



The Banner

Every person feels, knows and shares God's love

Monthly Newsletter for Bethany United Methodist Church • Madison, WI • Vol. 55, No. 6 • June 2022

Pastor Greg — Retiring after Ten Years of Ministry at Bethany

A decade ago Greg and Kerry arrived at Bethany -- and it seemed as if the couple fit our church like a key fits into a lock!

Pastor Greg brought his amazing intellectual, preaching and administrative skills - and Kerry, her compassion and her warm and friendly personality.

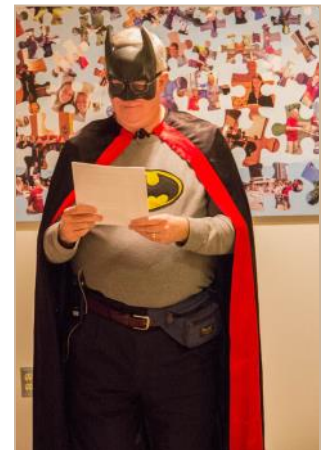
We were blessed by the way Greg led and shepherded his flock - individually and as a congregation - during mountaintop and valley experiences!

When, at General Conference, the United Methodist Church considered splitting apart, Greg helped us understand the complex issues and calmed our fears.

And when the world-wide pandemic descended upon us, his guidance was invaluable in making the difficult decisions that kept us safe and the church thriving.

Kerry's love and compassion for us showed in her warm welcomes on Sunday mornings and her ability to connect with others. She was also a beloved member of Agape and the Worship team.

The Bethany Church family is so very grateful to Pastor Greg and Kerry for their ministry with us - and sincerely wish them well in all their retirement ventures!





PASTOR'S COLUMN



Saying Goodbye, and Welcoming Your New Pastor

Well, the time has finally arrived. It has been a wonderful privilege to serve as your pastor these last ten years. You have welcomed me into your lives, and it has been a joy serving alongside you. But it is time for me and for you to move ahead to the next stage in our life journeys.



I'm ready to hand off the leadership of this church to your next pastor. While leaving a church to another pastor's care is never easy, I have a great sense of assurance — for your new pastor is such a gifted and capable leader. I

know you will want to extend to Pastor Julie Wilson a great welcome!

Here are five concrete steps you can take to make it a great transition:

1. Pray for Pastor Julie every day. Put her on your prayer list and pray that God will use her for the growth of this church.
2. Share your name with her, regularly. Whenever you encounter Pastor Julie, don't make her guess your name! With several hundred members and children and visitors involved at Bethany, she has lots and lots of names to learn. How quickly she can do that depends mostly on you. Always wear your name-tag, and always share your name.

3. Invite her to face-to-face opportunities where she can get to know you and others more personally. Perhaps it will be a church group in which you are involved, or an event in the community, or getting together for a meal. She will appreciate those opportunities to talk to you in smaller settings, so that she can get to know you better.
4. Use her as your pastor. Kerry and I are retiring here in Madison, and so you will undoubtedly bump into us from time to time. We will always be your friends in Christ, but keep in mind that I will not be your pastor after June. I will not be officiating at weddings or funerals or baptisms. Invite Pastor Julie to be a part of those special moments in your lives, because she will want to be there for you.
5. Support her leadership. God has given each person different gifts, and that applies to pastors too. Pastor Julie will have different gifts to offer than I do. She will have different perspectives about how to move this congregation forward. If you accept her abilities and perspectives as gifts coming from God, then I know that you will be richly blessed!

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Greg

Magnolia Tree

Each spring the magnolia tree outside Fellowship Hall provides a brief, but beautiful, display of pink and purple blossoms. This year was no exception!



Simple Gifts for June — “Porchlight”

Simple Gifts during the month of June are going to support Porchlight, which strives to reduce homelessness in Dane County. Porchlight collaborates with the community to provide shelter, affordable housing, and support services that eliminate barriers and empower the individuals and families it serves.

Porchlight staff, in conjunction with several other community agencies, as well as Public Health Madison & Dane County, have been working hard on both proactive measures and crisis response plans due to the COVID-19 virus. While the pandemic and subsequent best practices are evolving, Porchlight is continuing to provide essential services during this time, especially for those who are currently experiencing homelessness.

Since December 2020, Porchlight’s Men’s Emergency Shelter has been temporarily relocated to the Fleet Services building at 200 N First St. For the foreseeable future, the Men’s Drop-In Shelter will continue conducting health assessments upon entry to the shelter. In addition, the City of Madison is providing direct transportation from The Beacon day shelter (615 E. Washington Ave.) to First Street Shelter at 4:45 pm each day, and from First Street Shelter back to The Beacon at 7:30 am each day.

But Porchlight offers many more services. Did you know ...

- 👉 It is the largest non-profit provider of affordable housing in Madison, with 350 units across 26 sites, ranging from single-room occupancy units to family units.
- 👉 It runs a Dwelling Intervention Grants & Sustenance program (DIGS) that provides housing-related emergency assistance to those facing eviction or needing assistance with a security deposit.
- 👉 It administers a Veterans Transitional Housing Program (VTHP), which is a grant and per diem collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Located on Spring Street, VTHP is a 24-bed, single-room occupancy, transitional program for single men who are military veterans and are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.
- 👉 It leads Safe Haven, a day shelter for adults with mental illness on Madison’s east side. Shelter guests have access to two meals per day, showers, laundry, bus tickets, mail, and phone services. Safe Haven also provides housing-focused case management and crisis stabilization services funded through Medicaid. Staff specializes in building rapport with vulnerable individuals who may not otherwise engage in mainstream services.

To learn more about Porchlight, visit: <https://porchlightinc.org/>

During more typical times, simple gifts are made by placing loose coins in the offering plates, or by putting cash or a check in mission envelopes. During this time, your offerings are very important so Bethany's mission can continue. Please either mail in your offering or you can give online at BethanyMadison.org (click on We Serve and, from the drop-down menu, select Giving Financially).





ANNOUNCEMENTS



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Books Given in Memory of Members

For Sally Gaard

When Others Shuddered: Eight Women Who Refused to Give Up, by Jamie Janosz.

For Judy Franks

The Journey Between Us: My Faith Walk: Overcoming Grief to Finding Joy in the Journey, by Lisa McGrath.

For Cathie Johnson

Demystifying Hospice: Inside the Stories of Patients and Caregivers, by Karen J. Clayton.

For Faith Bauman

Hidden Song of the Himalayas: Memoir of a Gospel Seed Sower in the Mountains of India, by Abigail Follows.

WAYS TO HELP JULIE GET TO KNOW YOU

We're thinking about ways we can help Pastor Julie to get to know our Bethany Church family. There are so many of us, and you can help in one small way.

Our church database software, Realm, has a member directory feature that church staff can access which provides photos of members. While we've attempted to import photos from our Olin Mills church directory, there are still many files without photos, and some of us haven't even created an account yet.

In the next week or two would you please log in to your account and then make sure there is a photo there? If there is no photo (or if you don't like the one that is there) you can provide a photo of your own.

1. If you already have a Realm account skip to step 4.
2. If you do not have an account, early next week you will be getting a "reminder" email from Realm inviting you to create an account. Click on that link and follow the onscreen instructions for creating an account.

Once you have created an account, follow the steps below for uploading or changing your profile photo.

3. To use Realm on a phone, go to either the Appstore or Google Play and download the "OnRealm" app.
4. To add or update your photo, log in to your account (<https://onrealm.org/BethanyUnitedMe44273/SignIn>):
 - a) On a desktop computer, click the down arrow next to your name in the upper right and select "My Profile"
 - b) On a phone, tap the three dots in the bottom right and then tap on your profile picture (if there is no picture, click the spot where there would be one). Tap "My Profile" on the next screen
 - c) At this point, you can "edit" your photo or, if there is no photo, you can add one

Alternatively, you can just send your photo to Carl at the church office, and he will add your photo to your record.

Thank you for doing this. It will be a tremendous help to Pastor Julie as she works to put names and faces together. We think it will help all of us to do more of that, too!

The Bethany Board



ANNOUNCEMENTS



MEMBER CARE

Welcome...

To our new members who joined the Bethany family on Sunday, May 15th. Please welcome:

-  Sara Roquemore
-  Barb Peterson
-  Mary Wykle
-  Janet Vetrovec
-  Paul Vetrovec

Appreciation...

👍 Our receiving supportive words, cards and prayers have been of assistance to our family since the loss of my 2 sisters in such a short period of time. Thank You!

— The Michael Zwettler Family

👍 That was wonderfully nice of you guys

I want to thank my friends and members of the congregation that have stayed in touch with me and have sent wonderful cards. It means so much to me that you stay in contact with me now that I am in a nursing home and am unable to see you at church.

Miss you all and wish you the best.

— Mary Blasdel

👍 I want to thank my Bethany family for all the support and encouragement you have provided over the past several months as I underwent chemotherapy and surgery for cancer. I appreciate all the visits, phone calls, cards, meals, flowers, and treats that you provided to me and my family. I feel so blessed to have all of you in my life. Knowing I had your love and prayers helped me through my journey.

— Donna Wold

MEMORIAL GIFTS RECEIVED IN APRIL

For Cathie Johnson: Beverly Klumph

For Bill Thurlow: Walt and Linda Holthaus, Dave and Janet Daniel, Larry and Donna Wold

For Faith Baumann: Beverly Klumph, Larry and Donna Wold, Walt and Linda Holthaus, Dave and Janet Daniel

REGULAR GROUP MEETINGS

Some groups that meet each month during the year will be taking the summer off. These groups include: Reflections Book Study, Susanna Circle, Book Browsers, and Lydia Fellowship. These groups will resume regular meetings in the fall. Watch the Banner and e-Banner for upcoming schedules.

AGAPE

Because of the hot humid weather on the day of our scheduled May meeting our cemetery tour has been rescheduled for June.



The Agape meeting for June will be held on Wednesday, June 8th at 6:00 pm at Forest Hill Cemetery. The address is 1 Speedway way. Just west of the intersection of Regent and Highland streets. We will gather near the chapel — located on the right as you enter the cemetery. Marge Lyford will tell us about the history of the cemetery, as we take a walking tour, stopping at grave sites of some of the interesting characters buried there. Wear walking shoes and bring water. Walking sticks might also be helpful. Everyone is welcome to attend. (Please take note of the earlier meeting time - it gives us more daylight for the tour). We will be dining out afterwards.

HELP URGENTLY NEEDED

Three people who used to help prepare the bank deposit after church on Sunday are no longer available. Does your schedule allow you to help us for about 1 hour after church? When we have a full complement of counters we each count only once a month. There are always 2 people working together with this task. Although we are preparing a bank deposit the job primarily requires recording information, not math. If you are interested or just want to get more information please contact Sandra Arrington at Bethany.Madison.Finance@gmail.com . Thanks.



PASTOR GREG & KERRY (2012 — 2014)



Above : Greg & Kerry's first Sunday at Bethany





PASTOR GREG & KERRY (2015 — 2016)





PASTOR GREG & KERRY (2016 — 2018)





PASTOR GREG & KERRY (2018 — 2021)



For Children's Ministry information, contact Lisa Weaver, Director of Children's Ministries
Phone: (608) 238-6381 / Email: Bethany.Madison.Children@Gmail.com

Bible Presentation

We were delighted to present Bethany 2nd graders with Bibles during worship on Sunday, May 8. Each Bible contained "favorite verse" bookmarks filled out by Pastor Greg, Pastor Julie, Ms. Lisa, and Tom Doran (grade 2-5 Sunday School teacher). Prior to worship, families and community members enjoyed muffins (baked by Linda Huttenburg) in Fellowship Hall. This is a significant milestone for our children, and an opportunity for people of all ages to reflect on the role of Bible stories and scripture passages in our lives.



For Children's Ministry information, contact Brigtt Parlow, Director of Youth Ministries
 Phone: (608) 238-6381 / Email: Bethany.Madison.Youth@Gmail.com

Game Night in May

Scrabble, card games, and coloring; pasta, salad, and cookies; laughter and conversation; another pleasant Game Night in May! We will now pause Game Nights for the summer months, and take a look at schedules and interest in the fall.



A LOOK AT OUR FAITHFULNESS

Sunday, May 1
 Total 144

Sunday, May 8
 Total 138

Sunday, May 15
 Total 135



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

Information

Office Hours: 8 am - 2:30 pm, Monday — Friday

Church Office: (608) 238-6381

Email: Bethany.Madison.Office@Gmail.com

Website: bethanymadison.org

Sunday Morning Schedule

Early Bird Coffee Chat (Zoom)	8:30 am
Faithlink Adult Discussion Class	8:45 am
Coffee Fellowship	9:00 am
Worship (in person and on Zoom)	10:00 am
After-Worship Fellowship (Zoom)	11:00 am

Bulletin Deadline : Tuesdays at Noon

E-Banner Deadline: Tuesdays at Noon

Banner Deadline for the July Issue: June 20th

Staff

Lead Pastor.....	Greg Jewison
Pastor of Visitation	Brad Mather
Deacon	Rev. Kory Douglass
Office Administrator.....	Carl White
Director of Children’s Ministries & Music.....	Lisa Weaver
Director of Youth Ministries.....	Brigit Parlow
Global Mission Partner	Temba Nkomozepe, Mujila Falls, Zambia
Director of Music.....	Dr. Shannon Gravelle
Organist	Sue Poullette
Director of Bell Choirs	Nick Bonaccio
Choral Program Collaborative Artist.....	Evan Lange
Membership Secretary.....	Kathy Doran
Financial Secretary	Sandra Arrington
Custodian	Ron Rebholz

Banner Assembly

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