



First United Methodist Church of Savanna, Illinois

Volume 24 Issue 6



Our Mission Is To Be Committed Christians Inviting Others To Join Us.



Our Vision Statement

“Our faith calls us to action in the body of Christ and in the local community to love God and to love others.”

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Dear FUMC Family,

I recently read the book "On Juneteenth" by Annette Gordon-Reed. In it, she explores the history of racism against Black people around the 18th century in Texas. For instance, a Black student was falsely accused of sexual violence and executed simply for dating a white girl. Black people were punished for any reason, treated like property rather than human beings. These stories of cruel racism broke my heart. God created all humans equally. On June 19, 1865, slavery was finally abolished in Texas. No more discrimination!

The General Conference of the United Methodist Church met from April 23 through May 3, 2024, in Charlotte, NC, and made many important decisions. It removed harmful language from the Book of Discipline, specifically lifting restriction on LGBTQ + individuals. This means the church is now all-inclusive, embracing both traditionalists and progressives within the UMC. Pastors can decide whom they will marry according to their conscience, and Trustees can set their building policies related to weddings. There will be no anti-LGBTQ enforcement AND no pro-LGBTQ enforcement. We do no discrimination based upon who we are.

The General Conference 2020 revised the social principles, removing the phrase "homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching" and redefining Christian marriage as "a sacred lifelong covenant that brings two people of faith [an adult man and woman of consenting age OR two adult persons of consenting age]." Again, no discrimination! God treats us equally and loves us all, no matter who we are. God's grace is bigger than our differences.

The General Conference also approved Worldwide Regionalization, which is now heading for ratification by Annual Conferences. Regionalization will enable Conferences with differing views and legal and cultural contexts on matters of human sexuality to determine whom to ordain and define their own definition of marriage. Consequently, based upon our agreement on the first part of the Book of Discipline, our basic beliefs, each Conference can establish its Social Principles according to its legal and cultural contexts. Regionalization means respecting differences in other countries, cultures, and even within churches in the same Conference. It's because the UMC is worldwide denomination and in Africa homosexuality is illegal and they will be killed in Africa. Each bishop will honor each church's culture, situation, and beliefs when appointing pastors.

During the Northern Illinois Annual Conference from June 16 to June 18 this year in Schaumburg, clergy and laity will celebrate the decisions made by the General Conference 2020 and ratify the Regionalization. Please pray for the Annual Conference and join us in celebrating what God has done for us in the past year.

It's been a wonderful journey to walk the path of faith with you, Savanna FUMC family. You have support me and my family in so many ways. It has been an honor and privilege for us to serve God alongside you. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for everything you have done for us! We will keep you in our prayers and thoughts. May God continue to bless you and guide you under Pastor Fernando's leadership! Many blessings and Love,

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dave Yim

SAVANNA FUMC ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024 11:30AM @ CHURCH LIBRARY

Chairperson Susan Michelle Jepsen called the meeting to order at 11:32am with members Linda Stubbe, Ronda Rathje, Molly Andersen, Kathie and Burt Prins, Tom Michels, Pam Darrow, Vivian Eaton, LaVona Grissinger, Kris Yingling, Jason Moore, Esther Losh, Mary Irons, and Pastor Dave Yim present. Pastor Dave opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes from the previous meeting were emailed to members. Kathie moved, seconded by Tom, to accept the minutes and the motion passed. Financial statements were distributed to members. Kris moved, seconded by Kathie, to accept the statements and the motion passed.

TRUSTEES: The sign committee needs to meet and make a decision about our outdoor sign. If we get a large one it will need 220 wiring. A date needs to be scheduled for a clean-up day. A bid from Herrell Electric was received to move the utility pole for \$3794.68. We need to get bids for the roof at the parsonage and get rid of the varmints still living in the attic. There is still no heat in the library. River City found a broken weld and repaired it but are waiting for a part to fix the heat. Herrell Electric finally figured out the problem in the library and Blessing Basket room, a bad outside outlet. Both companies have been to the church 4 times and Ronda will ask them to adjust their bills. Some changes will need to be made at the parsonage before the new minister comes in July, like carpet removal, painting, and drywall repair.

FINANCE: We are still running short every month by several thousand dollars. Pastor Dave has been using his personal ZOOM account, drop box, sermon phone line, and children's bulletins. We will need to get our own accounts if we want to continue these services. It was suggested we wait until Pastor Fernando arrives and get his input. Tom moved, seconded by Kris, to table any decisions and the motion passed. We need a 24" monitor for the sanctuary and Susan Michelle said she may have one. Ronda reminded us our new pastor may need a laptop or desk chair.

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS: Changes are coming! Pastor Fernando has met with the committee and a transition team has been formed.

WORSHIP: The committee discussed many things at their meeting last week, including Mother's and Father's Day, coffee hour, passing offering plates, ordering t-shirts, and hearing amplifiers. They previewed the committee statement Linda and Esther gave this morning during Worship. A comment was made about passing clipboards being disruptive.

EDUCATION: There are 4 weeks left of Sunday School. The final day will be May 19th with Shopping Day.

EVANGELISM: A birthday card was sent to Alice Riffe-Torrison. Jackie Walker received 4 visits before she moved to Michigan to stay with her daughter. Sandy Pratt has been in the hospital and was moved to Genesis in the Quad Cities.

UWF: The pork chop dinner last Sunday was great! The April meeting was canceled due to bad weather. The May meeting will be planting flowers in the church bed and pizza at Manny's afterwards.

UMM: They are meeting this week.

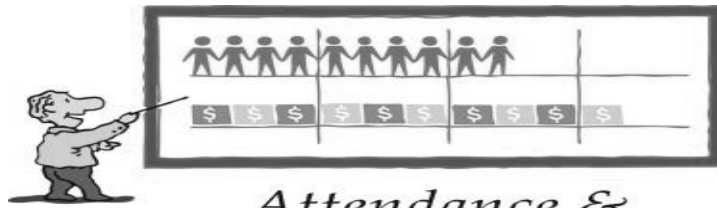
INTERCHURCH COUNCIL: \$1007 was raised for VBS during the Lenten services. There will be a meeting August 23rd to discuss finding a new leader for the Savanna Children's Fund.

OLD BUSINESS: The first JOY ministry supper was well-attended with 31 people being served. Vivian provided a fun program with Kathy Fosset and the food was great. Ronda thanked everyone for supporting her during her trip to Memphis for the PAUMCS convention.

NEW BUSINESS: The Carroll County transit service is looking for donations. Several area churches have made contributions already. UWF will make a presentation next month during worship. Ronda will be gone May 9th and 10th.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Dave emailed his report to members and thanked everyone for the food given to his family lately, from the pork chop dinner and JOY. The Girl Scouts have changed their meeting time and will be using the church next Sunday from 1:30-3:30pm. We have a wedding on May 4th and a blood drive on May 22nd. The meeting ended with prayer and adjourned at 12:22pm.

Respectfully submitted, Molly Andersen



Attendance & Financials

Cash Available in General Account: \$ 10,969.83		
	April 2024	Year to Date
Church Revenue	\$ 10,751.23	\$ 50,488.15
Church Expenses	\$ 20,873.04	\$ 96,549.06
Net Operating Balance	\$ -10,121.81	\$ -46,100.88
NIC Apportionments Paid	\$ 1,405.00	\$ 5,620.00
Kitchen Remodeling	\$ 21,532.33	\$ 21,532.33
Please, contact Vivian Eaton with any questions vkeaton@grics.net		



Date	Income	Worship Inside	Worship Outside	Total Attendance
April 28	\$ 1719.00	54	0	54
May 5	\$ 1710.00	50	1	51
May 12	\$ 2824.00	73	2	75
May 19	\$ 2245.81	85	0	85
May 26	\$ 1017.32	50	0	50
Totals	\$ 9516.13	312	3	315



In Our Prayers

Emilee Derrer, Rhonda Harlock Smith, John Irons, Gi-Tae Yim, Sandy Froehlich, Barb McFadden, Glen White, Pastor Bill Landis, Shirley Hastings, Dale Wurster, Curtis Pilgrim (Kris Yingling's friend), Pastor Lee (Pastor Dave's friend), Don & Judy Greenfield, Sandy Pratt, Shirley Fritz, Lexi Tsoukalas (Molly's great niece), Debbie Bilik (Janet Morlock's friend), Tim Cavanagh, Scarlett Huebner, Chrissy Sullivan, Miles Purchis (Max & Martha Purchis' grandson), John & Linda Jachino, Paul Mayer, Angie (Paula's friend), Roger Furrow, Kurtis (Susan Michelle's friend), Eli (Bob & LaVona's grandson), Paula Mayer, Young-Ho Yim (Bang Wool's dad), Tinslee, Ed & Barb Jepsen, Mary (Belander) Klein, Howard Nichols, Jackie Walker, Dennis Plattenberger (Mary's friend), Kristin, (Bob & LaVona Grissinger's granddaughter), Shirley Hastings, Chuck Curtis, Eldar (Karen Hoffman's friend), Joe Jensen, Leanna (Rhonda Law's friend's sister), Chris Falk, KimBrooke (Susan Michelle's friend), Alyssa Volkers, Mary Ellen Dreger, Karen Hoffman, Pastor Fernando and Pastor Dave and family.

Our shut-ins: Sylvia Reuterfors, Dorothy Taylor, Alice Riffe-Torrison, Joy Turner, Steve Yenney, Brenda Hamm, Janice Wilt, Mary Ellen Dreger, Herb, Sandy & Ben Pratt, Florence Bevins Powell, and Shirley Fritz.

Our country & government, those that are serving in the military & their families, the safety of Ukrainians & end of wars, Haiti, Syria, Israel, the Gaza strip, peace in the Middle East, people affected by tornadoes and severe thunderstorms, and the victims of the everyday gun violence and their families.

What's Happening At Church!!!!

New Sewing Ministry

We invite all sewers to get involved in our sewing ministry but getting a kit in the sewing room. Several are available (pattern & material). Check out this ministry in the sewing room after church or ask any member of United Women of Faith. This gives those who cannot come Monday afternoons to sew a chance to be a part of this important ministry by sewing at home at your convenience. Come check it out!

We also are asking for clean and dry plastic bags. The group will be making sleeping mats for homeless people. You can drop them off in the box in the sewing room. A loom was obtained from Midwest Mission and Mary Irons attempted to make the first one. We now have 5 mats complete. They are fabulous!!! If you are interested in getting involved in this ministry, call Mary Irons at 815-541-8487. Thank you to those who have brought in bags and continue to bring them!

JOY (Just Older Youth) Ministry

We're starting a new senior ministry, providing a free meal, fellowship, and program once a month for those who are 60+ years old.

Our next meal will be a cookout this month with grillmasters Mark Rathje and Bob Grissinger on Wednesday, June 19th from 4:30-6:30pm.

We'll have bratwurst, hot dogs, and banana splits for dessert. YOU MUST RSVP to the church office by 12 noon, Monday, June 17th!!! Call 815-273-2345 (Invite your friends and neighbors and make this a success!)

We are looking for volunteers to help cook, serve, clean, and provide rides and programs. If you are interested in helping, please let Molly Andersen or Ronda Rathje in the church office know.

Soul Sisters JUNE Outing

**Dubuque Arboretum & Botanical Gardens Tour
Thursday, June 13th**

A carpool leaves the church at 8:30 A.M.

This is a walking or golf cart-riding tour—the cost is \$2.00 each. Lunch at a local restaurant after tour.

ALL women are invited to attend!

Reservations by Mon., June 10th.

Contact Linda J. (815-541-4760)

Soul Sisters JULY Outing

"The Wizard of Oz" at Timberlake Playhouse

2:00 p.m./ Wed., July 17

\$25 a ticket

Contact Linda (815) 541-4760

Worship Committee

is trying to bring back Ushers and Greeters. If you would be interested in volunteering for these, please see Esther Losh or Linda Stubbe.

Blessing Basket

We need sunscreen for the summer months, (especially those products to be used on children), women's and men's shampoo and deodorant. Please leave your donations in the Food Pantry box in the narthex. Thank you for your continued support of this mission!

West Carroll Food Pantry

With school out for the summer some children will be missing 2 meals a day. Please continue to support the West Carroll School Food Pantry and Savanna Community Food Pantry with your donations of money or food items. Items needed are Chef Boy r Dee, peanut butter and jelly (grape or strawberry), cereal, mac & cheese, fruit, pancake mix and syrup. Thank you!

The schedule for volunteering at the Savanna Food Pantry is out and we are manning it August 6th & 8th, October 15th & 17th, and December 24th & 26th. If you are interested in volunteering, the hours are 9am to 12 noon, contact Molly Andersen at 815-273-2104.

Our Confirmands and all their hard work!



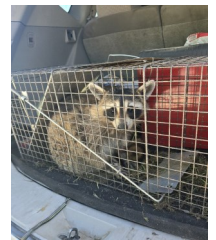
Soul Sisters “Hats Off to Moms” salad luncheon for May



Shirley Hastings, Shirley Fritz and Jackie Walker looking great on a Sunday morning!



As you know, we try to help everyone in the community. I am happy to share that we have found a nice home for Mr. Raccoon out in the country. He was so excited to check out his new place that he didn't even say "Thank You". I just know that the excitement in his eyes said it all! We are currently trying to find a nice home for his friend, Mr. Groundhog. Stay tuned!!!



Thank you to Linda Stubbe and Susan White for volunteering to work at the Savanna Food Pantry last month!

CELEBRATE COMMUNITY A Free-Will Donation

- Explore Korean spirituality through music, stories, and food!
- Your free-will donation supports distributing free children's books promoting cultural appreciation.

Featuring Clergy Members

Pastor Kicheon Ahn (Milledgeville/Coleta UMC)
Pastor Madan Cho (Thomson, Argo Fay & Mt. Carroll UMC)
Pastor Sun-Ah Kang (Morrison UMC)
Pastor Paul Lee (Sterling; Wesley UMC)
Pastor Dave Yim & family (Savanna First UMC)

JUNE 2 (SUN) 5 PM MORRISON UMC
 200 W Lincolnway Morrison IL 61270
 (815) 772-4030

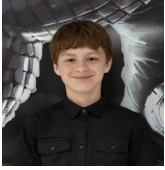
Pictures!!!

Our Graduates



Alexis Kay Piercy - (granddaughter of Dianne Piercy) graduated from 8th grade. She will attend West Carroll High School in the fall.

Asia LaShelle - (granddaughter of Joleen LaShelle) graduated from 8th grade. She will attend West Carroll High School in the fall.



Caleb Thornton - (son of Courtney Johnson) graduated from 8th grade. He will attend West Carroll High School in the fall. He is excited to explore all the extra classes High School has to offer and focus on deciding what he wants to do in the future.

Alec Darrow - (grandson of Jon & Pam Darrow) graduated from Streator HS. He will be working towards an Associates in Applied Science (welding) at IVCC. He wants to own and operate his own welding fabrication/ production business.



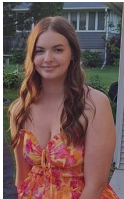
Elaina Gooding - (granddaughter of Bonnie Davies) graduated from Pocason High School. She will be attending Peninsula Jr College in Virginia to study liberal arts. She plans to attend the Virginia Commonwealth University after junior college.

Will Bussan - (grandson of Bonnie Davies) graduated from Lancaster High School. He will be attending Augustana University in the fall.



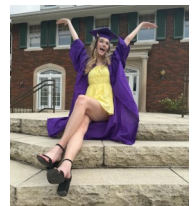
Norah Brigham - (daughter of John & Julie Brigham) graduated from West Carroll High School. She plans on attending SIU- Carbondale in the fall.

Hannah Brigham (daughter of John & Julie Brigham) graduated from Illinois State University.



Macy Jachino - (granddaughter of John & Linda Jachino) graduated from Clinton High School. She will be attending Northern Iowa University in the fall to study Interior Design.

Hannah Guilinger - (daughter of Joe & Sharon Guilinger) graduated from Western Illinois University with a BFA in Musical Theater. She will be at the DPRCS Theater in New Rockford, ND this summer performing as Olive in the "The 25th Annual Spelling Bee". Next she will be heading to Orlando taking part in the Disney College Program.



Big Congrats to all of the graduates!!!!

If you have not heard, Pastor Dave will be leaving our church and is being transferred to Woodridge United Methodist Church. He will take over there on July 1st. Let's keep him in our prayers for a smooth transition.

Our new pastor will be **Pastor Fernando Candumbo de Castro**. We all definitely know that Pastor Dave and his family will be greatly missed by the entire congregation and the community! Let's get excited to welcome our new Pastor by keeping him in our prayers

Prayers for Pastor Fernando Candumbo de Castro

1. Please pray for his family: Isabel, Ennie Maria, and Priscila, God's protection and provision.
2. The packing and moving to Savanna, That God may have mercy in this process.
3. That God be at the center of this transition time, Wisdom, discernment, and love for God's vineyard.
4. Pray for Unity, among the people who will work directly with Pastor Fernando.



Worship Service will be at 9:30 am for the summer beginning June 2nd!!!

Coffee hour will only be for special occasions thru the summer.

Weekly Zoom Prayer Meeting every Thursday at 7pm. Pastor Dave will email you a link each week.
(No prayer meeting on June 27th!)

United Women of Faith will meet Tuesday, June 4th at 6:30 pm at the church.
All women are invited!

United Methodist Men will meet Tuesday, June 4th @ 5:30 pm.

Finance/Growth will meet Tuesday, June 11th @ 5 pm in the library at the church.

Mission Trip Meeting on Sunday, June 2nd at 11 am.

Open House for Pastor Dave & family Saturday, June 8th from 1 to 3 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
(This will be open to the public.)

Potluck Brunch for Pastor Dave & family Sunday, June 9th @ 10:30 am

Telstar items will be due on the 15th of each month beginning in June!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will take place July 15th thru 19th

Pastor Fernando's first worship service will be July 7th!
(There will be coffee hour afterwards.)

Sunday School, Adult Sunday School, Youth Group and Kids Kards will all be taking a break for the summer.

Backwater Gamblers Water Ski Shows, 5000 44th St, Rock Island, IL
Sundays and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm Memorial Day through Labor Day

NO show on July 14 or August 11, due to tournaments

FUMC members, **Susan Michelle** and **Brigit Jepsen**, Sabula, have been a big part of the Backwater Gamblers Water Ski Shows (BWG). The team has been in existence for 45 years. Susan Michelle has been a BWG member for 43 years and Brigit for 17. The themed show consists of 14 acts, including Ballet, Swivel, Jumping, Barefooting, Trios, Strap Doubles, Conventional Doubles, Around-the-Boat and Pyramids. The 2024 theme is Home Alone. The best part of the show is that admission is **FREE!** Donations are gladly accepted at intermission (but not required), as the money helps pay for the boats, motors, gas, costumes, skis, ropes, speakers and a lot more. The show lasts one hour, with a short intermission, so plan on 90 minutes. Bleachers are furnished and there is parking near the river. A concession stand is available on site with food, drinks and Culvers! Due to Susan Michelle's rotator cuff surgery in September, she will not be skiing this season, but is a boat rider in one of the Ski Nautique inboards. Brigit is taking the year off. The team competes yearly against other show ski teams from around the nation. Currently they are ranked **3rd in the Central Region** and **9th in the Nation**.

If you are looking for something different and unique to do this summer, come and see a ski show!!! For pictures and to read about the history of the BWG, go to www.backwatergamblers.com. If you have questions, please reach out to Susan Michelle @ 309-738-0946. As a new feature this season, the Backwater Gamblers are asking local talent to sing the National Anthem before each show.

Pastor Dave will be singing the National Anthem before the ski show on Sunday, June 9th!!!

Please arrive by 6:10 pm, so you don't miss him. Please come and support Pastor Dave and Susan Michelle!



June 2024

- 3—*Joe & Sharon Guilinger (1989)*
- 3—Sylvia Reuterfors
- 4—Jim Eaton
- 4—Herb Pratt
- 7—Bob Grissinger
- 10—*John & Mary Irons (1972)*
- 11—Connie Kramer
- 11—*Don & Connie Kramer (1960)*
- 15—*Garrett & Nikki Badtke (2019)*
- 16—Tim Cavanagh
- 17—Kevin Law
- 18—*Josh & Sarah Hanson (2010)*
- 18—Mark Miller
- 18—Cori Moore
- 19—*Deann Kramer & Jerry Brearton (2021)*
- 19—Frank Norman
- 24—Glenn Hoffman
- 25—Paul Mayer
- 26—*Glenn & Cheyanne Hoffman (2021)*
- 26—Jon Darrow
- 26—Paula Mayer



Liturgists

- June 2—Esther Losh
- June 9—Burt Prins
- June 16—Joe Michels
- June 23—Susan Michelle
- June 30—Bill Wright

Acolytes

- June 2 - Blaine Johnson
- June 9 - Jiwon Yim
- June 16 - Pearl Michels
- June 23 - Kirk Hoffman
- June 30 - Ellie Johnson

Greeters

- June 2 - Kay Cavanagh
- June 9 - Charlene Mayer
- June 16 -
- June 23 - Stephanie & Dalton Shaw
- June 30— Bob & LaVona Grissinger

Ushers

- June 2 -
- June 9 -
- June 16 -
- June 23 -
- June 30 -

Counters & Verifiers

- June 2 - Molly Andersen & Mary Irons
- June 9 - Rhonda Law & Pam Darrow
- June 16 - Lori Miller & Linda Jachino
- June 23 - Vivian Eaton & Kay Canvagh
- June 30 - Lori Miller & Linda Stubbe

**If you are unable to do your scheduled day,
please find someone to take your place!**

**Lots of pictures inside! Even more on our
Facebook page. Be sure to friend us!
www.facebook.com/savanna.firstumc**



