# CHURCH OF PEACE MESSENGER

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Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

Shortly after I was born, I attended church. I didn't come in on my own power, I was brought by my parents. John and Birdelle, with both my brothers in tow, walked me up the stairs as I donned a beautiful white dress. Kent Green and Violet Kelly accompanied our ragtag group as we eventually approached the front of the church. We reached the chancel where Rev. Karl, robed in black, stood at the baptismal fount. He greeted my parents and Godparents and began the liturgy for the Sacrament of Baptism.

In that liturgy, he asked by parents and sponsors to take vows to raise me in the church and to protect me until I could take those vows myself. Then, he blessed the water, dipped his hand into the water and touched my forehead 3 times making a cross saying, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and in the name of the Son, and in the name of the Holy Spirit." From that day forward, my life was changed. I was now a Christian, and with that title, I was called to follow the teaching, life and faith of Jesus Christ.

In 1971, I took upon myself the vows that my parents and Godparents took for me at my baptism. To this day, I take those vows very seriously.

*Q. Do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?* 

#### A. I do

*Q. Do you renounce the powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?* 

#### A. I do

Q. Do you profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

#### A. I do

Q. Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

#### A. I promise, with the help of God.

Q. Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith, share regularly in the worship of God, participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people, and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

#### A. I promise, with the help of God.



Now, as a Christian who has taken the vows and confirmed his faith in God through Jesus Christ, I am called to live a life of love for all people. To do that, I know that I must sacrifice my anger to God. I must sacrifice my pride to God. I must sacrifice all the things in this life that pull me away from the teachings of Jesus and the desires of God. The more able I am to surrender myself to God, the more my life becomes alive in Christ. There is something else that amazes me every day. When I give and give up, I actually feel the true meaning of a faithful life and I enjoy my life far more than ever before.

#### Continues page #6

158 S. Military Rd. Fond du Lac WI 54935 ~ 920-921-8215 ~ Fax: 920-921-8084 Website: www.uccchurchofpeace.com ~ Email: churchofpeaceucc@att.net Facebook page: Church of Peace UCC Fond du Lac

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



## IN OUR PRAYERS

Lucy Zahn Elise Sonnenberg Cindy Duffy Bob Hanke Alice Jaber Theresa Schultz Marilyn Peters Sharon Hensen Christine Weim Evelyn Stepp Elaine Miller Nicole Schendel Cassie Poirier Doris Kastorff Helen Oelke Janet Rymer Ken Meyn Janet & Eugene Willis Amy Jo Barb Dehring Randy Resop Diane Candlish Ruth Pedix Tyler Detweiler Rev. Jerry Schrankler Shirley Hanke Jason & Jennifer Dorothy Gyr Dave Borchert Ernst Oelke Bill Manka Abby Joe Ule Brenna Slavik Bev Gia Del Pont Edna Karl Donna Birkholz Ron Rowe Jan Whittaker Eli John Sandberg Rick Karl James Kraemer Joan Detweiler

#### FOOD PANTRY

We are very grateful to receive donations to our food pantry. **April** Food needs **Frozen Pizza** Non-food needs include **Toilet Paper.** 



Balance as of February 1, 2023: \$38,521.00

Deposits in February: \$7,161.44 Disbursements in February: \$23,200.00 Balance as of February 28, 2023: \$22,482.44 Remaining balance on Loan 2/28/2023: <u>\$827,922.44</u>



Members and friends of Church of Peace, the month of May has a new name, "Match May" with the goal of reducing our Build to Serve principle for our current building loan. The Church Council is now able to use certain funds that were raised at the beginning of our Build to Serve campaign. These funds were placed in an Endowment Fund with Cornerstone so that the church could acquire a loan. Now, since our loan has been transferred to the National Exchange Bank, those funds can now be used to serve as a gift match for our congregation in the month of May. Our hope is that our members will add an additional monetary gift to their normal May Build to Serve payment so that the Endowment Fund can then match both the May payment and the additional gift. This will help reduce the loan principal, which will in turn reduce the amount of interest we pay each month and help us shorten the length of our loan. Please know that your gifts each month keep us on the path to completing our obligation. We could not do this without each and every one of you. Thank you!!!

#### \*Special Note\*

To celebrate our achievements so far this year, we will have a special light brunch following the worship service on June 4. At the brunch, we will share the new updates about Build to Serve, and we may have a fun activity for all who attend. So please, mark calendars and plan on being a part of the celebration!

#### COUNCIL MINUTES from the March 14, 2023 (minutes taken by Matt Moore

Balance as of February 1, 2023: \$29,081.67 Deposits in February: \$18,444.93 Disbursements in February: \$19,885.52 Balance as of February 28, 2023: \$27,641.08

#### Minutes of the Previous Meeting

A motion was made by Peter and seconded by Faye to accept the 2/14/2023 council meeting minutes. Motion carried.

#### Financial Report and Approval of Bills

Bobbi asked about the Communion Fund section on the Abbreviated Financial Report and whether the section name should be changed to improve clarity. The council discuss and the thought was that the section could be called "community fund" as it contains details on more than just the communion fund balance. Bobbi also noted a date typo for the "remaining balance on loan" in the Building to Serve section of the Abbreviated Financial Report. It should be 2/28/2023, not 1/31/2023. Lastly, a mistake was noted on the income and expenses report that appears to be an Excel formula error. This will need to be corrected. A motion was made by Peter and seconded by Bobbi to table financial approvals but approve paying of the bills. Motion carried. The council will meet again after worship service on Sunday 3/19 to discuss.

#### In the Life of Our Church

#### Worship

- Pastor Steve reported he will be preaching at the 3/22 Wednesday Lenten service at COP in place of Pastor Ruth.
- 4/2 is Palm Sunday with the Procession of the Palms.
- 4/6 is Maundy Thursday and he needs more volunteers for the re-enactment of the Last Supper. A few council members signed up and 6 members from Pilgrim already volunteered. Practice will be held on Monday 4/3. More details to come.
- 4/9 is Easter Sunday. We will have 2 services at 6:30 AM and 9:00 AM with breakfast after the 6:30 AM service hosted by the Ladies of Peace.
- Ushering: An email from congregation members was shared with the council regarding ushering and the new greeters that have been helping and lack of communication on this process. Other members have voiced concerns as well. The council discussed and agreed to ensure that the comments be addressed. We will continue to use the greeters and it's fine if more than one person hands out the bulletins or greets people. Victor mentioned that if anyone has questions on their duties as an usher or greeter to contact him or Bobbi. Bobbi also mentioned that the council created a list of usher duties (during COVID). We can review that and update accordingly. Pastor Steve reported that more name tags are being printed.

Fellowship Hour: Pastor Steve brought up an idea to help increase participation for hosts for Fellowship Hour – each council member find a family or members who are currently not part of a group that currently hosts, to assemble a new group to host.

#### Warming Shelter

Pastor Steve requested and received full support from the council to donate cash offering from the 3/22 Lenten Services to the warming shelter to help cover costs for fruit, coffee, creamer, and other supplies being purchased for the warming shelter.

A motion was made by Peter and seconded by Faye to use funds from the Food Pantry to reimburse Jean Stepp for the supplies she has already purchased for the warming shelter. Motion carried. Christian Education: Pastor Steve reported that Heather is doing well and moving forward.

#### Groups in the Church Family

Ladies of Peace: Bobbi, Faye, and Nancy reported the group discussed rummage sale plans, the Swiss steak dinner on 3/30, and noted that sometime after the Swiss steak dinner they will complete a deep clean of the kitchen.

Golden Fellowship: Faye reported they are having a speaker come to discuss preserving family legacy. Youth: Peter reported the group recently went bowling but there was a low turnout. Their next activity in April will be hiding Easter Eggs throughout the church for the Sunday School children to find. Outreach

- Loaves & Fishes: Jerry discussed the warming shelter at COP with the board. The board asked the Loaves and Fishes hosts to donate the leftovers to the warming shelter.
- River Park: Victor gave an update from the March meeting. Main focus of discussion was what can be done to upgrade the neighborhood.
- Food Pantry: Peter mentioned that the Scouting for Food drive is in April and collections from North Fond du Lac will be coming to the COP food pantry.
- Stewardship Ministry Team: Matt reported the group met last month to discuss the chili cook off plans and discussed timing of other Stewardship events as well.

#### Scholarship Administration

Justin reported he set up a meeting on Friday 3/17 at 9:00 AM with financial advisors at National Exchange Bank & Trust to discuss how to best invest the Pinkert Fund. The council discussed at length ideas for awarding scholarships.

#### Church Administration

- A member requested use of the church for a piano recital. A motion was made by Justin and seconded by Bobbi to allow use of the grand piano in the sanctuary. Motion carried.
- A member requested use of the Fellowship Hall for a baby shower on 7/22 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The council approved.
- A sign permit has been filed for the new digital sign.
- There have been no volunteers for the Constitution review project. It was suggested that each council member take a copy and make notes with questions and/or potential updates needed. Then we can review as a group.
- New members: Pastor Steve mentioned John and Sandy Sandberg will be inducted this Thursday while in hospice care and Les Abitz and Charlene Abitz will be inducted this Sunday.

#### **Buildings and Grounds**

- Discussed the mail drop box that needs to be installed by May. The council agreed to purchase the one recommended by the Post Office along with the post and mounting hardware. The plan is install it on the carport island.
- Victor reported a new rug service delivered rugs and could replace the rugs every 2 weeks. Our rugs have been cleaned as well. The council agreed to have the rug service completed year -round since it's very affordable.
- Peter mentioned he is still working with Mike to schedule a time to install the security cameras. In the meantime, it was mentioned that once worship starts the only door that should remain open is the carport entrance.
- Peter reported he is still working on getting quotes for new and/or rewired kitchen lighting.
- Jerry sent an email about railing in the sanctuary along the stairs leading to the altar. He provided a picture of another church's rails. It is needed but we'll need to determine options and cost.
- Peter reported the ladder going up to the bell tower is unsafe and needs to be replaced and potential safety guard/cage added.
- Peter reported we were notified of three code violations on the church sprinkler system. The cost will be approximately \$1,185 to fix.

#### Capital Campaign:

Justin mentioned he will be gone for work for most of April and the next meeting with the congregation will be pushed to May which will tentatively be when donations are matched.

We will plan a Building to Serve Appreciation Luncheon on Sunday 6/4 at 11:00 AM

Comments of the Council Members: Bobbi mentioned there are several usher openings for council members to fill.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

#### Adjournment and Closing Prayer

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Matt Moore

Happy 120<sup>th</sup> birthday to the "Ladies Society" now called the Ladies of Peace. It was organized in 1903 and the minutes of the group are saved and are in German until 1931.

In 1920 the major Ladies Society fund raiser was the Fall Bazaar which raised \$117.80 and \$332.96 in 1921. They created rag rugs, fancy aprons, and had a baby booth. Dues were 10 cents/ month and the officers were Pres. N. Stroup; VP H. Rutz; Sec'y C. Grauer; Treas. Mrs. Ditter. In 1922 the bazaar garnered \$416.49.

On April 29, 1923 Pastor C.L. Grauer resigned after 13 years of service. At the annual meeting that year they voted to conduct meetings in English. We got a new Organist and Janitor.

A significant motion was carried at a special Meeting to act on 3 candidates for a new Pastor. The women of the church were given the right to vote in 1923 and 114 votes were cast. Rev. Schalow received 103.

In 1943 the Lenten Services were in English. We had 105 members in the Armed Forces. Mrs. Langacker was the Director of the Jr. Choir and got paid \$15 three times a year. In 1943 The Ladies Aid raffled a quilt at 5 cents/name and the winner, Mrs. Therwachter gave it to a children's home. Ladies of Peace



Spring has sprung! Along with it new life emerges in the form of the crocus, daffodils, tulips and trees blossoming. Enjoy the world's beauty and thank God for his creation. Go for a walk, breathe

in the fresh air, listen to the birds and feel the warmth of the sun.

As Easter approaches, we are reminded of the new life God has promised us through the death and resurrection of his son, Jesus Christ. Have a blessed Easter.

#### Martha Society

"Our spring has come at last with the soft laughter of April suns and shadows of April showers." --Byron Caldwell Smith

April! The calendar says April, but I don't know about everyone else, March seemed to have more signs of Winter than Spring! They days are longer, the weather is sometimes warmer, and the flowers are starting to come out! Fingers crossed we've crossed the final snowfall! The Martha Society got together in March to celebrate birthdays. We pretend everyone's birthday is in March. Before business was conducted and birthdays were celebrated we took a few minutes to pack the spring Thinking of You bags for our church members we are unable to see on a regular basis.

The Martha Society's next meeting will be April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6. New members are always welcome to attend.

## CHURCH COUNCIL

Victor Abitz, President	abitzvictor@gmail.com	920-579-6008	
Bobbi Thomma, VP	bthomma@charter.net	920-921-5544	
Matt Moore, Secretary	mjmooreplus3@gmail.com	920-979-4309	
Mike Petersen, Treasurer	michael.d.petersen@outlook.com	920-266-2036	
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Faye Smith	dzsm8445@gmail.com	920-266-6035	

## FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

#### Hello Everyone,

The church continues to be a very busy place. Pastor Steve has been busy with mid-week Lenten services. He is now doing services at the St. Francis Home, all are welcome. We welcomed new members John & Sandy Sandberg and Char & Les Abitz. Please take a moment to say hi and introduce yourself.

The Council approved having the carpets in the church cleaned. That has been completed. The narthex area will be cleaned and waxed once winter goes away and we aren't using salt in the parking lot anymore. We are working on a couple other projects and we will update soon. The warming shelter helped the homeless for the month of March. Thank you to all who volunteered.

The Council reminds you that if you have any questions or concerns, please contact of them. Their contact information is in the Messenger. If you can spare a couple of hours a week, there are things you can help with at the church. Please call the church if you have time and someone will get back to you with areas where help is needed. Together in faith, our journey together can go on for years growing and prospering.

Blessings, Victor

#### Continue from page #1

"As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.'" "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy." Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me" (Mark 10:17, 19-21).

My Beloved, this Easter and everyday beyond, I encourage you, as best as you are able, to live in the challenge of Jesus as you awake each day with the knowledge of forgiveness in Christ and the knowledge of your new life in his resurrection. Praise be to God!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Steve





MAUNDY THURSDAY "I give you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you." - John 13:34

Join us for Maundy Thursday for a Reenactment of the Last Supper Thursday, April 6 at 7pm



Sunday, April 2 Worship at 9 am

Good Friday Worship

Friday, April 7th At Pilgrim

U

At 12:00 pm

Pilgrim FDL 535 Stow St



Many Christians worldwide observe Holy Saturday by remembering it as the day when Jesus lay in the tomb.



#### COMING SOON

Church of Peace Rummage Sale

May 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>

More details in the April Sunday Bulletin





Sunday, April 9th 6:30 am Sunrise Worship 9 am Easter Worship

> Join us on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

> > at 11:00.

We will be watching the movie

#### "THE SHACK"

Bring your own lunch and beverage.

Dessert will be furnished.

## **Birthday Cards**

A new idea for 2023! We are asking members of our church to send birthday cards to members who are 90+ years young. Each month in the mes-R senger and the bulletin insert, there will be names of members celebrating R a special birthday. Please consider sending a card to these people. Let's shower them with cards and love. April birthdays are:

April 1 – Carol Kryzyanowski 595 E. Division St. Fond du Lac, WI 54935 April 19 – LeMay Pfeiffer 671 S. Main St. Fond du Lac, WI 54935-5713

April 20 - Elaine Miller W4668 Chicago Dr. Redgranite, WI 54970

April 25 -- Evelyn Yantz 469 Portage St. Fond du Lac, WI 54935

April 27 – Gordon Rose W8114 County Road Y Oakfield, WI 53065-9571



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## CHURCH OF PEACE **CHILI COOK-OFF** SATURDAY, APRIL 22ND, 2023 5:00-6:30 \$6.00 PER PERSON (13 & OVER) \$3.00 CHILDREN (6 YEARS TO 12 YEARS) CHILDREN UNDER 6 EAT FREE THERE WILL ALSO BE MAC & CHEESE \$1.00 WATER, MILK & SODA

We are gathering on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10:30 – noon to do clean-up in our neighborhood.

Bring your grabbers and pokers. Church will furnish gloves and trash bags. Pastor Steve has the routes of where we will be picking up trash.

All who help with clean-up will receive a \$1 off ticket to the Chili Cook-off! We hope you will join us!!



#### Church of Peace Council Meeting Minutes - March 19, 2023

Present: Victor Abitz, Justin Poirier, Matt Moore, Jerry Johnson, Faye Smith, Nancy Pahnke Absent: Mike Petersen, Bobbi Thomma, Peter Peterson

Call to Order: Victor A. called the meeting to order at 10:12 AM.

Meeting held to briefly discuss financial reports and news:

Mike is not here so the council not able to vote/approve February financials at this time.

- Victor reported that the Abbreviated Financial report and the income and expenses errors have been corrected. New copies have been placed in our mailboxes.
- Justin briefly elaborated on the email he sent out regarding the meeting he had with the financial advisors at National Exchange Bank & Trust. He also scheduled a meeting for Tuesday 3/21 with the Fond du Lac Area Foundation to discuss scholarships, investment funds, and grant money availability. Once we have a solid plan then we can hold a special congregational meeting to vote. More to come on this.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 AM. Respectfully submitted, Matt Moore



4 ½" Pots, hanging baskets, Porch Pots, Planters and more....

Order thru April 30, 2023

Pickup Date: May 20th

(11am-1:30pm)

#### SPONSORED BY: WORSHIP ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Goto: www.uccchurchofpeace.com for Plant Listing and Order Form

Submit Orders by May 1, 2022

#### **Pre-Payment Required**

Diane Reiter - 920-960-1133

Brenda Roehl - 920-929-9084



# Keep doing the things you love.

## Catch health problems before they go too far.

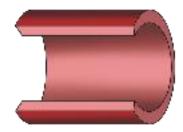
Life Line Screening offers a 4-screening package

to provide peace of mind or early detection for risks of stroke and cardiovascular disease. The combination of these tests helps detect problems—**before you have symptoms** and while you and your

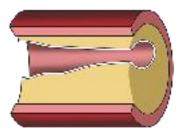


doctor can still take action...so you can keep doing the things you love.

## Plaque buildup can lead to cardiovascular disease, stroke and aneurysms.



A normal artery allows blood to flow through easily.



Plaque buildup in the arteries reduces your blood flow and can be dangerous if left untreated.



Register now to check the health of your arteries

#### 4 Important Screenings for Only \$149 (Special Package Pricing)

- Carotid Artery Disease
- Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD)
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)
- Atrial Fibrillation (AFib)

## Join the **10 million people** who have been screened. We are coming to your neighborhood.

When: Saturday, April 15, 2023

Where: Church of Peace United Church of Christ

To register for your appointment and to receive the special discount, please call toll-free 877-792-8479 or visit LLSA.SOCIAL/HC

Screening results are provided to you in about 14 days. We direct all participants with abnormal results to take the report to their physician. Appropriate modification of risk factors (including high blood pressure, smoking, heart disease, diabetes and poor diet) is also necessary for cardiovascular disease prevention. Our screenings cannot detect all forms of stroke risk or cardiovascular disease. All tests are for screening purposes only. You should consult with your personal physician regarding your screening results. Price does not include any applicable review fees. Insurance Note: Life Line Screening does not participate in the Medicare program and the cost of our screening services is not covered or reimbursable by Medicare. Life Line Screening does not file insurance claims nor provide referrals to any physician's group or hospital. If you are unable to attend the screening for any reason whatsoever, we will issue a gift card for the full amount to be used by you, or anyone you choose, for future screening services.

## April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	S M 5 5 6 7 12 13 1 19 20 2	Mar 2023 T W T F S 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 4 15 16 17 18 1 22 23 24 25 18 29 30 31	May 2023   S M T W T F   1 2 3 4 5   7 8 9 10 11 12   14 15 16 17 18 19   21 22 23 24 25 20   28 29 30 31 14	6 2 13 9 20		9:00 AM Worship Enchancement Team
2 9:00 AM Worship Communion Sunday	3 6:30 PM Maundy Thursday Rehearsal	4 11:30 AM Ladies of Peace	5 6:30 PM Boy Scout Meeting	6 7:00 PM Worship /// ht	7 12:00 PM Worship Good Fridarim	8 Holy Saturday IN STILLNESS EARTH AWAITS THE RESURRECTION
9 6:30 AM Sunrise Worship 9:00 AM Worship No Youth Group	10 9:00 AM -4:00 PM Blood Drive	<ul><li><b>11</b></li><li>6:00 PM Martha Society</li><li>6:30 PM Council Meeting</li></ul>	12 6:30 PM Boy Scout Meeting	13 9:30 AM Ethics Committee	14	15 8:00 AM -5:00 PM Life Line Screening
16 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Sunday School	17 1:30 PM Bible Study	18 6:30 PM Stewardship Meeting	19	20 11:00 AM Golden Fellowship Moive "The Shack"	21	22 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Earth Day Clean-up 5:00 PM -6:30 PM
23 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Youth Group	24	25 1:00 PM Community Practices Messenger Articles Due!	26	27	28	29
30 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Confirmation Meeting 11:00 AM Family Fun Day Plant Sale Order Deadline!						

CHURCH OF PEACE 158 SOUTH MILITARY ROAD FOND DU LAC, WI 54935

APRIL

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Fond du Lac, WI Permit No. 10

This is your ticket to The Church of Peace United Church of Christ Ladies of Peace-Easter Continental Breakfast Easter Sunday-April 9, 2023 <u>Schedule</u> 6:30 am Sunrise Worship Service 7:30 am LOP Breakfast

9:00 am Worship Service \*No ticket required to enjoy this community breakfast