

Mequon United
Methodist Church
11011 North Oriole Lane
Mequon, WI 53092
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the Spire

July 2017



Coming events at MUMC:

- Join the MUMC Orchestra NOW!
- Walking program steps off on July 9 – walkers walk Sunday afternoons for six weeks
- Mealsite – hunger hurts – help on July 27

News items of note:

- VBS & Kaleidoscope Camp were huge successes – thanks to numerous people!
- Community Garden has been planted at MUMC.
- Capital Campaign begins to take flight!
- Connectional Giving helps many people in need.
- Are you buying your Fair Trade coffee at MUMC – and chocolate and tea?
- Welcome new members!

Read all the details ... and more.
Turn the pages.



May we think of freedom not as the right to do as we please but as the opportunity to do what is right.

— Peter Marshall

This past week, I came across this poem by Julia Abigail Fletcher Carney that really spoke to me.

“Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand,
Make the mighty ocean
And the pleasant land.
So the little moments,
Humble though they be,
Make the mighty ages
Of Eternity.
So the little errors
Lead the soul away
From the paths of virtue
Far in sin to stray.
Little deeds of kindness,
Little words of love,
Help to make earth happy
Like the Heaven above.”

Have you thought about how the little things in life can have a big impact? In scripture we read how, “It only takes a little yeast to make the whole batch of dough rise” (Galatians 5:9) Think about how one word or one act can lift someone up or crush their spirits. It is the little things of life that often mean the most to us and make the biggest difference. And very often we find God in the little things of life, if we take time to notice. When God came out of love to be one with us, it was not done in a big flashy way. It was done with humility. Jesus came to a little known family, in a little town, and was born in a little manger used to feed animals. What Jesus shows us is that God is found in the simplest things of life; the laughter of a child, the songs of the birds, and the quiet prayers of a friend.

So often the challenges of our daily lives and our world seem almost insurmountable until we remember to see God

in the little moments of life and step out to let one small action change the world. I am reminded again and again how very simple acts have a profound effect on the lives of people around us. Every one of us, regardless of our age or ability, has been given a gift/skill/talent/blessing from God to share with the world.



This week I have seen this lived out as we welcomed all the kids who came to our Vacation Bible School in the morning and our brand new Kaleidoscope Art Camp in the afternoon. Not only were these little people filled with joy, but the adults and youth who came to help, some for only a couple hours a day for

this one week, made a big difference in the lives of these kids as they helped create little moments each day to experience and learn about how much Jesus loves them.

I want to encourage us all to be the little drops of water that change our world through the small deeds of kindness and simple words of love. As we reach out to pray for those in need and be an answer to prayer by sending a note to someone who is struggling, giving a ride to someone who cannot drive, visiting someone who is lonely, listening to someone who is hurting, or sharing a little love that helps to make earth happy like Heaven above.

In God's Love,
Pastor Tim

Golden Cross Sunday

We celebrate Golden Cross Sunday on July 9. This special offering stays in the Wisconsin Conference to support 14 regional Health and Welfare ministries. Through this offering, MUMC shows support for the services provided to those in need of our Health and Welfare Ministries within the Wisconsin Conference. It is a way of expressing our fundamental UM belief that Christian faith is demonstrated through serving others.



The organizations in the Milwaukee area that receive grants from this offering are:

- Northcott Neighborhood House <http://www.northcotthouse.org/> — Serving low income children, young adults, and families
- UM Children's Services <http://umcs-wi.org/> — Serving low income children and families
- Village at Manor Park (VMP) <http://www.vmpcares.com/> — Residential and community services for seniors in Milwaukee and beyond

The other 11 Health and Welfare organizations are:

- UM Hospitals Ministry (Madison) — hospital chaplaincy services for Wisconsin United Methodists
- Bellin Health (Green Bay) — regional medical network serving all ages and medical conditions
- Cedar Crest (Janesville) — retirement community offering independent living through to skilled nursing care
- Christian Community Home (Hudson) — long-term care, senior housing, and community services
- Evergreen Retirement Community (Oshkosh) — continuing care retirement community with living options for seniors
- Harbor House Crisis Shelters (Superior) — homeless shelters and transitional living for women in domestic violence situations
- Hillcrest Family Services (Dubuque) — enhancing the lives of children, families, and adults
- Morrow Memorial Home (Sparta) — independent and assisted living, skilled nursing care for seniors
- Schmitt Woodland Hills (Richland Center) — continuum of residential community senior services
- Sheboygan Senior Community (Sheboygan) — independent and assisted living, skilled nursing care

Summer Walking Program

You are invited to join MUMC's 6-week walking program! The walking dates will be Sundays, July 9-August 13 from 4:00 - 5:00 PM. We will be exploring different parks, nature preserves and the Interurban Trail in Ozaukee County. Whether you are an experienced walker or want to begin a walking program, this is for you. All parks have level walking paths and several have stairs or side trails as an option for those who want more of a challenge. We invite individuals, families and friends to join us and commit to improving your health and well-being. This program is sponsored by the Parish Nurse Ministry Team.



Walking Schedule:

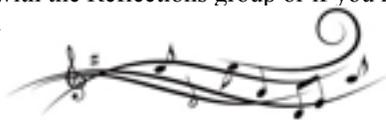
- July 9: Rotary Park Mequon (Pukaite Woods)
- July 16: Mequon Nature Preserve
- July 23: Ozaukee Interurban Trail — Mequon
- July 30: Concordia University — Mequon
- August 6: Grasslyn Nature Preserve — Mequon
- August 13: Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve — Grafton

Each week an email will go out to the congregation with location and directions to the site. There will also be information in the Sunday bulletins. You are welcome to join us for one walk or all six. Wear comfortable, supportive walking shoes and dress for the weather. Don't forget to bring water to stay hydrated.

If you have any questions, please contact Debbie LeRoy (262-377-5694) or rleroy@wi.rr.com.

Reflections August Outing

- Shully's River Sounds — 146 Green Bay Rd, Thiensville
- Thursday, August 3 at 7:00 PM. Doors open at 6:30 PM
- Band: *Streetlife* with Warren Wiegratz
- Free admission; bring 2 non-perishable food items to benefit Ozaukee Family Sharing Food Pantry
- Food and beverage available for purchase; no outside beverages may be carried in
- Spouses/guests welcome
- RSVP to Barb Henneck at bhenneck@wi.rr.com if you plan to attend with the Reflections group or if you have questions.



Looking ahead . . .

Our September meeting will be Thursday, September 14. Discussion book: *The King's Curse*, by Phillipa Gregory.

MUMC Orchestra — join now!!!

We are so fortunate to have so many church family members providing Special Music during the summer! Be a part of that for the MUMC ORCHESTRA Sunday. Please let Rick, Michelle, Elna, or Ellen know what instrument you will be ready to play!



Orchestra Rehearsals:

Wednesday, July 12 at 7:00 PM

Saturday, July 15 at 9:30 AM

Play on Sunday, July 16 — call time is 8:42 AM!

ALL levels of instrumentalists are invited, and WHATEVER instrument you play, we will provide music — you just need to let us know!!! Let's have a great showing — dust off those instruments in the attic, and get crackin'! Contact michellehynson@gmail.com with your commitment on what instrument asap!

Music in worship

- July 9 — Quattro Horns
- July 16 — MUMC ORCHESTRA
- July 23 — Ethan Shuler
- July 30 — Graycie Gardner
- Aug. 6 — Sam Laferriere
- Aug. 13 — Paul Gronquist



Mealsite — July 27

**It bears repeating ...
hunger does not take a summer vacation.**

Please help the mealsite this month. Sign up to serve, riding to and from the mealsite with a carpool from church (approximately 4:30 - 6:30 PM). Sign up to donate desserts (brownies, cookies, bars, sheet cake, etc.) or fruit (hold-in-your-hand like apples, pears, bananas, clementines). Food items can be left in the parlor by 4:00 PM. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the church entry.



Prayer Breakfasts in the summer

Women's Prayer Breakfast — Wednesdays

July 5, August 2

Men's Prayer Breakfast — Thursdays

July 6, August 3

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.



Will you buy Fair Trade coffee and chocolate at MUMC?

- Yes
- No
- Give me more info

We have a few dedicated supporters of our Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate products, but unsold products are a growing issue. This is an important project that supports farmers around the world who grow a sustainable product, protecting our planet as well as providing much needed income. Currently we offer a variety of "regular" coffees, decaf coffees, teas, and chocolate bars.

We would like to keep this ministry alive, but we would like to know if the congregation is willing to spend a little extra on coffee and chocolate to support the planet and small farmers, and, if so, what products interest you? K-cups, drip grind, whole bean, chocolate bars, tea? Please see Peg Gardner with questions or comments about this ministry. Or contact her at mumckidstuff@gmail.com.

VBS music — buy DVDs & CDs

➔ Order by July 9

Extend the fun of VBS by ordering a music CD or DVD! Order forms are available in the narthex – but please order soon! The deadline to place an order is July 9. Here's what you can get:

Maker Fun Factory Music CD - \$10.00 each

Kids love to praise Jesus! This special CD features all 10 of the Maker Fun Factory worship songs kids love, including contemporary Christian melodies and updates of favorite hymns. Order yours today so the whole family can sing along.

Maker Fun Factory DVD - \$20.00 each

Get the same energetic music videos of kids demonstrating the motions to all 10 Maker Fun Factory songs that you enjoyed at VBS. This DVD includes special video introductions of all five Maker Fun Factory Bible Memory Buddies as well. It's *all* on this DVD — ready for instant family fun!

Extra T-shirts! VBS and Kaleidoscope T-Shirts are also available in a variety of sizes for a \$5.00 donation. They'll be on a table in the narthex for the next few weeks. They provide an excellent way to advertise our church in the community!

Sing
along at
home!

Imagine No Malaria

Collecting funds throughout the month of August at MUMC

Continuous efforts are working to eradicate Malaria around the world! MUMC continues to support that effort with a fundraising campaign that will run through the month of August.

Please consider making a donation to this worthwhile cause. Make your checks payable to MUMC with "Malaria" in notation line.

We have the tools to end deaths from malaria. Since 2000, mortality rates have fallen 51% among children under the age of five.

Funds will be used in the following ways.

Timely diagnosis —

Rapid-diagnostic tests are expanding the world's ability to confirm malaria cases in remote settings, ensuring that people get the right treatment when and where they need it.

Treatment —

Artemisinin-based combination therapies are the front line treatment for malaria. A full course of treatment costs just \$1 and cures a child in one to three days.

Mosquito nets —

Long-lasting insecticide treated bed nets provide a protective barrier against mosquitoes at night, and can cover two people per net.

Targeted insect spraying —

Spraying on the inside walls of homes helps kill mosquitoes and reduce the rate of malaria transmission.

Vaccine development —

Scientists and organizations around the world are working together to accelerate the development of a malaria vaccine and ensure its availability in the developing world.



Fundraising in August

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Malaria continues to be an ongoing problem in developing countries. Look for the "cute" display in the Narthex during the month of August. The display is "cute" but the devastation of Malaria is anything but. Thank you for your consideration!

Please make checks payable to "MUMC" with a notation for "Malaria,"

Thank you to donors of art supplies!

NO MORE shoeboxes needed!

Other art supplies are always needed!

Thank you to everyone who donated supplies for our Kaleidoscope Arts Camp. We had a great week building from recycled and natural materials. Please do not bring in any more shoeboxes or ice cream tubs – we have plenty of leftovers to meet our future needs!

One thing we always need and never have enough of is Legos. If your own children outgrow them (many young adults actually enjoy them – mine do!), or if you see some at garage or rummage sales, please consider donating them to our programs. We use them in our summer school age program, and they are very much loved.

If you would like to support our programs with art supplies, we are currently in need of permanent markers (we had to toss a lot of dried-up ones during VBS) and glue sticks. If you can help, please drop your donations off in the Children's Ministries office. Thank you!



Coming Attractions in Children's Ministries

Please mark your calendars for these exciting opportunities for families and kids!

Sunday, September 10:

Sunday School starts and Rally Day Picnic

Sunday, September 17:

Passport to Peru

Sunday, September 24:

Passport to Peru

Sunday, October 1:

Passport to Peru

Passport to Peru is similar to our *Expedition Norway* program last winter. For many years, MUMC supported the Graners' mission work at Thui Rancho, in Bolivia. Passport to Peru will incorporate many of the cultural traditions members of our congregation learned about when we visited there. Children will "hike cloud-shrouded ruins of Machu Picchu. Savor exotic flavors of the Amazon. Hear what daily life is like from kids in Peru." They will be immersed in this vibrant culture where they can discover God's good gifts for us all. Stay tuned to learn more about it!



MUMC's new bandstand!

As part of our Kaleidoscope Arts Camp (and VBS), we built musical instruments that can be found in our MarshMeadow. Come and play our xylophone, steel drum, and tuba pipes, using mallets and flip-flops you'll find in the drum. Coming soon, from the Sonlight Kangaroo Klubhouse, will be hand drums and maracas. You can find our bandstand near the edge of the yard behind the playground – just north of the butterfly garden under a black walnut tree. Come and play!



The Autism's Society's Inclusive Faith Initiative invites you to a FREE Faith and Autism Training — "A Call to Belong"

Wednesday, July 13

9:00 AM - Noon

The Wisconsin Center

400 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee

Join internationally-known experts as they take you on an empowering journey that will give you the tools to engage people with autism and other disabilities and those who love them in all the activities your faith community provides.

Please register by calling 800-328-8476 x2 or email info@autism-society.org

Visit the MUMC Demonstration Community Garden

- Located at the west end of the church parking lot.
- There are three demonstration "raised bed gardens" representing: an herb garden, a vegetable garden and a garden to attract butterflies.
- A community garden is a single piece of land gardened collectively by a group of people.
- Community gardens utilize either individual or shared plots and can produce fruit, vegetables, and/or flowers.
- Next year there will be space for many more garden plots which will be open to the congregation and the community.
- For more information or a tour, contact Jim Layton (241-5418) or Herb Ayres (242-7703).
- The MUMC Community Garden Project is sponsored by the MUMC Green Team.



Something

**** NEW ****

is coming in September!

To get you started on a Sunday morning, we will be serving coffee before the 9:30 AM worship service.

Watch for more details coming from the Welcoming Connections Team in the next *Spire*.

[Note: We still will have fellowship coffee time after the service.]

How Does Your Connectional Giving (Apportionments) Make a Difference in the World?

Last month, information was shared through *The Spire* and by letter about how Apportioned Giving from United Methodist churches around the world support so many vital ministries in the name of Christ, serving millions that no church like ours could support alone. So many people suffering from disasters, war, famine, poverty, disease count on us for help; and we respond through our Apportioned Giving.

This year, Mequon United Methodist Church's Apportioned Gift share is \$39, 396. However, in order to balance our local church budget we can only pay \$31,897 toward apportionments. So, your gift is even more important this year.

Through our apportionment appeal every member and friend of our church community has the opportunity and privilege to contribute to our Apportionments, and one by one the people of MUMC have been doing just that through this summer. *As of June 18, \$5,720 has been contributed* and

designated for Apportionments. Thank you to everyone who has given! We will be encouraging and accepting Apportioned Gifts throughout the balance of the year to meet MUMC's share in the support of our worldwide missions. If you have not given, please consider what you could share to help us meet our goal in fully supporting our ministries around the world.

JUST THINK! OUR Apportioned Giving is connecting us to our brothers and sisters in faith to

- minister to people who don't even have the basics of life – food, clean water, shelter, sanitation
- stamp out killer diseases that are spread through poverty
- develop Christian leaders for the church and the world
- create new places for people to worship and renew existing congregations

There is such great joy in answering Christ's call!

Your apportionments make a difference at Northcott Neighborhood House

One of the strong partners and great stories of our ministry outreach in the Wisconsin Conference is Northcott Neighborhood House in Milwaukee. This ministry was begun in 1961 and continues to be a visible expression of Christ's love to many in Milwaukee and a testimony of the difference the Church can make in the lives of people.

In addition to all the support raised directly by the Northcott ministry, a significant amount of support comes from the Shared Offerings (apportionments) given through local United Methodist churches in Wisconsin

The mission of Northcott is to support family stability, provide educational and recreational programs for youth, lessen neighborhood tensions, combat community deterioration, and provide various social services for the residents of Harambee and surrounding neighborhoods. In these capacities, Northcott Neighborhood House serves approximately 20,000 community residents annually. The agency goals are:

- To empower families to meet their survival needs and to provide good parenting to their children
- To provide a safe place for youth after school, Saturdays, and in the summer with recreational and skill-building activities
- To provide the neighborhood with space, activities, and the opportunity to engage in community building and crime prevention activities

Northcott Neighborhood House provides the following programs to meet their mission:

- **Youth Programs** that serve over 4,000 teens and pre-teens annually in after school and summer programs focused on educational enhancement, community participation, and skill building. Leadership development, sports, and arts are also offered.
- **Fresh Starts/Milwaukee Builds** which offers job training and on the job experience in construction and other areas as well as

educational enhancement by helping people get their GED

- **Neighborhood Development** including building homes and working to redevelop some of the poorest neighborhoods in Milwaukee. Northcott is also a leader in sponsoring the Annual Vigil Against Violence that works to eliminate neighborhood homicides
- **Emergency Services/Health** – These services include a food pantry, a commodities program, a clothing bank, and information/referral services. Northcott also sponsors health fairs that provide residents with free health information and screenings.

When you give to apportionments, you are an active participant in bringing the mission and ministry of Northcott Neighborhood House alive. Our shared giving is making a difference in Milwaukee and throughout our world through your generous giving to the ministry that apportionments makes possible.



Life is short, and we have never too much time for
gladdening the hearts of those who are traveling the ...
journey with us. O be swift to love, make haste to be kind!

— Henri Frederic Amiel

Campaign count-down and status

2017 is going to be a watershed year for our MUMC church family and our future as we work together to provide solid support for the future of our ministries and facilities. Throughout the summer months a dedicated team of volunteer leaders will be making preparations for our combined Stewardship and Capital Campaign, which will kick off in early Fall.

To date, the Chair person has been appointed: Connie Pukaite. And she has recruited most members of a Campaign Cabinet. The Leaders and their primary responsibilities, focused on reaching out to our whole church family, include:

- Spiritual Guidance and Growth — Randy Leroy and Bill Church
- Communications & Promotion — Ginger Ayres, Susan Caldwell, Marcia Schwager, Dain Shuler
- Lead Gifts — Joel Huffman, Glen VanFossen
- Fellowship & Calling — Mavis Luther, Sandy Christensen
- Children & Youth Liaison — Peg Gardner, Olivia Peters
- Auditor — Karen Huffman

Our Campaign Cabinet asks for everyone's prayers and enthusiastic support for the success of their summertime work to organize and share information that will help our church family grow in spirit and in commitment to helping *Make God's Love Real* through our ministries and stewardship.



Thoughts about the 2017 MUMC Capital Campaign

~~ from Connie Pukaite ~~

When told that MUMC members, who were interviewed to determine the feasibility of mounting a major capital campaign, overwhelmingly named me to lead such a campaign, I admit to feeling over-whelmed and being somewhat reluctant. I prayed for God's guidance and sought that sense of joy that God's work should inspire in me ... in all of us.

There is a hymn we sometimes sing that bubbles up in my head, often ... *quite literally* ... waking me many nights.

*“Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart”*

I really wrestle with what that means for me.

Every week we are challenged by Pastor Tim to follow in the footsteps of Christ, to love our neighbors as ourselves, to be in mission to others in the name of our Lord. More recently, I have wondered, how does mounting a campaign, asking for money for Mequon United Methodist Church fit within Christ's expectations of me to be in mission to others?

While I will likely never find one final or easy answer to my question, I **HAVE** acknowledged that my ... and your ... connections through our United Methodist Church offer each of us many ways to answer God's call. Our church gives us opportunities through shared giving of time, talent and resources ...

- to support each other, our neighbors, people around the world in times of sickness, health, sadness and joy
- to develop Christian leaders for the church and the world
- to minister to people in poverty who don't have even the basics of life – food, safe shelter, clothing, a job
- and, through support of our Methodist connectional system, to create other places for people to worship and help meet human needs throughout the world
- and, to provide a well-used house of worship as a base for organizing and implementing all of our ministries

I know my support ... and yours ... for our annual ministries budget and for capital maintenance of MUMC's building and grounds as a place to gather, to worship, to plan and a place from which to go out in the world making things happen, will be answering God's call. So I have accepted MUMC's challenge to chair a combined campaign that will kick off in the Fall to meet both next year's stewardship needs as well as capital improvements Trustees have identified that will be needed over the next 5 to 10 years.

Through the summer, with the help of many members of our church family, we will gather and share more information about MUMC's stewardship and capital needs with SPIRE readers and MUMC worshipers. My prayer now is that when everyone knows more about how the funds you will be asked to give will be used to serve our church ministries, mission, building and grounds, everyone will enthusiastically give in ways unprecedented in our congregation, and know the real joy of being connected to our Lord's work.



Jim and Susan Caldwell moved to Mequon in December from Darien, Illinois to be closer to Susan's family and their second home in Door County. Jim retired five years ago when he and his business partner sold their CPA practice. Susan retired three years ago from Nestle USA after a career in sales and marketing. They enjoy traveling, live theater, Door County and exploring their new home.

John and Susan Climer live in Bayside with their dog Gracie. John is a music professor at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Susan is the principal at Kennedy Middle School in Germantown. They have two daughters, Jennifer, a recent master of music graduate of Ohio State University currently living in Columbus, and Emily, a master of fine arts in dance graduate from University of Iowa currently living in Brooklyn. In their leisure time, Susan and John enjoy concerts, Brewer games and new dining adventures in Milwaukee.

Dale Parkinson currently lives in West Allis, WI, and has a 22-year-old son, Reed. He has been employed at GE Healthcare for 17 years, currently working as an IT Project Manager. Dale plays electric guitar in several bands, and acoustic guitar in a duo/trio format group with Penny Laferriere, as well as other special music at MUMC. Dale joined the MUMC sanctuary choir several years ago, and looks forward to expanding upon and sharing his musical gifts with the wonderful members at MUMC.

Amy Wachowiak and her husband Ryan moved to Grafton last fall and Amy is happy to have found a new church home here. They are expecting their first child this summer. Amy's hobbies include hiking, cooking and reading. She looks forward to getting to know you all! Everyone has been very welcoming.



Family Promise — Ozaukee News!

As SPIRE readers know, churches throughout Ozaukee County worked about 2.5 years before opening Family Promise doors in November 2015 to offer help for residents of our County who face homelessness. MUMC was, and continues to be, a leader in the Family Promise *Interfaith Hospitality Network* to provide up-front counseling and assistance preventing homelessness when possible, and to offer temporary housing, meals and spiritual compassion when needed.

Ross and Jean Paulus, in the spirit of Christ, stepped up from the very beginning to serve as Family Promise Coordinators for MUMC's Host Weeks and participation in county-wide efforts to serve homeless people. Ross and Jean made sure MUMC's rooms were properly set up to become short-term bedrooms, secured food and supplies and recruited volunteers to serve homeless individuals as needed. Their tireless efforts created a process that makes Host Weeks run like a well-oiled machine; and now they are ready to pass the coordinator's baton to someone new. Pastor Tim and the Lay Leadership Team will name a new coordinator soon; but in the meantime, we should all let Ross and Jean know how much their strong leadership has meant to us as we strive to serve God through meaningful hands-on ministries.

We should also be proud to learn that Family Promise of Ozaukee County was recently nominated by Advocates of Ozaukee and elected by all the agencies within Ozaukee's Coordinated Continuum of Care to be the administrator of federal funds to support homeless prevention and rapid re-housing in our County. Those funds help families in jeopardy of eviction to catch up on rent, or to cover up-front deposits necessary to rent replacement housing when necessary. Family Promise of Ozaukee County, despite being a young service organization, has won the respect of Ozaukee County, thanks in large part to the leadership of our interfaith network of churches, and volunteers like Ross and Jean Paulus.

MAKING GOD'S LOVE REAL!!

Dominican Republic Missionary News

Gordon and Ardel Graner are leading a mission to distribute solar ovens in the Dominican Republic regions they serve. This involves demonstrating how the ovens work and training people how to cook with them. The solar oven is a simple technology that gathers and concentrates sunlight into an insulated box making it possible to cook food and bake bread. Solar ovens harness the energy of the sun to cook food without the need for wood, gas, coal, or electricity. That means people who cannot afford to pay utility companies for energy can cook food for free. Trees are saved and the environment helped when wood is not burned for cooking. However, the solar oven is not a magic box. Solar cooking is a skill to be learned and that is best done with other people. A critical part of this mission is to train communities how to use the ovens.

Go to this link to read about the solar oven ministry.
<https://granerfamily.org/2016/06/19/the-love-of-god-and-solar-oven-cooking/>



VBS and Kaleidoscope Camp — Thank You!!!



Our programs would not have been possible without the help of an incredible cadre of volunteers. Each and every one of them contributed so much to our successes, and all of those happened through loving interactions with the children and other staff members.

Special thanks to Gayle Meyer, who opened and closed each day with magical grace, and worked tirelessly behind the scenes before and during VBS. Special recognition to Audra O'Brien as well, who fed us wonderfully, several times, each and every day, and to Schuyler Gardner Pietz, who engaged our children in the music they loved at both VBS and Kaleidoscope. Peter Gardner crafted our awesome outdoor xylophone and tuba pipes (go and play them!), Linda Mordy led our incredible Riveredge Field Trip and daily nature expeditions, and Kathy Sullivan and Ellie Huffman helped create amazing Kaleidoscope art. Ardis Burke was also amazing in our daily Bible adventures, creating a new environment every day, while Patty Gattoni led our science team next door. Patrick Curran was our kickball pitcher, Kaleidoscope handyman and perennial Jesus, and Pastor Tim handled both videos and Bible Buddies as he shifted locations almost every day. Before VBS even started, we had an incredibly creative crew of helpers building, painting and setting up our stage and all of our classrooms – Gayle Meyer, Linda Mordy, Betty Draughon, Devin Curran and Peter and Nikolai Gardner. All of our helpers in every capacity made God's Love Real for fifty children every day. Thank you!

Financial and supply donors:

Thank you also to all of our financial donors whose contributions, large and small, made our programs possible. Also our thanks to all who donated food for our lunches, snacks and closing dinner! A special thank you to Allen and Susan Caucutt, who donated a huge amount of art supplies to support our Kaleidoscope art camp, and to Gayle Meyer, who provided many of our decorations and all of our preschool supplies.

Our amazing cohort of Financial Donors: (Please let Peg know if you were missed!)

Ginger and Herb Ayres	The Bertolino Family
Shirl Campbell	The Durandis Family
Rick & Pat Gattoni	Susan Gattoni
Barb and Lou Henneck	Elna and Lloyd Hickson
Katie Jackson	The Joseph Family
The LeRoy Family	The Moss/Baker Family
Katie and Jeff Nowak	Nan Rilling
Amber Rydholm	Kay Schroeder
The Sisney Family	Pat Stapelkamp
Irene Sullivan	The Tadych Family
Marilyn and Drew Thiet	Glen Van Fossen
The Yorio Family	Marilyn and Doug Zwissler

VBS volunteers:

Open/Close: Gayle Meyer, Nikolai Gardner
Music: Schuyler Gardner Pietz
Snacks/Lunch:

Audra O'Brien, Shirl Campbell, Nancy Gruner
Games: Wendy Porterfield, Patrick Curran
Imagination Station: Patty Gattoni, Debbie LeRoy,
Jenn Bertolino, Katie Nowak
Bible Quest: Ardis Burke, Karen Huffman
Kid Vid Cinema: Tim O'Brien
PS Bible Discovery: Gayle Meyer, Nikolai Gardner
Preschool Helpers: Skylar Chrobak, Nan Rilling
Audio/Video: Peter Gardner
Registration: Audra O'Brien
Dinner: Audra O'Brien, Shirl Campbell, Ardis Burke
Shopper: Shelley Burns
Sonlight: Betty Elmer, Angie Spransey, Joel Geier

Kaleidoscope volunteers:

Crafts: Kathy Sullivan
Music: Schuyler Gardner Pietz
Nature/ Field Trip: Linda Mordy
Service Project: Peter Gardner, Patrick Curran
Lunch/Snacks: Audra O'Brien, Shirl Campbell
Helpers: Nan Rilling, Susan Gattoni
Folders: Betty Draughon
Bus: DeWayna Cherrington, Kay Schroeder

Youth Helpers:

VBS Only — Cole Stephany, Kaet Sisney

Kaleidoscope Only — Ellie Huffman

Both VBS and Kaleidoscope — Connor O'Brien, Jamariah Turner, Jadyann Gruner, McKenzie Gruner, Devin Curran, Alyssa O'Brien

One more VBS Thank You ... a personal note from Peg



This year's VBS was wonderful, as always. One of the best things, among so many good things, is the participation of whole families in our week together. We had the Porterfield-Curran family, the Gattoni family, the LeRoy family, the Gruner family, the Bertolino family, and all of the amazing O'Brien family (plus one!) — working together to create something terrific while at the same time enjoying sharing it with those loved most.

There was also the Randall-Gardner family, increasingly shrinking after many, many years of working together at VBS and other programs. This year was Schuyler's last year as music director, and our first year in many without Graycie doing skits. Most of you don't know that part of my VBS tradition was working with my aunt Vivian Randall every year at her mega-church's VBS in Ohio, something she did through last year, running the kitchen for thousands of people even though she was ninety-two years old. VR died this spring, taking a good part of my VBS heart with her. Next year I may experience my first VBS without my children (Nikolai says he's on the fence), a sad reality of family growth.

So I invite all of you to sit back a moment and treasure the gift of family time together, working and playing with God. Really, that's what we do. Ours is a joyful faith, and one of the best ways to experience it is with your family. So next year, bring yours, and start some family traditions you will treasure forever. See you there!

Sonlight Scoop – July 2017

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 is ready for summer! The kids had their first pool time of the year. The little ones had fun in the wading pools here at Sonlight, while the older school age group got to go to the big pool! There has been plenty of outdoor time, and plenty of sunscreen applied. VBS was a hit with all the children of Sonlight, and the Kaleidoscope camp was filled with smiles. Looking forward to a wonderful July here with red, white, and blue in our fashion forecast!

Happy Retirement, Kathy Nelson

After a successful career of working with children in office administration and teaching, Kathy Nelson, our current Sonlight Office Administrator, will be retiring at the end of July. Her last day will be July 28th. Before coming to Sonlight, she worked for three years in the office of the Deerwood Day Care in Brown Deer and the last eight plus years at Sonlight as the Office Administrator and a teacher.

We are going to miss Kathy's knowledge, friendship, thoughtfulness, and smile. The children and their families will miss her support and care.

Please join us in thanking Kathy for her years of service and wishing her and her husband a happy and healthy future.

Did you know this about Sonlight?

- Sonlight's enrollment remains consistent throughout the year. We are at full capacity right now, having to turn people away. However, we do reserve spots, as we are able, and right now have babies on our waiting list for January 2018.
- We have 10 employees, both full and part time. Not to mention our dedicated volunteers.
- We offer a summer program for school aged children up to 10 years of age. Peg Gardner assists with this program.
- Sonlight has a state license to serve up to 50 children and is subject to random audits by the state of WI. We may have more than 50 children registered but we are allowed to have only 50 in attendance at any one time.
- Sonlight will celebrate 9 years of service in September. Sue Lyons, Center Director; Kathy Nelson, Office Administrator; Betty Elmer, Teacher; and Angie Spransy, Teacher, have been on staff from the beginning.
- Marie Widder will assume the role of Office Administrator.
- Sonlight remains MUMC's largest ministry.

Congratulations, Graduates!!

- **Bailey Bingham** graduated this year with a BS degree in Eco Systems Science and Policy from the University of Miami. She is going to continue her education and pursue a degree in Nursing.
- **Jenna Burns** graduated from Michigan Technological University with a BS in Electrical Engineering. She is returning to Michigan Tech in the fall to pursue an MBA and will also be working for Dematic, a supply chain logistics company with offices in New Berlin.
- **Alex Ellis** graduated from UW Milwaukee with a degree in Communications and a minor in Sociology.
- **Michael Gardner** received his PhD in Plant Pathology from the University of Missouri.
- **Graycen Gardner** graduated with her Master of Music - Vocal Arts from the University of Southern California



- **Nikolai Gardner** graduated from Project SEARCH at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
- **Laura Kirtley** graduated from Emory University with degrees in both Physics and Art History.
 - **Alyssa O'Brien** graduated from Homestead High School and will be working in the area.
 - **Sam Schwager** graduated from the University of Virginia with High Distinction earning a BS in Biomedical Engineering. Sam will be pursuing her doctorate degree at Vanderbilt University in Nashville starting later this summer.
 - **Matthew Solverson** is a graduate of grade 22 with a Doctorate of Medicine from the Medical College of Wisconsin. He will head to Omaha, Nebraska for a 5 year residency in Otolaryngology.
- **Cole Stephany** graduated from University School of Milwaukee on May 13th. He will be going to the University of Miami in Florida this fall.

Hunger Task Force Food Sort Day broke records

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help with the Hunger Task Force food sort on June 10th. We had a record turn-out for our 13th annual Hunger Task Force food sorting volunteer day. Our 34 volunteers represented MUMC youth and adults, the Boy Scout troop, and the Cedarburg Community Methodist Church. We sorted 19,000 pounds of food, which is now in food pantries, mealsites, senior and children's lunch programs throughout the Southeastern Wisconsin area.



LOCAL

Tyler Bair	Ellie Huffman	Will Kennedy	Hailey Stephany	Ben Huffman	Cole Stephany
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MUMC Hunger Task Force Food Sort Volunteers 2017

MUMC:

Cheryl Bair	Joanne Bartel
Sandy Christensen	Betty & Pappy Draughon
Karen & Joel Huffman	Pastor Tim O'Brien
Jean & Ross Paulus	Olivia & Nathan Peters
Marilyn & Doug Zwissler	

MUMC Youth:

Tyler Bair	Jenna Burns
Devin Curran	Ben & Elie Huffman
Will Kennedy	Connor O'Brien
Hailey & Cole Stephany	

Cedarburg Community UMC:

Sally & Scott Flesner	Erin Fox
Craig & Randy Pierce	Norah, Carryn, & Ryan Sami

Scouts:

Mark Gentges	Jordan Klein
Ricky & Ty Lamb	



Why Grandma gave

One Sunday as she was getting ready for church, a grandmother received a call from her daughter. "Can you watch the kids while we're out of town next week?" the daughter asked.

Grandma was so thrilled she put an extra \$5 into the offering plate that morning.

The next Sunday, after her three young grandchildren had returned home, she put in an extra \$20.

the Spire

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

Summer Sunday schedule:

9:30 AM: Worship Service
10:30 AM: Fellowship for all

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VBS Service Project 2017 — WASH



Thank you to all who have already supported this year's VBS Mission Project. Our count isn't in yet, but it is sure to be incredible. Our little "well" was almost full at our celebration service. Some children completely

emptied their piggybanks, including dollars as well as change, to help children around the world have access to clean water. It continues to be a need that touches us all.

➔ *If you would like to give to this VBS Mission Project*, do so quickly before we do our final count. Make out your check to MUMC and note "UMCOR WASH" in the memo line. Send your check to MUMC at 11011 N. Oriole Lane, Mequon, WI 53092.

What is WASH?

At any given moment across the world, more than 663 million people are drinking water that could be contaminated, yet don't have any other real option.

The challenge seems overwhelming, but the **water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)** work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is helping more communities than ever before gain access to clean water. During 2015, WASH funded 18 local partners in 15 countries.

Why does WASH work through partners? Because local faith-based organizations, foundations, and community groups are highly knowledgeable about the needs surrounding them. They help locate new water points, construct latrines, and offer educational programs promoting hand-washing and other potentially lifesaving practices.

Where does a contribution to WASH go? UMCOR WASH distributes these funds based on needs across the world. Funding goes from UMCOR into the hands of capable WASH partners who accompany and empower families and communities to identify their water, sanitation, and hygiene behavior goals and decide solutions that will ensure continued access to clean water and healthy disposal of waste. With local and national support, WASH partners are able to harmonize programs with local economies, which helps people immediately and over the long term.

WASH is an ongoing UMCOR program – one that can be supported anytime. Thank you for helping us make a difference.

