



AMAZING GRACE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

Caldwell United Methodist Church

Volume 113 Issue 8

August 2011

On Being Church

by Rev. Joyce Rich

I have to tell you that I was thrilled to have so many people come to the fellowship hall on two warm Summer evenings to discuss what it means to be a church. That we were able to honestly talk with each other about whether we have the heart to choose to be a healthier congregation or not – that’s not “fluff” chit chat! Thank you for doing the sometimes difficult work of trying to put into words how you feel and what you needed to say. And for making the commitment to not just “say” what needs to be done, but to “do” what needs to be done.

We may not always feel that we are the “right” person, or have all the gifts and graces we think may be needed for getting something done – but there’s a long line of people who have come before us who thought that they weren’t “right” for what God asked them to do. God told each of them that they could do it, because God would help them. I believe that we can do what God needs us to do here at Caldwell because God will be with us to help us. Keep the faith, and keep working with God!

Pastor Joyce

MISSIONS

Thank you once again for supporting yet another mission---*Peace with Justice*. Our next mission which runs from July 24--September 25 will provide financial aid to the *Hmong House of Good News* located at Central UMC on North 25th Street in Milwaukee.

This project was started by Wisconsin Conference UMW in March 2008 as a mission dedicated to providing physical, emotional, and spiritual support to Hmong, age 55 and older, in the Greater Milwaukee area. This program includes nutritious Hmong breakfasts and lunches, crafts and gardening, fellowship, field trips, information about American holidays and culture, English language study, health education and monitoring, and Bible study and prayer. Because donations in the past have been sporadic, at times they have had to close their doors.

Thank you in advance for supporting the Hmong elders. Your donation will demonstrate Jesus' command to love our neighbors as ourselves.

If you would like to visit Hmong House, contact Elouise.

Hope Center Needs List

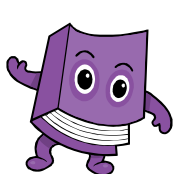
Remember bringing in books for the Hope Center's free library for children? They need more books for little children up to age 3.

Remember bringing in toiletries for people using the drop-in shelter at Hope Center? They need those kinds of things – and more! They especially need sunscreen and insect repellent, one person tents and adult backpacks, as well as men's shirts, jeans, and shoes. Their clothing shop can always use packs of new underwear and socks.

For more information check out their needs list at:

www.hopecenterwi.org/thisweeksneeds.html

And if you need help getting things to the Hope Center in Waukesha, talk to Pastor Joyce.



AUGUST 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM *Worship Service, Bethel UMC and St. James UMC 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship Service	1 Caldwell United Methodist Women Evening Group does not meet in August 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Shake It Up! VBS 7:00 PM 4-H Club, church hall	2 *School of Christian Missions, Ramada Inn, Stevens Point 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Shake It Up! VBS	3 *School of Christian Missions, Ramada Inn, Stevens Point Caldwell UMW Day Group do not meet in August 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Shake It Up! VBS 5:30 PM C.A.R.E. Committee	4 *School of Christian Missions, Ramada Inn, Stevens Point 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Shake It Up! VBS	5 *School of Christian Missions, Ramada Inn, Stevens Point 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Shake It Up! VBS	6 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM *DRIVE-IN DAY School of Christian Missions, Ramada Inn, Stevens Point
7 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM *Worship Service, Bethel UMC and St. James UMC 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship Service w/Communion	8	9 12:00 PM *Mukwonago clergy meeting 6:30 PM Finance Cmte/Administrative Council	10 6:30 PM *Shared Ministry Choir rehearsal, St. James UMC, East Troy	11	12	13 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM Food Pantry
14 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM *Worship Service, Bethel UMC and St. James UMC 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship Service	15 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM *Second Helpings meal, St. James UMC, East Troy	16	17 6:30 PM *Shared Ministry Choir rehearsal, St. James UMC, East Troy	18	19	20
21 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM *Worship Service, Bethel UMC and St. James UMC 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship Service	22	23	24 6:30 PM *Shared Ministry Choir rehearsal, St. James UMC, East Troy	25	26	27 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM SHARE
28 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM *Worship Service, Bethel UMC and St. James UMC 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship Service 4:00 PM *Balgord memorial service, St. James UMC, East Troy, 3:00 PM visitation	29	30	31	1	2	3

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER: August 15, 2011

*Denotes location other than Caldwell UMC

Prayers



In the month of August we lift up in prayer: the households who make use of our Food Pantry; the children who need new school supplies and appropriate clothes to go back to school; those who are desperate to find work; those who are unable to afford the higher education or vocational training they long to pursue.

In the month of August we lift up in prayer: our thanksgiving for the beauty of God's creation and for time to be outdoors; our gratitude for the love of family and friends that reflects God's great love for us; our joy for the children and adults "shaking it up" with God in Vacation Bible School.

We Had Fun!



On Sun, July 17 we found our way to Lutherdale Camp (many folks were there for the first time!) and we had fun worshiping and lunching with our Shared Ministry sisters and brothers. It was a blessing to have both air conditioning and a view of the lake on such a warm day, but it was a greater blessing to lift up our praise and worship to God. We experienced a wealth of talents, a depth of Spirit, and true fellowship with God and one another as we shared the story of the Good Samaritan.

Special thanks to Jennie Sanchez and Chuck Herman for adding their voices to the combined choir, and to Elouise Benner for assisting in the service!

The staff at Lutherdale have asked us to consider working with them to host a service for the community at large on the last Sunday of July in 2012. It would be a great way to share in ministry with more of God's people!



Our Summer of Stories Continues

Have you been keeping track of the stories that have already been shared this Summer?

How has God been using these stories, and the storytellers, to speak to you?

What else does God have in store for us in the amazing stories that we will hear in the next few weeks?

Stories still to come: how Saul became Paul; God's covenant with Abraham; Jonah and the whale of a big fish; Daniel's faithfulness; what happened when David met Goliath; and what became of the walls of Jericho.

Next Steps

Good discussions were held at Caldwell UMC on June 29 and July 5. (Materials from those gatherings are available at church.) Everyone had an opportunity to share where their heart is at – and for the majority of people, their heart is in being a healthier congregation – right here, and right now. We acknowledged that the congregation has had “dysfunction” as its norm for some time – and that it will also take some time to change into a church that can function well and be vital and Spirit-filled. There was an expressed need for spiritual growth and nourishment so we can be stronger as individual Christians, and clearer about who we are as a congregation and what we have to share with others when we invite them into our congregation’s life.

The next steps we see our congregation taking are:

1. Starting an adult Sunday School class/discussion group on Sunday morning before worship. Beginning with digging into what a healthy Christian life looks like – for each of us as individuals, and as a group. Don Foster (Bfoster3@wi.rr.com or 262-363-7689), Peter Lukas (plukas@milwpc.com or 262-534-2250), and Steve Lohr (slohr@wi.rr.com or 262-662-4876) will be getting this group started. If you have questions, ideas, and/or are ready to be in the group – contact them. Childcare or a class for children will be available if you need that option!
2. Increase the number of people participating in worship – with the example of Holy Humor Sunday being effective in getting everyone involved. Also, having a worship service that focuses on our Food Pantry, and learning more about that ministry. Jenny Hensgen (hotshots2@tds.net or 262-534-4511), Janis Schmidt (hzijs@aol.com or 262-534-5735), and Pastor Joyce (office@caldwellumc.org or 262-363-2680 or 262-742-3320 home) will begin to work on these and other ideas related to worship. If you have questions, ideas, and/or are ready to help – contact them.
3. Take part in hands on mission work – and the Shared Ministry mission trip was a good start! But there is a standing offer to be at Caldwell UMC at 8:00 AM on the second Saturday of the month to help pack food for the families using the Food Pantry. You can also help provide school supplies for these families (before Aug. 12). Talk to Chuck Herman (cfjibson@wi.rr.com or 262-534-6581) for more information.
4. Keep the church web site current – and Jane Craig has volunteered to be our “designated nagger” on this! If you see things that need changing on the web site, or web ministry is an area you are interested in getting involved in, contact Jane (rvcraig@wi.rr.com or 262-662-4623).
5. Starting in Sept./Oct. the parsonage will be rented out at market rate. If you know a family that is looking to rent a house with multiple bedrooms in our area – pass that information along to our Trustees’ chair Pat Tomczyk (ptomczyk@threepillars.org or 262-378-4237).

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Next Steps . . . Continued from Page 5

6. Offering free registration to families who use the Caldwell Food Pantry so their children can participate in our VBS on Aug. 1-5. Questions on how to register your own kids, grandkids, cousins, neighbors for VBS? Talk to Jenny Hensgen (hotshots2@tds.net or 262-534-4511) or Pastor Joyce (office@caldwellumc.org or 262-363-2680 or 262-742-3320 home).
7. For those who are thinking, "I still have questions about the church's current cash flow position," there is good news for you! You can take part in the financial discussion on Thurs., July 28 at 6:30 PM at church. This is the time and place to have your questions addressed. It is also where we will begin to re-tool our budget expectations for the remainder of 2011, and start thinking about 2012. You are always welcome to take part in ANY Finance Ministry Team or Administrative Council meeting at Caldwell.
8. Keep praying, discerning, and being open to the movement of God's creative and holy Spirit – and to follow where it leads!

Pick two steps to focus your time and energy on (step # 8 is "strongly suggested" for everyone to take!) – and we'll see where we grow with God!

August Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES
2 – Dave Aufmuth	23 – Beth Wissner	7 – Chuck & Deanna Herman
12 – James Powell	23 – Scott Frank	14 – Chad & Sheila Klawitter
15 – John Steib	29 – Pastor Grace	15 – Scott & Kathy Craig
16 – Brittney Schmidt	30 – Todd Schmidt	20 – Al & Peg Handy

GREETERS & SCRIPTURE READERS



GREETERS	READERS
August 7 – Volunteers needed	August 7 – Volunteer needed
August 14 – Volunteers needed	August 14 – Volunteer needed
August 21 – Volunteers needed	August 21 – Volunteer needed
August 28 – Volunteers needed	August 28 – Volunteer needed

BACK TO SCHOOL



The Caldwell Food Pantry is providing school supplies to the children in the Caldwell Food Pantry. We have bought the school supplies and want to thank all our supporters for their donations that allow us to help those children get a good start in the coming school year.

Chuck Herman
Coordinator of the Caldwell Food Pantry

Rummage and Bake Sale at Bethel



Looking for "almost new" kitchen and household goods, linens, sports equipment, toys or games, books, or furniture? Always interested in great baked goods or fresh produce? Maybe you should check out the rummage and bake sale at Bethel UMC (W5110 County Road A, Elkhorn 53121) – but remember to route via Hwy. 20 and then south on Hwys. 12/67; or take ES and turn north on Hwys. 12/67. The sale runs 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Fri., Aug. 11 and 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Sat., Aug. 12. If the weather is good – the sale is outside. If the weather is wet – the sale is in the church basement.



Become a Love and Logic Parent

A training course on "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent" will be offered at Bethel UMC from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on Mondays, Sept. 19, 26 and Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24.

Learn skills for: creating a calm home environment; teaching character and responsibility; avoiding power struggles; preventing misbehavior.

Judy Shively Smith, an elementary school teacher, facilitates the course. The cost is \$60.00 per person, or \$85.00 per couple (with couples sharing a course book); \$10.00 registration discount if you sign up before Sept. 12!

To register: call Judy at 262-492-0540; or email judysnotes@yahoo.com; or make check payable to Judy Shively Smith and mail to her attention at W897 Violet Rd., Genoa City, WI 53128, and include the name, address, phone, and email contact information for each registrant.

The Big Read - Coming in September



We will study the Book of Acts this fall as part of "The Big Read" event for Shared Ministry.

The Book of Acts is an excellent follow up to the *Gospel of Luke*. Both books were written by Luke. Acts interprets Jesus' message to His disciples detailing how to start the Christian church and to oversee its spread across the world. Luke also tells us how individuals are changed when they look God in the eye.

The "Big Read" will begin the week of September 18 and end the week of November 7.

Please join us for this study as we work together to grow our faith:

- The men's Bible study will continue on Monday evenings starting at 6:30 p.m. and will be taught by Bill Leith and Steve Lohr.
- There will be a Monday morning Bible study at The Heritage in East Troy starting at 9:30 a.m. This Bible study will be taught by Judy McFarlane.
- Two other sections are in the planning stage. Individuals may sign up at their churches and a time will be decided upon based on the group's availability. For further information, please call Steve Lohr (662-4876) or Judy McFarlane (363-8552)

A growing congregation needs so many things. Just like toddlers or teenagers who keep growing out of their clothes and need bigger shoes. We need updated equipment for study, a variety of experiences for spiritual growth, and opportunities to reach out to the world around us.

Sometimes we hear folks say, "The church should do that!" or "The church will take care of that!"

But who is the church? We are.

When it moves forward, we are a part of that movement. When it stalls, we are part of the slow-down. When it achieves victories, we are victorious. The church is not "they".

The same fact applies to the church's financial strength. Our financial commitments and gifts are the primary tools and resources the church has for doing the ministry of Christ in the world today.

We... You and I... All of us together are the church. What is God calling us to give so the church can grow?

Stewardship Message for August

#269 “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!”
(Matt. 25:21-28)

We’ve often heard that generosity is contagious! On May 22, 2011 an EF-5 tornado, the single deadliest tornado in more than 60 years, struck Joplin, MO killing 150 people and leaving total devastation in its wake. When Andy Steger of Waupun, WI saw the images on the news he said, “It looked like an atomic bomb went off in there. I was sobbing and I’ve never gotten that emotional about an event like that... I think it was God calling out and saying ‘Hey Andy, you need to do something here buddy.’”

Andy and his wife, Amie, were inspired by God’s call to do something for these people. Andy made several arrangements, including finding a relief agency that would accept the various donations they secured. Originally they planned on taking a U-Haul down to Joplin. Instead, they collected enough to fill a full-size semi with clothing, bedding, water bottles, toys, soap, and other supplies as well as \$7,500 in cash donations. Andy and Amie never imagined their efforts would result in such a miraculous outpouring of hope. Yet from the beginning they trusted God would bless their gifts and use them to perform miracles of Christ’s love.

How is God calling you to give and serve? What is your passion? What moves you to tears and pushes you to the point of knowing you just have to make a difference?

Never underestimate what Christ can do through you. And if you feel called to give a gift to assist the Joplin Tornado Relief through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (or 2011 Flood Relief), you can make a gift through your church or go to www.wumf.org and click the DONATE button now. 100% of your gifts will go to assist persons in need. Remember... Generosity is contagious!



Caldwell UMC
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Mukwonago, WI 53149

Phone: 262-363-2680

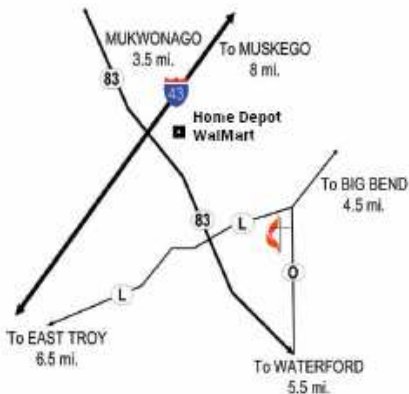
Email: office@caldwellumc.org

Visit us on the Web
CaldwellUMC.org

Worship with Us
Sundays at 10:45 AM

Newsletter deadline for
The September 2011 issue is
Monday, August 15, 2011

Items can be sent via
e-mail to
crlohr@wi.rr.com



Visit our website for
Complete directions
Or call 262-363-2680

Caldwell UMC gives thanks for:

