

2021

JUNE

JULY

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WAUSAU

THE MESSENGER

Dear First UMC Family of Faith,

One of the inspirational places in our building is the beautiful stained-glass window. Jesus, lifted high and teaching from God's Word, is the focal point. At ground level, we see a racially diverse group of people, moving in the love and freedom that Jesus, the Word of God, gives us. That has become a picture of how I think God is calling us to be. We act on our baptismal promise to "confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races" (p. 40, UMH). There are many ways God calls his people to do that. I'm excited to share some ways that leaders in our church and community have seen God answer our Breakthrough Prayer to... **"Guide** us by your Holy Spirit to reach new people, **Connect** us all through Christ's love, and **Empower** us to love and serve others."

About two months ago several people in our church shared a passion to reach out to love and to serve people who were longing for safety and freedom. God was calling us through the faces of those in refugee camps and asylum centers. We started learning more about the process of becoming an Asylum Seeker or Refugee. Briefly, a Refugee is legally defined as, "someone who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion." (1951 Refugee Convention). Refugees are the most vetted immigrants to the US and undergo nine long and significant background checks before being allowed in the US.

Asylum Seekers escaped from wherever they were being persecuted or expelled and came across our border seeking refuge. They are not "illegal aliens", because our laws protect all immigrants with credible fears and allow them to stay in the US during the process of being vetted. This takes an average of three years, and most are put in prisons for nothing more than the "crime" of fleeing persecution, war, or famine.

What can we do to help? Several leaders from our church reached out to various groups that help with sponsoring Asylum Seekers and Refugees. There were many closed doors because there are no resettlement agencies that cover the Wausau area. With Mayor Katie's enthusiastic support, we were led straight to the top Director of the WI Dept. of Immigration, who teared up with joy as we described our vision to welcome a new wave of refugees to Wausau. She had just been approached by a national agency called ECDC (ecdcus.org) who wanted to come to Milwaukee, but after hearing about us, she urged them to open a new office in Wausau instead.

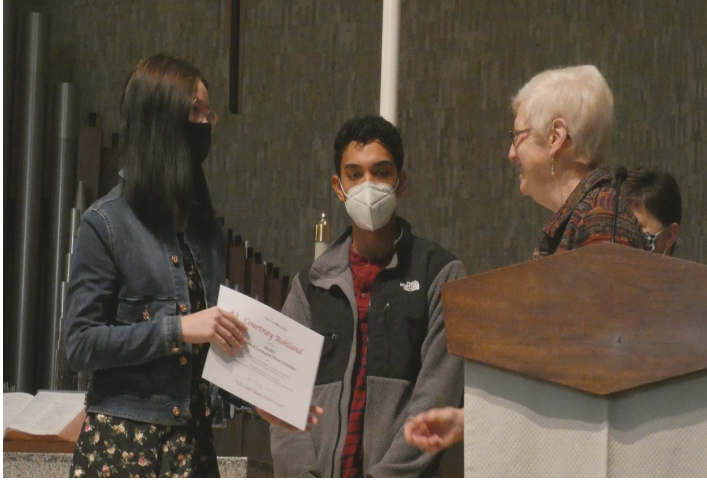
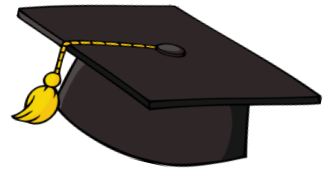
After meeting with the ECDC officials and several local, state, and national government leaders, we're welcoming their representative to Wausau in a few days (May 27-29) to meet local collaborative partners, find office space, and prepare to start welcoming 75-100 refugees a year beginning this October. If all continues to go well, we'll welcome people from Iraq and Afghanistan (those who risked their lives helping our military), Burma, Sudan, and the Congo.

There will be complications and challenges as this unfolds, but Christ clearly commanded us to welcome "strangers". Please reach out to me and to your friends and neighbors to see how we can connect as a church and community to warmly welcome all to Wausau and our church!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Rebecca

715.842.2201

fumcwausau.org



**Pivot Scholarship Recipient: Courtney Rohland
with Joshua Dvorak, Mary Ann Dykes**



**Jaden Love, Courtney Rohland, Pastor
Rebecca Voss, Joshua Dvorak, and
Sheryl Del Conte for Danielle Del Conte**

Congratulations To Our Graduates:

2020 High School - Jakob Grant - Wausau West

2020 College - Joshua Dvorak - UW Madison

2021 High School - Gianina Chang - Wausau East

Jaden Love - Wausau West

Courtney Rohland - Marathon

2021 College - Danielle Del Conte - Marquette University

Catherine Koss - University of Nebraska-Lincoln





June/July Birthdays

We grieve this month at the loss of:

Dennis Loftus, brother of Steve Loftus, who died on April 17th.

John Wergin, former member of our church, died May 22nd.



**Live and Share
God's Love ...**

*with
peace, joy & hope*



With more people being vaccinated and the slight lifting of restrictions, I have been thinking of ways that Savvy Seniors can gather again in fellowship. One possibility is meeting outside, safely distanced, with a sack lunch and beverage that you provide for yourself, maybe in the church courtyard. Watch the messenger for further information. I would appreciate any feedback. You may contact me at 715-842-5344 or email vicki.nowaczyk@gmail.com.

June

- 1 Elizabeth Harmon
- 2 Beth Rohland
- 3 Tony Borchardt
Brad Ness
- 4 Andrew Koss
- 6 Marian Attoe
Ben Lahren
- 7 Ken Thario*
Dale Zietlow
- 8 Rita Bennett
Joshua Dvorak
- 11 Sue Kissinger
- 12 Andy Flath

July

- 15 Taylor Sarazen
- 16 Carol Reitz
- 17 Doris Fountain
- 19 Matt Seiser
- 23 Allie Majernik
- 24 Beth Moss*
- 26 Mike Zahn
- 27 Nancy Runner
Mitchcell Stamp
- 29 Laura Grogan
Finnley Schreiber
Peggy Stamp
- 2 Marilyn Muelver
- 3 Jamelle Milne
Walter Winchell
Avery Wyrick
- 7 Dan Daubert
Hannah Marquardt
Gwyneth Chang
Jacqueline Chang
- 8 Bill Seiser
- 9 Monica Dvorak
- 10 Courtney Rohland
- 12 Bowman Seiser

** Signifies a member who for health reasons cannot be at church regularly. We invite you this month to remember these members in your prayers.*



HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

Homebound communion is a service our church has provided for shut-ins over many years. Prior to the pandemic months, it was offered with the help of volunteers four times a year—January, April, July, and October.

Volunteers (one person, a couple, or a family) were assigned a homebound person from the church and arrangements would be made between them to deliver the communion, along with a brief visit and sharing some prayer time, such as with the breakthrough prayer. With things opening up again in our community, it would be good to get the communion service back out there for those who would like to have it. There may still be restrictions in place at some senior facilities as far as allowing visitors, but some people could start receiving homebound communion in July if we have the volunteers in place and if we are able to access our members where they reside.

Volunteers do need to be fully vaccinated in order to participate in this service. It may be that some of our homebound members who would like to receive communion are not vaccinated, but masks and social distancing could still be put in place if they would like to have communion delivered safely. If you are homebound, or know of a member who is homebound, and you/they would like to receive this communion service, please let Joan know in the church office. If you are willing to be partnered with a homebound member for delivery of this service four times a year, please contact Joan in the church office, or contact Bonnie Goertz at 715-359-9871 or bgoertz@charter.net. An hour or so of your time for each visit is so worthwhile and so welcome to our members who cannot be in church for communion themselves



New Products!

UMW offers Coffee, Teas and Chocolate bars.

Are you looking for some new, refreshing beverages this summer?

Try Agua de Jamaica, made with Equal Exchange Hibiscus Tea, water and sweetener to taste.

Jamaica (pronounced ha-MY-ka) is a beautiful ruby-red, caffeine free tea with a tart, cranberry-like taste. It contains antioxidants and can be served hot or cold.

Just \$4 a box! We also carry Green Tea w/Jasmine, English Breakfast Black tea, and caffeine free Peppermint Tea, Ginger Tea and Rooibos teas.

Are coffee drinks more your style?

We have a new shipment of whole bean coffees: Love Buzz (12 oz /\$8) and Organic Congo Coffee Project (1 lb/\$10) and Organic Decaf (12 oz/\$9) Regular grind coffees: Cafe Salvador (12 oz/\$8) Decaf (12 oz/\$9) Organic Sisters Blend (1lb/\$10) NEW!

And don't forget the chocolate bars! They are organic, come in dark and milk varieties with yummy flavor combinations like Orange, Mint Crunch, Almond and Lemon Ginger. Just \$3 a bar.

Check out the inventory in our cabinet in the parlor!

Your purchases support United Methodist Women missions that aid women, children and youth. Thank you *** Gracias *** Merci

*Margaret Getzin
UMW Coffee Coordinator*

The Downtown Memory Café continues to brighten days in the lives of our participants and their care partners. In May, we partnered with the Center for Visual Arts. They painted colorful garden pots which were then planted by Master Gardeners with our participants' choice of radish, bean or flowers. Nancy Turner (featured) coordinated deliveries and subsequent porch visits! Shouts of thanks to volunteers Maggie Schoenfeld, Rosie Hanke and our delivery crew, a mystery at the time of this writing...:)

Maggie Schoenfeld

Random Thoughts by Mike Zahn CHRISTIAN CONFERENCING

People in all walks of life have conferences.

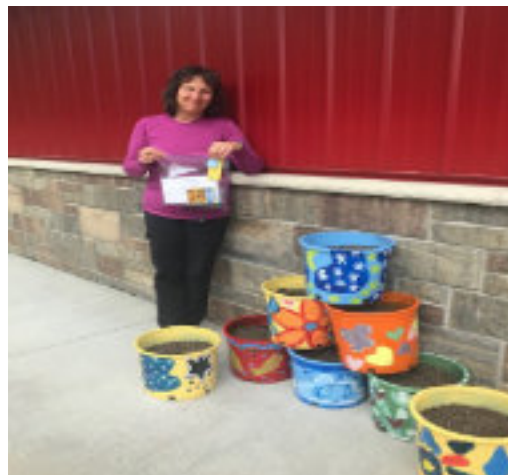
We humans occasionally get together, beyond our normal routines, to meet about things of mutual interest.

I've gone to conferences of all sorts, in various forms: I've attended hospitality suites, dinners, champagne breakfasts, break-out seminars, speakers, panel discussions, trade shows, and enjoyed casual but often productive conversation between meetings. I've also carved out alone time to reflect and process all the learning and charge my personal batteries in between all this people interaction.

Conferences are good. Sometimes in your everyday life, you feel like you're in a lonely silo, like you're the only one who has the problems you have. It's refreshing to get together with other like-minded people, and you find out you are not alone. We often have some of the same challenges. We have time to share our thoughts, concerns, feelings. We find out we are not alone and often come away encouraged and ready to face our old challenges with new strategies, fresh perspective, and renewed energy. I pray that these benefits are also what each of us gets from coming together each week at church.

The United Methodist Church has Annual Conferences. The Wisconsin Conference meets in late June, and this year, like last year will be virtual. While that puts a different spin on "getting together," clergy and lay people in our Conference will still be able to meet to learn, share, study, and chart the course for the next year in our churches. Please pray for the refreshing and renewal of our pastors, leaders, and churches through this process that John Wesley called "Christian Conferencing."

NOTE: If you ever wonder what the United Methodist Church is all about, there is a booklet called "Therefore, Go" that explains it all! I have extra copies; let me know if you'd like one.





June donations will be used for Claire's Critter Closet, providing dog and cat food, treats, cat litter, and pet essentials. Claire's Critter Closet was created in memory of Claire Hornby, whose faith and love of people and animals inspired many as she battled brain cancer.

July donations will be used to support the Mission Guatemala. They provide personal needs, clothing and education to people in Guatemala.

USHERS AND GREETERS NEEDED

Now that we are back to in-person worship (thank God!), we are looking for a few people to fill out our Usher and Greeter monthly rotation. This would be an ideal opportunity for mentors and confirmands, or anyone who would like to have a more active role in worship. Please contact the church office or let Mike Zahn, Dan or Jen Marzu, or Pastor Rebecca know that you are interested.



Dear Pastor Rebecca and Church Family,

Thank you for the beautiful 100th birthday card! How lovely to have a church family when I have so little of my own!

It's amazing to be 100. Although I haven't attended services for many years, I have kept up with FUMC activities through the Messenger and the weekly bulletins and sermons. As I prepare to exit this life, I can do so with the faith filled conviction that God has chosen a remnant to guide FUMC and Wausau into a brighter future. It was inspiring to hear of Pastor Rebecca's plans for the creative use of underused real estate and of her visions of a reinvigorated and committed church. I feel truly blessed to be a part of this congregation.

May God bless you all and prosper your endeavors.

With love and gratitude,
Elaine Peterson

Display Cases

Would you like to show us your treasures in the church display case outside the office? We would love to see it!

Artwork; Collections; Antiques; Photos; anything you would like to share.

Check out the beautiful bunny collection by Andrea Anderson currently in the display cases.




The Messenger

Our next newsletter will be a combination of late July and the month of August (7/18-8/31). If you have any articles to submit, please have those into the office by June 28th.

Thank you.





	Monday	Tuesday	We
		1 5:30 PM MCCI Meeting, Parlor	2 6:00 PM "Acts: Spirit" Study-Z 7:00 PM Youth
6 Visit fmcwausau.org 8:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion, Chapel 8:45 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary	7	8 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Personal Needs Closet/Claire's Critter Closet 4:30 PM Missions Team, Parlor 5:30 PM Trustees, B.K. Smith	9 Claire's Critter 6:00 PM "Acts: Spirit" Study-Z 7:00 PM Youth
13 Visit fmcwausau.org 8:00 AM Worship, Courtyard, Blessing of the Animals 8:45 AM Adult Bible Study 8:45 AM -9:45AM Claire's Critter Closet Open 10:00 AM Worship, Courtyard, Blessing of the Animals	14	15 8:00 AM Messenger Articles Due 10:00 AM Staff Mtg 6:00 PM SPRC, BK Smith Room 7:00 PM Finance Committee, Parlor	16 6:00 PM Wedn Sendoff-Zoom 7:00 PM Youth
20 Visit fmcwausau.org 8:00 AM Worship, Chapel 8:45 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship, Sanctuary	21 	22	23 7:00 PM Youth
27 Visit fmcwausau.org 8:00 AM Worship, Chapel 8:45 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship, Sanctuary	28 Messenger Articles Due 7:00 PM Ministries Council, Parlor	29 5:30 PM Worship Design, Parlor	30 7:00 PM Youth



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	We
4 Independence Day Visit fmcwausau.org 8:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion, Chapel 8:45 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary	5 Office Closed	6	7 7:00 PM Youth
11 Visit fmcwausau.org 8:00 AM Worship, Chapel 8:45 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship, Sanctuary	12	13 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Personal Needs Closet/Claire's Critter Closet 4:30 PM Missions Team, Parlor 5:30 PM Trustees, B.K. Smith	14 7:00 PM Youth



Prayer Priorities
Sundays: *The Suffering & Seniors*
Mondays: *Missions & Outreach*
Tuesdays: *Teachers & Students*
Wednesdays: *Wausau & Wisconsin*
Thursdays: *The Thirsty & Hungry*
Fridays: *Friends & Family*
Saturdays: *Servant-Leaders & Staff*

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Catching Up with the Room Group Zoom	3 7:00 PM Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall	4 Office Closed	5
Closet "The Fix Is In" Catching Up with the Room Group Zoom	10 Claire's Critter Closet "The Fix Is In"	11 Office Closed	12
Wednesday Study Summer Group Zoom	17	18 Office Closed	19
Group Zoom	24	25 Office Closed	26 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Personal Needs Closet/Claire's Critter Closet
Group Zoom			



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Office Closed	3
Group Zoom	8	9 Office Closed	10
Group Zoom	15	16 Office Closed Pine Lake Family Camp	17 Pine Lake Family Camp

Stay Healthy & Safe:
Wear a Mask
Practice Social Distancing
Respect Others
Wash Your Hands
Use Hand Sanitizer



The Death and Resurrection of Jesus – According to Matthew, Mark and Luke

- Matthew 26:1-16.....Anointing and selling Jesus—How much is he worth?
- Matthew 26:17-29.....Jesus' last Passover and the first Lord's Supper
- Matthew 26:30-46.....The disciples promise to be faithful but fall asleep
- Matthew 26:47-56.....Jesus is betrayed and arrested
- Matthew 26:57-75.....Jesus' trial and Peter's denial at the high priest's house
- Matthew 27:1-2, 11-26.....Jesus is tried before the governor Pilate
- Matthew 27:27-44.....Jesus is crucified
- Matthew 27:45-56.....Jesus dies
- Matthew 27:57-66.....Jesus is buried
- Matthew 28:1-20.....Jesus rises from the dead and sends his disciples
- Luke 24:13-35.....Jesus appears to two disciples on the road to Emmaus
- Luke 24:36-49.....Jesus comforts his disciples and explains the Scriptures

The Signs and Teachings of Jesus – According to John

- John 1:1-18.....“The Word became flesh”—God becomes a human!
- John 3:1-18.....Nicodemus—“You must be born again”
- John 6:1-15.....Jesus feeds 5000 men fish and bread
- John 6:25-35, 48-51.....Jesus says, “I am the Bread of Life”
- John 10:1-18.....Jesus says, “I am the Good Shepherd”
- John 11:1-7, 17-27.....Jesus says, “I am the Resurrection and the Life”
- John 11:38-53.....Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead
- John 13:1-17.....Jesus washes his disciples' feet
- John 14:1-14.....Jesus says, “I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life”
- John 14:15-27.....Jesus promises the Holy Spirit
- John 15:1-17.....Jesus says, “I am the True Vine”
- John 20:19-31.....These signs “are written so that you may believe”
- John 21:15-25.....Loving and following Jesus, feeding his sheep 203



The Birth and Growth of the Church

- Acts 1:1-11.....Jesus promises the Spirit and ascends into heaven
- Acts 2:1-24, 36.....The Holy Spirit comes and Peter preaches
- Acts 2:37-47.....Three thousand people repent and are baptized
- Acts 6:8-15.....Stephen is seized by the Greek Jews
- Acts 7:51-8:3.....Stephen rebukes the Jews, who begin to persecute the church
- Acts 8:26-40.....Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch
- Acts 9:1-22.....Saul (Paul) is converted and appointed as an apostle
- Acts 10:1-20.....Cornelius and Peter see visions
- Acts 10:34-48.....Peter preaches and the Gentiles receive the Holy Spirit
- Acts 16:9-18.....The gospel arrives in Macedonia (the edge of Europe)
- Acts 16:19-34.....Paul and Silas and the jailer are saved
- Acts 27:1, 13-26.....Paul, sailing toward Rome, is storm-tossed at sea
- Acts 27:33-44.....Shipwreck and survival

Paul's Letters to Churches

- Romans 3:9-26.....All have sinned and all are made right by faith in Jesus, as a gift
- Romans 5:1-11.....God, who has loved us through Jesus, will finish saving us
- Romans 8:1-2, 11-18.....The Spirit makes us children of God
- Romans 8:28-39.....“If God is for us, who can be against us?”
- Romans 12:1-21.....How we live because of God's mercies
- 1 Corinthians 1:10-25.....The cross is the solution for divided churches
- 1 Corinthians 12:12-31.....The Church is one body with many members
- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.....Love is the solution for divided churches
- 1 Corinthians 15:12-28.....The resurrection of the dead: “In Christ shall all be made alive”
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-15.....“God loves a cheerful giver”
- 2 Corinthians 11:18-33.....Paul boasts about his sufferings and weaknesses as an apostle
- 2 Corinthians 12:1-10.....Jesus tells Paul. “My power is made perfect in weakness”

Our Financial Picture for April 2021			
April Revenue		April Expenses	
Pledged Offering	\$ 16,095.09	Staffing	\$ 19,113.98
Non-Pledged Offering	\$ 4,457.00	Programming	\$ 892.86
Other Revenue	\$ 10,560.44	Apportionments	\$ 4,017.00
From Endowment	\$ 1,636.91	Building Operations	\$ 3,231.89
Total Revenue	\$ 32,749.44	Total Expenses	\$ 27,255.73
		Net YTD	\$ 5,493.71

Celebrate Light at the End of the Tunnel June 2021

Psalm 118:24

“This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

Where and when do you stop and celebrate? How do you “rejoice and be glad” in the day the “Lord has made?”

Today I stop to rejoice in the rain that is coming down, that we very much need. I celebrate the sun from this weekend that brought so many smiles. I rejoice in all of our churches who have and are continuing to do ministry despite the difficulties of the times. I celebrate the faithfulness of our congregations to continue to give of their time, talents, and treasures.

How are you celebrating God’s continued blessings in your lives? What is your response going to be? How are you going to give to others because God has given to you?

We are so blessed. So, we are called to be a blessing to others. Volunteer in ways you feel comfortable. Attend church, in whatever format you wish. Donate to your church, other nonprofits, and causes close to your heart. Pray. Always Pray.

Celebrate! Because *“This is the day that the Lord has made.”*

Rev. Krystal Goodger, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

FUMC Online

Website: fumcwausau.org
with links to the weekly sermon
in text and podcast

facebook.com/WausauFUMC

WiFi Network: FUMC Public
(password: *fumcpublic*)

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Monday – Thursday

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fumc@fumcwausau.org

www.fumcwausau.org

All people and pets are welcome to a
BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
Sunday, June 13, 8 am & 10 am
First United Methodist Church
903 N. 3rd St., Wausau, WI 54403



Park in the Fulton St. parking lot.

Worship in our Courtyard on McIndoe St.
or inside the Fellowship Hall if it is raining.

All pets must be on a leash or in a carrier.

***Water, treats, and after-worship pet walks
will be offered, and Claire's Critter Closet
will be open between 8:45-9:45am.***



FAMILY CAMP

Family Camp will be July 16-18 at Pine Lake's Wildwood Campground this summer. The cost is \$70 per camper vehicle and \$35 per tent. A deposit of \$35 for camper vehicles and \$20 for tents is due by June 13. Contact Martie Pahrts at the church office, 715-842-2201 or Dan and Jen Marzu.

Everyone is welcome! Make plans now to be a part of this fun-filled weekend.

The Messenger
First United Methodist Church of Wausau
903 Third Street
Wausau, WI 54403

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Purpose:

Live and Share God's Love

WORSHIP IN JUNE AND JULY

Sunday Worship Times

8:00 a.m. Chapel 10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Early Summer 2021 Series: **Little Books with a Big Message**

We're exploring the five shortest books of the Bible that each only have one chapter but a lot of truth. They may seem old and obscure, but we'll discover how we can be renewed with their relevance.

Sunday, May 30 *Trinity Sunday*
Life in the Spirit *Message from Bishop Jung*
Romans 8:12-17

Sunday, June 27
2 John-Psalm 92

Sunday, June 6
Obadiah-Psalm 22:25-31

Sunday, July 4
3 John-Psalm 9:11-20

Sunday, June 13 *Blessing of the Animals*
Worship in the Courtyard, Both Services
Isaiah 11:1-9

Sunday, July 11
Jude-Psalm 30

Sunday, June 20 *Father's Day*
Philemon-Psalm 138