



# LAKE GENEVA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER June 2019

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**June 9th - Pentecost:** Wear your red! Bring red flowers! It has now become a tradition with the congregation to wear red on this Sunday and bring red flowers or a red flower plant. You may take it home with you after the service. Let's blanket the sanctuary in a sea of red!

**June 9th - Dementia Friendly:** Next Sunday, after Service during fellowship time, we will be awarded our Dementia Friendly Designation from the Dementia Friendly Community of Walworth County. Approximately 15 people attended the training on May 16th. We learned to recognize where we can help, and steps we need to take, to make our buildings and congregation dementia friendly. We want to ensure we have a safe and welcoming environment for everyone.

**June 13th - Administrative Council Meeting:** Please, come on down. Everyone is invited to the administrative council meetings? Each month we go over what has been happening at the church and buildings, what needs to be done, and how we can make it better. We would love (and need) more input, ideas, and suggestions from the congregation. This month the meeting is at 6:30pm, in the Parish Hall Lounge.

**June 18th - Book Club:** The book club will meet at 10:00am in the Parish Hall Lounge. The book for June is "The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio" by Terry Ryan. Evelyn Ryan, an enterprising woman who kept poverty at bay with wit, poetry, and perfect prose during the "contest era" of the 1950s and 1960s. Flouting convention was a small price to pay when it came to raising her six sons and four daughters. Evelyn turned every financial challenge into an opportunity for fun and profit. The story of this irrepressible woman is told by her daughter Terry with an infectious joy that shows how a winning spirit will always triumph over poverty. (Amazon)

**June 30th - Men of the Church:** The Men's Breakfast is June 30th, 7:30am, at Grandma Vicky's on Broad Street. All ages welcome. Stop in, get to know the men of the church. Newcomers always welcome. It is always the last Sunday of the month.

**July 20th - Lillian Kimball Ladies Tea:** Save the date. It's time to start planning. Please let Terri Smith know if you can help with organizing, cooking, or decorating for this fun event. 262-745-1780

**Spirit Lake Ministry:** Last month we collected \$66.01 change in our noisy bucket. The money goes towards their Sunday School Program. Thank you for all your change!

**Clothes Closet:** We are **not** taking donations at this time. Our Clothes Closet has been abundantly blessed with many, many donations from the congregation and the community. We are at the point that we are bursting at the seams. Closer to fall we will announce when we will begin taking new and like-new winter items.

**Fair Dining Hall:** With much discussion, it has been decided that the best thing for our church at this time will be to respectfully bow out from the fair dining hall. The Walworth County Fair Board does have a smaller venue that may be more suited to our needs and workforce. However, plans for that food stand are already in place for 2019. The Fair Board will decide if we can take over that stand in 2020. We need to do some things to offset the revenue from the dining hall.

To offset some of the profit that was budgeted from the fair for this year, we have two opportunities. One is we are going to staff the Wurst Stand for the fair on Saturday, August 31st for the day. We will need approximately 20-30 volunteers to make smaller shifts for everyone. The other is we are going to drive the golf carts on Wednesday, August 28th, from 2:30-9:00pm. This is transporting fairgoers and renting out wheel chairs. For this we need 7-12 people. Please save at least one of these dates to help out at the fair. Any questions, please call Steve Wolf 262-949-1525.

**After School Crafters:** After School Crafters are on hiatus now until fall. Pam would love your ideas, comments, and suggestions for days and times. Please call her at 262-949-7344. She would like to get a feel for what works best for everyone.

**Tree House:** The Tree House Child and Family Center is in need of the following items for the Comfort Closet: flip flops, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, hula hoops, jump ropes, and other summer fun items for kids. Also, there is a need for seed packets of any kind.

**Christmas Shoe Box:** For the month of June, the youth group is looking for PlayDoh, craft kits, Barbie dolls, small dolls and ponies, small toys and anything else you think kids might like. Donation box at the office.

**Cancer Support Group - Good News: Let people know** there is a new cancer support group meeting right here in Lake Geneva, right here in our Parish Hall Lounge. Meetings are the first and third Monday of each month at 10:00am. This is for patients, survivors, care givers, and others associated with this terrible disease. Please call Dave Hill with any questions at 262-215-2969.

**Honoring Our Graduating Seniors:** We will be holding a pot luck breakfast after church on Sunday, June 2nd to congratulate our graduating seniors. - Emma Wade, Pawhser Shoe, and LuAnnabelle Wieseman. Also, congratulations to other seniors related to our congregation: Matthew Kundert - PHD, Presley Mulligan - Bachelors, George Aurand - High School, Avery Aurand - Bachelors, Lincoln Wieseman - Bachelors, and Hayden Fourman - High School (Bart & Katherine Turks's grandson).

**May Book Club:** Fritz Oppenlander presented a follow up on "Radium Girls" to a packed house. His mother was a Radium Girl. It was interesting to hear a living history from a son's perspective and the information he shared. Thank you, Fritz!



#### YOUTH TIDBITS:

June is a happy month for us, with school getting out and the welcome breath of summer knocking at our doors, but it is also a sad month for our youth group as we say good-bye to three of our graduating high school seniors. All three have been an awesome addition to our group, bringing their own personalities and insights to our group.

We will be heading to the beach soon to enjoy the monthly movie that the city shows. It's a pretty cool event, it's like going to the drive-in but on the beach! We are also hoping to do a progressive dinner and begin planning for our Habitat event in July.

So, I guess it's time to find the bug spray and fire up the bonfire and start enjoying our summer months here in Wisconsin!!

Terri

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased" Hebrews 13:16

*Sharing Christ's love with everyone,  
through our thoughts, words, and actions.*

## Report of the Judicial Council

Brothers, Sisters and Siblings:

As I mentioned during the worship service of May 26, the Judicial Council has presented its ruling on the constitutionality of the plan passed by the Special General Conference concerning human sexuality. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Forrest Wells, has presented a synopsis in plain English, that I wish to share with you now. Please note that plain English only refers to a paraphrase of the legal language used by the Council; the results are still somewhat “inside baseball” and will likely require further elaboration. Following the report of the results, I will say more about that.

Seven petitions were found to be unconstitutional; eight were found to be constitutional. If anyone is interested in viewing the actual petitions, please contact me and I will provide a link to them. Don't say I didn't warn you about the legal language though...

The following parts of the Traditional Plan can take effect January 1, 2020:

- A more specific definitions of “self-avowed practicing homosexual,” to say that it includes people “living in same-sex marriage, domestic partnership or civil union or is a person who publicly states she or he is a practicing homosexual.”
- A ban on bishops consecrating gay bishops elected by a jurisdictional or central conference.
- Prohibitions on the recommendation or approval of clergy candidates who do not meet clergy qualifications, including those related to homosexuality. The prohibitions now require bishops to rule an unqualified candidate out of order even if approved by the clergy session.
- A minimum penalty for clergy found guilty of performing a same sex wedding—one year's suspension without pay for the first offense and loss of credentials for the second.
- Requirements that bishops only dismiss a complaint against clergy if it has “no basis in law of fact” and that they share those reasons with the complainant.
- The requirement that those filing a complaint be involved in any agreement to resolve the case without a church trial.
- The right of the church to appeal trial findings “based on egregious errors of church law or administration.”

Still a bit unclear? What will it mean for local churches? What will it mean for our Conference? For crying out loud, what will it mean for us as individual United Methodists?

I think this is more than can be unpacked in a newsletter. I've shoved all this at you because you have a right to know-our denomination is incredibly transparent, as a general rule, and I have no intention of hiding anything from you about these results, the process of getting them, or the potential impact of them.

Two things to be aware of: the Book of Discipline can obviously be changed; and the United Methodist Church absolutely does NOT speak with one voice about this issue. Things look very uncertain going forward.

What occupies my heart and my restless nights, is who are WE as a church, as people called Methodists and where do WE see the Holy Spirit leading us. I doubt that we as a church speak with one voice either.

So, I am giving you the summer to chew on all this-I have suggested links if you wish to do some more research, or if you want to chat with me about any aspect of it. In August, we are going to gather as a family, break bread in the traditional Methodist sacrament of Potluck. I will then offer more details and explanations of the petitions that were found constitutional, along with some of my impressions on what it could mean going forward.

Then, you are all invited to join a Small Listening Group. These groups will be guided by some of your fellow members who agree to be trained as facilitators. When and where these small groups will meet will be at the discretion of the facilitators and the participants. Our goal is to listen to one another. It is vitally important that all voices are heard. These listening sessions may culminate in a church-wide special conference to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us as a congregation.

Sounds like a lot of work, you say? It very well could be. I am asking you to do this work, together, as a community. I am unabashedly asking you to uphold your vows of baptism and membership. I am taking the authority the Bishop gave me when he laid hands on me at my ordination.

You know I don't pull rank all that often. This is important. So let us ready ourselves for the work God is calling us to as members of Christ's holy church.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Heather