



PATHWAYS

Emmanuel Community United Methodist Church



OCTOBER 2024

Emmanuel Community United Methodist Church Monthly Newsletter

N84 W16707 Menomonee Avenue, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051 ✧ 262-251-3830 ✧ www.ec-umc.com

HARVEST BRUNCH IS COMING, 10/6

After not having a Harvest Brunch in 2023, it's BACK! On Sunday, October 6, after the second service (at 11 AM), you are invited to attend a fun and tasty brunch in Celebration Hall to benefit Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity.



The Mission Team will host this event, with the help of the Kitchen Klub. There will be a guest speaker from Habitat, games for the children, a raffle, and items for sale from the Sew N Sews. Other fun activities are still being planned. Please put October 6th on your calendar. You won't want to miss it!

ENOUGH: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity

One of Jesus' great teaching parables involves a sower who cast seed along the ground. The sower hoped the seeds would sprout, grow, and bear good fruit. Some seeds did just that, producing a great harvest. But others, Jesus said, fell among thorns and were quickly choked out.

Jesus said the thorns were "the cares of the world and the lure of wealth" (Matthew 13:22).

In a culture where having "enough" seems to have become a never-ending pursuit, Jesus' parable remains incredibly relevant. Many of us are chasing the American dream in ways that lead to stress, anxiety, and fear—thorns that can rob us of the ability to enjoy the abundant lives of purpose that God intended for us.

This October, we will be having a churchwide

worship emphasis called *Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity*. During this time, we will explore, through corporate worship, what the Bible teaches us about financial management. (Visit YouTube at ECUMC for online viewing.) We'll hear expert advice and stories about what others have learned by working through financial challenges. Each week we will provide you with some practical tools you can use to assess your financial situation and develop a financial plan with a biblical foundation.

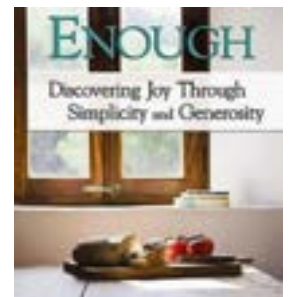
On October 27, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year.

Join us in the coming weeks as we look at how we can manage our financial resources and truly experience simplicity, generosity, and joy.

Schedule of Sermons

- 10/6 "When Dreams Become Nightmares"
- 10/13 "Wisdom and Finance"
- 10/20 "Cultivating Contentment"
- 10/27 "Defined by Generosity"

Consecration Sunday Brunch in Celebration Hall after the 10 AM service on 10/27 - All are invited!



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A WORD FROM PASTOR MATT

Pastor Matt Hadley; MattH@ec-umc.com

“When the Trees Burst with Color”

Fall Greetings,

As we welcome October, we are surrounded by one of God’s most beautiful displays: the changing of the leaves. The vibrant reds, oranges, and yellows paint a stunning picture of nature’s transition. This seasonal change can serve as a spiritual reminder of the transformations God invites us to embrace in our own lives.

The changing leaves remind us that life is full of transitions. Just as trees release their leaves, we too are called to let go of things that may be holding us back. Ecclesiastes 3:1 tells us, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." There are times when God calls us to release old habits, burdens, or even past hurts, so that we can experience the new life God has planned for us.

In nature, the shedding of leaves is necessary for the tree’s survival and future growth. Similarly, letting go of the old allows us to make room for the new work God wants to do in our hearts. As 2 Corinthians 5:17 reminds us, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” This season encourages us to embrace spiritual renewal and trust that God is at work in our lives, even in times of transition.

October’s colorful leaves also point us to the beauty in change. Sometimes, change can be difficult or uncomfortable, but God has a way of using it to bring about beauty in our lives. Just as the trees are adorned with vibrant colors before entering a season of rest, we too can find beauty in the changes we experience when we place our trust in God’s timing and purposes.

As we marvel at the autumn leaves this month, may we reflect on the areas of our lives where God is calling us to change, grow, or let go. Trust that the Holy Spirit is working in you, creating something beautiful even in the midst of transition.

May this season be one of reflection, renewal, and transformation for each of us.

With Hope,
Pastor Matt



LAY LEADER NOTES: OUR GROWING CHURCH

In order to make more room in Fellowship Hall we have moved the bookcases and books.

The Religious / Spiritual books have been moved to the bookcases in Chapel Lounge. Other non-fiction and fiction books will be donated. Why did we do this? We’ve been able to open two more sliding panels to make more available space in Fellowship Hall. As we continue to grow and have a need for more activities, this will provide space.

The Nominations and the Vision



Teams are looking for the congregation to suggest how and what we need to provide growth for all. I challenge all of you to provide your comments and assistance when asked.

Please consider volunteering your time for committees and ministry teams.

As Lay Leader, I am always available to listen to your feedback and comments. Let’s keep the growth and excitement going.

Yours in Christ,

Rollin Kring, Lay Leader

CHURCH OFFICE

262-251-3830 Church@ec-umc.com
Hours: Monday–Thursday, 9 AM–1 PM

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Contact: Janet Ray; JanetR@ec-umc.com

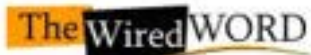
SUNDAY MORNING STUDY- NEW TIME

8:45 - 9:45 AM Chapel Lounge

To allow for everyone's participation, we will start our meetings at 8:45 AM. Musicians will be able to leave the 8:30 AM service after the anthem and, with the later start time of the 2nd service, we can end at 9:45 AM.

Arriving early? Relax in Chapel Lounge or worship from the Narthex until class time.

Each week, *The Wired Word* helps us examine an item from the news from a Christian worldview. Come every week or as often as you can!



YOUTH MINISTRIES

Contact: Bill Follmann; BillF@ec-umc.com, 414-881-3023

The Youth Council met on Sunday, September 15 and many ideas were captured for activities to plan for this upcoming year.

Here are possible events that are currently being scheduled in October and going forward:

Anytime – 9 Square, bring-a-friend gift (invite and friend to an event and that friend gets a gift), Pastor Matt does Tik Tok, Peer Supporting other's activities (i.e., sport, plays, musical performance, etc.)

Fall – pumpkin carving, Fall Fiesta, bobbing for fruit, Drop 'n' Shop (allows parents a night out with a donation of non-perishable food), Fill Bill's Truck (much bigger this year as his new truck is bigger than his car was last year), Reverse Trick or Treating (we take goodies to our neighborhood), elderly assistance (pair up volunteers with elderly who need help both inside and outside their homes)

Winter – Winter Youth Retreat to Camp Lake Lucerne - always a favorite event!, game night, lock-in (another favorite event), Breakfast w/ Santa, sledding/tubing followed by hot cocoa, caroling, karaoke night, blind-mute-deaf baking (you must rely on your partners for success), movie night

Whew!

Look for many of these opportunities to be

scheduled over the next several of weeks.

We will announce these in the weekly e-news, via e-mail from Bill, or in the bulletin and upcoming *Pathways*. If there is another means of communication you would like, please contact Bill Follmann, Youth Director at BillF@ec-emc.com.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENTS

Contact: Karen Norz; KNorz@wi.rr.com

Whether you've come to an event before or are a first-timer, you are welcome!

CRAFT MORNINGS:

3rd Saturday of each month
9 – 11 AM in Fellowship Hall

Bring your unfinished project to work on or just come for fellowship.

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT: Monday, 10/7, 6 PM

Make new friends and reconnect with old friends with games and a social hour at the Hot House Tavern on Appleton Ave., Menomonee Falls. Order dinner, drinks, dessert or apps, if you choose.

RSVPs are needed by Tuesday, 10/1, for a count to the restaurant. They will set aside table space for our group. Sign up on the bulletin board or through this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D44A8AE23A4FC1-50883767-girls>

BOOK STUDY: Wednesday evenings, 7-00-8:30 PM

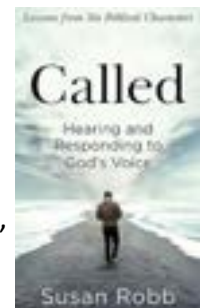
Our new study, *Called: Hearing and Responding to God's Voice* by Susan Robb, begins on October 16.

It examines the variety of ways God calls people of Bible times and today to bring hope and transformation to the world.

We'll look at people like Sarah, Esther, Mary Magdalene, and Hannah for instruction and inspiration.

The six-week study begins on Wednesday 10/16 and ends on 11/20 (7:00 – 8:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.)

Books (new or used) are available from Amazon or other online sellers, but if you need help getting a copy, contact Karen. Janet Ray will lead this study. Sign up on the bulletin board across from the Church Office or watch for a sign up link in the eNews.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Contact: Liz Cannon; LizC@ec-umc.com/262-370-7512

JESUS NEEDS YOU! CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEEDS YOU! TEACHERS ARE NEEDED!

Because you are awesome, and a wonder-worker. You are God. Just You. (Psalm 83:10)

Sunday School started Sunday, 9/15, and between the Nursery, Jesus' Place, and Kindergarten through Middle School, almost four dozen children participated! While it is exciting to report that so many children are here at 8:30 AM on Sunday mornings, we need more help in the classrooms! Optimally there would be two adults in every classroom with additional volunteers to substitute teach.

There are over 30 children in the younger and older elementary classes! Children's Ministry needs you to guide our students in their faith journeys. Please consider volunteering for a Sunday (act as a standby substitute teacher), a Unit (teach four lessons or more), or a Season (Fall/Winter/Spring).

Ideally, we need people to commit to teach. Sunday school is fun and interactive, you get to play games, and there are snacks! Working with children can be challenging, but the beauty of watching them grow and learn at church is so rewarding! Ms. Renee attends to our smallest disciples in the Nursery, children from birth to 2. Jesus' Place is as colorful as it is fun for children 3 to 4 years old and is led by Ms. Stacy & Mr. Todd. Ms. Meaghan is teaching the younger children in K5 through 2nd grade in David's Oasis this Fall. Ms. Liz is next door in the "Sprinkler Room," and is tending to the 3rd through 5th graders. You might also find us in the Crossroads Room where we can spread out, play games, and engage in other group activities.

We have children. We have the curriculum. We have the classrooms. But we need YOU!

Please note that Sunday School starts at 8:30 AM. Children gather in the Crossroads Room for an introduction of the Bible story and then break off into small groups. We wrap up our time together singing and rehearsing with Ms. Laura. After the Children's Choir Music, the children can be picked up at 9:45 AM in Fellowship Hall. Youth go straight to the Youth Room at 8:30 AM.

Children's Ministry is Celebrating Wonder!

The people were in awe of the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

(Exodus 14:31b)

The elementary children spent the month learning all about the AWESOME life of Moses.

Our "faith word" for the first unit is, **AWE**: an amazing feeling of wonder inspired by God. We

examined Moses' life from being a royal baby to a prophet and leader of the Israelites out of Egypt.

Shape hearts. Change lives.

Middle schoolers meet in the Youth Room with Ms. Jean. Their first unit this Fall is "Faith and Science" via *Heart Shaper* curriculum. *Heart Shaper* integrates Bible skills into each lesson that build on each other to help students discover how to explore God's word and the direction it gives.

My hope is that by the time you read this, we will have lots of volunteers helping out with Sunday School and participating in the spiritual growth and development of our school-age children. (Please don't let that stop you from sharing your time and talents with us!) A Google calendar is online for parents to check the Children's Ministry schedule of events. Email LizC@ec-umc.com if you have not received the invitation to view the calendar.



Mark Your Calendars and Join Us!*

Saturday, 10/26, 5-7 PM: Children's Ministry is hosting a Church Carnival at ECUMC with food, games, and prizes

Sunday, 11/10: Children's Choir sings at both services (8:30 & 10:00 AM)

Sunday, 12/15: Christmas Program at both services. We will have a dress rehearsal on Saturday, 12/14, time TBD.

*Look for updates next month as we restart Club 4/5 and Acolyte Training.



BOOKS BETWEEN BITES

Contact: Mary Jo Karnath; AKarnath@wi.rr.com

We will read *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks. The day group will meet at Ally's on 10/18 at 1:00 PM. The evening group will meet on 10/22 at UNO's at 5:30 PM in the back room.



YAHAS MEET 10/15

We will meet on Tuesday, 10/15 and hear a talk about *Trains* by David Rohr. 11:00 AM gather for fellowship. Lunch at 11:30 AM. Discussion to follow. Watch for announcements about the meal. Please sign up for a count for how much food to prepare and plan to bring a salad or dessert to share. Dues \$2.00.



CALLING ALL INTERESTED IN CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

We will next be receiving new members in our worship services on Sunday, 11/24.

Beforehand, on 11/10, Pastor Matt will be offering a class for exploration (no commitment to actually join) at 11 AM in Celebration Hall. Lunch will be provided.

If you know of people who are interested, please spread the word and offer an invitation. You could attend with them even if you are already a member. We ask that you contact the office to RSVP so that we know how many to expect for the meal. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. In His service,
Pastor Matt



FROM AROUND THE DENOMINATION

United Methodists Seek Kindness in U.S. Election Season

Hundreds of United Methodists across the United States mobilized in August in community efforts to bring kindness, civility and community into the fractious U.S. presidential election season.

Motivated in part by their own experiences of division as well as the political polarization across the country, United Methodist churches and Annual Conferences have independently developed

discussion groups, community-building resources and church peacemaking programs.

In the Northern Illinois Conference, United Methodists partnered with Braver Angels Illinois for a community conversation on how to reduce polarization in the U.S. presidential election and beyond, said Lisa Rogers, chair of the Advocacy Partners subcommittee of the conference's Anti-Racism Task Force.

"We turned (a restaurant) into a bipartisan space for one night, listening to each other respectfully and expressing ourselves without trying to convert others to any viewpoint," said Rogers' report in a conference newsletter. "We left knowing new neighbors and having actionable ideas for changing our toxic politics — as well as hope for our community and nation."

"I have learned the importance of remembering that we have more in common with people than what divides us," said Rogers, a member of First UMC in Elmhurst, IL.

In Leawood, KS, Resurrection United Methodist Church has launched what may be the most ambitious — certainly the most widely engaged — effort thus far: "Do Unto Others: A Campaign for Kindness during the 2024 Election Season." Launched on 8/1, the popularity has taken Resurrection leaders and members by surprise, said Cathy Bien, the church's director of public relations, communications and special projects. Bien said that, as of 8/20, somewhere between 400 and 500 mostly United Methodist churches had signed on to "Do Unto Others."

"Do Unto Others" is the latest project of Vision 2030, a long-range plan focused on "bridging the gaps" between faith and society, Bien said.

Part of Vision 2030 engages Resurrection in community outreach efforts tied to the national election cycle. "I think it's taken off because people are yearning to get past the division in the country; they want to do something," Bien said.

"Do Unto Others" rests on three pillars:

- We can be intentional about how we treat others.
- We can spread the message of kindness."
- We can find new ways to grow in faith and knowledge as we approach relationships.



TIPS FOR A **GREENER** OCTOBER

A scary sight is plastic bags caught in trees and waving in the wind or polluting the ocean. The good news is cities and states that ban the use of the bags are seeing reduced litter and less risk to marine animals. Carry your own reusable bags, and tell your lawmakers that **bans are better than bags**.

As winter comes, your plants look dead; but **don't deadhead them** or cut them down. Instead allow the seed heads to remain so that birds will have a source of food for the cold months. With spring the perennials will come back, providing a festival of beauty and sustenance for you and for pollinators. October is planting season for many perennials.

Plug up those sneaky leaky places to stay warm, save money, and cut down emissions. Put your hand near exterior wall outlets, around window frames and doors, next to your chimney. If you feel cold air, repair, caulk, or weatherstrip. Your response can fix the troubles.

Zippered plastic bags are so handy for many things—and so detrimental to the planet. For their various functions, **more sustainable options** exist: silicone bags, hard containers (especially glass ones with airtight seals), paper bags, waxed paper (which is biodegradable), beeswaxed fabric for covering dishes, or simply washing and reusing the bags again and again.

Although celebrated this year on Monday, October 14, October 12 is traditionally recognized as Columbus Day and recently as **Indigenous Peoples Day**. Scary things have been done from a colonizer-mindset. Our United Methodist Church calls us to a “kin-dom” mindset, seeing native persons as beloved siblings in God's eye and as peoples whose traditional wisdom leads in caring for creation. Take action in support of those who have been harmed.

According to Science Guy, Bill Nye, “The best way to save the planet isn't necessarily recycling—it's stepping into a voting booth.” Recycling is important to do, but greater impact comes from changing laws and policies. **Vote for the planet**. Vote for people who care about God's Creation.

Good news! Curbing deforestation works for the planet. Reforestation takes the next step. Large scale, these actions pull carbon from the air, clean our water, and reduce dangerously high temperatures. You can contribute to those efforts worldwide or **plant trees** in your spaces, including the church's property. Some organizations offer free trees.



Halloween looks scary stuff in the eye and laughs at it, taking away its power. As a fun family project take away some of the scariness by creating costumes out of clothing and accessories you already own or that you can purchase inexpensively from a thrift shop or swap with friends. Trash the scary one-and-done syndrome, **keep cheap costumes out of the landfill**, and have a good laugh!

Don't throw away that pumpkin! Cut it into smaller pieces for deer, rabbits, mice, squirrels, and chipmunks to munch on—non-painted pumpkins only. Or harvest the seeds, dry them, and put them in a bird feeder. Or feed the microbes in your soil because you composted instead of trashing it.

“Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning...You have turned my mourning into dancing...O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever” (Psalm 30).

Trust God and dance! Give thanks with your actions that **show your love of God's Creation**.

These tips are provided by the United Methodist Creation Justice Movement to equip church members, families, and individuals to respond to God's call to care for creation and do justice with our neighbors. umcreationjustice.org

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 8:30am - Sanctuary Worship 8:30am - Sunday School (V) 10am - Celebration Worship 11am - Confirmation Class 1pm - Hmong Alliance (CH) 3:30pm - The Chosen (FH)	30 10am - Staff Meeting (FH)	1 6:30pm - Children Ministry	2 10am - Bible Study (FH) 6:30pm - Mission Team (CL) 6:30pm - Trustees (CL) 7pm - Women's Study (FH)	3 6pm - Men's Choir (MR) 6:30pm - Women's Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir (MR)	4 Office Closed 10am - Bible Study (Z)	5
6 8:30am - Sanctuary Worship 8:30am - Sunday School (V) 10am - Celebration Worship 11am - Confirmation Class 11am - Harvest Brunch (CH) 3:30pm - The Chosen (FH)	7 9:30am - Sew and Sews (112) 10am - Staff Meeting (FH) 6:30pm - Green Team (CL)	8 6:30pm - Children Ministry	9 10am - Bible Study (FH) 7pm - Women's Study (FH)	10 6pm - Women's Choir (MR) 6:30pm - Men's Choir (MR) 7pm - Chancel Choir (MR)	11 Office Closed 10am - Bible Study (Z)	12
13 8:30am - Sanctuary Worship 8:30am - Sunday School (V) 10am - Celebration Worship 11am - Confirmation Class 1pm - Hmong Alliance (CH) 3:30pm - The Chosen (FH) 4pm - TRIBE (YR)	14 10am - Staff Meeting (FH) 5:30pm - Stewardship (CL) 7pm - Finance (CL)	15 Pathways Deadline by Noon 9:30am - Community Care 11:30am - YAHAS (CH) 7:30pm - SPRC (CL)	16 10am - Bible Study (FH) 7pm - Women's Study (FH)	17 6pm - Men's Choir (MR) 6:30pm - Women's Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir (MR)	18 Office Closed 10am - Bible Study (Z) 1pm - Books Between Bites 7pm - Game Night (FH)	19 9am - Craft Morning (FH)
20 8:30am - Sanctuary Worship 8:30am - Sunday School (V) 10am - Celebration Worship 11am - Confirmation Class 1pm - Hmong Alliance (CH) 3:30pm - The Chosen (FH) 4pm - TRIBE (YR)	21 10am - Staff Meeting (FH) 7pm - Church Council (CL)	22 11:45am - Food Pantry 5pm - Food Pantry	23 10am - Bible Study (FH) 7pm - Women's Study (FH)	24 St. James - Meal (cook) 11:45am - Food Pantry 5pm - Food Pantry 6pm - Women's Choir (MR) 6:30pm - Men's Choir (MR) 7pm - Chancel Choir (MR)	25 Office Closed 10am - Bible Study (Z)	26 8am - Community Breakfast 5pm - Church Carnival (CH)
27 8:30am - Sanctuary Worship 8:30am - Sunday School (V) 10am - Celebration Worship 11am - Confirmation Class 1pm - Hmong Alliance (CH) 3:30pm - The Chosen (FH) 4pm - TRIBE (YR)	28 10am - Staff Meeting (FH)	29	30 10am - Bible Study (FH) 7pm - Women's Study (FH)	31 7pm - Chancel Choir (MR)	1 Office Closed 10am - Bible Study (Z)	2