



The Banner

Every person feels, knows and shares God's love

Monthly Newsletter for Bethany United Methodist Church • Madison, WI • Vol. 55, No. 7 • July 2022

Welcome Pastor Julie & Ted Wilson

On Sunday, July 10, we will welcome our new pastor, Rev. Julie Wilson, and her husband, Ted, to our Bethany Church Family. Pastor



Julie will lead the worship service, and we will have a special time of welcome, too. Immediately following the service, we will host a reception for the Wilsons where you can greet and welcome them. Please plan to join us for this exciting day in our church's life.

Pastor Julie comes to us from Mount Horeb United Methodist Church where she has served for seven years. Her ministry is devoted to growing and strengthening the church to be a place of love and welcome that is relevant and accessible to all people. Pastor Julie started her career in Christian Education and continues to have a special love for children and youth and works to include them in the life of the church.

Rev. Wilson is an Elder in the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church. She received her Master of Divinity degree from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, and she has further training in New Ministries and Church



Growth.

Over the years Pastor Julie has provided leadership to several boards and committees including the Wisconsin Youth Ministry Institute, the Wisconsin Institute of Congregational Development, the Wisconsin Conference Personnel, Camping, and New Ministries boards, and the Wisconsin Christian Educators Fellowship. She currently serves on the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation Board.

Pastor Julie is married to Ted Wilson, who is owner of Ted Wilson Remodeling. They have two adult children, Luke and Anna, and a future daughter-in-law Heather. Their rescue dog is named Milo.

Pastor Julie is looking forward to meeting all of us and starting to work with our teams in carrying out our various ministries. There are a lot of us to meet! So, how can we make that easier for her?

- ✓ If you haven't provided a photo in the Realm software (see June's Banner) please do that now. If you need help, give Carl your photo and he can do it for you.
- ✓ Wear your nametags every Sunday! If you need a new nametag, please call Carl at the church office.
- ✓ Remind Pastor Julie and Ted of your name each time you greet them.
- ✓ Plan to attend one of the small group gatherings we'll be hosting in July and August...more details will be sent out soon.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



2022 Assembly

By Gloria Carter

May 20-22 more than 3,000 women gathered in Orlando, Florida, and online for United Women in Faith’s Assembly 2022. Twenty-four countries and all 50 states were represented at the event. About 20 women from Wisconsin attended in person, including me, and more attended virtually from home.

This gathering occurs every four years as women come together to worship, sing, learn and act together, putting our faith into action. Our days started with Community Gatherings. The Community Gatherings were enlivened by the music of the all-woman band who kept us moving with a variety of music styles. Keynote speakers included Rev. Sung Yeon Choimorrow speaking on racial discrimination and injustice toward Asian American women and girls; U.S. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland speaking by video on the moral responsibility to care for the earth; and lawyer and environmentalist Heather McTeer Toney who inspired us with this statement: “When people tell us it’s too big, that environmental justice is too hard, that climate crisis is just too massive, our response should be: ‘But you don’t know my faith because nothing is too hard for God.’ “

This year, Assembly featured a theologian-in-residence, Janet Wolf, who preached throughout the weekend and reminded us that we do not have to be stuck in the world we have. We are called to do justice, not charity, in ministry with, not to, people. The church prepares us to wade into the fight for justice, showing up with questions, not answers. Her messages were a highlight for me.

In addition to the Community Gatherings, more than 40 workshops were offered which focused on soul care, leadership, and change-making. Women serving in conference-level leadership roles in United Women in Faith attended leadership development sessions.



A special moment for us Wisconsin United Women in Faith was witnessing the consecration of our own Kady Herr Yang as Deaconess. The Deaconess and Home Missioner program is a lay order of ministries of love, justice, and service, and is administered by United Women in Faith. Kady was also recognized at the recent Wisconsin Annual Conference.

This was at least the sixth Assembly I’ve attended (I’ve lost count). I appreciate the financial support from the Bethany United Women in Faith which helped make my attendance this year possible. I plan to be at the next one in 2026 in Indianapolis for another soul-nourishing, mind-stimulating, sisterhood building, joyous gathering.



Simple Gifts for July — “Just Dane”



JUST DANE
Changing Lives. Changing the Community.

Simple Gift offerings made in July are going to support our partners at JustDane, a non-profit agency that offers an array of direct service programs for individuals and families involved in the criminal justice system.

Simple gifts are made by placing loose coins in the offering plates, or by putting cash or a check in mission envelopes. One can also give online by visiting BethanyMadison.org (click on We Serve and, from the drop-down menu, select Giving Financially).

Life circumstances or missteps can lead to incarceration or other life challenges that can be difficult to overcome. It’s better for everyone in our community when we can ensure a person has the chance to put the pieces of their lives back together — creating a community where everyone has an opportunity to succeed.

JustDane, which formerly was known as Madison Area Urban Ministries, is designed to inspire hope and create real change.

JustDane accomplishes this through field-tested initiatives that have transformed lives for over 15 years:

- The program’s two-year recidivism rate ranges from 9 to 15 percent — compared to the state average of 67 percent.
- The organization’s Just Bakery is a 12-week educational and vocational training program. The program works with individuals who are experiencing significant barriers to employment (homelessness, criminal conviction history, lack of education, and/or a lack of work history or skills). After taking the program, students are job ready to pursue their careers.

In addition, all proceeds from Just Bakery sales are reinvested into the program and have allowed the program to hire its graduates to work in the program both on the instructional and production side.

- JustDane workshops provide eye-opening experiences.
- The program’s Healing House is a recuperative care shelter for families experiencing homelessness. It offers a safe, nurturing place for these families to heal when an immediate family member needs care prior to or following a medical procedure or hospitalization.

To learn much more about all that the organization offers, visit the JustDane website:
<https://justdane.org/>

Please give generously, as your support will make a difference in real and relevant ways.

Up next: Simple Gifts for August will go to support Road Home Dane County





ANNOUNCEMENTS



MEMBER CARE

Our Prayers and Sympathies are with...

- ✝ The family of Ric Johnson who died suddenly on May 29th. A celebration of life service will be held at Bethany on Saturday, July 9th at 11:00 am.
- ✝ The family of Mary Blasdel who died June 10th. A celebration of life service will be held on Friday, July 8th at 11:00 am at Bethany

In Gratitude...

Kerry and I want to thank all of our friends at Bethany for the wonderful "Retirement Send-off Celebration" that you prepared for us. Everything that morning was perfect, and indeed reflected beautifully the love that you have shared with us all throughout these last ten years.

The book created by the children was delightful – we will treasure their art and photos for years to come. We were grateful as well for the outstanding musical gifts shared by so many dedicated musicians, not only at this celebration but all throughout our time with you. And what a wonderful surprise that you commissioned an anthem in my honor! I have loved the privilege of singing with such a fine choir – the commissioned anthem will be a wonderful reminder of those experiences as well as the longstanding commitment of this entire congregation to musical excellence.

Your cards and gifts and expressions of care were all quite touching. And what a wonderful reception, with many delicious treats, lovely decorations, and outstanding fellowship. Many thanks to all of you who planned this wonderful day and worked hard to make it so special.

We are confident that you will bless Pastor Julie and her family with the same love and support that you have shared with us so abundantly. Thanks again for your care, and many blessings as you begin an exciting new step as a church family!

In Christ's love,
Greg and Kerry Jewison

MEMORIAL GIFTS FOR JUNE

For Cathie Johnson Mike and Sally Zwettler, Petra Zwettler, Kara Schaller, Mary Schroeder, Larry and Judy Gifford, Patricia Franks, Dave and Ann Harsh, Shirley Kramer, Sue Poullette, Walt and Linda Holthaus

For Faith Bauman Ann Sowaske, Sue Coats, Thelma Wells

UWF READING PROGRAM

See the collection of books in the Church Library, newest ones are on the ledge under the windows, older ones are on the cart. To participate in the reading program, you need to read at least one book in each of the five categories. There are many interesting books to choose from. One example is *Becoming*, by Michelle Obama. Another is *The Girl with Seven Names*, by Hyeonseo Lee.

Put your list of books read in the UMF mail box by August 30. Any questions, ask Vada Mayfield.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT BETHANY

We had a marvelous week of Vacation Bible School in June, meeting new friends from Covenant Presbyterian Church – a congregation located just down Mineral Point Road. And to think it all began on Monday afternoon with a storm-induced power outage...our entire first day occurred by candlelight (i.e. battery-powered tea lights)! Spirits remained high, however, and at the conclusion of the first day one of our four-year-old participants said, "I like this camp! Can I come back tomorrow?"

Throughout the week, children and adults explored four different parables told by Jesus: The Mustard Seed, The Sower, The Good Samaritan, and The Lost Sheep. We rotated through Activity Centers enjoying projects related to these parables: creating clay scenes, planting flowers, making pine cone bird feeders, painting pots, sewing with felt, and retelling the stories in cartoon boxes. All ages enjoyed singing in the sanctuary with Ms. Lisa at the start of each afternoon; favorite songs included Fruits of the Spirit, Each of Us is a Flower, We Are One in the Spirit, and Rejoice in the Lord Always. We ended the week with a pizza supper for families, spreading out in Fellowship Hall and the church yard.

We plan to continue this new VBS tradition next summer, this time gathering at the Covenant Church building. Mark your calendars for June 12-15, 2023!

(Turn to Pages 8 and 9 for photos — and check out our website for lots more VBS photos.)

New Church Directory

An updated Church Directory will be available on Sunday, July 10 at the Information Desk. Don't forget to get the most current directory. If you would like a PDF version emailed to you, let the church office know.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

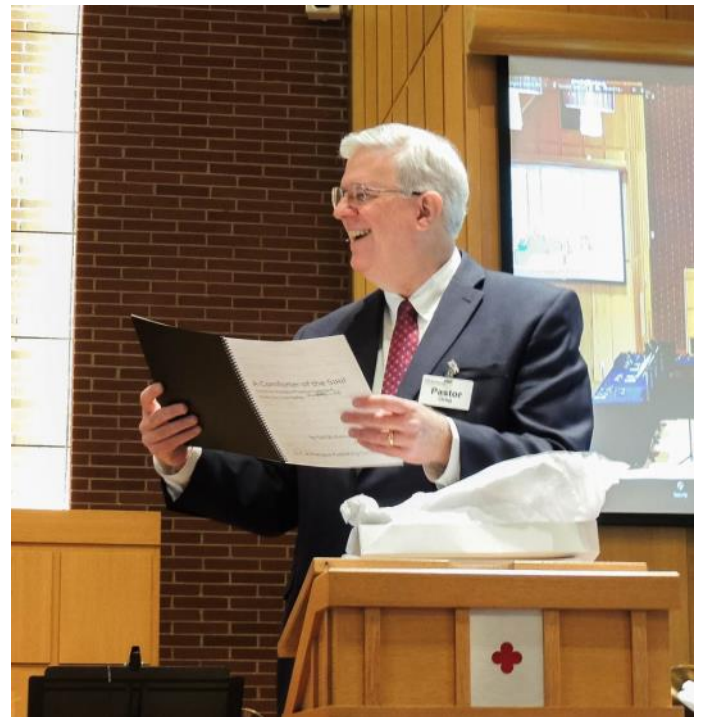


On Wednesday, June 8th, a group of Bethany members gathered for a tour/walkthrough of Forest Hills Cemetery with Marge Lyford providing historical background.





PASTOR GREG & KERRY FAREWELL





UMCOR HEALTH KITS

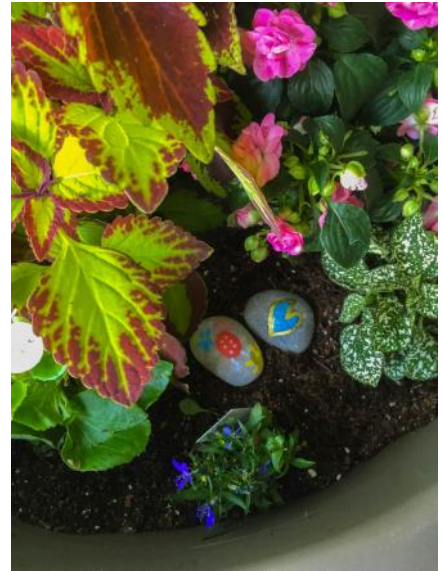


On May 22nd many of our Sunday School kids and members of the Youth Group gathered in Fellowship Hall to assemble Health Kits. These kits were taken to Green Bay where the Wisconsin Annual Conference was being held. The boxes were loaded on a semi-truck to be delivered to a regional warehouse.





VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL





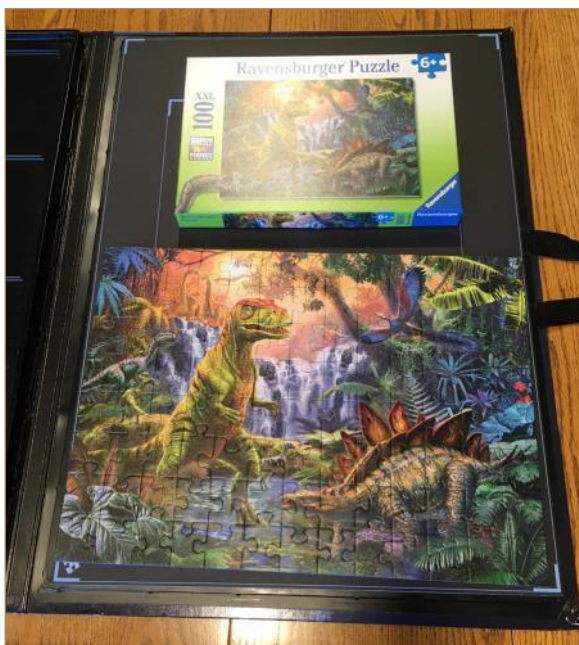
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



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

Jigsaw Puzzles

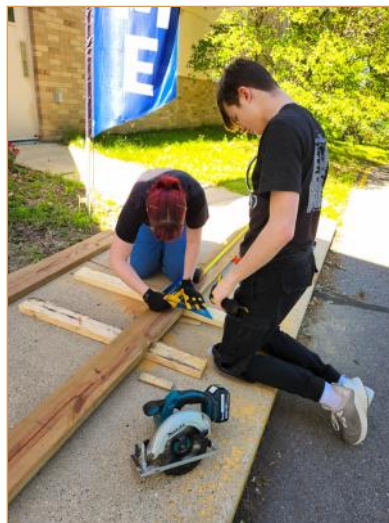
The puzzle board is back! On Sunday mornings, you are invited to stop by the table in the church library to work on a jigsaw puzzle. This is a lovely way to visit with others before or after the worship service. The puzzle is saved week-to-week until it is finished. Previous puzzlers have completed pictures of 100 - 500 pieces. The first puzzle of this year was 100 pieces and featured dinosaurs. Patrick, Matt, Elizabeth and Ethan were the star puzzlers!



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

Youth News for July 2022

Youth are preparing for a mission trip to Cross Lanes, Kanawha County West Virginia this July 16-24. We have four youth and four adults attending this year, along with a group from Whitefish Bay, WI UMC and Trinity UMC of Hackettstown, NJ. We are very excited to be a part of the Appalachian Service Project for a 6th year running! This very important mission work helps the people of Appalachia who are in poverty, or have an illness/disability which makes them unable to make the repairs to their homes themselves. Our mission is to make their homes warmer, safer, and drier. There will be various construction projects from building porches, wheelchair ramps, decks, vinyl siding, and mobile home underpinning and roofing. It's hard work, but very rewarding – both to the participants and the homeowners. If you wish to give to the Appalachia Service Project or to Bethany Youth Mission ASP team, please let me know! We appreciate all the love, support, and prayers you've given us over the years — thank you very much!



A LOOK AT OUR FAITHFULNESS

Sunday, May 29	Sunday, June 5	Sunday, June 12	Sunday, June 19	Sunday, June 26
Total 136	Total..... 176	Total.....92	Total..... 115	Total 88



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 August Issue: July 18th

Staff

Lead Pastor.....	Julie Wilson
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