

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



**Mark these MUMC activities
on your upcoming calendar!**

- Lunch Bunch** resumes September 6
- Reflections book group** begins new year September 8
- Choir rehearsals** begin September 11 (Sanctuary, Youth, and Joyful Noise)
- Rally Day — September 18!! Sunday School starts, dessert auction, and church picnic**
- Final summer outdoor worship** — September 24
- Mealsites** continue — two in September
- Fall signals need for acolytes, Sunday School teachers, cooks for Sunday night, and library helpers
- Marsh Meadow** needs more cleanup — October 1
- Bread Sunday** coming on October 2
- Flu vaccine clinic** on October 2
- Fall Sunday night program** for young children starts October 9
- Youth activities** soon will be gearing up with Olivia Peters
- Family Promise host week** comes again — first week in October



Donations to assist with flood relief in Louisiana are urgently needed. MUMC's Outreach Team offers matching grant for contributions. See details on page 7.

the Spire

September 2016

Pastor Tim's Message

Recently, I came across this story as I was reading a new book from Lovett H. Weems, Jr. on claiming and living out our ministries.

In London there was an Episcopalian minister named John who had a dream of serving with some of the lowest paid workers in London. When after several years his assignments never made this possible, he took a job as a street sweeper. Without anyone knowing who he was, he found his ministry each day among coworkers. This worked out wonderfully.

He was a bit slower and a bit older than the other street sweepers, and at the end of every day there was work that he had not completed. The other street sweepers would come together and help finish his assigned work. They did not mind because they discovered very quickly that even though John was a bit older and a bit slower than the rest, he was a very good talker. When they had trouble with wages or working conditions, they would explain it to John and he would talk for them to the powers that be.

One morning John came to work and a small group of coworkers was waiting as they had done on many other occasions with some problem. Today their faces held more anguish than usual. They said, "John, something terrible has happened. Joe was found dead this morning." Joe was a forty-year-old coworker. He had died in a homemade shed in an alleyway. They said, "If we had only known Joe was having hard times, we could have helped in some way. Now it is too late, Joe is dead. We will never be able to do anything for him." John said, "Maybe you are wrong. Maybe it's not too late to do something for Joe." They said, "What do you mean? He's dead. How can we help Joe?" John said, "At least we can give him a decent funeral and honor his life." They responded, "That is a wonderful idea, but we would not know where to begin to have a funeral." It was at that moment when John revealed that he was a minister and that he would help them plan this celebration of Joe's life.

At the end of the week, Joe's funeral took place with John presiding at the service. When the service was over, but before anyone got up, one of the street sweepers sitting near the front stood and looked out over this sea of street sweepers. With a dazed and puzzled look on his face he said, "I wonder how many more ministers are sitting in here?"

Indeed ... how many among you are ministers, disciples, servants of the Gospel? All of you, that's who! As members of the body of Christ, we have all been blessed with gifts and we all minister in varying ways to the people where we live and work all throughout our week. When you think about it, there are so many ways we let our faith touch this world. Whether we are at work, a neighborhood book group, a volunteer organization, or meeting people at a coffee shop, we have an opportunity to let our faith influence us and be seen by what we say and what we do. The saying that, "The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is a people," is very true. We are the church, not just on Sunday morning but every day of the week in all the areas of our lives, as we stand up to let our gifts and blessings touch this world and make a difference in people's lives. I invite all of us to take some time in prayer to ask and be continually open to the many ministries that God is calling us toward on our path of life.

In God's Love
Pastor Tim



Rally Day Picnic and Dessert Auction Sunday, September 18



On Sunday, September 18, we will celebrate the start of the 2016-2017 church school year with our annual Rally Day Picnic. Join us in Fellowship Hall right after church for an indoor picnic lunch (no bees!) featuring hot dogs with the option of our church-favorite flaming penguin sauce, followed by the MUMC Dessert Auction.

All proceeds from the auction benefit Children's Ministries and will be used for activities such as Circuit Sunday Nights, the Children's Christmas Program, VBS and our Sunday School.

Please plan to come, bid and take home delicious desserts. Or just come for lunch and enjoy the company of our church family.

We need desserts!!!!

Bakers of all degrees of talent are encouraged to contribute their creations to be auctioned off that morning. Pies are popular, as are cakes of all kinds. Kids can even make a pan of brownies, some chocolate chip cookies, or a no-bake treat to help out! Glen Van Fossen has already promised two of his famous pies to help our effort – please join him by donating your own specialties! Please contact Peg or Audra if you can help out in any way. Plan to come for the fun, the fellowship and best of all – the food!



Outdoor Summer Worship Service

Saturday, September 24 at 5:00 p.m. (Note the time change)

We have had a great time during our summer outdoor services and there is one more left. As we head into Fall, you are invited to our last outdoor worship service on **Saturday, September 24 at 5:00 PM**. We are meeting an hour early to take advantage of more daylight. Pastor Tim hopes you will come on out to enjoy the warmth of the fire and fellowship as we worship together. This service is very casual and prayerful through the music, readings, and devotions that we do together. Also, after we are done you can stick around to roast hot dogs, make a Smore, and continue enjoying the fellowship around the fire. Come as you are and worship with us.



Mealsite — TWO dates in September

Thursday, September 22

Thursday, September 29

- Need servers — carpool from MUMC at 4:30 PM, return about 6:30 PM
- Need food items —
 - desserts such as brownies, cupcakes, cakes, bar cookies, cookies
 - hold-in-your-hand fresh fruit like bananas, apples, clementines, pears
- Sign up lists for servers and food are on the bulletin board by the church front door



United Methodist Student Day

On September 18, 2016, the Mequon United Methodist Church will take up its annual collection to support United Methodist Student Day. Your generous gift makes it possible for students lacking financial resources to attend the school of their choice. For some, it makes it possible for less fortunate students to attend school at all. Each year, over 2300 scholarships are offered; over 500 of those to Seminary students. Approximately 60% are awarded to women.

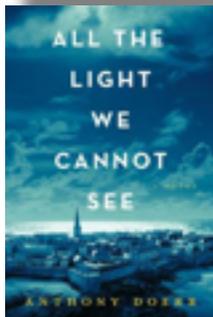
Scholarships and financial aid from the United Methodist Church help students unite faith and knowledge to serve in Jesus' name. Thank you for supporting our future leaders!



Reflections book group begins a new year

The Reflections Book Group will resume monthly meetings on Thursday, September 8. We begin at 7:00 PM in the Parlor. Our discussion book will be *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr. From amazon.com . . .

From the highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning Anthony Doerr, the beautiful, stunningly ambitious instant *New York Times* bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II . . . Doerr's "stunning sense of physical detail and gorgeous metaphors" (*San Francisco Chronicle*) are dazzling. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, he illuminates the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another.



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

Looking ahead . . .

Our October discussion book will be *The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion*, by Fannie Flagg.

October 2nd is Bread Sunday

Wouldn't it be nice to live in a world where everyone had enough to eat each day? If you would like to help the Outreach Team work toward that dream while reaping rewards for yourself, please join us for **Bread Sunday, October 2nd**. Take on the challenge of baking bread, muffins, rolls, coffee cakes or any other mouth-watering creations to help fight hunger in our community. Bring your baked specialties to the Bread Sunday table before the service. After the service, meet back at the table to purchase a special treat or make a calorie free donation. The proceeds of this mission project will go to Hunger Task Force.

By taking part, some of the benefits you will reap include: taking on a baking challenge and succeeding, enjoying the aroma of fresh baked goods in your home, and feeling warmth in your heart knowing you took the time to make a difference.



Reminder ...

Family Promise Host week coming ...

October 2 - 9 ...

Watch for sign-up lists for volunteers, food, etc.

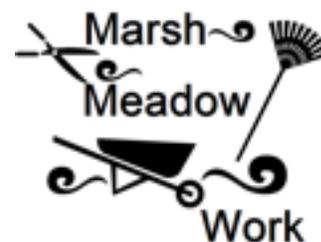
Marsh Meadow Workday

Saturday, October 1, 2016

9:00 AM - Noon

We will be clearing buckthorn from the Marsh Meadow. It is mostly smaller trees, so bring loppers, by-pass pruners, and leather gloves. If we have wood chips available, we may also be moving wood chips to the trails and do some trail maintenance. Linda Mordy will provide water and snacks.

We have had a lot of great comments from people looking for our geocache about how nice our natural area is maintained. So let's keep up the good work!!!! Come and enjoy the fun of working together to remove invasive species from the Marsh Meadow.



Influenza vaccines —

October 2

The Parish Nurse Ministry Team will be sponsoring a flu vaccine clinic after worship on October 2 in Fellowship Hall. Wheaton Franciscan Home Health Nurses will be providing the vaccine from 10:00-11:30 AM.

Medicare Part B and Medicare Advantage plans will be accepted as payment. Bring your valid card to the clinic to avoid out-of-pocket costs.

For those not covered by Medicare, the cost of the vaccine is:

- Flu Vaccine – \$32 (Ages 9 and older)
- High Dose Flu Vaccine – \$55 (Recommended for ages 65 and older)
- The nurses will accept cash or check payments.

The Parish Nurses will be checking blood pressures during the flu clinic time.



World Communion Sunday —

October 2

On October 2, MUMC will be observing World Communion Sunday. The special offering collected for this day helps students who historically have not had resources to make higher education possible. Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." Your gifts on World Communion Sunday will provide scholarships for national and international graduate students possessing the desires to learn and to serve God.



New Member Class

Are you interested in learning about and becoming a member of Mequon United Methodist Church? If so, please talk with Pastor Tim as he plans to organize a new member class soon. Talk to him in person. Or contact him by phone (242-4770) or e-mail (pastor@mequonumc.org).



Confirmation Class

Pastor Tim is organizing a confirmation class for 2016-2017 and needs to know how many youth would be interested. Confirmation is open to all youth in seventh grade and above. In the United Methodist church we baptize infants with the parents, sponsors, and church taking vows to watch over and raise the child in the Christian faith. When that child grows up there comes a time when they have to speak for themselves and make a public decision that they will be a faithful disciple of Christ and member of the church. This time is called confirmation.

Confirmation classes will begin sometime in September and run through May with a confirmation service being held in late May. The classes will be held on Sunday evenings. If you have a youth who has not been confirmed and is in seventh grade or above please speak with Pastor Tim by phone (242-4770), e-mail (pastor@mequonumc.org) or in person.

Worship Team meets on September 8

... congregation input is welcome

The Worship Team will meet on Thursday, September 8th at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Among the items on the agenda will be the New Strategic Plan, Fall and Advent Worship Services, and setting a schedule for our "Listening Sundays." Those are Sundays when members of the Worship Team will be available after worship to receive any comments or suggestions that anyone would like to share with the team regarding any of the worship services. The team sincerely welcomes your input so that MUMC may help you and the guests in our midst to have the most meaningful and inspiring worship experience possible.

ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Lunch Bunch resumes on September 6

Bible Study – 11:00 AM

Lunch – 12:00 noon

The Lunch Bunch will be returning for the Fall with a delicious meal including homemade soup and our Bible study. Pastor Tim & Bill Church will be starting a new study entitled, "Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White".

Everyone agrees that we live in a time of deep divide where many are very polarized, with ever-hardening positions held by people less and less willing to listen to one another. No one agrees on what to do about it. One solution is for thinking persons of faith to model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral, and religious issues that divide us. Please come and join us for this interesting study and join in the lively discussions.

Come as you are able –
you are welcome anytime, every time!



Prayer Breakfasts:

Women's Prayer Breakfast —

Wednesday, September 7

Wednesday, October 5

Men's Prayer Breakfast —

Thursday, October 6

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 this Fall to Sunday nights ★



Starting October 9, children in preschool through elementary school will have the opportunity to be immersed in one of the world's most remarkable (and chilly) cultures, sharing the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of Norway as they discover God's eternal love for the world. This VBS-style program features music, games, crafts, snacks, Bible explorations and kid videos about an exciting culture and fundamental Biblical truths.

The program will take place from 4:00-5:30 PM each Sunday evening, followed by dinner for the whole family. Dates are October 9, 16 and 23.



Volunteers are needed to provide family dinners, bake tasty Norwegian snacks, decorate, and lead our activities. Middle and High School students are invited to join us as crew helpers. Please let Peg know if you would like to be a part of this exciting adventure!

Opportunities to serve in our local faith ministries! Volunteer today!

You don't have to travel far to be in Christian mission.
Our church and community have many opportunities to serve.



Acolytes

We are setting up a rotation for young people to serve as acolytes for the school year. All young people ages five through high school are encouraged to volunteer. Acolytes serving the first Sunday of the month will also help with Communion.

Sunday School Teachers

Teachers and substitute teachers are needed for the 2016-17 school year. Teachers generally teach once a month or less in a rotating schedule. Please sign up to witness your faith to the next generation!



Cooks for the "Circuit" on Sunday Nights

We are once again hoping that volunteers will be willing to cook a meal for our children on Sunday nights. Volunteers need only sign up for one week (or more if you'd like)! Foods are simple – your choice! The schedule starts October 9, so please sign up soon. Even cooking one simple meal is a HUGE help to our programming!

Library Helpers

If you would be willing to help repair, prepare, or file our library resources, we could really use your help! A stack of great books awaits your attention!

Please let Peg Gardner know if you can help!
mumckidstuff@gmail.com or 262-242-4770.



Music Notes

Music in worship

Sept. 4 – Brett Hanisko
Sept. 11 – Special Music
Sept. 18 – Sanctuary Choir
Sept. 25 – Ellen Shuler & Elna Hickson
Oct. 2 – Sanctuary Choir



Welcome to Choir Season!!!

- Our **Sanctuary Choir** starts up with first rehearsal on Sunday, September 11 at 7:00 PM. We are ALWAYS open to new members!
- Our **Women's Choir's** first rehearsal will be Sunday, September 18 at 6:00 PM.
- **Youth Choir** will meet every Sunday immediately after church beginning September 11! Calling all singers grades 7-12!
- **Joyful Noise Choir** will meet during Sunday School beginning September 11. All students who participate in Sunday School will have the opportunity to participate!



Louisiana Flood Response — here's how you can help

Days of torrential rain inundated the state of Louisiana, beginning August 11. Flooding has impacted at least 40,000 homes, and about 30,000 people and 1,000 pets were rescued from high water. At least 11 people are known to have died in the disaster.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) issued an emergency grant to the Louisiana Annual Conference, releasing 2,950 cleanup buckets to United Methodist churches in

LaFayette and Baton Rouge, areas severely affected by the floods, for distribution. UMCOR stands ready to release another 2,000 cleanup buckets to go to the most vulnerable areas identified by the conference, as more cleanup buckets are being assembled to meet more needs. The state of Mississippi also was affected by flooding, and UMCOR has readied relief supplies to go there, as the water recedes.

Several churches have been converted to shelters for those that have been displaced. Four of the parishes received a Federal disaster declaration, so FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, was mobilized.

"The Red Cross national office reached out to us, and we have connected them with the Louisiana Annual Conference leadership, as well as with UMCOR Sager Brown for warehouse space, cleaning buckets, distribution assistance, and shelter for evacuees," said Greg Forrester, UMCOR U.S. Disaster Response executive.



Challenge grant will match flood response donations

MUMC Outreach Team is offering to match flood response donations with monies that remain from the last Outreach Auction. Make your check out to "MUMC" and in the memo line enter "Louisiana flooding." Put your check in the offering plate on Sunday or mail it to the church office at MUMC, 11011 N. Oriole Lane, Mequon, WI 53092.

Funds will be sent to one of the following:

- U.S. Disaster Response, Advance #901670.
 - Material Resources Ministry, UMCOR Advance #901440.
- Through this Advance, UMCOR purchases needed supplies. [NOTE: "The Advance" is the accountable, designated giving arm of The United Methodist Church that ensures 100% of each gift is used for its intended mission or ministry.]
- UMCOR has a network of relief supply depots across the US. Two close to the Louisiana flooding are Sager Brown in Louisiana and the Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Illinois. Both are completely out of flood buckets which are 5-gallon buckets filled with necessary cleaning supplies. For information from the center in Illinois, go to midwestmissiondc.org where you will find the items included in a "flood bucket" as well as online donation and purchasing options if you choose to give immediately on your own.

Please pray for those who are hungry, displaced, sick, or in poverty because of these and other natural and human-made disasters, and for the workers who minister with them.

Some repairs completed — other repairs are being completed (report from the MUMC Trustees)

Moving into September, we can report good progress on the many important projects reported over the last few months that must get done before winter weather hits with its wind, sleet, snow and extreme temperatures. Rain water leaking or misdirected from downspouts has been stopped, and soil around the church foundation has been regraded. That should result in drying out foundation walls of Fellowship Hall.

Underground electrical wiring for exterior lights has been done; and soon the lamp-posts will be repainted and fitted with energy-efficient LED bulbs and a new timer to provide better night-lighting for all our evening users of the building. No more lights on when the sun shines!

Water pipes in the Parsonage have been replaced to prevent future leaks like the one that damaged the finished basement last spring; and all the walls and ceiling have been replaced or restored. Additionally, a new garage door and operating system were installed when springs on the old, original wood door broke on one side, putting people and cars in danger of having the heavy door drop unexpectedly.

The two final projects for this year will be completed by the middle of September. The old Yankee gutters on the church and Education Wing will be repaired, then relined with water-

proofing materials to prevent the wood from rotting and leaking. At the same time, the roof-leak over the Pastor's office will be addressed.

Beyond these large and more complicated projects, Trustees have also worked through the summer, with help from Patrick Cullen and Peter Gardner to restore warping picnic tables and benches, and complete other repairs or improvements to church grounds.

As reported earlier, most of Trustees' 2016 work program emerged as a result of serious problems that were identified during last winter and spring, and the cost of fixing those problems far exceeds the small Trustees' Reserve Fund set aside for major repairs and replacements. MUMC's Finance Committee and Church Council authorized Trustees to get the work done, realizing we will need to borrow money from the bank on our line-of-credit and then call on church members through a capital campaign to repay the loan. Plans for the Capital Campaign are being made slowly and carefully, with an expectation that the campaign will start sometime after January in the new year. Trustees look forward to working with the Capital Campaign Committee to help determine future capital needs and a reasonable goal to meet the needs of our church.



Key Facts about Influenza (Flu)

What is Influenza (also called Flu)?

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccine each year.

Signs and Symptoms of Flu

People who have the flu often feel some or all of these signs and symptoms:

- Fever* or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (very tired)
- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

*It's important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever.



Onset of Symptoms

The time from when a person is exposed to flu virus to when symptoms begin is about 1 to 4 days, with an average of about 2 days.

Complications of Flu

Complications of flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes.

People at High Risk from Flu

Anyone can get the flu (even healthy people), and serious problems related to the flu can happen at any age, but some people are at high risk of developing serious flu-related complications if they get sick. This includes people 65 years and older, people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), pregnant women, and young children.

How Flu Spreads

People with flu can spread it to others up to about 6 feet away. Most experts believe that flu viruses spread mainly by droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. Less often, a person might also get flu by touching a surface or object that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, eyes or possibly their nose.

Period of Contagiousness

You may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick. Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning one day before symptoms develop and up to 5 to 7 days after becoming sick. Some people, especially young children and people with weakened immune systems, might be able to infect others for an even longer time.

Preventing Flu

The first and most important step in preventing flu is to get a flu vaccination each year. CDC also recommends everyday preventive actions (like staying away from people who are sick, covering coughs and sneezes and frequent hand washing) to help slow the spread of germs that cause respiratory (nose, throat, and lungs) illnesses, like flu.

Source: CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

SAVE THE DATE:
The Parish Nurse Ministry Team
will be sponsoring a flu vaccine clinic
after worship on October 2.
Watch for more details in the Sunday bulletins.



This information about influenza is presented to the MUMC congregation as part of the Parish Nurse Team's mission to promote wellness.



Thank you! Walking Program declared a megahit!

The Parish Nurse Summer Walking Program was a huge success! We had 74 participants along with Connie's four legged friends. The participation was an increase over last year. We hope that everyone will continue to walk to better health and wellness. If you have ideas for walking locations for next summer, please let Debbie LeRoy know. Thank you to all the participants!

A message from Olivia Peters, MUMC's new Youth Director



Hello MUMC congregation!

I am looking forward to meeting new faces and reconnecting with old ones. For those of you that don't know me, I am Olivia Peters (formerly Olivia Bedran). I was baptized, confirmed and married under the roof of Mequon Untied Methodist Church. I grew up in Mequon and attended Homestead High School. Participating in MUMC's youth events throughout my adolescence had a great impact on my faith and led me to attend Wheaton College, IL. After graduating in 2011, I returned to Milwaukee to pursue a career in wealth management. Monday through Friday, you can find me in U.S. Bank's Private Client Group working as a Trust Investment Advisor.

In 2011, I met my wonderful husband, Nate Peters. Nate is from Lake Mills, WI. He is a Badger and Packer fan and a lover of all things sports. We live in Fox Point with our Goldendoodle named Reuben. I am excited to meet MUMC's youth and walk with them as they deepen their relationships with our awesome Creator!

Non-Toxic Cleaners Ideas from the Green Team

The following examples of household cleaners are non-toxic, safe and may save you some money. Vinegar, baking soda, lemon juice and salt can take the place of many expensive and potentially dangerous cleaners.

Kitchen --

All-purpose cleaner: Dissolve 4 tbsp. baking soda in 1 quart warm water. Apply with sponge and wipe clean.

Bathroom --

Tub and Tile Cleaner: Mix ½ tsp washing soda, ¼ to ½ tsp. vegetable oil based liquid soap, 3 tbsp. vinegar and 2 cups of hot water in a spray bottle or pail. Apply and wipe clean.

Living Room --

Glass cleaner: Mix 1/8 cup baking soda and 1 cup of water in a spray bottle. Shake and apply and wipe clean.

Air Freshener --

General freshener: Place a couple of tablespoons of baking soda in a dish and leave on the counter. Replace as needed

Car Maintenance --

Chrome cleaner: Mix ¼ cup baking soda with enough water to form a paste. Apply with a sponge and rinse well with warm water.

Proper disposal --

Avoid dumping chemicals down the drain. Take hazardous chemicals to recycling centers. Check with your municipality of trash collector for locations and policies.

Buying hints --

Before you buy a product READ THE LABEL. If you must buy a toxic product, buy the least hazardous one.

This information comes from a booklet, "Guide to Non-Toxic Cleaners" provided by the Lake Michigan Federation. The Lake Michigan Federation was formed in 1970. The organization's mission is "to restore fish and wildlife habitat, conserve land and water, and eliminate pollution in the watershed of America's largest lake." The Lake Michigan Federation seeks to accomplish this by conducting studies, educating the public, and advocating for legislation that promotes water quality, water conservation, habitat recovery, and clean energy.



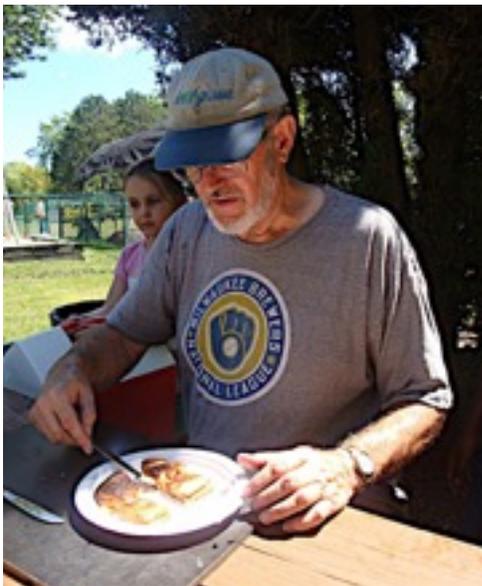
**We have forgotten how to be good guests, how to
walk lightly on the earth as other creatures do.**

--1972 Only One Earth Conference

Sonlight Scoop September 2016

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.

On August 17 & 18, the school-age kids “camped out” at Sonlight. They set up a tent and hammock, made Pudgie Pies, tied blankets, and did various activities. Their leaders were Peg Gardner, and Ed and Linda Mordy. Ms. Judy from the Sonlight staff also got involved. The weather cooperated and the kids had a marvelous time! What fun...



← Ed serving apple Pudgie Pie ... Nummy!!!

Now it's on to fall and back-to-school schedules!
Kathy and Sue

Allen and Susan have moved!



Allen and Susan Caucutt have completed their move. Their address is now:

Shorehaven #119
1305 West Wisconsin Ave
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
Phone: 262-424-5508

An opportunity to say “Hi!” to Allen and Susan —

Allen will have a show and sale of his art at the Weyenberg Library. Grand Opening of the show is September 17. On that day you may visit with Allen and Susan at the library. His show will run through October 28.

Skinned knees

Leaders aspire to look like small boys at the end of August. If you raise children or grandchildren, you know that by the end of August, they've been running around all summer in their shorts, sneakers and T-shirts. You also know that their knees and their elbows are always skinned, their shins always black and blue and that they have the marks of the summer's fracas on their faces. A 6-year-old boy at the end of August is my picture of a leader.



I got that picture from David Hubbard, president of Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena. Many years ago he told me that leaders need to learn not to inflict pain but to bear pain. It seems to me that if you're bearing pain properly as a leader, whether you're a preacher, a college professor, a parent or a teacher, you ought to have the marks of the struggle. One ought to have bruised shins and skinned knees.

—Max DePree, *Leadership Jazz*

Desperate for peace

During worship, our congregation “passes the peace.” More than a friendly greeting, this ritual is a symbol of Christ's peace shared with us, for us to share daily with others. It also echoes Jesus' exhortation that we be reconciled with others before offering our gifts in worship (see Matthew 5:23-24).

One Sunday morning, I sat behind a 9-year-old girl and her toddler brother.

The boy was active and talkative, keeping his parents busy. As the pastor invited us to “share Christ's peace with one another,” big sister popped up from her seat and offered to shake hands with everyone nearby, proclaiming “Peace!” to each.

As she tried this with her mom and brother, however, they were occupied with each other and wholly unaware of her efforts. Finally, I overheard her not inviting but demanding, “Mom! James! I want PEACE!” I had to smile, for the girl had voiced the desperation with which we all crave peace in the world and in our lives.



—Heidi Mann

the Spire

is published monthly by

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Deadline for copy: the 25th
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Editor reserves the right to
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Office hours:

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

Closed Fridays

Sunday schedule:

9:30 AM: Worship Service

First Sunday - Family Sunday
(no Sunday School)

9:45 AM: Sunday School

10:30 AM: Fellowship for all

Everyone is welcome!



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

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DATED MATERIAL

RALLY DAY!
September 18
Sunday School begins
Dessert Auction
Church picnic

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Back-to-school humor

- Summer is over. Time to officially remember what day of the week it is!
- “Labor Day is a glorious holiday because your child will be going back to school the next day. It would have been called Independence Day, but that name was already taken.” (Bill Dodds)
- Receiving new textbooks, one student to another: “Psst. How do you turn this thing on?”
- Parent: “What did you learn today?” Kindergartner: “Not enough. I have to go back tomorrow.”



A prayer for uncertain times

An hour before the 9/11 terrorist attacks, pastor and author Stan Purdum was reading Psalm 66, which includes the words, “We went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place” (v. 12, NRSV). After watching the destruction, Purdum composed a prayer that remains relevant today, as terrorism and threats often make peace seem more “specious” than “spacious”:

O God of heaven and earth, who’s bigger than nations and factions, be with us as we live through times of terror, despair and danger. Be the strength of people who’ve been touched personally by disaster. Come with healing to those who are injured. Be the eternal rest of those who’ve died. Be the energy, compassion and fortitude of those who must pick through the wreckage. Grant our leaders courage and a double portion of your wisdom. The day of universal brotherhood seems farther off than ever, O God, but help us not despair of trying to accomplish it. Strengthen our faith. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

