

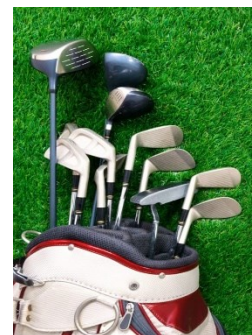
The Spire

May 2024



Recently, Dave and I helped our neighbors (along with six other volunteers) load up a U-Haul with shoes, clothes, small appliances, tools, books and more that they are taking to Kentucky. They will drop off the items at various non-profits that helps folks in need. At some point Dave and I hope to drive down with them and volunteer at several of the organizations that they help.

One of the last items we loaded on the U-Haul were golf clubs. They were in fairly worn-out bags – sent from someone had no use for them any longer. The wife of the couple was insistent they be included in the U-Haul. She explained one of the High Schools had students participating in golf, and due to poverty, they were sharing a set of clubs. She said some students from wealthier schools were making fun of them.



After helping our neighbors Dave and I walked back home together. I said, “we need to find out how to get golf clubs for that school.” “Honey” he reminded me, “You can’t save the world”. He is right, but I know someone who can. His name is Jesus. And I know he uses all of us to make a difference, to help people who struggle, to provide things for those who cannot provide for themselves. One of the most powerful ways of helping other is through the church, when we put our efforts together, we can make a huge difference both locally and worldwide!

These are the words found in **Proverbs 19:17** “*Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward them for what they have done.*”

That is what we do as a church family, we look for opportunities to help others often through organizations that have a huge impact throughout the world. I pray you will make the effort to gather together as a community, support our efforts to not only keep our church thriving as our launching pad for ministry, but to look for ways to help those in need.

It is with extreme gratitude we share the mission committee report for the 1st quarter of 2024. Be sure to check it out. Thank you again!

Blessings,
Pat Pluss

A Note from the Swiss UCC Church office – The next edition of the Spire will be June-July combined and we plan to send it out via Realm email by June 17th and send a mailing shortly after. The deadline to submit articles will be Friday, June 7th. We are always able to send out important messages through our Realm email, if need be, between the Spire publications. Thank you!

Mission Committee

It is with gratitude the Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who financially supports both day-to-day expenses of Swiss Church and our mission requests! In this first quarter of 2024 Swiss Church has given:

1. A dozen squish-mallow stuffed animals to the New Glarus Ambulance Service
2. \$379.50 to a new Ukrainian couple locating in New Glarus
3. Two children's bikes donated to the New Glarus Bike Rodeo
4. Small gifts to all 70 residents of The New Glarus Home on Easter Sunday
5. \$2,624.73 to Heifer International for the purchase of Beehives

Well done Swiss Church!

In June we will be collecting money donations for Green Cares in Monticello to purchase dairy products. More information will be coming!



Congratulations to our 2024 Confirmation Class!

Message from Consistory May 2024 --

The Consistory recently held our first meeting with three new consistory members. For a couple of them I believe it was their first experience on the Consistory. We welcome them all and I hope they enjoy their time on the Consistory serving Swiss United Church of Christ. We have a strong leadership team with varying positions and thoughtful input from all our members.

This is my second term on the Consistory, my first being 20 years ago. I somewhat know what to expect now. I remember being asked back then if I wanted to be on the Consistory. My thought was sure, how difficult could it be to run the business of Swiss Church, pay the light bill and all is good. We were having serious budget difficulty issues at the time, and I walked out of my first Consistory meeting wondering what I had got myself into. That meeting consisted of two hours of back-and-forth sometimes heated budget discussion. Every meeting thereafter centered on the budget with little time left for or require tabling nonbudget issues. Budget issues eventually eased, and we got to move onto other issues, piano replacement, boiler issues and what to do with the organ and organ pipes come to mind.

Each Consistory has had its share of issues to tackle, and the budget is probably to a degree always an issue. For this Consistory, ongoing cemetery, future Zwingli building plans now seem to be the current Consistory's main issues. The church has many unseen mechanicals that require attention and as much foresight one may have, unexpectant issues always seem to arise.

I often wonder what sitting in a Consistory meeting in the past, 25, 50, 75, 100 years ago would have been like, and what the issues at the time were. Since we can't go back and live in time, just to read some minutes of a meeting from those eras would be interesting.

Nominations for Consistory will not be required for another nine months and this is not intended to be a recruiting message, but, I would encourage everyone to consider at some time in their life for a three-year term on the Consistory. When your term is finished you may find it to be a challenging, rewarding and a bit surprising experience. New faces, ideas and viewpoints are always appreciated.

Gary Krahenbuhl

Recognizing our Graduating Seniors



On Sunday, May 19th we would like to celebrate any graduating High School Seniors of Swiss UCC. If your student is willing to come forward and be recognized during worship and receive a small gift from the church, please let the church office know!

Congrats to the Class of 2024!

Habitat for Humanity of Green County needs your help --

We will be relocating our Monroe Resale store from 305 2nd Street to our new location at 1065 4th Ave and we are looking for volunteers to help load and unload store items.

This will be happening May 20th – 24th from 8 am – 4 pm and we would appreciate any time and help you can provide. Questions? Call 608 293-4289 or email barbweldon@yahoo.com

Thank you in advance for your help.

MAY

SUCC Calendar of Events 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Church Office Hours Monday-Thursday – 10 am – 2 pm Friday: Closed *Sunday School						
			1	2	3	4 Men's Community Breakfast 8am-9am <hr/> Confirmation Rehearsal 9am
5 9:00 am Worship in person/Live Streamed – Confirmation Sunday and Communion <hr/> <i>New Glarus</i> <i>Home Service 10:30am</i> <i>(Service led by Rilla</i> <i>French & Sandy</i> <i>Colstad)</i>	6	7	8 Executive Meeting 6:30pm – Fellowship Hall	9 Required Clergy meeting-9:30am- 11:30am/ Zoom Clergy with Conference Board 6:25 pm	10	11
12 Pentecost Sunday 9:00 am Worship In person/Live <u>Streamed</u> - 9:15 am-10 am Children's SS* Mother's Day 4-H mtg. 7pm in Fellowship Hall	13	14	15 Property Committee – Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm	16 Glarner Lodge Service 10:00am	17	18
19 Trinity Sunday 9:00 am Worship In person/Live <u>Streamed</u> 9:15 am-10 am Children's SS*	20	21	22 Consistory Meeting 6:30pm – Fellowship Hall	23 Required Clergy Mtg. – 9:30am- 11:30am	24 Wedding Rehearsal	25 Wedding
26 9:00 am Worship Service/Live <u>Streamed</u> 9:15 am-10 am Children's SS*	27	28	29	30 Required Clergy meeting 9am		

Please note – Communion for the month of May will be serviced on Sunday, May 5th

Swiss Church Celebrations – May 2024

Anniversaries -



5	Brian & Sally Jeglum	18	Kelvin & Ann Klassy
5	Charles & Jessica Goldthorpe	20	Ken & Denise Fenne
9	Don & Jeanette Rupnow	22	Ron & Amy Legler
10	Roy & Sue Kempfer	26	Mark & Kate Douma
11	Bret & Bev Hoesly	30	Melva & David Genschaw

Birthdays –

Enjoy your Special Day – “Happy Birthday”

1	Kris Anderson, Avery Hauser, Jane Martinson	17	Lucy Pavek, Miriam Pavek, Ja’Kodey Strahm
3	Barbara Eichelkraut, Taylor Johnson	18	Jane Phillipson, Linda Smith
5	Evan Borchardt	19	Verlyn Adamson
6	Ryan Zimmerman	21	Leah Hauser, Phil Hanna
7	Ruth Anderegg, Brad Beal, Jamie Ott,	22	Rome Wieser
7	Chandler Siegenthaler	24	Melanie Hubbard, Kendra Wenger
8	Kris Kubly	26	Deb Foster-Truttmann
11	Don Fjelstad, Melisa Mattmann	29	Tom Marty, Harriet Wells
12	Madeline Zuber	31	Michael Hanson
13	John Ott	31	Russell Reuter
14	Dorene Disch	31	Peggy Roth

We are truly very sorry if we missed your anniversary or birthday. The information is taken from Realm. Your Birthday or Anniversary dates might not be entered in the database. Please contact the office so we are aware of your special day so we don't miss it next time.

2024 Consistory Members

Kim Bright, President (608)214-1962 (c); kimrbright@gmail.com	Chris Kiesz, Vice President (608)214-6853 (c) ckiesz@tds.net
Jon Ziltner, Treasurer (608)438-5695 jziltner@wekz.net	Rachel Baker, Recording Secretary for Consistory Meetings (608)417-9090 (h); (608)516-1959(c) rachelbbaker52@gmail.com
Jessica Swan, Recording Secretary Executive Meetings (608)862-1750 (h); (608)214-1750 (c) jessica_e_swan@hotmail.com	Ron Legler (608)214-6683 (c) ronlegler78@gmail.com
Heidi Mondloch (608)527-4855 (h); (608)443-9701 (c) hesalzma@yahoo.com	Gary Krahenbuhl (608)527-2670 (h) garykrahenbuhl@gmail.com
Nicole Sidwell (817)913-6221 nsidwell@gmail.com	Steve Rossing (608)558-8765 srossing57@gmail.com

SUCC Volunteer Schedule – June 2 – Sept. 1, 2024

The volunteer schedule has been updated with assignments added from June 2 – Sept. 1, 2024. Please feel comfortable to schedule your own trade with another volunteer, if you are unable to volunteer on the week that you are assigned to be “greeters”. After you schedule a trade with another volunteer, please call the church office (608)527-2119, or notify Diane at diane@swisschurch.org, with the updates. Thank you!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Volunteer – North Door – (facing pool)</u>	<u>Volunteer - South Door (upstairs)</u>	<u>Communion – (Last Sunday of the month, with exceptions)</u>	<u>Coffee Hour – Summer plans to follow soon!</u>
June 2nd	Diane & Dennis Holcomb	Tim & Mary Usher		
June 9 th	Terry & Peg Roth	Dale Hustad		
June 16 th	Scott & Lindsay Gruenfelder	Pete, Lana & Konek Swenson		
June 23 rd	Casey, Buntha & Zoe Nelson	Eric, Jessie, & Tyler Fink	Communion – Barb Anderson	
June 30 th (Church under the Tent-NG Park)	Welcome to the SUCC Sunday service which will be held at the Tent behind the church today.	Please join us in worship and greet everyone with a warm welcome today!		
July 7 th	Sue & Roy Kempfer	Rachel & Denny Baker		
July 14 th	Nicole, Nate, Jaiden, & Lucy Sidwell	Bonnie Klassy & Diana Lehnerr		
July 21 st	Tricia, Jeff, Clara, & Connor Winden	Peggy Hartman		
July 28 th	Linda & Gregg Smith	Guy & Sandy Nelson	Communion – Diane Elmer	
Aug. 4 th	Tom & Nancy Marty	Kim & Nicole Burton		
Aug. 11 th	Brenda Keepers & John Mauerman	Kay Zimmerman		
Aug. 18 th	Charleen & Heinz Mattmann	Tabatha Barnaby		
Aug. 25 th	Diane & Dennis Holcomb	Dale Hustad	Communion – Barb Anderson	
Sept. 1st	Terry & Peg Roth	Pete, Lana, & Konek Swenson		

Please let the Swiss UCC office (608)527-2119) know if we might have missed you on this schedule as “Greeters” or if you would like to be added to the next round of scheduling starting in the Fall season, on Sept. 8th. Thank you!



A THANKFUL HEART OVERFLOWS WITH *Generosity*

Here are a few different ways to give and support our ministry...

CHECK

Make a check payable to either Swiss United Church of Christ, Swiss UCC or Swiss Church. You may designate a specific fund such as General, Property, OCWM, Cemetery or a different fund on your memo line of the check.

DIRECT AUTOMATIC FROM BANK ACCOUNT

Please call the church office to complete an authorization form to authorize a monthly donation from your bank account and return to Financial Secretary with a voided check.

ONLINE

Click the GIVE button on our church website at swisschurch.org
Enter the amount you want to give, select a fund and enter your email address.
Click GIVE and enter your payment method to complete the transaction.

TEXT

Text [SWISSCHURCH](https://www.swisschurch.org) and the amount to [73256](https://www.swisschurch.org).
Click the link you receive in your text message response.
Select a fund, enter your email address and payment information to complete the transaction.

Thank you for your generous support of the work of our church!

Swiss Church Worship Services

Online Worship: Swiss Church sermons and Children's Moments are recorded weekly and are available on Facebook/Swiss Church or go to the Swiss UCC website at www.swisschurch.org to view.

Support & Prayers

The Swiss Church Prayer Team supports our church family, friends, and neighbors during difficult times. If you are experiencing illness, anxiety, grief, difficult relationships, financial issues, are worried about other concerns, our prayer team is ready to pray for you. Information is kept confidential, unless you request it to be shared with the congregation. To begin a chain of prayers for yourself or your loved ones, you may **contact our prayer chain leader:** Ruth Anderegg – (608) 558-0776 or Pat Pluss – (608) 558-6063 or pat@swisschurch.org

Moving or Relocating?

If your address, phone number or email changes, please notify the office so we are up-to-date and you don't miss out on important church news! Also, if you plan to mail something to a church member, please do not use the Swiss Church Directory because some of those addresses have changed. Call the Church Office and we can help to make sure your letter is delivered to the correct address.

Upcoming Swiss UCC Activities – Mark your calendar –

- ❖ June 30th – Swiss UCC Sunday morning service will be held under the "Tent" at the New Glarus Village Park (more info to follow)
- ❖ August 11th – Picnic at the Park – Immediately following the church service until 1:00 pm

Swiss UCC Consistory Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2024

Attending: Kim Bright, Chris Kiesz, Rachel Baker, Gary Krahenbuhl, Ron Legler, Steve Rossing

Attending via Zoom: Jessica Swan

Absent: Jon Ziltner, Nicole Sidwell, Heidi Salzman, Pat Pluss

Meeting called to order at 6:30 by Kim Bright who led us in prayer.

There being no objections, the consent agenda to approve the February minutes, treasurer's report, and checks written was moved by Ron Legler; seconded by Gary Krahenbuhl. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report for Financial Statements ending February 29, 2024 by Jon Ziltner

Total income for February was strong at \$25,888, which was \$9920 over budget. Two unexpected expenses paid in February were for repairs to Monona Fire for \$1083(fixing leaks) and to Best Protection \$375 (Fire inspection for 2024) causing our expenses of \$20,567 to be over budget by \$1382. Net income for February of \$5321 and year-to-date of just under \$6000. Cash balance in the General Fund is \$88253 and the Property Fund is \$84744. Contributions to OCWM for Feb.were \$1002 for a year-to-date total of \$2154. Overall, 2024 is off to a very good start!

Pastoral Report

Wednesday, April 3 – Final Confirmation Class 6pm-7:30pm

Thursday, April 4 – Lodge Service 10:00am

Saturday, April 6 – Men's Community Breakfast 8am -9am

Sunday, April 7 – Worship in-person/online 9am

Worship New Glarus Home 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 10 – Mission Committee ZOOM 7am

Thursday, April 11 – Janesville COP required Clergy meeting 9:30am -11:30am

Sunday, April 14 – Worship in-person/online 9am

Hospitality Committee meeting following worship

Tuesday, April 16 – Required Clergy meeting 9am

Thursday, April 18 – Staff meeting 11:30am

Sunday, April 21 – Worship in-person/online 9am

Worship/Music Committee Meeting following worship

Sunday, April 21 – Youth Event - YMCA day noon-2pm

Thursday, April 25 – Required Clergy meeting 9:30am – 11:30am

Saturday, April 27 – Association Meeting 9am -2:30pm

Sunday, April 28 – Worship in-person/online 9am- Communion

- Two bicycles have been purchased for the New Glarus Bike Rodeo, one from Planned Giving and one from Missions.
- The Mission Committee is thrilled with the response to the Heifer International Bee Hive fundraiser.

Property Committee

- Clock repairs of \$514 were approved via email this month. Moved by Kim Bright; seconded by Jon Ziltner. Motion carried.
- Discussion of Sunday School room separation in Fellowship Hall was tabled until the April meeting.

Other Business

- Steve Rossing moved to approve the 2024 blanket requisitions; Chris Kiesz seconded. Motion carried.
- Consistory binders and bylaws were given to Consistory members. Kim Bright asked that all members read them, looking for congregational voting criteria on church matters. Members are also asked to read handouts from the UCC Conference with regard to facility use issues.

Rachel Baker moved to adjourn; Gary Krahenbuhl seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

2024 YEAR TO DATE FINANCIAL SUMMARY

General Fund

	2024	2024	2023	2024	2024	2023	2024	BUDGET
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	NET	NET
	INCOME	INCOME	INCOME	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	INCOME	INCOME
January	\$19,427	\$20,512	\$14,898	\$18,978	\$20,543	\$18,404	\$449	-\$32
February	\$25,888	\$15,968	\$21,565	\$20,567	\$19,185	\$18,517	\$5,321	-\$3,217
March	\$30,268	\$29,376	\$24,184	\$18,274	\$19,809	\$18,820	\$11,994	\$9,567
April	\$15,460	\$21,929	\$25,832	\$17,664	\$18,656	\$17,617	-\$2,203	\$3,273
May			\$17,245			\$20,052		
June			\$15,594			\$20,224		
July			\$20,846			\$15,959		
August			\$16,030			\$17,849		
Sept.			\$15,946			\$20,689		
October			\$16,998			\$17,196		
Nov.			\$15,946			\$18,751		
Dec.			\$41,490			\$22,432		
YTD	\$91,043	\$87,785	\$246,573	\$75,482	\$78,194	\$226,508	\$15,560	\$9,591

BENEVOLENCE DONATIONS			OTHER FUND FINANCIAL SUMMARY			Balance as of 4/30/2024		
	OCWM	Non-OCWM	Net Income					
	Restricted	Restricted	Cemetery	Property	Endow	General		\$47,435
January	\$1,152	\$1,373	\$72	\$900	1st Qtr	Property		\$95,704
February	\$1,002	\$5,601	\$91	-\$6,850	Income 4,242	Restricted		\$63,121
March	\$777	\$2,689	\$701	\$9,940	Sales 11,513	Cash Reserve		\$105,509
April	\$752	\$268	\$111	\$1,020		Cash Reserve CD		\$50,902
May						Cemetery Checking		\$9,532
June						Cem. Savings		\$11,278
July						Cem. Perpetual Care		\$58,147
August						Endowment Fund		\$612,630
Sept.						Debt Obligation		\$0
October						Current Liabilities		\$1,302
Nov.								
Dec.								
YTD	\$3,683	\$9,930	\$974	\$5,010	-\$7,271			

Pledge	\$10,000						1:39 PM	5/3/24
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Swiss United Church of Christ

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New Glarus, WI 53574

Office Phone: (608) 527-2119

Website: www.swisschurch.org

Find us on Facebook!

www.Facebook.com/SwissChurch

Pat Pluss, Pastor

Email: pat@swisschurch.org

Phone: (608) 558-6063

Diane Elmer, Admin/Communications

Email: diane@swisschurch.org

Marlis Silver, Financial

Email: marlis@swisschurch.org

Mission...Our faith leads us to affirm all persons. We celebrate and share our common communion with all, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or national origin, physical and developmental abilities, age, educational background, economic or social status, faith background, family structure or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

Swiss United Church of Christ

18 5th Avenue, PO Box 97
New Glarus, WI 53574



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TO:

The Spire

May 2024