



## Ponderings from the Pastor's Pen

*"Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires." –Psalm 37:4*

"Delight." What a wonderfully fitting word for this season! Blue skies, brilliantly-hued leaves, abundant harvests in our fields and gardens, brisk mornings followed by sunny afternoons, plus so many seasonal specialties that are a treat to the eye and to the stomach...apples, pumpkins, cider, and more. The beauty of nature is stunning in any season, but it feels like in autumn God pulls out *all* the stops to display creation in its most magnificent splendor.

I looked out my kitchen window early one morning and discovered a golden carpet of yellow leaves had fallen overnight on the lawn. *Delight!*

I went to my garden with my arms full of empty baskets to gather my produce in and came back with every basket overflowing and more to pile into the trunk of my car besides. My freezers are full and my canning shelves are lined with neat rows of jars for the winter, and I have had enough extra to deliver bushels of produce to the Stepping Stones food pantry too. *What a delight!*

I left the church last Sunday and discovered a gorgeous fall display of mums and grasses and pumpkins and squashes just outside the entrance, assembled by Linda Bark and Jane Butsic. What a powerful visual reminder of the abundance and beauty of this season! *Delight!*

I glanced into the church nursery and noticed an inspiring message had been artfully written by Pa Chie, one of our new child care staff members to say, "Be the reason someone smiles today". I grinned with *delight* as I thought of the time and skill she invested to create that message!

I often marvel at the way God orchestrates so many wonderful ministries in our church that bring people together in fellowship and faith—dartball, Joyful

Noise Choir, support groups for moms and for families with neurodivergent children, outreach events, special guest speakers, book studies, workshops on overcoming division in our world, confirmation classes, youth group activities, and so much more! What a *delight* to serve among so many dedicated, wonderful people!

I know there are also many disturbing realities in our world, but I am heartened when I see people coming together to create a sense of community and flourishing for all people. I take delight in witnessing action that aligns with the message and example of Jesus. *Delight* is what fuels me to keep going even on the days it feels like evil is winning. Delighting in the goodness of God reminds me that goodness is stronger than evil and though the arc of the moral universe is long, it bends toward justice. I trust that as we delight in God, God will bring about a future that fulfills our hearts' desires in ways that exceed our wildest imagination!

Dear friends in Christ, let's take in all the beauty and goodness of this season of autumn. Let's seek out and delight in every blessing that we find. And as we do, let's keep showing up, day by day, to receive and to share the extraordinary love of God in all that we do and say. See you soon!

With love and delight,  
Pastor Wendy



Autumn  
Blessings

## Wanted: Church Choir Director

For four months now, we have had a job opening listed for a new choir director in all our usual places but we have still had no qualified candidates respond. In addition to all the usual local job posting sites, we have reached out to the Music Department at UW-Eau Claire where they were kind enough to list the job posting in their student newsletter. We have reached out to every well-connected musician in Menomonie that we know. We have posted it on both of the hiring pages for Menomonie on Facebook. We have paid to "boost" the job opening so more people would see it and are in the process of posting a classified ad in the Colfax Messenger. We would appreciate your help too. Would you pray along with us for the right candidate to apply? And if you know anyone who can read a choral score and direct a choir, would you make sure they know about this opening? Copies of the full job description are available at church or you can direct interested applicants to:

[https://www.menomonieumc.org/files/ugd/4fac20\\_e22542d67eca43f5b14aaa3d0b225296.pdf](https://www.menomonieumc.org/files/ugd/4fac20_e22542d67eca43f5b14aaa3d0b225296.pdf) for more information.

## Church Values Survey

Thank you to those who have already responded to our church values survey in last month's newsletter or on the copies in the fellowship hall. We received just a handful of responses so far, and we'd love to hear from even more of you. Some of you pointed out that the survey seemed a little overwhelming and too open-ended, so this month we have a more streamlined version of the survey available here: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf\\_6dOP9o1Xylwdlcw-9cv\\_D1iS-72zyhAiYcStnzLMRt03NQ/viewform?usp=dialog](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf_6dOP9o1Xylwdlcw-9cv_D1iS-72zyhAiYcStnzLMRt03NQ/viewform?usp=dialog) and we'll print a few copies for those who prefer to respond on paper.

## Join Us at Feed My Starving Children on October 18

On Saturday, October 18 our whole circuit is participating in a shift of packaging shelf-stable nourishing meals to be shared with hungry people throughout the world. Join United Methodists from all the surrounding communities from 12:00-1:45 pm at Feed My Starving Children, located at 990 Lone Oak Rd, Suite 136 in Eagan, MN. For those who would like to carpool or caravan over, we will leave from the church parking lot by 10:30 on that day. Participants from age 5 to 105 are welcome! We have reserved 50 spaces for our group so please sign up here as soon as possible: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScDLtIm40OGL-GI0LwTKgT8M\\_ZZo6AHIMnDaJwgn0oyrFA\\_Tg/viewform?usp=header](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScDLtIm40OGL-GI0LwTKgT8M_ZZo6AHIMnDaJwgn0oyrFA_Tg/viewform?usp=header) so we can request more or less spaces if needed.

For those who are able to stick around for a little more fun with other United Methodists in our circuit on the way home, we will be stopping at Whistling Well Farm (8973 St Croix Trail S. Hastings, MN). Parking and admission are free, and there is a kids' climbing area, fun goats to watch, chickens to feed, and lots of beautiful mums, apples, and pumpkins to enjoy. It should be a great place to gather for a group photo too!

## Greetings for October

I wanted to review the roles of a Parish Nurse



**Grief Care:** Offering support and guidance to individuals and families experiencing loss, illness, or life transitions. This includes facilitating grief support groups, one-on-one counseling, and connecting members with appropriate resources.

**Health Education and Promoter:** Serving as a health educator, addressing physical, emotional, and mental health needs in a faith-centered manner. This includes organizing workshops and seminars on topics such as managing chronic illnesses, mental health, wellness practices, nutrition, and preventative care.

**Personal Health Counseling:** Providing confidential one-on-one health counseling, helping members navigate their personal health concerns and understand their medical conditions, treatments, and options from a holistic perspective.

**Faith and Health Relationship:** Promoting the understanding that health is a gift from God, and caring for one's body is an act of stewardship. The Parish Nurse will emphasize the integration of prayer, scripture, and faith in health-related decisions and overall well-being.

As the Parish Nurse, I recognize the interconnection of a person's mind, body and spirit. This means there is emphasis on the whole person, physical, emotional, and spiritual needs leading to overall healing and well-being.

I will continue to be at church on Friday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 am, please drop by to visit !

This month, on October 12th, we are offering a Sunday morning class after service, called "On Love" by Paul Chilcote and Janet Chilcote this class will also be offered on Tuesday at noon if enough interested) Paul Chilcote states "In a world marked by division and hostility, how do we live with genuine love?" Paul and Janet offer a practical path forward through twenty essential practices anyone can begin today.

On Thursday, October 23rd, at 4:30 pm -7:30pm, we will offer family and friends CPR, (snacks and beverages provided during this time) - please sign up in office or with Sarah Zarbock (Information for this) - The AHA's Family & Friends CPR Course teaches the lifesaving skills of adult Hands-Only CPR, adult CPR with breaths, child CPR, adult and child AED use, infant CPR, and choking relief for adults, children, and infants.; no certificate for this training

Blessings, Sarah Zarbock,  
Parish Nurse

# OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Confirmation Class 6:30-8	2	3 Sarah Z. 9:30-11 at church	4
5 Blood Pressure Checks "It Takes a Village" group outing	6 Blood Drive 12-6 Monday Meal 5-6 pm Mom's Group 6-7 pm	7 Joyful Noise 6-7	8 Youth Group 6:30-8	9	10 Sarah Z. 9:30-11 at church	11
12 Book Study "On Love" begins Fireside 10 am	13 Monday Meal 5-6 pm	14 Joyful Noise 6-7	15 Confirmation Class 6:30-8	16 Prayer Shawl 4-6 pm	17 Sarah Z. 9:30-11 at church	18
19 Laity Sunday Book Study "On Love" 10 am Trunk or Treat	20 Monday Meal 5-6 pm	21 Joyful Noise CONCERT 6-7:30 pm	22 Youth Group 6:30-8	23 CPR/AED Training 4:30-7:30	24 Sa rah Z. 9:30-11 at church	25
26 Book Study "On Love" 10 am All Saints Day	27 Monday Meal 5-6 pm	28	29 Youth Group Wed. Table	30 Grief Group 6-7:30	31 Sarah Z. 9:30-11 at church	

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*It Takes a Village*

**Sunday, October 5 • 1:00-4:00**  
Field Trip to Apple Orchard/Pumpkin Patch

**Monday, November 10 • Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm**

**Monday, November 30 • Respite Care**  
12:00-3:00pm Sign up by Nov. 16

**Monday, December 22 • 6:00-8:00 pm**  
Celebration Night

Ornament making, cookie exchange, dinner and much more!

Contact Amanda Viana at: [family\\_outreach@menomonieumc.org](mailto:family_outreach@menomonieumc.org)

Support Group for Neurodivergent Caregivers and Individuals. Including devotionals, support, respite, activities and guest speakers. Sharing ideas and support for one another. Snack and childcare provided.



**American Red Cross**  
*Together, we can save a life*

**Blood Drive**

**Monday, October 6**  
12:00-6:00 pm

**Menomonie United Methodist Church**  
2703 Bongey Drive

To donate go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org),  
enter 54751 or call 1-800-733-2767

**Rapid Pass is available.**

**Many time slots available!**

**Monday, October 6**



Find us at:

[www.menomonieumc.org](http://www.menomonieumc.org)







Thank you to everyone who donated,  
volunteered and helped make  
Touch-A-Truck a great event!  
And special thanks for those who brought  
in their "wheels" to share with  
the community!



## Braver Angels

Leading the nation's largest cross-partisan, volunteer-led movement  
to bridge the partisan divide and strengthen our democratic republic.

UCC will take part in three Braver Angels workshops starting in  
September. Registration is now open.

Workshops are free but registration is required.

Let us know if childcare is needed on the registration form.

### Workshop 3:

### Skills for Disagreeing Better

Saturday, October 4, 2025 | 10 to 11:30 a.m.

First Congregational

United Church of Christ

420 Wilson Avenue, Menomonee WI 54751

For more information and to register

<https://www.menomoneiucc.org/braver-angels-overview>





## October 2025 Stewardship Newsletter

### Faith Over Fear

"God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and self-discipline." — 2 Timothy 1:7

Fear is not always loud. Sometimes it whispers. It whispers "What if it's not enough?" "What if we don't meet the goal?" "What if people don't step up?" And for individuals: "What if I give and regret it?" "What if I need this later?" These are natural questions. In fact, they're part of being human. But if fear is the only voice we listen to, we'll always play it safe - and the mission God gives us will always feel slightly out of reach. Stewardship - real, spiritual stewardship - is not about coaxing money from people. It's about forming people in faith. It's about inviting one another to live boldly in response to God's generosity. Faith says, "God has provided before. God will provide again." Faith says, "This gift matters. It's not the size - it's the trust behind it." Faith says, "We are called to be faithful, not fearful." If your church is entering a stewardship season or making financial plans for next year, listen to the questions - but don't let fear lead. What God has planned for your church isn't rooted in fear, but in power, love, and self-discipline.



Dear God, bless our  
month with good health,  
renewed strength, inner  
peace, serenity, joy, love,  
hugs and laughter.



### Items for Betty

Betty Hazen is still making cards and is looking for the following supplies: embroidery thread, lace, rick-rack, scrapbook paper. Any color!

Please leave at the church with Betty's name on it and Anita Wiese will be sure she gets it. Thank you!

REJOICE  
in the lord

Free Community event  
for all ages

## Trunk or Treat : Fall Festival

October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Menomonie United Methodist church  
2703 Bongey Dr.  
Menomonie, WI 54751

Spooky Trail  
Carnival Games  
Guessing games

1:00 pm -  
3:00 pm

**FREE WILL OFFERING HOT DOG PLATE**

Free  
All ages encouraged to join

**Messy Church**

First one  
November 9th, 2025

Messy Church is church ...but not as you know it!  
Every Month is a new theme,  
join us the months that work for you!

2nd Sunday  
of the month  
10:30 am -  
12:00 pm

- Light meal
- Mini Church Service
- Crafts/activities
- Games

October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Menomonie United Methodist church  
2703 Bongey Dr.  
Menomonie, WI 54751



# Grief Group Gathering

Grief Group provides encouragement, support and information for navigating grief

**Thursday, October 30**

**6:00 pm**

**Fireside Room**

Registration by email. No cost.  
Contact Sarah Zarbock at [zarbocks@gmail.com](mailto:zarbocks@gmail.com)

**Open to Everyone**



2703 Bongey Dr.,  
Menomonic, WI  
715-235-0654

## Sunday Morning Book Study "On Love"

20 Lessons  
for the World

We Seek

**Sunday, October 12  
10:00 AM**

**Fireside Room  
6 week study**

**Everyone Welcome!**

For more information contact Sarah Zarbock  
at [zarbocks@gmail.com](mailto:zarbocks@gmail.com)



2703 Bongey Dr.,  
Menomonic, WI  
715-235-0654

Make  
Today  
Amazing



American Heart Association  
Healthy for Good™

## Free Blood Pressure Screening

**First Sunday  
of the month after  
Worship Service**

## MONTHLY EVENTS

**Blood Pressure Checks**  
First Sunday of every  
month

**Prayer Shawl Gathering**  
3rd Thursday of the month

**Mom's Grup**  
3rd Monday of the month  
6-7 pm



## Northern Spirit Radio Celebrating 20 Years

With the Amazing,  
Profound, and Prolific:

**John McCutcheon**

With opening music by:

**Location:** Fr. Tom Krieg, Yata,  
St. James the Greater & Bryce Black  
Catholic Church 2502  
11th street Eau Claire, WI

**Time:**  
Sunday, October 5th at 6:30pm  
doors open at 5:30pm

**Tickets:**

\$30 in advance

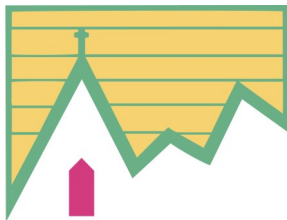
\$35 at the door

\$15 streaming online

A portion of proceeds will benefit JONAH







## Church FINANCES

### Financial Footnotes

Fall is upon us and we have been blessed with some beautiful fall days. Take time to get out and enjoy the weather and the beauty that surrounds us. We have several activities planned for the upcoming month so check it out to see what might interest YOU.

Projects that we are currently working on are replacing the lighting in the education wing. Several of those fixtures have malfunctioned and will be replaced over the next couple of months. We had several trees professionally trimmed up in the church yard which were causing concern for roof damage. A small but mighty group of church volunteers showed up to clean up the limbs and branches. You may have noticed the improvements made in the church lobby by the "Guest Ready Committee". Pictures of our staff have been hung, slat was installed for information pertaining to church activities and our new steel logo was hung. It certainly has freshened up our look. We would not be able to do these projects without your support financially and giving of your time. I am thankful for the contributions that we have received from all of you. Our general giving is down approximately seven percent compared to last year at this time, but I continue to take ten percent of that giving each week to pay for our apportionments. I am pleased to say that we are up to date with that obligation.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to give a call or drop me an email at [finance@menomonieumc.org](mailto:finance@menomonieumc.org).

Blessings  
Lynn Klatt

## Community Meals

**Free Meals in Menomonie**  
Monday, Tues., Wed. and Thurs.

**Monday's Meal 5-6 pm**  
Menomonie United Methodist Church,  
2703 Bongey Dr. Drive Thru To Go

**Tuesday's Table 5-6 pm**  
St. Joseph's Church, 10th St. & Wilson Ave.  
(lower level) In Person Dining

**Wednesday's Table 5-6 pm**  
Christ Lutheran Church, 1306 Wilcox St.  
In Person Dining & To Go

**Thursday's Table 5-6 pm**  
First Congregational United Church of Christ,  
420 Wilson Ave. To Go



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

**Third Thursday of the month**  
**4:00-6:00 pm**



## CPR/AED Training

3 hour program to certify use of AED/CPR

**Thursday, October 23 • 4:30-7:30 pm**

\$10 free will donation

Please register by October 20, contact Sarah Zarbock  
at [zarbocks@gmail.com](mailto:zarbocks@gmail.com) or 715-308-1698



Menomonie  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2703 Bongey Dr.,  
Menomonie, WI  
715-235-0654



Fall 2025

## JOYFUL NOISE CHOIR SCHEDULE

**\*\*All practices/Concerts will be held at the Methodist Church in Menomonie unless otherwise noted \*\***

October 7<sup>th</sup> - 6pm-7pm  
October 14<sup>th</sup> - 6pm-7pm  
**\*\*\*CONCERT\*\*\***  
October 21<sup>st</sup> - 6pm-7:30pm

If you cannot make any of the dates above that is ok! We still want to see you and hear your voice whenever you can join us

Jessie Ross 715-220-9674

# United Messenger

October 2025

**Pastor:** Wendy Slaback  
**Phone:** 715-235-0654  
**Email:** [pastor@menomonieumc.org](mailto:pastor@menomonieumc.org)  
**www.menomonieumc.org**



## Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

## Service Schedule

**9:00 a.m.** Sunday Worship Service followed by a fellowship hour

**10:30 a.m.** Sunday Study

