

From: Ebenezer UCC (ebenezerooffice-yahoo.com@shared1.ccsend.com)

To: melissa.moehn@yahoo.com

Date: Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 08:35 AM CDT

happy
4TH
OF
July



The Eagle

July 2025



Pastor's Corner

After attending the Annual Conference Meetings at Green Lake, I always walk away... or should I say that I leave dancing, with all the new ideas and approaches that are available. The theme for this year was...

“Transformation: Changing from Glory into Glory”. And the timing of this theme couldn’t have been any better, in so many ways. Ebenezer and St John are moving forward through our own transformations, beginning to grow and evolve from where we have been for decades, and asking how our churches can be better positioned for the future. Both church councils have been meeting and discussing what this change might look like, individually

and collectively. And as I write this, there is nothing for certain and all options are on the table.

The work that will be upcoming will be enlightening, revealing, and maybe a little maddening. Both congregations have in their past had solo pastors. Both congregations have, of late, been sharing a pastor. What does the future hold? What does that future look like?

At a recent joint-council meeting, the Rev Jane Anderson joined us, to begin assessing what both Ebenezer

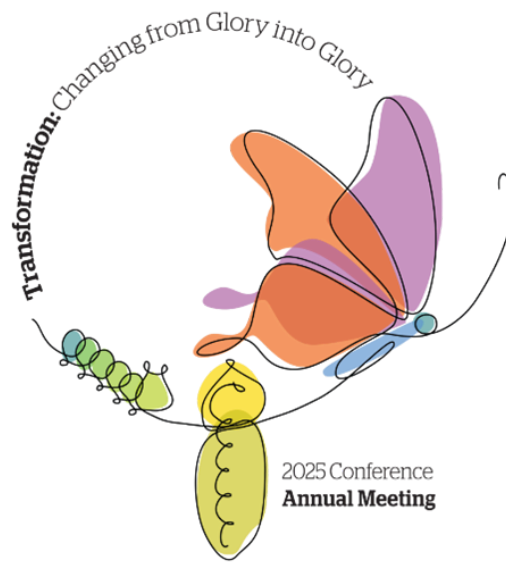
and St John are looking for in their future pastor(s). Both councils spoke from the heart about the past, the present, and the possible future. And while it seemed a little scary at times, it was quite exhilarating for me. It was joyful to hear what some of the hopes and dreams are for both churches. I was able to sit back and visualize the caterpillar slugging its way through the dirt and approaching a tree, where it intends to build a cocoon. The Rev Anderson asked some very guided questions regarding what the priorities are for both churches. It was also good for me to hear what the Rev Anderson deemed as priorities. It was a wake-up call for me too.

I'd like to share a mini-announcement. As everyone knows, I currently serve both churches as an interim pastor, 40%-40% split between St John and Ebenezer. After a lot of discussion and personal prayer, St John has called me to increase my time from 40% to 60%. St John has some plans already in the works for the future and I might be able to add some value, with some extra time. At the same time, nothing will change for Ebenezer, I will remain with Ebenezer at the same participation level of 40%, focusing primarily on Worship Preparation and Care of Congregation.

Rest assured, both congregations have potentially bright futures and there is no immediate cause for concern or worry. I will continue to work with both councils, to the extent I am invited to contribute input and participate. The Rev Anderson also stands ready to support both Ebenezer and St John. And the Supportive Ministries Team of the Wisconsin Conference also will gladly journey with both congregations, as both congregations proceed with their transformations.

I learned from the recent conference meetings that change and transformation are scary processes. We tend to be more at peace with the known and the comfortable. But, maybe – perhaps – possibly... it may be time to begin thinking more about what tomorrow's church may look like – how tomorrow's church could function – how tomorrow's church does ministry. Your church council will be fully engaged and open for conversation. Don't be afraid to speak with them. Your input – your skills – your talents – your contributions are all very important.

See you in church!



Dave's tentative July Schedule (Subject to change)

To meet with Pastor, it's usually best to schedule an appointment, either by calling the church office or Pastor – or connect by email

Monday June 30 thru Saturday July 5 - vacation

Sunday July 6, Family Worship Sunday – including a lot of patriotic music

Monday – Ebenezer Office 9am – 11am

Shut-in / Facility Visit – about 1pm

Evening – Message preparation / planning (off-site)

Tuesday – St John Office 9am – 11am

Shut-in / Facility Visit – about 1pm

Evening – Message preparation / planning (off-site)

Wednesday – St John Projects

Thursday – Message preparation (off-site)

Friday – Off

Saturday – Off

Sunday – 7:45am – 9:45 EUCC Worship

10:00 – 11:45 SJUCC Worship

Evening – Bulletin and Planning for the following Sunday

Guest Speakers already committed to preach:

The Rev Franz Rigert, Conference Minister of the Wisconsin Conference.
September 14th, 2025.

Guest Speakers planning on being with us in either late 2025 or early 2026:

The Rev Jane Anderson, Associate Conference Minister for the Eastern Region of the Wisconsin Conference.

The Rev Andrew Warner, President of the Wisconsin Foundation UCC

Interest or Possible Interest in Ministry

We are always on the 'look-out' for people who may have some interest about ministry in the United Church of Christ. There are a variety of ways to gain the education required, including some very budget-friendly ways. Please feel free to reach out to Pastor Kohls for more information and/or a conversation.



If you have not already signed up for Confirmation class via the Damascus Project, please do so as soon as possible, as there are limited spots available and Pastor Kohls will not be teaching an in-person confirmation class this fall. Ebenezer & St. John confirmands will be taught solely through the Damascus Project; click [here](#) to be directed to the sign-up page and please let the office know once sign-up is complete. Thank you!

Ebenezer's 2025 Graduates



Congratulations to Owen, Ryan, Kaleb, Logan and Meghan on their recent high school graduation. Best wishes for a bright and successful future!

Notes from the Music Corner

Thank you to everyone that submitted favorite hymn suggestions. We will begin the pre-



service sing alongs on July 13 and continue for the next two Sundays in July. If possible, be at church by 8:30 when we'll begin singing hymns that have touched all of our faith journeys. Let us make a joyful noise and sing praises to God!

Prayer List



Alex	Gail
Arlene	Jeff S.
Audra	Joan
Audrey	Marley
Cassie	Pam
Colleen	Pat
David	Rod
De' Monique	Sandra
Da' Nisha	Tod
Diana	Tony
Ellisha	Troy



2 Caleb Wiegert
7 Jordan Kress

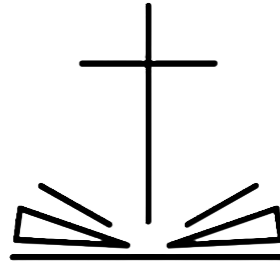
10 Tyler See
16 Terra Head
17 Owen Brown
18 Vern Gasch
18 Don Pagel
23 Chris Stenz
26 Colt Porsche
27 Emily Wagner

USHERS



July 6 - Council
July 13 - Shirley
July 20 - Zach
July 27 - Ralph

READERS



July 6 - Mark
July 13 - Kristi
July 20 - Dean
July 27 - Karen

Local Events

Summer in the Park Concert Series



The Summer in the Park Band series takes place on Thursday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Hobart Park Band Shell. The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) are the sponsors of the food stand which opens at 5:30 p.m. The remaining dates for the 2025 season are:

July 3 - The Fiddler's Farm Band
July 10 - Remington's Ride
July 17 - Chilton City Band (Christmas in July)
July 24 - Schneider Family Brass Band
July 31 - Chilton City Band
August 7 - Groeschl Band

Hilbert 4th of July Parade & Family Festival

JULY 4



One of the largest 4th of July parades in Wisconsin starts at 11:00 AM & goes down Main Street. Family picnic at Civic Park afterwards. Entertainment starts after the parade. Fireworks at approximately 9:30 PM.

New Holstein Firefighter's Picnic

JULY 11-13



Live music Friday night. Live music & large fireworks display Saturday night. Parade at 11:00 AM Sunday, followed by live music. All weekend carnival rides, food, & beverages.

SPAM REMINDER:

Real texts or calls from Pastor Kohls will be either from the church phone or his cell phone, 920-522-2565. Please ignore all spam callers impersonating Pastor Kohls or other church members.

June Council Meeting Minutes

Ebenezer UCC Church Council Minutes June 13, 2025

Members present: Nick Kuhn, Glen Pingel, Judy Mattes, Brian Adamietz, Kristi Schnell, Andy Hofmeister

Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by President Nick Kuhn in the church lounge. Prayer was led by Kristi Schnell.

Brian Adamietz made a motion to accept the agenda. Glen Pingel seconded. Motion carried.

Kristi Schnell made a motion to accept the minutes from May. Judy Mattes seconded. Motion carried.

Brian Adamietz presented the treasurers report:

Income: \$6,802.93

Expenses: \$7,868.51

Checking Account Balance: \$108,068.92

Money Market Account Balance: \$182,614.20

Total Equity: \$290,683.12

Minus Special Giving Account: \$156,064.89 \$134,618.23

Cambridge Investment: \$81,487.87

Parsonage Income: \$1495.00

- FYI The parsonage income gets reported in the general checking but is tracked separately

Judy Mattes made a motion to approve the treasurers report with Glen Pingel seconding.

Motion carried

Looking at the bills to be paid there are a few items increasing in price, such as The Upper Room, and Constant Contact. Kristi Schnell made a motion to pay the bills, Judy Mattes seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

Programming wise we are now in summer mode. The messages over the summer will lean heavily on Stewardship and Stewardship related themes. This was precipitated following the joint council meeting that included the Rev Jane Anderson, Associate Conference Minister. In short, church growth must be organic within the congregation itself. It cannot be pastor dependent or pastor reliant. If EUCC has a dream and vision of growing this loving faith community, it will require everyone (to the extent that they are able), to engage with us, to discern our strengths, our abilities, and our passions. I believe we are now building some solid groundwork to take our next steps forward. I believe engaging with the Supportive Ministries Team of the Wisconsin Conference will be beneficial. I also believe that some of the ideas raised by others (cottage meetings, addresses from the president, active engagement from all members of the council...), will provide support, motivation, and a sense of urgency. This will not be an overnight problem fix. It will take time and patience. There will be steps forward and steps backwards, but as the process evolves, I believe good things will happen.

I have presented my schedule for the next three months and how I will engage in ministry at EUCC. I have made a commitment to remain at the current pay level of 40%, with my top two priorities being (1) worship/worship related and (2) care of congregation. I trust that I will have a little extra time to help facilitate long-range/future planning. Your president and vice-president have a copy of the details.

I will be taking some time off during the summer. At this moment, I will be off on Sunday August 10. I am also hoping to take off another full week before fall programming starts (maybe the week of July 7??).

The Rev Franz Rigert, the Conference Minister of the Wisconsin UCC has agreed to preach on Sunday September 14. I'll have more details later.

With my new work schedule and upcoming personal life changes, the pay portion of my contract will need to change. This will be detailed in a separate confidential document, until passage.

Committee Reports:

Property Committee

- Signed the contract for roof repair.
- Stained glass windows by the organ and choir loft are completed. **Pastoral**

Search Committee

- A prospective candidate will be interviewed

There were no other committee reports.

Old/Continuing Business:

- There will be a congregational meeting in the fall regarding Stewardship and the overall future planning of the church. Date and time to be determined.
- Repairs have been made on the church roof. The contract is signed, and the replacement date is yet to be determined, depending on the contractor's schedule.
- Pastor Dave will be under a 5 year term, or until we find a new settled pastor. Whichever comes first.
- Quilt for the sanctuary has been made, but we are waiting for the frame to be finished.
- Stewardship is the gifts and talents of the congregation. We need to be more proactive at getting the members of EUCC to promote Ebenezer and help it grow.

New Business:

- Supportive Ministries is a service we pay for where people come in to our church and look at what EUCC is doing right and wrong. Then they come back with ideas that can help promote our growth here at EUCC.
- Discussion with Pastor: A small group of members of our church and church council met with Pastor Dave to try to come up with ideas as to how we can get the church more fired up (e.g cottage meetings where small groups of members get together to discuss the state of EUCC and think of ways we can better ourselves and work together as a church to help promote growth).
- Possibly thinking of starting a weekday/weeknight service to give more options for people to attend worship. This will be looked at in the future.
- Moving Council meeting from July 20: Glen made a motion to move next month's council meeting to Sunday, July 13th at 7:30am. Andy Hofmeiser seconded. Motion carried.

Brian Adamietz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:22pm. Kristi Schnell seconded. Motion carried, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

**** NEXT COUNCIL MEETING- SUNDAY, JULY 13TH @ 7:30AM IN THE LOUNGE**

July Calendar of Events

July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 Happy 4 th of July! 	5
	Pastor on vacation week of June 30 th					
6 Family Worship Service @ 8:45 a.m. w/ Communion	7	8	9	10 Men's Breakfast Group Meeting at 7 Angels 8:30 a.m.	11	12
13 Council Meeting @ 7:30 a.m. Worship Service @ 8:45 a.m.	14	15	16	17 Women's Guild Meeting at 7 Angels 9:00 a.m.	18	19
20 Worship Service @ 8:45 a.m.	21	22	23 Eagle Articles Due	24	25	26
27 Worship Service @ 8:45 a.m.	28	29	30	31		

**Click calendar to view larger image*



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Council President: Nick Kuhn (920) 378-0204

Council VP: Glen Pingel (920) 419-0433

Council Secretary: Andy Hofmeister (920) 464-0257

Council Treasurer: Brian Adamietz (920) 645-8699

Kristi Schnell (920) 464-1060

Judy Mattes (920) 853-7109

Amy Kuhn (920) 418-0929

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