



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



# THE ARK

*“Making Christian Disciples”*

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July 2023

## 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](https://covenantforyou.church/give)

**Pastor:** Pastor Ho Lee

Email: [Leeho0531@gmail.com](mailto:Leeho0531@gmail.com) cell: 617.894.3545

**Pastor of Hispanic Ministry:** Rev. Janet Martínez

**Adm. Asst./Family Ministries:** Debbie Tidwell

**Music Director:** David Thompson

**Custodian:** Judi Balson

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:

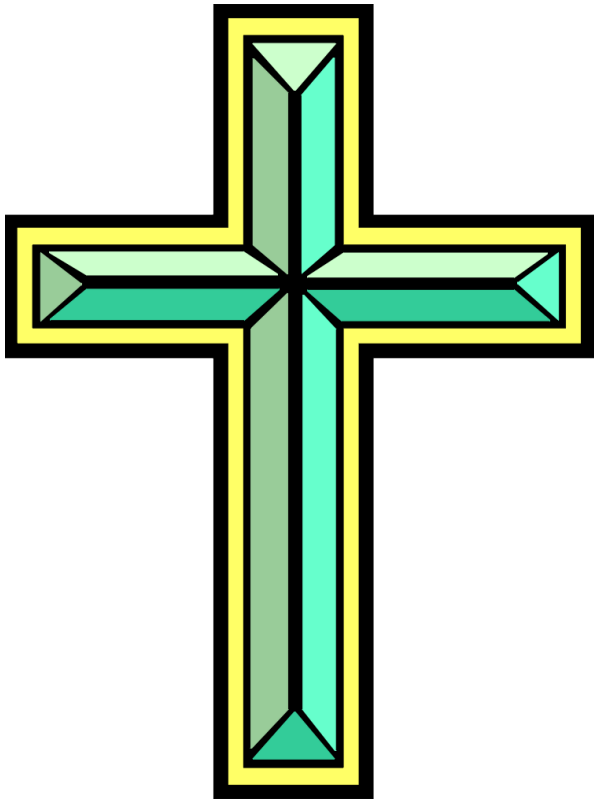
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### Pastor’s Ordination

Congratulations to Pastor Ho Lee on his Ordination in June! We are blessed to have him here at Covenant United Methodist Church!



### Visitation Plan

I plan to visit as many church members as I can in July. This visit is not for me to talk to you but to listen to you. Thus, I can understand our congregation deeper, which results in praying in depth and serving you effectively as a servant of God. There is a visitation sign-up sheet in the Narthex area. Please sign up with your name and your comfortable place to meet me on the available date and time.

Pastor Ho Lee

### Save the Date!

**Ice Cream Social at Covenant UMC -Tuesday, July 25th!**

**4:30-6:30p.m.**

Sara Circle will sponsor this fund raiser for the windows/door project fund.

Menu will include:

Plate with sloppy joe or hot dog sandwich, chips and pickles, ice cream sundaes with various toppings of your choice, apple, cherry and blueberry pies, coffee, tea or water.

We will need help setting up, serving and clean up, so please plan to join in this effort!

Please share this event with friends, neighbors and family. Spread the word, so that we have a great crowd!





Exciting News- Nursery Coming July 2!

Starting Sunday, July 2, we will have a Nursery available for all children ages 18 months-5 yrs. during the Worship Service!



VBS Coming at Covenant UMC!  
August 7-10, 4:00-7:00p.m.  
Ages 3yrs. –5th grade

# JULY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00am Service Nursery Opens	3	4 Independence Day	5 9:30am Bible Study 10:45am Sara Circle	6 Pastor Visitations	7	8 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Rolling Meadows
9 9:00am Service	10 10:15 Worship Com 6:00pm VBS Meeting	11 6:30pm Trustee Mtg.	12 9:30am Bible Study	13 Pastor Visitations	14	15
16 9:00am Service	17 5:00pm Children's Ministry Team 6:00pm VBS Mtg.	18	19 9:30am Bible Study 4:30pm Finance Mtg.	20 Pastor Visitations	21	22
23 9:00am Service 30	24	25 4:30pm Ice Cream Social	26 8:00 am Women's Break- fast 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Champions	27 Pastor Visitations	28	29
9:00am Worship	31					



A note from our Pastor!

This year, AJ, Henry, Jacob, and Karissa, our four confirmands, completed a year -long program and will celebrate their confirmation on June 4. During the school year, they read two books and the Book of Matthew, joined a confirmation retreat, discussed Christian faith and living throughout 21 classes, and actively participated in various worship services and church missions. Now, they have decided to confirm their faith before the congregation and be part of Covenant UMC as professing members. As the Pastor who witnessed all of their confirmation journey, I am very proud of all our confirmands. However, as you all know, confirmation is not the end of their spiritual journey. Rather it is the beginning of it as professing members. The most important thing for their continual spiritual growth is relationships. especially a relationship with other church members. I strongly recommend that our church members remember each confirmand's name and keep supporting their spiritual journey. I plan to share their names and reflective writings from their confirmation journey throughout the summer. This month, I would like to present Karissa Hernandez and her reflections. Please remember her and place her in your prayers.

Pastor Ho Lee



My name is Karissa Hernandez. I go to Theisen Middle School and am in grade 8. I enjoy listening to music, camping and traveling, being with friends, I also still love playing the piano at my grandmas even though I do not do lessons anymore. I like playing basketball both at the YMCA and on my teams during the season. When I am older, I want to go to school to be a physical therapist for sports players or a lawyer because I grew up always being told by family I am a good arguer and have an answer for everything. I joined the confirmation class because not only did my parents and grandma force me but I realized it allows me to have a better understanding of our church and God. When I was younger here I also saw the older kids in the confirmation and would get jealous because they always did fun activities and actually understood their faith or at least began to. Before starting confirmation I never really fully knew why we go to church, why we pray, and where everything started and I still do have many questions but I am glad my family pushed me into this. Joining this program has helped me have a deeper understanding of my faith and God.

We read 2 books during this year “The Journey” and “ 24 hours that changed the world.” Pastor Lee would have us read a chapter throughout the week and come to the class with a question about it and most of the time it would get answered. I liked that because it made me think a lot about it. What challenged me during this time were doubts and questions that could not be answered, another challenge was being not only the quietest but also the only girl in the class and always being voted on to read or pray but most of the time I got out of it.

My future plan here at Covenant United Methodist Church is to help out in Vacation Bible School in August and now that I am able to vote and have an input on things I will vote and help with decisions. I also plan on volunteering or participating more here and help on committees and boards that I am interested in or if I get asked to help.

Dear Covenant United Methodist Men’s Group and Parishioners,

We again have been so fortunate to have your support this year! We are always so touched when your community comes together to support us! Some may see your donations of bananas, food, and clothing as meeting a basic need. However, the Riverside staff sees it as much more than that. Your donations and support show our scholars that someone outside of their family and school believes in them. You are showing them that someone cares about them. You are investing in their well being and their future. For the compassion that you show our scholars, we are forever grateful.

It’s amazing how a simple banana can bring so much joy and excitement to our scholars!

With love and appreciation,  
Riverside Staff and Scholars

United Methodist Men

This past school year, U.M.M. truly reached out to our community. UMM bought school supplies-\$140, clothing-\$474, and water proof gloves- \$480 for the four schools and two field trips at Chegwin -\$657. It is because of the generosity of Covenant that this has been possible, from our sales of candy bars, jams and jellies. U.M.M. will meet again on July 8 at 8:00a.m. at Rolling Meadows. We are always looking for more men, just think what 20 of us could do!

C.C.A.P.

This is a recap of some of the things C.C.A.P. has done this year. We had forty weeks of school and eight boxes of bananas which equals to 320 boxes at \$112 a week. This equals to 4, 480 for 1,074 kids each week. In the summer, that is 4 boxes at \$52 a week or \$624 at the Brown Bag Program at Salvation Army. There was cereal for the school kids at 420 boxes, 32 cases each of Mac and Cheese cups, Chefboyarde, ramen noodles Rice Krispy Treats, fruit cups, 10 bottles of laundry soap, boots, hats, gloves. Again this was possible because of C.C.A.P. See the letter we received from Riverside School.

Thank you Covenant UMC

D.L. Jewson

Trustee Committee

The stair lift has been installed and the Trustees are awaiting state approval to begin use. It will certainly be appreciated by all who will be using it.

Other projects are moving forward including the two glass entries on the Marr St. Educational Building, and a TV will be set up in the Nursery for those who volunteer to help with the younger children during the church service.

Any questions or concerns, you may have, please contact any one of your Trustees.

In God’s Love,

Bill Averbeck, Trustee Chair

Annual Conference Reflections by Diane Weider

Thank you for allowing me to be the Lay Member to Annual Conference. This year it was truly a multicultural experience for me. Through Mary Balson, I met Pastor Shadrach and his wife Esther from the Congo and Pastor Haikki from South Korea. Through Pastor Ho Lee, I met Pastor Changki from South Korea along with his wife and children. There wasn't as much controversial business as there has been in the past few years. There was a vote to allow 43 churches to disaffiliate. This was a very sad piece of business. The vote passed so we now have 43 fewer United Methodist churches in Wisconsin. The Ingathering brought in 1,456 Personal Dignity kits and 246 Home Care kits, many sewing machines, medical equipment, bikes, school kits, shampoo, laundry detergent, blankets and more. It weighed in at 15,720 lbs. In 2 days a total of \$5,161.66 was donated. For me, the highlight was Pastor Ho Lee's ordination to full Elder status. Congratulations Pastor!!

I am including a link to the highlights from the Annual Conference: <https://wisconsin-email.brtaapp.com/files/documents/annual-conference/2023+annual+conference/2023+annual+conference+summary.pdf>



Friends of Chegwin Committee

The Friends of Chegwin Committee has been working to help Chegwin Elementary School for about a year. With the help of the Pastor's Goodwill Fund, the UM Men's Group, the Sara Circle, and the members of the congregation, we were able to: start the school year with \$1000 worth of school supplies, leggings, and sweatpants; provide for three class field trips: participate in Trunk or Treat; provide transportation money; show teachers we appreciate them with donuts, coffee, baked goods, and a lunch during teacher appreciation week; supply hygiene items for the families, and provide volunteers to help during reading time in the classrooms. We want to thank all of you for your continued support.



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

Anniversaries

7/12: Jo Ann and Daniel Hernandez



Mission Offerings for July
7-2-23 Back to School
7-9-23 Back to School
7-16-23 Back to School
7-23-23 Back to School



A Word from Church Council

During each church council meeting I have been asking the committee members questions from the book, Leading Beyond the Walls by Adam Hamilton. The book focuses on key elements like strategies, ideas, and insights that can help us develop a congregation that is open to all, especially reaching the unchurched. The first part of the book is asking questions that need to be answered by church members before strategies can be developed. At the most recent council meeting the question asked was: Why do we need this particular church? Below are the responses:

- We have a combination of tradition, progressiveness, openness and a family feel
- People feel welcome here. We are welcoming.
- We have many older members who are energetic.
- Good music
- Mission minded
- Active UWF with fellowship among members
- Community minded
- Willingness by members to do what it takes to evolve
- We have challenges, but are full of promises
- The church fits the personality of many people.
- We support public school students, unlike some denominations who support private schools.
- We are not literal interpreters of the Bible. We are open to interpretations.
- We have open communion
- “Openness” was a dominant theme in this conversation.

The church is essential to God’s plans in helping people develop fully into Christian disciples. The church we serve has wonderful things to offer that can change the world.

Tom Retzleff, Church Council Chair



Loaves and Fishes

We will be serving Loaves and Fishes on Wednesday, July 12. Sign up will be July 2 and July 9. We want to thank all of our faithful volunteers and hope to see you then!

Sending Forth

July is here and that means our annual drive for school supplies has arrived. Again this year, Covenant UMC will be participating in the county wide Back to School Program. We have been involved since the group started in 2012. Last year, they served 1579 students who needed assistance with obtaining school supplies. This year, they expect at least that many or more. Distribution will be on August 19th from 7:15 until 1:30. We will be collecting both supplies and monetary donations throughout the month of July. Supplies will be collected and delivered to The Boys and Girls Club the first week of August. Volunteer signup is online at Back to School Fond Du Lac. Also, registrations will take place online from July 10– August 7.

The supplies needed are 1” binders, calculators-T30X115, colored pencils, composition notebooks, Crayola washable markers, dry erase markers, glue/gluesticks, graph paper, highlighters, 3x5 index cards, No2 pencils, pencil bags, plain crayons, red pens, rulers, 7” scissors, Sharpie markers, sketch books, spiral notebooks– plain colors. Please note that the list has changed somewhat from other years.

United Women in Faith

Our June meeting included distributing our Banquet profits to The Boys and Girls Club, United Methodist Children Services in Milwaukee, a sewing machine to the Bolivia Project, funds to supply our Little Food Pantry, window/door project at church and funds to purchase books for our reading program.

We voted to sponsor an Ice Cream Social on July 25 as a fund raiser for the window/door project. The committee will report details about this soon. We also discussed a Soup Supper as another fund raiser in October.

We planned for an UWF Sunday in September and a speaker will be contacted.

On July 11, interested members will visit Youth for Christ for a tour to learn more about their programs.

July 12, we will be serving Loaves and Fishes . Our next meeting is September 6th.