



EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WE WELCOME! WE WORSHIP! WE WITNESS!

APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

This story was posted in the Wisconsin Annual Conference Enews On March 21st

The Food for Thought Dinner Church celebrated its first birthday on February 29th. Food for Thought is a weekly gathering at Appleton: Emmanuel Church, as part of a free community meal. However, those that gather look forward to much more than a free meal; community is forming around the tables with Jesus at the center. People are given name tags as they enter. Prayer concerns are welcomed and prayed over. During dessert a “Jesus Story” a narrative telling of the Gospel, is offered. The Food for Thought Dinner Church evolved from an existing meal ministry at Emmanuel Church. For many years church members would gather on Wednesday nights for food, fellowship and disci-

pliship. A team continued to offer meals available to-go during the pandemic and built relationships in the community. The meal returned in-person in the fall of 2021, with regulars joined by many new faces. In 2022 Emmanuel received training to transition its meal into a “Dinner Church,” as part of the MCCI resourcing. Food for Thought typically averages around 50 people each week, most of whom are not members of Emmanuel Church. One person who attended other free meals in the Fox Valley shared how the Dinner Church experience was set apart; “This is different. It feels like family.”



OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:45 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship

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JOIN DS PARK HUNTER FOR MONTHLY ZOOM!

All United Methodists in the NE District are welcome to join us for our monthly second-Monday meeting with DS Park Hunter. During the time those gathered will share a devo-

tion, spend some time together in small groups, hear the news and have time for Q&A.

The Zoom is at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. The

meeting link is posted each month on the Emmanuel Facebook Page the day of the meeting, and here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5027449756>

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE ELECTION BAKE SALE APRIL 2ND!!

Thank you to all who baked and helped run the bake sale table on Tuesday, April 2nd! A little over \$200 was raised for the Senegal United Methodist Church.

Emmanuel will be a polling place for TWO more elections this

year, which means two more opportunities to bake and raise funds for the Senegal Church. Mark your calendars for August 13th and November 5th! Keep those ovens warm, bakers! We Witness!



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NEWS

Social Action Day is April 13th from 9 a.m. –Noon. This will be a virtual event. Please see Hazel Christopher for registration forms. Judge Everett Mitchell and Peggy West-Schroder will be the presenters.

Our district retreat is April 27th at Peace United Methodist Church in Kaukauna.

Pastor Jim Droste is the presenter, using Psalm 104—”Praise the Lord, O my Soul.” as his theme. Deadline for registration is April 13th . Please contact Hazel for the registration forms. The offering at our district event will go towards the Loaves and Fishes Pantry.



VIRTUAL SOCIAL ACTION DAY IS APRIL 13TH

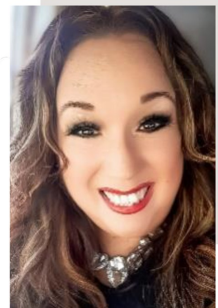
The United Women of Faith are excited to present two outstanding speakers for this year’s Virtual Social Action Day on April 13th. Honorable/ Reverend Everett Mitchell - Dane Co Circuit Court Judge and Senior Pastor of Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church and Peggy West-Schroder will be welcomed for this year’s theme: “Ending Mass Incarceration and Improving Treatment of Incarceration Impacted Women.”

Please register by April 13th, 2024

Questions? Contact Kathy Hartke at kdhartke@gmail.com

Hazel Christopher will also help answer questions and get people from Emmanuel registered for Social Action Day

Social Action Day



GUEST SPEAKERS

Honorable/Reverend Everett Mitchell & Peggy West-Schroder



WISCONSIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE GATHERING IS JUNE 7-10

The 2023 Annual Conference is scheduled for Friday, June 8- Monday, June 11 at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay. . The theme is "On Earth as it is in Heaven" – Engaging in Transformative Community Building.” .

Registration is now open online at www.wisconsinumc.org Register by April 3rd for the early bird rate of \$160. Pricing after this date is \$180. Conference attendance will be available in-person and electronically.



INGATHERING FOR 2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

2024 Ingathering Updates

New Items Needed & Updated Drop Off Sites List

The conference Mission Motivation Committee is working with Midwest Mission Distribution Center to collect items for Personal Dignity Kits and Home Care Kits. Midwest Mission distributes these items locally, nationally and internationally to those in need during times of crisis. All supplies are given free of charge regardless of gender, race or religion. Although we are focusing on these two kits, we appreciate any items found at midwestmission.org. All items should be NEW – and all kits should have only the items requested.

Home Care Kit (\$20 Value) • Liquid Household Cleaners - 58 - 80 oz. total, No spray bottles • Dish Soaps - 42 - 64 oz total • Liquid Laundry Detergents - 100 - 150 oz total • 1 Scrub Brush - with or without handle • 1 - 5-gal Round Bucket with resealable lid. All items must be NEW & Placed in the bucket.

Personal Dignity Kit (\$15 Value) • 1 Bath Hand Towel - No kitchen towels • 1 Bath Washcloth - No dishcloths • 1 Adult Toothbrush - No multi-packs • 1 Bar Soap - 3 - 4 oz • 1 Shampoo - 12 - 19 oz • 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz - stick, roll on, or pump • 1 Lotion – 8-10 oz • 1 1-gal Resealable Plastic Bag

Kits and items that make up those kits, should be brought to Annual Conference at the KICenter in Green Bay. The Midwest Mission truck will be there for collection on June 9th & 10th. To process donations efficiently and get them where needed quickly, we ask for a list of the items donated. You can help the person who delivers the items -and save everyone some time- by filling out the Donation Form ahead of time.

Volunteers are needed to check in and load donations at Annual Conference in Green Bay anytime during our drop off hours: Friday, June 7th 10am-4pm and Saturday, June 8th 8am-4pm. Contact bonnieclement05@gmail.com to help.

Our drop off site for any items is St. James UMC in Appleton.



Hazel Christopher is loading up to make the delivery for COTS on March 13th.



Pastor Ben visits during the Children's sermon on March 17th



Janet and Olivia McKee play bells with the choir on Palm Sunday, March 24th.



A great crowd for corned beef on Wednesday night March 13!

EASTER BLESSINGS FROM BISHOP HEE-SOO JUNG

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid. Mark 16:1-8

Peace and blessings of Christ Jesus be with you with the Easter Spirit! We are indeed a resurrected people!

Let us overcome the forces of darkness and death and celebrate with one another the grace of God, who has gifted us a new life and hope in Christ. Let us embrace the Easter Spirit in our daily outlook, living

a life that receives strength and courage from Christ. Let us live a faith that rejects injustice and violence, pushes aside discrimination and oppression, and practices the equality and dignity of God's children in every corner of the world.

We have the power of resurrection faith, so let us eliminate our prejudices and thoroughly love others unconditionally, even if it means living a life of humility and simplicity, as our top priority. In a reality where wars still crush life and still break God's heart, let us reject that violence and military confrontations and live the value of life with the Spirit of Easter! Let us step out, not being afraid but with the conviction of knowing Jesus Christ has conquered death – and in our faithful living- Jesus will conquer all forms of non-loving in our world.

Let us awaken again through resurrection and live an enlightened life where the

world of all life is protected, and God's creation is regenerated through green ecological awareness. We are God's stewards of creation and accept all as sacred and worth preserving.

Furthermore, as members of the United Methodist Church, we must break down the walls of distrust, separation, and conflict, living out social holiness by loving one another and truly sharing the kin(g)dom of God, and become a community of life that lives out the identity of the church there.

May this Easter Season inspire us to live lives transformed by the power of Jesus' resurrection – boldly, courageously, lovingly, and faithfully.



Amen.

LAY LEADER THOUGHTS—”CONFIDENCE.”

As your pastor, you may speak with Pastor Ben about issues of concern or happiness. Your thoughts will be held IN CONFIDENCE.

You will also know WITH CONFIDENCE that our pastor seeks the very best for you.

You may also reach out to me if you would like to talk about the mission of our congregation here at Emmanuel. In CONFIDENCE and WITH CONFIDENCE your ideas and concerns will be heard.

A Blessed Easter to you and yours+

Jim

“With confidence we draw near to grace.”

(Hebrews 4:16)



EMMANUEL UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

740 East College Avenue
Appleton WI 54911

Phone: 920-731-3288
E-mail: emmanuelumc.appleton@gmail.com
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