



# The Spire

The Newsletter of the Mequon United Methodist Church  
September 2025

*Connecting people to Jesus Christ and to one another.*

## Sunday Worship 9:30 am

### Sermon Themes

**Sept 7:** To Begin a New Season, *1 John*  
1:8-10

**Sept 14:** Running Away from God, *Jonah*  
1:1-16

**Sept 21:** A Good Place to Pray, *Jonah*  
2:1-10

**Sept 28:** When We Make Ourselves  
Available to God, *Jonah* 3:1-10

### Musical Gifts

**Sept 7:** Skylar Chrobak

**Sept 14:** Allison Tinsley-Fuller and JP  
Horcasitas

**Sept 21:** Praise Ensemble

**Sept 28:** JP Horcasitas



### Calendar Highlights

**Sep 1 - Labor Day**

**Sep 3 - Women's Prayer Meeting -- 7:30 am**

**Sep 7 - Rally Day!**

**Sep 7 - Ice Cream Social -- 10:45 am**

**Sep 10 - Reflections Book Club -- 6:00 pm**

**Sep 11 - Men's Prayer Breakfast -- 7:00 am**

**Sep 14 - Blood Pressure Screening -- 10:35 am**

**Sep 14 - Narrow AI Video -- 11:00 am**

**Sep 14 - Adopt a Road Clean Up -- 1:00 pm**

**Sep 16 - Lunch Bunch -- 11:00 am**

**Sep 16 - Family Sharing Food Sort -- 1:30 pm**

**Sep 18 - Narrow AI Zoom -- 7:00 pm**

**Sep 21 - Artificial General Intelligence Video -- 11:00 am**

**Sep 21 - Pet Blessing -- 3:00 pm**

**Sep 22 - Family Promise Meal Service Week**

**Sep 22 - Ad Council Meeting -- 7:00 pm**

**Sep 23 - Fiber Arts Club -- 6:00 pm**

**Sep 25 - Artificial General Intelligence Zoom -- 7:00 pm**

**Sep 28 - What it means to be human video -- 11:00 am**

**Oct 1 - Women's Prayer Meeting -- 7:30 am**

**Oct 2 - Men's Prayer Breakfast -- 7:00 am**

### Remember!

Can't make it in person? MUMC Services are livestreamed on the [MUMC YouTube channel](#) at 9:30 am every Sunday - we'd love to see you there!

You can also watch any of our services at any time on our YouTube channel.

## MUMC Community Connections

To be the bridge to community connection and collaboration ...

### Rally Back to Church Ice Cream Social September 7, 10:45-noon

Come together with friends, family, and neighbors for an unforgettable ice cream social filled with laughter, connection, games, and yummy ice cream with all the fixings!



We still need volunteers to help set up, serve ice cream, and help clean up. If you happen to have a pop up tent, please let Gayle know.

Sign up in the Narthex or email Gayle at [childrensmin@mequonumc.org](mailto:childrensmin@mequonumc.org)



### Family Sharing Food Pantry

Volunteer for Food Sorting!

**September 16**

1:30 - 3:30 pm

Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex! We are no longer collecting egg cartons!

## Connecting with Jesus Christ and One Another

Come ~ Connect ~ Grow Community

### Reflections Resumes

*Wednesday, September 10, 6:00 pm*

The Reflections book group will resume meeting on Wednesday, September 10 at the home of Barb Henneck. We begin at 6pm. Our discussion box will be The Frozen

### Blood Pressure Checks

*Sunday, September 14*

The nurses will resume blood pressure screening on the second Sunday each month. We will be in the parlor taking blood pressures on September 14 before and after service. Please stop in, we look

River, by Ariel Lawhon. Please RSVP to [Barb](#) if you are planning to attend.

Reflections is a women's book group that meets monthly for discussion and fellowship. New women are always welcome.

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### **Road Clean Up**

*Sunday, September 14, 1:00 pm*

Join us to clean up our community. Meet at Katherine Kearney Carpenter Park, 801 W Zedler Ln, in the parking lot. All supplies are provided. The cleanup generally takes less than 2 hours. Participants must be at least 11 years of age. If you would like to participate contact [Wendy Porterfield](#). Come lend a hand!

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### **Fiber Arts Ministry!**

*Tuesday, September 23, 6:00 pm*

Bring your most recent WIP and join us on the 23rd. We will have snacks and good company! If there are any suggestions for our Fiber Arts, let [Jenna](#) know. All levels of crafters are welcome!

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### **Save the Date: Crescendo Community Concert**

*Sunday, October 12, 3:00pm*

Our next Crescendo Community Concert will be October 12th at MUMC! We are excited to welcome a very talented and special duo to our church for the afternoon! Please put this in your calendar!

forward to seeing you.

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### **Family Promise Host Week**

*September 22-26*

MUMC will be providing meals for Family Promise the weeks of September 22. If you can contribute complete meal service, or even a portion of the meals, please let Pam Layton or Connie Pukaite know. This week there are 17 guests at the Family Promise shelter in Port Washington. Your help with this important mission is much appreciated.

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### **Save the Date: Songs and Dances from Around the World**

*Friday, November 14, 7:30pm*

You are invited to JP Horcasitas' upcoming solo recital at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center as part of their 2025-2026 season. The concert will be themed "Songs and Dances from Around the World," and it will feature a mix of beautiful pieces, including Bach's Chaconne in D minor arranged by Ferruccio Busoni, works by three Spanish composers, and a transcription of Gershwin's "Someone to Watch Over Me" by Keith Jarrett, among others.

The performance will take place in the Dawes Studio Theater at the Wilson Center. You can purchase tickets [online through the Wilson Center](#).

### **Lunch Bunch Resumes!**

Tuesday, September 16, 11:00 am  
*Starting Point*

In accordance with our mission to connect people to Jesus Christ and each other, please prayerfully consider joining our lunch bunch bible studies. We meet once a week on Tuesday at 11:00am followed by an hour of fellowship and light snacks. We meet beginning on September 16th and will take a break for the summer after our last meeting on May 12, 2026.

Our first study will be Starting Point. This study will be an 8 week DVD study led by Andy Stanley. Andy Stanley is considered one of the most influential pastors in America.

Everything has a starting point – your life, your relationships, your education, your career. Sometimes we forget that faith has a starting point as well. For some of us our faith journeys began in childhood as a set of beliefs handed to us by a parent, teacher, pastor, or in my case Sister Mary Martin. Maybe you developed a framework of faith based on personal experience. Maybe you had no faith at all. Too often, a faith formed in childhood is not strong enough to withstand the pressure of adult life.

But what if you could find a new starting point for faith?

Welcome to Starting Point—an 8 session small group conversation about faith. Whether you are new to faith, curious about God, or coming back to church after some time away, it's a place where your opinions and beliefs are valued, and no question is off limits.

During these sessions you will watch the video component each week in preparation or as part of the discussion and explore and share what you are learning with other people in a conversational environment.

Sessions include:

- Start
- Problem
- Trust
- Rules
- Jesus
- Grace
- Faith
- Invitation

If you have any questions regarding lunch bunch, please feel free to contact [Jean Paulus](#).

## Understanding AI

There are a lot of debates regarding human intelligence and machine intelligence these days. And those debates inevitably bring up moral and civic questions about how to handle the technology called Artificial Intelligence (AI), and what it means to be human.

John Lennox and Michael Sandel challenge us to think about those important questions in their speeches. We will have opportunities to watch them as follows:

Narrow AI by John Lennox (20 mins)  
Sunday, September 14 11am (parlor)  
Thursday, September 18 7pm (zoom)

Artificial General Intelligence by John Lennox (25 mins)  
Sunday, September 21, 11am (parlor)  
Thursday, September 25, 7pm (zoom)

What it means to be human by Michael Sandel (13 mins)  
Sunday, September 28, 11am (parlor)  
Thursday, October 2, 7pm (zoom)

John Lennox, an emeritus Professor of Mathematics at Oxford University, is an internationally renowned speaker on the interface of science, philosophy and religion.

Michael Sandel is an American political philosopher and a professor at Harvard University, where his course, Justice, was the university's first course to be made freely available online and on television. It has been viewed by tens of millions of people around the world.

Please join us in watching the videos and sharing your thoughts and insights with others. If you plan to join Thursday zoom sessions, please sign up in the narthex, and Pastor Sue will send you the zoom link.

### Thank You to the Anderson Family

*Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ, Jesus.  
(1 Thessalonians 5:18)*

On behalf of the Jackson family, I want you to know how much I appreciate your expertise. Your talents speak volumes as to how you love and care about people's lives. Your expert advice helped us visualize our dreams by building a pristine pergola for tired gardeners to rest from their day's work. Matt, you went beyond the call of duty. Because of your sincere selfless attitude you made our vision come to life. Your generosity will serve many families through the years. On behalf of my late husband Bill, and our late son Byron, and myself, "The Gardeners," wish for you and your family many blessings now and in the future.

## Kid's Korner

**Friday October 24, 6-8pm: Fall Fest Kids Connection** Light dinner, crafts, games and decorated door treating.

**Sunday, November 30, after church: Advent Kids Connections.** Pack a lunch and stay to create an Advent keepsake to prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus.

Sunday, December 14, during church: Children's Christmas Program. Arrive at 8:30am to practice!

Sunday, December 21, 6-8pm: Live Nativity and the Shops of Bethlehem

Wednesday, December 24, 4pm: Christmas Eve Service

## From Pastor Sue

### Connecting with Jesus Christ and One Another

Years ago, I came across some interesting statistics on how people spend their lives, given a life expectancy of 70. Someone went to the trouble of researching what people do with their time and came up with these results: If we live to be 70, most of us will have spent three solid years, 24 hours a day, acquiring an education, six years eating, fourteen years working, five years riding in automobiles or airplanes, four years of talking with each other – some more, some less, I suppose, one year sick or recovering from sickness, three years reading books, magazines & newspapers, ten years amusing ourselves – watching TV, going to sports games, fishing, etc. and 24 years of sleeping! That totals up to 70 years.

Obviously, the calculation is done when the average life expectancy in the U.S. was around 70. The most recent U.S. life expectancy at birth is 78.4 years, according to the final data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for 2023. I suspect that the numbers in each category would increase accordingly. Still, there wouldn't be a significant change in the proportion of each part categorized. Now, let's suppose that we spent one hour on a worship service with our brothers and sisters in Christ every Sunday of our lives, for 78.4 years, through infancy, childhood, and adulthood. If we did, how much time would we have spent? The answer is less than 6 months.

This may be an extreme example, but there is a poignant fact to consider, isn't there? The point is, if we don't prioritize our relationship with God and the people of God, our time will slip away to many things that scream for our attention every day. Most likely, we won't have time for the things of God. As we start this fall season, may we put more time into our relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ, and others through weekly corporate worship, fellowship with others, growth group study, reading the Word, daily prayer devotion, etc., so that we may go deeper and stronger in connecting ourselves to Jesus Christ and to one another this fall and beyond.

In Christ,  
Sue

### Our Vision:

**To be THE bridge to community connection, collaboration,  
and common ground through Jesus Christ**

**How can YOU help MUMC achieve our vision?**

Like, follow and repost MUMC Social Media -



**Forward this newsletter to:**

- a friend or neighbor looking for community and connection
- a family whose children would love 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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How did you like this edition of the Spire?



**Deadline for SPIRE copy: the 25th of the month. Send articles to [news@mequonumc.org](mailto: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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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-1pm / Closed Fridays

Sunday Schedule:

9:30am Worship Service

10:30am Fellowship

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