



Chapel Bells

St. Paul's U.C.C.-Erin



262-628-2319

www.StPaulsErin.org

July, 2020



Wisconsin Conference
United Church of Christ

Guidance for Returning to Church (6/2/20)

Friends and colleagues,

Grace and peace to you! This email provides guidance from your Conference Ministerial Staff to pastors and lay leaders regarding the gradual phasing back to worship in our sanctuaries.

As you know, Wisconsin continues to see high numbers of new cases. While there is some encouraging news - the daily percentage of tests with positive results has trended downward - we still have significant levels of new cases, hospitalizations and deaths. Additionally, we continue to monitor the full impact of re-opening following the Supreme Court's decision to lift restrictions.

In general, we advise caution and extreme measures of care for your beloved congregants, given that many of them are elderly or at higher risk. The two documents that we advise for primary guidance are Governor Evers' "Badger Bounce Back Plan" (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/prepare.htm>) and the Wisconsin Council of Churches' "Returning to Church" (<https://www.wichurches.org/2020/04/23/returning-to-church/>). There is also a resource from the national UCC which just arrived today - "Re-opening Church Buildings." This document suggests slightly different phasing numbers for returning to church (presumably for hard hit COVID-19 areas) and offers additional resources for grieving and community re-engagement.

Even though the Badger Bounce Back Plan is not legally enforceable, we believe it provides practical and prudent steps, guiding faith communities to re-open in careful and responsible ways. The Bounce Back Plan uses "gating criteria" which must show a downward trajectory in several categories for 14 days prior to moving into Phase 1 of re-entry. On a statewide level we are making progress, but have not yet hit all the marks. Data differs widely from county to county, so we encourage you to bear that in mind. Phase 1 allows up to 10 people to gather with building protocols and health best practices in place (masks, distance sitting, limited surface contact, etc.). This phase might provide the opportunity for small meetings or bible studies, but not for resuming worship.

Moving from Phase 1 to Phase 2, requires 14 more days of downward trends. This is the critical juncture for resuming worship, as it allows for gatherings of up to 50. Here are our recommendations:

1. Consider creating a "Re-opening Task Force" for the purpose of organizing the return-to-church process and assigning various tasks for health and safety protocols.
2. Engage in prayerful conversation and discernment with leadership regarding the right timing for your congregation to move into Phase 2. One size doesn't fit all, and our locations differ vastly. Remember this is a

fluid process. We will need to monitor the statistics and pay attention to any developing 2nd waves. In the event that it becomes unwise to gather, be prepared to revert back to Safer-at-Home.

3. Continue offering live stream or video recording while worshipping in person for later distribution. This hybrid option will accommodate those who choose to remain at home AND it will help you to stay under the maximum gathering number.

4. For congregations who expect more than 50, consider putting a reservation process in place, encouraging "on" and "off" weeks, adding an additional worship time, or assigning families worship invitations alphabetically. You may need to be creative over these summer months!

5. Follow the precautions and protocols in the WCC Returning to Church guidelines, most importantly:

- *Sit 6 feet away (though it is ok for each household to sit together)
- *Strongly encourage mask wearing (provide them for people who may be in need)
- *Clean surfaces after every service
- *Refrain from singing (this is a highly contagious activity)
- *Use gestures of affection to Pass the Peace (but do not hug or hand shake)
- *Place the plates in set locations and have people deposit offerings
- *If possible, refrain from using pew bibles or hymnals
- *Postpone communion if at all possible (if not use extreme care - definitely cups not a chalice)
- *Eliminate coffee hour (and any serving of food) until it feels safer to resume
- *Encourage people to use the rest room at home prior to leaving for worship
- *Discourage in-person worship for people who are high risk or symptomatic

Our assumption is that once churches resume worship, it will be wise to remain at Phase 2 throughout the summer. Phase 3 would come after several weeks of monitoring to ensure continued improvements in the number of cases, both in your congregation and your region. This phase allows for unlimited participants, but keeps in place many of the protocols in Phase 2. We may be looking at worship modifications for several months. We invite you to lean on your particular field ACM (Jane, Lorraine or Rob) for support and additional guidance. Use them as a resource, especially if you get in a sticky place with decision making. We know some of our clergy are higher risk. We want to be sensitive about the levels of pressure we place on them, and yet also reasonable about our congregations' desire to return. Know that we support you!

When in doubt, we encourage you to exercise caution. We will get through this together!

With gratitude for your faithfulness and hope for your future, we remain yours in Christ,

Franz Rigert, Jane Anderson, Lorraine Ceniceros, Rob MacDougall



Please remember with your prayers, cards & calls:

- *Lois Winkler, born to eternal life June 17
- *Joyce O'Keane, recovering from hip replacement surgery
- *All of our graduates: Mason Weber (Richfield MS 6/4), Payton Weber (Hartford Union HS 6/24), Gabriel Danz (Loyola University of Chicago 5/6)
- *Katelyn Runte & Kiegan Nelson, being married on July 25
- *Dick Ahrens, recovering at home after hip replacement surgery
- *Steve Manuell, recovering from radiation treatments for prostate cancer
- *Vern Goetzke, being treated for lip cancer
- *Ron Perschon, battling prostate cancer
- *Wanda Dieball's mother, Gail, as she begins treatment for lung cancer
- *Ron & Diane Smith, as Ron recovers from brain surgery
- *A cure for and healing from the coronavirus



Women's Guild

Our June 18 meeting was once again held outside in the parking lot. It was a beautiful sunny day, and we arrived as our church bell was tolling 91 times—one for each year lived by our friend and fellow Guild member Lois Winkler who now lived in LaCrosse and passed away on June 17.

We formed a circle of lawn chairs and ate our brown bag lunches together, topped off with a cupcake, ice cream cup and the birthday song in honor of Isabel's birthday.

The meeting was very short with virtually no new business since our previous meeting. We again discussed ideas about ways to hold a Guild fund raiser. Several possibilities were suggested, but no plans or decisions were made.



Healing our Earthly Home

Wisconsin Conference UCC 2020 Annual Meeting Roundup

Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, June 6, via a Zoom webinar. Over 300 people joined the meeting from across the state: ministers, delegates and visitors alike.

Pastor Glenn and Cindy Cain attended and represented our congregation.

A [recording of the meeting](#) is now available, for your review or in case you missed it. **Below is a guide to the video**, plus links to items mentioned during the meeting. The times indicated below indicate the approximate time in the meeting that each item began.

- **Opening comments** by Moderator Susan Stein: 0:00
- **Opening litany:** 3:47
- **Greetings from Ho-Chunk President Marlon WhiteEagle:** 6:00
 - [YouTube link](#) to this video
- **Worship:** 7:35
- **Conference minister Franz Rigert's remarks:** 30:28.
 - Franz mentions the Annual Report. [Click here](#) for this report
- **Keynote Address by Tia Nelson:** 41:57
 - [Tia Nelson's slides](#)
 - [When the Earth Moves video](#) shown by Tia
 - The [Sunrise Movement](#)
 - [RepublicEn](#)
 - [Citizens' Climate Lobby](#)
 - Two organizations mentioned by Tia that are at the "integration of faith and science": [Loka Initiative](#) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and [EcoAmerica](#)
- **Kairos Call to Action** introduction by Rev. John Helt: 1:11:00
 - [Kairos Call to Action at ucc.org](#)
 - [Creation Care survey](#)
 - [Kairos Webinar signup](#) for June 11 webinar
- **Introduction to Bylaws Changes** by Susan Stein: 1:22:00
- **Introduction to the 2021 Conference Budget** by Rev. Andrew Warner: 1:26:00
- **Introduction to the slate of nominations** by Manda Stack: 1:31:00
 - Email [Manda Stack](#) or [Lisa Hart](#)
- Information about the **Offering:** 1:35:00
- **Voting:** 1:35:15
- **Passing of the gavel** to our new Moderator, Rev. Roger Mealiff: 1:54:00
- **Closing:** 1:55:35

The Wisconsin Conference UCC Annual Report is available by clicking here:

<https://www.wcucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Annual-Report-2020-1.pdf>

Pastor Glenn's Contact Information:

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E-mail: SPPastor@yahoo.com



Zoom Available for Virtual Church Meetings

Thanks to a generous grant from the Wisconsin Conference UCC, we are able to use Zoom for not only on-line worship, but other church meetings. If anyone would like to schedule a committee meeting or meeting for other groups using Zoom, please contact Pastor Glenn (SPPastor@yahoo.com) and he would be happy to assist.



Volunteers Needed to Serve on Stewardship Committee

We are currently in need of at least 2 members to serve on the Stewardship Committee. The Stewardship is responsible for coordinating our fall stewardship campaign and other year-round stewardship efforts. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Glenn or Adam Staus.



August Brat Fry & Bags Tournament Cancelled

Our August Brat Fry & Bags Tournament church fundraiser has been cancelled due to the pandemic and no dates being available at Monches Park.



Sussex Food Pantry Update

Our Serving Day on the 3rd Saturday morning of each month at the Sussex Food Pantry has been temporarily suspended due to the pandemic. Jennifer Waltz, SOS Director, will let us know when volunteers are needed again.



United Church Camps Update

All camps and programs at Pilgrim Center and Moon Beach have been cancelled until at least Labor Day due to the pandemic. Visit www.ucci.org for more information.



July Liturgist Schedule (*TBD depending on pandemic status)

July 5th - Bernice Dieball
 July 12th - Jill Paddock
 July 19th - Bernie Chase
 July 26th - Jo Swanson

Greeters for July:

July 5th – Jack & Charmaine Duehring
 July 12th – Cindy Cain & Bernie Chase
 July 19th – Mark & Debbie Gettelman
 July 26th – Tom & Mary Guetzke

St. Paul's UCC
Church Council Meeting Minute
March 9, 2020

Attendance: Pastor Glenn Danz, Jill Paddock, LouAnn Evert, Sue Miller, Connie Johnson, Curt Hultstrum, Adam Staus, Cheryl Fischer, Lucy Krapfl, Becky Duehring, Jamison Duehring and Jack Duehring

1) Opening Prayer

- 2) Jamison Duehring Presentation of Eagle Scout Project Proposal** – A proposal was presented by Jamison Duehring of Troop 110 for his Eagle Scout project. A discussion was held to improve handicap accessibility. The matter was tabled for further discussion.
- 3) Sanctuary Accessibility for Members and Guests with Disabilities Update** – Jack Duehring provided recommendations from the committee. Discussion was held. It was agreed a decision will be made after Adam receives clarification from the committee.
- 4) Electronic Chime Update** – Jack Duehring provided an update. The work is still in progress.
- 5) Approval of February Minutes** – February minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved. Jill moved, Sue seconded
- 6) Approval of February Financials** – February financials were reviewed and unanimously approved. Lucy moved, Adam seconded
- 7) Pastor's Report**- Written report presented and reviewed with Council. Report included upcoming Lenten Suppers and Easter services. Also presented were UCC recommendations related to Covid-19 as it related to Passing the Peace and Communion.
- 8) Brat Fry Discussion & Update** – Lucy provided an update. At this time a date has not been set. We are waiting for date availability from the Monches Rec Club.
- 9) Review & Update of Committee Lists as Necessary** – Note: Cheryl Fischer to be added to personnel Committee. Discussion was held and additions were made as necessary. Lucy will update and e-mail to the Council and Committee chairs.
- 10) Appoint Committee Liaisons** – The following liaisons were appointed: Connie to Mission Committee; Cheryl to Personnel Committee; Curt to Building and Grounds; Jill to Women's Guild; LouAnn to Endowment Committee and Adam to Christian Education and Stewardship.
- 11) UCC Conference Attendance** – The conference will be held in Green Lake from June 5 – 7. Two delegates may go.
- 12) Spring Clean Up Dates** – Curt will check with Jack Duehring of the Building and Grounds Committee to select a date. The information will be published in the Chapel Bells.
- 13) Website** – Our website needs to be renewed and updated. Connie will take care of this.
- 14) Next meeting** – Monday, April 13, 2020 at 6 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by LouAnn, Cheryl seconded

Respectfully submitted

Lucy Krapfl
Council Secretary

St. Paul's UCC
Church Council Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2020

Attendance (via Zoom): Pastor Glenn Danz, Jill Paddock, LouAnn Evert, Sue Miller, Connie Johnson, Curt Hulterstrum, Adam Staus, Cheryl Fischer, Lucy Krapfl

1) Opening Prayer

2) Approval of March Minutes – March minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved. Curt moved, Cheryl seconded

3) Approval of March Financials – March financials were reviewed and unanimously approved. Pastor Glenn moved, Jill seconded

4) Discussion of Online Giving – It was noted that giving is lower this year than last year. There was a motion and unanimous approval to provide an opportunity for online giving on the church website. Pastor Glenn moved, Adam seconded

5) Pastor's Report- Written report presented and reviewed with Council. The report included an update on online church services until further notice. Clean up day has been scheduled for May 2nd. A Food Drive will take place from April 13th to April 30th.

6) S.E. Association and Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting – The annual meeting at Green Lake may be canceled.

7) Liaison Reports – Curt reported another electric panel is needed for the furnace room. Discussion was held and the Council unanimously approved \$200 for another electric panel. Curt moved, Pastor Glenn seconded. Connie reported the Mission Committee gave \$150 to the Conference Emergency Fund. Jill reported that the Guild has moved their Salad Luncheon to June 18th.

8) VBS Dates – Adam reported that the dates for VBS this year will be July 13th to July 16th provided all is going well.

9) Jamison Duehring's Eagle Scout Project – Two ideas were presented and discussed:

- a) A stage to be built outside on the front lawn
- b) Storage cabinets to be built downstairs to provide additional storage

10) Next meeting – Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Cheryl, LouAnn seconded

Respectfully submitted

Lucy Krapfl
Council Secretary

St. Paul's UCC
Church Council Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2020

Attendance (via Zoom): Pastor Glenn Danz, Jill Paddock, LouAnn Evert, Sue Miller, Connie Johnson, Curt Hulterstrum, Adam Staus, Cheryl Fischer, Lucy Krapfl

1) Opening Prayer

- 2) Approval of April Minutes** – April minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved. LouAnn moved, Kurt seconded. Pastor Glenn commented on the S.E. Association meeting and the Wisconsin Conference meeting.
- 3) Approval of April Financials** – April financials were reviewed and unanimously approved. Jill moved, Sue seconded
- 4) Pastor's Report-** Written report presented and reviewed with Council. Confirmation class with Mason Weber is complete. Trees were planted for Arbor Day.
- 5) Discuss Plan to Reopen Church** – Pastor Glenn presented information and discussed the plan by the United Council of Churches. Pastor Glenn made a motion to adopt the plan of the United Council of Churches. Kurt seconded.
- 6) Liaison Reports** – The Guild is planning to hold a meeting outside, in the parking lot, on May 21st. The Guild Spring Luncheon has been canceled.
- 7) Discuss Steps Going to Cemetery** – It was noted that the steps are settling and need fixing before winter. The Building & Grounds Committee will take care of this.
- 8) Brat Fry Update** – After discussion, it was agreed to cancel the Brat Fry for 2020.
- 9) VBS Update** – Scheduled dates for VBS this year are July 13th to July 16th. No decisions were made.
- 10) Next meeting** – Monday, June 8, 2020 at 6 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Cheryl, Jill seconded

Respectfully submitted

Lucy Krapfl
Council Secretary



July 2020



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 Kevin Staus Fred & Wanda Dieball's Anniversary	2	3 LouAnn Evert Kevin & Jodi Staus' Anniversary	4
5 9:30 am Online Worship w/ Comun- ion w/Revs. Debbie & Tom Payden preaching Vicki Lubbert	6 6 pm, Church Council mtg. Amanda Nell	7 Jill Schaefer	8	9 Vicki Guetzke	10 Lee & Sheila Anderson's Anniversary	11
12 9:30 am Online Worship (*TBD)	13	14 6 pm PPRC mtg.	15 Mary Guetzke	16 Women's Guild 12 Noon	17	18 Dan & Bonnie Hanrahan's Anniversary
19 9:30 am Worship (TBD)	20	21 Beulah Timm	22	23	24 Jodi Hahn	25 Curt & Karrie Hulterstrum's Anniversary
26 9:30 am Worship (TBD)	27 Charlie & Janene Kluever's Anniversary	28 Alice Manuell	29	30	31	