



Emmanuel Community United Methodist Church

Imitating Christ Together

N84 W16707 Menomonee Avenue ♦ Menomonee Falls, WI 53051 ♦ 262-251-3830

Monday, June 29, 2020

From Pastor Doug

Dear friends,

As I get ready to make the transition to my new appointment at Portage United Methodist Church, I cannot help but think back on the experiences I've had here and the time I have shared with all of you.

I arrived at Emmanuel Community three years ago in the midst of change. Not only were you welcoming a new pastor, but you were getting ready to start a new Sunday morning schedule that would end up shaping much of journey together. Being a part of that and plugging in to the energy that was present inspired me and helped me to see how God was already at work among this community.

Since then, I have had the privilege of walking and working alongside you as we have sought to "imitate Christ together". Your faithful support of ministries like the food pantry, Summerfield UMC, community care, and others has helped put words into action. Your willingness to try new things like Celebration Worship, Community Quest, and Vacation Bible School on the front lawn has opened new possibilities. We have learned so much from one another about what it means to be people of faith today.

The time we have shared together these past few years will continue to shape my life and my ministry moving forward. Though it has been a challenge dealing with COVID-19 and all the struggles of figuring out how to be the church in the midst of that, I feel those memories will soon fade, eventually leaving behind only the good things we've had.

An important part of pastoral transitions is letting go. We must release one another from the covenant relationship we've had these past three years so that you can fully enter into ministry with Pastor Jerome. He comes with experience and wisdom. I know that you will welcome him and his family with the same hospitality and generosity you've have shown Pastor Graham and me.

Jesus said, "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live." (John 14:18-19). We have hope knowing that God is present with us, especially in the midst of change. That was the promise made to us at our baptism, the promise we witnessed in the person of Jesus Christ, the promise that continues to be fulfilled by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives now.

...and so I bid farewell, echoing the words of the apostle Paul: "I thank God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you..." (Philippians 1:3-4).

Blessings,

Douglas K. Clement, pastor

What's Your Super Power?

Children will have four weeks to figure out just how special they are during At-Home Vacation Bible School. Make reservations for your 3-11 year old children now! The Children's Ministries Team is so excited to bring this opportunity to your family, but we will not be able to pull off such a drastic change in plans without your RSVP.

Post cards will be in the mail this week for you to pass out to friends and family. If you are watching other children while their parents work, sign those children up and plan to do VBS together.

Your At-Home VBS experience will include videotaped lessons, music, and Bible stories, a hard-cover super heroes storybook Bible for each family, supplies for crafts, games, snacks, science experiments, and an essential super hero costume.

Pick up a supply bag from the church once a week for four consecutive weeks in July and August. The pick-up schedule for week 1 is listed below. Choose an evening to do all of your VBS activities or spread the fun out over the week. This VBS is designed to keep you safe and to fit your family's schedule.

Pick up your bag for the week of July 13 on:

Friday, July 10, 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Sunday, July 12, 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Monday, July 13, 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Remaining pick up dates will be included in your first VBS bag.

Communicate With Us

Staying in touch is important! We want to be sure everyone is receiving communication from ECUMC. If you or someone you know is not getting messages, contact the church office by calling (262) 251-3830 or email church@ec-umc.com. Thanks!

ECUMC Reopening News

Many are looking forward to the re-opening of our church and getting back to worship. Bishop Jung has given us protocols for this process and a team of church leaders are working to make it smooth and safe for all.

Masks and proper social distancing will be required. Because of this, seating space will be limited and reservations for worship will also be required. We know some will feel a need to continue with our online worship and fellowship opportunities for their own health or the health of loved ones. We plan to maintain and enrich these opportunities.

When we reopen for sanctuary worship, hopefully by the end of July, we want to be certain that we have done our best to keep our church family and our community safe. Watch for more details to come in the next few weeks.

If you have any questions, contact Janet R., Church Council Chair, at (203) 645-6631 or Anne W., Lay Leader, at (262)424-8480.

Intergenerational Community Quest (IGCQ)

Please note that IGCQ will not meet on Zoom Sunday, July 5th. We'll be back together on Sunday, July 12th for Yoga with Diane Sutrick from Peace Yoga Studio. Diane will combine scripture, meditation, and restorative yoga poses for all levels. Modifications will be given so that poses can be done in a chair or on the floor. Wear comfy clothing and set yourself up so that you can see/hear your screen and have plenty of room to stretch.

Sunday Worship and Wednesday Devotions

Videos available on [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#)
(search for Emmanuel Community UMC)

Pastoral Care and Assistance Available

Contact Church Office (262) 251-3830

How to Give Financially

Mailed to the church office, automatically by electronic transfer, or online via our website (<http://ec-umc.com>)

Hi Church Coalition volunteers,

Thank you to all of you who attended Tuesday's conference call. Present were Joyce Squire Israel, Pastor Domnick Israel, Annette Intravaia, Bob Weiland, Tom Peterson, Jerry Wille, Randy Goelzer, Rick Corbett. Krisiti Sebal, Milwaukee Habitat Volunteer & Faith Relations Coordinator, chaired the meeting.

Below are the points discussed:

Our 2020 Habitat home address at this time is set for 2235 North 24th Place. This may possibly change due to the fluidity of the our COVID 19 situation.

All volunteers will be required to wear face mask at the build site. Habitat will provide masks.

At this time Habitat has set the volunteer age range from 18-64 with no underlying health concerns. The age range will be revisited after July 4 to possibly open the age range. I'll keep you apprised of this issue since it affects our Church Coalition volunteer group.

Tentative dates for framing are Saturday August 15, Wednesday August 19 – Saturday August 22 and Wednesday August 26 – Saturday August 29. I'll keep you apprised on when the construction schedule is published.

Times are tentatively set for 8:15 – 3:15

Habitat will need 3-5 volunteers each framing day from our Church Coalition. Habitat construction staff will work along with us as usual. With the smaller number of volunteers needed this year this expands our usual number of framing days from 5 to 9.

I'll provide information on our partner family when available.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic Milwaukee Habitat will be building 11 houses in the Midtown Neighborhood in 2020. The original plan was also to frame houses in the

Harambee Neighborhood. Those houses will be framed & built in 2021.

City of Milwaukee moratorium on evicting renters late on their monthly rent has been lifted leaving many low income families in danger of losing their current residences. This means the need for affordable housing in our inner city becomes more critical.

To date 2 homes in the Midtown Neighborhood have been framed & are sided with windows installed. A 3rd home was started last week. The goal is to rough in 2 houses at a time. The Presbyterian Church & Thrivent Build church coalitions will be our building neighbors in August.

Volunteers are needed at the Restore in Wauwatosa which is now open & has done more business in May & June than in typical in a whole quarter! They also need more donations so please let friends & acquaintances who are remodeling know that the Restore can even come to pick them up.

As usual Milwaukee Habitat prefers that you sign up to work on their VolunteerHub website: <https://mkehabitat.volunteerhub.com/lp/churchcoalition/account/signin?returnUrl=%2fvp%2fchurchcoalition%2fevents>

I'll alert you on when the schedule is posted for you to sign up. If you haven't used the site before you'll need to register, create a password & sign a waiver. Let me know any questions you may have. Thank you for your dedication to provide affordable housing to our hard working partner families.

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