

Our Mission at

Community Congregational Church is to:

Acknowledge

Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior

Affirm

the worth of One Another in a Christian Caring Community

Encourage

the Development of Fully Devoted Disciples.

## Community Congregational Connection



March 2025

**'Where Christ is the Center'**

### CCC ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Our service this year will take place on Wednesday, March 5th at a **new time: 4:00 pm**

This is the first day of Lent and is observed in many traditional churches as a day of fasting and repentance.

### LENTEN STUDY WITH PASTOR RICK

Pastor Rick will be leading a five-part Lenten bible study centered on the topic of the seven "I am" sayings of Jesus found in the gospel of John. The study will take place on Tuesdays at 12:30 pm March 11, 18, 25 and April 1 & 8. You are welcome to bring a bag lunch as we relax and enjoy a fellowship of learners examining these important passages confirming Jesus as Immanuel "God with us" in his earthly ministry and through the ages. All are welcome whether you can make all five or just a few of the sessions, as each lesson stands alone bringing a unique learning experience.

### ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS

Our CCC Annual Meeting takes place on Sunday, April 27, 2025.

**Chair reports are due by March 27th!**

## NACCC Communication: Rev. Dr. Barry W. Szymanski

How do we deal with change? Church membership is slipping. Some churches are closing. How did Jesus' ministry grow? For one, he built the foundation of his new Kingdom on this earth through forming relationships. At first, he did so with twelve apostles, then 72 more, then with ever growing crowds. While most church models are centered around worship, many church consultants think that an alternative model of a growing church is based on relationships: loving, grace-filled covenants to be exact. Churches in this model strive to provide all types of services to promote and build relationships: through day-care, food and meal programs, card game nights, movie nights, fireside chats, educational opportunities, clothing drives, rummage, car shows, trivia nights, concert venues, shared use by other religious groups, local organization meeting sites, recreation centers, food pantries, social and service outreach, and so much more. Perhaps this is what the earliest small village synagogues, temples, mosques, and churches were all about: forming relationships. People in close relationships live in love, grace, and a spirit of gratitude for their blessings. All while staying free of judging others. Perhaps we need to bless each other more to live grace-fully with each other. When a person near us sneezes loudly most of us turn to them and in grace for them we say, 'Bless you'. Might it be time to confidently say (or perhaps just even think) the words of blessing to our spouses, our children, all our fellow congregants, in fact, to everyone we encounter.

## **Community Congregational Church Ihlenfeldt Scholarship**

**Each year the Ihlenfeldt Scholarship Fund awards \$1,000 in total to one or more deserving students!**

### **To qualify for this award, the student...**

- 1- should be attending or have confirmed plans to enroll in post-high school studies at a college or vocational school of their choice.
- 2- should be a member of the Community Congregational Church or is a child, grandchild, great grandchild, niece, nephew, brother or sister of a Community Congregational Church member or be connected to CCC in some tangible way.
- 3- will need to write an essay on *“Why I should be considered for this award”*.

### **Please note:**

- There are no age limitations for this award so students of any age who may choose to enroll in post-high school education are eligible for this award.
- If more than one equally deserving student applies for this award, the scholarship funds for that year can be split.
- Students may apply for an award for each year they are in school.
- Candidates for this award should contact Lisa at the Church office for an application form. **Or on our church website: [ccchurch502.com](http://ccchurch502.com)**
- The Community Congregational Church Trustees will be responsible for reading, evaluating and selecting the winning application (s).
- Applications may be submitted at any time; however the total amount of the awards will be \$1,000.00 in any one calendar year. To ensure consideration for any specific school year, applications should be submitted on or before March 1st of the year prior to the beginning of the student’s post-high school education. **(For 2025, the deadline will be May 2nd).**



## **Camperships for Lake Lundgren Bible Camp 2025**

Camperships to Lake Lundgren Bible Camp (Pembine Wisconsin) are once again being offered by Community Congregational Church (CCC) with a memorial fund established in Dr. Bob Derrig's and Elaine Jelinek's memory. Summer camp is offered for students in 2-12 grades.

These camperships are being offered to children affiliated with Community Congregational Church, including youth from the Good News Club, as a church outreach supporting youth campers. Those who receive camperships will be responsible for their own transportation to and from camp, health forms, and any other miscellaneous fees for summer camp.

For questions and further information please call Debby Shimanek at 920-255-1165 or Community Congregational Church: 920-388-2719.

Scholarship information and application available on web:  
**[ccchurch502.com](http://ccchurch502.com) or from CCC office. Deadline is April 4, 2025.**



### **Teen Good News Club Meets**

Sunday, March 2, 2025 at 6:00 –8:00 p.m.

This is an opportunity for young people to connect with Christ and also to connect with each other.

Pizza, fellowship, and games!

## GRIEF AND GROWTH GATHERINGS



Host: Kewaunee Community Congregational Church

**Monday, March 24, 2025**

**Monday, April 28, 2025**

5:00pm - 5:30 pm

Gathering & Snacks

5:30pm - 6:30pm

Devotions

Learning and Resources

Sharing and Discussion

Closing Prayer

## Good News Club



Good News Club (GNC) is in need of 4 oz. bottles of water and individually wrapped snacks.

They would be greatly appreciated!

Please bring your donations to the Community Congregational Church.

Thank You!



# Birthdays



- 1 Pat Vonderhaar
- 2 Dane Harrell
- 3 Archer Harrell
- 4 Tracy Rohr
- 4 Debby Shimanek
- 8 William Duesing



**Meetings**  
&  
**Announcements**

# March

- 17 Makiyah Jo Derrig
- 18 Luke Lamack
- 18 Jordan Lamack
- 19 Jim Lamack
- 28 Hannah Lamack



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★ OUR NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2025: ★

★ Debby Shimanek ★

★ Jim Lamack ★

★ Nancy Lamack ★

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## March 2025 Meeting Schedule

- Tues., March 11 5:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting
- Sun., March 16 9:00 a.m. Missions Meeting
- Wed., March 19 5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting
- Sun., March 30 11:30 a.m. Church Council Meeting

## March 2025

### USHERS

### SNACK N' CHAT

March 2: Terry & Sandy Dammen/**the Shimaneks**

March 5 **ASH Wednesday**: Fred & Sherry Brusda

March 9: John & Karen Berner/open

March 16: Terry & Julie Slack/**Helen Clinton & Cindy Tang**

March 23: Brian Kuehl & Leo Jelinek/open

March 30: Nancy Lamack & Pat Vonderharr/open