

The Messenger



A Newsletter of the
Genesee 1st Congregational, United Church of Christ, Inc.

July – August, 2017

Volume 12, Number 2

Notes from a Wayside

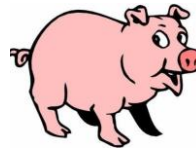
"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11:28 (RSV)

It is a hazy Saturday afternoon. Today, I am at the southbound I-43 wayside in Alpine Valley. Many have come here to rest for a moment on their journeys. One family has stopped for a picnic lunch. One gentleman stopped to look for directions to an address in Walworth. He thanked me for assisting him. As we travel life's freeway, we are all busy moving from here to there, from point "A" to point "B" – and beyond. We can stop at a wayside to refresh our weary souls, nourish our hungry bodies, refocus our minds and get away – for a moment – from life in the fast lane.

As I relaxed, enjoying God's creation...and some little critters...I hearkened back to another journey, on a hazy morning, in a place far, far away. It was mid-July, 1989. I was one of four chaperones, and 16 youth, on a church workcamp trip. Our destination was Orland, Maine. The day before, we had stayed in a church in New Rochelle – after a tour of New York City. Today, we would journey on I-95 toward Boston. Entering Rhode Island, our nation's smallest state, not much larger than Walworth and Waukesha counties combined, we traveled toward and through Providence, and then into Massachusetts. The total crossing of Rhode Island, "pedal-to-the-metal," took just over 50 minutes. To this very day, I can say I've been in Rhode Island. Yet, having never set foot in that state, my experience is very limited. It is on my "bucket list" to one day see more of Rhode Island. Some workcampers slept through an entire state! Ugh!

- Please see **Wayside**, page 4



Pig Roast & Luau

4 - 7 PM, Saturday, July 15

Genesee Church Education Center

W306 S5075 Church St., Genesee Village

Prize Drawing at 7 PM

Tired of that home cuisine? Make your meal...

An Experience to Remember!

Great Food! Children's games. Get a complete Pig Roast meal with all the fixin's. Chicken will also be available. Desserts and beverages are extra.

Meal Ticket (advance) Prices: *\$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors (age 62+), \$8 for children (ages 5–12). *Add \$1 per ticket for "at the door" price.

For Tickets, contact a church member, or the Church Office at **262-968-3849**.

6th Annual

Genesee Church Car Show

Saturday, August 12, 10 AM – 3 PM

Raffle: 3 – 3:30 PM

Genesee Church Education Center

W306 S5075 Church St., Genesee, Wisconsin

\$8.00 Donation per car

HUGE PRIZE DRAWINGS

- **FOOD ON SITE:** Brats / Hot dogs, Sweet corn
- **Dash plaques** for first 100 cars

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Contact: 262-968-3324 www.ssresearch.com

WELCOME MEMBERS AND FRIENDS...

to the July-August, 2017 edition of the Messenger. Our service time is 10:30 AM through Sunday, July 9. On Sunday, July 16 the worship time will switch to 9 AM. This is to accommodate a rotating worship schedule with Hartland UCC, with whom we share our pastor. Children in our Sunday School are part of our services until the Children's Message time. Then they are released to go to class. Join us for worship this coming Sunday.

Did you know...

We have Sunday School every Sunday, year-round! Our Summer Sunday School is special, with new lessons, games and more! Friends are always welcome.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

Listed below is a list of those people, from our church, known to have graduated recently. If there are further additions, they will be published in the September-October edition of the Messenger.

Michael Bloom.....Mukwonago High School
Paige Meyers.....Kettle Moraine High School
Alexis Sickels.....Mukwonago High School

Jenna Fintel.....U. W. Whitewater
Kelsey Kingery.....U. W. Platteville

Kayla Kingery..(bootcamp) Fort Jackson, South Carolina

From the Pastor



I bring greetings to you, both from the three-session class we held at the Hartland Church as well as the Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting, held at the Green Lake Conference Center and attended by Sue Hrobar and Scott Burdette, representing respectively the Hartland and Genesee congregations.

While there were two different gatherings, each was linked together by a common theme of emphasis: welcoming immigrants in our midst. The Conference Annual Meeting adopted its only resolution by a near unanimous vote to explore the meaning and to enact policies with its congregations in the area of "Immigrant Welcoming." The class at Hartland was on the same topic after the Conference requested congregations to engage in this study. Church Council moved to hold these sessions on immigrant welcoming.

Personally speaking, the class and the Conference deliberations were a transformative and fresh new look at the faith. Of course, for years I have been well aware of the Biblical mandate to love and care for the sojourner and the stranger in our midst, "for you were once strangers in Egypt." (Deuteronomy 10:19, which is but one of scores of examples.). However, the current controversies in the public square have brought new light to this long-standing ethic of our Jewish and Christian faith heritage.

Another anniversary of our nation draws where we celebrate the principles upon which we distinguish ourselves. This reminds us, yet again, that how we welcome the alien and the non-citizen is critical to our national identity. Read the whole of Emma Lazarus' "The New Colossus," and consider how welcoming the immigrant is at the core of being true to the aspirations of both our national and faith founders. Lazarus makes reference to the Colossus of Rhodes, the world's largest statue in its time, which commemorated a successful defense in Greece against an attack from Cyprus some 2300 years ago. It is a symbol of force. This "New" Colossus representing our nation is not a soldier, but a woman with torch and tablet rejecting "storied pomp" and national might. Instead, the woman whispers, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free..."

Our faith and national identities are more about welcoming than defending ourselves! Providing the "common defense" is also critical, and I don't pretend to know what is best to keep our country or the household of faith safe in these times. Such matters are far beyond my expertise and my knowledge, but one thing gives me pause today. The poet doesn't say anything about a wall. She speaks of a door and a concerted welcoming of the masses. I am compelled to join with the poet and the Biblical directive. Even if we must build walls, whether of stone and mortar or of policy and procedure in substance, we must make the effort to build as big a door as possible. It is our identity. It is what has made and will make us great.

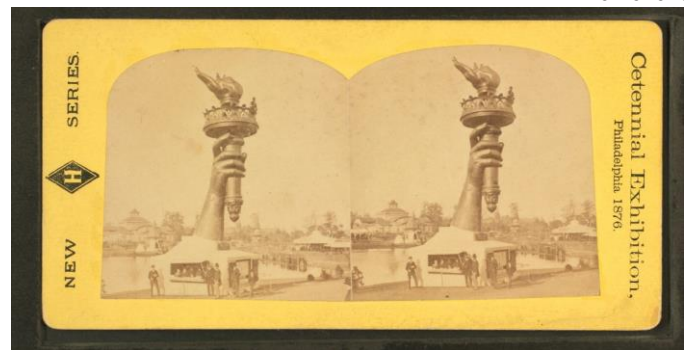
-Pastor Peter

e-mail: stmartpb@msn.com

(c) 262-720-6939; (h) 262-201-4033

**"...A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
MOTHER OF EXILES..."**

Emma Lazarus



"A wandering Aramean was my ancestor..."

- Deuteronomy 26:5

Vacation Bible School - 2017

SAVE THE DATES!

When: August 8-9-10, 2017.

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday

Time: 9 AM - 12 PM (noon)

Where: Education building, Genesee Church

Who: Children ages 3 years through 5th grade and youth helpers 6th -12th grades. Bring your friends, neighbors, grandchildren, etc. Our doors are open to everyone!

We need Volunteers!

Adults: to oversee crafts, games and snack stations, help set up/decorating and clean up on Thursday.

Students: (who have completed 6th grade - 12th grade) are needed to help set up, clean up and lead our kids to each station during our mornings at VBS. We also need someone to help with our videos, music, slide show, etc.

Decorating/set-up help needed: Come help us decorate our building with the VBS theme the week before VBS. 6th grade - adults (families) are welcome to help! More info with dates and times to come!

We need donations! We do not charge a fee for our VBS, so your generous donations allow us to make this children's ministry program available to everyone! Sign-up sheets for craft & snack items will be available the last week in July. Registration forms will be available in this newsletter and at our Sunday services. You can also call our church office and request a form be sent to your home.

If you have any questions, e-mail Rhea Whiteley at rhea@mikewhiteley.com and you'll receive a response beginning the week of July 23rd. Thanks!

BUILDING RENTAL AVAILABLE

Do you have a large family gathering, wedding, birthday party, etc., but not enough room to host it? Both our Education Center and Church are available to responsible parties. Call the church office at **262-968-3849** for details and a rate schedule.

Service Opportunities

CLEANING GOD'S HOUSE

A list of the job duties, as well as a signup sheet, is posted in the church entrance. You and your family/team will sign-up to clean for a ONE MONTH period. We supply all the equipment you will need. Scott Burdette, **262-968-3830**, has a key and can answer any of your questions. A special "thank-you" to Diane Sickels, for cleaning our church in May and to Maddie Schmidt for cleaning in June. Thank-you in advance for your service.

July – Groskreutz family

August – Groskreutz family

September – YOUR NAME HERE

October – YOUR NAME HERE

JULY - AUGUST ushers

The following teams are **scheduled** to usher on Sundays in July and August. For Sundays beginning July 16, Arrive by 8:30 AM. Hand out bulletin, greet people, light candles and take collection. Bring treats for those who stay to visit after the service. For the latest update, or if you are unable to fulfill your commitment, please notify Diane Sickels at **262-968-3954**. Also, call to fill one of the "OPEN" spots.

July 2	Dennis & Marilyn Michaelis
July 9	Karen McCuaig / Carol McCormick
July 16	Scott Burdette / OPEN
July 23	Sue Fleming / Barb Fieber-Mlachnik
July 30	Barb Whitmore / Lindsay Sayles
August 6	Clarence Place / Dick Lynch / Marion Reeves
August 13	Donna Vanderhei / Pat Riley
August 20	Catlin Carlson /Amber Carlson
August 27	OPEN

HOPE CENTER – 2017 service dates

Thanks for your service on Wednesday March 22. Our remaining 2017 date is Wednesday, October 18. Put this date on your 2017 calendars. Thank you for your service.

EXPLORE GOD'S WORD DAILY

Copies of the devotional booklet: "**The Upper Room**" for July-August, 2017 are available in the church entrance. On every page is an inspirational reading and accompanying Bible verse for each day.

Events Calendar

JULY-AUGUST events

Listed here are the dates of meetings, holidays and events in July, August and early September. All dates are correct at the time of publication. All events are at the Ed. Center, unless otherwise noted. See individual articles for details.

JULY

- SU 2** 10:30 AM service at church w/ communion
TU 4 **INDEPENDENCE DAY**
SA 8 Happy Birthday Rev. Peter St. Martin
SU 9 Potluck Brunch – following the 10:30 AM service
SA 15 15th Annual Pig Roast & Luau: 4-7 PM
 Drawing at 7 PM
SU 16 9 AM service time begins

AUGUST

- SU 6** 9 AM service at church w/ communion
TU 8 – TH 10 Vacation Bible school
 9 AM – 12 PM (Noon) daily
SA 12 6th Annual Car Show: 10 AM – 3 PM
 Raffle: 3 – 3:30 PM
SU 20 Editor's Birthday
 Newsletter Copy due

SEPTEMBER

- SU 3** 9 AM service at church w/ communion
MO 4 **LABOR DAY**
SU 10 **RALLY DAY**

FOOD PANTRY HAPPENINGS!

The Food Pantry has been VERY appreciative of all of your generous offerings and it has been my pleasure to deliver them on the Tuesday after collection day. I've had a chance to meet several of the early arrivals and they also have expressed their "thank yous" for your donations, that enable them to keep food on the table.

To make it easier and eliminate a lot of the reminders that are sent, we have decided to make a wish list so you have advance and updated notice of "specials." To accomplish this, please make a note of the following.

JULY 9: Cereals and breakfast bars.
 Of course, they will gladly accept anything you wish to donate – so please feel free to make your own choices.

Thanks again ... from so many people
 - Marleene Bloom

CHURCH CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

Brochures for Summer Camp have arrived! Our Wisconsin Conference, UCC has two campsites for church camps, retreats and conferences: Moon Beach camp in the St. Germain area and Pilgrim Camp – located on beautiful Green Lake. There are camping opportunities available for all ages. There are weeklong camping experiences designed specifically for youth, camps for families and camps for adults. Register for the experience of a lifetime. Look for brochures and a large poster in the church entrance.

Wayside – from Page 1

Like crossing Rhode Island, our journeys through life are actually quite short. As we age, we look back with only memories, hopefully fond, of where we have been. We often regret that which we have not yet done, only because we know we cannot repeat the journey. It would be an ultimate tragedy to live our lives always heading, full-speed-ahead, to point "B," never stopping to "smell the roses."

The real joy of travel is NOT in getting to a destination. The real joy is in enjoying the adventure! No matter what you do in life, enjoy what you are doing. Even work can have joy and meaning if we gain a sense of satisfaction about a job well done or what we have accomplished. No matter what you do in life, know that "God has your back." Enjoy the trip. Once you are retired, take time to enjoy life to its fullest.

Follow God's lead. God worked for six days to make everything. On the seventh day God rested. We humans have followed God's lead. In the wilderness of our everyday lives we have created churches: waysides where we might come together, on the Sabbath day, to thank God for his abundance. On Sunday morning, take the next exit ramp and enter God's gates with thanksgiving, giving praise to the God who has given us everything we need for life's journey. In return, God will refresh your weary soul, renew your spirit and refuel your mind.

I'll see you at the wayside ... and may God's "providence" be with you!

Scott W. Burdette – May, 2017

A FINAL NOTE 🎵

The deadline for the September-October, 2017 edition is Sunday, August 20. To submit an article, event information, or to receive your newsletter via e-mail, send e-mail to: LTLBURD@aol.com. Articles submitted in person need to be typed or written legibly.

Scott W. Burdette

Puzzle Challengers

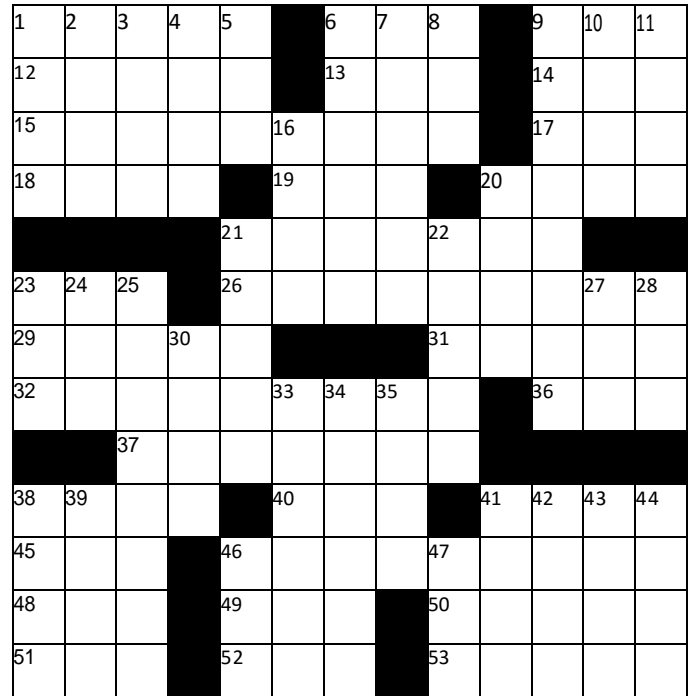
ACROSS

- 1 Coffee variety
- 6 Apple color
- 9 Paving goo
- 12 Reed instruments
- 13 Compass reading (abbr.)
- 14 Grand _____ Opry
- 15 Destroy
- 17 Boy
- 18 Observed
- 19 Summer cooler
- 20 Acapulco coin
- 21 Dozing one
- 23 Brother's sib
- 26 Conclude
- 29 Got out of bed
- 31 Join in
- 32 Wood worker
- 36 Always, in poems
- 37 Breakfast foods
- 38 Distort
- 40 100%
- 41 Sleep lightly
- 45 Paddle's kin
- 46 Prized
- 48 Had breakfast
- 49 Dusk, to a poet
- 50 Thrill
- 51 According to
- 52 Skill
- 53 Edgar _____ Poe

DOWN

- 1 Method
- 2 Follow orders
- 3 Inlet
- 4 Noggin
- 5 Mule's kin
- 6 Library patron
- 7 Regard highly
- 8 Actress Ruby _____
- 9 Put up with
- 10 Oh, dear!
- 11 Renovate
- 16 Story
- 20 William or Sean
- 21 Direct
- 22 Wharves
- 23 Cul-de-_____
- 24 Retirement acct.
- 25 Wizard
- 27 Summer shirt
- 28 Blunder
- 30 Erupt
- 33 More adjacent
- 34 Skill
- 35 _____ Fitzgerald
- 38 Suds maker
- 39 _____ Winslet of "Titanic"
- 41 Boring
- 42 Unwritten
- 43 Greek letter
- 44 Adam's garden
- 46 Earl Grey, e.g.
- 47 Adriatic, e.g.

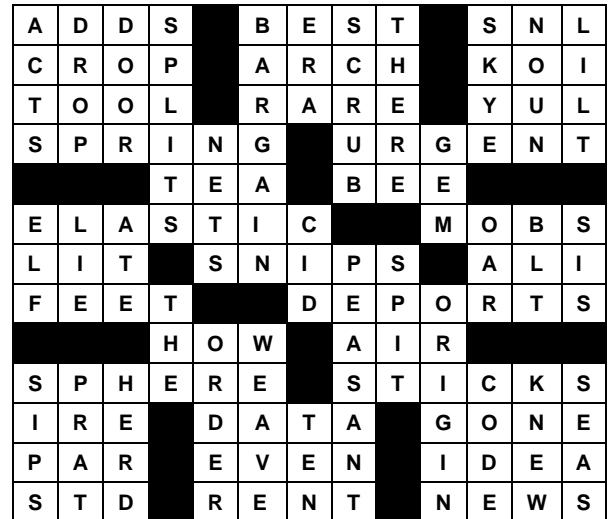
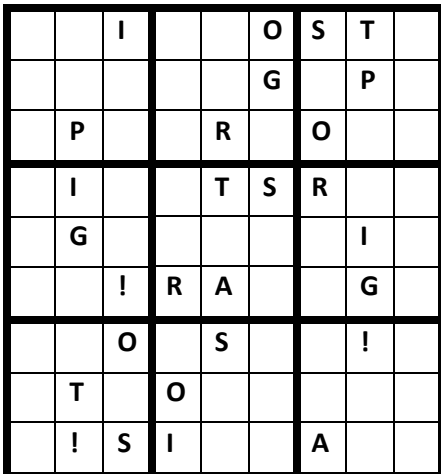
Genesee Church Crossword Puzzle



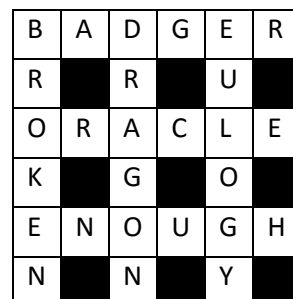
Answers to previous puzzles in May-June Messenger

PIG ROAST! WORD-DOKU

The puzzle below is solved like a regular Sudoku puzzle, except the numbers from 1 thru 9 have been replaced with the letters and symbol in **PIG ROAST!** When complete, all rows, columns and 3x3 boxes will contain all the letters and symbol in **PIG ROAST!**



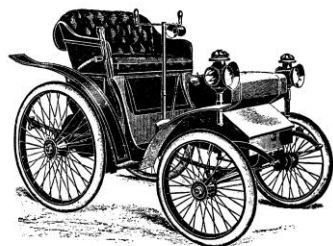
Answer to: **CROSS MIX**



GENESEE 1ST CONGREGATIONAL
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NEWSLETTER JUL/AUG 2017

TIME VALUE MAIL
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Receive your next newsletter via e-mail. Send a
text message via e-mail to: LTLBURD@aol.com
“Put me on the Genesee Church e-mail list.”

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6th Annual Car Show

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...and more!

Plus:

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Vacation Bible School

Registration Form

Enclosed with this newsletter!

10:30 AM Sunday Worship
Ends Sunday, July 9

9 AM Sunday Worship
Begins Sunday, July 16

Sunday School
- during the worship time