



EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WE WELCOME! WE WORSHIP! WE WITNESS!

AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER

I love to tell the history of Emmanuel Church. It's a story of bold people who love Jesus.

They were people who journeyed far. Spoke different languages. When the first clapboard church building on Franklin Street became too small, they built another one. When they outgrew the second one, they relocated to our location here at the corner of College and Meade Street. Emmanuel Church is in its third building and third denomination. Our ancestors were bold people who love Jesus.

Friends, I'm excited for the moment that we are in and that we have a chance to be part of the next chapter of that story. On Sunday, July 31st, we received our MCCI prescriptions. They are dreams for an exciting fu-

ture; ways that we can learn new languages, keep building, and continue to be bold in the footsteps of our ancestors. Because we love Jesus and want to share that love with our neighbors.

This process has been exciting. But I'm sure you have some questions. We have some Town Hall opportunities to discuss these things together and I hope you will take advantage of them. Two are following worship (August 14 & 21st). One is Wednesday, August 24th at 6pm before Choir Rehearsal, and will offer a Zoom component. We will vote on the prescriptions at Church Conference following worship August 28th.

Please be in prayer about these next steps and what God has in store for us. We are part of an amazing story

at Emmanuel Church. Bold people who love Jesus. I'm thrilled to be with you in this next chapter that God has for us!

Blessings,

Pastor Ben

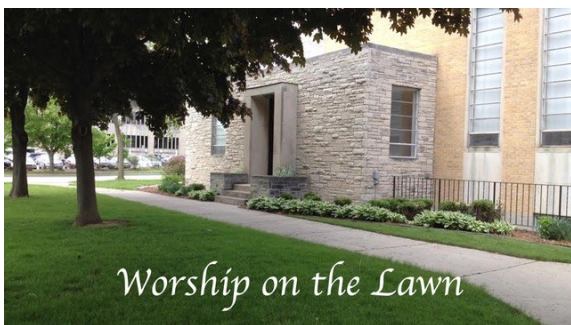
OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:45 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship

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WORSHIP ON THE LAWN— SUNDAY, AUGUST 21



God gave Emmanuel Church a beautiful front lawn with lovely shade! Its been a great spot to worship outside the past few years with some wonderful music!

Our last Worship on the lawn for this summer will be August 21st at 10 a.m. Folding Chairs will be provided, or bring your favorite lawn chair!

Make outdoor worship a part of you plans and invite friends! See you on August 21st!

Emmanuel's next Bake Sale fundraiser will be Tuesday, August 9th, held during the Voting Election!

Proceeds

All proceeds continue to benefit our mission ministries work in Senegal

What to Bake

We'd love your help in baking anything you'd like!

Packaging

All items in saran wrap or baggies

Pricing will be done for you; please do not mark any items

Bakery Drop Off – Main Hallway Tables

Sunday, August 7th (9-11 a.m.)

or

Monday, August 8th (9-3 p.m.)

Questions?

Call Tracy Laux @ (920) 733-0649 and leave a message **or**

E-mail: tracy.laux@amcor.com

RAISE FUNDS FOR EMMANUEL– WORK PACKER CONCESSIONS!

Emmanuel Church has a unique opportunity to raise funds for its ministries by partnering with Neenah First UMC to work a concession stand at Lambeau Field. It is a fun, fast paced way to be part of the atmosphere at Lambeau on game day! Last year Emmanuel made just over \$5000!

The season is just around the corner! Help is needed at the pre-season game August 19th against the Saints, September 18th 7:20 when the Bears come to Lambeau, and October 2nd against the

Patriots.

Please consider talking to Paul Sagers or Pastor Ben about this opportunity

Even if you only work one game or event this season it would be a great way to help raise money for Emmanuel!



SENEGAL GOLF OUTING IS AUGUST 17!



For over ten years the Circuit Churches in the Fox Valley have been in relationship with the Senegal Mission Initiative of the United Methodist Church in Senegal, Africa. Our financial support of the ministry helps with support of Pastor salaries, church rent, and programming for church growth. The Mission also has staff which operates a clinic out of the church and feeds children through various nutrition sites. The ministry promotes women through a Women's Skill Center, where the women learn

to speak French, restaurant level cooking, sewing, and financial skills.

We are excited to connect for an Annual golf outing to support the ministry again this year! Join us Wednesday, August 17th beginning at 8:30 a.m. at High Cliff Golf Course. Registration is available on the back table of the sanctuary. Mark your calendars, golfers!

MCCI– Attend one of the August Town Hall Sessions!

There are three Town Hall Opportunities to hear about our MCCI Prescriptions and ask questions:

Sunday, August 14th following worship,

Sunday August 21st, following worship,

Wednesday, August 24th at 6pm. (In-person with a Zoom Option)

Please try to come to one of these Town Halls to learn more about our prescriptions and ask any questions you might have. There are copies of the prescriptions in the church office and we will have some on hand at the Town Hall meetings.

We will vote on the prescriptions in a Church Conference following worship August 28th.

ESTHER FALL GATHERING IS SEPTEMBER 15TH!

The ESTHER Fall Gathering is Celebrating 18th years with a theme of “Bridging Our Differences. The gathering is Thursday, September 15th at Jefferson Park, 989 Kargus Drive Menasha, beginning with a social at 4:30. Dinner begins at 5:pm. Program begins at 6pm.

Keynote speaker Pardeep Kaleka

Author and CEO of Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee

Pardeep's father was killed in the mass shooting at the Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, WI, in August of 2012. In the wake of this attack, he has become a powerful voice against hate. Pardeep and his friend, former white supremacist, Arno Michaelis, formed

Serve2Unite so that, in Pardeep's words, “children of all ethnicities, from the inner city to the suburbs, are coming together to cherish each other as human beings and to assume the identity of peacemakers in their schools and communities.”

\$50 per person in person; \$25 if attending via zoom. Registration deadline is September 8, 2022.

SCRIP FOR ALL YOUR SUMMER ADVENTURES!

Gas to get around. Groceries for a quick meal to grill out. A run to Target for a summer birthday party. Dinner at Culvers or Jimmy Johns on the way home from church.

You can do all of these things **AND contribute to Emmanuel Church at the same time** through the SCRIP program. Through the SCRIP program you purchase a gift card (at church for face value) to your favorite retailer, gas station, and grocery store.

Use these gift cards in your daily doings as you normally would. Meanwhile, these retailers are returning a portion to Emmanuel!

We are grateful for all of the work of Paul Sagers and his ministry through Scrip. Paul is at the Scrip table following worship every week and would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Email Paul at paulsagers@msn.com to place your order ahead of time or even get a delivery! Shop with Scrip and give to Emmanuel Church!



Groceries, Gas, Shopping and more...

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT FROM WISCONSIN UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION

“A Matter of Perspective”

August 2022

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:2)

Once upon a time, a man found the egg of an eagle. It had been abandoned for some reason by its mother, but as it was still warm, the man took it and put it in the nest of one of his backyard chickens along with the other eggs that were there being brooded upon.

After a period of time, the eaglet was hatched, and along with the other chicks from his nest began to go about the back yard doing what the other chicks did. He scratched the earth for worms and insects. He looked for the corn that the man would throw into the yard. He clucked and cackled as best as he could, and as he grew, he would, like other chickens, thrash his wings and fly a few feet in the air.

Years passed in this way, and the eagle grew very old. One day he saw a magnificent bird far above him in the cloudless sky. It glided majestically among the powerful wind currents, soaring and swooping, scarcely beating its long golden wings.

The old eagle looked at it in awe and asked, “What is that?”

“That is the eagle, the king of birds,” said one of his neighbors. “He belongs to the sky and to the high places. We belong to the earth, we are chickens.” The old eagle knew this was true, and so it was he lived and died as a chicken, for that is what he believed he was.

In life, our perspective determines our reality. For instance, most people believe that they need more money to be “okay” financially. How much more? It didn’t matter if they were making \$25,000 or \$250,000, the answer to how much more they needed was always right around 10% more. The truth is, if we haven’t learned how to manage well what we have, having more will leave us with the same set of problems.

On the other hand, developing an attitude of gratitude,¹ an abundance mindset, and planning for giving and saving in our spending plans (aka, budgets) can help us discover contentment no amount of money can give.

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation



AUGUST LAY LEADER THOUGHTS— MIKE PFAHLER

I have always tried to obey the law and follow the rules. As a former IRS agent and pension specialist, laws and rules were always required of me. I recall an audit I made of a multinational corporation's pension plans. This was in the early 80's when inflation and interest rates were higher than they are today. The LAW was clear that a corporation could deduct only an amount necessary to grow enough to pay pensions as needed. Since their plans for foreign workers paid a benefit on retirement without any cost of living, the plan due to the high earnings currently available had already had more than enough funds. I disallowed the deduction they had claimed but offered them to an opportunity to increase the benefits promised. Shortly thereafter, a RULE came from Washington DC that agents would no longer pursue any deduction issues about benefits for foreign workers, or their pay would be reduced by the hours spent on the issue.

In my lifetime the church has repeatedly relaxed the rules in many areas. Keeping the Sabbath, smoking, drinking, divorce, abortion, and same-sex activity are some of the rules the church has opened up to in the Book of Discipline and the Social Principles, as long as done in "Moderation". This year the church had to count and report the number of members who were not male or female (non-binary in gender). The only hard and fast rule the Book of Discipline has in these matters is that clergy may not marry others that, or they themselves, practice homosexuality.

Certain areas of the United States and their bishops do not follow these rules to the letter. Unfortunately, there are sometimes consequences to these actions. At the Florida Annual Conference 16 pastors were presented to the Conference as candidates for ordination. Approved by the bishop and his staff, all that needed to be done was for 75% or more of voting clergy to approve them. Three of the candidates were avowed homosexuals. Sadly, upon tallying the votes the group could only muster 70% of the vote, so all candidates were denied ordination. The bishop was not through however and called for a second vote when many of those voting no were at a scheduled dinner. It seems that many of the remaining clergy did not appreciate this tactic and again the vote failed by only getting 72%.

Regardless of how you or I feel about any of this, please remember Jesus told us in Mathew 7. "Judge not lest we be judged, don't worry about the splinters in your brother's eye, when you have a log in yours." I'm reminded of #558 in our hymnal "We are the Church," *Sometimes its riding, sometimes hiding, always its learning.*

Your Lay Leader

Mike Pfahler

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METHODIST CHURCH

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WE WORSHIP!
WE WITNESS!
