



FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH OF HARTFORD

September/October 2025

# Living By Faith



## *The Pastor's Corner*

Dear FUMC members,

It has now been two months since I joined FUMC. During this short time, I have already felt a deep sense of connection through our worship, conversations, and shared moments. Our church is not just a place to gather for Sunday services—it is a space where our lives and hearts are intertwined, where encouragement and prayers flow freely among us

Many people say that prayer and faith are difficult to prove because they are invisible. Yet, if we look at the world through the lens of quantum physics, we can see a helpful perspective. In quantum physics, even tiny particles that we cannot see are connected and can influence one another, even across a distance. Similarly, our small prayers, words of encouragement, and acts of love—though invisible—can still have a real impact on someone's life. When we pray for one another, those prayers act like unseen bridges, connecting hearts and souls in ways we may never fully see.

The Bible reminds us of this truth. In 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Paul encourages us: "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." Our prayers, kind words, and encouragement are not just empty gestures—they strengthen, comfort, and inspire courage. In God's hands, these invisible acts of love and faith create a real and lasting impact in our lives and in the lives of others.

To help us grow in this connectedness, I will be starting one-on-one meetings beginning in September. These meetings will be an opportunity to share life stories, exchange prayer requests, and experience deeper connection in Christ.

A sign-up sheet will be available in the office, and anyone who wishes to participate is welcome. I hope these conversations will allow us to understand one another more deeply and help our church community grow warmer and stronger.

When we pray for one another and offer words of encouragement, those small acts are multiplied—they travel further than we can see, giving new courage and hope to others. Even though these connections are invisible, they are real and powerful. In a community where we are truly connected, we can share in each other's joys and sorrows and grow together in Christ.

I look forward to walking with you in this journey, building a church where we encourage one another, pray for one another, and strengthen each other. May God's love guide us as we continue living lives connected in love, gratitude, and encouragement.

With love and gratitude,

*Pastor HyunMin*

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## WOMEN IN FAITH

### Upcoming Programs:

**September - No Meeting Scheduled**

**October 6th Program - FUMC Youth**

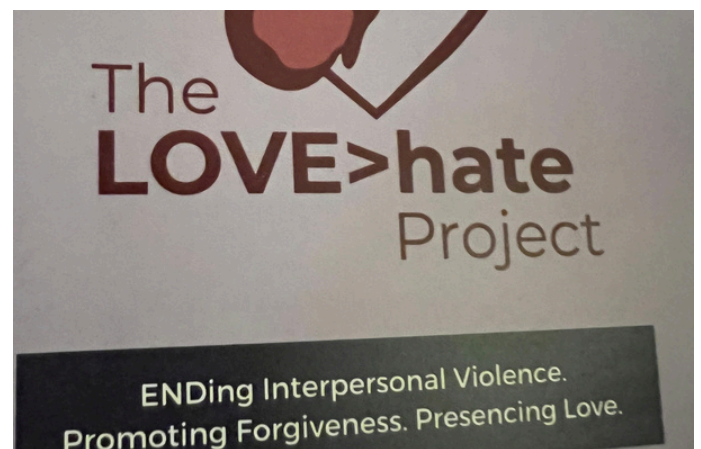
**Group History Then and Now: Presenters**

**Brittany Hahn, David Schlotthauer,**

**Bob Klockow and Friends.**

**Refreshments courtesy of Donna Carroll  
and Robin Pfothauer.**

**In July we welcomed over 65 guests at our Buck Blodgett Love >hate program where we learned about how and why Buck started the project, the impact on the Blodgett family and our community and the Project's mission since its beginning, now and going forward.**



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR A TIME OF FOOD, FUN AND MUSIC!

The team has planned a “**Salad Sunday**” lunch following the 9:00 Worship Service on **September 14th**. Food stations with a variety of salads will be hosted by the various music groups of our church. Special music will precede the meal. All donations received will go towards the future completion of the music corner in our sanctuary.

We will be manning the **Brat Shack at the Piggly Wiggly in Hartford on October 5th**. We need volunteers to help! Please let Connie Speiser know if you can help out. If this goes well with the “Salad Sunday” luncheon, we may consider having a salad luncheon in spring for the public. Although, we don’t think it will be quite as large as the salad luncheons the ladies of our church used to put on! They were fantastic!

We are looking at doing a rummage sale in April, 2026. More details to follow.

We can use more volunteers as we are a small group right now. We need to get some big ideas to raise big money! Please consider joining our team!

Thank you for your help and support,

*Connie Speiser*



# Children and Family Ministries

**Brianna Lee**

Children and Family Ministries Director

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I cannot believe that Summer is over and we are headed into another amazing year of Sunday School starting September 7th! This summer was filled with so many wonderful activities including our parking lot praise potlucks and services, ice cream socials, and True North VBS! I cannot even begin to explain how grateful I am for the amazing turn out we had for VBS this year! It truly was an incredibly fun time not only to plan, but also execute! I hope the children had as much fun as I did!

I'm also so thankful for all of the AWESOME volunteers we had that helped make VBS such a success! From the donations received from the congregation, the ladies preparing the nightly meals, leaders getting our crews from station to station, teaching the children about how Jesus is our True North, and so many other things behind the scenes of VBS, I truly could not have done it without all of you! I've already started planning for next year where we'll be visiting Rainforest Falls!



September 7th we will be having our Backpack Blessing during the 9AM service for all students and school staff!

Sunday School starts September 7th with a Breakfast Potluck for all children and their families!

Sunday School is open to all children 3 years old - 12th grade

Here is our Sunday School Registration for 2025/2026

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

MORE INFO TO FOLLOW ABOUT DATES AND TIMES FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL! PLEASE WATCH YOUR EMAILS ONCE YOUR CHILD/REN ARE REGISTERED!





**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

## 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

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A local friend of Rob Bush, Nick Hatton, hosts a monthly Men's Bible Study at the Jack Russell Memorial Library which Rob has been attending. There's a conflict at the library on Sept. 3 and Nick asked Rob if he could conduct the bible study at FUMC .

With the rest of the trustee team approval, Rob confirmed.

The bible study currently is attended by Rob and 4-6 guys he works out with each morning. With the bible study being hosted at FUMC next week, he'd like to extend the invitation to men of our congregation. All men are welcome to participate or even just listen in.

### **Men's Bible Study**

**Wednesday, September 3, 6-7pm at FUMC**

**Exploring Genesis chapters 27-30:**

**Jacob's Journeys**





## FUMC Mission Team's 3rd Quarter Focus: **KEEPING HEAD START KIDS WARM**

This quarter, the Mission Team is dedicating our efforts to the Head Start program in Washington County – a vital initiative giving children, many from low-income families, the chance to get a real “head start” before they enter regular school. Head Start is present in many nearby communities, including right here in Hartford.

When we asked the program's social worker about their most pressing needs, the answer came quickly: **winter clothing**. Most children ride the bus to their Head Start center, and too often they arrive without warm gear for Wisconsin's frigid months.

Here's how you can help:

- Check your closets for gently used winter items.
- Consider visiting Goodwill, St. Vincent de Paul, or another local shop to purchase something new or gently worn.

Most Needed Items (sizes 3, 4, 5, and 6):

- **Waterproof mittens** 🧤
- **Waterproof snow pants**
- **Boots**
- **Winter coats** 🧥
- **Sweatpants**
- **Socks** 🧦
- **Underwear (new)**



**We're collecting items starting now through September – and possibly beyond – so there's plenty of time to join in.**

Every coat, mitten, and pair of boots is a step toward keeping a child warm, safe, and ready to learn. Thank you for helping us show Christ's love in a practical way.

– *The Mission Team at FUMC*