

The Message

May, 2021



**Port Edwards
United Methodist
Church**
411 Wisconsin River Drive
Port Edwards WI 54469
715-887-3011
peumc.office@gmail.com

OUTDOOR SERVICE DEBUT

It was so good to see our church family again, wanted to hug people. To listen to Dave was comforting. ~ Rog n Kathy (who is getting better every day.)

How wonderful it was to be together (even if it was in the parking lot) for the meaningful Easter service! Happy to see so many people (and even Auggie Doggie) in attendance. It was also great that Addisyn could receive her Bible in person with the congregation to witness it. The music was all special. Pastor Dave did a great job and Skip Mazurek spent a lot of time making sure everything worked. Thanks to all that made the outdoor service happen!

The Easter service was very well done. Members directed us to park. It was wonderful to see everyone even if it was from a car. We could hear the service easily and it was a great service even with the communion cup and tiny wafer.



Outdoor Service will Continue

Our Easter Outdoor Service worked so well that it will continue to be held in our parking lot! This is great news for all who long for the kinship of the congregation. We haven't forgotten about those of you who are unable to attend. Pastor Dave records a virtual service and emails it out to the whole congregation.



*Held Weekly on Monday Mornings
11:00 am via Zoom*

Week of May 2

- ▶ Acts 8:26-40
- ▶ Ps 22:25-31 (UMH 752)
- ▶ 1 John 5:1-6
- ▶ John 15:1-8

Week of May 9

- ▶ Acts 10:44-48
- ▶ Ps 98 (UMH 818)
- ▶ 1 John 5:1-6
- ▶ John 15:9-17

Week of May 16

- ▶ Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
- ▶ Ps 1 (UMH 738)
- ▶ 1 John 5:9-13
- ▶ John 17:6-19

Week of May 23

- ▶ Acts 2:1-21
- ▶ Ps 104:24-34, 35b (UMH 826)
- ▶ Rom 8:22-27
- ▶ John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Week of May 30

- ▶ Isa 6:1-8
- ▶ Ps 29 (UMH 761)
- ▶ Rom 8:12-17
- ▶ John 3:1-017

The flowers
appear on the
earth; the time of
the singing of
birds is come, and
the voice of the
turtle is heard in
our land

Song of Solomon 2:12



Please let us know if you or someone you know is in need of prayers.

Daytime

Mable Johnson 715-887-3627
Prayer Chain Co-Chair



Evenings

Mary Heuer, 715-887-3758
Prayer Chain Co-Chair



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May

With just a couple of columns left, I thought I would leave you with some things I have learned and continue to learn in my ministry

Find Joy in Ministry

A comedian once said that what makes terrorists so dangerous is that they take life way too seriously. They are unable to laugh at themselves. God has a sense of humor. After all, God created us; need I say more. We don't have to feel like we need to carry the whole load of ministry on our shoulders. Jesus told his disciples before he left, "I have said these things to you, so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete." I have found my ministry to be most effective when I could find joy and some laughter in what I am doing. Ministry does not have to be drudgery. We can enjoy one another's company as we engage in the work and ministry of the church.

Judge with the Same Measuring Stick

Jesus was onto something when he said, "First, take the log out of your eye, so you can see clearly enough to remove the tiny speck out of your brother's or sister's eye." When we judge other people, we tend to see our intentions as noble while their intentions are suspect or even evil. If we dared to look at others with the same eyes of mercy that Christ has shown us, we would find ourselves more empathetic and understanding instead of judging others as if we were in some superior position. Everyone has their own struggles and burdens to deal with in life.

Cultivating Gratitude

What I mean by being grateful is to see every day as a gift from God. When we develop a spiritual habit of naming those persons and situations in which we are grateful, we are cultivating a spirit of gratitude. This spirit enables us to become a more generous and joyful in our daily living. Even when we are having a bad day or faced with some difficult obstacles, we can be grateful in knowing that the Lord is near to help us through the storm.

Willingness to Receive

You may have been taught as I was to taught to believe that it is better to give than to receive. For the most part this belief serves us well. However, we can take this too an extreme and begin acting like we need nothing from others. It's that independent American spirit that has been drilled into us. We confess that we are I dependent upon God for all that we have and all that are in this world. Alongside of this, we need one another as the Body of Christ. We need each other's gifts to strengthen and uphold Christ body. There are times when others need a helping hand and others time when we can use a helping hand if we allow others into our space. What is created in this willingness to give and to receive is a mutuality of love in community. We are truly walking in

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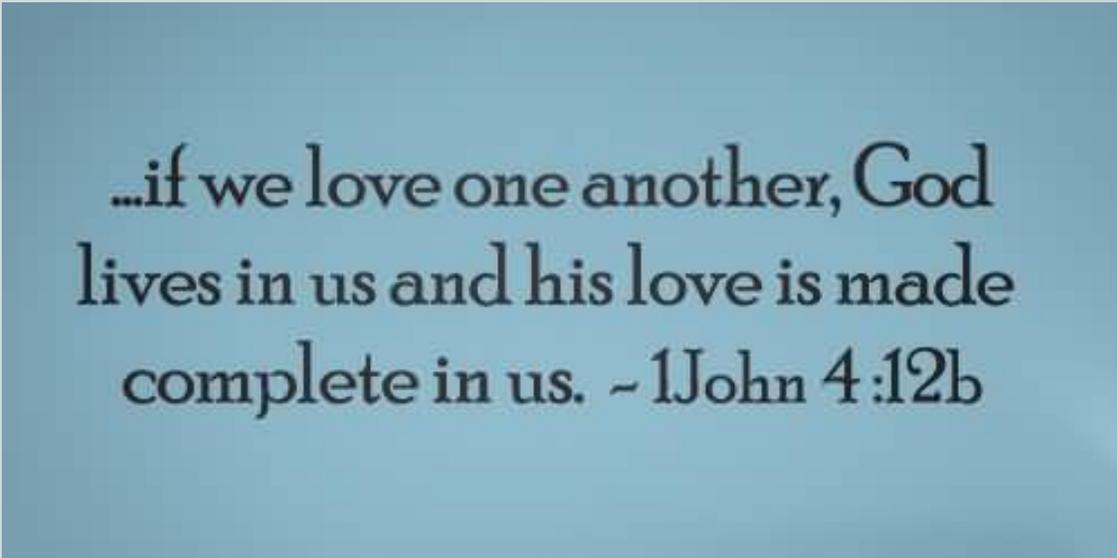
God's love when we come to experience this mutuality of love.

A Place at the Table

So much energy has been expended in this ongoing debate as to who is in and who is out of God's kingdom. I believe we are called to witness to God's transforming love in Christ and allow God to do the judging. Too often, the church has been exclusive in its teachings and in its conduct. We have labeled Americans as savages. We continue to treat blacks and other non-white groups as second-class citizens. We have fought over whether women are worthy to be clergy; we are still fighting over the whole issue of homosexuality that will unfortunately lead to a split within our own denomination. Instead of using

scripture to keep people under control, perhaps it's time to put more emphasis on John 16:12-13, "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come." I am very proud of you in becoming a reconciling congregation. This may not result in droves of people coming to the church, but it says something about whom you are and who you truly want to become in Christ Jesus.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Dave



...if we love one another, God
lives in us and his love is made
complete in us. ~ 1John 4:12b



May 3

Bob & Jeanne Bruener

May 5

Ray & Gloria Wunrow

May 27

Skip & Ellen Mazurek

May 28

Ken & Maribeth Salo

May 30

Jeff & Becky Taylor

May 2

Michaela Warpinski

May 5

Mark Sillars

May 6

Ginnie Oliver

May 7

Corey Parks

May 8

Adam Hintz

May 10

Jody Parks

May 12

Brandon Swensen

Nathan Swensen

May 18

Lynn Robinson

May 20

Pat Markuson

May 24

Addisyn Mayek

May 25

Korbin Boerner

Lindsey Hintz

May 26

Ashley Miller

May 28

Carson Parks

Tom Wirtz

May 31

Maisie Cumberland

Carol Ann Harvestine



Outdoor Church Service

Sundays at 10:00 am

Monday Group Bible Reading

Zoom 11:00 am

Sunday School Trustee Meeting

May 2 – 11:15 am May 4 – 6:00 PM

May 16 – 11:15 am via Zoom

Pentecost Sunday, in which we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and mark the beginning of the early church, will be held on May 23rd. Traditionally we encouraged worshipers to wear red. In an outdoor worship setting, we encourage you to think of creative ways to display the color red, which symbolizes the power of the Holy Spirit.

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Committee Updates

Administrative Council Missions / Nurture-Outreach



April 22 Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Pastor Dave Guse, Ellen Mazurek, Becky Taylor, Lucy Silvester, Kathy McGrath, Judy Miller, Lisa Miller, Kali Mayek, Leo Thomasgard, Bill Lindroth, Diane Sweat

Pastor Guse led us in prayer.

Worship: The main issue is how do we proceed with worship in May and June?

Pastor Caleb McGregor said he was in no hurry to meet in the sanctuary. It would be up to this congregation to determine where we meet.

It was suggested that we go according to the Health Department's advisory of 25% occupancy. If we met it would be with no hymnals, no singing, with masks on, and clean-up crews would be needed. Some churches allow singing with masks on, the offering is taken as members walk in, and they pick up their own bulletin. Every other pew would be ribboned off. Twenty five percent attending would be about 50 people for this congregation.

Pastor Guse will continue recording short versions of the service. He will begin holding in-church Sunday School.

Graduation Sunday: May 23 will be the graduation service for Dan Harnisch and Carson Parks. Nurture/Outreach will

provide purchased cookies in baggies and small drinks to be handed out.

We can bring our own lawn chairs to set in during the parking lot service.

There are some members who want in-church service but many that don't due to existing health conditions. People should be encouraged to get their vaccines.

It was determined to continue with the parking lot service through May but Instead of inviting to parking lot service invite to outdoor service.

Charge Card: Bill Lindroth will contact Paper Cities Savings about getting a charge card. Leo Thomasgard has tried but was unable to get a bank card. Lisa Miller suggested that a temporary card would work as long as receipts were kept even if there was no statement.

Parsonage: There is much work to be done in a short time. Volunteers are needed or work will have to be hired out.

Leo Thomasgard said the Administrative Council will meet in early May between the

9th and the 15th. Pastor Kaleb will be here to meet on May 8th .

Pastor Guse closed the meeting with a prayer.

Diane Sweat/Acting secretary



Wisconsin Conference In-Gathering May-June

Each year our Wisconsin Conference has a drive for health kits and cleaning kits. The kits are assembled and distributed through the Mid-West Mission Distribution Center (which is located in southern Illinois).

The kits are assembled there and used in several different circumstances.

This includes:

-Providing cleaning supplies and first aid supplies (after storms or floods)

-Distributed to poverty-stricken areas in the United States and other countries

This year we have decided to make our contributions to this project as a financial

one rather than asking you to purchase specific items.

Please make your gifts payable to Port Edwards United Methodist church with a notation of May/June mission or Mid-West Missions.

It would be appreciated if your gifts would be made by Sunday, June 13. Our Wisconsin conference will be held from June 18-19 when all gifts from our state will be compiled. Thanks in advance for your continued generosity.



Pat Markuson has volunteered to be our church Ambassador for Love INC. Contact Pat If you wish to connect with Love INC. or help in any way. Her email is pmarkuso@wctc.net or 715-423-9298.



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Didn't receive your COVID vaccine yet? You can contact one of these local businesses and set up an appointment. Let's stop COVID together!

Aspirus Doctors Clinic
2031 Peach St • Wisconsin Rapids, WI

CVS Pharmacy, Inc.
2410 8th St S • Wisconsin Rapids, WI

HomeTown Pharmacy
1000 E Riverview Expy Suite 150 • Wisconsin Rapids

Marshfield Clinic - Wisconsin Rapids Center
220 24th St S • Wisconsin Rapids

Pick N Save Pharmacy
900 E Riverview Expy • Wisconsin Rapids

Walmart Inc
4331 8th St S • Wisconsin Rapids



Walgreens Co.
3200 8th St S • Wisconsin Rapids

Wood County Health Department
111 W Jackson St • Wisconsin Rapids

Time Marches On

It is hard to believe that it is just a little more than two months before we welcome Pastor Caleb into our family at Port Edwards United Methodist Church. If you have any thoughts, ideas or possible concerns to pass along to Pastor Caleb, please let Sue Thomasgard or Skip Mazurek know and they will pass them along to Pastor Caleb.

Also, it is not too late to pass along our warm heart felt appreciation to Pastor Dave for everything he has done and meant to our congregation.

Ushers & Greeters Needed for Outdoor Services



Please contact the church office if you would like to volunteer to serve as an usher or greeter for our outdoor services.

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Thank you



From



Heifer International gratefully recognizes

Port Edwards UMC

for your contribution of healthy animals and training
in their care to help struggling families overcome a life of hunger and poverty.

"The Earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, the world, and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24:1

Pierre M. Furon

Heifer International

April 2021

Date



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CONCERT

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