



# The Eagle

July 2016

## THE PURPOSE STATEMENT OF THIS CHURCH:

Loving, living, and serving faithfully – uniting God and our neighbors.



### Prayer Requests

Katy	Marlene
DaNisha	Larry
Lorraine	Joan
Arlene	Duane
Joe	Dale
Tod	Brian
Jane	Tammy
Louise	Pat
Sheri	Jon
John	Joyce
Mark	Cleo
Dollie	Alice
Pat	
David	

If you wish to add/remove a name to this list, please contact the office. We wish we could add last names, but since this newsletter is also published on the internet, it would not be prudent.

## Faith in Chilton

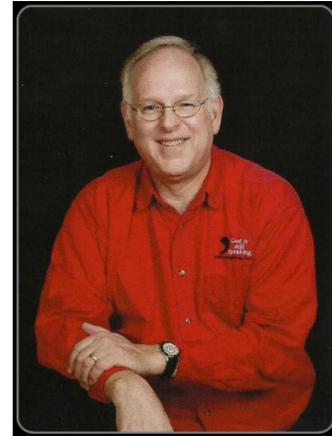
by Rev. Michael Safford-Kennedy

*‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’*

(Matthew 11:28-30)

Once again we have been plunged into the abyss of horror. The name of the community is new, the death toll is shocking, and the words of blame are directed at the usual people. There is much sound and fury as some elected officials talk about enacting new laws while other officials say new laws won’t stop such violence. It is likely that not much will change and we will move on with our lives until there is another act of mass violence at which time we will repeat the cycle. With each cycle the abyss becomes deeper and darker and it seems our hope for change becomes dimmer.

In the liturgy for funerals the United Church of Christ has these words to offer as part of a prayer, *“Merciful God, we thank you for your word; it is a lamp for our feet, a light for our path. We thank you especially that in the night of our grief and in the shadows of our sorrow, we*



*are not left to ourselves. We have the light of your promises to sustain and comfort us.”*

We do have the promises of Jesus that we will never be left alone. Yes, there will be times when it seems that for all we pray and do, nothing changes; the hate remains, the intolerance grows, our differences outweigh our similarities, our common goals become less common. For many people the response is to retreat while they try to make sense of it all. For Christians the answer is never retreat, never surrender to the enormity of today’s problems.

We always have the yoke of Christ that is easy and whose burden is light. We have his word which lights our path in the deepest darkness. We have the evidence of history to show us that the power of prayer, the ease of his yoke, and the knowledge that he walks with us as a shining light, will carry us through this dark time. It is with these promises that we walk *Cont. on pg. 5*

# July 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Worship 9:30 AM Spanish Ministry 2 PM	4 Independence Day  <i>Office Closed</i>	5	6	7	8	9
10 Worship 9:30 AM Spanish Ministry 2 PM	11	12	13 Ice Cream Social 4-7 PM	14 Men's Brkfst @ 7 Angels 8:30 AM	15	16
17 Worship 9:30 AM Spanish Ministry 2 PM	18	19 <b>EAGLE ARTICLES DUE</b>	20 Council Mtg. 6:15 PM	21	22	23
24/31 Worship 9:30 AM Spanish Ministry 2 PM <b>Eagle Published</b>	25	26	27	28	29	30

*Ushers*

Church Council	3
Vern & Ann Gasch Mike Redig Sue Verrier	10
Ken & Shirley Lisowe Kelly Brown Family	17
Don & Connie Waldvogel Steve & Chris Stenz	24
Dean & Ellie Papendieck, Terry Schenkus Linda Edgington	31

## Ebenezer

United Church of Christ

Rev. Michael  
Safford-Kennedy

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(pastor)

 Ebenezer UCC Chilton

**Office Hours:**  
Monday - Thursday  
11:00 AM-4:00 PM

**Newsletter Articles due to the office by email on the third Tuesday of the month.**

Weekly bulletin announcements are due in the office on Tuesday mornings.

## NOTES FROM THE MUSIC CORNER . . .

By Elaine Hessel

*"Come, Share the Spirit"* served as the opening hymn throughout the month of June. Perhaps it was unfamiliar to many when we began but, after singing it for the month should instill Ebenezer's mission as we move forward with Pastor Mike. Thank you to Gail Dederling for leading us on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday.

Participating in the Summerfest parade was truly a new adventure!!!

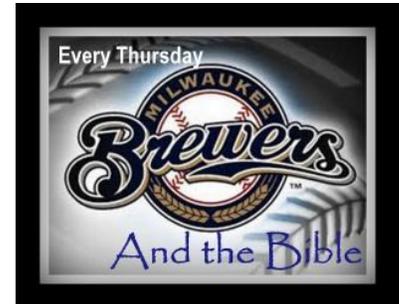
It was a very positive way for Ebenezer to be visible (and audible) in the community!! Thank you to the Adamietz family for getting the original idea, providing the equipment, putting together the candy card handouts and lots of energy. Thank you also to Karen & Frank Cmejla for 'anchoring' the stands and putting a back support on the wagon. Thank you to Heritage Orchard for the crates that served as the tables, thank you to Ellie Papendieck for providing the pads on the crates for the bells; thank you to all the walkers who greeted people and handed out candy; thank you to Ruth Aebischer for designing and ordering the

special shirts; thank you to Claudia & Riley for ringing and walking for part of parade; thank you to Ken Lisowe for driving the truck. A HUGE thank you to all the ringers who put forth all their creative energy on a rather 'toasty' day to share the message of music. Some ringers had blisters!! The Monday parade 'dry-run' made us aware of a lot of "glitches" which were rectified but we learned even more on the day of the parade! There were lots of positive comments and cheers throughout the parade route making it all worth the effort.

A bell ensemble will be playing for the Relay for Life in New Holstein on July 15 – another way of serving the community.

We'll look forward to several special music contributions to worship during the summer. As this is being written we are anticipating special instrumental selections from several middle-school musicians. We're grateful for their time and talents. Many of you may have had the experience of playing a recorder in elementary school. On July 24 we will be a guest recorder player with special selections and hymn accompaniments. It is a very versatile

instrument with endless possibilities. Also, during the month of July we will have a sing-along before worship. Be sure to be ready to request your favorite hymn(s) or let Elaine know ahead of time.



### Social Media

Each Monday I post a Facebook message about a Bible passage that I think is important for the week. I hope you read them and find them to be useful as you deepen your faith in Chilton.

Each Thursday I post a reflection upon the Bible and the Milwaukee Brewers. It's not often we use those two in a sentence but I firmly believe that we can find the presence of God in *all* life situations. As a way to practice this I am holding the Bible and the Brewers side-by-side and discovering what we can learn about the faith.

Check out social media Mondays and Thursdays on Facebook (Ebenezer UCC Chilton) and Twitter (PastorMikeSK)!

Be sure to help yourself to a copy of the July / August devotional guide, "The Upper Room" available in the narthex. It is available in regular and large print.

## Happy Birthday

Aaron Lisowe	04
Rick Mattes	07
Jordan Kress	07
Beatrice Pingel	09
Nicholas Keuler	10
Tyler See	10
Owen Brown	17
Vern Gasch	18
Don Pagel	18
Kyle Pingel	26
Judith Mattes	27

*May God bless your years and may  
you continue to bless Ebenezer!*

## Photographers and Writers Needed!

If you wish to write an article for the newsletter or have any photos you have taken of church related events/people that you are willing to share, please send them to Heather in the office by email (ebenezeroffice@yahoo.com). We want to hear from you!

## Mission Education Committee News

Summer is quickly passing by and many of us will be thinking about heading back to school with a new backpack filled with the supplies needed to be successful students soon. Unfortunately some youth will come to school on that first day with nothing so we want to help so that all students have a great year.

Last year we decided to do this mission project during July and August instead of December, and it was a great success because of the availability of school supplies. We were able to provide several schools with supplies that were much needed and appreciated. We hope that you will support this mission project again this year. A list of school items needed will be on the table in the entranceway so feel free to take a copy along with you. Items will be distributed to local schools the end of August.

Thank you for your support of this Mission Project and enjoy the rest of the summer!

## Thank You

A huge thank you goes out to Stephanie Adamietz for her work in making the Fathers' Day float. She coordinated getting the signs, the bell ringers, the truck, the driver and all the walkers. This is no small feat considering it is Fathers' Day and people would love to be at their cabins or on the lake.

Thank you Stephanie.

*Cont. from pg. 1*

into the future sure in the belief that we shall overcome the hate, the intolerance, and the differences that some use to try to paralyze us and cause us to question the wisdom of God.

God blesses our differences. God is the author of our differences. On the day of Pentecost the disciples were given the gift of many languages so that the promises of God and God's grace could be spread throughout the world. God does not bless the use of murder. God does not bless the killing of people in His name. Any spiritual leader who urges the use of murder and justifies that murder by teaching that the holy text advocates such is clearly misusing that text.

So, we must keep our hearts and minds alert to false teachers who advocate the use of murder justified by a sacred text. Next we must seek to welcome into our life people with whom we have differences.

Think of all the people we know who are very similar to us. We interact with them each day. They are our families and friends. We work with them and relax with them. We might share vacations with them. We are comfortable with these people. We understand them. However, the world is filled with people who are different.

Sometimes we cross paths with them. Sometimes we know their names. But underneath the casual interactions with these people we are aware there is much that seems strange about them. Perhaps it is the clothes, the language, the ways of worship, the way they are portrayed on television. They personify the unknown and when people encounter the unknown they are mistrustful and even frightened.

We, as disciples of Christ, must use our God-given gifts to understand and welcome all God's people into our lives and into worship. We will find that when we live, work, and worship with those whom we have labeled the "other" or the "unknown" we will find the differences we imagined are quite small and not threatening. We do not need to convert them to "our way" of thinking and behaving. God does not require us to be identical. Jesus does command us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. To love means to welcome. To love means to understand. To love means to share.

How shall we connect with people in the community whom we perceive as the "other"? Shall we label them as sinful and unclean? Shall we label them God's children who

we stand by in times of trouble? Who are the people we call different: young, old, Muslim, atheist, gay, straight, rich, or poor?

Listen to the preachers' sermons, do they call for violence or love? Does the church seek to love God's children or condemn them to hell?

*'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'*

## *Faith in Chilton*

By the time you read this Uptown Chilton will probably have flower planters lining the sidewalks and streets. This was an idea brought up last fall when I asked people for ideas how we could change Chilton.

Don Waldvogel and Pastor Mike appeared before the Chilton Public Works Committee and the full Council to make our case this would be a great way to help make Chilton even more appealing for shoppers, visitors, and residents.

Keep those ideas coming!

## From The Council Presidents Corner....

By Karen Cmejla

Sometimes we take a lot for granted in life. We know the sun will always come up every morning in the east and set every day in the west. We know the moon will shine every night. We know the skies are blue on a sunny day and the grass turns green when watered just right. There are just some things we *know* are a given and will happen all the time. Then there are things in life that we take for granted but variables can come into play. Sometimes these are called accidents in life or unsuspected surprises and it throws our "routines" into a frenzy. Someone may die or one may have an emergency surgery and these things NEVER seem to come at a "good" time. It really throws us for a loop!

Occasionally, it's not too bad of an inconvenience but just enough where we "take things for granted" and then others have to make an adjustment to their "routine". Some of you may not be aware but this just recently happened to Ebenezer. Does everyone know who unlocks the doors and opens up the

church EVERY Sunday for services and turns the lights, fans, and air conditioner on? I bet some might think it's the pastor. Do we know who vacuums the floors, cleans and supplies the bathrooms with toilet paper and toweling, empties the garbage cans and takes the garbage and recyclables out every week, sets up and takes down all the tables and chairs in the fellowship hall for funerals and events, and waxes the floors in the basement every year? Who maintains the outside and snow blows in the winter and mows the grass, weed whacks, and pulls weeds in the summer? Do you know who rings the tower bell EVERY Sunday before every service starts? Pastor Mike does not do all of these things. For those of you who did not know, that person is Don Pingel and recently he just had an unexpected event in his life that threw his "routine" off which in turn, threw Ebenezer's "routine" off. Don is kind of like the "silent partner behind the scenes" person which Ebenezer "takes for granted". He is so reliable and awesome

doing an excellent job that some of us may not even know who he is! Well, when he had his "unexpected" surgery a few weeks ago, someone else had to do those tasks. The first Sunday, we almost forgot to ring the tower bell before service. It was kind of a panic frenzy minutes before service started and all of a sudden we realized no one was around to ring the bell. Then when that person did get up into the tower area, there were 2 ropes there. Oh boy, which one gets pulled? When, exactly, does it get rung? Then, when Pastor Mike was on vacation the other Sunday and Joan preached, the sound system did not get turned on and the microphones did not work. Someone else has volunteered to mow the lawns and vacuum and clean church. Others volunteered to set up the tables and chairs in the fellowship hall for funerals. Granted, these may not be earth shattering events but these are things that most people just "take for granted" it's *Cont. on pg. 7*

*Cont. from pg. 6*

going to happen when needed and it can throw routines off.

So this is a great time to take a moment and realize what goes on “behind the scenes” and the next time you see Don Pingel, please thank him for all that he does!!! I’m sure he probably does even more that what I’ve listed here but he does work another full time job too, so this is all extra stuff he takes time out of his week to keep the flow going at Ebenezer.

So the next time you take something for granted, (besides the given of the sun rising and setting every day), realize the fortunate aspect during the turn of events. Help out in any way you can.

As taken from Ecclesiastes 7:1-14:

*...good reputation is more valuable than costly perfume. And the day you die is better than the day you are born. Better to spend your time at funerals than at parties. After all, everyone dies—so the living should take this to heart. Sorrow is better than laughter, for sadness has a refining influence on us. A wise person thinks a lot about death, while a fool thinks only*

*about having a good time. Better to be criticized by a wise person than to be praised by a fool. A fool’s laughter is quickly gone, like thorns crackling in a fire. This also is meaningless. Extortion turns wise people into fools, and bribes corrupt the heart. Finishing is better than starting. Patience is better than pride. Control your temper, for anger labels you a fool. Don’t long for “the good old days.” This is not wise. Wisdom is even better when you have money. Both are a benefit as you go through life. Wisdom and money can get you almost anything, but only wisdom can save your life. Accept the way God does things, for who can straighten what he has made crooked? Enjoy prosperity while you can, but when hard times strike, realize that both come from God.*

**Remember that nothing is certain in this life.**

### Thank you

Thank you to the Women’s Guild for providing much needed first aid kits in the kitchen and the office.

### Thank you

Shirley Lisowe and Ruth Aebischier have accomplished what was previously thought to be impossible. They have gone through every room, cupboard and closet in this church, cleaning and rearranging as they went. Shirley also cleaned up the courtyard, helping plants that were overgrown and in need of serious TLC. Thank you to both of you.

### Faith in Chilton

Uptown Chilton has six flower planters lining the sidewalks and streets. This was an idea brought up last fall when I asked people for ideas how we could change Chilton.

Don Waldvogel and Pastor Mike appeared before the Chilton Public Works Committee and the full Council to make our case this would be a great way to help make Chilton even more appealing for shoppers, visitors, and residents.

Thanks to everyone who has worked to bring this project to fruition.

Keep those ideas coming!

Peace,  
Pastor Mike

Ebenezer United Church of Christ  
Treasurer's Report  
31-May-16

<b>30-Apr-16</b>		<u>\$ 267,648</u>	
<i>May Revenue:</i>		\$ 11,086	
General Fund Balance 5/31/16			\$ 72,858
Offering	\$ 9,395		
OCWM	\$ 30		
OCWM- United Communi- ty Card	\$ 42		
Sunday School Mission Work	\$ (501)		
Rent	\$ 225		
<b>Total revenues Per Reintl</b>	<b>\$ 9,191</b>		
Restricted Funds Differ- ence	\$ 1,895		Balance \$ 87,310
Unrestricted Funds Differ- ence	\$ -		Balance \$ 108,815
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 11,086</b>		
May Expenses & Adjustments Per Reintl		\$ (8,950)	
Payroll Taxes Paid in May (April)		\$ (801)	
Payroll Taxes to be Paid in June (May)		\$ 936	\$ 936
Balance as of May 31, 2016		<u>\$ 269,919</u>	<u>\$ 269,919</u>
<b>** Balance of the stocks we received as a donation (as of May 20, 2016)</b>			\$ 12,941.03

Offerings consists of Envelopes, Loose Coins, Electronic Offerings. Rent includes the Spanish Ministry Rent, Parsonage Rental and Happy Hour Rent. Sunday School withdrew their collected monies for the school year. Restricted Funds had an increase to the Camp Fund and Improvement Fund and Strengthen the Church.

#TheEbenezerLife

*What is this?*

Stay tuned for more information  
throughout the summer.

## Pending Council Minutes: June 20, 2016

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm. Members present: Karen Cmejla, Jamie Plate, Kelly Brown, Kelly Kress, Stephanie Ademietz, Fred Kubichka, and Pastor Mike. Stephanie made a motion to approve May's minutes and today's agenda. Kelly Kress seconded. Motion carried.

### **Finances Report:**

Our May revenue is \$11,086.

Our May expenditures are \$8,950.

Our general fund balance as of May 31, 2016 is \$72,858.

Our current balance is \$269,919.

Jamie made a motion to accept the financial reports and June's bills except for the pension boards, UCC--Heather will be verifying the amount. Kelly Brown seconded. Motion carried.

### **Minister's Report:**

Pastor Mike shared with us a synopsis of what he has done from mid-May through mid-June including meetings, baptisms, funerals, correspondence, visitations, and counseling. Pastor Mike is working with Joan Woelfel to have youth group (grades 5-8) and adult educational opportunities for Autumn 2016. Pastor Mike will be taking vacation July 4th-July 8th--he will not be missing a Sunday.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Christian Ed/Music**-No new news.

**Evangelism**-The flower pots are completed and placed throughout the city. The parade/float went well. Our Facebook page is getting a lot of views.

**Mission**-Ice cream social is to be held on 7/13/16.

**Property**-No new news.

**Stewardship**-No new news.

### **Old Business:**

West fellowship hall entrance doors--Tri-City glass has been contacted and the doors will be installed in early July. They will be installed in time for the ice cream social.

Annual review of parsonage costs—tabled until September meeting.

Quorum of 35% and definition of “member in good standing” tabled until the November meeting.

Rotation of council members again tabled.

Bake sale to fundraise for church camp will be held June 25th at Farm and Home.

A \$2000 grant was received for the technology grant committee of the NE Association of the WI conference, UCC. The grant money must be used within 2 years. This topic was tabled until the July meeting.

Karen and Frank are in the process of cleaning the parsonage gutters themselves *Cont on pg. 10*

*Cont. from pg. 9*

and the church gutters have been put on hold until inspected.

### **New Business:**

Vacation Bible School--will look into joining Bethel UMC's bible school.

Back courtyard renewal--Shirley Lisowe and Ruth Aebisher have started clean up. Thank you to the both of them--we are blessed to have them as a part of our congregation.

Thank you to Joan Woelfel for filling in for Pastor Mike.

The house next door is for sale and we have been approached to purchase. The property committee will look into it and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Ruth Aebisher and Shirley Lisowe are working on the membership list and will be sending out letters to obtain updated information. The completed list will be published into a booklet that will be available to the congregation. Again, much thanks to the two of them for all of their time and hard work! Stephanie made motion to cover half of the postage for the letters. Dale seconded. Motion carried.

Heather's annual review will be held at the end of July.

Ushering duties for funerals was discussed and the Men's Breakfast Club will be approached by Pastor Mike at their next meeting on July 14th.

The idea of an outdoor service was brought up and, tentative, end of summer dates of August 21st and August 24th were discussed. More details to follow.

The wish list and donation list will be updated by Heather.

\*\*The next council meeting will, tentatively, be Wednesday, July 20th at 6:15 pm.

Kelly Kress made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stephanie seconded. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

### **Hand Bells playing on the Ebenezer float in the Father's Day Parade in Chilton.**

Council Secretary,  
Jamie Plate

