



JOY Newsletter

June 2023

United Methodist Church
of Whitefish Bay

Our First Home

It has been good for our family to spend this past year at UMCWFB. My wife Lee, Jeong Rim (JR) and I agreed to come here for an emergency interim appointment because this was our “second home.” What we have experienced and said to ourselves and others is this has become our “first home.” It is true that we have spent more time in this church than either of us have spent in any other church, but even more important to us is the way we have both felt welcomed and loved.

An interim pastoral appointment, especially one made with no preparation, can be awkward, but the members of the church were up to the challenge and made significant commitments in taking on responsibility and preparing themselves for leadership. As announced during the annual church conference in May, six new people have applied and been elected to the Accountable Leadership Board this year, including two who have stepped up as chairs. Three people have agreed to serve as lay leaders and two as lay members of annual conference. One comes in every Monday to communicate with Sunday’s guests. The greeters have made this church, in one guest’s opinion, the most welcoming church in his 60+ year life. One has launched a new women’s circle for young mothers and is working to enhance next year’s programming. Six have become certified lay speakers, one a lay minister serving a Wauwatosa church, two are in year-long conference level training in congregational development. I could

continue, but my point is this church is alive and reaching out to the residents of Whitefish Bay and the online community in significant ways that used to be left to the paid staff. This willingness has made pastoring in this church easy and even fun.

We are preparing for a new pastor next month, Rev. Gary Holmes, who will bring great gifts and we want to surround him with resources he needs. Our ministry leaders are planning the pastoral transition, the fall welcoming celebration and next year’s midweek faith events. We are increasing the emphasis on growing the church’s capacity to conduct its mission. We have learned that generating “good will” in the community but with no path for adding people to the number of Christ’s followers to do its mission is not a sustainable model. Metro Milwaukee and the world need this church to grow as a vibrant presence of Jesus Christ teaching the world to love.

My wife and I will eventually retire in her home city of JeJu on the island of the same name in South Korea. In the coming year we will be making arrangements to make that move. Thank you for your love of Jesus Christ, his church, its mission, and for us. Come see us off. We will be here through the end of June, with the exception of June 9-11, when we will be attending Annual Conference in Green Bay. Our own Liz Casciato will be preaching. I hope you come and support her.

God bless you.
Pastor Don Francis

LOVE GOD, CARE FOR EACH OTHER, AND SERVE IN THE WORLD

819 E. Silver Spring Dr. Whitefish Bay ~ umcwfb.org ~ 414- 964-2424

Do you have questions about what it means to be a member of our church?

Pat Wisialowski is happy to answer any questions you may have. She is here to listen to you and, when appropriate, make it a smooth transition for you to become a member. Please contact her with your questions and/or concerns at pwisialowski@umcwfb.net, 414-964-2424, ext. 224.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.
NO EXCEPTION.

Hospitality on Sundays

Are you interested in being a Reader at our Sunday Services? All are invited to join this important ministry. Pat is happy to meet with you and go over what is involved. Please contact her at pwisialowski@umcwfb.org, 414-964-2424, ext. 224.

Nametags

Friends, if you don't have a nametag or you need a new one, please contact Anne Eversfield in the front office to obtain one by emailing aeversfield@umcwfb.org. Please include within your email how you wish your name to appear on your nametag. Thank you. Our new pastor, Gary, will be very appreciative of this effort as he begins his ministry at UMCWFB and meets many new friendly faces.



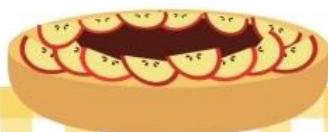
Pies Needed for June 25

See next page for event details.

PIES NEEDED!

Show your appreciation for Pastor Don by baking or purchasing a pie for his appreciation social on June 25.

EMAIL BGROBLE@GMAIL.COM TO SIGN-UP



JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY
OF PASTOR DON AND JR.

thank you!



FOR YOUR SPIRIT-FILLED AND LOVING
SERVICE TO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

APPRECIATION SOCIAL • SUNDAY, JUNE 25
PIE & LEMONADE FOLLOWING 10:30 AM SERVICE



LOVE OFFERING ENVELOPES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.
CONTACT JENNY FISHER AT JENNYLORETHAFISHER@GMAIL.COM WITH QUESTIONS.

United Women in Faith

Spring Luncheon was all about quilts

A lovely time was enjoyed by those at the United Women in Faith Spring Luncheon on May 9. Sue Daugherty organized the luncheon program that was presented by Kathleen Smith on "The History of Quilts."

Special thanks to the members of Claudia Circle for their handiwork and for sharing the talents of their ancestors. Their love for others as well as their artistry was evident in the many beautiful quilts displayed throughout Fellowship Hall. The history of quilting and the personal stories were enlightening for everyone. A beautiful quilt, made by the Claudia Circle, was gifted to Pastor Don and JR.

Two people were awarded the UWF Recognition Pin, Mavis Daugherty and out-going President, Cassi Carrey. As Sue Daugherty noted, Mavis Daugherty (Sue's mother-in-law and gifted quilter) was the inspiration for the program. Thanks to Lynn Bennett and Ron, as they prepared a delicious luncheon for us to enjoy. Kudos also to Rena Szewczuga and Beth MacNeil for the beautiful floral arrangements that adorned the tables.



Parenting class has great response

There was a wonderful turnout for the Love and Logic Christian parenting class, sponsored by Esther Circle. The four-week class session was held in April and May, and taught by Kristal Melbye, a UMCWFB and Esther Circle member. Those attending learned about lovingly setting and enforcing limits, teaching kids to be respectful and independent, and how to successfully deal with conflict in families. There were more than 20 parents and grandparents participate in this important parenting class. All are grateful to Kristal for sharing her time and talents in leading the session!



Board distributes funds to missions

United Women in Faith board members met in May to disburse funds to a number of missions as follows. This money was raised by UWF Fundraisers (primarily Holiday Fair and Souper Bowl). Our UWF members also collectively donated \$5,000 toward our unit's annual Pledge to Mission of the Southeast District of Wisconsin UWF.

Disbursement of Mission Funds, May, 2023:

Habitat for Humanity: \$700
 MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary: \$1,500
 Northcott Neighborhood House: \$1,500
 United Methodist Children's Services: \$1,000

UMCWFB:

ASP Mission Trip: \$ 1,000
 Camp Lucerne: \$ 2,000
 Faithworks: \$ 500
 Feed My Starving Children: \$ 1,000
 Meal Programs: \$ 1,800

Outreach

JUNE Mission of the month - Habitat

Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity is our June mission of the month. Loose coins, designated cash and checks will go to support the Men's Ministry pledge to raise \$5,000 for Habitat in 2023. These funds will be used to purchase lumber, windows, furnaces, and pay for professional services the volunteers cannot provide.

UMCWFB is now part of the Harambee Faith Coalition (HFC) and we have had three work days constructing the HFC house on North 6th Street. Several future homeowners have joined us in our efforts. Homeowners need to work a minimum of 500 hours to qualify for a house. Please donate as you are able to support our partnership with Habitat. Thank you.



Lydia's Treasure
A Mission Supporting Store

Fresh fun finds every week – don't miss your chance to grab a beach read, a puzzle or game for vacation, Thistle Farms lotion to sooth sun-parched skin, the perfect greeting card to say you care or just hello, fun summer jewelry, light weight scarves and so much more. Lydia's Treasure, where every purchase, every day, supports mission in at least one way! Contact Lydia at mpaull53223@gmail.com for convenient browsing times beyond before and after worship on Saturdays and Sundays.

Happiness in our Outreach Tutoring Ministry at Marvin Pratt

Ross Workman brought all the children in his 3rd grade tutoring class a key chain with a little Eiffel Tower on it and a Euro coin from His recent trip to France with his wife Sandy.



Thank You for Marvin Pratt Book Donations



A huge thank you to all those who donated books for the children at Marvin Pratt School. We love giving a book to each student to take home for the summer to read. Many of you donated some lovely and gently used books for the children ages K-5 thru 5th grades. God bless you for your generosity.

Please keep in mind we have an active and thriving tutoring program at the school at 5131 N. Green Bay Rd. in Milwaukee. If you're considering joining the program in September, contact Loretto Steinmetz by phone at 414-550-2957 or by email at ldsteinmetz@wi.rr.com. You can pick the age level in which you'd like to tutor and what day works for you, the mornings from 9 - 11 a.m. or afternoons from 12:20 - 2 p.m.

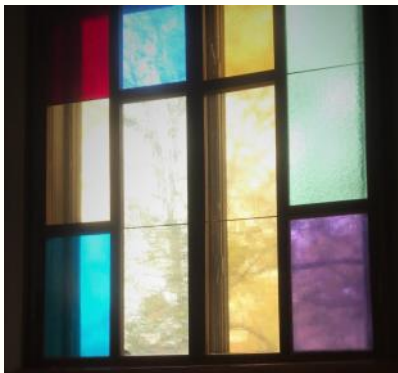
Update from the Narthex Team

The team presented the latest Narthex design to the Accountable Leadership Board and others in April, receiving agreement to continue with the next steps for design. The next phase, called Design Development, will further refine the plans and associated costs. We will seek formal ALB approval in August to proceed to a detailed design phase.

We committed to the ALB to begin sharing the design details with the congregation. We will be meeting one more time with several stakeholder groups such as Lydia's and Hospitality to ensure the design is meeting their specific needs. In June, we will place in the Narthex several easels with before/after renderings of the space. For the first few weeks, representatives of the team will be available before and after the Sunday services to explain the changes, answer questions, and collect feedback.

Many of the finest details such as specific wall colors or flooring choices will be determined in a later phase. The pictures you will see are principally focused on form and function. As you look at the design concepts, feel free to ask us how they meet the principles found in a vibrant, welcoming Narthex such as helpful information for visitors and space for interpersonal connection.

We look forward to meeting with the congregation, and we hope you'll become as excited as we are about the possibilities for this important place in our church lives.



Craig Walker, Chair
Russ LaFrombois, Architect
Suzie Van Cleave
Susan Stoehr
Nancy Anderson
Don Francis

Save the Date!!



GAME NIGHT FUN!



CONGRATS CONFIRMANDS!



CLASS OF
2023

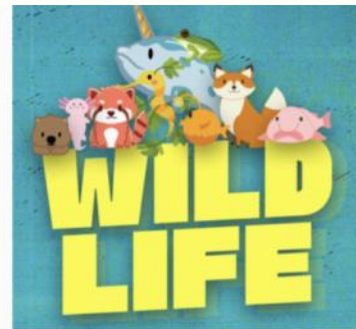
ASP Stock Sales

Once again, the youth from our church will be traveling to Kentucky later this summer as part of an ASP Youth Mission Trip. We will be selling stock in the Narthex on Sundays to help fund this trip. Stock is \$10 and entitles you to daily emails while we are on the trip and the satisfaction that you have supported our youth on their trip. If you would like to purchase stock but do not attend worship in person, please reach out to loriaeschbacher@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for your support.



Register for VBS by July 1st!

**Vacation Bible School
PreK - 4th Grade
July 31-August 4**



**Register at
<http://events.bay-family.com/>**

**For more information on youth, children, and family
events, contact Pastor Andrew
ajones@umcwfb.org**

Racial Diversity Happenings

Saturday, June 17 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - Book Talk

Author Dr. Ruha Benjamin will discuss her new book, *Viral Justice*.

Register at <https://forms.office.com/r/TpnbKXXevm>.

Community United Methodist Church, W68N563 Evergreen Blvd, Cedarburg

Sponsored by Ozaukee County Equity Roundtable (formerly Bridge the Divide).



Monday, June 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Juneteenth Day

Juneteenth Day celebrates the end of slavery in America. Milwaukee celebrates the day with a parade and other cultural events. The parade runs from 9 to 11 a.m. and the route is from 14th & Atkinson Ave. to Dr. MLK Jr. Drive & Locust St.

To attend the parade with a group from church, contact

Beth Groble at bgroble@gmail.com, 414-916-9405

or Jean Erickson at jeanerickson213@gmail.com, 414-759-7406.

Fascism 101 Training Series (8 sessions from May to December)

Want to understand the threat of globally resurgent fascism. Join a monthly 8-session Zoom series of conversations at 6 pm CT (first session was May 25, **next session is June 22**).

You can register at https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_e-QHfUbbRHGzs2V5fOT08g#/registration. Sponsored by the Highland Center.

Gift Card Program: Raise Right

Summertime is almost here, and it is probably time for new soccer shoes, pickle ball rackets, tennis balls, or camping equipment. Why not use a gift card to Dick's Sporting Goods!

We have some on hand at the office counter on Sunday mornings, and each gift card purchase results in a cash rebate to the church! Buy what you need and support the church at no extra cost. - Roanne Barnes



RaiseRight™

Formerly ShopWithScrip

Men's Ministry

Outreach To Solomon UMC for Habitat Workshop

On a Sunday afternoon in May, UMCWFB members traveled 3.6 miles to Solomon Community Temple UMC - joining a like number of their members (total 26) who hosted a Workshop provided by Habitat of Milwaukee focused on Housing, Race and Equity in Milwaukee over the years.

It was inspiring and renewing to be a part of a discussion on racial segregation in housing here in Milwaukee when the group was equally racially diverse!!

We knew Habitat provides affordable housing for Milwaukee but did not know that Habitat is the leading supplier of affordable homes in Milwaukee since 1959.

Remember, Habitat is a mission of UMCWFB - as a member of the Harambee faith coalition with Solomon UMC and St. Mark's Lutheran School. We are building the house at 3040 N. 6th St. **the next coalition workday is Friday, June 16.**

The Workshop showed how segregated housing was a conscious institutional choice for a century up to 1967/1968 when marches persisted and legislatures began to recognize the need for change. Val Phillips and Father Groppi efforts were recognized for their influences. But we continue to have challenges, e.g., one in three renters in MKE pay greater than 50% of their income for rent. (Habitat houses have payments of less than 30%). Moreover, 3 /4 black families do not own houses - 3/4 white families do own houses.

Men's Ministry and Mission Team look forward to continuing our outreach to Solomon and their members together with Habitat and other actions.



Thank You

Spring Clean-up 'Thank You'!!

A HUGE Thank YOU to the church members and friends who volunteered their time for our Spring Clean-Up of the church gardens and grounds on May 6th (despite the threat of rain). Many thanks to Susan Stoehr, grounds trustee for organizing the event, Tom Van Cleave, Trustee chair for his hours of preparation and the hard work and diligence of many volunteers in laying down 70 bags of mulch, tree trimming, weed pulling, transplanting and more! Check out their handiwork by strolling the grounds, grab a picnic lunch and sit among the flowering crabapples, or snap a picture of your family sitting upon the bench in the Buxton gardens surrounded by colorful hydrangeas. Enjoy the beauty of our church grounds and God's bounty this spring!



Notes from the Board

On May 16, the Accountable Leadership Board met for the regular May meeting. In attendance were ALB members Brady Henderson, Don Behrens, Mike Stoehr, Lori Aeschbacher, Craig Walker, Tom Van Cleave, Jenny Fisher, Hui Zhang, Jeff McClellan, and Nancy Anderson, as well as Pastor Don Francis, Pam Vaughan, Nell Nash, Beth and Roger Stafford, Laurie Jeffery, Beth Groble, Dick Steinmetz, and Mary Paull.

Incoming and Outgoing ALB members

We welcomed new ALB members Hui Zhang and Jeff McClellan to their first ALB meeting.

Special thanks were given to outgoing board members Mike Stoehr and John Frunceck for the great job they performed serving faithfully on ALB for many years.

This was Brady Henderson's last meeting as Chair, with Tom Van Cleave taking over in June as Brady transitions to his clergy role at Bethany-Calvary UMC in Wauwatosa.

Opening Prayer and Consent Agenda

After Brady opened the meeting with prayer, ALB approved the April meeting minutes and Trustees report. Trustees note that the current fix to address water leaks in the building appears to be working.

Devotion and Pastor's Report

Pastor Don reflected on Acts 6 and the first-generation church. The disciples proclaimed the Word outside the community and the others worked within the community. This led to a discussion regarding our current issues within and outside our community.

Pastor Don reported that we had a good Charge Conference and that we accomplished what we needed to and that we are ready to move ahead. We noted that there was some confusion communicating the Zoom option which may have reduced attendance, particularly for those planning on attending online.

To encourage more congregational engagement, Beth Stafford volunteered to work on an agenda for next year's Charge Conference that is less scripted but still completable in a timely manner.

Staff-Parish Relations Team Update

Don Behrens noted that transition planning is taking place to address the change in pastors from Pastor Don to Pastor Gary at the end of June. SPRT will coordinate some of this but also needs input from lay leadership. In particular, SPRT is asking anyone interested in helping with the two planned receptions celebrating Don's ministry and welcoming Gary to please contact Jenny Fisher. Nell is working on these as well from a staff perspective.

Financial and Stewardship Report

Financial Secretary Pam Vaughan reported that year-to-date we are currently in the black around \$15,000, which is very encouraging.

On the pledge campaign, if outstanding pledges are received, we'll be in good shape. For next year, we have received 144 pledges representing \$538,500 pledged. It is very exciting that 30 new pledging units, representing \$39,000, have been received. However, \$170,000 that was pledged last year from existing pledging units has not yet been received this year. Our goal is for pledges to total \$800,000 to cover the preliminary budget. The Stewardship Committee is working on further communication about this with the congregation.

If you have not yet turned in your pledge, please send yours in or complete the form online on the church website.

Update on Wednesday Night Food, Faith & Fellowship Plans

Jenny Fisher reported that as it resumes this Fall, our new name for Wednesday Night Live will be Wednesday Night Food, Faith, & Fellowship, and it will start on **Wednesday, September 13th**.

Please note that the evening schedule will change a little:

- 5 - 6 p.m. Dinner in the Fellowship Hall,
- 6 - 7 p.m. Children's Choir and adult programs such as classes and groups,
- 7 - 8:30 p.m. Chancel Choir practice.

Around 30 survey responses were received around programs/classes to be offered, so a schedule is being developed along with finding people to lead the classes. Small groups will also be formed. Beth Groble will be setting up a volunteer system for setup, serving and cleanup. A Welcoming Team is being assembled to be very intentional on hospitality throughout our Wednesday night programming.

Leadership Project Update

Tom Van Cleave has been leading this ongoing project bringing staff and ministry leaders together to create new and better coordination on the many things we do as a church and allow us to take on new or expanding ministry opportunities.

At the next meeting of this group, on May 23, each of the teams' action organizers will give a 10-minute update. Going forward, monthly updates from each team will be provided, highlighting key activities and deliverables. In October, the final product will be delivered to the leadership team. The Visioning Workshop will take place after October and include a brand identity update.

Closing Prayer and Plans for Next Meeting

Tom Van Cleave closed the meeting with prayer.

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 20** with the closed session beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Wesley Room for ALB members, and General session will begin around **7:00 p.m.** where all are welcome. A Zoom option will be provided. All are welcome.



Birthdays for June

Michael	Stolz	6/01	Don	Middleton	6/16
Marilyn	Stuckey	6/01	Carolyn	Bolton	6/16
Fred	Vaughan	6/01	Kira Lee	Balmer	6/17
Grady Daniel	Montague	6/02	Kent	Anderson	6/18
Ann	Homstad	6/03	Jamie	Henley	6/18
Kristine	Bayer	6/03	Suzanne	Van Cleave	6/18
Eric	Bunke	6/04	Larry	Roou	6/19
Addison G.	Kremer	6/05	Debra	Weich	6/19
Nishanth (Juju)	Suthan	6/05	Christopher	Perry	6/19
Sheila	Schaetzke	6/06	Kayla	Bessette	6/19
Cooper	Gundrum	6/06	James	Daugherty	6/20
Brooks	Henderson	6/07	Steven C.	Brook	6/21
Matt	Annin	6/08	Anne	Ballentine	6/22
Russell	Case	6/09	Madeline	LaFrombois	6/22
Alex	Chou	6/09	Lucia M.	Speed	6/22
Debbie	Siebert	6/09	Gianina	Milia	6/22
Graham C.	Dadaian	6/12	Karen	Greer	6/24
Hugo Alexander	Hawkins	6/12	Carolyn	Landwehr	6/25
Cassi	Carey	6/13	Jane	Crise	6/26
Theresa	Scheu	6/14	Ron	Jordan	6/28
Reagan	Freewalt	6/14	Linda	Groose	6/29
Tracy	Miller	6/14	Christopher	Hastings	6/29
Georgia Mavrinac	Lindfors	6/15	Dave	Boehm	6/29
Nell	Nash	6/15	Larry	O'Toole	6/30