

Arbor Newsletter

September 2017



I'm hearing from many in the Arbor Community of summer experiences and travels. That certainly applies to me just coming off of a two-week vacation to a new location (Glacier Bay National Park) that Janis and I have wanted to experience for some time. Can you imagine being in a place where humankind has had virtually no footprint so to speak and where you can go and have no phone, email, radio, or television unless you bring satellite dishes (we didn't)? It's almost disorienting, and a blessing. A time of reflection in God's creation. It was bizarre in a way to slowly peel back the cover on "routine" communications to hear of Harvey, the news of Dale, of bizarre boxing matches, and roster cuts.

I'm also feeling that it's a time to come home to my community at Arbor and resume our connections and congregational life. We are looking forward to small groups that are reforming, including the Sunday Morning group reading aloud through the Books of the Bible in the chronological order in which they were written and shared. Youth Ministry is resuming under the leadership of Arbor's new Youth Ministry Leader Rachel Woofter with plans for a Rally Sunday and with a team of five teachers. Arbor's Social Media Director Amanda Fledderjohann keeps our website and outreach expanding. I recently commented to Pastor Peter that for the first time that I can recall we have three paid (at least partially) staff at Arbor so he can have regular staff meetings!

The GNPEP (Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry) never gets a break, but more of our volunteers are back with new ideas to keep that essential community service vibrant. After some shortage of labor this summer, our Luke House meal preparers and servers are back to serve. I think you get the point-welcome back to the life at Arbor this fall. Jesus is with us.

Mark Hanson

Arbor Covenant Church

Madison Wisconsin

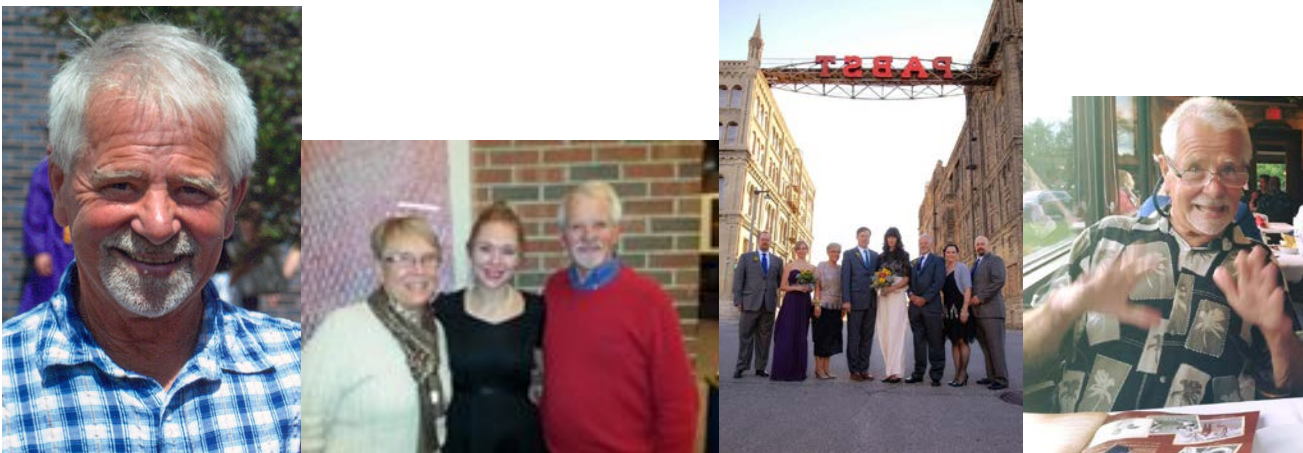
Dale Hallblade

Longtime Arbor member Dale Hallblade died on Monday August 28 at St. Mary's Hospital. For those who knew and loved him, he will be remembered most of all for being one of the friendliest people you could ever meet. He loved to stand in the front hallway of church and greet everyone, right down to the babies.

Ruth and Dale moved from Rockford and began coming to Arbor in 1971. They were high school sweethearts and attended First Covenant Church in Rockford. At the time, they had two little blond boys, Randy and Mike and a third. Chad, would join the family here. They lived in Sun Prairie and drove the distance to church faithfully. He and Ruth were blessed with a granddaughter Maya. They always attended her concerts at U-W Eau Claire.

Dale was an active member of Arbor, serving on the church council several terms. He also loved to mow the grass at church and generally work on upkeep of the property. Outside of church he loved to play golf and had played the morning he became ill. He and Ruth loved to travel and had just returned from a trip out West.

Dale will be missed by his loving family and his many friends. His Arbor family will miss him always. He had a smile for everyone. He loved the little children. God bless his soul.



Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School included children from Arbor Covenant and Fountain of Life Churches. Approximately 30 children attended. Thanks to Joyce Boggess and Fabu for organizing.

We were making glow in the dark necklaces, to remind us that Jesus is the light of the world. This is the youngest class-- 4 year olds.

Pontoon Boat Ride

Friends from the church took advantage of the opportunity to ride on a pontoon on Lake Mendota. Thanks to Mark for organizing.



Children's Ministry

Rachel Woofter has assumed the new position of Children's Ministry Leader at Arbor. Rachel is a member of Arbor Covenant and the mother of 1.5 little boys. Look for news on new directions in children's ministry.



Children's Church will start again on September 17! Stay tuned for more information about upcoming children's programs, and specific ways that our church can minister to children, their parents, and other caregivers.

We are looking for a few more **volunteers** to help with children's ministry. This could mean teaching Children's Church, working with the littlest ones in the nursery, or being a helping hand during Children's Church on Sundays with many kids. Commitment to Children's Church would be about one Sunday every six weeks. Please consider this opportunity! Let Rachel know if you are interested: rachel.woofter@gmail.com



The children's **activity bags** outside the sanctuary have been updated! These are intended to be a resource for parents and caregivers during the service, and include a worksheet with activities for children that correspond to the weekly scripture readings, organized by age. These activities could keep young ones occupied during the service, but would also be a good way to continue the conversation at home. Also, with the bags is a growing collection of Christian children's books and Bible stories, for use on Sunday mornings.

September Children's Church Teachers.

17th: Rachel Woofter
24th: Mark Hanson



Sunday Morning Study Group

The Sunday morning small study group will begin the fall sessions on Sunday, September 10, 2017 at 9:15

The group meets at 9:15 over coffee, and is reading "The Books of the Bible-New Testament" in the chronological order. Our reading began last year with the book of Luke.

This is our second year and it has been most informative.

The five questions we ask after each reading are:

- 1) What's something you noticed for the first time?
- 2) What questions did you have?
- 3) Was there anything that bothered you?
- 4) What did you learn about loving God?
- 5) What did you learn about loving others?

For those that would like to read at the same pace as the Sunday small group, please join us.

Joyce Boggess' New Book

The Freeport Public Libraries will be hosting a Book Signing and reading on Saturday, September 9, 2017 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. At 100 E. Douglas St. Freeport, Illinois We are pleased to have Author, Joyce Salter Johnson, in our library signing copies of her latest book entitled "The Freedmen Settlement of Good Hope Mississippi - The Beginning." Published by Stephenson County Historical Society, Freeport IL Wurtzel Fund

I was inspired to begin the research because the story of the two Good Hope communities in Newton County is a part of my family's history. I am originally from Newton County and lived in the Good Hope Freedmen Settlement Community the first ten years of my life before my parents Archie and Edna Hayden Johnson relocated to Freeport, Illinois. I am fascinated by history and the family lore that goes along with it. Also, writing down these stories helped me to get to know the Good Hope Settlers for myself and to realize that it was all of these things that helped to shape my life.

Joyce attended Freeport Schools in the early 50's she maintains a residence in Freeport and Madison, Wisconsin where she attended Madison College and University of Wisconsin- Madison

Parish Notes

Please continue to pray for Ken Lund's father, Vern, and the family as they face a diagnosis of glioblastoma.

Remember in prayer the family and friends of Dale Hallblade following his death.



Judy Douglas and Tom Collins continue to need our prayers and support as they face long illnesses.



As promised, Roger and Sue Springman's new granddaughter Zoe.

September Birthdays

September 2 Peter Morris

September 10 Joyce Boggess

September 17 Tiffany Goettler

September 21 Jennifer Johnson

September 24 Hannah Lund

September 24 Reese Simmons

September Anniversaries

September 5 Trudy and Lowell Nordling

September 24 Peggy and Paul Kent

Personal Essentials Pantry

Item of the Month


Dish Soap – 12 oz.

Please leave in the bin in the front hallway.

Thank you!!

	Host	Nursery	Lay Reader	Projector
September 3	Sue and John Pecotte	Tamsin Ford	Matthew Fledderjohann	Debby Meyer
September 10	Jan and Chuck Gietzel	Matthew Fledderjohann	Ann-Britt Keillor	Mark Hanson
September 17	Tamsin Ford and Peter Morris	Ulrika Swanson	Rod Johnson	Sue Pecotte
September 24	Janis and Mark Hanon	Deb Levin	Joyce Boggess	Michelle Stachowiak
October 1	Elrene and Ken Lund	Deb Levin	Joyce Boggess	Chuck Gietzel

September Calendar

					1 10:00 AM-1:00 PM Personal Essentials Pantry	2 noon-Dale Hallblade Funeral
3 10:25AM Gathering Music 10:30 AM Call to Worship COMMUNION Deacon Fund Offering	4 Labor Day 	5	6	7	8 10:00 AM-1:00 PM Personal Essentials Pantry	9
10 9:15 AM Adult Study Group 10:25AM Gathering Music 10:30 AM Call to Worship	11	12 6:30 PM Leadership Team	13	14	15 10:00 AM-1:00 PM Personal Essentials Pantry	16 Covenant Women Fall Retreat
17 9:15 AM Adult Study Group 10:25AM Gathering Music 10:30 AM Call to Worship Children's Church Covenant Women Fall Retreat	18	19	20	21 10:30 AM Community Meals @Luke House 5:30 PM-7:30 PM Personal Essentials Pantry	22 10:00 AM-1:00 PM Personal Essentials Pantry	23
24 9:15 AM Adult Study Group 10:25AM Gathering Music 10:30 AM Call to Worship Children's Church	25	26	27	28	29 4:30 AM – 7:00 AM Homeless Shelter @ Grace Episcopal 10:00 AM-1:00 PM Personal Essentials Pantry	30

*Shelter Volunteers: Doug Keillor
and Dan Meyer*