal from a fall. Thankful for no broken bones.
- ~Baby Theo who had to be resuscitated and hospitalized. He is now home but the doctors couldn't find out what caused this episode. From Sonia Stark.
- ~Emily, her husband and 2 young children, Andy Oren's friend as she was just diagnosed with systemic scleroderma, a serious auto-immune disease.
- ~Ken Klockow as he deals with lower back pain.
- ~Kim O'Brien and her family as she continues to heal and recover.

~Dylan and his family as he passed away from Muscular Dystrophy. From Susie Klockow.  
~Ken's sister who was moved to a nursing home and has a serious chronic infection and dementia.  
~Susie Klockow's Aunt Evelyn who has covid and is in hospice and Aunt Eleanore who had a stroke and is in home hospice, also for her daughters and granddaughters who are taking care of her.  
~Johnny, friend of the Klockows who has COVID and other health problems.  
~Prayers of Thanksgiving for Jack, Dick and Joan Gaeth's nieces' husband who is improving and remains in the hospital receiving treatments for Leukemia.  
Prayers for continued healing.  
~Bill Kroening as he receives radiation treatments.  
~Bob Kroening as he receives chemo drug treatments.  
~Joe and Laurie, son in law and daughter of Jackie Struck. Prayers for continued healing for wounds as he goes to wound care.  
~Nick Miller, nephew of Nancy & Brad Charles who has started using heroin again.  
Prayers for the whole family.  
~Dawn, daughter in-law of Laurel and wife of Brad Dayton, as she manages diabetes and dialysis 4 times per week.  
~Tracy, daughter of Nancy Kaye, who is at home with Nancy awaiting liver and kidney transplants. She is doing well.  
~Continued prayers for Julene Flanagan's nephew, who is struggling with mental health issues.  
~Continued prayers for Julene Flanagan's family member who is struggling with health issues related to kidney disease.  
~Dan, friend of Molly Pufall Brown, who is very sick and discouraged with an undiagnosed illness. Prayers also for his wife and 2 young children as the eldest child is being taken care of the grandma and his wife works full time and struggles to also take care of their youngest child.  
~Kelley, friend of Nancy Charles as she receives radiation treatment for breast cancer.  
~Bernee, friend of Nancy Kaye who has end-stage lung cancer and is in a nursing home in hospice.

#### **For our community and country:**

~For swift and safe vaccine distribution.  
~For our school children who have very complicated schedules and those who are missing being in person. For our school teachers as well.  
~For people who are struggling without an in-person place for worship right now.  
~For musicians who miss playing in public.

#### **THANK YOU**

~Thank you to the Gaeths for "undecorating" the church inside. We appreciate your service.  
~Thank you to Property member Brian O'Brien and volunteers Don Antoniewicz, Dick Gaeth, Rich Tremarello, Paul Mayeshiba and Pastor Dan for caringly taking down and storing away the outdoor nativity scene until next year. We appreciate you taking on this physical project.  
~"I am recovering and home and that I would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, cards, and prayers. The prayer shawl that was dropped off by my "Christ Church Family" is amazing. I have been wearing it every day. It is perfect and I feel blessed when I am using it. Kim  
~Thanksgiving for our SOS volunteer who feed the hungry in Bay View.  
~" Our deepest gratitude for your continued support of Arts and Science Literacy Camp. Your very generous gift of \$5,000 for the Arts and Science Literacy Camp year round ministry touches the lives of children throughout our area. Thank-you on behalf of Grace, Tippecanoe, Immanuel, Crossroad PCUSA churches, Christ and Plymouth UCC churches, and Hephatha ELCA church who share their wisdom and resources to guide this justice outreach ministry. Together we are making a positive impact in our shared community. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we hold you in ours as well."

Within God's Abiding Grace, Christian Pavlock, Clerk of Session.

~ “To my friends at Christ Church, thank you for sending the surprise gift in the mail. I love the snowflake ornament that I hung on the Christmas tree. Every time I look at it, I think of my friends at Christ Church. I also like the note tablet that I will use for my grocery list and anything else I want to remember. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. These gifts help me to feel connected to my friends at Christ Church. Sincerely, Betty Budzien.”

~” Dear Friends at Christ Church, thank you so very much for the gifts at Christmas. The ornament and purse tablet are very nice and handy. Thank you for thinking of me. God Bless you all. Love, Jackie (Struck).”

~On the behalf of the Member and Session of Tippecanoe Faithing Community, our Divine Intervention collaborators, and volunteers, and, most importantly, our Guests, thank you for the \$1200 Endowment Grant toward the Larry Under the Bridge and Project Home programs of the Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless mission!

~” Together we are changing lives in our greater community. Your continuing generosity and support are deeply appreciated. We all look to the day when this ministry may not be needed, but until then...humble thanks, for together so much is possible!

Within God’s Abiding Grace Christian Pavlock, Clerk of Session” (excerpt from thank you letter).



# PUZZLE

## WHITE AS SNOW

.....  
Jesus, our Savior, came to earth to purify sinners.  
.....

*Directions: Figure out which path through the puzzle is correct. Choose one to try, starting at the first picture under the “Path” box. Follow each picture’s directional cues to see if the words make sense when placed in order in the blanks below. If not, try a different path until you figure out the Bible verse.*

 MOVE →
 MOVE ↑
 MOVE ←
 MOVE ↓

PATH 1	PATH 2	PATH 3	PATH 4	PATH 5	PATH 6
 for	 give	 come	 together	 around	 after
 self	 into	 settle	 eternal	 thanks	 forgive
 God	 LORD	 says	 without	 Christ	 warmth
 love	 sins	 scarlet	 other	 light	 praise
 red	 star	 white	 snow	 winter	 peace

↓ EXIT

“ \_\_\_\_\_ now, let us \_\_\_\_\_ the matter,” \_\_\_\_\_ the  
\_\_\_\_\_. “Though your \_\_\_\_\_ are like \_\_\_\_\_,  
they shall be as \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_ ....”

ISAIAH 1:18, NIV

Answer: Path 3; come, settle, says, LORD, sins, scarlet, white, snow

**CHRIST CHURCH**  
**United Church of Christ**  
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# THE CHRONICLES

## FEBRUARY 2021



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Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please submit this information to the church office)*

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