

# The Friendly Communicator

## September 2023

### *From the Pastor's Desk...*

What is prayer? I am sure we all have various responses. A very basic definition of prayer is simply communicating with God in our own way that is personal, private, and meaningful to us. Depending on our specific needs and circumstances, it can be a solemn request for help, support, comfort, encouragement, etc. Scriptures, hymns, and songs teach us that we can draw near to God in prayer; we can ask, request, and petition God; and we can praise and thank God just for being God of the universe! Most important of all, we can approach God boldly and confidently and know that God hears and that God answers because we have the ear and attention of God. God listens to us.

The disciples of Jesus recognized that they needed a connection with God, so they asked Jesus, "Lord. Teach us to pray," Luke 11:1. Jesus knew that, as believers and followers, we would need a personal connection with God. Therefore, Jesus taught us about prayer and how to pray. Matthew 6:5-13. There are a myriad of ways, styles, and subjects we can pray about. I am preparing a sermon series on prayer for the month of September to enhance and develop our individual prayer lives with God and for each other. Some of the topics we will consider are the following:

- The Lord's Prayer
- Journaling
- Two-way conversations
- Warriors and intercessors
- Praise and Thanksgiving

Here are scriptures on prayer for your preparation and meditation.

Jeremiah 33:3                  Psalm 99:1

Deuteronomy 4:7              Luke 22:40

Keep praying for each other and for the world as we all turn back to God!

*Pastor Gwen*

**Office Hours: Tuesday–Thursday | 9:30 a.m.–1:30p.m.**

**Please call ahead to confirm a time.**

I am always available for pastoral care, emergencies, and home visits. Please contact me at the church office, or my cell phone number to schedule a day and time. If I'm unavailable, Rev. Dr. John Jones IV is available for emergency contact.

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### September Birthdays

7	Stanley Holl
8	Bill Schuttenhelm
9	Craig Holl
13	Charlotte Jaeck
14	John House
19	Kathy Vichich
19	Brittany Radakovich
24	Lynn Stoecker
25	Ramon Hernandez
25	Owen Thayer
28	Haley Daly
30	John Wothe

### September Anniversaries

<b>23</b>	Mike and Pat Shawgo	<b>45 years</b>
<b>28</b>	Brian & Dianna Brophey	<b>27 years</b>

**If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please let the office know, and we'll add it to our records.**

The third Sunday collection for September 17th for Milwaukee Christian Center is **peanut butter and jelly and toilet paper.**

## **ABC-WI 179th Annual Gathering**

**October 13-15, 2023  
Green Lake Conference Center**

**Registration Deadline is Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.**

To register and find out more, visit:  
**<https://www.abcofwi.org/annual-gatherings/>**

Please call the region office to arrange for housing at the conference center.

**Phone: (262)783-3140**

**Email: [abcwi.office@abcofwi.org](mailto:abcwi.office@abcofwi.org)**

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## **Support of Seminary**

The seminary fulfills an important and necessary mission for our churches. It equips and trains pastoral and counseling leaders for churches in our country and around the world.

Would you please pray about this request and help support this important ministry? You may contribute online at **[www.cbts.edu/give](http://www.cbts.edu/give)**

With gratitude,

Pamela R. Durso - *Office of the President*

### **Bible Study**

Join us for Bible Study **Tuesdays at 11 AM (in person and via Teams)**. The Teams link is:

**<https://teams.live.com/join/9395927572331?p=fmHD1GD01BNfMYMi>**

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<b>July 31, 2023</b>	
<b>Financial Reports</b>	
<b>General Receipts</b>	
Envelopes/loose offerings	\$7,844.00
Loose Offerings	\$14.25
Church School	\$152.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,010.25</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Receipts</b>	
Secret Place	\$2.00
Stamps	\$3.00
Mil. Myanmar Church	\$300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$305.00</b>
<b>Communion Offering</b>	
ERA, Senior Network	\$100.00
M.C Center	\$170.00
Grand Ave Club	\$125.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$395.00</b>
<b>Memorial Fund</b>	
Duane Kirk	\$1,090.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,090.00</b>
<b>Mission Offering</b>	
O.G.H Sharing	\$425.00
R.M.M.O	\$5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$430.00</b>
<b>Deposited Total</b>	<b>\$10,230.25</b>

### **3Gs PICNIC AT THE JAECKS**

I hope you've marked your calendar for our annual picnic at the home of Debb and Jeff Jaeck on beautiful Phantom Lake on **Wednesday, September 13, at 11:00 a.m.**

For those who wish to meet at the church, let's plan on leaving there at 10:00 a.m.

Please plan on bringing whatever you want to grill as well as a dish to share. Soda and ice will be provided, as well as paper plates and plastic utensils.

Whether you plan to join us at the church to carpool there together or decide to go on your own, please be sure to sign up on the sheets in the Educational Wing by September 10 so we have an accurate count. Also, note on the sheet what you plan to bring so we don't all show up with the same food to share.

Let us know on the sign-up sheet if you will be carpooling from the church or going directly to the Jaecks' home. If you need a map, there are a few behind the sign-up sheet. If the weather permits, we might even convince Debb and Jeff to take us for a boat ride on the lake!

### **Communion Offering**

Communion offering for September 3rd is Kodiak Missions.

<https://www.kodiakbaptistmission.org/>

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### *FROM THE DIREKTR...*

It's that time again—back to the schedules we so gladly put away in June! Back to early alarm clocks, regulated days, predictability in our schedule, and a certain sense of calm.

Why does it feel calm? Because we think we know how our days are going to progress. We think that the schedule is going to keep us on track. We feel like we are moving ahead, gaining ground, and reaching our goal.

I have only one word for that: **maybe**. We have absolutely no control over things that may interrupt our schedule. The best laid plans...

So, what should we do? Give up? Of course not. We should jump into that schedule with both feet and do the best we can as followers of Jesus. Send a card or text. Make a phone call. Smile at someone. Write your congressional representative. Volunteer. Make a donation. Come to church. Join the choir. Ring handbells. Read scripture. Be an usher. Bring a treat. Help in Sunday school. Attend Bible study.

Let's jump back into our usual routine with a new sense of commitment to the gospel of Jesus as it plays out in our world.

**Ready, Set, JUMP!**

*Mary Schecher*

## Historical Reflections:

## Recent Events Summer of 2023



As Summer nears an end, let us look at some of our events.

Our chancel on June 18<sup>th</sup>.



Reverend Michelle Peterson, Director of Spiritual Services, Tudor Oaks Senior Community, discussed "Hope in the Valley" on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

The Oneida Choir, with John House, joined us on June 25<sup>th</sup> and sang familiar hymns in the Onieda language.



The chancel on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. On August 9<sup>th</sup>, Barbara Winski and Susan Moreno provided flowers in celebration of what would have been their parents, Charles and Nancy Graham's 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

*This is the 89<sup>th</sup> of periodic*





Karen Higgins, Executive Director, MilwaukeeChristian Center, presented our "Mission Moment" on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

On August 20<sup>th</sup> the men conducted their annual Corn Roast and raised funds for projects.



Peter Moreno and John House prepared the food. The rest of us fellowshiped together indoors on a hot day. "Cook, eat & talk".

