



A Message from Pastor Susan...

Happy New Year! I think we should all get t-shirts that say "We survived 2020!" I know that the pandemic isn't behind us yet, racial inequity hasn't been fixed, poverty not fixed, the divide in our nation not repaired. Many of the challenges of 2020 are not behind us but I am still very grateful that in our hindsight is 2020.

I sit here on this beautiful snow covered morning, the last day of the year, reflecting on all that has transpired and I am overwhelmed by the breadth of it all. What started as a hopeful year ended up being a year of witnessing death, witnessing families separated from their loved ones as they struggle to fight the virus, and witnessing staff at the hospital grow weary and sad.

We all experienced the hopelessness of a nation that, for the first time in my memory, did not come together in a crisis but rather seemed to crumble under the weight of its' divisions. Divisions created by opinion media and politicians. Both of which seem to thrive off divisiveness so are not motivated to heal it for the common good.

That was the backdrop to this Christmas, but it might be good to remember that things were actually worse 2000 plus years ago when you consider there aren't divisions when tyrants rule, there is only one way of doing things and there were certainly no vaccines on the horizons for all that ailed humanity that made the life expectancy less than 40 years of age.

That's the problem with looking back and not noticing all the wonder, not seeing all the miracles, all the blessings in the midst of the curses. Yes, 2020 was horrendous, but I have also witnessed so many wonders as well. The strength and tenacity in those same exhausted medical staff, the love of family that transcends barriers, the hope and faith of people not being stamped out by the idiocy of politics and people being decent to one another who live in two different ideological realities.

For me personally, what got me through was having two callings this year (the hospital and the church). One that physically and mentally exhausted me and one that fed my soul, that inspired me, that excited me and moved me to tears of joy more than once. The way you all have risen to the task of being a church that doesn't meet in a building has moved my weary soul.

The work of the church didn't waver, or stutter. People were still fed in our basement, calls were made to the lonely, the homeless were still housed, charities still supported, prayers were still said, the Gospel still preached and lived and our God was still worshiped.

The Work of Christmas

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost, To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among brothers,
To make music in the heart.*

—Howard Thurman

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When we look back on 2020 I hope you all feel the pride of having "kept calm and carried on." I hope you also remember the strength of your faith that didn't need a building but only needed each other. May that same faith carry us through to the other side of all of this. Howard Thurman really captures the spirit of Parkside Community in my opinion.

Many Blessings to you all in the new year. With much love and respect,

Pastor Susan



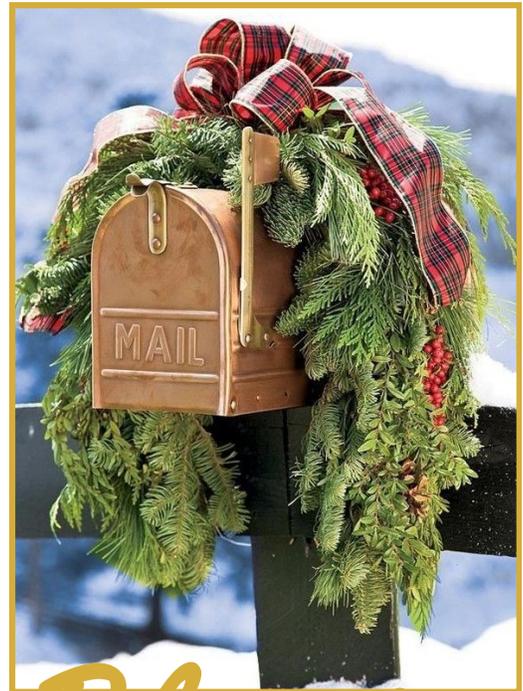
PRAY MORE WORRY LESS

Matthew 6:25

Jean Hamilton has been sending cards to the weekly prayer family. Please keep each family in your prayers. Your additional cards are appreciated by our prayer families.

To protect our members' privacy we cannot publish mailing addresses. If you are in need of a family's address, please contact the church office at saukvilleucc@att.net or 262-284-0588 and we can email or mail you an updated membership list with addresses. Here are the prayer families for this month:

- January 3– Wally and Kathy Quade
- January 10 – Ingrid and Ron Newlin
- January 17 – Donna Koehler
- January 24 – Herb Muecke
- January 31 – Ann Murawsky



Blessings

Happy birthday!



January	3	Gail	Weigel
January	4	Elizabeth	Saler
January	8	Ty	Golownia
January	8	Patty	Gilbert
January	8	Sue	Sarver
January	12	Rev. Ronald	Newlin
January	13	Chip	Elbe
January	22	Connie	Saler
January	25	Marla	Race
January	28	Herb	Muecke (84 years!)

There are no January anniversaries..



Meeting held by zoom -present: Mark Gierach, Kathy Tauben, Sue Sarver, Joan Brecke, Kaitlyn Watry, Heather Rogge, Pastor Susan Drake

Open with prayer: Pastor Susan

Council Minutes: Motion made by Joan B. to accept the November minutes, second by Kathy T., motion passed.

Treasurer report- Motion made by Heather R to accept the Treasurer report as written for November, second by Kaitlyn W, Motion passed.

Pastor Report – Pastors hours have changed -Thursday in the office, Friday available for visits etc. Discussion regarding upcoming Sunday service and Christmas Eve.

Committees:

Faith Formation & Youth- Lighthouse Youth Ministry – Faith Formation continues by zoom Sunday mornings at 9:00 lead by Heather R. Lighthouse Youth continue to be challenged as to how to gather due to Covid.

Stewardship-No report

Worship-No report

Building & Grounds-No report

Caring-No meeting held; prayer list continues to be circulated.

Missions- No meeting held, Advent calendar giving for the food pantry place food donation either outside of church or by the tree in the sanctuary, Adopt a family openings available for gift giving. Gifts should be brought to church by Dec. 20 If you are able to contribute monetarily it is appreciated.

Comments for the good of the church council- Many Thanks to Mark Gierach our President for the work that he has done for the church and serving on the church council, his creative thinking will be missed. Mark encouraged the council to continue to “think out of the box” as we go into the future.

Motion made by Heather R. to adjourn, second Joan B. Motion passed

Adjournment with Lord’s Prayer



FAITH FORMATION:

Keep the Faith!

Faith formation has had its ups and downs in 2020. Even though we can't meet weekly we have to remember the good times and fun events we had in the past. Before you know it we will be having Game nights, craft Saturdays. Please check out zoom youth meetings on Facebook for the Port Washington Saukville Ecumenical Youth Ministry. 5th -12th graders welcome. Our new leader Erica Brooks has been doing a fantastic job with the group. All are welcome to join Adult Discussion Group, Coffee & Conversation Sundays at 9am on Zoom. For the login details, please visit <http://www.parksideucc.com/coffee.html>

CARING MINISTRIES:

Although we have not been meeting due to COVID-19, Caring Ministries continues its work with the prayer chain team and various ministries. Cards were sent in January for Christmas and illnesses. Caring Ministries continues to provide soup as needed. Our meal mission is active, as well. During this time of distancing, we urge you to pick up the phone and give someone a call or send a card. You can make a difference! Thank you for supporting Caring Ministries through Fair Trade and card sales. Fair Trade items and handmade occasion cards are located on the shelf next to the office and are available for sale. The chocolate is delicious!

WORSHIP:

Nothing reported for January newsletter.

STEWARDSHIP:

Nothing reported for January newsletter.

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

Nothing reported for January newsletter.

MISSIONS:

Nothing reported for January newsletter.

ShopWithScrip®

Many different scrip cards are available. To place an order, email the Office Administrator, Carrie at saukvilleucc@att.net and let her know what cards you are looking for and to arrange a pickup time. We encourage you to use scrip when doing your weekly shopping and online ordering, this is an easy way to fundraise to help cut our church expenses. Even if you just purchase one \$100 value card for gas or groceries per month — every little bit helps!



WE ARE NOT LIMITED TO THOSE PICTURED AND IF WE DON'T HAVE WHAT YOU, WANT WE CAN PLACE AN ORDER.

READER SCHEDULE

To help keep track of when you are scheduled to read the scriptures for Sunday virtual services we have created a public calendar on our website so anyone can access it at any time to see when an individual is scheduled. To view the calendar go to parksideucc.com and click on the "About" menu and look for "Worship Volunteers". A direct link to the calendar is here: <https://www.parksideucc.com/worshipschedule.html>.

We are very grateful for our volunteers who help with the scripture readings, but we would love to have more volunteers in our rotation, if you would like to help please let us know. Depending on the number of people volunteering for each role, the frequency is typically around once every 8 weeks when a volunteer is scheduled.

Sunday, January 3, 2021

Accompanist: Mike Chapel

Reader: Gail Weigel

Sunday, January 10, 2021

Accompanist: Mike Chapel

Reader: Joan Brecke

Sunday, January 17, 2021

Accompanist: No Mike (Pastors Susan & Julie / Sawyer)

Reader: Heather Rogge

Sunday, January 24, 2021

Accompanist: Mike Chapel

Reader: Mark Gierach

Sunday, January 31, 2021

Accompanist: Mike Chapel

Reader: Marla Race

MAKING NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS? CONSIDER SETTING UP AUTO GIVING

If you are making a list of new year's resolutions or just want to make life a little easier in 2021, consider setting up auto giving and have donations pulled from your account on the 1st of every month. You set the amount, you set the account it goes into, whether it is a favorite mission of yours or just Parkside's general offering. Here are 4 easy ways to give to Parkside:

1. ACH / AUTOMATIC MONTHLY WITHDRAWALS: An easy way to give and ensure that 100% of your donation goes to Parkside Community UCC. Just fill out a form and turn it into the church office with your voided check and the amount you designate is taken out of your checking account on the first business day of every month. Please email the church office at saukvilleucc@att.net to setup monthly withdrawals.
2. CHECK: To deliver 100% of your donation to Parkside Community UCC, mail your tax deductible donation to: Parkside Community UCC, PO Box 80304, Saukville, WI 53080.



3. TEXT: Text the word "Parkside" to 73256 to give using your text messaging. Standard text message rates do apply. Please be aware that Parkside Community UCC will incur a small, standard credit card processing fee.

4. ONLINE: If it is more convenient for you to give online, we encourage you to click [here](#) to give a one time donation.

Note: Please note that when making a donation with a credit card, there is a 2.65% fee for using Visa, Mastercard, or Dis-

making new year's resolutions

HAPPENING AT YOUR PARKSIDE COMMUNITY UCC!

Pictured below are members of the Missions Committee with all the donated gifts collected for our adopted family. We thank each and every one of you for helping to make Christmas a little more special for a family in need!



Thank you to all of you who collected non-perishable food and hygiene items for the Saukville Community Food Pantry! Please remember that the need is great all year long, not just during the holidays.

ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS EVENT ORGANIZED BY BRIDGE THE DIVIDE:

MLK

JANUARY 18, 2021

DAY

LIFE'S MOST
PERSISTENT AND
URGENT QUESTION IS,

"WHAT ARE YOU
DOING FOR
OTHERS?"

- Dr. Martin
Luther King, Jr

A MONTH OF COMMUNITY ACTION, EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, AND SERVICE FOR THE NORTH SHORE

Keep The Dream Alive: Be a Difference Maker - January 17, 2021 @ 4:00 PM

In partnership with the North Shore Coalition, faith communities, and engaged residents, we are celebrating Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birth, life, and dream. This virtual celebration on Sunday, January 17th @ 4:00 PM represents Ozaukee County's interfaith and intergenerational commitment to justice, unity, oneness of humanity, and service.

We will gather together for readings, prayers, and songs of hope. The public is invited to join us in embracing the commonality of our dreams, our hopes, and our collective desire towards making a difference. Dr. King's love for humanity was bound tightly to his fight against injustice, oppression, and inequity. We want to honor his civil rights legacy by coming together spiritually, celebrating hopeful unification, and working towards keeping Dr. Martin Luther's King Jr.'s dream alive.

RSVP: <https://www.bridgethedivide.life/event> (zoom link will follow in email confirmation)

Bridge The Divide is a forum for discussion and action around racial reconciliation. We fund scholarships, host racially literate podcasts, educational programming, monthly newsletters, community projects, book studies to promote lasting, cross-cultural connections. Our goal is to facilitate community conversations that launch joint, achievable, sustainable solutions, especially in the North Shore suburbs and exurbs.

WEBSITE: <https://www.bridgethedivide.life/>

Justice is not the righting of one committed wrong, but the anticipation of the beloved community that wrong will be made right; that love will replace fear, and the wellspring of justice waters our faith always.

- Rev. Dr. B. De Neice Welch

Parkside is thankful to have our member Heather Rogge represent us at this important community event.

“Be Christmas”

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**Be the innkeeper saying “yes” in the night
Be the husband who will not leave her side
Be the gentle hands that cradle this gift
Be the aching world that finally lets God in
Be the greatest love the world can ever know
Be Christmas wherever you go.**

**Be the moment when the word becomes flesh
Be the hope lying there in the crèche
Be the human becoming divine
Be the eastern star shining for the wise
Be the greatest love the world can ever know
Be Christmas wherever you go**

**Be justice, love kindness, walk humbly, remind us
We are not alone, you call us all your own
So go tell it on the mountain, go tell
God with us, Immanuel
Be the greatest love the world can ever know
Be Christmas wherever you go**





PARKSIDE COMMUNITY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Return Service Requested

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