

Christ Church **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

THE CHRONICLES AUGUST 2020

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PASTOR'S LETTER

Church,

After the resurrection, the gospels tell us that the followers who came to see Jesus had mixed reactions to what took place at his tomb. In Mark's Gospel, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought oil to embalm Jesus. They were shocked and afraid by what they saw in the tomb, so they ran away and said nothing to anyone. Matthew's Gospel doesn't tell us why the women went to the tomb, but they hurriedly left it to tell the disciples what they saw. Luke tells us that Mary Magdalene, Johanna, Mary the mother of James, and a few other women went to the tomb with oil. After speaking with the angels, they left the tomb and told everyone what had happened. The other disciples ran to the tomb and left in surprise. Finally, in John, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. When she saw the stone was rolled away, she told the other disciples, who went to the tomb. They left when they saw it was empty. Mary remained at the tomb and cried. Just as the faithful followers of Jesus arrived at the tomb with certain expectations and left the tomb with mixed reactions, I think it is important to prepare you for this reality for worship at Christ Church.

On July 26th we returned to worship in our sanctuary after almost five months of exclusively online services. If and when you return to worship sometime in the future, things will not be the same as they were back in March. If you were expecting things to be as they were when we last gathered – the safety protocols might make you feel like the disciples who went to the tomb expecting to see Jesus and instead saw an empty grave. A few of the disciples fled in fear. Some of them went away confused. At least one of them remained but grieved. The others went away afraid yet filled with joy. In a way, I hope you leave worship reminded that we still exist in the world but filled with joy because of all the hard work that has gone into us gathering. It was joyful to see you reconnect with your friends and family.

I don't know what your reaction will be to the changes that have taken place in order for us to gather during the pandemic. Some people have been grateful. Other folks have been annoyed. Many people have been indifferent and just go with the flow of things. However, I am proud to say that the staff, church leadership, volunteers, and I have worked tirelessly over the past several months to ensure we would have safety protocols in place for



you and your families. We continue to adjust as necessary to meet the needs of our community.

Like the faithful who went to the tomb, you may return to worship at Christ Church and discover that things have changed. The safety precautions are a reminder that we are gathering amid a pandemic. However, we will continue to boldly proclaim – that Christ has risen. The peace of Christ that passes understanding is not like a virus. It is like the spirit and the wind – it goes wherever it wills, wherever we send it.

May the peace of Christ be with you,

Pastor Dan Stark



PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

Did anyone reading this article ever want to be a superhero? You know with all kinds of superpowers and the ability to do great things. Can you daydream a bit at how neat that would be? Think back when you were a child and the things you imagined and wanted to do. Then, like most of us, as we grew older our daydreams became less and less and we accepted our individual reality as our predestined way of life. We accepted what we didn't have the heart, strength, time, wisdom, or money to change. We allowed all types of distractions and temptations to alter our thoughts and dreams. In short, we allowed ourselves to be molded into the what the world offered to us and what we accepted from it. Our daydreams ended.

I would liken my thoughts above to elephants who are trained by being tied to a relatively small stake when they are very young. When they are young, and not very strong, they cannot move that stake. As the elephant grows in strength it still thinks it can't move that stake, so it doesn't even try to. That's why you see enormous and extremely powerful elephants being tethered by a small stake in the ground. We know the elephant could easily break free, but the elephant doesn't know that. He still believes he's small and powerless. Are our experiences growing up and accepting what we couldn't change then our small stake in the ground? Jesus has told us in John 14: 12 that whoever believes in Him will do even greater works than He has done. I don't know about you but that statement from Jesus certainly gets my attention, and quite honestly makes me feel like a bit of an underachiever so far in my life. Am I, a middle class nobody from Milwaukee, able to even compare myself to a successful person much less Christ Jesus? I certainly don't so but apparently Jesus does because he said so.

We are no longer children with dreams. Though our bodies are aging we are people of God who should be growing in wisdom and spiritual strength every day. If you're like me you have many relapses every day in that growth because of things like envy, jealousy, prejudice, selfishness, addictions, and a list of so many other human frailties it is almost endless. Let's not let those frailties and past sins be our small stake that keeps us from using the power we have been given to be the superheroes God has equipped all of us to be. Instead of eating our Wheaties let's get nourished by reading our Bibles. Instead of lifting weights let's do repetitions of showing Christian love when we have the opportunity. Instead of simply accepting what is (our small stake in the ground) let's work for the change that God would have us do (being superheroes).

Dean Kothrade



ATTENDING WORSHIP DURING COVID 19

(A recording of the Sunday service will be posted online late afternoon or early evening as possible.)

- *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. Please:*

- *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. Thank You!

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: Macaroni & Cheese, Chicken Noodle & Tomato Soups, and Jams & Jellies.

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.

UPDATE: DI OUTDOOR SOS DISTRIBUTION FRIDAY NIGHTS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Bag and Hot meals have been distributed from Christ Church on Friday nights since June 19th. We started with exceptionally low attendance but as word got out the numbers have increased greatly. Last Friday 30 people were given 30 hot and cold meals. The cold bag meals are being donated by the 56 DI partners and the hot meals are being donated by Jim Dandy's thru the Meals Matter Movement program all organized by Tippe Church in partnership with our building representatives the Wicks and other Christ Church volunteers. If you would like to be part of this mission please contact Jim Wick or the church office.

SCHEDULES FOR UPCOMING WORSHIP, EVENTS MEETINGS

Sunday August 2nd: In person worship with communion 9:30am.

Monday August 3rd-Saturday August 15th: Pastor Dan at Military Duty out of state.

Friday August 7th: DI SOS distribution at Christ Church 5:00pm-6:30pm-Building rep. needed.

Sunday August 9th: In person worship 9:30am.

Monday August 10th: Church office open 8am-2pm, Property Committee Meeting 7:00pm.

Tuesday August 11th: Quilters 10:00am.

Friday August 14th: Church office closed, September chronicles submissions by 10:00am please, DI SOS distribution at Christ Church 5:00pm-6:30pm-Wicks.

Sunday August 16th: In person worship with communion 9:30am.

Tuesday August 18th: Possible Council Meeting 6:30pm.

Friday August 21st: DI SOS distribution at Christ Church 5:00pm-6:30pm-Mowerys.

Sunday August 23rd: In person worship 9:30am.

Friday August 28th: DI SOS distribution at Christ Church 5:00pm-6:30pm-Building rep. needed.

Sunday August 30th: In person worship 9:30am.

QUILTERS

The Piece and Plenty Quilters will meet at church on Tuesday's at 10:00am on August 11th & August 25th. Randene Wick, Gloria Konkel, 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.

USHER SCHEDULE

8/2 Danette Volz Renolle Volz Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	8/9 Chuck Terlinden Danette Volz Renolle Volz Randene Wick	8/16 Mary Ann Mowery Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	8/23 Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	8/30 Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed
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LITURGIST SCHEDULE

8/2 Randene Wick	8/9 Jim Wick	8/16	8/23	8/30
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WEEKLY SCRIPTURES

8/2	Genesis 32:22-31 and Psalm 17:1-7, 15	Isaiah 55:1-5 and Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21
8/9	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 & Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b	1Kings 19:9-18 & Psalm 85:8-13	Romans 10:5-15	Matthew 14:22-33
8/16	Genesis 45:1-15 & Psalm 133	Isaiah 56:6-8 & Psalm 67	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	Matthew 15(10-20), 21-28
8/23	Exodus 1:8-2:10 & Psalm 124	Isaiah 51:1-6 & Psalm 138	Romans 12:1-8	Matthew 16:13-20
8/30	Exodus 3:1-15 & Psalm 105:1-6, 23-23, 45b	Jeremiah 15:15-21 & Psalm 26:1-8	Romans 12:9-21	Matthew 16:21-28

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL THESE WONDERFUL FOLKS!

<u>AUGUST 1</u> Loretta Johannsen
<u>AUGUST 2</u> Casey Schmeling
<u>AUGUST 3</u> Andy Boyle Tom Dohoney Sandra Wilking

<u>AUGUST 5</u> Morgan Zyskiewicz
<u>AUGUST 7</u> Sarita Gwinn Andy Oren
<u>AUGUST 8</u> Adam Zieman

<u>AUGUST 10</u> Terri Travia
Charlie Wells-Nyklewicz
<u>AUGUST 19</u> Howard Fritsch
<u>AUGUST 23</u> Laura Smith

<u>AUGUST 24</u> Aaron Boyle
<u>AUGUST 26</u> David Slattery
<u>AUGUST 28</u> Michael Slattery



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:

~Helen, aunt of Barb Wells who lives in Minneapolis. She is receiving hospice care and is declining quickly. Pray for God to grant her peace and comfort as she prepares to be welcomed into her eternal home.

~Ellen and her family, friend of Barb Wells. Her husband died last week. We were all classmates in Reedsburg.

~Autumn, friend of Barb Wells (One of my youngest daughter's best friends.) A very special person in her life died last weekend.

~Tracy, daughter of Nancy Kaye who needs a Liver transplant and is in critical condition in the ICU.

~Jeff and Karen, friends of Andy Oren. Jeff has been battling multiple sclerosis for many years and a couple of months ago Karen told me he was in hospice and she expected him to pass soon. Well, Jeff had a different plan and he has stabilized to the point he is no longer under hospice care. I recently had a great visit with him.

~Lou Ann and her brothers, friend of Jill Unglaub as brother Herb has Stage 4 lung cancer and brother Don who is now home and recuperating from a heart attack.

~Kayla, daughter in law of Paul and Doris Mayeshiba who is recovering at home from surgery.

~Kathleen Hurst who lives in Pennsylvania, daughter of Marion Witter who is recuperating at home and doing well after successful open-heart surgery.

~Dawn, daughter in-law of Laurel and wife of Brad Dayton, as she recuperates at home from many medical issues and surgery.

~Joe and Laurie, son in law and daughter of Jackie Struck as Joe now recuperates at home after several months in the hospital and rehab center.

~Judy Borkowicz for ongoing medical problems.

~Linda daughter of Jackie Struck who lives in Connecticut, who is doing well and recovering from Hernia surgery.

~Emily, 30-year-old daughter of Paul and Doris Mayeshiba, who is halfway thru intensive chemotherapy treatment for Non-Hodgkin's large B cell Lymphoma which localized in her nasal passage. Thanksgiving for all the prayers as after a recent MRI the tumor has disappeared! Asking for continued prayers as she completes the last half of the chemo treatment.

~Kim, friend of Mary Ann Mowery who has finally been transferred to a rehab facility after 2 months in the hospital and hopes to go home in another week or so. Thanks for all your prayers!

~Judy, friend of Doris Piacentine who is receiving speech, occupational and physical therapies after having a stroke.

~Jan Breitzman, Debbie Hansen's best friend Pam's mother who is resting at home after completing her 1st round of chemo. She will receive another next week.

~Christopher, Paul and Doris Mayeshiba's daughter in-law's brother as he now is on dialysis. Thank you for all the prayers.

~Austin Ast, son of Brian and Kristin Mayeshiba, who recently joined the Marines.

~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.

~Julene Flanagan's nephew who is dealing with Bipolar disorder and now out of the hospital struggling to get into a healthy daily routine.

~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.

~Jean Goedel to find a job in the Milwaukee area. From Joan Amich.

~Julene Flanagan's husbands 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.

~Newborn preemie siblings Millie and Margot, nieces of a friend of Sonia Stark. born at 28 weeks, who are doing well at home.

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

~The five healthcare workers within Gloria Konkell's immediate family.

~Everyone in our church community, family, and friends, those cut off from loved ones, front line workers, scientists, researchers, manufacturers, our leaders and patients in cities and states across our country and the world.

THANK YOU

~We accept with gratitude and appreciation memorial donations given in memory of "Fritz" Jorgenson to Christ Church from: Joyce Neuman, The Simons, Warehams, Wells, Konkells, Beth Meyer & Dale Stohre and previous Delco coworker of Fritz, Kenneth Nelson in Florida.

~Thank you to Ken Klockow and the crocheters for creating beautiful flowers to put on our altar area for our return to in person worship. Thank you also to the Klockows, Gaeths and Jill Unglaub for hanging the beautiful and colorful decorations on the railings and altar that have beautified our church. Thank you for sharing your artistic gifts and talents.

~Thank you for the prayers for Marilyn, friend and neighbor of Loretta Senderhauf who is doing much better and is now back home after being hospitalized with many health issues and dementia.

~"Dear Social Concerns Committee, Thank you so very much for the Chicken Soup for the Soul puzzle book. It's so nice to be remembered. I will think of all of you whenever I do a puzzle. God Bless Each of You. Love Jackie Struck".

~Sending greetings and a very special thank you for mailing the inspirational word finds book. Working on puzzles has become my favorite in-house activity. The gift has given me many hours of pleasure. Blessings to all, Jean Duermeier".

~In response to the summer Share and Care mailing put out by the Social Concerns committee: "What a nice surprise. I love to work word search puzzles. Now that I can see better, I can finally do them. Thank you so much. It is a good pastime for me along with crocheting. Take care and stay healthy." Noelle Simons

~Thank you to the Klockows, Kothrades, Behlings and Barb Wells for donations of COVID supplies to keep our church community safe.

CONGRATULATIONS

~Mike and Debbie Behling will celebrate their 40 Wedding Anniversary on August 1st.

"Thank you, Mike for being the best husband and friend a girl could have. You have my heart forever!"



CHRIST CHURCH
United Church of Christ
915 East Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

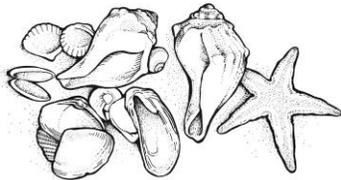
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AUGUST 2020



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