

Mequon United
Methodist Church
11011 North Oriole Lane
Mequon, WI 53092
262-242-4770
www.mequonumc.org



the Spire

February 2014



You fit at MUMC ... in many of these activities!

- ▶ Sing in a choir (Sanctuary, Men's, or Women's)
- ▶ Help in many ways with the children's "Wilderness Escape" during Lent. You can be Moses!
- ▶ Offer your thoughts on MUMC's role with Family Promise
- ▶ Come for pancakes and worship on Ash Wednesday -- March 5 (mark your calendar now)
- ▶ Lunch Bunch -- every Tuesday for Bible-oriented study followed by delectable soup
- ▶ Work out at tai chi on Mondays and Fridays
- ▶ Donate winter coats
- ▶ Visiting Sonlight on Red White & Pink Day -- February 13



Valentine's Day thoughts

Valentine's Day, a time when thoughts turn to love. But what is love? Is it a box of chocolates, or a pretty valentine? Is it a red rose, or maybe a dozen? Is it a peck on the cheek, a fond embrace, or a big bear hug?

Well, sometimes love is known in those ways. But love, real love, is how we relate to God and to one another if life is what it ought to be -- beautiful!

Pastor Tim's Message



I never really thought much about Valentine's Day. It was a day that meant if I had a girlfriend I had to take some time to get something nice and if I didn't have one it was a day that just rubbed my nose in the fact I was alone. That all changed on October 18, 2003 when I proposed to Audra. After she said yes, which actually happened the next day and is a different story, we had to pick a date for our wedding. Since we didn't want to wait too long but needed some time to get ready, I remember saying, "Why not Valentine's Day?" It was perfect. It was only four months away. It was a day about love and best of all I would never forget my anniversary.

So, as another February 14 rolls around, a day that I'm really excited about since it is my ten year anniversary with Audra, I received a letter from Connor and Madelyn's school that put this upcoming Valentine's Day into perspective for me. They have to get ready to exchange valentines. You remember this day, right? The day when we were expected to give a valentine card to everybody in our class, including those who we didn't care for, those who we judged as "weird," and those who we even considered "enemies." We even had to give a card to kids that may not have given us one back. As I was reading this letter, it hit me that maybe this time needs to be about celebrating a wider love. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus says, "If you love only those who love you, why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them"

It is a good thing to express our love to those closest to us. Our world would be a better place if we said and showed our love more often. But Jesus tells us to love, not just those who love us back, but also those who may never show it in return. As anyone who has ever been in love knows, love is about sacrifice and putting others first. We all have people to love and our challenge as followers of Jesus is to see and love both those people closest to us and those who are the sidelines or may be hard to love at times. As we come to this next Valentine's Day and beyond, let's think about how we can express our love and do good to everyone that God puts in our path.

In God's endless love,
Pastor Tim

Just a reminder to all who have signed up to attend

The 8th Annual MUMC Outreach Dinner @ Auction *"Hats Off to You, Because You Care"*

Saturday, February 8, 2014

5:30 – 8:30 pm

Ozaukee Country Club

Plan to bid on some great items including:

An airplane ride for two plus lunch
an 8 Bird Pheasant Hunt or 6 Person Hosted Dinner ~ MSO tickets
Lake Michigan fishing trip ~ Seasonal desserts ~ Brewers tickets
Washington House Inn overnight stay ~ Afternoon English Tea ~ Hand knit scarves
Houdini wine corkscrew ~ Silver nesting trays ~ Ladies Seiko Watch
Ducks Unlimited 50th Anniversary framed print
Cheese and Wine and Book Baskets

**Proceeds will be distributed to MUMC local, national and global mission projects.
See you there!**

Reflections women's book group meets monthly -- join us!!

The Reflections Book Group will meet Thursday, February 13th at 7:00 pm in the Parlor. Our discussion book will be *Where'd You Go, Bernadette: A Novel* by Maria Semple. Amazon.com offers this book description . . .

Bernadette Fox is notorious. To her Microsoft-guru husband, she's a fearlessly opinionated partner; to fellow private-school mothers in Seattle, she's a disgrace; to design mavens, she's a revolutionary architect, and to 15-year-old Bee, she is a best friend and, simply, Mom.

Then Bernadette disappears. It began when Bee aced her report card and claimed her promised reward: a family trip to Antarctica. But Bernadette's intensifying allergy to Seattle -- and people in general -- has made her so agoraphobic that a virtual assistant in India now runs her most basic errands. A trip to the end of the earth is problematic.

To find her mother, Bee compiles email messages, official documents, secret correspondence -- creating a compulsively readable and touching novel about misplaced genius and a mother and daughter's role in an absurd world.

Reflections is a women's book group that meets monthly for discussion and fellowship. New women are always welcome! Contact Barb Henneck at 238-0707 or bhenneck@wi.rr.com for more information.



Winter Coat Drive continues

Thank you to everyone who donated coats and winter clothing in January. More than 50 coats and four bags of winter clothing were given to the manager of St. Vincent de Paul's mealsite at St. Gall's Church. You have helped to make this bitter winter a little warmer for those who come to the mealsite and live in the area.



The "winter coat" collection box is still at MUMC. Please continue to donate winter coats. Of special need are coats for children. Check the back of your closets for coats that can be re-purposed, re-used, re-cycled!

Family Sharing of Ozaukee County Receives February Clothing Donations

All clothing collected during the month of February will go to Family Sharing of Ozaukee County. This organization is a food pantry and resale shop serving low income families in our county. Children's items, such as winter hats, scarves, mittens, and school clothing, are given directly to children free of charge. Family Sharing's mission is to "alleviate hunger and promote self-sufficiency with dignity and compassion, to low income residents of Ozaukee County. " To find out more about Family Sharing, visit their website at: <http://www.familysharingozaukee.org>.



Ash Wednesday – March 5

Pancake Supper – 6:15 PM

Worship Service – 7:00 PM

~~ an invitation from Pastor Tim ~~

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, which is the 40 days that precedes Holy Week and Easter. In the Christian Scriptures the number 40 relates to the period spent in the Ark by Noah, the period spent by Israel seeking the Promised Land after the Exodus, and the amount of time Jesus was in the Wilderness after his baptism and prior to beginning his ministry. For us, the Season of Lent is an invitation to 40 days of renewal ("Lent" means "spring"), 40 days to prepare ourselves to take in the Good News of Easter through deeper disciplines of prayer, fasting, and service. And so we begin this holy time with Ash Wednesday. Ashes are the traditional sign of sorrow and repentance and are also a sign of our mortality.

Normally before Ash Wednesday, there would be a celebration where people would gather to eat up all the foods (which would include eggs, dairy products, and sugar) that would be refrained from during the fasting in Lent. On this night, we eat pancakes as a way to honor this tradition as we get our hearts ready for Lent. I hope and pray you will come on this holy night as we remind ourselves that in the midst of our fragileness and mortality, we are held up in the hands of God's grace and love.





Confirmation News

Our 6 youth are continuing in their faith journey through our time together in confirmation. We have covered a wide range of topics from talking about the trinity, discipleship, grace, sin, and even about where's God when bad things happen to us.

We have been on a field trip to the United Methodist Children's Services where the group got an extensive tour of this ministry that provides temporary housing to help woman and children get off the streets and turn their lives around. The group also painted a couple of apartments that will soon be filled by a new family. In the coming months we will be taking field trips to the Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, attend a temple service and talk with the Rabbi at a synagogue in Brown Deer, and help out at Northcott Neighborhood House, another United Methodist ministry working to fight poverty in Milwaukee.

From February 7-9, we will be at a retreat at Lake Lucerne at the brand new youth lodge. We will be joined by the confirmation class from Brown Deer UMC. The youth have also been doing an amazing job of faithfully participating in the worship services as liturgists and helping serve communion.

Pastor Tim invites you all to pray for our youth as they continue on this exciting journey of faith together.

Music Notes



Music for worship:

February 9 – Rick and Michelle Hynson
February 16 – Sanctuary Choir
February 23 – Men's Choir
March 2 – WIRED and Youth Choir

Men's Choir

It's not too late to join the Men's Choir. We rehearsed on January 26, but we still have two rehearsals to go: February 9 and February 16 at 6:00 PM. Great songs, great sound, great group!

Women's Choir

Get ready! Your rehearsals are February 23, March 2, and March 16, to get ready to sing on March 23!



The Bishop is Coming!!

Bishop Jung's visit to Mequon United Methodist Church

Tuesday, March 25

As many of you know, Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, Bishop for our annual conference, has set a goal of visiting all 500 congregations in the Wisconsin Conference. On Tuesday, March 25 he will be visiting our church. We don't have a lot of details yet about the specific time when he will be here. What Pastor Tim knows is that we will have two opportunities to meet with him. The first will be here at MUMC during the daytime and the second will be in the evening at a circuit gathering. When Pastor Tim hears more details from the Bishop's office, he will get the word out so that as many of you as possible can come and meet with him. During his visit, Bishop Jung will be leading a discussion on three questions:

- 1) What has God called us to be and do?
- 2) What do you celebrate about the "fruits" you are producing?
- 3) How can we witness to new, diverse, and young people in our community?



Adult Spiritual Formation Opportunities

Lunch Bunch

Bible Study – 11:00 a.m.

Lunch – noon

Come join on Tuesdays for our Bible study at 11:00 a.m. and our delicious lunch including homemade soup at Noon. Starting on February 11, our new study will be *Making Sense of the Cross*.

The cross is the central symbol of our faith, but do we take time to think about and experience it?

What happened on the cross? What does it mean for us? How does the cross intersect with our daily lives?

Pastor Tim invite you to come as we explore through scripture and discuss these and other questions about the cross that lies at the very heart of our faith. Come join us for a time to feed our bodies and our souls - you are welcome anytime, every time!



Bible Study & SOUP!

Women's Prayer Breakfast –

Wednesday, March 5th

Women of all ages are invited to gather at 7:00 a.m. on **Wednesday, March 5th** for a simple breakfast, Bible study, and prayer. We conclude our time together with open Communion. Our breakfast lasts only an hour, so it is the perfect way to start your day and begin the month.



Men's Prayer Breakfast –

Thursday, March 6th

Men of all ages are invited to gather at 7:00 a.m. on **Thursday, March 6th** for a simple breakfast, Bible study, and prayer. We conclude our time together with open Communion. Our breakfast lasts only an hour, so it is the perfect way to start your day and begin the month.



Wilderness Escape Mission Project



Our mission project for Lent will be a collection for Heifer International. Each child will be making a bank for coin collections and we will be gathering funds much as the Israelites gathered manna in the wilderness.

We are off to a very incredible beginning thanks to the generosity of a very special individual named Rudy Golcnik. Rudy was a kind and gentle man, who left this earth just after Christmas. He didn't have many material possessions, and lived a modest and frugal life. He was a dear friend of Connie Pukaite, who shared this story: "Rudy was touched by the children a few years ago when he worshipped one Sunday at our church. The children were collecting and saving pocket change to support a Heifer Project, and he thought that was a really good thing to do. Thereafter, he saved all his change, and once a year, he asked me to take it to the bank to be counted, and then give it to the children's mission. When he knew he was dying, he wanted his remaining money to be divided up to help people in a number of ways ... first on his list was for the children's current Mission Heifer Project. Rudy was a good man, but rarely recognized as such. He was able to leave a legacy of generosity and thoughtfulness, and give money he had [carefully] saved to the things that meant the most to him. Rudy's life [consisted] of finding joy in the simple things, working, being a good steward, and giving to help others... a man of God."

Rudy left us \$2000 for Heifer International, and we also ended up with a little extra after we sent enough for two knitters' baskets at Christmas. We would like to donate a "Joy to the World" package to Heifer International because that is indeed what Rudy did. The Gift of Joy to the World includes two sheep, four goats, one heifer and two llamas. Your donation will also fund training on the animals' feeding and care. The Joy to the World Gift Basket helps people by:

- Providing wool for blankets and clothing to keep families warm
- Enriching crops with fertilizer, producing better yields
- Sustaining families with enough rich milk to feed dozens of people
- Raising money for food, clothing, medicine and school tuition

The Joy to the World Basket meets several needs at once, providing wealth, nourishment, warmth and a means for farmers to become self-sufficient. This basket is \$1500. We would also like to contribute funds for a camel, in keeping with our wilderness wanderings in the desert. A camel costs \$850, \$500 of which will come from Rudy's donation. In parts of the world too dry for other livestock, Heifer is providing families with camels and training in their care. Camel gift donations change lives by:

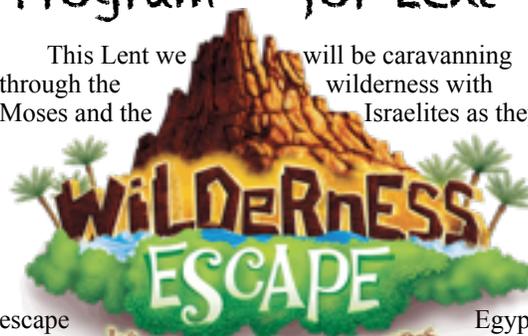
- Providing milk that can be used for nutrition or sold for income
- Boosting income by "hiring out" the camel for hauling goods
- Encouraging self-reliance by serving as a means of transportation

Camels are tremendous assets for families in harsh, unpredictable regions such as the African Sahara and parts of Asia. People who receive the gift of a camel find themselves better able to sustain their families while earning a better future for their children.

If you would like to participate in our project, you can pick up a collection bank starting on Ash Wednesday, March 5, and return it on Palm Sunday, when our children will present what they have donated. Please see Peg if you would like more information about Heifer International, and Connie if you'd like to learn more about her very special friend Rudy.

Wilderness Escape Program for Lent

This Lent we will be caravanning through the wilderness with Moses and the Israelites as they



escape Egypt, and in doing so we will learn about how God guides and provides for us. The program will take place on Sunday nights at 4:00 PM starting March 16th, continuing March 23rd and 30th and wrapping up on April 6th. Our Sonlight preschoolers will be participating in the same program on Wednesday mornings starting March 19. Each week we will sing, dance, visit Moses' tent to experience Bible Stories, create memorable crafts, and visit our Holy Land marketplace for snacks.

Our Wired music group will be learning a song to present in worship on April 6, THE High School Choir will rehearse at the same time, and the youth choir will join them each week at 5:30 PM. Following that, everyone is invited to join us for dinner from 5:45-6:15 PM (children will be finished at 6:00).

As you can see, there is a lot going on, which means helpers would be WONDERFUL!

Please consider helping out in one or more of the following ways:

Portray Moses – we will have helpers to assist with the Bible stories, but we would really appreciate having a *male* to portray our Exodus leader Sunday nights and Wednesday mornings.

- Help out with the Bible stories
- Lead or help with crafts
- Lead or help with music
- Organize and run our MUMC marketplace with simple foods (breads, crackers, fruit, etc.)
- Provide a meal for about 30 people on March 16, 23, 30 or April 6.
- Help with set up the week of March 10 (constructing tents and setting up our wilderness).
- Help out with our service project for Heifer International.

If you can help out in any way, please see Peg or e-mail mumckidstuff@gmail.com.

Family Promise ...

Some questions answered ...

*And a request for the MUMC congregation
to ask more questions and share comments*

Over the past month, our Mequon United Methodist Church family has been talking a lot about homeless families with children in Ozaukee County, asking questions, and wondering if we should join a new ministry, called **Family Promise**, in collaboration with other churches in our county. In January's SPIRE, Betty Draughon provided some information about Family Promise. At MUMC's Annual meeting on January 18 and again on Sunday January 26, we saw a film about Family Promise and called for a team of people to help our church family gather more information and decide if MUMC should become a member of Family Promise-Ozaukee.

Four people volunteered to serve on a MUMC Family Promise Task Group: Connie Pukaite, Katie Jackson, Jean and Ross Paulus. Here's what we know so far:

- 1. YES. There ARE homeless families with children in Ozaukee County.** EVERY school District reported having 1 or more homeless students, for a total of 29 on December 18, 2013. The need has been confirmed for a program in Ozaukee County to help families regain their housing, their independence, and their dignity.
- 2. Family Promise is a successful interfaith program model** established in 41 states that mobilizes community resources: houses of worship for lodging, congregations for volunteers, social service agencies for assessment and referrals, and existing facilities for day programs. This strategy enables Family Promise networks to help homeless families achieve lasting independence at a third of the cost of traditional shelters.

3. Family Promise provides training for all staff and volunteers so interactions with homeless children and adults will be natural and nurturing without awkwardness.

4. Family Promise offers MUMC opportunity to reach out and minister to people in need from our own local community ... something MUMC members in Focus Groups last year asked for.

5. MUMC can become a Family Promise "HOST CHURCH," one of 13 Host Churches, to provide shelter, meals and hospitality four times a year (one week at a time) to no more than 4 families numbering no more than 14 children and adults at any time. MUMC volunteers would prepare and share dinners, visit with guest families, help kids with homework at the church. MUMC would provide bag lunch and simple breakfast foods. Families would pack their lunches, sleep and eat breakfast at the church. Every day by 7 a.m., the four families would leave the church and be transported by van to a day center with shower & laundry facilities, and professionals to help to parents work their way out of homelessness, children will go to school.

6. OR, MUMC can become a "PARTNERING CHURCH," supplying volunteers to help other Host Churches prepare and share meals, visit with guest families, help kids with homework at other churches in the area.

7. The fiscal commitment of becoming either a Host or Partnering Church requires supporting Family Promise with an annual donation of \$2,000 from MUMC, plus the expense of

providing food supplies each week families lodge at our church. If members volunteer food to feed families, the impact on the church budget will be minimal if any. Otherwise, it may cost an estimated \$200 per week for each of 4 weeks. MUMC's annual budget already covers insurance for any liability contingencies. Utilities and custodial service costs in the Annual Budget may increase slightly.

8. MUMC has four spaces that could shelter four families once every three months for a week at a time if the decision is made to become a Host Church. Family Promise would transport and set up beds for the families each time.

9. Homeless families In Family Promise-Ozaukee will be screened to assure none have criminal, drug, alcohol or mental health issues. All families in the program will be Ozaukee County residents.

Our MUMC Task Force will continue to probe, gather and share information; but it will help us be more thorough if members ask the questions or share any observations or concern they may have. We want to help our church family make a decision soon about whether or not to become part of Family Promise-Ozaukee, and if so, shall we be a HOST Church, or a PARTNERING Church?

Please contact us with YOUR questions:

Connie Pukaite --

pukaite@sbcglobal.net
262-242-2788

Katie Jackson

KatieJackson1523@sbcglobal.net
262-243-5470

Jean & Ross Paulus

tango2nite@wi.rr.com



2014-2016 MUMC Strategic Planning Overview



The most recent MUMC Strategic Plan expired the end of 2013. To take MUMC into the next three years, a new strategic planning initiative was undertaken in 2013.

Assumptions:

The Vision and Mission of MUMC will remain the same:

Our Vision: Making God's love real through Jesus Christ

Our Mission: To witness and proclaim the Word of God through Jesus Christ in ways that meet the needs of the Church, the Community and the World.

The guiding Values will remain the same as the 2011-2013 Strategic Plan

- Connect with an Open Heart
- Grow in Body, Mind & Spirit
- Serve with Willing Hands
- Go with Ready Feet

Focus Groups:

___ To better assess the desires of the congregation, Five Focus Groups were held in April, May and June 2013. Approximately 60 people attended in total. An additional meeting was held for the Youth in August 2013.

The Focus Groups focused on

1. The desired role of MUMC in the community
2. Methods to achieve this perceived role in the community.
3. Miracle/Dream achievement for MUMC.

The questions for the Focus Groups are organized both looking from the inside out and then from the outside in.

1. Imagine you wake up and a miracle has occurred. Your wildest dream for the church has been granted. What would this wish be?
2. How might MUMC achieve your wildest dream?
3. What do you see as the needs of the community?
4. What ministries should MUMC have in place to satisfy the needs of our community?

The results of the Focus Groups were grouped into the following three prioritized categories

1. Increase Membership
 - a. Publicity / Communication
 - b. Programming
2. Engaged / Involved Congregation
3. Financially Sound / Church Facilities

Strategic Planning Committee:

___ A Strategic Planning Committee was formed in the Fall of 2013. Members included Pastor Tim, Marcia Schwager (Chair), Joe Hill, Katie Nowak, Ross & Jean Paulus and Glen Van Fossen. The Committee reviewed the Focus Group results and determined the overall goals being requested by the congregation. Working with the Administrative Council and the various church committees, a final 2014-2016 MUMC Strategic Plan was approved by the Administrative Council in January 2014 and presented to the congregation at the All Church Meeting on January 18, 2014.

Strategic Plan Highlights:

___ Note, this is NOT an all-inclusive list or summary. Please refer to the 2014-2016 MUMC Strategic Plan for details.

Adult Programming – Develop an Adult Programming Team. Develop new adult programming.

Children and Families – Build a team of 5-7 individuals to plan and 3-5 individuals to support this ministry.

Provide 7 programs which include community, plan one event with circuit, register a Little Lending Library

Youth - Build a team of 5-7 individuals to plan and 3-5 individuals to support this ministry. Plan Youth event for 8-10 local churches for 100 youth.

Outreach – Expand committee from 6 to 10 members. Develop programming for underserved in local community. Investigate Family Promise.

Parish Nurses – Offer home/hospital/nursing home visits. Make Parish Nurses available for consultations.

Sonlight – Identify opportunities for church members to assist with enrollment growth. Expand level of cross training for staff positions. Continue monthly payments to MUMC.

Welcoming – Develop a church mentoring program to help familiarize new members to MUMC.

Worship – Improve attendance by assessing barriers preventing people from attending church.

Lay Leadership – Build teams.

Staff/Parish Relations – Investigate Program Director position.

Finance – Maintain a balanced budget. Provide online donation capability. Educate membership on Endowment Fund. Investigate Programming Fund.

Trustees – Maintain facility in excellent condition. Develop policy regarding emergencies.

Marketing – Develop comprehensive marketing plan. Develop “press kits” for committees. Develop improved web site. Market MUMC to target markets as determined by marketing plan.



Do You Have a Cold or the Flu?

Feeling under the weather? Are you wondering whether you are sick with the flu or a cold?

Because flu symptoms are quite similar to cold symptoms, it's often hard to tell the difference. But there is one clue about flu that can help you know. When you have the flu, you feel flu symptoms sooner than you would cold symptoms, and they come on with much greater intensity.

The common cold, including chest cold and head cold, and seasonal flu are caused by viruses. Use over-the-counter

cold medications to relieve symptoms including sore throat, runny nose, congestion, and cough. Flu symptoms are similar, but include fever, headache and muscle soreness.

With the flu, you may feel very weak and fatigued for up to two or three weeks. You'll have muscle aches and periods of chills and sweats as fever comes and goes. You may also have a stuffy or runny nose, headache and sore throat.

The following chart can help you compare flu symptoms with cold symptoms.

Symptoms	Cold	Flu
Fever	Rare	Characteristic, high (100-102 degrees F); lasts three to four days
Headache	Rare	Prominent
General aches, pains	Slight	Usual, often severe
Fatigue, weakness	Quite mild	Can last two to three weeks
Extreme exhaustion	Never	Early and prominent
Stuffy nose	Common	Sometimes
Sneezing	Usual	Sometimes
Sore throat	Common	Sometimes
Chest discomfort, cough	Mild to moderate; hacking cough	Common; can become severe
Complications	Sinus congestion or earache	Bronchitis, pneumonia; can be life-threatening
Prevention	Good hygiene	Annual flu shot or FluMist
Treatment	Only temporary relief of symptoms	Antiviral drugs (Tamiflu or Relenza) within 24-48 hours of onset

What can you do to prevent getting a cold or the flu?

- ▶ Remember to wash your hands for at least 20 seconds and use a paper towel to turn off the faucet and open the door. Use an alcohol-based gel if you don't have access to water.
- ▶ Aim for 7-9 hours of sleep. Any less may compromise the immune system.
- ▶ Plan for regular exercise, which reduces stress and stimulates the immune system by increasing the number of circulating white blood cells.
- ▶ Stay hydrated by drinking 60-80 ounces of water a day. Urine should be a clear to pale yellow color.
- ▶ Manage your stress, as hormones released during times of stress suppress the immune system.
- ▶ It is not too late to get a flu shot. Contact your primary care physician if you have questions.

Sources:
WebMD and the Centers for
Disease Control and Prevention



Missionary update -- the Graners are in the Dominican Republic

For many years MUMC supported Gordon Garner, a missionary serving in Bolivia. Gordon and his wife Ardell are now serving in the Dominican Republic, a country which shares the Caribbean island of Hispaniola with Haiti. Gordon recently sent a newsletter to MUMC describing their recent activities. This newsletter has been put up on the

Outreach bulletin board next to the church front door. Or you may read details of the Garners many activities on their website www.granerfamily.org.

Some highlights from their newsletter include (1) news of the Garner children, (2) that the Graners have established the new Advance Special #3021935 titled "Lost and

Found: Children of the Dominican Republic which will extend a one-week VBS into year-round programs in the community, and (3) that the Garners found no Sunday School education materials for Advent so Ardell worked with local pastors to create lessons that were shared with over 100 churches.

Mequon United Methodist Church -- 2014 Leadership

Church Council:

Chairperson - Marcia Schwager
Vice Chair - _____
Secretary - Shirley Campbell
Financial Secretary - Kay Schroeder
Treasurer - Doug Zwissler & Ed Mordy (helping with transition)

Lay Leader - Glen Van Fossen
Lay Members to Annual Conference - Dorothy Schmidt, Doug Zwissler
At Large - Susan Caucutt
Newsletter Editor - Ginger Ayres
Publicity - Marketing Team
Chairs or representatives from MUMC teams

Worship Team:

Chair - Kristin Traut
Joan Buschman, Barb Henneck, Harry Wallace
Liturgist Coordinator - Marilyn Cullinan
Flowers and Altar Decorations - Eleanor Moe, Connie Pukaite
Communion Stewards - Judy Vogel (chair), Pat Stapelkamp, Pat Gattoni, Sandy Christensen
Ushers - Barb Henneck
Coffee Hour Supplies - TBD
Music Team - Rick Hynson, Michelle Hynson, Ellen Shuler, Elna Hickson

Faith in Action Team:

Mithra Ballesteros, Shelley Burns, Sandy Christensen, Carrie Ellis, Ruth Janusiewicz, Connie Pukaite, Lauren Schreiner, Kari Slater, Debbie Wiedmeyer, Marie Widder

Children's Ministry Team:

Chair - TBD
Shirley Campbell, Linda Mordy, Audra O'Brien, Wendy Porterfield, Nan Rilling, Lynda Stephany, Susan Yorio
Children's Ministry Director: Peg Gardner
Children's Ministry Support Team: Rose Dillon, Kari Slater, Jeff Wider

Youth Ministry Team:

Chair - TBD
Laura Bireley, Chris Debbink, Stan Janusiewicz, Kathy Jones, Nancy Kirtley, Sheryl Reed, Ben Gruettner -- Youth Ministry Director

Outreach Team:

Chair - Betty Draughon
Cheryl Bair, Rick Gattoni, Lou Henneck, Joel & Karen Huffman, Jim Layton, Karen Stern, Jean Storer, Ireene Sullivan, Marilyn Zwissler, Dorothy Schmidt (liaison to Northcott)

Welcoming Connections Team:

Co-Chairs - Marcia Peterson and Marilyn Thiet
Nancy Gruner, Katie Jackson, Mavis Luther, Ann Miller

Sonlight Child Development Center Board:

Operations Co-Chair - Dick Vogel
Financial Co-Chair - Ed Mordy
Pastor - Tim O'Brien
Director of Children's Ministry - Peg Gardner
Members at Large - Pat Dillon, Pat Gattoni, Steve Gattoni, Katie Jackson, Pam Layton, Mary McLean, Maggie Morse, Harry Wallace

Staff Parish Relations Team:

Chair - Pam Layton
Patrick Curran, Joe Hill, Don McLean, Lauren Schreiner, Doug Zwissler
Lay Leader - Glen Van Fossen

Lay Leadership Team:

Chair - Pastor Tim O'Brien
Susan Caucutt, Sandy Christensen, Ann Miller, Scott Solverson
Lay Leader: Glen Van Fossen

Trustees:

Chair - Connie Pukaite
Doug Burns, Busch Buschman, Tom Ellis, Don McLean, Ed Mordy, Jeff Nowak, Dain Shuler, Bruce Stern

Finance Team:

Chair - Scott Reed
Dave Bedran, Cheryl Clark, Pappy Draughon, Jean Storer
Treasurer - Doug Zwissler & Ed Mordy (helping with transition)

Financial Secretary - Kay Schroeder
Lay Leader - Glen Van Fossen
Church Council - Marcia Schwager
Trustees Chair - Connie Pukaite
SPRC Chair: Pam Layton

Parish Nurse Team:

Chair: Debbie LeRoy
Sandy Christensen, Lisa Gorski, Nancy Gruner, Eileen Hill, Randy LeRoy, Mary Sisney, Sue Solverson

Marketing Team:

Chair: Herb Ayres
Ginger Ayres, Doug Burns, Pam Layton, Marcia Schwager, Marilyn Thiet

Audio-Visual Team:

Herb Ayres, Patrick Curran, Peter Gardner, Dain Shuler, Peter Storer



Thank you to everyone who served MUMC in so many ways during 2013 -- for Sunday worship, in Sunday School, with financial guidance, with mission and outreach projects, with work in and outside our church building, in the Marsh Meadow. Thanks for donations of time, money, gifts, and items. Thanks to everyone who serves on a committee. Thanks to everyone and anyone who helps in any way in and around MUMC -- and the larger community outside our church. Everyone working together makes this a awesome church with a caring church family.

Sonlight Scoop February 2014

Sonlight Child Development Center, established by and operated as a ministry of Mequon United Methodist Church, is open to children from infant through 5 years old, including K2, K3, and K4 programs.

What would YOU do when it's 10 degrees outside... and the kids are stuck inside...and they are tired of the "same old thing"??? Well...on Thursday, January 23, Sonlight Center celebrated winter with their annual **PAJAMA PARTY!** Even the staff participated in the "pajama" dress-up day! And because it was also **TEDDY BEAR WEEK,** Teddy Bears were invited!

Mrs. Twila came at 9:15 to SING with all of our children, infants through preschoolers ... and then they settled down for Sonlight's once-a-year MOVIE. The kids saw *The Adventures of Franklin* and *Toy Story 3*, complete with cups of Teddy Grahams to snack on!

Our next celebration will be **RED, WHITE & PINK DAY,** coming up on Thursday, February 13. Time to dress for the season and exchange valentines...what an excuse for a party! Any visitors to the church on the 13th, don't forget to wear red, white and pink...



Stay Warm!!!
Kathy and Sue

Here are a number of our children and staff dressed in their Pajamas for the day!

Great News!

**a message from
MUMC Finance Team**

We are very happy to report that MUMC ended the past year with a balanced budget. Furthermore, we paid all of our obligations, and were able to have a \$4000 surplus that will carry forward to 2014. One of those obligations is apportionment; the support we give to Methodism in the rest of the State, Nation, and the World. This is the first time in a long time that we have been able to pay 100% of apportionment.



A huge thank you goes out to our congregation: you made this possible. As we look into 2014, we again use the expected giving to build our balanced budget. Your pledges and expected gifts will allow our church to continue our ministries on a local level, but will allow only 55% of our apportionment to be paid. That means, for us to achieve 100% again, we will need to receive gifts beyond what is currently expected.

We are in great fiscal shape, due to all of the caring families of our church that give generously. Thank you!

MUMC 2014 Budget

Income	2013 Actual	2014 Proposed
Rollover	0	4,100
Pledged gifts	243,101	252,000
Non-pledged gifts	31,705	30,000
Sonlight offset	15,000	15,000
Christmas and Easter offerings	7,424	7,500
Other income	12,204	4,300
Total Income	309,434	312,900
Expenses		
Pastoral and parsonage	92,470	95,962
Buildings and grounds	69,117	77,910
Apportionment and conference	36,576	18,971
Music ministry	42,115	43,543
Children and Youth ministry	25,637	35,232
Office and supplies	39,372	41,282
Total Expenses	305,287	312,900
Surplus	4,147	



The MUMC congregation extends sympathies and prayers to the family of Naomi Monaco. Naomi was a long time member of MUMC who lost her husband Gino at the end of November and then she passed away on January 15. Naomi's family held her memorial service at MUMC on January 28th. We offer special comfort to the Monaco family who have lost both parents within two months.

Sympathies and caring thoughts are extended to Byron Jackson and his parents, Katie and Bill, following the death of Heather Williams on January 23. Heather was Byron's life-long partner. A memorial service, held at MUMC, was attended by many family members and friends.

Thank You!
★ THANK YOU! ★

MUMC Drive-in Many thanks!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our annual mid-winter movie night at MUMC. Despite the bitter cold, we had a great time munching delicious food while we watched a family film together seated at our inimitable "drive-in" car tables. This event would not be possible without the help of our amazing Drive-In Service team, led by Shelley Burns, our master chef, with help from her Texan friend Gayle, husband Doug, and Wendy Porterfield. Our awesome youth served up the goodies, so special thanks to Alex Burns, Patrick Curran, Philip & Ethan Shuler and Cole & Hailey Stephany. Thanks for all those who stuck around for clean-up as well – it made for a quick trip out the door to our warm homes on a cold winter night!

January thanks from the Welcoming Connections team

"Spring is coming, spring is coming!"
said the rabbit to her mate.

"Say goodbye to cold and snow.
Say hello to warm sun,
green grass and crocuses."

Hope springs eternal in the hearts
of all believers.

We send a big thank you to our coffee hosts and hostesses this past month: Jim and Jean Schwerdt, Nancy Gruner, Debbie and Randy Leroy, Don and Mary McLean, and the Laferriere family. We appreciate you. Thanks also to our greeters who, on these cold Sundays, stand back from the stairway so nobody accidentally falls backward down the stairs. We welcome our visitors and hope they find our church a warm and inviting place.

Mealsite thanks

In January, MUMC served twice at the mealsite. January 23rd was our regular date and 205 guests were served. January 30 was a "fifth Thursday" and 250 guests were served. Thanks to those from the congregation who served on the 23rd and to the Confirmation youth who served on the 30th. Thanks to everyone who donated desserts and fruit for either or both days.

In this frigid winter, it is hard for us to imagine what it would be like if we had to walk in the wind and cold to a mealsite because we had no other choice for a meal. Thank you to MUMC for supporting this mealsite ... and prayers for your continuing

the Spire

is published monthly by

**Mequon United
Methodist Church**
11011 North Oriole Lane 20W
Mequon, WI 53092

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Deadline for copy: the 25th
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Office hours:

Mon. - Thurs.: 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM - noon

Sunday schedule:

9:30 AM: Worship Service

First Sunday - Family Sunday
(no Sunday School)

9:45 AM: Sunday School

10:30 AM: Fellowship for all

Everyone is welcome!

Mequon United Methodist Church
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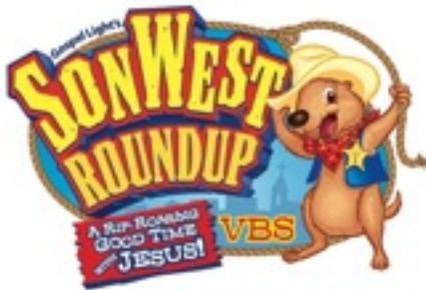


CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Coming in June!! Save these dates!!

VBS 2014
June 23-27
9:00 AM-NOON

Mark your calendars now for a rip-roaring good time at this summer's VBS program. We'll be heading to the frontier to explore Bible stories, games, crafts, music and



more, for kids in preschool through elementary grades. We will also have a special music time for toddlers, tots and their parents, as well as the little ones from Sonlight. We hope everyone will join us as

participants, helpers, station leaders or supporters.

We'll have a Chuckwagon Cookout for the whole church on Wednesday, June 25, at 5:00 PM. Please let Peg know if you would be willing to help in any way as we put on our boots for a stompin' good time!

Critter Camp 2014
June 23-27
NOON-3:30 PM

We'll take to the trails of the MUMC Marshmeadow once again this summer, as children in elementary and middle school are invited to join us in the great outdoors. Linda Mordy, our very own naturalist, will lead us in our journeys, with the able assistance of educator Schuyler Gardner, who will lead our smaller campers.

Lunch will be provided each day for children and adults, and we will have a field trip to the Riveredge Nature Center on Wednesday.

There will also be a concurrent Bible Study for adults, so there is plenty for everyone.

If you would like to participate and/or help with any aspect of Critter Camp, please see Peg or Linda.

