

The Messenger



Volume 16 No. 1

January 2016

The Newsletter of The United Church of Sandwich

*"Passionately united to feed all people — body, mind and spirit —
To the glory of God!"*

From the Pastor ...

Ministry strategies: What do we want to happen in 2016?

What should our priorities be? What do our people really expect from their experience of church? Based on the results of the Church Assessment Tool completed in November 2014, and on data developed from the October 1, 2015 Church and Community Forum, I want us to work in these areas of ministry in the coming year. This strategy map was approved by the Charge Conference; I submit it to all of our members and friends to think about, question and further implement:

Key drivers of satisfaction and "success factors" in our church (As identified by the *CAT study pp. 5,7*)

Our church provides opportunities for education and formation in a variety of ways so that I can find one to fit my complex lifestyle.

STRATEGY 1: New options for **Christian formation** for adults:

Establish at least 2 small groups for adults: Bible study, spiritual formation (prayer, lifestyle issues, stewardship, vital discipleship) and/or contemporary moral issues.

When? Sunday morning and/or midweek daytime and/or midweek evening.

Who? Pastor and Leaders recruited by pastor. Guidance and training by pastor as needed.

Members in our church have been prepared to personally welcome guests.

STRATEGY 2: Conduct an **evangelism workshop** with emphasis on faith sharing and hospitality/welcoming:

Who? Pastor and staff from Conference.

Outcome: Increasing our comfort level in witnessing to others about our faith, and increasing our ministry of hospitality.

Goal: Develop a core of members who actively invite others to be a part of UCS, and who actively seek out and follow up with visitors.

Here are five strategies to guide our work in 2016.

What should our priorities be? What do our people really expect their experience of church to be?

Top ministry priority (*as identified by the CAT study P. 8*)

Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth. Develop a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.

STRATEGY 3: Discuss feasibility of establishing a **second worship service**.

Who? Worship Committee -- Pastor -- music staff.

Gives people with busy schedules more options for participation.

Potential to reach a different "audience."

Potential to "experiment" with different types of music and liturgy.

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Scriptures for Worship: January 2016

January 3: Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6. *In this prophecy, Christians see the visit of the Magi to Jesus foretold.*
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14: *"For he delivers the needy when they call."*
Ephesians 3:1-12. *Jew and Gentile alike now share in the promise of Christ.*
Matthew 2:1-12. *The visit of the Magi is a sign that Jesus is a universal savior.*

January 10: Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7. *God will claim his people and call them by name.*
Psalm 29. *"The Lord sits enthroned as King forever."*
Acts 8:14-17. *Two apostles pray for the Holy Spirit to fill new believers.*
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22. *Luke tells the story of Jesus' baptism.*

Jan 17: 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5. *God promises to be to Israel as a groom is to his bride.*
Psalm 36:5-10. *God's steadfast love and protection are celebrated.*
1 Corinthians 12:1-11. *Paul lists the spiritual gifts that God gives the Church.*
John 2:1-11. *The miraculous transformation of water into wine is a sign of joy and hope.*

Jan 24: 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10. *The Law is read to the Israelites in their ruined temple.*
Psalm 19. *"The heavens are telling the glory of God"*
1 Cor 12:12-31a. *We exercise spiritual gifts for the sake of Christ's body, the Church.*
Luke 4:14-21. *Jesus announces his mission of good news in the Nazareth synagogue.*

Jan. 31: 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10. *Jeremiah receives God's call; even in the womb he was ordained.*
Psalm 7:1-6. *God is our hope, trust and refuge.*
1 Cor. 13:1-13. *Paul bases the spiritual gifts on the one great gift: perfect love.*
Luke 4:21-30. *The people of Nazareth reject Jesus' claims and turn on him.*



Sandwich/Somonauk Ministerial Alliance

4TH TUESDAY COMMUNITY FREE FELLOWSHIP FEAST

4:30 — 6:00 pm
Tues., January 26, 2016
Somonauk Baptist Church
315 E. North Street
Somonauk, IL 60552
(815)498-2019

- Looking for fellowship? Join us!
- Having trouble making ends meet? Join us!
- Love community dinners? Join us!
- Need a ride? Give us a call!
- Like to help to provide food? Give us a call!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Mission of the Month

Mujila Falls

Mujila Falls Agricultural Research and Training Center, Zambia is where NIC-supported missionary Betty Tshala shares the good news of Jesus Christ through sustainable agriculture and health care. She helps to empower Lunda Ndembu people to better feed their families and gain economic independence through agriculture and family-based health, nutrition, and spiritual care.



A Bowl of Thanks

†Thank you to my volunteers for helping with the newsletter assembly, stewardship campaign and Christmas letter mailing last month.
Heidi Eaton

Grief support group continues January 14

"Healing with Hope", our monthly grief support group will meet next on Thursday, Jan. 14, at 1:30 pm. Our leader is Erin Mitchell, a bereavement counselor from KishHealth System Hospice.

Our first session was very enlightening -- we shared experiences with grief at holiday times, and Erin presented some very good ideas for coping with stress and depression.

Future direction of the group will be determined by the needs of our participants. Everyone is welcome to attend; if you know of someone who might benefit from a group like this, let them know. You need not be a member of UCS to participate. Speak to me or to Vivian McMaster if you have questions.



(Continued from page 1)

STRATEGY 4: Develop an **outreach task force** to think creatively about changes which would help us reach out to a younger demographic.

Who? 6-10 persons recruited by Nominations and pastor from the church's younger members.
Goal: Research and propose new ways of reaching out to unchurched families and young people.

Key finding from the Church and Community Forum

There is a need for individuals and institutions in Sandwich/Somonauk to partner with schools, police and other agencies to target at-risk and low-achieving students, to improve academic performance and to provide alternatives to the criminal justice system.

STRATEGY 5: Partner with the Sandwich/Somonauk Ministerial Alliance member congregations to develop a core of church volunteers to **mentor young people**.

Special note: The above is not intended to replace the ministries that we have already in place which are successful. These are proposed as additional ministry areas which I believe will be fruitful as we go forward.

Steve Mindrup

THANKS
GIVING

December 6	\$3177.00
December 13	\$3630.00
December 20	\$1459.00
Total December	\$8,266.00

Our generous gifts glorify God!

WEDNESDAY MORNING FRIENDS

A monthly forum for believers from area churches and friends to learn about a topic of mutual interest.

- † **When:** 1st Wednesday of each month, 9:00-10:00 am
- † **Where:** Federated Church, Sandwich, IL
403 N. Main St., 815-786-8595
www.sandwichfederatedchurch.org
- † **Does it cost?** No. All programs are free.
- † **Do you have to sign up?** No. Come when the topic interests you.
- † **What:** Here are programs for upcoming months:

Wed Jan 6: Israel, Our Home
Contact: Rev. Joe McDonald

Wed Feb 3: Hospice: Quality of Care at Life's End
Contact: Rev. Terry Jenson

Wed Mar 2: Lenten Community Breakfast & Devotion

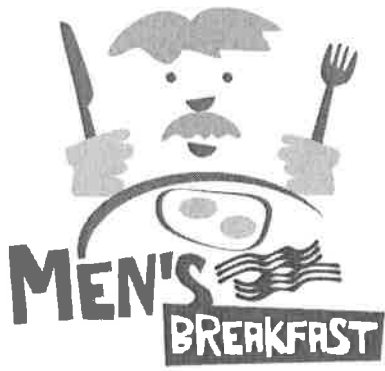
Wed Apr 6: Disaster Preparedness: Who Does What?

Wed May 4: Serving the World's Needy Children
Contact: Rev. Kirk Scott

Sponsored by Sandwich/Somonauk Ministerium. If you have an idea for a program, tell your pastor!

Next Men's breakfast Jan. 3, 7:30 am

All men are welcome to our men's group first Sunday breakfasts: 7:30 am in the Friendship Corner. Next meeting is January 3. The men of UCS have a good time together at our monthly breakfasts. Join us!



Dear Pastor Steve & Church Family,

I would like to thank everyone, for all the continued prayers and concerns for our family. The love and support of our church family has helped us through the loss of several loved ones, as well as, many health issues, this year.

However, it is with a very grateful heart, we look forward to the blessings of a New Year.

PRAYERS
OF Thanks

With sincere Appreciation,
Your Friend in Christ,
Brenda Gillispie
Bob Grotkowski
& Family



2016 Communion Ministers

Month	Names	Names	Names
January	Diane Salisbury	Bonnie Miller	Ed Heyer
February	Jim Updike	Lori Updike	Clint Updike
March	Deb Seymour	Diane Salisbury	Brooke Updike
April	Matt Olson	Joanna Olson	Pam Nehring
May	Deb Seymour	Rick Hill	Debby Hill
June	Jim Bernhardt	Mary Ann Olson	Phyllis Davis
July	Matt Olson	Joanna Olson	Sarah Stevens
August	Ed Heyer	Diane Salisbury	Deb Seymour
September	Phyllis Davis	Mary Ann Olson	Kelley Mindrup
October	Matt Olson	Joanna Olson	Bonnie Miller
November	Rick Hill	Debby Hill	Deb Seymour
December	Carole Wampler	Pam Nehring	Jim Bernhardt

Jim Bernhardt	815.786.3020	Joanna Olson	815.498.3868
Phyllis Davis	815.786.1349	Matt Olson	815.498.3868
Ed Heyer	815.286.3074	Mary Ann Olson	815.570.2231
Debby Hill	815.498.9405	Deb Seymour	630.375.1017
Rick Hill	815.498.9405	Sarah Stevens	815.786.3071
Bonnie Miller	815.786.9346	Diane Salisbury	815.786.9346
Pam Nehring	815.786.8153	Carole Wampler	815.786.6057
Kelley Mindrup	815.988.70752	Jim, Lori, Clint Updike	815.786.6125

If you are not available on your scheduled day, please call one of the communion ministers to cover for you and inform the church office (815)786-9243 of the change. Thank you for your commitment.
Revised Dec/2015

January Worship Assistants

Greeters

1/03/16 Jim & Connie Mitchell
 1/10/16 Earl Shaffer
 1/17/16 Ione Martin
 1/24/16 Diane Salisbury
 1/31/16 Phyllis Davis

Ushers

1/03/16 Gary & Judy Anderson
 1/10/16 Jim & Bonnie Bernhardt
 1/17/16 Ed & Jane Heyer
 1/24/16 Ron & Kim Henrich
 1/31/16 John & Pat Hallaron

Liturgists

1/03/16 Reanna Panlilio
 1/10/16 Diane Pearson
 1/17/16 Doug Reiners
 1/24/16 Deb Seymour
 1/31/16 Kelley Mindrup

Flowers

1/03/16
 1/10/16
 1/17/16
 1/24/16
 1/31/16

Communion Bread

1/03/16
 1/17/16

Acolytes

1/03/16
 1/10/16
 1/17/16
 1/24/16
 1/31/16

January Communion Ministers

Diane Salisbury, Bonnie Miller, Ed Heyer



1/5	Megan Johnson
	Bryce Breon
1/7	Judy Anderson
1/8	Diane Nielsen
1/9	Mildred Morris
1/10	Jean Banks
1/13	Mary Leach
1/14	Nancy Brown
	Dan Carr
	Jason Heinekamp
	Blair Diemer
1/16	Kevin Peterson
1/17	Jeff French
1/19	Amanda Anderson
	Randy Buckingham
	Scott Hallaron
1/20	Sarah Reynolds
1/24	Richard Felstead
	Brenna Keene
1/25	Robert Henrich
	Melissa Eipers
1/26	Jim Mitchell
1/28	Doug Oldeen
1/31	Diane Pearson



1/14	Ron & Bonnie Miller
1/15	Brad & Catherine French



February newsletter deadline is 10:00 am Monday, January 18th.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

2016	Liturgist	Ushers	Greeters
03-Jan	Reanna Panlilio	Gary & Judy Anderson	Jim & Connie Mitchell
10-Jan	Diane Pearson	Jim & Bonnie Bernhardt	Earl Shaffer
17-Jan	Doug Reiners	Jane & Ed Heyer	Ione Martin
24-Jan	Deb Seymour	Ron & Kim Henrich	Diane Salisbury
31-Jan	Kelley Mindrup	John & Pat Hallaron	Phyllis Davis
07-Feb	Sarah Stevens	Earl Shafer & Doug Reiners	Jerry & Nancy Brown
Ash Wednesday 2/10/2016	Pam Nehring	Al & Myrtie Warren	Carole Strock
02/14/2016	Bonnie Miller	Jim & Lori Updike	Matt & Joanna Olson
21-Feb	Laura Olson	Matt & Joanna Olson	Chet Carpenter & Lori Prickett
29-Feb	Sandy Whiteis	Monty & Betty Reiners	Doug Reiners
06-Mar	Deb Seymour	Phyllis Davis & Carole Strock	Jerry & Marlene Cook
13-Mar	Carole Wampler	Ron & Bonnie Miller	Al & Phyllis Whitehead
20-Mar	Doug Reiners	Brooke & Clint Updike	Ed & Jane Heyer
Maundy Thursday 3/24/2016	Myrtie Warren	Linda Duy & Pam Nehring	Kelley Mindrup
Good Friday 3/25/2016	John Hallaron	Jerry & Marlene Cook	John & Pat Hallaron
Easter Sunrise 3/27/2016	Doug Reiners	Ron & Kim Henrich	Jim & Bonnie Bernhardt
Easter 10:00AM 3/27/2016	Lori Davis	Jim & Connie Mitchell	Monty & Betty Reiners
03-Apr	Pam Nehring	Al & Myrtie Warren	Anna & Laura Olson
10-Apr	David Seymour	Ed Forman & Carole Wampler	Ed Foreman & Carole Wampler
17-Apr	Laura Olson	Doug Reiners & Earl Shaffer	Bernice Nicholas
24-Apr	Sarah Stevens	Pam Nehring & Deb Seymour	Angie Miller
01-May	Bonnie Miller	Phyllis Davis & Mary Ann Olson	Linda & Kevin Duy Reanna Panlilio
08-May	Les Banks	Reid & Deb Heinekamp	Gary & Judy Anderson
15-May	Lynn Reeder	Josh & Mindy Chrestman	Mary Leach
22-May	Carole Wampler	Brenda Gillispie & Bob	Lynn Reeder
29-May	Kevin Duy	Diane Salisbury, Craig Johnson, Andrew Salisbury	Ron & Bonnie Miller
05-Jun	Deb Seymour	Jerry & Marlene Cook	Earl Shaffer
12-Jun	Kelley Mindrup	Gary & Judy Anderson	Brooke & Clint Updike
19-Jun	Kevin Duy	Ed & Jane Heyer	Les & Jean Banks
26-Jun	Reanna Panlilio	Ron & Kim Henrich	Mary Ann Olson

If you have any questions feel free to contact Deb Seymour or the church office. Thank in advance for your faithful service. July -Dec will be in a future newsletter.



January 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
37:30 am United Methodist Men's Breakfast 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship with Holy Communion	4 7:00 pm Uniter's	5 4-5:15 pm Girl Scout Junior meeting	6 6:00 pm Prayer Group 6:30 Chimes practice 7:30 Choir practice	7 1:00 pm Hope Circle 4-5:15 pm Girl Scout Daisy/Brownie meeting	8	9
10 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	11	12 6:00 pm Trustees	13 6:30 Chimes Practice 7:30 Choir Practice	14 1:30 pm Grief Support Group	15	16
17 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship with Holy Communion	18 10:00 am Newsletter DEADLINE	19 6:30 pm Finance 4-5:15 pm Girl Scout Junior meeting	20 6:00 pm Prayer Group 6:30 Chimes practice 7:30 Choir practice	21 4-5:15 pm Girl Scout Daisy/Brownie meeting	22	23
24 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	25	26 4:30-6:00 pm 4th Tuesday Community Free Fellowship Feast @ Somonauk Baptist Church	27 6:30 Chimes Practice 7:30 Choir Practice	28 9:00 am Newsletters Assembly	29	30
31 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship						



The United Church of Sandwich
 512 East Lions Road
 Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

January 2016



The United Church of Sandwich

512 East Lions Road, Sandwich, IL 60548-2417

Church: (815) 786-9243

New Email: ucssandwich@frontier.com

website: www.unitedchurchsandwich.org

Worship Services

Sunday 10:00 am

Adult Sunday School 9:00 am

Church Office Hours

Monday – Thursday

8:00 am – 12:00 pm

The Rev. Steven Mindrup

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
 or by appointment

Email: pastormindrup@gmail.com

Mobile: 815.988.4992

Kelley Mindrup's mobile: 815-988-7075

Church Staff

Ministers
 Church Secretary
 Choir & Chimes Director
 Organist/Pianist

All Members
 Heidi Eaton
 Kevin Duy
 Carol Larson



**We are passionately united to feed all people –
 body, mind and spirit – to the glory of God!**

Church Administrative Council

Church Council Chair	Reid Heinekamp
Treasurer	Pam Nehring
Financial Secretary	Pat Hallaron
Finance/Stewardship Chair	David Hunt
Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Chair	Deb Heinekamp
Lay Leader	Sarah Stevens
Trustees Chair	Matt Olson
Annual Conf Delegate	Bonnie Miller

Ministry Areas

Missions/Evangelism Chair	Ed & Jane Heyer
Memorial/Endowment Chair	Phyllis Whitehead
United Methodist Women	Myrtie Warren
United Methodist Men	