



August 2023

Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY OF FAITH IN MEDFORD AND RIB LAKE WISCONSIN

What's inside?

Pastor's Message	2
Calendar	3
Monthly Volunteers	4
Birthdays/Anniversaries	
Prayer List	
Church Events	5
Committee News	6
Rib Lake Church News	7
Medford Church News	8
Medford Finances	9

Judson Edwards wrote his book With Love, From Dad and dedicated it to his two sons who were about to leave the nest. He wrote a letter every Saturday morning to his sons over his coffee expressing his feelings and beliefs. At the end of a year, he put all the letters into a book dedicated to the two sons.

Letter #6: the Roller Coaster Club

I'm forming a club and thought you might be interested in joining. It'll be called the Roller Coaster Club, and membership will be open to anyone 16 or older who rides an emotional roller coaster. Anyone who has the capacity to soar with the eagles one day and grovel with grubworms the next is eligible.

For a five-dollar membership fee, you'll get a card certifying you as an official member and an invitation to our annual Roller Coaster Club Convention. At these annual affairs, we will pool our misery and then share secrets for surviving the ups and downs of the ride. Sound enticing?

I fully expect to become a millionaire because of the idea. Though we rollercoaster riders are usually quiet about our plight, I suspect our numbers are legion. At five bucks a head, I could become a wealthy man very quickly.

Of course there are some people in Christian circles who would call our fluctuating ride sin. These Christians believe that Christ calls us to continuous ecstasy, that any admission of "low days" is a telltale sign that we're backslidden. Some believe that the Christian life is a constant "high" void of any valleys.

But I disagree. I can think of dozens of faithful Christians who could become charter members of my roller coaster club. I can even think of some biblical heroes would be prime candidates for membership if they were alive today.



Attendance Numbers

Date	Rib Lake	Medford
7/2	13	25
7/9	9	24
7/16	11	35
7/23	11	23

(continued on page 8)

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Jesus said, "I am with you always, to the end of the age." --Matthew 28.20

This is, perhaps, the most important promise from the Bible. Jesus promises to be with us always. He makes this promise to the end of the age.

Of course, we do not know when the end of the age will be. Does it mean the end of the world? Perhaps. I believe that it could be the end of this age and the beginning of a new age. No one knows for sure what it means--except God. God knows what Jesus means by this statement.

There are many today who believe Jesus means the physical end of the world. There are many who are prepping for just such an end. How does one prepare? If we believe that God means the physical end of the world, there is only one way to prepare--live the life of the disciple--the servant--that God needs in this world. We are to love everyone as God loves everyone. We are to serve everyone as Jesus served everyone. We are not to discriminate in that service--all are in need of God's love and God's help. Jesus never discriminated against anyone--He helped all who asked for help.

There are those who already believe we are in the end times. I do not believe that. God knows when those times will occur. The signs that are mentioned in the Bible are signs that have been happening since before the time of Jesus--earthquakes, famines, war. I believe that we will know when God starts the end times. I have always believed that, since so many are expecting the end times, they will not happen. God will visit the end times upon us when we least expect them.

My advice is to live the life that God calls you to live. John Wesley was asked what He would do if he knew the world would end tomorrow. He said he would get up in the morning, have breakfast, go to the church office, preach where needed, help people where needed, go home and go to bed. In other words, it would be just another day. We need to live God's love in our lives at all times. We need to serve God in the world at all times. We need to keep the love of God through Jesus Christ in our hearts at all times.

God's Blessings, Pastor John

Home Phone: (715) 748-0477

Office Phone: (715) 748-2165

Cell Phone: (715) 560-3606

Email: pastor@medfordchargeumc.com

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 8 a.m. - 12 noon



MEDFORD and RIB LAKE EVENTS of AUGUST 2023

3

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1
(M) 6:00 pm
Worship Team /
Lay Servants

2

3

4

5

6 10th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion
(R) 9:00 am - Worship
(M) 10:30 am - Worship
(M) 2:00 pm - Oasis

7 Office closed

8

9
(M) 11:00 am
Keenagers @
Marilyn's

10

11 Office closed

12

13 11th Sunday after Pentecost
(R) 9:00 am - Worship
(M) 10:30 am - Worship
Sports Team Sunday
(M) 2:00 pm - Oasis

14 Office closed

15
(M) 6:30 pm
SALT

16
(R) 9:00 am
Food Pantry
(R) 4:00 pm
Food Pantry

17

18 Office closed

19

20 12th Sunday after Pentecost
(R) 9:00 am - Worship
(M) 10:30 am - Worship
(M) 2:00 pm - Oasis

21 Office closed

22

23

24

25 Office closed

26

**August
Newsletter
Pictures and
Articles Due**

27 13th Sunday after Pentecost
(R) 9:00 am - Worship
(M) 10:30 am - Worship
(M) 2:00 pm - Oasis

28 Office closed

29

30
(M) 5:00 pm
Sticker Day

31

1 Office closed

2

3 14th Sunday after Pentecost
(R) 9:00 am - Worship
(M) 10:30 am - Worship
(M) 2:00 pm - Oasis

4 Office closed

5

6

7

8 Office closed

9

The Event Calendar is subject to change. Watch the weekly announcements for updates.

PEOPLE SERVING, LEADING, PRAYING, LISTENING, & CELEBRATING

Weekly Volunteer Schedule

Greeters

August 6 (M) Steve & Eunice Mayer
 August 13 (M) Bill & Sue Breneman
 August 20 (M) Ron & Sandy Breth
 August 27 (M) Lee & Jean Nuernberger

Worship Leaders/Liturgists

August 6 (M) Eunice Mayer (R) Carol Punzel
 August 13 (M) Bill Breneman (R) Deb Polacek
 August 20 (M) Sandy Breth (R) Dorathy Nelson
 August 27 (M) Jean Nuernberger (R) Deb Lind

Slideshow

August 6 (M) Jordan Ludwig
 August 13 (M) Brenda Bengtson
 August 20 (M) Crystal Ludwig
 August 27 (M) Cheryl Ketelhut

Coffee Fellowship (sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall)

August 6 (M) TBD
 August 13 (M) Linda Murphy
 August 20 (M) Bill & Sue Breneman
 August 27 (M) Shane & Crystal Ludwig

****You are responsible for finding a replacement if you are unavailable on your day.**

*****Please call or email Crystal or the office with any changes so the newsletter and slides are current, and so the correct people receive the worship info each week.**

Crystal: connection@medfordchargeumc.com
 715-965-4006

Office: mcumc@medfordchargeumc.com
 715-748-2165



Prayer Requests

Health Concerns:

Corliss Jensen; Chyrel Houston; Marge Blair; Jean Romang;
 Barb Schief; Howard & Judy Troyk; Brenda Clark; Craig Butor;
 Dennis Lind; Hal Swenson; Krist Punzel; Don & Donna
 Hoefferle; Tom Curran; Dennis Jones; Jerry Hubbard

Mission/Missionary/Community:

"Beds From Christ" volunteers and recipients; the Medford Charge as we reach out to our communities; government leaders

Others:

Pastor John Hazen; Bishop Jung and the Cabinet; DS Tsuker Yang

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



Aug 1 (R) Chyrel Houston (B)
 (M) Drew Lietzow (B)
 Aug 2 (R) Sheila Heiser (B)
 Aug 3 (M) Peter & Diane Loniello (A)
 Aug 6 (M) Glatha Smith (B)
 Aug 7 (M) Cheryl Ketelhut (B)
 Aug 8 (M) John & Kristi DeDruyne (A)
 (M) Brody Doberstein (B)
 Aug 9 (M) Shawn McDonnell (B)
 Aug 10 (R) Dennis Lind (B)
 Aug 12 (M) Kristi DeBruyne (B)
 (M) Bill Breneman (B)
 Aug 13 (M) Brian & Samantha Ingersoll (A)
 Aug 16 (M) Viola Downing (B)
 (R) Howard & Judy Troyk (A)
 Aug 17 (M) Robert Horenberger (B)
 Aug 18 (R) James & Karon Dallmann (A)
 (M) Shane & Crystal Ludwig (A)
 Aug 21 (M) Alexis Isola (B)
 Aug 22 (M) Ellen Niemuth (B)
 Aug 23 (R) James Dallmann (B)
 Aug 25 (R) Judy Troyk (B)
 Aug 26 (M) Diane Loniello (B)
 Aug 29 (M) Scott Braun (B)
 (R) Gary & Debbie Polacek (A)
 Aug 31 (R) Deb Lind (B)



****Please submit corrections or additions to the church office by calling 715-748-2165 or emailing mcumc@medfordchargeumc.com**

CHURCH EVENTS

SPORTS TEAM SUNDAY

August 13

Wear the colors of your
favorite sports team!



If you have an event or meeting that you would like included on the monthly calendar and the slides, please contact the church office with all necessary information.

715-748-2165 or
mcumc@medfordchargeumc.com

Women's Meeting

Wednesday, September 20th
12:30 pm

Agenda:

12:30 - Light Lunch will be served

1:15 - Samantha Gehrke
Community Coordinator of Stepping
Stones, Inc

2:00pm - Meeting

Topics for discussion:

- A. Name for group
- B. Meeting frequency
- C. Meeting time
- D. Future programs
- E. Donations for community non-profits
- F. Officers needed?

Please RSVP with Sue Breneman
before September 18



A big thank you to the Medford building maintenance team for the wonderful platform they built for the slideshow and live stream equipment. The new platform will allow the table to sit level and the wires will be hidden away underneath. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us!

Summertime is here.
As you enjoy your vacations,
remember--

Your church does not go on vacation.
Remember to support your church the
whole year through.

We hope you have a safe and
enjoyable summer.

Visit our YouTube channel!



 **Subscribe**

youtube.com/@medfordunitedmethodistchurch

COMMITTEE NEWS WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Rib Lake

Ad. Council: *Next Meeting: TBD

Food Pantry: 3rd Wednesday of each month, 9:00-11:00am, 4:00-5:00pm Contact: Karon Dallmann 715-427-3563

Worship Team: *Next Meeting: TBD

Medford

SALT Board: Meeting 3rd Tuesday of each month, 6:30pm. *Next Meeting will be Tuesday, August 15, 6:30pm

ALIVE Youth Group: Contact: 715-748-2165 **Looking for a volunteer to restart this program

Beds From Christ: Contact: Jean F.

Building Maintenance Team: Meet the 4th Tuesday of every other month, 6:00pm. Contact: John D. 715-748-5765
*Next Meeting will be September 26

Church Directory: Contact a SALT member

Community/Church Event Team: Contact: Shane L. 715-678-5052

*****Congregational Care Ministry Team:** works with the pastor to provide support and care of our members and those that attend Medford UMC *Currently looking for a Team Leader

*****Discipleship Ministry Team:** coordinates educational opportunities for our congregation and community, including Life Groups, SonShine Kids, VBS, and other learning events. *Currently looking for a Team Leader

Finance Department: Contact: Kristi D. 715-748-5765, or SALT for over-budget planning requests.

Food Donations: Non-perishables, egg cartons, clean bread bags. Put in basket/box under table in lobby.
Thank you. Contact: Glatha S. 715-748-3355

Keenagers: Meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month; open to all 50 years and older.

*Next event: TBD

Lay Servants: Meet monthly with Pastor to plan faith development opportunities Contact: Jean N. 715-965-4403

*Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 1

Leadership Development: Contact a SALT member

Library: Contact a SALT member

Life Groups: Studies will resume in fall. Watch for more information. Contact: Jean N. 715-965-4403

Membership: For Membership Records: Contact: Eunice M. 715-748-3835.

Memorial: Contact: Mary Lou C. 715-748-2154

SonShine Kids: children's ministry program for kids in kindergarten through 6th grade, meets from 9:30-10:15am
Contact: Eunice M. 715-748-3835 *Will Resume in Fall

Woman's Group: Upcoming meeting to determine group details including name of group, meeting time and frequency, officers, and group purpose/direction. Contact: Sue B. 715-965-4403

*Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 20, 12:30pm

Worship Ministry Team: plans and coordinates Sunday services. Contact: Nancy J. 715-748-0329

*Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 1

RIB LAKE UMC QTRLY FINANCE REPORT

CHECKING ACCOUNT:	<u>2ND QTR.</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Beg. Bal. 4/1/2023	\$ 10,276.01	\$ 11,759.14
2ND QTR. Receipts	\$ 11,220.30	\$ 21,686.55
	\$ 21,496.31	\$ 33,445.69
2ND QTR. Disbursements	\$ 11,193.36	\$ 23,142.74
End Bal. 6/30/23	\$ 10,302.95	\$ 10,302.95
Designated Funds held in checking for Food Pantry	\$ 5,642.08	
Total available for Operations	\$ 4,660.87	
Apportionments due for 2023	\$ 5,304.00	
Apportionments paid for 2023	\$ 100.00	
Balance remaining to pay:	\$ 5,204.00	

2023 Quarterly Missions

1st Quarter -
Beds from Christ

2nd Quarter -
Never Forgotten
Honor Flight

3rd Quarter -
Stepping Stones

4th Quarter -
Northwoods Veterans
Homestead



Jim & Karon Dallmann's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Please help us celebrate this wonderful milestone!
Please no gifts! Just looking for friends and family
who want to celebrate! Please pass the word to
anyone who wishes to celebrate with us!

Saturday, August 19 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Zondlo's Bar, Rib Lake

**You can share your
church life
stories and photos in
The Messenger!
Send them to...**

**connection@medford
chargeumc.com**

Third Quarter Mission

Stepping Stones, Inc.



call us 24/7 at
1-715-748-5140 or
1-866-343-5140

**Stepping Stones is a nonprofit organization
that provides community education and
support services to victims and survivors of
domestic violence, sexual assault, teen
dating violence, stalking, and human
trafficking in Taylor County.**

**The Rib Lake Community Food pantry
is graciously accepting donations.**

Anything your family enjoys eating is a
good candidate for donating!
Some items always in need are: cash for
buying meats and dairy; peanut butter,
catsup, mayo.

Why cash? We can purchase meats, etc.
from Feed My People cheaper than you
can buy it in the store.

MEDFORD SALT BOARD

Elijah, for instance, – bold and cocky, one day, but depressed and suicidal, under a juniper tree the next. Or Jonah, preaching the good news of forgiveness to the Ninevites but then cursing his life under a shrunken gourd plant a short time later. Or David, strumming his harp in praise to God, some days and wallowing in dark, dark depression on other days. Or Jeremiah, wishing he could run from his problems to some little wilderness motel. Or Hosea, feeling betrayed by his beloved Gomer. Or John, the Baptist, wondering from a prison cell, if Christ actually was the promised Messiah. Or Paul, fighting a losing battle with his sinful “self”, and doing what he knew was wrong.

We roller coaster riders, you see, come from good stock! When someone tells me that the Christian way is all smiles and goosebumps, I know he is either extremely blessed or extremely ignorant. My experience, at least, testifies to an up-and-down journey that knows both Joy and stillness. And I take heart that so many other people of faith seem to have had a similar ride.

All of this is to remind you that God never promised us a tiptoe through the tulips. Sometimes we’ll be down. Some days we may even wonder if God exists. But our relationship to Him, thank goodness, doesn’t rest on our fickle feelings; it rests on His faithfulness to us.

What we actually get when we become a Christian is not an exemption from the roller coaster of ordinary human feelings and experiences. That would be nice, but it just isn’t so. What we get is a Friend who promises to take all of those harrowing dips and turns with us. We get a Companion who promises to ride with us all the way and to hold us securely in His eternal group. If we soar with eagles, He is there. But if we grovel with grubworms, He is there too.

Well, I got on my theological hobbyhorse, but now I need to get back to my original question: Can I enroll you in the Roller Coaster Club?

The President of the Roller Coaster Club, Dad.

Your SALT members are:

Submitted by Bill Breneman

Bill Breneman	(719) 775-1442 wkbreneman@gmail.com	Kelley Isola	(715) 965-3011 kisola1962@gmail.com
Stan Schmidt	(715) 748-6042 craftsandfishing@tds.net	Steve Mayer	(715)482-1313 seamayer@tds.net
Brenda Bengtson	(715)785-7480 bengtson7230@yahoo.com	Your Name Here?	
Dennis Jones	(715) 748-0329 or (920) 287-1718 jonesnancy157@gmail.com	“You are the salt of the earth ...” -- Matthew 5:13	

MEDFORD FINANCES

Medford UMC Finance Report - June

Checking Account:

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	
Beginning Balance 6/1/2023	\$979.91	\$4,115.79	1/1/2023
June Receipts	<u>8,721.18</u>	<u>54,037.91</u>	
	9,701.09	58,153.70	
June Checks	<u>7,282.33</u>	<u>55,734.94</u>	
Balance 6/30/2023	\$2,418.76	\$2,418.76	

Designated funds held in checking at 6/30/2023

Betty Jensen Flower Fund	1,034.28
Beds From Christ	3,756.50
2nd Qtr Missions	33.98 **
Book Sales	45.69
Apportionments (to be paid in July)	2,018.99 *
Total	6,889.44

Checking account balance as of 5/31/2023

\$2,418.76

Designated funds held in checking

6,889.44

Total available to spend in checking:

(\$4,470.68)

Apportionments due for 2023:

\$14,086.00

Apportionments paid YTD

475.00

Apportionments paid in June

0.00 *

475.00

475.00

Balance remaining to pay:

\$13,611.00

*Paid \$0 toward apportionments this month \$2,018.99 designated (\$2003.99 from Rummage Sale (after 30.75 ad cost deducted; \$15 individual giving). The payment to the conference will be made in July after any additional \$\$ are received. \$1,174 per month would meet 2023 apportionments.

**2nd Quarter missions project is UMCOR. \$33.98 was collected. Rounding up, \$35 will be paid online in July.

Third Quarter Mission



Harbor House Crisis Shelters
Faith United Methodist Church
1531 Hughitt Ave. Superior, WI 54880
(715) 394-9608
churchoffice@superiorfaithumc.org

Founded by the Rev. Barb Certa-Werner, Harbor House Crisis Shelters (HHCS) has been a ministry of Faith United Methodist Church since 2001. From its founding, it has served the homeless single women and families of Superior and has continued to live out its mission. Its mission is to provide hospitable shelter, transitional living, and services for homeless women and families. Our goal is to assist our guests in attaining services and housing.

If anyone contacts you through texts or emails claiming to be Pastor John or another member of the church and they ask you to send money or buy gift cards of any kind, PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND TO THEIR REQUEST. IT IS A SCAM.

For some time now these types of scams have become more prevalent and more sophisticated in their making the request look real. Most times the request states that Pastor is visiting someone in the hospital and the person needs a gift card to help them buy things during their stay. AGAIN, THIS IS A SCAM. DO NOT SEND ANYONE MONEY OR GIFT CARDS THROUGH TEXT OR EMAIL.

Please contact Crystal if you have any questions.

**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
287 E ALLMAN STREET
MEDFORD WI 54451-1122**

Medford Charge Office

Phone 715-748-2165

Fax 715-748-9719



mcumc@medfordchargeumc.com

www.medfordchargeumc.com

www.facebook.com/medfordwisconsinumc

Rib Lake UMC, Sunday Worship at 9:00am

1300 Church Street

Rib Lake, WI 54470

Phone 715-427-3670

Medford UMC, Sunday Worship at 10:30am

287 E Allman Street

Medford, WI 54451

Phone 715-748-2165

John Hazen, Pastor 715-748-0477 or 715-560-3606

Crystal Ludwig, Connectional Ministry Coordinator 715-965-4006

Diane Pernsteiner, Charge Treasurer / Office Manager

Address label



**The mission of Medford UMC is to
make new disciples of Jesus
Christ for the transformation of
the world.**

By the grace of God we reach
out to all those who need hope,
comfort, support, and the love
of Jesus Christ.



August 2023



**The mission of Rib Lake UMC is to
help all people to know and grow
in Jesus.**

Our vision is to build a church
family by providing opportunities
to worship God, connect with
others, and serve the community.



If you would like to unsubscribe from our
newsletter or feel that you have received it in
error, please contact the Charge Office to be
removed from the mailing list. Thank you.

715-748-2165

mcumc@medfordchargeumc.com