



Arbor Covenant Church  
Madison Wisconsin  
November 2021  
Newsletter

### **End of Daylight Savings Time**



November 7 marks the end of Daylight Savings Time. Please remember to set your clocks BACK AN HOUR on Saturday night.

### **Memory, Gratitude and Hope**

During our Sunday worship on November 7th, Arbor Covenant and Foundry 414 will be marking All Saints Day. As it is every year on All Saints Day, it will be a time of memory, gratitude and hope.

On All Saints Day we cling to memories of the saints who have demonstrated the life of faith. We remember their examples, the lessons they taught us, the love that they shared. We remember how those we have loved and lost lived lives that embodied the gospel, participating in God's grace and exciting love.

On All Saints Day we give thanks for the lives of the saints that helped set the course for our lives — the sacrifices they made, the resources they passed on, the gifts they contributed. We give voice to our gratitude for the love we received and the expressions of faith that spoke the story of God's goodness into our lives. We give thanks for a cloud of witnesses that attests to God's constant presence, always abiding with God's people from the rising to the setting sun since time immemorial.

On All Saints Day we set our hopes on God's promises; promises that nothing can separate us from the love of God, that all things are being made new, that every tear will be wiped away, that a day is coming when renewal and restoration will bring forth the wholeness God has always intended for all of creation, including us. We set our hopes on the promise that God intends unity that transcends every boundary — including the boundaries of generations and the apparent finality of death. On All Saints Day we anticipate the promise of a beloved community that includes each of us and all of God's people from every time and place.

This year, as in years past, when we gather, we will include a reading of names of some who now belong among the great cloud of witnesses. Among those names will be past members of the Arbor Covenant Community and others whom we have loved, who have been for us mentors, care-givers, and guides. If you have a person whose name you would like to include on the list we will read, please reach out to me with it.

Also, something new this year will be an invitation to share a short story or reflection during brief group discussions. If you'd like you could have a picture saved on your phone or a photograph that you bring with you to refer to as you share your memories.

*Pastor Peter*

## **Arbor Remembers**

### **Debra Levin**



On October 11, Deb Levin passed away. She was born March 25, 1960 in Superior Michigan.

Her parents were Randy and Jeannette Levin.

Deb was one of nine siblings in the Levin family. Her surviving siblings include Skip, Sue, Pat, Candy, Cindy, Marijo and Tague. She is also survived by 18 nieces and nephews who she treasured and twelve great nieces and nephews. Her nephew Ryne found a second mother with Deb when his mother Pam died unexpectedly. She often invited these children to her home to attend "Camp Deb" where she was able to spoil them with treats.

Deb was a nurse at St. Mary's for many years and friends recall that she was the best nurse they have seen. She was kind and competent and always shared a laugh. In recent years she worked at Hyvee. She loved being in the flower department.

Deb's favorite place was the Levin family cottage on Hagerman Lake in northern Michigan. She hoped to retire there. She always loved to cook and share her treats. Marijo says if she was asked to make three loaves of limpa (Swedish Rye bread), she would show up with ten and then share the leftovers. She always volunteered to organize church potlucks. Deb was a talented basket maker and loved all sorts of craft projects. Deb also loved to travel with her family. Especially notable was a family trip to Alaska and to Switzerland for a family wedding.

Deb was preceded in death by her parents and sister Pam. She will be missed by all who loved her.

<https://www.gundersonfh.com/obituaries/Debra-Debbie-Levin?obId=22660870>

## MESSAGE FROM THE LEVIN FAMILY

To all our friends and family at Arbor,

We thank you all for all that you have done for us in the last few weeks. Deb's death left a big hole in the world for us, her family, as well as many others. Some of them even we don't know. Thank you, church family, for being gracious and welcoming as we all joined together to remember Debbie and talk and laugh and cry. We pray that in the weeks ahead we will all be a little kinder and do something nice for someone as Deb so often did. Thanks so much.

Deb Levin's family

### Lynda Collins



Lynda Collins passed away on October 13. She was born June 16, 1945 and grew up in Yakima Washington. She married Tom Collins in 1967 in Yakima and worked as an elementary school teacher and as administrative assistant in her church. She was a talented pianist and loved crafts of all kinds. As an avid reader she contributed to the yearly Arbor booklist and also loved to cook. She had a great sense of humor, which undoubtedly helped her survive cancer four times. She and Tom worked to plant churches in five states.

Lynda and Tom have two sons, Jason and Greg. They also have five grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and a granddaughter Hope.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/madison/name/lynda-collins-obituary?id=30543232>

## AN UPDATE ON ARBOR'S WORK ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING WITH COMMON WEALTH DEVELOPMENT HOUSING

Pastor Peter, Ken Lund, and I met with the team at Common Wealth Development (CW) on October 22. We learned of CW's work in terms of meeting with City of Madison planning staff as well as their work to estimate a WHEDA (Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority) score for a proposed affordable multi-family project on site. What we learned is that we may want to move more quickly or more slowly than planned.

What we learned is that given our location with limited public transit access and the distance to food shopping (the Pick n' Save off Fish Hatchery Road), our site does not score well enough to get WHEDA tax credits. We also learned that while there is great need for affordable housing in Madison, the existing City Plan for our area does not envision higher density housing although it does exist right across the street from us in the current Town of Madison. In short, the assessment is that we could not get the WHEDA tax credit score at the present time.

There are moving parts here with plans emerging for the inclusion of the Town of Madison into the City, changes anticipated in Madison Metro transit routes, other development in our neighborhood and recognition that Kayser Ford was able to develop over the same storm water easement that crosses

Arbor's property. Could we do the same and have more land to develop on? We also heard of the City's keen interest in keeping Creek Pre-School. This suggests that our vision may be viable, but not yet. Hence, the mention of moving more slowly.

The moving more quickly comment might occur in a couple of ways. First, CW mentioned that land banking (by CW or maybe the City) may be something to consider. If that is feasible and Arbor and CW want to pursue that, Arbor could sell the property to CW and then lease the property for missions including Creek until future development takes place. Alternately, we could look to options for developing affordable senior housing.

Mark Hanson

### **WORK DAY AT ARBOR**

Join us on Saturday, November 13 to provide needed care for our worship spaces, both indoors and out. We will be working from 8:00 am until Noon on a variety of tasks and projects that will be much easier with many hands working on them. Looking forward to seeing you there!



### **THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN/JEWISH FRIENDSHIP GROUP**

The African-American/Jewish Friendship Group will be gathering (in-person at Arbor Covenant Church or via zoom. Nov. 21, 2021 at 5pm) with Joyce Salter Johnson, Rita Hindin and Dawn Shegonee.

Together with Rita, Dawn had the privilege of accompanying Joyce to Newton County, Mississippi this past summer and attending the installation of a Memorial Marker on August 1, 2021 for her ancestor and two others who were lynched near the Freedmen Settlement of Good Hope in Hickory (Newton Co), MS in 1908.

As many of you know, Joyce is a historian who has, among other work, done extensive research to document her family history—including the lynching of her ancestor Frank Johnson, and his neighbors William Fielder and Dee Dawkins.

Joyce's research corroborates and supports work done by the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI: [www.eji.org](http://www.eji.org)). EJI was founded by Bryan Stevenson renowned author of *Just Mercy* and the subject of the film of the same name. Among EJI's profoundly important initiatives, the Memorial Marker Project identifies, documents and establishes memorial markers for Black individuals murdered 1865 -1950, a period of time known as America's Era of Racial Lynchings. Bryan Stevenson found inspiration for EJI's Memorial Marker Project from, at least, two sources: 1) A visit to the Holocaust Memorial near Brandenburg Gate

in Berlin, Germany, 2) The lifework of the late Dr. James Cameron, victim of an attempted but, thankfully, unsuccessful lynching in 1930. Dr. Cameron's near-death experience at age 16 focused his future activities. Inspired by his visit to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem, Israel, Dr. Cameron founded America's Black Holocaust Museum (<https://www.abhmuseum.org>) in Milwaukee, WI. ABHM, among other endeavors, built on Ida B. Wells groundbreaking efforts to identify Blacks who were the victims of lynch mobs.

Wisconsin Senator Tammy Baldwin and Congressman Mark Pocan wrote official proclamations recognizing and acknowledging the importance of the installation of a historical marker for a lynching victim who is the ancestor of a WI resident (and his two fellow victims) and read the proclamations into the records of the US Senate and the US House of Representatives, respectively. In addition to thanking Joyce for her work on bringing this truth to light, they each also recognized the important work of Bryan Stevenson (EJI) and Dr. James Cameron (America's Black Holocaust Museum.)

Rita and I first traveled to Montgomery, Alabama where the Equal Justice initiative's Legacy Museum from Slavery to Mass Incarceration and EJI's National Memorial for Peace and Justice are located. The Legacy Museum is located just a couple of blocks from the river where many thousands of slaves arrived to be sold. We then traveled through Selma to Newton County, Mississippi, where Joyce and many relatives very graciously welcomed us to join them for several days of activities culminating in the installation of the Memorial Marker at the Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Hickory, MS.

We are looking forward to sharing with you one of the most transformative educational, and profound experiences of our lifetime! The program will include slides, power point, and photographs

Dawn Shegonee

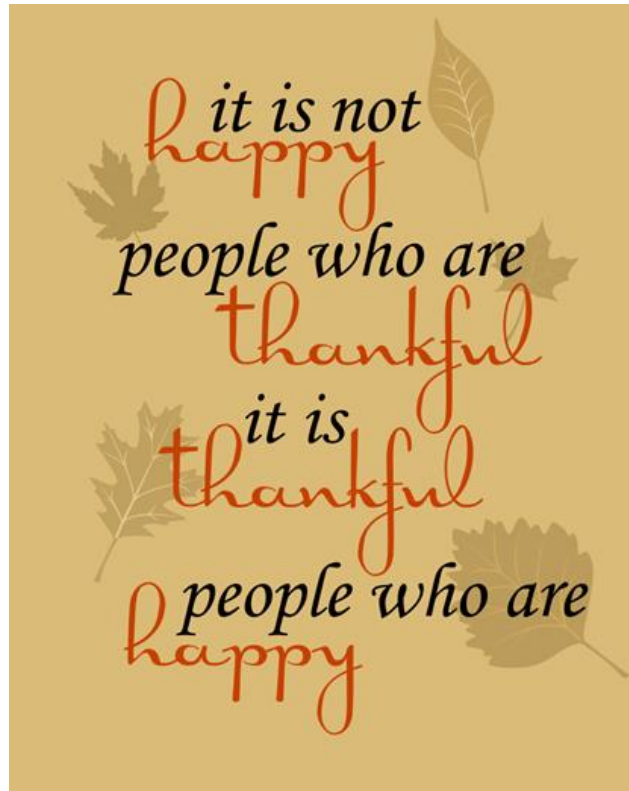
#### **NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM OFFICERS**

**Chair: Jan Gietzel**

**Vice Chair: Ken Lund**

**Secretary: Deb McGill**

**Treasurer: Ulrika Swanson**





ARBOR COVENANT CHURCH FINANCIAL OVERVIEW			
January 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021			
	Offerings & Creek Reimbursements Received	Actual Expenses	Net Income (Loss)
	Year-to-Date	Year-to-Date	Year-to-Date
General Offerings and CD Interest	\$ 28,633.55		
Creek Day School Reimbursement	\$ 19,038.00		
TOTAL	\$ 47,671.55	\$ 77,836.55	\$ (30,165.00)
***PPP Loan***	\$ 14,542.50	including \$2,125 to FFBWW and \$527.36 to janitor gifts	\$ (15,622.50) or -\$11,902.50 including FFBWW, garden, and janitor gift funds received as noted below
Special Funds (Non-Budgeted) Received YTD	TOTAL		
Deacon	\$ 30.00		
Good Neighbors Pantry	\$ 7,121.20		
Levin Camp	\$ 25.00		
Memorial			
Women's Ministries			
World Relief			
Youth Mission			
Other (bank int, FFBWW, garden, janitor gifts)	\$ 3,721.56		

Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry  
 Item of the Month  
 Skin Lotion (10 oz or larger)

**November Birthdays**

- November 4 Mark Hanson
- November 11 Will Woofter
- November 23 Doug Keillor

## November 2021 Calendar

	1	2	3	4 7:00 Small Group Study	5 10:00 AM-noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry	
7 <i>End of Daylight Savings Time All Saints Day</i> 10:30 AM Church around the Table	8	9	10	11 7:00 Small Group Study	12 10:00 AM-noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry	13 8:00-Noon Workday At Arbor
14 10:30 Learning Circles	15 6:45 PM Leadership Team	16	17	18 5:30 PM-7:00 PM Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry 7:00 Small Group Study	19 10:00 AM-noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry	20
21 10:30 AM Church around the Table	22	23	24	25 <i>Thanksgiving</i> 	26 10:00 AM-noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry	27
28 10:30 Learning Circles	29	30				