



## Small Group Gatherings

Pastor Ho Lee would like to meet with members of our congregation in small house gatherings. We are finalizing the dates and times, but 2 have been added to the calendar. We will have sign-up sheets available in the narthex, or you may call the office on Monday or Wednesday 9:00am to noon to sign up. Please consider attending one of these meetings to get to know Pastor Ho Lee and have an opportunity to share your thoughts and perspectives on Covenant UMC.



## Potluck Brunch

On July 10th we will hold a Potluck Brunch to welcome Pastor Ho Lee, his wife Miyeon Kim, and their three children ages 2, 4, and 7. Please plan to attend and welcome our new pastor and his family with open arms. Bring your favorite brunch item (could be breakfast or lunch foods).



## United Methodist Men (UMM) and Covenant Cares About People (CCAP)

Not much for the men last month.

CCAP will continue to deliver bananas to the Salvation Army for the brown bag program. THANK YOU, COVENANT CHURCH!

P.S. It isn't too early to start saving coins for the coin challenge.

-Darrell Jewson, chair

Happy moments, praise God

Difficult moments, seek God

Quiet moments, worship God

Painful moments, trust God

## Narrowing Our Focus



Last month our Fresh Expressions Team reported to you that after a year of learning, engagement, and prayer, we had narrowed our focus to three potential areas of engagement. They were children and youth, elder care, or diversity and inclusion. At our June gathering each participant considered how closely each of these three themes matched their own perception in the following areas:

- ☐ their own vision for this congregation as a gospel-centered, disciple-making church over the next five to ten years
- ☐ their view of the buy-in for the theme based on that of other key leaders of the congregation
- ☐ how they would rate the entire congregation's buy-in of the theme
- ☐ how they rate the momentum and progress to-date that our church has made on a particular theme

Further conversation led us to select youth as the ultimate theme. Mona Averbek spoke about the collaborative work that has just started between children's ministry leaders from Covenant, Salem, Pacto de Gracia and Community UMC. They have plans for children's activities and programming from these four congregations that stretch from this summer into next spring. Therefore, we will focus on children outside of these congregations. Because we are situated in the core of the Chegwin School boundaries we will turn our focus in that direction. They have a diverse population of 308 students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. Their school principal and administrative assistant had served on a panel discussion earlier this year where they informed us of various needs of students. We are making plans to meet with their staff to explore ways to collaborate, fill gaps, or enhance ongoing efforts. If you'd like more information or would like to get involved, talk with Mary Balson or Denise Retzleff who are facilitating this process. The most important thing that every member and friend of the congregation is asked to do is to pray for God's direction as we move forward.

## Annual Conference— submitted by Diane Weider

It was an honor to attend Annual Conference as the Lay Member from Covenant UMC. There were 31 Resolutions or Recommendations that required action or consideration. I will summarize the major items (as best as I can). Every action did pass with only a few being strongly argued. Feel free to ask me if you have any questions on the following items or anything else that took place at Annual Conference.

Action Item wc104 states that the Minimum Compensation in 2023 for Elders, Provisional Members, and Associate Members serving full time shall be \$43,361; the Minimum Compensation in 2023 for Local Pastors serving full time shall be \$41,944; this is a 4.0% increase.

Action Item wc107 related to the closing of local churches. Hixton UMC, North Prairie UMC, and Bloom City UMC all closed in 2021.

Action Item wc108 was about the Disaffiliation of Trinity UMC in Waldo. 87% of the professing members voted to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church.

Action Item wc109 contained two social action resolutions.

109a Support for Reproductive Health Care Rights and Justice passed by the tightest margin of all actions but still passed at 75%. The Wisconsin Conference (WC) joins other conferences in support of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice. The WC opposes government imposed rules that would allow any entity or individual involved in a patient's care to put their social beliefs ahead of a patient's health and values. The WC supports countering anti-abortion groups that spread misinformation and spread false claims about abortions, birth control, and other reproductive health care services.

109b Development of Comprehensive Sex Education Curriculum by Discipleship Ministries; the WC calls on Discipleship Ministries to develop by 2025 a comprehensive, intergenerational, inclusive, age appropriate, culturally relevant sex education curricula inclusive of reproductive health, rights, and justice and supporting a theological understanding of health and stewardship of our bodies.

Action Item wc110 Commitment to Restorative Healing: A Wisconsin Conference Resolution on Survivors and the Boy Scouts of America. The United Methodist Church is providing \$30,000,000 toward a Survivor's Trust Fund. The Wisconsin Conference is to provide \$208,096. In addition, we ask that every United Methodist Church in Wisconsin review and make appropriate improvements to their Safe sanctuary policies. We are asked to pray for the survivors and commit to making a gift to the Wisconsin Conference UMC for the Survivors' Trust Fund.

Action Item wc111 Disaffiliation of Local Churches Over Issues of Human Sexuality Under paragraph 2553 of the 2016 Book of Discipline: Approval Process for the Wisconsin Conference; this item takes up 9 pages and is hard to summarize. The WC will not be overly punitive to those who choose to disaffiliate but sincerely hopes that churches will not disaffiliate over the issues of human sexuality.

Action Item wc115 Resolution Formally Requesting the Congressional Delegation from Wisconsin to Act on Responsible Fire-Arm Legislation. We, the Wisconsin Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, call upon the Congressional Delegation from the State of Wisconsin to support and act upon responsible fire-arm legislation. These measures include:

- Mandatory background checks for all gun sales, including gun shows and private sales.
- The extension of waiting periods to all fire-arm sales.
- The establishment of a minimum age of 21 to purchase a firearm.
- The prohibition of further sales of military style assault weapons (most notably AR-15-style rifles) and banning high-capacity magazines and weapons designed to fire multiple rounds each time the trigger is pulled.
- The expansion of mental health care as a guaranteed right and coverage to all persons.

## Back to School Fond du Lac—2022

Covenant Church is again participating in the Fond du Lac County-wide Back to School Program. This year, they hope to help over 1100 children who are in need of school supplies. Covenant will be collecting supplies from July 3



through August 7. Distribution will take place at the Boys and Girls Club on August 20.

The following supplies are needed: backpacks, 1" binders, colored pencils, compasses, Crayola washable markers, erasers, dry erase markers, glue, glue sticks, graph paper, highlighters, No. 2 pencils, pencil boxes or cases, pocket folders, scientific calculators (TI 30xs), scissors, sketch books, watercolors, loose leaf paper and wide-ruled spiral notebooks.

To volunteer, visit [backtoschoolfdl.org](http://backtoschoolfdl.org). Volunteers are needed to sort supplies, pack backpacks, and help with distribution. The dates for sorting and packing are available online.

Registration is open from August 11 to August 18. Families may register at [backtoschoolfdl.org](http://backtoschoolfdl.org). You need the child's name, birthdate, school and grade number for each registration.

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### Trustees

With the coming of Pastor Ho Lee and family, the parsonage is being cleaned, necessary repairs done, along with yard work, and the remodel of the garage. Thanks to all who have given of their time to complete these tasks and to Judi Balson. Live streaming is coming along and we will improve every Sunday. The next big church project will be the washing and painting of the exterior, some efis repair and concrete repair by the pillars. Jim Diener Painting and Decorating has given a bid. This is of course pending

approval by the Church Council. Other minor issues are being resolved also. The Trustees will continue to stay on top of issues as they arise. God Bless. -Bill Averbeck

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### Family Ministries

Vacation Bible School will take place Aug 15-18, 4:30 to 8 p.m. and will be hosted by NFDL Community Church and Rev. Janet Martinez. This is a joint coalition of NFDL Community, Salem, Pacto de Gracia, and Covenant. The theme will be TO MARS AND BEYOND. Excellent ideas were presented and this will be a very exciting and fun VBS. Each church will be asking for volunteers to help throughout the 4 days, and with enough volunteers there will be more flexibility for all. More details will be following. Our Family Ministries team is excited to meet with Pastor Ho as soon his schedule will permit. Sadly, Karen Jewson came down with Covid and was not able to provide the weekly Sunday Soup for awhile. Our prayers to her and look forward to resuming the take home soup. It has been a great addition to our Fellowship hour. Thanks so much Karen for your generosity helping our Sunday School and Youth programs and to those who are enjoying these delicious soups. -Mona Averbeck

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OOOOU SO, SO SO



ThankYou for the  
bananas because  
it was Very Thought  
of you. I hope you  
have a Very Nice  
day! 😊  
Thanks



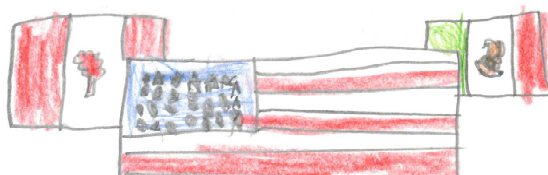
THANK YOU,  
COVENANT CHURCH!

FROM RIVERSIDE  
SCHOOL

Thank You  
Mr. Jewson  
and United  
Covenant  
Methodist  
Church.

from: Riverside

Thank you!



# Birthdays



07/04	Barb Abitz
	Judi Balson
07/08	Dan Klaske
07/09	Janet Lewis
	Jeffery Strong
07/11	William Averbeck
07/12	AnnaRose Austin
	Jayda Krueger
07/13	William Candlish
	Susan Rimel
07/14	Sharon Wolf
07/20	Sara Krueger-Zuengler
07/23	Donald Krueger

**80+ birthdays!**

Janet Lewis  
Donald Krueger



## Anniversaries

July 12: JoAnn & Daniel Hernandez



Mission Offerings for July:  
Back to School Fond du Lac

ARK submission deadline is the  
**15th of each month at noon.** Please get your content  
to the office by this date for the next month's issue.

**THANK YOU!**





Covenant United Methodist Church  
20 North Marr Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

### **Church Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday 9:00AM-12:00PM

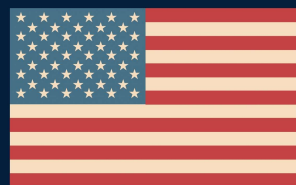
### **Ways to Give with Tithe.ly**

- Tithe.ly app
- Text "give" to 920-267-4801
- Visit our website: [covenantforyou.church/give](https://covenantforyou.church/give)

**Pastor:** Rev. Ho Lee  
**Pastor of Hispanic Ministry:** Rev. Janet Martínez  
**Administrative Assistant:** Kelly Braun  
**Custodian:** Judi Balson  
**Summer Pianist:** David Thompson

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[www.facebook.com/covenantFDL](https://www.facebook.com/covenantFDL)

**4<sup>TH</sup> JULY**  
INDEPENDENCE DAY



**GOD BLESS  
AMERICA**