



## COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WALKER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

P.O. Box 267, Walker, MN 56484 (218) 547-1093

[www.uccwalker.com](http://www.uccwalker.com) [commchurchucc@gmail.com](mailto:commchurchucc@gmail.com)



***“No matter who you are, or where you are, you are welcome here!”***

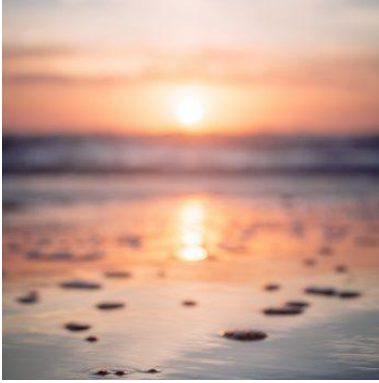


Photo Credit: Cole Keister

***CCOWUCC Update and News***  
***By Michael Small***  
***For The Week of: [April 15, 2024](#)***

**WORD FOR THE DAY**  
**- FROM GRATEFUL.ORG**

***“We take care of the future best by taking care of the present now.”***  
**— JON KABAT-ZINN**

### ***DAILY QUESTION***

***When was the last time I allowed myself to prioritize being instead of doing?***

You may subscribe to the daily “Word for the Day” by going to <https://grateful.org>.

- ❖ ***Third Sunday of Easter*** – Followers of Jesus, Disciples who are still reeling with sorrow, grief, and surprise once again encounter the resurrected Jesus not as a ghost or spirit, but as embodiment, hungry, ready to sit and eat broiled fish with friends. The service may be viewed on the church website [www.uccwalker.com](http://www.uccwalker.com) or by clicking on the QR code.



### ❖ ***Prayers for:***

- Comfort, strength, courage, and peace for the families, loved ones, and friends of:

- ***Duane Grage – June 24, 1936 – April 10, 2024***

- ***Celebration of Life – Tentative date – June 22, 2024***

- ***Deb Wilkening – October 18, 1963 – April 14, 2024***

- ***Celebration of Life – Debbie Wilkening Hope Lutheran (ELCA) Walker MN***

***Friday, April 19, 2024 – Visitation 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. – Service 3:00 p.m.***



***“<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray constantly, <sup>18</sup> and give thanks for everything—for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:16-18).***

❖ April 21<sup>st</sup> Worship Information – Fourth Sunday of Easter



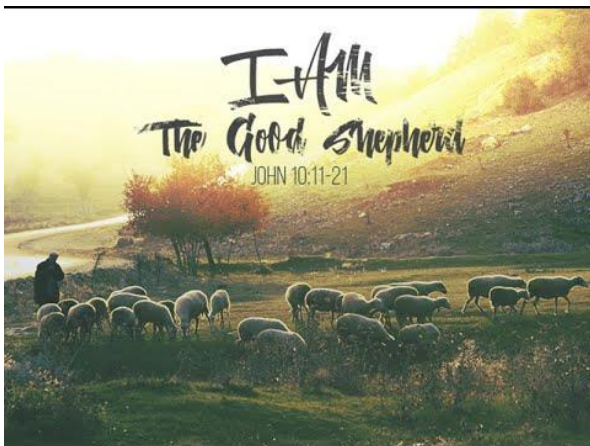
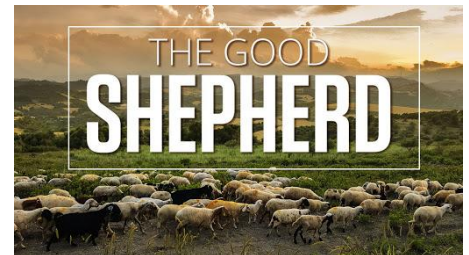
Lunch to follow Worship – All are Invited!

- **Theme:** *Power to Lay it Down!*
- **All readings for Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup>:**
  - Acts 4:5-12 • Psalm 23 • 1 John 3:16-24 • John 10:11-18

- **Focus Prayer:** Good Shepherd, lead and guide us. Find us when we stray, and let us rest in your care, power, and love. Amen.

- **Focus Reading: John 10:11-18**

11 I am the good shepherd.  
A good shepherd would die for the sheep.  
12 The hired hand, who is neither shepherd  
nor owner of the sheep,  
catches sight of the wolf coming  
and runs away,  
leaving the sheep to be scattered



or snatched by the wolf.

13 That's because the hired hand works only for pay  
and has no concern for the sheep.

14 I am the good shepherd.  
I know my sheep  
and my sheep know me,

15 in the same way Abba God knows me  
and I know God—  
and for these sheep  
I will lay down my life.

16 I have other sheep  
that don't belong to this fold—  
I must lead them too,

and they will hear my voice.

And then there will be one flock,  
one shepherd.

17 This is why Abba God loves me—  
because I lay down my life,  
only to take it up again.

18 No one takes my life from me;  
I lay it down freely.  
I have the power to lay it down,  
and I have the power to take it up again.  
This command I received from my Abba.”

- **Focus Questions:**

- What is power?
- How do we find God's power at work in the world?
- What are other sources of power?
- How do you relate to power?

- How can we understand and emulate the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, laying down power?



- **Special Music to be done by Doyle Turner**
- **Liturgist: Bev Jorland, Greeter: Joanne Detwiler**

❖ **Women's Fellowship** meeting To Be Announced.

❖ **Church Council will meet** on **Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 pm. This meeting will be **in-person and virtual via zoom**. Zoom access.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89680314539?pwd=QTIUQ0dKR21JQ3JUMHNzZnRkZFF5UT09>

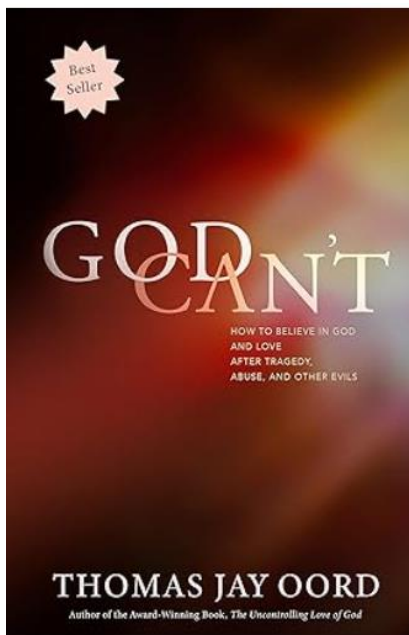
Meeting ID: 896 8031 4539, Passcode: 858735

❖ **Book Conversation – Begins Wednesday April 17<sup>th</sup>** – Light Meal at 6:00 p.m. Conversation 6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. In-person and Virtual via zoom. On April 10<sup>th</sup> we will discuss Chapter One – **God Can't Prevent Evil**.

- Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82457978032?pwd=ajlXR1I5TWNaaW1wMVZwbksrV1NPUT09>

Meeting ID: 824 5797 8032, Passcode: 613246



**God Can't: How to Believe in God and Love after Tragedy, Abuse, and Other Evils** by Thomas Jay Oord

Hurting people ask heart-felt questions about God and suffering. Some "answers" they receive appeal to mystery: "God's ways are not our ways". Some answers say God allows evil for a greater purpose. Some say evil is God's punishment.

The usual answers fail. They don't support the truth that God loves everyone all the time. **God Can't** gives a believable answer to why a good and powerful God doesn't prevent evil.

Author **Thomas Jay Oord** says God's love is inherently uncontrolling. God loves everyone and everything, so God can't control anyone or anything. This means God cannot prevent evil singlehandedly. God can't stop evildoers, whether human, animal, organism, or inanimate objects and forces.

In **God Can't**, Oord gives a plausible reason why some are healed, but many others are not. God always works to heal everyone, but sometimes our bodies, organisms, or other creatures do not cooperate with God's healing work. Or the conditions of creation are not right for the healing God wants to do.

❖ **HANDBELL PRACTICE – Wednesday – 4/17/2024 at 7:45 p.m.**





❖ Spring Coffee House Concerts

- At 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, CCOWUCC will embark on one of two **Spring Coffee House Concerts**. The first concert will feature Ryan and Joanne Pels with all donations going to *World Central Kitchen (WCK)*. World Central Kitchen is a not-for-profit non-governmental organization devoted to providing meals in the wake of natural disasters. WCK is first to the frontlines, providing meals in response to humanitarian, climate, and community crises.



*Thanks to Ken Barber for the building the Coffee House Stage*

- At 6:00 p.m. on Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>, Linda and Ken Barber will present the second **Spring Coffee House Concert** with all donations going to Paws and Claws in Hackensack MN. The mission of Paws and Claws is mission is *to save animal lives, educate youth and complete families*.

❖ Birthdays

- 4/22 Lauren Farrell
- 4/29 Kameron Artley



❖ Anniversaries

- 4/25 Tim and Shelli Johnson

- ❖ Information for bulletin needs to be at the church by Tuesday morning [commchurchucc@arvig.net](mailto:commchurchucc@arvig.net).

- ❖ **A Reminder!!!** – current bulletins, Churchly Happenings, and **Good News, Good News** - our monthly newsletter, and the **Weekly Update** may be found on the church website – [www.uccwalker.com](http://www.uccwalker.com)

- ❖ **St. Mark's WELS meets at CCOWUCC** serving as a "Worship Station". They will continue to meet on the second and fourth Monday of each month between 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

- ❖ Addresses – You are invited to be in touch.

Meryle O'Connor  
Waterford Estates  
6288 Louisiana N. #111  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

Sue and Duane Grage  
309 Birch Court  
Park Rapids MN 56470

Linda and Ken Barber  
9234 Crooks Loop NW  
Walker MN 56484

Sue Standeven  
203 Ross Pl. N. #105  
Walker MN 56484

Betty Fisher  
4222 Larch Street NE  
Bemidji MN 56601

Gay Jacobson  
P.O. Box 521  
Walker MN 56484

Alison Koch  
1803 South Court Street

Beth Alderson  
8058 Onigum Road NW

Kevin Wedel  
107 Highland Ave. W.

Fergus Falls MN 56537

Walker MN 56484

Apartment 102  
Walker MN 56484

❖ **Democracy works best if we speak with one another. Whatever your opinion, I encourage each of you to be in contact with your representatives. Communicating is an on-going and two-way process of sharing gratitude and wisdom.**

***Below is listed state and national elected leadership for the Walker Area.***

***If you do not reside in the Walker area, go to <https://www.gis.lcc.mn.gov/iMaps/districts/> to obtain information on the elected state leadership for your location.***

Senator Steve Green (R) (Dis.02)  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., # 2319  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-297-8063

E-mail:  
sen.steve.green@senate.mn  
<https://www.house.mn.gov/members/profile/15458>

Rep. Matt Bliss (R) District: 02B  
311 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-5516  
Toll Free: 877-838-5537  
E-mail:  
rep.matt.bliss@house.mn.gov  
<https://www.house.mn.gov/members/profile/15458>

Office of Governor Tim Walz  
130 State Capitol  
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
<https://mn.gov/governor/connect/contact-us/contact-form.jsp>

Rep. Pete Stauber (R) U.S. House # 8  
145 Cannon HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-6211  
<https://stauber.house.gov/>

Senator Amy Klobuchar (DFL) MN  
425 Dirksen Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
phone: 202-224-3244  
fax: 202-228-2186

<https://www.klobuchar.senate.gov/public/>

Senator Tina Smith (DFL) U.S. MN  
720 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Phone: (202) 224-5641  
<https://www.smith.senate.gov/>

***Prayers and Blessings – Pastor Michael***