

the Chimes

A NEWSLETTER OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MADISON



A New Chapter Begins

Don't Miss These September Special Sundays

September 4 – Labor Sunday

Bring a symbol of your labor to contribute to a collection that will be recognized and blessed during worship. Think broadly about your labor: paid employment, volunteer work or assistance offered others.

September 11 – Welcome to Fall Breakfast

Coffee Hour is great, but breakfast is even better! Stop in Fellowship Hall anytime between 8:30 and 11:45 a.m. to enjoy breakfast and conversation. Menu: Garden Veggie Egg Bake or Ham and Cheese Omelet Casserole with Breakfast Potatoes and Fruit Medley. Free will offering, suggested donation \$5.

September 18 - Worship, Lunch and a Concert

“The Pickle Jar” Food Cart offers traditional comfort foods at a great price. The cart will be conveniently situated in our parking lot from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. so we can share lunch outside (and hope some of our downtown neighbors will join us!) or take lunch inside to the air conditioned Fellowship Hall. Either way, it will be good food and fellowship. Lunch will be followed by our Quadrilateral Quartet presenting their “Sing for Your Supper Concert” at 1 p.m.

September 25 – Sundae Sunday!

Who says you can't have dessert for breakfast? Visit Fellowship Hall and you'll find a very special treat for Coffee Hour on this special day. Grab a bowl of ice cream then visit the sundae bar to add all your favorite toppings! YUM!

SUNDAY WORSHIP 9 & 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

SEPTEMBER 4

Labor Sunday
Holy Communion
Message: Rev. Tina Lang,
“Sacred Work”
Music: Adam J. Shelton,
Vocal Soloist
*Reflecting on United Methodist
Social Principles and Worker Justice*

SEPTEMBER 11

A New Chapter Begins
Christian Education Sunday
Special Offering
Text: 1 Timothy 1:12-17
Message: Rev. Dr. Mark A. Fowler,
“Joining the Jesus Story”
Music: Chancel Choir
*Bibles Presented to Third
Grade Students @ 9 a.m.*

SEPTEMBER 18

Our Story Shared in
Community
Text: Luke 15:1-10
Message: Rev. Dr. Mark A. Fowler,
“Who's Welcome at the Table?”
Music: Chamber Choir,
Blessed Brass
*Sharing the Word, a Meal & Music
Worship, Lunch and a Concert*

SEPTEMBER 25

We Join an Upside Down Story
Text: Luke 16:19-31
Message: Rev. Dr. Mark A. Fowler,
“Topsy Turvy-dom”
Music: Chancel Choir,
Handbell Choir
Sundae Sunday

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP 8:30-10:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall



We seek to embody grace and hospitality in the manner of Jesus, nurturing our diverse spiritual journeys and joining together as a servant community to help realize a more loving and just world.

Musings

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. (Genesis 1:1-3)

Scripture tells us that God spoke not just light, but all of creation into being. That's a powerful voice speaking a powerful story! And it's a storytelling process that continues with our participation. God's beloved children take part in telling the story of creation and God's all-encompassing love and as we participate the story becomes our own. We are the storytellers and we are the living characters in the story. Our dual roles mean that we have significant opportunity to shape the story. What a gift! What a responsibility!

As members and friends of FUMC, what is the story we tell? What do we have to say to the world about who we believe God is, how we believe God calls us to interact with one another, and what we believe we have to offer the world as individuals and as a community of faith? Do we have a compelling story/vision that we are able to tell not just with our words but with the actions of our daily living?

In a world of carefully scripted sound bites, slick marketing, and intentionally deceptive half-truths, it's easy to get lost in the emptiness of mindless chatter or to wish we could just tune-out. While it's true that talk can be cheap, the creation story in Genesis 1 (and so much else in our book of sacred stories) reminds us that talk can also be holy.

This fall members and friends of FUMC will engage together in holy talk: the process of remembering, telling, creating and embodying life-giving stories that celebrate God's activity in the world and our call to participate in that activity. Each of our individual stories is important and helps enliven the larger narrative shared by our community so please plan to participate in a variety of worship, learning, community-building and service opportunities this fall. We're about to open a new chapter of this grace-filled, marvelous story of life. I hope you'll come to receive from and contribute to this powerful story.

Rev. Tina Lang, Associate Pastor



“We are the storytellers and we are the living characters in the story.”

first church News

“Home Again Sunday”

“Home Again Sunday” was always a major day in the life of the churches in which I grew up and later served as a pastor. It brought the same energy and expectation to the life of the church as “back to school” and “freshman orientation” infused to the life of our learning institutions and beyond to the broader community. It is the yearly cycle of life, the bio-rhythms and spiritual “higher ground” that I bring to preparing for Sunday, September 11.

Planning for that day and the seasons ahead are filled with hope and expectation for vibrant worship that challenges our minds, our spiritual and moral imagination and commitment to more closely following the patterns of Jesus and the hospitality of our community. There is a vision to be fulfilled in expanding our educational offerings on Sundays and throughout the week as we assemble an Academy of Education and Spiritual Formation.

This, in addition to a growing and expanding set of outreach and justice ministries that are “good for downtown,” the area and the world. We are also looking forward to strengthening our small group gatherings for fellowship and creative engagement.

Come home to a new beginning for which we have hoped and to which we have committed ourselves.

Looking forward...
Mark

Rev. Dr. Mark A. Fowler

Ross Cowing Assumes Director of Music Position



“Sing for Your Supper” Quadrilateral Quartet Concert Sunday, September 18, 1 p.m., Fellowship Hall

We are grateful for the generosity of the congregation to fund our amazing vocal quartet. Your gifts made it possible for the quartet to provide musical leadership to Chancel Choir and Chamber Choir from March through May and four times this summer as members of the Summer Choir.

Now our fundraising for Quadrilateral continues. On Sunday, September 18, Quadrilateral will present a 45 minute program in Fellowship Hall. A dessert reception will follow. (While supper is not actually part of the program, you will be able to buy lunch at The Pickle Jar food cart in the church parking lot before the concert.)

Donations for “Sing For Your Supper” can be made on September 18 or anytime. We hope you can join us for this musical event to hear the amazing voices of the Quadrilateral Quartet.

We are pleased to announce that Ross Cowing has accepted the position of Director of Music at First United Methodist Church. Ross has been serving in this position on an interim basis since the beginning of the year. Through the months of pastoral transition and the work of the Music Advisory Team, Ross has had the opportunity to explore combining the role of Organist and Pianist that he has filled for many years and the wider responsibilities that the Director of Music entails. It seemed to Ross that it was a good fit!

Rev. Mark Fowler responded to the news saying, “I am delighted that Ross has decided to assume this role. In my first weeks among you, Ross has been a marvelous colleague and a vital part of our worship team. His creativity and excellence as a musician, worship leader and director of music are evident on Sundays and throughout the week. This is a decision that promises great things for the future!”

Ross will work with the pastoral team and a variety of music groups and vision teams to respond to the work of the Music Advisory Team and the strategic opportunities in the coming months and years. Congratulations, Ross!

*Ann Herrold-Peterson, Staff-Parish
Relations Committee Chair
Rev. Dr. Mark A. Fowler, Lead Pastor*

Handbell Choir Organizing for Fall

Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.,
Fellowship Hall

Handbell choir rehearsals will begin Thursday, September 8. The handbell choir plays for worship services once a month. While we would like to have 12 ringers commit for a nine month period, we know that schedules do not always permit that. This past year we worked one month at a time and called on substitute ringers when necessary. If you read music and are interested in playing handbells, as a regular or substitute, please contact Ross Cowing at 608-338-0545 or rcowing@fumc.org.



Carrie Newcomer Concert

Friday, September 16, 7:30 p.m.,
Sanctuary

*Benefit for Madison-Dane County
Courage to Teach*

Acclaimed singer-songwriter Carrie Newcomer will debut her latest album, "The Beautiful Not Yet." In it she explores how we might live more present, hopeful and engaged lives, even in the face of division, uncertainty or heartbreak. Many of the songs on this album were created in conversation with writer, teacher and activist Parker J. Palmer. Tickets and more information are available at www.eventbrite.com (search for Carrie Newcomer).

Prayer Shawl Ministry Team

Monday, September 12, 2 p.m.,
Chapel

Dig out those knitting needles and crochet hooks for the first meeting of the fall as we make prayer shawls for those in need of comfort. Bring your needlework or just yourself. We will supply ideas and suggested patterns in knit and crochet. If you would like to learn to knit or crochet, we will teach you some simple stitches. For more information contact Paula Primm via the church office at 608-338-0545 or info@fumc.org.



Chancel Choir Begins

Thursday, September 8, 7:30 p.m.,
Music Room

Did you enjoy the Summer Choir this year? Chancel Choir begins weekly rehearsals on September 8. Come join us! Contact Ross Cowing with any questions at 608-338-0545 or rcowing@fumc.org.

Host an International Student for Thanksgiving Dinner

Sundays, September 25 &
October 2, Octagon

Each year Madison Friends of International Students (MFIS) invite UW-Madison and Madison College international students, scholars and their families to join them in their homes for a traditional Thanksgiving celebration. Last year over 115 participants from countries across the globe got to experience the holiday with a local family and to try traditional Thanksgiving foods. However, last year the program also had to turn away nearly 100 students. Please visit the table in the Octagon to learn more about this program and consider sharing your Thanksgiving with someone from another part of the world. More information is available at www.mfismadison.org.

Pride Sunday, August 21



Rev. Dr. Mark A. Fowler,
Guest Preacher Rev. Sue Laurie, Rev. Tina Lang



FUMC in Madison Pride Parade



FUMC Pride Parade Participants

Serving God's People

Outreach Ministry Programming

Community Outreach Breakfast

Wednesdays

9 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Come As You Are Worship

Wednesdays

9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Food Pantry

Monday & Wednesday:

10 a.m. – Noon

Tuesday & Thursday:

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Meals-To-Go Serving the Homeless

Tuesday & Thursday

9 a.m. – Noon

Our Night at the Shelter

Second Saturday every month.

Porchlight Homeless Men's

Drop-in Shelter

Community Holiday Meals

Christmas.....Dec. 25, 2016

Easter.....April 16, 2017

For more information contact

Karen Andro,

Director of Outreach Ministries

kandro@fumc.org

608-338-0320



Erin and her family helping keep our neighborhood clean as part of our Adopt-A-Block Program, a partnership with the City of Madison & Downtown Madison, Inc. (DMI).

Outreach In Action: Helping Neighbors In Need

August was a busy month for Outreach Ministries, connecting new volunteers and helping our neighbors in downtown Madison. Highlights included hosting our fifth Foot Care Clinic for the Homeless led by Madison Area Care for the Homeless (MACH). We served 20 individuals with the help of 28 volunteers including doctors, nurses, medical students and hospitality volunteers.

We expanded our Adopt-A-Block team to help keep our neighborhood clean and safe. This program is a partnership with the City of Madison and Downtown Madison, Inc. (DMI). We are celebrating one year with this program. Volunteers not only do good work in our church's neighborhood, but also get to know our neighbors at the same time.

Interested in joining one of our teams? Please contact Karen Andro, Director of Outreach Ministries at 608-338-0320 or kandro@fumc.org. A special thank you to our family of volunteers who make all that we do possible!



We partner with the Just Bakery Program to help individuals newly released from prison develop job readiness skills.



Cealey checking in with Sue at Madison Area Care for the Homeless (MACH) Foot Care Clinic.



Pastor Breanna Illene, Come As You Are Worship leader talking with Caroline Werner, LGBTQ Senior Advocate with OutREACH.



Snack Bags prepared with love for our To-Go Meal program for the homeless.



Homemade chocolate chip cookies for meals served to homeless individuals.



Mary plays the piano at our Community Outreach Breakfast.



Allison and her children helping to prepare snack bags for our To-Go Meal Program for the Homeless.

UMW Deborah Circle

Tuesday, September 13, 6 p.m.,

Noodles and Company

(3600 University Ave., Madison)

Join us to hear Mary Lou Taylor tell about the food pantry at East High School benefitting hungry teens. All women are invited to attend.

UMW Envisioning Team Meeting Date Change

Thursday, September 8, 1 p.m.,

Room 208

All are invited to contribute to the vision and plans for First Church's United Methodist Women. The team will not meet again on September 28, as originally scheduled.

UMW Tabitha Circle

Thursday, September 15, 1 p.m.,

Room 208

Come to Tabitha Circle's first meeting after our summer hiatus. Our book for discussion will be *January First* by Michael Schofield. Pat Soderholm will facilitate the discussion. All are welcome and invited to join us.

Go on Personal Journey at *Faith Alive!*

New Session Begins September 16

Take a journey of spiritual formation to integrate faith and service in the world. In the serene setting of Mt. Morris Camp and Conference Center in Wautoma, small groups meet for a series of retreat weekends. Kathy Maldegen and Tricia Hillner have participated in this program and would love to tell you more about it. Contact them through the church office at info@fumc.org or 608-338-0545. Program details, including registration and scholarship information, available at <http://www.wisconsinumc.org/ministries/spiritual-form/lay-ministry-intro/faith-alive>. (Note signup deadline has been extended.)

Shaping, Strengthening and Engaging Our Faith

Moving to the Center of My Story: A Labyrinth Experience

Sundays, September 11, 18 or 25, anytime between 9 a.m. and noon, Chapel

The labyrinth is an ancient spiritual practice that offers contemplation, reflection and prayer through a process of movement, listening and active silence. Spend some time in our labyrinth any Sunday in September. Allow the pattern of the labyrinth and the brief printed guide to lead you on a path of personal reflection and self-discovery. This labyrinth experience is very individual and can take a few short minutes or can be extending as long as you choose.

The Story We Find Ourselves In, by Brian McLaren

5-Week Reading/Discussion Group

Sundays, September 11-October 9, 10:30 a.m., Room 208

Join others to read and discuss an inspiring retelling of the Biblical story explored in seven brief episodes. In this story, successful pastor and author, Brian McLaren captures a new spirit of relevant Christianity, where traditional divisions and doctrinal differences give way to a focus on God and the story of God's love for this world. This is a fictional, but inspiring tale that provides a vision of what it could mean to recapture a joyful spiritual life. Copies of the book and the reading schedule will be available at the first gathering on September 11.

From the Darkwood Brew Coffee House

Sundays, 10:30, Room 214

It's scholarly, it's entertaining, it's fun, and it's enlightening: what is it? A new series using contemporary technology, but based on the ancient spiritual practice of the *Lectio Divina*. Darkwood Brew features world-class musicians, interviews with renowned and emerging religious thinkers, and a variety of interactive media. Each session invites an exchange of ideas as together the group explores the unexpected love of God in relevant, challenging and surprising ways. For a brief preview of the program possibilities visit darkwoodbren.org and as they say, "grab your coffee, get comfortable – but not too comfortable – and join the conversation that's stirring things up."

Theology in the 21st Century

Sundays, 10:30 a.m., Room LL05

This group's practice is to read and discuss a variety of theologically-based literature. A book selected by consensus of the group will be the focus for several weeks with different class members facilitating weekly discussions.

Save the Date for Senior Fall Festival

Tuesday, October 18, Fellowship Hall

At the final senior social for 2016, there will be fellowship, a wonderful lunch and a special program. Look for more details in the October issue of *Chimes*.

all God's Children

It's Superhero Story Time in Sunday School

Sunday, September 11

Jesus was a master teacher who often used storytelling to help people learn deeply.

In our children's Sunday School we focus on hearing, remembering and sharing the stories of God's people and claiming our own place in that story. These important stories are experienced in a variety of ways:

through music, art, games, relationships, and good old-fashioned storytelling. But we start this new Sunday School year with storytelling that isn't so old-fashioned: we start this year exploring what it means to be a SUPERHERO!

Superhero supplies have been mailed to children inviting them to our September 11 Sunday School Superhero Celebration. (If you know a child who has not received the mailings please contact the church ASAP so we can send them materials.) On Superhero Sunday we'll have fun exploring our super powers, unmasking our true identities, and finding ways to share our super powers. Don't miss the fun! Be sure to join us on Superhero Sunday, September 11.



Superhero Sunday Schedule

Superhero supplies (and Sunday school classrooms) are ready for children age 2 through grade 5. Children attend the first few minutes of 9 a.m. worship and are escorted from the Sanctuary to the classrooms around 9:15 a.m. Their classes conclude at 10:15 a.m. allowing parents or other adult caregivers a few minutes for coffee and conversation in Fellowship Hall.

Childcare is provided for very young children anytime between 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. in the Noah's Ark Nursery (Room 104) just outside Fellowship Hall.

Bibles Presented to Third Graders

Sunday, September 11

Students entering third grade this fall will each receive the gift of a Bible during 9 a.m. worship on September 11. If there's a new third grader in your home please help them be in church that morning! If there are fourth and fifth graders in your home please help them remember to bring their Bibles with them September 11, 18 and 25 for special Bible learning activities that they will share with the third graders.

Sunday School

Children attend worship with their parents at the 9 a.m. service and go to Sunday School in Lower Level classrooms when they are dismissed following Children's Time.

- No Children's Sunday School: Sunday, September 4
- Fall Sunday School Begins: Sunday, September 11

Children's Library, Room LL14

For more info contact Tina Lang at tlang@fumc.org.

Childcare on Sundays

Available 8:45 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Infants and Toddlers:

Noah's Ark Nursery/ Room 104

Youth

- Home Again Sunday: September 11, 9 a.m., Sanctuary
- Kick-Off Sunday, September 18, 9 a.m., Youth Rooms

For more info contact Seth Schroerlucke at youthya@fumc.org.

first church Youth



High School Mission Trip to Eastern Kentucky

Using mountain top removal as a medium to talk about Eco-Justice, we saw first hand the connections between poverty and the environmental destruction that has led to it through the homes we helped repair and the people we met. This may have been the hardest we've ever worked at ASP, so many thanks to all the youth who stayed fast and the adults who kept the ship sailing.

Home Again Sunday for Youth

Sunday, September 11, 9 a.m.,
Sanctuary

This is the Sunday when the church comes alive again from summer ins and outs. We want to begin the year sitting in worship together, to welcome Pastor Mark and to show our church who we are and where we are! We'll have some special activities for youth too, during coffee fellowship time.

Youth Kick-Off Sunday

September 18

9 a.m. - All Middle School and High School Youth are invited to the Youth Rooms for a welcome back party from the summer.

10:15 a.m. - A 30-minute presentation about the NEW things happening in the youth program. Be in the know, get excited for an exhilarating year. For all youth *and* parents.



Joys and Concerns

We offer our prayers and support to members and friends of our congregation who have recently lost a loved one:

- Rev. Tina Lang and her family upon the death of Tina's mother, Leah Sailor on August 13.
- Joe Nagle and his family upon the death of Joan Nagle on August 18.

Celebrations at First Church:

- Jonathan and Solveig Schroerlucke welcomed daughter Éowyn Lyra on August 8. Proud uncle and aunt are Seth and Nichole Schroerlucke and happy grandparents are Keith and Sandra Schroerlucke.

FUMC Building Hours

Sunday: 8 a.m. - Noon

Monday - Thursday: 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Friday - Saturday: Closed

The church building and offices and Outreach Services will be closed Monday, September 5 in observance of Labor Day.

Chimes Deadline

Articles Due: 8 a.m. Friday, September 9, for the October issue of *Chimes*, to be published on Wednesday, September 28.

Newcomer Gathering

Sunday, September 11, 10:30 a.m., Room 201

If you would like to learn more about First Church and its mission and ministries, please join us for an informal gathering. Let us know you are interested in attending by contacting Mary Hasheider at mhasheider@fumc.org or 608-338-0107.

Recurring Calendar Items

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, September 12, 2 p.m., Chapel

Governing Board Meeting

Monday, September 19, 6 p.m., Room 208

Young Adult Life Group

Tuesdays, September 13 & 27, 7 p.m. Barriques (127 W. Washington Ave.)

Spouses Now Alone

Tuesday, September 27, Noon Imperial Garden, Middleton

Suicide Prevention Training

Monday, September 12, Noon-1:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Chimes Team

Wednesday, September 28, 9:30 a.m., Room 208

Yoga For Good

Wednesdays, 6 p.m., Chapel

Meditation Group

Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Chapel

Handbell Choir

Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall (Begins 9/8)

Chancel Choir,

Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Music Room (Begins 9/8)

AA Group

Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., Room 208

Foot Care Clinic

for the Homeless Outreach
Saturday, September 10, 10:30 a.m.

Our Night at the Shelter

Saturday, September 10

First United Methodist Church

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