

**Algoma & West Kewaunee UMC**

804 Parker Avenue  
Algoma, WI 54201



Return Service Requested



**Algoma & West Kewaunee United Methodist Churches**

804 Parker Ave ~ Algoma, WI 54201 ~ 920-487-2727

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Emert

[www.ourdoorsareopentoall.org](http://www.ourdoorsareopentoall.org) ~ [umcalgoma@gmail.com](mailto:umcalgoma@gmail.com)

We welcome all people... are guided by the teachings and unconditional love of Jesus... are inspired to participate as faithful disciples of Christ.

**Mission Statement:** To show and teach the love of Jesus Christ to make the world a better place.

**Vision Statement:** Serving ALL God's creation by celebrating and modeling the love of Jesus.

**January 2021**

**Not a Day Off!**



**How Are You Spending Your "Day On"?**

**January 15**

**Algoma School Service**

**January 16**

**Brown County Online Celebration**

**January 18**

**Church Zoom MLK Breakfast Program**



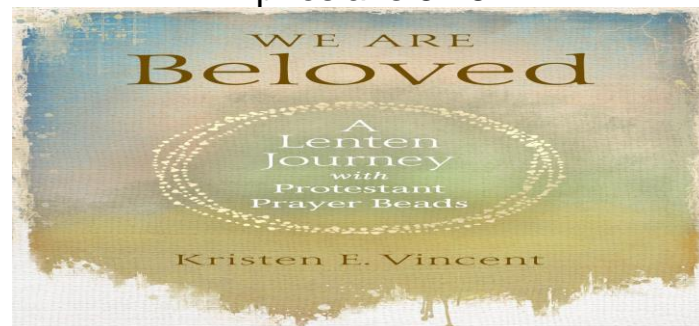


**Kids Virtual Bible School**  
**Coming January 2021**  
**Wednesdays at 6:30pm**

**Church Family**  
**Algoma/West Kewaunee U. Methodist Church**  
 804 Parker Avenue, Algoma, WI 54201  
 920-487-2727      [umcalgoma@gmail.com](mailto:umcalgoma@gmail.com)  
 Pastor: Jennifer Emert  
 Meal Ministry Coordinator: Julie Bloor  
 Next Church Newsletter Deadline: **January 25**  
 Submit to [pastorjenniferemert@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjenniferemert@gmail.com)  
[ourdoorsareopentoall.org](http://ourdoorsareopentoall.org)

## This Lenten season,

We hope you “grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”  
 Ephesians 3:18



Lent begins February 17, 2021

## LETTER FROM PASTOR JENNIFER....

During these days when the world is awash with troubles, betrayals, corruption, and violence let us remember so too was the state of the world some two thousand years ago on the night of Christ's birth. Indeed, every year since Christ's birth the world of humanity has failed in large and small ways to live in hope, love, joy, and peace except in those many places of life where human beings still come together in the name of the Lord. Here and there in every place on the earth are those who still look up into the sky on a clear night, wander the forest and fields, or look into the eyes of a child, and see the wonder of God's creation that speaks of God's love. Yes, the meaning of Christmas will never pass from this earth as long as people of faith and gratitude live. January 6 we celebrate Epiphany, the arrival of the Wise Men to pay homage to baby Jesus. They came with gifts, but it was to bear witness to love and it became clear to them that the political king, Herod, could not bring to the world the things that we really need – hope, love, joy, and peace. We may live in a Herod kind of world right now, but as the story shows us, we do not have to be a Herod that values power and riches, with the small heart that bears only hate. We can see and hear what God has done in the birth of the baby Jesus and feel our hearts swell and grow in the light of Christ and find there a way of life that will carry us at last to that place not made by human hands but prepared for us from the foundations of the earth. Hope! Love! Joy! And Peace! That's what Epiphany is all about!

*Matthew 2: Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him...<sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.*

Joyous Epiphany and a Very Happy New Year filled with God's Blessings!

Pastor Jennifer

# Thank You for Your Giving!

Thank you for your generous giving of time, talents, gifts, service, and witness in 2020. If you wish to check on the status of your financial giving, feel free to call the church office (920-487-2727) or email ([umcalgoma@gmail.com](mailto:umcalgoma@gmail.com)) and check with Jodi Parins, our church treasurer. Thank you for the wonderful ways you share the love of God. We are blessed to be a part of Algoma/WK UMC. Our community and world are better because we are here.

## Estimate of Giving Cards

Thank you to those who have returned their 2021 estimate of giving cards and to everyone who has made pledges. If you have not had a chance to fill yours out, please mail it to the church office as soon as you are able. And if you need one, we have additional pledge cards; call or email us and we will get it to you. It helps us do our planning. Thank you for your continued generous and loving support of the ministries of Algoma/WKUMC.

## Ministry Team

**Pastor Jennifer Emert**

[pastorjenniferemert@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjenniferemert@gmail.com)

**Julie Bloor**, Meal Ministry Coordinator

[julie.m.bloor@gmail.com](mailto:julie.m.bloor@gmail.com)

**John Contratto**, Music Director

[contratto.john@yahoo.com](mailto:contratto.john@yahoo.com)

**Jodi Parins**, Administrative Council Chair

[jparins@gmail.com](mailto:jparins@gmail.com)

**Andrew Hooker**, Treasurer

[geekoncoffee@gmail.com](mailto:geekoncoffee@gmail.com)

**Ann Schmitz**, Trustee Chair

[aschmitz51@hotmail.com](mailto:aschmitz51@hotmail.com)

**Matt Templeton**, Trustee

[tempster07@yahoo.com](mailto:tempster07@yahoo.com)

## MISSIONS - January – Backpack Buddies

2020 was a year like no other. So many aspects of our everyday lives drastically changed. Our Backpack Program has continued to evolve to respond to people's needs as we become aware of them.

Thank you to everyone who helped make Christmas brighter for these children. We were able to provide food support over Christmas vacation, special Christmas meals, and funds for parents to buy gifts children would not have otherwise received.

Now for January, we are looking for people willing to be "Backpack Buddies". We are offering you the opportunity to build a relationship with one backpack recipient.

We are currently serving 40 kids over 15 households. Our youngest was born on Christmas Day! Our oldest is in 11<sup>th</sup> grade. We serve boys, girls, and a trans-gender child. We have Spanish-speakers and English-speakers. We have kids with disabilities, kids with incarcerated parents, and kids whose parents were laid off in March and still have not received any unemployment benefits.

We can match you with a kid of your choosing so that you can provide cards, treats, or other surprises each week in their backpack. We are not looking for monetary donations! We are asking that you give of yourself to help a kid know that they are specifically loved and cared for. Backpacks go out every Thursday. Think what a blessing it would be to find a note of encouragement specifically written for you in the midst of that food! Contact Pastor Jennifer if you are interested and she will find you the perfect "Backpack Buddy".



**Love. Grow. Serve.**





Dearly beloved in the North East District:

*A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition, #607* In the United Methodist Hymnal, may be familiar to you:

I am no longer my own, but thine.  
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with  
whom thou wilt.  
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.  
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside  
for thee,  
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.  
Let me be full, let me be empty.  
Let me have all things, let me have  
nothing.  
I freely and heartily yield all things  
to thy pleasure and disposal.  
And now, O glorious and blessed God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.  
And the covenant which I have made on  
earth,  
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

The service of which this prayer is most traditionally a part, the Covenant Renewal Service, is less familiar to many United Methodists. The prayer is toward the back of the UM Hymnal in a section called "The Sacraments and Rites of the Church," along with baptismal, confirmation and communion hymns. While the service is not a sacrament, it is certainly sacramental, that is, that the service is an outward sign of an internal spiritual process (to paraphrase St. Augustine).

Participating in the service is a means of re-committing one's life to Christian discipleship. It can be done at any time, but most traditionally, Methodists would make this service part of their Watch Night (New Year's Eve) service. Alternatively, it would

be part of the first or second Sunday service of the year. I love this service. For me, it is kind of a spiritual re-set. It is an opportunity to reflect on my faith, my commitment to Christian living and to my call. Part of my call as a pastor whether in the parish or as a district superintendent is to encourage and empower others to deeply live lives as followers of Jesus.

As I tried to pray my way across the theological and political divides of our church and nation, this Covenant Renewal Service kept coming to my mind. Was there a way that I could share what this service means to me with you? Could I empower you to go a little deeper in understanding God's love for you and the ways in which you might bear witness to God's call and claim upon your life using this service? The idea then came that we could create a district-wide virtual service. Pastors could use it for Sunday worship, for special worship services or for individual, family or small groups. I sent out a call and people stepped forward to create the service that [our congregations will use on Sunday, January 3].

As with baptism, confirmation or communion, this service is not for casual consumption, but for those who long to walk more faithfully with Jesus.

I am attaching a written covenant for your use during the Covenant Renewal Service. You might sign it with ink pen and keep as a reminder or engrave upon your heart as you prepare for a new year strengthened by your commitment to follow Jesus.

I hope that you will participate as you are able.

Christ's peace to you in this holy season.

Kate

**Files:** [writtencovenantforcovenantrenwalservice.pdf](#)

# Conference News

## Bishop Announces Plan for 2021 Annual Conference



*My beloved and beautiful Wisconsin Conference people,*

*I am pleased to announce*

*that our Annual Conference in 2021 will be our second virtual conference. In this time of widespread pandemic, we must make decisions early because there is so much to prepare. To be safe, wise, and caring, in consultation with our Program and Arrangements Committee and GNTV (our virtual webinar hosts), I am setting Friday and Saturday, June 18 and 19 as the dates for Annual Conference. This is a change of date from what was previously announced, due to availability of GNTV as our host. Clergy session will be held on the evening of Monday, June 14. Laity session will be held the evening of Tuesday, June 15. More details will be coming soon in the new year, but I want to let you all know so that you can hold the dates. I believe that 2021 will be a year with great promise and hope for the Wisconsin Conference.*

*Yours in Christ, Hee-Soo Jung*

## Administrative Council 2021:

We recognize our new and returning members and are so thankful for your leadership, vision, work, and prayer! You all have kept our churches flourishing, especially during this pandemic. Our first meeting of the new year will take place on Thursday, January 14 at 6:30pm via Zoom. We will discuss plans for 2021 and each leader will receive a copy of their team job description.



## HAPPY HEALTHY NEW YEAR

From all of us in Algoma/WK UMC!

This New Year is a time for us to think of others and to bring great happiness to them. Here are wishes of love for the coming year from our members of our church family:

... you are my family and I pray each of you has a better year than 2020. Remember that God loves each and every one of us more than we can even fathom. We are never alone because God is with us! God bless you all!

~ Tammy Massart

Embrace the new year as we embrace each new day with joy, generosity and love.

~ Chet & Mindy Ward

.....my prayer for 2021 is for hundreds of smiling eyes and strong confident voices....like you (Pastor Jennifer) and Matt. and sweet voices like Marla's. That is all I need to thrive. I praise God for the communicating power of our eyes and voices. AND for ZOOM....This is getting me through. My prayer is that each of us would find ways to fill out the full identity that God sent personally with each of us. The people of this congregation have loved, and prayed and cared for Marty and me. But I don't know if the unique, loving, caring people that are not visibly with us now know how much they mattered in our lives and how much I miss them. That makes me very sad! Thanks be to God for the powerful modeling of God's radical loving, caring and serving by Pastor Jennifer and Matt and all of you!

~ Sue Sandstrom

The darkness is retreating; the Light entreating.  
Love shall endure into this New Year  
With overflowing abundance,  
woken from an ignorant trance,  
All to mobilize our "Imago Dei"  
and THE one true Way.

~ Jodi Parins

Wishing all our church family a healthy, happy & peace-filled 2021. Whatever you wish this new year to bring, keep faith in your heart and know you are never alone. Sending love and a big, warm virtual hug to all. Keep smiling!

~ Helen Ward

Algoma UMC	2021 Budget
Pledges/Offerings/Tithes	\$56,000.00
Grants	\$6,000.00
Fundraisers	\$4,500.00
Transfers from Foundation for cash flow	\$36,065.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$102,565.00</b>
Computer Hardware	\$0.00
Office Supplies	\$1,500.00
Outsource Accounting	\$0.00
Pulpit Supply	\$450.00
Software	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,950.00</b>
<b>Apportionments</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>
Upper Room youth Curriculum	\$50.00
youth supplies	\$0.00
Adult Curriculum	\$100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>
Communion Elements	\$100.00
Paraments/Altar Supply	
Music Licenses	\$215.00
Graphic Support	\$0.00
Floral	\$0.00
Guest Musicians	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$315.00</b>
Discretionary Fund	\$0.00
Justice (Church and Society)	\$100.00
Backpack	\$0.00
Outreach	\$200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
<b>Total Church Programs</b>	<b>\$965.00</b>
Church Bldg Maintenance	\$3,000.00
Custodial	\$0.00
Insurance	\$4,000.00
Cleaning Supplies	\$0.00
Parsonage Maintenance	\$300.00
Snow Removal	\$700.00
Utilities-Church	\$4,500.00
Utilities-Parsonage	\$3,600.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,100.00</b>
Pastor Salary	\$45,000.00
Pastor Health Ins	\$15,200.00
Pastor Pension	\$8,200.00
Pastor Reimbursable Expense	\$1,000.00

benefits other	\$150.00
Music Director	\$2,000.00
Food ministries Coordinator	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$71,550.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$102,565.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$66,500.00</b>
shortfall/withdrawal from Foundation	\$36,065.00

### WEST KEWAUNEE UMC 2021 BUDGET

#### SHARED EXPENSES WITH AUMC 2021

Pastor Salary	\$11,250.00
Pastor Retirement and Pension (CPP)	\$2,050.00
Pastor Insurance	\$3,800.00
Pastor Reimbursable Expenses	\$250.00
Parsonage Utilities	\$900.00
Music Director	\$1,250.00
Music Licenses	\$53.75
Parsonage Maintenance	\$75.00
Pulpit Supply	\$112.50
Annual Conference Expense	\$0.00
Office Operation	\$375.00
Youth Curriculum & Supplies	\$50.00
Adult Curriculum	\$75.00

**Total Shared Expenses \$20,241.25**

#### WEST KEWAUNEE LOCAL EXPENSES 2021

Conference Apportionments	\$2,460.00
Church Utilities	\$2,000.00
Church Insurance	\$1,200.00
Church Maintenance	\$200.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$1,500.00

**Total Local Expenses \$7,360.00**

**West Kewaunee Total Budget 2021 \$27,601.25**

**Total month disbursement to AUMC \$1,686.77**



Ready for Adventure in Summer 2021?  
 Summer Church Mission Trip  
 A trip of a life time!  
 Let's Stay Safe,  
 Build Community,  
 Foster Growth, and Have Fun.

Amazing things happen when small groups venture into the wilderness together. We can go on a wilderness adventure trip next summer, taking up to 10 people ages 11+. They have COVID-safe ways to run the adventure programs, so no matter what next summer brings we can make firm plans. These trips are powerful experiences for youth and adults. Learn more and register now by talking to Pastor Jennifer

### ALGOMA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Administrative Council Meeting

7:00PM Thursday Dec. 17th, 2020

via Zoom Teleconferendnce

Attendees: Jim Erickson, Ann Schmitz,, Pastor Jennifer Emert, Matt Templeton, Starlyn Salemi, Jodi Parins, Maggie Templeton, Bernadette Bellin, Andrew Hooker, Tammy Massart, Deb Blegen

Not in Attendance: Bob Lohrey, Rita Lohrey,

Call to Order: Jim Erickson

Opening Prayer/Meditation: Jim Opened with prayer

Approval of Minutes-- Maggie motioned to approve minutes from Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> , Bernadette 2<sup>nd</sup> , all approved.

Pastor Update:

- Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> Pastor off. SPRC approved a pre-recorded service at 9:15. No Zoom. Pastor will send out link.
- Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> Pastor will be back and there will be a covenant renewal service
- Took suggestion to routinely have John record/play one Hymn from red hymnal
- that everyone can sign along with (muted). Opening hymn.
- We received \$1400.00 in donations for Christmas gifts for 41 Children. We will

use the donations to purchase Walmart gift cards to include with the meals being provided on Tues. Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Star will find out monetary denominations available and let Pastor know.**

- Jim welcomed new members, Deb Blegen, Andrew Hooker, Tammy Massart
- Jodi thanked Jim for his service as Council Chair leading us during this difficult time in Church.

#### Financial Reports

Jodi provided detail report on apportionment summary. (See attached)

- Star motioned to pay April-Dec 2020 apportionment amount of \$5544.00 from Foundation accounts, Matt 2<sup>nd</sup> motion, all approved.
- Jodi will make Request for funds at end of month and we can pay on Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Also, a motion made by Andrew, second by Jodi, to make full payments of Apportionments for 2021, all approved.

Andrew will be taking over Treasurer duties and Bernadette, Financial Sec. Jodi working with both to transition smoothly and maintain separation of duties.

Foundation accounts are earning well and balance is greater than 2019 even with "transfusions" we took.

#### Next meeting:

January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 6:30pm via Zoom

Closing Prayer and Adjournment: Pastor Jennifer