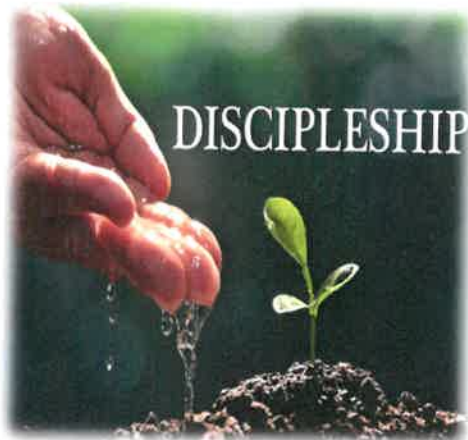


From Pastor's Desk:

- New Sermon Series: The Road to Discipleship



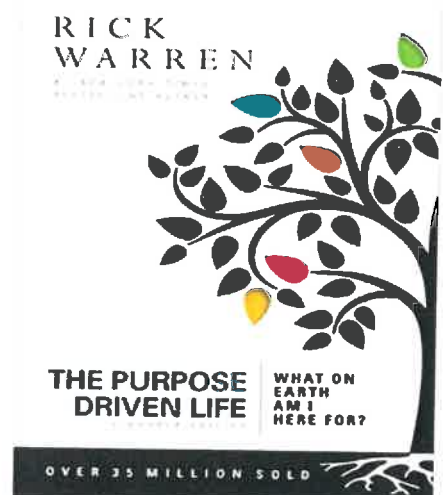
What is the main mission of the church? Some people might say that inviting people to a relationship with God would be the one. Others might say that reaching out to the poor, the oppressed, and the marginalized and supporting them would be the most important mission of the church. I believe both are important missions. However, there is the most important mission that is overarching both. That is "making disciples." The purpose of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Before Jesus was ascended to heaven and went back to the right throne of Father, he had given an important mission to his disciples and all his followers. We can find this last assignment of Jesus in the book of Matthew 28:18-20.

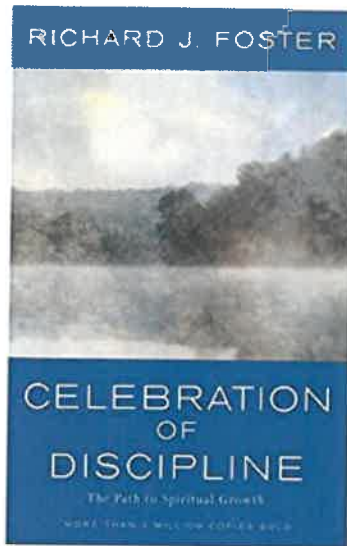
"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Based on the same Bible passage, the United Methodist Church states the main mission of the church in the book of discipline as the following:

"The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Jesus' saying in the Bible and our denominational statement clearly show the main mission of the church. From this perspective, I would like to say that church is not a hospital where the wounded people are healed but a training center where people are trained to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Certainly, people are hurt to follow the way of Jesus Christ in the world, and they are comforted and healed through a faith community. However, comfort and healing are not the main mission of the church. If so, we need to ask an important and fundamental question to ourselves? What are the ways to make ourselves be disciples of Jesus Christ? How do we make our church community, Covenant UMC, to be the place for making disciples?





In order to answer these fundamental questions, I have prepared the following sermon series, “The Road to Discipleship.” From the second Sunday of October (10/9) to the second Sunday of the November (11/13), for six Sundays, I plan to talk about six essential ways to make ourselves authentic disciples. They are Worship, Spiritual Discipline, Mission, Witness, Fellowship, and Giving. In fact, each theme is big enough to make a separate sermon series. However, I will focus on concrete and practical aspects of them in relation to making disciples instead of abstract and theological points. If you would like to deepen your understanding about discipleship, I strongly recommend reading the following three books while listening to the sermon series:

- 1) *What on Earth Am I Here For? Purpose Driven Life* (By Rick Warren)**
- 2) *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth* (By Richard Foster)**
- 3) *The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life* (By Adam Hamilton)**

I hope this new sermon series, “The Road to Discipleship,” will renew your spiritual journey and deepen your relationship with God.

| Date | Scripture and Sermon | Volunteers | Mission | Music/ Special Event |
|--|---|--|-------------------------|--|
| Oct 2 World Communion Sunday 17th Sunday after Pentecost | Galatians 3:23-29 | Liturgist: Mary B Children's: Darrell J Media: Tom R, Jacob A Live: Eleanor Usher: Bill K, Dave G, Dave M Communion: Denise R | World Communion Sunday | Collecting items for Chegwin trick or trunk |
| October 9 18th Sunday after Pentecost | The Road to Discipleship 1: "Worship" John 4:19-24 / Ephesians 5:18-20 | Liturgist: Sandy K Children's: Diane W Media: Tom R, AJ A. Live: Mona Usher: Bill K, Dave G, Dave M | Sleep in Heavenly Peace | Choir Collecting items for Chegwin trick or trunk |
| October 16 19th Sunday after Pentecost | The Road to Discipleship 2: "Spiritual Discipline" 1 Timothy 4:6-10 | Liturgist: Marilyn S. Children's: Media: Henry A, Tom R Live: Denise Usher: Bill K, Dave G, Dave M, Donna M. | Sleep in Heavenly Peace | Laity Sunday Bell Choir Collecting items for Chegwin trick or trunk |
| October 23 20th Sunday after Pentecost | The Road to Discipleship 3: "Mission" Matthew 7:21-23 / 25:31-46 | Liturgist: William D. Children's: Denise R Media: Sloan A, Diane W Live: Mona Usher: Bill K, Dave G, Dave M | Sleep in Heavenly Peace | Special Music: Nancy Johnston Collecting items for Chegwin trick or trunk |
| October 30 21st Sunday after Pentecost | The Road to Discipleship 4: "Evangelism" Matthew 28:16-20 | Liturgist: Children's: Diane W Media: Diane W, Tom R Live: Usher: Bill K, Dave G, Dave M, Sandy K | Sleep in Heavenly Peace | Choir? Collecting items for Chegwin trick or trunk |

The Chegwin Project

Friends of Chegwin (formerly Fresh Expressions) has chosen to work with Chegwin as their focus so a group of us met with Chegwin to assess their needs. Their greatest need at the time was for school supplies (many kids arrive with nothing throughout the year), sweatpants (for kids who have accidents) and volunteers. The committee asked endowments for \$1000 to purchase school supplies and sweatpants and the money was approved. I had a great time purchasing the necessary supplies, although finding single subject notebooks in August proved to be a real challenge. So far we have eight people who have completed the volunteer forms but are looking for more. I happened to be in the Chegwin office delivering the sweatpants and leggings when a little girl came in needing a pair. Her eyes lit up when she was told she got to keep the leggings and she thanked me for bringing them. I was told that this little girl is living in a tent with her family. The need is real.

- Diane Weider



Trick or Trunk with Chegwin

We are going to take part in Chegwin's Trick or Trunk activity on October 31st. We are asking the congregation to donate juice boxes and healthy(ish) snacks for this. **We need 300 juice boxes and 300 snacks.** Snacks can be granola bars, cheese crackers, goldfish, etc. We will also decorate the vehicle(s) that we are using so it is more entertaining for the kids. We will have a container in the narthex to collect your donations.

Youth Group -led by Judi and Bob Balson and Diane Weider

We had seven young people at our first youth group meeting of the year. We spent our time in the 3rd floor youth room deciding how to make it appealing to them. They had some great ideas that included lighting, music, comfy floor cushions, and of course, there must be food and drink involved. We will spend our time in Bible study, fun time activities, and mission work. Some of the fun activities we are planning include: The Little Farmer, roller skating, bowling, an overnight lock-in, and a winter retreat at Lake Lucerne. You are all welcome to join us for any of these activities.



Sara Circle– United Women in Faith

On October 5, we host our annual fall brunch and invite ALL to be our guests. The speaker will be a representative from the ARC sharing about their adult programs. We support them with monthly donations for various projects. This month we will donate Ziploc bags, aluminum foil and cling wrap.



We would appreciate reservations from guests by October 1 so we know many to plan for. Please call Eleanor King at 920-922-1522 or Dea Hebel at 920-929-9625.

Our lesson was on a social justice topic given by Denise. We will participate in the Chegwin initiative with a donation of \$235 for needed clothing for the children.

United Methodist Men (UMM)



The United Methodist Men met Saturday, September 10 at Rolling Meadows with 6 men present. The coin challenge raised \$238.68 which is about \$100 less than last year. The men are selling jams again: mostly low-sugar. The funds will purchase socks, underwear, and sweatpants for children in need.

The men talked about a church picnic and service next spring or summer.

"We're not all meant to look and act and think exactly the same. God demonstrates his glory through different gifts and personalities of his followers." -Mandisa, gospel singer
Submitted by Darrell Jewson

Covenant Cares About People (CCAP)

Fresh Expressions in focusing on Chegwin, our neighborhood school. This is wonderful because there are so many children in need.

CCAP is still going to help our other 3 schools in need. Starting this school year, we will be delivering 2 boxes of bananas each week to the 4 schools at a cost of \$112. Hopefully between CCAP and the United Methodist Men, we will be able to again help with clothing and groceries. Again, thanks to the people of Covenant Church for all their continued support.

"Someone out there feels better, because you exist." Anonymous
Submitted by Darrell Jewson

Trustees

The trustees are busy finishing up projects before winter. Maintenance and repair of the entrances are important to address. The exterior of the west side of the church was powerwashed and cleaned. The trustees are in the initial stages of a 3.5 year plan to address future improvements of our sanctuary and narthex. A TV is being installed in the narthex and classroom upgrades will begin soon.

In all of this we ask God for this future vision to his glory.
-Bill Averbeck, chair

October 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|--|------------------------|----------------------|---|
| | | | | | | 1 Pastor Off Day |
| 2 World Communion 9:00am Service 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Youth Group 10:15am Choir practice 6:30pm Confirmation | 3 6:00pm Bell Choir | 4 6:30pm Trustees | 5 9:30am Bible Study 10:45am Sara Circle Brunch 12:30pm Finance Meeting | 6 | 7 Pastor Sabbath | 8 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Rolling Meadows Pastor Off Day |
| 9 9:00am Service 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Youth Group 10:15am Choir practice 6:30pm Confirmation | 10 6:00pm Bell Choir | 11 | 12 9:30am Bible Study | 13 | 14 Pastor Sabbath | 15 Pastor Off Day |
| 16 Laity Sunday 9:00am Service 10:15am Sunday School & Youth Group-Little Farmer 10:15am Choir practice 6:30pm Confirmation | 17 10:30am Friends of Chegwin 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Church Council Meeting | 18 10:00am Sending Forth | 19 9:30am Bible Study 5:00pm Champions BINGO | 20 6:30pm Endowment | 21 Pastor Sabbath | 22 Pastor Off Day |
| 23 9:00am Service 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Youth Group 10:15am Choir practice 6:30pm Confirmation | 24 6:00pm Bell Choir | 25 6:30pm Pacto de Gracia Shepherding Meeting- at Com- munity | 26 8:00am Women's Breakfast @ Rolling Meadows 9:30am Bible Study | 27 | 28 Pastor Sabbath | 29 1-3pm Trunk or Treat- Salem Pastor Off Day |
| 30 9:00am Service 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Youth Group 10:15am Choir practice 6:30pm Confirmation | 31 10:00am Worship Committee 2-3:30pm Trick or Trunk at Chegwin 6:00pm Bell Choir | | | | | |

Bible Study- Spend Christmas With Mary

Imagine Jesus from Mary's point of view—proud of her son, in awe of his gifts and mission, guided by love for him as a person, and so much more. In his book, "Not a Silent Night", author Adam Hamilton begins at the end, with Mary at the Crucifixion and

Resurrection. Then travel back in time as she witnesses Jesus' life and ministry; and ends at the beginning, with the Christ Child born in a stable, Mary's beautiful baby.

Join us for this Bible study as Mary looks back to Bethlehem. You are welcome to be part of the conversation on Wednesday mornings in the choir room, starting at 9:30 am and concluding in one hour. This new series starts October 19. There is no registration, no fee, and no work between sessions. Come as you are, eager to learn and discuss. For more information, contact Denise Retzleff at 920- 539-0336. We will use best-selling author Adam Hamilton's video series, as we experience Advent and Christmas with Mary.

Worship Committee

We Praise God and Renew Our Faith Journey Each Week in Worship

As summer draws to a close, we gather together for Sunday morning worship in praise and thanksgiving, and to revive our spiritual life. Our new music director, David Thompson, provides a blended selection of joyful music for worship with both traditional and contemporary praise songs. We looked forward to the first time choir again shared their music on September 25.

Through scripture we hear God's Word. In September, we were blessed to have guest pastor Mary Balson expound on God's Word, describing our need and desire for commitment and dedication to God. Additionally we heard guest pastor Mary Council-Austin preach on our Christian mission on United Women in Faith Sunday. She stated that God inspires us to believe that what seems impossible is possible. On Rally Day, Sunday school teachers and youth group leaders were introduced and recognized for their faithful service. Also, a new Bible was presented to our third grader, Charlize A.

On October 2, join in worship for World Communion Sunday. This day offers congregations a distinctive opportunity to experience Holy Communion in the context of the global community of faith. The first Sunday of October is a time when Christians in every culture break bread and pour the cup to remember and affirm Christ as the Head of the Church. This year we will use traditional Korean juice and bread for Communion.

Laity Sunday is observed the third Sunday in October. This is to celebrate the mission and work of all laypersons in the church. Laypersons are non-ordained members of the church (ie. everyone except pastors). Covenant is blessed to have many, many laypersons share their time and talent to keep the church functioning, to serve others, and to witness.

When you are not able to join worship in-person, you are invited to join online worship, where music, scripture and preaching are all included.

Church Council

Church Council met August 10 to share the work of all the church committees. Various reports were given on activities, projects and finances. An extensive list of projects are being considered. Upgrades to the classrooms and curriculum for youth programs are being created. Planning for Pacto de Gracia is also being considered and reviewed for 2023.

-Bill Averbeck, chair

Pact of Grace UMC

Two months after the opening service, Pacto de Gracia continues to inform the Fond du Lac community about a new United Methodist Church for the Hispanic community. Now I started to visit some farms and businesses with Hispanic workers.

I have been listening to their needs and concerns. I have provided pastoral care, references to social services, especially in health, food, and immigration, and interpretation to make medical appointments and other needs.

One of the great challenges for our Church is that 99.9% of the Hispanic population contacted does not know anything about the United Methodist Church. And another great challenge is that more than 70% of them do not attend Church for different reasons.

Knowing the needs and concerns of the Hispanic community and the challenges as a Church, 2023 will be a year to start new programs within the Church and local missions that respond to the basic needs of our community. In October, we will work with a group of leaders on this.

We are working in connection with the three United Methodist Churches: Salem, Covenant, and Community on:

- Family Ministries. Five children and one volunteer participated in the VBS.
- Our promotional brochure is in the three churches.

- Every three months, we meet with the Shepherding Team, which representation of leaders and pastors from the 3 Churches.
- Trunk or treat activity at Salem UMC, October 29, from 1-3 pm

We continue our worship services every Sunday at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The average attendance each Sunday is seven adults plus children. We are also on Facebook with an average of visits of forty.

I ask you to continue praying for Pacto de Gracia and the Hispanic community of Fond du Lac. Also, if you know a Hispanic family, please share our church's brochure. It is on the table at the entrance of the Sanctuary.

Rev. Janet Martinez



Shepherding Team with representatives from: Covenant UMC, Salem UMC, Community UMC, and Community leader from the city.

Birthdays



| | |
|-------|-------------------|
| 10-3 | Baldwin Clasen |
| 10-8 | Lilly Kutchek |
| 10-9 | Deb Christian |
| 10-12 | Dawn Jewson |
| 10-17 | James Brockway |
| 10-19 | Marilyn Stillings |
| 10-21 | Arlene Schultz |
| 10-24 | Jeffrey Shaw, II |
| 10-26 | William Dekker |
| 10-29 | Darcia Moore |
| 10-29 | Myrtle Roloff |

80+ birthdays!

James Brockway
Marilyn Stillings
Arlene Schultz
Myrtle Roloff



Anniversaries

October 12 - Dan and Diane Klaske
October 14 - Jim and Judy Reams
October 23 - Jeff and Sue Strong

Pastor Appreciation Month

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. SPRC greatly appreciates the time and effort Pastor Ho Lee puts in every week. It has been awhile since we have seen this level of dedication from a pastor. He is working over 60 hours a week to: learn about our church; learn about each of us; make much needed improvements; and create a beautiful worship experience with an inspiring message every Sunday. Please make sure you let Pastor Ho Lee know that you are grateful for his leadership and appreciate all that he does for Covenant. Please recognize his wife Miyeon as well, because she holds their family together while he serves us.
-SPRC





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

Main Office Hours

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

Pastor Office Hours:

Monday– Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm

Ways to Give with Tithe.ly

- Tithe.ly app
- Text “give” to 920-267-4801
- Visit our website: covenantforyou.church/give

Pastor: Pastor Ho Lee

Email: Leeho0531@gmail.com cell: 617.894.3545

Pastor of Hispanic Ministry: Rev. Janet Martínez

Administrative Assistant: Kelly Braun

Custodian: Judi Balson

Music Director: David Thompson

**ARK submission deadline is the
20th of each month at noon.
Please get your content to the
office by this date for the next
month's issue.**

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