

THE CURRENT OF SCRIPTURE

By Pastor Steve Scott

Jesus' disciples were tossed about all night long by headwinds on a stormy sea.

We heard that story from Scripture a few weeks ago in worship. It's part of an occasional series called "Bible Stories A to Z," focusing on a letter of the alphabet as a way to enter the stories of Scripture. This was "W is for Walking on Water."

As the Gospel of Matthew tells it, Jesus goes to the disciples by walking on water, immediately causing them to think he's a ghost. I can't blame them. What would you think?

Jesus says, "It's me. Take heart. Don't be afraid."

I've been in a wind-tossed sailboat, not at night but during a stormy afternoon that was dark as night, and I can tell you that the words "Don't be afraid" don't seem very assuring when your back is inches from the water on a tipping vessel and the crash of the bow thrusts you into 8-foot swells.

Then the story takes a real twist. Peter, one of the disciples, pleads for Jesus to let *him* walk on water. "Lord, if it is you, ask me to come to you on the water!"

Why on earth would Peter want to get out of a boat and step into

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MOUNT ZION

More than 60 Cargill members attended a question-and-answer session in August to learn about a proposed merger of Cargill UMC and Mount Zion UMC.

The Mount Zion congregation held its final worship service on Aug. 25. Its members will join Cargill in September, and a welcoming worship celebration will be held for them at 9a on Sunday, Sept. 15.

The Q&A session addressed the particularities of Mount Zion's buildings and property.

A group of Cargill and Mount Zion members has been meeting to discuss merging Mount Zion's assets. This conversation has included our District Superintendent, the Rev. Amanda Stein.

A summary of the Q&A session was e-mailed to our Cargill UMC mailing list. If you didn't receive it but would like to, contact jo@cargillumc.org.



Cargill staff

Lead Pastor Steve Scott
steve@cargillumc.org

Discipleship Pastor Amy Powell
amy@cargillumc.org

Pastor of Senior Ministries
Stu Allen stu@cargillumc.org

Deaconess Marie Severing
mlsevering@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF CARGILL CHRISTIAN LEARNING CENTER

Dawn Allen
dawn@cargillumc.org

DIRECTOR OF MEDIA MINISTRY

Krystal Burton
krystal@cargillumc.org

DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY RESOURCES | FINANCE & OPERATIONS

Valerie Schmoldt
val@cargillumc.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Richard Severing
severing44@gmail.com

OFFICE MANAGER

Jo Barrow
jo@cargillumc.org

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & OPERATIONS

Gladis Albino, Custodian
Bill Horton, Maintenance

MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Heidi Alderman, Nursery Care
Mark Banner, Audio-Visual/
Webmaster

Dianne Edson, Mercy & Justice
Ministries

Carmen Minch, Kitchen
Ministries (interim)

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Pam Graper, Worship Musician
Brian Leeper, Organist
Brittney Mansur, Worship
Leader

Laurie Mitchell, Worship
Musician

Marie Severing, Choral Director

**Profiles at [www.cargillumc.org/
about/leadership-staff](http://www.cargillumc.org/about/leadership-staff)**

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the storm-roiled waters that they spend the entire night fearing?

Anna Carter Florence suggests that maybe Peter wanted Jesus to prove he is who he says he is. It happens throughout Scripture:

- If you're the Son of God, turn this stone into a loaf of bread ...
- Throw yourself down from the tower of the temple ...
- If you are the Messiah, show us a sign ...
- Let yourself down from the cross. Save yourself and us! ...

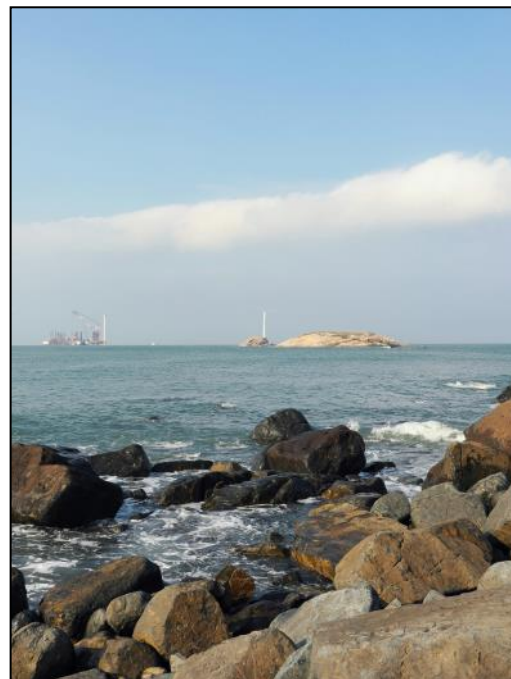
We ask Jesus to prove who he says he is by performing a miracle to our specifications.

Here's where the story of the August sermon gets interesting.

The next day I received a thoughtful e-mail from one of that day's worshipers. She began:

"I have to say ... I didn't like your interpretation today of why in the world Peter would want to get out of the boat. I didn't like the idea that Peter was testing Jesus, and that he wanted to be able to perform a miracle. I felt like I needed to stand up for Peter. So, I came home and asked a different question: Why in the world wouldn't Peter want to get out of the boat? "

At this point, a preacher's heart warms. Not because someone's taking issue with the sermon. But because opening the text inspired someone to go with the stream of where Scripture might lead us.



She continued: "The boat is the safest thing they've got, but it's not exactly a good place to be. And here comes Jesus. If Jesus is walking on the water in the midst of a storm, then he's not getting bashed by waves or shoved around by gusts of wind.

"There had to be total peace around Jesus, in the midst of the storm. 'Be reassured. Don't be afraid. Recognize me.'

"Peter says, 'I want to be with you in that peace. I believe that I can join you. Peter wasn't looking to be able to walk on water. He was looking to come more fully into Jesus' amazing presence.' "

So I got to receive a message that day, as well. The greater point is that opening Scripture in worship led to a conversation, one deeper that can happen only on a Sunday morning. Consider it an invitation to you, as well, to engage the story of Scripture well beyond its original hearing.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024



Cargill UMC was excited to host Vacation Bible School in late July.

LOOKING UP: FOR YOUR HEALTH & WELLNESS

Jesus came across an ailing man lying outside the Temple one day. He asked the man, "Do you want to be healed?"

Instead of answering yes or no, the man told Jesus why healing never worked for him. "No one ever comes to assist me, and others cut me off when I'm line to get help."

In other words, the man is complaining of being alone, even more than he complains about his ailments.

It is this knowledge that leads Jesus to answer the obstacle that has stood between the man and his healing: as Jesus speaks to him, he is no longer alone; the man has someone who will help him, advocate for him, be with him and acknowledge him as a human being with worth.

That's an excellent summation of the purpose of Cargill UMC's Looking Up ministry. It's about health and wellness. Looking Up's mission statement is:

"To prevent illness and injury through education and advocacy, empowering our Cargill community with optimal physical, emotional and spiritual health at all stages of life."

Join us for an
Educational Opportunity

Emotions of Caregiving Looking Up
A Health & Wellness Ministry

Wed., September 4
10am-12pm
ROOM 106

REGISTRATION APPRECIATED
SCAN HERE



The next learning opportunity offered by Looking Up will be Wednesday, Sept. 4 (see above).

Other upcoming events include information on Immunization and Vaccines, Sept. 23; Mind over Matter: Healthy Bowels, Healthy Bladder, three sessions beginning Oct. 15; Living Well with Chronic Pain, six Wednesdays beginning Oct. 23; Common Scams and Frauds, Dec. 5. Looking Up also offers free blood pressure checks monthly.

For more: lookingup@cargillumc.org

SENIORS

Come Together for **SENIOR MEALS** **SEPTEMBER 5 & 19**

September 5
Chicken breast,
corn casserole, salad
and dessert

September 19
Shepherds Pie, Orange
Salad, Rolls
and dessert

in the Fellowship Hall at 12 o'clock (noon)

Reserve your spot by the Tuesday
before on the Senior bulletin board
or call 608-752-0548

Anyone 50 or over is welcome!

\$8 PER MEAL

Sept. Lunch Out **Tuesday, Sept. 17**



11:30AM - 1:30PM

1 W WALWORTH ST, ELKHORN, WI

RIDES ARE AVAILABLE • INDICATE WHEN YOU SIGNUP

Sign up by **SEPT. 12** on the Senior's Bulletin Board
OR call Val Geller at 608-752-3665.

Blood Pressure Screenings **EVERY THIRD WEEKEND**



Following 5pm Service | Saturday
Between Services 10am | Sunday

Both times in Library | Room 111

GIFTS COORDINATOR NEEDED

I have been so blessed to be involved with the GIFTS Men's Shelter, but after 14 years, I am ready to pass the baton. It's time for a new perspective. It's time to tap into the talents and enthusiasm of someone who has been waiting in the wings; someone with new ideas who is passionate about this important ministry.

Cargill is blessed with faithful volunteers who LIVE THEIR FAITH. They demonstrate love and acceptance to marginalized and often forgotten human beings like those Jesus sought out. I will retire from the leadership role, coordinating Cargill volunteers, at the end of 2024. I will continue to support the GIFTS ministry as a

volunteer and will be available to help the incoming coordinator if desired. Please give prayerful consideration to leading us. Please contact Pastor Steve or me with questions or a desire to serve.

Thank you to an amazing group of people!

- Janice Delo



BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Saturday, September 21
4PM | Fellowship Hall

**Menu: shepherds pie, orange salad,
rolls & dessert**

PRAYER SHAWLS



Praying hands have made prayer shawls that are available for you to take to a friend, family member, or co-worker who could use the comfort of being wrapped in warmth and prayer. They are located on a rack in narthex—the area right outside the sanctuary. Please feel free to take one as needed.



TAIZÉ SERVICE

ALL ARE INVITED TO AN EVENING
Taizé Prayer Service

Wednesday, Sept. 18
6:30 PM | Sanctuary

Prayers for the Next Generation

Want to learn more about Taizé?
Contact Pastor Amy Powell at amy@cargillumc.org

VACCINATION TALK

Immunizations/Vaccines

Laurie Finke, RN MSN
Clinic Director and Ambulatory
Chief Nursing Officer

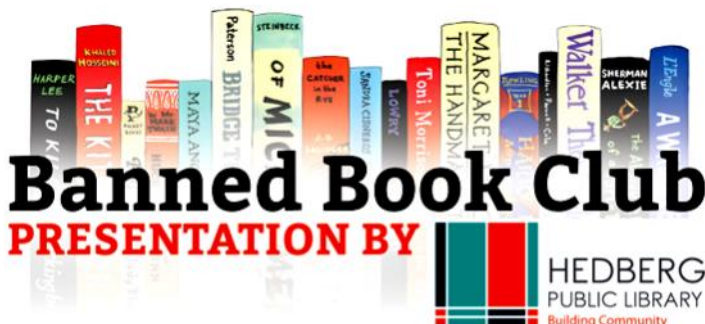


Monday. Sept. 23
5:30 - 7:30pm | Fellowship Hall

REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED, BUT APPRECIATED
Register at the Welcome Center or scan QR code



HEDBERG LIBRARY PRESENTATION



Wed. September 25
6:30 - 8PM | SANCTUARY

Over the past few months, the movement to censor school libraries has shifted to public libraries as well. State and local governments are putting into place increasingly restrictive rules for what libraries can offer to children, and other citizens as well. Some are even targeting librarians with harsh fines and imprisonment for breaking the rules.

The Director of the Hedberg Public Library will speak to us about their process for choosing books, as well as the policy for addressing any objections or challenges that may arise from the community.

GRIEF SHARE

GriefShare® **Sundays for 11 weeks**

Starting October 6, 2024 | 12 - 2pm

Class will be in room 106 | Just inside West Entrance

**Interested? Sign up sheet is available at the Welcome Center or
call Chris Devine-608.359.8885 or Linda Whitelock-608.279.1899**

BASIC LAY SERVANT CLASS

Basic Lay Servant Class with Pastor Amy Powell

Sept. 13 | 6-9pm & Sept. 14 | 9am-3:30pm

ONLINE CLASS | BOTH DAYS REQUIRED



Registration is Required | Deadline Sept. 8
Email amy@cargillumc.org or scan the code

SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER



GROWING GENEROUS GIVERS

Did you know that all the ministry that happens through Cargill United Methodist Church is because of your generosity?

We are truly a non-profit entity. That is, we don't pad our coffers with donations. We pray to break even each year. The needs of the world often feel like more than we can address. But through your financial generosity, we can be faithful to how God is calling Cargill in mission, ministry, outreach and nurture.

Will you pray for God to lead you to increasing your generosity toward the work that is happening through Cargill UMC?

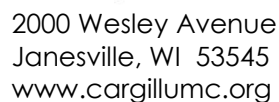
For more, visit CargillUMC.org/giveonline

SEPTEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 GIFTS Men's Shelter Sunday Worship 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Ukulele Gathering 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	2 GIFTS Men's Shelter Goshen Quilters 8:30 am – 11:00 am Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm UWF Missions Meeting 6:30 pm	3 GIFTS Men's Shelter Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am	4 GIFTS Men's Shelter Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Emotions of Caregiving 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	5 GIFTS Men's Shelter Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am – 12:00 pm Senior Meals 12:00 pm Cookie Decorating 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	6 GIFTS Men's Shelter Men's Bible Study 6:00 am – 7:00 am Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am	7 GIFTS Men's Shelter Saturday Worship 5:00 pm
8 Adult Bible Study 9:00 am – 10:00 am Sunday Worship 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Confirmation Class 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	9 Goshen Quilters 8:30 am – 11:00 am Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	10 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Ruth Circle 9:00 am	11 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am	12 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am – 12:00 pm	13 Basic Lay Servant Men's Bible Study 6:00 am – 7:00 am Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am	14 Basic Lay Servant GIFTS Thrift Store 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Saturday Worship 5:00 pm
15 Adult Bible Study 9:00 am – 10:00 am Sunday Worship 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Ukulele Gathering 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	16 Goshen Quilters 8:30 am – 11:00 am Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Adult Fellowship & Craft Night 5:00 pm	17 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Senior Lunch Out 11:30 am – 1:30 pm	18 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Taizé Prayer Service 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	19 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am – 12:00 pm Senior Meals 12:00 pm	20 Men's Bible Study 6:00 am – 7:00 am Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am	21 Bountiful Blessings 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Saturday Worship 5:00 pm
22 Adult Bible Study 9:00 am – 10:00 am Sunday Worship 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am	23 Goshen Quilters 8:30 am – 11:00 am Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Immunizations/Vaccines 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	24 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am	25 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Banned Book Club 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	26 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am – 12:00 pm	27 Men's Bible Study 6:00 am – 7:00 am Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am	28 Saturday Worship 5:00 pm
29 Adult Bible Study 9:00 am – 10:00 am Sunday Worship 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Ukulele Gathering 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	30 Goshen Quilters 8:30 am – 11:00 am Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Oct 1 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am	2 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am	3 Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am – 12:00 pm Senior Meals 12:00 pm	4 Men's Bible Study 6:00 am – 7:00 am Aerobics 9:00 am – 10:00 am	5 Saturday Worship 5:00 pm

For the most up to date calendar, future months or to learn about a specific event scan the QR Code





ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

**Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Janesville, WI
Permit No. 206**

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Check out these ministry opportunities on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall at Cargill UMC