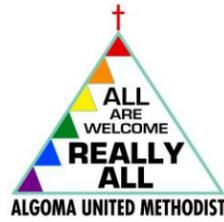


POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to:
Algoma & West Kewaunee UMC
804 Parker Avenue
Algoma, WI 54201



Algoma & West Kewaunee United Methodist Churches

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

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Emert

www.ourdoorsareopentoall.org ~ 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.

June 2023

HERE'S THE
NEWS



JUNE 2023 LETTER FROM PASTOR JENNIFER

Hello Friends,

My first Sunday as a pastor was June 6, 1999. I was twenty-six years old and very excited and optimistic, as well as a little more than frightened (and very pregnant!). When I look back on those early days, I remember that it was my sense of calling into the ministry that had led my husband and I to that first appointment in West Virginia upon my graduation from BU with my MDiv.

I had come to trust that God would open the doors appropriate for me to enter and would shut those that were not. This has been a guide to me through all these years when things were going well in the churches I served and when they were not; when my relationship with the denomination hierarchy was good and when it was not. We are now at a time when God is opening new doors to me, and my family.

For most of my career, I have affirmed being authentic to who you are as a person, celebrating what God created within us and encouraging others to know that we all struggle. I have appreciated having a church family that supports us through our challenges. And I am equally thankful that this church family understands that my family and I have now come to a season that involves a new calling.

Part of what has brought us to the point of making this big change is the huge spirit of conflict that exists in our society and infects The Church: political, financial, relational, and religious. I pray that you all work together in a spirit of peace to examine what you believe to be right, to strive in that direction, and to offer love to each other and those who disagree with you. I would like you all to practice the ideals of Wesley who guided us to utilize four standards, known as the Wesleyan Quadrilateral, **S**cripture, **T**radition, **E**xperience, and **R**eason (STER) to steer our decisions.

If we do that, I believe our congregations can continue in this season of revitalization that we celebrated in May when we welcomed a total of 8 new members across our two congregations, baptized two young people, and confirmed four young adults into the life of our churches. Revitalization often requires reformation – making the church relevant to the world around us. We have seen such times in Church history. One such time was the Reformation in the 16th century, driven by Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, Menno Simons, John Calvin, and many others that would change western Christianity into being what it was during the modern age. Now in the 21st century we are witnessing changes that have us once again reconsidering what it is to be the church and a person of faith. How do we figure out how to do and be the best that we can when the world is so complicated?

The answer is Wesleyan: the Word of God both as embodied in Jesus and recorded in the **Scriptures**; human **traditions** that are shaped and adapted through the culture they form in and continue to be reformed to meet the times; our personal **experience** which opens our eyes and transforms our hearts to catch new glimpses of God's wisdom in our own lives; and the **reason** God blesses us with as we utilize the brains we were created with to make new leaps of insight and understanding. All in love.

I have learned over the years working within the UMC that the Church does not always make decisions in love. Fear often stands in the way. Scripture admonishes us repeatedly: Be not afraid! So as we are all facing major change and transition, I remind you: Be not afraid!

Certainly we value the ability to build consensus and to compromise enough to allow work to be done and progress to be made. However, the way to a reformation that will make the world a better place is through love. Build consensus through love. Compromise with one another in love. Discern your next steps through love. God will steer you. God is steering me and my family to a new adventure. New adventure lies ahead for all of you too, if you set fear aside, and dwell in love!

I bid you peace, *Pastor Jennifer*

36 Ways to Help During our Transition

- ◆ 1. Sends cards of welcome to new folk at church or encouragement to those who are unable to worship with us.
- ◆ 2. Serve as a liaison person for a specific ministry that you are passionate about.
- ◆ 3. Say thank you to those you see stepping up to keep ministry going at church.
- ◆ 4. Find a way to step up to play a role in worship leadership.
- ◆ 5. Plan a celebration to allow people to experience joy in their church family.
- ◆ 6. Provide information to the local media (Kewaunee County Star is under new ownership and seems very interested in covering local events) about events that are coming up.
- ◆ 7. Become the church's wedding, funeral, and/or baptism coordinator, making sure all the pieces are in place.
- ◆ 8. Make sure the church office is clean and organized.
- ◆ 9. Determine if there are repairs that need to be made around the church and take responsibility for making that repair happen.
- ◆ 10. Offer to cut the grass.
- ◆ 11. Make sure the church's bills are getting paid on time by offering support to our treasurer.
- ◆ 12. Make sure our kid-friendly foods are getting delivered to Wolf Den each Wednesday at 4pm during the school year.
- ◆ 13. Offer childcare if there is an infant or toddler at church.
- ◆ 14. Invite children in the church to do things with others their age.
- ◆ 15. Welcome any youth that come to church to connect with other youth in our church family. Welcome, welcome, welcome!
- ◆ 16. Provide flyers of upcoming events to local stores and public gathering places (library, Wellness Center).
- ◆ 17. Help plan worship.
- ◆ 18. Organize Sunday School opportunities for children and/or adults.
- ◆ 19. Pray for your congregation.
- ◆ 20. Introduce yourself to every person who sets foot in your church that you don't recognize or remember.
- ◆ 21. Wear your nametag in worship. It helps newcomers get to know people more quickly.
- ◆ 22. Make sure pictorial directories are given to people who have worshipped here three Sundays to welcome them into our faith family.
- ◆ 23. Volunteer to take attendance in worship.
- ◆ 24. Visit those who are homebound, in nursing homes, people with long-term illness, and those grieving a recent death.
- ◆ 25. Offer to help arrange Bible Study or another small group.
- ◆ 26. Lead worship on Thursdays at 9am at Sycamore Lodge.
- ◆ 27. Provide help in organizing the Ecumenical worship service for Shanty Days.
- ◆ 28. Volunteer with the Literacy Project so we have a liaison with this ministry that uses our building.
- ◆ 29. Hang out at church on Thursdays when Backpacks are being picked up to build relationships with our backpack families.
- ◆ 30. Take responsibility for live-streaming worship on Facebook.
- ◆ 31. Arrive at church early on Sundays to unlock and make sure the heat is turned on.
- ◆ 32. Post upcoming events on the church Facebook page.
- ◆ 33. Share upcoming events with the Chamber of Commerce so they can publicize for us.
- ◆ 34. Be in charge of making sure the doors are painted and in good condition.
- ◆ 35. Make sure everything is shut off and locked when you leave the church building.
- ◆ 36. Talk about what you love about your church community with people outside the church.

WOMEN OF FAITH (UMW) PICNIC:



Please mark your calendars for a picnic at the Heritage Park shelter near the marina on the east side of the town. It will be held on Thursday, June 15th, 11:30 am, eating at noon. All the women of the church and their friends are welcome. Wear that unique scarf. Bring a salad or dessert, as well as your own tableware. Beverage provided.

FACEBOOK TRAINING:

For Matt's final month with us in worship, he will be offering training on how to stream our worship service. Beginning on June 4th, the 10:15am Algoma Worship service will provide an opportunity for you to learn how to make sure we reach our online audience. In order for us to maintain our online presence, we need YOU to step up to learn how to Livestream on Facebook, and the Church website as well. Our first Sunday for you to learn how to LIVE video broadcast will be on June 4th, 2023! We are looking forward to this exciting transition! Please speak to Pastor or Matt if you are willing to learn.

BBQ Picnic and Playdate at Heritage Park Playground

Wednesday, June 21 • 5:30pm The church will provide meat and chips, you bring something to share!



The conference Mission Motivation Committee is working with Midwest Mission Distribution Center to collect items for **Personal Dignity Kits** and **Home Care Kits**. Midwest Mission distributes these items locally, nationally and internationally to those in need during times of crisis. All supplies are given free of charge regardless of gender, race or religion. Although we are focusing on these two kits, we appreciate any items found at midwestmission.org. All items should be NEW – and all kits should have only the items requested.

Urgent needs include the following:

- Shampoo (in bulk), 12-19 oz.
- 100-150 oz. EMPTY liquid laundry detergent containers. We can use containers of any size up to 150 oz. (we are collecting full or empty liquid laundry detergent containers)
- Sewing machines, electric and treadles (they don't have to be new; *we accept sewing machines that need a little tuning up; we cannot accept the computerized ones.*)
- Medical equipment -folding walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, canes, walking boots, slings
- Blankets- new or gently used for disaster response
- Non electric tools specifically shovels, brooms, rakes

Kits and items that make up those kits, should be brought to **Annual Conference at the KI Center in Green Bay**. The Midwest Mission truck will be there for collection on June 9th & 10th. To have Kathy take them with her, donations must be at church by Sunday, June 4th.

2023 Booyah Sale

The dates for our Booyah Sale for 2023 will be Friday, July 7, and Saturday, July 8. The hours on both days will be 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. In the event of heavy rain (not mist or drizzle), we will sell from the kitchen instead of the traditional parking lot tent. The bathrooms in the church building will be open and available to all. We have accepted Dean Lohrey's offer to make the booyah for us, knowing that his is a local favorite. We need you to help promote in advance and help sell on either or both days.

Graduate Recognition Sunday

On Sunday, June 11 at the 8:30am service at West Kewaunee and the 10:15am worship service at Algoma, we will be honoring all high school and post-secondary school graduates. If you are graduating this year, please let the church office or Pastor Jennifer know so we can celebrate you. Please let us know what school you are graduating from and what degree you received.

Fun for Kids & Adults Save the dates!

Times of Future Past – June 10-11

Adult day pass: \$12 | Age 6-12: \$6
Age 5 and under: Free
At Winter Park –

N3787 Ransom Moore Lane, Kewaunee.
Step into the past - step into the future – at Times of Future Past you can do both!
Bring your friends, bring your family, bring your imagination and enjoy this outdoor Cosplay event.

For more info visit: <https://futurepastfestival.com/>

Dairy Days Dash Run & Walk

Saturday, June 3 • 6:30am – registration (or online at <https://www.active.com/luxemburg-wi/running/distance-running-races/dairy-days-dash-2023>), walk beginning at 8:00am. A fun activity for individuals and groups of all ages! Help raise funds for the local veteran's organization. Walkers, runners, strollers, and wheelchairs are welcome. Contact: Pastor Jennifer (pastorjenniferemert@gmail.com or 262-331-0469)

Summer Intern

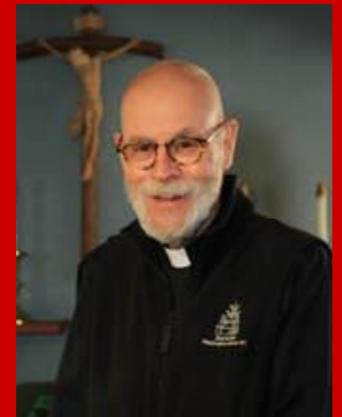
This summer we are blessed to have a summer intern working with us: Our own Rhys LuMaye will be with us for a couple of days a week. He will be working on many projects and carrying out pastoral ministry alongside Pastor Jennifer in the month of June and then lend support during our time of transition through July and August. Please welcome Rhys into this new role and offer him your love and support.

Summer Preaching Series

West Kewaunee and Algoma UMCs are pleased to present this line up of tentative pulpit supply in case we do not have a pastoral appointment announced yet.

Our preachers for the summer:

Sundays, July 2, 9 & 16 and August 6 & 27
The Rev. Frank Maxwell



Sundays, July 23 & 30 and August 13 & 20
The Rev. Kent Ingram



#BeUMC

To Welcome Our Neighbors

Summer really is coming, & today I share things you may not know about our gardens. They are a wonderful place to rest, and reflect. The beautiful handicapped accessible picnic table stays outside AUMC all winter. The other benches will be coming out soon. Help is always appreciated repairing the doors, spreading mulch, moving rocks, and planting flowers in our gardens. After such activities, we often find time to enjoy a visit, and a cup of coffee too!

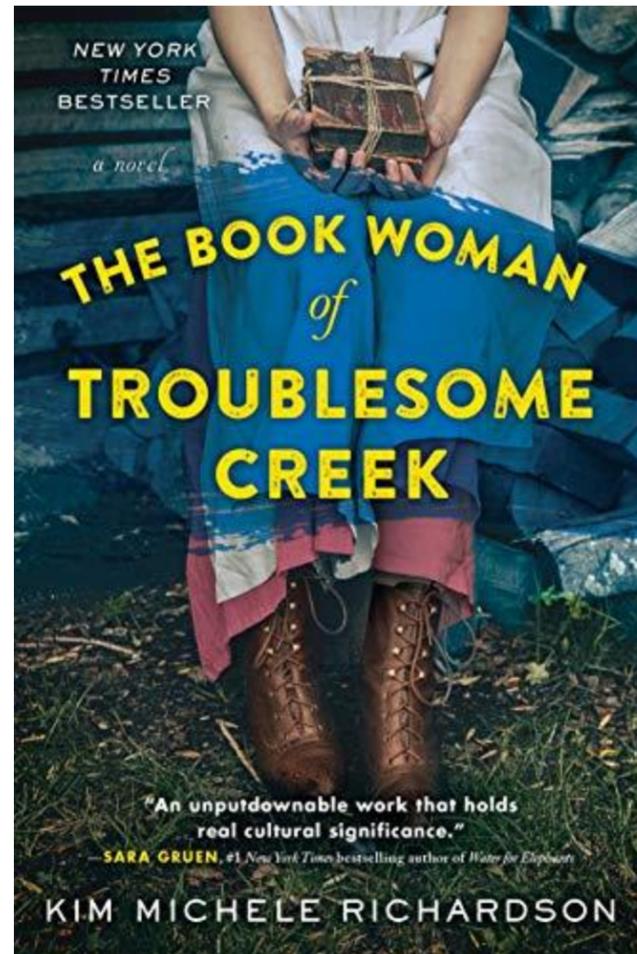


This great group of volunteers invites and welcomes you to come and get involved. Singles, couples, families, youth—everyone is invited. Some of the Garden Group team are ready to "age out" and look forward to sitting on the benches!

Come and help with the gardens on the following date:

• **Tuesday, June 6, 9am – Door Painting, Annuals Planting & Mulch Spreading.** (Rain date: Thursday, June 8, 9am). Men are invited and encouraged to come and help. Please bring your own well-marked tools.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the Church Gardens. Remember, we are the church with a welcome for everybody, always!



WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

All are welcome to join us on Tuesday, May 16 at 10am in the AUMC Lounge as we discuss "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michele Richardson. The story is a fictionalized account of real subjects in Eastern Kentucky. You do not have to finished the book to join us. If you would like a copy, ask Pastor and we can pass the ones we have around. Positive feedback so far!

Celebrating our History...

Algoma UMC's current building was dedicated in January of 1960, 63 years ago this past winter. The 65th Anniversary of the dedication will thus arrive in 2025. We are looking forward to making plans for a festive celebration of that milestone in 2025, with the exact date yet to be determined--a mere and brief two years from now!



2023 Strategic Work

In anticipation of our upcoming change of pastoral leadership, WK/AUMC is focusing on some specific strategies to address ministry and mission:

- Strengthening relationships with congregants.
- Engaging civic, community, and commercial organizations.
- Building organizational strength and resiliency.
- Expanding volunteers to meet the growing need for outreach services.

WK/AUMC members will need improved communication and a clearer definition of the roles congregants can play. With "36 Ways to Help" identified on the inside back cover of this newsletter, there is a wide range of new opportunities for individuals and teams to choose from. These are concrete, meaningful projects that feed your heart and fit your availability. Contact me for more information: Pastor Jennifer pastorjenniferemert@gmail.com.

MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB

Fellowship is about community, camaraderie, cooperation, and partnership. That's what we embrace at our Breakfast Club gatherings. The Men's Breakfast Club meets each Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. at the Captain's Galley Room. Their menu includes: eggs, oatmeal, pastries, and fresh fruit. Men of all ages are welcome. Contact person for the group is Bob Lohrey at 255-1046.



Connecting with Our Pastor

The Rev. Jennifer Emert

Pastor, Algoma & West Kewaunee UMCs
Office Hours: Mondays-Thursdays, 8am-noon.
262-331-0469

pastorjenniferemert@gmail.com

Save the Date to Volunteer for



We will be taking our ministry of hospitality and unconditional love again this year to Sturgeon Bay's Pride Festival. There are many ways you can help make AUMC's contribution to the Pride Festival: open hearts, open minds, and arms open to hug those who have been judged or hurt by churches in the past. We are looking for morning and afternoon volunteers to attend. The festival is Saturday, June 24 in Sturgeon Bay. The week of June 19 will be the prep week, in which we will organize our display materials. Please email jparins@gmail.com to get in the loop for schedule updates.



A/WKUMC

Directory Update

Very soon our Church Directory will be finalized and ready to print. It's important to have all information current and correct in our database, a huge task. Many confirmed their information when photos were taken, and others have responded to earlier requests for updates. We thank you for that. If you have not confirmed your information (names of family, address, phone numbers, and email), you may receive a call or email to verify that. Please take the initiative to call the church 920-487-2727, or email umcalgoma@gmail.com with your information as soon as possible. If you do not want your information in the directory, that is okay; we need to know that as well. Please help us finalize the long-awaited and anticipated directory. We appreciate your help, understanding, and patience as we work together. Thank you.