



# Building Community

## Visioning Task Force Update

Community United Methodist Church – Elm Grove

July 30, 2023

# Agenda



- Background – Why Change?
- Current State at CUMC
- Visioning Process Update
- Key Takeaways & What's Next
- Questions & Answers

# Background – Why Change?



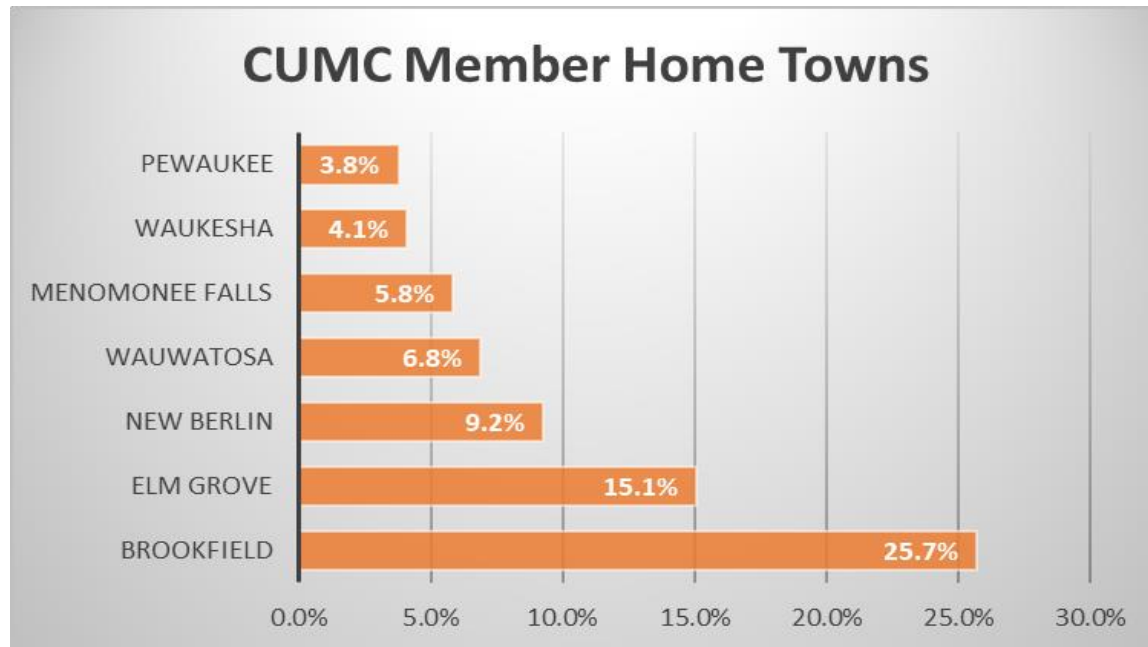
COVID pandemic changed many things ...

- Way people **WORK AND EARN** a living
- Way people **GIVE** to church & charities
- Way people **ATTEND** church
- Way people **COMMIT** to activities, and
- Way people **TRUST** churches and church leaders



We cannot go back to the 'old days',  
we need to evolve to meet today's opportunities

# Current State



*From CUMC Member Directory,  
April 2023*

*N = ~ 290 member units*

- Brookfield, Elm Grove, and New Berlin make up ~50%
- Next 4 towns/cities make up another ~ 20%
- Last 30% made up from up of 28 other towns/cities

# Current State



- Many households have re-assessed what is important to them
- CUMC has lost members (*like most churches*)
- Few younger families and/or youth here
- Healing from painful split of Methodist churches and effects from divided society
- Perception of Christians not always positive

Recent survey reported over 4 in 10 Americans managing mental (26%) and physical (16%) wellness challenges

# Visioning Process Update



## Visioning Process:

- Started with Visioning Ideas workshop – April 29<sup>th</sup>
- Generated ~ 260 unique ideas
- Some good ideas started (or re-started) immediately
- Invited ~14 members for “Visioning Ideas Task Force” to represent different groups within CUMC to develop direction
- Small group met to discuss CUMC Finances
- 1<sup>st</sup> two Task Force meetings held on “Ministry areas”

# Visioning Ideas Task Force



**Pastor Kris Androsky**

**Pastor Bridget Case**

**Danielle Bridges**

**Tayo Aderugbo**

**Tom Curl**

**Justin Forbes**

**Sandy Dykstra**

**Shelly Hughes**

**Anne Harberg**

**Jim Sargent**

**Connie Perry**

**Facilitator: Jeff Turmel**

# Ideas Already Addressed



- **Parking Lot re-striped/painted** – safety and ease of parking
- **CUMC hosted Elm Grove’s ‘Safety Town’**
- **Updated CUMC website & social media** - more user-friendly
- **MDO offering Before & After School Care** program
- **AA expanding meeting times & support** in building
- **Re-instituted Offering time in Services**
- **Changes to Communion**
- **New Connection Cards** – communication of events, needs



# Ideas In Progress



- **NAMI** (National Alliance on Mental Illness) holding mental health support groups & training in building
- Continued, **expanded Bible Study offerings**
- **Building a 'Grace Space'** (front of Sanctuary) – improved family/child & wheelchair access for worship
- **Exploring "Our Whole Lives"** Human Sexuality curriculum
- **Evaluating Tamarack Senior Care partnership**

# Visioning Process Results



## CUMC Finances:

- Gather and Back-up Critical Finance Reports & Files
- Explore better uses for some Endowment and Memorial Funds
- Continue practice of EXCEPTIONAL cost monitoring & management

## Ministry Focus themes:

- Expand ‘Overall Wellness’ ministries
  - Emotional health
  - Mental health
  - Physical health
  - Spiritual health
- Expand ‘Intergenerational Community Service opportunities’

# Visioning Process Results



## Overall Wellness

**Emotional** – Card ministry, Sewing/Bag ministry, Children’s Books ministry, Small Groups, O.W.L.S., EGS4LL, [what else?](#)

**Mental** – Zentangle ministry, AA Support groups, NAMI, [what else?](#)

**Physical** – UMCS Food donations, Elmbrook Meal packing, [what else?](#)

**Spiritual** – CUMC Reads, Book studies, Disciple Bible studies, Grace Space, Journey group, [what else?](#)

## Intergenerational Service

- Organizing more, regular Community service projects
- Plan projects to involve Intergenerational teams and reach out to community (students need Service Hours)
- Serve Community needs, while reaching out to involve others and grow our faith family’s impacts

# Ideas “Parked” / Postponed



- Mini soccer field on front lawn
- Basketball Hoop(s) in Parking Lot
- Build Pickle Ball courts in Fellowship Hall
- Re-Start Youth Fellowship program
- Re-Start Youth Sunday School program

**Many ideas about changing Building or Property will be resumed in Fall as new ministry needs develop**

# Key Takeaways



- Proposal BUILDS UPON work already going on at CUMC
- Proposals are ACTIONABLE - where we are now
- Be INTENTIONAL about “Wellness” and “Outreach” (growth)
- If you have a passion to serve, **WE WANT TO ENGAGE AND SUPPORT YOU**
- Process will take time, and will likely NEVER be ‘done’ ...
- All of this work will take our time, money, and talents

# What's Next



- Need to build teams of knowledgeable/passionate people to work on each of the proposed ministries
- Re-Visit other Ministry and Building/Property ideas as needs come up
- Define and start the “journey” – building from where we are
- Trust the Spirit will help and move us in right direction(s)

# What will YOU do?



*You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did.*

*James 2:22 (NIV)*

**How are you being called to help move us forward?**



**Questions?    Feedback?**