

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

+

the Spire

November 2018



We are thankful:

- ◆ For our church, our church family, and our pastor
- ◆ For the opportunity to gather to worship, to sing, and to pray together
- ◆ For the possibility that we may impact the lives of those less fortunate by our donations in Thanksgiving food bags, or by giving turkey & the trimmings plus our time for Thanksgiving dinner at the mealsite
- ◆ For this time of year when the Stewardship campaign reminds us that we "give and serve out of gratitude"
- ◆ For the occasions when we gather for enlightenment, support, and friendship at Lunch Bunch, prayer breakfasts, the "Go Fish" small group study, or the Reflections women's book group
- ◆ For the moment when a young person will open a gift that we donated to the Giving Tree project
- ◆ For the moment when a homeless person receives warm clothes from our Winter Clothing Drive
- ◆ For our church teams that work to bring us better health (Parish Nurses) or help save the earth (Green Team) or bring laughter and joy to our children (Children's Ministries)
- ◆ For all the hours and days that children are nurtured in our Sonlight Child Development Center



As families, friends and even strangers gather on Thanksgiving, may it be more than a time to feast on food. May it be a holy day of gratitude to God for life and salvation.

Pastor Sue's Message



"What am I grateful for?" Most likely, this is the question we ask and think about this month as Thanksgiving Day approaches. To answer that question, we usually start with people and things, such as family, friends, food, clothes, etc. Yet even as we remember the many ways God has taken care of us, it seems there's always something more we're waiting on for God to provide, doesn't it?

What do you lack? With that question, a list of items is already running through our head, and probably the list gets longer when we compare what we have with things that are newer, better, or bigger than ours, and ourselves with those who are smarter, prettier, or stronger than us. I once heard a very good question, and there was truth in it. The question is: "If you define yourself by things that you own or the people you are associated with, when you lose them, then who are you?" Please don't get me wrong. There's nothing wrong with having an awareness of our present needs, of course. Yet too often we allow them to become the focus of our lives. The result is that our hearts become blind to the amazing blessings that we *never* lose and are far greater than anything in this world. That is the provision of God Himself; His constant presence in both good and hard times, and the relationship with Him that goes through all eternity.

Again, "What am I grateful for?" To answer that question, let's lift up our hearts to see above and beyond things in this world so that the eyes of our hearts may see the Lord who is the very source of our existence, and gives Himself to us; His life in exchange for ours. With that fact alone, friends, no matter what we lack this side of eternity, we always have reason to give thanks to the Lord at all times.

"Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD. I will be joyful in God my Savior." (Habakkuk 3:17-18)

With a grateful heart for Jesus Christ,
Pastor Sue Lee



November Sermons

- ◆ Pastor Sue's sermons in November will focus on "Giving and Serving with a grateful heart."
- ◆ On November 25, Marcia Schwager's sermon will be "Serving Up a Little Helping" — appropriate for Thanksgiving weekend!

Women and Men's breakfast prayer meetings

We can/need to experience a breakthrough prayer to be a victorious Christian and a powerful Church. For the month of November and December, we will have a prayer-walk meaning **we will pray as we walk and walk as we pray with your own pace** in the place of your own choice. You can **pray as we walk and walk as we pray** in the sanctuary, fellowship hall or in the Sunday School rooms, etc. We will pray for following three.

1. Sunday worshipers for their hearts and lives to be touched by the Spirit as they worship.
2. God's provision sending people who don't know the Lord yet to MUMC.
3. God's provision sending people who are looking for a church home in this area to MUMC.

Come join us!



**"THE SPIRE" —
DEADLINE CHANGE
December issue —
submit articles by November 15**

This very early deadline allows us to work around the Thanksgiving holiday. Early mailing also will allow everyone to receive news of MUMC's Christmas events on time because the mail can be slower during December.



Thanksgiving Food Collection for Family Sharing of Ozaukee County

Pick up your empty grocery bag:

There is still time to pick up a grocery bag from the Mission Outreach Committee for MUMC's annual Thanksgiving food collection for Family Sharing of Ozaukee County! Attached to each bag is a list of items that are especially needed by Family Sharing for the Thanksgiving holiday, however, any donation is welcome.

Return your filled grocery bag:

The filled bags need to be returned to church on Sunday, November 4th or Sunday, November 11th or anytime during the week. Family Sharing will pick up the donated food on Monday, November 12th.

Thank you for helping to serve the needs of low-income, elderly, and disabled residents of Ozaukee County. If you have questions, contact Susan Yorio (262-853-3933; susanyorio9113@gmail.com) or Karen Stern (262-227-7811; kstern123@aol.com).

Thanksgiving Dinner at the mealsite on Thanksgiving Day

➡ Please sign up to provide any of the following foods for the noon dinner at the mealsite:

- Turkey — whole turkeys or turkey breasts, cooked, sliced, and packed in ziplock bags; can be fresh or frozen
- Ham — cooked, sliced, and packed in ziplock bags; fresh or frozen
- Stuffing mix
- Chicken broth
- Desserts — NO pies; may be cakes, cupcakes, brownies, bars cookies

➡ Helpers are needed to deliver and help prepare the the meal on Thanksgiving day, 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Sign-up sheets are on the Outreach bulletin board by MUMC front door for food items and helpers. All food should be delivered to MUMC by 9:00 AM on Thanksgiving Day. If you are bringing frozen food before that morning, please notify Irene Sullivan at 262-242-3832.

Growth Group Study — “Go Fish” by Andy Stanley

Led by Pastor Sue

Tuesday mornings at Lunch Bunch — — Wednesday evenings beginning November 7

Fishing stories. We've all heard them. "It was this big." "You should have seen the one that got away." People love to tell stories of their fishing adventures. When it comes to faith, however, most people clam up. Why is it we can't talk about what God has done in our lives as naturally as we can spin fishing tales? In this six-session study, Andy Stanley explores the motivation behind sharing our faith. Discover God's heart for those who don't know Him and the role that we can play in introducing others to Him. Though not everyone has "the gift," evangelism is something we're each called to. This curriculum was designed to take the fear out of sharing the good news of Christ, and to help you talk about it as naturally as you would that exciting fishing trip last weekend! (From "Go Fish." Andy Stanley, senior pastor of the campuses of three North Point Ministries, Georgia.)



No, there is no book you need to read to join this gathering.

Yes, bring your Bible!

This study will be offered mornings (at Lunch Bunch, Tuesdays at 11:00 AM) and evenings (Wednesdays at 6:30 PM) on the following dates. We hope you will take one of them so that you may be equipped to be a fisher of men/women as Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." (Matthew 4:19)

Part 1: We Were All Fish Once

Tuesday, October 30 & Wednesday, November 7

Part 2: Why Fish?

Tuesday, November 6 & Wednesday, November 14

Part 3: Fish Guts

Tuesday, November 13 & Wednesday, November 28

Part 4: Fishing Buddies

Tuesday, November 20 & Wednesday, December 5

Part 5: Muddy Water

Tuesday, November 27 & Wednesday, December 12

Part 6: The One That Got Away

Tuesday, December 4 & Wednesday, December 19

If you plan to take the evening session or want to take this study, but neither time works for you, please contact Pastor Sue at pastor@mequonumc.org or 262-242-4770.

Another mealsite in November

Thursday, November 29

MUMC serves and bring meal items to the mealsite whenever there is a fifth Thursday in a month. This happens in November. Please sign up.

- Servers — carpool from MUMC at 4:15 PM and return about 6:30 PM
- Foods items needed: desserts (cakes, cupcakes, brownies, bar cookies, etc.) and hold-in-you-hand fruit (bananas, apples, clementines, peaches, etc.)
- Sign-up sheets are on the Outreach bulletin board



In November, Reflections reads "Sherlock"!

The Reflections Book Group will meet Thursday, November 8 at 7:00 PM in the Parlor. Our discussion book this month is *A Study in Sherlock: Stories Inspired by the Holmes Canon*, Laurie R King, Editor. From amazon.com . . .



What would happen if you asked eighteen top writers who don't normally write about Sherlock Holmes, to write about Sherlock Holmes? What if you wrote to them, saying: *In 19th century England, a new kind of hero—a consulting detective—blossomed in the mind of an underemployed doctor and ignited the world's imagination.*

The result is *A Study in Sherlock, Stories Inspired by the Sherlock Holmes Canon*, with stories by Alan Bradley, Tony Broadbent, Jan Burke, Lionel Chetwynd, Lee Child, Colin Cotterill, Neil Gaiman, Laura Lippman, Gayle Lynds and John Sheldon, Phillip and Jerry Margolin, Margaret Maron, Thomas Perry, S. J. Rozan, Dana Stabenow, Charles Todd, and Jacqueline Winspear.

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 for more information about the group.

Looking ahead

We will discuss our 2019 Reading List at the November meeting, so watch for details about upcoming books in next month's Spire. December brings our annual Reflections Christmas party and always-popular gift exchange.



MUMC Christmas Giving Tree

*An Opportunity from
the Mission Outreach Committee*

Sharing the gift of Christmas with those in need

This year, we at MUMC, will be supporting the mission work of Pathfinders of Milwaukee. Please visit their web page at <http://pathfindersmke.org> to more fully understand the vast array of services they provide for youth and young adults.

On Sunday, November 25th, the Giving Tree will go up in the Narthex decorated with "gift tags" for specific items representing 50 individuals.

Instructions:

- Choose one or more tags from the Giving Tree. Each tag will include an item or items requested.
- Each tag has an intended purchase value of approximately \$40
- Find the corresponding tag number on the sheet provided, and write your name and phone number.
- Do not gift wrap any items
- Using one plastic bag per tag, per item(s), firmly secure the tag to the plastic bag.
- **Return gift item(s) to MUMC by Sunday, December 16th.**
- Mark the sheet confirming the return delivery of your item(s), making our accounting easier.
- Smile and know you just made someone's Christmas a little bit brighter!



Additionally, Gift Cards and monetary donations will be gladly accepted. Please make checks payable to MUMC with "Giving Tree" in the notation. Look for the envelopes provided on the table.

Questions? Contact:

- Karen Stern, 262-242-7811/262-227-7811 or email: Kstern123@aol.com
- Susan Yorio, 262-853-3933 or email: susanyorio9113@gmail.com

Thank You and Merry Christmas!!



Save the date ...

MUMC CHARGE CONFERENCE ...

our annual church meeting to review the work of the church.

Monday, November 26 — 6:00 PM

Presided over by our new

District Superintendent, Forrest Wells.

**Stewardship Campaign 2019 — "We give and serve out of gratitude"
— a message from the Stewardship Committee —**



Our Stewardship Campaign for 2019 will start on November 4, and November 18 is Pledge Sunday. The Theme of the Campaign this year is “We *give* and *serve* out of gratitude.” The founder of the Kraft Foods, Mr. Kraft said, “**The best service that pastors can do for their congregation is to preach the Biblical truth about money, tithe and offerings.**” Therefore, Pastor Sue will share “the best service” with/for us through a message on finance.

Yet, there is another piece of Stewardship that we’d like to share with you this year. That is the good works we have been called to do here at MUMC and beyond. “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” (Ephesians 2:8-10) During the Campaign, you will have an opportunity and privilege to make a commitment to participate in some of numerous good works that our Outreach Committee organizes in 2019.

A packet of Stewardship information with a Pledge Card will be mailed to you early November. Please take this opportunity to express your gratitude prayerfully so that your grateful heart will be revealed in ways that honor God and His will for your church and its mission in 2019.

Winter clothing for Repairers of the Breach and our mealsite families

Mission Outreach is collecting winter clothing for men, women and children from November 18 to December 16. Check your closets for good used hats, gloves, sweaters, and coats and bring them to church to donate to our Winter Clothing Collection.

Your clothing will be shared with the families who come to the St. Vincent de Paul Mealsite and with the adults who seek shelter at Repairers of the Breach. Both groups serve people who are living in poverty. Repairers of the Breach provides daytime shelter for homeless adults. Children’s clothing will go to the mealsite, where there are families with young children.

Here is a list of items that are needed:

- Hats and gloves for all ages
 - Sweaters and fleece clothing
 - Snowsuits for children
 - Winter coats for all ages
 - New socks and slippers
 - New underwear in large sizes for the adults at Repairers of the Breach
- The collection boxes will



be at the church entrance by the bulletin boards and in the Narthex across from the Giving Tree. Mission Outreach will take the clothing to Repairers of the Breach and the mealsite as the boxes fill up. Thank you for helping people stay warm this winter! Contact Marilyn Zwissler for more information.

Music Notes

THANK YOU TO ALL who have enhanced our worship services with such wonderful music so far this season!



Coming up:

- November 4 – VERY special music with our Joyful Noise Choir and Sonlight Singers!
- November 11 – Sanctuary Choir
- November 18 – Men’s Choir
- November 25 – Ellen Shuler
- December 2 – French Horns of Kaet Sisney and Dain Shuler

Further heads-up –

Sanctuary Choir Christmas Cantata will be December 9. We are already rehearsing, so if it is something you’d be interested in, come join us for rehearsal on Sunday evenings!!!
AND Children’s Christmas Program is December 16! Join us for that, too!!!

SERRV holiday gifts

The MUMC SERRV Sale will be taking a hiatus this year for a variety of reasons. Please consider supporting SERRV through an online order, or visit one of the many other Fair Trade organizations in our area.

Find SERRV at <https://www.serrv.org>. You may remember the variety of handcrafted items offered by SERRV at previous MUMC Christmas sale events. Online shopping is easy. Find gifts for the holidays, kitchen, home, garden, fashion, and more.



**Hold the date!
Mark your calendar!
The Mission Outreach
Dinner and Auction
Saturday, January 26, 2019**

Plumbing repairs at MUMC

Report from MUMC Trustees

Trustees continue to be busy, making sure church facilities are in the best shape possible to be a welcoming place for worshipers to gather, and to serve as a place for planning, organizing and fulfilling all the ministries of our church. During the last couple of months, Trustees have focused on things members and visitors don't see, but are important to all who come to the church for any reason ... plumbing!

Trustees monitor the quality of MUMC's water regularly through testing; and although the well water remains pure, some bacteria was found in water in the distribution system of pipes. While it is nearly impossible to determine exactly where or how the bacteria developed, the solution is to clean the system by infusing it with concentrated chlorine to kill bacteria. MUMC's system was chlorinated midway through summer, but the bacteria recurred in October.



Trustees determined action was needed to remove any part of the system where water may not have been used frequently, leaving water to stagnate and harbor bacteria that could spread again throughout the system. For that reason, **bubblers in the Narthex near the Parlor have been removed.** The wall where the bubblers were will soon be repaired. Additionally, bubblers in every classroom have also been removed, and just one bubbler in the upper hallway will soon be replaced with a new fixture. Exploration is underway to find an alternative method for providing drinking water in the Narthex and other key locations.

The water system was treated a second time with chlorine to kill any remaining bacteria; and Trustees are now expecting clean water tests going forward.

Another Trustee project is replacement of the Grease Trap in the kitchen. The grease trap functions just as the name implies ... it captures and filters all the grease that gets washed down kitchen drains every time dishes are washed after food is served in Fellowship Hall. The original grease trap is now decades old and its filter no longer works well – that is why MUMC periodically has a sewer smell that wafts up from the lower level. Work to replace the grease trap will take place on November 26, 27 and 28. That work *could be* noisy and smelly during the three-day replacement period, but once it is done, it will just be one more of the Trustees' behind-the-scenes work that no one sees, but is important to everyone who comes to MUMC.



Children's Christmas Program Rehearsals

Time change.
No dinners needed.



The families of MUMC have requested that rehearsals take place after church on Sunday mornings, from 10:45-11:45 AM each November Sunday (except Thanksgiving weekend). Therefore, we are no longer in need of meals for our families on Sunday evenings. Thanks to all who have volunteered to help.

MUMC Children's Christmas Program 2018



"Sing a Song of Christmas"

This year's program will feature speaking parts for young actors, non-speaking parts for those who prefer them, and Christmas songs for all to sing.

Our rehearsals start November 4.

- November 4
Christmas Program Rehearsal 10:45-11:45 AM
- November 11
Christmas Program Rehearsal 10:45-11:45 AM
- November 18
Christmas Program Rehearsal 10:45-11:45 AM
- November 25
No rehearsal — Thanksgiving weekend
- December 2
Christmas Program Rehearsal 10:45-11:45 AM
- December 9
Christmas Program Rehearsal 10:45-11:45 AM
- Saturday, December 15
Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal 9:00 - 11:00 AM
- December 16
Children's Christmas Program
9:30 AM — Presentation in Worship



November is American Diabetes Month

Diabetes is a chronic disease that occurs when your blood glucose, also called blood sugar, is too high. Diabetes is one of the leading causes of disability and death in the United States. It can cause blindness, nerve damage, kidney disease, and other health problems if it's not controlled.

One in 10 Americans have diabetes — that's more than 30 million people. And another 84 million adults in the United States are at high risk of developing Type 2 diabetes.

There are three main types of diabetes: Type 1, Type 2 and gestational diabetes.

Type 1 diabetes is caused by an autoimmune reaction (the body attacks itself by mistake) that stops your body from making insulin. About 5% of the people who have diabetes have Type 1. Symptoms of Type 1 diabetes often develop quickly. It's usually diagnosed in children, teens, and young adults. If you have Type 1 diabetes, you'll need to take insulin every day to survive. Currently, no one knows how to prevent Type 1 diabetes.

With Type 2 diabetes, your body doesn't use insulin well and is unable to keep blood sugar at normal levels. Most people with diabetes — 9 in 10 — have Type 2 diabetes. It develops over many years and is usually diagnosed in adults.



You may not notice any symptoms, so it's important to get your blood sugar tested if you're at risk. Type 2 diabetes can be prevented or delayed with healthy lifestyle changes, such as losing weight if you're overweight, healthy eating, and getting regular physical activity.

Gestational diabetes develops in pregnant women who have never had diabetes. If you have gestational diabetes, your baby could be at higher risk for health complications. Gestational diabetes usually goes away after your baby is born but increases your risk for Type 2 diabetes later in life. Your baby is more likely to become obese as a child or teen, and more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes later in life too.

There isn't a cure yet for diabetes, but healthy lifestyle habits, taking medication as needed, getting diabetes self-management education, and keeping appointments with your health care team can greatly reduce its impact on your life.

Resource:

CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
American Diabetes Association

This information is shared by the
MUMC Parish Nurse Team.

Things you can do to help save the earth

"**Going green**" is easier than you think. There are little things you can do every day to help reduce greenhouse gases and make a less harmful impact on the environment. Taking care of the Earth is not just a responsibility -- it's a privilege. The Green Team's primary purpose is to share information and educate the congregation (and the community) about methods to save the earth. Here are few ideas that you may find useful.

Energy efficiency at home

Clean your air filters so your system doesn't have to work overtime. Get a programmable thermostat so you aren't wasting energy when you aren't home.

Auto maintenance

Under-inflated tires decrease fuel economy by up to three percent and lead to increased pollution and higher greenhouse gas emissions [source: EPA]. Under-inflation also increases tire wear, so it will save you money in the long run if you're good about checking your tire pressure.

Light bulbs

Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) last 10 times longer than a standard bulb and use at least two-thirds less energy.

Compared to traditional incandescents, energy-efficient lightbulbs such as halogen incandescents, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), and light emitting diodes (LEDs) have the following advantages:

- Typically use about 25%-80% less energy than traditional incandescents, saving you money

- Can last 3-25 times longer. If you're shopping for new appliances or even home electronics, look for ENERGY STAR products, which have met EPA and U.S. Department of Energy guidelines for energy efficiency.
- As of December 2013, ENERGY STAR had helped families and businesses to save an estimated \$295 billion on utility bills and prevented more than 2.3 billion tons (2.1 billion metric tons) of greenhouse gas emissions from being released over the past two decades [source: ENERGY STAR].
- Focus on Energy Program allows each resident to order free samples of efficient light bulbs and/or shower nozzle. Information is available at focusonenergy.com

Questions and answers

If you have a question or suggestion about caring for our world, we invite you to submit the suggestion or question. Send an email to the church office at office@mequonumc.org — put "Green Team" in the subject line.

This information is shared by the
MUMC Green Team.



What major changes could be coming to the United Methodist Church?

For four decades or more, the global United Methodist Church has been wrestling with the issues of allowing self-avowed homosexual clergy and same-sex weddings. Issues surrounding LGBTQ persons come up at almost every decisional body meeting. A special General Conference is scheduled for February 2019 to take action on recommendations. ("General Conference" is the top policy-making body of the United Methodist Church).

Three plans have been presented for a vote. Summaries of these plans are in the chart below, prepared by the Great Plains Conference. One plan would allow ordination of homosexual clergy and allow same-sex weddings, based on local preference. Another plan sets up three conferences (regional governing bodies) that would have different stances; local churches would decide which conference to affiliate with. The final plan would strengthen the opposition to homosexual clergy and same-sex weddings, with more severe penalties for disobedience, and the provision for churches to leave the United Methodist denomination.

Undoubtedly, the vote will make national news. Depending on the General Conference vote, local churches may have to decide how they will go forward. For more detailed information, go to <http://www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2019-special-session>.

Remember that MUMC is a "reconciling congregation" meaning we are accepting of all people. Read our statement on the back page of this Spire.

Overview of Proposals for General Conference Points included in this document are provided as a summary of the recommendations to the special 2019 General Conference. For more information, please read the entire report from the Commission on a Way Forward.	One Church Plan	Connectional Conference Plan	Traditional Plan
	Summary: This plan, preferred by a majority of the Council of Bishops, would remove restrictive language from the Book of Discipline that prohibits same-gender weddings in UMC properties and ordination of "self-avowed practicing homosexuals." It would add language to protect churches and pastors who choose not to allow same-gender marriages.	Summary: This plan would replace the current jurisdictional conferences with three connectional conferences based on affinity: Progressive, Traditional and Unity. All three would use a general Book of Discipline (Articles of Religion, General Rules, Confessions of Faith) with the ability to adapt other portions to their context for ministry.	Summary: This plan, developed more fully toward the end of the Commission on a Way Forward process, broadens the definition of "self-avowed practicing homosexual"; puts penalties in place for disobedience to the Discipline; and requires bishops, pastors and annual conferences to certify adherence to the Discipline.
Local Churches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most likely would make no changes in practice at the local level. • May rewrite wedding policies to explicitly allow or forbid same-gender weddings. • Will covenant with bishop on whether congregation will accept LGBTQ pastor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can choose affiliation. • Still will set wedding policies with churches in the "unity" connectional conferences able to set parameters for building use and/or wedding policies in either direction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No vote unless the church disagrees with annual conference's decision to stay or leave the UMC. • Churches can leave if they disagree with annual conference's decision to adhere to Discipline.
Clergy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can exercise individual conscience. • Bishop & cabinet would take theological convictions into account for appointments. • Ends potential for church trials. • LGBTQ candidates can be ordained and appointed to local churches that approve and can request transfer of candidacy if conference Board of Ordained Ministry or clergy session chooses not to ordain LGBTQ persons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will choose a connectional conference. • Transfers subject to approval by Board of Ordained Ministry. • Ordination would be recognized across all three connectional conferences. • Security of appointment determined by connectional conferences, with emphasis on protecting women and minorities. • Deacons and full-time local licensed pastors may see fewer opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must maintain Discipline or leave for "autonomous, affiliated or concordat church." • Just resolutions from complaints must include commitment not to repeat offense. • First offense results in one-year unpaid suspension. • Second offenses result in surrendering credentials.

Overview continued	One Church Plan	Connectional Conference Plan	Traditional Plan
Annual Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No vote is needed. Boards of Ordained Ministry and/or clergy session can discern whether to ordain LGBTQ persons. General Conference can craft a way for churches to exit with grace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jurisdictional and central conferences will vote to join a connectional conference on simple majority vote. Annual conferences who want to join a different connectional conference than their jurisdiction chooses may do so on a simple majority vote. Annual conferences could revote every four years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must certify that it will uphold the Discipline. Annual conferences that won't certify are urged to form "autonomous, affiliated or concordat" church, and churches that leave can't use United Methodist name or logo past 2020.
Council of Bishops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council continues as one body providing spiritual leadership. Assignments will reflect convictions of bishops and annual conferences. Bishops will be protected if their consciences will not allow him or her to ordain LGBTQ persons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded by U.S.-based conn. conf. at comparable levels, with shared funding, as needed, for bishops outside the U.S. Oversight and accountability falls to bishops of each connectional conference. Each bishop, active and retired, chooses a connectional conference All episcopal elections would take place by 2022. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active and retired bishops must certify they will adhere to Discipline. Bishops who will not certify adherence no longer receive compensation of expenses as of 2021 and will be encouraged to leave for "autonomous, affiliated or concordat" church.
General Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to operate as they do now. If funding declines, boards and agencies would need to consider a strategic restructuring. Sustainability issues, however, are separate from the Commission on a Way Forward's task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jointly funded boards include Wespath, GCFA, UMCOR, Archives, parts of GBGM and the Publishing House. Task force would evaluate each general agency and propose new model for UMC by 2025. Program agencies would only serve conn. conf. that desire participation. Justice ministries structures would be determined by connectional conference, with expected emphasis on sexism and racism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All general boards and agencies continue. Each agency can contract with churches that leave the UMC.
Related Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely no changes. Commission conversations with members of these organizations indicate this plan makes it more likely for most institutions to maintain their affiliation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties owned by annual and jurisdictional conferences follow them to their new connectional conference. Institutions can choose to relate to one or more Cs, as their bylaws allow. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No changes unless they choose to do so within the bounds of their own bylaws.

Overview continued	One Church Plan	Connectional Conference Plan	Traditional Plan
Finance & Pensions	<p>Two petitions are recommended for any of the three plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any church that leaves would have to pay their proportionate liability of unfunded pensions for their annual conference. Clergy would be removed from benefit and annuity risk pools and have accrued benefits transferred to an individual investment account. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same two petitions as One Church Plan. Legal fees to navigate legacy connections. Wespath stays intact and extends to connectional conferences. Medical and pension liabilities remain the obligation of the annual conference. Wespath will reassign pension liabilities for churches that opt to go to another connectional conference. Annual conferences manage budgets to care for boundary reconfiguration costs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same two petitions as the One Church Plan.
Episcopal Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salaries and benefits would be paid by each episcopal area in the United States. Other expenses would be shared via apportionments. No changes to central conference funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salaries and benefits would be paid by each U.S.-based connectional conferences. No changes to central conference funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No changes to central conference funding.

Clothing Donations

Thank You to our MUMC Congregation!

Your generosity of clothing donations resulted in 30 large bags of clothing being delivered to Family Sharing of Ozaukee County! Please continue to bring in your “gently worn” clothing items throughout the year. You can hang clothing items on the coat rack at the bottom of the stairs that lead to Fellowship Hall or place them in/on top of the marked metal cabinets in the same location.

The Mission Outreach Committee rotates clothing donations between the following organizations:

- ◆ Repairers of the Breach in Milwaukee (Upcoming: Winter Clothing Drive)
- ◆ Solomon Community Temple United Methodist Church in Milwaukee
- ◆ Sojourner Truth in Milwaukee (Women’s Career Clothing)
- ◆ Family Sharing of Ozaukee County in Grafton



Much gratitude,
 Mission Outreach Committee:
 Pastor Sue Lee, Rick Gattoni, Joel Huffman, Karen Huffman, Jim Layton, Karen Stern, Irene Sullivan, Susan Yorio, Marilyn Zwissler

Dear MUMC friends,

We want to thank you for all of the cards, notes and emails that we have received on the loss of Betty’s mother. All of the thoughts and prayers are so appreciated. We often think of the wonderful congregation at MUMC.

Miss you all!

Betty and Pappy

Sonlight Scoop
November 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 is getting ready for fall festivities. Pumpkins have been carved and seeds have been toasted. The Fall Harvest Costume Parade and Party was held Thursday, October 25th, at 10:30 AM. The students were decked out in their costumes, and trick-or-treated around Fellowship Hall.

Sonlight will be hosting our famous Thanksgiving luncheon on Thursday, November 15th. There is so much to be thankful for at Sonlight; including talented, dedicated teachers, great curriculum, the MUMC space in the building, and so much more.

Happy Thanksgiving

“I have never understood why anyone would roast the turkey and shuck the clams and crisp the croutons and shell the peas and candy the sweet potatoes and compute the cranberries and bake the pies and clear the table and wash the dishes and fall into bed exhausted when they could just as easily sit back and enjoy a hamburger or a pork sandwich.”

—The Turkey



Amid the work and chaos of preparing the outward celebration of Thanksgiving, help me take time, Lord, for inward calm and gratitude.

the Spire

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262-242-4770

www.mequonumc.org

Editor: Ginger Ayres

Assistants:

Shirley Campbell, Susan Caldwell,
Sandy Christensen, Chris Debbink,
Barb Henneke, Ann Miller, Herb Ayres

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Church Staff

Pastor: Sue Lee

pastor@mequonumc.org

Office Manager: DeWayna Cherrington
office@mequonumc.org

Finance Manager: Karen Huffman
finance@mequonumc.org

Ministers of Music:

Rick & Michelle Hynson
michellehynson@gmail.com

Organist: Elna Hickson
ehickson@wi.rr.com

Youth Choirs Director: Ellen Shuler
shulers4@sbcglobal.net

Director of Children's Ministries:
Peg Randall Gardner
mumkidstuff@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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Someone to be thankful for

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, 1984, Dr. Norman Vincent Peale began his sermon with the following paragraph:

"Now it is November, the month that contains the most American of all holidays: Thanksgiving. We Americans invented Thanksgiving, and this is not surprising because of all the nations in the world, we have the most to be thankful for. We have freedom in a magnificent land that stretches from sea to shining sea. We have science, we have medicine, we have rich farmlands and soaring skyscrapers and great cathedrals and quiet churches. If you are an American, you have every right to be proud and grateful. And there's one thing more you should be thankful for: You should be thankful for you."

If you are precious in God's eyes - and you most certainly are - then be grateful for the life God has given you and the constant blessings which are yours.

- Excerpt from "Be Thankful for You"



MUMC is a Reconciling Congregation

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.

