

Our Savior's and Gilmanton  
United Methodist Churches

210 N Eau Claire Street  
Mondovi, WI 54755



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Return Service Requested

Community Events

Mondovi Sharing Table



Wednesday, December 11  
4:30—6:00 pm  
Central Lutheran Church



Thursday, December 19  
4:00—5:30 pm  
Mondovi County Shop

OUTREACH

Our Savior's and Gilmanton United Methodist Churches



DECEMBER 2024

PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we approach the blessed season of Christmas, we are reminded of the profound truth expressed in C.S. Lewis's book, *"Miracles"*. In it, Lewis writes:

*"The central miracle asserted by Christians is the Incarnation. They say that God became Man. Every other miracle prepares for this, or exhibits this, or results from this. It was the central event in the history of the Earth—the very thing that the whole story has been about."*

This idea calls us to reflect deeply on what we celebrate at Christmas. The miracle of the Incarnation is not just for those who already know Christ, but for the whole world, for every soul longing for meaning, hope, and love.

Christmas is a season of invitation. Just as the angels announced "good news of great joy for all the people" (Luke 2:10), so we are called to proclaim that this joy is for everyone—whether they are near to the church or far from it, whether they call themselves believers or skeptics. The light of Christ shines into every corner of the world, offering redemption and peace.

In Lewis's book, he challenges us to see the beauty of Christmas not as a fleeting sentiment but as the foundation of a truth that transforms lives. He reminds us that the birth of Christ is a declaration that God's love reaches into the messiness of our humanity, bringing hope where there was despair and life where there was death.

This Christmas, let us embody this message in our own lives. As we gather with family and friends, as we worship and give thanks, let us remember to share this light with those who feel forgotten, lonely, or estranged from God. The Incarnation assures us that no one is beyond the reach of God's love.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ fill your hearts with joy this Christmas and may His light shine through you to a world in need.

With love in Christ,  
Pastor Dr. Hyuntae Kim

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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Happy Birthday!

- 12/1 Laurie Johnston
- 12/5 Richard Putzier
- 12/7 Sharol Molland
- 12/7 Jim Williams
- 12/8 Aaron Johnston
- 12/8 Cheryl Molitor
- 12/12 Grace Branger
- 12/14 Roger Mock
- 12/15 Eastyn Dziekan
- 12/15 Karen Saxe
- 12/16 Lisa Bishopp
- 12/20 Dora Johnston
- 12/20 Kevin Johnston
- 12/20 Kara Nordahl
- 12/21 Tosha Bishopp
- 12/22 Jayla Johnston
- 12/23 Bryce Parr
- 12/29 Ross Biederman
- 12/29 Pat Fichtenbauer
- 12/29 Neuretta Molland



Keep in Prayer...

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.



Thank you to everyone for your hard work and donations to make the 2024 Christmas Bazaar a success!  
Special thanks to the Fancy Cookie Bakers: Jan Bechel, Chris Kramschuster, Bonnie Lindsay, Sue Sie, Debbie Holden, Kolleen Branger, Jill Poeschel, Lorraine Diener, and Sue Stoughton. A big thank-you also to the set-up and take-down crew and all the volunteers. Our Bazaar would not be possible without your help!  
God Bless You All!



We introduced the confirmands and prayed for them during the worship service on Sunday, November 17.

For Pastor Appreciation Month, we presented Pastor Kim with cards and gifts prepared by church members.



Health Promotion Coordinator at Eau Claire County at our next meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

New Business: Charge Conference is scheduled for December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. We viewed the new logo for United Women in Faith. Julie Brunsch presented a program on World Thank Offering. An offering for it was taken.

Linda reported lefse is being made on Saturday, October 19, and rosettes on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Report (Sonny Sandberg absent)  
Jay Branger inquired regarding a leak in the roof. Discussion ensued. Jay will discuss with Sonny about contacting a contractor for an estimate.

SPRC (Jim Williams, Chair)  
Jim reported a meeting is being scheduled for next week.  
Worship Committee  
Laity Sunday is October 20<sup>th</sup> and Mary Beth Pichler will be giving the sermon. Pastor Kim will be a greeter and usher and will also sing a solo.

F3 Report (Randy Johnston)  
Randy reported they are in need of candy for trunk or treat. He reported that Dora had received calls for 3 new Confirmands.

Old Business  
Pastor reported a request from Kathy regarding how many Program Calendars to order, and 6 were ordered.

Pastor Kim is working on a Ministry Plan.

Membership Committee is working on the membership list.

New Business  
Julie Brunsch reported Servant

Keeper will be raising their prices. Julie will be in contact with Kathy regarding getting in touch with Servant Keeper regarding options.

Pastor Kim closed with prayer. Motion to adjourn made by Jim Williams, seconded by Julie Brunsch. Motion carried.

Account Balances 10/31/2024	
Checking	\$336.41
Elevator Repair	\$524.00
Local Disaster	\$390.00
New Ministries	\$1,299.82
Christmas Walk	\$10,000.00
Scholarships/Youth Awards	\$260.00
Sunday School	\$624.00
<b>Total Account Balances</b>	<b>\$13,434.23</b>

On December 1, members of Gilmanton UMC decorated the church for Christmas



Gilmanton Members also joined together to pack Sunshine Bags





Highlights from the Council Meeting— October 17, 2024

Council members present: Pastor Kim, Kolleen Branger, Jay Branger, Ann Yelle, Linda Johnston, Julie Brunsch, Jan Bechel, Jim Williams, Randy Johnston, Debbie Duncanson.

Meeting called to order by Kolleen Branger.

Breakthrough prayer read in unison by Council members.

Next Meeting: November 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Secretary's Report

After discussion of September minutes, Jay Branger made a motion to accept Secretary's Report as submitted, seconded by Linda Johnston. Motion carried.

Finance Committee (Jay Branger, Chair)

Jay presented to Council members a proposed letter to church members regarding finances and pledges. Discussion ensued and the letter will be sent to church members.

Executive Summary (Julie Brunsch, Treasurer)

Checking account totals are as follows: Beginning balance of \$14,314.73; deposits of \$10,640.39; interest of \$8.67; expenditures of \$9882.24; uncleared transactions of \$870.64; Bank Charge Back Fees \$0.00; with an ending balance as of September 30, 2024, of \$14,210.91. Checking account reconciled with bank statement. Internal account balances are Checking \$1113.09; Elevator Repair \$524.00; Local Disaster \$390.00; New Ministries \$1299.82; Christmas Walk \$10,000.00; Scholarships/Youth Awards \$260.00; Sunday School \$624.00 for balance of \$14,210.91. Other accounts: Building/Restoration

\$1989.77; Youth Fellowship Account \$4187.55.

Julie reported on September 20<sup>th</sup> a deposit was made of \$654.01 from the interest of the CD.

Church Mutual has been paid for November. Worker's Comp has been paid until the end of the year through Church Mutual. Jay Branger will be in contact with the Conference for further information regarding insurance coverage.

Current checkbook balance is \$521.62 with bills due by the end of the month of \$5758.08.

Apportionment payments for 2025 have decreased by \$1152.00 from last year.

Memorial Report (Ann Yelle, Chair)

Balance as of August 31, 2024, \$2046.90 with credits of \$45.82 and no debits with ending balance in checkbook of \$2092.72 and \$15,000.00 in CD with total balance of \$17,092.72.

The CD was cashed in on September 20, 2024, with interest deposited in general fund and renewal for another 6 months.

Finance Secretary (Kolleen Branger)

Kolleen reported she had nothing new to report.

Motion made by Debbie Duncanson and seconded by Jim Williams to accept the September 2024 Executive Summary, Memorial and Finance Secretary Reports. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

**September 20 to October 17**

Visits: 3  
Church event: Confirmation Class (Confirmands: Finn Sandberg, Kasey Poeschel, Reina Martin, Brystal Thompson).

Conference event: School for Ministry (Clergy's continuing education, Green Lake), Bishop's Day Apart (welcoming the new bishop Dan Schwerin), WAC Harmony Choir practice.  
Nation-wide event: KAUMC Annual Convocation (Clergy's continuing education, Los Angeles)  
Community event: American Lutheran Home Service.

**Future Plans and Agendas**

Sunday, October 20, Laity Sunday.  
Sunday, November 3, All Saints Sunday.

Nomination Committee: Pastor reported they will be having a meeting.

Jay Branger reported he talked to Dawn Moy regarding the Treasurer position.

Discussion ensued. Jay reported Dawn would be willing to help us temporarily. Julie reported she and Dawn have met.

Membership Committee: Debbie Duncanson reported she had no new news to report.

Charge Conference is December 10, 2024, at 6:30.

United Women in Faith Report (Linda Johnston, Chair)

Linda Johnston reported the following as submitted by Ann Yelle.

On October 9, 2024, United Women in Faith met with 7 people present.

Old Business: An update on Fall Gathering was given.

Discussion took place regarding having Deb Bruning present one of her programs from her work as

Joint Worship at Our Savior's  
December 8 at 10:30  
Bluegrass Gospel Band  
Potluck to Follow

CHARGE CONFERENCE

December 10  
6:30 pm

Candlelight Service & Meal

 United Women in Faith

December 11 at 1:00 pm



Our Savior's F3  
Christmas Program  
Sunday, December 15  
10:30 am



Christmas Eve Worship

glory in the HIGHEST

Gilmanton 4:00 pm—Choir Sings  
Our Savior's 6:00 pm—Choir Sings

FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 29



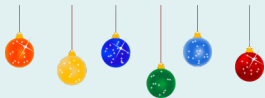
Come Worship With Us!



We had a Christmas bazaar on Saturday, November 2. Members of our church came and many of our neighbors from the Mondovi area came and had a great time. The items sold at the Christmas bazaar were homemade by church members and donated items. We made a good profit, 10% of which will be donated to the Mondovi community. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Christmas Bazaar.




On Sunday, November 24, after the service, we decorated the church for Christmas. Many members of the church participated and decorated the church beautifully. After we finished, we had a lunch of pizza, cookies, and drinks. Thank you to everyone who participated.



# December 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>Holy Communion</b> <b>1st Sunday of Advent</b> 9:00 am Gilmanton Worship 10:30 am Our Savior's Worship	2 Dartball-Away	3 6:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting	4 5:30-7:00 pm F3/Confirmation	5	6	7
8 10:30 am Joint Worship at OS; Bluegrass Gospel Band with potluck to follow	9 Dartball-Away	10 6:30 pm Charge Conference	11 1:00 UWF Candlelight Service 5:30-7:00 pm F3/Confirmation	12	13	14
15 9:00 am Gilmanton Worship 10:30 am Our Savior's Worship; F3 Sings	16 No Dartball	17	18 5:30-7:00 pm F3/Confirmation	19 6:00 pm Council Meeting	20	21
22 9:00 am Gilmanton Worship 10:30 am Our Savior's Worship	23 No Dartball	24 <b>Christmas Eve Services</b> <b>4:00 pm Gilmanton; Choir Sings</b> <b>6:00 pm Our Savior's; Choir Sings</b>	25 <b>Christmas Day</b> 	26	27	28
29 <b>Food Pantry Sunday</b> 9:00 am Gilmanton Worship 10:30 am Our Savior's Worship	30 Dartball-Home	31 <b>New Year's Eve</b>				

December Worship Service Helpers			
	Greeters/Ushers	Worship Leader	Money Counters
Dec 1	Stephanie & Lily Stamm	Rita McDonnell	Stephanie Stamm & Bill Lier
Dec 8	Jay & Kolleen Branger	Mary Beth Pichler	Katie Sandberg & Bill Lier
Dec 15	Randy & Dora Johnston	Katie Sandberg	Jay Branger & David Saxe
Dec 22	Ann Yelle & Rita McDonnell	Brendan Williams	Linda Johnston & Mary Beth Pichler
Dec 29	Sue Sie & Mary Beth Pichler	Ann Yelle	Stephanie Stamm & Katie Sandberg
Camera Operators: 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.