

SPIRE Newsletter



July 2023

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



*Happy Fourth
of July!*

[View MUMC Online Calendar](#)

[View Printable Calendar \(PDF\)](#)

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

July 2: 9:30 Peace with Justice Sunday

July 2: 9:45 am - Summer Sunday School

July 3: 12:30 pm - Tai Chi

July 5: 7:30 am - Women's Prayer Breakfast

July 6: 7:00 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast

July 7: 12:30 pm - Tai Chi

July 7: 6:00 pm - Kids' Night Out

July 9: 4:00 pm - Parish Nurses' Walk

July 10: 12:30 pm - Tai Chi

July 14: 12:30 pm - Tai Chi

July 16: 9:45 am - Summer Sunday School

SERMON SPOTLIGHT

July 2: John 4:1-26 & 39-42, The Woman at the Well

A New Sermon Series: Moses, a Humble Man

July 9: Exodus 2:1-22, The Birth of Moses

July 16: Exodus 3:1-17, At the Burning Bush

July 23: Exodus 8:1-15, Tomorrow

July 30: VBS Sunday

WORSHIP MUSIC

July 2: Praise Ensemble

July 9: Allison and Elna

July 16: Lori and Elna

July 30: Praise Ensemble

July 17: 12:30 pm - Tai Chi
July 21: 12:30 pm - Tai Chi
July 24: 9:00 am - VBS begins!
July 24: 7:00 pm - Church Council Meeting
July 25: 6:00 pm - Knitting Ministry



VBS Blast-off July 24!



Vacation Bible School is this month! Blast-off is Monday, July 24 - Friday, July 28 from 9 am-noon, with a wrap party Sunday, July 30 at 9:30 am.

Share God's love by grabbing a flyer, postcard, or business card at church and inviting new astronauts. We'll 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 connect to Jesus and to each other. Invite your friends and family to join us as we go to infinity and beyond!

Our space station needs your help. We are looking for help gathering:

- Empty paper towel tubes
- Scrap yarn
- Ping pong balls
- Battery-operated tea lights

The mission will be a blast. Our space crew could use you! There are many ways to spread the love of Jesus to our youngest astronauts even if you can't make our flight times. If you want to soar with us and shine your light, email Gayle Meyer childrensmin@mequonumc.org.

Hunger Task Force Drive

In August, the Outreach Team will be collecting for Hunger Task Force. Hunger Task Force keeps expanding its programs to meet the needs of those in the Milwaukee area who do not have enough to eat. One recent emphasis is summer and school meal programs for children. In August, Mission Outreach will host a

food drive to help Hunger Task Force continue the summer meal program and prepare for "Back-to-School." Check out the "Meet Up and Eat Up" Summer Program. <https://www.hungertaskforce.org/what-we-do/summer-meals/> and the "MyPlate" food plan. <https://www.hungertaskforce.org/what-we-do/myplate/>

Here's how you can help. Donate canned fruits and vegetables processed with no salt and in their own juices, whole grain cereals with no sugar or additives, low fat dairy foods, and canned lean meats. For snacks, donate granola and breakfast bars, nuts, raisins, and graham crackers.

For back to school, donate pencils, notebooks, paper pads, school bags, highlighters, scissors, colored pencils, erasers, and pencil boxes or pouches.

Place food donations in the Hunger Task Force boxes at the church entrance and in the Narthex. Place the school supplies in the bins in the Narthex.

Thank you for sharing with our neighbors in need and supporting Hunger Task Force!

Announcements

Peace with Justice Sunday July 2

Moved by Christ's love to pursue reconciliation and peace, honoring the dignity of every individual made in God's image, The United Methodist Church is unwilling to turn a blind eye to injustice. Although our congregation alone may lack the resources to effect change in a broken world, our giving is vital for the UMC to continue its global ministries of reconciliation. Because of the Peace with Justice Sunday offering, the people of The United Methodist Church are able to make a difference together by sowing seeds—and yielding fruit!—of peace.

In Jesus' inaugural address, standing in his home synagogue in Nazareth, he detailed his game plan: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." (Luke 4:18-19) Through your giving, good news is proclaimed to—and experienced by—the poor. Give

Controlling Blood Pressure is Key!

The Parish Nurses will resume blood pressure checks after service on September 10th. And then will continue on the second Sundays each month.



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!

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will resume on September 12th. Enjoy your summer!

Knitting Ministry

generously next Sunday!

Walking, Fresh Air, Fellowship!

Parish Nurses
are sponsoring
three walks



this summer to help keep you healthy
in Body, Mind and Spirit. Add 4:00 pm
on July 9 and August 13 to your
calendar to take a walk with friends
and commune with God's creation.
July 9's walk will be at Virmond Park
and August 13's will be at Concordia
University.



Calling all knitters,
crocheters, and fiber
artists! Let's bring
this group to life. We
will have an
inaugural fiber arts
club on Tuesday,
July 25th, 6pm, in
the Parlor. Bring a

current WIP (Work In Progress) and
get to know the other crafters in the
congregation. Food and beverage will
be served for this first meeting. Can't
make it? No worries, the goal is to
make this a monthly hangout! Please
let Jenna Burns know if you plan to
attend at j.burns1127@gmail.com

Midwest Mission Pick Up

June 8th was pick-up at MUMC by Midwest Mission. We have a new smaller trailer but filled it up with donations from various churches. We collected over 400 items. Donors included 5th Avenue UMC, Cedarburg UMC, Brown Deer UMC, Dennis Devoy, Connie Pukaite, Jim and Sherry Gac, Kim Waters, and John Wirschem. Donations included over 288 hand-sewn school bags, 42 personal dignity kits, 17 homecare kits, 8 sewing machines, tools, crutches, and numerous individual items for kits. Items will be combined with other items at the Annual Conference in Green Bay. We thank all who contributed.



News From Children's Ministry

Friday Kids Night Out

Join us Friday, July 7 from 6-8pm. We will enjoy dinner and fellowship. 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!

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.

A Note From the Pastor

I started my vocation on July 1, 1998 as a student pastor in Lancaster, WI while I was a student at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa. Thus, July 1 marks 25 years of ministry in serving the Lord Jesus Christ and His churches. There is an old Korean saying, "In ten years, even mountains change" meaning 10 years is a long time.

Mountains have been changed two and a half times for the last 25 years. Looking back, I have to say that the 25 years of Ministry was only possible by the Grace of God, people of God (churches that I have served), and my family, especially my husband Chris. Mequon UMC is a part of the 25 year journey and will continue to be. I am grateful for that.

For the last 25 years, Mequon UMC has also undergone seasons of changes and challenges, but we have stayed rooted and continue to reach out to people in Jesus' name. The people of Mequon UMC have yielded fruits in even difficult seasons. So thank you for being people of all seasons as you faithfully connect people to Jesus Christ and to one another!

1 Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
2 but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
3 That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers. (Psalm 1:1-3 NIV)

In Christ,
Sue Lee

Summary From the Annual Wisconsin Conference

The Annual Conference of the Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church opened in Green Bay, Wisconsin on Friday, June 9th. The theme for the session was "On Earth as it is in Heaven" based on scripture from Philippians 2. As has become tradition of the Wisconsin Annual Conference, the session was opened by drumming by the Buffalo Creek Singers of the Oneida Tribe. Rev. Sue D'Alessio

recognized the First Nations lands upon whom we gather.

Rev. Barb Certa-Werner led the assembly in an opening prayer invoking the Spirit's presence in our gathering. [Read more here](#)

If you'd like to watch any of the conference sessions [watch here](#).

Wisconsin Conference Devotions

Weekly Devotion for June 5, 2023, by Ebenezer Insor

A Glorious Creation

O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth,
Who have set Your glory above the heavens! Psalm 8:1.

A couple of weeks ago we noticed two parent ducks coming across from their usual surroundings near our area. Their appearance looked like strangers looking for something. As I tried to figure out what that might be, it dawned on me that it must be their time for brooding and hatching new ducklings. My guess was as right as it could be when, a few weeks after, leaving home I was greeted by about twelve ducklings, I was so excited and could not help but to say "Good Morning to them" Oh how beautiful they looked, manifesting God's creation and glory. This is just one of the many instances of seeing God's marvelous handiwork being reflected in our daily lives. However, you may view the creation story from whatever perspective, the fact remains that our origins and existence are beyond our human reasoning, thoughts, and imaginations. For us Christians we have come to acknowledge that by virtue of our faith in God.

[Click here to read the rest of Ebenezer Insor'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.

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Sunday Schedule:

9:30am Worship Service

10:30am Fellowship

www.mequonumc.org

