

Algoma & West Kewaunee UMC

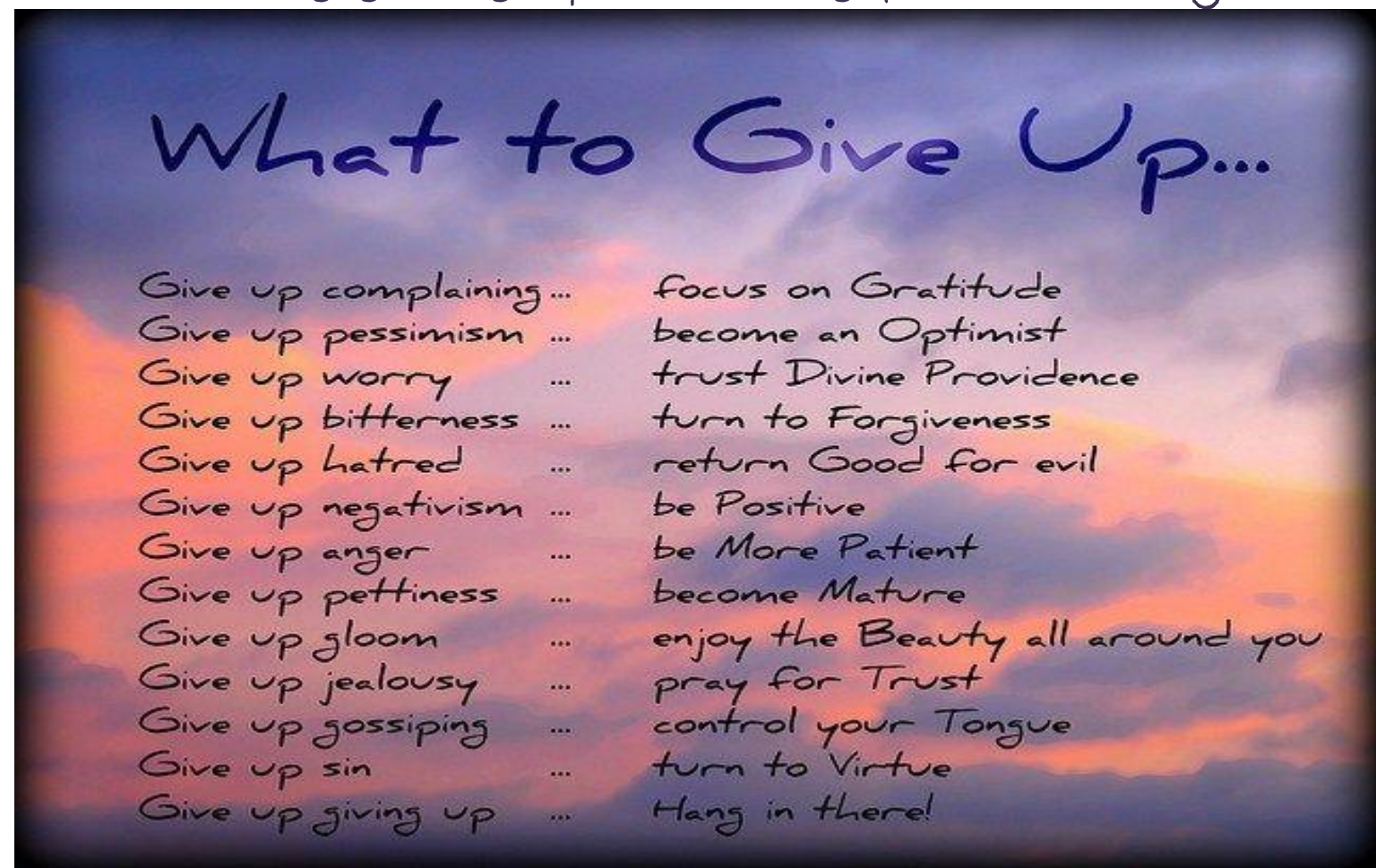
804 Parker Avenue
Algoma, WI 54201



Return Service Requested



Considering giving up something for Lent this year?



- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Give up complaining ... | focus on Gratitude |
| Give up pessimism ... | become an Optimist |
| Give up worry ... | trust Divine Providence |
| Give up bitterness ... | turn to Forgiveness |
| Give up hatred ... | return Good for evil |
| Give up negativism ... | be Positive |
| Give up anger ... | be More Patient |
| Give up pettiness ... | become Mature |
| Give up gloom ... | enjoy the Beauty all around you |
| Give up jealousy ... | pray for Trust |
| Give up gossiping ... | control your Tongue |
| Give up sin ... | turn to Virtue |
| Give up giving up ... | Hang in there! |



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.

March 2020

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.

Dear Algoma/West Kewaunee UMC Family,
There have been some questions and concerns around a new protocol that was in the media early in January that is a possible solution to the decades of dispute over the human sexuality issue in the United Methodist Church. I believe a lot of what you read in the media is oversimplified and hasty. If you are looking to read the authentic accurate copy of the new protocol, click here: <https://www.unitedmethodistbishops.org/newsdetail/united-methodist-traditionalists-centrists-progressives-bishops-sign-agreement-aimed-at-separation-13133654>
Also, if you would like to know some of the principles, click here <https://www.unitedmethodistbishops.org/files/websites/www/pdfs/signed+umc+mediation+protocol+statement+-2020.pdf> to read them yourself. I do encourage you to take the time to read it. This can be a rough time for all of us. My office is open to everyone and I am here for you to help you understand, so we can get through this confusing time together. One thing I can assure you is that the United Methodist Church has not split and nothing has been decided yet. The only body that speaks for the whole United Methodist Church is General Conference, which is a global legislative gathering that happens once every four years. In order to make changes to the Book of Discipline, which basically is the rules of our denomination, it has to be voted on at the General Conference. The next General Conference is scheduled for May this year in Minneapolis. What really happened here is that, a group that was formed with representatives of UM advocacy groups from somewhat diverse perspectives and positions got together and agreed to create a protocol that could peacefully end the long-time conflict. The reason that this protocol is meaningful is because every leader in the group agreed to support this protocol instead of their group's own plans. It means, although we still do not know what the result of the next General Conference will be, this plan has more of a chance to pass and is more likely to happen. Then what are the principles of the protocol? Basically, it allows the Traditionalists to leave the UMC to form a new denomination. UMC is going to pay a total sum of \$25M for the new denomination. Each conference will have a chance to vote to stay or to leave. If any local church disagrees with their annual conference, they can vote themselves and leave for the new denomination or stay within the existing UMC. Again, this needs to be voted on at the general conference along with other plans. Right now, a group of the leaders who created this protocol is working on draft legislation. It will be reviewed by the Judicial Council to make sure it is constitutional, and then edited again and brought to General Conference to be voted on in May. I hope this summarized explanation is helpful. Again, come and talk to me about any questions or concerns you may have. As an effort to help the local congregations understand, the members of The Wisconsin Delegation to General & Jurisdictional will be hosting events to present options and to explain about the agreements and plans going before the General Conference in May. It is on: March 25, 100 p.m., Green Bay: Bethany UMC, 1110 Echo Ln, Green Bay 54304. I invite you to come. Do not be afraid. Take courage. We will pray through this together.

Peace, Pastor Jennifer

Algoma United Methodist Trustee Meeting

Minutes February 2, 2020

Present: Linda Kleindl, Jane Button, Edith Honnef, Matt Templeton, Jordan Ames, and Ann Schmitz.

Absent: Jodi Parins-Salemi

Meeting opened at LL: 45 with Prayer led by Matt

Linda moved to approve the agenda and minutes, second by Edith. Motion carried.

No report on financials

Matt reported on the roof leak in the office. It has been determined to be from the electrical conduits. Matt and Chet have been in contact with the roofing company and will be working with an electrical contractor to remedy the situation.

Matt reported the prayer garden committee has met and are working out details.

Stained glass project for window next to exit door in sanctuary was discussed. No further input came from the congregation. Jordan moved, second by Matt to have Jane and Al Briggs complete the project.

Solar power for the church was discussed, at this time it does not seem to have the payback to make it feasible.

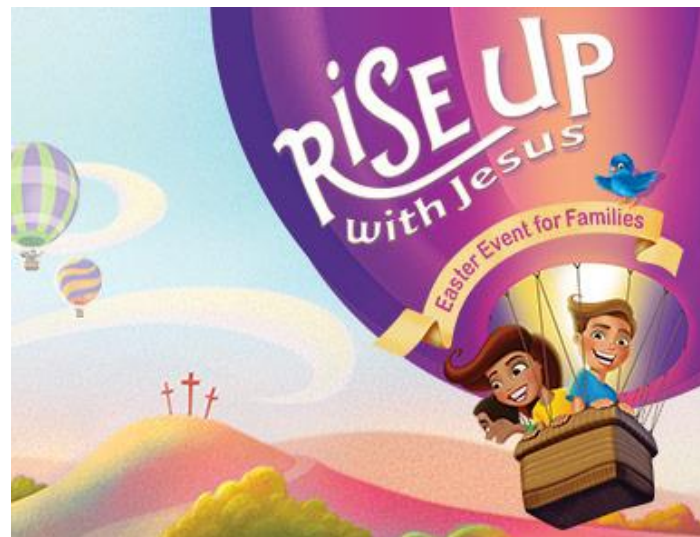
Security cameras for the inside and outside of church was discussed. No action was taken.

Jane moved, second by Jordan to adjourn, meeting adjourned at 12:30pm

Ann Schmitz, acting secretary

Lenten Discussion Group...

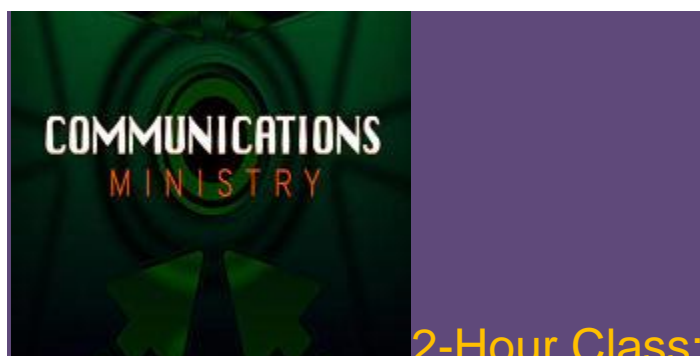
Beginning Wednesday, March 4 at 6pm we will be watching the Netflix series "Messiah" with time for discussion. **Messiah** is about the monumental event of a man claiming to be the second coming. A wary CIA officer investigates a charismatic figure whose followers believe he can perform miracles; he may be a divine entity or a dangerous con artist. Either way, he sparks a spiritual movement and stirs political unrest. "The show is an invitation for the viewer to make their minds up," creator Michael Petroni told news.com.au. "The show isn't a singular experience, I think it's the kind of show that you watch with people or discuss with people after you've watched because it's about what you think."



Easter Event for Families

Lift up the true meaning of Easter! We will explore surprising details about Jesus' resurrection. During this 2-hour event, families will journey through captivating stations and discover Jesus' present-day power through activities that let them experience his resurrection with all their senses.

Guests who visit will experience loads of memorable Easter fun and excitement – all while they learn more about the true events surrounding Jesus' death and resurrection. The entire event is based upon Luke 24:1-6.



2-Hour Class: Master Class in Communication May 12, 2020 | Algoma UMC

Gather with other church members and learn practical communication skills to apply at church and home! Our goal is equipping leaders to be the church today and become the church of the future. Stronger communication empowers us to share the gospel by shattering barriers and awakening souls. We have the power to influence the world when we hone our skills through the power of the Holy Spirit, training, and practice. Come be a part of it!



It is Finished John 19:30

IT IS FINISHED

With one simple statement, Jesus declared his final victory over sin and death: "It is finished" (John 19:30). In that moment, it was hard to understand. But now, as we prepare for Easter, we can spend worship seeing the unfathomable significance of this statement.

At the cross, Jesus dismantled the power of every evil force that works against God. He shamed every attempt to unseat God. He triumphed as a warrior over every enemy that seeks to destroy us.

This Lent in worship, we will study the final words of our Savior, to see his death and wonder at his empty tomb, and to hear him speak the precious words of salvation to our hearts.

First Sunday of Lent, March 1: Forgive
Second Sunday of Lent, March 8: Salvation
Third Sunday of Lent, March 15: Forsaken
Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 22: Compassion
Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 29: Suffering
Palm Sunday, April 5: Trust
Easter Sunday, April 12: New

COMMUNION SCHEDULE MARCH - JUNE

MARCH 1

APRIL 5 - MAY 3

JUNE 7

Many thanks to Marla Paape, Lisa Koerner, and Kathy Jadin for preparing communion and to Doug Koerner for baking our bread!

HOSPITALITY

THE ART OF HOSPITALITY APRIL 23, 2020

"When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality." ~ Romans 12:13 NLT

Join us **April 23** for 2 hours of learning the essence of welcome and hospitality which compels guests to return to the church.

COME TO LEARN:

- The principles and touchpoints of radical hospitality
- How to attract visitors
- Effective follow-up
- Living into the value of radical hospitality

Engaging worship and intentional follow-up are important, but what compels guests to return to church is the **warmth of our welcome and hospitality that goes beyond their expectations.**

Next Newsletter Deadline: March 16

Submit to umcalgoma@gmail.com

STAFF CONTACTS

Pastor Jennifer Emert Cell: 262-331-0469

E-mail: pastorjenniferemert@gmail.com

Pastor's office hours:

Monday – Thursday, 9am – 1pm

John Contratto, Music Director

Cellphone : (920) 495-9714

Email: contratto.john@yahoo.com

Update—What Is Happening in the UMC

There has been quite a bit of excitement, confusion, and questions across the country because of reporting by Christianity Today, CNN, New York Times, among many others, with headlines like: “Methodists Agree to Split Denomination” (Christianity Today), “United Methodist Church Proposes Historic Split Over Gay Marriage and LGBT Clergy” (CNN), and “United Methodist Church Announces Plan to Split Over Same-Sex Marriage” (New York Times).

The truth is that the United Methodist Church has actually NOT agreed to the split. None of those who met and signed this agreement were authorized to make such a decision on their own. The way the UMC works is that any possible separation of the UMC cannot be made until May 2020 when the next General Conference of the UMC convenes to consider various petitions. That body alone has the power to officially represent the denomination and determine our path forward.

What the articles were referring to was actually an unofficial agreement on the terms of a proposed denominational separation signed by 16 leaders in the UMC who are seen as representative of the various “conservative,” “centrist,” and “progressive” wings of the church. The agreement is known as the “Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation.” I think this got such attention because it is newsworthy whenever clergy and laity across such a wide theological divide find agreement, especially with a statement as detailed as this one.

In order for the Protocol to reach General Conference 2020, the mediation team must now develop legislation that implements the Protocol. One or more annual conferences must then submit this legislation without modification to the General Conference for consideration. This legislation looks promising and hopeful to me. During this uncomfortable period of waiting for General Conference to act (May 5-15, 2020), we must work together to ensure that we transition into the future in good faith and with every intention to do no harm. Some of you have asked for more information, join us on March 15!

Refugee Resettlement

Every state and county in the country is required to provide consent for refugee resettlement by June 1, 2020—the result of an executive order President Donald Trump issued in September 2019. After June 1, 2020, refugees will not be placed in states and counties that have not provided written consent. Not filing a consent letter will register with the federal government as a denial of refugee resettlement.

Issues to consider include:

- A refugee is an individual who has been forced to flee their country and seek safety beyond their borders. They have fled violence, persecution, war, and/or natural disaster. In the United States, refugees are hand-selected by the U.S. government and screened in advance. They are subject to background checks and security screenings by multiple U.S. agencies. Only after everything is approved are they brought to the U.S. to reside permanently.
 - The stories of refugees are wrenching and heartbreaking—no one wants to leave their country, friends, family, food. But for refugees, it is their best chance for survival. So, when they come, their motivation to succeed is very high. They want to resettle, get jobs, and go to school, so they can be as independent as possible.
 - Globally, more people are now displaced than at any time since World War II—70 million people have been forced to flee their countries.
 - Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers stated last December, that Wisconsin has “a rich history of opening its doors to people of all backgrounds and has done so for more than 16,000 refugees in the past two decades.”
 - Refugees bring new ways, new foods to the fabric of our communities.
 - What does our faith tradition say about hospitality to the refugee? How did Jesus treat people who were different from him? Is it right to cast refugees as criminals and outsiders?
 - Are we a welcoming and open community?
- Contact your County Board Members (http://www.kewauneeco.org/localgov_committee_detail.asp?comid=926&locid=192). Tell them we want to be a welcoming community—a community like the one our own great-grandparents, grandparents, and parents came to from foreign countries—a community like Jesus lived in.

Al Briggs Scholarship

If you are interested in developing your Christian service through ordained ministry, lay pastoral ministry, lay leadership ministries, or missionary ministries, we invite you to apply for the Al Briggs Scholarship. This Scholarship is open to Professing, Affiliate, Associate Members or active participants of either Algoma or West Kewaunee UMCs. Al Briggs is currently a long-time member of AUMC. A trail-blazer in many ways, including serving in ministry with the Wisconsin Annual Conference his entire career, Al believes in the importance of education. His interest in helping others answer the call to ministry led him to endow a scholarship for students in these areas. If you would like a Scholarship application form, please contact Pastor Jennifer. She would be happy to email you one. We will accept applications again between July 15 and August 15. You may either submit them to the church office or email them to Pastor. If you have questions, contact Al, via email or at 920-487-3884 or the other members of The Al Briggs Scholarship Committee: Bob Kuhn and Jim Erickson.

WOLF DEN MONDAY DINNERS

Listed below are 2020 dates through April for which volunteers are needed to provide Monday evening dinners for the Wolf Den kids. As usual, there is a lot of food available that has been donated. The church office has written instructions regarding how this program works. If you choose to use donated food, it is up to you whether you want to cook it at the church or take it home to cook. If cooking is not your thing, you can help with this program by donating food or plates or dessert, serving at the Wolf Den, clearing the plates away, or helping clean up the kitchen. You can work with a buddy, or on your own, depending on how you work well.

MARCH 2, 16, 30

APRIL 6, 20, 27

If you would like to participate in fulfilling this important need, please call the church office at 920-487-2727 and speak to Pastor Jennifer. The kids are extremely thankful for the meals that the Algoma & WK church volunteers prepare and serve.

Confirmation Camp Winter Retreat

On March 6-7 the whole confirmation class is invited to join us for a winter retreat. We will have activities for participants beginning at 7:00pm on Friday evening at Lake Lucerne. There will be opportunities for engaging in camp-style fun for all. Worship before we depart for home at 3:30pm on Saturday. Time to learn about our Wesleyan heritage and how it informs the future of our denomination and ministry! Sleeping will be camp-style, on bunk beds, divided by gender. There will be breakfast and lunch on Saturday. There will be space available in the car for all and we will stop for dinner on the way. Participants should bring money for dinner.

For the Health of It

God calls us to care for our bodies, not just our souls. Especially in winter it is important for all of us to engage in at least one weight-bearing activity per day, and resistance exercise two times a week. If you have trouble getting motivated to do that on your own, maybe it is time to check out the Algoma Wellness Center.

We will be conducting balance screenings on March 16—please sign up on the easel to have your balance assessed and receive recommendation to stay steady and avoid dangerous falls.

Keep those walks cleared the best you are able, and if you are struggling to do so, please contact the church so we can set you up with a shoveling helper.

~Blessings, Pastor Jennifer

Winter Faith Forum Programs:

Issues That Touch the Heart

This winter's Faith Forum programs feature presenters who have selected an issue that is special to them. They will then use creative ways to tell that issue's story and how it has touched their hearts.

Mar. 15 The United Methodist World: What's Happening? Pastor Jennifer

SUMMER 2020 SMALL GROUP

WANTED: BOOK LOVERS

You love to read and talk about what you're reading with others. Though you are discerning, you find value in all kinds of books. You are drawn to spirituality and Christian faith titles, but also shamelessly adore a bestseller. You know that you can find spiritual truths in popular culture to broaden your horizons and deepen your faith. You're always on the lookout for a great read!

If this describes you, welcome to our summer book club small group. We will offer a thought-provoking, memorable, provocative book discussion with 4 weeks of reflection and group study this summer. If you would like to get started reading, track down a copy of:

#1 New York Times bestselling author
of *The Road to Character*

DAVID BROOKS

THE SECOND MOUNTAIN

The Quest for a Moral Life

The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life by David Brooks.

We live in a society that celebrates freedom, that tells us to be true to ourselves, at the expense of surrendering to a cause, rooting ourselves in neighborhood, binding ourselves to others by social solidarity and love. The path to repair is through making deeper commitments. In this book, Brooks shows what can happen when we put commitment-making at the center of our lives. Join us!



March 1 is the First Sunday during Lent, which takes us into mid-April when we celebrate Easter. Lent is intended to be a season of preparation for the immense gift of resurrection that we celebrate at Easter. Technically, Sundays are a break from the spiritual disciplines that some people choose to take on during Lent because every Sunday is a little Easter. Counting from the first Sunday during Lent through Easter there are a total of seven Sundays. So, for Lent this year we will be examining the seven last words of Christ, as he speaks from the cross. This will give us an opportunity to take on some of the things Jesus lifts up during his last moments of life on earth to help us grow into people ready to live out the fullness of resurrection here and now. These forty days of Lent (plus the Sundays in between) help us die to what is no longer valuable within ourselves, just as Jesus died on the cross.

But did you know that the Christian calendar sets aside a season of 50 days between Easter and Pentecost? The Easter season, sometimes called Eastertide, includes our Lord's ascension and leads to the Day of Pentecost, when Christians remember the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Jesus' first followers.

Have you ever taken 50 days to deliberately walk the path from Easter to Pentecost? If you are willing to take the time to pause, the season of Eastertide can become a time punctuated with precious moments of encounter with our risen Lord.

Join us as we celebrate the seasons of the church this winter into spring. Discover how to open your heart and mind more fully to the joy of Christ, the presence of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

ALGOMA AND WEST KEWAUNEE LAY LEADERSHIP FOR 2020

CHURCH COUNCIL – ALGOMA

Chair – Jim Erickson
Committee on Lay Leadership - Pastor
Lay Leader – Jodi Parins
Chair, SP Relations Committee – Sarah Demmin
Chair, Trustees – Ann Schmitz
Treasurer – Chet Ward
Youth Member – Maggie Emert-Templeton
Recording Secretary/Missions – Star Salemi
Hospitality Coordinators – Bob & Rita Lohrey
Chair, Worship – Bernadette Bellin
Chair, Stewardship – Matt Templeton
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Class of 2020 Linda Kleindl, Edith Honneff
Class of 2021 Jodi Parins, Jane Button
Class of 2022 Jordan Ames, Matt Templeton
STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS
Class of 2020 Chet Ward, Chair Sarah Demmin
Class of 2021 Jim Erickson, Clark Riemer,
Jodi Parins

CHURCH COUNCIL – WEST KEWAUNEE

Chair – Helen Ward
Committee on Lay Leadership - Pastor
Chair, SP Relations Committee – Sarah Demmin
Chair, Trustees – Bob Riemer
Treasurer – Dorothy Genz & Marissa Jossart
Youth Member – Maggie Riemer
Chair, Finance – Lorraine Riemer
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Class of 2020 Jared Jossart
Class of 2021 Matt Templeton
Class of 2022 Matt Demmin
New volunteers are always welcome and are needed. If you see an area in which you are interested, let someone on the committee or the ministry know, tell Pastor Jennifer, or call the office, 920.487.2727.

Thank you to our hospitality volunteers!

Coffee Hour Hosting at AUMC:
March 1: Bernadette & Tammy
March 8: Ann Schmitz
Ushers at AUMC:
March 1: Volunteer Needed
March 8: Volunteer Needed

March 15 we will also have fellowship at WK!

Support a Foster Family



FOSTER FAMILY
CARE COMMUNITY MODEL

PROVIDING:

Meals Clothing	Transportation Childcare	Volunteer Coordination	Overnight Care
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Kewaunee County: A Care Community

Kewaunee County is embarking on a project called Care Community. A Care Community is an engineered team, much like extended family, of 4-8 committed volunteers who support and serve the foster family and foster children. This team provides regular and ongoing practical help such as meals, prayer, tutoring, childcare, transportation, laundry, yard work, etc. Care Communities have a variety of volunteer roles. Family Helpers usually serve by providing a meal once per month, delivered on the same day of the week and same week of each month. Additionally, these volunteers can run errands, assist with housework, do yard work, laundry, and help with other practical tasks to support the family. A Child Mentor commits to provide childcare or transportation 2-3 times per month, with at least one scheduled day per month. This role requires the necessary background checks in order for the volunteer to be unsupervised with foster children. This is a unique opportunity to pour love and encouragement into these vulnerable children. In order to thrive, foster parents need the support of dedicated Child Mentors who will sacrificially serve them in this way. The Team Leader provides leadership for the Care Community. This volunteer contacts the foster family weekly and sends out updates. Join us to learn more on Wednesday, March 18 at 6pm.