



# THE MESSENGER

First Wausau United Methodist Church  
Downtown Wausau Wisconsin

## From the Pastor

By Pastor Rebecca Borke

Dear First Wausau Family of Faith,

As summer begins, the church also begins the season of Pentecost. The Sunlight warms hearts and expands minds as we step out to build relationships and a more profound sense of community. With all of creation, we breathe in new life as we enjoy the natural world and the presence of God.

Pentecost Sunday, which is approximately 50 (*pente*) days after Easter, falls on June 8 this year, coinciding with the gathering of all United Methodist clergy and lay delegates in Madison for the Wisconsin Annual Conference. I will miss being with all of you to celebrate the Birthday of the Church. The silver lining is the reminder of our broad connection with churches not only across the state but also with the family of faith, which transcends denominations, geography, cultures, and languages.

Despite this inspirational season, both in summer and in our spiritual lives, it is common for churches to experience what is called “the summer slump.” Although we recognize that people travel more in the summer, we hope that does not deter anyone from coming together in worship. Whether you are in Wausau or out of town, please join us in person at 9am on Sundays, online any time, or visit another church wherever your journey leads you. May the fire of the Holy Spirit fill you with joy and love!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Rebecca Borke



# WUMF Monthly Stewardship News

A Little Jiggle  
June 2025

Help for the Stewardship Team

Faithful. Fruitful. Financially Wise.  
2025 Stewardship Conference at Pine Lake

David tells the story of a time he saw a car stalled at an intersection. The hood was up, and a young man waved him down for help. "I can't get it started," he said, "but if you jiggle the wire on the battery, I think it'll work."

David grabbed the positive battery cable—and it came off in his hand. The cable was clearly too loose." The terminal needs to be tightened," David told him. "I can fix it if you have some tools."

"My dad says to just jiggle the wire," the young man replied. "It always works. Why don't you just try that?"

David paused, sarcastically wondering why the young man's dad didn't ride around town with him, ready to jiggle the wire whenever needed. Then he said, "If I jiggle the wire, you're going to need someone to do it every time you shut the engine off. But if you give me two minutes and a wrench, we can solve the problem—and you can forget about it."

Reluctantly, the young man fumbled under the front seat, then handed David a crescent wrench through the window of the old car.

As David tightened the terminal, he thought about how many times he'd asked God for a "quick fix" in his own life. "I have this problem, Lord, and if you'll just jiggle the wire, things will be okay. I'm in a hurry—just get me going again as fast as possible."

But God doesn't want to just jiggle wires, does He?

God wants to take the time to deal with the real issue—to actually fix the problem. A lasting solution to the struggles in our lives requires full surrender and a willingness to move forward on God's terms. We must cooperate with God—whatever it takes, for as long as it takes.

As the young man drove away with his tightened terminal, David paused and asked the Lord to say "No" the next time he was tempted to ask for a quick fix.

~ Rev. Jason Mahnke, WUMF

**Theme: Faithful. Fruitful. Financially Wise.**  
**August 8–9, 2025 | Pine Lake Camp, Westfield, WI**  
**Zoom & In-Person Options Available**

The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation invites clergy and lay leaders to a weekend designed to inspire generosity, build confidence, and strengthen your church's financial discipleship.

Whether you're just beginning or deepening your stewardship ministry, this two-day conference has something for you. Friday features two tracks—**Foundations of Faithful Stewardship and Growing Fruit That Lasts**—with sessions on narrative budgets, Consecration Sunday, planned giving, church financial tools, and more. Saturday brings everyone together for practical and visionary workshops on topics like:

- Rich Church, Poor Church: Bridging the Gap Between Assets and Vitality
- Next Generation Stewardship: Engaging Youth, Families, and Gen Alpha
- Talking About Money More Effectively in Church
- Understanding and Engaging Millennial and Gen Z Givers
- Endowment Planning & Revive Community Development

**In-person** attendees enjoy lodging, meals, and a beautiful camp setting. **Zoom participation** is available per church. All attendees receive access to session recordings to share with teams back home. Register early to secure lodging.

Visit <https://www.wumf.org/upcoming-events/> for full schedule and details.

**Important** **The Messenger**

Our next newsletter will be a combination of July (7/16–7/31) and August. Please submit any articles or news for this to [georgia@firstwausau.org](mailto:georgia@firstwausau.org) by July 7th.



Savvy Seniors will be meeting on **Monday, June 2nd at 11:30am** at Hoehn's Huddle in Schofield and **Monday, July 7th at 11:30am** at Log Cabin in Schofield.

This is a social group open to singles & couples over 55. We would love to have you join us! Questions? Call Vicki 715-571-3009.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls are available to the congregation both in the narthex and parlor of the church.

Please avail yourselves of this ministry for comfort in cases of illness, grief, loss, or for celebrations such as baptisms, confirmations, graduations, and marriage.



## United Under One Roof

### Roof Repair Campaign

Roof construction has concluded with a total cost of \$204,035. After the generous donations already received, a balance of about \$10,800 remains to be raised.

Please continue to donate for this important building expense. Memo your check or cash envelope, or donate online (*facilities project fund*).

## Let Us Pray



For the families of those recently passed:

- Israel Tambwe – passed on 5/11/25

A grief counseling group is available for those in need of support during difficult times of grieving. Contact the church office or Julie Miehle to inquire.

Weekly grief meditations are available on our website.

## Discipleship Report

Sunday School has concluded for the school year and will resume on the first Sunday after Labor Day (9/7).

This summer, Jennifer Johnson, will lead a Bible study on *The Parables* by Josh Scott. We studied his earlier book, *Bible Stories for Grownups*, last fall. The class will meet at 4:00 PM on Wednesday evenings, beginning June 4, and will run for six weeks.

The book costs \$15. A limited number of copies have been ordered, so if you plan to attend and would like a book, please contact Jen or me to ensure we have enough on hand.

I am also reviewing several books for the fall and would love your input. If there's something you'd like to study—either on Wednesday nights or Sunday mornings in Sunday School—please let me know.

-Julie Miehle Director of Discipleship



**Sunday, May 25 – Sunday, Aug. 31**  
**9:00 am**

Summer worship will be combined to one service on Sundays at 9:00am with coffee hour following the service in the Parlor.



# JUNE 2025

*Birthdays and anniversaries can be found on calendar below.*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>Elizabeth Harmon (B)</b> 9am Worship w/Holy Communion (Sanctuary) 10:30am African Worship (Chapel) 10am Coffee Hour 4pm Community Meal  8 <b>Pentecost</b> <b>ANNUAL CONF.</b> <b>Rita Bennett (B)</b> <b>Joshua Dvorak (B)</b> 9am Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30am African Worship (Chapel) 10am Coffee Hour 4pm Community Meal	2 <b>Beth Roland (B)</b> 11:30am Savvy Seniors (Hoehn's Huddle)  9 6:30pm Monthly DS Zoom, Devotional and Q&A	3 <b>Tony Borchart (B)</b> 6pm Mission Team  10 <b>Ken &amp; Marian Attoe (A)</b> 1-3pm PNC/CCC 5:30pm Trustees	4 <b>Andrew Koss (B)</b> 4:00pm Bible Study  11 <b>Sue Kissinger (B)</b> 4:00pm Bible Study	5 <b>ANNUAL CONF.</b> 8am AA (BK Smith) 7pm Scouts  12 <b>Andy Flath (B)</b> 8am AA (BK Smith) 7pm Scouts	6 Office Closed <b>ANNUAL CONF.</b> <b>Marian Attoe (B)</b> <b>Eldon &amp; LaRae Horton (A)</b>  13 Office Closed	7 <b>ANNUAL CONF.</b> <b>Ken Thario (B)</b> <b>Dale Zietlow (B)</b>  14  21 Office Closed
15 <b>Trinity Sunday/ Father's Day</b> <b>Stan &amp; Alice Schacht (A)</b> 9am Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30am African Worship (Chapel) 10am Coffee Hour 4pm Community Meal	16 10:00am Prayer Team  23 <b>Don &amp; Sue Kissinger (A)</b> 4-8pm New Beginnings Open House (Courtyard/Parlor)	17 6pm SPRC 6:30pm Mission U Zoom Series 7pm Finance Committee  24 <b>Joseph &amp; Bonnie Horban (A)</b> <b>Mike &amp; Liz Fischer (A)</b> 6:30pm Mission U Zoom Series	18 <b>Tim &amp; Joan Harvey (A)</b> 4:00pm Bible Study  25 4:00pm Bible Study	19 8am AA (BK Smith) 6:30pm Mission U Zoom Series 7pm Scouts  26 8am AA (BK Smith) 6:30pm Mission U Zoom Series 7pm Scouts	20 Office Closed <b>Erik &amp; Margaret Anderson (A)</b> <b>Brian &amp; Jane Smith (A)</b>  27 Office Closed	28 <b>Tim &amp; Debra Martin (A)</b> 9-11am PNC/CCC
22 9am Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30am African Worship (Chapel) 10am Coffee Hour 4pm Community Meal	29 <b>Laura Grogan (B)</b> <b>Finnley Schreiber (B)</b> 9am Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30am African Worship (Chapel) 10am Coffee Hour 4pm Community Meal	30				



# JULY 2025

Birthdays and anniversaries can be found on calendar below.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Office Closed Independence Day	
		1:30pm Worship Design Team 6pm Missions Team	Marilyn Muelver (B) 4:00pm Bible Study	Avery Wyrick (B) Janelle Milne (B) Walter Winchell (B) 8am AA (Room 101) 7pm Scouts	Office Closed	
6 9am Worship w/Holy Communion (Sanctuary) 10:30am African Worship (Chapel) 10am Coffee Hour 4pm Community Meal	7 Dab Daubert (B) Jacqueline Chang (B) Gwyneth Chang (B) Hannah Marquardt (B) 11:30am Savvy Seniors (Log Cabin)	1-3pm PNC/CCC 5:30pm Trustees	Monica Dvorak (B) 4:00pm Bible Study	10 Courtney Rohland (B) 8am AA (Room 101) 7pm Scouts	11 Office Closed	12 9am Mission U 2025 Overview Day
13 9am Outdoor Worship (Courttyard) 10:30am African Worship (Chapel) 10am Coffee Hour 4pm Community Meal	14 6:30pm Monthly DS Zoom, Devotional and Q&A	Karl & Carol Pachmayer (A) Kurt & Kirsten Hornby (A) 6pm SPRC 7pm Finance Committee	16	17 8am AA (Room 101) 7pm Scouts	18 Office Closed	19 Zoe Martin (B) Dwight & Pam Steinke (A)
20 9am Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30am African Worship (Chapel) 10am Coffee Hour 4pm Community Meal	21 Richard Rayborn (B) Mark Johnson (B) 10:00am Prayer Team	22	23 Samuel Cowen (B)	24 Thomas Krueger (B) Bev LaCrosse (B) 8am AA (Room 101) 7pm Scouts	25 Office Closed Gregory & Laura Cowan (A)	26 Mick Marzu (B) 9-11am PNC/CCC
27 9am Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30am African Worship (Chapel) 10am Coffee Hour 4pm Community Meal	28 7pm Ministries Council	Blake Grogan (B)	30	31 Gloria Rybarczyk (B) 8am AA (Room 101) 7pm Scouts		

## First Wausau

## JUNE/JULY 2025





# OPEN HOUSE

DATE: JUNE 23, 2025  
TIME: 5PM - 7PM  
LOCATION: 903 N 3<sup>RD</sup> STREET  
WAUSAU, WI 54403

**Join Us For Our Open House and Volunteer Appreciation Event!**

- ✔ Tour Our New Office
- ✔ Help Us Celebrate Our Volunteers
- ✔ Learn About Our Programs
- ✔ Food!

**QUESTIONS?**

- 🌐 [www.newbeginningswi.org](http://www.newbeginningswi.org)
- ☎ 715-301-9719
- ✉ [info@newbeginningswi.org](mailto:info@newbeginningswi.org)





# Outdoor Worship

Sunday, July 13th at 9:00am-

Blessing of All God's Creatures

We hope to make this service a community event so please spread the word to your friends and family. This service is also open to all critter's to be part of our blessing of all God's creatures.



Sunday, August 24th at 9:00am--

Courtyard Worship

This will be a regular outdoor service. Following the service at 10am we will offer coffee and snacks in the Parlor.

These services will not be live-streamed or recorded.

For both events, please bring a lawn chair and dress accordingly. In the case of rain, services will be moved inside.



First Wausau United Methodist Church  
**SUNDAY COMMUNITY DINNER**

This drive-thru meal takes place every Sunday from 4-5pm and will be held on the east side of the building by the carport doors.

We are still working to fill one (1) Sunday (August 17) on the 2025 schedule. If you know of any organizations looking to do some volunteer work and team building, have them contact our church office.

Upcoming Host Groups:

- June 1 - Bethany Lutheran
- June 8 - St. John's Lutheran, Town of Easton
- June 15 - First English Lutheran
- June 22 - Latter Day Saints
- June 29 - First Wausau
- July 6--Dennis & Georgia Reynolds
- July 13--First Hmong Missionary Alliance Church

## SUNDAY WORSHIP ACCESS

In-Person: Sundays at 9:00am

**YouTube** Watch online on Sundays:  
[Youtube.com/@FirstWausauUMC](https://Youtube.com/@FirstWausauUMC)

Access via our website:  
[firstwausau.org](https://firstwausau.org)



United Women in Faith

Monthly meetings will resume Wednesday, August 13th. Watch your email for announcements or events that may pop up while on our meeting break. Enjoy your summer!

SUMMER READING

Margaret Getzin is putting together a Reading List Book discussion over the summer months. Contact her if you'd like to join.

## AV Volunteers Needed

Additional volunteers are URGENTLY needed to help with our AV system during 10:00am services (9:00am during the summer).

Tasks include running the YouTube Live stream, PowerPoint, and camera. If you have basic skills in these areas we need your help! Please contact the church office for details. Feel free to stop by the balcony during a Sunday service to check it out, or contact the church office to sign up to help. Thank you!

## Online Giving

Online giving is available for regular offerings or other missions you wish to support. Account is not required.

If creating an account, PLEASE USE THE EMAIL YOU PROVIDED IN THE CHURCH DIRECTORY, if one was provided. Allow 24-48 hours after account creation for office staff to confirm your account.

[www.onrealm.org/FirstUnitedMeth91919/give/now](https://www.onrealm.org/FirstUnitedMeth91919/give/now)

\*Check box at checkout to help cover online processing fees. Thank you!



The Wausau/Marathon County Shelter has now been open since May 1, 2025 and the current contract will go through the end of this year.

This community mission is held within the basement section of our church building. This program runs seven days a week from 6:00pm-8:00am. The shelter can house up to 60 individuals and a small dinner is provided each evening around 7:00pm. This shelter provides separation for women and men.

The shelter is looking for volunteers and donations. You can get more information or stay in touch through the following:

[wmcshelter@wausauwi.gov](mailto:wmcshelter@wausauwi.gov)  
(715) 261-7824  
[WMC Shelter Facebook Page](#)

### Connect Online!

Website:  
[firstwausau.org](https://firstwausau.org)

Facebook:  
[facebook.com/WausauFUMC](https://facebook.com/WausauFUMC)

YouTube:  
[youtube.com@FirstWausauUMC](https://youtube.com@FirstWausauUMC)

WiFi Network:  
FUMC Guest  
password: fumcpublic

Phone: 715.842.2201

# Highway Cleanup June Mission

Thank you to the FUMC volunteers and Troop #419 for making it another successful Highway Cleanup!



We have served 166 households, representing 547 individuals, so far this year by providing household supplies to help stretch their budgets. These are available on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 1-3pm and the 4th Saturday of the month, 9-11am (No Saturdays in May and Dec.)

Throughout the month of June, donate loose change, put cash in the small brown envelopes, memo a check, or donate online under fund name: *Personal Needs Closet*

Physical donations of personal needs items (shampoo, soaps, toilet paper, etc) can also be dropped off by the PNC door or church office.

# July Mission



Claire's Critter Closet has provided 100 households, representing 180 cats and 61 dogs, this year with food and supplies (litter, leashes, treats, etc.) for their furry friends while they are dealing with financial difficulties. It helps keep people and their pets together and fed during hard times.

Throughout the month of July, donate loose change, put cash in the small brown envelopes, memo a check, or donate online under fund name: *Claire's Critter Closet*

The PNC and CCC are always in need of paper or plastic bags and plastic milk jugs. You can drop them by the church office or place them outside the PNC door.



**CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION**  
PRESENTED TO:  
**First United Methodist Church**

For its outstanding collaboration to host the  
**Mobile Consulate**  
in Wausau, Wisconsin  
May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025

*[Signature]*

Amb. Claudia Franco Hijuelos  
Head Consul



This recognition was presented to FUMC for our help in making it possible for more than 250 Mexican individuals to receive important documents for their daily lives.

## THE MESSENGER

First United Methodist Church of Wausau  
903 Third Street  
Wausau, WI 54403

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### Our Mission:

Living as a community where  
God is forming deeply committed  
followers of Christ

# JUNE/JULY WORSHIP

Sunday Summer Worship Times: 9:00AM Sanctuary

**SUNDAY, JUNE 1**  
**HOLY COMMUNION**  
*Becoming One*

Psalm 97; Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26

**SUNDAY, JUNE 8**  
**PENTECOST**  
*Spirit of Adoption*

Psalm 104:24-30; Acts 2:1-13; Acts 2:14-21

**SUNDAY, JUNE 15**  
**TRINITY SUNDAY**  
*Crowned with Glory and Honor*

Psalm 8; John 14:8-17; Romans 5:1-5

**SUNDAY, JUNE 22**  
*Now That Faith Has Come*

Psalm 42; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

**SUNDAY, JUNE 29**  
*Called to Freedom*

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20; Gal. 5:1, 13-15; Gal. 5:16-25

**SUNDAY, JULY 6**  
*A New Creation is Everything*

Psalm 30; Galatians 6:1-6; Galatians 6:7-16

**SUNDAY, JULY 13 - OUTDOOR WORSHIP**  
*Blessing of All God's Creatures*

Psalm 148; Genesis 1:24-31; Matthew 6:25-30

### STAFF

Pastor	Rebecca Borke	rebecca@firstwausau.org
Director of Comm./Finance	Georgia Reynolds	georgia@firstwausau.org
Director of Discipleship	Julie Miede	julie@firstwausau.org
Building Engineer	Andy White	

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