



The Banner

Every person feels, knows and shares God's love

Monthly Newsletter for Bethany United Methodist Church • Madison, WI • Vol. 55, No. 10 • October 2022

Celebrate United Women of Faith Sunday — October 23rd

We celebrate over 150 years of United Methodist Women and look ahead to a new beginning as United Women of Faith. Members of Bethany UMW/UWF will be leading the 10:00 am church service on October 23 in honor of our own 70+ years as a unit!

Our guest speaker, Heidi Careaga, will talk about the changes to United Women of Faith (UMW); changes that go beyond just the name. Heidi is a native of Guatemala. She has served with United Women of Faith at the local, district and conference levels. Currently, Heidi serves as a National Director representing the Wisconsin Conference and North Central Jurisdiction. She also serves on the Board of Directors as the Finance Chair. Heidi is employed as the District Administrator at the Conference.

Heidi's focus is on social justice and advocacy concerning immigration issues and empowering women of all ages.

At the October 23 service, Carl White will be awarded the UWF Service pin!

Following the church service there will be a chicken dinner (lunch) prepared by Steve Nelson. There will be a free-will offering to offset the meal expenses. Cash and checks absolutely accepted!



Please join us in the Celebration of UWF on Oct 23 at 10am. Definitely stay for the chicken dinner and fellowship with us all!



United
Women
in Faith



PASTOR'S COLUMN



I'm guessing that you have heard the phrase "it takes a village." Most often we hear it in terms of raising children and how important it is to have an entire community of people to help children grow in a safe and healthy environment. These past few weeks the phrase has taken on a different meaning to me as I have found it takes a village to help a pastor through a challenging time.



Two weeks ago, I found myself sitting in the UW hospital emergency room at 6:00 a.m. on Sunday morning having spent the entire night waiting on tests for my husband Ted. When we found out that he would be going to surgery soon I realized that I was not going to be able to lead worship, a first in my ministry career. Pastor Brad offered to fill in before I could even ask. What a gift that was to Ted and me. But it didn't stop there.

The entire staff has stepped up to help. As I sat in worship this past Sunday, I marveled at the amazing staff we have at Bethany. They are good at their jobs. They have such a positive and caring attitude, and it is reflected in everything they do. This extends beyond the paid staff to amazing volunteers as well. What happens on Sunday morning takes a lot of planning and behind the scenes work. It is a joy to work with these amazing people. It is a joy to worship with all of you. And it is a joy to be part of the Bethany family.

Thank you,
Pastor Julie

Thank you to our Sunday school students for these adorable cards. And thanks to all of the Bethany family from your prayers, cards and well wishes. They have certainly helped the healing process. I hope to see you all again very soon.

Ted Wilson (and Pastor Julie)



Sewing Machines for Bolivia!

Thank you! Last year Bethany participated in a highly successful Conference project by providing needed motorcycles! Our part was significantly appreciated.

Now the Bolivian Methodist Church has raised another need — sewing machines! Because many isolated communities do not have electrical power some of these will be pedal driven. This was a request made by the Bolivian bishop to our bishop in Wisconsin.

A sewing machine? At first it does not sound as exciting as roaring around the countryside on a cycle. But when a sewing machine becomes part of a rural church, many community women will share its use. Family clothing will be made. Many will sew other products they can take to market to supplement their family's level of poverty.

One other important reality unfortunately needs to be stated. There are too many times the earnings of the husband do not assist the family budget. Alcoholism is a reality. But one thing is always certain, when the mother in the family has a source of income, it supports the children. I have seen these machines in use and the joy and the resource they provide is heartwarming. What a miracle to see one in use in a small adobe hut.

It is no wonder that the Bolivian bishop is asking for these life saving machines. Cost is in the area of \$450 for each machine. Let's go for two!

Will you join me?

Dave Harsh, for the Committee on Outreach

Simple Gifts for October — “Mujila Falls Agricultural Center”

Simple Gifts collected in October are going to support our longtime Global Mission Partners in the African nation of Zambia, the Mujila Falls Agriculture Center, which is led by Temba Nkomozepe.

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).

Bethany has long supported the Mujila Falls Agriculture Center, where men and women of the Lunda tribe learn sustainable and appropriate methods for growing crops and managing livestock. People across a large area benefit from the eggs and plentiful food produced on the farm.

Mujila Falls has been in its current location since 2000 and was led for most of that time by Paul Webster. However, Paul returned to the United States in October 2018, and Mujila Falls is now led by Temba Nkomozepe, a missionary with the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries.

Nkomozepe takes part in a range of agricultural, education, and health projects, as well as church growth and development. Mujila Falls raises essential crops such as corn, and engages in small animal husbandry, cattle and goat milking, fruit culture, tree nurseries, fish culture, and research.

Nkomozepe is from Zimbabwe, where he received a BS degree in agriculture from the United Methodist — related Africa University in Mutare. He holds both a master’s and PhD in agricultural civil engineering, with an emphasis on water resource management, from Kyungpook National University in Daegu, South Korea.

The agriculture center held a field day event this past summer to teach those who attended about the range of important work it takes on. This event was featured on ZNBC, the major broadcaster in Zambia.

To view the ZNBC report, and for all the latest updates on Mujila Falls, visit its Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/MujilaFallsAgCentre/>

Please give generously as your support makes a difference in real and relevant ways.

Up next: Simple gifts in November will go to support Africa University



Special Sunday Offering

Also this month, there will be a Special Sunday Offering on Oct. 2 to support World Communion Sunday, which provides scholarships for U.S. racial and ethnic minority students, and international students, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Over the course of each year, Bethany participates in several special offering Sundays sponsored by the broader United Methodist Church.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



ZOOM LINKS

Zoom links for all classes and groups are listed on the Bethany website on the Upcoming Events page. From the home page, click on the "Upcoming Events" box in the lower right of the page. Links are listed by the day of the week on which they occur.

GAME NIGHT

Children, youth, and adults are invited to the first Game Night of the fall! Join us in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, October 1, from 4:30 — 6:30 pm. Bring a favorite board game and a potluck dish. Lisa will also set up a jigsaw puzzle and an art table. RSVPs are welcome for planning purposes.

SUSANNA CIRCLE

The Susanna Circle of United Women in Faith will meet on Wednesday, October 5th at 1:00 pm in the Bethany Church Library. The hostess is Bev Payne (please let Bev know if you will be attending the meeting — 608.271.2337). All Bethany women are invited.

LYDIA FELLOWSHIP

The next meeting of Lydia Fellowship is scheduled for Monday, October 10th at 1:00 pm in fellowship hall at Bethany. Winnie Boyar will be the hostess. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please call Winnie at 608.233.8219 or email at windeehart@att.net if you will attend.

AGAPE

The next Agape meeting will be Wednesday, October 12th at 6:30 pm via Zoom. Due to technical difficulties in September this will be our planning meeting for the year ahead. Bring your ideas for guest speakers/activities to add to our calendar. All women of Bethany are invited to be part of our group. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and always have a good time learning or doing something new.

BOOK BROWSERS

Book Browsers will meet on October 17, at 1:00 pm via Zoom. Thelma Wells will report on the books *Halloween Party* by Agatha Christie and *The Diva Haunts the House* by Krista Davis. Please join us. Email Eileen with any questions (eileen5491@gmail.com).

REFLECTIONS BOOK GROUP

Please join Reflections Book Study for an engaging discussion of *The Forest of Vanishing Stars* by Kristin Harmel. A coming-of-age World War II story, a young woman uses her knowledge of the wilderness to help Jewish refugees escape the Nazis — until a secret from her past threatens everything.

Reflections meets Monday, October 24 at 1:00 pm via Zoom. All are welcome whether or not you have read the book.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United will have a forum on Friday, October 7 at Dale Heights Presbyterian Church (5501 University Ave. Madison). We will gather for fellowship and snacks at 9:30 am then, at 10:00 am, Bob Lindmeier from WKOW-TV will speak about trying to solve the climate crisis. With his background in weather, it will be interesting to hear what he knows and suggestions about things we can do. All are invited to come hear him.

NEW CLASS

A LIFETIME OF LEARNING

SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, AND FAITH

Deacon Kory will be leading a class about human identity related to sexuality and gender. It is for anyone, whatever your knowledge, who would like to have thoughtful discussion and reflection on these topics. Terminology and conversations have evolved a lot since Bethany first became a Reconciling Congregation twenty years ago. Our learning never ends when it comes to these fascinating topics.

There will be five sessions on Tuesdays, October 18th — November 15th. We will meet over Zoom at 7:30 pm. There is no need to attend all or most of the sessions; each will stand on its own, but we may be discussing some content the class was invited to read/watch/listen to the session before. Feel free to join in any day, though, and no outside work is expected.

The link is on the Upcoming Events page on our website.

We hope you might consider joining the discussion!





ANNOUNCEMENTS



GORDON & ARDELL GRANER

Dear friends at Bethany UMC,

Thank you for your generous gifts of \$7,842.73 over the past year and for your loving support and prayers for our family since 1994. We are so grateful! Our lives are turning a corner after 32 years of missionary service as Gordon and I will both be retired by February 1, 2022. This will sadly be our last newsletter to you. Life brings changes but relationships, love and God's mission in the world continue.

— Ardell & Gordy

ANNOUNCING THE RETURN OF DISCIPLE

Monday evenings at 6:45 pm October 10 - December 19, 2022

Disciple Fast Track, an adaptation of the original, bestselling Disciple Bible Study, provides a viable option for busy people seeking comprehensive engagement over time with the entire biblical text. Fast Track groups meet for a total of 24 weeks, devoting 12 weeks each to the Old Testament and the New Testament. The New Testament class will be offered next January. Participants are expected to read a manageable 3-5 chapters of the Bible daily in preparation for weekly meetings, which last approximately 75 minutes. Lively and engaging video presenters offer insights into the current week's session followed by guided engagement and discussion. Participants have the opportunity to take a spiritual gifts assessment and determine meaningful ways they can serve and live out their discipleship commitment.

Please join us in this immersive and important study. Please let the Church Office know if you are interested so books may be ordered. Child-care will be provided upon request.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Stewardship Sunday this year is October 9. Pledge packets will be mailed 2 weeks before. Please prayerfully consider your giving and return your giving card to church on this day. If you did not receive a packet in the mail, you can pick one up from the volunteer shelf in the narthex. There are several ways in which you can communicate your 2022 pledge:

- Bring your giving card to church on October 9
- Mail your giving card to the church
- Go on the Bethany website and select We Serve, Giving Financially and Pledge Online. You do not need to sign in. You can enter the amount and interval of giving.
 - ◊ The 2023 pledge form will be available October 1. Do not use the 2022 forms by mistake.
 - ◊ After entering the pledge, you will have the option of setting up automatic contributions in Realm to satisfy the pledge. It is recommended that you set up contributions for the 5th and/or the 20th of the month.
- If you have set up an account in Realm you can log in and enter your pledge directly into Realm or Realm Connect.

Pledges may be modified at any time. If you do not plan on making a pledge, you will not receive a reminder letter if you return the giving card with a pledge amount of 0.

NOTE: If you have set up an automatic contribution and do not have a Realm account you can make changes to the contribution by filling out an Automatic Contribution Authorization form, available on the website, and returning it to the Financial Secretary. You can authorize a new contribution, stop a contribution, change the amount, the date, or your financial institution account. A voided check is necessary only if you are authorizing a new contribution or changing your financial institution account. Please allow plenty of lead time as changes must be made 3 business days before the scheduled withdrawal date and these changes will only be made on Wednesdays.

If you have questions, please contact Sandra Arrington at Bethany.Madison.Finance@gmail.com, call me at church on Wednesday morning or call me at home, 608-833-4567.



All-Church Chicken Dinner October 23 — 11:00 am Fellowship Hall (after worship)

Brought to you by Bethany UWF (United Women in Faith)

75th Anniversary

March 2023 marks the 75th anniversary of Bethany United Methodist Church as a congregation. In celebration, the 75th Anniversary Planning Committee and the OutReach Team are collaborating on projects for the benefit of the greater community and Bethany. For October, there will be a goal of collecting 75 pairs of socks for the needy in the community. Socks of all sizes and styles are needed. A box will be placed in the Narthex for you to place your contributions throughout the month. Watch the Banner and eBanner in coming months for ways to observe and honor Bethany's 75th.





August 28 Youth Worship Service & Backpack Tags



Sunday morning worship on August 28 included a song by Ms. Lisa and the children (*Rejoice in the Lord Always*), a Backpack Blessing by Pastor Julie, and a report on the July 2022 Mission Trip by Ms. Brigit and the youth. Congregation members of all ages enjoyed the music, the stories, and the time of prayer which involved creating a backpack tag which said: Be Loved, Be Kind, Be You. More pictures can be found on Page 11.





ALL-CHURCH RETREAT





ALL-CHURCH RETREAT



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

Ice Cream

Children, youth, family, and staff members gathered on Aug 28 to savor the last sweet taste of summer. Various fruity, chocolate, and Italian Ice flavors were enjoyed at The Chocolate Shoppe on Monroe Street. Pastor Julie and Ted were able to visit with the participants and try a scoop of their own.



Youth Worship Service



A LOOK AT OUR FAITHFULNESS

Sunday, Aug. 28
Total 140

Sunday, Sept. 4
Total.....

Sunday, Sept. 11
Total.....124

Sunday, Sept. 18
Total..... 127

Sunday, Sept. 25
Total..... 126



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

Staff

Senior Pastor	Rev. Julie Wilson
Pastor of Visitation	Rev. Brad Mather
Deacon.....	Rev. Kory Douglass
Office Administrator	Carl White
Director of Children’s Ministries & Music.....	Lisa Weaver
Global Mission Partner.....	Temba Nkomozepe, Mujila Falls, Zambia
Director of Music	Kristie Halverson
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

E-Banner Deadline: Tuesdays at Noon

Banner Deadline for the November Issue: October 17