

## The Summer of Our “Re-Organization”

The Prefix “Re” packs a lot of punch. It reminds us to do something “again” or as one dictionary proclaimed, “again and again.” In this the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of the “Re-formation”, I am *re-minded* of the “Protestant Principle” *to form and reform*. I’ve always felt that that was a healthy approach to life in general and the Christian Life in specific, as we creatively seek to live out our faith and our call to mission; a mission that calls our church – Bethel-Bethany United Church of Christ – to “celebrate and share God’s Love” again and again and again.

This Summer – with our mission in mind -- there’s been some healthy “re-organizing” going on. The Christian Education Committee has been cleaning up and arranging the Sunday School spaces in preparation for the September 10 kick-off of Kids’ Rock. Lisa Quinn, our Administrative Assistant has been organizing our office and files, and I’ve been sorting through my own files and library in a major organizational effort. (Don’t laugh, it’s actually happening.)

In addition to all of this: the Parish House Use Task Force has been meeting to re-organize the Parish House Space for broader church and community use, Chris and the Properties Team are re-organizing the kitchen with new stainless steel sinks and dish washer to make it more hygienic and efficient, the Evangelism Team is re-organizing to carry out our mission more fully and effectively, Rev. Meredith Anderson and I are working together to re-organize our Confirmation Program which will begin in September, and the Study Groups are reorganizing in anticipation of our studies for the fall.

### Our Mission

“To celebrate and share God’s Love through dynamic worship experiences, meaningful spiritual programs, and nurturing leadership opportunities as an inclusive Christian church serving the urban and global community.”

As I write this, I’m “Re-minded” that Re-organization and Re-formation can be very positive efforts in a church, especially when they enable and empower us to re-claim our faith, re-ignite our passion, and love again and again and again.

- Pastor Tim of the “Re-Organized” Church

**THIS CHANGED EVERYTHING**  
500 Years of the Reformation

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## Search and Call for a New Pastor—Our Next Steps

Generally, in the United Church of Christ, when a Pastor leaves their congregation, the congregation hires an interim pastor as a temporary "fill-in," if you will, who ministers to the congregation as they search for a permanent pastor. Our congregation has chosen something a little different from that tradition.

Since we have had the good fortune to get a two-year notice from Pastor Tim of his approaching retirement, our congregation voted last April to embrace a "Phased-In" model of pastoral replacement. In this plan, Pastor Tim continues his ministry with us as we search for a new pastor who would begin ministry in late 2018, or early 2019. The new pastor will be a full-time pastor, but will overlap with Pastor Tim, who will taper down to part-time status for a few months before full retirement.

The Bethel-Bethany "Pastor Call Flow Chart" poster can be seen in the Narthex of the new addition of the church. Because we are following a unique process to replace our pastor, this chart can be very useful for the congregation to keep informed. As each step is completed, we will add a checkmark.

We are currently on Steps 5 and 6 of the Flow Chart. While we are scheduling a meeting with Rev. Jane Anderson, Associate Conference Minister, and the Council during this busy summer, we are also initiating Step 6, "Council appoints a Team to Prepare a **Local Church Profile**." At the June Council Meeting, a Congregational Profile Team was appointed. The members include: Chris Chance, Council President; Sara Smith, Council Vice-President; Jeanne Fehr, Finance Sec'y; Karin Haug, Sec'y; Ric Kory-Krohn; Kathy Reed; Nicole Allee; Steve Grabow; and Fred Waddell. The first meeting for this team was July 18, 2017.

The development of a complete Local Church Profile, (or Congregational Profile), is vital to presenting a clear picture of our congregation – its past, present and future – to prospective ministers. This profile will be the first snapshot the prospective candidates will see as they learn about us. The better we can describe our congregation, the better chance we have of making a strong match with a candidate who will share our vision of the future for Bethel-Bethany.

There are two parts to a congregational profile:

- ◊ Pastor Tim and Lisa, Admin. Assistant, are compiling hard data using BBUCC records, conference records and internet research, creating a demographic picture of our congregation and neighborhood/community.
- ◊ The second part is more about our personality as a group. It is about our mission and vision, the values and skills we want in a pastor, the story of our history at BBUCC, and the worship styles and spiritual activities that our members want. We will need to get input from as many members as possible. We want to use a variety of methods, which involve the most congregation members in a fun interactive way.

A subgroup of the Profile Team (Sara, Steve, Nicole and Fred) met July 26, 2017 to begin to formulate focus group questions, discussion questions and surveys which will be used this fall to begin important conversations about what we see for the future of B-B and what abilities and values we wish to see in a pastor. They will report to Council on Aug 8; the full Congregational Profile Team will meet again on August 22, 2017.

Keep listening, and keep talking to each other about what is important to you about your church and your pastor. We would like to host a number of small gatherings this fall to continue those conversations. Please plan to be involved either in discussions, answering surveys, or simply being social and reminiscing with friends, both old and new.      - Chris Chance, Council President

## Adult Education

### Wednesday Morning Bible Study

We will conclude our study of First Corinthians on Wednesday, August 2 and will gather on Wednesday, August 16 to review and choose a study for the fall. Join us for a cup of coffee and lively conversation and shared wisdom. All are welcome to join us on first and third Wednesdays from 9:00 – 10:30 at the Parish House.

### Wednesday "Great Courses" Series

Join Pastor Tim on Wednesday, August 9 at the Parish House at 9:00 to plan our next Great Courses session, beginning in September. Thanks to the Endowment Committee, we have been authorized to purchase additional video courses that we can use on second and fourth Wednesday mornings or at other times depending on interest. Put it on your calendar. All are welcome.

### Book Study—Evicted!

Interested in getting together toward the end of August to talk about the book "Evicted"?

"In Evicted, Harvard sociologist, Matthew Desmond follows eight families in Milwaukee as they each struggle to keep a roof over their heads. Evicted transforms our understanding of poverty and economic exploitation while providing fresh ideas for solving one of twenty-first-century America's most devastating problems."

If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin Board near the Green Front Doors and we'll decide on a time and place. Copies of the book are available at local bookstores, on line or through the Milwaukee Public Library. A copy or two will be available for purchase or loan from B-B as well. (Price is \$13.00.) Please talk with Pastor Tim if you have questions.

## Other Opportunities

### Wednesday Evening Study Group:

Some people have expressed interest in forming study group that would meet at the Parish House twice a month in the early evening. If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board at the Green Front Doors or talk with Pastor Tim.

### Movie Group: Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power"

Interested in attending a viewing of the sequel the Oscar-winning 2006 documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*?

The movie "follows former U.S. Vice President Al Gore as he travels the world attempting to combat climate change. The film shows Gore's work with fellow environmentalists, researchers, business-people, and politicians, and also details his behind-the-scenes efforts at the UN's 2015 Climate Change Conference, where the groundbreaking Paris Agreement was negotiated.

Please sign up on the bulletin board near the Green Front Doors.

Date and theater to follow.



## General Synod Note

Bonnie and I had the great opportunity to join with a large gathering of UCC people from around the country in Baltimore in early July for our bi-annual General Synod. Bonnie attended in order to observe the Team from Mid-Atlantic Conference that was responsible for providing hospitality and support to the delegates and guests. In 2019, Bonnie and I will be working with Revs. Tom and Debbie Payden, Rev. Franz Rigert, our Conference Minister, Vicki Graff, Conference Staff, and volunteers to provide hospitality at the General Synod that will be held in Milwaukee in 2019. I attended both as a delegate and as an observer of the process. I will be reporting more as we move into the fall, but let me say briefly that it was a profound reminder of the vibrant and faithful character of our covenantal faith community called the United Church of Christ. The Synod inspired us to live into our common mission to “love the children, love our neighbors, and love creation” and to let justice flow. We came away with a renewed sense of commitment to Christian Service and a feeling of thanksgiving for the work that Bethel-Bethany UCC is doing in Milwaukee and beyond.

## Cream City Gardens at Guest House (13th and Juneau):

Chris Chance has been volunteering this summer at the Guest House’s “Cream City Gardens” as part of her Master Gardeners Program. If you would like to volunteer to help with the gardens there are Drop-in Times on Thursdays from 4-6 and on first Saturdays from 9 – 12.

## Thanks to Ta-tanisha & Nevaeh—

- for a summer of service and to everyone who supported their efforts to provide lunches and food for Guest House, Repairer’s of the Breach and other service organizations, providing nourishment for the homeless and people in need.

Interested in learning about how you can become more involved in helping others? Talk to Ta-tanisha about her summer of service.

## Common Ground

Join us for our first Wednesday night regular meetings each month.  
Our next meetings are:

Wed., August 2 at 5:30 pm  
Wed., September 6 at 5:30 pm



## Sherman Park Health Fair

**August 19 from 12-2 pm**

at Gengler Park

(across the street from St. Joe’s on Burleigh)

## Concerts in the Park

Gengler Park 7-8:30 pm

Across the street from St. Joe’s on Burleigh. Smoothies, iced tea, and other beverages for sale from Sherman Perk Coffee Shop.

Aug 2—Como No

An evening of Latin Jazz seasoned with Afro Cuban percussion.

Aug 16—In Black ‘N’ White

This reggae rock ‘n’ soul group is guaranteed to get the crowd on their feet.

## School Supply Drive

As we approach a new school year, the kids and teachers at B-B encourage you to think of the kids and teachers in our community who could use some help with school supplies.

Our Kids' Rock kids will kick off a school supply drive in the next weeks which will benefit our neighbors at Sherman Park School, the Dai Community (Myanmar refugees) worshipping in the Albright United Methodist space (one of our EPiC partners), and the classrooms of teachers from B-B.

Here is how you can help—bring in new:

- Book bag/backpacks
- Plastic supply box or pencil pouch
- Washable white glue, 8 oz
- Glue sticks
- Crayons 24 count (not larger)
- Colored pencils (24 count)
- No. 2 pencils
- Large pink eraser
- Washable markers, 8 count
- Low odor dry erase markers
- Pocket folders
- Spiral notebooks, wide-ruled, 70 page

Please bring donations to the church during August—schools start  
anytime between August 15 and September 1.



## Office Hours

Office Closed on Mondays. Open Thursdays 9-4  
and by Appointment rest of the week

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Milwaukee, WI 53210  
Phone (414) 442-1281  
Email bethelbethanyucc@gmail.com  
Website bbucc.org

# August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Th	Fri	Sat
30 10:00 Worship— Nursery, Summer Kids' Project 11:15 Fellowship Community Clean-up	31	<b>1 August</b>	2 9:00 Bible Study at Parish House 5:30 Common Ground Core Team	3 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>26th Annual B-B Campout              August 4-6, 2017</b> </div>	4	5 
6 10:00 Worship - Communion— Nursery 11:15 Fellowship	7	8 6:30 Council Meeting	9 9:00 Great Courses at Parish House 5:30 Brewer's Baseball Game	10 5:30 CE Meeting	11	12 <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">             Julie Hahn and              Shawn Kennedy              wedding—in              Fremont, WI           </div>
13 10:00 Worship— Nursery, Summer Kids' Project 11:15 Fellowship	14	15 6:00 Pastoral Care Mtg	16 9:00 Bible Study at Parish House	17 Office hours 1-5pm	18	19 8:00 Men's Breakfast
20 10:00 Worship— Nursery, Summer Kids' Project 11:15 Fellowship	21	22 6:30 Congr. Profile Team Mtg.	23 5:30 Evangelism Meeting	24 <b>OFFICE            CLOSED</b>	25	26
27 10:00 Worship— Nursery, Summer Kids' Project 11:15 Fellowship	28	29	30	31	1 September	2 <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">             Lauren Klabunde              and Clay Harrison              wedding in              Minneapolis, MN           </div>

## Take B-B Out to the Ballgame



Join B-B Baseball Fans of all ages on Wednesday evening, August 9, when the Brewers take on their cross-border American League rivals, the Minnesota Twins.

Terrace Reserve Ticket and Tailgate Party on the Church Lawn including hot dogs, brats, and veggie burgers; all for \$15.00 (scholarships available, 'cause no one will be left behind).

Tailgate beginning at 5:30.

Carpool to the game between 6:15 and 6:30.

Game Time is 7:10.

## Kids' Rock - August

On several more Sundays in August, kids are invited to go downstairs during the sermon for a special project. Make some cards on July 30, learn about refugees on August 6, and help collect school supplies and do other projects.

We've also been listening to and singing along with Bryan Sirchio's CD, "Bugs for Lunch" which is a great teaching tool for learning the basics of faith. All Sunday School children will receive a copy as a gift from their church family. If children sing along this summer at church and at home, they will come to know all the books of the New Testament, the Beatitudes, the fruits of the Spirit, the names of the twelve disciples and more.



## CPR and First Aid Certification

In an effort to create an Emergency Response plan for B-B, please call or email Sara (Johnson) Smith ) if you are currently CPR/First Aid certified and would be willing to help on Sundays.

We are looking to create a list for ushers and staff members to reference in case of a medical emergency. Information about CPR and First Aid training will be offered during the summer months.



SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK OFF is Sept 10!

WHIRL! Classes start the following week—  
September 17!

We have two classes, one for younger kids and one for older ones. Interested in teaching or being a teacher's helper? How about helping with our Christmas play or Holy Week presentation? Please talk with Val Sauvè or Scott Bennett about how to volunteer with Kids' Rock this year.

## Men's Breakfast

Faith, Food & Fellowship

8:00am – Sat., August 19

at El Greco Restaurant (91st St. & Appleton) Ave.).

## Confirmation Begins in September:

Rev. Meredith Anderson and Pastor Tim are working together to re-develop our Confirmation Program which will begin in the fall. Stay tuned for more information.

Here is a brief update from the June 13 Council Meeting. Our next meeting is: August 8, 2017.

Pastor and President:

- Official Documents Committee is reviewing the B-B Safe Ministry Policy.
- The need to update and strengthen the constitution and bylaws was discussed.
- Paper and electronic files of Official Documents and Forms being organized

Treasurer and Finance Secretary:

- e-giving has increased this year
- Received an interest rebate check from Cornerstone Fund on the Building Loan
- Next Century Fund increased by \$10,000
- Grounds maintenance costs are down due to volunteer lawn mowers
- Gas and Electric use is stable compared to 2016

Endowment and Memorial:

- Kitchen Remodel: Dishwasher and Sinks ordered; plumber quotes requested.
- Stained glass windows removed during construction were reframed for hanging.
- A custom wreath was ordered from Welke's House of Roses in memoriam of Glenn Grunewald's parents Harold and Evelyn
- Flo Holland estate included a bequest to B-B to be received at a future time

Evangelism and Worship:

- Six new members were welcomed on Pentecost Sunday (and two more were received June 25)
- B-B Food Pantry will be reduced. Excess donations will go to Zion Rock Friedens Ministry food shelf; Guest House still needs evening meals; Community Dinner in August, date TBD
- New Coordinator is needed for coffee hour
- Special Music planned for Summer Worship Services

Special Committees:

- *Parish House Use Task Force* reported. This is an information-gathering committee, which will present to the congregation before major changes or mission decisions are made. Surveys of congregation and neighbors will gauge interests; future meetings will consider mission, flexible use of space, and a phased development plan to include long-term needs/goals.
- Secure doors front and rear will be researched and asbestos testing of the floor tiles to be done.

Church Business:

- Church Secretary hours to be increased this summer for special projects. Funds to come from budget for Pastor's new computer, which is not needed.

Search and Call:

- Next steps were discussed. A Congregational Profile Development Committee was appointed, and a meeting was set for July 18, 2017

## August Lectionary Readings

### **August 6**

Genesis 32:22-31	Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21

### **August 13**

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28	Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22
Romans 10:5-15	Matthew 14: 22-33

### **August 20**

Genesis 45:1-15	Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

### **August 27**

Exodus 1:8-2:10	Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8	Matthew 16:13-20

### **Sept 3—Labor Day Weekend**

Exodus 3:1-15	Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26
Romans 12:9-21	Matthew 16:21-28



**26th Annual BB  
Campout  
August 4-6**

**All-Church Potluck**

**Cookout on Saturday 5th**

Bring a dish to pass for dinner and join us for a walk in the woods and the beach and dinner around the campfire. We are at Long Lake Recreation Area in Cascade, WI (in the Kettle Moraine) sites between 806 and 823 (or close by). Directions—take US-45 North to WI-67 in Auburn. Follow WI-67 N and Kettle Moraine Scenic Drive to the campgrounds. More info, talk to Bonnie Andrews.



**SAVE THE DATE**

**Re-Covenant**

**Sunday**

**September 10**

**10:00 AM Worship for all ages**

**and Kids' Rock Kick Off**

**11:30 AM Ice Cream Social /Fellowship**

**INVITE FRIENDS & SHARE GOD'S LOVE!**

**Church Staff**  
Pastor Rev. Dr. Tim Perkins  
Ministers All Members  
Music Director Deborah Cincotta  
Admin. Asst. Lisa Quinn

**Church Leaders**  
President Chris Chance  
Vice Pres. Sara Smith  
Secretary Karin Haug  
Treasurer Kevin Wolf  
Finance Sec. Jeanne Fehr  
Finance Asst. Brian Klabunde  
Council-at-large  
Vieantay Lucas Maris Fried  
Holger Foersterling Ric Kory-Krohn  
Kathy Reed

**Return Address Requested**

**August Edition**

**Bethel-Bethany UCC  
2866 N. 54th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53210**

