



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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

SOCIAL CONCERNS PROJECTS

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

TREE OF LIFE

COUNCIL CORNER

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

THANK YOUS

BIRTHDAYS



Bible Quiz



For years, King David showed special kindness to the son of King Saul's son Jonathan, because David and Jonathan had been dear friends. Which of the following statements is not accurate?

- A. The name of King Saul's grandson was Mephibosheth.
- B. He was lame in both feet.
- C. His feet had been injured when he was 5.
- D. He was injured while playing with his brothers.



HELLO october 2025

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 Choir Practice 7pm 	2	3	4
5 Service @ 9:30am Liturgist-Andy O Choir BVCC Donations Neighbors in Need 	6	7 Endowment Meeting 6:30pm	8 Finance Meeting 11am Choir Practice 7pm	9 Council Budget Meeting 6 pm	10	11
12 Service @ 9:30am Liturgist-Dean K Choir	13	14 Quilting 9:30am 	15	16 Handbells 9:30am	17	18
TERRYL AWAY	PASTOR TARA AWAY					
19 Laity Sunday @ 9:30am Liturgist-Randene Choir TERRYL AWAY	20	21	22	23 Handbells 9:30am 	24	25
PASTOR TARA AWAY						
26 Service @ 9:30am Liturgist-Julie O Handbells Glen Prasser on 9-11	27	28 Quilting 9:30am Council Meeting 6 pm	29 Choir Practice 7pm	30	31 	

From the Pastor's Desk

My contact info is 413-429-4252 or revtaratetzlaff@gmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours: Tues 1–5pm, Wed 8:30am–12:30pm, Sunday after church until 12:30pm, or by appointment

To the members and friends of Christ Church,

It is with a heavy heart that I share with you the news that, after much prayer and discernment, I have submitted my letter of resignation as pastor and teacher of this church. My last day as your pastor will be on December 31, 2025.

While I have made several meaningful relationships and appreciated many of the experiences during my time at this church, I feel that I am no longer the right person to lead this congregation. It was communicated to me in the search and call process that this church needed someone to guide them through the Open and Affirming process and help them to reach out to the community. In my twenty-one-month tenure in this congregation, it has become increasingly apparent that many in this congregation are too comfortably esconced in the past to see and embrace the Bay View of the present or to discern the call of Christ to proclaim the gospel in this perilous moment in our country. I firmly believe that there is great potential for a progressive, welcoming, inclusive voice of faith in the Bay View community, but have become increasingly doubtful that Christ Church desires to be that voice. In recent conversations and encounters I have had with several members of this congregation, it has become clear to me that this church is not ready to make the changes necessary to adapt to the present-day realities and needs of area residents or to be honest regarding its true feelings toward members of the LGBTQIA+ community. There appears to be more concern about preserving the past (and the bank balances) than there is in proclaiming the gospel.

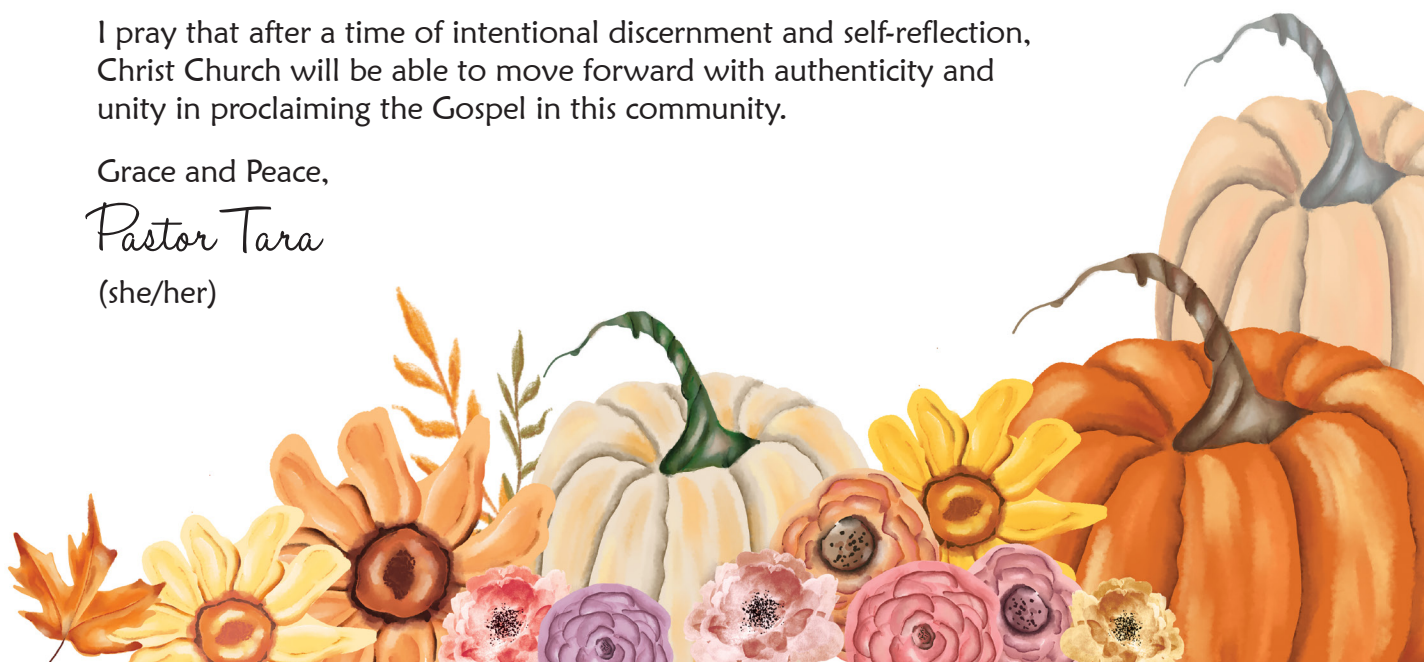
I do have some remaining time off and travel planned in the next three months, but aside from those weeks, I will continue to be present and serving as your pastor through the end of the year.

I pray that after a time of intentional discernment and self-reflection, Christ Church will be able to move forward with authenticity and unity in proclaiming the Gospel in this community.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Tara

(she/her)





Finance Meeting

Wednesday, October 8 at 11am

Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 28 at 6pm



Council Budget Meeting

Thursday, October 9 at 6pm



Movie & Lunch Outing

There is **no** movie or lunch outing scheduled for October. However, *Wicked for Good* is coming out in late November. Stay tuned for details coming soon! The Membership Committee: Jan Naefken, Sue Pfeifer, Randene Wick, Mary Ann Mowery, Joan Gaeth, Andy Oren and Kate O'Brien



Save the Date

The Social Concerns Committee will again be hosting a Ladies Brunch on **December 7th** after church. Please save the date and look for more information in the coming months. *The Social Concerns Committee*



All Saints Sunday

On **November 2nd**, we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday (All Saints Day is Nov. 1). During the service we will recognize members of the church and our loved ones who have died in the past year. Please submit to the office **by Monday, October 27**, the names of those individuals who have died in the past year that you would like included in the service.



God's Garden:

Lettuce be kind

Squash gossip

Turnip for worship

Liturgists

October 5 Andy Oren
October 12 Dean Kothrade
October 19 Randene Wick
October 26 Julie Oren

Quilting

Tuesdays, October 14 and 28
9:30AM-Noon

Choir & Handbells

CHOIR

Wednesdays, **October 1 and 8** at 7pm
Singing - Sunday, **October 5 and 19**

HANDBELLS

Thursdays, **October 16 and 23** at 9:30am
Playing - Sunday, **October 26**

Sunday Counters

October 5 Mark Pfeifer
October 12 Nancy Kaye / Janet Key
October 19 Danette Volz / Renolle Volz
October 26 Sara Rogers / Jill Unglaub

Greeters

October 5 Andy Oren
October 12 Joyce Zieman / Sue Steinhauer
October 19 Nancy Kaye / Vicki Teal
October 26 Julie Oren

Coffee Hour

October 5 Andy & Julie Oren
October 12
October 19
October 26

Laity Sunday is Sunday Oct 19



Calling all Crafters

If you enjoy creating baby blankets and/or prayer shawls, we have an opportunity for you. We would like to have a container filled with various types of blankets and shawls to give to any babies, children or adults who are baptized. The container will be kept in the pastor's office.

Any questions please ask *Pastor Tara or Joan Gaeth*



Hat and Mitten Collection

We will again be collecting hats and mittens to donate to our local schools. Any handmade or purchased items would be welcomed. You may place your donations on the tree in the chapel, once church has been decorated for Christmas. Thanks for helping to keep our local children warm this winter.

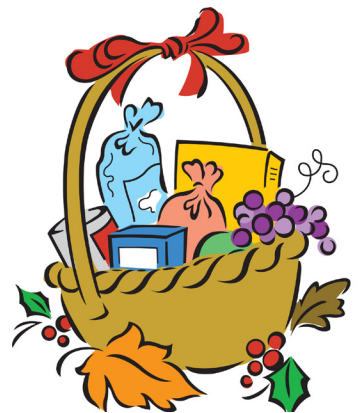
Thanks, *The Social Concerns Committee*



Thanksgiving Bags

We will be collecting items for Thanksgiving Bags to be delivered to the 11 people on our Share and Care list. Please place your donations in the Pine Room by November 9th. Some suggestions include fall decorations, granola bars, candy, word search books, fruit or applesauce cups, cookies, small Kleenex, or anything that might brighten someone's day. The bags will be ready for delivery after church on November 16th. If you can help with delivering the bags, please contact a Social Concerns member.

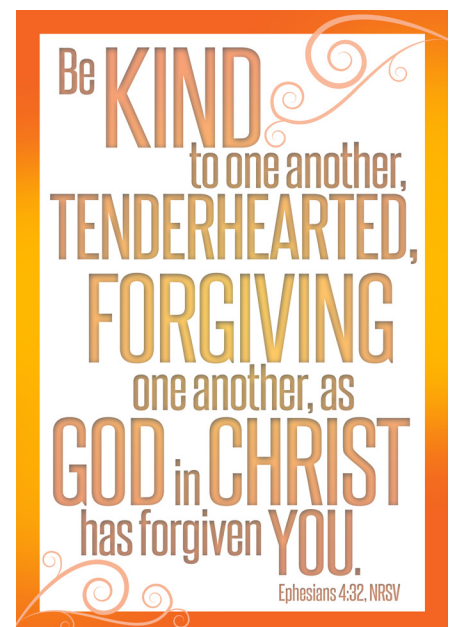
The Social Concerns Committee: *Debbie Hansen, Mallorie Lang, Mary Ann Mowery, Jan Naefken, Sara Rogers, Randene Wick*



BVCC Food Donations

We are continuing our monthly donation of food for the BVCC food pantry. Please bring your items to church the **first Sunday of each month**. Donations can be placed in the grocery cart located in the chapel. Thank you for helping provide for those families in our community in need! Any donations are greatly appreciated, or a financial contribution can be made directly to the BVCC. *BVCC thanks you for supporting your neighbors in need!*

Needed items: jam/jelly, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, macaroni & cheese, canned tuna and chicken, individually wrapped granola bars, applesauce cups, fruit snacks, crackers, toilet paper, dish soap, laundry soap



Special Coffee Hour

On **Sunday, October 26**, Glen Prasser will be with us to share his experiences on 9-11. Glen was flying back from London when his plane was grounded in Gander, Newfoundland where he stayed for the next five days. Glen is an old high school classmate of Andy Oren and his great-grandfather founded what is now Prasser-Klecza Funeral Home way back in 1868. Glen will join us for worship and then share his story during an extended coffee hour.

Endowment Grants

The Endowment Committee is again receiving service outreach grant requests for 2025. Grant applications will be available soon.



During the 130th Anniversary Celebration, Christ Church was recognized by the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee and presented with a plaque.



Fruit or false



Spotting true fruits can be tricky. Thankfully, it's much easier to spot the fruit of the Spirit.



Directions: Determine whether each item is a fruit or vegetable and circle the correct letter. Then insert the letters in order below to complete the verses.

Fruit Vegetable			Fruit Vegetable		
Apple	V	P	Pepper	O	U
Carrot	E	O	Spinach	R	S
Tomato	Y	R	Watermelon	H	P
Grape	C	F	Broccoli	G	N
Eggplant	T	D	Pumpkin	T	Y
Celery	I	N	Pear	F	C
Banana	K	M	Asparagus	L	R
Cucumber	N	W			

But the fruit of the Spirit is lo_e, j_ __, pea_e,
 pa_ie_ce, __ind__ess, go_dne_s,
 fait__ful__ess, gen__leness, sel__-cont__ol.

GALATIANS 5:22-23, ESV

Answer: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

COUNCIL CORNER

The **Finance Committee** meets regularly each month to discuss monthly activity with the church Treasurer, Bookkeeper and Finance Secretary, along with other ad hoc members as well as a representative from the Endowments Committee. Some of the highlights from the past year included: adding monthly financial activity to the bulletin and newsletter, reviewed and revised our rental fee schedule of church space and fellowship hall, and modified the budget report to easily see the different fund activity. The Finance Committee also oversees the work of the weekly counters as well as identifying and training new counters as the need arises. The committee is currently in the process of preparing a budget for 2026 which will be presented at the annual meeting. The budget process involves working with each committee head to gather projections based on current expenses as well as anticipated needs. Finally, the Finance Committee wishes to say “thank you” to all who contribute to the financial health of our church.

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

Monthly Activity	August	YTD
Contributions	\$4,738	\$68,013
Other Income	\$103	\$41,732
Total Income	\$4,841	\$109,745
Expenses	\$13,302	\$131,580
Budgeted Amount	\$14,867	\$118,936

But when the **KINDNESS** and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we have done, but because of his mercy.

Titus 3:4-5



Neighbors in Need

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
- Galatians 6:2

Advocacy is essential to participating in God's mission in the world.

SPECIAL OFFERING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

All congregations in the United Church of Christ are invited to take part in the Neighbors in Need offering. Two thirds of the offering will support justice and witness ministries of the United Church of Christ with one third of the offering will be given to the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Your gifts directly fund the Neighbors in Need grant program. Grants, for UCC congregations and partners, offers funding for both direct service and advocacy projects.

Thank you for your generosity!



Micah 6:8, NRSV



Tree of Life

As you ascend the stairs at the Lenox Street entrance, the “Tree of Life” is visible to all who pass this way. On the leaves you will see messages to honor a church member who has passed away, a baptism, anniversary celebrations, etc.

You will notice that additional leaves are available. The Memorial Committee is offering the option for church members/families to consider honoring a special occasion for \$100 per leaf plus the cost of the engraving at 45 cents per letter. (The cost of the leaf will be used by the Memorial Committee for future projects.) Forms are available in the church office and also on the table near the “Tree of Life.” After returning the completed form to the church office, a member of the Memorial Committee will contact you to review your request.

The Memorial Committee: *Julie Oren, Judy Borkowicz, Kathy Schroeder, Sue Steinhauer, Randene Wick*



“WHOEVER WELCOMES YOU
WELCOMES ME,



AND WHOEVER WELCOMES ME
WELCOMES THE ONE
WHO SENT ME.”

MATTHEW 10:40, NRSV

A Note of Thanks to All Who Made Our 130th Anniversary a Success

To Pam Kothrade, Andy Oren, and the entire Christ Church Congregation,

Thank you. It’s a simple phrase, but it comes from the heart of our entire church community. The 130th Anniversary celebration was truly a beautiful and memorable event, and it wouldn’t have been possible without your hard work and dedication.

Pam and Andy, your leadership in organizing the celebration was invaluable. You both steered the ship with grace and expertise, and your efforts behind the scenes ensured that everything came together seamlessly. We are so grateful for your time, energy, and vision.

And to the entire congregation—you all showed up in a big way. Whether you were planning, preparing food, setting up, or staying late to clean up, every single person who lent a hand played a vital role. This anniversary was a true testament to the spirit of Christ Church: a community that works together, serves together, and celebrates together.

Thank you again for making this a milestone we will all remember.

With deep gratitude, *Jim Wick*



Thank You, Greeters!!

Thank you to all of you who graciously signed up to greet on Sunday mornings in the next few months. It is greatly appreciated. If you were thinking about it and are interested in greeting, feel free to sign up on the “Greeter Sheet” at the Lenox Street Entrance.

Just a few things to remember...

- ▶ Please wear your name tag
- ▶ YES! I will greet each person with a cheerful smile and pay particular attention to anyone I do not know, offering instructions as to the restroom locations while also extending an invitation to Coffee Hour after worship. If I have chosen to greet at the Lenox Street Entrance, I will assist as needed with anyone requiring the use of our elevator, ensuring they reach the level of the sanctuary. Please arrive at 8:55 a.m. and stay until 9:35 a.m. to assist late arrivers. (The ushers will distribute bulletins.) If for some reason I am unable to greet on the date I chose, I will reach out to another greeter to cover my absence.

Thanks again for helping the congregation, newcomers, and visitors feel welcome.

Submitted by: *Joan Gaeth, Membership Committee*



Happy birthday blessings to YOU!

Nancy Jonokuchi - 2

Sara Rogers - 6

Richard Tremarello - 9

Gilbert Gwinn - 12

Andrew Vail - 13

Todd Hansen - 15

Brian O'Brien - 16

Brooke O'Brien - 16

Marilyn Rasch - 16

Helene Rondorf - 16

Susan Brewer - 19

Debbie Hansen - 19

Paul Mayeshiba - 20

Duane Rondorf - 20

Dick Gaeth - 26

Mary Ann Mowery - 30

Mary Veit - 30

Nancy Kaye - 31



THANKS!

We are so grateful to our congregation for donating supplies for our local schools. We collected 8 backpacks, 10 packages of filler paper, 8 binders, 9 packages of markers, 15 packages of crayons, 6 packages of glue sticks, 11 packages of erasers, 13 packages of colored pencils, 5 bottles of glue, 5 packages pencils, 3 packages of pens, 10 scissors, 8 packages of highlighters, 13 spiral notebooks, 60 pocket folders, 4 boxes of Kleenex, 10 pencil boxes and 12 rulers. These supplies will be donated to Trowbridge and Bruce Guadalupe Schools. Thanks for helping support the children and make the school year a success.

With thankful hearts,
The Social Concerns Committee

Love Will Not Be Silenced: Standing With Our Trans Siblings in a Season of Fear

By Derek Terry | September 22, 2025 (from the UCC Open & Affirming Coalition)

Currently, trans people in America are being targeted in ways that are both chilling and familiar. The current administration and its allies are seizing on the tragic death of Charlie Kirk to justify labeling transgender people—and those who love and support them—as “violent extremists” and even “terrorists.” The Heritage Foundation—the same group behind Project 2025—has even proposed creating a new category of domestic terrorism called “Transgender Ideology-Inspired Violent Extremism,” despite the reality that trans people are far more likely to be victims of violence than perpetrators.

This is not about safety. It is about control. It is about creating fear so that people will shrink back, hide who they are, and silence themselves before anyone else has to. It is the politics of scapegoating and intimidation. And history tells us where that road leads.

But God does not call us to fear. God calls us to love. Again and again, Jesus embraced those the powerful tried to exclude and restored dignity to people pushed to the margins. When today's leaders demand that we abandon our trans siblings, our neighbors, and even our own children, we must say no. **We must tell the truth!**

The truth is clear: Trans lives are sacred. Trans people are made in the image of God. Trans joy, creativity, resilience, and beauty are not threats to our communities—they are gifts. And those of us who are cisgender, or who carry other forms of privilege, are called to stand shoulder to shoulder with trans people. Because an attack on one of us is an attack on all of us.

This moment is designed to make us small, to make us silent. But we cannot surrender. We must speak, march, write, preach, vote, and live in ways that tell the truth: God's love is stronger than hate, and God's justice is stronger than fear.

As the Open and Affirming Coalition, our commitment is clear. We will not be silent. We will not give in to fear. We will continue to equip churches and communities to affirm LGBTQ+ people, to proclaim God's expansive love, and to resist the powers of death with the power of life.

This is not the time to retreat. This is the time to rise up together and remember who and whose we are. Love will not be silenced. The challenges we face are overwhelming, but we are not powerless. The Open and Affirming Coalition is creating space for us to respond together—not with fear, but with courage and community. That's why we're launching **A.C.T OUT (Advocacy, Community, Transformation)**, a new initiative to help ONA churches move from affirmation to action.

Join the Conversation

The Open and Affirming Coalition will host a national online interest meeting and brainstorm session:

A.C.T OUT: First Interest Meeting & Community Brainstorm

As anti-LGBTQ+ rhetoric and policies escalate, Open and Affirming churches are being called to do more than affirm—we're being called to act. A.C.T OUT (Advocacy, Community, Transformation) is a new Coalition initiative, and this first gathering is all about listening and brainstorming together. We'll share what our communities are facing, lift up what's already working, and dream about what A.C.T OUT could grow into—with no pressure and no commitments, just a chance to imagine and connect.

Thursday, October 2, 2025

6:30–8:00 PM EST

Online (Zoom)

Who should attend: Pastors, lay leaders, ONA teams, justice committees, youth/young adult leaders, chaplains, and anyone ready to move from statement to strategy.

What we'll do (90 minutes):

Brief framing: the moment we're in and why A.C.T OUT

Three short breakout rounds to share needs, practices, and first-step ideas

Light theme clustering and ways to stay in the loop

You'll leave with:

A shared snapshot of urgent needs across contexts

Starter ideas your church can explore in the next 30–60 days

An optional way to stay connected as this work takes shape

Accessibility: Live captions provided; camera optional. Please share access needs in the registration form.

Community norms: Brave space; one mic at a time; step up/step back; honor names and pronouns; what's said here stays, what's learned here leaves; assume good intent and attend to impact.

Register here: <https://openandaffirming.networkforgood.com/events/91966-a-c-t-out-ona-brainstorming-session>



CHRIST CHURCH

United Church of Christ

915 East Oklahoma Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53207

Place
Stamp
Here

ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

THE CHRONICLES

October 2025



GET CONNECTED

If you want to know more about the happenings at Christ Church, visit our website at www.uccmke.org

Like us on facebook at www.facebook.com/christchurchbayview

Subscribe to our YouTube channel and watch the weekly worship services: 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

DONATE NOW

Thank You!