

The Messenger



Volume 17 No. 1

January 2017

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 ...

EPIPHANY: GOD IS HERE!

Epiphany is just a fancy Greek word that means *appearance*. The birth of Jesus means that, in the words of Scripture, "The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all." (Titus 2:11). Epiphany is the name that Christians in ancient times gave to the story of the Wise Men, who worshipped the infant Jesus and signified that God's glory was manifested in him. Between now and Ash Wednesday our theme will be the ways that Jesus makes God known.

Advent was all about waiting, longing, expecting. Christmas and Epiphany are about promises fulfilled, and finding the peace and love humankind is seeking. When we know Jesus, we know God. When we follow Jesus, he leads us to God.

The Epiphany celebration is traditionally on January 6, but many Christians (us included) observe it on the first Sunday in January. On the second Sunday of January we observe Jesus' baptism, and see how it reveals him to be God's Son.

In this season of Epiphany I hope that we will renew our covenant with Jesus as we remember his baptism on January 8. I hope that we will venture some new ministries as our new leadership team assembles and we have our first Church Council gatherings. I don't think it is too much to expect that our Lord will manifest himself to us in new and wonderful ways in the days to come.

We are no longer waiting. He is here. Thanks be to God!

Steve Mindrup

Christmas and Epiphany are about promises fulfilled, and finding the peace and love humankind is seeking. When we know Jesus, we know God. When we follow Jesus, he leads us to God.

Sunday Scriptures for January 2017

January 1 – Epiphany Sunday

Isaiah 60:1-6. *In the time of the Messiah, the nations will turn toward God's glory.*

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14. *"May the kings render him tribute and bring him gifts."*

Ephesians 3:1-12. *The coming of Christ brings the Gentiles into full fellowship with God.*

Matthew 2:1-12. *Matthew tells the story of the Wise Men who seek the king of the Jews.*



**O Come
let us adore him**

January 8 – The Baptism of Jesus Christ

Isaiah 42:1-9. *The "servant" of God is a Messianic figure who will establish justice.*

Psalms 29. *"Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength."*

Acts 10:34-43. *The baptism of Jesus anoints him with God's Spirit and with power.*

Matthew 3:13-17. *Jesus' baptism reveals his righteousness and confers the Holy Spirit.*

January 15 – The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7. *God's salvation will "reach to the ends of the earth."*

Psalms 40:1-11. *"God has put a new song in my mouth."*

1 Corinthians 1:1-9. *Paul reminds the Corinthians of the eternal faithfulness of God.*

John 1:29-42. *John the Baptist immediately establishes Jesus' purpose and mission.*

January 22 – The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4. *God's appearing is like a light shining in a dark and desolate place.*

Psalms 27:1, 4-9. *"The Lord is my light and my salvation."*

1 Corinthians 1:10-18. *The church is Christ's body, not a cult of personality or a set of factions.*

Matthew 4:12-23. *Jesus calls his first disciples by the seashore.*

January 29 – The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8. *The true offering acceptable to God is acts of justice and love with humility.*

Psalms 15. *"O Lord, who may abide in your tent?"*

1 Corinthians 1:18-31. *The "foolishness" of the cross is the center of Christian proclamation.*

Matthew 5:1-12. *The Beatitudes are contrary to the wisdom of the world.*

THANKS GIVING

December 4	\$3818.92
December 11	\$1538.00
December 18	\$1838.00
December 24	\$1350.13
December 25	<u>1610.00</u>
Total	\$10,155.05

Our generous gifts glorify God!



We always give thanks
to God for all of you ...

1 Thessalonians 1:2

Thanks from Pastor Steve And Kelley

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so very much for
your generous Christmas gift.

Being part of this congregation
has blessed us in so many ways. It
is a privilege to serve with you.

We look forward in this new
year to doing great things for
God through United Church.
May God give you many signs of
his loving presence as you con-
tinue to live the life to which he
has called you in his Son.

With God's grace and our love,
Steve and Kelley

Mission of the Month

Solar Ovens Partners



This solar oven training and distribution pro-
gram works in the Dominican Republic.
Providing both the knowledge and the tools to
alleviate hunger and human suffering through
clean, affordable solar cooking, SOP's success
hinges on a two-fold approach: 1) Education in
the concepts of solar box cooking to conserve
meager family income and reduce the environ-
mental devastation of clear-cutting trees; and
2) Training to maximize the use of solar energy
for the basic human needs of safe water and
healthy food. SOP previously worked in Haiti,
distributing over 10,000 solar ovens. Each oven
cost \$150 to make and ship. To learn more visit
www.solarovenpartnersumc.org.

Thank You
Missions Committee



Newsletter

February newsletter deadline is 10:00 am
Monday, January 9th.

December Worship Assistants



Greeters

1/1/17	Earl Shaffer
1/8/17	Jim & Connie Mitchell
1/15/17	Ione Martin
1/22/17	Diane Sakisbury
1/29/17	Phyllis Davis

Ushers

1/1/17	Gary & Judy Anderson
1/8/17	Jim & Bonnie Bernhardt
1/15/17	Jerry & Marlene Cook
1/22/17	Ron & Kim Henrich
1/29/17	John & Pat Hallaron

Liturgists

1/1/17	Reanna Panlilio
1/8/17	John Hallaron
1/15/17	Heather Breon
1/22/17	Sandy Whiteis
1/29/17	Kelley Mindrup

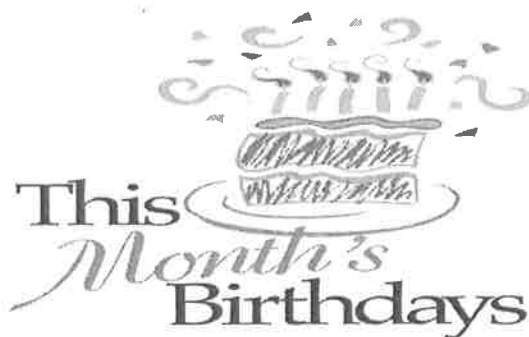
January Communion Ministers

Diane Salisbury, Bonnie Miller, Pam Nehring



Pastoral Care

Phone 815-786-9243 or Pastor Steve's cell 815-988-4992 if you or a loved one is in the hospital, a care facility, or homebound. Don't rely on the "grapevine"... please contact us directly. Persons may be added to the prayer chain if so desired by contacting the office.



1/3	Mitchell Morel
1/4	Jay Knoebel
1/5	Megan Johnson, Bryce Breon
1/7	Judy Anderson
1/8	Diane Nielsen
1/9	Mildred Morris
1/10	Jean Banks
1/12	Claire Reynolds, Jerilyn Johnson
1/13	Mary Leach, David Sommerfield
1/14	Nancy Brown, Dan Carr, Jason Heinekamp
1/15	Connor Wilson
1/16	Kevin Peterson
1/17	Jeff French
1/19	Amanda Anderson, Randy Buckingham, Scott Hallaron
1/20	Sarah Reynolds
1/22	Ashley Vandervort
1/24	Richard Felstead, Brenna Keene,
1/25	Melissa Eipers, Mikayla Schmidt, Ron Henrich
1/26	James Mitchell, Keith Olson
1/28	Douglas Oldeen
1/31	Diane Pearson

Anniversaries This Month



1/14	Ron & Bonnie Miller
1/15	Brad & Catherine French
1/21	Eddie & Carole Forman

Sandwich/Somonauk
 Ministerial Alliance
**4TH TUESDAY COMMUNITY
 FREE FELLOWSHIP FEAST**

4:30 — 6:00 pm
 Tuesday, January 24, 2016
 St. Paul's Catholic Church
 340 W. Arnold St.
 Sandwich, IL 60548
 815-786-9266

- Looking for fellowship? Join us!
- Having trouble making ends meet? Join us!
- Love community dinners? Join us!



ALL ARE WELCOME!
 Invite your friends and family to come as well!



United Methodist Men's Breakfast will be held Sunday January 8 at 7:30 am.

Breakfast is on the second Sunday this month because of the New Year holiday.

We will go back to our first Sunday schedule in February.

All men are welcome!

Shopping on line? Help your church through UMCMarket.org

Here is an easy way to support UCS. Before you make an on line purchase, go to UMCMarket.org. Once you establish an account at UMCMarket.org, over 3,000 businesses will donate a portion of your purchase to United Church. Automatically.

It's easy to register. Just go to UMCMarket.org and set up an account. It takes less than five minutes. It will take you through the steps to get your donation directed to UCS. Then when you are shopping on line you can look on the UMCMarket site for what you want.

Each purchase you make will earn UCS a percentage of the total (in some cases as much as 5%). If a lot of us take advantage of this (especially on big ticket items like TVs or other appliances), the donations will add up



Fair Stand Committee Meeting will be held on January 10th at 7pm.



CYM will be meeting On January 10th at 6:15pm. EPIC youth fellowship will be at Union Church in Somonauk this month, **6:00 pm every Wednesday.**

January

2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship			6:00 pm EPIC youth @ Union Church 6:00 pm Prayer Group 6:30 pm Chimes 7:30 pm Choir	1:00 pm Hope Circle Meeting 2:45pm-3:45 pm Tutoring at Woodbury		9:00 am Christmas Décor Take Down
8 7:30 am United Methodist Men's breakfast 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	9 10:00 am February Newsletter Dead-line	10 6:15 pm C.Y.M. 7 pm Fair stand Committee	11 6:00 pm EPIC youth @ Union Church 6:30 pm Chimes 7:30 pm Choir	12 2:45 pm -3:45 pm Tutoring @ Woodbury 4:00 pm Mission Committee meeting	13	14
15 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	16	17 2:00 pm Nursing home ministry (Pastor & Carol)	18 6:00 pm EPIC youth @ Union Church 6 pm Prayer Group 6:30 pm Chimes 7:30 pm Choir	19 2:45 pm -3:45 pm Tutoring @ Woodbury	20	21
22 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	23	24 4:30 pm 4th Tuesday Feast @ St. Paul's Church	25 6:00 pm EPIC youth @ Union Church 6:30 pm Chimes 7:30 pm Choir	26 10:00 am Newsletter Assembly 2:45pm-3:45pm Tutoring @ Woodbury	27	28
29 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	30	31				



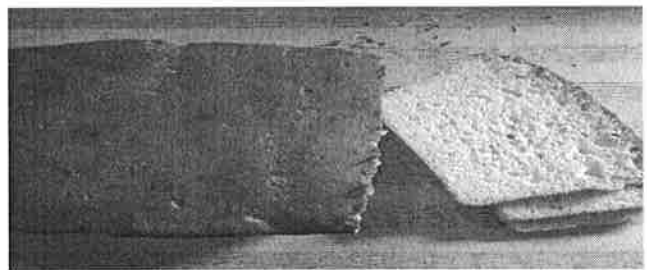
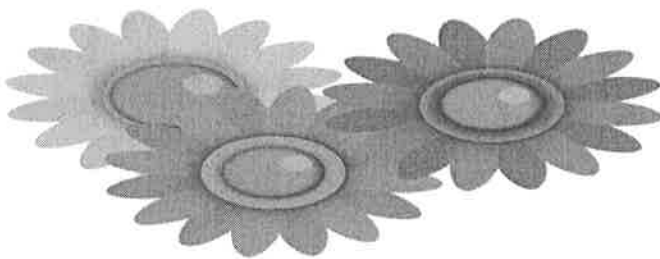
We received a Christmas Greeting Card from our previous secretary Heidi Eaton. It reads as follows: "Hello to everyone, I hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year. Thank you so much for your generosity when I left. I had a wonderful 6 1/2 years with The United Church of Sandwich and truly miss you all. I have adjusted well to my new job and my new hours. You will all hold a special place in my heart. Love Heidi"

We also received a Christmas Greeting Card from Jim & Doris Carpenter. They are doing very well and are enjoying the Senior Community. They wouldn't mind if any friends went for a visit to spend some time in the warm.

Christmas Greeting Cards are posted and can be found on the spin wheel outside the church office.



We are looking for Volunteers to help take down ALL Christmas décor on Saturday January 7th. We will start at 9am, and hope to be finished around 11am. If any questions please speak with Deb Seymour .



The 2017 Sign Up Sheets for flowers And Sunday Communion Bread is now set out. If we can have members of our congregation sign up it would be greatly appreciated.

**The United Church
of Sandwich**

512 East Lions Road
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE MESSENGER — JANUARY 2017



The United Church of Sandwich

512 East Lions Road, Sandwich, IL 60548-2417

Church: (815) 786-9243

Email: ucssandwich@frontier.com

website: www.unitedchurchsandwich.org

Sunday Schedule

Worship 10:00 am

Adult Sunday School 8:45 am

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday

8:00 am – 12:00 pm

The Rev. Steven Mindrup

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday , 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

or by appointment

Email: pastormindrup@gmail.com

Mobile: 815.988.4992

Kelley Mindrup's mobile: 815-988-7075

Church Staff

Secretary: Andrea Knasel

(Tuesday-Friday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm)

Choir and Chimes Director: Kevin Duy

Organist/Pianist: Carol Larson

Ministers and Missionaries: All Members

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

Leadership Team 2017

Church Council Chair

Reid Heinekamp

Treasurer

Pam Nehring

Financial Secretary

Pat Hallaron

Finance/Stewardship Chair

Ken Young

Staff/Pastor Parish Relations

Sarah Stevens

Lay Leader

Brenda Moland

Trustees Chair

Matt Olson

Annual Conf Delegate

David Seymour

Missions/Evangelism Chair

Ed & Jane Heyer

Memorial/Endowment Chair

Nancy Brown

United Methodist Women

Myrtie Warren

United Methodist Men