



HILLTOP HERALD-OCTOBER 2024

MONONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Saturday, November 23, 2024

HOLIDAY VENDOR & CRAFT BAZAAR

9 am to 3 pm (setup at 7 am) in Narthex and Fellowship Hall

Our Narthex is reserved for church crafts and baked goods as well as fair trade sales!

Volunteers are needed for setup, watching sale tables, clean-up, and food prep and serving. Will you help? Contact the church office or signup on the sheet in fellowship hall.

Homemade Bake Sale items needed:

Frosted cookies, bars, pies, nut breads

Suggestions for art and crafting:

Make items that you buy or see people buying at shows. Strive for price points of \$15 or less on most items.

Make multiple colors or styles of the same item so buyers have choices.

Focus on popular hobbies if possible: gifts or items for the pet lover, gardener, quilter, foodie, birder, reader, camper, biker, sports fan.

Please let the church office know what crafts you are making so we can plan for the table space needed.

ADULT GAME DAY

October 4, 10 a.m.

The first Friday of the month is Game Day! Come join us for some good times together in the Fellowship Hall. We're not a cut-throat group at all. In fact we kind of root for each other. Forget your cares for a bit and come have some fun. All are very welcome.

INTERGENERATIONAL CHOIR SUNDAY OCTOBER 6

Join Shirley Robinson our director of the Intergenerational Choir on **Sunday October 6** for rehearsal at 9:15am. You will sing that morning for our World Communion Sunday Service. We are singing Hymn #2235a "We Are Singing" from the Black Book.



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY - OCTOBER 6

World Communion Sunday is our yearly reminder that there is a unity and oneness given to us in Jesus Christ, and that God's will for creation is peace and harmony. With threats of world violence, the needs of those who had to flee their home, and even divided Christian denominations, we are invited to the Communion Table as a political act that subverts the boundaries that separate people, as a sign of our unity and of God's love for all.

We will receive one of the special offerings designated by our denomination to support World Communion Scholarships, administered by the General Board of Global Ministries and Ethnic Scholarship and Ethnic In-Service Training programs related to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Your generosity can help support the work of the worldwide church.

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Fall has arrived in Wisconsin. Many people have told me that their favorite season in Wisconsin is fall, and I can understand why. Wisconsin has numerous breathtakingly beautiful places. My family and I have explored some of them. The changing seasons remind me of how beautiful and faithful our heavenly Father is. God is at work, even when we can't notice it. Good things are constantly unfolding in God's hands. That's why we shouldn't be discouraged when faced with challenges that seem insurmountable. Our God is good, beautiful, merciful, and faithful. As pastor of this church, I've grown more comfortable with the new people, surroundings, and responsibilities. In September, I launched two Bible studies (on Tuesdays and Thursdays), revived our youth ministry, and visited several home-bound members and shut-ins with Mark Buffat, our care coordinator. Our dear secretary, Kay DeBaal, has been dealing with an unexpected medical issue, but I trust it will ultimately prove to be a blessing in disguise for her and our church. It's heartening to see more people coming to the church on weekdays to share their time and energy, supporting our office work. The church's vibrant energy is palpable. I've observed that our members are caring, loving, and willing to take bold action when needed. Through Bible studies, I've deepened connections with members, sharing laughter, stories, and growth. Our leadership training yielded valuable insights for effective ministry, and I'm grateful for our dedicated leaders' passion. I also appreciated the Church and Society group's forum on voting rights for the common good. I hope more members will engage with these discussions to become better equipped as Christians, transforming the world. Community Meals are a highlight for me. They provide opportunities for our church to connect with the community. Several visitors have joined our Sunday worship services, bringing joy. Let's continue doing good works! In October, we'll install live-streaming equipment and screens in the sanctuary. Our future shines bright. Good things will continue unfolding in God's hands. Let's keep our hope alive. Attempt great things for God; expect great things from God.

God's peace and grace be with y'all!

Pastor Yohan

BIBLE PASSAGES & THEMES

10:00AM SERVICE

October 6 – 20th Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday, Multi-Cultural Worship Service

"Fear of the Other" (John 19:16-20)

October 13 – 21st Sunday after Pentecost

AJ Feucht is preaching

October 20 – 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Philippians (5) "The Surpassing worth of knowing Christ"

Philippians 3:1-24

October 27– 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Philippians (6) "God's peace transcending our understanding"

Philippians 4:4-7

ALTAR FLOWERS



We welcome donations of flowers for our altar on Sundays. If you would like to give flowers on a particular Sunday, please contact the church office or use the volunteer Sign Up Genius link found in this newsletter. Flowers may be dropped off on Fridays 9am-2pm or on Sunday mornings. Thanks for brightening up our worship space.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Briar Patch

Your donations this month can help many homeless and runaway youth in Dane County.

Briar Patch is celebrating 50 years of service. It is estimated that 300 youth are homeless each night; this shelter on Rimrock Rd. has 8 beds and welcomes all gender identities ages 12-17. They also offer individual counseling, family counseling and a 24-hour helpline.

Street Outreach Program utilizes a paid staff and trained volunteers to contact youth living on the streets and connect them with resources to keep them safe and healthy. Every year this program reaches more than 3,000 youth giving out personal care products, food, drink and information items.

Teens Like Us Program (TLU) started 20 years ago and supports LGBTQIA teens ages 13-18. It provides a safe place for lesbian, gay and transgender youth to gather with their peers.

Thank you very much for giving to this dire need in our community by marking your envelope Briar Patch.

The Mission Team

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SIGNUP

We have an online Volunteer Sign Up Genius listing with the volunteer jobs needed for worship each week. We would especially like to fill the **Ushers** and Fellowship Hosts position. Please check your schedules and sign on using the link below. You can also send an email to the church office with your requested dates.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094DA8AE22AB9-volunteer>

READ 'EM & MEET

We will meet on **Sunday, October 13** at 2:00pm to discuss the book, *Spare* by Prince Harry. Our hostess is Phyllis Stertz. Visitors and new members are always welcome to attend.

GET READY TO EXPLORE: INAUGURAL SW DISTRICT CHURCH TOUR ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 10, 2024



We're thrilled to announce the Inaugural SW District Historic Church Bus Tour on October 10, 2024! Join us as we fill a bus with fellow church enthusiasts and explore the autumn beauty and history of our district's churches. Working alongside Concordia UMC Lay Person, Lew Dillon and Retired Elder, Rev. Scott Walters, we promise a day full of inspiration and community.

Julie Schwerin, the wife of Bishop Dan Schwerin, will join us on the tour. Julie is the author of *What Was Here* (Folded Word Press), *Walking Away From the Sunset* (Brooks Books) and *still growing wings* (Backbone Press). Julie's presence with us will be an exciting addition as the town of Mineral Point is known as the "Cradle of American Haiku," and she will share her knowledge about this!

The bus tour costs \$60, and it includes lunch, the bus's cost, tips, and an honorarium for the churches we are visiting. You can pay online with this registration.

[Click here to register](#)

Contact Amanda Stein <astein@wisconsinumc.org> for more information.

THANK YOU

Sending heartfelt thanks for the cards, texts, emails, treats, support and love that I have been getting from my special church family! I feel the love poured out on me. I am so blessed to have such great office volunteers as well as the support and prayers of Pastor Yohan and the whole congregation. Your kindness means the world to me as I wait for the doctors to decide on future treatment needs.

Kay DeBaal

MUMC MEN'S GROUP

All men of the church are invited to the Men's Group breakfast that will take place on **Saturday, October 12** at 9:00 am at Tully's II on corner of Monona Drive and Broadway. Come and enjoy great food and fellowship.

HILLTOPPERS

Hilltoppers will meet on **Monday, October 14th** at 11:00 am. This month's program will be presented by Mark Buffet on the ins and outs of Solar energy in our homes, cars, and church. Learn about the how's and why's of an energy source right in our backyards and what our local energy companies are doing to make this source available to us. Bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Life, at times, can be filled with disappointments or difficult decisions, or challenging situations that leave us feeling overwhelmed. We need not face these tough times alone. A Stephen Minister is ready to walk along with you. To find out more or to request a Stephen Minister, speak with Pastor Yohan or Mark Buffat (608) 335-5063.

THANK YOU

Dear Friends of The River,
Thank you! Your donation to The River Food Pantry helps to nourish over 2,500 people in Dane County every week.

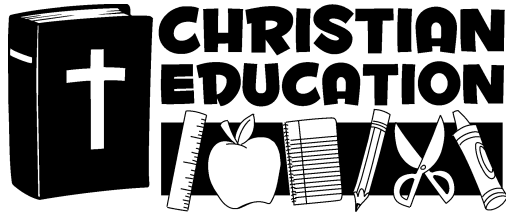
Because of you, record numbers of local households experiencing food insecurity have access to free groceries and freshly prepared meals for pickup or delivery, online grocery orders, mobile meals, and after-hours food lockers.

This summer, our Munch mobile meals truck has been busy delivering healthy meals and fresh produce 5 days a week to children and adults in 24 low-income neighborhoods. One day, a boy picked up a mango and shared that he had never tried one before. Our Program Assistant, Jessica, showed him how to cut and twist one open to eat like a lollipop. As he chowed down on his first, fresh, healthy mango, the boy exclaimed, "I didn't know you could do that. This is so cool!"

This is just one example of how you impact lives through your support of The River—South Central Wisconsin's busiest food pantry. Whether it's new fruits or old favorites, sharing free, healthy food with our neighbors in need is made possible by generous supporters like you.

With gratitude,

Rhonda Adams
Executive Director
Monica Wahlberg
Director of Development



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Children's Sunday School program is on Sundays **at 9:00am until 9:50am**. Thank you to Sabrina Jacobus and Jason Mittag for being our dedicated teachers. We would love to have additional teachers in order to provide flexibility for all. Prep work for lessons will be minimal. Please contact the church office (secretarymumc@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested or have any questions.

CLASS 101: THE GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL GOD

By James Smith

Do you know who God is? Do you desire to know God more deeply? In this course 101: The Good and Beautiful God, you can experience transformation by challenging false beliefs about God by discovering the God that Jesus revealed in Scripture. Tuesdays at 5:30pm and Thursdays 10am.

Week	Topic	Soul Training
Week 4 October 2	God Is Generous	Praying Psalm 23
Week 5 October 9	God Is Love	Lectio Divina
Week 6 October 16	God Is Holy	Margin
Week 7 October 23	God Is Self-Sacrificing	Reading the Gospel of John
Week 8 October 30	God Transforms	Solitude
Week 9 November 6	How to Make a pickle	Slowing down

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

On God's Side: What Religion Forgets and Politics Hasn't Learned about Serving the Common Good by Jim Wallis
We meet in the church library on Sundays after coffee hour (11:30am - 12:30pm) December 22. We buy our own books.

OUR WEBSITE

Check out our website: www.mononaunitedmethodistchurch.org

- We have the recorded weekly sermon available on our website, Facebook and YouTube channel..
- We have a **Giving** tab on our website to make a donation with your credit card or checking account. To make donating easier, use our QR Code.



ADULT AND PEDIATRIC CPR, AED AND FIRST AID CLASSES

Monona UMC is hosting CPR, AED and First Aid classes and you are invited to attend a class for free. Please contact the church office if you are interested. There will be portion completed on your computer and an in-person portion. The next date included is: October 26.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW) INFORMATION

FALL GATHERING

The United Methodist Women-Executive Board will be hosting the UMW Fall Potluck on **Tuesday, October 8** starting at 5pm. Bring a dish to share. Beverages and table serve are provided. All are welcome, members, spouses and or friends. Our program will be provided by a musical group called “Central Strings” (a group of retired and fun loving string players). Ukeleles, Guitars and percussion with many options to sing along.

Friendship Circle will gather on **October 9, 1:30 pm**, in the Fellowship Hall. We'll catch up with each other on summer fun and happenings. In addition, be thinking about and bring ideas for our 2024-25 program plans. Our involvement and support of the upcoming Fall Bazaar will be a focus. Even if you are not a current member, please come and visit with us. All are welcome.

Faith Circle will meet on **Thursday October 10th** at 1:00 PM at the home of Anna Mae Wilken, 704 Tompkins Dr.
Call Jan Wanek at 608-395-2433 with questions.

JAVA JIVE

Pathways to Creating a Just Food System
Adapted from the EX Website

The global economic system is plagued with abuse and injustice. Since the power in global supply chains favors those with size and wealth, most of the people who grow, process, and produce our food suffer poverty wages, unsafe work conditions, and other rights violations. Small-scale farmers and workers are consistently marginalized and disempowered.

Over 1000 family farmers have organized under a program called the Real Organic Project (ROP). The ROP states that “The USDA has failed to enforce important aspects of the organic law. As a result, it has become ever harder for small to mid-sized farms to survive while staying true to organic principles. In the face of corporate theft of the USDA seal, the organic community united in creating the Real Organic Project. We are championing an “add-on” label for greater marketplace transparency.”

This U.S.-based movement of like-minded committed organic farmers who view soil health as a key aspect of organic is alive and strong. They continue to use the USDA organic certification as a baseline and have developed an add-on label similar to some European countries. These pioneer farmers once again created a way to differentiate themselves in the marketplace by organizing together. With this add-on label to the USDA organic label, consumers can know that their food is grown in healthy fertile soil and animals are raised on pasture, which is healthier for the land. Today, we are starting to see the ROP logo on fruits and vegetables in the marketplace and at farmer’s markets throughout the country.

Thank you all for your continued support of our church's Fair Trade Mission!
Jackie Hull c 608-576-7847
Karelyn Hopkins c 608-577-3185
Coordinators

SAINTS DAY TO BE OBSERVED

Sunday, November 3 is All Saints Day, the day the church sets aside to remember those who have died during this past year, especially those from our fellowship and families. You are invited to email or call the church office with the names of people who have been a part of your life, who have died since last November. During the prayer time, we will read the names aloud as we light a candle for them.

SPECIAL MUSIC IN WORSHIP

We continue to welcome and encourage your ideas/plans for providing special music to enhance our services when our choir isn’t singing. We have a process in place to assure music appropriateness, schedule availability, and supportive logistics are in place. Please submit your ideas via a form that is available in the church office and our Committee will take it from that point. Thank you again for your ideas to enhance the music ministry of MUMC. Worship Committee



have
ideas
take

RIVER FOOD PANTRY

We have stopped collecting egg cartons for the River Food Pantry. Tim is running out of places that will accept them. **Paper grocery bags** are always in high demand for The River. They also will take any non-perishable and shelf stable goods. Some other highly requested items for The River include:

*Tuna Helper & tuna *Low-sugar cereals

*Low-sodium canned vegetables

*No sugar-added canned fruit

*100% juice products; *Pasta, Rice

*Personal hygiene items, including disposable diapers all sizes, (including adult sizes)

HOW DO WE TALK WITH OUR ELECTED LEADERS ABOUT SOCIAL JUSTICE?

This fall, Monona United Methodist Church is continuing our collaboration with the justice ministries team at St. Stephens Lutheran Church as we explore the social justice topic of voting—for the common good of all of our citizens.

On **Friday, October 25**, we will welcome Cynthia Crane, Director of the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin. Cindy will offer us insight "beyond voting" suggesting how we can continue to work within government systems to get our voices heard on critical social justice issues.

At our first fall event in September we had a panel presentation about why we should vote and how to cast our ballots. The panel for the evening included Rev. Breanna Illéné, Director of Justice Initiatives for the Wisconsin Council of Churches, David Liners, Executive Director of Wisdom, and Maribeth Witzel-Behl, Madison City Clerk.

In November we will conclude our consideration of voting with a post-election follow-up about the areas where we want to stay engaged with the officials we have just elected.

Please join us on **Friday, October 25** in Fellowship Hall at Monona United Methodist Church as we examine this critical topic from the perspective of how to talk with our elected leaders to ensure that they are serving the common good. 'Meet and greet' at 6:00. Program begins at 6:30.

LeeAnn Sinclair, Monona United Methodist Church

\$ Financial Report \$

Cash Flow August 31, 2024

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$ 29,089	\$ 198,295
General Operating Expenses	23,664	200,276
Net Surplus (Shortfall)	<u>\$ 5,425</u>	<u>\$ (1,981)</u>
General Fund Balance August 31 2024		<u>\$ 72,269</u>

STEWARDSHIP - JUST HANGING ON

Once upon a time, there was a man who saw that it was a beautiful day outside, so he decided to go for a walk. As he walked along through a local park, he looked at the leaves on the trees that were changing colors; he watched the children playing with glee; he looked at the beautiful blue sky that had a few clouds in it. As he was enjoying all of the lovely scenery, he forgot to look where he was walking and he fell off the edge of a cliff. While falling, he began to reach for anything that would stop his plummet towards demise, when his hands happened upon a tree root that was sticking out of the side of the cliff. He held on to that tree root with all of his might and yelled out to the top of the cliff, "Help me! Is anyone out there?" An anonymous voice from above replied, "Yes, I am here. I am the Lord. Do you believe me?" The man in desperation, called out, "Yes Lord, I believe you. Please help me!" The mysterious voice then instructed the man saying, "Okay, if you truly believe that I am the Lord, then let go of the root you're hanging from and I will save you." After a brief pause to think about his options, the man looked upward and yelled, "Is anyone else up there?"

Many times in life, we can feel like the man hanging on for dear life with nothing below us but destruction. Our lives are overflowing with commitments, our families demand our time, and any number of challenges can push us to the edge of our own personal cliffs. During times of heavy demands and personal crisis we may wonder where God comes in as we struggle. These are times that often challenge our faith.

In these times, it may be helpful to remember Jesus' parting words to his disciples, as he addresses our doubts as well. He says, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20). We are promised that throughout our lives, in the hard and happy times, Christ will be with us. This doesn't mean that he will solve all of our problems with the wave of a magic wand. What it does mean is that God will always be with us, weathering life's storms with us, giving us strength to move forward in difficult times, and opening up opportunities for us when we need them. What is important for us to remember throughout our entire lives is that the Lord wants to be in relationship with us, and is always there waiting for us to turn to God in prayer.

Rev. Jason Mahnke Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation 888-903-9863 or www.wumf.org

The Life and Ministry of God's People in Monona United Methodist Church

October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Newsletter Deadline October 27 Information arriving after the above date may not be in the November newsletter. Remember, you can email your articles to secretarymumc@sbcglobal.net						
		1 11am Staff Mtg 5:30pm Adults The Good And Beautiful God	2 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 2-4pm Caregivr Support-library 3-5:30 Paper Moon Drama	3 Pastor Yohan to Green :Lake for conference 10am Adults The Good And Beautiful God	4 10am Game Day- Hall 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 3-5:30 Paper Moon Drama 4-5pm MG HS use parking lot	5
6 World Communion Sunday <u>See schedule below</u> 9:15am Intergenerational Choir Rehearsal 11:30 Adult class	7 Pastor's Day Off 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 3-5:30 Paper Moon Drama 5-6pm Girl Scouts	8 9:30-12:15 NewBridge Foot Clinic F.H. 11am Staff Mtg 5pm UMW Fall Potluck-hall 5:30pm Adults The Good And Beautiful God	9 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 1:30 Friendship Circle at church 3-5:30pm Paper Moon Drama	10 10am Adults The Good And Beautiful God 1:00 Faith Circle at Anna Mae's	11 Pastor Yohan traveling thru October 12 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 1-3pm Mah Jongg-Cry Room	12 9am Men's Grp Breakfast-Tully's II in Monona -
13 <u>See schedule below</u> 8:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal 11:30 Adult class 2pm Read 'Em & Meet	14 Pastor's Day Off 11am Hilltoppers - Fellowship Hall 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 3-5:30pm Paper Moon Drama 5:30-7pm Girl Scouts-hall	15 9:30-12:15 NewBridge Foot Clinic F.H. 11am Staff Mtg 5:30pm Adults The Good And Beautiful God	16 10-11:30am RSVP Knit/ Stitch-hall 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 3-5:30pm Paper Moon Drama	17 Pastor Yohan to Conference thru October 19 10am Adults The Good And Beautiful God 6:30pm Accountable Leadership Board	18 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use	19
20 <u>See schedule below</u> 8:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal 11:30 Adult class	21 Pastor's Day Off 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 5-6pm Girl Scouts	22 9:30-12:15 Foot Clinic F.H. 11am Staff mtg 5:30pm Adults The Good And Beautiful God	23 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 3-5:30pm Paper Moon Drama	24 10am Adults The Good And Beautiful God 5:30pm Community Meal-fellowship hall	25 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 1-3pm Mah Jongg-Cry Room 6:5:30 Let's Talk About it MUMC-hall	26 8:30am-3pm Revive CPR class- F. H.
27 <u>See schedule below</u> Newsletter Deadline 8:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal 11:30 Adult class	28 Pastor's Day Off 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use 5:30-7pm Girl Scouts-hall	29 11am Staff mtg 5:30pm Adults The Good And Beautiful God	30 11am Upstairs Narthex in Use	31 10am Adults The Good And Beautiful God		
<u>SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 9:00 Sunday School for children 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 1:00 El Libertador Worship in Spanish						

MONONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

606 NICHOLS ROAD
MONONA, WI 53716

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The HILLTOP HERALD is produced monthly for distribution to the members and friends of Monona United Methodist Church.

Monona UMC Church office 608-222-1633

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Homepage www.mononaunitedmethodistchurch.org

Pastor Yohan Hong (pastor.yohan.hong@gmail.com)

Kay – secretarymumc@sbcglobal.net

Mark – markbmumc@gmail.com

Kirstin - mononaunitedmethodist@gmail.com

Worship 10:00am

OCTOBER 2024

COMMUNITY - WIDE MEAL

On **October 24th** the community dinner team will be serving chili! The menu includes white chili, red chili, vegetarian chili, fruit, salad and, of course, dessert. Come join us at 5:30pm for an evening of good food and conversation with our friends and neighbors. Bring a friend and enjoy the evening.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR COMMUNITY PICNIC

If you are available to help with setup, serving or cleanup, please call or text Frank Gaylord at 608-443-6361. Any time you can give us will be truly appreciated.



Community Meal