

Christ Church

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

THE CHRONICLES JANUARY 2021



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PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friend in Faith,

In Luke 3, John the Baptist told everybody how to make a way for Jesus. The people who met John at the margins of the wilderness were ordinary folks just like you and me. Because John's message was universal, I think there is something to this that we can all take to heart this Christmastide and New Year.

When it comes down to it, John's message to the crowd wasn't really heroic. John told the whole crowd of people who came to be baptized by him to *share*. We can all do this. John also addressed the tax collectors and soldiers in his audience directly. He knew they had specialized roles and jobs to play. He told the tax collectors to *treat people fairly*. He told the soldiers *not to bully people*. By doing this, John basically met the people where they were and encouraged them to do simple yet powerful things to prepare the world of Jesus. These changes would get them ready for Jesus' way of living and loving in the world.

2020 was a rough year. Between political and social unrest, race riots, wildfires, domestic terrorism, a heated general election, and the pandemic – 2020 was a mess. As we celebrate Christmas over the next few weeks and lean into 2021 together, I think the words of John the Baptist are incredibly timely. We all deserve fairness, kindness, and to be treated with respect as human beings. John invites us to prepare for 2021 with fairness, kindness, and respect.

Even though 2020 was a real soup sandwich of a year, we did do some amazing things together as a church. With every twist and turn that the year threw at us we adjusted and evolved. To this day we are still at the heart of Bay View—worshiping, feeding people, and connecting as a community of believers. I know that we haven't seen one another face-to-face for some time. However, I hope you know that I pray for each of you and hold you close to my heart.

2020 may have come and gone, but I am hopeful we can begin the season of Christmastide and the New Year with hopeful and loving hearts. Blessings from my family to you. Let us prepare a place in our hearts and everyday lives for the Christ-Child. Merry Christmastide and Happy New Year!

Pastor Dan Stark



PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

Here I am Lord, send me. How many times have I, or you, seen something and said to ourselves "someone should do something about that?" Then justify walking by the situation saying I can't because I'm too busy, I'm on my way someplace, I'm working, I'm shopping, I'm late for an appointment, I'm too tired, I'd feel stupid, I have children with me, etc. We all have a myriad of reasons why we don't do something, but we all agree that someone else should do something.

Here I am Lord, send me. Instead of us praying for change what if we actually practiced changing? Praying for change is like me praying to have someone else cut my grass. It would be nice to have my grass cut but it is my responsibility to cut the grass, not pray to have someone else do my work. There is no doubt that change takes strength and courage so to pray for the strength and courage to change is what is needed, right? We know what our responsibility is and we need to take ownership of it. If we need guidance, strength, and the courage to perform our responsibility pray for those things so you can fulfill your responsibility.

Here I am Lord, send me. All of us are the ears, fingers, hands, eyes, and heart of God while we inhabit our space in time in this life. We are part of His living presence on earth. Did you ever have anyone walk up to you and thank you for what you did for them years earlier? Most of time you won't even remember but the help you gave made a huge impression on them and they never forgot it. Wouldn't it be incredible to someday have our Creator greet us in the same way? Think about that. Our Creator knows us too well to expect perfection from you and I so he sent his Son to cover that base for us. He has only asked that we acknowledge Him and treat each other in kindness and love. How hard a job can that be? Plenty, when you do not like the other person, right? Let's start praying to change our hearts and thus really mean it when we ask in the Lord's prayer that God's "will be done on earth as it is in heaven" because until our hearts are changed, not someone else's heart, God's will won't be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Here I am Lord, send me. Starting with January 1, 2021 why do not we adopt that attitude in our everyday life. It's tough (I know) so let's make sure we pray for the strength needed by acknowledging our weakness and leaning much more on the strength God has already given to us through His son.

Happy 2021 to everyone.

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 CORONOVIRUS

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. 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) to be added to the list (414-481-3530).

CLASSES AND MEETINGS DURING COVID 19

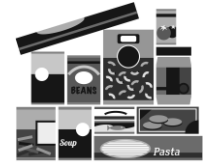
If your group/class would like to return to meeting at the church building, please do the following so we can properly sanitize and prepare the room.

*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: Fruits, Jam/Jellies, Peanut Butter and Vegetables.

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

PACKAGED: Mac n Cheese 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, wickrl.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: BVCC GIVING TREE, HAT & MITTEN & COOKIE DONATIONS

The Social Concerns Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in our BVCC Giving Tree in addition to the hat, mitten and cookie donations. We were able to provide Christmas gifts for 18 children and 7 adults. In addition we donated 20 dozen cookies for seniors, 126 hats, 5 scarves and 7 mittens for children. You truly made the holidays brighter for those in need in our community. The BVCC was very grateful! The need for food donations remains great. Last November they provided food for 150 families but this November they had 500 families asking for food assistance. You can drop off food items or make a monetary donation to the BVCC if you would like to help.

Stay safe and healthy,

Debbie Hansen. Mary Ann Mowery. Sara Rogers, Randene 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: \$5000.00 UCC WISCONSIN CONFERENCE CATALYST GRANT

Christ Church receives \$5000 UCC Wisconsin Conference Catalyst Grant to support Arts and Science Literacy Micro Pods (ASLMP)

One ministry touching the three Great Loves of the United Church of Christ:

- **LOVE OF CREATION:** A science-based curriculum emphasizing different weekly nature themes
- **LOVE OF NEIGHBOR:** A networked collaboration of seven different churches embracing education for children throughout the city of Milwaukee
- **LOVE OF CHILDREN:** A literacy program directed towards low income or disadvantaged children in grades K3 – 7th

A new educational program has been implemented among the churches participating in ASLC. This program coincides with the fall 2020 Milwaukee Public School (MPS) virtual school year. The ASLC Director selected the neediest of our past ASCL students to participate in this pilot project. There are three separate student learning pods, each with a teacher and five children. Participants are offered a morning and afternoon session. MPS virtual learning is supported but extensively supplemented based on the learning styles and special needs of our student body. Arts and science are specifically incorporated into each day's activities.

The student body is comprised of over 50% special needs students with a great emphasis on one-on-one assistance as they navigate their virtual school day. The ethnic composition is 8% African-American, 25% Hispanic, and 67% Caucasian. This program is being conducted at Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church, in the Bay View community.

While many churches find themselves in a maintenance mode as they struggle to navigate the issues generated by the COVID pandemic, our consortium of churches has pioneered a pathway of ministry that addresses the educational needs of children that have previously participated in ASLC.

Jim Wick



SCHEDULES FOR UPCOMING WORSHIP, EVENTS & MEETINGS

Friday January 1st: HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! DI SOS at Christ Church 5:45pm-6:30pm. Building Reps:
 Sunday January 3rd: Virtual Worship with communion.
 Monday January 4th: Tap lessons 5:00pm.
 Wednesday January 6th: Epiphany.
 Friday January 8th: DI distribution at Christ Church 5:00pm-6:30p. Building Reps:
 Saturday January 9th: Crochet class 10:00am.
 Sunday January 10th: Virtual Worship.
 Week of January 10th: "Undecorate the church". No volunteers needed.
 Monday January 11th: Tap lessons 5:00pm.
 Tuesday January 12th: Quilters 10:00am.
 Friday January 15th: DI SOS at Christ Church 5:45pm-6:30pm. Building Reps:
 Sunday January 17th: Virtual Worship with communion.
 Monday January 18th: Tap lessons 5:00pm.
 Friday January 22nd: DI SOS at Christ Church 5:45pm-6:30pm. Building Reps:
 Saturday January 23rd: Quilters 10:00am.
 Sunday January 24th: Virtual Worship.
 Monday January 25th: Tap lessons 5:00pm.
 Tuesday January 26th: Quilters 10:00am.
 Friday January 29th: DI SOS at Christ Church 5:45pm-6:30pm. Building Reps:
 Sunday January 31st: Virtual Worship.

QUILTERS

The Piece and Plenty Quilters will meet at church on Tuesday December 8th at 10:00.
 Randene Wick, Gloria Konkel, Julie Oren and Joyce Zieman.



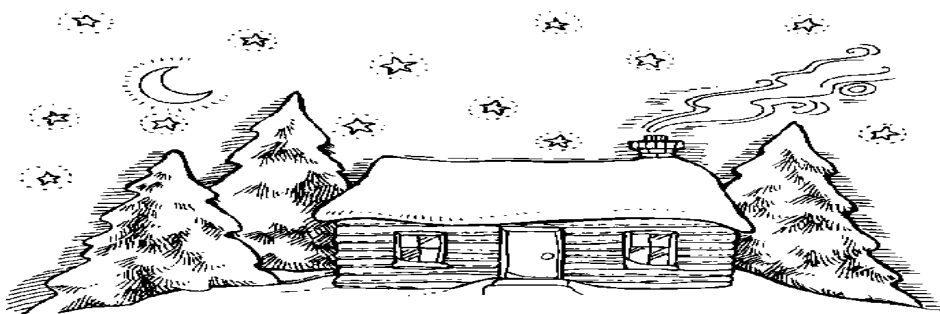
CROCHETERS

Crochet class will be held Saturday December 12th at 10:00am in the music room.
 For information please contact Ken Klockow.



WEEKLY SCRIPTURES

1/3	Jeremiah 31:7-14 or Sirach 24:1-12	Psalm 147:12-20 Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21	Ephesians 1:3-14	John 1:1-9, 10-18
1/10	Genesis 1:1-5	Psalm 29	Acts 19:1-7	Mark 1:4-11
1/17	1Samuel 3:1-10, 11-20	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	1Corinthians 6:12-20	John 1:43-51
1/24	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Psalm 62:5-12	1Corinthians 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20
1/31	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	Psalm 111	1Corinthians 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL THESE WONDERFUL FOLKS!

JANUARY 1

Lily Perdue
Sonia Stark

JANUARY 2

Dave Wareham

JANUARY 3

Bill Scheske

JANUARY 6

Elly Bingheim

JANUARY 10

Kim O'Brien

JANUARY 11

William Kroening Jr.

Jordan Mowery

JANUARY 12

Joseph Heino

JANUARY 14

John Whiting

JANUARY 18

Emma Perdue

Sam Perdue

JANUARY 19

Zack Buell

JANUARY 22

Evangeline Tremarello

JANUARY 23

Bodhi Schmidling

JANUARY 24

James Wick

JANUARY 25

Kenneth Miller

JANUARY 26

Cheri Boyle

JANUARY 27

Dennis Boretsky

JANUARY 28

Barb Heino

Beau Oleson

JANUARY 25

Journey Surak

JANUARY 30

Kristen Mayeshiba

Eric Schmidling



PRAYERS



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

- ~Kim O'Brien and her family as she will be undergoing an double mastectomy in early January for stage 2 Breast Cancer.
- ~Families and friends in our community for whom this time of year is challenging.
- ~Noelle Simons as she continues treatments.
- ~Bill Kroening as he receives a series of 5 radiation treatments for Prostate cancer. He is blessed they caught it early.
- ~Bob Kroening who recently has had setbacks of breathing problems and recurring cancer. Prayers as he has begun a regimen of 6 chemo drug treatments that will be spread out over winter.
- ~Nick Miller, nephew of Nancy & Brad Charles who has started using heroin again. Prayers for the whole family.
- ~Ian, Molly Pufall Brown's husband who has 2 upcoming appointments in the couple of weeks for something in his blood noticed in his annual physical blood work. Praying for a good outcome. From Molly Pufall Brown.
- ~Jeanette, Dave and Nancy Wareham's 90-year-old aunt who has entered hospice comfort care. From Dave & Nancy Wareham.
- ~Tom, brother-in-law of Doris and Paul Mayeshiba who is suffering from ALS and as a result has become a paraplegic. Extra prayers needed as they navigate the holidays.
- ~Matt, brother of Doris Mayeshiba for a speedy recovery from a recent spinal surgery on his neck.
- ~Dawn, daughter in-law of Laurel and wife of Brad Dayton, for continued healing from her heart attack and 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.
- ~Maureen, friend of Susie Klockow, who has breast cancer.
- ~Kathy, Ken Klockow's sister who is in Nursing home hospice.
- ~Jeanie, good friend of Sue Klockow whose father is at the VA hospital suffering from Congestive heart failure.
- ~Dan, friend of Molly Pufall Brown, who is very sick with an undiagnosed illness. Prayers also for his wife and 2 young children.
- ~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.

~Joe and Laurie, son in law and daughter of Jackie Struck. Prayers for continued healing for wounds as he goes to wound care weekly. A ramp has now been installed at their home which makes it easier for both of them.

~Family of Ken and Sue who live in California close to the wildfires.

~Julene Flanagan's nephew, who is struggling with mental health issues.

~Julene Flanagan's family member who is struggling with health issues related to kidney disease.

THANK YOU

~We accept with thanks and appreciation a Christmas memorial gift from Kathleen Schroeder in memory of her mom Ann Schroeder.

~We accept with thanks and appreciation a Christmas memorial donation from Kathleen Schroeder in memory of her mother Ann Schroeder.

~We accept with thanks and appreciation a Christmas memorial donation from the Konkels in memory of Lorraine Zabler and Fritz & Maggie Jorgenson.

~“I wanted to thank all the members of the congregation who have written Advent devotionals. While I think we have all come to expect inspiring messages from Pastor Dan Stark I have been truly amazed by the devotionals written by the members. Your messages have been heartwarming and made this 2020 Advent season brighter.” From Mary Ann Mowery

~We accept with thanks and appreciation memorial gifts to Christ church from the Augustyniaks, Bittners, Freitags, Gaeths, Gebauers, Grosskruets, Lovas, Mills, Neists, Simons, Veits, Warehams Wilkers, Zablers, Wicks, Beth Meyer & Dale Stohre, Susan Zabler, Judy Borkowicz, Nancy Radke, and Chuck Veit in memory of Lorraine Zabler.

~We accept with thanks and appreciation memorial gifts to Christ church from the Moriwakis, Behlings and Kathleen Scaffidi in memory of Ernestine Faja.

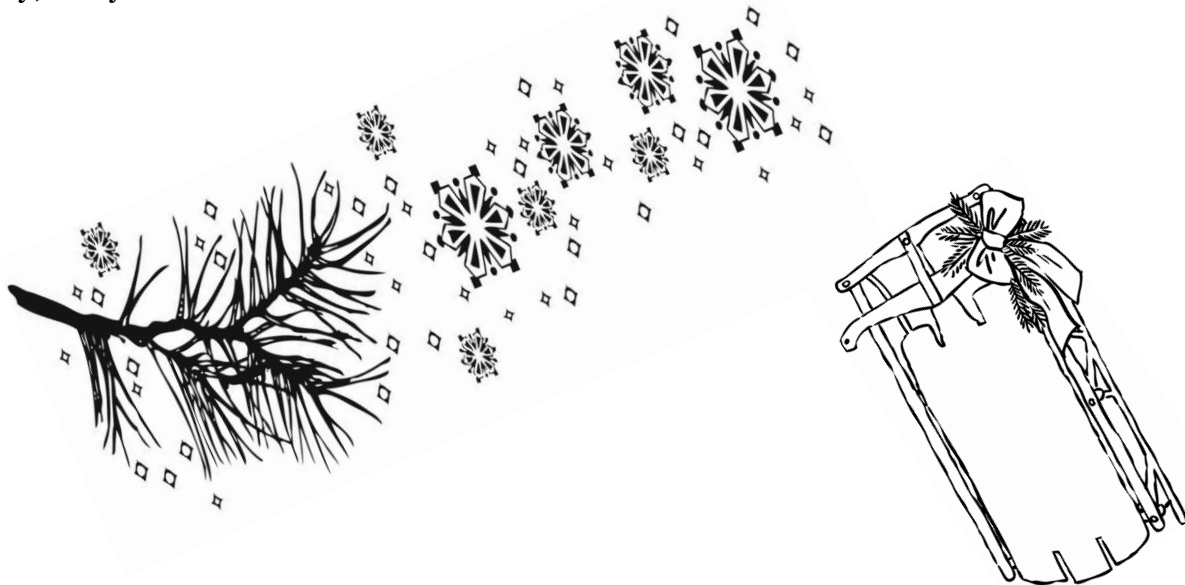
~We accept with thanks and appreciation memorial gifts to Christ church from Jon and Noelle Simons in memory of Randy Oleson and Roland Senderhauf.

~For all of your prayers for our daughter Emily and our family. She has completed her treatments and has no sign of cancer. Doris & Paul Mayeshiba.

~“Thank you so very much for the candy and quiz. It was really fun to do. I think of you all and keep you in my prayers. Thanks again for thinking of me. As I said, I really enjoyed the gifts. God Bless each of you. Love, Jackie Struck.”

~” Dear Friends at Christ Church. I want to thank all of you for the pleasant surprise you sent for Thanksgiving. I am anxious to taste all the different flavors of Jelly Belly's and candy corn. I am going to enjoy the Thanksgiving riddle also. Thanks very much for your thoughtful gift. Hope you all had an enjoyable Thanksgiving”.

Sincerely, Betty Budzien.”



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JANUARY 2021



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