

The Ponderings of Pastor Beth

Dear Members and Friends,

With the smell of the Memorial Day grill behind us now, we “officially” have entered into summer! School is almost out and the weather feels warmer (maybe).

At church, things get “heated up” with the upcoming June 4 Recognition and Blessing of our High School Graduates along with our first-ever Adult Confirmation!

June 11 will mean our annual Fun Day complete with worship, wrapping up the Sunday School year with fun outdoor activities, a Build-Your-Own-Sandwich Bar, and of course, the kickball game! New this year: wear green and gold or Packer attire. At the beginning of worship, we’ll have our picture taken as a church (seated in the sanctuary) and it’ll be part of a welcome postcard for those thinking about attending the 2018 meeting of the United Church of Christ (called General Synod)...in Milwaukee!

Speaking of the UCC, we’ll celebrate our 60th anniversary on June 25 with outdoor worship! Bring sunglasses and/or a hat! We’ll rekindle once again what we love about the UCC and some of the history that has made us who we are today.

Finally, it’s back by popular request: Front Lawn Faith! Last year, we began worshipping once a month on the third Wednesday during the summer. This year we’ll continue to worship informally (come as you are!) around a campfire with all ages and then share in s’mores afterward. Truly this is a neat way to worship and further get to know one another. Be sure to invite friends and neighbors too since this is a great, less threatening entryway into our church.

Finally, as you worship with us and engage the fullness of all that summer has to offer the church or as you vacation elsewhere or participate in fun things, please be sure to continue to financially support the church. Switch to Egiving, drop off your offerings, pay ahead (or catch up), or however else you are able, please make a conscious effort to help us sustain our ministries. Thank you for your continued and generous support!

Pastor Beth



(“Friend” me on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com): Beth Abbott)

‘Like’ Our *St. Luke’s United Church of Christ* Facebook Page!

Join our 55 followers of our page and invite friends to follow us as well.

‘Check in’ when you’re worshipping with us!

Church Contacts:

Pastor Beth's Office Hours:

Tu, Th, F 9 AM – 4 PM

Church: (414) 762-8260

Website: stlukesucc.us

Pastor's Beth's email: pastor@stlukesucc.us

Updated office email:

stlukesuccoffice@gmail.com



What's Happening in Worship in June?

Pentecost Sunday

June 4

1 Corinthians 12:4-13

As we gather for worship, we'll recognize our High School graduates, take part in two adults being confirmed, Pam Rossi and Kelly Van Dam, and share communion!

Fun Day

June 11

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

What a 'Fun Day' to be thinking about the creation story—God who created us and how all came into being! We'll wrap up Sunday School, share a meal together, and take part in our annual kickball game!

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 18

Genesis 18:1-15

Bring your Dad and other meaningful males with you to worship as we explore the unlikely story of God calling Abraham and Sarah to be the "parents" to a generation...at 100 years old!

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 25

Genesis 21:8-21

Join us as we **worship outdoors** and celebrate the 60th anniversary of the United Church of Christ! What does it mean for us to be 'UCC' today? How can we continue to use our denominational beliefs to further God's love and compassion in the world?

Who's Serving When?

June 4

Opening the Church	Veronica Shea
Ushers	Kelly & Steve Hansen
	Steve Pischke & Kathy Immel
Liturgist	High Schoolers
Communion Crew	Wendy Rendflesh
Closing the Church	Wendy Rendflesh

June 11

Ushers	Chris & Lynn Proeber
Liturgist	Jodi Pelczynski

June 18

Ushers	Ken & Sandy Hicks
Liturgist	Emily Garlie
Fellowship Time	Need Volunteer

June 25

Ushers	Marilyn & Tom Garlie
Liturgist	Need Volunteer

July 2

Opening the Church	Kaye Povlich
Ushers	Rita Rodriguez & Bunny Scudder
	Erwin E. Lackner
Liturgist	Erwin E. Lackner
Communion Crew	Kaye Povlich
Closing the Church	Pastor Beth



Free Community Meal
for South Milwaukee
residents
seeking or needing
a hot meal & fellowship

**First Congregational
United Church of Christ**
1111 N. Chicago Ave. South Milwaukee

**The 3rd Thursday of each month: June 15
5-6:30 PM**

Please enter through the parking lot door
*Sponsored by city religious communities,
civic agencies and private businesses.*

Reverse Offering Returns!

On June 11, you'll have the chance to pull an offering out of the offertory plate. On the slip will be items we'll ask you to purchase for our Ice Cream Social, Heritage Days float, and other ministries. Please return your items on June 18 or 25. If you are not able to purchase your items or will be delayed in returning them, please let the office know.

Front Lawn Faith *returns!*

Join us on the front lawn of the church for an informal worship (very family friendly, come as you are) around the campfire followed by s'mores.

6:30-7:15 PM Campfire Worship
7:15-7:30 PM S'mores

What a perfect way to invite friends who may be reluctant to join us on Sundays but desire an opportunity to worship!

It's Time to Think About Camp!

Camp is not just for kids. There are Grandparent & Me, Mom & Me, cooking, and many more themed weekends and weeks scheduled at our two UCC camps (Pilgrim Center near Ripon and Moon Beach between Eagle River and St. Germain). The camp experience is rejuvenating and spiritually uplifting.

See ucc.org for more info. Please note: As part of the Wisconsin Conference (UCC), your program costs are subsidized (discount applied at check out when registering online). Our church may also award you a scholarship. Don't let money hold you back! For more details, see Pastor Beth.

**Financial Report for
April 2017**



Balance as of 3/31/17	\$230.65
Receipts	6,568.97
Transfer in-Housing Allowance	2,500.00
Endowment & Bldg/Grds	2,986.75
Total Receipts	<u>\$12,055.72</u>
Expenses for April	\$12,466.82
Balance as of 4/30/17	\$(180.45)

Sharing Sunday: June 18
(third Sunday of each month)

**Bring suggested items: Canned
Vegetables & Fruit for Human Concerns**

June Anniversaries

Michael & Tricia Osborne	6/10
John & Audrey Olbrantz	6/21
Bev & Bob Voelkel	6/22
John & Sue Ponik	6/24

June Birthdays

Alvin Gaeth	6/5
Kevin Januchowski	6/5
Jennifer Immel	6/5
Eli Rossi	6/7
Chelsea Schack	6/11
Elsie Parr	6/12
Audrey Olbrantz	6/15
Richard Scholtz	6/15
Oliva Osborne	6/16
Kelsey Siggelkow	6/18
Kathy Immel	6/21
Jill Petrus	6/21
Deanna Fuchs	6/22
Drake Wheelock	6/23
Easton Wampole	6/23
Jodi Pelczynski	6/26
Wendy Rendflesh	6/27
Lydia Fuchs	6/27
Joshua Wampole	6/29
Tom Garlie	6/30
Jason Van Dam	6/30

May 10th Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM by Brad Uelmen, and Pastor Beth led an opening prayer. Kathy Immel made a motion to approve the April minutes; Kelly Hansen seconded; motion approved.

Pastor's Report:

- Day 4 with the new Office Administrator, Jennifer. Hours will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am - Noon. She seems to be a great fit for the position. She is going through an adjustment period of learning and reassessing how tasks can be completed.
- June and July combined Newsletter will not continue. We will separate them and have a June and a July Newsletter.
- 3rd Sunday of each month will be sharing Sunday moving forward.

- Wednesday June 21 Front Lawn Faith services will start again for June, July and August.

Financial Report:

Building and Grounds account very low balance. Alarm System has a 5 year contract so we will not be terminating the services until the contract is up. No extra funds available anywhere. A motion was made by Kelly Hansen to approve the March Financial reports seconded by Kathy Immel, motion approved.

Christian Education:

- For Father's Day, the children will decorate cookies for the father's and men in the congregation.
- Kaye Povlich will be retiring from her position as a Sunday School Teacher. We will be recognizing her years of service to the church on Fun Day.
- A meeting needs to be scheduled with Katy Shea to define her new role with education.

Music & Worship/Building & Grounds/Stewardship:

Still investigating the structural problem on roof above the foyer.

Old Business:

- Church clean day we are good for supplies.
- Fundraisers:
Culver's Day waiting on dates:
YoFresh- will call to get details
Scrip Program-need to decide if we want to go ahead and start.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 6:30 PM. Brad adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Rossi, Recording Secretary

With Sympathy...

We remember and honor the life of longtime member, **Tom Parr**, and extend prayers to Elsie and her family, as they continue to mourn Tom. Tom's memorial service was held on Tues. May 9 with a private burial service and military honors the following morning.

Update Your Will to Include Your Church Family

Prayerfully consider having the ministries St. Luke's UCC be a part of the legacy you leave behind. Naturally, we often seek to leave any of our remaining finances to our families; however, be sure to include your church family as a part of that. Your generosity will sustain and enhance the work we are able to do in God's name.

Remember also to include the church among the charities you or your loved ones select as recipients for funeral or memorial service gifts.

Switch to Egiving:

Summer is a great time to switch to electronically ("Egive") your offering. Fill out a pink authorization form (see narthex or stlukesucc.us) and decide if you'd prefer your monthly offering to be automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings on the 1st or 15th of the month. Update your giving at any time! Join others who have experienced the hassle-free way of supporting the ministries of our church.

Summer Noisy Offerings

All summer (June 11, July 9, Aug. 13), our Noisy Offering will further the work of our UCC's lifeline, **Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)**. Remember your loose change and small bills on the second Sunday of each month. Our young disciples will go around collecting the Noisy Offering during a hymn in worship!

Do You Have an Idea to Share? A Question? A Concern?

Contact a Board Member: Brad Uelmen (President), Amy Wheelock-Brodzik (Vice President), Kaye Povlich (Treasurer), Veronica Shea (Financial Secretary), Pam Rossi (Secretary) Kathy Immel (Building & Grounds), Kelly Hansen (Christian Education)

Or a Pastoral Relations Committee Member: Janet Mierendorf, Michael Osborne, Ron Petrus, or Jilloyn Sodemann

An Important Reminder



Due to privacy restrictions, when you or your loved one seeks medical treatment at a hospital, nursing home, etc., you need to call Pastor Beth (920) 207-3889 to have her visit, pray for you, or just be aware of the situation. Medical staff is no longer able to make these contacts.