



SEPTEMBER 2021

# PATHWAYS

## Emmanuel Community United Methodist Church Monthly Newsletter

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**These are the activities planned for September, 2021.  
The CDC guidelines may impact these plans.  
Stay tuned to email and social media, or call the church office.**

### September Worship Schedule

- September 5 – Celebration Service 8:30am, Sanctuary Worship 10:30am
- September 12 – **Fall Kick-Off** Parking Lot Service 9:00am. Followed by ***Back to the Bazaar: A Jubilee Journey***
- September 19 – Celebration Service 8:30am, Community Quest 9:30am, Sanctuary Worship 10:45am
- September 26 – Celebration Service 8:30am, Community Quest 9:30am, Sanctuary Worship 10:45am

### The Season of Creation

This September our church will again celebrate the Season of Creation, which is an international ecumenical celebration of the goodness of God's creation and our responsibility to care for it. Our theme this year is **A Home for All**. Our common home, the Earth, belongs to God, and each beloved creature is a part of it. We are called to care for the earth and its creatures and to shape our social and economic systems to sustain our common home. We are also called to welcome members of our community into our church home.

The Season of Creation begins on September 5 and our pastors will be talking about this celebration throughout the month of September. There will also be some special activities like **our oldest useful things contest** and a **walking lightly on the earth meditation walk**. We'll conclude our season of celebration with a guest speaker on October 3 and

some special reminders that we are all part of a common home.

Fall is a wonderful time to ponder the beauty of God's creation. Scientists are telling us this common home we inhabit is in danger now due to the toxic things we have put into our environment. Excessive heat, more severe storms, large wildfires, and record drought tell us that our climate is changing and endangering all creatures that live on the earth. May the Season of Creation move us to take steps to save and renew our common home and care for each other.

Doug Walters, Chair of Green Team

### The Calm, After the Storm

This beautiful picture, sent in from one of our members, was taken the morning after tornadoes touched down in parts of Southeast Wisconsin last month.



God IS, Creatively Beautiful!



## Pastoral Letter

### Church's call to Christian Discipleship- Reflection, Part II

*(A continuation of my reflection from last Pathways)*

While we are preparing for schools to recommence, for new activities to begin in the church, and for the beginning of Fall, let me invite you to engage in a spiritual reflection on maturing ourselves as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Disciple as "Alter Christus"- Another Christ

We are called to be "Alter Christus" in our society.

Disciples should carry the cross. "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must *deny themselves* and take up their cross and follow me,'" (Matthew 16:24, NIV; emphasis mine). As we can clearly see, *renunciation of the self* is emphasized here. Furthermore, it is a call to radical commitment for the OTHER. I invite you to discern who the OTHER is for you in your context. Christians see Christ in the OTHER, engages Christ in OTHERS, and even is ready to be transformed by the Christ in OTHERS. This requires humility and discernment; it is important to remember that we are also another Christ in God's world.

As disciples we are called to discern the will of the Abba, the Father. Jesus prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will... My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done," (Matthew 26:39 & 42, NIV). Doing the will of God, rendering obedience to God, saying yes to God, is what self-denial is all about. John the Baptist's spirituality is worth mentioning here, especially when he said, "He [Christ] must become greater; I must become less," (John 3:30, NIV). The Apostle Paul shares a similar sentiment in his letter to the church in Galatia, where he said, "I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God," (Galatians 2:20b, NIV).

This is not only a principle found in the Biblical authors, but in the lives of the saints, martyrs, pastors, and teachers of the Church down through the centuries. Take the martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who lived during the time

of Adolf Hitler in Germany during the Second World War. He was tested in his witness and wrote about how costly discipleship was. He denounced "cheap grace" and announced the **cost of discipleship** for those who want to follow Christ. By doing so, Bonhoeffer and his companions affirmed that Jesus, not Hitler, is Lord. Another example is Elisabeth Fiorenza, a New Testament scholar, who speaks of a **discipleship of equals** in the context of men and women, clergy and laity, and affirms that we are called to a common and corporate discipleship in the ministry of Christ. Fr. Michael Rodrigo, a Sri Lankan martyr, describes the "**disciple**" as a **living sacrifice and offering** for the people who are suffering. This is the ultimate Eucharistic offertory to God, for this discipleship is also a call to a Passover-Easter experience: a Passover from selfishness to selflessness, from ignorance to wisdom, from death to life. John Stott, a contemporary theologian, explains the "**non-conformity**" in discipleship; that we are called to live, serve, and witness in the world but to avoid becoming contaminated by the world. These reflections are intended to be helpful and thought-provoking exercise, so that we learn various aspects of discipleship.

In light of our 175 years as the ECUMC community, let us re-commit ourselves to the **costly discipleship of Christ** in these changing and challenging times. The fruits of our church's labor will be tested and grow when Jesus's followers, in our local community and ministries, come face to face with REAL LIFE. Our discipleship is tested and our faith grows when we encounter crisis and conflict situations; when injustice in the social order is challenged by righteousness; when we meet the least, the last, and the lost in our communities; when we have to make choices between the riches of the world and the blessings of God's reign.

*Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.*

~ St. Mother Theresa

Friends Jesus said "*follow me*" – and that means no turning back!!

Enjoy September!

**Jerome Sahabandhu**

September 5 – the feast of St. Mother Theresa of Kolkata

## Fall Kick-Off – Sunday, September 12

### ***Back to the Bazaar: A Jubilee Journey***

Worship outdoors in your lawn chair or from the comfort of your car from 9:00-10:00am then stick around for a Bible-time Bazaar from 10:00-12:00. Children and youth will enjoy hands-on bible time activities while adults explore fall ministry opportunities. Bag lunches will be provided for those who RSVP. Check the church website (ec-umc.com) for a link to the registration form or call the church to make your reservations by Wednesday, September 8.

### **Sunday Morning Worship and Community Quest (CQ) Fall Schedule**

We are looking forward to fall and the excitement of a somewhat familiar Sunday morning schedule at ECUMC. In-person Worship and Community Quest at ECUMC will look similar to our old “normal” but will require some modifications in order to assure that our pastor is available at each worship service. Please review this Fall Sunday morning schedule to decide how you and your family will return to a vibrant Sunday morning routine at ECUMC.

### **Beginning September 19, 2021 Professional Nursery Care Available**

8:30am–12:00pm

New play structures have been purchased to take the place of smaller toys in an effort to make sanitization easier and more effective.

### **Celebration Worship in Celebration Hall 8:30am–9:30am**

### **Community Quest (CQ) 9:30–10:30am**

### **CQ for Children:**

SLaMM and JaMM Music Programs: Preschool through 5th-grade children will spend the first 15 minutes of CQ singing and making music. Three-year-old through 1st-grade children meet in the Ark Park (attached to the nursery), and 2nd- to 5th-grade children meet in the Adult Choir Room across from Celebration Hall.

Preschool: 3- and 4-year-old children will meet in Jesus’ Place with dedicated teachers. Children will explore the same Bible stories as their older siblings each week and participate in hands-on activities to help them begin to feel the power of Jesus’ love.

Weekly Intergenerational CQ for 5K to 5th-grade students (and adults who prefer a weekly intergenerational experience): Children and adults will meet together in Fellowship Hall for hands-on lessons. A repetitive approach will allow students to

explore each Bible Story from multiple angles. Hands-on lessons in cooking, drama and puppetry, crafts, games, AV tech, and storytelling will bring biblical concepts to life and allow adults and children to form lasting relationships. Adults attending will have 15 minutes to enjoy coffee and fellowship while children attend choir rehearsal.

**Middle School Crossroads (6th–8th) & High School Tribe (9th–12th):** Meet together in the Youth Room to wrestle with an opening question and listen to scripture before dividing into two groups for deeper discussion and fun with friends. Leaders will provide meaningful, engaging programs to help youth know Jesus more, know God’s word more, and apply this to their daily lives.

**Adult CQ:** Two drop-in groups available for adult discussion meet in Chapel Lounge and the room next to Chapel Lounge. Offerings can be found under “Discipleship Ministries” in *Pathways* and on the church website.

**2nd Sunday Intergenerational CQ:** All pre-school through adult classes will be suspended on second Sundays to allow for Intergenerational CQ. Meet in Celebration Hall at 9:30 and be prepared to enjoy lessons, activities, and fellowship with four generations of church friends. We’ll continue the FAITH5 approach in order to give plenty of time to meet and catch up with church friends in an informal setting.

### **Sanctuary Worship Service 10:45–11:45am**



### **Drop-in Bible Study on the Beatitudes**

Tuesdays mornings at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall

Starting Tuesday September 14, for nine weeks, Pastors Jerome and Sean will be leading a Bible Study on the Beatitudes. There are no textbooks or registration necessary—just you and your Bible.

Please be on the lookout for two related YouTube videos on the EC-UMC page: The first on *How to Read the Bible* and the second on *Choosing a Bible*.

- Sept. 14 Blessed are the poor in spirit
- Sept. 21 Blessed are those who mourn
- Sept. 28 Blessed are the meek

- Oct. 5 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness
- Oct. 12 Blessed are the merciful
- Oct. 19 Blessed are the pure in heart
- Oct. 26 Blessed are the peacemakers
- Nov. 2 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness
- Nov. 9 Blessed are you when people say all kinds of evil against you because of our Lord Jesus

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Pastor Jerome at [jeromes@ec-umc.com](mailto:jeromes@ec-umc.com).

### **YAHAS are Back – on Thursdays**

Please join us September 16, Fellowship Hall, 11:30am, for a fun, social get-together. Let's get some ideas put together for programming and fellowship for the upcoming season of *Young at Heart and Spirit!*

Bring your own lunch and beverage; packaged chips and dessert will be provided. Dues, \$2.

Questions: Dorothy Nienow, 262-251-5048, or Mary Jo Karnath, 262-253-4154.

### **Books Between Bites**

Join us on September 17 at noon, with your lunch and beverage in hand as we discuss the captivating book by Ruth Hogan, *The Keeper of Lost Things*.

## **MISSIONS**

### **Harvest Brunch: September 26, 9:30am**

This year we are raising scholarship funds for Wisconsin United Methodist Camps.

Wisconsin has two camps:

Lake Lucerne, established in 1947, and Pine Lake, established in 1948.

Year-round, they offer opportunities for personal and group retreats, programs for grades 2–12, family camp, adult special need, mother/daughter, grandparents, and much more. Church camps are not just places to have fun and make new friends, but also for quiet reflection, bible study, and campfire worship. People from our congregation have been taking advantage of these camps for generations.

If you would like to share photos from previous camp experiences to be shared during the brunch please send them to Tom Peterson at [tlpeterson@milwpc.com](mailto:tlpeterson@milwpc.com).

We will have wonderful brunch offerings provided by the Kitchen Klub. We will start serving at 9:30am after



the 8:30am Celebration service.

Cost: adult, \$10.00; ages 13–17, \$7.00; ages 6–12, \$4.00; free for ages 5 and under; \$30.00 max per family.

Per the reopening team, this will be an outdoor/ take-out event. If the COVID numbers drop, we could consider an indoor event in Celebration Hall. Please watch for details as we get closer to the date.

### **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 Sponsors of Scholarship with Blessing*

*From: Dana Maholy Nunez Valerio*

*Hello Dear Sponsors,*

*First I give thanks to God for having permitted me to be a part of Scholarship with Blessing and also I want to thank you for having helped me. I want to tell you that I am 8 years old as of February 4, 2021, and I am very happy because God has given me another year of life. I want you to know that my favorite color is bright green and my favorite food is pizza. I like to ride my bicycle and play with my dolls. Because of the covid-19 pandemic which is going on we have not been able to go to school, but I am always trusting God. We receive our homework over the internet and are always in communication with our teacher. I also want to tell you that my favorite fruits are green apples and grapes, and I am so grateful for all that you have done for me. I want to tell you that there are 5 children in my family, a baby, my older sister who is 16 years old, my middle sister who is 11, my younger brother who is 7 months old, and me. I have a dog named Colita.*

*"I can do all this through Christ who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13*

*I am very grateful and thank you. Have a good day!*

~

*I give thanks to God first of all because up to this moment we are alive even though we are experiencing difficult times. He is our help.*

*I know that this illness has changed many things, not only here in my country, but throughout the whole world.*

*I greatly miss my school, my teachers, and my classmates. I know that all of this will pass and will serve to make us better people, always having faith in God.*

*In the name of my family and me, we thank you endlessly for the food that you have provided us and to our coordinator Sister Sonia Lagos for always being there for us. May the Lord keep you safe. I leave you with a precious verse from Psalms:*

*"God is our support and strength, our immediate help, in times of trial".*

*Emily Soad Jimenez*

### **September Loose Coin Offering**

Blessings in a Backpack mobilizes communities, individuals and resources to provide food on the weekends for elementary school children across America who might otherwise go hungry. To ensure the kids in our community have full bellies over the weekend, Blessings in a Backpack sends them home on Fridays with backpacks full of satisfying and nutritional food.

## **WOMEN'S MINISTRY**

### **Crafting**

Come join Women's Ministry in Chapel Lounge for in-person craft mornings. We will be meeting on Saturdays, September 18, October 16, and November 20 from 9:00 to 11:00am. If you want to join us, but not in person, you can join by zoom.

Please email Beth Kring at [Kringbeth1@gmail.com](mailto:Kringbeth1@gmail.com) to RSVP whether in person or by zoom. We would love to have you.

### **Women's Ministry – UPDATE!!!**

We are moving ... to Wednesday nights! Starting in September, we will be meeting at the same time, 7:00pm, same place, Chapel Lounge, but a different day, Wednesday.

By shaking up the night of the week, we hope this offers you a new chance to consider checking out this weekly study. Our time together focuses on

building our relationships with one another and with God. We would love to have you join us! Watch for updates via the weekly newsletter on when we will start our first study in September.

Our hope and goal is to return to weekly studies in person. Of course, we will defer to ECUMC's Covenant of Care as things change. Please contact Peg Heinen with questions/concerns at [pegheinen@yahoo.com](mailto:pegheinen@yahoo.com).

## **DICIPLESHIP MINISTRY**

Janet Ray, [JanetR@ec-umc.com](mailto:JanetR@ec-umc.com)



### **Adult Sunday Morning Community Quest (CQ) 9:30-10:30am**

Come and grow your faith, be encouraged in your Christian walk, and build relationships within our faith community as we strive to *Imitate Christ Together*.

Come once in a while or every week – you are always welcome!

- **The Wired Word** (formerly FaithLink) in the Chapel Lounge. This drop-in group discusses topics of current events and issues of social justice from a Biblical perspective. Topics are new each week; no preparation or supplies are needed.
- **Let's Look at the Bible** in the room next to Chapel Lounge (Sew & Sews room). This drop-in group uses the Bible as its primary text, exploring various themes throughout the year. Topics are new each week; no preparation or supplies are needed.

### **Book Study: *Doing Life with Your Adult Children* by Jim Burns, PhD**

Four Saturdays this fall (October 9, 16, 23, 30) from 9:00–10:00am in Fellowship Hall. Sessions are stand-alone—attend as many as you'd like.

This four-week study will be a casual time of conversation around issues faced by all of us with adult or almost-adult children. The book will be the springboard, but it's not necessary to join the discussion. Bring your own coffee; snacks will be available.

Dr. Burns offers practical advice and hopeful encouragement for those parenting grown kids



such as:

- What's the difference between enabling and helping?
- What boundaries should I have if my child moves back home?
- How do I relate to my grown child's significant other?

It also addresses issues such as how to inspire kids who have left the faith and what might be your legacy as a grandparent.

The book is available from Amazon (\$7.84) or other booksellers. A reading schedule will be published in the weekly e-news and Community News or contact Janet Ray for details or help purchasing a book.

### **Lectionary Study: Every Three Years**

Each week, this study will look at the four scriptures "assigned" to the upcoming Sunday. *What do they mean? Why are they grouped together? How might they apply to my life?* This study is offered twice each week—once in person and once via Zoom.

Join the group in person on Wednesdays, 10:00–11:00am, in the Chapel Lounge. Join the Zoom group on Fridays, 10:00–11:00am. Contact Janet Ray for the link ([JanetR@ec-umc.com](mailto:JanetR@ec-umc.com))

### **Pastor's Drop-In Bible Study: The Beatitudes**

Join Pastors Jerome and Sean to study the Beatitudes, perhaps the single most-recognized portion of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. No texts or registration is needed – just you and your Bible.

This 9-week study will be held on Tuesdays at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall from September 14 through November 9. Come for as many sessions as your schedule permits. Contact Pastor Jerome [JeromeS@ec-umc.com](mailto:JeromeS@ec-umc.com) for more information.

## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

Bill Follmann, [BillF@ec-umc.com](mailto:BillF@ec-umc.com)

**Crossroads** = Middle school youth (grades 6-8)

**Confirmation** = youth (grades 8-12)

**Tribe** = High school youth (grades 9-12)

### **Youth Events for September:**

We are excited to begin another church year and have some plans already set for September.

September 12 Kick-Off Sunday. Come pick up a scavenger hunt list from the youth ministries tent and work to get it all filled in! Sunday evening, 5:30pm, Confirmation meeting with parents and students interested in confirmation for the 2021–2022 year.



September 19 (time to be determined by weather)—Our first gathering of Tribe and Crossroads—We will meet outside and have a time of fun, fellowship and food. We will work to get 9-square set up and have a fire going in the fire pit for hot dogs and marshmallows and s'mores!

We will continue the Bible study get-togethers, and I will be looking for input on an evening that will work the best for the most who will attend.

A big thanks to the youth ministry team for arranging a fun camping outing at the Wildwood campground at Pine Lake over the weekend of Aug. 13, 14, and 15. There were four families who attended the campout, and it was a great time to see God's creation up close. We will be making this an annual event, so think about that for next summer.

Thank you all for your prayers, your support, your participation, and your encouragement. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES**

Karen Burzinski, [Karenb@ec-umc.com](mailto:Karenb@ec-umc.com)



### **Club 4/5 Parent Organizational Meeting Sunday, August 29, 10:00am**

Help plan an exciting year of activities for our 4th- and 5th-grade introduction to youth group. Club 4/5 meets monthly, typically on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Activities are sponsored by the Children's Ministries Team and led by parents and other interested ECUMC adults. Let's get the planning done early so we can dive right in with a September activity. Outdoor games will be provided for children during the meeting.

## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRIES

Angie Sardina, Angies@ec-umc.com

### Youth Discipleship Coach

**Crossroads** = Middle school youth (grades 6-8)

**Confirmation** = youth (grades 8-12)

**Tribe** = High school youth (grades 9-12)

### A Note From Angie Sardina

I wanted to inform the church community that I will be on leave from church from Monday, September 13 through Monday, November 7 to deal with some medical issues. I am going to be fine but require time off for a surgery and recovery.

I am busy planning ahead for Celebration Worship services and am blessed that Janet Ray has agreed to lead those services while I am gone. In addition, many volunteers have agreed to help lead Sunday School for our middle and high school aged youth during this time. It's difficult to be away from church and school, but it's such a good feeling to know so many people will step in to help when there is a need.

I thank you all for respecting my privacy during this time, and I certainly welcome your prayers. I look forward to taking care of this and getting back to church soon!

Angie Sardina

### Take a load off your mind!

#### A note from Finance Committee

We've all had those times when we didn't get that check to the church written and delivered (no time, no stamp, no envelope, didn't attend this week). Perhaps you are looking for a more convenient way to stay current on your commitment to support the programs at Emmanuel. If so, consider the convenience and security of going online.

- EFT—Call the church office and get the details for how to set up a recurring EFT "pull" from your checking account monthly.
- Vanco—To pay your commitment through a credit or debit card, click on the "give now" button on the church website and register your card for Vanco to charge your card with your commitment amount.
- Bill Pay app—If either of those options are a little too open-ended for you, here's a third option that I use. I've set up Emmanuel as a bill pay payee with my credit union to "push" my monthly support to Emmanuel. It gives me the feeling of being more in control of when the money goes out. If you are already using a

bill pay app for your regular monthly bills, consider adding Emmanuel to your list of payees. You are in charge of deciding the timing, frequency, and amount of the payment. Give it a try. I'm sure you'll agree it's convenient and mind-relieving.

Jan Kohlmann

### Church Council Notes

The Church Council met on Monday, August 16, to discuss the business of the church and to hear about the amazing work that Pastor Lynne Hines-Levy is doing at Summerfield Church in downtown Milwaukee. Members of our church community work with Pastor Lynne and other volunteers to prepare meals for folks that find themselves homeless. Her ministry has grown from serving nutritional meals on Saturday nights to four times a week for 40-75 or more souls. Their money goes directly to the feeding programs; she feels that their people are more important than brick and mortar. When the other programs in town shut down, they ramped up from in-person feeding lines to carryout meals. Others have seen the work they are doing and are helping them with hygiene kits, clothing, food, and assistance where needed. They've made great progress with developing a trusting relationship with the homeless community through prayer and loving their neighbors.

We discussed how we could apply what we've learned in our ministry programs to help support Pastor Lynne's mission and raise awareness of this growing population of folks that need our prayers.

On the business side, we have decided to move the Ministry Team meeting to the fourth Monday of the month so that our leaders can share what they've learned during Church Council with their teams. An updated Safety Policy has been posted on our website for your review. Information on the upcoming Jubilee Celebration and Sunday morning schedule can be found within *Pathways*.

Next month a young woman who grew up in our church, Tamra Schneider, will be sharing her journey to becoming a missionary with us. If you're interested in Zooming in, let me know and I'll send you the link.

Mary Volmer,  
Church Council Chair





## Youth Mission Trips

John Wesley is famously quoted as wanting "the whole world for my mission field" and the United Methodist Church and ECUMC have embodied that sentiment over the years.

### Remember

Within 30 years of Wesley's death, Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren denominations established missionary outreach boards in the U.S. Because of the U.S. Civil War and the preceding north/south tensions, overseas work did not begin in earnest until later. In both denominations, women took the lead in establishing missionary societies and sending women missionaries to start educational and medical institutions.

Our denomination has always worked in concert with other denominations and is noteworthy for its strong commitment to encouraging church leadership by the local peoples. The arc of this missions commitment has resulted in over 12.5 million United Methodists in over 136 countries today.

In 1971, ECUMC church leaders began to organize youth missions trips committed to service. Since that first large youth mission trip (with the Appalachian Service Project) to date there have been approximately 35 youth mission trips.



Cindy Morgan attended several these trips as a youth and recalls how the love of missions was formed by ECUMC.

*I remember the excitement and enthusiasm in 1971 as the congregation sent them off to Kentucky on the church bus christened "The Disciple." I knew I wanted to experience this for myself when in high school.*

*In the summer of 1973, I took part in the youth work mission in Keshena, Wisconsin, serving families of the Menominee Reservation. We held fundraising events including bake sales, rent-a-youth, selling homemade pizzas, and a walk-a-thon. Approximately 80 youth and adults set up operations from several rustic buildings at the Keshena fairgrounds. During the week, crews painted homes and a school, repaired roofs, and built a bathroom addition. Client families and other community members often joined our evening devotions, singing, praying, and sharing together. Friendships were built and strengthened.*



*During my four mission trips, I had the privilege of working under the guidance of inspiring adults like John Eldredge, Roger Jones, and Collier Good. Dedicated moms including LuAnn Jones, Dorothy Nienow, Jean Adams, and Jeannette King prepared enough food to feed an army and delivered daily lunches to each of the work sites. A favorite lunchtime treat was a 3 lb. coffee can of homemade cookies donated by church members. The love, skills, knowledge, and patience of these adults is something I will always remember and appreciate.*

*These opportunities set a path for my life of helping others in need. Experiencing and engaging with people of a different culture and seeing poverty first-hand was something foreign to me and took me outside my comfortable life. Relationships with the youth, adult leaders, and our pastors, Paul Gutknecht and Bob Adams, were strengthened by seeing them outside the church walls putting words into action.*





*Thank you Emmanuel Community UMC for giving me the opportunity to participate in such meaningful and life-changing experiences. A special thanks to the many adults who understood the importance of youth involvement in work missions and made it a reality for so many of us.*

*Cindy Morgan*

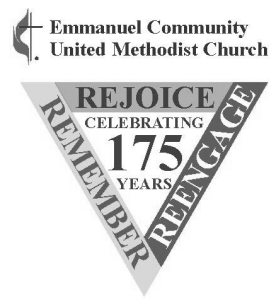
Roger Jones, a longtime leader of youth mission trips, recalls those years. LuAnn Jones was impressed by Rev. Jim Feay, a United Methodist missionary to the Menominee Indians and then inspired our church to go and help. Tragically, the Menominee Tribe in Keshena had been swindled out of their tribe status in exchange for small cash payments and as a result they had a deep distrust of any white folks. Roger recalls Emma and Mike, an elderly couple living in a decrepit home. As the team put in windows, reroofed, wired the home for electricity, and delivered an outhouse, Mike kept asking what all this was going to cost. At the end of the week, Roger provided a receipt that read "paid in full." Rev. Feay reported Mike couldn't get over this kindness and his great joy because there was no "catch." It was a free gift of service and love when it was never expected.

### **Rejoice**

Over the years, ECUMC youth have served from Florida to Denver and in Canada, Guatemala and Honduras. Every single youth who goes on a mission trip finds a path to the deeper meaning of faith in action. They are changed. As Cindy testifies, their eyes are opened to needs of others who are different, to the joy of working together, and to the power of service in Jesus' name. Roger and many other leaders continued to serve on mission trips working to rebuild after Katrina and other disasters.

### **Re-engage**

The youth mission trips involve hours and hours of planning, fundraising and support by all church members. Whether it is buying poinsettias, bidding \$30 for bedazzled flip flops at a youth mission auction, donating funds to provide mission trip scholarships or praying for those called to serve on these trips, support for youth mission draws us together. You may even feel called to be an adult leader for a youth mission trip! In every way, big or small, we can be part of imitating Christ's love of the poor and those who suffer injustice.



### **Celebrate the Jubilee by the Gift of Education**

- ♦ Remember our past and our heritage of faith
- ♦ Rejoice that we are still here and God is still working in our midst and
- ♦ Re-engage with our membership and our community.

These are the themes of our 175th Jubilee Celebration Year. They compel us to ask, "How can we continue to be salt and light in a world that has changed dramatically, even over the last 25 years?" The answer is a **gift of love through scholarships** for young people whose dreams of formal education after high school have greater challenges.

Between now and November, we hope to raise at least \$4500 in donations to provide post-secondary scholarships of \$1,000 to students of limited financial resources in local high schools and who practice and encourage building community between races, religions and different backgrounds.

The ECUMC Endowment fund will match all donations, dollar for dollar up to \$4500, to create at least 9 scholarships for seniors graduating in 2022.

With these scholarships we hope to create awareness in our local communities of our family of faith at ECUMC, its commitment to education and to economic and racial justice and radical inclusion.

The scholarships will be announced to local high schools with the following criteria for applicants:

- ♦ A first-generation student attending a 2- or 4-year college
- ♦ Financial need
- ♦ Exhibits the character trait of actively building community among people of different backgrounds, races, faiths
- ♦ Recommendations from two adults who have observed the above character trait
- ♦ Applicant's short statement about how to build a community that rejoices in differences among people and cares for all

Bill and Suzanne Gay will lead the small committee to select the recipients from among the applicants.

Checks for this gift should state "Jubilee Scholarships" in the memo line. Please consider a gift of any amount of support to reach this goal for our 175th Jubilee!



**Past Pastoral Memories**  
**Pastor Jane Haass**  
**1986-1994**

In 1986 I decided to take a leave of absence from pastoral ministry to be home full-time with our kids. I'm glad I did, but I still missed serving a church. When Emmanuel Community offered a part-time position in Christian Education I applied and was accepted. It was an ideal position for me.

I started working 5 weeks after Andrew was born. I had a crib in my office so there were times I could be there and work while still watching Andrew, and my 22-month-old daughter, Amy, was in daycare just down the hallway from my office. The Christian Education position fit all the church's and my needs. I enjoyed immensely being responsible for all the education programs which included Sunday school for all ages, Vacation Bible School, intergenerational events, and youth work.

When Rev. Tom Countryman left to serve another church, it was decided I would also take on more pastoral duties, which included preaching once a month, teaching Bible studies, visitation, and conducting funerals and weddings. I had already been fulfilling some of those responsibilities before with my pastoral experiences in previous churches at Colgate and Madison, so I felt competent in these areas. In my years of serving at Emmanuel Community, I learned a lot and my faith and confidence grew.

I'll never forget walking into Pastor Lynn's office one morning and telling him I was expecting another baby. He threw his hands up and shouted out, "Holy Hay." He was rather shocked because at that time, Andrew was 24 months and Amy not quite 4. But Pastor Lynn being Pastor Lynn, quickly hugged and congratulated me. He was very happy for both Randy and me when Matthew came into our family. I will always remember Pastor Lynn as being the wonderful and dedicated pastor he was, and a true mentor for me. Serving Emmanuel Community for almost my whole time with Pastor Lynn, was an excellent experience. Vida and their kids were very special to me as well.

One time I was preaching and my 2-year-old Amy ran up to the pulpit and gave me a hug and she wouldn't let go. It took quite a bit of coaxing to get her to go back to her seat. I was a little worried what Rev. Don Ott, who was the District Superintendent at the time, would think of my daughter interrupting the service, but he was smiling and chuckling with all the others. I was relieved and grateful for serving such a caring and loving congregation. I so appreciated the congregation's patience and understanding as I tried to be the best wife, mother, and pastor as I could be. Emmanuel Community felt strongly that my priorities in life were to be first: God, second: family, and third: church.

Our kids were 6, 8, and 10 when we left Emmanuel Community. In those years our kids truly learned and experienced how much God loved them because of how much their church family shared God's love with them. It took several years before our kids could warm up to another congregation. It was hard in many ways for Randy and me as well.

The kids are all in their 30s now and still talk about how much Emmanuel Community meant to them. Our whole family will remember their "church in the falls," as a Christ-like church where people were compassionate, understanding, accepting, and committed to spreading God's love not only to our family, but also to each other and into the community and world. Their ministry was to witness not just with their words but also their actions. I trust God is still leading Emmanuel Community in spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ to others.

The Hass family will always treasure the precious memories they had at Emmanuel Community. Thank You

In Christian love

Pastor Jane and family



# September 2021

		WED Sep 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4
10am Club 4/5 organizational 9am E-news deadline 12pm pastoral meeting 12pm Reopening Team 1:30pm Staff Meeting		6:30pm Prayer Group 6:30pm Youth/Tribe		10am Lectionary study	
5 8:30am Celebration Service z1 10:30am Sanctuary Worship 9am E-news deadline <b>Office Closed</b>	6 9am E-news deadline	7 12pm pastoral meeting 12pm Reopening Team 1:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Trustees	8 6:30pm Prayer Group	9 10am Lectionary study	11
12 9am Parking lot Service 10am Fall kick-off 5pm Confirmation	13 9am Sew & Sews 9am E-news deadline 7pm Finance	14 10am Drop-in Bible Study 12pm pastoral meeting 12pm Reopening Team 1:30pm Staff Meeting	15 8am Pathways Deadline by 8a 10am lectionary study 6:30pm Prayer Group 6:30pm Youth/Tribe	16 11:30am VAHAS	17 10am Lectionary study 12pm Books Between Bites 8:30am Women's Craft I
19 8:30am Celebration Service 9:30am Community Quest 10:45am Sanctuary Worship 12pm Tribe/Crossroads	20 9am E-news deadline 7pm Church Council	21 10am Drop-in Bible Study 12pm pastoral meeting 12pm Reopening Team 2 more	22 10am lectionary study 6:30pm Prayer Group	23 11:30am VAHAS 10am Lectionary study	25
26 <b>Harvest Brunch</b> 8:30am Celebration Service 9:30am Community Quest 10:45am Sanctuary Worship	27 9am E-news deadline	28 10am Drop-in Bible Study 12pm pastoral meeting 12pm Reopening Team 1:30pm Staff Meeting	29 10am lectionary study 6:30pm Prayer Group 6:30pm Youth/Tribe	30 10am Lectionary study	2

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

# Pathways

September 2021 edition

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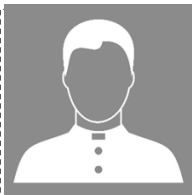
## SCRIP CARDS



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

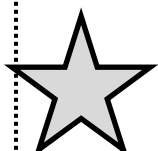


Pastors Jerome & Sean are available to talk to or meet with any member of the congregation whenever you may need us.

To contact the pastors, please call:

**Pastor Jerome Sahabandhu**      **Pastor Sean Cornell**  
**Lead Pastor**      **Community Care Director**  
262-251-3830      262-853-9895

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



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

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