



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

THE MESSENGER

FIRST WAUSAU UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Downtown Wausau Wisconsin

From the Pastor

by Pastor Rebecca Voss

For the past several years, we have been praying what we call “Breakthrough Prayers”. Short enough to memorize and say throughout our day, these prayers invite the Holy Spirit to break into our lives with new dreams, fresh vision, and renewed strength to make a difference in the world as a church. God has been answering these prayers, and I’m excited to share one now.

God has blessed us with an amazing building and location, and we have sensed that we are called to somehow share our space with the community. For the past year we have been planning on giving the Community Foundation (CF) a \$1/year, 99-year renewable lease to our entire property. They would take the responsibility of all the improvements, remodeling, maintenance, and utilities necessary for present and future needs in the building. We had all been planning on the YMCA using the space our church didn’t need for childcare. Unfortunately, we recently learned that the cost of renovating our space for childcare was much higher than anticipated, and unfortunately is not feasible. The YMCA has options elsewhere and blessed us to move forward.

Though this closed door is disappointing, God answered our prayers and opened a window! The Hmong American Center (HAC), along with related organizations they oversee like the Hmong Museum and Hmong businesses they help incubate, is eager to share our space with us. Far fewer renovations will be needed, and we will be able to share spaces like the Parlor, Chapel, Kitchen, and Fellowship Hall, which we couldn’t have done with YMCA childcare. Most importantly, being closely connected with HAC is a fulfillment of the mission of this congregation and historic use of this space.

Inside this newsletter is a draft of the spaces that would be exclusively ours, notes on what needs to be remodeled (by the CF) for our spaces, and notes on the spaces we would share. We would have exclusive access to all shared spaces on Sundays and other holy days and pay a nominal rental fee to the CF if we need any of the spaces for other special occasions. There would be two joint supervisory committees to ensure that the shared spaces are reserved and used fairly, whether by our church, HAC, or other non-profits that align with our values. One is the Advisory Committee, and one is the Food Service Management Team.

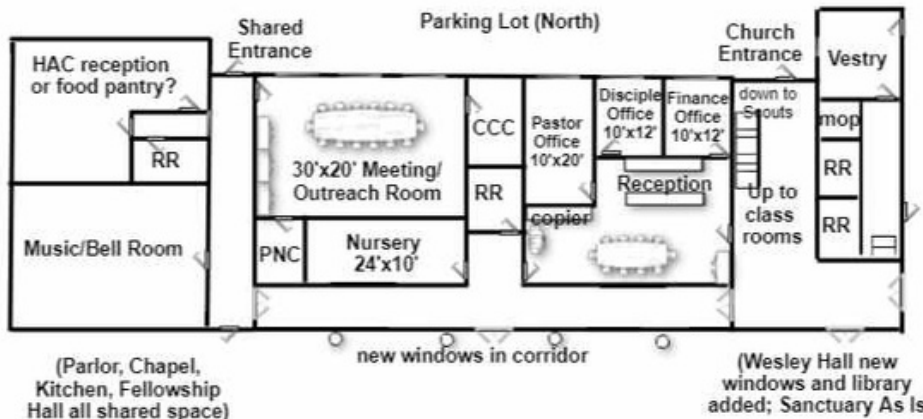
“From the Pastor” continued on page 2



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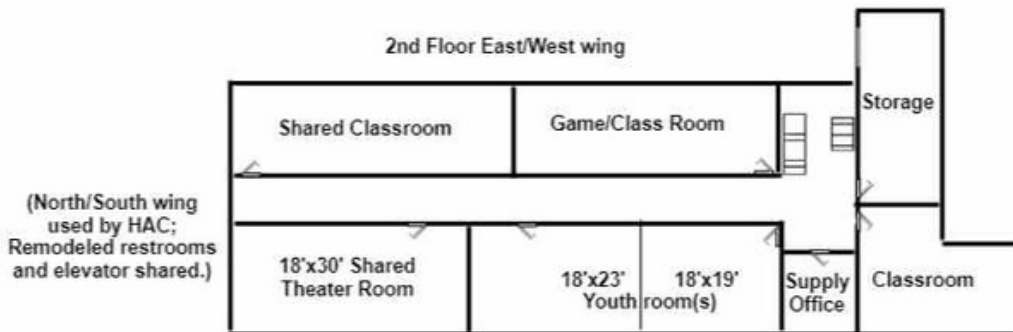
All confirmed members of our church are invited to vote on this plan at our annual Church Conference meeting, held on Sunday, November 12 after the Packer game. The United Women in Faith is holding a chili supper fundraiser starting at 3pm, and we will eat and start our meeting and voting at 3:30pm. This is a big and important decision and moment for our church, and I hope we all rededicate ourselves in prayer for God to do amazing things in our lives and church!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Rebecca



Church Space Remodeling:

1. Schedule roof/gutter install
2. Add walls, wiring, WiFi to change nursery into offices
3. Remove walls in worship entrance, install office door
4. Remodel BKS into Meeting/Outreach/Nursery area.
6. Remodel/enlarge center RR and update Chancel RRs.
7. New windows in Corridor and Wesley Hall with library
8. Update heating system
9. Update kitchen with fryers, ANSUL hood, etc. to meet needs of FWUMC and HAC



DRAFT FUMC remodel 10.24.23



November Birthdays

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Lauren Atonio | 11 Gerald Gisselman | 25 Chris Del Conte |
| 2 Haley Fons | 12 Mary Virginia Quarles | Joel Del Conte |
| 3 Carole Machek | 14 Thomas Lahren | Rachael Del Conte |
| Brian Smith | 15 Jill Daubert | Allen Stamp |
| 4 Norma Volkman | 20 Timm Fischer | 27 Janet Schlueter |
| 5 Michael Del Conte | Robert Gebhardt | 28 Dave Decker |
| 6 Bonnie Horban | Lincoln Larson | 29 Debra Schoepke |
| Adelyn Sakharuk | 21 Joan Harvey | |
| LeRoy Schoepke | 23 Peter Johnson | |
| Joan Stroyny | 24 Paula Hauber | |

November Mission Offering



Donations support the annual Christmas Dinner at St. Paul's UCC on Christmas Day. You can donate loose change or cash in labeled small envelopes located in the pews or memo a check.

Remember that the Mission Offering must be clearly marked. Either write a note on your check or use the brown envelopes in the back of the pew. Just loose change in the offering plate will not go to the monthly offering.

First Wausau



Savvy Seniors

Savvy Seniors will be meeting on Monday, November 6th, at 11:30 at the **Great Dane** in Wausau. This is a social group open to singles & couples over 55. We would love to have you join us! Any questions, call Vicki Nowaczka at 715-571-3009. Thank you.

FUMC Wired

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

facebook.com/WausauFUMC
youtube.com/@FirstWausauUMC

WiFi Network: FUMC Guest
password: fumcpublic

Phone: 715.842.2201



Music Notes for November and Lessons & Carols

Our church's SPRC has been very busy in recent months filling some of the positions that Martie Pahr held prior to her departure in June. One of the positions that is still looking for a more permanent person(s) is that of music director, for both the Chancel Choir and the Jubilate Bells. We are, however, very fortunate to have a temporary director to help us through the holidays, especially Lessons and Carols. This special service will be held on Sunday, December 17 this year, so mark your calendars! The bells and choir welcome Adele Bluhm, a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Wausau, who will direct the musical pieces of both groups for Lessons and Carols, as well as other possible music in services before Christmas. She comes to us with lots of experience directing the children and youth choirs at her church and Trinity School. It would be wonderful to have more voices (and bell ringers!) join the choir for Lessons and Carols, so if you are interested, please see Bonnie Goertz or another choir member. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings—5:45 pm for Jubilate Bells, and 7:00 pm for Chancel Choir. It's not too late to join in!



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith News

Come to our annual congregational meeting on Nov.12 and enjoy a chili supper fellowship. Serving begins at 3:00. (Donations welcome)

Our November 15 meeting will focus on our Thanks Offering.

Watch for news of the annual cookie sale. Orders will be taken in December for prepackaged, one-pound packages - to be picked up Dec.15.

Friends Thanksgiving Dinner
54th Annual



When
Thursday, November 23, 2023

Where
First Presbyterian Church
406 Grant Street, Wausau

What
FREE THANKSGIVING MEAL! TWO OPTIONS!

- **HOME DELIVERED (Reservation required)**
To reserve please call and leave message or text 715-571-8452
NEED: # of meals, spell first and last name, address (apt#), phone number
Reservation **REQUIRED** by Friday, November 17th
Please do not call church directly
ALL MEALS delivered between 11am - 2pm on THANKSGIVING DAY, November 23rd. (exact time depends on route)
- **DINE-IN (No Reservation required)**
Please join us for a sit-down meal between 2-3:30PM at First Presbyterian Church (address above)

If you wish to volunteer or donate please call 715-846-5612 OR email Friendsdinnerwausau@gmail.com



Prayer Team Update

As a part of FOCUS, we have formed a prayer team who are reaching out to individuals to ask about prayer requests and to keep people in touch with the church. If you have been in church recently you will note that we have added prayer request cards to the pews. There is a box at the bottom to mark confidential, if you do not want your prayer lifted before the congregation. We are going to start asking the ushers to collect the prayer cards as the children come forward for the children's message and then they will be given to pastor for prayer time. The team is going to attempt to meet biweekly to address all prayers on our list and update each other on the contacts we have made with our shut ins and members who have not been in church in a while. One of our team will reach out to you directly either after the service or in the next day or two to pray with you individually for any prayer requests during church services. Our prayer team includes the following people currently—Arlene Trull, Mary Ann Dykes, Barbara Ritchie, Clare Ostwald, Julie Miehle and Pastor Rebecca. The importance of prayer is a huge part of the Bible and its teachings. As a church we are committed to pray both for your needs and celebrations.



FOCUS - Faith, Outreach, Care, Unity and Strength

When Martie left and I was asked to take on some of the things she had been doing in the church, interested individuals met several times during the summer after church to determine how we were going to continue to make disciples. As a result of meeting, we came up with FOCUS—Faith, Outreach, Care, Unity and Strength. The members that met had numerous suggestions about ways to engage the congregation in old and new ways to experience the love of Jesus Christ and to serve others. I am hoping that every individual will take the time to at least mark one of the items on the next page and return it to the church or me.

Julie Miehle

Faith, Outreach, Care, Unity, and Strength

Please circle any choice of things you might be interested in participating and return forms to narthex or Julie Miehle Discipleship Director

Faith Development	Day of Week	Time of Day	Where
Bible for Grownups	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home Restaurant
Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home Restaurant
We Make the Road by Walking	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home Restaurant
Lay Servant/Speaker Classes	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home Restaurant
The Difficult Words of Jesus	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home Restaurant
United Women in Faith	W	Afternoon at 1 PM	Church Parlor
Outreach			
Personal Needs Closet	T Sat	Morning Afternoon	Church
Critter Closet	T Sat	Morning Afternoon	Church
Outdoor activities: rake, weed, plant, snow removal	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home Restaurant
Roadside Cleanup	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home Restaurant
Coffee Hour	S	Morning	Church
Community Meals	Fifth Sunday	Morning through Afternoon	First Presbyterian
Refugee Assistance	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home
Mission Trip	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Local/National/International
Care			
Prayer Chain	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home Restaurant
Meals for shut ins	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home Restaurant
Visitation to shut ins	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Home Nursing home
Prayer Shawl Ministry	4 th Tuesday	Afternoon	Church Parlor
Unity			
Choir	S W		Church
Bells	S W		Church
Game night	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home Restaurant
Potluck	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home
Progressive Dinner	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Homes
Movie Night	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Home
Theater Night	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Other
Concert	S M T W Th F S	Morning Afternoon Evening	Church Other

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Any other ideas or areas of interest _____



United Women in Faith

Fall UWF Rummage Sale Update

For the third time in the last year and a half, the United Women of Faith held a rummage sale in Fellowship Hall. It was held on October 5th and 6th, and the women reported that it was a success once again. A number of women spent the days before the sale setting up items that church members donated, as well as trying to sell some items no longer needed from the kitchen and other areas of the church. Under the direction of Sara Koss, Sharon Gisselman, and Bonnie Goertz, some women including Gail Cain, Dottie Nietert, Barb Ritchie, Arlene Trull, and Clare Ostwald from our unit loaded lots of tables that became full of bakeware, kitchen items, utensils, books, crystal, holiday items for fall and Christmas, etc..., ranging in price from \$0.25 on up or helped with the check-out area during the sale. The Trustees joined the sale this year with items they are looking to sell that our church no longer needs, such as desks, couches, chairs, puppets, etc... Andy White also participated once again, selling items that he (and his dad) have collected through the years. The money from the UWF part of the sale will be directed to Missions work that the women are involved in all year long.

A number of Christmas items were donated, so it was decided to set up a sale table between Thanksgiving and Christmas for the congregation and friends to browse through on Sunday mornings. Watch for this table during the holiday season! It has also already been decided to hold another rummage sale in the spring as well, probably in April. More information will come out for this as the time draws closer, but please start thinking of items you could donate for the sale to help with the Missions projects of UWF.



STAFF

Pastor	Rebecca Voss	rebecca@firstmethodistwausau.org
Finance Director	Georgia Reynolds	georgia@firstmethodistwausau.org
Secretary	Joan Stroyny	joan@firstmethodistwausau.org
Director of Discipleship	Julie Mieke	julie@firstmethodistwausau.org
Building Engineer	Andy White	

903 Third Street, Wausau, WI 54403
 Office Hours: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Thursday
 (715) 842-2201
www.firstmethodistwausau.org

**New!!
 Give On
 Line!**



An account is not required but if creating one, please sign up using the email you provided in the church directory.

SECURE ONLINE GIVING LINK: <https://onrealm.org/FirstUnitedMeth91919/-/form/give/now>

NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p> <p>8:00am Worship, Chapel 9:00am Sunday School/FOCUS Group 10:00am Worship, Sanctuary 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	30	31	<p>1</p> <p>1:00pm Prayer Ministry Group, Parlor 5:45pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:00am AA, Room 101 1:00pm Worship Design, Parlor 7:00pm Boy Scouts, Choir Room</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	4
<p>5</p> <p>All Saints Day Daylight Savings Time Ends 8:00am Worship, Chapel with Holy Communion 9:00am Sunday School/FOCUS Group 10:00am Worship, Sanctuary with Holy Communion 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>6</p> <p>11:30am Savvy Seniors, Great Dane</p>	7	<p>8</p> <p>5:45pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:00am AA, Room 101 7:00pm Boy Scouts, Choir Room</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	11
<p>12</p> <p>8:00am Worship, Chapel 9:00am Sunday School/FOCUS Group 10:00am Worship, Sanctuary 11:00am Coffee Hour 3:00pm Chili Supper, Fellowship Hall 3:30pm Church Conference</p>	13	<p>14</p> <p>1:00pm –3:00pm Personal Needs Closet/Claire's Critter Closet</p>	<p>15</p> <p>1:00pm United Women in Faith Meeting, Parlor 3:00pm Prayer Ministry Group, Parlor 5:45pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:00am AA, Room 101 7:00pm Boy Scouts, Choir Room</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	18
<p>19</p> <p>8:00am Worship, Chapel 9:00am Sunday School/FOCUS Group 10:00am Worship, Sanctuary 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	20	<p>21</p> <p>6:00pm SPRC, B.K. Smith 7:00pm Finance Committee, BK Smith Room</p>	22	<p>23</p> <p>Thanksgiving Day, Office Closed 8:00am AA, Room 101</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>25</p> <p>NO Personal Needs/Claire's Critter Closed</p>
<p>26</p> <p>8:00am Worship, Chapel 9:00am Sunday School/FOCUS Group 10:00am Worship, Sanctuary 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	27	<p>28</p> <p>1:00pm Prayer Shawl Group, Parlor 5:30pm Trustees, B.K. Smith</p>	<p>29</p> <p>5:45pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:00am AA, Room 101 7:00pm Boy Scouts, Choir Room</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	2

THE MESSENGER

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Our Mission:

*Living as a community where
God is forming deeply committed
followers of Christ.*

NOVEMBER WORSHIP

Sunday Worship Times: 8:00 am Chapel 10:00 am Sanctuary

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

(All Saints Sunday)

From Every Tribe

Psalm 107:1-9, Revelation 7:9-17, 1 John 3:1-3

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Enter the Gates

Psalm 100, Isaiah 42:10-12, Colossians 3:12-17

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

In Everything

Psalm 90:1-6, Psalm 90:7-17, Philippians 4:4-13

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

(Christ the King Sunday)

After Giving Thanks

Psalm 95:1-7a, Ezek. 34:11-16, John 6:5-23

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Our Shocking Hope

Psalm 80:1-7, Isaiah 64:1-9, Mark 13:24-37