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David Bowles, Ladysmith/Conrath  September. 24, 3pm – Rev. Gloria VanHouten, Schofield  October 22, 2:30pm – Rev.Kent Cormack, 1st Congregational, LaCrosse  Covenant within the UCC centers all relationships within and throughout the church and other parts of the denomination. A Service of Installation acknowledges the relationships and states the covenant or promises that the Pastor, Church and wider community are entering. You are invited to attend these installations | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **From the Roberts church**  **Congratulations to Pastor Burt and Toni Williams!**  We joyfully announce that baby Elijah Clifford Williams was born this morning at 7:26 am. He is 21.25 inches long, weighed 8 lbs.15.8 oz. and came out hungry according to dad. Both mom and baby are doing really well! The whole family is excited to come to Roberts and start their new journey with us.  Rev Williams begins his call at the Roberts UCC on September 1. | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **In The Thick Of It**  **Rev. Rob MacDougall, Associate Conference Minister**  In my humble opinion there is no better place to be than Wisconsin during the summer months. I do a significant amount of traveling around our amazing state, this summer as I look out over thriving fields and thick woods I count my blessings.  More and more I enjoy digging in the dirt and trying to grow some berries, vegetables and grapes in my garden. The last couple of years most of the plants I am nurturing have been assaulted by two varieties of beetles – rose chaffers and Japanese beetles. These beetles actually skeletonize the leaves of plants and if left unchecked they end up killing the plants. Many days I am in the garden picking beetles off leaves, but they are in such great numbers they do a great deal of damage. Through a little investigation I have learned that everything about my garden is a perfect environment for these bugs to grow, sandy soil, the roots of grass to feed their young and even the plants I am growing are their preferred diet. I am told that I need to modify some of these elements if I am to improve the outcome of my garden. The most effective intervention I can undertake is to change the environment of my garden.  The events of this past week in Charlottesville, VA have confronted us with the reality of an insidious, unapologetic presence of hate in our society. Voices of bigotry and racism seem emboldened and justified in hateful actions. Social media has become a mechanism for those who wish to promote racism to inflame others; political leaders have mistaken concern for citizens struggling to gain what is necessary for health and happiness with those who strike out with violence and destruction toward others who differ from them. An environment has been created where hatred is flourishing and it has become clear that this environment needs to be changed or there will be even greater suffering.  Last spring the speaker at our Northwest Association Annual Meeting, Rev. Winton Boyd, talked about five habits that the author Parker Palmer points to as essential for cultivating an environment where civility and compassion can flourish. They include:   1. recognizing that we are all in this life together, 2. the need to develop an appreciation of each other’s perspective, 3. creatively holding unresolvable differences over time, 4. the need to value our own concerns and be able to offer them constructively, 5. and finally, we need to believe that we have the capacity to create just and compassionate communities.   In times such as our present moment the church and all who follow Jesus are called to take action to change our social environment such that love can flourish instead of hate. Though our inclination may be to lay low or avoid getting involved, our world needs us to engage its brokenness that healing and new life can emerge. The five habits identified by Parker Palmer provide good direction for cultivating the kingdom of God in the places where we live, work and worship. With these five habits in mind we can begin by talking with other members of our church and identify ways we can live out the gospel’s call to love all our neighbors. We become visible signs of the love of Christ in the way we treat friends and strangers. We become leaven in our church, town and city by lifting up the value of all lives and standing against those who foment hate and bigotry. We have the capacity, relying on God’s grace and justice, to create compassionate communities.  In prayer we find clarity and God gives direction to our speaking and doing. God’s blessings to you in this time of unrest and possibility. | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **IINVITATION TO THE NORTHWEST CHURCHES**  Do you know families on the edge, just an illness or car breakdown away from financial ruin? Do you teach students that are living in their cars at night? Do you know people who are not getting medical attention because there are too many other bills to pay? In this time of budget cuts, the NW Association is asking you to be on the alert for new or widening cracks opening in your communities that people are falling through.  The “Division of the Mission of the Church in the World” (the long term for “Mission Committee”), invites every church in the NW Association to seek out and identify the needs in your community so we can better support one other through these difficult times. Instead of wishing for the world to come in our doors, let us go out into the cross-roads where people are living their lives and join hands to mend the places where safety nets have been torn. How else can we show the peoples of the world that God does care what happens to them? Let the “Church in the World” committee know what things are most needed in your community (or the Global community) so that we can help plug you in to other organizations, resources, or churches working on the same problem. We also provide scholarships for work-groups. You can ask us for resources to get started by phone, by email or by clicking on the links for resources on the right of the “Shift” section of the wcucc.org website. For instance, if you want to find out about the legal risks of sanctuary, you could click on “Resource Center” at the top of the wcucc webpage, then “Justice Ministries,” then “ Immigration/Refugees,” and on the cascade of resources at the right of the page that comes up, click “The Sanctuary Movement and Legal Risks.”  What better way to let everyone know you and your church belong to God, than to be God’s “hands and feet in the world”?  *The Division of the Church in the World,*  *Elizabeth Hazel, chair--*[*morrinhazel@pctcnet.net*](mailto:morrinhazel@pctcnet.net)*715-744-2373-*  *Bill Colby-Newton—* [*billcolbynewton@gmail.com*](mailto:billcolbynewton@gmail.com)*651-455-2385*  *Cindy Halfen--* [*cindy.halfen@gmail.com*](mailto:cindy.halfen@gmail.com)*715-830-1362*  Karen Brzezinski— [karencbrz@gmail.com](mailto:karencbrz@gmail.com)                                 715-297-6688  Scott Crandall— [PeaceUCCchurch@gmail.com](mailto:PeaceUCCchurch@gmail.com)                       715-344-7104  Sue Mcbride – [suemcbride1@gmail.com](mailto:suemcbride1@gmail.com)                                   608-788-8051 | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/2bed36aa-6911-4db1-af6a-f7bcfa9ca231.jpg | | ***“Sowing Seeds of Mercy: Hope for the Homeless”***    On July 22, 2017 Clark County celebrated the opening of the “House of Mercy” in Loyal which began to receive guests in need of the stability of a home November, 2016. The House of Mercy is part of the Beyond Shelter Program. The mission is to provide dignity and stability of a permanent home, as well as supportive services to homeless individuals. While under the auspices of Catholic Charities, the Board of Directors wants the ministry to be ecumenical. So, guided by Fr. Steve Brice a group of clergy and laity began to create an ecumenical worship service and fundraising event. Pastors Jacoba Koppert, UCC, Neillsville and Asafa Rajaofera, Immanuel UCC, Greenwood and First Congregational" | | |  | | --- | | UCC, Owen were among those who planned the service.  ﻿The Service took place in a decorated machine shed on a dairy farm with Amish buggies riding by on July 22. The Catholic, ELCA and United Methodist Bishops along with Rev. Rob MacDougall, Associate Conference Minister, Wisconsin Conference UCC participated in the service, as did Rev. Doris Rubin, Peace UCC Dorchester and Ebenezer UCC, Stratford, Rev. Asafa Rajaofera, Rev. Koppert and clergy of other denominations. Music was led by the Denk and Beaver families. Together at the event, “Sowing Seeds of Mercy: Hope for the Homeless” we raised $25,000 for the House of Mercy.    Following our celebration service, a pulled pork lunch was served with all the side dishes again provided by local churches and businesses. Neillsville UCC Member, Bonnie Weyer invited churches who were and were not participating in other ways to donate the side dishes… so the event became even more inclusive.    Churches and clergy in Clark County are feeling very positive about our first countywide partnership effort to make a difference in our area. Only the Spirit knows where we will go from here. | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **2017 Neighbors in Need Offering**  **“Protect the Sacred: In a Just World, Clean Water is Life”**  The Division on Church in the World is providing this information to educate and encourage churches in the Northwest Association to spread the word about the significant work that is being accomplished through this offering. Secondly, we know that many churches have project ideas but lack necessary funds. A Neighbors in Need grant may be the support needed to begin a justice initiative, or an advocacy effort, or a direct service project in your community. Read on.  Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). One of the churches in the Northwest Association, the Ho-Chunk Church in Black River Falls, receives support from CAIM. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Most congregations will receive this offering on October 1, 2017.  Transformational stories that highlight some of the ministries who have received a grant and how they found success with it in their communities, can be found at [www.ucc.org/nin\_stories](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxp6x_RVT0_h8gpJR7F7HhPWaIT2-tDuVlmXdanahKQUgoBocnD8vjPe5p9SRA6NVaIh2qvdn5N-q3-poPk1Q8FddUYY56KzSvA==&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==). Examples include: “Open Table & Free2Be GLBT Advocacy & Youth Services” in Mobile, Ala; “Mano en Mano” a go-to agency in Maine for Latino/Latina immigrant and farmworker issues; “San Francisco Night Ministry” a ministry of care, compassion, and concern for those who find themselves on the street; “Digit” a ministry to at-risk adolescents as an alternative to street gang membership in Lancaster PA; “Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement” of Des Moines a program to empower and unite grassroots people to take control of their communities; and “Urban Mission Experience/St.Louis” providing youth groups with meaningful mission experiences. To learn more and gain inspiration for work in your community, visit the web-site.  The application process for a 2017 NIN grant is open until September 30, 2017 and can be completed online at [www.UCC.org](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxqp0WwPqNL1qQhVon0E0ZancTzeWkQiBNbTPOfYt0f6bpWSoXWw9pIc3yBV4JgUKjBvRpeS2qcTp3NojuQMXOGo=&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==). Grant monies may be used for:   * Direct program staff or consultant salaries and benefits, to enable implementation of innovative projects; * Program expenses; * Computer/technology equipment costs; * Multimedia or technical production expenses; * Program-related office expenses; * Publicity/promotional costs.   First-time project grants range from $1,000 to $10,000 and may be renewed in the subsequent year for $1,000 to $5,000. Only UCC congregations and organizations are eligible to submit proposals and the project must relate to work supported by General Synod actions in one of the following programmatic areas: The Rights and Freedoms of all Persons; Environmental Justice; or Economic Justice. Further detail on the application process is outlined on the web-site. | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | |  | | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/0f1ac1d2-cb0f-487d-be62-aad6d71af191.jpg | | Kerri Parker, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of Churches  From the [WIsconsin Council of Churches](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxp6x_RVT0_h8ziReivbSb25Cx1BNDCHwdEaaBIR5PZxtgf7763UYXp_8fDBku36AGuL6flLYFqROE_uv3QKS18y84GXghwOTb1qoAyKleLBDdH-lsIGAnuikIT71lLxFv-aDhnflrZ7VI39FfJU6yNbXNJ59cD2xgd_bqxR_CoJGYz1qaArKCeAqlB7HCoiUAboU-wq114mR&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==),  The Wisconsin Council of Churches is excited to announce that the Rev. Kerri Parker has been named as its new executive director. | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | |  | | --- | | Rev. Parker brings a strong faith commitment to the ecumenical ministry of the Wisconsin Council of Churches and has demonstrated leadership in leading complex coalitions toward a common goal. Her experience as a nonprofit executive, marketer and fundraiser, combined with her call as a parish pastor and her leadership roles in the United Church of Christ, made her a standout candidate.  Rev. Parker currently serves as pastor of McFarland United Church of Christ, McFarland, WI. She previously served as executive director of YWCA Rock County in Janesville, Wisconsin, where she managed a large agency with programs dedicated to peace, racial justice and women's empowerment. . . .Rev. Parker will be concluding her call as pastor of the McFarland United Church of Christ this fall and will begin her term with the Council on October 30.  Kerri will continue to serve as the moderator of the Wisconsin Conference. | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **FALL CLERGY RETREAT 2017**  ***Sabbath as Resistance***  NORTHWEST AND NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION Sunday October 1 – Tuesday October 3  Moon Beach Camp  St Germain, Wisconsin (715) 479-8255  Join UCC clergy colleagues from the Northwest and Northeast Association at Moon Beach for a time of Sabbath. We will experience Sabbath as Resistance as Pastor Julie Garber, Spiritual Director/ Licensed Minister invites us to “refresh” our faith and ourselves. She will lead us in practices to “remember” and “reconnect”, individually and as a community. Rev. Dr. Karl Kuhn will lead us in bible study rooting “Sabbath as Resistance” in the scriptures. In addition he will help us prepare for preaching in Epiphany 2018.  Register On-Line![www.ucci.org](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxmn398FBDbjbFmm0XNKmaC1bInsqaVied90ju_iqUZpJmVWILPOr8_QqLo7H_FKCFsYnZPf_hnuoVWo3B0sMVuI=&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==)  (Deadline September 15, 2017)  Cost is $175 per person ($50 is nonrefundable deposit is required at registration) includes meals and lodging.  Register [at www.ucci.org](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxmn398FBDbjbFmm0XNKmaC1bInsqaVied90ju_iqUZpJmVWILPOr8_QqLo7H_FKCFsYnZPf_hnuoVWo3B0sMVuI=&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==)  Retired clergy and clergy new to the Asociation are invited to attend as guests of their Association.    Scholarships assistance is available. Contact your Association Church and Ministry Committee for details.  [Brochure](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxp6x_RVT0_h8ddzSOQHC0HMYxbDeDMCa4BB5jedsQVP3oUYyEMFwKf0FDAcWlUsXf9YZ4EJ3aynTtFwaDriVWGuUnA-GvoYHZ62VhWqcYhOaofR2sr7KTwEfl7W9G93UA7FmRzj2NmoHhZIy4pYLYkUdQfA5vXlVJpAOgoGsn1mxRt6aty6k00I=&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==) for more information | | |  | | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/916bfee1-e038-451a-b9f1-1a88981e4657.jpg | | The Biblical Pictorial Timeline is a collection of 36 images depicting Bible stories. The timeline and its related books are a creative, engaging way to foster biblical literacy and interpretation, and encourage people to find their place in the unfolding drama of the Bible. The timeline is applicable to a wide variety of congregational settings; connects worship, education, and mission; and provides a link between church and home  For more information:: [http://firstchurchrf.org/picture-the-bible/](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxp6x_RVT0_h8CRgn1-0WooEBld4phRICmbLxzmbtg3vEAzFhThavHlWkZkDTrCltnc7UqscwL73p0RnXGb8LGv5efRlYXeIaYRQSe5uaFTcR2mMGN9gMkpI=&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==) | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | |  | | --- | | **Dementia Friendly Worship**  **﻿Coming Soon!**  **Wisconsin Rapids**  First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ (UCC), will be offering a Dementia Friendly Worship service on a monthly basis, beginning in September. It will be offered on the third Sunday of every month at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.    Why have a special dementia friendly worship? Every 66 seconds, someone in the United States develops Alzheimer’s disease or another form of dementia. People living with dementia CAN continue to do many of the activities they love…including worship with a faith community. 70% of people with dementia live at home. 22% live at home alone. Our mission is to offer an inclusive welcome where no one is turned away or left out. This mission is not fulfilled unless and until we can welcome into our sanctuary one of the most vulnerable groups of all: persons with dementia.    Due to work conflicts, families and caregivers of dementia persons are most often unable to attend the worship services that are held at assisted living facilities. This will give them an additional opportunity – or maybe their only opportunity – to worship with their family member in a Sanctuary. Family will not need to be concerned if their dementia member needs to get up and move around during the worship, or if the person with dementia speaks out during the service. It is understood that this may happen.  First Congregational UCC got this idea of a special service from the Watertown UCC church. Their service has been in place for over a year, and attendance from the | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | |  | | --- | | community continues to grow. The service at First Congregational will be modeled on Watertown’s, but with a few changes to customize it for this Sanctuary. It is designed for those who can no longer tolerate attending an hour-long service. **It will be open to the public – all denominations who wish to attend are welcome.**    The service will be 20 minutes in length. It will include a responsive greeting; the first verse of “Jesus Loves Me;” the Lord’s Prayer; no more than two verses of each of two older, familiar hymns; a five-minute sermon based on one verse of Biblical text; and Holy Communion. The First Congregational Christian Care team has found that when they visit members in assisted living, those folks join in on the Lord’s Prayer and familiar hymns and know all the words. However, large-print bulletins with all the words will be provided for all.    First Congregational is planning to complete Dementia Friendly training through the Aging & Disability Resource Center before the first service is held. There are handicapped accessible entries (including a covered drive-through on the south side of the building) and restrooms. Two former restrooms (one men’s and one women’s) have been converted into family restrooms, partly so that family members may easily accompany a dementia person if necessary. If you choose to attend and you see something that needs to be changed to accommodate people with dementia, please notify a church member.    For more information, please contact Rev. Missy Miller at 715-423-0350 or Pastor Susan Stein at 608-515-4491. | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/1645dbee-e267-467a-bef7-48ec1edf8339.jpg | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   **Fall Retreat**  **﻿**Come and enjoy a day in a country setting to learn from nature, scripture and conversation.  Each “Season” reveals the rhythms and cycle of our physical and spiritual lives. For Adult Women, all ages.  **FALL** SEASON WISDOM  **Saturday September 23**  9am to 3pm  ***“May the Fruits of Love be***  ***﻿Harvested Through Me”***  **Location:**  **Brad and Julie Garber Home**  **13975 Shaky Lane Fairchild WI**  **Led by Julie; UCC Licensed Pastor, Spiritual Director, Yoga Teacher, RN**  \*Limited to 12 women  Cost: $20 per person; includes light breakfast, lunch,      snacks, beverages, art supplies  \*Please call to register or for information: 715-577-7372  *Future Retreat: Winter Season, 1/13/18* | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Still Shifting After 500 Years – The Reformation for Today**  **Saturday, October 28th, 2017**  It’s not every day that we get to celebrate a shift as BIG as that of the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century. But this year our Conference joins the rest of the Western world to recognize Martin Luther’s hammering start of the Protestant movement five hundred years ago.  On **Saturday, October 28, at the Trost Center in DeForest,**the historical committee of our Conference will sponsor two presentations from noted Reformation scholars, have lunch together, and hear from our own Wisconsin pilgrims who will have recently returned from Luther’s Germany. Margaret Bendroth of the Congregational Library in Boston, and Lee Palmer Wandel of UW’s history department will help us focus on the contemporary relevance of this half a millennium old shift that some have regarded as more revolution than reformation.  The program runs from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm and includes lunch. Registration begins at 9:30am. The fee for the event is $20.  [Click here to register online](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxp6x_RVT0_h8s6e8kAMEP9Iim9ChIH9B_qvDXIj5E7GUGNtnEggdIw96A9RWpJOYvJ96tDzfBHz6CkJWWMDD6-PzRsXThOavWxDJl9zZ2eCSqkNnSOkkJA6kQ05P15ybjYucUw-WcZKt-4yBUxJoscL9-p-7FN0cU5X47JCuXtnwaa_aLMMKQ_YVNVCit2gBOeusiEgE40MLtXmnKor54X8Upc1L6ITyQJcwEDIJtXm2a_4P34vaLmCVlaav6eaFoGu3IG8QdOPIpZmeweH7fn0aWz0Yi8mBYNhHhuPl4H3eGVBqFbgBNEmiNLd0tj4CrQ==&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==) | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | News from General Synod shared by NIta Fitzgerald, First Congregational UCC, Menomonie  Much of GS is available online, so I am providing links that you can easily cut and paste (or click on) from your digital copy of this newsletter.  To get a concise list and report of justice issues addressed, see this link: Justice recap: [http://www.ucc.org/general\_synod\_31\_justice\_recap](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxp6x_RVT0_h8UAc1spVzMTn98uQkh1s_GMNcTCruMN81UNt9UtKBgvHW7AXnLkU3bHxtW-SlQN4XL6tG4EWPRSSFFFYIZXlUZZJbn6LKNxZ6dw4dOjlaz1vORJojjd4ABA==&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==)  Several UCC News stories about a variety of synod activities (not just business sessions) can be found here: [http://synod.uccpages.org/news.html](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxp6x_RVT0_h8PsQPJF7d90Gxe5CHOzE7zP73V6qxuAVucRWi7tUokPcLhkrTO6w5BQ_asFXqzI_N8lmQ1OY867SwSeswcX9Wc81fTgvmhK-9g3zJKQaINCJwKWLzQNQyuQ==&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==) VIDEO:  Most of the plenary hall activity was recorded and is available online! [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6VgfHt6zEy62\_c0N7VOMFpQXz8DTfiau](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxp6x_RVT0_h8hFzXjAPsIWGiuQOp823Q6Zmf92o4eCqDkNrfJf-x9XS1tcJwaOwhBy00Qtrl_bAUNoLY6XHktvxAo9bV2iZWRqWkOlHaZr7xlRNy7HxS6WF1Xm6HcA5c2ZH0odFJxEZhRmcP1r0TWzo_ayG09YXyog==&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==) If you watch any of them, you’ll get a feel for synod!  General Synod 2019 will be in Milwaukee! This makes my heart sing because it is so close to us! Many of us could go for one or more days. In fact, there will be opportunities for volunteer hosts in all kinds of tasks. Plans are already underway for how our WI Conference will welcome and support the UCC’s General Synod! I hope you will find a way to be involved. | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **News from the churches**  **Send your newsletter to** [northwword@gmail.com](mailto:northwword@gmail.com) | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/8ad06167-761b-4f80-bfdb-aa9223c4ce7e.jpg | | First Congregational UCC River Falls  **Fendrick & Peck**-Folk Music duo Fendrick & Peck will be our special music guests on **Sunday, August 27.**They will share their music during worship and will move to the Fellowship Hall following the service to keep the music going. They have been featured artists in many venues sharing music from their albums, and have been hailed as the "future of folk music" through their annual tours throughout the Midwest, New England and Mid Atlantic areas. Please join us for a morning of great music, delicious treats, and great fellowship!  First Congregational UCC Menomonie  This past year has been a difficult one for race relations both in the United States and within the city of Menomonie. Because First Congregational United Church of Christ is committed to promoting racial justice and interpersonal healing, we are delighted to host a theatre-based workshop on race on Saturday, September 23rd, from 9:30-noon. A meal and time for further dialogue will follow the workshop.  We are partnering with the Multicultural Studies and LGBTQIA+ programs to offer the workshop to 100 UW-Stout students, community members and members of our congregation.  The Penumbra Theatre Company in St. Paul, Minnesota, has been offering excellent theater experiences for audiences since 1976. The theater offers a forum for African-American voices: playwrights, actors, directors, dancers, and musicians. Drawing on the power of theater to tell stories, evoke empathy and nurture human connection, Penumbra’s RACE workshops combine expert facilitation, a powerful exploration of race in America, monologues from rtists, and opportunities for participants to use in life.  Congratulations to  First Congregational UCC Park Falls  100 Years  Enter His Gates With Thanksgiving!  Indeed, it is the 100th birthday of our original UCC church structure at 279 W. 1st Ave. in Park Falls, Wisconsin, and we are thankful for you, our members and friends. One hundred years ago, Reverend B.F. Schoenfeld rallied members together to construct the First Congregational Church building in Park Falls, beginning a legacy of service to our small town and surrounding area in the northwoods of Wisconsin. We are a congregation that welcomes all without judgement. Last year, Pastor Don Quigley answered our call, bringing a renewed ministry for the teachings of God’s word. He is looking forward to many years of ministering to us. 100 years is something to celebrate. So we invite you back to church this summer, to the comfort of God’s love, the fellowship that comes with shared worship, and the friendship of kindred hearts.  Sunday August 13, 2017 10:30 a.m .  Celebratory Church Service and Meal  And...  St Paul’s UCC Ellsworh  Celebrates 150 years Sunday, September 24th.  Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on Sunday, September 24th. Worship will be at 10 am and a German Style lunch will be served following worship, and a special 150th Celebration Service is planned for 1:00 pm. Please contact the office to RSVP if you plan to attend the meal. We look forward to seeing you here. | | |  | | --- | | Community United Church of Christ  Medford  \*\*Packer Ticket Raffle\*\* Jim & Joyce P. are giving us the opportunity to raise funds for the Building/Grounds Roofing Project. The needed amount for the church roof and steeple in 2-5 years is estimated at $36,403.00.  We have 1,000 tickets available to sell during the next months until the drawing on October 8th. Please pick up tickets to sell in the church office following services and during office hours, Monday-Thursday 9:00-1:00.  Packers vs. Ravens – November 19th @Noon 1 st Prize: 4 tickets ($408.00 value) Great seats! 8 rows up from field & next to Packer tunnel: Section 133 – Seats 16-17-18-19  2 nd Prize: $200.00 Cash  3rd Prize: $100.00 Cash  Drawing will be held at Community United Church of Christ - October 8th at 10:15 am.  Ticket cost: $10.00 each Please return tickets and money to the church office by Sunday, September 24th . Thank you for your support. | | http://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/56fe5eb9-6076-4911-b9ca-ce9163a52ba3.jpg |  |  | | --- | | Nekoosa UCC  Pumpkin Fest Oct 7, 8 & 9 It will be here before you know it!!!! Shelby is already planning her strategy! Mark the dates on your calendar and watch for the sign-up sheets so you can spend some time in our booth. A little work is involved but a lot more fun. Also get out your favorite recipes. Our booth is always popular with shoppers looking for homemade baked goods.  ALL CHURCH RETREAT- MOON BEACH  Our theme is “Holy Hallowed Retreat” This year’s we are scheduled forFriday evening, October 27 through Sunday morning, October 29, 2017. | | http://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/67540b63-3930-45ee-a4aa-1a950b19da60.png | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Camps!** | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | |  | | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/98bead0f-5e75-4d1e-98f3-2dacc45ed901.jpg | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Pulpit Supply August 2017**  **also available on the** [website](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxrc_j2EXotcJ8Q6vXXhexeofcFAsjBKxKeGK-PgOcoZvKwqiI7Zhif1kz4hMQTGvu3rFh9GDW10FwwTge_Hy_cl0nr-rGFxrbF11GTE0RCZ9oFlrG95-IoglCdpgSGyfPYuEtLVY-VQe&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Churches should be fair and forthright in agreeing upon honorarium and travel expenses for persons they invite to provide pulpit supply. The Conference Division of Church and Ministry suggests a minimum of $125 plus mileage reimbursed at the IRS current rate; for 2017, that would be 53.5 cents per mile. Where a church has two points and two services, you should consider a minimum of $175 plus mileage.  Conference staff persons serve the local congregations in a variety of ways in the normal performance of their duties. Honoraria are not accepted, and travel costs are covered by the Conference travel budget. Except in emergencies, Conference staff cannot provide pulpit supply; however, the staff welcomes opportunities to preach for special occasions or to meet with members of the congregation.  Please note: Persons licensed to the NW Association and ordained pastors are authorized to administer the Sacraments.  **EAU CLAIRE TO TWIN CITIES AREA**:  Rev. Elizabeth Hazel, 1060 Marian Lane, Park Falls, WI 54552 (willing to drive 3 hours) 715-744-2373 [morrinhazel@pctcnet.net](mailto:morrinhazel@pctcnet.net)  Rev. Carol J. Heckmann, 1789 County Road E E, White Bear Lake, MN 55110 651-269-4950 [cj.heckmann@yahoo.com](mailto:cj.heckmann@yahoo.com)  Rev. Jeanny House, 1342 Glenn Place #2, Eau Claire, WI 54703    715-577-5542 [jeannyh@fastmail.fm](mailto:jeannyh@fastmail.fm)  Rev. Sandee Kosmo, 3214 Chasewood Lane, Eau Claire, 54701     715-834-2112 [skosmo14@msn.com](mailto:skosmo14@msn.com)  Rev. Norm Luecke, Bruce, WI (willing to travel 2 hours)    925-639-1652 [normluecke@yahoo.com](mailto:normluecke@yahoo.com)  Rev. Dick Olmsted, 613 Spruce Drive, Hudson 54016        715-531-0374 [drolmsted@gmail.com](mailto:drolmsted@gmail.com)  Stephen P. Ottman, 733 First Street, Plum City 54761 715-647-3501 h 715-495-2017 cell  [s\_ottman@hotmail.com](mailto:s_ottman@hotmail.com)  Barry Tulkki, 140 Arch Street, Amery WI 54001 715-268-8997 home  651-303-7975 cell     [barrytulkki@gmail.com](mailto:barrytulkki@gmail.com)  Rev. Charles Wolfe, 715-441-7362  [chaswolfe411@gmail.com](mailto:chaswolfe411@gmail.com)  **SUPERIOR-ASHLAND AREA:**  Deanne Allen, 14240 S. Riverside Road, Cable, WI 54821  715-798-5097 [woodyspirit@gmail.com](mailto:woodyspirit@gmail.com)  Pastor Gary Gilbert, Licensed to the NW Association ,2051 Pinewood Drive, P.O. Box 1921, Eagle River, WI 54521       715-479-2908 home [garygilbert41@charter.net](mailto:garygilbert41@charter.net)  Bill Handy, 715-682-0168  Rev. Elizabeth Hazel, 1060 Marian Lane, Park Falls, WI 54552 (willing to travel 3 hours)       715-744-2373        [morrinhazel@pctcnet.net](mailto:morrinhazel@pctcnet.net)  John Thompkins, [johnval@reagan.com](mailto:johnval@reagan.com)         715-372-4543.  Rev. Donald B. King, W7995 Perkinstown Ave., Medford, WI 54451    715-785-7635 [sdking@tds.net](mailto:sdking@tds.net)  Rev. Norm Luecke 925-639-1652 Bruce, WI (willing to travel 2 hours) [normluecke@yahoo.com](mailto:normluecke@yahoo.com)  Rev Bob Rice, [robertsrice@msn.com](mailto:robertsrice@msn.com) 405-642-6118 (Eagle River area)  **LA CROSSE AREA:**  Rev. Betsy Miller-Ruben, [millerru@triwest.net](mailto:millerru@triwest.net)                    608-534-6043  Rev. Micah Schlobohm,. N10188 Buckeye Drive, Necedah WI          608-547-7225           Willing to preach in the “triangle between LaCrosse, Wausau and Necedah.) [revmicah.schlobohm5@gmail.com](mailto:revmicah.schlobohm5@gmail.com)  Rev. Mark Stahlhut, 2106 West Ave. S, La Crosse WI 54601  608-298-3181 or 608-317-5735 (work cell) [mstahlhut@msn.com](mailto:mstahlhut@msn.com)  Rev.Tom Uphaus, 2650 N Pine Creek Rd, La Crescent, MN 55947            507-895-2152 [tuphaus@acegroup.cc](mailto:tuphaus@acegroup.cc)  **WAUSAU AREA:**  Rev. Dale Bishop, 511 Sundstein Rd., Eagle River, WI 54521  715-479-1152 [dbishop511@frontier.com](mailto:dbishop511@frontier.com)  Rev. Don Baumann, 2202 Zimmerman Street, Wausau, WI 54403  715 571-6329 [donbfishing@gmail.com](mailto:donbfishing@gmail.com)  Rev. Wayne C. Drueck, 1811 Perry Drive, Schofield, WI 54476    715-355-8895 home 715-212-8376 cell [harleyrev@gmail.com](mailto:harleyrev@gmail.com)  Rev. Emerson Coy, PO Box 67, Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538         715-588-3487 [ecoy@ldftribe.com](mailto:ecoy@ldftribe.com)  Rev. John Eldred (UMC), 4403 North Lakeshore Drive, Wausau 54401    715-359-5078 home  715-370-6822 cell   [bramblyhill@yahoo.com](mailto:bramblyhill@yahoo.com)  Pastor Gary Gilbert, Licensed to the NW Association, 2051 Pinewood Drive, P.O. Box 1921, Eagle River, WI 54521                   715-479-2908 home  [garygilbert41@charter.net](mailto:garygilbert41@charter.net)  Rev. Elizabeth Hazel, 1060 Marian Lane, Park Falls, WI 54552,           (willing to travel 3 hours)      715-744-2373           [morrinhazel@pctcnet.net](mailto:morrinhazel@pctcnet.net)  Rev. Donald B. King, W7995 Perkinstown Ave. Medford, Wi 54451    715-785-7635 [sdking@tds.net](mailto:sdking@tds.net)  Rev. Norm Luecke, Bruce, WI (willing to travel 2 hours)    925-639-1652 [normluecke@yahoo.com](mailto:normluecke@yahoo.com)  Rev. James Mohr, 35 Hewett St., Neillsville WI 54456,      715-743-7626 [jmohr@tds.net](mailto:jmohr@tds.net)           \*Note: I would be available to drive to any place  Rev Bob Rice, [robertsrice@msn.com](mailto:robertsrice@msn.com), 405-642-6118 (Eagle River area)  Rev. Micah Schlobohm,. N10188 Buckeye Drive, Necedah WI      608-547-7225   \*Willing to preach in the “triangle” between LaCrosse,  Wausau and Necedah.       [revmicah.schlobohm5@gmail.com](mailto:revmicah.schlobohm5@gmail.com)  Rev. Pat Tucker, 511 Sundstein Rd., Eagle River, WI 54521    715-479-1152 [ptucker511@frontier.com](mailto:ptucker511@frontier.com)  Mary Wright, [bmw@tznet.com](mailto:bmw@tznet.com)         715-325-3602 | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Visit our website**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxrc_j2EXotcJ8Q6vXXhexeofcFAsjBKxKeGK-PgOcoZvKwqiI7Zhif1kz4hMQTGvu3rFh9GDW10FwwTge_Hy_cl0nr-rGFxrbF11GTE0RCZ9oFlrG95-IoglCdpgSGyfPYuEtLVY-VQe&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==) | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | | | [Facebook](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001UQdi_hQi_qGIrMg1AD00r6MfmwfIyxm12f65wpM-K7nbX4QwTwxfxrc_j2EXotcJeakMYqIHrBwaYhUWXUIpf15LKopTkfjBPu7DVecn3EuG4ZAQXRceGpq3Na8zq8ALZSGfAlRPv7Rkp8u1GURBJTk2p1gvvKNe&c=qqlnjJod_cWE_LJg5jPjR21MpoehMLHczjCEl61vcgN68XZlM_uADA==&ch=AoES6ctUzFB-TR9Wri5L29Bqhs5CvSqaaszhPvzxxvQsLtFczePKCQ==) | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **God is still speaking** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | ‌ | | | |