



July 2024

The Messenger

SYCAMORE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER



VBS IS JULY 8-12 FROM 9:00AM TO 12 NOON



Child registration closes soon! Sign up your elementary age children ASAP for this FINTastic time!! <https://churchteams.com/m/Register.asp?a=Q3dFUmhqc3NXLzQ9>

- ◇ Share Your Blessings: One last chance to purchase from our amazon wish list to make this VBS a success. All items need to be delivered by July 3rd. Or you can support financially by giving on our website. Amazon Wish List: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2W7L3V2WRJ3D3?ref=wl_share
- ◇ If you grabbed a bubble from our display, please turn in your item to the office asap
- ◇ Please pray for the volunteers and all the kids that will come through our doors. May Christ's living water of love flow abundantly during this ministry of our church.

SUMMER CHRISTIAN KIDS AND MAGIC MONDAYS DETAILS ON PAGE 4

<p>JUST BREATHE: A WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL WELLNESS WORSHOP</p> <p>JULY 27th 9am-1pm @ SUMC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yoga (optional) • Breath Prayer • Spiritual Art & Activities • Mediation & Worship 		<p>GO TO PAGE 4 FOR MORE DETAILS</p>	<p>SUMMER Choir</p> <p>July 7th and August 4th</p> <p>8:30am in the Music Room for practice then sing a song at the 9:30am service. NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!</p>
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<p>PICK-UP HOURS 4:30-6:30PM</p> <p>SCAN QR CODE TO ORDER ONLINE</p>	<p>Drive-thru Chick Strip Dinner <i>from Dirty Bird in Sycamore</i></p> <p>WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2024</p> <p>\$15 per ticket</p> <p>Meal includes: 4 Chicken Strips, Fries, Coleslaw, Roll and Sauce</p> <p>PICK UP AT: SYCAMORE UMC, 160 JOHNSON AVE., SYCAMORE</p>	<p>Purchase your tickets online by scanning the QR Code in the ad or texting JULYDINNER to the church phone number (815-895-9113). Tickets are also available in the church office or from any member of the Sycamore Kiwanis Club</p>
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Hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Sycamore

improving the world one child and one community at a time.

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Sycamore United
Methodist Church



@sycamoreumc

JULY 2024 WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Sundays at 9:30 am
Children's Sunday School at 9:30 am
Sunday Evening Service at 4:30 pm

www.facebook.com/SUMCIllinois/ or
www.youtube.com/results?searchquery=sycamore+umc

July 7 - 7th Sunday after Pentecost
Services of Holy Communion
2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13

July 14 - 8th Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

July 21 - 9th Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 28 - 10th Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 11:1-15
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR JULY

Food Pantry needs include: Canned beans, canned carrots, corn, and mixed veggies, crunchy peanut butter, jelly, canned meals (beefaroni, spaghetti's, etc.), canned fruit, pasta, boxed potatoes, stuffing and side dishes, toilet paper, paper towels, toiletries.

The Food Pantry will be handing out **school supplies and backpacks** in August so any of those items would be appreciated.

HOPE HAVEN MEAL ASSISTANCE NEEDED FOR JULY AND AUGUST

Prepare or buy just one course or the entire meal to feed 50 people! Deliver your contribution to Hope Haven in DeKalb or drop it off at the church by 3:30 on Monday. **Please call the church (815-895-9113) to let us know which delivery option you will be using. Sign-up at the Welcome Center in the Concourse or by calling the church office at 815-895-9113.**





We extend our sympathies to the families of:
 Jane Summers (Jaci Kousoulas' mother)
 Helen Meadowcraft (Nancy Miller's sister)

Those for whom we pray:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Nancy | Neil Weir |
| David Dykema | Charlee Gautcher |
| Doris Sloniker | Hugh Bisco |
| Dick McLaughlin | Bill Riddle |
| Ray Larson | Mark McGee |
| Diana Grace | Norma Clarner |
| Jericca Newby | Janene Riesen |
| Pat | Rick Stewart |
| Jeff Murphy | Leeyah Keller |
| Collin | Nick Kousoulas |
| Beverly Duff | Sherry Probasco |
| Jon Bean | Laura Kroos |

The Service Personnel and Their Families

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Cpt. Mark Browning, | PO3 Samuel V. Bell |
| *SGT Ben Bushno | SGT Brock Grimaldi |
| SGT Shaune Clark | E4SPC Alexis Jones |
| SGT Matthew Einhorn | *Maj Steve Haack |
| PFC Timothy Einhorn | PV2 Rachel McMillion |
| PO1 Frank Incapreo | *CPL Joshua Caraballo |
| SSG Christopher Isabel | SPC Sutit Jackson |
| Lt. Col. Garrett Slack | PV2 Liam Keller |
| SFC Matthew "Scott" Stewart | E-5 PO Hayden Royer |
| *LT Matthew Herbaugh | E-3 Amanda Royer |
| PVT Trevor Bassett | <i>*indicates deployed personnel</i> |



STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

The Growing Season

Whether you are a backyard gardener or managing a farm of hundreds of acres, you know that the growing season is upon us. Jesus preached about growing in a different way in Matthew 28: 19-20 (RSV) , "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."



Growing disciples of Jesus Christ is no easy task. One way is to start in our own backyard by nurturing our youth and young adults. That is why your support for this summer's Vacation Bible School and the recently awarded scholarships for college and career readiness means so much. Youth from pre-kindergarten to fifth grade will be swarming the church campus July 8-12 in an undersea-themed program that is all about God's love. Growth of a different kind was reinforced when 23 church-related scholarships were awarded to recent high school graduates and those continuing their educational journey. Funding for these scholarships came from the general church scholarship fund, Barbara Rodgers Memorial Fund, Marion Marsh Memorial Fund, Karen Hagen Memorial Fund, and two from the new United Methodist Men's scholarship fund.

The Disciple growing season is ongoing and everywhere at Sycamore United Methodist Church. You are invited to be an active participant through your gifts of time, talent, and treasures. Seek out volunteer opportunities elsewhere in this newsletter and in the weekly church bulletin. And may you be moved in

a spirit of generosity to support the missions and ministries of this church through your monetary offerings. You may mail checks to the church at 160 Johnson Avenue, Sycamore, IL 60178. On-line giving is available through the church website at www.sycamoreumc.org. You may also text "Giving" to 815-895-9113 to access our donation portal.



OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER, GROW, AND SERVE



- VBS is July 8-12.
- Summer Christian Kids on designated Wednesdays
- Magic Mondays begins June 3.
- Summer Adult Book Club begins July 2nd
- Summer Choir is July 7th and August 8th
- Women's Spiritual Retreat - July 27th.
- Singles Fellowship - July 23rd

CHILDREN

- CK Summer - Christian Kids will meet on designated Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30pm. We will find ways to expand our understanding of God and ourselves through a monthly mindfulness retreat. We will also have fun being Christian Kids in our community through excursions around town. Registration links and information is available on our website. Dates: 7/17, 7/31, 8/14
- Magic Mondays continues through the summer for kids age 4-entering 2nd grade. We will have some faith-filled fun around stories, crafts, games and more. Kids meet every other week over the summer from 9-10:30 am starting June 3rd. Registration links and information is available on our website. Dates: 7/1, 7/15, 7/29, 8/12.

YOUTH

There will be no Youth Group for the rest of the summer but watch for updates for the fall.

ADULTS

Our Adult Summer Book Club starts on Tuesday, July 2nd at 6pm in the Lounge. We will read "Have a Little Faith" by the author of Tuesdays with Morrie, Mitch Albom. Copies are available in the office.

Join us Saturday, July 27th for "Just Breathe: A Women's Spiritual Retreat" here at SUMC from 9-1pm! Amy Jackson of The Perch in Aurora will guide us through spiritual practices and conversations to ground us in the life giving breath of God.

Join a new group for those navigating life solo. No matter your age, stage, or life circumstance -- single, widowed, or divorced, you're invited to connect with us as we navigate this faith journey together. Our next gathering is on the Ski's patio on Tuesday, July 23rd at 6pm.

WORSHIP, MUSIC AND ARTS

There will be a Summer Choir on July 7 and August 4! We will meet that morning at 8:30 and learn a song together and present it during the Word in Music at the 9:30 Service. We are especially looking for those who might be interested in singing with the choir, but just have not been to being a part of choir just yet. Now is your chance to try choir and once you do, we are sure you will want to continue to sing with us! All voices welcome from age 13 and up! You don't need to know how to read music, just a love for singing and be able to carry a tune! (We'll provide the bucket to carry the tune in!!)



I'm also looking for anyone who would like to sing, play an instrument etc. for Summer Music. If you play, sing, or, know someone who does please let me know!!

See you on Sunday!
Pete Hansen
Director of Worship and Music

OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER, GROW, AND SERVE



PRIDE COMMITTEE

PRIDE: The PRIDE Committee had a great time sharing the good news of God's love with the community at DeKalb Pride Fest on Thursday, June 20th.

We are also thrilled to announce that our first Pride Formal family fundraiser dance on Saturday, June 22nd, was a resounding success with around 60 attendees of all ages from across the DeKalb and Sycamore communities. Thank you to everyone who made these events possible, and please save the date for our next event, our second annual Teacups for Trevor Project.

Save the Date Teacups for Trevor Project

Saturday September 21, 2024
Sycamore United Methodist Church

Join the P.R.I.D.E. Group for an afternoon tea party to benefit the Trevor Project, a non-profit that operates a suicide prevention hotline for LGBTQ+ youth. There will be tea, light snacks and refreshments, a silent auction, and guest speaker. Tickets must be purchased in advance and will be available September 1st. For more details, visit Sycamoreumc.org.



CROP WALK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ever thought about doing the CROP walk to fight world hunger? Come meet people who have and hear about the organizing and planning for this year's walk from Nick Ghilka, Community Engagement Specialist with Church World Service. Nick is looking for volunteers to help with planning and to spread the word. Join us Wednesday, 7/24 at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary.

UWF ANNUAL THRIFT AND BAKE SALE FOR MISSIONS

Sale dates: August 16 (9 AM- 5PM) and August 17 from (9AM-noon)

We need lots of assistance on the set up and sale dates. Both men and women are most welcome to come help with this massive effort.

- Donations are needed of gently used items, such as clothing, housewares, toys, books, linens, household decor, and baby stuff.
- We **CANNOT** accept furniture, office electronics, TVs, Christmas trees, VHS tapes, full sets of dinnerware, textbooks, encyclopedias, nor other large or heavy items.
- Please respect other church activities and our church staff. No early donations.

Set-up AND donation drop-off hours

- Monday 8/12 from **9AM to 3 PM**
- Tuesday 8/13 from **9 AM to 3 PM**
- Wednesday 8/14 from **9 AM to noon**



REMEMBER THE CHURCH AS YOU PLAN YOUR ESTATE

Sycamore United Methodist Church has benefited greatly from the generosity of gifts, bequests, and endowments. Projects and ministries have gone forward with adequate funding that might not otherwise have even been considered.

Persons gifting the Church have extended their effectiveness in Christian ministry and support for SUMC even beyond their lifetimes by including the Church in their wills and other estate instruments.

Please consider including SUMC in your estate planning to strengthen the ministry of the Church and extend your ministry into the future. Call the office and ask to speak to a member of the Endowment Committee.

JULY 2024 EVENTS CALENDAR

The deadline for the August issue of The Messenger is July 20th

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 9:00 AM Magic Mondays 12:00 PM Food Pantry 7:00 PM Trustees	2 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Summer Book Study "Have a Little Faith"	3 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness	4 Church offices closed	5 Church offices closed	6 7:30 AM UMM Breakfast 11:00 AM VBS Volunteer Training
7 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM One-Room Children's Sunday School 4:30 PM BREAKTHROUGH Sunday Evening Worship	8 9:00 AM-12 :00 PM Vacation Bible School 12:00 PM Food Pantry 5:30 PM Finance and Stewardship Committee 7:00 PM Church Council	9 9:00 AM-12 :00 PM Vacation Bible School 9:00 AM Mary Circle 10:00 AM Staff Meeting	10 9:00 AM-12 :00 PM Vacation Bible School	11 9:00 AM-12 :00 PM Vacation Bible School 4:00 pm TOPS	12 9:00 AM-12 :00 PM Vacation Bible School	13
14 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM One-Room Children's Sunday School 10:15 AM VBS Showcase 4:30 PM BREAKTHROUGH Sunday Evening Worship	15 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 9:00 AM Magic Mondays 9:30 AM Ruth Circle 12:00 PM Food Pantry	16 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Grace Circle 6:00 PM Summer Book Study "Have a Little Faith"	17 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 10:00 AM Caring Ministry Network 11:00 AM Adult Summer Book Study "Take the Day Off" 3:30 PM Christian Kids 4:30-6:30 SUMC Drive-thru Dinner from Dirty Bird Hosted by: Sycamore Kiwanis Club	18 4 :00 PM TOPS	19	20 7:30 AM UMM Breakfast 9:00 AM Memorial Committee 9:00 AM Boy Scout Three Fires Event
21 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM One-Room Children's Sunday School 4:30 PM BREAKTHROUGH Sunday Evening Worship	22 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 12:00 PM Food Pantry 6:45 PM PRIDE Comm.	23 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM UWF Missions Team 6:00 PM Singles Fellowship at Ski's	24 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 11:00 AM Adult Summer Book Study "Take the Day Off" 3:30 PM Christian Kids 6:00 PM SPARC Comm. 6:00 PM CROP Walk Town Hall at SUMC	25 4:00 PM TOPS	26	27 9:00 AM Women's Retreat
28 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM One-Room Children's Sunday School 4:30 PM BREAKTHROUGH Sunday Evening Worship	29 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 9:00 AM Magic Mondays 12:00 PM Food Pantry 7:00 PM Trustees	30 12:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Summer Book Study "Have a Little Faith"	31 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 11:00 AM Adult Summer Book Study "Take the Day Off" 3:30 PM Christian Kids	August 1 4:00 PM TOPS	2	3 7:30 AM UMM Breakfast

3 SIMPLE RULES

1. Do no harm
2. Do good
3. Stay in love with God.

In the Council of Bishops' press release, "United Methodist leaders respond to #metoo and #churchtoo movement, states, "Council of Bishops affirmed, through its members, renewed commitment to addressing the systemic causes of sexual misconduct and abuse of power. . . . The sin of sexual misconduct must be named by the Church at every level of ministry." The bishops pledge to do the right thing in every complaint received, including listening well to hear the story, and developing a response, which holds persons accountable and offers healing for all affected to the extent of their ability.

Therefore, in the spirit of offering healing for all affected to the extent of our ability, on behalf of the General Conference, we sincerely apologize to the victims and survivors of sexual misconduct perpetrated by the leaders (clergy and lay) of The United Methodist Church for the harm they have done. We acknowledge it is spiritual violence when a ministerial leader commits sexual misconduct, and it is a clear violation of sacred trust.



General Commission on the Status and Role of Women

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



INTRODUCTION

Sexual misconduct is a current and real problem within The United Methodist Church. Today, we acknowledge there are people here who have been mistreated, abused, and assaulted by clergy and lay leaders in the Church.

We honor those who have shared their stories and those who have sat with their stories in silence. We commend the courage of all survivors of sexual misconduct to walk a path they did not choose.

Too often those who suffer from sexual misconduct are silenced, ignored, or not believed by the Church.

Sexual misconduct includes psychological, emotional, and spiritual abuse. This apology is a beginning point for confession and hope in prevention and response to sexual misconduct in The United Methodist Church.

Apology

The United Methodist Church apologizes for the times we allowed our desire to protect the Church to outweigh our desire to care for victims and survivors of sexual misconduct. We have allowed polity and protection of the institutional Church prevent us from holding persons accountable, thus perpetuating harm within our local churches and other ministry settings, and damaging the whole United Methodist connection.

We apologize for the times we have not listened to you, doubted your stories, ignored your wounds, and have not tended to your pain. We believe this has contributed to allowing an unsafe culture to exist.

An apology is worthless without a commitment to the challenging work which must follow. The United Methodist Church pledges to:

1. Apologize in every annual conference across the connection.
2. Educate Church leaders regarding sacred trust in ministerial relationships and power imbalance within those relationships.
3. Provide healing resources to all affected in accordance with ¶ 362. Complaint Procedures.
4. Develop a trauma-informed response to complaints of sexual misconduct.

This apology alone is insufficient for healing. The United Methodist Church accepts our responsibility and publicly states our commitment to carry out the steps named to do no more harm. May God's blessing and never-ending love guide our work and see it through.