



AUGUST 2021

PATHWAYS

Emmanuel Community United Methodist Church Monthly Newsletter

N84 W16707 Menomonee Avenue, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051 ❖ 262-251-3830 ❖ EC-UMC.COM

August Worship Schedule

- August 1 – Celebration Service 8:30am
Sanctuary Service 10:30am
- August 8 – Parking Lot Service 9:00am
Followed by Intergenerational
Community Quest
- August 15 – Celebration Service 8:30am
Sanctuary Service 10:30am
- August 22 – Parking Lot Service 9:00am
Followed by Intergenerational
Community Quest
- August 29 – Celebration Service 8:30am
Sanctuary Service 10:30am

August Books Between Bites

Friday, August 20, 12:00pm, join us in Fellowship Hall along with your own lunch for a joyful time and discussion about this month's book selection.

The Getaway Girls by Dee MacDonald is a fun book about three older women embracing life and having a jolly good time on a road trip to Italy.

August Game Night

Game Night Group has reconvened. Join us the third Friday of the month, August 20, at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall.



Laughter is so much fun, and we need more fun in our lives. We will certainly have that playing games together. This group is basically for adults. I encourage everyone to bring a beverage and snack for your own personal use.

We hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please call or email Linda or Bob Wagner at 262-255-0441 or linbob53089@gmail.com.



175TH JUBILEE

August Ice Cream Social!
This is a free event for the entire community.
Everyone is Invited!

Sponsored by Emmanuel Community.

When: August 28, 2021, 1:00–3:00pm
Where: Village Park Pavilion, N87W16749 Garfield Dr., Menomonee Falls

- Ice Cream for all
- Old-fashioned games for kids
- Reenactment of Circuit Rider preachers, performed by Rev. Dan Dicks and his wife Barbara
- Music by Emmanuel Community choirs
- Bring a blanket or chairs!



August Reconciling Group

The third and final Reconciling Group Book Discussion for the Summer, will take place on Saturday, August 14, in Chapel Lounge at 10:30am.

God and the Gay Christian by Matthew Vines is the fascinating book we will be discussing.



Pastoral Letter

Church's call to Christian Discipleship – Reflection, Part I

Let me invite you to reflect on Jesus' call, "Follow Me," in a two-part reflection (here in the August *Pathways* and the second in next month's issue).

We are living in challenging times: we face the pros and cons of technological and scientific advancements, religious and political fundamentalisms, the rapid increase of secularization, postmodern and postcolonial cultural trends, an ultra-capitalistic political economy (the rich get richer, and the poor get poorer), extreme social marginalization – all of these phenomena, among others, exist and function at the same time in tension with each other; sometimes resulting in crises. Our country, our Church, our families, and we ourselves are caught in the midst of this mess and chaos. Sometimes we do not know what to do or how to make good, faithful, virtuous choices.

One way of understanding the task of the Church is that of equipping the disciples of Christ, a vocation the Church has been engaged in since its inception. This means that our mission focus here at Emmanuel needs to apply this calling to ourselves as we continue face post-COVID-19 scenarios – **to equip and empower disciples of Christ for costly discipleship in God's world.**

Jesus said, "Ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε ἀκολουθήστε με," "come and follow me," and did so in many places in the Gospels:

Matthew 8:22 – But **Jesus said** to him, "**Follow me**, and let the dead bury their own dead."

Mark 10:21 – **Jesus**, looking at him, loved him and **said**, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, **follow me.**"

John 1:43 – The next day **Jesus** decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and **said** to him, "**Follow me.**"

To fully understand the concept of discipleship we have to fully comprehend two Greek words:

1. κολουθῶ (akolouthéō) – This has several meanings:

to follow one who precedes, to join him as his attendant, to accompany him

to join one as a disciple, to become or to be his disciple, to side with his party

Here the emphasis is on being a companion of Christ.

2. μαθητής (mathētēs) – This has the meaning of pupil/learner; the Hebrew equivalent is *Talmid* – pupil/learner, derived from *Lamad* – to learn.

The central point here is to answer the question of *whom* we are called to follow: **It is Jesus the Master**; we are called to learn at the foot of the Master, from the words and actions of the Master, from the whole being of the Master. Put another way, our calling is to follow, "THE WORD and THE WORD."

In Asia we called this as the *Gurukul* model; the student follows the Master. It means one who is called to hear the WORD and obey the WORD; hearing and obeying go together.

In the scriptures the WORD, *Dabar* in Hebrew or *Logos* in Greek, means *Burden of the heart of God*. We are called to discern and share the burdens of the heart of God with everyone we meet in our ministry. Thus we, the disciples of Jesus, must constantly listen to what Christ says and put that into action. This is a prophetic and pastoral task.

To sojourn with the Master is yet another dimension of our call, and this means becoming involved in the pains and agonies, the joys and hopes of the community, the body of Christ our Lord. It is a call to live *in Christ* with people. It is not an easy way – it is tough. but, if we want to walk on the water, we have to get out of our boats and out of our comfort zones. It is also a call to partake in real LIFE and its struggles; a lifetime commitment to Christ.

Our service of Christ is *diakonic* in nature. It is a call to serve one another. It requires an extraordinary humility, like that of our master-friend Jesus, who by washing the feet of his disciples transformed a Graeco-Roman model of Master/Slave relationship into a Master/Friend relationship. Instead of slaves washing the feet of the Master, now the Master washes the feet of the disciples. By the visible sign of foot washing, Jesus made us part of his body, saying, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me," (John 13:8) and, "No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you," (John 15:15).

Look for the Part II of the discipleship reflection my friends in September!

Happy August!
Jerome Sahabandhu

How does your Garden Grow?

Pastor Jerome and Inoka thank the Green Team and Trustees for making this veggie garden possible at the Cleveland parsonage!!



The Sahabandhu family shared their first harvest of vegetables for God's work with the Green Team harvest table at the outdoor service on June 13, 2021! Thank you!!!

Pastors' Bible Study Series

Save Tuesday mornings, 10:30am
Eight Tuesday morning drop-in studies beginning in September. The Beatitudes. Studies will be led by the pastors in Chapel Lounge.

MISSIONS

Becas Con Bendiciones (Scholarships with Blessings)

Through this mission, ECUMC provides financial assistance to Honduran students, who would not otherwise be able to attend public school. \$120 per student provides the shoes, uniforms, book bags etc. to make public education possible. We have been supporting 40 students each year.

Letters from Becas Students

For: My Dear Sponsor

From: Allisson Mariel Bustillo Rodrigues

First of all I give thanks to God for giving me life and health and for giving me the opportunity to write you this letter.

I am 11 years old and am in the 5th grade. My favorite game is baseball. My favorite subject is Spanish. My family is close, and we support each other in everything. I have a sister and a brother, and I live with my parents. As for me, I am taking classes at home, and it is very nice.

I want to thank you for the monetary support that I have received, and may God continue blessing you.

I give thanks to God for your life and your family. I say goodbye with a kiss and a long-distance hug.

Allisson Mariel Bustillo

~

For: My Sponsors

From: Genesis Viviana Salinas Martinez

God bless you, esteemed sponsors. I want to thank you for your great support in giving me your help by sponsoring me. Thanks be to God first and then to you for the blessings that you have granted me. May God bless you today, tomorrow, and always. My family is very grateful to God and to you and sends thanks, many thanks, and blessings. Also I want you to know that my favorite color is pink, my favorite pet is the dog, and my favorite food is Chinese rice. Also, in my community there are fields, a school, and playgrounds. Today I want to tell you that I like to play hide and seek, tag, soccer, bullfighting, and singing games.

I am very grateful to God and to you for giving me food. I give thanks to God because he touched your heart so that you gave each one of us children so much help and I am very grateful to all of you. Amen.

Loose Coin Offering

Northcott Neighborhood House supports family stability, provides educational and recreational programs for youth, lessens neighborhood tensions, combats community deterioration, and provides various social services for the residents of Harambee and surrounding neighborhoods.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Karen Burzinski, Karenb@ec-umc.com

Intergenerational Community Quest

August 8: Make lemonade and learn about bread-making with the Green Team. There will be multi-cultural breads to sample including a recipe for Sri Lankan-style bread.

August 22: Make your own paper flowers with Lari Kons (the same ones that sold out the first day of Marketplace!) Bring a glue gun and scissors if you have them.

September 12: Fall Kick-off event with lunch

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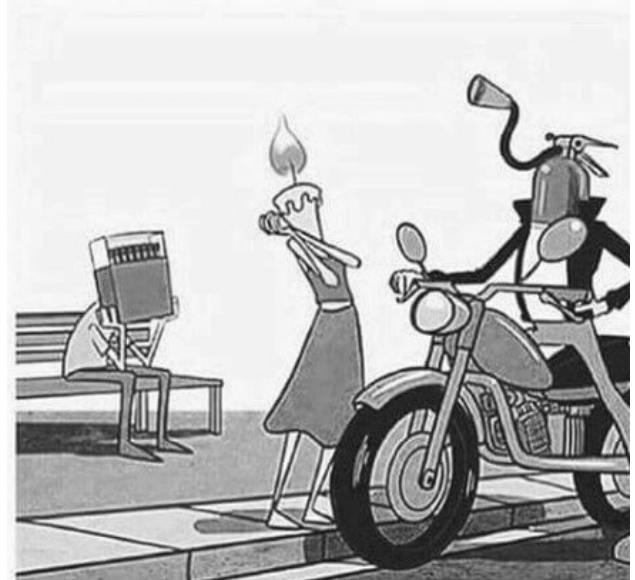
### Church Council Update

Your church council is continually discerning ways to best guide our faith community by being good stewards of the gifts bestowed upon us and offering training and inspiration to our ministry team leaders.

A couple of months ago we asked ourselves what our church might look like post-COVID. None of us knew the answer, but we did admit that we need to be ready to embrace a new normal. The "new normal" encourages us to grow outside of our comfort zone by following our Wisconsin Conference's commitment to radical inclusion and racial justice. We started the conversation by learning about the work that our Reconciling Group is doing and invited our District Superintendent, Forrest Wells, in June to tell us what is happening at the Wisconsin Conference.

Inspirational speaker Alonzo Kelly joined us via Zoom for our July meeting. The team

discussed ways of creating a safe space of worship where all feel welcome. We discussed safety, authentic inquiry, and critical thinking. Alonzo began the discussion by displaying the picture below. He asked each of us to describe what we saw in the picture and reminded us that we often don't see the same thing, and it's OK to look and see differently. We acknowledged each other's opinions which opened us up to the intersection of truth.



Join us on August 7 when Lynn Hines-Levy, pastor to Summerfield and Cudahy UMC, will be joining us to talk about the work that she is doing in communities that are a bit different than our own. Pastor Lynn is also a Chaplain for the Milwaukee Police Department/Salvation Army and the District 7 Faith-Based Initiative/Community Action Team that works to provide spiritual and emotional care, resource supply, food pantries with a goal to decrease crime and heal the pain.

All are welcome to join the conversation. We meet the third Monday of month, either in-person or virtually via Zoom. Let's embrace the new normal together.

Mary Volmer  
Church Council Chair



## 175 years of

### Nurturing our Faith at ECUMC

*Did you know that "Sunday School" wasn't originally designed for children whose families attended church? Faith nurture, per Biblical mandate, was considered the sole and sacred responsibility of Christian*

families. Sunday School was a program created to take juvenile delinquents off the streets!

In industrialized England, factories employed children as young as age 6. Monday–Saturday, they worked 12–14 hour factory shifts, and they ran wild through the streets on Sundays while their overworked parent(s) slept, exhausted. Without opportunity to join their upper-class peers in school, millions were growing up without either academic knowledge or the tools to function in society.

By 1770 philanthropists, activists, and Christian leaders such as John Wesley, Robert Raikes, and Hannah More started schools for these children. Of course, they were held on Sunday, the only time the factory whistle was silent. Children attended from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and were provided with a noon meal. The curriculum included reading, arithmetic, manners and morals, and a two-hour worship service. Children were enticed (with gingerbread, pennies, and prizes) to attend. Often, they were awarded Bibles, which they brought home and read aloud to the illiterate adults in their homes.

The movement soon caught on as a mission outreach to the poor and its benefits to society became clear. Methodists led the movement, both in England and the U.S.

### REMEMBER

From its earliest days, the red brick church in Menomonee Falls valued Christian education for its children and youth. In the mid-1800s, Emmanuel Church started to publish Sunday School texts based on the Evangelical Association's catechism.

For years, Elton Magee rang the steeple bell (without missing a Sunday in 21 years!) to summon children to Sunday School. In the 1960s, Emmanuel's Sunday School was the largest in the state of Wisconsin – divided into two sessions to accommodate everyone! Until the late 1990s, classes explored a different topic each week.

All that changed with the hiring of Wendy Geise who found inspiration in the then-fledgling "Rotational" model. Wendy redesigned classrooms to create areas for drama, video, computer, art, and cooking. Children had opportunity to interact with the same topic for several weeks, employing different mediums or presentation methods each time. This

model was received with enthusiasm and great interest and was used through 2019.

### REJOICE

Our Children's Ministries Director, Karen Burzinski, was hired nineteen years ago.

She is currently shepherding ECUMC through a time of changing realities in our faith community and society. Sunday morning church competes with sports, weekend travel, and other activities important to children and their time-crunched families. It's time for another new model of Sunday School.

In the summer of 2019, Karen and the Children's Ministry Team introduced Intergenerational Community Quest, a time for all ages to engage together with faith topics. These summer sessions included FAITH5 (a time of sharing highs & lows, discussing a Scripture, and praying for each other) and a related activity such as flower arranging, drawing, woodworking, or food art. Even after the summer was over, adult and children Sunday morning classes were suspended on the second Sunday of each month for intergenerational opportunities.

During the online-only pandemic year of 2020/2021, activities such as optical illusions, games, word maps, and gardening extended the sermon message into engagement at home. Children, youth, and families participated in creation of *The Lego Movie: Nativity* and illustrating an Advent book. The pandemic summers of 2020 and 2021 gave rise to a virtual Vacation Bible School with take-home curriculum and materials coupled with online videos, challenges, and stories.

The silver lining of the pandemic has been the opportunity to be in ministry with families all over the country (and abroad) through the outreach of families at ECUMC!

### REENGAGE

As we anticipate meeting in person someday soon, the successful intergenerational model of our faith nurture will be expanded. Grade-school children of all ages will meet with interested adults every Sunday to engage in discussion, lessons, and activities. Although other options for adult Community Quest will be offered most Sundays, everyone will be welcome to engage consistently with our youngest Christians, building relationships and discovering faith truths.

It's important in our age-segregated world for generations to connect. Our modern society is mobile; it's the exception rather than the rule that generations of families attend the same church. As a faith family, though, we can make personal connections and imitate Christ together.

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# August 2021

| SUN                                                                             | MON                                                                        | TUE                                                                   | WED                                          | THU                                                                     | FRI                                                                     | SAT                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Aug 1<br>8:30am Celebration Servi<br>10:30am Sanctuary Wors<br>6:30pm Faithlink | 2<br>9am E-news deadline<br>6:15pm Ministry Teams                          | 3<br>12pm pastoral meeting<br>1:30pm Staff Meeting<br>6:30pm Trustees | 4<br>6:30pm Prayer Group<br>6:30pm Youth     | 5<br>10am Lectionary study                                              | 6<br>10am Lectionary study                                              | 7<br>10:30am Reconciling Boc  |
| 8<br>9am Parking lot Service<br>10am Intergenerational C<br>6:30pm Faithlink    | 9<br>9am E-news deadline<br>7pm Finance                                    | 10<br>12pm pastoral meeting<br>1:30pm Staff Meeting                   | 11<br>6:30pm Prayer Group                    | 12<br>10am Lectionary study                                             | 13<br>10am Lectionary study                                             | 14<br>10:30am Reconciling Boc |
| 15<br>8:30am Celebration Servi<br>10:30am Sanctuary Wors<br>6:30pm Faithlink    | 16<br>8am Pathways Deadline t<br>9am E-news deadline<br>7pm Church Council | 17<br>12pm pastoral meeting<br>1:30pm Staff Meeting<br>6:30pm SPRC    | 18<br>6:30pm Prayer Group<br>6:30pm Youth    | 19<br>10am Lectionary study<br>12pm Books Between Bit<br>7pm Game Night | 20<br>10am Lectionary study<br>12pm Books Between Bit<br>7pm Game Night | 21<br>10am Lectionary study   |
| 22<br>9am Parking Lot Worship<br>10am Intergenerational C<br>6:30pm Faithlink   | 23<br>9am E-news deadline                                                  | 24<br>12pm pastoral meeting<br>1:30pm Staff Meeting                   | 25<br>6:30pm Prayer Group                    | 26<br>10am Lectionary study                                             | 27<br>10am Lectionary study                                             | 28<br>1pm Jubilee IceCream Sc |
| 29<br>6:30pm Faithlink                                                          | 30<br>9am E-news deadline                                                  | 31<br>12pm pastoral meeting<br>1:30pm Staff Meeting                   | Sep 1<br>6:30pm Prayer Group<br>6:30pm Youth | 2<br>10am Lectionary study                                              | 3<br>10am Lectionary study                                              | 4                             |

This calendar and more details can be found at [ec-umc.com](http://ec-umc.com)

## *Pathways* August 2021 edition

| <b>Table of Contents</b>              | <b>Page</b> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| August Events & Worship Schedule..... | 1           |
| Jubilee-Ice Cream Social.....         | 1           |
| Pastoral Letter .....                 | 2           |
| Missions .....                        | 3           |
| Loose Coin.....                       | 4           |
| Intergenerational Community Quest ... | 4           |
| Church Council Update .....           | 4           |
| Remember, Rejoice, Reengage .....     | 5           |
| August Calendar.....                  | 7           |
| Table of Contents.....                | 8           |
| Pastors Available .....               | 8           |
| Church Leader Contact Emails .....    | 8           |

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Rosie Jashinsky ..... jashinskyjar@aol.com

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Patty Buchholtz..... pbuchhol@hotmail.com

### **SCRIP CARDS**



Always for sale and earn a little extra money for the church too! Great for back to school purchases, groceries, gas, restaurants, and more! Order some today!

Contact Mary Klein, mary.klein1@gmail.com or Sheryl in the office, sheryla@ec-umc.com.

### **PASTORS AVAILABLE**



Pastors Jerome & Sean are available to talk to or meet with any member of the congregation whenever you may need us.

To contact the pastors, please call:

**Pastor Jerome Sahabandhu**

**Lead Pastor**  
262-251-3830

**Pastor Sean Cornell**

**Community Care Director**  
262-853-9895

All *Pathways* announcements are due to the office by the 15th of the prior month.



If you **do not** wish to receive *Pathways* via postal service, please inform the office by calling Sheryl at 262-251-3830.