

September
2025

The Current



Monthly News from Port Edwards United Methodist Church

Pouring Forth the Living Water: Bloom by the River!



EXPERIENCING THE LAVA OF GOD!

33 children attended the Vacation Bible School in August sponsored by G.R.A.C.E. (Greater Rapids Area Churches for Ecumenism)! Three days of crafts, music, science, games, and learning about Jesus concluded with a luau party at the First Congregational Church. They had lots of fun and received the love of Jesus along the way, too! (Leis and grass skirts required for all 😊 !)



2025 MISSIONAL GIVING REPORT, YTD

MONTH	CAUSE	AMOUNT
Jan.	Human Relations Day Special Offering (1/29)	\$143.00
Jan./Feb.	Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN) (3/4)	\$510.00
March	Wisconsin Council of Churches (3/27)	\$150.00
March	Combined Lenten Services Special Offering: Families Helping Families (PESD Benevolence Fund) (3/12, 3/26)	\$210.00
Mar./Apr.	Easter Lilies (21 lilies ordered) (throughout Lent)	\$277.00
April	Final Combined Lenten Service Special Offering: FOCUS Food Pantry (4/9)	\$99.00
April	Wood County Jail Ministry	\$100.00
April	College Care Packages	\$230.00
April	Reconciling Ministries Network (a private donation through the church)	\$500.00
May	InGathering 2025	\$120.00
June	G.R.A.C.E. local student debt	\$407.49
Sp. Offering	Habitat for Humanity (one-week special offering)	\$220.00
July/August	Habitat for Humanity	\$490.00
Sp. Offering	School Supplies (Stuff-the-Bus)	\$20.00
YTD		\$3,476.49

FLAT ROOF REPAIR

Our flat roof was **repaired** on Monday, August 19th
by Nick Michels and Sons Roofing Inc. in Nekoosa.

The cost was exactly as quoted: \$8,550.00

Through some very generous mid-August donations from our congregation,
we raised the total amount just in time!

Thank you all for your generosity!

(Here's a real-life, actual photo of the workers hard at work on our roof! 😊)



LAWN MOWING SCHEDULE:

For the week of . . .

September 7th – Bill L.

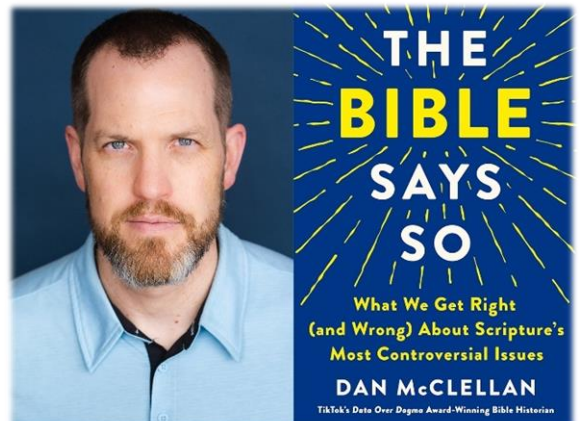
September 14th – The Mazureks

September 21st – The Grundens

September 28th – Pastor

October 5th – Chuck L.

(end of season)



Good Book Recommendation

I (Pastor Caleb) was walking through Walmart the other day when I saw the book “**The Bible Says So**” and I immediately rolled my eyes. When I think of good, quality, non-evangelical resources I don’t think of Walmart. So, I picked it up just to look at it more closely and prepared myself to scrutinize it harshly. I was very surprised to see that it was written by a guy I follow on social media: Dan McClellan. *(I guess I don’t follow him too closely because I didn’t know he had written a book!)* He is a biblical scholar who spends most of his time online rebuking bad evangelical theology/propaganda on social media. I am currently reading the book, and I would recommend this for a read, especially since it is so readily available in the book section of Walmart. McClellan is nerdy TikTok biblical scholar who tries to set the record straight about a number of hot-button topics like: “**No, the Bible doesn’t say that life begins at conception.**” “**Yes, the Bible does tell you to spank your children early and often, but that doesn’t give you permission to go and whack your kids.**” “*There are so many people out there who think that if ‘the Bible says so,’ that’s the end of the story,*” Dan said. “*I wanted to show that there is so much more to the story than ‘the Bible says so.’ Frequently, the Bible does not say that. Or even if it does say that it might say the exact opposite as well somewhere else.*”

An Evening with

ト トロ

(Totoro)

A small crowd, but a beautiful night for an outdoor movie in the church parking lot on 8/27.

This film, "My Neighbor Totoro," which has a Millennial-age cult following, is regarded as one of the greatest animated films of all time.

Totoro, a wood spirit befriended by two sisters, is one of the most popular animated characters in Japanese culture.

Defying Gravity!



The Broadway-show-turned-movie (2024) rivals *Wizard of Oz* (1939), its own inspiration, in the level of wonderment and amazement upon its release.

The music, storyline, set designs, choreography, and cinematography all came together to make an incredible experience –

warming the hearts of even the greatest detesters of musicals!

The movie, based on the Broadway musical, based on the Gregory Maguire's 1995 novel, is a reimagining of L. Frank Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. Set in the Land of Oz prior to Dorothy Gale's arrival from

Kansas, the plot explores the early relationship between Elphaba, the future Wicked Witch of the West, and her dormitory roommate Galinda, who becomes Glinda the Good Witch.

The musical is split between two movies:

Wicked (2024) and *Wicked: For Good* (2025).



Indoor movie night:

"Wicked"

Wednesday, November 19th

PEUMC sanctuary (blow-up screen) -
6:00p-ish

Night at the Movies:

"Wicked: For Good"

when released in theatres (~Nov. 21st)

- Rogers Cinema

GATHERINGS FOR SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

MemoryShare:

Tuesday, Septem. 2nd @ 10:30a – El Café

Tuesday, October 7th @ 10:30a – El Café

Men's Breakfast:

Saturday, Septem. 6th – 8:00a – El Café

Saturday, October 4th – 8:00a – El Café

U.W.I.F.: October 12th will be UWIF Sunday

Circle of Friends: September 10th



SAVE THE DATE:

P.E.U.M.C.'s week to serve at Neighborhood Meals
(formerly 'The Neighborhood Table')

is Thursday, November 20th (~4:30-6:30p)



HOLIDAY BAZAAR & LUNCHEON

SAT., NOVEMBER 1, 2025

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

The changing of the seasons reminds us the Bazaar is just around the corner. Plans are well-underway. We are craving the delicious chicken salad and barbecue, not to mention the homemade pie (served all day)!

We are excited to announce that a few local vendors have been asked to sell their crafts at the bazaar this year by renting a table. We hope this addition will increase interest, and foot traffic, for sales at our booths and luncheon. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors.

We are asking for donations of your handcrafted creations and baked goods for that day. Sign up sheets will be available on the table in the narthex beginning September 7th.

On September 7th posters for advertising the event will also be ready for distribution. Won't you help UWIF by taking several posters from the church entry and deliver them to designated destinations?

It takes a church-wide effort to do this and we are most grateful for your willingness to help. THANK YOU!!

UWIF Bazaar Committee

Questions? Contact Julie Berg (715-570-8880) or Becky Taylor (715-887-2163)

The Perfect Day for Service in the Park!



About 75 people attended our Service-in-the-Park on Labor Day Weekend. This year, it was held at Ripple Creek Park. The weather was perfect! Rev. Kate West from First Congregational Church preached on Luke 14, “inviting the poor to your banquet.” She quoted Archbishop, William Temple, “*The Church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members.*” The service concluded with Holy Communion, reminding us of the oneness we have through Jesus Christ. Then we fellowshiped over a delicious potluck!

Next year: Sun., Sept. 6th – Alexander-Edwards Memorial Park -Nekoosa U.C.C. hosts



Pastor played "referee" on 8/26 for the Sunrise Rotary's minigolf benefit for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Wood & Adams Co. Pastor fined players in order to raise more \$\$\$. About \$5,000 was raised that evening.

Couple's Night Out

{Dinner and a Game}

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH

DATE CHANGE!

5:30P - 7:30P - PEUMC's Fellow. Hall

Calling all not-so-newlyweds for a night of food and live entertainment!

The dinner begins at 5:30P

Catered buffet by Chat-R-Box (need a minimum of 25 people!)

2 entrees / 3 sides / salad / rolls / cookies / drinks

\$18.50/person – due at the start of the event

A live performance of The Not-So-Newlywed Game will commence around 6:20P

GAME: Couples will compete against each other in a series of fun question rounds to determine how well spouses know each other.

"I would be going alone, can I still attend?" Singles are welcome, too! If you want to participate in the game, we will have a few rounds where singles can pair up for some funny (not-so-wedded) questions.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: Sunday, September 14th



OUR MIGRANT GOD

A 3-session study by Pastor Caleb

Want to develop a Christian vision for immigrant justice?

Want to know what it takes to become a citizen of the U.S.?

Want to hear about on-the-ground stories of life at the border?

Study based on Isaac Samuel Villegas' 2025 book, *Migrant God*

Session 1: Monday, Sept. 15th / Session 2: Monday, Sept. 22nd /

Session 3: Monday, Sept. 29th

6:00p – 7:00p – PEUMC's Memorial Lounge & on ZOOM

REGISTER UP THROUGH 9/14. Free.

MEMBERSHIP NOTICE:

Lynn Dunahee has restored her membership (8/27/25).

Candy Prah-Tell is beginning the process for transferring to PEUMC (8/27/25).

Sue and Ken Brzezinski have withdrawn their membership from PEUMC, on good terms, citing comfortability staying at home (8/24/25).

SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST ELECTRONICALLY

Send your prayer requests (joys or concerns) to prayer@peumc.org
(email goes to pastor's private email).

OR you can use the online form available at peumc.org/prayer.

KICKOFF SUNDAY

Sunday, September 7th

PEUMC sanctuary – 10:00A

Start of *Journey Through the Bible, Part 4: JOHN!*

Annual Congregational Photo

Cookout following the service around gazebo



SEPTEMBER 14th

A representative from ODC will be filling the pulpit on Sunday, September 14th, as Pastor Caleb spends time in Door County with his parents.

ODC's mission is *"to empower people with disabilities to achieve their work and life goals."* ODC was founded in 1965, with our own Dorothy Boger playing a significant role. ODC supports individuals with disabilities throughout Central and North Central Wisconsin by providing skills training and employment services, and assistance in becoming more active in their communities. In 2023, ODC provided services to more than 1,00 individuals!



PEUMC offered their appreciation for Colby on 8/24 and offered him a farewell after 19 months as our first Media Technician!

2 Events in October without dates yet:

Appreciation Dinner for the Port Edwards Fire & Police Department,
hosted at PEUMC.

Last year, we threw an appreciation dinner for the workers of *El Café*. This fall, we would like to do the same for the volunteer firefighters, EMTs, and police officers of our village. Date TBA.

Marshfield Wesley UMC to Join PEUMC in worship
The people of Wesley UMC in Marshfield would like to join us for worship.

This was **not** the planning of either Pastor Doug or Pastor Caleb, but the will of the Wesley congregation!
Sunday, October 26th is the proposed date.

A potluck **must** follow the service, as per Methodist Law. ☺



First Saturdays of each month.
8:00a – El Café
Open to all the men of the church (*no girls allowed!!!*)



MemoryShare

First Tuesday of each month.
10:30a – El Café
A support group
for all widows/widowers

Worship Servants for September

Communion: M. Hintz Candles: L. Hintz	Greeter(s)	Usher	Liturgist	Pew Ambassador	Refreshments
Sun., September 7th	Candy P.T.	Sue T.	Leo T.	Kathy Mc.	
Sun., September 14th			Candy P.T.	Kathy Mc.	Rose W. & McGraths
Sun., September 21st				Diane S.	
Sun., September 28th				Sue T.	

Please notify the church office if you would like your name down for a certain position and date.

office@peumc.org / 715-887-3011 /



Sundays in September

Sept. 7 th	<i>KICKOFF Sunday</i>	JOURNEY THRU THE BIBLE: JOHN! SERIES: <i>"From Babel to Bethel: Encounters with God on the Journey"</i>	Tower of Babel (Congregational photo & cookout)
Sept. 14 th	<i>ODC represents</i> (<i>Second Sunday Refreshments – Town Hall Mtg.</i>)		God Covenants with Abraham & Sarah
Sept. 21 st			Jacob Runs Away from His Brother and Has a Dream
Sept. 28 th	<i>Hispanic Heritage Sunday</i>		Manna in the Wilderness and Water from a Rock
October 5 th	<i>World Communion Sunday</i> <i>Trigeminal Neuralgia Awareness</i>		The Golden Calf



Third Quarter Town Hall Gathering

During our Second Sunday Refreshments following the service on **September 14th**, members of the Leadership

Council will make themselves available to discuss current business action items, projects, and discussions concerning the church.

United Methodist Church Leads Global Church in Divestment from Occupier Governments

Press Release – Religious News – August 18th, 2025

The United Methodist Church (UMC), one of the world's largest Christian denominations, has become the world's first church to announce a historic policy to divest and exclude the bonds of governments maintaining prolonged illegal military occupations, namely Israel, Turkey and Morocco, thereby fulfilling the call of the church's General Conference in 2024. Wespath, the church's primary investing agency, manages the pensions and health benefits of the church's clergy in a portfolio of more than \$26 billion, the world's largest reported portfolio of a faith-based institution. For decades, justice advocates in the church have called for this agency to divest its holdings that support and profit from the Israeli occupation of Palestinian Territories.

Since 2010, United Methodists for Kairos Response (UMKR), named for the Palestinian Christian movement Kairos Palestine, has led the call for United Methodist ethical investing that would reflect the church's long-held positions supporting Palestinian human rights and freedom from occupation.

The UMC's General Conference, the denomination's top decision-making body, on April 30, 2024, adopted a landmark resolution written and submitted by UMKR, calling for all church investors to avoid investing in the government bonds of Israel, Turkey, and Morocco, due to their prolonged, illegal military occupations of their neighbors: Palestine, Northern Cyprus, and Morocco. Various United Nations bodies have identified these decades-long occupations as illegal and violating the rights of the peoples whose territories they are controlling and colonizing.

This groundbreaking legislative success in 2024 – the first Christian denomination in the world to call for divestment from Israel's bonds – was the result of many years church-wide education, grassroots mobilization, and denominational lobbying by UMKR. This church movement was launched in 2010 with the express goal of achieving significant divestment action in the denomination, in response to the Palestinian BDS Call of 2005 (BDS: boycott, divestment, sanctions) which was echoed in the Kairos Palestine Document "A Moment of Truth" in 2009.

The resolution makes clear the church's intention to avoid profiting from the suffering and oppression caused by these decades-long occupations: Israel's occupation of the West Bank including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip since 1967, Turkey's occupation of Northern Cyprus since 1974, and Morocco's occupation of Western Sahara since 1976.

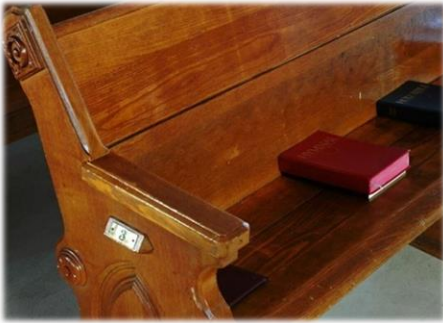
The United Nations has identified flagrant human rights violations in all of these occupations, including: land confiscation, theft of natural resources, home demolitions and illegal colonization, deprivation of food and water, violence against civilians, mass incarceration for population control, and brutality against children.

The announcement by Wespath comes in the midst of growing international outrage over Israel's genocidal assault on Palestinians in Gaza and the expansion in settlers and military violence, ethnic cleansing, and annexation plans in the occupied West Bank including East Jerusalem. That outrage has been reflected in bolder actions by world powers and increasing calls for sanctions on Israel in the U.S. Congress.

By not investing in Israeli bonds, United Methodists reduce their complicity in Israel's genocide, apartheid regime, and its 77-year-old occupation of the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

You're missed: A message to those who haven't been at church lately

by Laura Buchanan – umc.org – July 28th, 2025



You are an important part of the body of Christ, and we have a seat ready for you in worship, at a shared table or in a small group! We welcome you to reconnect with a United Methodist faith family, or to engage with us for the first time.

If you haven't been to church in a while, that's okay. We understand. With the changes and challenges we've been facing in the past half-dozen years, we all have needed to take time to process and reevaluate.

While we understand, we also invite you to reconnect, rekindle your relationships and get involved once more.

Unable to attend in person? Watch a livestream of worship services and ask a pastor about other ways you can be involved in the life of the congregation.

Chances are things are different than when you were last at church. Pastors have changed appointments, ministries have evolved or shifted their focus, and the community might have grown. Don't let sentimentality get in the way of your spiritual connectedness with others. Church may not feel the same as it did when you last attended, nor how it may have felt with former pastors or worship leaders. Your friends will probably look and feel older, maybe many have passed away or moved, the crowd might be smaller, there may be some new faces you don't know yet. ***But all of that is okay.*** The church is a living and breathing organic system subject to the same life changes as you and I. Get curious about the **new** things God is doing and how God might be calling you to take part.

All Christians are vital to the faith community. As Paul says in Romans 12, *"In the same way, though there are many of us, we are one body in Christ, and individually we belong to each other."*

COMMUNITY NOURISHES FAITH

The United Methodist Church is a safe space to be your authentic self, the unique and beautiful individual that God created you to be. You can ask challenging questions and wrestle with difficult decisions. You can thrive in a community where everyone is trying to figure out their purpose and live as faithful disciples of Christ.

While a strong faith is not dependent upon church attendance, being part of a body of believers is an essential aspect of mission, worship and celebration. Together, we pray, grow, celebrate communion and baptisms, and share joys and heartaches.

Church families offer support in times of distress, refuge in times of fear, healing in times of pain and a place to anchor during life's storms. They'll also join you in giving thanks when you are celebrating good news or exciting life events.

The outpouring of care that comes from your congregation comes directly from God. God moves among us and asks us to use our time and talents to serve each other. Don't miss an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ – and to accept this gift when you are in need.

EXTEND INVITATIONS TO PEOPLE YOU MISS

If you're reading this and you're already active in a congregation, you are likely missing people who used to be part of your faith community. You are not alone. The yearning you have to reconnect with people might be a call from God to amp up your outreach and invitation efforts.

Be sure your church is offering a good mix of discipleship opportunities, fellowship events and mission activities. This will ensure families and individuals can find a place to plug in, no matter where they are on their faith journey.

Personal invitations will always be the most powerful acts of evangelism. Call or text people you haven't seen in a long time, ask how they are doing and invite them to join you for a cup of coffee. One-on-one interactions open the door to deeper understanding of what is happening in a person's life. Then, you can share ways that the church can support them.

Don't be disheartened. Time and patience are ever-present elements of outreach. Continue to pray about your efforts and listen to God's prompting and direction.

Too much for right now? Start slowly.

If participating in a worship service feels like too much right now, remember that Sunday mornings are not the only time churches are active. Follow nearby churches on social media and subscribe to their e-newsletters so that you are aware of opportunities to engage. Consider these ideas:

- Fellowship events:** Attend a fall festival, Advent cookie swap, Easter egg hunt, ice cream social, chili cook-off, craft night or pancake breakfast. These gatherings present an opportunity to see familiar faces, meet new people and catch up on congregational news.

- Bible study or small groups:** Small groups are the perfect places to ask questions and learn from others' perspectives. Perhaps your pastor leads a weekly study, or groups gather throughout the week to pray together. Joining a smaller group can be a solid first step back into the larger community.

- Mission efforts:** Volunteering at the food bank, Vacation Bible School, community garden days or similar events are excellent times to nurture relationships. Serving alongside those who share your passions will help you find commonality and build friendships.

YOU BELONG HERE

God calls us to lean on each other, to ban together in mission and to grow, both in personal relationships with Christ and as a faith family. These facets of God's grace and love can only be found through communal worship, prayer and fellowship. Don't miss out on the many blessings that God has waiting in a United Methodist congregation near you.



Bishop's Prayerful Response to Minneapolis Shooting

"A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping." Jeremiah 31:15a

Beloved in Christ, we hold in prayer the Annunciation Catholic Church community, the first responders, and all who witnessed or carry the weight of this violence. In the spirit of Christ, we even remember the family of the individual who carried out this act, trusting in a God whose mercy extends into the deepest places of human brokenness.

God of the Annunciation, You spoke life into Mary's fear and into the world's darkness. Today, as we grieve children whose lives were cut short, and as we stand in the shadow of violence in a parish that bears the name of promise, we ache for that same Word of Life. Breathe Your mercy into this community. Cradle every grieving heart in Your compassion. Speak again Your promise that death will not have the final word. Make us instruments of Your peace, that we may bear witness to life even in the valley of loss. Through Christ, who is our Light and our Hope: AMEN.

Bishop Lanette Plambeck, *Resident Bishop*

Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area of The United Methodist Church

Wisconsin UMCOR in Milwaukee for Flood Relief

From the Wisconsin Conference Facebook Page:

The Wisconsin Conference Disaster Response Coordinators have been on-the-scene in Southeast Wisconsin since the August 10-11 flooding. Over 1,500 clean-up kits from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) have been distributed with more on the way from Midwest Mission. Currently, the Coordinators are working out of First UMC in Waukesha and the first cleanup crews are arriving from Northern Illinois.

The Wisconsin Conference Disaster Relief is partnering with the Red Cross to create a multi-agency resource center for residents impacted by the historic flooding in Milwaukee and southeast Wisconsin. The resource centers are one-stop locations where people affected by the disaster can receive assistance and learn about available resources as they begin planning the next steps in their recovery.



Contribute to Wisconsin's Disaster Relief Efforts in Milwaukee:

Mail Checks to:

The Wisconsin Conference of The UMC
750 Windsor Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Write in memo:

Disaster Recovery-Wisconsin #7775



Release from the Milwaukee Health Department

August 18th, 2025

MILWAUKEE – The City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) is urging city residents impacted by the historic flooding last week to take advantage of free cleaning kits available. The cleaning kits were made possible through a generous donation from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) with distribution supported by The Salvation Army. Milwaukee Commissioner of Health, Mike Totoraitis, said, “We are grateful to UMCOR and The Salvation Army for their partnership and commitment to supporting our community.”

Prayer Vigil Targets Immigration Policies

August 26th, 2025

Faith leaders gathered Monday outside Miami Correctional Facility [near Bunker Hill, Indiana] to protest state and federal immigration policies. The demonstration followed a federal announcement earlier this month that the north-central Indiana prison would house up to 1,000 immigrants detained during enforcement operations. About 150 people attended the vigil, where clergy led prayers, hymns, and scripture readings. Reverend Matt Landry of Castleton United Methodist Church said they stood “*in prayerful support and solidarity of our immigrant brothers and sisters*” and lamented the use of detention centers. The group also criticized language they say dehumanizes immigrants, including the Trump Administration’s nickname for the facility: “*Speedway Slammer*.” Pastor Steve Cain of Union Chapel United Methodist Church in Decatur said scripture calls for supporting immigrants, adding, “*There’s no way you can escape the justice message in Scripture for those who are sojourners.*”

-from Vincennes PBS.org

PORT HOME GROUP EVENTS – SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Friday, September 26th
McMillan Library – Lily Henley concert –
7:00 – 9:30p
Candy Prahl-Tell, *host*

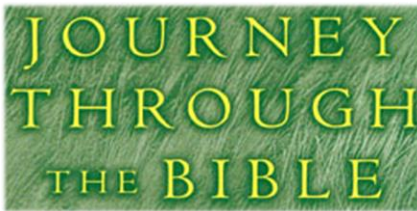


Saturday, October 18th –
Aaron's Wines and Steins (& pizza) –
5:30p
Jody Parks, *host*



Home Group rules:
anyone in and outside our congregation may attend Home Group events.
It does not matter which “Group” you are in. (Please observe any RSVP requests.)

Sunday, September 7th Kicks off our



*The Final Chapter:
The Year of John*

We have journeyed through the Bible three times already: During the '22-'23 church year, we focused on the Gospel of Matthew; the Gospel of Mark in '23 to '24; and this past year we experienced the Gospel of Luke. Now we receive the **Gospel of John** for our *fourth and final* journey. This completes one full cycle through the Narrative Lectionary. *We invite you to join us on this journey!*

This Year's Theme:



The stories of Year 4 tell of God's invitation given to all people to be in relationship with Godself. We discover many of the ways God provides gifts of grace at every turn. God is constantly calling the unexpected to step out in faith. And as they do, God never fails to equip them for the journey. God's continued presence and abounding grace allows us to answer God's call, and through those blessings, to live in hope as we serve Jesus through our neighbor.

SOME NOTABLE SCRIPTURES THIS FALL: *Tower of Babel, Jacob's Ladder, Manna in the Wilderness, the Golden Calf, Deborah the Judge, David & Goliath, Shadrack/Meshack/Abednego, and the Valley of the Dry Bones.*

September – October Sermon Series (Unit #1)

“FROM BABEL TO BETHEL: ENCOUNTERS WITH GOD IN THE JOURNEY”

A 5-part series on how God meets us in our failures, fears, and wilderness moments – leading us toward transformation.

Week 1 – September 7th - (Tower of Babel) – God affirms diversity and resistance to empire

Week 2 – September 14th - (God Covenants with Abraham & Sarah)

Week 3 – September 21st - (Jacob steals Esau's blessing) – God works through flawed people and unjust systems.

Week 4 – September 28th - (Manna in the Wilderness) – God provides in our desert places

Week 5 – October 5th - (The Golden Calf) – Grace doesn't erase consequences, but it always offers a way back.

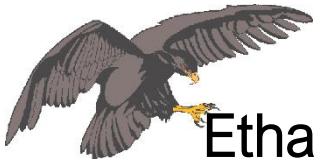
Leadership Council Update

At their August 24th meeting, the Leadership Council made the following decisions:

- (1) "Approve a one-time apportionment payment between ~\$16,000 to the Conference in December 2025." This is consistent with what previous Councils have done since 2014.
- (2) "Starting January 2025, we will begin making monthly apportionment payments. We will begin by paying one-fourth of the total monthly bill throughout 2025. Approximately \$500 monthly."
- (3) "Leadership Council will provide the main 'fixings' for the 9/7 cookout."
- (4) New policies were constructed for the secured use of our new church credit cards.
- (5) "Send letter to Love Inc. indicating our removal as a member church." This came after concerns of doctrinal squabbling within Love Inc., accusations of discrimination from LGBTQ clients, and a further misalignment from the organization's stated purpose and the Reconciling Status of our church.
- (6) All plants with stickers or thorns will be removed from the property and a policy will be put in place to keep new plants (like rose bushes) from being planted on church property.
- (7) "Fix the main entry door's crash bar at a cost of around \$1,900." A bent mechanism into the push bar has been making the front doors hard to use and lock.
- (8) Creation of a new, unpaid position titled "Property Manager" to begin in 2026; this person will work with Jeff, particularly with matters concerning insurance and legalities.
- (9) The Council toured the multiple storage areas in the Lower Level of the church and made decisions on the retention and disposal of certain items and the future plans for these unused spaces. For instance, the old pastor's office/"paper room" will be kept empty but maintained as the church's library and history room.
- (10) *Discussion*: What would it take for us to be certified as a community shelter by the Red Cross?
- (11) *Future discussion*: Removing the dying tree in the parsonage's front yard.



Sunday School for children for the 2025-26 school year will continue to be on the second Sunday of each month during the worship service. Our first lesson will be on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH.



Ethan Boerner hired as New Media Technician

Ethan Boerner, son of Matt & Jenna Boerner, twin to Collin, and brother to Korbin, begins September 7th as our new Media Technician. Ethan is a Senior at John Edwards High School and is player #31 on the football team. Let us welcome Ethan as our M.T. and extend extra grace as he begins to learn the ropes!

Two September-October Mission Projects



1.

COLLECTION OF ITEMS, *NOT* MONEY!

Hygiene:

Toilet paper
Bars of soap
Toothpaste
Individually-wrapped toothbrushes

Winter Clothing:

Jackets
Fleeces
snowpants
Hats / mittens / scarves
Handwarmers

Rooted & Rising was founded in 1962 as the Methodist Children's Service and was initially based in Madison before opening a second office in Milwaukee in the early 70s. From the very beginning, housing, social work outreach, education, and community building have been at the core of the agency's mission. The Wisconsin Conference of The UMC and the United Methodist Women (UMW) were instrumental in the founding and support of this organization as it gained its foothold in the Milwaukee community. R&R manages 72 units of income-restricted apartments and townhouses near Washington Park (Milwaukee), provides a state-licensed childcare center, emergency food assistance, and provides events, resources, and spaces to foster community engagement.



2.

New Trash & Recycling Bins for the Church

Collecting Money

Over the years, people at PEUMC have asked "Where can I recycle ____?" And the answer has always been, "There is no place to recycle inside the church." In accordance to our efforts to "Go Green," we are seeking funding for the purchase of several PAIRS of trash & recycling cans like the ones in the photo above. One pair of bins costs \$80 (\$40 separately). We would like, at a minimum, two sets. But according to how much we raise, we could replace other cans throughout the church (particularly in the restrooms and work areas).

[NOTE: we are not replacing our exterior cans provided by the disposal company.]

NOTE: Project #1 is not a fundraiser, but a collection of items.

Project #2 is the fundraiser.

All donations for the "Sept.-Oct. Bimonthly Mission" will go toward this project only.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS – 9/7 – 10/19

Below are daily scripture readings that are based on Sunday morning's lectionary passages. While not all parts of the Bible can be covered, the weekday readings help to connect on Sunday's readings to the next one.

**These will be printed weekly in our bulletins as well. OUR LECTIONARY YEAR BEGINS 9/7.*

NEW YEAR	Genesis 11:1-9	Tower of Babel	9/29	Exodus 18	Jethro's Advice
9/8	Gene. 11:10-12:9	Call of Abram	9/30	Exodus 19	Mount Sinai
9/9	Genesis 12:10-20	Abram in Egypt	10/1	Exodus 20	Ten Command.
9/10	Genesis 13	Abram & Lot	10/2	Exodus 24	God's Mountain
9/11	Genesis 14:1-17	Lot	10/3	Exodus 25-27	The Tabernacle
9/12	Genesis 14:18-24	Melchizedek	10/4	Exodus 28-31	The Priesthood
9/13	Genesis 16	Hagar	10/5	Exodus 32	The Golden Calf
9/14	Genesis 15 & 17	God & Covenant	10/6	Exodus 33	Leaving Sinai
9/15	Gen. 18:1-15 & 21:1-7	Isaac is born	10/7	Exodus 34	New Tablets
9/16	Genesis 18:16-19:29	Sodom & Gom.	10/8	Exodus 40	Tabernacle Built
9/17	Genesis 20	Sarah at Gerar	10/9	Judges 1	Israel's Failure
9/18	Genesis 22	Near Sac. of Isaac	10/10	Judges 2	Israel's Disobedience
9/19	Genesis 23	Sarah's Death	10/11	Judges 3	First Judges
9/20	Genesis 24, 25:19-34	Isaac & Rebekah	10/12	Judges 4	Deborah & Jael
9/21	Genesis 27 & 28	Jacob & Esau	10/13	Judges 13-14	Samson
9/22	Genesis 29	Jacob Meets Rachel	10/14	Judges 15-16	Samson & Delilah
9/23	Genesis 32	Jacob wrestles	10/15	1 Samuel 1	Samuel's Birth
9/24	Genesis 35:16-29; 37	Joseph Is Sold	10/16	1 Samuel 3	Samuel's Calling
9/25	Genesis 41	Rising to Power	10/17	1 Samuel 8	Demand for a King
9/26	Exodus 1 – 2	Birth of Moses	10/18	1 Samuel 9	Saul Chosen
9/27	Exodus 15	Bitter Water	10/19	1 Samuel 17	David & Goliath
9/28	Exodus 16, 17:1-6	Manna & Water			

SEPTEMBER HOUSEHOLDS



Throughout September,
our congregation is asked
to pray for the following people:
(randomly chosen on 9/2)

**Damon & Donna K. / Lynn D. / Lily S. /
Jerry F. / Sue M. / Jerene & Mark S. /
Samantha G. / Pastors Caleb & Doug**

**THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS, FOR HELPING
OUR NEIGHBORS IN AUGUST!**



A program of Aspirus Riverview Hospital
made possible by United Way of
South Wood & Adams Counties

Home Delivered Meals Drivers

Skip & Ellen Mazurek
Pat & Kathy McGrath
Sue Mitchell
Nina Pelo
Leo & Sue Thomasgard

Every four weeks, PEUMC volunteers deliver a hot and nutritious noon meal to homes of Wisconsin Rapids area residents who are unable to prepare their own meals. Anyone interested in helping with this program may contact Becky Taylor (715-887-2163) for more information. **THANK YOU!**

Dear Port Edwards UMC Family,

Thank you for your generous gift!

May God bless you as together we work to show God's love as the hands, feet, and heart of Christ.

"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

-2 Corinthians 9:8

In God's service,
Midwest Mission Family

*(in response to our In-Gathering
collection given at Annual Conference)*

Thank you from Maribeth L.-C.

To my wonderful church friends:

I wish to thank you for your cards, calls, visits, and prayers as I recover from my injuries. What a lot of sunshine they bring to my day!

Maribeth



Seven members of the Port Home Group gathered for the live entertainment & food at *Rooted in Red* in Biron on August 24th. The day's events, on the Dempze Cranberry Marsh, just north of the Biron paper mill, benefited Wisconsin Rapids' *Opportunity Development Center* (ODC).



Thank You From STUFF-THE-BUS!

Thanks to hundreds of donors and volunteers, 750 local students will begin the academic year with essential school supplies provided through Stuff the Bus/Stuff the Desk events. On Thursday, August 7th, community members donated over 10,000 school supplies at the Stuff the Bus event during Lunch by the River, and on Friday, August 15th and Saturday, August 16th, the items were distributed to students who registered.

- 91 volunteers lent a hand during collection, set-up, pre-packing, and distribution.
- We collected, among other items, 365 backpacks, 535 boxes of colored pencils, 2,078 pens, 1,973 folders, 1,538 glue sticks, 1,404 notebooks, 430 scissors, 99 rulers, and 397 boxes of markers.

Thanks to everyone working together, our students have school supplies to help them start the school year off on the right track. Thank you!

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Aug 31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Service 10:00					Pastor's day off	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Service 10:00a Kickoff Sunday Congregational Photo & Cookout Communion 🟢 3:25p Lions			PASTOR ON VACATION			
				🟢 7:15p Commanders		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Service 10:00a Sunday School Refreshments Town Hall Meeting Deadline - Couples Night Registration	Migrant God Study 6:00-7:00				Pastor's day off	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Service 10:00a 11:00a Leadership Council Meeting 🟢 Noon - Browns	Migrant God Study 6:00-7:00		5:30 - 7:30 p Couple's Night Out - Dinner & a game - PEUMC Fellowship Hall		Pastor's day off Port Home Group Lily H. Concert - 7:00 pm (Library)	
28	29	30	<i>Oct 1</i>	<i>Oct 2</i>	<i>Oct 3</i>	<i>Oct 4</i>
Service 10:00a Hispanic Heritage 🟢 7:20p Cowboys	Migrant God Study 6:00-7:00				Pastor's day off	

Birthdays: Mandy M. 9/4, Diane S. 9/5, Gabrielle M. 9/6, John S. 9/6, Gabriel H. 9/7, Mary H. 9/13, Ken P. 9/13, Matt B. 9/18, Crystal S. 9/22, Damon K. 9/25, Anna H. 9/27, Don H. 9/28, Helmuth W. 9/29, Bob B. 9/30

Anniversaries: Bob & Julie B. 9/1, Mike & Lori H. 9/24

Church Office Hours:

Connie: Mon - Fri. : 8:00a – Noon
Pastor: Mon. thru Thurs. : 9a – 1:00