

## New London United Methodist Church News

709 W. Pine Street • New London, WI 54961  
920-982-4703 • [nlumc@mynewlondonumc.org](mailto:nlumc@mynewlondonumc.org)  
Website: [www.mynewlondonumc.org](http://www.mynewlondonumc.org)

### November/December 2022

#### Thankfulness and Peace

I will be thankful for all of the saints we will name and remember during our All Saints worship services, and how we continue to benefit from their witness of faith and love.

I will pray for peace to be with all who grieve.

I will be thankful that the political ads will end after the polls close on November 8.

I will pray for people to peacefully serve well in their elected office.

I will be thankful if everyone who can vote does vote.

I will pray for everyone to be at peace with election outcomes.

I will be thankful for veterans, and for the families of our veterans.

I will pray for peace to be with all who serve and protect.

I will be thankful that our District Superintendent can meet with us for our Church Conference.

I will pray for peace in our connectional church body.

I will be thankful that everyone who can get the COVID vaccine, or the new bivalent booster, will “take the shot” for their own good health and the health of everyone around them; and that everyone who can have a flu shot will get their flu shot before people travel for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

I will pray that we can all enjoy the peace of good health and holiday gatherings.

I will be thankful for everyone who has contributed actual frozen turkeys, pies, cranberry relish – or the financial equivalent – or will help with the distribution of this food.

I will pray for the peace of food security in every household.

I will be thankful that we are having an ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve service this year.

I will pray that our diverse church bodies can sow peace in our community.

I will be thankful for the season of Advent.

I will pray that during the Advent season we will renew our commitment to following the Prince of Peace and joyfully celebrate his light and peace in our own lives.

Pastor Joyce

#### How Do I Reach Pastor Joyce?

If you want to avoid the disappointment of not finding me at the office when you stop by, you can call before you come, or make an appointment so I'll be ready to see you. If you need to leave a message you can leave a voice mail message at church (920) 982-4703 or on the parsonage answering machine (920) 250-5543.

#### Appreciation for Your Thanksgiving Offering

It makes a difference when we offer our thanksgiving to God by reaching out with loving kindness to the people around us. Last November we received a note in the mail that read:

*Hello! I would like to send a sincere “Thank You” for providing me with a turkey and pie for*

*Thanksgiving. Your kindness is appreciated. Wishing all of you a Blessed Thanksgiving! Enjoy!*

Your Thanksgiving offering of turkey, pie, cranberry relish, funds, and time can make a positive impact in our community – one household at a time.

#### All Members Should Attend the Church Conference!

Our new District Superintendent Rev. M. Park Hunter will be joining us on **Sat., Nov. 12 at Noon** for our annual Church Conference. A light lunch will be available for you to eat while we are meeting. All members of the congregation have a voice and vote at this meeting where required reports and the 2023 church budget will be presented and voted on. Invest an hour of your time to get up to speed on what's going on in The United Methodist denomination, the Wisconsin Conference, and our local church. (Don't be surprised if the DS posts photos on the North East District website or Facebook page. And check out what he's driving when he comes.)



### **Do We Have a New Part-Time Custodian?**

We are now contracting custodial services from Tanner Berkahn (*pictured here*). Chances are you may never see him at work because he will be at church either later at night or very early in the morning. But you should see the good results from his work when you come to church and the building looks clean and cared for. (What do you have in common with Tanner? You probably support the same football team.)

### **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service (Followed by Pie!)**

We will gather for worship at **Trinity Lutheran Church** (corner of Oshkosh and Beckert) at **6:30 PM on Wed., Nov. 23** for worship and Holy Communion. Following the service you can stay and enjoy a slice of pie and conversation in the fellowship hall. Members from Trinity, First Congregational UCC, St. John's Episcopal, and our church will be there – and you can invite friends and family members from other congregations to come, too!

### **What's the Deal with These Free Meals?**

Once a month we offer a free meal at 5:45 PM so members can invite a friend to share a meal and fellowship – and also be invited to stay for worship at 6:30 PM. Members of the congregation sign up to bring dishes for a “theme” meal. On Mon., Nov. 14 at 5:45 PM it will be “Taco Night” where you choose what you want in your taco. On Mon., Dec. 12 at 5:45 PM it will be “Breakfast for Dinner” with a line-up of dishes typically served for breakfast. Plates, forks, napkins, and a beverage are supplied. Still have questions? Talk to Pastor Joyce.

### **United Methodist Women/United Women in Faith**

A huge thank you to all who contributed to our salad luncheon. We received many lovely salads, yummy bakery and some very nice used holiday decor. So **THANK YOU**, also a big thank you to all who worked before, that day and after luncheon, we couldn't do it without you.

A reminder that November is our month to turn in our thank you banks.

Our Christmas project will once again be buying **little gifts for St. Joseph residents**, these are items that the residents can pick out for their family members, so they can give Christmas gifts which is a good feeling for them. They do not have to be wrapped, St. Joseph does that. Gifts can be for boys, girls, men and women. Some ideas may be a little candle, cap, socks, books, Packer, Brewers or Badger items (cups, etc.), also a toy for a young grandchild. No health items. We had many nice things last year. We have to have the items to St. Joseph by Weds. Dec. 7th, so please have them at church no later than Monday Dec. 5th.

Our next meeting is Nov. 17th at 9:00 AM at Marly's. All women are welcome to attend, we are always looking for new members with new ideas.

### **Make Giving Back Your Second Act!**

Drop in any time from 9:00 AM to Noon on Tues., Nov. 15 at the New London Public Library (406 S. Pearl St.) to check out information on volunteer opportunities in New London and chat with staff from the Retired and Senior Volunteer 55+ Program (RSVP). Learn more about: the service needs of local nonprofits; programs that can improve the quality of your life; and how anyone age 55 or better can join RSVP.

### **Advent Study Book and Discussion Groups**

Ask Pastor Joyce for a copy of the Advent study book, *Advent in Plain Sight*, by Jill Duffield. For each day in Advent there is a scripture passage to read, a written reflection, questions for you to consider and ponder, and a prayer. The invitation for the season is to look and listen for God at work in the world around us. Weekly discussion groups will meet at 9:00 AM on Sundays (starting Nov. 27) in the “brick” room; or at 5:15 PM on Mondays (starting Nov. 28) in the library by Pastor Joyce's office. Spend an hour discussing what you've read and how God has been in plain sight for you that week.

**If we missed your celebration - Call 920-982-4703 to let us know**

**November Celebrations  
Happy Birthday**

Dave Wochinski	11/09
Sheila Lee	11/11
Pete Popke	11/12
Janice Polley	11/14
Earl Wohlrabe	11/14
Betty Blank	11/19
Steve Brensike	11/19
Robert Swinton	11/21

**December Celebrations  
Happy Birthday**

Jon Heise	12/05
Sally Tschurwald	12/07
Amy Luebeck	12/08
Lana Brensike	12/12
Carol Swinton	12/12
Jenna Bushie	12/14
Betty Dowd	12/16
John Shaw	12/19
Cameron Behnke	12/25

**Happy Anniversary**

Brian & Carol Hatfield	12/12
John & Sig Shaw	12/26

**Prayers**

Please keep our Circuit Partners in your prayers: Clintonville UMC; Seymour/Cicero: New Life UMC; Waupaca Area Regional Ministry; Manawa UMC; Iola UMC.

With our members or family members who are looking for work.

With all of our Service Men and Women who serve here and abroad for our freedom.

With Nancy Gretzinger as she is at Brewster Village.

With Al & Dee Sorenson as they are at Monarch Gardens (St. Joe's Memory Care Unit).

With Chris and Steve Thompson, on the passing of Chris' brother, Jim Schmude, on Monday September 19, 2022.



**Give 100 Minutes to the "Red Kettle" Campaign**

Want to help the Salvation Army's "Red Kettle" campaign raise funds in New London to help people in New London? You can sign up at church to be at New London Festival Foods on Sat., Dec. 3 for a 100 minute shift (NLUMC will be there 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM). Can't "ring" that day? Call June at 920-538-3249 to volunteer for a shift on another day in New London.

**"Hanging of the Greens" and Seasonal Lights**

Are you all about the decorations and lights of the Christmas season? Want to help get the church decorated inside and out? Talk to Steve and Lana Brensike to volunteer your time.

**See (and Vote for) Our Tree at Thorn Farm**

The farm house at Thorn Farm will be decorated with many lovely trees for their Christmas events/open houses. Visitors can "vote" for their favorite tree(s) by placing money in the donation jars for the trees to support local non-profit clubs and organizations. Look for the NLUMC tree and "vote" when you're there! (Thanks to Ronna Herminath and Jill Vyse for decorating our tree!)

**Feeling "Puzzled" With Colder Weather?!**

Don't forget the "puzzle exchange" table in Cottrill Hall where you can find a new puzzle challenge or drop off a puzzle you've already mastered (be sure all the pieces are in the box).

## What Is UMCOR Doing?

Have you been wondering what The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is doing to help people in Ukraine, or refugees who have fled Ukraine? And what about people who have been through tornadoes, flooding, or wildfires in the U.S.? Or hurricanes in the Caribbean and U.S.? You can see the latest news releases on [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org).

Want to know what is going on at the nearest UMCOR supply depot? Check out [www.midwestmission.org](http://www.midwestmission.org) to learn more about the “kits” that are assembled for distribution to communities recovering from disasters. The “Tornado Kit” (\$50 value) and “Home Care Kit” (\$20 value) contain some basic work/cleaning supplies; and the “Personal Dignity Kit” (\$15 value) has the basic personal hygiene items you would need at an overnight/evacuation shelter.

## Weekly Bible Chat on Zoom

Read, think about, and discuss the scripture passages that we will (and some we won't) be using in worship each week. From 6:00 to about 7:10 PM each Wednesday we meet via Zoom (free for you to connect to with any internet capable device) and close our time together with prayer. To give it a try, contact Pastor Joyce for the Zoom meeting link that will connect you to the virtual gathering. The readings we'll be discussing each week:

**Nov. 2:** Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21; Haggai 1:15b—2:9; Luke 20:27-38; II Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

**Nov. 9:** Isaiah 12; Isaiah 65:17-25; Luke 21:5-19; II Thessalonians 3:6-13

**Nov. 16:** Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-69; Luke 23:33-43; Colossians 1:11-20

**Nov. 23:** No Zoom tonight! Go to the ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve service!

**Nov. 30:** Psalm 126; Isaiah 35:1-10; Revelation 7:9-17

**Dec. 7:** Isaiah 11:1-10; Matthew 3:1-4

**Dec. 14:** Psalm 96; Isaiah 55:8-13; Matthew 3:5-10

**Dec. 21:** Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20; John 1:1-14; Hebrews 1:1-4

**Dec. 28:** Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12; Ephesians 3:1-12

## Christmas Eve and Day Worship Services

On Sat., Dec. 24 there will be one **Christmas Eve worship service at 4:30 PM**. We will sing along with guitars, pray, read scripture, have a sermon, share Holy Communion, and light candles before singing “Silent Night.” Everyone is welcome to be part of this relaxed traditional time of worship. On **Christmas Day, Sun., Dec. 25 at 10:15 AM** we will have Lee Kersten at the organ and lovely Christmas carols to sing, prayers to pray, scripture to read, and a sermon to be shared. Come to worship and celebrate this blessed day. (We all know that the game doesn't start until Noon!) We will NOT have a worship service on Mon., Dec. 26; but we will endeavor to livestream and record the services on Dec. 24 and 25 for those who are not able to physically be present in the sanctuary.

## Epiphany Worship Services

Oh, yes! We are starting off the new year in a good way: **Epiphany worship services at 10:15 AM on Jan. 1; and 6:30 PM on Jan. 2**. Will you be seeing stars or following a star? We will share in Holy Communion and seek God's guidance in this new year.



## A Reason to Pray

Do you find that it helps to have some 'outside' motivation or a daily routine that leads you to pray? You might use *The Upper Room* devotional booklet (pick up a copy at church) to begin the practice of reading a scripture passage and reflection, along with a prayer (and an additional topic for prayer) each day. Or you can sign up to receive the **daily prayer message** that Pastor Joyce emails out that contains joys and concerns for prayer.

## Meals for Mission of Hope House Residents

Whether you dropped off a 'ready for the oven' or ready-right-now-to-eat meal, or grocery store gift cards for residents of the Mission of Hope House (MOHH) to choose what they would like to eat, your gifts of food have helped the MOHH stretch their budget. Thank you to all of our 2022 MOHH meal providers: Kathy Algiers, Fran Barrington, Mary Bellile, Mary Dohrman, Karla Herminath, Jeanne Lee, Carol Schmidt, Shirleyann Schneider, Sally Tschurwald, Jan Van Alstine, Sue Wolfe, and donors of grocery cards. To start the new year we are looking for volunteers to provide meals for these Thursdays: Jan. 5, 2023; Jan. 19, 2023.

## Year End and New Year Financial Info You Could Use

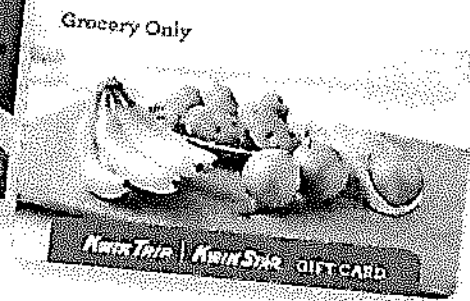
If you are making a gift to the church to be recorded as a **charitable donation for 2022**, then that gift needs to *physically be in the church office by Noon on Fri., Dec. 30, 2022, or postmarked by Dec. 31, 2022 for delivery to the church.* Any financial gifts received by the church with a 2023 postmark will be recorded as a charitable donation for 2023.

Looking ahead, you can avoid paying taxes on a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA in 2023 if you are at least 70-1/2 years old. How do you do that? Pick up the **"Giving From Your IRA" information sheet** by the collection plates at church and discuss it with your financial planner or tax consultant.

You can also give appreciated property (stocks, bonds, real estate, or mutual funds) directly to the church as a charitable income tax deduction at the full fair market value and avoid declaring the capital gain of the assets as income. See the chart on the **"Time for Giving"** sheet of information (by the collection plate at church) and discuss it with your financial planner or tax consultant.

## Scrip Card Program

Kwik Trip has a new GROCERY ONLY scrip card program starting November 1. We are able to purchase our normal scrip cards as in the past with a 5% discount and those cards can be used for gas or anything in the store. The NEW Grocery Only scrip cards can be purchased in increments of \$25, \$50, \$100 and discount is 15%. **Items not eligible to be purchased with the Grocery Only include fuel, tobacco, alcohol, gift cards, lottery/lotto, and stamps.** Scrip cards can be purchased Sunday mornings before or after church, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Scrip can also be purchased on Mondays from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Tell your family, friends and neighbors they can use the program too. All scrip orders are placed by noon on Sundays. Thank you for your continued support of the Scrip program.




# November

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 Samaritan Counseling Center (SCC)

Head Start Staff - Monday to Friday; Head Start Children - Monday to Thursday 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM

# 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 PM Church Council mtg	2 6:00 PM Bible Chat on Zoom	3 SCC 11-7 MOHH Meal	4	5 Set your clocks back 1 hour at bedtime
6 <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 10:15 AM All Saints Worship/Communion	7 SCC 7-7 6:30 PM All Saints Worship w/Communion	8 Election Day 	9 Turkey Distribution Old Glory Honor Flight 6:00 PM Bible Chat on Zoom	10 SCC 11-7	11 Veteran's Day	12 12:00 PM Annual Church Conference
13 10:15 AM Worship	14 SCC 7-7 5:45 PM "Taco Night" Free Meal 6:30 PM Worship	15	16 Turkey Distribution 6:00 PM Bible Chat on Zoom	17 SCC 11-7 9:00 AM UMW Meet @ Marly's 1:30 PM Pastor Joyce @ St. Joe's worship service MOHH Meal	18	19
20 9:15 AM Mission Mtg 10:15 AM Christ the King Worship	21 SCC 7-7 6:30 PM Christ the King Worship	22	23 6:30 PM Ecumenical Worship Service & Pie Social @ Trinity ELCA	24 Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed	25	26
27 9:00 AM Advent Study Group 10:15 AM First Week of Advent Worship	28 SCC 7-7 5:15 PM Advent Study Group 6:30 PM First Week of Advent Worship	29	30			

# December

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>4</b> 9:00 AM Advent Study Group 10:15 AM Second Week of Advent Worship/Communion	<b>5</b> SCC 7-7 5:15 PM Advent Study Group 6:30 PM Second Week of Advent Worship/Communion	<b>6</b> 6:30 PM Church Council Mtg	<b>7</b> 6:00 PM Bible Chat on Zoom	<b>8</b> SCC 11-7 MOHH Meal	<b>2</b> 5:00 PM New London Winter Wonderland Parade	<b>3</b> 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM Bell Ringing @ Festival Foods
<b>11</b> 9:00 AM Advent Study Group 10:15 AM Third Week of Advent Worship	<b>12</b> SCC 7-7 5:15 PM Advent Study Group 5:45 PM "Breakfast for Dinner" Free Meal 6:30 PM Third Week of Advent Worship	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:00 PM Bible Chat on Zoom	<b>15</b> SCC 11-7 9:00 AM UMW Meet @ Marty's 1:30 PM Pastor Joyce @ St. Joe's worship service MOHH Meal	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:00 AM Advent Study Group 10:15 AM Fourth Week of Advent Worship	<b>19</b> SCC 7-7 5:15 PM Advent Study Group 6:30 PM Fourth Week of Advent Worship	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:00 PM Bible Chat on Zoom	<b>22</b> SCC 11-7 MOHH Meal	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 4:30 PM Christmas Eve Worship w/ Communion
<b>25</b> 10:15 AM Christmas Day Worship	<b>26</b> SCC 7-7 Church Office Closed No Monday Night Worship Service	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:00 PM Bible Chat on Zoom	<b>29</b> SCC 11-7 MOHH Meal	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>