



FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH OF HARTFORD

# Living By Faith

JULY/AUGUST 2025



## WELCOME REV. HYUNMIN LEE

Dear Friends in Christ:

At the worship service on Sunday, June 1, 2025, the appointment of Rev. Hyunmin Lee as our new Pastor was announced. Rev. Lee's appointment will be effective on July 1, 2025. Rev. Hyunmin Lee was born and raised in South Korea. She received her call to ministry during her high school years and went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Education from Methodist Theological University in Seoul. After graduation, she worked as a reporter for a Korean Christian newspaper and served at the headquarters of the Korean Methodist Church (KMC), where she developed Sunday School curricula and Vacation Bible School programs used by churches nationwide. This experience deepened her passion for Christian education and connectional ministry.



In 2007, she moved to the United States with her husband, Rev. KwangYu Lee, Ph.D., who came to pursue graduate theological studies. While supporting her husband's studies and raising their young family, Rev. Lee also continued to follow her own call to ministry. She served in various church settings in the New York and New Jersey areas for 14 years, ministering to children, youth, and adults in Korean, Korean-American, and multicultural congregations.

She earned her Master of Divinity from Drew Theological School in New Jersey, graduating in 2021. With over 20 years of ministry experience in both Korea and the United States, Rev. Lee finds deep joy in witnessing the transforming work of the Holy Spirit. Her heart is especially drawn to family ministry, where she sees God's grace and presence shaping lives in powerful ways.

Rev. Lee is currently serving as the pastor of Faith United Methodist Church in Westfield and Calvary United Methodist Church in Coloma, Wisconsin. Her husband serves as the pastor of Portage UMC. They have two teenage sons, Jinu and Minu, whose athletic energy brings joy to their family life. She enjoys hiking with her husband and cheering from the sidelines at her sons' soccer games and sporting events.

She is excited to walk alongside her new church community, growing together in faith, love, and service.

Pastor Hyunmin will lead us in worship for the first time on **Wednesday, July 9th**. We are planning a welcome **"Potluck Cookout"** before the service.

If you have any questions about this appointment, please contact John Moscicki, Kathy Hack, Nedra Johnson, or Brad Hahn of the SPRC. Please keep Pastor Hyunmin, her husband, and our congregation in your prayers as we welcome them to our congregation and begin working in ministry with them.

Yours in Christ,

*FUMC Staff-Parish Relations Committee*

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## **IMPORTANT MEETING — PLEASE ATTEND!**

Our 2nd Quarter Town Hall will be held following the 9 AM service on Sunday, July 20. It will not be repeated at a Wednesday PLP service.

We **NEED** you to attend as several vitally important and timely topics will be discussed:

- Church finances and attendance, and if/how they are related
- Congregational Survey results
- Tech Booth needs and how you can help

# SANCTUARY & MUSIC CORNER UPDATES

The Sanctuary is truly taking shape following the removal of the organ's old pipes and the completion of our initial repairs. A stunning art installation crafted from those reclaimed wooden pipes now graces the wall behind the future Music Corner, thanks to **Kate Warren's** creativity and hard work.

## ORGAN INSTALLATION & SEPTEMBER KICKOFF

We plan to bring the refurbished organ in over the summer, with everything in place for our grand September kickoff. While we finish outfitting the Music Corner, please anticipate a rich program of music and community.

## SUMMER FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

We've lined up several ways to gather and connect in the months ahead:

- Ice Cream Socials immediately following our Parking Lot Praise services
- Sponsored Coffee Hours scattered throughout the summer
- Plus, during kickoff week in September, we'll host a special fellowship event to welcome everyone back to regular Sunday services.

Stay tuned for details—you won't want to miss what's in store!





**Celebrating 50 of God's Faithfulness**  
*years*  
*yesterday ☆ today ☆ forever*

On December 7, 1975, our church building was consecrated as the First United Methodist Church. This year marks fifty years of worshipping, serving, and growing together as one united congregation. As we reflect on half a century of God's unchanging faithfulness, we invite you to join us in giving thanks and celebrating all that He has accomplished through our community.

### **ANNIVERSARY SERVICE & POTLUCK**

Please mark your calendar and join us for this very special anniversary service on **Sunday, December 7, 2025 10:00 A.M. with a Fellowship Potluck to follow** (*please bring a dish to share*)

### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

We're forming a planning committee to create a memorable celebration—your gifts and talents are needed! Please prayerfully consider serving on this team.

To volunteer or learn more, contact:

- Nedra Johnson 414-530-5873
- Karen Bidwell 262-224-7701

### **SHARE YOUR MEMORIES**

If you have photographs, keepsakes, or stories you'd like to contribute, please reach out to our historian:

**Carol Staus 262-689-1586**

Let's come together to honor our past, rejoice in the present, and look forward to the next fifty years of ministry

# HOSPITALITY

***This is what the Lord God showed me:  
behold, a basket of summer fruit.***

**(Amos 8:1)**

*The image of summer fruit represents abundance and the blessings of harvest. It reflects the fulfillment of growth and God's provision during this season. Summer invites us to enjoy His gifts and share them with others. This verse reminds us to be grateful for the physical and spiritual blessings God provides. Just as summer fruit symbolizes ripeness, we are encouraged to live in gratitude and generosity. Quoted from [thebibleblock.com](http://thebibleblock.com)*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Currently, Hospitality does not have any special events for this summer, but if you have an idea or suggestion, please contact me at [victoriatriick@gmail.com](mailto:victoriatriick@gmail.com). You can also text or call me at 262-224-2442 or any member of the Hospitality team. We hope to hold another fun event like the Chocolate tasting in the fall and our Chili Cookoff in September date to be confirmed later this summer.

## PAST EVENTS

Captain's Chocolate of Neosho WI Tasting, Education and sharing of their mission. We had about 50 people attend this event. What a great time learning about how they resource their raw product through their farmers in Costa Rica and how it is processed. We also learned about how their chocolate is much healthier for us as it is processed more "cleanly".

We learned a lot about their mission in Costa Rica, both the cacao farmers and the women's home they have started. They purchase only from their farmers at a better price point than they could get at the market. They also have a home for women who have been trafficked, or other issues and they are training the women to sew, among other things.

Next was the tasty part. We passed around numerous samples of the different chocolates available. They were all so delicious.

Lastly, we had the opportunity to purchase the products to help support their mission.

Blessings,

*Victoria Triick*

Hospitality Ministry Team Leader

# HOSPITALITY

## NAME BADGE REMINDER

It would be very helpful for our newly appointed Pastor Lee, if we could make sure to wear our name badges. It's also helpful to wear name badges for fellow members. We have many new faces or may not recognize others that attend a different service than we do. Even if you have been coming to FUMC for many years and assume everyone knows you, please wear a name badge for the newcomers.

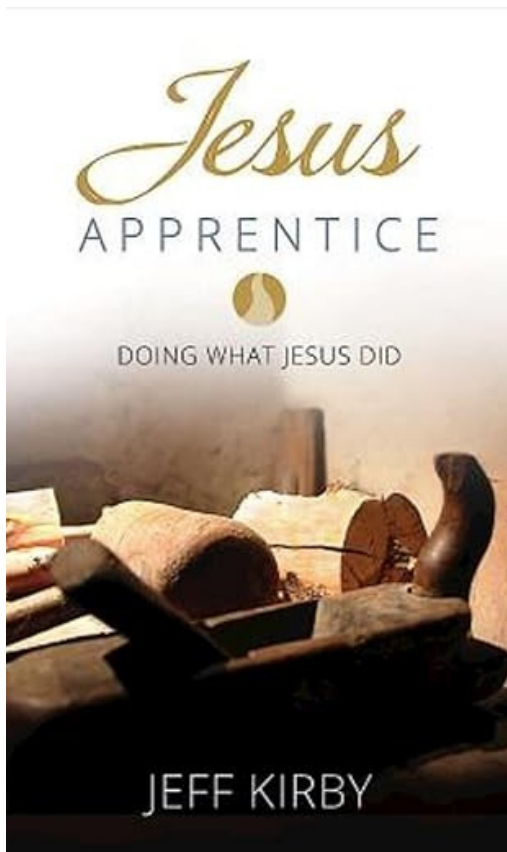
If you need a name badge, or just want a sticker badge, we can help with that, please contact me at 262-224-2442 or [victoriatriick@gmail.com](mailto:victoriatriick@gmail.com). Thank you so much for your cooperation in our effort to get everyone connected!

*We encourage you to continue inviting friends and neighbors to join us for worship and fellowship. Outdoor service or our cookout is a great way to invite people to a casual non-threatening gathering.*

Blessings,

*Victoria Triick*

Hospitality Ministry Team Leader



## SUMMER BOOK STUDY

**Jesus Apprentice**  
**Doing What Jesus Did**  
by Jeff Kirby

July 8, 15, 15, 22 and 29 - 6:00 to 7:15 PM

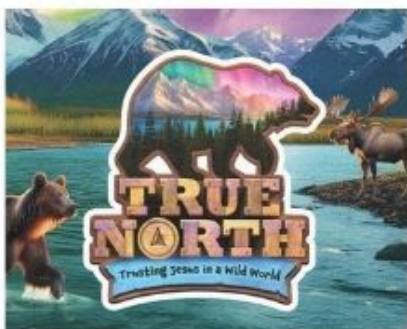
Call Karen Bidwell at 262-224-7701,  
[kmbid@yahoo.com](mailto:kmbid@yahoo.com), or  
Victoria Triick at 262-224-2442,  
[victoriatriick@gmail.com](mailto:victoriatriick@gmail.com) with any questions.

# Children and Family Ministries

Brianna Lee - Children and Family Ministries Director  
brianna.fumc@gmail.com  
(262)673-3290 - (262)709-6071

Summer is officially in full swing! What an exciting time for kids to enjoy all of the wonderful gifts of nature the lord has provided for us!

VBS is coming up quick and we are still in need of more participants and volunteers! Invite your friends, neighbors, grandkids, or any other youth you think would have an absolute blast with us this summer! FUMC Membership is NOT required to participate!



**JOIN US FOR TRUE NORTH VBS 2025**

**AUGUST 3RD-7TH ~ 4:30-7PM**

**REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!**

**Participants ~ 3yo-5th grade**

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/hj2vxwk>

**Youth/Adult Volunteers ~ 6th grade +**

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/bhm8qg4>

**Help us feed our volunteers and participants!**

**VBS Dinner Donations Sign Up**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CADA92EA1FDC34-56492155-true>



We all know how quickly summer seems to fly by and Sunday School will soon be starting up again at FUMC! Sunday School is open to all children 3 years old - 12<sup>th</sup> grade

Here is our Sunday School Registration for 2025/2026

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/azqht84/lp/c08b9466-fa47-461f-9374-96d5a6148b58>



**Thank you so much to this AWESOME crew that helped us weed and plant our FUMC youth pumpkin patch!**



# OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Christmas may be a long time from today, but it's never too early to think ahead. **Operation Christmas Child** is active all year long as they have put together shoe boxes filled with treasures for children around the world. Hartford has a group of volunteers that work tirelessly to fill these boxes and then have them shipped in time for Christmas joy and smiles. It is hoped that our Sunday School and Congregation will help by donating items for these holiday gift boxes.

Children in well over 100 countries will receive these gifts - many of them in areas suffering from war, poverty, disease and disaster. Knowing they are loved and not forgotten puts a smile on these kids' faces and joy in their hearts as they receive their very own gift with toys, clothes, school supplies and personal care items. **OCC** is a project of Samaritan's Purse with a history of doing goodness for over 30 years.

Here is the donation guideline - keep in mind that the boxes are 11x6x4:

- Lined paper notebooks or unlined paper
- Colored pencils, markers, pencil sharpeners
- Coloring books and crayons
- Clothes: sizes 3-14 - new or like new (*only new socks & underwear*)
- Stuffed animals and dolls
- Hot Wheels or other small cars
- Small games or other toys
- Soft toothbrushes



**NOTE:** please: no war related items, toothpaste, glass, food or liquids  
The Dollar Tree and Walmart seasonal sales are good places to shop. A box will be available at church or drop off in barrel at Maurice's (next to the Dollar Tree)

Please contact me with any questions and/or comments.

Blessings to you,  
*Barbara Klockow*





# *Forgiving the Unforgivable*

PRESENTATION WITH DR. BUCK BLODGETT



A radical and purposeful reaction to the murder of his daughter by a friend, Dr. Buck Blodgett begins his presentation with a 10-minute Sentencing Statement that shocked a community and launched a movement.

It continues with a powerful Q&A, a real-life, practical-application conversation designed to empower, inspire, and free us from the past to move forward in peace. What do you do when life punches you in the gut? We all experience trauma, many little ones, and some very big ones too. We can't always control what life sends our way, but how we react when bad things happen makes all the difference.

**Forgiveness 101: Why forgive? How to forgive. Who is forgiveness really for? What is it actually? What is it NOT?**

**MONDAY,  
JULY 7TH, 2025**

**6:00 P.M.**

Desserts and meet & greet

**6:30 P.M.**

Presentation

**FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

738 W Monroe Ave,  
Hartford, WI 53027