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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/024c1386-7007-4453-be80-b2ac62dfe764.png | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **MAY 2017** **Northwest Word**    **Northwest Association News,** **Wisconsin Conference United Church of Christ**  Annual Meeting|Mission opportunities|LOCAL churches|News|Transitions|ACM|Pulpit Supply  If you haven't included us on your church email list please do. e'd love to see your newsletters and include your news.     [northwword@gmail.com](mailto:northwword@gmail.com)  Next edition planned for mid-July | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/d98008fa-4c56-42a0-bbd7-efe62551be06.png | | |  | | --- | | **Thank you** | | The Northwest Association sincerely thanks St Paul's UCC, Wausau for the extravagant welcome we received at our Annual Meeting.  The Annual Meeting booklet can be found on the Association [webpage.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001H4TBEL-ExerVRPQ86bWjYRNn0QVaqmP36hFrJvmKVnZixAPrpYZcftrRFL66JQdsw36BtYlyIb_azPTCcTI9UWdxSgEyd4elz6aUKeQfg5t4pVRSjfVLRyBjfYelPK1CocAIRDbsx_jYZCbkRSAwgnws0QLV8lmg6dGfIS9nUSzkPEgIJnAKdAjsmfZHiSXxgTP49horCTTAuQVEC4x02Q==&c=3OX9zU3aRR2stjqn_D7RHxLDdwdQrWkbNnvGqonGcamD8l6PGzVIGg==&ch=Xr9HeEjEXv1a8xXVtnfDGmlk97dFID1sRG0WjhR4sS3XnfpRBpBazg==) | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Conference Annual Meeting** **June 9-11, 2017**  The WI Conference UCC Annual Meeting will be held the weekend of June 9-11 at the Green Lake Conference  Center.  Those who have attended in the past have learned that there is nothing more inspiring than to worship with 500 people from around the State of WI. There is nothing more encouraging than to hear what our brothers and sisters in Christ are doing in their churches across the State; to attend workshops  on different topics of interest; to listen to marvelous speakers; explore the display area and to experience “church” in the WI Conference UCC.   [Register for the Annual meeting](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001H4TBEL-ExerVRPQ86bWjYRNn0QVaqmP36hFrJvmKVnZixAPrpYZcfoBFpgmGm4UNdWiNRnwkWJXqdHhqpf7ERs1_wJGH7LUC2YpY-8jWCm8FY6BmEc77ZXlHiYLVCkdG3Te1uwoMp9ST0wyFR10MUsWJhJCxvUlM2nk4BMFcc_-y_zb0bdzoswkaog2PJwnjvpUAhlzZSqBecj0xQ05ZX-An6i4QbhRosvpkeJoan5T86cTCeBPg0JrPhZ5Ru_zTfl4ba0nHFusjkc4833egwNcVydRid3SwfrkA6KGfK100WDS07pcWi9_7Sh3X0stYhNWQMpvv83LDNohuO4JrvywqD1_kcqCinlZelITg_GGU5t1RnD8UMQ==&c=3OX9zU3aRR2stjqn_D7RHxLDdwdQrWkbNnvGqonGcamD8l6PGzVIGg==&ch=Xr9HeEjEXv1a8xXVtnfDGmlk97dFID1sRG0WjhR4sS3XnfpRBpBazg==) | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/2edd9bd2-0966-48de-8913-cbcbdb216cb3.jpg | | |  | | --- | | ***Back Bay Mission: Strengthening Neighborhoods, Seeking Justice, Transforming Lives***  Back Bay Mission in Biloxi Mississippi has been a lasting source of hope and help for thousands of children, adults and families along the Mississippi Gulf Coast since 1922.  As one of the oldest and most highly respected organizations within the **United Church of Christ** and on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Back Bay Mission continues its journey of providing innovative solutions and compassionate responses to those suffering at the hands of social injustice.  Its **Mission Trip** program provides hands-on service learning experiences for hundreds of volunteers from across the nation. For more information visit [www.thebackbaymission.org](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001H4TBEL-ExerVRPQ86bWjYRNn0QVaqmP36hFrJvmKVnZixAPrpYZcfoBFpgmGm4UNNsC5j8lHouiSPv7sutkGDlcxRhu6J8ZLcgkgalPnljo92t2TYkIKWXIpa7U3IbxFSYO2-QyKoLXazAvlzPUrM31YSOFRmGyU&c=3OX9zU3aRR2stjqn_D7RHxLDdwdQrWkbNnvGqonGcamD8l6PGzVIGg==&ch=Xr9HeEjEXv1a8xXVtnfDGmlk97dFID1sRG0WjhR4sS3XnfpRBpBazg==)  Back Bay Mission's Board of Directors met May 5-6 in Biloxi and elected officers for 2017-18.  President, Matt Williams; Vice-President Jasmine Quinerly; Secretary Wil Brown; Treasurer Brent Johnson. Elected to the Class of 2020 are: Jasmine Quinerly (TX); Crystal Allen (OH); Joyce Bathke (MO); Rosa Smith Williams (NC) Carol Merriman, First Congregational UCC River Falls, serves on the Back Bay board, | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/2b4a53c2-7093-447f-9a72-314d02841b3c.jpg | | **OUR JOURNEY TO A NEW CHURCH**  **Mellen** The Congregational United Church of Christ in Mellen, Wisconsin is building a new church. In 1904, the fledgling UCC congregation decided that their membership had grown enough to warrant building a new church.   Thus began a venture that would continue for over 100 years.  The new church was not only to be a place to worship but the place where generations of children would be baptized, marriages would be performed and last goodbyes would be said.  In 2011, the current congregation began assessing the needs of this aging church. After four years of workshops and hours of meetings and discussion, it was decided that an addition would solve most of the problems that were needed to make our church fully accessible, more efficient and useable.  So we began the process of investigating putting on an addition.  During this process, much to our surprise, even more structural problems came to light.  The problems were serious enough to lead us to drop plans for an addition and consider total removal of the current structure.   To describe this as a heart wrenching decision would be an understatement.  The reality, however, was that with all the newly discovered problems it was in the best interest of future congregations to build a new structure rather than to try to continually repair the old building. At a special congregational meeting held on May 15, 2016 our members voted to investigate building an entirely new church.  The next step was to determine whether we could raise enough funds to follow our dream.  Fund raising began in October of 2016.  The overwhelming response to the call for funding showed us that we could continue to move forward. |  |  | | --- | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/dd2c165a-2239-4f9f-af5a-5c5a2d050058.jpg | | |  | | --- | | If there were any doubts about building a new structure, they were eliminated when more serious problems were revealed during the dismantling of the old structure.  The list below gives a graphic idea of the deficiencies that were found.  ***Church Deficiency List***   * Asbestos discovered in the tile and mastic below the linoleum and carpet in both the kitchen and the Fellowship Hall and in the ceiling tile in the furnace room. * Asbestos in the caulking of all of the original exterior windows. * Burnt rafters from a previous fire in the attic above the sanctuary. * Sagging roof. * Exterior walls were pushing out on the upper portion of the building. * Huge amount of mold discovered under the paneling in the sanctuary. * 6” square cavity housed the window weights on each side of the windows.  They were a dead air space but had no insulation factor. * Crumbling foundation walls on the north and west side of the church. * Sagging floor joists in the sanctuary floor. * Compacted blown cellulose insulation in exterior wall cavities had settled to create an open space in the upper portion of each cavity.   Our new building will again provide a place to build on old memories while making new ones.  We will again worship, baptize, marry and say goodbyes with the added convenience of a structure with no barriers.  While we are in the building process, our Church Services are being held at the Morse Town Hall.   Services begin at 11 a.m. every Sunday.  Come and join us at 10 a.m. for a cup of coffee prior to the beginning of the service.  Pastor Don Quigley will continue to have office hours on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  The temporary church office is located in the former Beauty Salon building next to Northland Foods. Come and join us on our new adventure.  We believe in God and the future of Mellen and our new church will reflect these beliefs.  Pat Meredith Jeff Ehrhardt | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/a2a10339-af63-423a-a29b-93fd6a6315f3.jpg | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Shift from Maintenance to Mission.**  At the annual meeting of the Northwest Association on April 29th each of the local churches have been asked to tell their stories of how we are living into this mission. First Congregational UCC Park Falls First Congregational UCC has committed to this mission by taking on two very different feeding programs. The Lord’s Cupboard, which is housed in the lower level of the church, has become the go to place for people struggling to make ends meet and to keep food on their table. For no charge it supplies food to those in need serving a couple of hundred people a month. This is a joint ecumenical venture of the area churches with many members from the local churches volunteering their time to this worthy effort. Ruby’s Pantry is a relatively new ministry that processes over 300 shares each month. For just $20 you purchase a share and you receive two large totes of food. The amounts of food given out at Ruby’s Pantry is mind boggling for those who are served by this ministry. The people served each month rain down praises on Ruby’s Pantry and the volunteers for the great work they do.  This ministry, although sponsored by First Congregational UCC, is also an ecumenical effort with many of the local churches participating in the program. Congregational UCC Mellen Congregational UCC Mellen serves as a Covenant Church Sponsor for the Brick Ministries which is an Ashland County ministry that is also a feeding and benevolence program for the community.  Congregational UCC does a monthly noisy coin collection which the children and the adults are quite fond of. This collection supports the Brick with over one thousand dollars of annual support. Many from the congregation also serve as volunteers for distribution of food to the community. Another ecumenical ministry of Congregational UCC Mellen is the community choir. This is a choir made up of many members of the local churches of the community. For over 30 years this choir has performed a Christmas Concert that has become a ritual in the Mellen area with many area residents coming to be spiritually inspired by the music of the season. This choir also sings for residents of nursing homes in the area and at many other events including an annual Veterans Day service to honor the veterans of our community.  Then there is the new church building project. This may seem antithetical to the concept of Shift from Maintenance to Mission but we assure you it is all about mission. For years the Mellen church has been a gathering place for community dinners, seminars and concerts. But trying to gather people together in the basement fellowship hall has been an ongoing problem for an aging community. After many years of trying to find ways to make the church more accessible it was finally determined that  we needed to demolish the venerable old church and start anew with a state of the art handicap accessible building. The congregation and the wider community have really stepped up to support this building project collecting nearly $700,000 in just 6 months. Being an itinerant congregation during the building project is challenging but as usual many members of the congregation really stepped up to make this transition time work smoothly.  t is evident that both First Congregational UCC Park Falls and Congregational UCC Mellen are living into their responsibility to be the face of Christ for their communities. Each church fully grasps the understanding that as church with Christ as its head we must look outward to serve the community as well as the church at large. Blessings, Pastor Don | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Holy Hilarity Sunday in Prescott**   Hi everyone!  There has been a movement afoot over the past 20 years or so to celebrate the Sunday after Easter as Holy Humor (or *Holy Hilarity*) Sunday.  This is really a development of the much older tradition in parts of the church recognizing the 2nd Sunday of Easter as Bright Sunday.  God surprised the devil with the resurrection of Jesus, so the joke in on the devil!   This Sunday we are celebrating the joy of faith in a risen Savior by entering into **Holy Humor Sunday**.  The point is to especially lift up the joy of our Christian faith.  I am asking two things of all of you.*First*, if you are so inclined, please wear goofy clothes to church this Sunday - just for the fun of it!  Then *second*, please come armed with a joke or two.  *There will be an open mic time during the service* to tell a joke or a funny story.   By grace we have been saved through faith, which is a totally unexpected AMAZING thing.  Resurrection upsets the apple cart of the world's ponderous predictability, and sends us out laughing because of the victory of God! Let your crazy out and join us for a fun day this Sunday! | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Transitions**  Rev. Missy Miller was installed at First Congregational UCC, WI Rapids on April 2;  Rev. Doris Ruben was installed at Ebenezer UCC, Stratford on May 7;  Rev. Matt Schneider-Adams has resigned as pastor of UCC Prescott effective May 31 and is taking a call to a UCC church in Iowa;  Rev. Sue Schneider-Adams is finishing her interim ministry  Congregational UCC, Roberts, her last Sunday is May 28, she is moving with her husband Matt to Iowa;  Congregational UCC, Roberts has called Rev. Burt Williams as their new pastor, he begins Sept. 1;  Congregational UCC Ladysmith and Congregational UCC Conrath have called Rev. David Bowles as their new pastor, he begins in July;  The installation date for Rev. Mary Snell Willis has be set for Sunday, June 4, 10:30am at Ely Memorial UCC in Land O Lakes;  Jill Christopherson, licensed minister at First Congregational UCC, Eau Claire is retiring in May. | | |  | | --- | | **Save the Date: Northwest Association - Northeast Association Clergy**  Sunday, October 1, 4:30 pm - Tuesday, October 3 after lunch Moon Beach  "Sabbath as Resistance."  Julie Garber, Lay Academy Graduate and Trained Spiritual Director will be one of our leaders.  Other leaders yet to be named.  Massage Therapists will be available for our Monday afternoon free time. | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | |  |  | | --- | | Congratulations to Rev. Topher Mehlhoff (St. Germain) and his wife Amy Mehlhoff on the April 25 birth of their new daughter Eliza Vivian.  We hope that big brothers Joseph and Grayson will enjoy their new baby sister. | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Grace UCC Wausau** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/77c921c6-82df-4473-967c-706ca17bcd67.jpg | | **What a Day!!!** The church was decorated. The choir sang. The organ, the flutist and the brass played. And on April 30, 2017, Grace UCC in Wausau re-dedicated their sanctuary following their “Be A Saint …Help Us Paint” project’s completion. Members have described the new colors in the worship space as “fresh”, “calming” and “relaxing,” all great ways of being in worship. | | |  | | --- | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/b1646ebd-23fa-40f1-b345-dad9ea9c96e3.jpg | | **AND** we named Rev. Wayne Drueck, and Rev. Steve Russell as Pastor Emeritus and Rev. Nancy Johnson Russell as Pastor Emerita. This honorary title allows the members of Grace UCC to welcome back its beloved former pastors as members of the congregation. Pictured below are members of the Emeritus Team (from left – Jim Schulz, Barb Sieglaff, Margaret Schulz, Kim Kunze) and Rev. Wayne Drueck, Colleen Drueck, Rev. Nancy Russell and Rev. Steve Russell. The Emeritus Team conferred the title of Pastor Emeritus/a, and during the sermon, some of the “background material” collected from the congregation as to why these pastors were beloved and so named as Emeritus/a was shared as well.  Of course, a celebratory potluck followed! | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Scholarships for Mission Work are available from the Division of Church in The World.**  [Click here for a scholarship application](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001H4TBEL-ExerVRPQ86bWjYRNn0QVaqmP36hFrJvmKVnZixAPrpYZcfoBFpgmGm4UNG3OxgOjHRGIltbmZxyD3B19VVThk_vqKvzfzOo7FbiJ6oQmIWj-cZE8I9KGLVmQaJulP9M6wizsX0MHcdesv_TqZz_YeRTNanxPqt-g1nbL8Tt9tf671p4JQW7u9YOvt97p-na1KEbN3xLiDDaGB20kKxJVilow6vDj3tDmgyNI=&c=3OX9zU3aRR2stjqn_D7RHxLDdwdQrWkbNnvGqonGcamD8l6PGzVIGg==&ch=Xr9HeEjEXv1a8xXVtnfDGmlk97dFID1sRG0WjhR4sS3XnfpRBpBazg==)or contact the chair, Elizabeth Hazel, [morrinhazel@pctcnet.ne](mailto:morrinhazel@pctcnet.net)t for more information  **Division of Church in the World** supported First Congregational Church UCC, Menomonie, Urban Immersion trip to Milwaukee  Dear Patti and Church in the World,  Thank you very much for supporting our Urban Immersion trip earlier this month. If you haven't taken a look at the program I recommend you do. Bethel-Bethany UCC is welcoming and has all of the organizing done for your group.  Because of flu season our small group of four turned into just three. But we still felt it was worth the five hour drive to Milwaukee. Pastor Tim welcomed us to the church where we stayed in the parish house next store. We traveled downtown where we learned about and had dinner at St Ben's Community meal. It was especially interesting because our church serves a community meal every Thursday. We ate with other guests and debriefed afterwards with several Marquette students who were also there that night.  From there we traveled to the Greater Mt Sinai Church for a deliverance service. Kelsie, high school student, found this to be the most ...  interesting/moving/educational part of the trip.  It was much different then our services, but we felt the love and welcome. For a couple of us it was the first time we were the minority in the room.  As the stewardship deacon I noted the ushers held the baskets in the front of the sanctuary and the congregation came forward with their offering.  After a good night's sleep we were met by an church member guide who took us to the grocery store where we bought provisions to make sandwiches for the Guest House, a men's shelter. Cindy, a Bethel-Bethany member, is the director there and gave us a tour of the facility, introduced us to residents, and helped us make our sandwiches.  After a great lunch at the Milwaukee Public Market with Pastor Tim we visited the Islamic Center. Our guide was a Palestinian American woman. We sat in the back while mid-day prayers were said. Several of the worshipers joined us for conversation after prayer. In fact, after one of the worshipers found out we were having a series of discussions on Islam (we're using the Lutheran My Neighbor is a Muslim material) he volunteered to make the five hour trip to join us - And he did. He's coming back at the end of March for another "Progressive Christian" discussion night. In our discussion at the Islamic Center we did touch on the refugee and travel ban. The Center just welcomed a Syrian family before the ban was implemented. Our Center guide mentioned that America has worked through things like this before and America would do it again. That made me happy.  A whirl-wind- less than 24-hour stay in Milwaukee, but we got a lot out of it. Thank you for your support.  We presented to our confirmation class to build some interest and hopefully will do this again.  Thanks again,  Kelsie, Susan and Wendy  For more information on the Urban Immersion program, [http://bbucc.org/urban-immersion](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001H4TBEL-ExerVRPQ86bWjYRNn0QVaqmP36hFrJvmKVnZixAPrpYZcfoBFpgmGm4UNGIGF0cbvBmBWhXVXAYckCXifU9ixV1kkIpPU66P-q26rD15DXYENgdMsvv0Syma1qjC-3vJmUZOP7BYQXAW3olW9iHx2eyE5fGE7DONDsAw=&c=3OX9zU3aRR2stjqn_D7RHxLDdwdQrWkbNnvGqonGcamD8l6PGzVIGg==&ch=Xr9HeEjEXv1a8xXVtnfDGmlk97dFID1sRG0WjhR4sS3XnfpRBpBazg==)/. | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Strengthen the Church Special Offering**  The suggested offering date is Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2017. (Half of the funds collected stay in the UCC community) Strengthen the Church (STC) is a special mission offering to reimagine and build the future of the UCC. Shared at the Conference and National levels, STC largely supports youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches in parts of the country where the UCC voice has not been heard. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Most congregations will receive the STC offering on Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2017 | | **St Stephens**  USED SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE  Kristine Bowe is helping coordinate a drive to collect used school supplies here at Saint Stephens for students in Kenya. Any new or used school supplies are great ... pencils, crayons, story books, half used notebooks. Anything.  Those supplies will then be combined with similar collections around town, and Dennis McCarthy (from St. Vincent de Paul) and Mark J ahnke (retired educator) will organize, pack, and ship them to Kenya. Thank you for your donations! | | |  | | --- | | **Merrill**  Jacob Schnabl is embarking on an ambitious project to create 100 Health Kits to donate to the Merrill Food Pantry to earn his Eagle Scout award. He has placed a donation box at the back of church and is seeking donations of items to help him create the Health Kits. | | **Medford, Community UCC**  The children will be meeting at the Taylor County Humane Society on Wednesday, May 3rd at 4:30 to deliver “Pennies from Heaven” collected throughout the yr. A check for $755.15 will be given to help our furry friends. We will be taking pictures, so watch for us on our new web site and in the Star News! , |  |  | | --- | | Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action).  Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining!" | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **WI Expo Opportunity** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Over the past twelve months an effort has been underway to create an opportunity for persons pursuing the possibility of serving in a leadership role in our churches.  The opportunity is a part-time stipend experience in a local church to learn firsthand what severing in a pastoral role entails.  This opportunity is available to persons attending seminary, persons who have attended Lay Academy, persons who have been part of other programs of formation for ministry but have not had a direct experience of serving in a local church.  The NWA Division on Local Church Ministry, the WI Conference Catalyst Committee, consultation with Lay Academy leadership, advisement from United Theological Seminary have come together to create this opportunity.  All ministry in the UCC is grounded in the gathering of local communities of God’s people.  All formation for ministry is grounded in the experience of being in and serving local communities of faith.  Too often those who feel called to ministry, when they begin serving a church, are surprised by the realities of leading a congregation.  Too often those who are filled with the Spirit and have a passion for ministry are distressed by the intricacies of local church dynamics, historic and cultural realities, and how to tend to personalities and relational dynamics.  While there is no substitute for being with a congregation over time and learning the paths of healthy and faithful community with them, those entering local church ministry should not be caught unaware of ministry among people who have strengths, weaknesses and their own way of being God’s people.  WI Expo is one attempt to ground those entering ministry in an experience of the local church.  The experience may have several manifestations.  It may resemble a ten hour a week  internship over a period of eight to nine months, it may be a summer internship for twenty hours a week over three months, it may find other forms according a sight that is available and the interest of a person considering ministry in the local church.  All experiences will include supervision of two types, the local church pastor who will help the participant reflect on the skills of ministry and a spiritual guide who will help the participant mature and deepen their own faith life.  All experiences will include a covenant between the local church and the participant.  The covenant will delineate the specific elements of the experience and the accountability process for supervision, payment of the stipend, goals and needs of the participant and the church.  The first WI Expo experience will take place at St.Paul’s UCC in Ellworth.  This experience is to begin in the Fall of 2017 and last up to the end of May 2018. Rev. Adam Westrich will provide the local church pastor supervision and Julie Garber, a trained spiritual director, will provide the spiritual guidance supervision.  The monthly stipend will be approximately $750.  Persons who are members of the church where the experience is to take place are not eligible for the opportunity.  If you are interested in being this year’s participant, or if you know someone who might be interested, please contact Rev. Rob MacDougall, Associate Conference Minister or Rev. Adam Westrich to begin a conversation.  Rob MacDougall, ACM | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Summer Happenings**  Glimpses of God offered by First Congregational UCC, Menomonie  *Fish & Flowers at Glen Hills County Park* Saturday, May 13  *Bike Ride around Lake Menomin* Sunday, June 4  *Bird Watching and Geology at Hoffman Hills* Wednesday, June 14 | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | |  |  | | --- | | **Lots of Softball !**  St Stephens and First Congregational UCC, River Falls, will sent out adult teams. Menomonie is playing in the youth church league.  And more - we know there are more teams out there.  A great way to spend a summer evening - watching softball! | | |  | | --- | | **VBS**  A First Congregational UCC, River Falls is planning both VBS AND a musical.  **VBS** (Ages 3 through completion of grade 5) - July 31-August 3, 2017 from 9:00 am-11:30 am **Musical** (Completed grades 1-8) - June 19-22, 2017 from 9:00 am-Noon  **Vacation Bible School at St Paul’s Wausau, *Getting S’More of Jesus***  At Menomoni, A Journey to the Congo. | | **St. Paul's Wausau**  Middle School Tuesdays 10am-4pmSt Paul’s UCC Wausau  Every Tuesday from June 13- August 1. Activities with Pastor Phil; biking, swimming, hiking, games. | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/4f8dd6e1-f6a6-4525-9845-272b14a86006.png | | |  | | --- | | **CAMP REGISTRATION**    Schedule,[https://www.ucci.org/2017-schedule/](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001H4TBEL-ExerVRPQ86bWjYRNn0QVaqmP36hFrJvmKVnZixAPrpYZcftrRFL66JQdsDQ28F9VQIYhNrhW1-T5I7ztDXqLYmqNTKMaEc8JI8N4xKNjoKUUj3M45UaLGLsh7d_9p7btVoZ_jwFXbI8GGnjMa0X2DyatXA3hb8GaUhE0=&c=3OX9zU3aRR2stjqn_D7RHxLDdwdQrWkbNnvGqonGcamD8l6PGzVIGg==&ch=Xr9HeEjEXv1a8xXVtnfDGmlk97dFID1sRG0WjhR4sS3XnfpRBpBazg==)  Scholarships available,[http://www.wcucc.org/associations/northwest-association/resources/](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001H4TBEL-ExerVRPQ86bWjYRNn0QVaqmP36hFrJvmKVnZixAPrpYZcftrRFL66JQdsw36BtYlyIb_azPTCcTI9UWdxSgEyd4elz6aUKeQfg5t4pVRSjfVLRyBjfYelPK1CocAIRDbsx_jYZCbkRSAwgnws0QLV8lmg6dGfIS9nUSzkPEgIJnAKdAjsmfZHiSXxgTP49horCTTAuQVEC4x02Q==&c=3OX9zU3aRR2stjqn_D7RHxLDdwdQrWkbNnvGqonGcamD8l6PGzVIGg==&ch=Xr9HeEjEXv1a8xXVtnfDGmlk97dFID1sRG0WjhR4sS3XnfpRBpBazg==) | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/83ac5952-21dd-4b79-83df-fc7b076a8b67.jpg | | |  | | --- | | **"Summer" Women's 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.  SUMMER SEASON  Saturday JUNE 24 9am to 3pm Lessons of Summer Growing-learning, listening Pruning/Weeding- Confession, Grace Blossoming-Love  Brad and Julie Garber Home 13975 Shaky Lane Fairchild WI Led by Julie; UCC Licensed Pastor, Spiritual Director, Yoga Instructor, 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 Retreats: Fall, 9/23/17, Winter, 1/13/18 | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | North West Association Pulpit Supply List May 2017   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   **South of Wausau, East of La Crosse, and Southeast of Eau Claire.**  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) Susan Stein, 3321 16th Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 608-515-4491 [synergize10@hotmail.com](mailto:synergize10@hotmail.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 | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://files.constantcontact.com/b4c26071101/754dfbc7-0723-4030-9e83-3e2bf37089dc.jpg | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Visit our website**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001H4TBEL-ExerVRPQ86bWjYRNn0QVaqmP36hFrJvmKVnZixAPrpYZcfjED78EVhBKCWeHbI_G8-Srgu2LJ_Aw1uXtvcoEru7HoS6FJm4xUEarFO3w-FKqEwJIqpYoy7oJB6KEsdhsihW4TJomyxrdUMWKSdY-A1XfrghQTNlHG9qoMBqiixgQRE5hgJjFq4nKp6iMH27CDwRE=&c=3OX9zU3aRR2stjqn_D7RHxLDdwdQrWkbNnvGqonGcamD8l6PGzVIGg==&ch=Xr9HeEjEXv1a8xXVtnfDGmlk97dFID1sRG0WjhR4sS3XnfpRBpBazg==) | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/1101116784221/S.gif | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Have you liked us on FB?](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001H4TBEL-ExerVRPQ86bWjYRNn0QVaqmP36hFrJvmKVnZixAPrpYZcfjED78EVhBKC6vaZh94HOO1Y7JGEzbiTnX3TQzg0Yeqlp_Zb_0YkWw8FGlL-UaR2cUiTx4_Iartq4XXzpfDVWkKGzpx4KfzQHquJqJnA2rMFGYUCpr9IlZk=&c=3OX9zU3aRR2stjqn_D7RHxLDdwdQrWkbNnvGqonGcamD8l6PGzVIGg==&ch=Xr9HeEjEXv1a8xXVtnfDGmlk97dFID1sRG0WjhR4sS3XnfpRBpBazg==) | | |