

Christ Church **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

THE CHRONICLES MAY 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Letter

President's Letter

Church Council Member
Request

Weekly Newsletter & Online
Giving Sign-Up's

Information Request & update

Rummage Sale Report

Needs, Opportunities & Events

Schedules & Scripture Calendar

Birthdays

Thanks

Dawa Choedon Sponsorship

Chronicles Sign Up

Get Connected



PASTOR'S LETTER

DEAR CHURCH,

Before Holy Week I met with a group of clergy-folk for conversation and connection. One of the pastors mentioned that he is a "church revitalizer." He essentially goes to churches that are in danger of closing and turns them around. I asked him to share a little bit about what he does. He told me: "I drink coffee with people." That didn't sound too bad to me, but I needed more detail.

Churches, he shared, tend to do the same old stuff harder and harder when they are fighting for survival. However, the magic bullet isn't for a church to just start doing a bunch of new things in order to survive. He expressed that revitalization requires reconnection with what the church is good at and whom is already there. He has coffee with people in order to reconnect with people who are in the church, because to *re-vitalize* involves reconnecting and rediscovering the gifts of those whom are already at church. This doesn't mean we shouldn't focus on doing new things or stop trying to connect to different demographics of people than the people whom have made up our church in the past. However, it means that reconnecting is important for revitalization. However, sometimes we need to get back to the basics.

Last month when I wrote about death and resurrection in our church, I tried to hit on a couple items. First, I wanted to share how our congregation's make-up has dramatically changed over the past 4 years. We have experienced deaths, moves, and the church has come and gone into and out of people's lives for a host of different reasons. In a sense the church that *was* is dying and is in the process of resurrection. I also touched on how we have a great opportunity to reach persons in the Bay View area for whom churches have not been a place of welcome. I had received dozens of emails from LGBT people who wanted to know whether our church would be welcoming to them or their families. By initiating the Open and Affirming discernment process, our church could be explicit about welcoming LGBT persons of faith. I am hopeful that this can be a part of our church's resurrection – and perhaps something new and exciting that could revitalize us.

I received a number of emotional responses to my article, because some folks believed I had written off, given up, or forgotten about persons whom were no longer present or estranged from our congregation. They were hurt. Part of the resurrection story of our church could have to deal with this.

I would like to take a page from my clergy friend who told me he drinks coffee to reconnect with people. Our church is in the dying process but it is in the resurrection process as well. We do need to revision whom our church welcomes and who we are – but we (all of us in leadership) also need to work on the vital connections between those of you whom are a part of the church already. With this being said, I would like to connect or reconnect with *you*. How can we do this? If you would like a visit from me, whether for counseling, a chat, or to simply be heard, please let me know. Call the office or send me an email (pastor@uccmke.org). If you have an issue and you want to talk to me about it, please talk to me (507-951-2856). Before you get hurt and feel forgotten, please tell me.

Sometimes in churches we don't communicate in the healthiest ways, so I would like to tell you some great ways of cleaning up bad communication habits for all of our sakes. These come from the Alban Institute. 1. If you need to talk, speak directly to the person or committee with whom you have a concern. 2. Refuse to carry a message from one person or group to another. 3. If two people talk with you about each other, offer to meet with both of them together or to find them a mediator. 4. If a person complains to you about someone else but refuses to directly talk with the person to resolve the problem, ask him or her to stop talking to you or others about it. 5. Reduce venting by first listening and then asking what action the person will undertake to resolve the problem. 6. Refuse to take nonspecific or anonymous feedback seriously.

I do believe cleaning up our communication will help us in our process of connecting and reconnecting with one another (me connecting or reconnecting to you, and you connecting to others as well!). We all have a role to play in our church's resurrection process. This is the season of resurrection. We all know that dying hurts. However, the empty tomb on Easter Sunday reminded us that death is not the end. Christ is risen.

With gratitude for you,
Pastor Dan



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I can't tell you how many times I've been inspired to do something and then, for one reason or another, I have lost that spark, and never done what I was inspired to do. It can be something as simple as meaning to send a card to a person who is ill or shut in or it may be as important as starting a different vocation or returning to school.

The majority of times what stopped me from even attempting to do what I was inspired to do was my own self defeating thoughts. "I'm not good enough", "I'm not smart enough", "it'll never work anyway". These are usually the reasons I give myself for not even trying. When I have been able to generate enough inward drive to do the things I'm inspired to do the results have always been positive and have almost always turned out way better than I expected. That track record has given me more energy, inspiration, and understanding of my own feelings as well as being able to understand other's feelings.

Realizing that we are our own worst critics and it's usually much easier to forgive anyone else rather than ourselves, I offer you the thought that today is the life we have and now is the time to act. Whenever we are motivated we should follow through. Whenever we are called we should answer. I would not tell you something that I didn't know to be true, at least in my life. Whether we are at church, home, work, shopping, or anywhere when you are called, answer. When you are motivated, follow through.

You may very well be the person called by God inside you to act as His representative right then and there. We believe that God is ever present and everywhere. Could that be because His created tools (us) are everywhere where help is needed?

Even though I judge time by seasons every day is a unique time period. The only thing that holds us back from yesterday is either our guilt or our inability to forgive. The only thing that hinders our future is our fear of what may.

Enjoy every day's gift that is given to you and don't ignore those inspirations that come to you. They may very well be the thing that will change everything.

Dean Kothrade,
Council President

CHRIST CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBER NEEDED

We are still looking for 1 more council position to be filled. Please talk to anyone on the council if you are interested in joining. This is an opportunity to use the talents and gifts you were given to shape and guide our church and its ministry outreach.

OPPORTUNITY: ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is now a possibility! If you're in the pew and you'd like to give something other than cash or a check, you are encouraged to use your phone to visit www.uccmke.org and tap the donate button at the bottom. You can pay with an existing PayPal account or with any credit card. It's easy and it saves your information for the next time you visit! Wondering what one of these weird scanny codes in the bulletin is? Give them a scan with a QR reader app on your phone and it will bring up the donation page! Want more information about online giving? See Pastor Dan or contact the church office at 414-481-3530. **Please only donate with a credit card using a Pay Pal account so**



the church doesn't incur costly fees.

OPPORTUNITY: 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). Sign up sheets are also available at the information racks at the church entrances, then just drop it in the collection plate.

INFORMATION REQUEST: GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please contact the church office with the name of your family member, where they are graduating from, if they will continue their education and where or if they are earning a degree, what area it is in and what they will be pursuing after graduation. We would like to post this exciting news in our upcoming bulletins and newsletters. You can do this via church email: office@uccmke.org, phone: 414-481-3530, mail: 915 E Oklahoma Ave. Milw. 53207 or the black mailbox outside of the church office. Thank You!

2019 CHRIST CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE A SUCCESS



Thanks to our Christ Church community and beyond our rummage sale held on April 5th & 6th brought in \$3,000.00 and after expenses we had proceeds of \$2,900.00 which went into our General Fund!

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Rummage sale by donating monetarily, rummage items, food/bakery to sell, sorting, setting up, working and cleaning up at the rummage sale. Also, thanks to all of you who spread the word and came and shopped. Special thanks to Katelyn O'Brien, Randene Wick, Judy Borkowicz, Andy Oren and Paul & Doris Mayeshiba who spent endless hours helping to sort, set up and/or cleanup for the rummage sale.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank Michele and Jerry from Diva/Divo who not only donated a tremendous amount of clothing and miscellaneous items for our rummage sale but brought it all down themselves from the 3rd floor!

NEED: BVCC FOOD & INFANT FORMULA MONTHLY DRIVE SUNDAY MAY 5TH

Requested items: Canned proteins such as: • Canned Soups (both cream and broth)
• Peanut Butter • Jelly • Canned Vegetables • Canned Fruits & Juices • Cereal •
Mac and Cheese • Canned Tuna



NEED: LARRY UNDER THE BRIDGE (LUTB)

*Hand Warmers *Hand Sanitizer *Tarps *1-2 person Tents

Donations for LUTB can be **dropped off at Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church**

(125 W. Saveland Ave.) door closest to 1st Street. (Tippe's staff are in and out of that door all day long so someone will bring them in.) They will also accept monetary donations.

Thanks! The Social Concerns Committee

OPPORTUNITY: ASLC SUMMER CAMP FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN AT TIPPE

Please refer to the information racks for flyers, sign up forms & scholarship information.

OPPORTUNITY: FERMENTING THE FAITH STARTING UP IN MAY

Wednesday May 22, 6:30 PM. Humboldt Park Beer Garden

Time, Date, Place: Fourth Wednesday of the month (May – Sept.) Humboldt Park Beer Garden, starting May 22th at 6:30 PM- 9:00 PM. Humboldt Park Beer Garden: all cash (ATM is available). Rain or Shine (pavilion available in case of inclement weather).

May Discussion Leader: Old Testament scholar, Rev. Dan Stark. Other leaders this summer include Bill Borchardt, Dan Kothrade, Jill Unglaub and Andy Oren.

Gather on 4th Wednesdays each month, May – Sept.

Topics: May include current events, social issues, or just play old God talk. More info to come!

Jim Wick, jameswick73@gmail.com, Phone: 414-614-2612

OPPORTUNITY: VOLUNTEER FOR 2019 UCC GENERAL SYNOD

The Wisconsin Conference will be hosting the 32nd General Synod of the UCC in Milwaukee June 21-25, 2019. Approximately 300-400 volunteers will be needed throughout the 5 days of the General Synod next June. Volunteer opportunities are: Hospitality, Childcare & Children's Ministry, Mission, Word Processing and Tech, Worship, Outdoor Festival and More!

Read more at WCUCC.org/synodvolunteer. Use the link there for volunteer registration.

OPPORTUNITY: CHRIST CHURCH BOOK CLUB

Inviting all Christ Church members and their friends to our next book club meeting. We have fellowship time as well as thought provoking discussions about our book. We will be meeting on Sunday October 6th and discussing Angels Among Us by Wanda Rosseland. Books can be obtained at the library, Amazon, Ebay or your local bookstore. Hope you can join us! If you have any questions ask Carol Borchardt, Carol Dohoney, Debbie Hansen or Mary Ann Mowery



SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS IN MAY

May 2: Announcement submissions by 10:00am, Choir & AA meeting 7:00pm

May 4: Confirmation Student Outing 10:00am

May 5: BVCC Food & Infant Pantry Drive/Collection, Choir 8:15am, Adult Ed. 8:30am, Worship with Communion & Sunday School 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30am

May 7: New Office Copier Delivery 9:00am

May 8: Praise Team 7:00pm

May 9: Weekly announcement submissions by 10:00am, Choir & AA 7:00pm

May 11: Crochet Class 10:00am, Pastor Dan officiating offsite wedding

May 12: Happy Mother's Day! Adult Ed. 8:15am, Worship & Sunday School 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30am

May 13: Property Committee meeting 7:00pm

May 14: Staff Meeting & Quilters 10:00am, Purple Heart Pick up

May 15: Praise Team 7:00pm

May 16: Weekly announcement submissions by 10:00am, Choir & AA 7:00pm



May 17: June Chronicles Newsletter Submissions by 10:00am, Robb/Bartman Wedding Rehearsal-Dinner TBD

May 18: Robb/Bartman Wedding 3:00pm

May 19: Praise Team 8:15am, Adult Ed. 8:30am, Worship with Communion & Sunday School 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30am

May 21: Council Meeting 6:30pm

May 23: Weekly announcement submissions by 10:00am, Choir & AA 7:00pm

May 25: Crochet Class 10:00am

May 26: Adult Ed. 8:30am, Worship & Sunday School 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30am

May 27: Memorial Day!

May 28-June 2: Pastor Dan at Military Duty in Grand Forks

May 30: Ascension Day! Weekly Announcement Submissions by 10:00am, Choir & AA meeting 7:00pm

SAVE THE DATE

JUNE: Summer office hours begin- Tuesdays thru Thursdays 8:00am-1:00pm

June 2: Sunday School Children's picnic. Last day of Sunday School

June 7, 14, 20,27: DI (Divine Intervention) SOS (Sharing our Suppers) held at Christ Church 5:30pm-7:00pm in our fellowship hall

June 9: Last day of Sunday morning Adult Ed.

June 9-August 2: Youthworks youth volunteers camp in our fellowship hall intermittently. Schedule tba.

June 16: Father's Day!

CHOIR SCHEDULE

Sunday Rehearsal and Service	5/5 8:15am	6/2 8:15am	
Rehearsals	5/2 7:00pm	5/23 7:00pm	5/30 7:00pm



PRAISE TEAM SCHEDULE

Sunday Rehearsal and Service	5/19 8:15am	
Rehearsals	5/8 7:00pm	5/15 7:00pm



GREETER SCHEDULE

Oklahoma Street	5/5 Judy Borkowicz	5/12 Judy Borkowicz	5/19 The Mitchell-Perdue Family	5/26 The Tremarello Family
Lenox Street	5/5 Chuck Terlinden	5/12 Don Antoniewicz	5/19 The Berger Family	5/26 The Ziemans

LENOX STREET PARKING HELPER SCHEDULE

5/5 The Wicks	5/12 Don Antoniewicz	5/19 The Pisareks	5/26 Chuck Terlinden
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COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS SCHEDULE

5/5 The Volzs	5/12 Volunteer Needed	5/19 Volunteer Needed	5/26 Volunteer Needed
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USHER SCHEDULE

5/5 Bill Borchardt Tom Dohoney Carol Dohoney Julene Flanagan	5/12 Joan Amich Olivia Mayeshiba Mike Thomae David Wareham	5/19 Chuck Terlinden Danette Volz Renolle Volz Dave Wareham	5/26 Brad Boyle Cheri Boyle Katelyn O'Brien Mike Thomae
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LITURGIST SCHEDULE

5/5 Jill Unglaub	5/12 Doris Mayeshiba	5/19 Dick Gaeth	5/26 Randene Wick
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WEEKLY SCRIPTURES

5/5	Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)	Psalm 30	Revelation 5:11-14	John 21:1-9
5/12	Acts 9:36-43	Psalm 23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
5/19	Acts 11:1-18	Psalm 148	Revelation 21:1-6	John 13:31-35
5/26	Acts 16:9-15	Psalm 67	Revelation 21:10, 22:5	John 14: 23-29 or John 5:1-9

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to all these wonderful folks!

<u>MAY 1</u> Tom Albertin Joan Gaeth
<u>MAY 3</u> Patti Roginski
<u>MAY 5</u> Colton Zvara
<u>MAY 6</u> Judy Faja Kathleen Schroeder
<u>MAY 7</u> Emma Bingheim

<u>MAY 9</u> Bill Borchardt Mary Geraghty William Kroening Leone Krueger
<u>MAY 11</u> Betty Budzien Michelle Vail
<u>MAY 18</u> Stacey Bergeman

<u>MAY 21</u> Jean Abler Andrea Blankenberg Scott Schmeling Debbie Wells
<u>MAY 23</u> Pat Freitag
<u>MAY 24</u> Ben Clark Sophie Malecki
<u>MAY 25</u> Glenn Budzien

<u>MAY 26</u> Larry Savage Marion Schoenfeld
<u>May 28</u> Pam Kothrade
<u>May 29</u> Sandra Wegner
<u>May 30</u> Kirstyn Heino Jacob Heino
<u>May 31</u> Daniel Hansen



THANKS

~Thank you to everyone who helped with our Rummage sale by donating monetarily, rummage items, food/bakery to sell, advertising, shopping, sorting, setting up, working and cleaning up at the rummage sale. Special thanks to Katelyn O'Brien, Randene Wick, Judy Borkowicz, Andy Oren and Paul and Doris Mayeshiba who spent endless hours helping to sort and set up for the rummage sale. We also acknowledge and thank Michele and Jerry from Diva/Divo who not only donated a tremendous amount of clothing to our rummage sale but carried it all down themselves from the 3rd floor!

~A Thank you was received from Jackie Struck for the Easter basket/gift sent on behalf of the Christ Church congregation by the Social Concerns Committee. "Thank you so very much for the Easter basket of treats and kind greetings. It is so very nice to be remembered in this way. God bless each of you."

~A Thank you was received from Jean Duermeier, a Share and Care member we sent an Easter Basket to. "Please accept my heartfelt thank you for the special Easter Gift. I wish everyone at Christ Church a Happy Easter."

~Many thanks to Bill Borchardt, Randene Wick, Judy Borkowicz and Dean and Mary Ann Mowery for their help with last week's presentations on the sacraments. Jim Wick.

~Thank you to the Christ Church Council for hosting the Easter Breakfast as well as decorating the fellowship hall and tables so beautifully. Everything was delicious and the hall was full of spring!

~Thank you to the Sunday School children & teachers for creating the cute table centerpieces for the Easter Breakfast. They made the tables bright and festive.

~Thank you to Pastor Dan & Office Administrator Debbie for organizing the Easter Egg Hunt for our Sunday School Children. About 20 children had a great time finding, we believe, all 288 eggs!

~Thank you to Carol Behling, Judy Borkowicz and Lynn Schmeling for their help in hiding eggs and overseeing the Easter Egg Hunt.

~A Thank you was received from the USO to Christ Church & Dick Gaeth.

"Thank you Dick for your generous donation to USO Wisconsin. The soda and snacks, valued at \$102.32 will support local military families. Do to your generosity, we have means to help relieve stress on service members and help keep families connections strong, with an average of 75,000 touches annually.

While maintaining centers at the Milwaukee and La Crosse airports, the Milwaukee Military Entrance Processing Station, and multiple centers at Fort McCoy in northwest, Wi, USO WI continues to grow various programs, such as the Bob Hope Legacy Reading Program at deployments, family and holiday celebrations, and military appreciation days at sporting events.

The USO of Wisconsin, Inc., a 501©(3), non-profit organization, has had a continuous presence in Wisconsin since 1941. We are solely supported by the generosity of private citizens and community partners; no funding comes from the military. *Your contributions are essential to our mission.*

Best regards, Josh Sova, Executive Director, USO Wisconsin

~"Thank you so much for your steadfast support of sexual abuse survivors and the Aurora Healing Center.

These funds allow us to provide free individuals and group counseling and advocacy to victims of sexual assault. It means so much to us and survivors that groups like Christ Church support and validate the special needs of victims. Again, THANK YOU!!"

Mary Ann Clesceri, Healing Center Director

~Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Shut In Easter basket mission. 14 baskets were delivered and 2 were mailed in early April. A special thanks go out to our Sunday school children for making the Easter cards for the baskets.

~Thanks to Loretta & Roland Senderhauf for a donation for a month of support for Dawa, the child we sponsor thru our coffee hour.

SHARING IN OUR SPONSORSHIP OF DAWA CHOEDON

Please remember that the Christ Church Council has voted to sponsor a child through "Global Ministries" (Relief organization of UCC & Christian Church-Disciples of Christ). Yes, we are all very excited about our sponsored child, Dawa Choedon.

Dawa is 12 years old and lives in Lhaze Zong in Tibet. Both her father and mother are farmers. She has 2 sisters. Since Dawa's parents are poor they have sent all 3 siblings to the Upper Tibetan Children's Village (TCV) for an education.

The cost of sponsoring Dawa is \$45/month, or \$11.25/week. We hope to be able to sponsor her for a year with proceeds from our donut hour offering. We are encouraged to write to Dawa so she will know who is sponsoring her and that she may be able to write back to her "family" in the United States. The address to write to her is:

Dawa Choedon /Tenzin Zeden, Children's Secretary/Tibetan Children's Village
Dharamsala Cantt 176216
Distt. Kangra H.P. India



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

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THE CHRONICLES

MAY 2019



**YES...I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE
THE "CHRONICLES NEWSLETTER" VIA EMAIL**

**YES...I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE
THE "CHRIST CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER" VIA EMAIL**

YES...I NEED THE NEWSLETTER MAILED

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Address: _____

(Please submit this information to the church office)

GET CONNECTED

If you want to know more about the happenings at Christ Church, scan the code to the left with your phone or visit our website at www.uccmke.org

Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbayview/> and get links to important events and weekly sermons!