November Vision

2026

November Worship Schedule

Sunday, November 1st – 9:15am Communion service; All Saints Day
Sunday, November 8th – 9:15am Communion service
Sunday, November 15th – 9:15am worship service
***Sunday, November 22nd** – 9:15am worship service; Pie Themed Fellowship/Decorate for Advent and Christmas
Sunday, November 29th - 9:15am worship service; First Sunday of Advent

Spreading the love of Christ
NEW HOPE UCC

Office Hours
Pastor Steve:
by Appointment
Dana:
Tuesdays & Thursdays
10am - Noon

Let's Keep in Touch!
If your phone, address, or email have changed, or if you're not recieving emails from New Hope, please let us know at info@newhopeucc.com

Dates to Remember

Sunday, November 1st – Daylight Saving Time Ends
Thursday, November 5th - Book Club
Wednesday, November 11th - Veterans Day
Thursday, November 26th - Thanksgiving

NOVEMBER

2026

Happy Birthday!

- Laurie Alfke 11/11
- Bradlee Fons 11/13
- Lynn Koziol 11/21

Happy Anniversary!

Matt & Kristen Doedens
11/27 28years



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15am Communion service; All Saints Day	2	3 Election Day 	4	5 Book Club 7pm	6	7
8 9:15am Communion service	9	10	11 Veterans Day 	12	13	14
15 9:15am worship service	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 9:15am worship; Pie Fellowship; holiday decorating	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving 	27	28
29 9:15am worship service; 1st Sunday of Advent	30					

Rev's Reflections

There is a different rhythm to life this time of year. Days are notably shorter. The air has turned crisp, the trees have generously shared their beautiful colors, and we find ourselves reaching for warmer clothes and even our coats. Calendars begin to fill with holiday plans, family gatherings, school activities, and all the preparations that come with the season.

Before we hurry from autumn into Christmas, Thanksgiving gives us a chance to stop and take a breath. It gives us an opportunity to notice our blessings: a warm home, connection with family and friends, a shared meal, and the steady presence of God through another changing year.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 reminds us, "For everything there is a season". Each season brings its own blessings and challenges. For some, Thanksgiving means a full house and cherished traditions. For others, it brings an empty chair, changed circumstances, or the ache of missing someone. We can bring all of that to God. Gratitude leaves room for both joy and sorrow, trusting that God meets us in each.

As we prepare for the holiday season, let's make thankfulness part of our daily rhythm, not just something we share at the Thanksgiving table. Name one blessing each morning. Thank someone whose kindness has made a difference. Make room in your day, for someone who could use some company.

My prayer is that we will enter these coming weeks with grateful hearts and enough room in our schedules to notice one another. May our thanksgiving become something we practice through our generosity, our patience, and our love.

May God bless you and those you love this Thanksgiving.

God's Peace,
Rev. Steve

The Pulpit, Unfiltered (within reason)

1. What is the most awkward situation you ever found yourself in?

Long before I was a pastor, I was an accident and life insurance agent. Our company sold supplement policies and it was the practice to not only sell door to door, but also renew existing policies in person at the client's house. I stopped at one of the houses of an existing policy holder to renew the policy. There were a few cars in the driveway, like a party was going on. I knocked on the door and a young man answered the door. I asked in a cheerful tone, "Is Mr. So and SO here?" He asked, "What?" I asked again, "Is Mr. So and So here? I'm here to renew his insurance policy." The young man answered with an awkward face, "That's my dad. He just died."

2. What is the strangest food combination you enjoy?

I don't find it strange because it is delicious. A grilled peanut butter, banana, and bacon sandwich.

President's Message

How about those Brewers!

For years, we have said, "Maybe this is our year." We have worn the blue and gold, watched the standings, questioned a few calls, and held our breath through more ninth innings than we care to count.
And now we get to say the words we have been waiting to say:
The Milwaukee Brewers are World Series champions!

Let that sink in for a moment.

There is something wonderful about seeing a community come together in joy. Strangers become friends in the grocery checkout line. People who disagree about almost everything find something to celebrate together. We remember how good it feels to belong to something bigger than ourselves.

As we celebrate, I find myself thinking about the community here at New Hope UCC.

A baseball season is long. No team reaches the finish line without disappointments, and days when nothing seems to go right. A championship requires more than talent. It takes patience, trust, and people willing to do their part even when someone else gets the applause.

Church life asks much the same of us.
Some days, our faith feels like a walk-off home run. It's joyful and unmistakable and something we cannot wait to share. Other days, faith means stepping back into the batter's box after striking out on the last at bat. It means showing up when we are tired and trying again after a disappointment. Most of all, it means that we must trust that God is still at work when we cannot see the result.

And much of what sustains a church never makes the highlight reel.

It's the person who notices a newcomer standing alone. The volunteer who arrives early or stays late. The meal delivered or the prayer offered. The person who quietly asks, "What needs doing?" and then, importantly, does it.

At New Hope, those are not small contributions. They are how we care for one another. They are how congregation becomes community.

As November begins and our thoughts turn toward gratitude, let's enjoy this championship moment and let it remind us to notice the people beside us. Who has helped us keep going? Who needs encouragement? Who is waiting for an invitation to join the team?

Unlike a baseball roster, the church does not have a limited number of places. We do not need tryouts, and no one has to earn a spot through an impressive performance. There is room for the lifelong member, the occasional visitor, the person full of questions, and the person wondering whether faith still has anything to offer.

There is room for you.

So celebrate the Brewers. Wear the T-shirt. Tell the story of where you were when that final out was recorded.

Then let's carry some of that joy into the weeks ahead: showing up, making room, giving thanks, and sharing God's love with our neighbors.

Go Brewers!!! And thanks be to God for the gift of community.

-Barry Boline

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MONTHLY BOOK CLUB

hosted by New Hope UCC and Faith UCC

Book for November

"With Teeth"

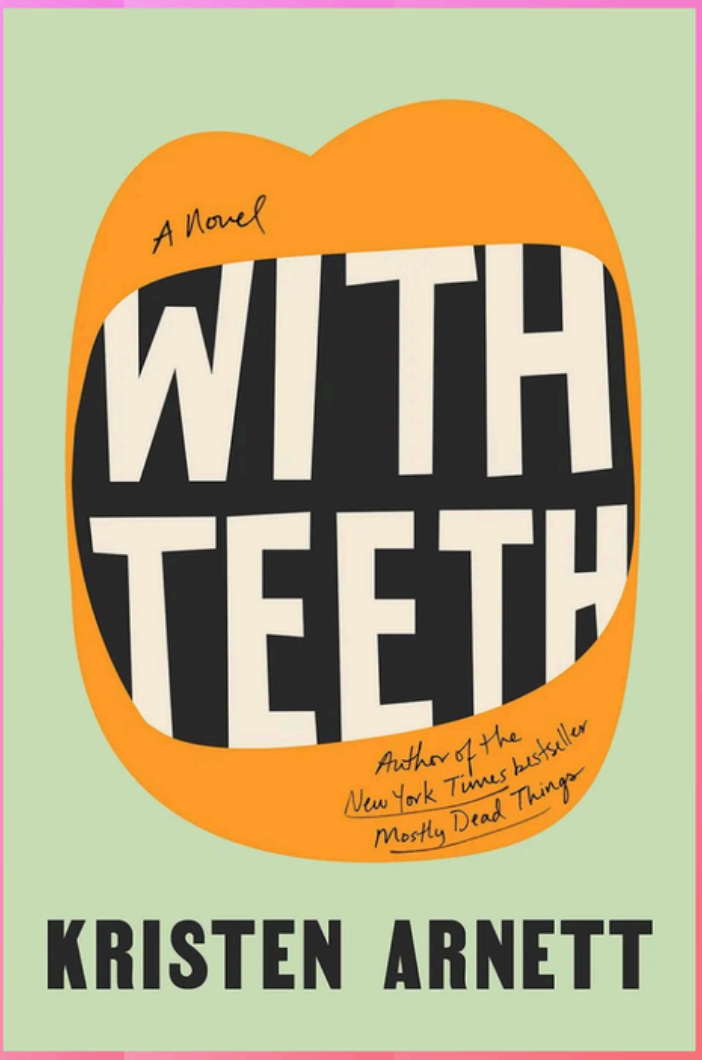
by Kristen Arnett

General info

When: Thursday, December 3rd @ 7pm

Where: New Hope UCC

All Are Welcome!



If she's being honest, Sammie Lucas is scared of her son. Working from home in the close quarters of their Florida house, she lives with one wary eye peeled on Samson, a sullen, unknowable boy who resists her every attempt to bond with him. Uncertain in her own feelings about motherhood, she tries her best—driving, cleaning, cooking, prodding him to finish projects for school—while growing increasingly resentful of Monika, her confident but absent wife. As Samson grows from feral toddler to surly teenager, Sammie's life begins to deteriorate into a mess of unruly behavior, and her struggle to create a picture-perfect queer family unravels. When her son's hostility finally spills over into physical aggression, Sammie must confront her role in the mess—and the possibility that it will never be clean again.

Blending the warmth and wit of Arnett's breakout hit, *Mostly Dead Things*, with a candid take on queer family dynamics, *With Teeth* is a thought-provoking portrait of the delicate fabric of family—and the many ways it can be torn apart.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Sheila Smiley-- sheila@smileyinfo.com



Always Accepting Donations!

BABY BLESSINGS

November Hours

TUESDAY 11/3
SATURDAY 11/14
TUESDAY 11/17

11AM-NOON

Diapers, wipes, clothing, toys, and other baby items
Free of charge – No questions asked

Located in the upper level of
New Hope United Church of Christ
4360 Jackson Drive

262-677-2345

Visit New Hope UCC Jackson or Baby Blessings on Facebook
www.newhopeucc.com

What's Happening at New Hope



On Saturday, October 10th New Hope's Misison Forward Team hosted a booth at the West Bend Farmers' Market.

The goal was outreach, and the mission was a success!

Pictured here, Pastor Steve, Sue Lenz, Tim & Sheila Smiley, and others, participated in the setup and operation of the booth. Beanie babies were given away to children and a giant teddy bear was raffled off.

Several New Hope members also stopped by to visit, including Scott and Donna Poole, and Joyce Endlich and Liz Will.







What's Happening at New Hope

Thank you to New Hope member Bruce Endlich, who once again did a wonderful job guest preaching on October 4th while Pastor Steve was on vacation.
Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents, Bruce!



What's Happening at New Hope

You may have noticed a few new bulletin boards around church. One appears in the Baby Blessings hallway, the other in the sanctuary.

Thank you to New Hope member Colleen Kruepke for desgining and installing these beautiful boards!





Congratulations, Gary & Bob!



On Saturday, October 17th, long-time New Hope members, Bob Bedard & Gary Kranz, officially tied the knot.

In a small backyard ceremony with a few close family and friends, Pastor Steve blessed their marriage.

Congratulations, Gary & Bob!





What's Happening at New Hope

This month, Our Place installed a six-swing adult sized swing set outside of New Hope's lower level. This presents a wonderful, outdoor recreational activity for their clients.

Donna from Our Place reports that she had been looking to find a set for quite a while when this gently used and affordable set popped up on Craigslist. Their dream is to one day add a wheelchair accessible platform swing.

In the meantime, Our Place's clients are getting a great deal of use and enjoyment out of the set!



Wisconsin Conference UCC
Where God is still speaking.

October 13, 2026

Taste and See

Jennifer Ruth Lynn Garrison

O taste and see that the Lord is good. - Psalm 34:8a (NRSV)

My friend and I meet at Panera. I read the menu out loud since she can't make out the words printed high over the counter. We each order, and the clerk asks a question. "Huh?" I ask, elbowing my friend.

"They said, do you want chips or an apple?" my friend enunciates.

My friend is visually impaired. I am hard of hearing. We both are capable of navigating a lunch order alone and have done so many times, but it's so much easier and more pleasant together. My gifts fill in around her gaps. My challenges are met with the easy competence of her capabilities. So, there we are in the strip mall, sharing communion.

Ok, those lunches over a cup of soup and half a salad aren't exactly communion. Or are they? Because isn't that what communion is for? A reminder that though we can easily do this life on our own, it's just so much better when we do it together. A conscious moment of being in one another's presence long enough to notice what gifts we each bring to the moment, and then the dance of giving and receiving, receiving and giving.

"On the night before Jesus was killed by those who feared him, he gathered with his friends and chosen family." So begin the words of institution I learned long ago. Before the bread, before the cup, before the forgiveness—the gathering. Bumping elbows and knees, those first followers came together around the table. Doing the sacred dance of common life, and in so doing, filling each other's gaps.

Prayer
Holy One, here we are, your people. Whatever gift we may bring, gather us around the table to taste and see that life in you is so very, very good. Amen.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Jennifer Ruth Lynn Garrison is a pastor, writer, spiritual companion and unlikely yoga instructor in the Pacific Northwest. You can find her writing in several books from The Pilgrim Press.



Dear Friends,

This year, UCCI's year-end season carries special meaning as we prepare to close one chapter of leadership and continue the work that has made our outdoor ministry strong.

After five years of thoughtful and steady leadership, Rev. Jim Schleif will retire as Executive Director of United Church Camps, Inc. at the beginning of December.

Jim joined UCCI during a challenging time, when the organization was carrying significant debt and facing questions about its long-term financial sustainability. Through calm, careful leadership, a deep commitment to outdoor ministry, and the endearing partnership of Rev. Franz Rigert and the WCUCC, he helped dramatically reduce that debt and build a much stronger foundation for UCCI's future. Jim's dedication to stewarding our sites, supporting the people who make them special, and ensuring they remain strong and welcoming for generations to come will be an important part of his legacy at UCCI.

We are also pleased to share that Jaime Craig, currently Managing Director of Daycholah Center, will become UCCI's next Executive Director. Jaime will build on the strong foundation Jim helped create, bringing her energy and vision to UCCI's next chapter while strengthening these sacred places as spaces of connection, belonging, faith, and renewal for generations to come.

The Spark Continues
Celebrating Jim's Leadership. Carrying UCCI's Mission Forward.

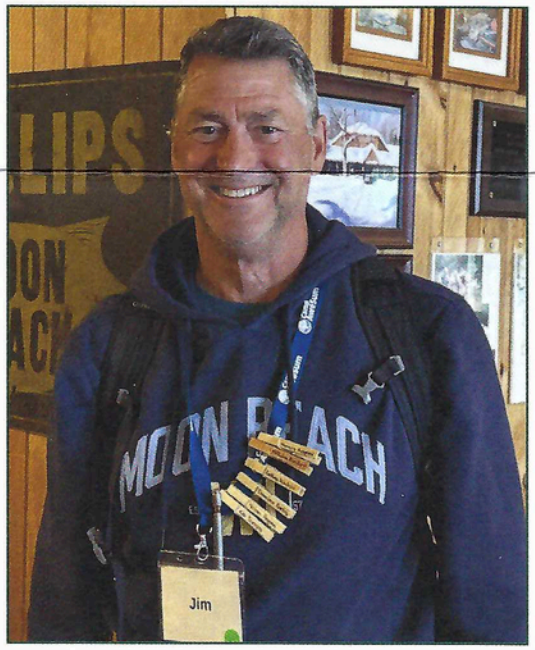
As we celebrate Jim's service and move through this year-end season, we invite you to make a gift to UCCI. Your unrestricted support will help meet UCCI's needs today while carrying forward the financial stability, careful stewardship, and commitment to outdoor ministry that Jim worked so hard to strengthen.

A year-end gift is a meaningful way to honor Jim's leadership while supporting the camps, programs, people, and sacred spaces that continue to bring UCCI's mission to life.

Give online: *https://ucci.networkforgood.com/projects/305811-the-spark-continues*

Or give by check: *Make checks payable to United Church Camps, Inc. and write "Jim Schleif" in the memo line. There is a return envelope included in this mailer.*

United Church Camps
W1010 Spring Grove Rd.
Ripon, WI 54971



We are deeply grateful for Jim's leadership and for the many ways you continue to support UCCI. We look forward to celebrating him throughout the months ahead and carrying the spark forward together.

With gratitude,

Lori Davis
UCCI Board Chair

Moon Beach **Daycholah Center** **Cedar Valley**

Sleep In Heavenly Peace builds FREE beds for kids who don't have their own

Hundreds of children in Washington County are sleeping with parents or siblings on a mattress on the floor or a sofa. Having their own secure space improves self-esteem and promotes better sleep to improve academic performance.

Register to receive information about future Bed Build and Delivery events and/or to volunteer to help build and deliver/set-up beds to childrens' homes.

We build 20 to 40 beds in one day several times per year, and deliver beds to childrens' homes weekly. No special skills needed. No ongoing time commitment; volunteer as an individual or as a group.

Registration QR code

Donate to purchase building materials on www.shpbeds.org or by mail.

It costs $250 to build a. twin bed with mattress and bedding. Groups & businesses are invited to sponsor a 20 Bed Build event for a donation of $5,000 and exclusively participate in bed building as a team.

Make check payable to **Sleep In Heavenly Peace WI-Washington County**
& mail to **SHP, 5595 Kengary Court, Slinger, WI 53086**

Request a twin bed or bunk bed and view our videos on www.shpbeds.org

www.shpbeds.org

Donate new bedding for twin beds

We need matching top/bottom sheets, comforters, quilts, pillows, & "Bed in a Bag" sets. Drop-off anytime at fire stations in West Bend, Hartford, Germantown & Richfield. Allenton only on Wednesdays 6PM.

Call or email for more information

(844) 432-2337 Ext 6168
Volunteering & bed requests: sue.becker@shpbeds.org
Chapter President: nick.stamatakos@shpbeds.org

Follow us on facebook and share with friends & neighbors.
www.facebook.com/SHPWashingtonCoWI

SHP
SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!



Sleep In Heavenly Peace is a 501(c)(3) charity. Donations are tax deductible and used exclusively for kids in Washington County

RaiseRight™

You can earn money for **New Hope UCC** by Shopping with Scrip!

How Gift Card (Scrip) Fundraising Works

Gift card fundraising, also known as **Scrip** fundraising, has been the #1 fundraiser for nonprofit organizations across the U.S. for more than 25 years.

Why? Because it's easy and more convenient than selling goods or recruiting volunteers. Earn simply by buying gift cards to use for everyday purchases, instead of using cash or credit cards.

Shop gift cards & start earning

With 750+ brands to choose from, there is a brand for every household need or wish list. Plus, you can pick from eGift cards, physical gift cards, and reloading funds digitally onto existing physical gift cards. It's instant earning with every purchase. **Gift cards from RaiseRight have no activation fees and they never expire.**

Use your gift cards

Use your physical gift cards in-store or online, or access your eGift cards right from your online account. Stored in your Wallet, you can easily view, use, and organize to quickly find the ones you use most. Raise Right even has a mobile app!

Each brand donates back a different amount, and you never have to spend extra money. Buy a $50 gift card to Target, and you get $50 to spend. Target then donates 2.5% of your purchase back to New Hope. Donation amounts range from 1-14% and average around 6%. Buy things you were going to buy anyways, and feel good knowing your purchases are supporting New Hope!

To view a complete list of participating brands, visit
www.raiseright.com/brands

Please contact Julie Endlich at 262-339-0540 djendlich@charter.net to purchase Scrip

PLEASE REACH OUT!

NEW HOPE FAMILY:

PLEASE REMEMBER TO REACH OUT TO PASTOR STEVE WITH YOUR PASTORAL CARE NEEDS

- Health issues
- Visit requests
- Other concerns



262-490-8700

pastor@newhopeucc.com

2026

Consistory

Spreading the love of Christ
NEW HOPE
UCC

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