

*Our Savior's and Gilmanton
United Methodist Churches*

210 N Eau Claire St
Mondovi, WI 54755

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Return Service Requested

Community Events

Mondovi Sharing Table



Wednesday, January 10
4:30—6:00 pm
Central Lutheran Church

Ruby's PANTRY

Thursday, January 21
4:00—5:30 pm
Mondovi County Shop

Our Savior's and Gilmanton United Methodist Churches



JANUARY 2024

OUTREACH



Happy New Year!

Pastor's Corner

I was serving a Korean church in Massachusetts when the COVID-19 pandemic first began to spread. Due to the pandemic, my church began to worship virtually. At the time, I casually assumed that things would return to normal in a few months, like the winter epidemics I had experienced before. In hindsight, that was unfounded optimism. It was probably the first time in our lives that we didn't get to celebrate Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas together in church, not just Sunday services.

People were unable to attend family weddings and funerals during the pandemic or visit loved ones in nursing homes. We couldn't go out. Not being able to see people was a very difficult experience for all of us. In January last year, I spent my mother's last hours with her in the hospice ward. At that time, the hospital only allowed two family members to visit patients for 30 minutes a day, so all of my family members who were visiting my mother had to leave the hospital sadly.

One of the lessons we learned from that terrible pandemic is to meet the people you want to meet or see when you get the chance. They are not always there. So in the new year, make time for them, go see them, and spend time with them because sometimes the things that seem trivial and like a waste of time are the foundation on which our lives are built.

I hope that in the new year, you will be able to see many people at church that you haven't seen since the pandemic. I hope we can sing hymns and worship together in church and share testimonies of God's blessings in our lives. I hope that those of you who are unable to attend Sunday services for various reasons will be able to attend at least the first Sunday of the month when we celebrate the Lord's Supper, so that the entire church family can be deeply connected through the holy time of partaking of the flesh and blood of Christ together.

Rather than trying to predict the world, Christians live in "faith that God is working it all out ahead of time." I am grateful to be with you on this great journey of faith. This year, I pray that you will have a wonderful, blessed, and prosperous New Year. I pray that God would strengthen you in health and make you passionate in every good work that he leads you to do.

"For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer." 1 Timothy 4:4-5

Pastor Hyuntae Kim, Ph.D.



After the Charge Conference with D.S. Peace Kim



Happy
New Year

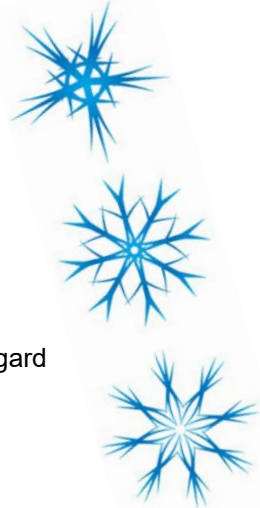
CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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Church Office
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Happy Birthday!

- 1/5 Kim Becker
- 1/6 Ryan Schwartz
- 1/6 Terry Stiner
- 1/7 Leah Saxe
- 1/9 MaryBeth Pichler
- 1/10 Sue Stoughton
- 1/12 Kathy Litchfield
- 1/16 Dalton Zingshiem
- 1/19 Deb Coppage
- 1/20 Julia Branger
- 1/22 Lorraine Diener
- 1/22 Brandon Saxe, Jr.
- 1/25 Eric Nordahl-Klevgard
- 1/27 Justin Johnston
- 1/28 Doris Davis
- 1/30 Kashlyn Johnston
- 1/31 Sarah Boley



Keep in Prayer...

Rescue of hostages (Israelis, Americans, and others) abducted by Hamas. Israeli soldiers. Protection, restoration, and salvation of Israel. U.S. Military. Nations in peril: Israel, South Korea, Taiwan, Ukraine, U.S. against Palestine, Iran, North Korea, China, Russia.

Members who are in long-term care facilities.

Military veterans.

All firefighters, EMTs, police, and military personnel.

Brothers and sisters in Christ around the world.

Happy Anniversary!

- 1/2 Dennis & Traci Bauer
- 1/12 Dennis & Kathy Litchfield
- 1/14 Thomas & Rita McDonnell
- 1/23 Sonny & Linda Sandberg



UMW Candlelight Service



United Women in Faith

January 10, 2024



2024 Christmas Eve Service at Our Savior's UMC



UMW Candlelight Service

dozen rosettes were made. Additionally, 125 packs of lefse and 80 quarts and 46 pints of pickles. It was noted that people appeared to have an enjoyable time and many newcomers were there. Discussion took place regarding changing the hours to 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. next year.

New Business: December 13th will be our candlelight service at 1 p.m. We are all to bring 2 dozen Christmas cookies for packing tins which will then go to shut-ins, etc. Discussion took place regarding our treasury having more receipts than the \$800.00 pledged to the District. A motion was passed to have the extra \$140.00 sent to the Northwest District.

Discussion took place regarding Christmas gifts for the four church employees. Motion passed to give \$25.00 to each.

Trustee Report (Sonny Sandberg, Chair)

Sonny reported he contacted TKE regarding the elevator and terminating the maintenance agreement and requested a refund our money. TKE then contacted Sonny to do the repair. TKE reported the new computer board was installed, but the motor was not working. Sonny then submitted a work order to All Star Elevator in Chippewa Falls who reported the only problem was a blown fuse. All Star checked the other floors for the elevator and reported the batteries were good. Sonny then requested TKE send the old computer board back, which we have received. All Star Elevator will submit information on a maintenance agreement with them. Sonny verbally cancelled the maintenance agreement with TKE. Jay Branger will inform TKE in writing that we are cancelling our maintenance agreement with them.

Sonny reported the freezer in the

kitchen has been fixed.

The first furnace catch basin for condensation was full and this has been unplugged.

In the second furnace, the flow-in motor bearings were bad, and a used motor was purchased.

Jay Branger reported he found a locked mailbox for the church. Jay and Sonny will follow up on this.

SPRC (Jim Williams, Chair)

Jim reported the documents for Charge Conference have been completed.

Old Business

Dave Boley reported Church Mutual contacted him regarding a walkthrough of the church building, and Dave will be in contact with them.

Dave Boley reported that in regard to Kim Negus using the church for music therapy that he is still waiting for a proposal from Kim.

Jay Branger reported that he reviewed the church insurance policy and then contacted Church Mutual for information regarding liability insurance and presented information to the Council.

Jay requested permission to talk to the agent. Dave Boley made a motion for Jay to talk to the agent. Jim Williams seconded. Motion carried.

Jay reported when renting space in the church for personal gain, the renter would need to provide their own accident and medical liability coverage.

Ann Yelle reported she contacted Elaine Rud regarding the defibrillator. Elaine reported she has checked the defibrillator and new pads were installed.

New Business

Pastor thanked Council members for the generous gifts and card for Pastor Appreciation. Month

Lay Member to Annual Conference (Ann Yelle)

Ann reported that November 28, 2023, is Giving Tuesday and donations will go to Annual Conference for global ministries.

Motion to adjourn made by Julie Brunsch, seconded by Kolleen Branger. Motion carried.

Dave Boley closed with prayer.

Account Balances

Checking
\$2,754.41
Elevator Repair
\$524.00
Local Disaster
\$390.00
New Ministries
\$2,019.80
Christmas Walk
\$5,400.00
Scholarships/Youth Awards
\$260.00
Sunday School
\$580.00
Total Account Balances
\$11,928.21



Highlights from the Council Meeting—November 16, 2023

Council members present: Pastor Kim, Dave Boley, Jay Branger, Kolleen Branger, Ann Yelle, Sonny Sandberg, Julie Brunsch, Jim Williams, Jan Bechel.

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Dave Boley.

Breakthrough prayer read in unison by Council members.

Next Meeting: November 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Sonny Sandberg inquired regarding when the nativity scene should be put up. Sonny and others will put it up.

Secretary's Report

Motion to accept the October 2023 Secretary's Report made by Kolleen Branger and seconded by Julie Brunsch. Motion carried.

Executive Summary (Julie Brunsch, Treasurer)

Checking account totals are as follows: Beginning balance of \$15,509.52; deposits of \$12,076.88; interest of \$11.27; expenditures of \$9242.34; uncleared transactions of \$5731.16 with an ending balance as of October 31, 2023, of \$12,624.17. Checking account reconciled with bank statement. Internal account balances are Checking \$3450.37; Elevator Repair \$524.00; Local Disaster \$390.00; New Ministries \$2019.80; Christmas Walk \$5400.00; Scholarships/Youth Awards \$260.00; Sunday School \$580.00 for balance of \$12,624.17. Other accounts: Building/Restoration \$1976.89; Youth Fellowship Account \$4160.45.

Julie reported she used \$285.18 from the Sunday School account for expenses for F3 in October.

We are ahead of last year in year-to-date giving.

Julie presented the preliminary 2024

budget for review. Gilmanton's share of joint expenses has decreased to 18.30%. Jay Branger made a motion to approve the budget. Jim Williams seconded. Motion carried. Julie will submit the budget to the Conference.

Current checking account balance is \$4868.10 with \$5154.84 in bills to be paid by the end of the month.

Julie reported insurances have been paid.

She used no Christmas Walk money in October.

Jan Bechel gave a preliminary report on the Christmas Bazaar, but does not have all of the expenses at this time.

Memorial Report (Ann Yelle, Chair)

Balance as of September 30, 2023, \$19,223.13 with credits of \$8.43 and debits of \$183.30 with ending balance of \$19,048.26.

Ann reported the money for the kitchen counter and table was taken from the Tom Cook memorial.

Jay Branger inquired regarding placing some of the memorial funds in a CD. Discussion ensued. Jay made a motion to place \$15,000.00 from the memorial funds in a 10 month CD at Alliance Bank at 5.25%. Sonny Sandberg seconded. Motion carried. Council members agreed. Ann Yelle has authority to execute this motion.

Finance Secretary (Kolleen Branger)

Kolleen reported she is streamlining the instructions for money counters.

Motion made by Jim Williams and seconded by Jan Bechel to accept the October 2023 Executive Summary, Memorial and Finance Secretary Reports. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

October 20 – November 16

Pastor showed a video of the Harmony Choir concert in Stevens Point.

Visits: Three.

1) Annual conference event: Korean Caucus zoom meeting with Rev. Jean Nicholas.

2) Harmony Choir (concert) Blessing Service.

Community events: American Lutheran Home service with communion.

District events: Clergy zoom meeting.

Future Plans and Agenda

Ecumenical Service schedule (Our Savior's, Gilmanton UMC and Central Lutheran Church). Thanksgiving Service: Tuesday, November 21, 6:30 p.m. at Our Savior's UMC. Your offerings on this day will be used to support our Mondovi Community.

Prayer for Commitment and Entrustment: Lord, open the doors of our ministry and mission for our community and future generations. For more workers, more younger generations to come to church.

United Women in Faith Report (Linda Johnston, Chair, absent)

Ann Yelle presented the following:

On November 8, 2023, Women in Faith met with 10 people present.

Old Business: An update on the Christmas Bazaar was given. To date, Crafts took in \$1346.85; Garden Center \$154.00; Grandma's Cupboard \$174.50; and Food \$3596.00. Sunday sales were \$323.00. Additional monies from pickle sales brought the total for the Bazaar to \$5594.35. It was reported that 80

"BE THE CHURCH"

Our Membership Committee has been working with Pastor Kim on caring for the members on our membership list of 173 members. The Committee was formed a few years back when Pastor Dale retired and wanted a smooth transition for our new pastor, Pastor Joeng, and now our current pastor, Pastor Kim.

With circumstances changing constantly since Covid, our Church continues to support holding Sunday worship services in person and online for members unable to attend in person. We are not the only church that has experienced a decline in attendance. The question is then, how do we reach out to others? Our mission statement states, *"Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World through Knowing, Growing and Going."*

We reach out to others with prayers for God's guidance; our members sharing their resources of time, talent, treasures, and prayers for one another - we can be *"disciples of Jesus Christ"*.

Excerpts taken from "Our Daily Bread" December 9 devotional: "Be the Church" may help us in our discipleship.

Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "and let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another."

Further resources found on Hebrews 10

Insight – vs. 25 "Keep Meeting"

Many modern Christians have stopped going to church. Their reasons for quitting vary, but none outweigh God's command that His followers live in constant connection with each other.

Focus – "Toughen Up and Open Up"

Some followers of Christ timidly stash their faith out of sight, as if it cannot stand up to any kind of danger. We do live in a world where Satan wants to ravage our faith, and we must therefore be on guard. The safest way to live in this spiritually dangerous world is not to hide our faith but to build up our strength. Hebrews 10:19-39 lists ways we can toughen up so that we can open up:

- We can practice confidence as we freely enter God's presence through Christ.
- We can stand on the promise that because of Christ's death on our behalf, our sins have been forgiven.
- We can keep a firm grip on the basics of our faith, which is grounded in the integrity of Christ.
- We can stir each other up to loving, active faith.
- We can meet with other believers regularly for encouragement, accountability, worship, and prayer.
- We can leave judgment and repayment up to God.
- We can show compassion to people in need.
- We can condition ourselves so that we will finish life well.

Faith that grows strong is faith we can share.

-Membership Committee



2024 Christmas Eve Service at Gilmanton UMC

Worship Service Helpers			
	Greeters/Ushers	Worship Leader	Money Counters
Jan 7	Jan Bechel & Sue Sie	David Boley	Jan Bechel & Katie Sandberg
Jan 14	Linda Johnston & Terry Stiner	Mike Bruning	David Saxe & Jay Branger
Jan 21	Jay & Kolleen Branger	Rita McDonnell	Stephanie Stamm & MaryBeth Pichler
Jan 28	Stephanie & Lily Stamm	MaryBeth Pichler	Linda Johnston & Lorraine Diener

Camera Operators: Lori Boley & Saul Ness

Refreshments will be served after church at Our Savior's on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church.



Look who got caught with his hand in the cookie jar!
The WOF appreciated Pastor's help filling cookie tins for our shut-ins.



F3 Christmas Caroling
Oh what fun!



Children's Christmas Program



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy New Year No dartball	2	3 5:30-7 pm F3/Confirmation	4	5	6
7 Holy Communion 9:00 am Gilmanon Worship 10:30 am Our Savior's Worship	8 Dartball-Away	9 6:15 pm Worship Committee Meeting	10 2:00 pm UWF 5:30-7 pm F3/Confirmation	11	12	13
14 9:00 am Gilmanon Worship 10:30 am Our Savior's Worship; Choir Sings	15 Dartball-Home	16	17 5:30-7 pm F3/Confirmation	18 6:00 pm Council Meeting	19	20
21 9:00 am Gilmanon Worship 10:30 am Our Savior's Worship	22 Dartball-Home	23	24 5:30-7 pm F3/Confirmation 6:30 pm OS Choir Practice	25	26	27
28 8:30 am Gilmanon Choir Practice 9:00 am Gilmanon Worship; Choir Sings 10:30 am Our Savior's Worship	29 Dartball-Home	30	31 5:30-7 pm F3/Confirmation			