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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.

May 2023

WE ARE (Still) EASTER PEOPLE

Here in the midst of the Easter observance (it doesn't end until Pentecost on May 28th), we celebrate Resurrection. We have "a foretaste of glory divine," as the hymnist Fanny Crosby says. As if the Spirit knew that we would need something to help us through the next few challenges, as if the Spirit knew that without this reminder, we would find it a hard road as we make our way stumbling behind Christ who suffers and tries with us. We are still – and always – Easter People!

Psalm 130 begins with a hard question but then ends with hope. It begins with an admission of guilt, or need, or emptiness, and then moves toward grace and reconciliation. Without that grace, who could stand? Without that hope, who could stand? We would be dry bones (Ezekiel 37:1-6).

But that is not our story; that is not our song. Instead, the bones can live, by the breath of God. Instead, death is not an end, but the beginning of Christ. Forty Days after Easter, we celebrate the Ascension (May 18th). This is when the resurrected Christ finally leaves this planet that sent him to the cross. This is when we celebrate that the changes God makes are radical and forever.

We baptize babies and youth into God's grace. We welcome new members, helping us all to stand vigilant over our lives, like watchers on the walls, aware of our failings and of Christ's redemption with equal fervor. We celebrate that God helps us to be more than we would be alone.

We pray prayers of thankfulness and commit ourselves to this journey of faith and of proclaiming the good news with passion and persistence while we wait with anticipation and completion.

We celebrate mothers and mothering, as we await the redeeming work of Christ to be the best parents we can be, even as we have already received that redemption.

We confirm our young people into the faith, promising to help them along this journey of suffering, into the depths of sacrifice and celebration, even as we trust the completion of God's work.

Let us prepare ourselves for what is to come by remembering what has been and by trusting in the Spirit that gives life, even when all seems lost. Otherwise, who could stand?

- Pastor Jennifer





Election of Additional Reserve Delegates

In 2019, the Wisconsin Annual Conference elected delegates to the 2020 General and Jurisdictional Conferences of The United Methodist Church. Due to COVID-19, in 2020 the General and Jurisdictional Conferences have been postponed, first until 2021, then 2022, and now to 2024.

Since the election of delegates in 2019, there have been seven vacancies in the Wisconsin Conference delegation – 5 laity and 2 clergy. At this time we are planning to elect additional Reserve Delegates during the 2023 Annual Conference Session. That may change. We are still waiting on instructions from the General Conference Secretary.

The delegates at General Conference speak for the entire United Methodist Church. The Jurisdictional Conference has responsibility for electing and assigning our Bishops, who will lead the Church into the future. Reserve delegates would serve, in the order of election, if one of the elected delegates is unable to fulfil that role during the General and/or Jurisdictional Conference session.

The Wisconsin Conference looks for our delegation to provide a witness to the entire denomination that we are devoted to holy listening, collaborative leadership and comprehensive representation. The delegation hopes to be seen as innovators, visionaries and leaders committed to reclaiming all that is great about The United Methodist Church.

Additional information about the Responsibilities, Expectations, Eligibility for Election, and Practical Requirements for serving as a delegate and/or reserve delegate can be found on the Conference Website at [Conference Secretary - Wisconsin Conference of the UMC.](#)

If you are ready, willing and able to make the required commitments and would like to be considered as a candidate for election as a Reserve Delegate, please complete the [Online Reserve Delegate Candidate Form](#), found on the Conference Website using the link above. **The deadline for submitting Reserve Delegate Candidate Forms is Monday, May 8, 2023.**

If you have questions about the responsibilities or the nomination/election process, please contact **Kevin Rice Myers, Conference Secretary**, at 608-837-7328, ext 2250 (Office), 608-478-4490 (Office-Direct Line) or ConfSec@wisconsinumc.org.

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.

CONGREGATIONAL ASSESSMENT - May 14th

Kick-off: Your input is requested to fill out a one-time survey to provide feedback on the direction of our church.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

05-04 Ann Schmitz

05-21 Maggie Riemer

05-24 Laura Riemer

05-24 Mollie Riemer

05-26 Katie & Kenny Riemer

05-27 Karen Erickson

Community Dinner:

For the last Sunday of May we will worship together at West Kewaunee with the American Legion visiting the cemetery following our worship service. We will then share in a potluck cook-out. Cooks are invited to bring a dish to share, or to help out at the grill. We look forward to sharing in this meal together.

Christian Ed.:

Confirmation will be May 21st and include 4 kids (Brianna Demmin, Katie & Kenny Riemer, and Maggie Emert-Templeton). Please join us at West Kewaunee at 8:30am as we recognize the growth these young people have made and officially welcome them as adults into the life of the church.

Looking Ahead to Summer

- **June 21** at 5:30pm – **BBQ Picnic and playdate** at Heritage Park Playground

Save the Date

Algoma Rummage Sale

July 8-9

Booyah Only This Year!

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!

Garden Sunday this year is on Mother's Day, May 14. We celebrate and thank those who are part of the Garden Group Team. Hanging baskets will be for sale, and the proceeds help us with the purchase of annual plants for the gardens. You may pre-order pale pink impatiens, blue lobelia, purple petunias, or yellow million bells for \$25 each. Please call Pastor Jennifer at 262-331-0469 to order. Leave a message which includes your color choices, number of plants, and your phone number. Come and help with the gardens on the following dates:

- **Wednesday, May 31, 9am – Garden Clean-Up Day** (Rain date: Thursday, June 1, 9am)
- **Tuesday, June 6, 9am – 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!

Jane Button's 2 Cream Pudding Recipes

1. From Irene Radke

2 quarts HEAVY cream – the yellow stuff
1 ½ c. whole milk to rinse cream container
STIR to a boil on med low heat. Boil 20 minutes.
SIFT in 3 ½ c. flour gradually then add 4 qts. of ALMOST boiling milk and sugar to taste.
Use Renard's pasteurized NOT homogenized dairy.

2. ROMMEOROT (Norwegian Cream)

1 quart cream – heat over med heat 15-20 min.
DO NOT BOIL.
Whisk in 1 cup flour & 1 teaspoon salt
Cook & beat until thickened
NUKE 1 quart of whole milk until hot, add 1 cup at a time to stove cream mix & whip until smooth.
When ALL the milk has been added continue to cook 3-4 more minutes.
Spoon into bowls or containers & refrigerate.
Toppings: cinnamon, sugar, brown sugar, butter, jam, cardamom. Traditionally served on Norwegian Constitution Day.

Share your piece of church heritage in the next issue of the church newsletter.



WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

All are welcome to join us on Tuesday, May 16 at 9am in the AUMC Lounge as we discuss "Becoming" by Michelle Obama. This memoir is a deeply personal account from a woman who has steadily defied expectations and who now shares her extraordinary and yet universal experiences. 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!

The Lakeshore Singers in Concert Sunday, May 7 at 7:00 p.m. Corpus Christi Catholic Parish Sturgeon Bay

The Lakeshore Singers was established to provide a home for individuals from Door and Kewaunee counties with a passion for singing choral music. Their first concert many years ago was at the request of Mr. Tom Mueller and to support Algoma Community Band's Christmas concert.

Since that time Lakeshore Singers, under the direction of David Robertson, has continued to perform standalone concerts as well as concerts in collaboration with the Algoma High School, Badgergrass, and Door County Community Choir.

While Lakeshore Singers embraces and performs many genres of music, the music selected for this concert is specifically songs of praise and adoration. Some are old and some are new. One of their selections, Ave Verum, will be a premiere composed by Terrence Niska.

Mr. Niska, a prolific composer, is a friend and frequent collaborator with Lakeshore Singer's accompanist Mr. Michael Swedberg. Mr. Niska, a resident of the twin cities in Minnesota, plans to be in attendance. Concert-goers will have an opportunity to meet him during the fellowship time following the concert.

All are invited to join 'The Singers' and composer Niska, for music and fellowship on Sunday, May 7 at the Corpus Christi Catholic Parish. Singers interested in joining Lakeshore singers can talk to any member of the choir or email Mr. Robertson: dbutlandrobertson@gmail.com

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

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 pastorjennifremert@gmail.com.

Church Membership

• We look forward to welcoming new people into our membership roles, giving thanks for all the new folks who want to become members. We will take in new members through a service of baptism and welcome on May 7 this year, and look forward to welcoming 4 confirmands to membership this coming May 21. We also baptized three members of one of our Backpack families in March, as part of their spiritual journey. We pray and give thanks for the four members of our congregation who died last year, Marion Leischow, Rev. Bob Kuhn, Don Taylor, and Barbara Daming, as well as long-time friend Colleen Eicher. The circle of faith goes unbroken when we continue to welcome new people into our family of faith and the Body of Christ. Please be a part of authentically welcoming these new comers into our church family!! Contact Pastor Jennifer, if you would like to join the church too.

Ministry Team

AUMC welcomes to our ministry team Mindy Roesch as our new custodian. She brings a lot of enthusiasm for decluttering to the job and has taken initiative to do a number of reorganization projects. If you run into her, please welcome her and tell her thank you. And let's all make sure we are doing our part by making sure that things like coffee pots are turned off before we leave the building and placing our recycling in the receptacle in the back of the sanctuary and trash in the can in the Lounge kitchenette.

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.



Save the Date to Volunteer for

OPEN
DOOR
PRIDE

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 jlparins@gmail.com to get in the loop for schedule updates.



Youth Confirmation Class Concludes Soon

Confirmation is the process where a young person is invited to "confirm" their baptism through thoughtful study and reflection about their own relationship with God. Youth participants are exploring all aspects of our Christian beliefs, and young people will be given the opportunity to make specific decisions regarding their faith. On May 21, in a special ceremony at church, those who choose to do so will be received into church membership.

Upcoming meeting dates:

Sunday, May 7 from 12-4 in person at Algoma. Bring your bike & helmet to the parsonage (1419 Fremont St.) and we will ride out to Ann's cabin together.

Monday, May 15 @ 7pm on Zoom

Please call Pastor Jennifer (262-331-0469) for more information.



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.

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!

