



The Newsletter of Community Church

May 2023
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! Those words reflect the opening blessing of Paul the Apostle as he opens his letters in the Bible to believers; a blessing that I want for you!

As our congregation re-envision our future, The Disaffiliation Team and the church council spent many hours researching the options, discerning which option holds the Community Church's best interests. There are 3 options before us. One option is to join another Wesleyan denomination. Unfortunately, in this option we'd end up back in the struggle we are working to escape and lose ownership over our assets and building. The option that the Community Church Council is recommending to the congregation is to affiliate with the Global Methodist Church. We must be discerning, because our decisions will impact our congregation and community for years to come.

There is a third option before us, one that is very tempting options before us is to become an independent congregation. Honestly, considering the dysfunction of The United Methodist Church, that option really is appealing. It is not very different from a person who experiences a bad marriage and decides never to get married again. And while becoming an independent church can sound exciting, because there is no one telling you what to do or demanding that you pay for this or that, no one is telling you who you must have as a pastor, with the freedom to create our church as we like. It's the same feeling someone gets the first time they leave home to live on one's own.

Unfortunately... adulting and reality sets in. The responsibility of making all the decisions for a congregation without any guidance or support can become overwhelming, and even dangerous. This is particularly true for small and mid-sized congregations like ours. **That is why I want to take time in this Pastor Letter to remember some important reasons for being part of a larger denominational group.**

One big reason is that there is security in Doctrine.

Let's be clear, we are not saved from our sins and transformed into the image of Jesus by the correctness of our beliefs. But what we believe certainly influences our ability to experience salvation and it influences the kind of life we live as a Christian. This is true at both the individual and the congregational level.

For example, if we believe that everyone is going to heaven, then it is not important for us to share the good news of Jesus Christ, or for individuals to surrender their lives to the lordship of Jesus Christ. If we believe the Bible is fallible and it is not true, then it is OK for us to compromise the teachings of Scripture to be more culturally acceptable. If we believe the Bible and the Church are historically wrong about certain activities or behaviors, even if the Bible states that activity or behavior is against God's will is for us, then we will be comfortable ignoring those biblical standards in the way we live our lives or run our church.

That is why it is so important for us to get our doctrinal beliefs right. Incorrect beliefs can lead us away from God and cause us to live our lives in ways that does not follow God's plan and purpose for us. The basic tenets of the Christian faith are not up for negotiation, either by individual persons, congregations, or denominations. The virtue of a denomination is that it has a set of beliefs that are consistent with historic Christian doctrine and vetted by a larger body of people. This helps keep individual Christians and congregations from going off the rails in their beliefs and making a shipwreck of their faith. Doctrinal accountability is essential for the Christian life.

Being part of an established Wesleyan denomination can also help individuals and congregations guard against the adoption of heretical doctrines, that in the end, are harmful to church members and their congregation.

Another reason it is good to be part of a larger denominational group is accountability.

I am talking about a system of accountability for both doctrine and behavior. For example, if a church is to be effective and sustainable in ministry, accountability must be greater than what the leaders of an individual congregation can provide. Yes, it would be nice if it were not that way, but in our fallen, sinful condition, we have human blind spots and mixed motivations that prevent us from seeing problems or from acting on the problems we do see, especially when we are close to the situation.

Throughout my ministry, I have seen too many congregations get victimized by pastoral leadership that overstepped healthy boundaries of Christian behavior. A good example was the Mars Hill Church, a mega church with over 12,000 in attendance in 15 locations in Seattle, Washington. Christianity Today posted a podcast <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/podcasts/rise-and-fall-of-mars-hill/> that documented how the founding pastor and other leaders "bullied" and demonstrated "patterns of persistent sinful behavior." Within 18 months, the giant church ceased to exist. Ironically, that founding pastor became pastor of another church and allegedly continues many of the same dysfunctional behaviors.

We certainly could name many other high-profile pastors and ministry leaders who for years demonstrated deceitful and destructive behavior in ministry. Unfortunately, the leadership who were responsible of overseeing those leaders were too close to the situation or the person to see the problems. Denominational accountability is the only thing that can protect pastors and church members from harm.

Granted, denominational accountability systems does not always work the way it is intended (a good example is our own United Methodist Church's ethical and systematic failures). But at least there is a system of greater accountability that can be reformed and made more effective. Community Church leadership believes the system envisioned for the Global Methodist Church improves accountability and fairness in a way that addresses many of the shortfalls we have seen in our UM system. In the Global Methodist Church, there is a greater possibility of holding leaders and congregations accountable when they must answer to a system that comes from outside their situation. Leaders outside of a congregation are often much more able to see and respond to problems inside a congregation than they can on their own.

There is also the Power of Collective Action.

Churches working and contributing together can do great things for God. That is one way The United Methodist Church has used our connectional system to make a real-world difference in the lives of people all over the globe! When it comes to hunger relief, poverty alleviation, education, ministerial training, and health care, just to name a few examples, the UM Church has been able to pool the resources of many small churches to achieve amazing results.

It is possible for independent churches to join associations of churches and support missions and ministries they agree with. The value of doing so as a denomination, also provides the confidence that the missions and ministries supported by a greater denomination will be consistent with the denomination's doctrinal and moral standards. A denomination can make a long-term commitment to a geographic area or to a large project. That support can be sustained, even if a congregation might have to drop their support for a time. Other congregations can step forward and make up the shortfall. There is a greater chance of consistency and effectiveness with denominational programs that have built-in oversight and accountability from outside.

Providing Pastoral Leadership

One of the most important tasks of a denomination is to provide pastoral leadership to its congregations. The denomination vets and approves candidates for a pastoral position in terms of doctrine, skills, and personal lives. This is work that an independent congregation would have to do for itself, often without the expertise to make informed judgments. Independent congregations take months or often times over a year to find a pastor, meanwhile, the congregation is without a pastor.

While the Methodist appointment system of clergy placement is not perfect. Appointments often make good matches between congregation and pastor. When the match is not good, The Global Methodist Church is set up to make better appointment matches, and eliminate any clergy who are theologically incompatible or deficient in skills to best lead a church. The GM Church is committed to more extensive consultation with both potential clergy and congregations to ensure the best possible match and to enable longer-term pastorates.

Practical Resources

The list of questions and decisions that a local church needs to deal with is endless. A denomination can give a local church the resources to address these questions. In some cases (like the pension and insurance questions), the denomination can provide local church with answers and solutions they often fail to have adequate resources to answer on their own. The GM Church is also set up to prioritize the needs of the local congregation. This is different from the United Methodist Church which believes by doctrine, that the local church exists to support the Annual Conference, while the GM Church believes by doctrine that the Annual Conference exists to support the local church.

I hope these answers resolves some of your questions.

And we look forward to Professing Members attending the vote to affirm joining the Global Methodist Church after worship on May 7, 2023.

God bless, Pastor Bill



Healing Life's Hurts



**Stop
Playing
God!**

We all struggle with addictions, fear, regret, worry, perfectionism, compulsive thoughts and the list goes on. These problems have the same root cause too; they start when you play God. Jesus started His famous "Sermon on the Mount" saying, "I'll tell you 8 ways to be happy, but they're different from what the world says will make you happy, and they are called, 'Beatitudes.'" This series looks at Healing Life's Hurts through the Beatitudes and the practical tools they offer.

Sunday, May 7 - Housecleaning Choices

Sunday, May 14 - Transformation Choices

Sunday, May 21 - Relationship Choices

Sunday, May 28 - Growth Choices

Join us at 8 or 9:30am

Livestreamed on Facebook and Extremefaitth.org

MENS BREAKFAST

Saturday
May 6th

8:00AM

Community Church Fellowship Hall

Join us for great food and even better fellowship.
Bring a friend!

Join us for
worship!

Sam & 9:30am

Live streaming on Facebook and
extremefaith.org

Join us!

Community Church Spring Clean Up Day

Saturday, May 6th

9:00AM - Until the work is
complete!

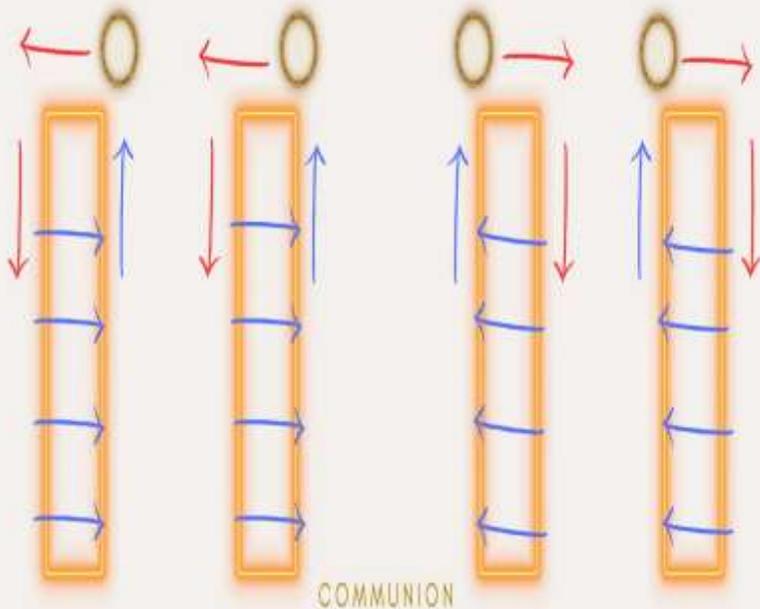
Many hands make light work!



Exiting, walking back to your seat

Walking towards and receiving Communion

WORSHIP PLATFORM



Communion



Sunday, May 7th

Worshipping Online?
Please gather some
bread/crackers and an
appropriate drink of your choice.

Adult Sunday School Classes

9:30AM class following first service led by Patty Bernau and Dennis Bartz

10:45AM class following second service led by Beth Busch and Brenda Barton

Breaking down the sermon series one sermon at a time, one week at a time. Join us!

Tea at Three



Tuesdays at St. James in East Troy

Thursdays at Community Church

Join us at either location

3-4PM

His
Living Arms
Senior Program



Join us for fellowship, snacks, devotionals and so much more!

Community Church Fellowship Hall

9-11:30AM

Meeting on Tuesday, May 9th and Tuesday, May 23rd

May 23rd will be the last meeting date before breaking for summer



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, May 14th - M&M Collection

Veterans Outreach of Wisconsin

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

Missions In Motion

Collection

Sunday, May 14

Veterans Outreach of Wisconsin

Veterans Outreach of Wisconsin works to make a difference in the lives of at-risk Veteran households in every community across Wisconsin. Building tiny homes is simply the foundation of the program. Once a resident no longer has to worry about their immediate needs, they can start building for the future. Veteran residents will have the support groups, weekly wellness activities job facilitation, and service hours to help residents engage them with the broader community. Services are free to Veteran households. But, we could not do this without all the incredible community support!
Please be a Hero to a Hero and donate today!



Free Community Bike Check Up

Sunday, May 21st

10:00-3:00

(rain day June 4th)

Case Eagle Park -
304 S. Rochester St., Burlington

Bike Check Up:

- Adjust front and back brakes**
- Adjust front and back derailleurs**
- Lube cassette and chain**
- Safety check all main bolts and adjust (crank arms, pedals, stem, handlebar, wheels and seat)**
- Air up tires**



262-534-2313 

extremefaitth.org 

The Way to Grow Preschool

NOW ENROLLING!

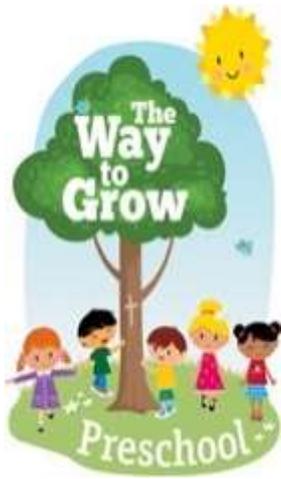
We offer:

- ✓ Christian Preschool with a Bible curriculum for ages 3-5 years
- ✓ Center based classroom
- ✓ Focused on the whole child - physically, intellectually, socially, creatively, emotionally and spiritually. Healthy, curious, confident children will be ready to succeed in school.

**CALL NOW TO SECURE A SPOT FOR THE
2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR!**

Contact Tricia Kelley -Director- 262-534-7998
thewaytogrowpreschoolwaterford@gmail.com
extremefaitth.org

455 S. Jefferson Street, Waterford, WI 53185



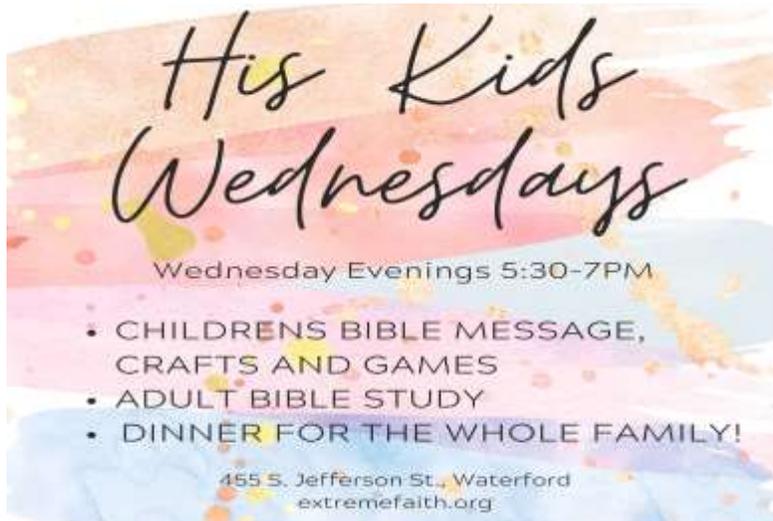
Thank you for your generosity!

Our Lent/Easter donations raised over \$2,500 towards sprucing up our new shed. We plan to add paint, shelves and an interactive music wall. Exciting!!

The children also created a Thank You banner for Mrs. Alicia and Mrs. Wendy for keeping our room clean all year!!

We are blessed!





Jesus is Risen! This past April, the children of Community Church have celebrated Jesus in many ways. We got to share a palm processional and help with the music for Palm Sunday at church! In His Kids, we learned about God's promise of Forgiveness.

May will be the last month of His Kids before we break for summer. We will be learning about God's promise of Courage. The last day of His Kids will be May 24th, and we will be ending with a celebration review day! His Kids starts with Family Dinner at 5:30pm, then separate Bible Studies for kids and adults from 6-7pm.

SAVE THE DATE: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) 2023 Living Water is..... July 17-20th! There are opportunities for volunteers in many areas including: leading the kids, music/expressive worship, games, kitchen, decorations, crafts, security and so much more! Children going into grades 4K-6th grade are invited to participate and youth are encouraged to help! There are volunteer interest sheets for adults and teens on the table in front of the children's ministry display; registration forms for kids to participate are available in paper format in the office. The VBS envelope fundraiser will be this May in the church lobby - this is a great opportunity to support the Vacation Bible School at communitychurch4kids@gmail.com for more information.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO
PROFESSING MEMBERS ATTENDING
THE VOTE TO AFFIRM JOINING THE
GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH AFTER
WORSHIP ON MAY 7, 2023.**

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, so you are welcome to join at anytime. The care you need, information you can trust.

Next Session Begins Monday, May 8th

Facilitators:

Janice Constantineau 262-514-2954

Bernie Mann 262-498-2700



Celebrate Recovery

A CHRIST CENTERED Recovery Program

Celebrate Recovery here at Community Church!

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

Continuing throughout May - 6:00-8:30 pm.

Enter through the second set of doors on the back of the building. (Door # 8)

Ministry Leader: Tim Mclean (414)292-6760 email: mcleantimothy491@aol.com

6:00 pm Food, Fellowship and Welcome

6:30-7 pm, Worship

7-7:30 pm, Lessons and Testimonials

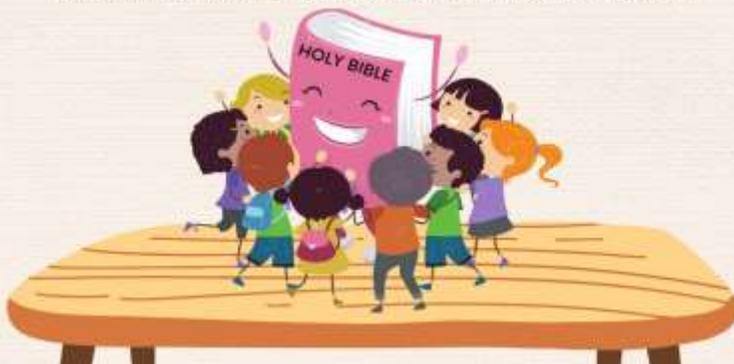
7:30-8:30 pm Small Group Sessions

CHILDRENS CHURCH

**KIDS MESSAGE AND ACTIVITIES
DURING SECOND WORSHIP SERVICE**

AGES 5-10 YEARS

SECOND WORSHIP SERVICE BEGINS AT 9:30AM



NURSERY

Ages 0-4

**OPEN FOR BOTH
FIRST AND SECOND
WORSHIP SERVICE**





I WANT TO GET INVOLVED...

WHERE CAN I START??

Here are some first serve opportunities that you can pray about!

I don't mind talking to new people or being in front of others:

Front Door Greeter

Usher

Communion Server

Worship Team

Childrens Church Helpers

His Kids Helpers

His Kids Crafters - hands on helping with the kids

Sunday morning Nursery volunteers

-OR-

I really don't like being in front of people, but I would still like to be involved in something:

Food Pantry—packing/preparing bags of food

Live Streaming worship service

Kitchen Crew for Vacation Bible School or any other events

Sound Technician

Short Term projects for VBS or other events

Prayer Ministry



You are welcome to join any of these groups at any time. Some groups begin new material periodically and some are ongoing. Most groups will break for the summer and holidays. Please contact the group leader or the church office if you have any questions.

Sunday

Community Church will be offering a “unpacking” study to help believers draw closer to the Lord and discuss any questions that may come up during Sunday’s sermon. Join us!

Sunday School Classes continue with each Sermon Series.

9:30AM after first service - Led by Patty Bernau and Dennis Bartz

10:45AM after second service - Led by Beth Busch and Brenda Barton

Monday

Afternoon Bible Study 1:00PM

St. James in East Troy—2945 Main Street, East Troy

Study on the Book of Romans

Led by Mike Biesiadny 262-210-5702

*Open to all

Beginners Woman’s Study 6:30PM

Forgotten God by Francis Chan—continuing on January 16th

Room 4 on the lower level at Community Church

Laurie Wright 262-210-6837 Ann Dirks 262-210-7495

Tuesday

Young Women’s Study 6:30PM Meets Twice Monthly

Matchless by Angie Smith

Room 14 on the lower level at Community Church

Led By Valerie Strueder 262-210-0859 and

Danielle Jensen 262-758-0231

Wednesday

Women's Group—6:30-8PM Meets Twice Monthly

Matchless by Angie Smith

Led by Coleen Swan 262-758-0230 and

Patty Bernau 262-806-7424

Meeting every 1st and 3rd Wednesday.

Lower Level at Community Church



The Power of Praying for Your Adult Children— 6:30-8PM

by Stormie Omartian

Led by Tanya Fuhrman (262) 412-2398

Meeting every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month through June.

Share and Prayer - for Women at 9:30am (meets year round)

Pat Staeger 262-763-8627 3620 Lake Dr. Burlington, WI

*Please contact Hillary Clevenstine at 262-716-2259 if you wish to participate.

Men's Study at 6:30-8PM

The Invisible War by Chip Ingram

This study will focus on spiritual warfare. Study guides will be available.

Jeff Swan 262-758-0356

Meeting 1st & 3rd Wednesday

Room 14 on the lower level at Community Church

His Kids Wednesday - Youth Group

5:30-7:00PM

Ages 5 years - 5th grade

Beginning with dinner then Miss Marissa will lead bible messages, crafts and games! Continues until May 24th

Wednesday Night Adult Study 6-7PM

Gospel of John

Pastor Bill 608-475-0824

Thursday

Women's Group 6:30-8PM

A Study on Jeremiah then continuing on to Ezekiel

6:30PM in lower level room 13— at Community Church

If you would like to join via zoom, please contact: Marianne Davidson 262-492-8528

*All women who want to know more about the different books of the Bible. This will be an ongoing study until we finish the material. It's never too late to join in!

Men's Study at 6:30PM - Mike Biesiadny

6:30 fellowship, 7pm Study

1 Corinthians - Mike Biesiadny 262-210-5702

Downstairs in room 14 at Community Church

Let us come together

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

THURSDAY, MAY 4TH

10:45AM

WATERFORD VILLAGE HALL PARK

PLEASE BRING A BIBLE AND A LAWN
CHAIR

Let us
PRAY
FOR YOU

SEND ANY AND ALL PRAYER REQUESTS TO
COMMUNITYCHURCHPRAYER4YOU@GMAIL.COM



MONDAY EVENING

Prayer Gathering

Monday, May 8th

Monday, May 22nd

6:30PM

Community Church Lower Level
War Room (#8)



Prayer 
Ministry


Brooke
Schweitzer

VISITATION AND CARE
MINISTER

262-210-6664

Free! EAST TROY
**PANCAKE
BREAKFAST**

Saturday, May 13th
9-10AM

2945 Main Street, East Troy



ALL DONATIONS GO TOWARDS
HONDURAS MISSIONS

SUGGESTED DONATION \$10

class
of
2023

IS YOUR HIGH SCHOOL
SENIOR GRADUATING
THIS YEAR?

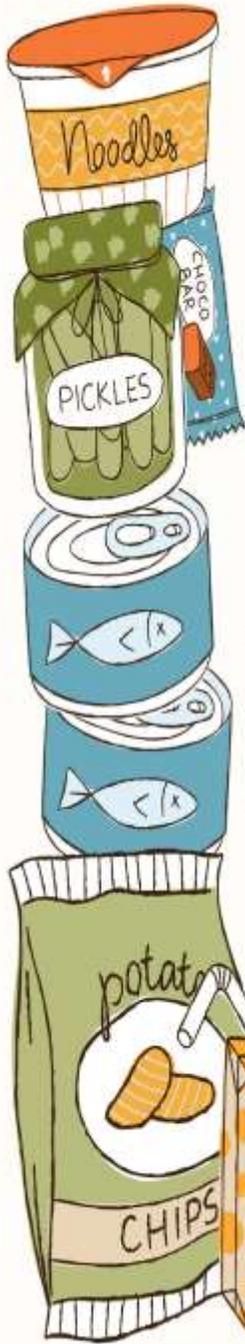
PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL
WITH A GRADUATION
PICTURE AND WHAT THEIR
FUTURE PLANS ARE SO WE
CAN HELP CELEBRATE
THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

COMMUNITYCHURCHWATERFORD@GMAIL.COM



Scan the QR Code below!

It will take you directly to the new
Community Church App! Your online giving,
connect cards, how to get involved, your Bible
and so much more.



COMMUNITY CHURCH

Food Pantry

3:45-5:45PM
WEDNESDAYS
1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE
MONTH

455 S. Jefferson St., Waterford

Food is a human right and is an immediate and tangible way to help someone. Anyone in need is welcome.

We ask that you bring a valid ID with you to sign up.

We accept donations of non-perishable food in jars, cans and sealed packets. We recommend sauces, soups, beans, vegetables in cans or jars, honey, peanut butter, candy and boxed juices.

**Every 3rd Wednesday, Misfits for Jesus joins our food pantry with free weather appropriate clothing.

extremefaitth.org



COMMUNITY CHURCH

FOOD DRIVE

LET'S HELP FEED THOSE IN NEED



**UNEXPIRED & NON PERISHABLE
FOOD ONLY**
EXAMPLES: SPAGHETTI SAUCE,
PEANUT BUTTER, SOUP AND
CEREAL



Please bring any
collected items on the
first Sunday of the
month
(Communion Sundays)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Contact the Church Office
262-534-2313

CHECK IT OUT!!

rightnow MEDIA

REGISTER FOR
YOUR FREE ACCOUNT ON EXTREMEFAITH.ORG



Living Water

John 7:38-39a

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 17-20, 2023

Community Church • Waterford, WI

SAVE THE DATE: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) 2023 Living Water is... July 17th-20th!

There are opportunities for volunteers in many areas including: leading the kids, music/expressive worship, games, kitchen, decorations, crafts, security, and more!

Children going into grades 4K-6th grade are invited to participate and youth are encouraged to help! There are volunteer interest sheets for adults and teens on the table in front of the children's ministry display; registration forms for kids to participate are available in paper format in the office. The VBS envelope fundraiser will be this May in the church lobby--this is a great opportunity to support the Vacation Bible School ministry though giving! Please email the

children's ministry director, Marissa Kelley,
at communitychurch4kids@gmail.com for more information."



COMMUNITY CHURCH

MISSION SUNDAY

JUNE 4, 2023

FOLLOWING BOTH WORSHIP
SERVICES

THE MISSIONS MINISTRY WILL BE
FEATURING EACH OF THE
MISSIONS PROJECTS AND FAMILIES
THAT WE SUPPORT, INCLUDING
THOSE WE SUPPORT ON A
QUARTERLY BASIS AND THOSE
THROUGH MISSIONS IN MOTION.

PLEASE JOIN US!

May 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|---|--|--------|---|
| | 1 1PM Worship Design | 2 1PM Staff Meeting 6:00-8:30PM Celebrate Recovery | 3 3:45-5:45 PM Food Pantry 5:30-7PM His Kids | 4 National Day of Prayer 3-4PM Tea at Three 6:30PM Praise Team | 5 | 6 8AM Men's Breakfast 9AM Church Clean Up Day |
| 7 Communion | 8 1PM Worship Design 1-3PM Grief Share Begins | 9 1PM Staff Meeting 9-11:30AM His Loving Arms Senior Group 6:00PM Trustee Meeting 6:00-8:30PM Celebrate Recovery | 10 5:30-7PM His Kids | 11 3-4PM Tea at Three 6:30PM Praise Team | 12 | 13 9:00-10:30AM East Troy Free Pancake Breakfast |
| 14 M&M Collection Faith, Hope & Love Mother's Day | 15 1PM Worship Design 1-3PM Grief Share 6:30PM Prayer Gathering | 16 1PM Staff Meeting 6:00PM Trustee Meeting 6:00-8:30PM Celebrate Recovery | 17 3:45-5:45 PM Food Pantry & Misfits Winter Clothing 5:30-7PM His Kids | 18 3-4PM Tea at Three 6:30 PM Praise Team | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 1PM Worship Design 1-3PM Grief Share | 23 1PM Staff Meeting 9-11:30AM His Loving Arms Senior Group *Last meeting, breaks for Summer 6:30PM Church Council Meeting 6:00-8:30PM Celebrate Recovery | 24 5:30-7PM His Kids *Last meeting, breaks for summer | 25 3-4PM Tea at Three 6:30 PM Praise Team | 26 | 27 |
| 28 No Childrens Church Today | 29 Memorial Day 6:30PM Prayer Gathering | 30 1PM Staff Meeting 1-3PM Grief Share *Date change because of the Holiday 6:00-8:30PM Celebrate Recovery | 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.extremefaith.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