



**Arbor Covenant Church
Madison Wisconsin**

**Newsletter
August 2022**

There are several ways you can worship at Memorial UCC on Sundays.

YOU MAY ATTEND IN PERSON

5705 Lacy Road
Fitchburg



IF YOU WORSHIP ON ZOOM:

- **To Login for worship at 9:30 am:** [CLICK HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 773 905 311

Password: 5705

Or call In: 1-312-626-6799

(depending on your phone carrier, long distance charges may apply)

If you experience technical difficulties during worship on Zoom, consider shifting to YouTube to join the service.

YOU MAY ATTEND ON YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MemorialUCC>

After the UCC service, Arbor may gather back at our property for additional activities including socialization with our friends at Memorial UCC or others. This is a chance to hang out in the garden at Arbor at 11am, where we'll maybe do some light watering and weeding along with some conversation about the morning's Bible story and whatever else is going on in our lives.

We will all be kept updated about these activities by email before each Sunday

Pastor Peter Morris' Thoughts

My family and I recently returned from a long road trip that reached all the way east to Canada's Maritime provinces. On it, we saw lots of beautiful scenery, ate plenty of seafood, and spent hours and hours in the car. Considering that he's still just six and that he's got tons of energy, Theo did surprisingly well passing the time in the backseat. He was also a trooper when it came to humoring his parents while enduring activities that weren't always geared to a first grader. He survived museums and hikes and even managed to watch us slurp down raw oysters, but there did come a point on the trip when he confessed his boredom and told us that he just wanted a kid his age to play with.

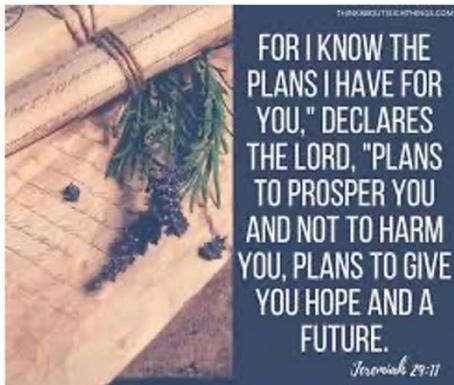
When we pulled up to our tent at a campground on Cape Breton Island, it appeared that his hopes might have been fulfilled. Playing outside the tent next to ours was a young boy about his age. Everything seemed great until we noticed the Quebec license plate on his family's car. As things turned out, Luka, the six-year-old in the site next to ours spoke almost no English, and until that day I'm not sure that Theo even knew there was a language called French.

But over the next couple of days, even without a common tongue, it was all but impossible to keep the two of them apart. With some translation help from their moms, they spoke a sort of "Franglish", but more than anything their shared language consisted of laughter and smiles, kicking a soccer ball, and sifting through Pokemon cards. Despite their differences they formed a fast friendship. Looking back, it seems like their collective desire to have fun and make a new friend was all the intention they needed to overcome all that might have otherwise kept them apart.

It feels like there is a lesson to learn from Luka and Theo — that friendships can happen in unlikely places and that open hearts can erase lots of divisions. These days it can feel like we're all speaking different languages. As life becomes increasingly polarized and isolated it seems like differences in ideology, perspective, and experience have us talking past each other and failing to connect in the life-giving ways that help us all thrive. In these societal conditions, I wonder if we couldn't all benefit from being a bit more like six-year-old kids who just want to play, are quick to share a smile, and ready and willing to make a friend.

Jesus talked about the need "to become like a child" to enter the kingdom of God — a kingdom well understood as the genuine sort of community that God intends for all of us. Maybe part of the idea that Jesus is sharing equates to something as simple as us emulating the openness of Luka and Theo. Maybe it has to do with our willingness to bring good intentions to our encounters with the neighbors who might speak or understand the world differently than we do. Maybe it's an invitation to open our hearts and cultivate a sort of playfulness that doesn't deny differences but also doesn't take them so seriously that they prevent the possibility for surprising friendships.

Common Wealth Progress



Arbor received a draft offer to purchase during the third week of July. The offer is using a land contract consistent with the terms discussed at the June 19 Congregational Meeting. Ken Lund, Pastor Peter Morris, and I have reviewed the draft. We will be asking for clarification on one item. We will also be requesting a draft lease as that will be needed at the point of transfer. The terms of a lease have been discussed with Common Wealth. Thus, we anticipate we will be reviewing a lease that will be workable for both Arbor and Common Wealth Development.

Once the clarification is made and a lease is in hand, we will be in discussion with the Leadership Team on having those documents reviewed by our lawyers. Once things are in final form, we will share further information with the Leadership Team and then the Congregation. The final decision on the sale and lease will be up to the Congregation at a Congregational Meeting.

Mark Hanson

Expanding our Mission

An exciting program is coming to Arbor in September in collaboration with Jewish Social Services. There are many Swahili-speaking neighbors in our immediate area and Refugee Wellness Coordinator at JSS, Stephanie Taylor, has requested use of our building for 8 sessions to help these neighbors assimilate into the community. This request is the result of a connection with Joyce Boggess and demonstrates the possibilities of serving our neighborhood if we make ourselves open to the opportunities that God presents to us.

Parish Notes

Sebastian Duran

Last month we shared that Roger and Sue Springman welcomed a new grandson, Sebastian.

Here is a picture of the three of them and Sebastian's big sister Zoe. Sebastian was born on June 3. His parents are Lindsey Springman Duran and Jose Luis Duran. Congratulations to all.



William Brown Colby

Karin Brown Colby and Ryan Colby welcomed a son on July 28 in Swarthmore Pennsylvania. William Brown Colby (Will) has an older sister Eva.

Grandparents Kris and Phil Brown are looking forward to meeting him in August.



Helen McGill



Our sympathies to the McGill Hanson family following the death of Deb's mother Helen. The family had planned to gather for Helen's 95th birthday but instead celebrated a wonderful life well lived.

Our sympathies to Deb and Glenn, Kyle and Heather, Erika and Jordan and all the grandchildren.

<https://www.griffinfuneralhome.com/obituary/helen-mcgill>

Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry

For the summer, coffee and goodies, and the opportunity to talk with our neighbors has returned to the Pantry. With the help of many of you, the Pantry finally has returned to some of its community flavor again. From 10 am – Noon Friday mornings, not only is the Pantry helping meet the needs of those who are suffering from job loss, chronic poverty, serious illness or the effects of dysfunctional families by providing personal and household hygiene products, but we have combined it with Arbor's Farmer's Market. If you would like to be involved with the Pantry or even just want to buy some great vegetables from the Community Garden, join us on Friday mornings.

Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry

Item of the Month

Sunscreen (any size)

Please bring donations to church during the hours we staff the Pantry (see calendar)

Garden News

We have changed our farmer's market format to Fridays during the Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry time. (10:00 AM-12:00 noon)

Produce from the garden will be available for purchase beginning July 22. Plan to stop by and see what is available!!

Memorial UCC is maintaining a lot in our Community Garden and is donating all their produce to the Arbor Farmer's Market to enhance our neighborhood outreach.





Please support The Madison Greenhouse Store
 The owner, Tiffany, donates plants for our church garden
 1354 Williamson Street
 Madison, Wisconsin 53703

ARBOR COVENANT CHURCH FINANCIAL OVERVIEW				
January 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022				
	Offerings & Creek		Actual Expenses	Net Income (Loss)
	Reimbursements Received		Year-to-Date	Year-to-Date
	Year-to-Date			
General Offerings and CD Interest	\$ 20,855.09			
Creek Day School Reimbursement	\$ 13,035.00			
foundry414 Utilities	\$ 1,000.00			
TOTAL	\$ 34,890.09		\$ 39,603.42	\$ (4,713.33)
Special Funds (Non-Budgeted) Received YTD				
	TOTAL			
Deacon	\$ 225.00			
Good Neighbors Pantry	\$ 7,573.97			
Levin Camp				
Memorial	\$ 1,050.00			
Women's Ministries				
World Relief				
Youth Mission				
Other (bank interest)	\$ 0.01			

August Birthdays

August 2	Tom Collins
August 8	Sue Engstrom
August 8	Dan Kessenich
August 9	Susan Corrado
August 13	Ruth Hallblade
August 22	Ulrika Swanson
August 26	Roger Springman

August 2022 Calendar

	1	2	3	4	5 10:00 AM-noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry	6
7 9:30 AM Worship Memorial UCC 11:00 AM Garden meeting	8	9	10	11	12 10:00 AM-noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry	13
14 9:30 AM Worship Memorial UCC 11:00 AM Garden meeting	15 6:45 PM Leadership Team	16	17	18 5:30 PM-7:00 PM Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry	19 10:00 AM-noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry	20
21 9:30 AM Worship Memorial UCC 11:00 AM Garden meeting	22	23	24	25	26 10:00 AM-noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry	27
28 9:30 AM Worship Memorial UCC 11:00 AM Garden meeting	29	30	31			