

SEPTEMBER 2023



THE CHANTICLEER

The First Unitarian Society
of Milwaukee

nurture. engage. inspire.



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Monthly Theme



*What does it mean
to be a people of*

Welcome

Inside News

by the *Chanticleer* Editors

Welcome to the new Church Year!

Ingathering Sunday, September 10, we move back to two, in-person worship services at 9:00 and 11:00 am. The 9:00 a.m. service will be livestreamed on our [YouTube](#) channel and on our website. Religious Education will again be at 9:00 a.m. with everyone starting in the Sanctuary.

Rev. Nontombi Naomi Tutu. September 23 & 24. We are honored and excited to welcome Rev. Tutu as our Morter Lecture guest for a lecture and reception on Saturday, as well as our pulpit guest at Sunday worship. (pp. 7 & 11)

Steve Sieck, Intern Minister. Please welcome Steve who is our part-time intern minister this year. (p. 4)

New Religious Education Program. Learn about the revised and updated Religious Education program. (pp. 8 & 9)

Gallery Show. Art is once again on the Leenhouts Common Room walls. Contact Jeff Percy about the jury date.

Subscribe to
Weekly Announcements.

First Church Facebook Group

Share the Plate

by Bob Monahan
Share the Plate Chair



Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) FAST Fund is our September Share the Plate recipient. FAST Fund provides quick financial assistance to MATC students experiencing economic emergencies, so they stay enrolled, graduate, and can achieve long-term success.

FAST Fund overwhelmingly assists first generation college students, many of whom are women and people of color. These students often lack the support network needed to meet the financial obligations of being a college student.

In the 2022-23 school year nearly \$427,000 in small judgement-free grants helped 1688 students cover basic needs such as rent, food, and energy bills. That was more than double the number of students experiencing financial crisis in the previous year. The need is great and continues to grow as we start the new school year.

Learn more about the MATC FAST Fund at <https://www.matcfastfund.org>. Contribute securely online at the link below or mail your check to First Church made payable to MATC FAST Fund and we'll forward your contribution to them. Please be generous in your support.

Donate to this STP Partner



Words on the Wind

by Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

My dear First Church, it is a delight to be joining you again after a beautiful, restorative sabbatical. I visited loved ones in the United States, and then went on a journey of learning and being in Europe. I saw the windmills in Kinderdijk, the tulips at the Keukenhof, and fulfilled my life-long dream of going to Paris. We have a full September ahead of us, so we're waiting until early October to have a "Sabbatical Stories" session—join us then if you want to hear (and share) more!

In September, we'll explore the gifts of welcome our Unitarian Universalist faith offers. On Ingathering Sunday, we will celebrate coming back together and welcome one another home to church! The next Sunday, September 17, we'll have a water ceremony during worship, and practice welcoming one another and all people. We will also welcome our new Ministerial Intern Steve Sieck, who will join us at the beginning of September—see Steve's introductory article to learn more about him, and please give him a warm First Church welcome!

Our last September Sunday, September 24, we will welcome pulpit guest Rev. Nontombi Naomi Tutu, daughter of Desmond Tutu and Episcopal

priest. Rev. Tutu grew up in South Africa and swore she would never be a priest. "I have my father's nose," she said, "I do not want his job." But life had other plans and after years as a development consultant, race, and gender activist, she finally accepted her call to ministry. Rev. Tutu will also be our Morter Lecturer this year, sharing her thoughts about diversity's strength and beauty on Saturday, September 23 at 3:00 p.m. Mark your calendars!

With love,
Jennifer

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom, Senior Minister

Steve Sieck, Intern Minister



Hello! My name is Steve Sieck (he/him), and I will be serving as your intern minister at First Church for the next two years. I'm in year two of a three-year M.Div. program at Meadville-Lombard Theological

School, which structures ministerial internships to be approximately ten hours a week for two years. I'm excited and grateful to work in a large urban congregation that values spirit, mind, and action in the world.

I live in Appleton with my family of foster and foster-adopted kiddos (my bio-kids have 'launched' already) and I share the journey with my wife, Anne, a special education birth-3 specialist. I'm originally from Oak Park, IL, went to the University of Chicago, worked as a musician and then music educator in Los Angeles, completed my master and doctoral degrees in choral conducting at University of Illinois, taught music at Emory & Henry College in Virginia for five years, and will step down as a professor of choral conducting at the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music in 2024 after 14 years of teaching.

Over the next two years Revs. Jennifer and Dena will be my supervisors in my ministerial formation. You might see me preach, or assist in worship, or provide a pastoral care visit, or lead a new-member group, or visit you to talk about

stewardship and generosity. These are essential skills for the emerging minister, and I'm deeply grateful to this community for fostering the growth of future UU ministers. I'm called to parish ministry to help in the work of collective liberation. I look forward to the journey with you!

All in the Family

Life is hard sometimes. We experience sickness, job loss, broken hearts, and broken bodies. We want to support you through those difficult times.

We give our heartfelt condolences to **Alice Hanson-Drew**, whose beloved husband Mike died on August 10, 2023. Mike, a "hopeful agnostic," was diagnosed with dementia four years ago. The family will be holding a private memorial service this fall, and Alice welcomes condolences via emails or cards.

We send our sincere condolences to **Nate Norfolk and family, Tea, Noah, and Violet**, on the death of Nate's father Don on June 25, 2023. The Norfolk family held a memorial service for Don on August 5, 2023, at Prasser-Kleckza Funeral Home in Milwaukee.

We send our deep condolences to **Nancy Spransy**, whose dear brother John Matthias died on August 1st, in St Paul, MN, just four weeks after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

We send our love and care to **Allen Jacobson** and Lila Daut, as Allan's cancer has returned and he is back in treatment for it. We share in the hope that treatment will send the cancer back into remission.

We send our love and care to **Dale Skaggs**, who is supporting two brothers in cancer treatment, and our hope for the best possible outcomes.



Kimberlee's Contemplations

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson



Get ready for an adventure of faith-filled learning fun at First Church! Welcome to a renewed religious education format for the 2023-24 church year. Our new RE format moves us away from curriculum and toward centering choice, offering children and families options that will allow them to choose what will best suit their faith formation needs on Sunday.

We have been hard at work this summer, renovating our lower-level rooms to create space for these new opportunities. Our goal is to provide a welcoming and inspiring environment where children can thrive and grow. I am thrilled to announce the launch of UU Maker Space and UU Play as the primary choices for elementary aged children every Sunday.

UU Maker Space is all about unleashing creativity and exploration. With a wide range of materials, artmaking, and activities, children will have the opportunity to learn through hands-on creation. It's a place where imaginations can soar, and new ideas come to life!

We also understand the importance of play in a child's development. That's why we're introducing UU Play, where children can learn through interactive games that reflect our values and build strong relationships with their peers and the environment.

Each month, the RE program will feature the church's monthly theme through exciting projects, games, spiritual practice and ideas that connect to our Unitarian Universalist values and history. This means that children and youth will have a truly engaging and educational experience every time they join us.

Throughout the year we will continue to offer All-Ages RE, a time for a larger gathering when all our children and youth will all be together for social justice projects, worship preparation, celebration, featured guests and more!

Mark your calendars for September 10, when our Ingathering event will feature an All-Ages Religious Education. Our children and youth will enjoy a variety of activities designed to introduce them to our renewed spaces and choices, all centered around the theme of welcome.

As we grow into this new RE format, we plan to also offer UU Chalice Choice. This option is designed to feature the many ways our church groups, teams and individuals live into our UU faith in religious education.

Next time you are at church, I invite you to journey downstairs and to check out the transformation, or better yet join us in by being a part of our RE volunteer team!



SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

3

Kool Aid Mustache & Tears

Amanda Panciera, member

Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

Dave Umhoefer, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

Last summer service at 10:00 a.m.

10

Welcome Is Not a Mat Ingathering Sunday

Rev. Jennifer Norstrom

Rev. Dena McPhetres

Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson

Tristan Strelitzer, Choral Director

Desiree Pointer Mace, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

17

The Welcome Table

Rev. Jennifer Norstrom

Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

Ryan Pawlowski, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

24

Welcoming Peoples' Wholeness

Rev. Nontombi Naomi Tutu

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

[Click for info about this service](#)

Sunday services at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.



Pulpit Guest September 3 ♦ Amanda Panciera

Amanda Smidt Panciera has been an active member of First Church for 9 years. A proud AmeriCorps Alum, she has spent her career working in nonprofits and is the Director of People of Culture at the Urban Ecology Center. A twice-inducted member of the Dead Moms Club, of which no one wants to be part, she is prepared to welcome new members with tissues, a listening ear, and companionship without platitudes. She is a Milwaukee enthusiast, a wife, a mom, and most importantly, a human just trying to figure this whole thing out.



Ingathering Sunday September 10 at 9 and 11 a.m.

Welcome is one of the gifts of our faith, something given to us that we also cultivate and give to others. Welcome opens the heart and tells you that you belong. It is not just a plastic mat with a cute saying we place in front of the door, it is a regular practice of opening our doors and inviting people inside. It takes intentionality, preparation, and commitment, but its payoff is a community where people feel free to be themselves and be loved as they are. Join us for this service that explores the practice of welcome.



Pulpit Guest September 24 ♦ Rev. Nontombi Naomi Tutu

Join us in welcoming pulpit guest Rev. Nontombi Naomi Tutu, Episcopal priest and daughter of Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Rev. Tutu grew up in South Africa and has divided her adult life between the United States and South Africa. After years working as a development consultant, and race and gender activist, she finally accepted her call to ministry. Currently serving All Saint's Episcopal church in Atlanta, Rev. Tutu writes about this service,

“Both Jonah and the workers who worked all day want God to judge based on their perception of what is fair. Luckily for all of us that is not who God is. Our God is one whose main characteristic is generosity. A God who gives us not simply a second chance, but 100th or even a 1000th chance.”

WELCOME BACK to Religious Education!

EARLY REGISTRATION
IS OPEN NOW!

2023-24 Religious Education

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson
Minister of Religious Education

If your children will be joining us for religious education (RE) this year, we need you to register. Registering helps us put names to those adorable faces and allows us to keep in touch with our amazing families. So, don't wait! Register your children for religious education!

- Early registration offers a \$25 discount until the end of September.
- Registration cost for the entire year is \$50 per child for members, maximum cost is \$100 per family for the entire year. Guests RE fees are \$75 per child.
- Children and Youth may attend as a guest three times before registering for RE.
- If your family could use a full or partial fee waiver, please do not hesitate to contact me! We never turn a family away!

Member Religious Education Registration

Guest Religious Education Registration

Sunday Programs Birth to 12th Grade

Childcare for Children (Birth-3 years of age) Nursery Caregiver, Cecelia Groshek and RE Volunteers provide care for our youngest children in the Servetus Nursery room during both Sunday services.

Soul Matters Preschool (3-6 years of age) Early Childhood Coordinator, Mariah Groshek guides our children in exploring our faith through ritual, story, and play related to the church's monthly theme during both Sunday services in the Dorothea Dix Preschool Room.

UU Maker Space (6-18 years of age) The maker space is all about unleashing creativity and exploration. With a range of materials and activities, children will learn through hands-on creation.

UU Play (6-18 years of age) Play is important in a child's development. In UU Play, children learn through games that reflect our values and build strong relationships with their peers and the environment.

Youth Group (7-12th Grade) This Youth Group will meet the first and third Sunday of each month. We explore our church's theme with "whole person" learning, focusing on the different ways we engage with the world.



Empower the Next Generation!

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson
Minister of Religious Education

Volunteering is flexible, full descriptions of the volunteer roles are here: [RE 2023- 24 Volunteer Schedule](#). All volunteers who work with our children will need to be vaccinated and willing to have a general background check to ensure the safety of our families. If you are ready to join us, then apply here: [RE Volunteering 2023-24](#).

RE Volunteer Orientation is available on either Sept. 17 or Oct. 8 at 11:30 am in the Young Room at church.

Each month, the RE program features the church's monthly theme through projects, games, spiritual practice, and shared ideas that connect to our Unitarian Universalist values and history. We offer children and youth a truly engaging and educational experience every time they join us.

RE Volunteer Signup



Super parent volunteer in RE class.

Welcome Kaitlin Barron!

We are delighted to welcome Kaitlin Barron to the RE staff team, as our new RE Assistant.

Kaitlin is a recent English Education graduate from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, who is excited to share her passion for teaching with the church. Before moving to Wisconsin, Kaitlin traveled frequently, living in both South Korea and Japan. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, writing poetry, and working on her various craft projects.



Kaitlin will be at the RE Table most Sundays, checking-in our children, youth, and RE volunteers as well as helping in the various classrooms.



Help Membership This Year

by Lynne Jacoby

When newcomers come to our churches they are already on board with Unitarian Universalism. They have been on our website, understand we are a liberal faith and know they want to explore being a part of this community. The question they have when they visit is how they will feel here?

Will they feel welcome here? Will they feel a sense of belonging?

For most of us here, the answer is an easy YES! It's why we became a part of this community. But then each of us has a reason (or multiple ones) of why that has been true - from luck, to personality, to common culture, to perseverance perhaps learned from previous church experience. The Membership Team knows we can do better at deepening our welcome and widening the avenues of connection. We are creating a Welcome Team and an Engagement Team to focus each. We need more help though.

If you are willing to chat-up newcomers, eat pizza with recent new members, e-mail guests or organize low-key gatherings we need you! If you are outgoing, insightful, creative, organized, a doer, or a dreamer, we need you. We need all kinds of talents and gifts helping Membership this year. Please join us!

Contact Lynne Jacoby, Membership Development Coordinator, to find a role helping Membership at lynne.jacoby@uumilwaukee.org

Journey to Membership

October Membership Classes

Saturday, Oct. 7, 10:00 am – 4:30 pm
and Tuesday, Oct. 10, 6:30 -8:30 pm
In-person, at First Church

Led by our ministers and staff, this series explores our theology, history, principals and social justice framework, as well as the meaning of membership and connection at First Church.

The class is a prerequisite to membership, but joining is not a requirement to take the class. Register if you are interested in membership, want to meet others, or just want a deeper understanding of intentional covenantal community as we strive to practice it here at First Church.

Learn more about membership or register at uumilwaukee.org/get-involved/become-a-member/. For questions? Email lynne.jacoby@uumilwaukee.org



First Unitarian
SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE

IS HONORED TO HOST
MORTER LECTURE
GUEST SPEAKER

REV. NONTOMBI NAOMI TUTU

Human Rights Activist, Episcopal Priest, Educator,
Daughter of Archbishop Desmond Tutu & Nomalizo Tutu



**"WE MUST
ASK AGAIN,
WHERE TO NOW,
COMMUNITY
OR CHAOS?"**

**SATURDAY
SEPT. 23, 2023
3PM LECTURE**

Q & A AND RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

**FREE PRESENTATION
DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED**



First Unitarian Society
1342 N Astor St,
Milwaukee, WI 53202
UUMILWAUKEE.ORG

**SUNDAY SERVICES 9/24/23
9 AM & 11 AM WITH
REV. NONTOMBI NAOMI TUTU**

What Are Theme Circles?

by Rev. Dena McPhetres

Associate Minister

Theme Circles are monthly small groups that deepen and support the spiritual journeys of participants in community with each other and in connection with the church's monthly worship themes.

Watch this short video to hear what Liz Leshner loves most about Theme Circles:

<https://youtu.be/QQ3Ft5KPeGk>

Prior to each meeting, participants engage in pre-reading and contemplation exercises based on that month's worship theme. Theme packets are sent in advance which include Questions to Live With, Spiritual Exercises, readings, links to articles, music, podcasts and more.

Are you longing for meaning and connection? Explore the Theme Circle schedule, FAQ, and registration form here:

<https://uumilwaukee.org/get-involved/theme-circles/>.

Registration opens on September 1 and the deadline to register is September 24. Theme Circles begin meeting during the third week of the month in October.

Theme Circle Registration

Have a Theme Circle Experience

by Diane Horne

Theme Circle Facilitator

Theme Circles have been with us for five years now. If you haven't been in a Circle and would like to see what it's like, sign up to Have a Theme Circle Experience. Circles provide a way to further explore the monthly themes of the church year, as well as to connect with other church members and yourself. They meet monthly from October through June, various times and days are available.

This experience offers the following:

- Receive a prior church year packet on a theme.
- Explore a spiritual exercise or question from the packet, reflecting on it prior to the session.
- Come prepared to share.
- Meet with others from church and a facilitator (me) for a one-time experience and see how it feels.

If you have imagined being in a Theme Circle, sign up and check it out. We will meet on Zoom only Wednesday, September 13 for an hour starting at 6:00 p.m. If you can't make this date, reach out to me for more information. Register at <https://form.jotform.com/202024856677056>

As we gather together these days, Theme Circles are here to deepen your connection to the church. Check it out! For more information, contact Diane at diane_horne@hotmail.com.

Sign Up for Circle Suppers

by Eileen Teska
Circle Supper Chair

Circle Suppers are a wonderful opportunity to meet new people and deepen existing friendships in a relaxed setting. The small-group dinners are held in participants' homes, with everyone bringing an assigned element of the meal: main dish, salad, or dessert, with the host providing the beverages and hors d'oeuvres.

This year the dinners will be on November 11, January 20, March 23, and May 4. Each of the four dinners includes a different mix of up to eight participants. The responsibilities of hosting and what participants bring are rotated for each dinner.

You can sign up online using the form below beginning now. In-person on-paper registration will be available at the Membership Table during Coffee Hour beginning in September. Registration deadline is September 24. [Sign up HERE.](#)

Yoga Returns This Fall

Mellow Movement + Guided Relaxation

This 60-minute in-person class will start with gentle movement practices that will take care of our joints and deepen our breath. We will ease into some restorative stretches before settling down for a meditative guided relaxation. All of this helps us to regulate our nervous systems and gets us in touch with our body mind connection - noticing where we are as we are. Mondays, 5:30 p.m. Register at <https://www.rootrest.com/firstchurch>.

Parents as Sexuality

Educators Monthly Group

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson

We are pleased to announce the return of our monthly parenting sessions on sexuality education for children. These 90-minute sessions are designed to help parents and caregivers explore their role as the primary sexuality educators of their children. Led by experienced facilitators Rev. Kimberlee, Deb Solis, and Rollie Hanson, we will meet on the second Thursday each month via Zoom, plus additional dates on October 26, January 18 and February 29.

During these sessions, we will use a small group ministry format to engage with topics such as Gender Identity, Relationships, Social Media, Unintended Pregnancy, and Consent. We understand that many adults struggle to effectively and confidently share information and attitudes about sexuality with their children, often due to their own experiences, perspectives, and worries. Our sessions aim to provide a supportive and courageous environment where parents and caregivers can find the necessary tools and guidance to overcome these challenges.

Don't miss this opportunity to become the most important sexuality educator your children will have. Join our monthly sessions on sexuality education for children and start building a strong foundation for your child's healthy sexual development. [Register HERE.](#)

FEAST FOR FUNDS Auction is Coming Back!

by Lynne Jacoby

Membership Development Coordinator

This community's favorite way to share our talents, gifts, homes and passions with one another while raising funds for the church!

From charades, to historical neighborhood tours, to concept feasts, summer sailing and hand-made holiday cards, members, staff and friends have offered wonderful experiences and items in our church-wide auction. It's time to revitalize this brilliant opportunity to participate in hands-on community building and congregational stewardship.

More details to come, but a few reasons to begin thinking about your Feast for Funds donation:

1. The October auction will be here before you know it.
2. Planning an event with your First Church friends is fun, but also takes lead time.
3. Creative ideas formulate with contemplation.
4. Time to suss out what might work with the Auction Committee.

Time and/or imagination challenged right now? No problem, we also love donated gift-certificates to your favorite restaurant, MKE experience or business along with a short description outlining why your fellow members will love it too!

Feast for Funds is an important fund raiser but also a lot of fun and a way to share something you love with the rest of us via the catalog and winning bids! More details about the auction itself to follow, but look for the Feast for Funds table in Coffee Hour in September. We'll be there to help brainstorm fun ideas to contribute. Want to help with this popular event (please)? Let Scot Henry or Lynne Jacoby know at feastforfunds@uumilwaukee.org.

Walk & Roll at Rotary Arboretum and Warnimont Park

by Jacki Zandi

Earth Justice Ministry Member

All are welcome to join fun and friendly nature lovers at these late summer and early fall events on paved trails.

Saturday September 9 at 10:30 a.m.--noon we will walk and roll in the Milwaukee Rotary Arboretum, which is located along the Milwaukee River south of Capitol Drive. You can park in the lot of the Urban Ecology Center (1500 E. Park Place) accessed from Oakland Avenue. We will meet on the edge of the lot at the archway entrance. Cairn sculptures representing different stages in geologic time and varied flora awaits us. You can never visit here enough.

Saturday September 30 at 10:30--noon we will walk and roll along the south shore, meeting at Warnimont Golf Course parking lot (5499 S. Lake Drive, Cudahy.) We will proceed on the Oak Leaf Trail along Lake Michigan with Jane Stoltz as our guide. The burgeoning fall foliage will ensure a delightful stroll. Afterwards everyone is invited to an optional stop for coffee at a restaurant in Cudahy.

Please invite your friends and family. Paula Anderson and Jacki Zandi are your hosts.



Buddhist Study Group

Wednesday, Sept 6 & 20, 6:30 pm
At Church

Join us as we meet to share our thoughts and interpretations of Buddhist teachings and ideas. Then we meditate as a group for a short while and have fellowship. Contact is Mark Miller at gatheringwaterssangha@gmail.com.

Book Discussion Group

Sunday, September 10
[Join Us Online Here](#)

Join us as we discuss March's read, *The Lost City of the Monkey God* by Douglas Preston. Contact Barbra Lancelot for more information at uubarbra@gmail.com.

Connect & Reflect

Every Thursday, 5:45 pm
[Join Us Online Here](#)

Connect with a small group as we share a short reading and check in with how your spirit is doing. Reflect together on a few questions prompted from the reading. All are welcome.

Chancel Choir

Every Thursday, 7:15 -9:00 pm
At Church

Join us on Thursdays in singing as we prepare to perform at Sunday services. Open to all singers high school age and up (no previous experience or audition required). Contact Tristan Strelitzer for more information or to join at tristan.strelitzer@uumilwaukee.org.

The Chronologically Gifted Potluck

Sunday, Sept. 24 at 12:30 pm
At Church

Reconnect with old friends and make some new ones. Bring a dish and join your contemporaries for a potluck after the Sunday service in Otto Hall. We may even have some entertainment! Plan ahead! Show up! Enjoy!

Poetry Contemplation

Every Wednesday, 9:00 am
[Join Us Online Here](#)

Join us online as we listen, respond, and rest with the words of selected poets. Come listen for what resonates and illuminates. Members, guests, and visitors are welcome to join this open, weekly, drop-in practice.



Sunday Morning Forum

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & ON YOUTUBE



SEPTEMBER 10

Things Your History Teacher Didn't Tell You: Blacks In History

Derek Mosley JD, Director of the Lubar Center for Public Policy Research and Civic Education at Marquette University Law School.

For many of us, our knowledge of the contributions of African Americans in America is limited. Traditionally, the contributions and stories of people of color in America have been omitted or ignored. During this lecture we will examine the many contributions of African Americans and fully understand that Black History is indeed U.S. History. On this 50 minute journey, you will meet people and hear stories that will amaze and inspire.

SEPTEMBER 17

Truth Matters: Profound Impacts of Anti-Trans Violence in Our Current World

Michael Munson, Executive Director, FORGE

For trans and nonbinary communities, part of the truth is the harsh reality that hundreds of anti-trans bills have been introduced, there has been a dramatic increase in anti-trans hate violence, there are overarching denials and restrictions in accessing healthcare, and there are daily violations of human dignity (including the simple act of addressing someone by their correct name and pronoun(s)).

When we listen to the truth, we can take action to reduce additional layers of harm and create a more just, equitable, and loving world.



SEPTEMBER 24

Empowering Individuals to Overcome Adversity

Clarence Johnson, President/CEO Wisconsin Community Services.

Wisconsin Community Services provides a continuum of support and care, enabling individuals to build skills and overcome adversity, such as substance use, mental health needs, criminal justice involvement and employment obstacles. Past involvement with the justice system is usually a result of unmet needs and/or systemic inequalities. Housing is one of those needs.

Update from the Endowment Fund Task Force

by Ron Oshima
EFTF member

Looking ahead the next few weeks, our team will be engaging in a series of meetings with Reverend Jennifer and members of our Board of Trustees to share with them, and get feedback on, our findings and recommendations regarding the governance of the endowment fund and the selection of an investment advisor.

Wading through legalese and financials scenarios on spreadsheets might not be one's idea of a fun way to spend a summer, but we have been rolling up our shirtsleeves and digging in during the brief interludes between vacations.

Apart from the legal and financial aspects of our assignment, top of mind for the team is the objective of protection of principal, a promise that was made to you in our Forge Our Future campaign, and one that we intend to keep.

Members on the EFTF team include, in alpha order: Dave Becker, George Bledsoe, Tom Briscoe, Elizabeth Lentini, Ron Oshima, and Kathy Rivera.



It's Never Too Late to Support the Endowment Fund!

Goal: \$3,000,000
Dollars pledged as of
August 28: \$2,804,884
Fulfilled Amt: \$922,657



Pledge to this principal-protected endowment fund with the online pledge form.

[Endowment Pledge Form](#)

To learn more or schedule a visit, contact the team.

[Contact Us](#)

Staff Directory

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Staff members have varying hours.

Please contact them directly to set up an appointment.

Board of Trustees Officers

President.....Pat Geenen

Vice President.....Sarah Richards

SecretaryJoe Riepenhoff

TreasurerTom Briscoe

Members

George Bledsoe

Dana Brooks

Stacy Koenen

Tony Panciera

Stacey Thieme

Amy Wilbourne

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uumilwaukee.org

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Church Building Hours

Sundays: 8:00 am - 2:30 pm

Saturdays: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm

Monday - Wednesdays: 5:00 - 8:30 pm

If you are attending a scheduled group, ring the bell. If you need access to the building at other times, please make an appointment at first.church.office@uumilwaukee.org.

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