



## *A Message from Pastor Susan*

I have been thinking a lot about connection lately, probably because of the absence of physical connection. We all ache for normalcy to return and restore these physical connections to one another. Being with others gives our lives dimension that is lacking when all we can do is connect electronically.

But we are stuck in the “not yet”. If we are wise and follow the Badger Bounce Back plan that Gov. Evers has recommended it could be a long time before we are together again as a church. This virus has highlighted the negative side of connection, it is the very engine that can drive it’s spread and the lack of it is how we can fight it. Yet connection is fundamental to our mental and spiritual health. I think we have all found creative ways for connection because we are built to seek it out. This period in our history could be a new beginning for understanding a spiritual and scientific truth. Albert Einstein wrote:

“A human being is a part of the whole, called by us universe, a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feeling as something separated from the rest, a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by

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widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty.”



We are only now beginning to realize the damage we have done to our world by ignoring this truth. We didn’t really see the entanglement and interdependence we have with nature and now many species are on the brink of extinction. I saw this quote from John Muir. “When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe.”

It seems to me that much of what we need to heal our world is to recognize our connectedness to one another. Right now our lives have been drastically altered by something that happened in a market in Wuhan, China. But we are just as much connected to the decreasing population of our pollinators and icebergs melting far away from us.

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Jesus showed us that we are all connected to one another through love. And that when we love, we honor God. It is only logical that the love is to extend to the whole of God's creation. Our minds have trouble fathoming the boundless love of God and understanding that it is not finite or limited but an endless running well. We are all called to be heralds of God's love for every human being, for every creature, for every blade of grass for we are all part of this beautiful whole, all a part of God.

The 50th anniversary of Earth Day came and went overshadowed by the news of the virus. I would like us to belatedly honor Earth day by all of you sending us pictures of landscapes, nature and places you have been that we can show during our online services. Just attach it to an email and send it to the church email address at [saukvilleucc@att.net](mailto:saukvilleucc@att.net). I wish there was more that we could do to include you all in the service but at least this is a start. I have run out of interesting places in my home so could use your help in giving us something more to look at.

I was also thinking about the Spanish Flu Pandemic and wondering how they got along without Facebook and zoom and I thought about the one thing that makes me feel connected to all of you, prayer. A timeless, limitless way for us to feel connected to one another. I hope you all feel my prayers as I do yours.

*Peace, Pastor Susan*



Thank you to Parkside member, Joan Brecke, for allowing us to use this beautiful picture of her Lenten roses in our virtual worship service on April 26. If you have a picture of nature to share, please email it to [saukvilleucc@att.net](mailto:saukvilleucc@att.net).

**COUNCIL UPDATE: No Council meeting was held in April due to the pandemic. The Council will be meeting on Tuesday, May 19 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall to spread out and allow for social distancing.**

# PRAYER

Prayer Families for the Month: *changes things*

May 3  
Dan and Gail Weigel

May 10  
Mike and Sandy Smith

May 17  
Michael, Lori, Jacob, Benjamin, and Matthew Chapel

May 24  
Abbey Beck

May 31  
Bethel, Oliva, and Baker Metz



**The Caring Ministry group will be sending a card to each prayer family, but your additional cards are appreciated by our prayer families.**



## RETURNING TO CHURCH



WISCONSIN COUNCIL  
OF CHURCHES  
COURAGE. JUSTICE. HOLY IMAGINATION.

The Wisconsin Council of Churches is The Wisconsin Council of Churches (WCC) is a network of Christian churches and faith-based organizations committed to working together. They have published a seven page document outlining recommendations on what church will look like as we phase back into life after the Safer at Home order. As the realization hits that we aren't just returning to normal in a couple of months and that for at least the next year, our lives will be in some way shaped by the timeline set by COVID-19, this document is designed to help churches continue to lead in healthy, faithful manner.

Click here to see article: <https://files.constantcontact.com/4fc4c9cb001/e81ec024-6730-489c-a41c-b44476a0a9da.pdf>

# Welcome Pastor Susan!

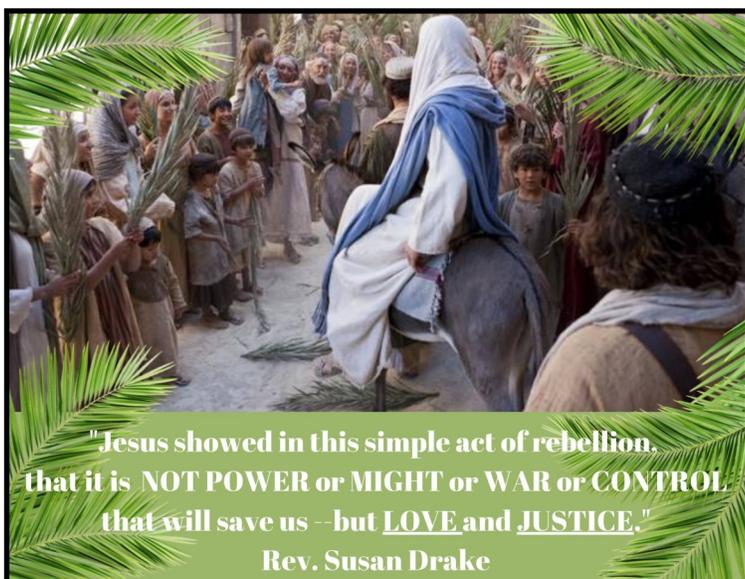
Parkside Community United Church of Christ of Saukville wants to express a warm, joyful welcome to Rev. Susan Drake, who on April 1, officially became their part-time, Designated Bridge Pastor. As we find ourselves in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic and quarantine, it goes without saying that these are unprecedented times and this is surely a difficult way for a Pastor to start a ministry with a new church, but she has been doing a great job keeping the Parkside members spiritually connected and worshipping, albeit virtually, in their faith.

Rev. Drake has a Bachelor Degree in Philosophy from Kansas State University and a Master of Divinity from Eden Theological Seminary. She has predominantly served as a Chaplain in healthcare settings as well as Associate positions. She also served as an adjunct instructor for several years with the Philosophy department at St. Louis Community College. She will continue to serve in a part time capacity as a Chaplain for Froedtert West Bend Hospital. Rev. Drake is also an accomplished singer/songwriter with her partner, Julie, and the proud Stepmom of Andrew and Sarah Lowe.



Pastor Susan leading an uplifting Easter Sunday virtual service. All past virtual services can be viewed on our YouTube channel.

All are encouraged to reach out to Pastor Susan and express your welcome and to contact her for



**"Jesus showed in this simple act of rebellion, that it is NOT POWER or MIGHT or WAR or CONTROL that will save us --but LOVE and JUSTICE."**  
Rev. Susan Drake

your pastoral needs or if you just want to talk. Her email address is [rsdrake@icloud.com](mailto:rsdrake@icloud.com), her phone number is 314-852-1591. Everyone in the community is welcome to tune into Parkside's weekly virtual worship services available on our YouTube Channel and Facebook page posted at 10am every Sunday. More information and links to the services are available at [parksideucc.com](http://parksideucc.com). We are very excited to welcome Rev. Drake and look forward to her leading us into the future!

## STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

It has been a very long time since our committee has met. We will strive for a meeting on Monday, June 8 at 6pm at church.

We will plan the rummage sale (select a new date) and also start on plans for our 2021 Stewardship campaign. September 10, 11, and 12 are possible dates. This is the weekend for the Saukville Village Wide sale so we could “piggy back” on them. If there are any other suggestions, please let Kathy Parsons, Joan Brecke, or myself know before June 8.

Please continue to support the church with your donations—and to those who committed to extra support for 2020 — a gentle reminder to please complete those gifts soon. If you have forgotten the amount you offered, please contact the church office or myself. Thank you, Chelene Golownia

## UPDATED CONTACT INFO

If you have moved or changed phone numbers, email addresses, or physical addresses, please send an email to the church office at [saukvilleucc@att.net](mailto:saukvilleucc@att.net) to ensure that we have your current contact information.

## BUILDING & GROUNDS

There have been quite a few updates around the building & church house to let you know about:

- 4 new Ecobee Smart Thermostats have been installed, two in the Fellowship Hall and two in the Sanctuary. Our old thermostats were not working reliably. The new thermostats are easily programmable, can be locked to prevent unauthorized personnel from making changes, and they can also be remotely accessed so that we can make changes from off premises if needed. We will be receiving rebates from the Focus on Energy program to help offset the costs of the thermostats.
- A new water heater was installed in the church house.
- There was a problem with our grease trap in the church kitchen and it overflowed, creating quite a smelly mess in the basement and kitchen. Thank you to Nancy and Mark Gierach for cleaning up and organizing the pumping out of the pipes.
- With the building being empty a large period of time, our Church Custodian took the opportunity to arrange to have the Fellowship Hall and Fireside Room carpets cleaned. The carpets look great! Thank you, Nancy!
- We continue to work towards having the dishwasher in the kitchen replaced.
- In the next few weeks we will be having the kitchen hood professionally cleaned, this is long overdue and it is a requirement to pass our fire inspections.

THANK YOU TO WALLY QUADE FOR KEEPING THINGS GOING!



PARKSIDE COMMUNITY  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

# Online Worship Service

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Join us for virtual worship: [Youtube](#) & [Facebook](#)  
Links available at [parksideucc.com](http://parksideucc.com).



PARKSIDE  
ZOOM  
GATHERING

*Prayers & Fellowship*



Join us for a virtual fellowship meeting via Zoom.  
Wednesday, May 6 at 7pm. Email [saukvilleucc@att.net](mailto:saukvilleucc@att.net) for details.

# TACO TUESDAY CARRY OUT FIESTA



**APRIL 28**  
**11AM TO 7PM**

**PARKSIDE  
CHURCH**

**166 W. DEKORA, SAUKVILLE  
(NEXT TO GRADY PARK)**

**100% OF NET PROCEEDS  
TO GO TO PURCHASING  
A NEW**

***dishwasher***

**TO BE USED FOR  
THE FOOD PANTRY'S  
COMMUNITY MEALS  
AT PARKSIDE UCC**



**PARKSIDE COMMUNITY  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Return Service Requested

## Contact Us

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