



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



# THE ARK



*“Making Christian Disciples”*

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June 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
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- 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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Dear Covenant UMC Family,

I want to begin by expressing my appreciation to our church members for allowing me to have a somewhat long, three week vacation after Easter. Although I did not go to any special place, I had wonderful family time. Also, it was a great opportunity to relax and be refreshed. At the end of the vacation, I could sense my passion for the pastoral ministry had been renewed with several different ideas. During this vacation, I did not only rest, but also thought about the church’s future by visiting several growing churches in the Fond du Lac and Milwaukee area. Their different worship service styles, passions for the Word of God, church structures, and programs inspired me to think about how I could guide Covenant UMC more effectively and spiritually. I have several practical ideas I would like to implement soon in the church. This means that the church will change.

Indeed, changes can be stressful and challenging. Some church members might argue that changes are not always good for the church community and that certain elements of the church should not be changed. I agree, however, changes are inevitable. The Gospel that we need to bring to the world has not been changed. Thus, the church should be changed to effectively spread the unchanging Gospel to the changing world. Otherwise, the church can not effectively complete its primary mission, making disciples, and will be replaced with another form of church. Many committed church members have desired to welcome new church members and our church is beginning to see them come. However, what many people do not expect is the inevitable changes that occur because of new membership. Having new members means becoming a new church community. Before these inevitable changes begin , what should we do? We need to open ourselves to these changes and prepare ourselves by thinking and talking about them.

Speaking of changes, we already have had a significant change in May. We welcomed Debbie Tidwell to our faith community as Director of Family Ministry as well as Administrative Assistant. The church leaders and I recognized the increasing need for support in our church administration as well as a necessity to invest our resources to reach younger families with well organized and professional children, youth and family programs. We discovered that she was the best person to accomplish these goals with her passion, experience and expertise. This is great and exciting new! She has already shared many new ideas for directing our church in moving forward in these goals. Please welcome her and get to know her. We are excited to have her join our team at Covenant UMC!

Pastor Ho Lee



From the Pastor's Desk



Pacto de Gracia UMC

In May, we had two great activities that would not have been possible without your help as a volunteers, prayers, donations, and purchase support.

1. Fundraiser tamales on May 4 - 5, at Salem UMC-18 volunteers participated in the two days.

813 tamales were sold-\$1,995 was raised

2. Rummage Sale on May 20, at NFDL Community UMC

25 volunteers in the two days-\$687.65 was raised

To all volunteers - Thank you so much.

To Salem and Community United Methodist Churches, who provided their facilities to hold these events – Thank you so much. A special thanks to Idalia Ortega, who coordinated the making and cooking of tamales and Dana Knack, who coordinated the Rummage Sale. Each volunteer did an incredible job for God, the Church, and the community with their time and talents. Also, they learned new things, found friends and joy. Every minute that volunteers give to these activities is valuable for Pacto de Gracia. We appreciate it.



<https://fb.watch/KRQLEdJrVNF/>

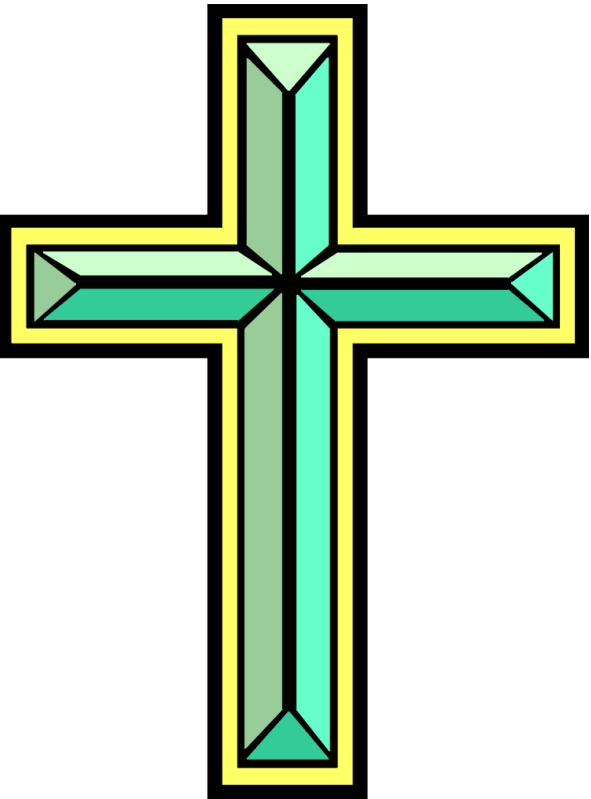


JUNE 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:00am Service Pastor Ho Lee Confirmation	5	6 4:00 New Member Class 6:30pm Trustee M.	7 9:30am Bible Study 10:45am Sara Circle 6:00 pm Youth Pizza	8 Pastor Visitations	9 Wisconsin Annual	10 Conference 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Rolling
11 Pastor's Ordination 9:00am Service Denise Retzleff	12 9:30 Staff Meeting 10:15 Worship Com 6:00 VBS Meeting	13 10:00 SPRC 4:00 New Member Class	14 9:30am Bible Study 10:30 Chegwin	15 Pastor Visitations	16	17
18 Father's Day 9:00am Service 4:00 pm VBS Music Meeting	19 1:30 Children's Min- istry Team	20	21 9:30am Bible Study 5:30 pm Champions Bingo	22	23	24
25 10:00am Church Picnic	26 9:30 Staff Meeting 6:30 Church Council	27	28 8:00 am Women's Breakfast at Rolling Meadows 9:30am Bible Study 6:00 Youth Ministry Team	29	30	

## Pastor's Ordination

On June 11, I will be ordained as an Elder of the United Methodist Church at the Wisconsin Annual Conference. Unlike other denominations, an Elder in the Methodist church means an ordained minister for the Word, Sacraments, and Order. My ordination journey began when I came to the United States 13 years ago and started the Master of Divinity program at Boston University School of Theology. Since I came from the Korean Methodist Church, I needed to begin again as a member of the United Methodist Church. As soon as I graduated in 2015, I was appointed to a local church in the Wisconsin Annual Conference as a local pastor. I delayed my ordination for a few years to focus on church ministry. Then I resumed the process as a provisional member in 2020. I will be ordained this year after completing a 3-year provisional process and interview. Looking back, I once again realize how God has graciously guided my way. The Ordination Worship Service will held in KI Convention Center , Green Bay on June 11 at 4:00 pm. I invite our church members to join the service and celebrate my ordination together if you are available on that date.

Pastor Ho Lee



## Visitation Plan

I plan to visit as many church members as I can through June and 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





**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!

**We had a great Sunday Fun Day at the Trampoline Park! The children and youth had a great time and showed off their skills! What a great way to end the year!**



# Church Picnic!

Come Join Us on Sunday, June 25 at 10:00 a.m. Picnic will follow the Worship Service!

Deneveu Shelter, Lakeside Park on Winnebago Drive

Hamburgers, Brats, Hotdogs provided!

Bring a dish to pass and your drink!

## Annual CHURCH PICNIC

Games and crafts for the children!



**Covenant UMC Bell Choir will be performing on June 24 at 6:00 p.m. at the Peniel Welsh Chapel!**

Come and join this event for a delightful hour of beautiful music with bells and singing. Refreshments will be served following the event. The Peniel Welsh Chapel is located 6-7 miles north of Rosendale, 1 mile west on Cty Hwy FF off of Hwy 26, in Oshkosh



United Women in Faith

Thanks to everyone who attended the banquet, those who made purchases and all the members who worked so hard in many various ways to make it so successful. We are so appreciative to Dave and Denise Thompson, the Bell Choir members and Nancy Johnston for our musical program. We received so many great comments on your selections! A huge thank you to the men who served and took care of the kitchen duties for us! Our profit of \$1432 will be used for our mission projects and local charities.

Our June meeting will be June 7 at 10:45 in the Fellowship Hall with a potluck for lunch. Please bring items for the Little Food Pantry if possible. This Pantry is being well used by the community. Health and hygiene items are always needed. Readers remember that reports have to be sent to the District by August 1, so continue to read another book or

United Methodist Men

The UMM met at Rolling Meadows on May 20 with 8 men present. We discussed the Brat Fry proceeds going towards the new window repairs. The men sent \$500 to CCAP and we discussed the upcoming Church picnic. The UMM will provide the brats, burgers and hotdogs for the picnic. Members and guests will bring a dish to pass and a drink.

UMM has been busy again this year. We started off by purchasing school supplies-\$140, clothing-\$474, water-proof gloves- \$480,and 2 field trips for Chegwin- \$637. It’s not all about the money or where it is spent, 100% was used for OUR KIDS.

Our next meeting is June 10 at 8:00a.m. at Rolling Meadows. Hope to see you!

Darrell Jewson



CCAP

CCAP served 1078 kids each week with bananas at Chegwin, Parkside, Riverside, Pier Schools. We also sent bananas to the Salvation Army for the brown bag program, as well as cereal, oatmeal, mac and cheese cups, laundry soap and more. CCAP was able to do this because of the people of Cove-

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.

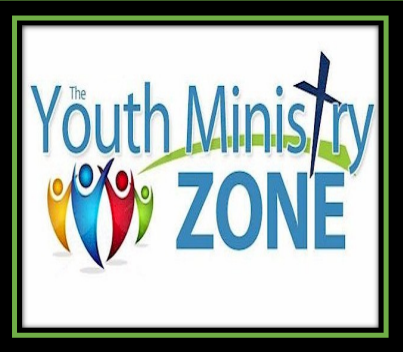
Pastor Ho Lee



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.



**Youth Pizza Party!**  
**Wednesday, June 7 at 6:00pm**  
**At Covenant UMC**

**Come join us as we celebrate Summer and talk about our exciting plans for Youth Ministry this summer and the upcoming year! All Youth grades 6-12 are welcome to attend!**



- 06/01 Kris Shoemaker
- 06/10 Arthur Abitz
- 06/11 Germaine Gilmore
- 06/13 Miyeon Kim
- 06/17 Mary Balson
- 06/23 Nancy Johnston
- 06/24 Flora O'Hagan
- 06/25 Denise Retzleff



Mission Offerings for June	
6-4-23	Chegwin
6-11-23	Chegwin
6-18-23	Fools for Hope
6-25-23	Fools for Hope

**A Word from Church Council**

God has called us each to minister in some way. What is your calling? The talents and gifts God has bestowed upon you should indicate what your calling is. God gave all of us unique talents for a reason– to serve him! We might not all be called to preach from a pulpit, but we can all serve him faithfully by volunteering; for example with Vacation Bible School, or ministering in a nursery, joining the church choir, serving at Loaves and Fishes, or being a part of a mission group! No matter what your gifts are, allow God to use them to bring him glory. When we use our talents we are fulfilling God’s plan of being Christian disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Tom Retzleff, Church Council Chair



**Trustee Committee**

In the May Ark, it was reported that the 2 educational building entries needed to be replaced due to age and safety concerns of loose caulking and window panes. Currently, financial resources have allowed us to put a down payment on the project. A fund drive will start this month and updates will periodically be given. Time is crucial as this project will start in early Fall. Let’s pray that as Christians moving forward, we will find in ourselves the resolve for financial success in this project.

In God’s Love,  
Bill Aeverbeck

**Worship Committee**

Come and experience worship and encounter Christ this summer. We will celebrate the confirmation of four, young people and welcome them as members of Covenant UMC on June 4. Communion will also be offered on this Sunday. On June 11, Denise Retzleff will lead the worship as Pastor Ho Lee will be attending the Wisconsin UMC Annual Conference in Green Bay, where he will be ordained as an Elder. We will observe Father’s Day on June 18 which will include a special reading for fathers, followed by a celebration cake after the worship service. On June 25, come and experience an interactive worship service at Deneveau Shelter on the east end of Lakeside Park located at the corner of Winnebago Drive and Harbor View Drive. The worship service starts at 10 am, and will be followed by a cookout provided by the Men’s Group and a potluck provided by those attending. We will have games and crafts after lunch for the children. In the event of rain, the service will be moved to the Fellowship Hall.