



# **THE GOOD NEWS!**

**Community Church of Walker  
United Church of Christ**

**P.O. Box 267**

**Hwy 371 & Tianna Drive**

**Walker, MN 56484**

**(218) 547-1093**

**commchurchucc@arvig.net**

**www.uccwalker.com**



## **Our Mission**

**To offer a welcoming church home to all,  
where friendships grow, spiritual needs are met, community concerns  
are addressed and where “God is Still Speaking...”**

# **SEPTEMBER**



**In-person worship is on Sundays at 11:00  
Contact Pastor Michael at 218.280.1401 or  
email [mjsmall.ucc@gmail.com](mailto:mjsmall.ucc@gmail.com) if you have questions or suggestions.**

## FROM PASTOR MICHAEL



### ***BE SAFE – BE HEALTHY!***

I used to know what it meant to “Be Safe”! It meant being careful, not overextending, eat correctly, exercising, eating smartly, watching my steps, and being careful about where I go and whom I gather with. It also means following the “rules of the road” by buckling-up, staying close to the speed-limit, and driving appropriately for the conditions of the road.

I also grew up hearing, “An apple a day will keep the doctor away.” Also, I remember hearing “Just say No!” to drugs, alcohol, and maybe even sex – all encouraging safe and healthy behavior. Being safe and healthy were clear-cut and it became obvious when people were reckless and doing unhealthy things.

Being safe and healthy was turned on its head in mid-March of 2020 – we were taken down by a global pandemic, a novel corona virus – Covid-19. All of a sudden how to be safe and healthy became far more complex and life became less predictable and deadly! We learned to wear masks when encountering others, keep our distance from others, avoid large gatherings, gather outside when possible, and wash our hands frequently. Being safe meant that many of us would isolate ourselves from others. And, in a sense, being safe and healthy has changed our behavior for years to come. Hugs and handshaking are a thing of the past.

At the August Church Council meeting we were asked by our insurance company to adopt a “safe church policy” for children who might be present and for programing for children. Frankly, we are overdue in developing such a policy. I want to adopt the language of the United Church of Christ Insurance Board – establishing practices and policies for being a church who lives out SafeConduct™.

Safe Conduct – are we a place where all persons know and experience safe conduct? We know too many stories about sexual, physical, and emotional abuse. We also know the stories, and some of us have experienced misconduct, inappropriate touch, and feeling unsafe in schools, churches, other places, and even our homes. When it is said that “it takes a village to raise a child” that also means it takes a village, a community to keep a child safe.

Allow me to share a true story. There was a man who started attending a UCC church in California. He liked the church, his faith grew, he felt good about the worship and the people, and he heard the pastor say – “No matter who you are, or where you are in life’s journey – you are welcome here!” He never heard that before. He didn’t know that even he, a convicted pedophile, was welcome in this church. He approached the Pastor about becoming a member. He told the Pastor who he was, and said to the Pastor, “Never leave me alone with another, especially a child.” The Church Council met and unanimously agreed to accept him into full membership with the covenant, the promise – that as the Body of Christ incarnate, they promised him that while in church, he would always be accompanied by another – to keep him safe and others safe.

Keeping children safe, keeping each other safe – means that it is up to all of us. We are called to be watchful and present with each other. We are called to be observant. If something seems amiss, perhaps we walk up to someone and say, “How can I be helpful?” If we see inappropriate behavior, we step-up and name what we see, and say “How can I be helpful?” A mother or father is really demonstrating inappropriate anger toward a child in a public place. Can we step in and gently say something like “You must be really overwhelmed – is there anything I can do to help you out?” I think we would be surprised about how many doors that might open.

May we always be a place of Safe Conduct as we follow in the ways of Christ.

In Christ, Pastor Michael

These minutes are **PENDING APPROVAL** at the next Council Meeting.

## **COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WALKER COUNCIL MINUTES**

**August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Present: Bonnie Bailey, Pastor Michael Small, Deb Farrell, Linda Barber, Joann Rand, Jo Horak, Ruth Neidermann, Doris Johnson, and Gay Jacobson

Absent: Esther Covert, Sue Standeven, Marge Koch, Chris Kolp

Meeting was called to order by Moderator Bonnie Bailey at 7:04 and Pastor Michael lead us in reading by Peter W. Marty called “Good and lovely.”

Council minutes: Correction of minutes – the notes should say the “conversion” from fuel to natural gas will begin, instead of “conversation.”

The Benevolence committee amount was not changed in the budget. Deb can correct the budget item.

Jo asked if a note sent to Dick and Dorothy Pride’s family? Yes, Bonnie sent it.

Motion was made to accept minutes with correction by Deb Farrell second by Linda Barber motion carried.

### **Reports:**

Music Committee met Aug 9<sup>th</sup>. Linda will remain chair.

Mike Kerrigan will be able to continue to play when Hope is staying at one service. We still need to have subs to fill in if he can’t be here. Choir will not sing. The committee is still looking to have special music.

### **Board of Trustees:**

Switch from fuel to Natural gas began on Monday and will be done by Thursday.

The rehang of the bell is still being planned; however, Bonnie is not optimistic that it’ll be rehung this year due to the difficulty getting the company to complete the task.

### **Fellowship:**

Jo: Continuing to update with Good Works Sale. Close to \$7,000 – still have funds coming in. Sold the piano for \$100. There will be a fellowship in the fall for all the entities that will get the funds, will take pictures and put a piece in the paper.

**No Benevolence:** October will be our next fundraising opportunity. Date will be provided.

### **Old Business:**

- ◆ Gazebo concerts
- ◆ Pastor Michael expressed thanks and appreciation to Ken for all he’s done to organize the concerts.
- ◆ 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration: September 19, 2021. There will be a planning meeting September 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00. Committee will include Linda Barber, Sue Standeven, Bonnie Bailey, Steve Bilben, Gary Jacobson and Pastor Michael.
- ◆ Updating member list and directory: Ruth Neidermann, Bonnie Bailey, and Marge Koch will be on the committee. Wednesday, September 22nd 1:00
- ◆ Michael will put a note in the bulletin reminding members to update their information for the directory
- ◆ Pandemic related issues: Wedding is happening on Friday, August 27th and they can take the ribbons down if they wish too.

Do we want to change any policies for seating? We will pay attention to numbers and make adjustments as needed.

Council Minutes...Continued on page 4

Council Minutes...Continued from Page 3

**New Business:**

- ◆ Wedding to be held at the church 8/27
- ◆ Insurance Issues: Bonnie has met with the Insurance Agent. We need to have a child protection policy.
- ◆ We have children come to the church even without a church sanctioned activity. The \$1,000,000 would cover any problems. We will adopt the current policy and if we gain youth or children and then revisit. Pastor will take care of this.
- ◆ Need for policy for returned money received from Gazebo Concerts
- ◆ Once or twice performers chose to not accept the donations so we need to decide what to do with it.
- ◆ Discussion: Linda suggested possibly using returned money for an outdoor sound system for the Gazebo. Ken will do some research on the cost... maybe do fundraisers to help.
- ◆ A thank you note should be sent to thank the performers and let them know that the money will be spent for the sound system.
- ◆ Deb made a motion that money returned by the performers will be donated for a sound system or whatever the performer wants. Doris second and the motion carried.
- ◆ Need to hold meetings of “new” boards. Bonnie stated that all new boards need to have a meeting in September.
- ◆ Christian Ed board will need to meet in order to evaluate Pastor Michael, Bev Jorland, Steve Bilben, Doris Johnson, Bonnie Bailey, and Deb Ferrell.

**Pastor Report:**

- ◆ Just wants to say thank you. It’s been a busy summer... there are so many people that make this possible and it’s thanks to you.
- ◆ Marlys would like things on the calendar that want to be listed on the calendar.
- ◆ Jo, thanked Esther and Bonnie for the ice cream for the Gazebo concerts.
- ◆ Pastor Michael shared that the pipe needs to be replaced for the boiler system. It is rusty and it is going to burst. Michael asked that we authorize them to give us an estimate.

Next council meeting will be September 21, at 7:00.

Michael closed with a prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20

## *125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - September 19, 2021*

Plan to attend worship and other activities on Sunday, September 19 – as we celebrate 125 years of ministry in the Walker Area. More details will be coming out early in September.





## SEPTEMBER DATES TO CELEBRATE



### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

10	Rosanna Walker	19	Don Splichal
11	Vera Demars	21	Dick Brownlow
16	Gay Jacobson	27	Beth Alderson
18	Barb Brownlow		

### *New Church Directory Being Made*

A new CCOWUCC Church Directory is being put together.

If corrections need to be made in addresses, phone, numbers, emails – would you please notify the Church Office by sending corrections to [commchurchucc@arvig.net](mailto:commchurchucc@arvig.net), or call them into the church office at 218.547.1093. Looking forward to accurate information.

## FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT



### Pledge/Giving Analysis:

**July 2021**

Pledges	\$5,885.00
Regular	975.00
5th Sunday	200.00
Wedding Downpayment	200.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$7,260.00</b>

Thank you for your continued support of the Community Church of Walker, UCC.  
JoAnn Rand, Financial Secretary

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Let us pray together for:*

- \* COVID-19 victims, their families, and all the men and women fighting this virus.
- \* All the natural disaster victims worldwide.
- \* The victims and their families lost to acts of violence.
- \* Peace in the Middle East and all over the world.
- \* The men and women in the Armed Forces and National Guard who have been called to duty.



We pray for the health of all our members, friends, and loved-ones. Special prayers go out to: John, Loretta, Drew, Shaleen, Alison, Kathy.

## WORSHIP MINISTRY ~ SEPTEMBER

### GREETERS

September 5 Marge Koch  
September 12 Bruce & Ruby Haugen  
September 19 Earl & Ruth Niedermann  
September 26 Ken & Sonja Huber

### LITURGISTS

September 5 Sonja Huber  
September 12 Deb Farrell  
September 19 Bev Jorland  
September 26 Chris Kolp

### VIDEO

Gary Jacobson

### CHOIR DIRECTOR

Joanna Aamodt

### MUSIC

Mike Kerrigan

### ALTAR & COMMUNION PREPARATION

Gay Jacobson

### AUDIO

Esther Covert

# Women's Fellowship

Fall is here with cool nights, colorful leaves, and dry days. We are in a flexible time of year with many changes ahead. We are celebrating old and new events in the remaining months of 2021.

Women's Fellowship, guided by the leadership of Sue Grage and her Team, completed a very successful Good Works Sale. This was only our second Sale of this type in the past three years and is a massive undertaking. It takes weeks to set up and weeks to take down and the hard work of many members and friends. Our purpose is to raise funds to support six local charities with equal amounts going to each. The charities are The Walker Area Food Shelf, The Family Safety Network, The Boys and Girls Club, Faith In Action, St. Joseph Hospice, and the newest one Safe Haven Shelter. A small portion is shared with Women's Fellowship and Community Church as host organizations. Funds are still being received but are well over \$7,000 to date. Plans are to have a newspaper article with pictures of charity representatives, church members, and friends who worked on this event out soon. Thanks to all who worked on this amazing Good Works Sale!

Our next Fellowship Meeting is Wednesday, September 15th, at 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will share Good Works Sale stories (guaranteed to put a smile on your face) and discuss remaining items for the rest of the year. The 125th Celebration of Community Church and a possible Christmas Tea are in consideration. We are so blessed to have so many talented people in our church and community. When you see someone doing something helpful please let them know it is appreciated! At our September meeting we will serve refreshments, rejoice in memories, and renew our faith. All are most welcome to join us. Blessings to you and yours.

The Women's Fellowship Team.

## Akeley, Hackensack, Onigum & Walker Communities...



**YOU are invited to  
Leech Lake Culture Alliance's  
2nd Annual Autumn Equinox  
Unity Day Celebration**

## POTLUCK EVENING\*

**At Onigum Community Center  
8826 Onigum Road NW**

**Tuesday, September 21**

**5:30 pm.....Social  
6:00-7:00 pm.....Potluck Supper  
7:00-7:30 pm.....Round Dance**

For more info, click on this link:  
[llculturealliance.org](http://llculturealliance.org)

\* Or, point your smartphone at  
this QR Code & follow the link...



**All are welcome!  
Feel free to bring your  
favorite dish to share**





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is a monthly newsletter publication of the  
**Community Church of Walker United Church of Christ**

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Walker, MN 56484

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**Website:** www.uccwalker.com

### **Pastor Michael Small**

**Mailing address:** P.O. Box 38, Hackensack, MN 56452

**Phone:** (218) 280-1401 **Email:** mjsmall.ucc@gmail.com

### **Secretary: Marlys Lehn**

**Office open Thurs. afternoons from 1:30-4:00,**  
**working from home Tue. & Wed., 1:30-4:00**

**Email:** commchurchucc@arvig.net

**Phone:** 218-547-1093 (leave a message) or 218-652-4559 (home)

**Church Moderator:** Bonnie Bailey

**Vice-Moderator:** Gay Jacobson

**Clerk:** Gay Jacobson

**Treasurer:** Deb Farrell

**Financial Secretary:** JoAnn Rand

**Historian:** Sue Standeven

**Board of Trustees Chair:** Esther Covert

**Board of Benevolence Chair:** Doris Johnson

**Board of Christian Education Chair:** TBA

**Board of Memorials Chair:** Ruth Niedermann

**Board of Music Chair:** Linda Barber

**Board of Spiritual Life Chair:** Gay Jacobson

**Women's Fellowship President:** Jo Horak

**Minister/Church Relations Board Members:**

Deb Farrell, Bev Jorland, Gay Jacobson

**Choir Director:** Joanna Aamodt

**Custodian:** Marlys Lehn

**Articles for the October 2021 edition of The Good News! newsletter**  
**need to be emailed by 11:00 A.M. Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021**



# SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 1:00 p.m. 125th Anniversary Planning Committee Meeting	<b>2</b> 4:30-8:00 p.m. PEO	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 11:00 a.m. Worship Fellowship Coffee after	<b>6—Labor Day</b> 	<b>7</b> 	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 
<b>12</b> 11:00 a.m. Worship Fellowship Coffee after	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b> 1:00 a.m. Women's Fellowship	<b>16</b> 9:00 a.m. Deadline for Adding to Council Agenda	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 11:00 a.m. Worship Fellowship Coffee after	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	<b>22</b> 1:00 p.m. Church Directory Committee Meeting	<b>23</b> 11:00 a.m. Deadline for Newsletter Submissions	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 11:00 a.m. Worship Fellowship Coffee after	<b>27</b> 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 	<div> <div> <div> <div> <div>SUN</div> <div>MON</div> <div>TUE</div> <div>WED</div> <div>THU</div> <div>FRI</div> <div>SAT</div> </div> <div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>10</div> <div>17</div> <div>24</div> <div>31</div> </div> <div> <div>5</div> <div>11</div> <div>18</div> <div>25</div> </div> <div> <div>6</div> <div>12</div> <div>19</div> <div>26</div> </div> <div> <div>7</div> <div>13</div> <div>20</div> <div>27</div> </div> <div> <div>8</div> <div>14</div> <div>21</div> <div>28</div> </div> <div> <div>9</div> <div>15</div> <div>22</div> <div>29</div> </div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>16</div> <div>23</div> <div>30</div> </div> </div> </div> </div>	



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Return Service Requested



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