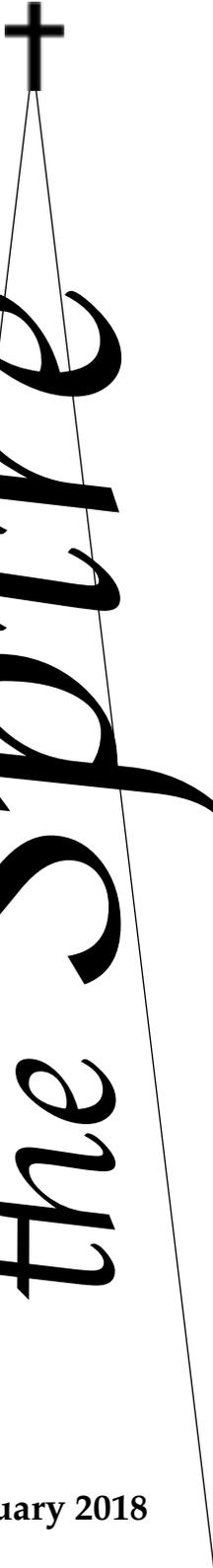
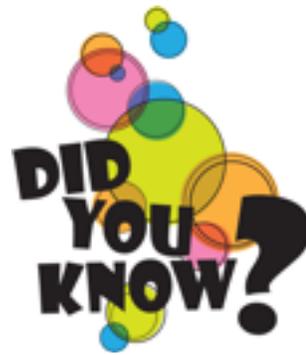


Mequon United  
Methodist Church  
11011 North Oriole Lane  
Mequon, WI 53092  
262-242-4770  
www.mequonumc.org



the Spire

February 2018



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**These events are all happening at MUMC.  
Can you answer "yes" to each of these  
"did you know..." ???**

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- ◆ That Ash Wednesday is February 14? ... Come to MUMC for a Pancake Supper at 6:15 PM. Following supper, Pastor Tim will lead an Ash Wednesday service, 7:00 PM.
- ◆ That worship service on February 11 brings Boy Scouts and our annual recognition of diversity? ... Come to celebrate Scouting and to hear a special speaker.
- ◆ That MUMC hosts Family Promise guests the week of February 18-25? ... Sign up to stay overnight. Sign up to provide meals and food supplies.
- ◆ That Reflections book group is reading a World War II top-rated book that has been made into a highly-acclaimed movie? ... *The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story*
- ◆ That Lunch Bunch is studying "Romans: the letter that changed the world"? ... Everyone is welcome to come for study time and lunch.
- ◆ That new blood pressures guidelines have been announced? ... The Parish Nurses provide a whole page of information.
- ◆ That YOU can join the newly formed MUMC Bell Choir? ... See page 5.
- ◆ That "Shipwrecked – rescued by Jesus" is the theme for this summer's VBS? ... It's time to start spreading the word.



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*On this winter morning, Jesus,  
help us each feel the warmth of  
your love and share it with others.*

## Pastor Tim's Message

As we approach another season of Lent, we always begin with Ash Wednesday. It is a time to reflect on our mortality, repentance, and the depth of Jesus' sacrifice for us on the cross. It is a deeply meaningful service to begin our journey to the empty tomb and beyond.

What makes this time a little different for me is that Valentine's Day and my 14th wedding anniversary are on Ash Wednesday this year. I tried to convince Audra that a pancake supper before an Ash Wednesday service was a great anniversary date, but we are going out on another day. However, it made me think, is there a way that the season of Lenten sacrifice and penitence is related to Valentines Day chocolates and flowers?



According to the legends, Saint Valentine was a priest who lived during the reign of the Roman Emperor Claudius Gothicus. The official imperial policy of the day was that it was illegal for Christians to be married or receive aid of any kind, but Valentine chose to defy the laws of the land and marry couples anyway. For this he was arrested and martyred on February 14th.

Valentine chose to love and serve others despite the imperial voices dictating that he withhold aid. As a priest, he could easily have devoted himself in such a time of persecution to personal devotions that would have drawn him closer to God (and saved his own neck), but instead he opted to help those in need and include those the powers-that-be demanded be excluded. He became a martyr for the sake of love.

Maybe during this season of Lent, we choose not to see Valentine's Day as an awkward dilemma to deal with but as a guide for our practices. What if we too choose to sacrifice ourselves for the sake of love? What if our fasting is not to gain something from God, but to give something away of God? So, instead of giving up chocolate or Facebook for Lent, we could work to aid those who are hurting, struggling, or feel excluded in some way. It could be volunteering at the meal site or with Family Promise at the end of February. It could be as simple as calling or visiting someone who is lonely. This might include an elderly shut in, stay at home parent, someone who has recently lost their job or someone who is grieving a loss. It could even be turning off the TV, computer, phone and resting in the stillness to be in prayer and conversation with God.

I invite us to see that the way of Christ is about sacrificing beyond just ourselves to help create the sort of world where the lowly are uplifted and the outcast welcomed. Having Valentine's Day at the very start of Lent this year can be about more than just us feeling guilty about indulging during Lent, it can remind us that sacrificing ourselves for the sake of love is the greatest sacrifice of all.

In God's Love  
Pastor Tim

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### *Ash Wednesday prayer*

Dear righteous Lord, we enter the holy season of Lent confessing our many sins that separate us from you. We're sincerely sorry for offending you repeatedly through our thoughts, our words and our actions – and often through our inactions, too.

Forgive us, Lord, and show us your tender mercy. Restore and strengthen us to become your faithful and faith-filled servants. During our Lenten journey, remind us to show mercy to other people, just as you've shown mercy to us. In Jesus' name, amen.

*Lent*  
B E G I N S

# Ash Wednesday

February 14<sup>th</sup>

**Pancake Supper – 6:15 PM**

**Worship Service – 7:00 PM**



Ash Wednesday, is the first day of Lent, 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.

## PANCAKE SUPPER



## Boy Scout Sunday / Diversity Sunday

**Sunday, February 11**



On Sunday, February 11 during our 9:30 a.m. worship service we will be observing Boy Scout Sunday as we welcome the Boy Scouts from troop 865, which is the troop that MUMC sponsors. The Boy Scouts will be helping with the service and speaking about their last camping/workday experience here at the church.

Also, on this Sunday we will hold our annual Diversity Sunday. The purpose of Diversity Sunday is to highlight our Welcoming Statement printed on the back of our weekly Sunday bulletin. This year we will be welcoming Genise Lindner, the Director of Development for Pathfinders, an organization that works with homeless teens and young adults on the streets of Milwaukee. It is our hope that by raising awareness and gaining understanding we reaffirm our commitment to be a welcoming faith community that is making God's love real for all.



Lent is an occasion for us to journey with Christ ... into tomorrow. For you never walk with Christ long but what the dawn breaks, the sun shines and hope breaks through.

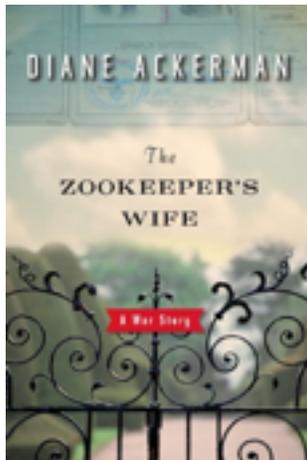
– C. Neil Straight

## Reflections reads

### "The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story"

The Reflections book group will meet Thursday, February 8 at 7:00 PM in the Parlor. Our discussion book will be *The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story*, by Diane Ackerman. From amazon.com . . .

*When Germany invaded Poland, Stuka bombers devastated Warsaw—and the city's zoo along with it. With most of their animals dead, zookeepers Jan and Antonina Zabinski began smuggling Jews into empty cages. . . . Jan, active in the Polish resistance, kept ammunition buried in the elephant enclosure and stashed explosives in the animal hospital. Meanwhile, Antonina kept her unusual household afloat, caring for both its human and its animal inhabitants—otters, a badger, hyena pups, lynxes. With her exuberant prose and exquisite sensitivity to the natural world, Diane Ackerman engages us viscerally in the lives of the zoo animals, their keepers, and their hidden visitors.*



Reflections is a women's book group that meets monthly for discussion and fellowship. New women are always welcome. Contact Barb Henneck at [bhenneck@wi.rr.com](mailto:bhenneck@wi.rr.com) for more information about the February meeting or the book group.

#### Looking ahead . . .

Our March book will be *The Hate U Give*, by Angie Thomas.

## Come to Lunch Bunch!

**Learn and discuss faith, beliefs, the Bible, and more with our spirited group!**

**Enjoy a lunch of tasty homemade soup, bread, and dessert!**

### Lunch Bunch meets every Tuesday

**Bible Study – 11:00 AM**

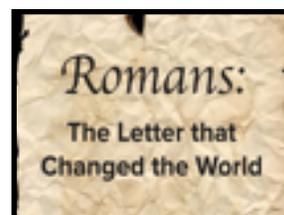
**Lunch – 12:00 noon**

The Lunch Bunch is continuing with our study called *Romans: The Letter that Changed the World*.

Through our video and discussions we will look at the culture and history that led to Paul writing this transforming letter to the small group of Christians in the city of Rome. As we discuss Paul's time we are able to make connections with our own and let this letter come alive for us today. Please come and join us for this interesting study and take part in our lively discussions.

After our study we join in a simple lunch with some delicious homemade soup as well as some great fellowship.

Come join us for a time to feed our bodies and our souls - you are welcome anytime, every time!



## Coming in March — mark your calendars now!

### Lenten Family Workshop — for everyone!!

#### "Step by Step"

**Sunday, March 4 — 4:00 PM**

Join us as we learn about Lent through a hands-on workshop. We will learn about Jesus' path to the cross through music, games and art, as well as sharing a simple meal together. We will be crafting stepping stones for the playground and a pathway to the parsonage. This workshop is designed for people of ALL ages, and families are invited to experience this together. You do not have to have children to attend! Experience this important event in our understanding of Lent in a new way – Sunday, March 4, at 4:00 PM.



**Helpers and cooks needed!** Our meal will be a simple one of soup, fruit or salad, and dessert. If you can provide any of these items, or help with set-up, serving or clean-up, please let Audra know. Thank you!

~~~ An invitation from Pastor Tim ~~~

### Lenten Bible Study — "The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus"

**Begins March 7**

**Wednesdays at 7:00 PM**

**Class Dates:**

**March 7, 14, and 21**

As we journey through Lent, I invite you to this study where we will walk with Jesus from his baptism to the temptations to the heart of his ministry. We will follow along to gain new insights on the parables he taught, the people he loved, and the enemies he made as we follow him to Jerusalem during his final week. Through the video component of this study, we will see and experience the actual places where Jesus walked, taught, and healed. I hope you will come for this inspiring study as we journey to the cross and beyond.



## MUMC's Family Promise Ministry

### Updates from Connie Pukaite

It occurs to me that most of us at MUMC think our *Family Promise Ministry* consists of what happens during Host Weeks, three or four times a year when we open our church to families in need of emergency shelter, when we offer room, meals and compassion to a few families at a time. While our emergency shelter is, indeed, a critical part of the Interfaith Housing Network MUMC helped create to provide homeless Ozaukee County parents and children with warm, safe places for short periods of time, shelter alone is not enough ... and, it is **not all** we help to provide. The Interfaith Housing Network services are like the tip of an iceberg ... so much more service is unseen.

In addition to hosting families needing emergency shelter multiple times each year, MUMC provides financial support and volunteers to Family Promise in Ozaukee County to provide case management assistance to get families back on their feet, find jobs, organize resources to live independently again and to find new housing. As important as providing emergency shelter when needed is, our Family Promise ministry also works to keep families from becoming homeless in the first place, and works to help homeless families find decent housing.

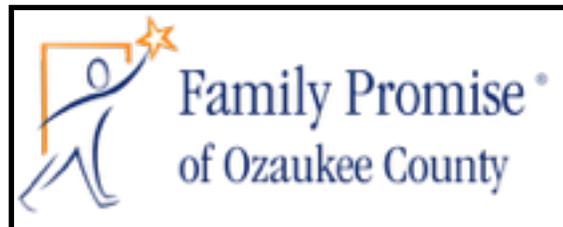
In July 2017, Family Promise of Ozaukee County became the designated local agency to manage federal funds intended to help families remain housed if they are in danger of becoming homeless, or to re-house homeless families who meet very specific indicators of need..

Here's what Family Promise in Ozaukee County was able to do 2017.

- **Interfaith Housing Network (IHN) provided emergency shelter** to 9 households, 22 persons (adults and children) and helped 8 of those families move into stable housing. One family remains in need of IHN services at this time.
- **Homeless Prevention – in the last 6 months of 2017** — stopped 10 households, with 25 persons, from becoming homeless — all have remained housed after receiving help through Family Promise.
- **Rapid Re-Housing:** 6 households, with 17 persons who were homeless have been housed since July 2017.

Now, we are in a whole new year, and MUMC's first Host Week to provide emergency shelter is scheduled for February 18 through February 25. As the SPIRE publishing date approaches, there is only one family (a mom and her 12 year old son) in need of IHN (emergency shelter) services at this time ... but that can change unexpectedly anytime. And even if only one family needs help, our doors will be open.

**Please mark your calendars and plan to help if you can.  
MUMC is the host church — FEBRUARY 18 to FEBRUARY 25.  
We will need volunteers to stay overnight,  
and to help provide evening meals  
as well as breakfast and lunch food supplies.**



**MUMC host dates –  
February 18 - 25  
Sign up to help.**

### QUICK NOTES AND REMINDERS ...

- **Sign up for Altar Flowers** for 2018 — the chart is outside the office door across from the elevator.
- **"Mindfulness" Program** — April 29. Save the date. Sponsored by MUMC Parish Nurses.
- **Liturgists needed.** We have a list of people who have volunteered to be liturgist for Sunday morning worship services. But we can use more!!! If you would like to be a liturgist, please call the church office at 262-242-4770.
- **Updated copies of the MUMC directory have been printed** — check your info. Report errors or omissions to the church office. If there is no photo of you, please contact the church office about submitting one.
- **Come to tai chi!** Mondays and Fridays at 11:00 AM. Fifty minutes of easy stretches and balancing exercises. Call Herb or Ginger if you have any questions (262-242-7703).
- **Find Mequon United Methodist Church on Facebook.** Then LIKE and SHARE!!!



## Music notes ...



### Music in worship

February 4 – Joyful Noise Choir  
February 11 – Sanctuary Choir  
February 14 – Ash Wednesday – Youth Choir  
February 18 – Elna Hickson and Bill Church  
February 25 – Men's Choir  
March 4 – Joyful Noise Choir and Sanctuary Choir

### ★ Bell Choir is coming!

We are planning to have a Bell Choir perform on April 29 – with YOU!!! Anyone interested in being a part of this, please see Ellen Shuler!!!



## Prayer Breakfasts —

➡ one hour, once a month

### Women's Prayer Breakfast —

Wednesday, February 7  
Wednesday, March 7

### Men's Prayer Breakfast —

Thursday, March 1

All ages are invited to gather at 7:00 AM 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.



..... Coming in June! Spread the word! .....

Shipwrecked at VBS!!!!



Join us for tropical fun in the sun  
with this year's VBS at  
**Mequon United Methodist Church**  
June 18-22, 2018 ~~~ 9:00 AM – noon

There will be Music, Bible Adventures, Games, the Imagination Station and more! Our VBS is open to all children in preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade – bring a friend!

School age children can also attend our afternoon arts camp – Kaleidoscope.

Once again, we will have a special music class for parents, toddlers and infants each morning following our opening. Please plan to join us!

For more information call  
262-242-4770 or email [mumckidstuff@gmail.com](mailto:mumckidstuff@gmail.com)



June 18-21  
Noon-3:30 PM

Dive into the arts each afternoon  
through hands-on activities  
for elementary-aged children!

- Lunch each day
- Nature
- Music
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Outdoor "Concert Corner"
- Field Trip - Riveredge Nature Center - nature through art
- All-church dinner for the whole family – Thursday - at 5:00 PM

For more information call  
262-242-4770 or email [mumckidstuff@gmail.com](mailto:mumckidstuff@gmail.com)



## **TWO "Help Wanted" from Sonlight**

Sonlight Child Development Center is MUMC's largest ministry. It serves over 50 children ages infant through 9, including before / after school programs. It also offers a summer program for school-age children.

Please consider if you or someone you know would be interested in either of these tasks to help at Sonlight. Share these announcements.

### **Sonlight needs your time for some tender caring!**

Sonlight has opportunities in the Infant Room for caring individuals to offer volunteer help for teachers during the day for short periods of time, usually in the mornings (9:00 AM to 11:00 AM). We would welcome any time and/or day(s) you would be available. There is no strict schedule.

Our Infant Room is very popular and in demand because we provide great care! Therefore, we have a lot of babies and infants. So, the teachers could use help holding them, playing with the little ones, or just watching them, while the teacher is changing diapers or dealing with a baby who doesn't want to be there.



No experience needed, just a love for children.

Stop by Sonlight or call Sue or Marie at 262-242-4771 to learn more about this opportunity.

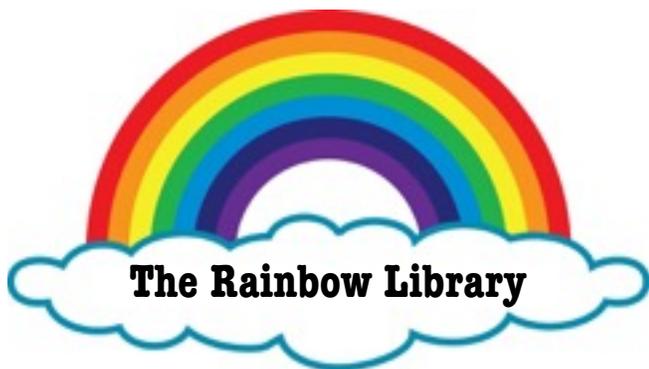
### **The 2018 Summer School Program at Sonlight Child Development Center is looking for a teacher**

**What is the Summer School Program?** Sonlight offers a summer program for the older siblings of children currently enrolled in Sonlight and/or children previously enrolled in Sonlight. It makes it easier for the families to bring their children to one location when school is not in session during the summer. We keep the students busy with lots of activities such as, arts, crafts, cooking, field trips, etc. Our past programs have been very successful and lots of fun. The group size is small with approximately 5-10 children from 6 to 9 years of age.

**What are the requirements for a teacher?** Responsibilities include planning activities for the students, Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. This summer program lasts for approximately 12 weeks from June thru August. Credentials include a teaching certification in Early Childhood and other training, such as CPR, to meet some of the requirements of our daycare license. We offer field trips so you must be insurable with a safe driving record and valid driver's license.

If you love working with great kids with lots of energy, this could be the job for you. It is a paid position with some flexibility. Please contact Sue Lyon at 262-242-4771 for more information.





MUMC is a Reconciling Congregation. This means that we have made a commitment to being in loving Christian ministry with all people without prejudice, to truly have “open hearts, open minds, and open doors,” to work toward the time when our congregation, our denomination, and our society live the all-inclusive love that our faith demands. MUMC is committed to the justice imperative of the Gospel and grounding its ministries in the Wesleyan practice of personal and social holiness. We are committed to utilizing inclusive language and respectfully recognizing the diverse approaches to scripture, tradition, reason, and experience of all in our congregation and the communities with whom we relate. We are committed to reconciliation that leads to the healing and transformation of animosity into a loving relationship amongst all God’s children. Authentic reconciliation requires peace with justice. We believe that human sexuality is a good gift given by God, and therefore we are committed to supporting the integration of healthy, loving expressions of sexuality and spirituality for everyone. In particular, we celebrate the sexuality and spirituality of LGBT persons and pledge to provide resources that lead to a deeper understanding of God’s precious gift.

To that end, we have a library of resources for both children and adults that features titles relating to these issues. This special library is located on a shelf in the parlor. Please feel free to access these books for you and/or your children, and share the important message that God loves all of his children.

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***MUMC is a Reconciling Congregation.  
This is our Welcoming Statement.***

Mequon United Methodist Church affirms that all people are created in God’s image and are of sacred worth. We affirm Jesus’ example of love without reservation and we sacredly promise to deal compassionately and justly with one another. Therefore, this inclusive and nurturing community of faith openly invites and welcomes persons of every age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, physical or mental ability, ethnic origin, socioeconomic status, marital status -- any and all diversities -- as full participants in the life and work of this reconciling community.

## **New Blood Pressure Guidelines**

High blood pressure, also known as hypertension, occurs when the force of blood against the artery walls is too high. High blood pressure affects nearly 1 in 2 adults in the U.S. It is often called the “silent killer” because many people don’t know they have it. Over time, high blood pressure can lead to a heart attack, stroke and other serious conditions.

To improve the care of patients with high blood pressure, the American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association task force update guidelines with the hope of better outcomes for people at risk for or living with this condition.

The most recent guidelines, released on November 13, 2017, address how to prevent, screen and manage blood pressure in adults. They are the first full set of guidelines for blood pressure in the U.S. since 2003. The aim is to help patients reduce their risk for developing high blood pressure and improve health outcomes for those already living with it. On the next page is a poster listing key points that every patient should know about the recent changes.

Reminder - Your Parish Nurse Team offers blood pressure checks on the first Sunday of most months. Please see your primary care provider or a Parish Nurse Team member with any questions you may have about your blood pressure.

Source: CardioSmart, American College of Cardiology

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This information is provided by the  
MUMC Parish Nurse Team.

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Parish Nurse Mission Statement:  
“MUMC Parish Nurse Ministry promotes wellness, healing and wholeness of body, mind and spirit within our church family through health assessment, counseling and education.”



## KNOW YOUR NUMBERS

**BLOOD PRESSURE** is the force of your blood moving against the walls of your arteries. It's expressed as **TWO NUMBERS**:

**Top Number:**  
**SYSTOLIC** (mm Hg)  
The pressure or force in the arteries when the heart beats

**Bottom Number:**  
**DIASTOLIC** (mm Hg)  
The pressure measured between heartbeats

**WARNING!**  
Over time elevated or high blood pressure weakens your heart, blood vessels and kidneys, and makes a stroke or heart attack much more likely

| NORMAL              | ELEVATED                       | HIGH                                             |                                           |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| below<br><b>120</b> | <b>120</b><br>to<br><b>129</b> | <b>STAGE 1</b><br><b>130</b><br>to<br><b>139</b> | <b>STAGE 2</b><br><b>140</b><br>and above |
| below<br><b>80</b>  | below<br><b>80</b>             | <b>80</b><br>to<br><b>89</b>                     | <b>90</b><br>and above                    |

Also called *Hypertension*

### LIFESTYLE CHANGES that Lower Blood Pressure

- Move More**  
Get regular physical activity
- Focus on Nutrition**  
Follow the DASH diet and eat potassium-rich vegetables
- Cut Salt**  
Aim for 1,500 mg of sodium or less per day
- Limit Alcohol**  
For men, not more than 2 drinks per day; for women, 1
- Lose Weight**  
Losing just a few pounds can make a big difference
- Don't Smoke**  
If you smoke, stop
- De-stress**  
Meditation and rest help lower blood pressure

Information provided for educational purposes only. Please consult your health care provider about your specific health needs.

Go to [CardioSmart.org/HighBP](http://CardioSmart.org/HighBP) to learn more about High Blood Pressure.

@CardioSmart facebook.com/CardioSmart

If you would like to download or order additional posters on various topics, visit [CardioSmart.org/Posters](http://CardioSmart.org/Posters)

© 2011 American College of Cardiology. 0000

## Sonlight Scoop February 2018

*Sonlight Child Development Center, established by and operated as a ministry of Mequon United Methodist Church, is open to children from infant through 9 years old, including before/after school care.*



Sonlight has had a great 2017, and we're all ready and set for 2018! Santa visited right before the end of the year, and Miss Betty retired at the beginning of 2018. She was involved in early childhood for 45+ years, 10 of those years here at Sonlight!

We had PJ day and Teddy Bear week during mid-January and we're getting ready for our Red White and Pink celebration. Happy New Year!



### Children's Ministry Thank-You

Thanks to the team members who helped to reclaim the Children's Ministries' office from the onslaught of essential debris from VBS, Kaleidoscope, Sonlight Kangaroos and Passport to Peru. There was a lot to find homes for, and Audra O'Brien, Linda Mordy, Wendy Porterfield and Devin Curran did an amazing job, persevering through a lot of work. Thanks for all you do for our children!

### Mealsite thanks

Once again, MUMC stepped up to help at the mealsite. On Thursday evening, January 25, 121 guests attended the mealsite. Thanks to everyone who went to serve the guests. Thanks to everyone who gave desserts and fruit.

There are no mealsite dates for MUMC in February. But the month of March brings two Thursdays in a row — March 22 and 29. Watch for reminders and sign up sheets.

What are the mealsite dates for MUMC? We serve on the fourth Thursday every other month starting with January. We also serve anytime a month has a fifth Thursday. As a reminder, we serve the meal. And we take desserts and fresh fruit for the meal. The remainder of the meal is provided by other groups.

*Thank  
You*

*Dear MUMC Family,*

*We want to thank you for the beautiful (and in some cases extremely yummy) gifts that you gave. Your generosity and love mean so much to us personally and to the ministries that all of us engage in. We know that you have also been praying for Audra and our entire family and that those prayers are showing signs of being answered. We do not know all the results of her different tests at this point but some of her energy is returning. In many ways, it was your thoughtfulness and care before, during, and since, the holiday season that made this past year an incredible one. We are praying for all of you and hope that in every situation you will experience God's arms wrapped tightly around you as God loves you deeply.*

*Thank you again for all the love,  
Pastor Tim, Audra, Alyssa, Connor, and Madelyn.*

## Remember when ...

As MUMC looks forward to celebrating its 70th year, "the Spire" continues looking back at interesting, somber, fun, or important highlights from the past.

- **August 2004.** Youth Car Wash at Piggly Wiggly — youth promise "extra special" attention to your car. The following Saturday was a Youth Room Painting Party to give "overdue TLC" to the room.
- **July 2004.** Jayne Micheln said "yes" when asked to be the flower lady for the area around the church's street sign.
- **July 2004.** MUMC said farewell to Pastor Brad Mather and his family. And we welcomed Gordon Sorenson as our interim pastor for two months.
- **July 2005.** The famous (or infamous!) Flamingo Flock continued to wander for another summer. The flock of pink flamingos roved unannounced from yard to yard of MUMC folks during the summer. Families could buy "insurance" to have the flock NOT visit them. Or they could pay to have the flock removed and visit another yard. The funds went to Outreach mission projects. In July 2005, "the Spire" noted the following about the flamingos. "They partied (with drinks and card-playing) on the LeRoy's deck. Their brief sojourn in the Pukaite's yard prompted the proclamation that Mequon is the Florida of the mid-west. (Cliff wanted a permanent flock.) Unfortunately the flock was intimidated by the Concordia bluff rock project near Sandy Christensen but behaved courageously under intimidating circumstances. The highlight of the flock thus far was their stopover at the Hynson's yard. One acquired the aura of "conductor" while a second fancied herself an accompanist. The others lined up in true choral group fashion and discovered their "calling." And, thanks to Lydia, all members of this feathery ensemble now sport beads and bows!!"
- **February 15, 1970.** Baptism of Sharon Mary, daughter of Thomas and Marilyn Cullinan.
- **February 1970.** Announcement of first allocation of United Methodist funds collected statewide for rehabilitation of Viet Nam. 325 homes will be built for approximately \$425 per home.
- **February 1970.** Easter lily order — \$3.50 each.
- **April 1970.** In the Sunday bulletin: "This coming week is Family Week. We urge families to be mindful of their life together and to take time for some family activity during the coming week."
- **May 17, 1970.** The altar flowers were given by Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Groth in honor of their son Mark's confirmation and also their 23rd wedding anniversary.
- **June 1970.** The MUMC Education Commission was trying to secure more Sunday School teachers. Among those already committed were Nancy Gruner for 4th grade and Marilyn Cullinan for 2nd grade.



## the Spire

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262-242-4770

[www.mequonumc.org](http://www.mequonumc.org)

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Organist: Elna Hickson  
ehickson@wi.rr.com  
Youth Choirs Director: Ellen Shuler  
shulers4@sbcglobal.net  
Director of Children's Ministries:  
Peg Randall Gardner  
mumckidstuff@gmail.com  
Youth Director: Olivia Peters  
olivia.bedran@gmail.com  
Sonlight CDC Director: Sue Lyon  
info@sonlightcdc.org  
Webmaster: Marcia Schwager  
mkschwager@sbcglobal.net

MUMC office: 262-242-4770

fax: 262-242-9539

MUMC office email:  
office@mequonumc.org

Office hours:

Mon. - Thurs.: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Closed Fridays

### Sunday schedule:

9:30 AM: Worship Service  
and Sunday School

First Sunday is Family Sunday  
(no Sunday School)

10:30 AM: Fellowship for all

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

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### *A penguin "parable"*

During storms, emperor penguins huddle for warmth, taking turns at the center and on the perimeter of the group. While incubating eggs, up to 6,000 male penguins have been observed clustering for shelter against the harsh Antarctic winter. Partially grown chicks gather in protective "crèches" (French for "cribs"); often surrounded by a colony of adults, these groupings ward off predators and cold.



In stormy times, humans also need supportive groups; we can't survive alone. A church family allows us to take turns giving and receiving care. Amid social upheaval, injustice, illness, natural disaster and any loss or crisis, God invites us to gather for protection and warmth. In the church community, we support and strengthen one another and are empowered to go out again into the less-sheltered world.

### *Meeting needs*

"My neighbor's material needs are my spiritual needs," said 19th-century theologian Israel Salanter. In other words, when someone else suffers hunger and poverty, when people endure a natural disaster and lack shelter, when another human being is sick or injured – in all such cases, God calls us to action. And God knows that whatever we do to meet those material needs will meet our spiritual needs at the same time.



It might be our spiritual need to expand our horizons into neighborhoods, cultures or situations where we're uncomfortable. We might need to grow in love for people different from us. By serving others, we might find our own sagging spirits nurtured with a sense of well-being or even joy. And as we reach out to help, surely we'll notice others doing the same thing, and our spiritual need for renewed faith will be met.

—Heidi Mann