



The Newsletter of Community Church

August 2024

Pastor's Letter

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; grace that provides divine assistance for daily living and peace to comfort us through all circumstances of life through the power of the Holy Spirit! Last spring, the Community Church's Church Council was introduced to and voted to participate in a prayer movement called the Lighthouse Movement. We believe this movement fits the DNA of the Community Church, and in last month's Pastor Letter, I introduced the Lighthouse Movement to both the Community and Union Grove Churches in our Community Regional Shared Ministry. The vision of the Lighthouse Movement is to prayerfully mobilize local churches to establish neighborhood lighthouses to reach our world for Christ. This also fits into the vision of the Denomination we joined one year ago, the Global Methodist Church.

This fits the Community Church, because we have been a lighthouse for the Lord in western Racine County, especially for the last 50 years. That accounts for the picture of the lighthouse by the entrance to the Community Church office! The Lighthouse Movement is not a program nor a project, it is a movement that refines who we are and is to be an intentional, on-going part of our identity! Part of the Lighthouse movement is to help believers, families and groups, to walk their neighborhoods, learn names and start praying for those living around or near you.

The Biblical model comes from the parable of the Good Samaritan which teaches us that everyone is our neighbor. But there is a challenge! When we start to live out the principle of "everyone being our neighbor" in practical ways, there is the tendency to see the world around us in a general way. In fact, we become so general, that we don't take any steps to interact or care for people! **By trying to love many people, we are likely really love only a few.** However, when you look at Jesus' life, you see that He cared for the many, but He especially cared for those who were in close proximity to Him. We should do the same.

Part of the Lighthouse Movement is a resource that we will be further introducing to you. It is called, "*The Art of Neighboring*." It uses the image of a tik-tac-toe board when you consider your neighbors who live immediately around you. Do you know them? Do you know anything meaningful about them, are you showing anything that resembles real love to them? Let me be honest, answering these questions in a positive way will likely put some of us (especially introverts) into uncomfortable or awkward situations. But it's what Jesus modeled, and Holy Spirit will move in incredible ways that will build a thriving community of believers!

Here are a few themes to consider:

First and foremost, pray for your neighbors! Pray for them by name if possible, pray to meet them, pray for their needs, their health, their families, their children, grandchildren, extended family and beyond! Especially pray for your difficult neighbors, pray for God to bless them! Pray for the Lord to open opportunities for you to naturally share the hope you have through Jesus Christ.

As you pray, consistency and regularly build habits to make a difference in being neighborly and building relationships. The best way to do that is in small, consistent actions. A few examples: greet your neighbors daily, talk to them in a friendly way (do not participate in gossip), regularly participate in neighborhood or local events, and be friendly toward their children and pets. These efforts build us into meaningful relationships.

But remember, we don't love our neighbor in order to convert them to Christ, they are not projects! We love God and our neighbors because we have committed to following Jesus. Genuine love for neighbors should be unconditional, not based on any ulterior motives. This sincerity of our love is more powerful than any words.

Finally, please understand, we are not responsible for the outcome of our neighboring. We are called to love as Christ teaches, irrespective of how we are received. If we focus solely on outcomes, we miss the essence of Jesus commanding us to love our neighbor and in relation to those around us. Loving our neighbors well is an aspiration that we need more of as we seek to turn our cities into true communities. Through Christ, we can create environments where genuine connections grow into stronger, more compassionate communities.

May the Lord bless your ministry and your love of neighbor!

Pastor Bill



Divine Dialogues The Spiritual Battle

This sermon series is a simple, relevant, and essential series discussing a reality that impacts every struggle and conflict we face in life. Our reality is based in two realms; the physical and the spiritual. While we know a lot about the physical, we find the spiritual filled with confusion and mystery, real and counterfeit responses to our questions. This series is intended to demystify the battle we face in the spiritual realm, a battle best described as spiritual warfare. This series takes on our spiritual **challenges and obstacles with God's authority and victory that is only** available to us through Jesus Christ.

Sunday, August 4 - Our Weapons in the Battle Ephesians 6:10-18

Sunday, August 11 - Trained for the Battle Ephesians 6:18-24

Sunday, August 18 - Winning the Battle James 4:1-12

Sunday, August 25 - Winning the Battle for your Home Genesis 3:8-21

Join us for our Fall Sermon Series

CHANGE

More Than What's In Your Pocket

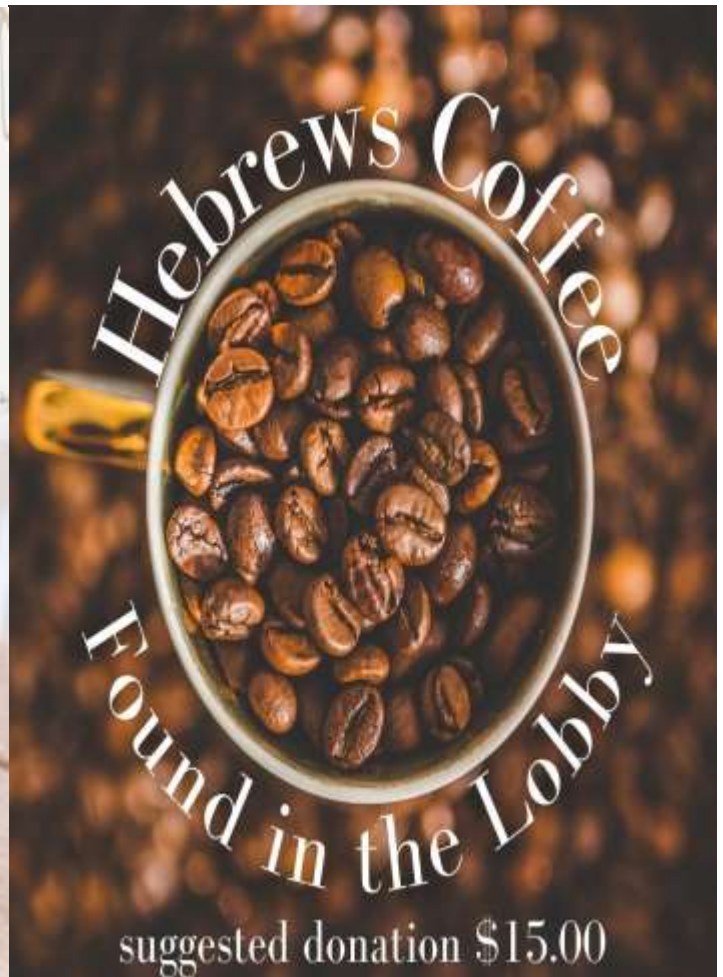
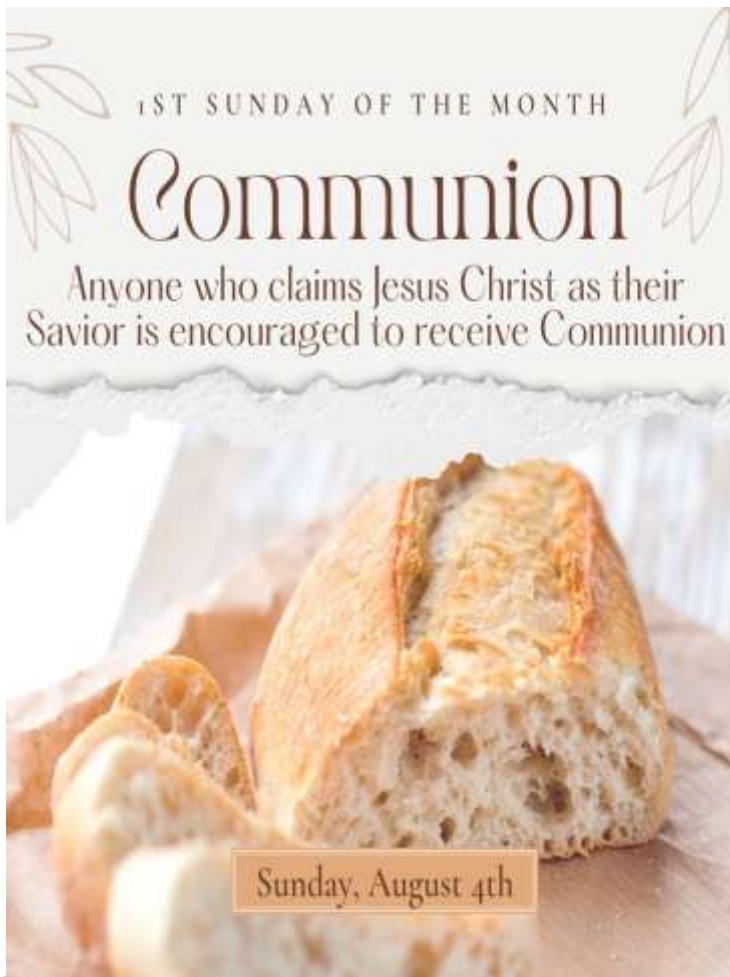
Change is a part of life. But sometimes, we go through seasons when change feels so rapid and relentless that we feel stuck, overwhelmed, exhausted and confused. But we were made for more than to just tread water and barely survive. Thankfully, we can always turn to God for guidance on navigating stressful situations.

Surviving Stressful Times, looking to God's wisdom in the Bible to discover new strength to keep going, trust God when it doesn't make sense, and handle stress even in the most difficult of times.

Join us for Worship

8 & 9:30am

Live Streamed on Facebook and Communitychurchwaterford.org



Children's Church

Children's Church resumes this month! 5K-5th grade are welcome to join during second worship service (9:30am) to have an age appropriate bible lesson and a fun learning activity!





On Sunday, August 11th, there will be **ONE** indoor worship service at **9:30am**, followed by the Annual Corn Roast.

Bring a friend!

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY



1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each month

3:45-5:45pm

455 S Jefferson Street
Waterford, WI 53185

Anyone in need of groceries is welcome. The third Wednesday of the month, Misfits for Jesus joins the Food Pantry with free weather appropriate clothing of all sizes. Please help spread the word about our wonderful Food Pantry!



During VBS we had a few Youth Volunteers. They helped in various areas such as games, classrooms, and tech team. They all did a great job and their help was very appreciated throughout VBS week.

Garden Update: The youth have been tending 2 garden beds on church property. The peach and apple tree are both still alive and doing well. The one bed we tried to grow green beans and peas, we only successfully grew lots of weeds. The other bed we have potatoes growing and those are doing great. The plants are between 1.5 and 2 ft tall. If anyone actually knows what they are doing when it comes to gardening, we would gladly take any advice or help for next spring!





THE WAY TO GROW PRESCHOOL

**REGISTER
NOW FOR
THE
2024-25
YEAR!**

NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION!

Focused on the whole child - physically, intellectually, socially, creatively, emotionally and spiritually. Healthy, curious, confident children will be ready to succeed in school.

HIGHLIGHTED BENEFITS:

Center Based Classroom

Small teacher to child ratio

Christian curriculum

Play based learning



thewaytogrowpreschoolwaterford@gmail.com
262-534-7998

455 S Jefferson St., Waterford



The Way to Grow Preschool Open House

Wed., August 28th, 2024 | 455 S. Jefferson St.
4:30 - 6:00 pm | Waterford

communitychurchwaterford.org

Dear Community Church Family,

It is with a mix of emotions that I share some exciting and some bittersweet news. As you may have heard, Brett and I recently got engaged! As I look to our future, I will be moving away from Waterford to live in Oshkosh this coming August, 2024. Brett is also moving to Oshkosh.

Through prayerful discernment and research, I discovered that God is leading me to go back to school. I will be attending University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh starting Fall of 2024 and living in the dorms until Brett and I are married. At UWO, I will be pursuing dual licensure in special education (K-12th grade) and elementary education (K-9th grade). The end goal is to be equipped and licensed for a diverse set of age groups and teaching opportunities with children. After I finish schooling, I anticipate that God will lead me to teach in Christian schools or to homeschool children using Christian curriculum. I am also interested in helping schools and churches develop curriculum and expand programming to provide more access to children with special needs.

It was through my experiences teaching your children and writing curriculum for Community church that God developed and revealed my passions and giftings in these areas. Thank you for the opportunity to be part of this church family and work here! All of Community church's children are a blessing; they continually impress me with their eagerness to learn, grow, and have fun together. Without the hard work of all volunteers, the children would not have these opportunities—watching God bring people together to support and enable the children's ministry to grow and run smoothly has been thrilling. Keep being Christ's body for one another—and for the children of our church family!

I am looking forward to working alongside all of you at Vacation Bible School; afterwards, I will continue working until late August, then my tenure as Children's Ministry Leader will finish, and I will move to Oshkosh. I am looking forward to God's next steps for me, but I will miss you all!

Blessings,

Marissa Kelley, Children's Ministry Leader,
Community Church Waterford

GRIEF SHARE®

A 13 week session on Monday afternoons from
1:00-3:00PM

Meeting at Community Church - Lower Level
Enter through Door #6

Grief Share is a support group that meets weekly. Each week is a stand alone session, you are welcome to join at anytime. The care you need, information you can trust.

New Session begins Tuesday, September 3rd and continues every Monday after that to complete a 13 week session.

Facilitators:

Bernie Mann 262-498-2700

Fay Tichy 262-930-9488

Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered, 12 step recovery program for anyone struggling with hurts, habits or hang-ups of any kind. Celebrate Recovery is a safe place to find community and freedom from the issues that are controlling our life.



▶▶▶▶ **Tuesday Evenings 6-8:30PM** ◀◀◀◀

6:00pm: Food, Fellowship and Welcome

6:30-7 pm: Worship

7-7:30pm: Lessons and Testimonials

7:30-8:30pm: Small Group Sessions



630-478-3968
Scott Swartz

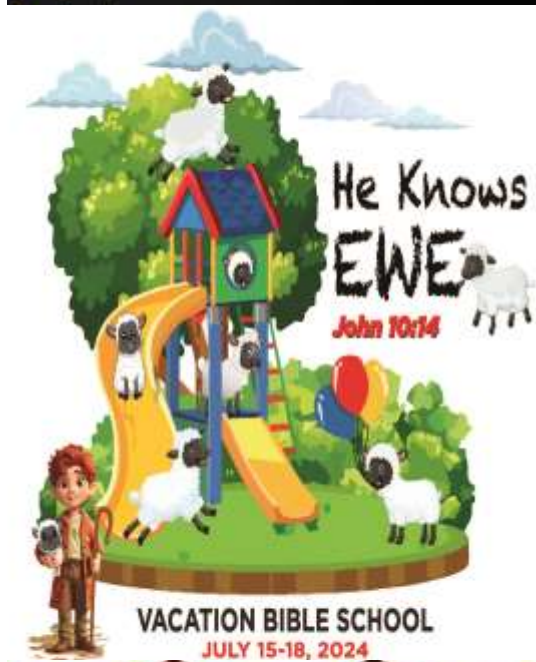
CONTACT US

bullsitool@yahoo.com



4th OF
JULY

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 15-18, 2024

Hospitality Area at the Racine County Fair!

Union Grove Methodist Church is hosting
an area where moms can come to nurse
and change their children in the Commercial
Building at the Racine County Fair!

Serving opportunities will be
available!

Wednesday, July 24th -
Sunday, July 28th

Contact Amber Janke for
more information!
discipleshipcoordinator
@uniangrovemc.org

We wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt thanks for volunteering your time and efforts to these amazing outreaches of Community Church Waterford.

It truly is amazing all of the lives we are able to touch through hospitality tents, Vacation Bible School and by helping with our Regional Ministry church, Union Grove, at their moms & babies area at the Racine County Fair.

A huge thanks and a reminder that you are so appreciated and these events could not continue on without your help.

Thank you,
Community Church

Thank you



Community Church Missions collects monthly for a variety of organizations who appreciate our contributions to their cause!

M & M (has replaced the Noisy Can Collection)

A new name supporting the organizations that touch our hearts!

Sunday, August 11th - M&M Collection

Life's Choices

Please prayerfully consider supporting this amazing organization
Look for the orange M & M Containers!

Missions In Motion

Special Collection - second Sunday of each month

Sunday, August 11

Life Choices

Life Choices provides Christ-centered help to individuals seeking pregnancy and parenting related resources while protecting life through spiritual, physical and emotional support. Please prayerfully consider donating to this wonderful organization!

Missions

Come check out the new Missions Map located near the restrooms.

This missions map center has information and updates from our quarterly mission partners. Please feel free to take items that are located in the file folders and get to know our partners better! Our congregation supports these partners in two ways:

1.) Individual designated giving to the general mission fund

2.) The church gives 4% of its budget to missions to pay our partners.

This year has seen a challenge in individual giving and is at risk of lowering our contribution to these amazing partners. We are currently running at 58% for the first six month of 2024 over last years figures. We pray that God will guide our congregation over this matter and continue to bless our missions ministry.



SERVE SATURDAY!



What is Serve Saturday?

Serve Saturday is an opportunity for our church members to be directly involved in Missions Ministry by being the hands, feet and heart of Jesus in our local community.

When is Serve Saturday?

Serve Saturday will be held the first Saturday of each month from 9:30 AM – 1PM.

Saturday, August 3rd

This month we have two different opportunities to serve in our community.

Opportunity 1: Assist a widow who attends Grief Share with sorting through her husband's tools to determine what has value to be sold and what might be best to donate. This will require volunteers who have some skill working with tools to know their relative value.

Opportunity 2: Misfits for Jesus could use a handful of volunteers at their warehouse to help with sorting.

Please consider joining us!

Galatians 5:13 ***"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh ; rather, serve one another humbly in love."***



Concert of Prayer

Join us at 4:00pm every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month for a Concert of Prayer: an hour of music and prayer focused on intimacy with God and intercession for God's people, our community and our nation.

08.04.2024 | 4:00PM
08.18.2024 |



Join us for Family Literacy

Racine Literacy Council's Family Literacy Program aims to lift the whole family so they can meet their personal goals. Parents with preschool (3 years old and over) and/or school-aged children are invited to enroll in the program.



Example Schedule:

First 20-30 minutes: Engaging family activity with all families together (literacy-based)

Next hour: Children receive small group tutoring while adults are working with tutors on their goals

Last 20-30 minutes: Parenting topic or parent-and-child-together time (parent or child chooses from a list of activities for their family - games, reading, crafts, etc.)

To register:
August 4th
Waterford Community Church
455 S. Jefferson St., Waterford

Program starts
September 12th

Thursdays 6-8 pm



Tutor Training

Come tutor with us this fall!

10 am or 6pm

August 27th, 2024

Racine Literacy Council

734 Lake Ave

6pm

August 29th, 2024

Waterford Community Church

455 S. Jefferson St., Waterford

To RSVP:

262-632-9495

All prospective tutors may attend one
of the sessions.





VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking to get involved?

GREAT!

Here are a few ideas:

- Front Door Greeter**
- Ushers**
- Communion Server**
- Food Pantry**
- Live Streaming Services**
- Sound Board**
- Worship Team**
- Children's Church Helpers**

More Information:
CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE
262-534-2313

FALL HAPPENINGS

EVENTS THAT ARE STARTING BACK UP
THIS FALL, EXACT DATES TO COME SOON!



His Loving Arms Senior Program

Taking a Summer Break!
Can't wait to see everyone in the Fall

Begins meeting again on Tuesday, Sept. 10th

Men's Breakfast
Saturday, October 5th 8:00am



His Kids
Community Youth

Begins again on
Wednesday, September 18th
5:30-7pm

August 2024

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|----|--|
| | | | | 1 3-4PM Tea at Three 6:30PM Praise Team | 2 | 3 9:30AM-1PM Serve Saturday |
| 4 Communion | 5 1PM Worship Design | 6 1PM Staff Meeting 6:00-8:30PM Celebrate Recovery | 7 3:45-5:45 PM Food Pantry | 8 3-4PM Tea at Three 6:30PM Praise Team | 9 | 10 |
| 11 ONE 9:30am service M&M Collection Life's Choices Corn Roast | 12 1PM Worship Design | 13 1PM Staff Meeting 6:00-8:30PM Celebrate Recovery | 14 | 15 3-4PM Tea at Three 6:30 PM Praise Team | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 1PM Worship Design | 20 1PM Staff Meeting 6:00-8:30PM Celebrate Recovery | 21 3:45-5:45 PM Food Pantry & Misfits for Jesus | 22 3-4PM Tea at Three 6:30PM Praise Team | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 1PM Worship Design | 27 1PM Staff Meeting 6:00-8:30PM Celebrate Recovery | 28 | 29 3-4PM Tea at Three 6:30PM Praise Team | 30 | 31 |

Community Church
455 S. Jefferson St.
Waterford, WI 53185

Glorify God

Encourage One Another

Share Jesus



Church Office— 262-534-2313

Pastor Bill Busch 608-475-0824 or pbbusch@gmail.com

www.communitychurchwaterford.org— like us on Facebook

office email: communitychurchwaterford@gmail.com

Worship Services at 8 & 9:30 AM

The Way to Grow Preschool 262-534-7998 thewaytogrowpreschoolwaterford@gmail.com