



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>

For a few years, the community at Arbor Covenant has been working to reimagine ourselves and our ministry. Bolstered by years of friendship and shared mission and strengthened by the sustaining presence of the Holy Spirit, we tried new things. We explored new partnerships. We experimented with new expressions. We brainstormed about ways that we can extend genuine hospitality to our neighbors, where we don't just serve with our resources but look to make space for the people around us to use their gifts in meaningful ways. Some attempts haven't worked. Some ideas haven't blossomed. The pandemic has created new challenges we didn't anticipate. But through it all, God's faithfulness has been evident. So too has the faithfulness of members and friends of the Arbor Covenant Community.

This fall will be the beginning a new phase of this process of "reimagination," one in which we will dig deeper into some existing relationships while seeking to find more creative ways to serve God and connect to and make space for our neighbors.

For years we've had a fruitful collaborative relationship with Memorial UCC. We've partnered with them (along with All Saints Lutheran) to start and sustain the Good Neighbors Personal Essential Pantry. We've also shared meaningful worship services with them, beginning with Advent and Holy Week events and more recently with sustained participation in their weekly worship. As we head into the fall months, we will look to enhance and extend these connections by continuing to worship alongside our friends from Memorial on Sunday mornings. With preaching from Memorial's Pastor Kris Gorton and me (and others), along with opportunities for our members to connect musically (and in other ways), we will all have the chance to have a consistent, traditional worship service week in and week out, along with programs for children and regular Sunday morning fellowship.

Along with this consistent, traditional worship opportunity our fall plans also include opportunities to create something different. The hope is to offer a monthly "less-conventional" community worship opportunity. In September it will be a Harvest Festival on the 25th, with food and conversation and the chance to reflect on/give thanks for all the good things God's grace continues to produce all around us. In subsequent months we'll do other things; maybe a service project, maybe more meals, maybe a chance or two for us to experiment with new ways to express our faith while we connect to God and each other. *Note, these events won't conflict with 9:30am worship at Memorial, but take place later in the morning so people can participate in both if they choose.

Along with deepening our collaborative partnership with Memorial and monthly worship experiments at Arbor, this fall will also include next steps in our ongoing effort to co-create affordable housing on our site with Common Wealth Development. This potential project has progressed slowly. There have been fits and starts. We've had to scrap ideas and head back to the drawing board. But at this point the parameters of a promising agreement have taken shape — one that will give Arbor flexibility and an influx of resources providing options and possibilities for our future, while generating up to 60 new units of much-needed affordable housing. *Note it will also see to the ongoing space requirements of Creek Day School and its much-needed community mission to offer quality childcare.

This fall will also give us the chance to continue a process wherein I believe we can continue to reimagine how Arbor Covenant Church's facility can be utilized as a mission house. A place where worship and spiritual formation can happen, alongside a whole host of opportunities that can be created for us and our neighbors to grow and learn and find meaningful relationships. The newest opportunity will be facilitated by a new partner, Jewish Social Services. They are establishing "wellness groups" for Swahili speaking immigrants who live in south Madison and North Fitchburg in our building on Saturday afternoons. This collaboration is an intentional step to further understand how our space can be utilized as a beacon of resources and connection for immigrant and refugee communities that live nearby the church's property.

The last few years have been filled with lots of change. Some of it has been purposeful, some of it has been adaptation to the pandemic. This fall we will have the chance to lean into exciting opportunities we have cultivated. We will also have the chance to continue to imagine new possibilities. If you have ideas or concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to share them with me.

Women's Ministries

Women's Ministries of the Central Conference is once again holding a Fall Retreat. It will be held at Covenant Harbor Bible Camp on September 16-18. The theme is "For Such a Time as This" from Esther 4:14. The speaker is Jennifer Shaw.

Registration is online at covenantharbor.org/fall-fellowship. If you want more information about the retreat, please call Ruth Hallblade at 608 212-0291. We have two or three going and would love to have more join us.

Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry

Item of the Month

Toothpaste 6 oz

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

Home Alter

Our church subscribes to the Covenant Home Alter. We have received notice that it is time to renew. For 10 copies, it's \$71. We don't know who, if anyone, has been using them. The thought was that if no one else uses them, we will not renew. They are available online at covchurch.org and individual subscriptions can be purchased for \$15/year for 4 quarterly issues.

If you use this subscription, please let Ulrika Swanson know. You can look online or subscribe individually. If enough people are interested, we will renew the church's subscription



A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY

On Monday, August 22, a small group of people from Arbor's and Memorial UCC's leadership teams met via Zoom to talk about how collaboration is being viewed and experienced between the two churches. Those of us who have attended Memorial's traditional Sunday Worship Service, when either Pastor Peter or Pastor Kris has preached, have felt warmly welcomed and included. Memorial participates in both the Community Garden at Arbor and as a partner in the Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry and seems excited about expanding collaborative experiences.

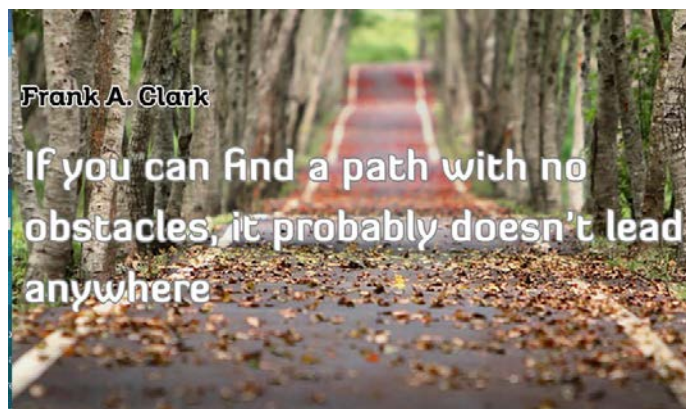
Our Leadership Team wanted to explore Memorial's willingness to combine our efforts and collaborate on the opportunities afforded by our intention to develop affordable housing on our property and use our current church building as a community resource and mission center for the neighborhood of which we are a part and for the wider community. Current usage now involves Creek Day School, the Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry, the Arbor Neighborhood Association, the African American/Jewish Friendship Group, an upcoming series of Wellness Sessions developed with Swahili-speaking community residents by Jewish Social Services and a new grant program developed by University of Wisconsin Hospitals Social Workers to serve mothers of newborn babies who are underserved or homeless. Caseworkers are delivering needed products from GNPEP to these new mothers. All of these programs allow the sharing of God's grace directly to new groups of people and utilize our building resources in innovative ways that benefit our community.

Leaders from Memorial expressed their openness to move forward in a truly collaborative way combining resources from both churches and asked our Leadership Team to provide a more detailed vision on how the two congregations could merge their efforts and worship in the future. This will be the main topic of our Arbor Leadership Team Zoom Meeting at 6:45 pm on Monday, September 12th.

We will send out a link to the meeting so that anyone who wants to join in the conversation of this important issue can do so. This is a challenging and exciting time!

Jan Gietzel

Leadership Team Chair



Parish News

Grace Harrison Obituary



Grace E. (Hansen) Harrison, 96, of Fence, WI, died Wednesday, August 17, 2022.

She was born Oct. 20, 1925, in Ingalls, MI, daughter of the late Henry and Anna (Johnson) Hansen. Grace attended Wildwood Elementary and was a graduate of Stephenson High School. On September 10, 1949, she was married to Norman A. Harrison at Bethlehem Covenant Church in Stephenson.

Grace worked as a lifelong seamstress, honing her talent with Manchester Home Interiors in Madison prior to running her own private contracting business from her home. This allowed Grace, as the proud mother of seven boys, to fulfill her true passion and calling to care for her family. Grace was a faithful member of the Fence Bible Church and, with Norman's partnership and help, took very seriously her duty to teach her faith to her children. In what little spare time Grace enjoyed, she took pleasure in art through her beautiful paintings, working her flower garden and in singing, particularly with the "Singing Strings". Grace will always be lovingly remembered for the way she shared her love and talents with others.

Grace will be deeply missed by her sons, Randy (Marge) of Fence, Terry of Kingsford, Sam (Kim) of Pardeeville, WI, Tom (Lori) of Fence, James (Janet) of Fence, Scott of Iron Mountain and Todd of Fence; 19 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; 4 great-great-grandchildren; a sister, Donna Mae; and 2 sisters-in-law, Gladys Harrison and Eleanor Hansen.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 72 years, Norman A. Harrison; her parents; and 8 siblings.

Visitation will be at the Fence Bible Church, 583 Memory Ln., Fence, WI, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. noon on September 3, 2022, with Pastor Tim Smith officiating the Memorial Service at noon. Burial will be in the Fence Cemetery.

Grace Harrison Remembrance

Written by Gunnard Swanson

Grace (Hanson) Harrison was born in Stephenson, Michigan. She married Norman Harrison in 1949 and started attending Arbor Covenant Church in 1968.

Grace and Norman and their seven boys were a part of our congregation until, one by one, the boys left for their careers. Grace and Norman transferred their membership in 1993 when they returned to Norman's home town of Fence, Wisconsin, when he retired from his career as a surveyor.

Grace was a faithful member of Arbor Covenant Church. She sang in the choir for many years. She attended women's meetings and contributed to the life of Arbor during the years they lived in Oregon.

Grace was an amazing seamstress. In the early years she sewed clothes for her seven boys. In the later years, she was well-respected as a quilter and a designer of draperies. She had a long table in the basement workshop of their house where she could lay yards and yards of drapery material. Norm would help her when draperies needed unique rods and other hangers.

Grace was also an amateur painter. She began painting in her later years. She usually painted images that were already in print--a postcard, a calendar picture, or other printed format. There is an oil painting of a church which Grace gave to Arbor Covenant which hung in the narthex for a number of years. Grace may have known that the church was located in Göteborg, Sweden; but she did not know that the actual photograph showed the reversed image of the church. A Swedish visitor to the church saw the picture in the narthex and remarked that, although the painting was a very good representation of the church where she worshiped as a child, it was backwards.

Visiting Family



Kris and Phil Brown traveled to Pennsylvania in August to meet their new grandson, William Brown Colby. They spent a week cuddling with Baby Will and playing with his big sister Eva.

September Birthdays

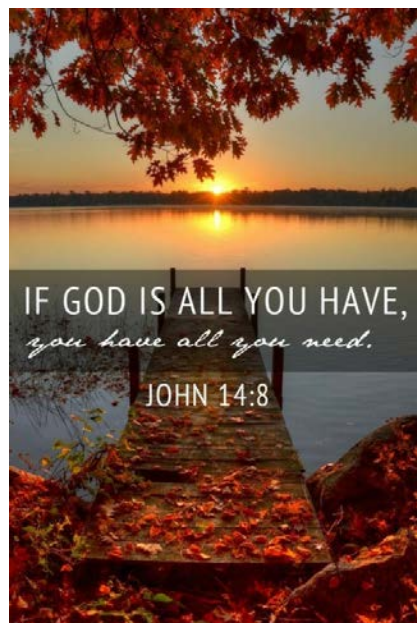
September 2	Peter Morris
September 10	Joyce Boggess
September 24	Reese Simmons

September Anniversary


September 5	Trudy and Lowell Nordling (67 years)
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ARBOR COVENANT CHURCH FINANCIAL OVERVIEW					
January 1, 2022 - July 31, 2022					
	Offerings & Creek		Actual Expenses		Net Income (Loss)
	Reimbursements Received		Year-to-Date		Year-to-Date
	Year-to-Date				
General Offerings and CD Interest	\$ 27,358.34				
Creek Day School Reimbursement	\$ 15,220.00				
foundry414 Utilities	\$ 1,000.00				
TOTAL	\$ 43,578.34		\$ 43,410.13		\$ 168.21
Special Funds (Non-Budgeted) Received YTD					
	TOTAL				
Deacon	\$ 225.00				
Good Neighbors Pantry	\$ 12,623.97				
Levin Camp					
Memorial	\$ 1,050.00				
Women's Ministeries					
World Relief					
Youth Mission					
Other (bank interest)	\$ 0.01				



September 2022 Calendar

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