

From Pastor's Desk:



I should start my writing to express my gratitude to our church members. I got a lot of thank-you cards, gifts, and even some money from the church members last month to recognize me as a pastor. I did not understand why they sent these cards and gifts altogether this month at first, but later I learned that October was a pastor appreciation month. Honestly, I did not know that there was this kind of month. However, I was grateful for the church members who expressed their love and care for me by using this unpopular month. As a servant of God, all my ministries and missions are not

something to be recognized or appreciated by other. They are more like duties before God. However, I found that these appreciation and recognition were something to encourage me to be a better servant of God, deepening my love and passion for the Covenant church community. Thank you for all your love and support.

Also, I would like to thank our church members who participated in the parsonage open house on 10/23. More than 40 church members visited the parsonage and had opportunities to be connected to me and each other. Many of them brought various hot dishes, salads, and desserts, which were so abundant that it was impossible to consume them all on that day. (Our family members are still eating the leftovers!) I hope that we would have more fellowship events like this in the future. After all, church ministries and missions are all about relationships: relationship with God and each other. Another main reason for hosting this parsonage open house was to show the whole church how they have maintained the church parsonage in a beautiful way by investing their resources. This year alone we redid the whole garage, installed new fireplace, placed new carpet, and built new kitchen island. I deeply appreciate all church members' support for the parsonage, which helps me to focus on the pastoral ministry. Especially, our active church trustees did all these jobs on behalf of the whole church. This was just part of what the trustees have done this year. Once again, thank you, trustees, for all your work for the church.



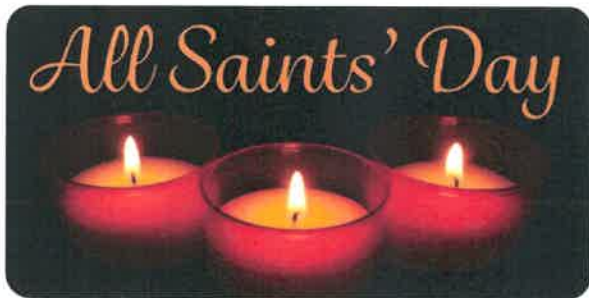
Now, we are approaching November. Surprisingly, we only have two months before new year. According to the church calendar, November is the last month of the year. (Advent is the beginning of new year in the church calendar, which is November 27th this year.) From this perspective, I believe November is the proper time to begin looking back at this year and count how much God blesses and guides our lives. I do not think that having Thanksgiving Day at the end of November is coincidence. November is the time to give thanks to God. If so, how can we give thanks to God? Certainly, it starts with counting God's blessings in our lives with grateful heart. Then, we need to find a way to share these blessings with others. That is the best way to glorify God in this season of gratitude. Thus, November is not only time for thanksgiving, but also time for

missions. For this, the church provides a lot of opportunities to share your blessings with our neighbors from the beginning of November. Loaves and Fishes will be on 11/2. Also, we begin collecting food, socks, mittens, and hats for families in need. You can buy some Christmas gifts for families in need through Angel Tree or simply give some money to the church for buying gifts for them. There will be more missions coming as time goes by. Please check the church narthex and worship service announcements for more detailed information. Then please begin thinking about how you share your blessings with others.



Pastoral Plan for November

- Worship Service



We have various special worship services in November. On the first Sunday of November, **11/6**, we will celebrate **All Saint Sunday**. In this worship service, we recognize the whole connection with each other as the body of Christ regardless of each Christian's death and have the time to remember those who have passed away during the past year through the ritual of the communion. If you have any Christian family member, friend, or church member to remember through this worship service, please let pastor Ho Lee know before November 6. You are invited to light the candle for that person and have the time to remember the deceased with other church members during the service.

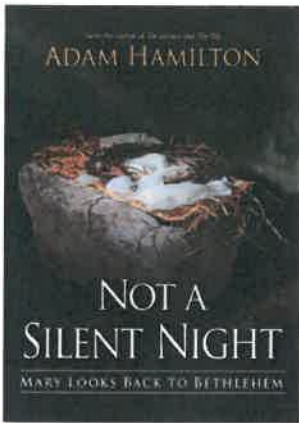
On **11/13**, we will have a special time to recognize veterans' sacrificial service for the nation in the celebration of **Veterans Day**. Our church will keep **11/20** as **Native American Heritage Sunday**. on this Sunday, we try to remember Native American's heritage in the United States by listening to one of the church members as well as descendant of Native American, Shelli Dekker.

11/27 is the **first Advent Sunday**. As you already know, Advent is the time to prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus as well as the second coming of Jesus. From this time, we begin singing carols and light the advent wreath candle in expectation of Christmas. If you and your family are interested in lighting the Christmas wreath candle during Advent, please sign the sign-up sheet in the narthex.



- Advent Sermon Series: "Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem"

We continue to talk about "The Road to Discipleship" through November. So far, we had talked about four different ways to make ourselves disciples of Jesus Christ. They are Worship, Spiritual Discipline, Mission, and Witness. In November, we will talk about two more ways: Fellowship and Giving. Please pay attention and think about how we apply these ways to our daily lives.

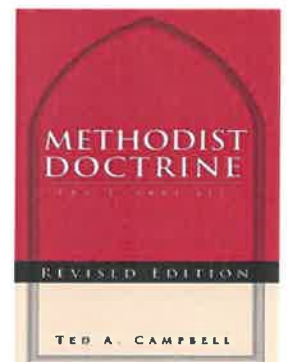


In this advent season, I will begin a new sermon series, "**Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem**" from Nov. 27th to Christmas Eve. Through this sermon series, I will try to reflect on Jesus' birth, life, and death from the perspective of Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ, who might know Jesus better in person than anyone else in the world. I will design worship services during Advent and Christmas season based on this sermon series. I hope this sermon series and worship services give you some opportunities to reflect on Jesus in a new way and find new meaning of Christmas for your life journey. If you are interested in reflecting on Jesus and Christmas in the eyes of Mary in a deeper way, I strongly recommend the book, "**Not a Silent Night**," written by Adam Hamilton. The main source of my sermon series and worship services is this book.

I plan to conduct a sermon survey during November. One of my deepest hopes for my sermon is to make the sermon relevant to our church members' lives. However, I do not know what kind of difficulties and life questions our church members have struggled in their daily lives or what they want to learn more through sermon. I need our church members' inputs for making my sermon more relevant to our church members' lives. Thus, I decided to conduct a sermon survey during November. Please check the church narthex and fill out the sermon survey. This will be very helpful for me to prepare the sermon series in 2023 and 2024.

- New Member Class

I gladly share that some people have come to me and shown their interests in joining Covenant UMC as a new member. I think it is appropriate for those people and potential new members in the future to share the procedure to be a new member. If you would like to join the church, you can be a new member through any worship service with a simple new member ritual. However, before being a new member, I strongly recommend having a new member class with me. It is not a requirement, but strongly recommended. This new member class meets 5 or 6 times with me, reading a very short book, named, Methodist Doctrine: The Essentials by Ted A. Campbell. (I will give this book as a gift) In this new member class, we learn and discuss basic Christian belief and Methodist doctrine in relation to our daily lives. I know it sounds boring and difficult, reminding many of you of the time of dumb catechism in the past. However, actual class is not about having a lecture and memorizing Bible passage. It is more like open discussion regarding Christian belief and actual life. All participants so far have given positive feedback that the conversation and discussion through this class are interesting and very beneficial for their spiritual journey. If you are interested in becoming a new member of the church, do not hesitate to contact me. (Cell: 617-894-3545 / Email: leeho0531@gmail.com) If you are already a professing member, but you want to learn about our denomination and basic Christian belief in a practical and deeper way, I encourage you to join this class together.



- Charge Conference

The Charge Conference will be held at the church on Sunday, 12/4 at 5:30 PM. The charge conference is the basic and fundamental governing body of each United Methodist local church as well as the annual meeting of the church to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church. In this meeting, we elect leaders of the church, approve the church budget for 2023, set the compensation for the pastor, report regarding lay preacher and membership. All church council members should join this meeting and all professing members are strongly recommended to join this important meeting and vote for the church. This is also great opportunity for us to welcome our New D.S. Rev. Park Hunter. Please check your calendar the date of charge conference and join the meeting.

- Confirmation

This year, we have four confirmands who are thinking about confirming their faith before God and the congregation and join the church as a professing member. They will go through a one-year confirmation program and then decide whether they will confirm their baptism and become a professing member or not this coming June. This confirmation process is not the personal process, but communal one. This means that the confirmands should be connected with other church members through this process and not only learn about God and the church community, but also experience them vividly through various relationships. In this sense, confirmation should not be done by pastor, mentors, or parents only, but be done by all church members. That is the reason why I had the time to introduce confirmands on 10/23. In December's Newsletter, the confirmands will introduce themselves. Please remember their names and place them in your prayers.

Church Council

October Church Council reports is using a new format, bullet points with questions only and discussion to follow after all reports were given. This will improve and move the meetings along in a more timely manner. Reports are as follows: SS and Youth— see Family Ministries report, request for funds to upgrade SS/Nursery rooms; Trustees – completed projects, ongoing projects and new projects which you can read in the Trustees report; Finance – Financial report given, 2023 budget to streamline the Church's finances; Endowment – Mary Balson gave update on funds available and the change to merge the Finance, Endowment and Memorial committees with representation from each; newly formed Friends of Chegwin update – new name, \$500 budget, with additional funds needed for teacher appreciation, field trips/transportation and replenishment of school supplies; UMM – the men will be hosting a chili luncheon with the Hanging of the Greens; UWF, many activities going on, Pacto de Gracia – one year anniversary 7/9/23, inclusion in Covenant's family worship and the many challenges of this new ministry; Pastor Ho Lee has put out a survey for sermon topic inputs from the congregation, and an updated church directory should be available in January (no pictures, just contact info).

The request for \$2000 for SS/Nursery room upgrades was approved. Narrative budget for 2023 discussed and approved. A charge conference form (2022 Review of Local Church's Life and Ministry was presented to the Church Council committee chairs.

As the holiday season is not too far off, we need to keep in mind the many blessings the Lord has provided us with. In Christ's name, Bill Averbek, Church Council Chair

Date	Scripture and Sermon	Volunteers	Mission	Music/ Special Event
Nov 6 All Saints Sunday	“The Road to Discipleship 5: Fellowship” Matthew 9:35-10:4 Acts 2:42-47	Liturgist: Mary Balson Children’s: Media: Henry, Diane Live: Penny Usher: Bill K, Dave G, Dave M Communion: Suzie Rimel	Food for Families Gifts for Families	
Nov 13	“The Road to Discipleship 6: Giving” Exodus 23:10-13 Matthew 6:24-34	Liturgist: Diane Weider Children’s: Diane W. Media: Jacob, Tom Live: Denise Usher: Bill K, Dave G, Dave M	Food for Families Gifts for Families	Choir Celebrate Veterans
Nov 20 Christ the King Sunday	Luke 23:33-43	Liturgist: Children’s: Shelli Media: Diane Live: Mona Usher: Bill K, Dave G, Dave M,	Food for Families Gifts for Families	Bell Choir
Nov 27 First Sunday of Advent	“Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem 1” Acts 1:1-14	Liturgist: Children’s: Media: Live: Usher: Bill K, Dave G, Dave M	Food for Families Gifts for Families	Choir

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be available this holiday season for you to enjoy.

This year’s flower colors will be burgundy and pink.

The deadline for ordering Poinsettias is December 4. The cost is \$12.50 per plant. Please make your check out to Covenant UMC with a note on the memo line for “Chancel Guild.”

Name: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Friends of Chegwin

Following months of exploration and discussion Covenant's Fresh Expressions group decided to focus itself on the needs of Chegwin School, an elementary school several blocks from the church. Having been involved with Chegwin School previously, the group was aware of the various needs that existed at the School and wanted to step forward in a variety of ways to help the students and the teachers provide a positive learning environment.

Chegwin School was named after Rose B. Chegwin, former educator, and longtime member of Division Street United Methodist Church, later named Covenant United Methodist Church. In the past some members of Covenant Church attended Chegwin School, and former member Virginia Wegener taught at Chegwin School in the later years of her teaching career.

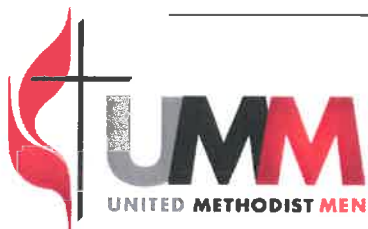
Chegwin School has 300 students ranging from Pre-K through fifth grade. It is a multi-cultural school that is in the heart of Fond du Lac. The students come from a variety of backgrounds and speak different languages. Fifteen teachers and forty other staff members work together teaching, and training the students, as well as maintaining the building and providing administrative structure.

Fifteen members of Covenant have volunteered their time to work in the Chegwin classrooms. They will read to children, as well as listen to the children read. They will provide classroom support and will be good listeners when needed.

If you would like to join the Friends of Chegwin, you can contact Diane Weider, Denise Retzleff, or Mary Balson. You will be given a background check application to be completed. When you pass the background check, you will be assigned a class to work in.

We look forward to hearing from you and working with you.

—Friends of Chegwin participated in their Trick or Trunk on Wednesday, October 26th. A big thank you to the congregation who provided us with 400 snacks and 300 juice drinks. We will have photos from the actual event in the December Ark.



United Methodist Men (UMM)

Your United Methodist Men (UMM) met Saturday, October 8 at Rolling Meadows Restaurant with 5 men present. To this point, we have only sold 17 jars of jam. The funds from this sale allow the UMM to support our local needs (socks, underwear, sweatpants, etc) for little ones in our community and church.

We the church will be ringing bells for Salvation Army. We will be ringing from 10:00am to 8:00pm, on December 3 at the Pick N Save on Pioneer Rd. Sign up for a time slot in the narthex.

Our next meeting is Saturday, November 2 at 8:00am. WE NEED YOU!

Submitted by Darrell Jewson, chair

Hat, Mitten and Sock Tree

Jack Frost has returned and he is nipping at your nose, toes and fingers. That means it is time for the Mitten tree. Please bring in child and adult hats, mittens or gloves and socks. It can be challenging to find water proof or water resistant mittens to keep fingers dry and warm while playing in the snow and cold. The most requested item in shelters is socks. Warm socks! Not everyone has boots and when your feet get wet they get cold. Please bring in your donations from November 20th to December 11th to fellowship hall. Let's fill up the boxes and keep everyone warm this winter.; donations will be given to students at Chegwin, Pier, Riverside and Parkside Elementary Schools.



Gifts for Families/The Angel Tree

Your generosity last year brought me to tears. You not only covered all of the needs for the families we adopted from Chegwin but helped purchase gifts for Pacto de Gracia children as well. This year we will be adopting families from Chegwin and Pacto de Gracia. The need is great, and together we can help them have a happier Christmas. You can provide for their needs in one of two ways: donate money or take ornaments from the tree and purchase gifts. We will have the Angel Tree in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 20 filled with ornaments that contain gift ideas. If you enjoy shopping, you choose an ornament (or 4!) and then sign them out on the table next to the tree. All gifts are due back by December 11th (at the latest). Please wrap your gifts, include a gift receipt, attach the ornament to the package, and then check off on the signup sheet that you returned the gifts. If you do not enjoy shopping, the loose offering money collected in November and the first two weeks of December will be used to purchase the gifts of any ornaments not taken from the tree, cleaning supplies, a ham for each family, and some perishable items (like milk and butter).



If you have any questions, you can ask Shelli, Diane, or any member of the Sending Forth committee.

Food for Families

Once again, Covenant UMC will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Food for Families mission project. Grocery bags will be distributed during worship service on November 6. Please return your food filled bags by December 11 and place under the table in the Narthex. An insert with tips on purchasing healthier foods will be stapled to the bags. This is a guide, not a requirement. ALL donations are greatly appreciated!

Trustee Report

Projects completed by the Trustees are: 1st floor hallway lights, all the bathroom lights/fans and some classroom lights have been replaced, Narthex TV mounted for continuous scrolling of weekly activities, Diener Painting painted the north end of the educational building with the color Vanillan, and the west walkway of the Church entrance was cleaned and washed, THANKS to all that helped. Projects in progress: estimates to repair damage of the 2nd/3rd floor windows in educational building, Church door entry signage in English and Spanish so guests/others can find their way, snow removal contract, Prima Co. has been signed, furnace room water softener needs replacement, current unit is 30 years old, and a stair lift for easier access to 2nd floor office and Pastor's office.

The Trustees are developing a 1-5 year plan for future Church needs. Thank you Trustees for all the work you do and time given and for the blessings from God to continue his work. Bill Averbek, Trustee Chair

Sara Circle– United Women in Faith

We had a good turnout with several guests and Pastor Ho Lee participating at our October brunch meeting. Following brunch our guest speaker was Dawn Scannell, the executive director of ARC. She shared much interesting information on their services to our community. They have homes with supervision for the residents as well as their outreach activities which are many and varied. Sara Circle supports the women's day program with donations monthly for things they



need, including craft items, food items for baking and cooking projects and a variety of other things. Next month we will give a cash donation to buy sugar, flour, mixing bowls and cookie sheets. It sounds like they will be having holiday fun with those preparations! It was a very interesting presentation.

Our regular meeting followed, and we voted to support ARC with a \$300 donation. Also approved was a \$300 donation from our fundraising to support St. Katharine Drexel shelter with their ongoing needs including diapers for their families. We are happy to support our local facilities. Next meeting will be Thank Offering in November. In December we will be contributing to the cookie walk. We hope to have many from church support this endeavor and we thank you for your continued help

Reading Program:

It is again time for some new books to add for your reading pleasure. We have purchased some new books, and also, the FDL Public Library has many books on this year's reading list. Remember, the reading program and books are for EVERYONE! (not just members of Sara Circle). I always have a feeling of accomplishment when I turn in the list of books I have read; I haven't spent the whole year reading just fiction and mysteries.

Book reviews:

One of the new books from the spiritual growth section is Daughter of Cana by Angela Hunt. This is a fictionalized account of the ministry of Jesus starting with the miracle of turning water into wine and continues until his crucifixion. The book is narrated by the sister of Thomas and the brother of Jesus, through their journey of following Jesus as he preaches and performs miracles. And as they come to see that he is indeed the son of God. The reader is drawn into the journey and, along the way, learn a lot about life during this time. This is an interesting and easy-to-read book. -Submitted by Eleanor King

I just finished Four Winds, by Kristin Hannah, and found it very enlightening. Having not lived through the Great Depression I didn't really know in depth how difficult it was to survive. This family survived the droughts and dust bowls and floods, moved from Texas to California hearing there would be work available. However, the "work" wasn't pleasant and since so many were moving west, there wasn't work available for all. The landlords who owed much land made the working conditions horrible for immigrants. Food and water to exist became very scarce. Yes, it's a story that's heartbreaking, but I was really glad to read it. It made me realize again how blessed we are! -submitted by Dea Hebel

Family Ministries

Classes are going well, and our SS/Youth, teachers, parents had a great time, though a bit chilly, at the Little Farmer on Oct 16. In October, we also participated in Trunk or Treat being hosted at Salem UMC. Our Christmas program practice will start on Sunday, November 6, after shortened class room lessons each week. If you have children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren, even children in neighborhood who are in schools, this would be the perfect time to invite them to join the church. Please invite them to Sunday school and Youth group!

The kids will bring the Christmas trees/decorations into the Narthex for the annual HANGING OF THE GREENS on Sunday, Nov 13, which will also be a chili luncheon made by the United Methodist Men. The chili will be available right after the morning service, so come and join the fun of decorating and fellowship. On November 23, a Thanksgiving Dinner will be hosted at Salem UMC, serving at 4 p.m. for those who need fellowship and food with help from our Family Ministries team and NFDL Community UMC. If you want to help out in any way that would be great.

Upcoming:

Nov 27– No Sunday School, Youth Group or Confirmation

Dec. 2, Friday, Parent's nite out hosted by Covenant with child care ages infant to 12 years from 5-9 pm

Dec. 10, Saturday, Christmas program rehearsal 9 am to 11 am or a little later

Dec 17, roller skating at Kornelli's 4-6 pm followed by a lock-in for youth group

Dec 25 and Jan 1, 2023, No Sunday School, Youth Group or Confirmation

Fun Sunday at the Little Farmer

We had our first official "fun Sunday" with Pastor Ho Lee. We had 11 kids/youth and 8 adults go to The Little Farmer. The kids and some adults played on the straw bales, ate caramel apples, and went on a hayride. The place was packed and I want to thank Tami, Casey, and Donna for waiting in the hayride line for over an hour while the rest of us played and ate (we did bring them caramel apples). It was the first time Pastor Ho Lee and his family had eaten caramel apples. They really enjoyed them. Our next fun adventure is going to be at the roller skating rink in December with a youth lock-in afterwards. More about that in the December Newsletter.



Cancelled Stamp Savers

I recently mailed a large envelope of cancelled stamps to the Marion Mission Storehouse. Each time I mail an envelope, I receive a letter from them. I thought you might be interested to read a portion of what they wrote: "We still collect cancelled stamps, trimmed to 1/4inch. The sale of these go toward shipping costs. Each container costs approximately \$4,000 and an additional \$14,000- \$16,000 to send to Africa." So keep saving those cancelled stamps: Christmas is coming so be sure to trim those stamps for this important mission project. Stamps can be given to me or Nina or turned in to the office. Thank you! Marilyn Stillings



Birthdays

- | | |
|-------|-------------------------|
| 11-1 | Deb Hoffman-Ashenfelter |
| 11-6 | Linda Mielke |
| 11-8 | Dan Ashenfelter |
| 11-9 | Doug Duitman |
| | Gary Miller |
| 11-14 | Germaine Patt |
| 11-18 | Kelly Braun |
| 11-20 | Del Jewson |
| 11-27 | John Barfknecht |
| | Cindy Paasch |
| 11-29 | Jerry Stillings |



80+ birthdays!

Gary Miller
Germaine Patt
John Barfknecht
Jerry Stillings



Anniversaries

November 9 - Chuck and Sandy Kilmer (64 years!)
November 24- Tim and Janice Klaske



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.**

CONTACT US:

Office: 920.921.4949

E-mail: office@covenantforyou.church

www.covenantforyou.church