

SPIRE Newsletter



May 2023

Our Mission: Connecting people to Jesus Christ and to one another.



[View MUMC Online Calendar](#)

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Apr. 30: 2:00 pm - Bel Canto Senior Singers Concert

May 1: 12:30 pm - Tai Chi

May 2: 11:00 am - Growth Group

May 3: 7:30 am - Women's Prayer Meeting

May 4: 7:00 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast

May 5: 12:30 pm - Tai Chi

May 5: 6:00 pm - Kids' Night Out

May 9: 11:00 am - Growth Group

May 11: 6:00 pm - Reflections Book Club Dinner Out

May 14: All Day - Mothers' Day

May 14: BP Screening (before & after worship)

May 16: 11:00 am - Lunch Bunch and *Case for Faith* video study

Let's Share Our Love for Moms!

Photos!

To honor our mothers and the mother figures in our lives, we will be featuring favorite photos of our "mom(s)" in a slide show during our May 14 (Mother's Day - hint, hint) service.

Please forward photos of your mom or anyone who has provided motherly love (grandmothers, aunts, sisters, dear friends) to Carol Bayne, our office manager, by **Wednesday, May 10.**

Email photos to office@mequonumc.org or text them to Carol's cell at 414-491-1430. If you submitted photos previously, Carol will use those - however, if you'd like to update your photo and/or haven't yet sent a

May 23: 11:00 am - Lunch Bunch and *Case for Faith* video study
May 30: 11:00 am - Lunch Bunch and *Case for Faith* video study

SERMON SPOTLIGHT

Apr. 30: Luke 18:1-8 "The Parable of the Persistent Widow"

May 7: Communion Sunday:
Luke 24:13-35 "When he was at the table with them"

May 14: Mother's Day/Festival of the Christian Home: Allison Tinsley-Fuller will preach!

May 21: Ascension Sunday:
Acts 1:1-11 "Now What?"

May 28: Pentecost, the birthday of the church: Wear Red!
Acts 2:1-21

WORSHIP MUSIC

Apr. 30: Allison Tinsley Fuller and Ana Fau

May 7: Praise Band

May 14: A surprise guest!

May 21: TBD

May 28: Chancel Choir



photo, please email or text them to Carol!

Thank you, Carol, for gathering and to Steve Hoffmann/AV Team for compiling pictures of some of the most important people in our world!

Flowers!

(and, because they're pretty!)

On Mother's Day, we decorate the church with an assortment of

beautiful hanging baskets.

Purchase a basket or two for \$20 each, decorate the church and (hint, hint) have a lovely gift for your mom or special person in your life!

Order your basket(s) from Katie Jackson or via the church office.

jacksonkatie783@gmail.com;
office@mequonumc.org.



Treats!

The MUMC Youth want to treat moms and all women who love kids like a mom to a homemade gift on Mother's Day. As you leave the sanctuary, the youth will have a special box of goodies to honor you on your special day!

Thank you, MUMC Youth!

From the Pastor

Mother's Day is hard for many people due to various reasons. Some women are infertile and have longed for a child in their lives and are about to lose hope. Some have lost new lives to miscarriage or stillbirth. Others have not spoken with their estranged mothers for years, others whose mothers have passed away, and still others who have been unable to be a source of strength and love for their children. So many people face Mother's Day with ambivalence—gladness and sadness with the challenging job called motherhood.



And sometimes we have myths about motherhood as we take cues from TV or greeting cards. As a result, women who do not fit these fantasies are wounded on Mother's Day. But the Bible offers real stories of real women's lives. Naomi and Ruth were left childless and widowed. Sarah, Rachel and Hannah experienced infertility for a long time. A nameless Canaanite woman swallowed her pride for the sake of her daughter. Mary saw her son's death on a cross. Scripture tells those stories to tell us there is no a one-size-fits-all journey of motherhood.

So friends, on the Mother's day, as we celebrate many blessings we have received from our mothers, let us give our blessings of prayer:

For our mothers, who have given us life and love,
that we may show them reverence and love;
for mothers who have lost a child through death,
that their faith may give them hope and
their family and friends support and console them;
for women, though without children of their own,
who like mothers have nurtured and cared for us;
and for mothers, who have been unable to be a source of strength,
who have not responded to their children
and have not sustained their families.

(The United Methodist Book of Worship)

Come join us to celebrate Mother's Day and receive the love of God who mothers us all!

In Christ,
Sue

Announcements



Sunday, May 28 Pentecost Sunday! Wear Red!

Pentecost is known as the birthday of the church! Come to worship in person and wear something red

(tie, shirt, scarf, earrings, skirt, dress - any touch of red will do!) to celebrate this important day in the Christian Church.

Why wear red? The first Pentecost was marked by "tongues of fire" that descended on the disciples and others and imbued them with the Holy Spirit. We wear red to remind us of the fire of the Holy Spirit on that first Pentecost and still blazing within us today.

Controlling Blood Pressure is Key!

The Parish Nurses will be checking blood pressures before and after service on May 14 (a pilot process!) and after service on June 11. BP Screenings are typically on the second Sunday of the month after worship.

Bel Canto Senior Singers Concert! Sunday, April 30 2:00 pm

The Bel Canto Senior Singers will grace our church and community with a free concert and Community Sing, *The Music of Water!* The concert is free and open to all. Invite your friends and family!

Ways to make a difference!

MUMC welcomes people to serve as Ushers, Liturgists, Sunday School helpers, Coffee Hosts, and Volunteers on all ministry teams! Our church community grows stronger when we all share our gifts with one another. Call the [church office](#) if you need ideas and contacts!

Walking, Fresh Air, Fellowship!

Parish Nurses are sponsoring three walks

this summer to help keep you healthy in Body, Mind and Spirit. Locations are TBD, but add 4:00 pm on June 11, July 9 and August 13 to your calendar to take a walk with friends and commune with God's creation.



Thank you, Marilyn!

Many thanks to Marilyn Meyer for producing the Spire for the last four years! Jenna and I are honored that you've trusted us to continue your efforts. We will work hard to do your Spire legacy justice!
Shelley & Jenna Burns



Hynsons Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award!

MUMC members and retired music directors Rick & Michelle Hynson were honored with the 2023 Lifetime Achievement in Music award by the Civic Music Association of Milwaukee! Besides being long-time drivers of MUMC's music programs and Bel Canto (see above), Rick and Michelle have been active in the music scene of southeastern Wisconsin for decades - conducting, performing, leading, organizing, building, innovating, teaching, composing and arranging. There isn't anything in music they haven't done! They will be honored by the Civic Music Association at their *Can't Stop the Music* event on May 16 at the Ivy House in the Third Ward. The News Graphic had an outstanding article detailing the Hynsons' full and inspiring careers in the April 18 issue. Congratulations, Rick and Michelle! Your award is well-deserved!

News From Children's Ministry

Mequon UMC Family Gardening Club

Is a garden plot just too much for you to handle? Children's Ministry is hosting a Mequon UMC Family Gardening Club. It might be what you are looking for. We will share a garden space while connecting our youngest to other church family members. It will strengthen bonds, and help us learn from each other while we share the love of Jesus through the celebration of God's great outdoors. Our first get-together was Sunday, April 23. We planted, built a garden tent, and enjoyed a dirt cup snack. We will have gatherings throughout the year to plant, weed, harvest, eat, and share our produce with the community.

If you would like to get on an email list to make sure you don't miss an event, email Gayle at childrensmin@mequonumc.org.

Friday Kids Night Out

Join us Friday, May 5 from 6-8pm. We will enjoy dinner and fellowship. There will be a spring craft project as well. Invite friends and family. All are invited. We are all kids at heart. Can't make it but want to help by providing a dish? Let us know. Please RSVP to Gayle childrensmin@mequonumc.org.

Summer Sunday School - First & Third Sundays beginning June 4!

The last Sunday School of the year will be Sunday, May 21. Back by popular demand, we will offer Summer Sunday School on the FIRST and THIRD Sundays of each month. There will be child care available on the other Sundays as well as Children's bulletins for those children that will remain in the Sanctuary during the service.

VBS Blasting Off Soon!

Join Us for Vacation Bible School! All Are Welcome!



Get ready to blast off with an amazing outer space theme. Lift off is July 24-28 from 9am to Noon.

We will have out of this world fun while we learn to shine Jesus' light. Enjoy amazing projects, surprising adventures, creative games, incredible music, and super fun snacks while you make new friends and learn about Jesus's love.

Invite your friends and family to join us as we go to infinity and beyond! [Download the registration form here!!](#)

Participate! Our space team is looking to expand its crew. If you want to soar with us and shine your light on God's youngest astronauts, please email Gayle at childrensmin@mequonumc.org

Reflections Book Group

The Reflections book group will dine out in May. We have a 6:00 pm reservation on Thursday, May 11 at Foxtown Brewing. No book discussion this month. Please RSVP to Barb Henneck at bhenneck@gmail.com by May 9 if you plan to join us. New women are always welcome.

Reflections is a women's book group that meets monthly for discussion and fellowship. Contact Barb for more information about the group.

Betty Wheeler Memorial Fund Update

Betty K. Wheeler (Susan's mom) moved from her home in Corning, New York and lived with us in our Mequon home for the last three years of her life. MUMC provided a welcoming place for her as she regularly worshiped with us, was a

Lunch Bunch member, participated in Tai Chi classes and other church activities until she passed away at the age of 97.

After her passing in 2016, we established the Betty Wheeler Memorial Fund. This memorial was designated to support MUMC's youth and allow them the opportunity to participate in the Youth Mission Trips on an "as needed" financial basis. For those of you who have donated to this fund over the past few years, we thank you very much and want to provide you with an update.

Due to the current ages of the children and youth in MUMC's congregation, at this time, no one is "of age" to participate in the mission trips. Therefore, in order to support the wonderful work Gayle Meyer is providing for the children, it was decided that \$2000 of the donations from the Betty Wheeler Memorial Fund will be provided for the current needs of our Children's Ministry Programs; programs such as the Friday Night Kids Night Out events and Vacation Bible School. Be assured that additional monies are available and will remain in the fund to cover future Youth Mission Trips.

If you have any questions regarding this decision, please feel free to contact us or Pastor Sue.

Much appreciation for your generosity!
~Francis and Susan Yorio

From the Wisconsin Conference

Weekly Devotion for April 24, 2023, by M. Park Hunter

The New Normal

[The believers] followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw. Every day their number grew as God added those who were saved. (Acts 2:46-47 MSG)

[Click here to read the rest of M. Park Hunter's weekly devotional.](#)

To subscribe to the Weekly Devotion from the Wisconsin Conference, [click here](#).

Our Vision: To be THE bridge to community connection, collaboration, and common ground through Jesus Christ

How can YOU help MUMC achieve our vision? Forward this newsletter to:

- a friend or neighbor looking for community and connection
- a family whose children would love VBS or our awesome Children's Ministries
- a community member looking for service opportunities
- anyone who loves Jesus!

You do not have to be a MUMC member to subscribe to the Spire. Click the link below to subscribe!

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Deadline for SPIRE copy: the 25th of the month. Send copy to news@mequonumc.org to be included in the monthly SPIRE or the weekly Sunday bulletins.

The editors reserve the right to edit content. Hence, the "editor" title.

SPIRE Editors: [Shelley and Jenna Burns](#)

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Finance Manager: [Kathy Windis](#)

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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-1pm / Closed Fridays

Sunday Schedule:

9:30am Worship Service

10:30am Fellowship

www.mequonumc.org

