



**COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WALKER
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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



**CCOWUCC Update and News
By Michael Small
For The Week of: [July 15, 2024](http://www.uccwalker.com)**

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

***“Things are far too serious for us to lose our sense of humor!” —
TERRY PATTEN***

DAILY QUESTION

***The ground beneath me, the air around me – what is one thing that is always here that I may
have forgotten to be grateful for?***

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

*“Today, I join with other voices calling for peace in our political process. This violence
is a threat to the democracy we value in this country.*

*“God, in your mercy, hear our prayer. We are shocked & appalled at the attempted
shooting of former President Trump. We pray for his recovery & pray for the families
of those who died as a result of this act of violence.*

*“Let there be peace among your people, a deep & abiding peace which brings an end
to the glorification of violence & ushers in a just world as you intend for all. Amen.”*

**-Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson,
General Minister & President, United Church of Christ**



***Together may we all join our hearts, hands, and thoughts in unity as we pray for peace,
healing, restoration, reconciliation, forgiveness and peace. May we also continually pray for
our country, former President Donald Trump, those who died and were injured, and their
families.***

The complete Pastoral Letter from Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ is at the end of the Update.

July 21st Gazebo Concert Features After Five

After Five, featuring Linda and Ken Barber, and will entertain with familiar and delightful music on Sunday night. The Gazebo Concerts affords us the opportunity to connect with one another through the many gifts of music. Concerts will be outdoors weather permitting. If weather is inclement the concerts will be in the Good News Coffee area in the Fellowship Hall. Are all welcome. Free will offerings are taken for the performers.



❖ **Gazebo Concerts**

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| July 21, 2024 | After 5 |
| July 27, 2024 | Charley and Mama Wags |
| August 4, 2024 | Larry Kimball and Friends |
| August 11, 2024 | Steve Reiter |
| August 18, 2024 | Abello |
| August 25, 2024 | Ryan Pels and Friends |



The Golden Harbor Quartet – July 17, 2024

- ❖ **Seventh Sunday after Pentecost – July 14th** – The focus two realms/kingdoms – that of Herod Antipas who beheads John the Baptizer and Jesus who heals and feeds. Which one do we choose? Here the Chancel Choir giving the gift of music!



The service may be viewed on the church website www.walkerucc.com or by clicking on the QR code.

Watch by clicking QR Code

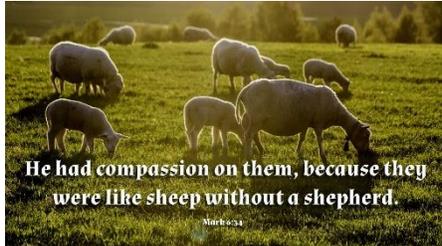


- ❖ **Prayers from United Church of Christ:** – “Gracious and Loving God. We ask that your presence be known to all in these turbulent and troubled times. Help us to remember that love and acceptance should be our guiding words. You, who taught us to love one another, please walk with us on our path with a gentle hand upon our shoulder. Stay close to us and love us always. In your name, we pray. Amen.” – Laurie Irwin, Port Huron, MI. Read other prayers by going to www.ucc.org.

❖ **June 21st 2024 Worship Information – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

- **Theme: Coming and Going – On the Road Again!**
- **All readings for this Sunday:**
 - 2 Samuel 7:1-14a and Psalm 89:20-37 • Jeremiah 23:1-6 and Psalm 23 • Ephesians 2:11-22 • Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
- **Focus Prayer:** Abiding God, may we encounter you and spread your good news in our coming and going. Amen.

- **Focus Reading:** ³⁰ The apostles came back to Jesus and reported all that they had done and taught. ³¹ Jesus said to them, “Come away by yourselves to someplace more remote, and rest awhile.” For there were many people coming and going, and the apostles hadn’t had time to eat. ³² So they went away in a boat to a deserted area.



³³ The people saw them leaving and many recognized them, so they ran together on foot from all the cities and got there ahead of the apostles. ³⁴ When Jesus went ashore, there was a large crowd waiting for him, and he felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began to teach them many things.

³⁵ *By now it was getting very late, and his disciples came up to him and said, “This is a deserted place and it’s very late. ³⁶ Why not dismiss them so they can go to the nearby farms and villages and buy something to eat?”*

³⁷ *Jesus replied, “Give them something to eat yourselves.”*

They answered, “You want us to spend half a year’s wages on bread for them to eat?”

³⁸ *“How many loaves do you have?” Jesus asked. “Go look.” When they found out they reported back, “Five, and two fish.” ³⁹ Jesus told them to have the people sit down on the grass ⁴⁰ in groups of hundreds and fifties. ⁴¹ Then Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. Jesus broke the loaves and handed them to the disciples to distribute among the people. He also passed out the two fish among them.*

⁴² *They all ate until they had their fill. ⁴³ The disciples gathered up the leftovers and filled twelve baskets of broken bread and fish. ⁴⁴ In all, five thousand families ate that day.*

⁴⁵ *Immediately Jesus made the disciples get in the boat and go on ahead to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶ After leaving them, he went up the hillside to pray. ⁴⁷ When evening came, the boat was far out on the lake, and Jesus was alone on land. ⁴⁸ He saw that the disciples were worn out with rowing, because the wind was against them. About three in the morning, Jesus went out to them, walking on the water. He was about to pass them by ⁴⁹ when they saw him and—thinking it was a ghost—cried out. ⁵⁰ For they had all seen him and were terrified.*

Jesus hastened to reassure them: “Calm yourselves! It’s me. Don’t be afraid.” ⁵¹ Jesus got into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed by what had happened, ⁵² for they hadn’t understood about the loaves. Their minds were closed.

⁵³ *After crossing the lake, Jesus and the disciples came ashore at Gennesaret and tied up their boat there. ⁵⁴ No sooner had they stepped out of the boat than people recognized Jesus. ⁵⁵ The crowds started hurrying about the countryside and brought the sick on stretchers wherever Jesus went. ⁵⁶ Wherever he appeared—in villages, in towns or in the countryside—they laid down the sick in the open places, begging him to let them touch just the fringe of his cloak, and all who touched Jesus got well.*



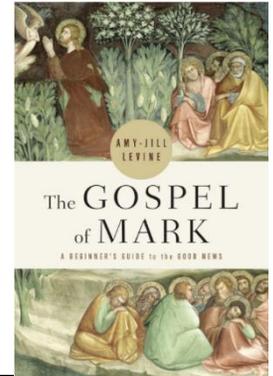
- **Focus Questions:**

- What prompts you to rest?
- Have you ever experienced a time of rest in your faith journey/ministry life?
- How do you perceive rest to be a component of faith life?
- How may communities embrace rest as a spiritual practice?
- What would rest mean in this season of your life?

- Special Music: The Hand Bell Choir
- Liturgist: Chris Kolp, Greeter: Joanna Aamodt

❖ **Book – Video Conversation on Wednesday July 17th**

The Gospel of Mark: A Beginner's Guide to the Good News
 By Amy-Jill Levine
Discover the Good News in the Bible's earliest Gospel
Light meal at 6:00 p.m. – Conversation at 6:30 p.m.



Sessions	Text	Date	Time
Sacrifice, Ransom, Prophet, Messiah	Mark 8 – 10	7/17/2024	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.



Bell Practice
Wednesday
July 17th
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

❖ **CCOWUCC ANNUAL MEETING JULY 21ST FOLLOWING WORSHIP**

- ❖ **Church Council will meet** on **Tuesday, August 27th** 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



- ❖ **Birthdays**
- 7/19 Ross Kolp
 - 7/24 Lois Taylor
 - 7/24 Kevin Wedell
 - 7/26 Ryan Pels
 - 7/29 Meryle O'Connor

- ❖ **Anniversaries**
- 7/19 Ken and Sonja Huber

- ❖ **Information for bulletin** needs to be at the church by morning commchurchucc@arvig.net.



Tuesday

- ❖ **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
- ❖ **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.

A Pastoral Letter



The United Church of Christ strongly condemns the violence directed against former President Donald Trump.

Political violence has never been a solution to differing political beliefs and ideologies. As more details emerge regarding the shooting at the political rally for President Trump, we are horrified at the events which unfolded before us. With the former president injured and two dead including the gunman, we mourn this moment where violence is on display in the public square within our political arena.

Today, I join with other voices calling for peace in our political process. This violence is a threat to the democracy we value in this country.

As people of faith, we have the opportunity to be a part of civil discourse as we move through this time leading to another presidential election.

A commitment to peace must be a priority in the days to come. More information will emerge and regardless of that information, peace is possible. We can commit to ensuring peace and civility among us.

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.” John 14:27

God, in your mercy, hear our prayer. O God, we are shocked and appalled at the attempted shooting of former President Trump. We pray for his recovery and pray for the families of those who died as a result of this act of violence.

May those who lost loved ones know the comfort of your embrace. Send your healing spirit upon those whose lives are affected by violence globally.

Let there be peace among your people, O God, a deep and abiding peace which brings an end to the glorification of violence and ushers in a just world as you intend for all.

Amen.

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson
General Minister & President/CEO
United Church of Christ

❖ 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
Fergus Falls MN 56537

Beth Alderson
8058 Onigum Road NW
Walker MN 56484

Kevin Wedel
107 Highland Ave. W.
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>

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>

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/>

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>

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

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