

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FUMC Mission Statement
"Making Disciples of Christ"

KICK-OFF TO FALL

September 10, 2023 at 8:30am and 10:45am



- Wear your favorite team jersey!
- Stop in to see your Sunday School classroom!

Join us in fellowship hall between services.

ARE YOU READY?!?



DATES TO REMEMBER:

09.06: 6pm MESSY
CHURCH is back!
Fellowship Hall

09.10: 9:45am Charge
Conference to Vote on
MCCI Prescriptions for
FUMC

09.17: 9:45am Sunday
School Begins for all
children 3yrs - 12th Grade.
Registration Link is active
so please register [CLICK
HERE](#)

09.24: 9:45 Confirmation
orientation for anyone 8th
grade & up (see Pastor for
registration)

09.24: 5-7 pm Middle and
High School Youth Group
in Youth Room



First United Methodist Church
738 West Monroe Avenue
Hartford, WI 53027
262.673.3290



A Letter From Pastor Cheryl

It's September and it's our Kickoff to Fall and all that comes with it here at FUMC! If you know me at all, you know I love sports (watching them, just to clarify). At our house on any given day, you might see on our television the Packers, the Brewers, the Bucks, the Badgers, any other college football or basketball, golf, and the list goes on. My love for all things sports was passed down from my mother, who could be seen ironing when the Packers played (she said it was good luck?). I grew up with family and friends gathering in our home around a sporting event and sharing food and fellowship and fun. This year for our annual "Back to Sunday School and Fall Programming" we're doing a sports themed Sunday on September 10th and we will gather for food, fellowship, and fun (you can even wear your favorite sports jersey)! It's our official "Kickoff to Fall"! You can read more about all that is happening that day in other places in this newsletter.

That same Sunday is our Church Conference for the purpose of deciding whether or not we will accept the MCCI report/prescriptions as presented to us on July 30th. I know there may still be some questions. Jesus, in his ministry, asked a lot of questions. In fact, in the New Testament there are 307 questions Jesus asked, and maybe 8 he answered. The most important, in my opinion is in Mark 8:34-38, which is

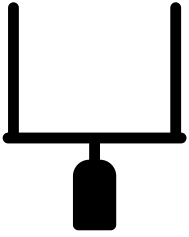
basically "What do you live for?" It's a question we've been wrestling with as a community of faith as well during the past year or so of our MCCI process. What is God calling us, as a community (or a team to follow the sports metaphor) to be about? What ministries are we called to do? What gifts do we have in our midst? Are we living for Jesus, or for our own comfort? Lots of questions. But we wrestle with them together. Accepting the MCCI report won't answer all the questions, but it will give us a plan to keep working on how we share the Kingdom of God in our midst and in Hartford.

The question Jesus asks in Mark 8:34-38 is a rhetorical one- because the answer is given, it is the cross that we live for. This is the ultimate pursuit, it is greater than any trophy, ribbon, award, or accolade. It is what our lives should and must be about if we confess that we are Christian. But living a life as a follower of Jesus is not an easy thing to do and so I encourage you to join us this Fall in worship - and we have several options for that including online worship, Messy Church and two services on Sunday mornings. We kick this all off on Sunday, September 10th. So come and worship, have some fun, learn about your faith and how we can walk this journey of discipleship together- we're all on Jesus' team, after all.

See you in church,

Pastor Cheryl





Accountable Leadership Board Meeting Summary
July 10, 2023

The meeting was called to order with a prayer.



Spiritual Learning

- Pastor Cheryl shared a reading from Isaiah 43: 16-21.
- We spent some time reflecting on what this reading was saying to us, especially in regards to the MCCI Express Day.
- MCCI Express Day will be Thursday, July 27; there is no Wednesday worship that week.
- Instead of a full potluck, we will have a campfire service with S'mores afterwards on Wed. August 23.

Finance Team Updates

- Our May receipts are up and catching up with payables; this is in line with previous years' giving.
- Connie Speiser and Carol Staus are working hard to get the new Aplos system up and running.

Technology Team Updates

- The phone system is failing on a regular basis and a solution is our highest priority.
- We are adding another security camera to the sanctuary to cover the outside entrance next to the organ..
- The nonfunctional confidence monitor in the sanctuary is being replaced at no cost; this is covered by the warranty.

Trustees Updates

- We need to clean-up the dead shrubs on north end of building.
- We are looking into a lighting upgrade for the sanctuary.

Requested Discussion Topic: Displaying the American flag in Church

- The ALB reviewed a request for the church to display both the American flag and the Christian flag. Following discussion and a review of the history of flag displays in our sanctuary, the consensus was that we would not add the flags to the sanctuary. A letter will be sent by Kathy Hack explaining our decision.

Ministry Team Updates

- MCCI/ROADMAP – MCCI Express Day starts at 9 AM. Starting at 5:15PM, the congregation is invited for dinner followed by a short worship service and an open session led by the Conference's MCCI team.
- Mission – \$485 was received from Fair Trade sale.
- Faith Groups – Dana Osanski is leading a class viewing and discussing the 2nd season of "The Chosen."

The meeting closed with a prayer.

Next Meeting: August 21, 2023, at 6:30 PM

Members of the congregation are welcome to attend the ALB meetings at any time to observe the open portions of the meeting. If you have an issue that you would like discussed at the meeting or you have any concerns, please contact Kathy Hack or Pastor Cheryl.

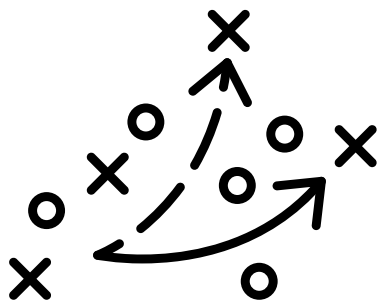
News From Finance

	2023		2022		2023 Budget
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	
July	\$24,658	\$24,311	\$19,051	\$25,069	\$28,420
YTD	\$178,938	\$191,586	\$162,677	\$179,662	\$198,942

The finance Team announced earlier this year that the church would purchase accounting software to replace the Excel spreadsheets we've used to produce financial reports. We're pleased to report the software, called Aplos, is up and running. July financial reports were produced in Aplos.

Connie Speiser and Carol Staus spend many hours over the last few months setting up the accounts and entering data. The Finance Team is confident that Aplos will make the church's office operation and financial reporting more efficient. Thank you to Connie and Carol for their work on this project.

Do you have a plan for your assets after your death? Do you have a will? Is it up to date? Many of you have given faithfully to the church throughout your life. Would you like to consider a gift that gives beyond your life? Come explore the possibilities at the Planned Giving Seminar on October 1st. Rev. Jason Mahnke of the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation will lead the seminar. It will begin about 9:40. We plan to set up at the west end of the Fellowship Hall. Grab a cup of coffee and join us.





Youth News Update from Brittany Hahn

Well, hello there! I can't believe my first year as Youth Ministry Coordinator for the 6-12th grade students has come and gone and now we are looking at starting our second year together – boy, did I miss those kids over the summer!

We will look forward to starting back with a combined Sunday School class this Fall for Middle and High School youth. We will be holding Middle and High School Sunday School down in our Youth Room, after first service, where we will have breakfast and conversation time, large and small group discussions, games and more. If you are interested in becoming an adult volunteer to assist in working with our youth during Sunday School, please reach out to me via email, text, call or in person to learn more.

We will be holding a combined Middle and High School Youth Group once a month on Sunday evening from 6-8 pm. We will be focusing on building strong relationships with one another, our church and community through team building activities and service projects. If you are interested in becoming an adult volunteer to assist in working with our youth during Youth Group, please reach out to me via email, text, call or in person to learn more.

Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendar:

Sunday, Sept. 10: "Sunday School Open House" from 9:45 – 10:45 am in the Youth Room
Sunday, Sept. 17: First Day of Middle/High School Sunday School from 9:45 – 10:45 am in Youth Room,
Sunday, Sept. 24: First Middle and High School Youth Group from 5-7 pm in Youth Room *Reminder that all Youth, grades 6-12th , must register to participate in Sunday School. If you have not registered yet, please visit the link [HERE](#) to sign up, otherwise you can stop in the church office to complete a registration form.

Peace and Joy,
Brittany
Youth Ministry Coordinator (6-12 Grade)
262-707-7944
Brittany.fumc@gmail.com





NEWS from Emilee Mooney

Oh my goodness! How are we here? September? That means there are only 3 months left of 2023! Are you ready for this?

As I begin my 6th year as an employee at FUMC, I am still just as grateful to be here, as I was on my first day! What a complete blessing to get to know so many of you & worship Jesus together with your children. Thank you for allowing me that joy!

It's time to get all the dates on your calendar so you don't miss anything! A quick rundown of dates that you will want on your calendar:

09.06: MESSY CHURCH at 6pm in Fellowship Hall (please see page 11 if you are unsure what Messy Church is & then plan to join us in the fun!)

09.10: KICK-OFF TO FALL Wear your favorite team jersey & Stop in to see your Sunday School Classrooms, Vote on MCCI Prescriptions

09.17: FIRST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:40-10:40 (if you haven't registered, please do so by clicking [HERE](#)).

09.24: If you are interested in being confirmed, please see Pastor Cheryl with questions and plan on attending the first Confirmation Class in the west wing of the building. This will be held between services and is open to anyone aged 8th grade and up.

As always, I am in need of Sunday School volunteer helpers. If you don't want to teach every Sunday, we can develop a rotating schedule. If we don't have volunteers, we can't have Sunday School! Feel free to stop in & chat. Thank you for considering.

Peace & Joy, Emilee Mooney

HOW TO REACH US

Pastor
Rev. Cheryl Weaver
Mon., Tues., Wed. morning office hours
pastorcweaver@yahoo.com

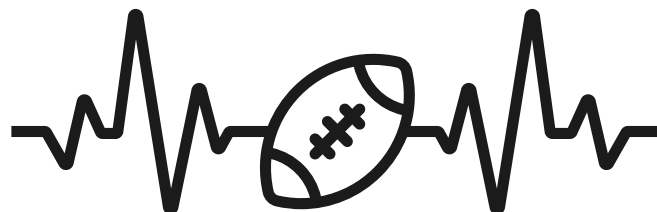
Director of Children & Family Ministries and
Communications Coordinator: Emilee Mooney
Emilee.fumc@gmail.com

Youth Coordinator
Brittany Hahn
brittany.fumc@gmail.com

Office Managers
Robin Pfothenauer & Connie Speiser
office@fumchartford.com
Office Hours: M-TH 8:30-3:30

Custodian
Josh Thompson

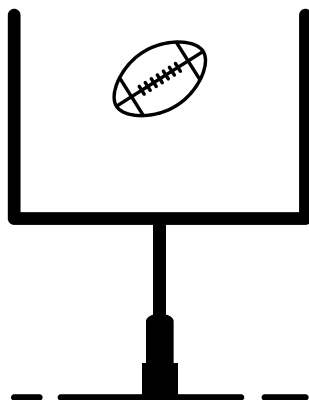
District Superintendent
Rev. Ebenezer Insor



SEPTEMBER Celebrations



Danielle Pezzino 09/03
Addyson Navarre 09/03
Leslie Hogan 09/04
Jeff Martin 09/04
Helen Robbe 09/05
Donna Carroll 09/05
Veronica Tetrick 09/06
Lydia Bush 09/06
Timothy Kramoris 09/07
Lucas Thurmer 09/07
Robert Klockow 09/08
Larry Redeker 09/10
Kathy Lamb 09/10
Linda Thompson 09/11
Alexander Richards 09/12
Linda Moscicki 09/13
Lorena Olson 09/13
Rypley Garza 09/14
Ruth Redeker 09/14
Caleb Alsum 09/14
Randy DuPont 09/14
Loni Jaeger 09/15
Carver Schlotthauer 09/15
Mark Weaver 09/16
Ashton Hoxworth 09/16
Joseph Navarre 09/16
Ruth Knoll 09/17



Anniversary

Margaret Wilber 09/18
Lee Morris 09/19
Raymond Krajewski 09/19
Susan Luthi 09/20
Brian Hass 09/20
Barbara Oosterhuis 09/22
Loreena Rufener 09/24
Terry Brown 09/26
Paul Bissett 09/26
Jan Andresek 09/26
Penelope Held 09/26
Dan Mooney 09/26
Collin Johrendt 09/27
Sue Schulz 09/27
Alan Jordan 09/29
Elizabeth Yustus 09/30

John & Linda Moscicki 09/30
Brian & Amie Sutheimer 09/19
George & Susan Roemer 09/18
Anthony & Camille Secola 09/17
Thomas & Fay Paine 09/16
Don & Twyla Gartzke 09/12
Richard & Jeanne Purman 09/11
Robert & Marsha Gabel 09/09
Dennis & Donna Carroll 09/08
Larry & Ruth Redeker 09/06
John & Pam Lindner 09/05

Meet Your ALB Members

We are in the ninth month of the year, so it's time to meet another member of the Accountable Leadership Board. This month we are featuring...Glenn Lepien.

Hello! I have lived my entire life here in the Hartford area. I was raised on a dairy farm & worked at a cheese factory. I plan to finish my working career as a Tech Welder for Maysteel. I have 3 grown children and one grandson.

I have been a member of this church my whole life. I've almost completed the circle from youth, leader and whatever the next step is for me here. I have been taking care of the outdoor space of the church for about 20 years; first with my son, and now with my grandson.

I enjoy the hustle and bustle of the church activities, seeing the youth have fun, and learn about Jesus. I also enjoy the quiet times when I'm at church by myself; I can feel the peace and warmth of the church.

In my free time, I enjoy coaching girls softball to teach and instruct on how to play the game, but also about life. It's wonderful to teach respect, honor and help navigate life and all that comes with it.

FUMC ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP BOARD

Kathy Hack Chair

Amanda Lichtensteiger Recording Secretary

Dana Osmanski Lay Leader

Steve Alsum Lay Member to AC

John Moscicki SPRC Chair

Brad Hahn SPRC Rep.

Glenn Lepien Trustee Chair

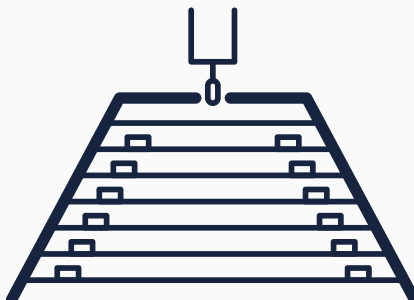
Rob Bush Trustee Rep.

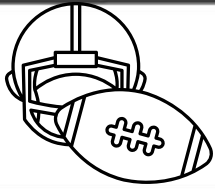
Carol Staus Finance Representative

Chris Weed At Large

David Schlotthauer At Large

Dave Hoxworth At Large





September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9am Worship	4	5 9:30 TOPS	6 6pm Messy Church 7pm Chancel Choir	7 4pm Host Soccer Team	8	9
10 8:30 /10:45 Worship 9:45 MCCI Vote 10 Men's Choir	11	12 9:30 TOPS 6:30 Bell Choir	13 7pm Chancel Choir	14	15	16
17 8:30 /10:45 Worship Noisy Can 9:45 Sun School 10 Men's Choir	18	19 9:30 TOPS 10:30 Prayer Shawl 6:30 Bell Choir	20 7pm Chancel Choir	21	22	23
24 8:30 /10:45 Worship 9:45 Confirmation 5-7pm Youth Group	25	26 9:30 TOPS 6:30 Bell Choir	27 7pm Chancel Choir	28	29	30 11:30 Hartford Comm Lunch & Clothes Closet

NEWS FROM MISSION TEAM

Thank you to all who donated and supported our back to school mission! At the time of this newsletter we will be packing the donations up to deliver in the near future. The Mission team will be meeting in Sept to discuss and organize our Christmas efforts as well as talk about Mission ideas that you have brought forward for 2024. Don't forget to save the date for April 20th, 2024 -our 4th Annual Mealpack event! We are blessed to have the support and leadership of this church to allow us to support our community in Hartford.

God bless
The Missions Team



MCCI UPDATE

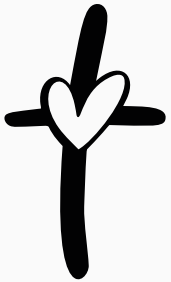
Missional Consultative Church Initiative (MCCI)

Reminder to all members to attend one of our two remaining town halls to discuss your thoughts and questions about the three prescriptions associated with MCCI. We will hold a church conference on Sunday, Sept 10 at 10 am to vote on the prescriptions. We will be voting on all three prescriptions as a package, not individually. Additionally, 75% of the vote must be in favor of the prescriptions. Please try your best to attend the town halls to learn more about the prescriptions and how we might apply them to our church. Remember, the prescriptions are based on feedback we provided on where we wanted our church to go in the future. Your attendance for the vote on Sept 10 is important – please make it a priority to attend the church conference!



What is Messy Church?? The tag line for the global Messy Church movement is “Church, but not as you know it”. If you have attended church for a long time, Messy Church may not look like church to you. At Messy Church, all ages meet together to learn about Christ through games, crafts and activities, music, and storytelling from the Bible. A foundational ingredient of Messy Church is to gather around a table for a snack or meal and build relationships with each other, God, and the world.

MESSY CHURCH VALUES:



Christ-centered

Messy Church is a church, not a craft club that helps people to encounter and enter into a transforming relationship with Jesus. Messy Church believes with the historic churches, in one God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



All Ages

Messy Church is for adults and children to enjoy together. Every element should be relevant and accessible to all ages.



Creativity

Messy Church uses hands-on activities to explore Bible stories, to reflect a God of creativity and to give people a chance to play together.

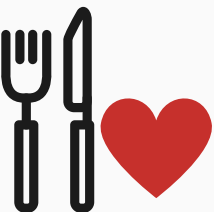
Celebration

Messy Church reflects a God of joy who wants all of God’s people to have life in all its fullness.



Hospitality

Messy Church reflects a God of unconditional love and is a church for people outside of a traditional church, providing an oasis of welcome and a safe place in which to thrive. Messy Church is about hospitality, expressed most evidently by eating together- whether it’s a plate of sandwiches to share, a full course meal or pizza.



Held every **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of the month at 6pm in Fellowship Hall.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



First United
Methodist Church

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.



738 West Monroe Ave.
Hartford, WI 53027

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First United Methodist Church SEPTEMBER 2023 Newsletter

