



## A Personal Note from Pastor Caleb

Just over a month ago, as we were looking forward to this upcoming school year, we had such high hopes that this would be one of our first “post-pandemic” triumphs—normal schooling again! Things have changed drastically in the past month and a half, putting those high hopes in question. Just as we

were planning to hit the ground running (as a school district, a community, and a church), we have had to make many hard decisions . . . and quickly.

Last year, we had to first learn the digital/virtual technology that would help continue just the basic pieces of our church: some administrative meetings, a few bible studies, and worship. Most of our 2020 plans had to be set aside; 2021 saw a few more things return but nothing like our pre-pandemic life. I was hoping that 2021-Part II would be different, as many were hoping as well. I believe it can still be different from 2020. We are equipped now with the knowledge of the new technology; we just need to use some intense creativity with it.

My wish is that we continue forward with our planned fall ministries, especially those that are scheduled to begin after Labor Day. Members of the Education Team, including myself, are planning on continuing fall children’s ministries but must also plan on observing some required creativity with social distancing guidelines. Once again, it’s hard to project and plan restrictions when it changes from week to week. Some members of our Education Team have been discussing providing print materials



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via email and snail mail to our families with children who do not wish to be in person, to keep them involved. With our large spaces in the church, I believe we can continue offering hybrid in-person and ZOOM meetings, studies, gatherings, etc. while social distancing appropriately. A major shift in studies since 2020 has shown that common surfaces are not as major a contributor to the spread of the virus as proximity and length of time near a carrier. That is: this virus spreads more easily via the air. With the Pfizer vaccine approved by the FDA now, I hope that those on the fence about the vaccine will reconsider their choice. We certainly don't know the long-term effects of this, or any, vaccine, but neither do we know the long-term effects of the virus on our bodies.

Although ZOOM will no longer be an option for Sunday morning worship, it  will be an option for every meeting, study, and gathering we have in the church. Always remember that the log-in to ZOOM remains the same, and you can reuse old links sent in earlier emails. Sometimes you will find the link on our Facebook page. ZOOM links will continue to be sent in meeting reminder emails.

I want to thank you for a warm and welcoming first two months, for all who signed up for a meet-and-greet with me, and for all who *wanted* to but *couldn't*. I also want to thank you for the positive response to our recent COVID-19 restrictions that had to be implemented quickly. I don't want to mask any more than the next person; I don't want to not have congregational singing and pews restrictions; I don't want prohibitions on hugging and shaking hands . . . but this goes beyond my feelings and preferences. You and I are both making tough decisions to protect the most vulnerable among us while striving to maintain the important community connections that are at the soul of our faith lives. It's tough. And there are no easy answers . . . certainly none that will make all happy. But then we're not about making people happy . . . we're about keeping people healthy and blessed.



I'm so ready to continue in ministry with you all! You have made a wonderful first impression with me and my socks have already been blessed right off my stinky feet! (My sincere apologies!) 😊

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# Community Quest

11:00 Sunday Morning Fellowship and Conversation

The name "Community Quest" may be a new one, but our practice of gathering for refreshments, fellowship, and conversation at PEUMC is not a new idea. **Beginning Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>**, we will be restarting the "11'O Clock Fellowship Time" on Sunday mornings. Around 11:15 AM, with refreshments in hand, you are invited up to the Fellowship Hall. The purpose is neither chitchat nor a formal study. There will be a loosely guided discussion (usually based on that day's sermon, scripture, or theme) that will direct our conversation and fellowshiping until noon. Everyone is free to chime in and listen as they feel called by the Spirit. Your insight revelations or questions that arise from the previous hour's worship service are the perfect things to bring to this time. You are invited!



## Sunday School Begins September 12

Kids love to learn about God and all He has created. *Our Sunday School is back beginning on September 12*, immediately after the Children's Message during our church service.

# September 11th 20th Anniversary Memorial Service

**What:** A short in-person and on Facebook Live memorial service.

**Where:** PEUMC sanctuary

**When:** Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** **8:46 AM to 9:03 AM**  
(17 minutes long)

On the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks, a short service of remembrance will take place in the morning in PEUMC's sanctuary. American Airlines Flight 11 was flown into the north tower of the World Trade Center at 8:46 AM, and United Airlines Flight 175 was flown into the South tower at 9:03 AM, 17 minutes later. This has informed the time and length of our Saturday service. American Airlines Flight 77 flown into the Pentagon and United Airlines Flight 93 flown into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania will also be remembered.



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# “The Why of Discipleship”

## Our September 3-Part Sermon Series

(Sept. 12th, 19th, 26th)

We cannot program our way into vitality and mission. It requires a movement toward disciple-making. The way of discipleship is a lifestyle. It's intentional. We must know the end goal, and we must know the reason behind our mission of making disciples for Jesus Christ. We must know why we are building roads of discipleship and where they will lead. The stakes are too high and this moment too crucial to build roads to nowhere.



In our 3-part series, we will be asking ourselves these very basic, but challenging examination questions (for ourselves and on behalf of our church family):

- *What does our church do?*
- *What is a disciple and how are they formed?*
- *Why discipleship anyway?*

## Looking Ahead



### **Blessing of the Animals**

**Sunday, October 3rd @ 5:30 pm – church gazebo**

(Rain date – the following day, same time)

Animal blessings are a common event this time of year. The following day, October 4<sup>th</sup>, is the traditional Feast Day for Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals.

At 5:30 PM, a short service will take place at the church's gazebo, lasting around 5-10 minutes. A pet blessing will follow. You are invited to bring a family pet. Pastor Caleb has blessed show ponies, geckos, dogs, cats, hamsters, etc. in the past. Photos of your pets/livestock can be blessed in their "stead." Particularly energetic animals should be kept in a cage or on a leash.

Following the animal blessing, a short animal memorial will take place. Very often our pets are seen as members of the family, so during the memorial service, orange ribbons will be nailed to a nearby tree bearing the names of any lost pets. This tree will be our "Pet Memorial Tree." **Orange** is the official color for animal rights or Humane Treatment of Animals.

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# September/October Bible Studies

## “Difficult Sayings of Jesus”

**Begins Monday, September, 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm**  
**(6 weeks – Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>)**



*“I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.”*  
*“But whoever slanders the Holy Spirit can never be forgiven.”*  
*“Let the dead bury the dead.”*

Christians regard the words of Jesus as central to their faith. Even amongst the whole body of Scripture, the “red letter” words are treated with greater reverence. His words are meant to guide our lives and form and transform us . . . *but* . . . there are a lot of things that Jesus says that still perplexes and even disturbs us 2,000 years later. How can we be guided by phrases we don’t even understand?

Was He just misunderstood? Misquoted? Was it sarcasm? Poetic hyperbole?

This study is based on the book of the same title by William Neil, eminent Scottish theologian, and author.

In this 6-week study we will be examining about 40 of His most difficult sayings and teachings, discerning what they can mean for us today.

### ***Suggested Readings from The People of the United Methodist Church***

#### **Week of September 5**

- ▶ Prov 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
- ▶ Ps 125 or Ps 124 (UMH 846)
- ▶ Jas 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17
- ▶ Mark 7:24-37

#### **Week of September 19**

- ▶ Prov 31:10-31
- ▶ Ps 1 (UMH 738)
- ▶ Jas 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
- ▶ Mark 9:30-37

#### **Week of September 12**

- ▶ Prov 1:20-33
- ▶ Ps 19 (UMH 750)
- ▶ Jas 3:1-12
- ▶ Mark 8:27-38

#### **Week of September 26**

- ▶ Esth 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
- ▶ Ps 124 (UMH 846)
- ▶ Jas 5:13-20
- ▶ Mark 9:38-50

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## VOICES IN PRAYER (Prayer Chain) Port Edwards United Methodist Church

Daytime Contact (9:00 am – 7:00 pm)

\*Maribeth Lacasse-Salo – 715-887-3504

Evening Contact (7:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

Mary Heuer – 715-887-3758

*If you cannot reach Maribeth please call Mary Heuer – 715-887-3758  
You may also call Pastor Caleb at 618-263-8058*

### Power Of Prayer - How Powerful is it?

The power of prayer should not be underestimated. James 5:16-18 declares, "...*The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.*" God most definitely listens to prayers, answers prayers, and moves in response to prayers.

Jesus taught, "...*I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you*" (Matthew 17:20). 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 tells us, "*The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world.*" Taken from: <https://www.allaboutprayer.org/power-of-prayer.htm>

### Powerful Tools FOR Caregivers

It's not easy balancing life when you care for someone with a chronic health condition. Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a six-week class that teaches you how to take care of yourself while caring for someone else. You will benefit whether you are helping a parent, spouse or friend.

This class gives you the tools to:

- Manage your time, set goals and solve problems
- Communicate effectively with others
- Make tough decisions
- Reduce feelings of stress, guilt, anger and depression
- Locate helpful local resources

Dates/time: Thursdays, October 14 to November 18 from 1 pm to 3 pm

Location: St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 2011 Tenth St. South Room 105

Space is limited. To register, call St. Luke's Church 715-423-5990

Cost is \$10, includes "The Caregiver Helpbook".

This program is a collaboration with St. Luke's and Aging & Disability Resource Center-Central Wisconsin.

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# September

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
				12:15 pm UMW Meeting		
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
10:00 am Church Service	<b>LABOR DAY</b> <b>Office Closed</b>		1:00 pm UMW Circle of Friends 7 pm WOW – Worship <a href="#">Zoom Link</a>			8:46-9:03 am 9/11 Memorial Service
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
10:00 am Church Service Sunday School Backpack Blessing 11 am Fellowship Hour	6:00 pm Bible Study Fellowship Hall <a href="#">Zoom Link</a> <i>Difficult Sayings of Jesus</i>		7:00 pm WOW – Worship <a href="#">Zoom Link</a>			
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
10:00 am Church Service Sunday School 11:00 am Fellowship Hour	6:00 pm Bible Study Fellowship Hall <a href="#">Zoom Link</a> <i>Difficult Sayings of Jesus</i>	<i>Newsletter items due</i>	7:00 PM WOW – Worship <a href="#">Zoom Link</a>			
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>		
10:00am Church Service Sunday School 11:00 am Fellowship Hour	6:00 pm Bible Study Fellowship Hall <a href="#">Zoom Link</a> <i>Difficult Sayings of Jesus</i>		7:00 PM WOW – Worship <a href="#">Zoom Link</a>			

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## Missions Committee

New Mission Project! Sponsored by Love INC to help individuals when they are released from the Wood County Jail. Details of this backpack ministry is shown below.



### Three Options For Involvement:

- Monetary Donation (Total for 1 filled backpack: \$30- \$33)
- Donate as many items as you like
- Gather supplies and fill a backpack - Label for Man or Woman

Jesus Leads the way — Let's Make a Difference!

#### FOOD IDEAS / OPTIONS

Cheeze-it Pack / Other Healthier Chips - Snack Size  
Trail Mix Pack  
Granola/Power Bar  
Apple Sauce Squeeze Pouch  
Craisin / Raisin Pack  
Fruit Snacks  
\*All food items should be healthier options and have an expiration date into the following year

#### DRINKS

Reusable Water Bottle  
Flavor Packs for Water

#### PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

Deodorant (Men and Women)  
Tampons / Pads  
Toothbrush  
Toothpaste (Travel Size)  
Tissue Pack  
Small First Aid Kit (Dollar Tree has \$1 Kits)

#### OTHER

Adult Backpack (New is preferred; can be like-new condition)  
Small Notebook / Journal  
Pens  
Handwritten Note of Encouragement  
Daily Bread Pamphlet  
Anchor for the Soul - Book



A few simple items are a huge help and reminder to the newly released inmates that they are valued and that others wish them well in their lives. Love INC provides an average of 10 filled backpacks per month through this ministry. **Our goal is to fill AT LEAST 10 during the months of September and October.**

You may make your contributions with a monetary gift in the offering (indicate for September/October mission) or by donating any of the listed items (look for a table in the church entryway). Thank you for your support!

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## Nurture & Outreach Committee Minutes August 16, 2021

The Nurture/Outreach committee met to investigate ideas for the future especially getting ideas from Pastor Caleb.

It was discussed whether there will be in-church Sunday school classes for the children with the resurgence of COVID. Pastor Caleb suggested sending mailings home to the children if families don't feel comfortable bringing their children into the building at this time.



Pat Markuson, our Love INC ambassador, said Love In the Name of Christ will be seeking information from all the churches to obtain a list of volunteers for various jobs. Thanks to all of you the January/February mission donations paid our pledge to Love INC in full.

It was also mentioned that the UMW may be holding an in-church bake sale to help raise funds for the UMW. The UMW may also hold a "Ghost Bazaar" where monetary donations are made as a replacement for items sold if we could have held an actual bazaar.

The committee discussed several new ideas for future activities.

Next Meeting: October 25, 2021, 2:00 pm, Memorial Lounge



Thanks to the following members who delivered Meals on Wheels in August:

- Julie Berg (WELCOME New Driver!)
- Pat & Kathy McGrath
- Sue Mitchell
- Becky Taylor
- Leo & Sue Thomasgard

We appreciate your service!

## United Methodist Women Bazaar Update

As you may well have heard, due to covid concerns there will be no bazaar again this year. The UMW is suggesting a "Ghost Bazaar" whereby church members may make a monetary contribution to the UMW in lieu of making actual items and donating them for sale.



More details to follow in the October Newsletter.



## September Birthdays



## September Anniversaries

### September 3

Nina Pelo

### September 4

Dorothy Fuller  
Mandy Mykisen

### September 5

Diane Sweat

### September 6

Gabrielle Mayek  
John Sweat

### September 7

Gabriel Hintz

### September 8

Kathy Sweet

### September 13

Mary Heuer

### September 18

Matt Boerner

### September 20

Paul (Jim) Hepp

### September 22

Crystal Sadler

### September 25

Donna Klinger

### September 27

Anna Hintz

### September 28

Don Harnisch

### September 30

Bob Berg

### September 1

Bob & Julie Berg

### September 6

Jerry & Nancy Klahn

### September 24

Mike & Lori Hintz

### September 27

Ellis & Cathy Mills

**The Church Office will be closed  
Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup> for Labor Day**

**Grandparents Day – September 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday School and Back-2-School Rally  
September 12<sup>th</sup>**

Our children and youth are asked to bring their backpacks and/or their devices to be blessed during the worship service.

**Hispanic Heritage Sunday – September 26<sup>th</sup>**

The music, liturgy, and prayers on this Sunday will be inspired by our Hispanic siblings and their contribution to our shared Christian faith.

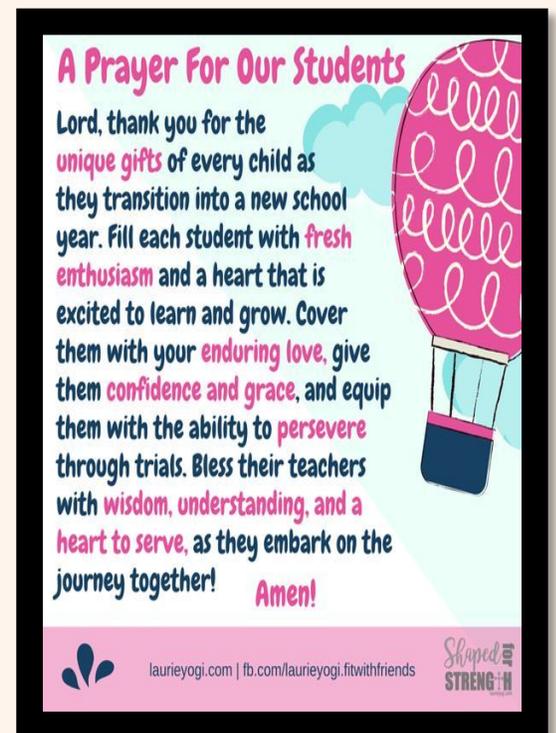
**Charge Conference - October 31**

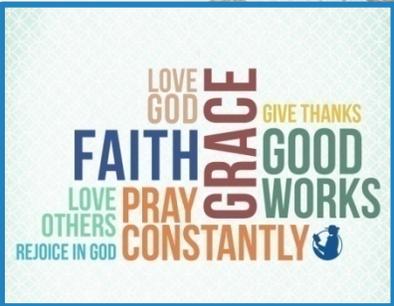
Led by D.S. Rev. Tsuker Yang  
Begins after service here at PEUMC  
Registration due: October 21

<https://www.wisconsinumc.org/peopleportalsigninhelp>

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Click the above link to create an ID and to register.

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# Our Community

Wood County Master Gardener  
2021

## Fall Plant Sale

at  
**Maple Fall Fest**  
Marshfield Wildwood Park  
1800 Roddis Ave & 17th St



### AMISH SCHOOL BENEFIT HAYSTACK SUPPER

Junction City Parochial School  
1st Wednesday of Every Month  
May through October  
Junction City Community Park  
Case Ave • Junction City, WI 54443  
July 7th, August 4th, September 1st, October 6th  
**4:00pm - 7:30pm**



- Featuring....
- ❖ Perennials/bulbs for fall planting
  - ❖ Native plants
  - ❖ Seeds
- Also....
- ❖ Tabletop Succulent & Fairy Garder
  - ❖ Garden Art
  - ❖ Indoor plants
  - ❖ Gently used garden supplies, book magazines



For your fall decorating...  
❖ **Dried Autumn Bouquets!**

Visit our booth off the path to the Zoo side entrance (near the DJ)

Saturday, September 18 9am-5pm  
Sunday, September 19 10am-4pm

**Thank you for the nice one-year anniversary surprise on Tuesday. It's been a great year working here. You have made my first year here a very joyful one. Thank you and God Bless, Amy**



have it corrected.