March 2024 Newsletter

Worshíp Servíce Start @ 10:45 am Kíds For Chríst @ 9:30 am

Pastor Carly Gaeth's Contact Information – 414-640-3543 email <u>carly.gaeth@gmail.com</u>

Carly's Corner

I know that February is the shortest month of the year but with the amount of stuff I had crammed into it, it felt exceedingly long and full. There has been so much to navigate and wrap my head around in the last month or so and I wanted to take the time and space to 1.) thank you and 2.) share with you a little bit about where I am personally.

1.) Thank you all so much for the love and care you have sent to me, my wife, and my parents over the last month. I feel tremendous gratitude and privilege to serve both New Hope UCC and Faith UCC and to have the chance to journey alongside each and every one of you. The ways that you have shown up for me and for one another is magical and wondrous and resplendent. You continue to affirm my deepest belief that faith communities are powerful and good, that they can be spaces of transformation and healing and care, that they have the potential to touch hearts and minds, that they can work for peace and justice, that they can promote compassion and hope, and that they are a place where love is fostered and shared. It's an honor to stand with you in faith and to grow and serve together. Thank you for *all* that you are.

2.) As many of you know from the things I've shared in worship, my father was diagnosed with colon cancer in December and underwent surgery in mid-January. In the weeks that followed, he was told that he would need to undergo 8 cycles of intensive chemotherapy. His first chemotherapy infusion was on February 19th and it was and continues to be a whirlwind. And although I fancy myself Wonder Woman, it has affected me more deeply than I anticipated. Because as much as I have faith in science and in his entourage of physicians and caregivers, and as good as his prognosis is, and as well as his body has adjusted to everything thus far, I am all too aware of the fact that things can change in an instant. And while I try not to approach things from a place of fear or negativity, I have been trying to lean into my feelings of grief and worry and dis-ease. I want to understand them, to make peace with them, and to know that they are the result of loving someone and recognizing their humanity. Also it's Lent. What better time to reflect and meditate and discern than now???

Maybe this is my Lenten practice; to sit with this heaviness and to find grace and love within it, no matter how difficult or painful. Uffdah

Meditation Practice

Y'all. Meditation has been nearly impossible for me lately. Even though I feel exhausted and my nervous system would, surely, welcome a calm alternative to its usual chaos, I simply cannot will myself to quiet contemplation. Soooooo... something that was suggested to me was Qi Gong Meditation. It's a Chinese practice that combines slow, flowing movements, controlled breathing, and focused intention. It's meant to help one find balance in one's bodily and spiritual energy— or "Qi". To begin, stand or sit comfortably with a relaxed but aligned posture in a place where you feel most calm or at ease. Then, breathe deeply and naturally as you coordinate your breath with simple, body movements. Make sure your movement is slow, deliberate, and fluid. The hope is that with intention and focus, the energy of your mind, body, and spirit will fall into a natural rhythm that promotes wellbeing. Will you maybe look a little silly? Yes. Will it help you? I hope so! Give it a shot!

Self-Care Challenge

This month's self-care challenge is a little different than some of the others we've done. In the midst of everything that's transpired in the last month, I've found myself more in need of community care— resources and support that comes from mutual connection and relationship— than self-care. And, one thing that I've found to be particularly helpful, despite being a millennial who very much dislikes talking on the phone, is to call or FaceTime my friends, family, and loved ones.

Reaching out to people in my life, sharing my goings on with them and listening to their own stories and updates, has put a smile on my face more times than I can count, recently. It's been such a gift and a blessing to talk and share and feel connected. So, this month I challenge all of you to do the same. Friends or family that you would usually text or email? Call them! Send a card in the mail letting someone know that you miss them and want to connect, and follow it up with a call! You may be surprised at how much better you feel and how grounding it can be.

🖑 Join Us for a Joyous Easter Breakfast Celebration! 🖑

Hello Neighbor,

Let us introduce ourselves. We are the leadership team at Faith United Church of Christ. We invite you to start your Easter Sunday – March 31 – with warmth, togetherness, and a delicious spread of farmfresh delights at Faith United Church of Christ!

WHEN: Sunday, March 31, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

📍 WHERE: Faith United Church of Christ, 2895 Slinger Road, Slinger, WI

Indulge in a delightful array of wholesome, hot farmstead foods that promise to tantalize your taste buds and nourish your soul. From fluffy French toast drizzled with pure maple syrup to sizzling breakfast sausages from the farm, there's something for every member of the family to savor. Breakfast is on us. Come and enjoy family and fellowship.

But the joy does not end with the food! Before our worship service commences at 10:45 a.m., hop on over for a delightful encounter with the **Easter Bunny**. It's a perfect opportunity for little ones to capture cherished moments with everyone's favorite furry friend.



Faith United Church of Christ, nestled in the serene Wisconsin countryside and part of the Kettle Moraine, offers the idyllic setting for this heartwarming celebration. Picture-perfect views of grazing dairy cows and the timeless charm of our late 1800s church create an ambiance of tranquility and grace.

Family is at the heart of everything we do at Faith United Church of Christ. That's why we extend a warm invitation to all—whether you're a long-time member of our community or visiting for the first time,

you're welcome to join us for this special Easter gathering.

Let's come together, share laughter and love, and celebrate the true spirit of Easter.

We can't wait to welcome you with open arms. For more information, contact us at <u>info@faithslinger.org</u> or by calling 262-644-7901.

Please 'hop' on over – we look forward to celebrating Easter with you.

Sincerely,

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Paul Gordon President and the Faith United Church of Christ Leadership team



Special Dates

March 22 Helping Hands Fish Fry March 24 Palm Sunday

March 28 Maundy Thursday Service @ Faith UCC Church starting @ 6:00pm March 29 Good Friday Service @ New Hope UCC church starting @ 6:00pm March 31 Easter Sunday Breakfast @ Faith UCC Church starting @ 9:00am March 31 Easter Worship @ 10:45, Easter Egg Hunt Following Worship Service April 7 Children Sing in Worship April 15 Newsletter sent out

Specíal Notes

Please if there is any information that you would like to be in the next newsletter contact Christa Wendorf@ <u>tcwendorf@yahoo.com</u> No later then April 12!

<u>Kíds for Chríst Notes</u>

"For God so Loved the World that he gave his only Son, so that Everyone who Believes in Him may not Parish, but may have Eternal Life" John 3;16

No KFC Easter Sunday March 31!

Easter Sunday March 30,2024 there will be a Easter Egg Hunt after worship.

We have set a Date for the Kids to Sing in Worship, APRIL 7,2024 mark your calendars and tell family to join us in this special worship for the kids.

This Sunday we start a new unit of the Easter Story in the eyes of Mary Mother of Jesus and or Mary Magdalene and



when they saw the Tomb EMPTY!

Vacation Bible School will be held in July contact Jennifer Gordon for more information.



This is the updated list for all of our members that are home bound-Joyce Herther—Cedar Community The Willows @ Cedar Lake Assisted Living 5577 Home Dr Apt #1522 West Bend 53095 Jean Happel-3879 Fond du Lac Dr. Richfield 53076 Don & Sandy Jackson– 6657 Weis St. Allenton 53022 Marilee Lehman– 2130 Continental Dr. Apt # 404 West Bend 53095 Judy & Ruth Schowalter– W206 N16654 Blackberry Cr. Apt #3 Jackson 53037

Please if you know of any of our other members that are "Stuck at Home" Please contact Pastor Carly or Elaine Burg Thank you!

Míssíon Commíttee News

Lenten Denial envelopes in the narthex starting 2/14/24 donations go to the Slinger Food Pantry.

Helping Hands Fish Fry is March 22, 2024, watch out for sign up sheets in the narthex. Also we need Baked Treats for the Desert Table to help raise money for Faith Church. Anyone who is willing to help we need all we can! It is a fun

time of fellowship!



MONTHLY BOOK CLUB

a shared project by New Hope UCC and Faith UCC

Book for March

"Sarah's Key" by Tatiana de Rosnay

General info

When: Tuesday, March 26th @ 7pm Where: New Hope UCC All Are Welcome!

Tatiana de Rosnay

Paris, July 1942: Ten-year-old Sarah is brutally arrested with her family in the Vel' d'Hiv' roundup, the most notorious act of French collaboration with the Nazis. but before the police come to take them, Sarah locks her younger brother, Michel, in their favorite hiding place, a cupboard in the family's apartment. She keeps the

key, thinking that she will be back within a few hours. Paris, May 2002: On Vel' d'Hiv's sixtleth anniversary, Julia Jarmond, an American journalist, is asked by her Paris-based American magazine to write an article about this black day in France's past. Julia has lived in Paris for nearly twenty-five years, married a Frenchman, and she is shocked both by her ignorance about the event and the silence that still surrounds it. In the course of her investigation, she stumbles onto a trail of long-hidden family secrets that connects her to Sarah. Julia finds herself compelled to retrace the girl's ordeal, from the terrible days spent shut in at the Vel' d'Hiv' to the camps and beyond. As she probes into Sarah's past, she begins to question her own place in France and to

reevaluate her marriage and her life. Writing about the fate of her country with a pitiless clarity, Tatiana de Rosnay offers us a brilliantly subtle, compelling portrait of France under occupation and reveals the taboos and denial surrounding this painful episode in French history.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Pastor Carly.-- carly.gaeth@gmail.com

<u>Scrípt</u>

The Gift Cards that gives back to the church are still here! Jennifer Gordon will be present before & after the 1st Sunday of each month with Gift Cards for sale, you can buy and take right away! You can also special order gift cars we don't have "IN-STOCK" at the church. Let Jennifer Gordon know which you would like. Typical cards in stock include, Culver's, Walmart, Walgreens,

Subway, Piggly Wiggly, Meijer, Kwik Trip & NEW Mayer's Beef Farms! We will carry more if there are common stores in your special orders. Help us fundraise, do most of your shopping with gift cards that you purchase from us or buy them ad gifts for others! If you have any questions contact Jennifer Gordon. Here is the link, <u>https://www.raiseright.com/c/Shop/</u>

Product/BrandAlphabeticalList



<u>Readers/Communion Usher</u>

- Mar 17– Jennifer Gordon
- Mar 24– Christa Wendorf
- Mar 28—
- Mar 31– Nancy Schilling-Genz

Apr 7— Cathy Schmidt

April 14— Karen Reinders

April—21 Mylie Wendorf

April—28 EllenDolnick

May 5—Barb Markewicz

May 12—Marilyn Nadelhoffer

May 19—Baarb Meyer

Paul Gordon, Jeff Weiss & Karen Reinders

Shelly Mayer & Barb Markiewicz

Karen Reinders & Jeff Weiss

Palm Sunday Maunday Thursday Easter Sunday

Pentecost

Cemetery Commíttee Notes

There are 2 new posters displayed in the church narthex from the National Wreathes Across America held on Saturday December 16, 2023. Please stop and take a lood at the pictures of the Veteran's Gravesites at both the Faith UCC Ackerville and Faith old/new Cemeteries.

Reminder– Please check your loved one's gravesite for cleanup from fall and winter season damage.

Spring Cleanup will BEGIN SOON! There are some tree branches form the January snowstorm along with other cleanup as needed.

Rex Melius and Community Groups will be working at both cemeteries this year, weather permitting.

We appreciate Rick with RW Lawn Service for all of his Lawn Care work in keeping both Cemeteries and the Faith UCC Church Yard looking FANTASTIC!

The Faith UCC Cemeteries Fund accepts Contributions ALL year for the upkeep of BOTH Cemeteries! Please make checkes payable to Faith UCC Cemetery Fund.

Cemetery Committee:

Jim "JJ" Markewicz—President Dan Newburg—Sec/Treasurer

Thank You for your contributions to Faith UCC Church

We are excited to announce our new online giving platform <u>Tithe.ly</u>, With this news <u>EasyTithe</u> will be going away at the end of the month. Please turn off your recurring giving by the end of December and switch over to <u>Tithe.ly</u>. <u>EasyTithe</u> Fees are going through the roof, so we found a platform that is much cheaper. The switch will be easy, go to <u>https://</u> <u>tithe.ly/give?c=6471448</u> and a window will appear to set up your giving and your account information. You will get 3 emails when you set yourself up for the first time. A welcome to <u>Tith.ly</u> email. An account set up email to confirm your email address. And finally a thank you for your donation email. Inside the widget at the above link you can even set yourself up for recurring donations! Also please consider covering the fees with your donation. This will help the church use your giving more efficiently.

(if you need assistance, let Paul Gordon know. Once your account is established it's easy!)

Mail your check to Faith UCC Church P.O Box 396, Slinger, WI 53086



Again Thank You to our Faith Family for all the hard work that was put into the Celebration of Life for Curtis Nehm, the family is so grateful for everything that was done, they even MATCHED Landon Wendorf's Cash Donations to the Slinger Food Pantry as a pay it forward in honor of Curtis!