



The Banner

Every person feels, knows and shares God's love

Monthly Newsletter for Bethany United Methodist Church • Madison, WI • Vol. 54, No. 7 • July 2021

July Simple Gifts — JustDane

Simple Gifts during the month of July are going to support JustDane — which had long been known as Madison-area Urban Ministry (MUM). After 47 years, Madison-area Urban Ministry (MUM) changed its name to JustDane in June of 2020.

Simple gifts may be made by placing loose coins in offering plates or online on our website (under “We Serve,” click on Giving Financially).

Since July of 1973, MUM has been helping to transform lives and social systems to create a just and equitable community.

Their many programs inspire hope for individuals returning to the Dane County community after incarceration by breaking down the barriers that prevent them from fully participating in our community and the lives of their families.

Now, they are doing that same transforming work under JustDane.

JustDane services include prison reentry programs and services for children who have an incarcerated parent, community events designed to help people understand what it's like to walk in the shoes of someone newly released from prison, and jail and prison in-reach programs.

Part of the JustDane mission is to serve as an incubator and fiscal agent for innovative ideas and projects. Over its nearly five decades, the organization has helped develop some of the most creative and effective programs in Dane County: Project Home, all of the Madison Senior Coalitions, and many more. JustDane also serves as an incubator for a Homeless Cooperative newspaper, a neighborhood association, and a statewide social justice advocacy organization.

JustDane's work is made possible by the support, financial, and volunteer contributions of thousands of individuals over its history. Donations allow JustDane staff to provide:

- Direct support to justice-involved individuals — connecting them to mental health services, job opportunities, housing sources, and a myriad of other resources for added support as they build stronger, more successful futures for themselves.
- Peer support as staff with lived experience walk beside participants in their journey towards wholeness.
- Education and job training through the Just Bakery Initiative, which gives students the opportunity to earn college credits and acceptance into Madison College's Culinary Arts Program.
- Medical Recuperative Care Shelter for homeless families with children that need a safe place to heal after a medical procedure.
- Community education through a Reentry Simulations Initiative that educates community members on the challenges experienced by individuals returning from incarceration.
- Advocacy for a more just and equitable Dane County.

Please consider giving generously, as your contributions will make a difference in real and relevant ways.

To learn more about MUM, visit: <https://justdane.org/>





PASTOR'S COLUMN



Most Covid Restrictions Lifted, and Singing Returns

After carefully reviewing the recommendations of public health professionals, our Bethany Board has decided it is safe to lift most of our COVID restrictions. The CDC has determined that vaccinated individuals are not getting ill, and they are not spreading the disease. It is now considered safe for most church activities to resume. Here are our plans:



10:00 a.m. worship – restrictions lifted effective Sunday, June 27th

- Sign-up is no longer required to attend worship.
- Masks are now optional. Unvaccinated individuals (including children) are encouraged to continue wearing masks. Everyone else is welcome to wear masks if that makes them feel more comfortable.
- Please ask permission before sitting closer than six feet to another household.
- Congregational singing is now allowed!
- Worship will continue to be simulcast on Zoom, and will also be displayed on a large screen in Fellowship Hall for those who desire more space.

8:15 a.m. worship – resumes on Sunday, July 11th

- Same provisions as 10:00 a.m. worship, except no Zoom simulcast.
- More distancing is available than at 10:00 worship.

Communion

- Resumes in August or September.
- Individual pre-packaged communion elements may be used at first.

Children under age 12 (currently unvaccinated)

- Please provide the courtesy of six-foot distancing to any children under age 12, in order to help protect their health.
- Sunday School will remain virtual for now, hosted at 9:00 a.m.

on Zoom.

- Other children's activities will be either virtual or held outdoors.
- Staff or volunteers who work in close proximity to children indoors (for instance childcare workers) will wear masks.
- Childcare will resume in September. The nursery has been relocated to Room 225.
- The Children & Youth Ministries Team will prepare further guidance, and welcomes input from families.

Refreshments

- Bring your own coffee through August.
- Volunteers are needed in order to organize refreshments, and to provide hospitality beginning in September. Contact the church office to help.

Classrooms

- Classrooms in the education wing will remain closed at least through August, due to lack of ventilation and also due to construction work on the second floor. (The two small restrooms are being renovated into a single handicapped-accessible restroom.)
- The preschool area remains closed to Bethany activities. Please enter and exit the building from the main church entrance on the north side of the building.
- Youth are permitted to enter the preschool stairwell in order to access the Youth Room.

We recognize that different people will have different comfort levels about being close to each other again. We will all seek to be sensitive to the needs of others, and provide them with the space and the time that they need. We look forward to welcoming you back!

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Greg

Words of Thanks...

We would like to thank our Bethany family for all your kind expressions, cards, calls, and hugs following the loss of Kerry's mother, Gretta Jernigan. Your support has helped us move forward in this very difficult time, and we greatly appreciate your care.

— Kerry and Pastor Greg



Sensory Play Path Grand Opening Invitation

On Saturday, July 17th, The Playing Field is celebrating the grand opening of our sensory play path. This one-of-a-kind space has been custom designed to offer children opportunities for sensory input and output and assist them in regulating their minds and bodies.

The idea was planted in February of 2018 when Dr. Becky Bailey of Conscious Discipline took time to draw out some ideas for an outdoor space. In 2019, The Attic Angel Association celebrated their 175th anniversary by raising nearly \$75,000 for this project and for the renovation of our infant-toddler playground.

We can't wait to show you this unique space and tell you about our journey to get here! Please join us for an open house event. Come when you can and stay as long as you'd like!

There will be live music, guided tours of our indoor and outdoor spaces, and fun activities for children including face painting and outdoor play experiences!

9:00 - Welcome and Celebration

9:15 - Ribbon Cutting

Guided Tours of the Sensory Play Space will be led by Teacher, Julie Betthausen. They will be at 9:30, 10:30, and 11:30

Guided Tours of the Indoor Spaces will be led by Executive Director, Abbi Kruse. They will be held at 10:00 and 11:00.





UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



SIGN UP FOR THE ALL CHURCH RETREAT AT PINE LAKE CAMP LABOR DAY WEEKEND



We are excited to announce the annual All-Church Retreat at Pine Lake is returning this year! The retreat starts the evening of Friday, September 3 and ends the afternoon of Sunday, September 5. Come for all or part of the gathering.

Think Summer Camp is just for kids? It is not! For this summer camp everyone is invited — families with young kids, families with older kids, families with no kids, young adults, older adults — everyone is welcome! Enjoy fellowship with your Bethany Family, as well as fun camp activities like swimming, boating, light hiking, archery, games and campfires. Or you can just relax and enjoy the last weekend of summer. We will also hold a lake-side worship on Sunday morning. To keep everyone safe and comfortable, we will be following all of health guidelines Pine Lake has developed.

Despite the rustic camp setting - we will not be “roughing it.” We will be staying in the Pine Lake Retreat Center - think hotel, not tents or rustic cabins! All meals will be provided.

For cost, registration and details, please contact: Alice Yuroff (alice@yuroff.com or 608-469-6787).





ANNOUNCEMENTS



FARMERS MARKET GLEANING

Community Action Coalition (CAC) needs volunteer groups of at least 8 persons 18 years old or older to glean at the Dane County Farmers' Market (persons younger than 18 are accepted with adult supervision). Volunteers must arrive at the CAC truck that will be parked at the East Washington Avenue entrance to the Capitol at 11:45 am on the day they volunteer and, after orientation, the gleaning will begin about noon.

More information about signing up can be found on the United Way of Dane County website (https://www.volunteeryourtime.org/need/detail/?need_id=593007).

GREEN CAB RIDES TO CHURCH

For those who do not otherwise have transportation to get church on Sunday morning, Bethany is offering rides via Green Cab of Madison. If you would like a ride, please call the church office (608.238.6381).

BOOK DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed books for the summer outreach project! Our donation bin (located at the Children's Check-in Station in the lobby) is filling up with lovely books – fiction and nonfiction selections, easy chapter books, board books, etc. We will continue to collect books for the month of July. Bob and Carol Clingan will transport the books to Perry County, Alabama, when they return for their next Volunteers in Mission (VIM) work trip. The books will be used to restock "Little Free Libraries" built as part of the "Sewing Seeds of Hope" project. See Ms. Lisa for questions, or contact Carl in the office about dropping off donations during the week.





TARAS & LORI FAREWELL





TARAS & LORI FAREWELL



WALK WITH ME
 LYRICS BY DONNA NAHIRNIAK MUSIC BY TARAS NAHIRNIAK

Walk with me, walk with me.
 Oh, walk with me Jesus, I will know no fear.
 Walk with me, Oh, walk with me.
 Walk with me Jesus, all my sins are yours to bear.

Good morning Jesus, today I really am quite rushed.
 I'd spend more time with you, but everything seems so all mixed up.
 The job's all wrong, the kids so sad,
 Something's gone out of our lives.
 But, as soon as I get it all worked out,
 When I have a little more time,
 I promise we'll have our morning talk the way we used to do.

Walk with me, walk with me, Jesus...

Good morning Jesus, we haven't talked in quite a while.
 May I tell you how I've missed you,
 How I no longer laugh or even smile?
 There is no joy without your love, Lord,
 I learned my lesson well,
 You are all that I'll ever need, and so I call upon you now on bended knees.
 I praise Your name and ask you to walk with me today.

WALK WITH ME, WALK WITH ME JESUS...

*GOOD MORNING JESUS, WON'T YOU PLEASE WALK WITH ME TODAY
 ENFOOLD ME IN YOUR LOVING ARMS, PROTECT ME FROM MY TEARS TODAY
 HOLD ME IN THE ARMOUR OF YOUR WARM AND CURELASTING LOVE
 OPEN UP MY HEART AND THEN I'LL BE YOUR MESSAGE FROM HEAVEN ABOVE*





2011 PEACE TRIP TO IRELAND



In 2009, the Peace Fellowship was given a gift of funds from a generous Bethany couple and decided that sponsoring a peace-related trip for our youth would be the best way to use the funds. And so, 10 years ago, on July 5th, 2011, a team of 20 youth and adults traveled to Northern Ireland to learn about conflicts endured by the Irish and peacemaking efforts underway. Brad & Becky Mather were their team leaders.

Before leaving, the team studied the history of the conflicts in Ireland that began when England conquered the island and ruled Ireland for centuries, inflicting great hardships on the Irish. Religion became a big issue when English settlers arrived, bringing along their Protestant beliefs to a land dominated by faithful Catholics.

The Irish rebelled and in 1920 the British Parliament finally relinquished their control of Ireland, stipulating that six counties in northern Ireland would become a separate country (Northern Ireland) and remain part of the United Kingdom. The other 26 counties would become the Republic of Ireland and rule themselves. The act resulted in eventual peace for the new Republic — but not for Northern Ireland.

Belfast became the capital of Northern Ireland and was the site of most of the violence during the Troubles — referring to the three decades of armed conflict between Protestant Loyalists who wanted to remain aligned with England, and Catholic Irish Republicans who wanted Ireland to be reunited as one nation. In 1998, a peace agreement ended the worst of the violence. But minor conflicts continue.

The team stayed in Belfast where their most meaningful activity was a tour of the two neighborhoods involved in the Troubles. The guide for the Catholic neighborhood was a member of the IRA who had been imprisoned seven times. The tour ended at a cemetery section containing memorials for those who died during the Troubles focusing on Bobby Sands and others who died during hunger strikes in prison.

The Protestant neighborhood guide described the hardship of enduring the fires, killings, tear gas and bombings that had become commonplace during the Troubles.

The team members also spent some time at the “Peace Wall” that separates the two neighborhoods writing peace messages. And they watched the Protestant Loyalist parade celebrating the advent of Protestants in Ireland on July 12, 1690.

This annual event seems to invite conflicts between the neighborhoods each year.

Irish acquaintances remarked that while too much distrust and hatred still exists on both sides, peacemaking efforts do exist, giving them hope for future generations!



Part of the Bethany team after touring a museum



2011 PEACE TRIP TO IRELAND



Left: Catholic Neighborhood tour telling about those who lost their lives during the Troubles.



Right: Protestant Neighborhood tour describing the violence and conflicts they endured.



Twelfth Day Parade — Orange Order Lodge members



Twelfth Day Parade — Marchers in WW1 uniforms

Update On Peace in Northern Ireland

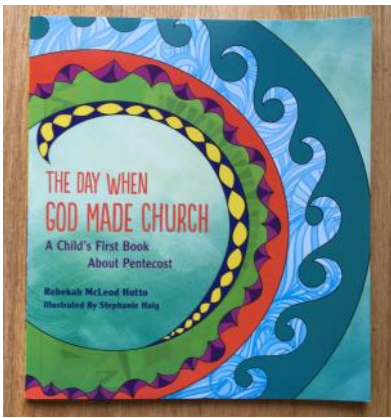
Brad and Becky have maintained communication with a Belfast couple with whom they had become acquainted when the Mathers lived in Belfast during a pulpit exchange. The couple recently reported that in April, violent conflicts occurred in their country, mostly in Belfast. Young people were setting buses on fire and hurling bricks, fireworks and bottle bombs at police and their rivals. Also concerns were expressed about the paramilitary groups in both countries becoming too powerful and about the possibility of more conflicts occurring during the upcoming big celebration and parade in Belfast on July 12th.

The couple explained that the recent uprisings are associated with Great Britain's exit from the European Union which became official on December 31, 2020. Prior to that, because Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland were both in the European Union, there were no barriers at the border between the two countries and travelers and trade could flow freely. That has now changed because Northern Ireland is no longer a member of the European Union. Both sides are dissatisfied. They have serious disagreements with each other and Great Britain about the travel barriers at the border, tariffs on goods being transported, what to do about immigrants and whether or not they are getting a fair deal economically.



"Peace Wall" built by the British to separate the two feuding neighborhoods

For Children's Ministry information, contact Lisa Weaver, Director of Children's Ministries
Phone: (608) 238-6381 / Email: childrensministries@bethanymadison.org



WIND SOCKS

On Pentecost Sunday, Zoom Sunday School kids created wind socks using streamers of various kinds: crepe paper, ribbon, yarn or construction paper. In the Children's Message on that morning, Lisa read *The Day When God Made Church*, by Rebekah McLeod Hutto.



LIBRARY ON THE LAWN

Several Bethany families enjoyed a windy Monday morning visit on the lawn with Ms. Lisa – choosing library books and jigsaw puzzles to take home. Children worked on summer sticker scenes and leaf rubbings. The church building was open, and families could choose to do a walk-through at their own pace, giving our youngest members a chance to remember what the sanctuary and other rooms looked like. You are welcome to join us at the next "Library on the Lawn" event on Monday, July 19 from 10:00 to 1:00 am. RSVPs welcome to Ms. Lisa for planning purposes.



SPRING WALKABOUT #2

A second set of Bethany families enjoyed a warm and windy morning walkabout with Ms. Lisa at Pheasant Branch Conservancy on Monday, May 24. As before, children delighted in taking wind measurement with a set of anemometers and visiting the bubbling springs. We examined goldenrod galls, dried bergamot, and ground squirrel burrows. We saw and heard red winged blackbirds, and marveled at the beautiful world around us.



A LOOK AT OUR FAITHFULNESS

Sunday, May 23	Sunday, May 30	Sunday, June 6	Sunday, June 13	Sunday, June 20
Total 149	Total..... 145	Total.....118	Total..... 146	Total 129



We are a Reconciling Congregation,
 welcoming all people to be a part of
 our church family.

Information

Office Hours: 8 am - 2:30 pm

Church Office: (608) 238-6381

Email: bethanyoffice@bethanymadison.org

Website: www.bethanymadison.org

Sunday Morning Schedule

Early Bird Coffee Chat (Zoom)	8:30 am
Faithlink Adult Discussion Class	9 am
Zoom Worship	10 am
After-Worship Fellowship (Zoom)	11 am

Bulletin Deadline : Tuesdays at Noon
E-Banner Deadline: Tuesdays at Noon
Banner Deadline for the August Issue: July 19th

Staff

Lead Pastor.....	Greg Jewison
Pastor of Visitation	Brad Mather
Director of Children’s Ministries & Music.....	Lisa Weaver
Director of Youth Ministries.....	Brigit Parlow
Global Mission Partners.....	Ardell & Gordon Graner, Dominican Republic
.....	Temba Nkomozepe, Mujila Falls, Zambia
Director of Music.....	
Organist.....	Sue Poullette
Director of Bell Choirs	Nick Bonaccio
Office Administrator.....	Carl White
Membership Secretary.....	Kathy Doran
Financial Secretary.....	Sandra Arrington
Treasurer.....	Steven Webster
Custodians.....	Ron Rebholz
Church Phone	(608) 238-6381
Church Office Email	bethanyoffice@bethanymadison.org
Website.....	www.bethanymadison.org

Banner Assembly

Mary Blasdel . Gerry Cotter . Judy Cox . Betsy Dunne . Eileen Dunne
 Sally Gaard . Vada Mayfield . Kathy Nelson
 Gail Steinhorst . Donna Wold