

Union Congregational Church

A United Church of Christ

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Waupun, WI 53963

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The Pilgrim Messenger

November 2011

Worship Schedule

Sunday, November 6

Celebration Sunday

Each One Bring One Sunday

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Neighbors in Need Offering Ends

8:00 am Media Service

with Holy Communion

9:30 am Traditional Service with Holy Communion & Sunday School Children singing

Sunday, November 13

8:00 am Media Service

9:30 am Traditional Service

All Church Budget Meeting

to immediately follow

Sunday, November 20

8:00 am Media Service

9:30 am Traditional Service

Wednesday, November 23

7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service

Sunday, November 27

8:00 am Media Service with Holy Communion

9:30 am Traditional Service with Holy

Communion

Sunday, December 4

8:00 am Media Service

9:30 a.m. Hanging of the Greens

Special points of interest:

Monday, November 1

- All Saints Day

Thursday, November 3

- Women's Discussion Group 6pm

Sunday, November 6

- Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Celebration Sunday
- Each One Bring One Sunday
- Neighbors in Need Offering Ends
- Sunday School Children singing during the 9:30 service

Friday November 11

- Food Drive and Letters to Congress campaign ends

Sunday, November 13

- All Church Budget Meeting following the 9:30 service

Thursday, November 17

- Christmas Workshop 6pm

Wednesday, November 23

- Thanksgiving Eve Service 7pm

Thursday, November 24

- Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, November 27

- Holy Communion Celebrated

Hanging of the Greens Practices

- 11/13, 11/20, 11/27 at 9:30 am

Mission Spotlight

MISSION: 1

Food Drive, thru Nov. 11

Neighbors In Need, thru Nov. 6

Letters to Congress, thru Nov. 11

Looking Ahead:

Holiday Cookie Walk

Saturday, Dec. 10



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Mission Statement

*Love God's Creation-
Share in Fellowship-
Live Christ's Example*



The Spiritual

Corner



From Your Pastor's Pen: Heads up on the nomenclature! Or as I explained it to Leann, "same, same but different." Say what? This year's Stewardship Campaign culmination. Last year it was termed "*Consecration Sunday*" but this year it is "*Celebration Sunday*". So don't be confused by the shuffle. Both are wonderfully descriptive.

To consecrate is to make holy. Or more accurately, give something to God to make holy, as of course, without God we can't make anything holy. But think about that a moment. What a privilege we have. As God's people we are in a position to present a million and one things for God's stamp of holiness approval (a definition of a good steward is there too). Whatever we give to God for God's purposes and Christ's continuing ministry in the world today is consecrated for the purpose of multiplying blessings. We do that with our volunteerism, our sharing of our abilities, and the deliberated decision to share our wealth. In all these ways we supply holiness to a world that aches and longs and cries and prays for it. Yes, as good-steward-people you are the answer to a prayer—you are making holiness spring up in places where it otherwise wouldn't. Wow! Our faith is so utterly incredible. It daily amazes me. I shudder at the knowledge that God Almighty has chosen me/us for such purposes!

And what do you have when you are a blessing to others? Celebration of course. So there you have it: consecration and celebration are inseparably one. And to think that so many people don't understand the joy of sacrificing—it is the deepest joy imaginable. It is the highest calling—the holiest life—any human being could ever experience. So of course, when Jesus is heard speaking of the same thing he is heard saying, "it is in giving that we receive, it is in sacrificing that we are blessed."

Outside of our faith all of this sounds off the wall crazy. The "me-first-people" laugh at all this, as they did in Jesus' day. Little do they know. Whereas the truly blessed are the ones who laugh the longest and laugh last. They laugh while determining the percentage amount of their financial support of their Church because it brings them joy. The truly blessed are the ones who laugh while doing something for another without any expectation of return because it warms their heart. The truly blessed are the ones who laugh at those who laugh at Christians for the untold blessing that they are directly responsible for as they faithfully support their Church's missions and ministries in God's world. The truly blessed are always laughing because they are daily engaged in making holiness appear, blessings blossom. For the truly blessed every day is a day of consecration and celebration. Join us November 6th. Bring a friend. Mail in your faith promise cards. Be a blessing among people being blessings. Blessing you while you bless me. O what a joy divine! - Pastor Mark

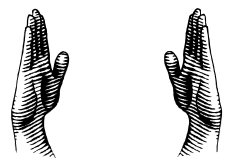


Thought to Ponder: A college student gets a summer job painting center lines down country roads in Door County, WI. The first day the young man paints four miles of stripe and the supervisor is very pleased. The second day the young man paints two miles. And the next day he manages only one mile. The supervisor calls him in and asked why with each passing day he did less work. "Well, it should be obvious" replied the young man, "each day I get further and further away from the paint can!" When we get too far from our Source life gets out of balance. We lose perspective.

We put our lives into proper perspective when we remember:

- a fourth of the worlds population lives in poverty (1.5 billion people)
- every day some 900 million people (35 million Americans) suffer from chronic hunger
- every 2 1/2 seconds a child dies of starvation (34,000 a day!)
- in America 15 million children go hungry every day
- 55% of the world's population has an income of less than \$2. a day.
- The 400 wealthiest Americans have a greater combined net worth than the bottom 150 million.
- The top 1 percent of Americans possess more wealth than the entire bottom 90 percent.

What in God's world have you lost proper perspective on that is resulting in you moving further and further away from the Source?



Program

News



MISSION: 1
November 1 – 11
ONE UNITED CHURCH
ON A SHARED MISSION



FOOD DRIVE for Waupun Food Pantry, ending Nov. 11
Challenge: donate 11 items per family

NEIGHBORS IN NEED Offering, ending Nov. 6
Challenge: donate \$11 up to \$111 per family

LETTERS TO CONGRESS Campaign, ending Nov. 11
Challenge: write 1 letter per family

Treasurer's Report \$210.00 has been donated to the Parking Lot fund and the West



Door fund is currently at \$21,741.25! In the past few weeks \$3,500.00 has been borrowed from the Revolving loan to cover expenses for the Church. These include insurance, phone, utilities, office supplies and even payroll to name a few.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are getting closer and with little ones at home this is a wonderful time of year for our family and I'm sure all of yours as well. During this upcoming Holiday Season that is fast approaching, remember the true meaning and what we are truly thankful for. Remember that without each of you and your gifts we have no Church. Thank you, for your gifts each week, they really make a difference.

CROP Walk Thank You! I want to take this time to thank all of the people that participated in or donated money for the 2011 CROP Walk! THANK YOU!



As the coordinator of the UCC group, I was asked to estimate the number of walkers and the amount of money that I thought my group would raise for this important cause. I am pleased to announce that my estimate was exceeded! As a group and as a church, we raised over \$1030! For every \$250 donated you enable a local food pantry to restock their shelves with a ton (2,000 lbs) of food! Everyone should feel VERY proud of the amount of money raised. You helped to put food on the table for a lot of people! Thank you again for your help & God bless! Leslie Ganske

Women's Fellowship Women's Fellowship

Would Like To Thank all of you that donated rummage sale items and/or baked goods, bought items or in anyway helped us out. It was a great success and we raised \$464.25 for the family emergency fund!

Our next outing will be on Wednesday, November 9 at 11:00 a.m. at Helen's Kitchen for good food and great fellowship. All ladies are welcome to come join in all the fun!



Mark your calendars . . .

Holiday Cookie Walk

Saturday, Dec. 10

Sign up now to donate Christmas cookies!

Book Club Book club is open to all women who enjoy reading. We meet the 4th Tues of each month at 7pm. This month's book discussion is from the book "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down" by Anne Fadiman. We will meet on Tuesday, November 22 at 7pm, hosted by Shelly O'Leary & Bev Lammers at Shelly's House. For more info call Sandra Champion at 324-8500.



Christian Education Corner



Attention Women—This Discussion Group is Designed for You!



November 3, 6:00 pm – 7:30
Linda O'Donovan will be hosting a women's discussion group on courage,

biblically based on the story of Miriam. There will be time for individual reflection as well as group participation.

Leader's Note – The framework of the mini-workshop is based curriculum written by a woman I met at the UCC General Synod. I'll have everything you need for an enjoyable, inspiring evening. If we enjoy the format, we can do more on the topic of courage or try others. The curriculum is called on Red Tent Series. In case you want to check it out, the curriculum website is: <http://www.redtentgathering.com/>

Making Christmas Memorable You are all invited to a Christmas Workshop on Thursday, November 17th at 6pm. Some of the topics will include: creating family traditions, simple ways to make Christmas special and to bring Christ back into the holidays and ideas for beating the constant push of consumerism. Please watch bulletins and the website for more details.



Hanging of the Greens! The annual Christmas program, The Hanging of the Greens, will be held on December 4th this year! Practice times this year will be after Sunday school and during the 9:30 service on November 13, 20, and 27th. There will also be a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 3rd from 9-11am. This will be the last practice before the program on Sunday.

Sunday School Offering
The amount of \$531.67 from the Sunday school children offerings for the 2010-2011 school year were donated to the Waupun animal shelter. The offerings from the Sunday school children for the 2011-2012 school year will go to school supplies for local children in need.



Heavenly Humor
"Where is my Sunday paper?!" the irate customer calling the newspaper office demanded. The clerk replied, "Miss, today is Saturday. The Sunday paper is not delivered until tomorrow, on Sunday." There was quite a long pause on the other end of the phone, followed by the ray of recognition as she was heard to mutter, "Well, shoot, that explains why no none was at church either."



Sunday School Happenings
Children will be singing on Sunday, November 6th during the 9:30 service. Children will be practicing during Sunday school that morning.

Looking Ahead:
The Christian Ed Committee is once again offering to wrap your Christmas Presents on December 14th from 6-8 pm, during the Christmas Party. So leave the work to us and spend more time doing something fun! Watch for more detail in next month's newsletter.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Media Team 6:30 pm	2	3 Women's Discussion Group 6:00pm 	4	5
6 Each 1 Bring 1 Sunday Celebration Sunday Neighbors in Need Offering Ends Media Service with Holy Communion 8:00 am Sunday School, Confirmation Class and Fellowship Hour 8:30 am Traditional Service with Sunday School Children Singing 9:30 am Daylight Savings Time Ends  	7 Christian Ed 6:00 pm	8 Diaconate 6:00 pm	9 Women's Fellowship 11:00 am	10	11 Food Drive for Waupun Food Pantry Ends & Letters to Congress Campaign ends 	12
13 Media Service 8:00 am Sunday School and Fellowship Hour 8:30 am Traditional Service and Hanging of the Greens Practice 9:30 am All Church Budget Meeting 10:35 am 	14	15 Council 6:30 pm	16	17 Newsletter Deadline Christmas Workshop 6:00 pm 	18	19 SHARE 8:30 am
20 Media Service 8:00 am Sunday School, Confirmation Class and Fellowship Hour 8:30 am Traditional Service and Hanging of the Greens Practice 9:30 am 	21	22 Book Club 7:00 pm	23 Thanksgiving Service 7:00 pm 	24 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed 	25 Office Closed	26
27 Media Service with Holy Communion 8:00 am Sunday School and Fellowship Hour 8:30 am Traditional Service with Holy Communion and Hanging of the Greens Practice 9:30 am 	28	29 Newsletter Assembly 8:30 am	30			



"Freely you have received, freely give."

Matthew 10:8



	<u>Deacon on Duty</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Greeters</u>
<u>November 6</u>	Ted Sullivan	To be Announced	Julie Bronkhorst	To be Announced
<u>November 13</u>	Angie Cook	To be Announced	Ed Firlus	To be Announced
<u>November 20</u>	Linda O'Donovan	To be Announced	AJ Kahl	To be Announced
<u>November 27</u>	Duane Stelsel	To be Announced	Melissa Brown	To be Announced



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Non-Profit
BULK RATE
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Waupun, WI 53963

Return Service Requested

Love God's Creation - Share in Fellowship - Live Christ's Example



Happy Birthday!

- 11/01 Harris Loomans
- 11/02 Randy Leu
- 11/03 Heather Vanderkin, Jessica Arbisi
- 11/05 Robyn Balgie, Brianna Westhuis
- 11/06 Jordan Schmidt
- 11/07 David Johnson, Cameron Dary, Jorden Wojahn
- 11/08 Klaire Deboer
- 11/10 Cindi Wojahn, Elizabeth Browne
- 11/11 Jo Winn, Steve Austin
- 11/12 Jaeden Whitehouse, Ambrosia Wojahn, Nancy Wanish, Nathen Jeffords,



- Melba Novak
- 11/13 Lance Bresser
- 11/14 Lawrence Brewer, Cole Kamphuis, Lore Bossenbroek, Debra Zimmerman, Abby Kielmann
- 11/16 Kurt Kamphuis, Erica Huenink, Brian Schouten
- 11/17 Treyten Schmidt
- 11/18 Ken Thomas
- 11/20 Amy Loomans
- 11/21 Alex Fenrich, Kaden Kast
- 11/22 Neil Gleason
- 11/23 Evajo Turnes
- 11/24 Julie Nickel, Lisa Lenz
- 11/25 John Pawicz, Zoe Hayes, Payton Dolske

- 11/26 Janice Streekstra, Mary Hartgerink, Jordan Mecklenberg
- 11/27 Paul Mckim, Paul Loomans, Michael Schwandt
- 11/29 Dorothy Vroman
- 11/30 Mary Gehl



It's time to ring those bells again!

The Salvation Army is organizing the Red Kettle Campaign. We will need bell ringers for a 2 hour period. If you're interested in volunteering your time please contact Leann at church 324-2801. Date is yet to be determined.



DOING THE MOST GOOD

ALL CHURCH BUDGETMEETING

You're needed to Adopt the 2012 Church Budget and general election of officers & committee positions on

Sunday, November 13

immediately following the 9:30 service.

