

Thanksgiving Blessings



Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to gather with family and friends and reflect on the blessings of the last year. Many of us experience renewed hope and faith during the Thanksgiving holiday because we turn our eyes to what is most important. What if we spent time each day giving thanks and prayer? How could God grow our faith and trust if we lived a life of thanks

through all seasons and not just Thanksgiving time? When your heart is filled with gratitude, there is little room to worry or complain.

This year's celebrations on Thanksgiving Day may look different. Your heart may be aching for family members that cannot visit or for the loss of a loved one. God wants to meet us in our pain and disappointments. Through prayers of thanks and gratitude, we can experience the true meaning of thanksgiving. Let this year be the year you experience the blessings of living in gratitude. (Source: www.crosswalk.com)

NOVEMBER SERMON SERIES

GUARDIANS OF THE UNIVERSE: A Look at Biblical Stewardship

Time

November 7

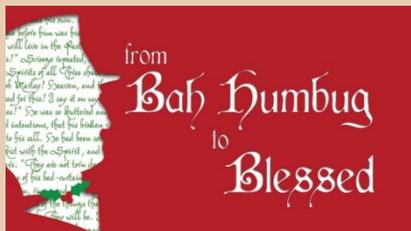
Talent

November 14

TREASURE

NOVEMBER 21

Stewardship is a prominent theme of the Bible, and yet is often overlooked, minimized, or restricted in discussions about the modern Christian life. The Bible has a great deal to say about stewardship since it affects virtually every aspect of our earthly existence. For the first 3 Sundays in November, we will be examining Biblical Stewardship from the angle of TIME, TALENT, and TREASURE.



Advent Sermon Series

(Beginning November 28)

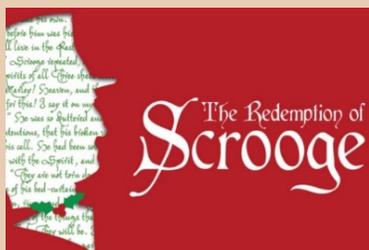
During the 4 weeks of traditional Advent, we will be exploring the world of Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim, and the Cratchits, with an eye to the Christian faith in a sermon series titled: **"From 'Bah Humbug' to Blessed."** Along the way we will meet the Ghosts of

Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come and learn about living with and living for others in a world already blessed by Jesus. God owns culture, not the other way around. In this

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Email – peumc.office@gmail.com Phone – 715-887-3011

series, we can see the startling spiritual truths in even the most secular of places. *This sermon series will correspond to our Advent Study held on Wednesday evenings during W.O.W.*



Advent Study (beginning December 1)

by Matt Rawle (lead pastor at Asbury UMC in Louisiana)

Our Advent study titled: **“The Redemption of Scrooge”** will correspond to the Advent sermon series on Sunday mornings. *A Christmas Carol* begins with ‘Marley was dead,’ a rather unconventional way to welcome the holiday season, don’t you think? But, by the end of Scrooge’s journey, we find that Scrooge has found new life. In the beginning, Scrooge was just as good as dead—but on Christmas morning he wakes up a new man. Let us take that journey with him these 4 weeks of traditional Advent!

Worship on Wednesdays (W.O.W.) continues at 7:00 PM.
Music is recorded on Facebook. Participants for the study portion must use ZOOM.



LET’S REVIEW – by Pastor Caleb



Spiritual Gifts ~
Our Worship on Wednesdays (WOW) spent 5 weeks looking at spiritual gifts. We started by looking at the needs of the world and our community.

Spiritual gifts are meant to be used to meet the needs of those God puts in our lives. There are several lists of spiritual gifts in the Bible, but our study suggested that these are not an exhaustive list—they are just *representative* of the *kinds* of gifts that the Holy Spirit gives us. Spiritual gifts don’t have to be “slain-in-the-spirit” type of outward way—in ways often associated with charismatics.

We discussed how our complaints may help point us to the backside of our spiritual gifts; that is, we often complain about things we are most passionate about. Perhaps God is calling us to use our spiritual gifts to address our favorite complaints about church and society?

We spent one week helping each participant discern their spiritual gift(s), each person suggested a spiritual gift for each of the other participants.

There are spiritual areas (probably several of them) of which we may be particularly gifted—that is to say, we most likely do not have just one single “gift.” In fact, we concluded that God can give us any gift that is needed for any given situation. If someone comes to us and is in need of healing (be it physical, spiritual, mental, or emotional), and we are their only hope, even if we believe we are not “professional healers” we may be able to offer real healing if we do so with confidence that God can work through us beyond our own natural abilities. Confidence, not hesitancy, is the most helpful way for the Spirit to move spiritual power through us depending on the situation.

The church family is about helping each other discover and live into their gifts. Gifts are meant for the glory of God—to be used and spent.

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Difficult Sayings of Jesus ~ Our

latest Monday evening Bible Study was titled "Difficult Sayings of Jesus." We examined

around 18 different quotes Jesus spoke of somewhere in each of the four Gospels. There are two reasons why we may categorize some of Jesus' words as "difficult": (1) It simply may be that they are difficult to understand: *What did He even mean? That makes no sense to me!* (2) We may understand what Jesus is saying, but what He is asking of us is just downright difficult to swallow or follow: *He's asking THAT of us? Who in the world could ever do THAT perfectly?* In this second category, it is helpful to know that Jesus often used exaggeration to make a point—to emphasize the importance of doing such-and-

such. For both categories listed above, the most helpful way to get a grasp on the true meaning of one of Jesus' difficult sayings is to back up and look at the context: *Where does this scene take place? Who is Jesus talking to? When does the story actually because (go back to the beginning of the chapter; it may be part of a larger series of events that takes up several chapters). What did Jesus just teach in the story before this saying appears? What does Jesus teach in the next story?* A lot of what Jesus says makes little sense taken out of context. He did not always speak in "mantras" (statements that are self-evident on their own). If something Jesus says seems harsh, rude, or hateful to us, we must filter that through the central attitude of His teachings: Love God and neighbor. If we filter some of these offensive sayings through LOVE we may be able to understand if Jesus was in a particularly vulnerably-imperfect human moment or was using sarcasm to prove a point.

Consecration Sunday & Our Commitment Sheets – Sunday, November 21st



On our website (under "DONATE"), in our weekly bulletin emails, and your Sunday bulletins, you will find a full sheet titled *"My FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO PORT EDWARDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOR 2022."*

In preparation for the 2022 year, the Finance Committee and your pastor are inviting you to once again consider your financial giving to your church. These *"FINANCIAL COMMITMENT"* sheets are not "pledges." Our 2022 budget is already adopted. These "cards" are not for us to look at, but a means for you to discern whether God is calling you to increase your offering for 2022.

You are invited to fill out both sections: The top is for your records, the bottom will be presented as an act of faith at the Lord's Table on **Sunday, November 21st** for our **"CONSECRATION CEREMONY."** If you are the type of person who needs to see your giving written down as motivation, please do so. If the idea of money and church makes you uneasy, simply project what you have discerned for 2022 onto the blank page. During the service, like at Communion, you will be invited to come forward and drop your Commitment Card off at the Communion Table. Once everyone has done so, they will be immediately shredded on the spot. The shredding of our sheets will be our spiritual offering to God and a sign of our commitment to Christ's Holy Church by *"supporting Her ministries through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness."*

Tithing—What Does It Mean—What to Consider

Alongside the "My Finance Commitment" sheet (see "What's Ahead" section below) is a "TITHE CALCULATION FOR 2022." "Tithe" technically means "1/10th." 10% of everything. Or, at least, 10% of our earnings.

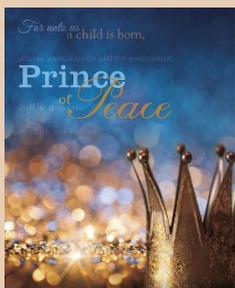
In the Old Testament, a tithe was mandatory and included your animals and crops. As New Testament Christians, we understand the tithe to be an *ideal*, a *goal*. When considering your giving for 2022 please consider these four things:

- 1.) Regularly is just as important as the amount. Unless your income is uneven (as typical in farming families), please give regularly as best you can. Irregular giving puts pressure on our cash flow since most bills are regular occurrences. Electronic Giving can help in this regard.
- 2.) *Do you calculate a tithe before or after taxes?* That's up to you! There are arguments for both.
- 3.) Exclude any money set aside for retirement. It'll be expected that you tithe on this money when you are in retirement.
- 4.) Consider our Electronic Giving option. It's very easy to set up and you can have it automatically withdraw on a rotation you choose, you can stop it, and raise or lower it. On our website, go to "Donate" and choose the "Create Your Online Profile," OR use the paper form located at the entry to the sanctuary.



What's Ahead

Reign of Christ (Sunday, November 7th)



Of all the "High Holy Sundays" in the year, this is the newest one, being instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI. Talking about the reign of God makes very clear the deficiencies of human rulers and provides clues as to what can make human governance more just. This Sunday devoted to the reign of Christ enables us to grasp more fully the Advent promise of the One who shall be called "the Prince of Peace" and presses upon us the need to "seek peace and pursue it" (1 Peter 3:11). On this day, we recognize the time when the kingdom of Jesus will be established in all its fullness unto the ends of the earth, an appropriate transition into the Season of Advent. We have more than just a baby at Christmas; we have a sovereign Christ.

Hanging of the Greens (Saturday, November 27th @ 9:00 AM)

On the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day (yes, we know this is a busy weekend for many), we are asking for members of the church to help decorate the church with our holiday greens, trees, and lights. We are planning to prepare the event by having boxes out and lights checked. If you are free that day, please consider helping us usher in our beloved, beautiful Christmas-festooned sanctuary!



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Native American Heritage Sunday

(Sunday, November 21st)



We will be singing songs and reading prayers that come to us from the Indigenous People of North America. November is Native American Heritage Month.

Sundays in November

Sunday, November 7th

- Reign of Christ Sunday & First Sunday of Extended Advent
- Daylight Saving Time Ends (Fall Back – Gain an hour!)
- Communion Sunday

Sunday, November 14th

- Second Sunday of Extended Advent
- Veteran's Recognition

Sunday, November 21st

- Native American Heritage Sunday & Third Sunday of Extended Advent

Sunday, November 28th

- Fourth Sunday of Extended Advent (First Sunday of Normal Advent)
- Blessings of the Green Service

**WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK
OUR VETERANS FOR
THEIR SERVICE AND
SACRIFICES THEY MADE
TO KEEP OUR COUNTRY
SAFE.**

MAY GOD BLESS YOU



Sundays in December

Sunday, December 5th

- First Sunday of Christmas
- Fifth Sunday of Extended Advent (Second Sunday of Normal Advent)
- Communion Sunday

Sunday, December 12th

- Sixth Sunday of Extended Advent (Third Sunday of Normal Advent)

Sunday, December 19th

- Last Sunday of Extended Advent (Fourth Sunday of Normal Advent)

Sunday, December 26th

Special Christmas Services

Blue & Busy Christmas

Tuesday, December 21st – 7:00 PM
(Also known as a "Longest Night Service"—
don't worry, it's still just 1 hour long!)

Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24th – 7:00 PM
AND 11:00 PM
(A Lessons and Carols Service)

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Noteworthy



Bizarre Ghost Bazaar

Do you remember our UMW bazaars? For  so many years we worked together as a team. Even the men helped. We had musicians play dining music. There was that wonderful luncheon with barbecues and the amazing turkey salad with homemade bread. Don't forget the assortment of pies with or without ice cream. We sat and visited with all our faithful community friends. We shopped for  crafts, Christmas decorations, and gifts. There were the sewn, knitted, and crocheted items, and how much fun it was to look through the treasure chest. We made luscious bakery and candies to donate and then bought some to take back home.

THEN CAME THE PANDEMIC!! Soon **ghosts**  heard that our church was taking precautions against the COVID 19 and they moved in. Yes, they are now everywhere in our church! We need help removing them and the only way is to donate. Think about how much you would have spent creating goods to sell and all that you would have bought if we had an actual bazaar. For every \$25.00 donated a **ghost** will be caught in our trap. But there are many **ghosts** so remember that the United Methodist Women needs your support to pay our pledges. The UMW donates the money to many good causes. Please make your check out to UMW and on the memo line write ghost. Oh yes, we accept cash too.

We will hopefully have trapped all the **ghosts** by November 30th so make your donations soon. Let's all pray for an actual bazaar in 2022 with no more **ghosts**. 



thank you

Pastor Caleb would like to "Thank You!" to all who gave him gifts, cards, and words of affirmation on behalf of October's Pastor Appreciation Month! He says he's incredibly blessed to be in ministry with the people of Port Edwards UMC!

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November/December Missions

1. **Collect ~\$250 for The Neighborhood Table** (November emphasis)

In the past, we have served at TNT for a Thursday meal in November. TNT is only doing carryout and due to COVID-19 restrictions, but we have been asked to cover the cost of this meal (approx.. \$250). For all of you dessert-bakers, put away your ingredients for now!

2. **Collect Money for Port Edwards School Christmas Gift Giveaway** (December Emphasis)

We will again be partnering with the PE schools to identify needs and recipients. The school has yet to determine if we are to do the shopping or if they will themselves; either way, we need the money sooner than later to give time for purchases.

3. **Christmas Baskets** (December Emphasis)

We would like to prepare 3 baskets of goodies to be given away in mid-December to some recipients associated with our church family. We have already identified three families for these baskets. We were looking for those who have lost a close loved one this year (sibling, parent, child) or have made a major life transition recently. We would like to fill these baskets with some goodies (suggestions will come later) to be given to members of our church family as a holiday reminder that they remain in our thoughts and prayers (December emphasis—deadline, Sunday, December 12th).



United Methodist Women / Circle of Friends

The **UMW** will hold their Thank You Brunch meeting at 9:30 am on Thursday, November 11 in Fellowship Hall. Hostesses are Kathy Mills, Kathy Sweet, and Sara Tyne. The program will be "The Give and Take of Gratitude." The 2022 budget will be finalized, and plans made to give to our various missions. All women are welcome. See you there.

"For I can do everything God asks me to with the help of Christ who strengthens me."

- *Philippians 4:13*

Circle of Friends does not meet in November, but we are giving you a heads up for our December meeting on Wednesday, December 8 at 1:00 pm (at church) for a dessert business meeting and Christmas program. Please bring a white elephant gift to exchange and wrapped candy for the pantry shelf. Hostesses are Maribeth LaCasse-Salo and LuAnn Slattery, Midge Herschleb and Mary Heuer/Devotions etc.

Extended Advent begins Sunday, November 7th

Purple so soon? . . . Christianity long ago lost the Advent season to the Christian culture of today's society. Christmas decorations lurk in the back corners of supermarkets from late August, just waiting for Halloween to pass. The global, secular culture of Christmas has effectively eclipsed the Season of Advent, short-circuiting its primary focus—the manifestation of God's reign on earth.



Centuries ago, Advent was 7 weeks long! By the 16th century, after Pope Gregory VI officially shortened it, a 4-week Advent was now fixed and cemented in the hearts of Catholics & Protestants alike, facing no competition from the Christian culture until the 20th century. Eastern Christianity still observes this longer Advent.

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The purpose of Advent is to look to the end, to the fulfillment of God’s will on earth. A season about the hope of a future in God’s hands.

In the early 2000s, an ecumenical project was developed by the Rev. Dr. Bill Petersen, an Episcopal priest and liturgical scholar, together with a seminar of other scholars and practitioners, including United Methodists. By extending Advent another 3 weeks, the culmination of the Church Year is All Saints Sunday.

You will see purple a little earlier, and 3 additional “Advent candles.” The Hanging of the Greens will remain at the end of November as normal. Hopefully, this 7-week Advent will help us appreciate not just the First Coming of Jesus (in Bethlehem as a baby), but the Second Coming of Jesus to usher in the complete reign of God on earth.



Facebook Services by Numbers (as of November 2, 2021)

What determines these numbers? The #1 reason why certain services “spike” in views is the number of times people “share” the video on Facebook. Anyone with an account can share the video, meaning they choose to post it to their own account. This publicizes the video more, since you may have many friends associated with you. Without any shares, the video remains solely on our church’s FB page, and only those who have “liked” our page will see it. It’s not incredibly public yet.



The longer the post is up on Facebook the more views it will receive; more recent videos to have fewer views.

We encourage you, if you are watching via FB, to share the video! This helps get our service into more hands! The easiest form of evangelism known to humankind!

Sunday Mornings		Wednesday Evenings	
10/31/21	51 views	11/3/21	40 Views
10/24/21	88 views	10/27/21	50 views
10/17/21	78 views	10/20/21	37 views
10/10/21	177 views	-----N/A----	
10/3/21	63 views	10/6/21	56 views
9/26/21	98 views	9/29/21	68 views
9/19/21	90 views	9/22/21	112 views
9/12/21	100 views	-----N/A----	
9/5/21	55 views	9/8/21	64 views
8/29/21	181 views	9/1/21	39 views
8/22/21	120 views	8/25/21 (first week)	187 views
8/15/21	120 views		
8/8/21	129 views		
8/1/21	152 views		
7/25/21	137 views		
7/18/21	223 views		
7/11/21	194 views		
(pastor’s first service)			
		Special Services	
		10/3/21 Blessing of the Animals	88 Views
		9/11/21 20 th Anniv. Memorial of 9/11	208 views

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 **Finding Our Zoom Link on Our Website**

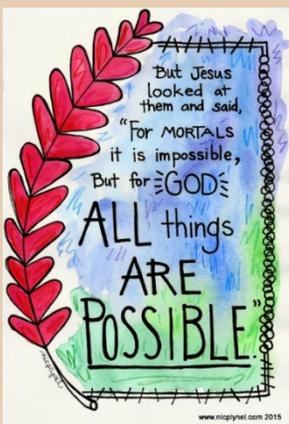
As 2021 closes and 2022 begins, we will continue to have ZOOM links at all our meetings, to ensure that as many of our leaders can participate. Instead of continuing to post the ZOOM link on Facebook each time, or include them in reminder emails, the link (which never changes) can be found by going to our website: peumc.org.

The link can be found in several places (always the same one):

1. Under **"About Us"**—choose **"Committees & Leadership"**—top of page.
2. Click on **"Worship"** – scroll down to **"Worship on Wednesdays"**—click on the word **"ZOOM."**
3. Under **"Ministries"**—choose **"Bible Studies & Small Groups"**—bottom of page.
4. Click on **"Calendar"**—*link appears just below the monthly calendar.* (Each time, the icon appears as red video camera)

Servant Duties for November & December

A Big THANK YOU to those who signed up to serve during our Sunday service.



As you can see, our list is incomplete. Please consider signing up for one of the open slots (yellow). The signup list is on the back pew.

DATE	GREETER	USHER	LITURGIST
November 7	Roger & Kathy Sweet	Skip Mazurek	Kathy McGrath
November 14	Pat & Kathy McGrath		Bob Berg
November 21	Rose Wirtz		Lucy Silvester
November 28	Sara Tyne		
December 5	Art & Carol Ann Harvestine		Bob Berg
December 12	Pat & Kathy McGrath		
December 24			
December 26		John & Diane Sweat	

Fall Cleanup – Many Hands Made Light Work

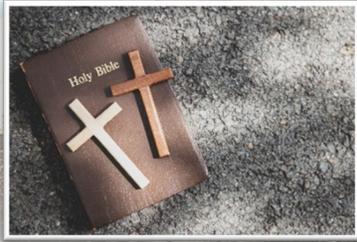
Thank you to all of you who showed up on October 23 for our fall cleanup day! There were about 12 people who came together and sorted, swept, dusted, moved furniture, wrangled spiders, and organized the interior of our church.

The results are beautiful! The interior now looks more organized and well-kept. A big thank you to Jeff & Becky Taylor for going above and beyond.



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November Bible Studies

Suggested Readings from The People of the United Methodist Church

Week of November 7

- ▶ Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17
- ▶ Ps 127 or Ps. 42 (UMH 777)
- ▶ Heb 9:24-28
- ▶ Mark 12:38-44

Week of November 14

- ▶ 1 Sam 1:4-20
- ▶ 1 Sam 2:1-10 or Ps 113 (UMH 834)
- ▶ Heb 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25
- ▶ Mark 13:1-8

Week of November 21

- ▶ 2 Sam. 23:1-7
- ▶ Ps. 132:1-12 (UMH 849)
- ▶ Rev. 1:4b-8
- ▶ John 18:33-37

Week of November 28

- ▶ Jer 33:14-16
- ▶ Ps 25:1-10 (UMH 756)
- ▶ 1 Thess 3:9-13
- ▶ Luke 21:25-36



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

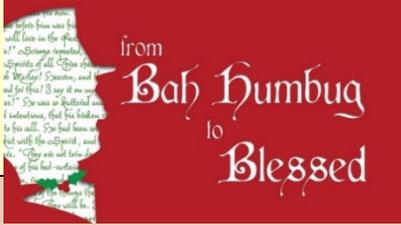
Daytime Contact (9:00 am – 7:00 pm)
*Maribeth Lacasse-Salo – 715-887-3504

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*



November Calendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 7:00 pm WOW – Worship Zoom Link	4	5 6:00-9:00 pm Leading Worship	6 9:00-4:00 pm Leading Worship
7 10:00 am Church Service Sunday School	8	9	10 7:00 pm WOW – Worship Zoom Link	11 Veteran's Day  9:30 AM UMW Thank You Brunch	12	13
14 10:00 am Church Service Sunday School Fellowship Hour	15	16	17 7:00 pm WOW – Worship Zoom Link	18	19 <i>Newsletter items due</i>	20
21 10:00 am Church Service Sunday School	22	23	24 7:00 pm WOW – Worship Zoom Link	25 Thanksgiving 	26	27 9:00 am Hanging of the Greens 
28 10:00 am Church Service Sunday School	29	30	Starts 11/28		Starts 12/1	
						

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November 2
Frank Robinson

November 3
Lynn Dunahee

November 8
Guy Detlefsen

November 9
Phil Oliver

November 10
Ava Sadler

November 11
Melora Cumberland

November 15
Lisa Miller

November 17
Sawyer Hintz
Azleigh
Kawleski

November 19
Eliza Hintz

November 21
Linda Frost

November 24
Joyce Fehrman
Roger Sweet

November 29
Christine
Landowski

November 6
Jon & Mandy
Mykisen

November 7
Gaylord & Mable
Johnson

November 9
John & Diane
Sweat

November 11
Tom & Rose Wirtz

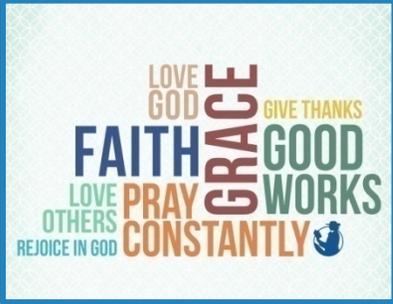


THE NURTURE COMMITTEE IS HOLDING A HARVEST THEMED COFFEE HOUR ON NOVEMBER 14.

A SIGN UP LIST WILL BE IN OUR ENTRYWAY ON NOVEMBER 7, SO BE SURE TO STOP BY TO MARK DOWN YOU NAME.

 DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE NURTURE COMMITTEE.

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Our Community



Our talented Sunday School kids created a wonderful poster for Pastor Caleb!!!



THANK YOU FOR HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS IN OCTOBER!

Home Delivered Meals Drivers

- Julie Berg**
- Pat & Kathy McGrath**
- Sue Mitchell**
- Becky Taylor**
- 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 meals.



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



Nicole Sukow, the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, will be doing meals again this year. Last year we served 530 meals! The dinners will be available on Thanksgiving day.

If you would like to pick up a dinner or have it delivered to you:

- Call 715-301-0066 beginning Tuesday November 8 through November 15 between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.
- There is no cost for this meal.
- Pick up times will be assigned when you call.

Want to volunteer?

- Wednesday afternoon and Thursday 10:00 to help serve , clean up, and deliver.
- We would also like to ask for desserts to be donated by Wednesday November 24.
 - Please only cookies and bars--pie is to hard to pack. Also no nuts!

If any church would like to do a goodwill offering towards the meal, it would be much appreciated. Any questions regarding volunteering or donating, please feel to contact Nicole at. 715-572-4629.

Christmas Tree Walk

Dec 4, 5 & 6
12 p.m.-4p.m.
(Saturday-Monday)

Dec 10
5 p.m.-8p.m.
(Friday)

Dec 11 & 12
12 p.m.- 4 p.m.
(Saturday-Sunday)

*This family-friendly event
is free to the public*

South Wood County
Historical Museum
540 Third Street South
Wisconsin Rapids



DON'T FORGET!!

Clocks go back 1hour on
November 6 @ 2:00 am



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