

# COME HOME

## christ church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

### WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAYS

9:30AM

### CHRIST CHURCH

915 E Oklahoma Ave  
Milwaukee, WI 53207  
414-481-3530  
office@uccmke.org  
www.uccmke.org

### IN THIS ISSUE

CALENDAR

PASTOR'S LETTER

COFFEE HOUR NEEDS

HOMECOMING SUNDAY

WORSHIP IN THE PARK

HOPE HOUSE TOUR

UNBINDING THE GOSPEL STUDY

COUNCIL CORNER

BIRTHDAYS

THANK YOUS



### Bible Quiz



In Jesus' parable about people who hear and live by God's words, on what did the wise man build his house?

- A. rock
- B. sand
- C. grassland
- D. soil that was free of rocks



Answer: A (See Matthew 7:24-27.)

# SEPTEMBER



2026

| Sun                                                                                                                                                           | Mon                                                                                       | Tues                                            | Wed                                                                                                    | Thurs                         | Fri                                                                                                                                                       | Sat |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
|                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                           | 1                                               | 2<br>Social Concerns<br>5:30pm<br>Choir 7pm                                                            | 3                             | 4                                                                                                                                                         | 5   |
| Pastor Bob on Vacation                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                           |                                                 |                                                                                                        |                               |                                                                                                                                                           |     |
| 6<br>Liturgist-Andy O<br>Guest Pastor<br>Choir<br>BVCC Donations                                                                                              | 7                                                                                         | 8<br>Quilting 9:30am                            | 9                                                                                                      | 10<br>Finance Meeting<br>Noon | 11                                                                                                                                                        | 12  |
| Pastor Bob on Vacation                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                           |                                                 |                                                                                                        |                               |                                                                                                                                                           |     |
| 13<br>Worship in<br>the Park 10am<br>Potluck<br>Sunday School<br>start 9:30am at<br>Christ church                                                             | 14<br> | 15<br>Hope House Tour<br>and Lunch 11am         | 16<br>Choir 7pm<br> | 17<br>Handbells 9:30am        | 18                                                                                                                                                        | 19  |
| 20<br>Liturgist-Randene<br>Choir<br>Homecoming<br>Sunday<br>& Tailgate<br> | 21                                                                                        | 22<br>Quilting 9:30am<br>Council Meeting<br>6pm | 23                                                                                                     | 24<br>Handbells 9:30am        | 25<br><b>COMMITTEE<br/>REPORTS DUE<br/>FOR ANNUAL<br/>REPORT</b><br> | 26  |
| 27<br>Liturgist-Dean K<br>Handbells                                                                                                                           | 27<br>Unbinding the<br>Gospel Book Study<br>1pm                                           | 29                                              | 30                                                                                                     |                               |                                                                                                                                                           |     |



**“Return**  
to your **home**,  
and **declare** how  
much **God** has  
done **for you.**”

Luke 8:39

## Pastor's Letter

*“How do you climb a hill that has no summit?”*

The answer, “You fall in love with climbing.” This sentiment speaks loudly to the church because the life of a church is always a time of new beginnings. This is especially true for those of us spiritual descendants of the German reformation. A rallying cry of that reformation was “to be reformed is to be always reforming.”

Words from the prophet Isaiah echo through the ages and speak to us today,

“I am about to do a new thing;

now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness

and rivers in the desert.”

Isaiah 43:19

This fall will be a time of perceiving that new thing God is working among us. Beginning on **September 20**, I will present questions for us to discuss at Coffee Hour. I ask you to elect a scribe for each table, record your responses and share them with me. Your responses will be shared with our Local Church Profile writing team, which will help potential candidates know about us. Your participation is important. Every voice counts. In addition, Rev. John Helt will lead a session on our congregation's history and Rev. Sandy Graham will lead a session on the Marks of Faithful and Effective Congregations.

There are two other events I want to bring to your attention. The first is an “away game,” Season of Creation: A Gathering of SECA Congregations for Worship and Fellowship. On **Sunday, September 13**, we will join five other Bay View Congregations for worship in Humboldt Park followed by a potluck luncheon. We will gather at Picnic Area 5, and worship will begin at 10am. Bring a lawn chair, a dish to share, and your own dish, napkin, and cutlery. In case of rain, we will gather at Unity Lutheran Church. A livestream of worship can be accessed at [www.facebook.com/unitymilwaukee](http://www.facebook.com/unitymilwaukee). This will be our first Sunday of Sunday School. Children are asked to gather at the church building with Mr. Key to help set up the new classroom. Classes will continue most Sundays, after the choir has sung.

The second is our Homecoming event on **September 20**. We will gather for worship at 9:30am in the sanctuary and then go outside to Lenox Street for a potluck lunch and games. Come, represent your alma mater, or favorite team. Come and praise God, our now and forever home.

You see, there's a lot to love at Christ Church. Whether you are here most Sundays, or it's been a while, you are encouraged to come to worship, to fall (back) in love with God, one another, and our shared mission in the world.

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Bob*



If you should need pastoral support, please contact  
Pastor Bob Gross at 440-506-3258 or [pastor@uccmke.org](mailto:pastor@uccmke.org)  
Pastor Office Hour: Tues and Wed, 10am–Noon and 1–3pm  
or by appointment



## Liturgists

**Sept 6** Andy Oren  
**Sept 13** Worship in the Park  
**Sept 20** Randene Wick  
**Sept 27** Dean Kothrade

## Quilting

Tuesday, Sept 25, 9:30am–noon

## Choir & Handbells

### CHOIR

Wednesdays, **Sept 2, 16, 30** at 7pm  
Singing - Sundays, **Sept 6 and 20**

### HANDBELLS

Thursdays, **Sept 17 and 24** at 9:30am  
Playing - Sunday, **Sept 27**

## Sunday Counters

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday** Janet Dietert / Mark Pfeifer  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday** Janet Kaye / Joyce Zieman  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday** Danette Volz / Renolle Volz  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** Peggy Carew / Jill Unglaub  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday** Debbie Hansen / Doris Mayeshiba

## Greeters

**Sept 6** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sept 13** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sept 20** Bob & Joyce Zieman  
**Sept 27** \_\_\_\_\_

## Coffee Hour

**Sept 6** Janet Dietert  
**Sept 13** Joan Amich  
**Sept 20** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sept 27** Jill Unglaub



## Social Concerns Meeting

Wed, Sept 2 at 5:30pm

## Finance Meeting

Thurs, Sept 10 at noon

## Council Meeting

Tues, Sept 22 at 6pm

## Sunday School

Sunday School classes will start on **Sunday, Sept 13 at 9:30am** and will be held every Sunday. The classes will begin after the choir sings on choir Sundays. Sunday School will meet in the game room in the southeast corner of the basement this year. For more information, contact *Michael Key*.

## Worship in the Park & Potluck

**Sunday, Sept 13 | Worship at 10am**

**Humboldt Park, Picnic Area #5**

On Sept 13, there will be no church service at Christ Church. The worship service will be at Humboldt Park at 10am. Potluck to follow. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service



In my Father's house  
are many mansions:  
if it were not so,  
I would have told you.



J o h n 1 4 : 2



# CHURCH HOMECOMING

## Homecoming Sunday & Tailgate

Join us for a festive tailgate celebration following worship on Sunday, September 20! We'll gather for a block party style tailgate on Lenox Street right after the service. Lunch will begin around 11:30am.

**FOOD:** BRATS AND HOT DOGS WILL BE PROVIDED. A sign-up sheet for items to share is posted at the Lenox Street bulletin board. We're requesting contributions of salads, fruit, vegetables, and desserts.

**FUN & FELLOWSHIP:** Interactive games and activities are planned for all ages.

**SHOW YOUR SPIRIT:** Everyone is encouraged to wear apparel representing their favorite high school, college, or professional team.



## Hope House Tour & Lunch

**Tuesday, September 15 at 11am**

Hope House is a non-profit homeless shelter, rapid re-housing facility, and permanent supportive housing provider.

Hope House was originally created in 1987 by five local churches to address homelessness on Milwaukee's south side. Over the years, Hope House has evolved into a respected shelter known for providing support, services and a chance at a brighter future for families. Acting as a true community center, Hope House offers numerous programs and activities to assist men, women and children struggling with homelessness.

We will have a tour of the facilities and learn about the services they provide. Following the tour, we will enjoy lunch at a Bay View restaurant. There is a sign-up sheet posted at the Lenox Street entrance.

Membership Committee

*Peggy Carew, Mary Ann Mowery, Jan, Naefken, Andy Oren, Sue Pfiefer, Randene Wick*

## Communion Servers Needed

We are seeking a rotating team of volunteers to assist Pastor Bob in serving Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month. Because we would use a rotating schedule, your commitment would be just once every few months.

Serving Communion is a meaningful way to share in the ministry of our church and help create a meaningful worship experience for our congregation. We value your dedication to Christ Church and invite you to prayerfully consider serving in this important role.

If you are interested or would like more information, please see *Pam Kothrade*.

## Coffee Hour Sign Up

Coffee hour is a vital part of our life together. It helps us connect with one another, welcome visitors, and offer hospitality to those exploring Christ Church. It is well-loved and well-attended. Yet the responsibility of hosting continues to fall on the same small group of people far too often.



The good news is that anyone who is able to attend worship is fully capable of hosting coffee hour. The steps are simple and straightforward:

- Purchase a dozen hard rolls and eighteen doughnuts and bring them to church around 8:45 AM.
- Cut the rolls and doughnuts in half and place them in the baskets and trays from the kitchen.
- Prepare one pot of regular and one pot of decaf coffee using the recipe posted in the kitchen. It takes about five minutes to set up and about twenty minutes to brew.
- Set out the trays, butter, juice, napkins, creamers, and sweeteners in the fellowship hall.
- Fill out a reimbursement slip (found in the kitchen) and give it to Sue Cribb. At the end of coffee hour, you may reimburse yourself from the donation basket on the receiving table.
- At the end of coffee hour, return items to the kitchen and wash the dishes and utensils.

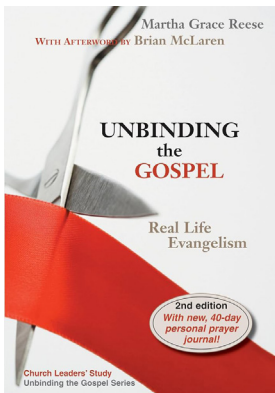
All told, it is a simple and manageable ministry — especially when shared. If you have not done it before, someone is always available to assist.

So I warmly encourage everyone to pair up with a friend and sign up to host coffee hour. When we share the load, this ministry remains joyful, sustainable, and welcoming.

If we continue to struggle to find volunteers, we may need to consider whether this ministry can continue in its current form. My hope, however, is that with broader participation, coffee hour will remain a cherished part of our Sunday mornings at Christ Church.

*Jim Wick*





## Unbinding the Gospel Book Study

Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism is a book for congregations who want to embrace evangelism for the 21st century. Based on a major, four-year study of superb evangelism, funded by the Lilly Endowment, Unbinding the Gospel sparkles with life, practicality and spiritual depth. Selected by The Christian Century as a featured "Take and Read" book, Unbinding the Gospel is a book for Christians who want a hopeful, powerful, joy-filled way to learn to share their faith. Don't let the "E" word scare you away. This study will deepen your faith in God and your connection with others.

Beginning on **Sept 28**, we will gather in the parlor at 1 p.m. Our sessions will last about 60 minutes. Books will be available in early September. They cost the church \$15, if you would like to reimburse the church for the cost of your book. Please sign up on the list at the Lenox Street door. When you have your book, please read chapters 1 & 2 before the first meeting.

Brought to you by: SECA

# Season of CREATION

Community Worship  
Potluck immediately after worship

**September 13, 2026**

**10am**

**Humboldt Park - 3000 S. Howell Ave, Milwaukee**

**Picnic Site #5 (parking on S. Howell and E. Oklahoma)**

♡ **ALL ARE WELCOME!** ♡

*Bring:* a chair or blanket to sit on during worship, a potluck dish to share, and your own silverware and dishes for your use during the meal.

*Online worshippers*   
can find us at Unity's Facebook page,  
which will livestream the service:  
[www.facebook.com/unitymilwaukee](http://www.facebook.com/unitymilwaukee)



*Rain location:*   
Unity Lutheran Church  
1025 E Oklahoma Ave,  
Milwaukee

# COUNCIL CORNER

Dear Church Family,

As we move into a busy and blessed fall season, we want to keep you fully updated on the life, ministry, and physical care of our church home. Our Church Council and our various committees have been working hard to maintain our building and plan engaging opportunities for fellowship and worship.

## Property & Facility Updates

- **Sound System:** A comprehensive system report is currently pending to help us evaluate necessary adjustments and upgrades.
- **Boiler Repairs:** Final maintenance and repairs will be completed once the upcoming heating season officially begins.
- **Exterior Painting & Carpeting:** Exterior church painting is scheduled for this fall, and new carpeting is being considered for the hallways and chapel areas.
- **Canopy:** A canopy over the Lenox St. entrance will soon be installed.
- **Bees in the Walls:** It has been discovered that honey bees are living in the walls above the altar. Beekeepers will be relocating the bees off our premises.
- **Lawn & Outdoor Stairs:** The visible lawn damage and outdoor stair repairs are tied to a larger, long-term property remediation plan that we are actively navigating.

## Ministry, Events & Leadership

- **Youthworks Success:** We give thanks for a wonderful and successful summer with the Youthworks program!
- **School Supply Drive:** The delivery box located outside the church is currently accepting school supply donations. Moving forward, this box will serve as a permanent collection point for future community outreach projects.
- **Music Director Search:** We are actively seeking to fill our Music Director position. Please keep this search process and our future music leadership in your prayers. Let Pam Kothrade know if you have someone who might be interested in this position.
- **Church School:** Church school will be starting on Sept. 13. The group will meet weekly.

## Upcoming Save-the-Dates

- **Worship in the Park (Sept 13):** The annual ecumenical worship in Humboldt Park followed by a potluck
- **Homecoming Event (Sept 20):** An all-church fellowship event! Mark your calendars and join us for food and community.
- **Community Sing (Oct 9):** A special musical gathering open to the entire public. Invite your neighbors!
- **Town Hall Meeting (Oct 11):** Join us as we discuss church business, property updates, and upcoming goals leading into the annual meeting.
- **Singular "They" Workshop (Oct 18):** Jeff Rabe will present his workshop following worship.
- **Annual Meeting (Nov 1):** Save the date for our yearly congregational meeting.

## Governance & Leadership Opportunities

The Church Council will review and approve the upcoming budget during its September meeting. Additionally, nominations for Church Council positions are now open. If you feel called to serve or would like to nominate a fellow member, please contact any current council member.

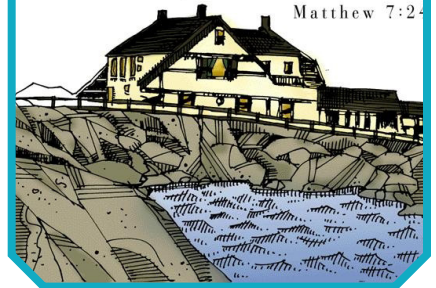
Thank you for your continued prayers, stewardship, and involvement in the life of our church.

In faith and fellowship,

*The Church Council*

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Matthew 7:24



## STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

| Monthly Activity             | July      | YTD        |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Contributions & Other Income | \$ 12,230 | \$ 119,889 |
| Expenses                     | \$ 16,339 | \$ 138,244 |
| Budgeted Amount              | \$ 18,051 | \$ 126,361 |

## Hiding In Plain Sight Part 8

Each month we'll be looking at one of the nine men from Christ Church who were killed in action during World War II. This month we focus on Robert Peter Bazan. Robert was the son of Peter and Elsie Bazan who lived at 3173 S. Griffin Ave. Bazan worked at Peters Tool Company before enlisting. Bazan was a staff sergeant in Company C, 1st Battalion, 406th Infantry Regiment, 102nd Infantry Division. He was killed in action on April 10, 1945 near Hannover, Germany and is buried in the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margarten, Netherlands. Bazan was awarded the Silver Star.



## Creation Care Corner

I recently read an inspiring climate book called *A Future We Can Love: How We Can Reverse the Climate Crisis with the Power of our Hearts and Minds* by Susan Bauer-Wu. It is inspired by the conversation between his holiness the Dalai Lama and Greta Thunberg, the young Swedish who started a worldwide youth movement for creation care. The author had hosted an online meeting between

the two global leaders in 2021, with nearly a million people tuned in for the livestream event. A year before this meeting, the Dalai Lama wrote this to young Greta:

"I am also an ardent supporter of environmental protection... We humans are the only species with the power to destroy the earth as we know it. Yet, if we have the capacity to destroy the earth, so too do we have the capacity to protect. It is encouraging to see how you have opened the eyes of the world to the urgency to protect our planet..."

When the two leaders met, Greta's first words were, "I can say as a younger generation we are eternally grateful that you are standing up for us, not only for us but for the future of the entire humanity and for the entire planet."

(Before reading this book, my favorite multi-generational image of the world movement to address the climate crisis was the famous 2015 photo of John Kerry signing the Paris Agreement with his granddaughter on his lap. Now I think it is imagining that meeting of Greta Thunberg and the Dalai Lama, representing two very different generations and cultures.)

Two memorable quotes from the book are these:

Greta, on the role of technology in fixing the climate: "We live in a strange world where we think we can buy or build our way out of a crisis that has been created by buying and building things."

The Dalai Lama agrees: "Besides, the environment does not need fixing. It is our behavior in relation to it that needs to change."

John Helt



Happy birthday blessings to YOU!

Rebecca Berger - 3

Ryan Gaeth - 3

Lynn Schmeling - 3

Marian Witter - 13

Mark Pfeifer - 15

Jack Tremarello - 17

Jill Unglaub - 19

Madeline Norton - 23

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HAVING US  
THIS SUMMER!  
YOUTHWORKS  
STEPHON, JESSE, OKE, JANIAH, & MIKA



THERE WILL BE MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP WITH THE  
DI LAUNDRY MINISTRY IN SEPTEMBER. IN THE MEANTIME,  
WE WILL STILL BE COLLECTING QUARTERS IN THE JAR  
AT THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY.  
SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE



THANKS, CHUCK!!

THE MILKMEN GAME OUTING ON SUNDAY WAS A HUGE  
SUCCESS!! NOT ONLY DID THE TEAM WIN, BUT THOSE OF  
OUR CONGREGATION WHO ATTENDED HAD A BLAST!! THIS  
WAS ALL DUE TO CHUCK TERLINDEN AND HIS OUTSTANDING  
ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS!! FROM PURCHASING THE TICKETS  
AND MAKING SEATING CHARTS TO BEING THE UBER DRIVER  
FOR SOME OF THE LADIES AT CHURCH. HE WAS A ROCK  
STAR! THE CONSENSUS IS WE SHOULD DO THIS EVERY YEAR.

THANK YOU, CHUCK.

WE REALLY APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU DO!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



MY PEOPLE WILL LIVE IN PEACEFUL DWELLING PLACES.

ISAIAH 32:18. NIV

Thank you to the Krueger Family for  
their generous donation.

This is what they wrote in a card:

CHRIST CHURCH WAS A PART OF OUR MOM'S LIFE FOR MANY  
YEARS. UNTIL ONE DAY SHE COULD NO LONGER ATTEND IN PERSON.

SHE WASN'T THERE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN. THROUGHOUT THE  
YEARS, THE CHURCH WAS KIND ENOUGH TO THINK OF HER WITH  
GIFT BASKETS AND CAROLING. MOM DIDN'T HAVE MUCH AT THE  
END, BUT PEOPLE WERE GENEROUS WITH THEIR GIFTS AT THE  
FUNERAL. SO WE WANT TO GIVE THIS MEMORIAL GIFT IN

MOM'S NAME, LEONE KRUEGER.

GOD BLESS!

THE KRUEGER FAMILY

*≡ You're Invited! ≡*

# CHURCH HOMECOMING

*≡ Connect. Rejoice. Join in Fellowship ≡*



*Wear your  
favorite team's  
spirit wear!*

HIGH SCHOOL,  
COLLEGE OR  
PROFESSIONAL!



SUNDAY

September 20, 2026



WORSHIP  
9:30 AM



CELEBRATION  
AND PICNIC  
11:15 AM



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
(BAY VIEW)

Christ Church UCC  
915 E OKLAHOMA AVENUE  
MILWAUKEE, WI

*Questions?*



[office@uccmke.org](mailto:office@uccmke.org)

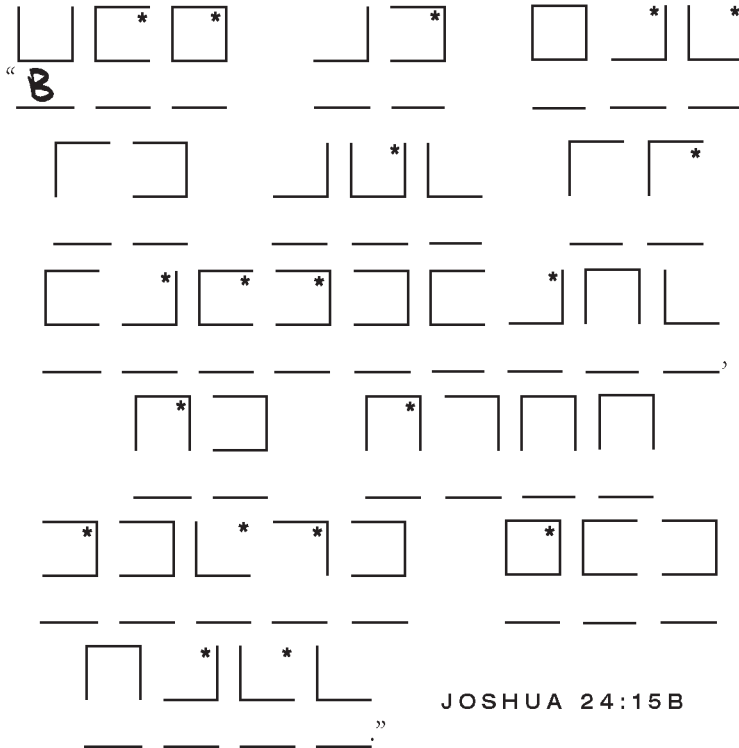


*All are welcome!*

# As for our family...

With school starting, schedules are getting busy again. Sometimes you might feel like you're going in too many directions and forgetting what's really important. Use the key below to remind you of where your family's real focus should always be.

|      |   |   |   |    |    |    |
|------|---|---|---|----|----|----|
|      | A | B | D | O* | N* | R* |
| KEY: | E | F | H | S* | T* | U* |
|      | I | L | M | V* | W* | Y* |



JOSHUA 24:15B

Answer: "But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."



... they broke bread  
at home and  
ate their food

with glad and  
generous hearts,  
praising God and

having the  
goodwill of all

the people. Acts 2:46-47, NRSV

"Those who want to save their life will  
lose it, and those who lose their life for  
my sake will find it."

Matthew 16:25

MEMBER

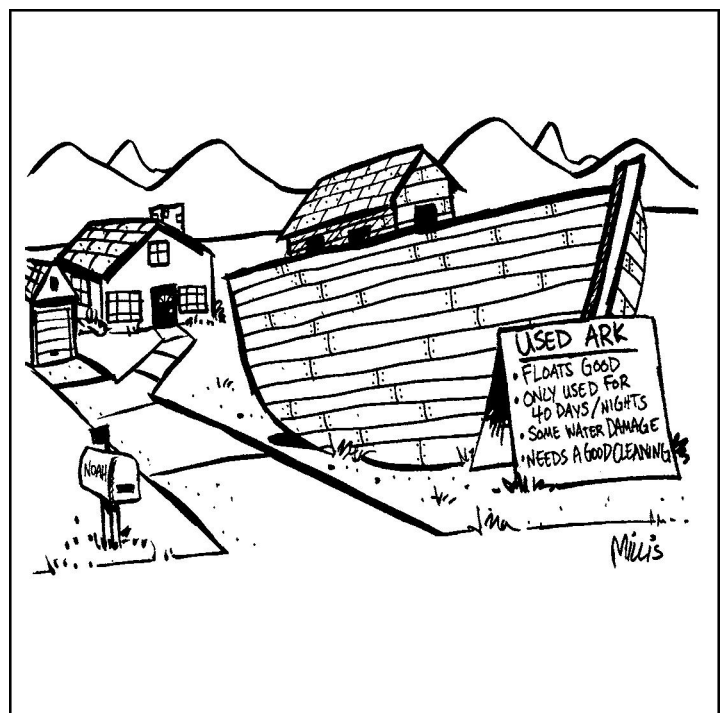
No part of a body  
can survive  
outside the body.

A member of the Body of Christ,  
I am most alive not as myself alone  
but as a part of the whole.

Alone I am only a mass of flesh,  
but as a member, I am alive  
with the whole Body's life.

I when I lose my singular life  
I gain our shared life—  
true, and deep, and infinite.

By Steve Garnaas-Holmes



# CHRIST CHURCH

United Church of Christ

915 East Oklahoma Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53207

Place  
Stamp  
Here

## THE CHRONICLES SEPTEMBER 2026



### GET CONNECTED

Visit our website [www.uccmke.org](http://www.uccmke.org)

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Like us on facebook [facebook.com/christchurchbayview](https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbayview)

Subscribe to our YouTube channel and watch our worship services [youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI/streams)

### Donate Now

It's as easy as clicking the donate button here!

Or, go to the church website and click on the donate button

at [www.uccmke.org/donate](http://www.uccmke.org/donate)

**DONATE NOW**

**Thank You!**