



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,

Clergy transition is part of our UMC tradition, as we embark in this new journey in July, I am reminded of the words of our Bishop Dan Schwerin during the annual conference: He said, 'We do not need slogans anymore; we need to be open to the new.' My name is Fernando Candumbo de Castro; I come from Angola, in southern Africa. I am married to Isabel, and we have two daughters, Ennie Maria, who is 8, and Priscila, who is 6. My family is in good spirits, and we pray that God opens the doors for the opportunity to join me soon.

Despite the challenges that lie ahead this journey, I come to Savanna with an open heart and mind, ready to embrace the 'New' our Bishop challenges the Northern Illinois Annual Conference to be open to. This month, I am particularly excited about the VBS, the first significant activity our congregation will be hosting in July, collaborating with other churches we have been working with. I am also thrilled about the mission trip to North Carolina, where we will take our youth to serve at the food bank and have a great time. Both activities are designed for the younger generation; what a great way to be welcomed to a new sight. I eagerly anticipate these activities and the energy they will bring to our congregation and community.

I am deeply grateful for the warm welcome I have received, including from "Baby," the one little pet that welcomed me to the parsonage. I am also looking forward to getting to know each of you and familiarizing myself with all our members, especially those who have been absent. I want to know the Church and familiarize myself with the building, each space, what occurs there, and when. I would like to know Savanna, the community, the history of this town, and the people around us: the main offices and the people who work there.

I am also looking forward to the many fireworks in July, as July 4 is a time to honor the sacrifices of past and present generations and strive to live more fully in accordance with liberty and equality for all people. In the same way, our annual conference also advocates for the full inclusion of those on the margins and those who need hope, and we, as the local Church, are called to be at the forefront as the channel God wants to use to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world. I pray all of us may offer ourselves, trusting God the owner of this work, and be open to the NEW that God has yet to unfold for Savanna First.

Blessings to you all and seen you soon!

In Christ,

Pastor Fernando

SAVANNA FUMC ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

SUNDAY, May 19, 2024 11:45 AM @ CHURCH LIBRARY

Chairperson Susan Michelle Jepsen called the meeting to order at 12:05pm (late start due to confirmation reception after worship) with members Pastor Dave Yim, Kathie and Burt Prins, Tom Michels, Molly Andersen, Jason Moore, Kris Yingling, LaVona Grissinger, Ronda Rathje, Linda Stubbe, and Esther Losh present. Pastor Dave opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes from the previous meeting were emailed to members. Susan Michelle moved, seconded by Kathie, to accept the minutes as presented and the motion carried. The financial reports were passed around. Kathie moved, seconded by LaVona, to accept the reports as presented and the motion passed.

TRUSTEES: We are still looking for another bid on removing the electric pole on the church grounds. We are accepting bids on a metal roof at the parsonage. The gutters need to be replaced and the critters in the attic have been identified as bats. Yims are moving out of the parsonage on June 24th. There is drywall that needs to be replaced and possibly carpeting to remove. Pastor Fernando will be moving in on June 25th but his family has not received their visas yet. There was much discussion on fees for the church usage. A couple has rented the fellowship hall for \$70 with a \$100 deposit for a bridal shower and want to get married in the sanctuary, with their own minister, on June 15th. The rental fee for the sanctuary is \$120. Mark Rathje is the wedding photographer and Ronda will be here also. Susan Michelle moved, seconded by LaVona, to let them use the chapel at no charge and the motion passed. TOPS wants to rent a room two days per month from 9:45-11am on the second and fourth Mondays. Kris moved, seconded by Kathie, to charge them \$25 per month and the motion passed.

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS: There is much activity with the changing of pastors. Pastor Dave's last day here is June 16th. There will be an open house at the church for the community on June 8th from 1-3pm. On June 9th there will be a potluck after worship. Pastor Fernando will be in Savanna on May 29th from 10:30am to 2pm. He will need a laptop and we will ask him about it then, with Ronda volunteering to find one for him. Pastor Dave's review has been sent in.

FINANCE: The committee recommends we purchase a yearly subscription of Zoom for \$159.84 and the recommendation passed. The Drop Box subscription will expire in December. The childrens' bulletins subscription has been transferred to the church and is in effect for 3 years. The phone line for the worship services has been dropped. The budget continues to be in the red every month. Our apportionments will go down next year, from 3.2% of our budget, to 2.6% but we will have to look at sharing a pastor in the future.

EDUCATION: Today was the last day of Sunday School and we had 2 visitors to join in the shopping day for the children. VBS is July 15-19th. **WORSHIP:** It will be a very busy June. We change our worship time to 9:30am on June 2nd. Our Memorial Day service on May 26th will honor our veterans. We will need less helpers throughout the summer. 39 t-shirts were ordered. There was some lively discussion on the Sharing of the Peace moment during worship. It will be discussed again at the next meeting.

EVANGELISM: Birthday cards were sent to Florence Bevins-Powell and Jean Ferris.

UWF: The next meeting is June 4th. Mary will give a presentation during worship next Sunday.

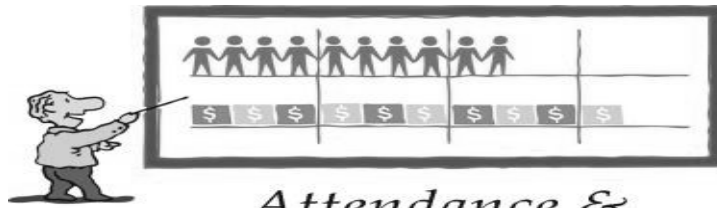
UMM: They are having a cook-out on Tuesday.

NEW BUSINESS: Baccalaureate was Wednesday, May 15th, and was a very nice service. Pastor Fernando's first Sunday will be July 7th with a coffee hour after worship. We will have an outdoor service on July 14th with a potluck afterwards. Ronda is finishing her Lay Leadership training soon.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Dave emailed his report and mileage sheet to members. Annual conference is June 16-18th in Schaumburg. The Bishop's Appeal this year is United Voices for Children and our June communion offering will be designated for this. The Savanna Children's Christmas Fund will be coordinated by Ronda Rathje, Rhonda Law, Rhonda Badtke, and Susan King. Staff Parish will give the committee presentation during worship in June. 15 people joined the first Grief Share meeting. Pastor Dave will be out of the office on Thursday, May 23, as he will be traveling to his new church in Woodridge and will be meeting with Pastor Fernando on Wednesday, May 29th. Morrison UMC is having a community event on Sunday, June 2nd and he will be singing at it. He will also sing the national anthem on June 9th at the Backwater Gamblers ski show in Rock Island.

Pastor Dave closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 1:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly Andersen



Attendance & Financials

Cash Available in General Account: \$ 8,661.25		
	May 2024	Year to Date
Church Revenue	\$ 11,572.62	\$ 60,020.88
Church Expenses	\$ 20,582.21	\$ 117,131.27
Net Operating Balance	\$ -9,009.59	\$ -55,110.47
NIC Apportionments Paid	\$ 1,405.00	\$ 7,025.00
Kitchen Remodeling	\$ 20,107.33	\$ 20,107.33
Please, contact Vivian Eaton with any questions vkeaton@grics.net		



Date	Income	Worship Inside	Worship Outside	Total Attendance
June 2	\$ 3495.25	66	0	66
June 9	\$ 2043.00	85	2 dogs	85 + 2 dogs
June 16	\$ 1277.00	72	0	72
June 23	\$ 7004.00	34	2	36
Totals	\$ 13,819.25	257	2 + 2 dogs	259 + 2 dogs



In Our Prayers

Emilee Derrer, Gi-Tae Yim, Sandy Froehlich, Barb McFadden, Glen White, Pastor Bill Landis, Shirley Hastings, Curtis Pilgrim (Kris Yingling's friend), Don & Judy Greenfield, Sandy Pratt, Lexi Tsoukalas (Molly's great niece), Debbie Bilik (Janet Morlock's friend), Scarlett Huebner, Chrissy Sullivan, Miles Purchis (Max & Martha Purchis' grandson), Angie (Paula's friend), Roger Furrow, Kurtis (Susan Michelle's friend), Eli (Bob & Lavona's grandson), Paula Mayer, Young-Ho Yim (Bang--Wool's father),

Tinslee, Ed & Barb Jepsen, Mary (Belander) Klein, Howard Nichols, Jackie Walker, Dennis Plattenberger (Mary's friend), Kristin (Bob & LaVona Grissinger's granddaughter), Chuck Curtis, Eldar (Karen Hoffman's friend), Joe Jensen, Chris Falk, Kim Brooke (Susan Michelle's friend), Alyssa Volkers, Mary Ellen Dreger, Karen Hoffman, Billy David (Kris Yingling's friend), Bob Grissinger, Janice Wilt, the family of Rhonda Harlock Smith, the family of Merle Haring Jr., the family of Dale Wurster, the family of Shirley Fritz, the Swanson family from Albany, VBS leaders, 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, and Florence Bevins Powell.

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 have started a new senior ministry, providing a free meal, fellowship, and program once a month for those who are 60+ years old.

JOY will meet Wednesday, July 17th, from 4:30-6:30pm at the Plum Pavilion in Old Mill Park. We're having a picnic with all the trimmings, fried chicken, salads, yummy desserts and ice-cold drinks. Weather-permitting, our program is a pickle ball demonstration with Rhonda Law. You MUST RSVP by noon, Monday, July 15th to the church office, 815-273-2345. Anyone over 60 years young is invited and rides are available, in-town only.

(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.

School Supplies!

School supplies are in the stores and on sale!

Any donations are welcome, including monetary ones. You can leave your supplies in the Food Pantry box in the narthex. Thank you for helping our West Carroll students get a great start this school year.

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), body lotion, 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.

PICTURES!!!

**Soul Sisters June Outing
to the Dubuque Arboretum**



**Pastor Fernando & Pastor Dave
during Pastor Fernando's visit!!**

**JOY (Just Older Youth) Ministry Dinner
June 19th, 2024**



**Susan Shellhorn & Peter King were
married on Saturday, May 4th.
Congratulations!!!!**



**Pastor Dave and family
with church staff and
spouses. (Vivian, Kay,
Jeff, and Ronda)**

**This little guy was waiting at the door
to the church on the morning
of Thursday, June 20th.
All God's creatures
know where to come!**



**Tyson Vernal Speers
was baptized on
June 9, 2024**

Pictures!!!

Pastor Dave and family Going Away Open House and Potluck



Pastor Dave and family were treated to a boat ride on the Mississippi River by Jeff & Molly Andersen.



Pastor Dave & family singing at the Celebrate Community Event at Morrison UMC on Sunday, June 2nd, 2024





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 is on hold until further notice!

United Women of Faith will meet Tuesday, July 2nd at 6:30 pm at the church. All women are invited!

Finance/Growth will meet Tuesday, July 9th @ 5 pm in the library at the church.

United Methodist Men will NOT meet in July or August!

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.

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

Meet & Greets with Pastor Fernando will take place in August.
Stay tuned for more information!!!

Our new pastor is Pastor Fernando Candumbo de Castro.

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 transition 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.

We have been looking for a female or male chaperon for the youth summer mission trip which is scheduled for July 20 through July 26. Gleaning work and assisting local food pantries. If you are interested, please reach out to the church office.

185th Northern Illinois Annual Conference – was Sunday, June 16th thru Tuesday, June 18th in Schaumburg, IL. Bishop Dan Schwerin chose the theme, I Freely & Heartily Yield, from John Wesley's Covenant Prayer, which includes the promise that "I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal." Many Methodist and Wesleyan Christians renew this covenant at the beginning of the new year. "As we gather for the 185th Northern Illinois Conference Session, we come ready to yield to God's will as we offer our whole selves to the service of Christ through the work of the church," says Bishop Schwerin.



July 2024

1 - Luke Holcomb
 5 - Jeff Doran
 5 - Sarah Neumiller-Jackson
 5 - *Rhonda & Jeff Law (1986)*
 6 - Molly Andersen
 6 - Judy Greenfield
 7 - Noah Johnson
 8 - Micheal Jones
 10 - Erik Torrison
 12 - *Gary & Melinda Dykema (2014)*
 12 - Hannah Guilinger
 12 - Eric Purchis
 17 - Nathaniel Law
 18 - Ronda Rathje
 25 - Bruce Badtke
 31 - Deeann Kramer
 31 - Peter King

WELCOME JULY

May your heart and
 mind to open enough to
 receive the **Blessings of**
New Month!

Delight yourself in the LORD, and He will give
 you the desires of your heart. - Psalm 37:4



Liturgists

July 7 - Ronda Rathje
 July 14 - LaVona Grissinger
 July 21 - Molly Andersen
 July 28 - Linda Jachino

Acolytes

July 7 - Ryker McCombie
 July 14 - Ryker McCombie
 July 21 - Asia LaShelle
 July 28 - Blaine Johnson

Greeters

July 7 - Alexis Piercy
 July 14 -
 July 21 - Ron & Lori Miller
 July 28 -

Ushers

July 7 - Bob & LaVona Grissinger
 July 14 - Worship cmte
 July 21 - Worship cmte
 July 28 - Worship cmte

Counters & Verifiers

July 7 - Molly Andersen & Karen Hoffman
 July 14 - Rhonda Law & Tom Michels
 July 21 - Lori Miller & Sharon F. Guilinger
 July 28 - Vivian Eaton & LaVona Grissinger

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



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