



Congregational Clarion

AMERY CONGREGATIONAL UCC



INSIDE THIS ISSUE: Page

From the Pastor	1
Birthdays	2
Youth	3
Events	4
Installation	6,7
Council Minutes	7
Calendar	8

From Pastor Dana

Installation

I hold this congregation in so much gratitude, I have been so focused forward as I received It is only now in light of my installation as your Settled Pastor, that I am able to begin to grasp your generosity of spirit and depth of kindness in my fall and recovery. Our covenant took root and began to grow in my vulnerability and need. The patience you displayed and the empathy you provided was beautiful. I want to thank you all again for your efforts to literally and figuratively get me back on my feet and fully functioning again. The presence and work of God displayed through the presence and work of God's people (you) is self-evident to me. In the rooting of our covenantal relationship, I find you all to be deeply connected in faith in many diverse ways and I am enjoying working with you to explore the different pathways of ministry as we move forward together. I am excited to move forward in ministry with you.

Conference

Wisconsin Conference UCC Annual Meeting 2023
Friday June 9 (12:00) to Sunday June 11 (12pm)
Green Lake Conference Center, Green Lake, WI 94941
Please let Dana or Rae in the office know if you are interested in going as a delegate food and lodging reimbursed.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thanks to all of you for your generosity toward the Amery School Mental Health Collaborative Project in both the Installation Service, the Noisy Kettle and Potluck. We have raised \$ 553.14 toward their goal. I am smiling ear to ear!!! I am grateful to each of you on behalf of all the youth who will receive the help they may need.



05/02 Allan Foxwell

05/02 Wanda Burstad

05/04 Richard Wooldridge

05/06 Mason Henke

05/09 Darold Niccum

05/10 Shanon Hayes

05/10 Sheldon Betzold

05/12 Leslie Nyholm

05/13 John Stoeklen

05/14 Kate Bevington

05/15 David Waterman

05/15 Elizabeth Leonard



05/21 Desiree Harris

05/23 Madisen Jackson

05/24 Warren Henke

05/29 Tom Morris

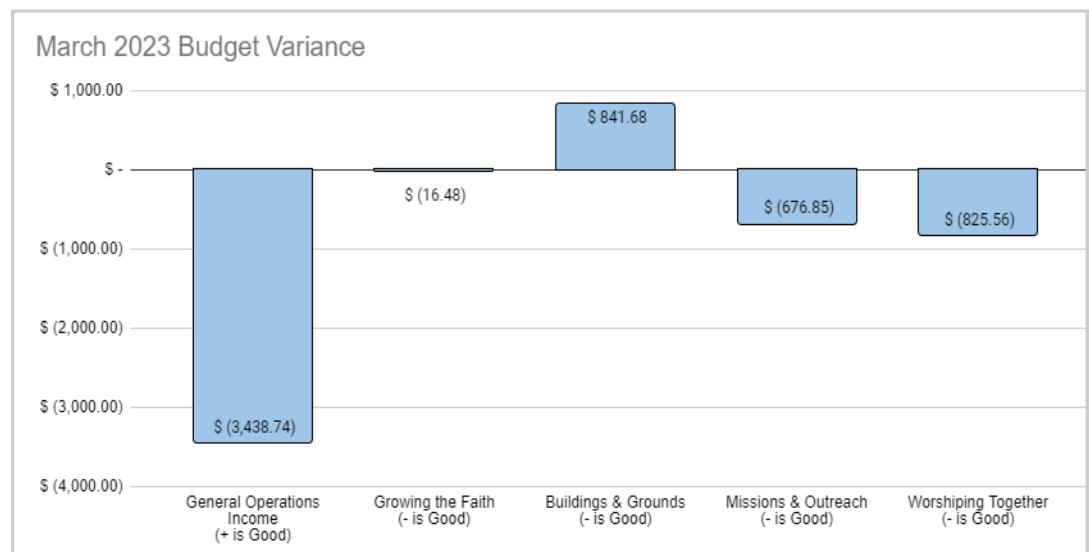
05/31 Joyce Helland



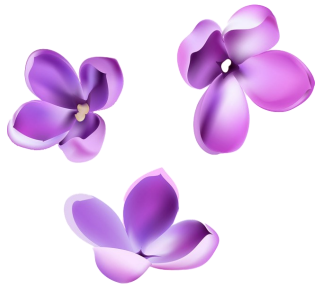
Financial Corner

We will now begin to include a quarterly financial update. During the first quarter we saw income to our General Operations of \$43,805.26, this included \$19,000 annual donations, meaning members give annually. The revenue for this came from 44 families. Our expenses over that same period were \$50,816.79. What does this mean? In the first quarter we needed to remove \$7,011.53 from reserves to support the church operations. We have been working very hard to minimize expenses wherever possible. We do great things in this church, however, it is not sustainable to live off reserves. I pray that each and every one of use is able support the church; not until it hurts, but rather until it feels right. As Pastor Dana has called us to do, just get on the bus, every dollar has an impact. I am committing today to increase my personal giving by 10%. Will you consider increasing your personal contribution as well? God Bless and Thank You ~ Chad Leonard, Treasurer

The chart to the right looks at our budget to actual for the quarter ending March 2023. As you can see our we are below budget on income, As I look at these numbers, I would like to see all of the bars to be as close to zero as possible. We have room for improvement.



TOGETHER WE CAN



From
Abby Betzold
YOUTH MINISTER



Hello Youth Supporters, Students, & Members!

Wow, I blinked and somehow I am already at the end of my second school year as youth director! This year has brought me some great new youth, awesome opportunities to learn more for myself and the students, and a partnership with other churches to grow our community of faith!

We have some great nights coming up this month in May and then there will be wonderful opportunities to get together over the summer, so be sure to keep an eye out for more details to come!

May Youth Activities:

Wednesday May 3rd : Youth Group 3:30-7pm

Wednesday May 10th : Youth Group 3:30-7pm

Friday May 12th : Amery Breakfast Club @ Our Savior's 7-7:45am (7th-12th grade)

Saturday May 13th : Confirmation Mentor-Mentee Night 6pm

Wednesday May 17th : Youth Group 3:30-7pm

Wednesday May 24th : Youth Group 3:30-7pm

Wednesday May 31st : Final Youth Group 3:30-7pm (Games & Cook-Out)



I am still looking for a cook for Wednesday, May 24th and adult volunteers are always welcome any Wednesdays! Let me know if you're interested in supporting our youth in these ways!

Blessings, Abby

Youth Director Contact Information:

Abby Betzold
715.268.7390; ext. 12
715.715.641.2237 (cell)
Youth.ameryucc@gmail.com





Saturday May 20th, 8 am, We will be holding our initial prayer walk, centered on our church, it's mission and growth. We will be praying in each room of the building, the parking lot and the green space. If you have not gone on a prayer walk before there will be an introduction provided. Please allow for about an hour if you need to leave early you may. Bring your own beverage and snack if needed.



Also note that our second prayer walk is scheduled for Saturday July 15th 8 am at Amery High School.

Ruby's Pantry

A smart way to extend your grocery budget and enjoy a variety of food.

Ruby's Pantry is for anyone that is looking to extend their monthly grocery budget. For a \$25 bundle donation, you will receive an abundance of groceries. There is no income or residency requirement. Guests can attend as many locations each month that work for their schedule. The next Amery Pop-Up Pantry is Saturday May 13, 2023

9000 Griffin Street East, Amery,
Distribution begins at 7:30 AM
Food bundles available 7:30-9:00 AM
Hosted by: Congregational Church

On Sunday, **June 4th**, we will be honoring those in Public Service, Including, but not limited to EMS, Fire and Police services. We will be blessing them and their service vehicles.

WE WOULD LIKE INPUT FROM ONE AND ALL!!!

We want to collect your opinion via voting on two artist's work. In the Library/Choir room/Family room-(The room with the brown couches) we have posted art from Mike Moyers and HE QI. Please vote via a hash mark what pieces you like. You can vote for as many pieces as you like but only vote once for each piece. We hope to reach a consensus. Additionally if you are inspired, moved, touched, by art or it is important to you please consider making a designated donation toward this project. Thank you very much.



Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held on May 21, directly after the worship service.

Congo Church Rummage Sale June 3rd 8am-1pm.

Donations will be gratefully accepted beginning on **Sunday, May 21**. Items may be placed in the back of the Fellowship Hall.



Installation Service for Rev. Dana Caldwell April 29, 2023



On Saturday, April, 29, we celebrated the Installation of Rev. Dana Caldwell at Amery Congregational Church UCC in the Northwest Association. May God's peace be with the Amery church and Pastor Dana in their ministry together!



Dear Rev. Caldwell and Amery UCC,

It was a pleasure and blessing to be part of the Installation Service this past Saturday. Thank you for your welcome, hospitality, and the Christian love that was so evident. I will not forget that dessert buffet! The Northwest Association and I will continue to keep you in our prayers as you continue in your pastor and church relationship together.

May God continue to bless you in your work together.

Peace,

Rev. Michael Jones
Associate Conference Minister

Rev. Michael D. Jones
(he/him/his)
Associate Conference Minister
Northwest Association
Wisconsin Conference
United Church of Christ



*Installation Service continued
on next page*



Council Meeting Minutes for April 11th, 2023

Attendance : Sheldon Betzold, Sandy Morris, Chad Leonard, Dave Bowman, Abby Betzold, Joy Silvis, & Pastor Dana Caldwell



Meeting opened in prayer by Pastor Dana at 6:05pm

March council minutes were reviewed and approved by Sandy, seconded by Chad. Motioned was passed.

Treasurer/Financial Secretary Report: Chad noted that there is currently about a \$7,000 shortfall from expense to income. The Walleye Dinner Fundraiser brought in around \$1,600 making it a success. We noticed in March that the total assets were different than the total funds balance; Chad explained that this happens when we have documented that a bill has been paid, or is being processed, but the check has not yet cleared. Sandy made a motion to approve the financial reports, Dave seconded. Motion passed.

Clerks Report: Sandy noted that there were no changes in March, leaving our membership at 144.

Youth Director Report: Abby reported that the youth had a successful youth night on March 3rd with 27 youth from a variety of churches in attendance. Wednesday nights during Lent the youth participated in the soup suppers and Bible studies. The Amery Breakfast Club, designed for grades 7th-12th has met twice at Our Saviors with a small but mighty attendance so far. We are hoping this continues to grow the dates for the rest of the year are, April 14th & 28th, and May 12th. April 19th we will be coming together with other churches to play a large group game of Mighty Mighty at the middle school. A reminder that Community VBS will be July 16th-20th this summer. More summer activities are being planned.

Trustees: Dave reported that they had not met since the last council meeting, however they are working on the following; Dave Bowman & Sheldon Betzold are now the official signers of checks as talked about for better financial tracking. Mary Piasecki is working on putting together a P.T.O policy for staff. The hallway ceiling project is almost complete with only a few lights to be finished.

Christian Education: Abby reported that they had not met since the last council meeting but are working with Pastor Dana to learn more about using Picture the Bible Curriculum that has been purchased for next year.

Diaconate: Joy reported projects they are working on including; scheduling a blessing for public service people such as police and fire department. They are reaching out to families and members we have not seen recently but are members or friends of the congregation. They are going to have a workshop to learn from Pastor Dana coming up. They have gathered contact information from our two newest members, Penny Carter & Leslie Nyholm to have for the directory.

Congregational Giving : Abby reported the committee had not met since the last council meeting but did approved use of memorial funds for artwork and banners for updating church décor. They will work getting information for Memorial Day on members who have passed in the last year.

Pastor's Report: Dana was pleased with an attendance of 85 people on Easter as well as a great turn out for our Seder Meal of 46 people. Good Friday service had 11 people attend, this along with our Wednesday soup supper during Lent did not seem to be well-attended overall. Consider what we may want to change for next year. Dana also reported that she has completed the first round of the Financial Planning course.

The monthly calendar was reviewed and decided that it would be talked about with Rae as it appeared the format got off and needed many corrections.

Pulpit Committee: Dana's official installation will be Sat. April 29th at 10am with a luncheon to follow.

Old Business: Abby reported our participation in the Community Easter Egg hunt was successful, many families were in attendance and we were able to provide a game and hand out crafts with our church information included in them.

New Business: May 21st will be the Annual Meeting directly following the service. We will have a church rummage sale on June 3rd. Chad had paperwork to be signed to update signatures on accounts at Bremer, Westcosnin, LPL, Equity, and Vangaurd.

Next Council Meeting will be Tuesday, May 9th at 6pm

Motion by Abby was made to adjourn the meeting at 7pm, Chad seconded, meeting adjourned.

Amery Congregational UCC

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Cleaning - Dusek Noisy Kettle 10:00am Sunday Worship - Katie Johnson, Speaker for Mental Health Initiative 11:00am Pot Luck	1 Office Closed 6:30pm Boy Scouts	2	3 10:00am Bible Study 3:30pm -7:00pm Youth Group 7:00pm Christian Education Mtg.	4 6:00pm Dinner Theater	5 9:00am - 1:00pm Office Open 6:00pm Dinner Theater	6 6:00pm Dinner Theater
7 Cleaning - Betzold 12:00am Dinner Theater 9:00am Diaconate Meeting 10:00am Communion 10:00am Sunday Worship/Sunday School	8 Office Closed 6:30pm Boy Scouts	9 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open 11:00am Hope and Healing Meeting 6:00pm Council Meeting	10 10:00am Bible Study 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open 3:30pm -7:00pm Youth Group	11 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open	12 9:00am - 1:00pm Office Open	13 6:45am Ruby's Pantry Volunteers 7:30am - 9:00am Ruby's Pantry Distribution at SMC
14 Cleaning - Dusek 9:00am Mission Team Meeting 10:00am Sunday Worship/Sunday School	15 Office Closed 6:30pm Boy Scouts	16 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open 5:00pm Galther Video	17 10:00am Bible Study 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open 3:30pm -7:00pm Youth Group	18 8:15am Ministerium 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open	19 9:00am - 1:00pm Office Open	20
21 Annual Meeting Immediately after Worship Cleaning - Leonard 8:30am Trustee Meeting 10:00am Sunday Worship/Sunday School	22 Office Closed 6:30pm Boy Scouts	23 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open	24 10:00am Bible Study 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open 3:30pm -7:00pm Youth Group	25 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open	26 9:00am - 1:00pm Office Open	27
28 Cleaning - Emerson 10:00am Sunday Worship/Sunday School	29 Office Closed Memorial Day	30 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open	31 10:00am Bible Study 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open 3:30pm -7:00pm Youth Group	1 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Open	2 9:00am - 1:00pm Office Open	3

