



The LINK... Keeping You Connected

Issue: August 2010

People's United Methodist Church
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peoplesumc@wisconsinumc.org

*Providing
assistance in your
local community...*

The Nina Fund

Mission Focus:

The Neighbors in Need of Assistance (N.I.N.A.) Fund assists families who are in need of the basic necessities of life, including assistance with rent and utilities. The fund is available to families with minor children who live in the Oregon School District. It was established in 2002 through the cooperation of Oregon Churches and Joe Sullivan, Dane County Community Outreach Worker.

In 2003, the first year of the fund, \$3,500 in assistance was distributed to families in need around the community. This year, the NINA Fund is on pace to disburse \$24,000 -- a 50% increase in just four years.

All assistance is made by checks to third parties only. The N.I.N.A. fund is supported by donations from churches, businesses, and individuals. Area school children have also participated in many fundraising events. No government or school district tax dollars are given to, or used by, the N.I.N.A. Fund.

Thank you to People's United Methodist Church for generously contributing to the NINA Fund during the past seven years. This support has made a significant difference in the lives of children and families living in the greater Oregon Area. We appreciate your consideration in donating to this fund again during the August 2010 PUMC Missions drive. Questions?

Joe Sullivan, Dane County Community Outreach, 608-575-1187
Jeanne Carpenter, PUMC Missions Committee, 608-835-2461

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The PUMC Samaritan Fund is used to help people in need with food and gas cards. We are careful to work in conjunction with area churches and the NINA Fund, so we know who is in need and where the money is used best.

Since January we have help 13 people for a total of \$750.

Eleven of these requests have been since June 1st. People are really struggling and it is nice to be able to help! Please continue to drop your loose bills and change in the Samaritan Bucket to help contribute to this fund.

Pastor's Corner

Mission Giving

Greetings! Following are 27 words of wisdom from a old farmer. This is from an e-mail one of you sent me. Enjoy and with this I pray only God's best for you all. #27 is the most important to me and remember laughter is good for our souls. Laugh a lot, Jon Claude

1. Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.
2. Keep skunks and lawyers at a distance.
3. Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.
4. A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.
5. Words that soak into your ears are whispered...not yelled.
6. Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.
7. Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads.
8. Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.
9. It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
10. You cannot unsay a cruel word.
11. Every path has a few puddles.
12. When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
13. The best sermons are lived, not preached.
14. Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.
15. Don't judge folks by their relatives.
16. Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Month & Mission	Amount
Jan- WI Blind & Visually Impaired	1464
Feb-WI Literacy, Inc.	1317
Mar-GBGM-children's ministries	1330
Apr- Ronald McDonald House	1039
May- Bags of Grace Golden Cross Sunday	1400
June - The Road Home	1162
July - World Vision	750
Mission Giving Year-to-Date	8462

General Giving Year-to-Date our general giving is \$197,000. As of 7/18/10, we have a deficit of about **\$3,200**. Thank you for your continued generous response to our financial needs. Please remember to give during the summer. Our expenses don't take a vacation!

Church Building Loan A church mortgage payment of \$6,000 was made in June; that brings is to a loan balance of \$29,939.

Keep making your Debt Reduction Fund payments - our church loan can be paid in full once these commitments have been fulfilled!

PUMC Samaritan Fund

Where has the money been spent this year?

\$200 medicine \$195 gas \$55 grocery
\$200 rent \$150 utilities

We have \$175 in gas & grocery cards to disperse.
13 persons have been helped since Jan 2010.

Balance in the account: \$837.62

[Continued pg.11](#)

Meeting

Minutes

COUNCIL MINUTES: June 7, 2010

1. Rebuild Children/Youth Programs

Confirmation: Per council recommendation, Sue Koch is researching possible changes to the current PUMC Confirmation program. Her recommendations will be presented at the August Church Council meeting.

Nursery Staff Needs: Sue Koch recommended Council revisit church policy for nursery staffing. With many summer vacations in the plans for nursery workers, Council voted to allow the Nursery to be staffed by one adult (18+ years) and one 16-or-older person. This provision will be in effect through September, at which time the Council will revisit the policy to determine further changes. Council asked if we should consider setting up a Red Cross training session for nursery staff.

2. Encourage Extravagant Generosity

Financial Report: thru May 31, PUMC is facing a \$1,000 deficit, which is much lower than expected. Expenses are within budget.

Long Range Plan: Per council request, information gathered by Sue Koch was presented on membership numbers, and how these numbers have changed in the last five years. It was noted that membership is neither increasing or decreasing, but remaining stable. Data also shows the worship time schedule change has more evenly balanced out worship attendance, but overall attendance has not increased. Tweaking may still be needed to ensure members have the ability to attend adult discipleship classes, and that Sunday School teachers are happy with the Sunday set-up. The question was also asked how the worship schedule time change has affected ushers, choir and bell choir. This is unknown. It was noted that if members have significant issues with the church, its programming, or staff, that they should approach a Staff Parish Committee member, and their concerns will be addressed. All of the worship data will be

passed onto the Worship Committee, with a request for this committee to perhaps survey the congregation on how the worship changes have affected them. Pastor Jon Claude will work with the Worship Committee to address this issue.

Wills & Memorials: it was noted that PUMC should consider developing a formal process to send thank you notes to people who have donated money toward specific causes and designated funds. Jon Claude will ask office staff to review this request, and offer recommendations.

3. Set High Membership Expectations – Life Giving Administration

Staff Review Process: Anne Staton plans to present a formal review process to all PUMC employees in June. A staff liaison document has been prepared, providing every church employee a contact they can go to if they have questions or concerns.

Trustees: the space-use issue with certain groups has been addressed and we are awaiting responses.

Leadership Development/Nominations: We still need to fill positions within the Radical Hospitality program. This is a key program and is vital to the growth and well-being of our church. Please consider becoming involved.

4. Invite Adults into Faith Formation/ Improve Assimilation System

Adult Discipleship & Assimilation: a good line-up of fall programming is planned. It was noted that we still need to develop a process of working with visitors and assimilating new members into the church. We are looking for leadership in this role.

Young Adult: a potluck dinner in May attracted seven people. It was a nice event.

Council cont...

5. Work Beyond Our walls/Living our Faith

Service Sunday on May 23 attracted about 80 people to participate in a variety of community service projects. We had good coverage in the Oregon Observer, and overall, the program garnered very positive results. It was recommended that we repeat this program perhaps in the fall, or again in 2011.

Garden: a new shed has arrived, courtesy of a building group at Oregon High School. Most of the garden plots are full this year.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Aug 2 @ 6:30 p.m.

Worship Team Minutes: Preparation of our worship space has been a joy this summer as we have displayed beautiful flowers from the church gardens. We are grateful to the gardeners listed below and to those unseen angels who take time to pull a weed or water a flower. We thank them all for the blessing of enjoying God's beautiful flowers.

Your worship committee members are: Anne and Steve Staton, Reggie Matzke, Ron Ramsden, Dolly Piasecki, Pat Stratton, Barb Feeney, LaDonna Smith, Dwayne and Susie Berg, Dan Behrend and Eldon Jones.

Worship Team could use some help from time to time. If you would enjoy occasionally working with us on any of these tasks, please talk to Mary Malone or email mmalone@lwm-info.org

- Communion setup/cleanup
- Launder Communion napkins
- Assist with preparation of altar

Finance Committee Minutes - June 10, 2010

The Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual and the Balance Sheet through May were reviewed. We are at about 41% of the budget year and we are averaging very near 41% of budget for most items on the Profit & Loss sheet.

Rene Ackerman is near completion of the audits for 2008 & 09. She is doing this free of charge.

Pledged general giving for 2010 is \$364,000 and we are on track with the budget if current giving continues.

The current loan balance for the church is \$36,939 and for the parsonage is \$133,357.

Approximately \$49,000 of the Capitol Fund pledges have not been fulfilled at this time. That amount does not include lost members, which would account for \$24,000, not anticipating collecting.

Discussion followed on what we could do to remind those who had not fulfilled their pledges and how to encourage other parish members to continue giving to the Capitol Fund.

- One reminder letter to people who have not fulfilled their Capitol Fund pledge.
- Another letter to members that have fulfilled their pledge thanking them.
- A letter to new members explaining the financial needs of the church was also discussed.

Other items:

*Communicating to the congregation how much is still needed and announcing a celebration for "burning" of the mortgage this fall.

*Have a visual "Giving Chart"

*Have a separate Parsonage debt reduction drive after the church mortgage is satisfied.

*Add a debt reduction option to the fall stewardship drive pledge card.

Upon review of last years budget and expenses, committees have been conscientious of spending.

Agenda for our next meeting:

- 1) Proceed with a Capitol Fund appeal
- 2) Developing a standardized process for completing the budget each year which would include budget request worksheets.

Next meeting will be August 12@6:30

HIGHLIGHT FROM WISCONSIN CONFERENCE: UNITED METHODISTS GIVE WHOLEHEARTEDLY AT 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN LA CROSSE

On June 13-16, 800 United Methodists from across Wisconsin gathered at our Annual Conference session in La Crosse. In accordance with this year's theme, *Give Wholeheartedly*, the conference highlighted individuals and groups who give above and beyond what is expected, including our 13 Health and Welfare Ministries, the 2008 Flood Recovery Program, and the generous giving from UMC congregations throughout the state for Haiti (more than \$426,000), Chile (more than \$13,000), as well as the thousands of kits and items donated to the Ingathering. The plenary sessions featured reports from boards, agencies, and ministries; voting on action items; approval of the 2011 budget; and presentations on our new Discipleship Leadership Team and new Catalyst Team to help identify a new vision and new possibilities for our churches. The session also included *The Community in Conversation* – a period of open dialogue in which members of the Conference came together to discuss homosexuality and living into God's future. This dialogue was a result of an approved motion at the 2006 session to discuss this topic at a future session. The Wisconsin Conference also celebrated the retiring clergy and staff, remembered lost loved ones, and welcomed delegates from the Dong Bu Conference in South Korea to honor the sister partnership between the two Conferences. Each day closed with an inspiring worship service:

During Ordination of Elders service on Sunday, Bishop Jong Kuk Won from Dong Bu Conference in South Korea gave a sermon entitled *Devotional Life* in which he talked about the dedication required of the new elders.

The Youth Service on Monday was organized and led by the youth delegates, and featured a lively sermon by Bishop Linda Lee that drew from the theme of *Live, Give Love...Beyond All Expectation*. She spoke of the “ridiculously lavish” love that God has for us and declared that “God is in the neighborhood!” She used the example of her own family reunions to illustrate how love can make different people, even those who disagree, into one.

The Commissioning of Provisional Members for Service on Tuesday included a sermon by Reverend Jeremy Deaner, a newly ordained elder, which emphasized the theological, emotional, and physical oneness of the human race.

Next year's conference will take place June 12th - 15th in the Wisconsin Dells. A more comprehensive report on the Annual Conference sessions as well as links to several DVDs and PowerPoint's will be forthcoming. You can still view many of the sessions online, by visiting this link: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/2010annualconferenceiumc>.

VIEW VIDEOS ON THE WISCONSIN UMC NEW YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

The Wisconsin Conference has launched a channel on the popular video-sharing website YouTube. Visit the channel [here](#) to view videos from the Wisconsin Conference and the United Methodist Church, as well as general inspirational videos. Find archived videos you may have missed, and get updated on ministries and programs. Subscribe to the channel, “like” videos, leave comments, and share videos with your friends on Facebook, Twitter and other social media sites. Additionally, be sure to visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/wisconsinumc.

Lay Member Reflects on Annual Conference

Where do I start? There is so much to share. The Ingathering Kits were sent off. Thanks to every one who donated supplies and who helped put them together. We already received a thank you from Harbor House.

The best part of the conference is the sharing of ideas and the worship services. Business is conducted at the conference. In return, we receive a lot of information. We are sharing this information with several ministry areas. You will be hearing about them as Betty, Rebecca and I share them this fall. There will be awesome leadership training opportunities too; new ways of looking at leadership that everyone can use and benefit. So be looking for them.

My wish would be that each and everyone of you could attend Conference at least once. Your image of the church as a whole would broaden so much. Apportionments would begin to make more sense as you get an understanding for the many, many programs they support from administration to missions. There are so many awesome things being done by our local, state, national and worldwide Churches.

The most inspiring experience for me at conference was Bishop Lee's Sermon on Love at the Youth Service on Monday night. It was challenging, informative and moving. I wanted to get a video of it and share it with you all. Unfortunately, it is the only thing that did not get recorded; the whole video system went down.

There was wonderful music too. A youth band played and we sang "Jesus Loves You" rock style. You couldn't stand still. There was liturgical dance that you wanted to get up off your seat and follow along. Spirituality filled the room. Kind of like the banner in front of the church with Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Very hard

to share it all. It was very inspiring and motivating. It fires up your heart to do God's work. Thank you for sending me. It is an incredible gift to be able to go. I will leave you with something to think about.

Why do people and churches get stuck and have difficulty moving forward?

1. Living in the past
2. Unhealthy focus on what we do not have
3. Obsession with money
4. More is the key to happiness
5. Suffer from lack of imagination
6. DO NOT have a vision powerful enough to draw us forward

How can we move forward is the question to ask?

Karen Baker, Lay Member to Annual Conference

Enhance the Love that you share! Save Oc-



tober 22-24, 2010 for a Marriage Encounter or Engaged Encounter Weekend at Pine Lake in Westfield, WI. These weekends help many couples get started or continue on their spiritual journey as couples. Infor-

mation regarding the weekend programs can be found by contacting:

Ron & Sharon Morishita 262-554-0369 or by email at: w1marriage@sbcglobal.net .

Or John & Rosie Mitchell 1-866-633-3862 or by email at jdmitche@verizon.net.

This program is an affiliate of General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church. Please visit their website at www.encounter.org.

Dear Family and Friends,

**Parish Nurse
Ministry**



For everything a season...and the season is the dog days of summer!

We have had consistently hot weather with high humidity for quite a spell already this year. And there is no reason to expect an early frost just yet, so I would like to talk about a very important safety concern.

Every year, more than 30 children die because they are left alone in a car. **In just 10 minutes a car's temperature can increase by 19 degrees—and it continues to rise.** There is no evidence that cracking the windows helps prevent the temperature inside a vehicle from reaching dangerous levels.

Follow these tips to help prevent child injuries:

- Dial 911 immediately if you see an unattended child in a car. EMS professionals are trained to determine if a child is in trouble.
- Never leave a child alone in a vehicle, even with windows slightly open.
- Place a purse, cell phone, PDA, briefcase or other needed item on the floor in the back seat so you'll be prompted to see children who remain in the car. (Sometimes we get distracted as we head out in the car or go off to work.)
- Teach children to *never* play in any vehicle.

Lock all vehicle doors and trunk after everyone has gotten out—especially at home—so that kids do not re-enter the car for any reason.

I invite you to PRAYERFULLY PLEDGE:

I pledge to never leave my child in the care alone, even for a minute.

If I see a child alone in a car, I will call 911 immediately. Amen.

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.

Peace and blessings,

Susan Payne, People's Parish Nurse

This week the mighty First Monday Planning Committee meets to conjure up some fun and informative gatherings for those of our community who might have reached (or passed) the 50-year-mark birthday, though anyone is welcome. Could you join us for some of our potluck-and-program First Mondays of the month? **You are SO invited!** **We meet the First Monday of the month (September 13th because of Labor Day) at 11:00 for the meal, followed by a program.** Invite your friends to this very friendly group. We enjoy much laughter, a bit of prayer, delicious food, and good friendship! **Monthly Ringleaders are Susan Payne, Parish Nurse, and Pastor Jon Claude Bartlett.**

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Do you notice an error or an omission? If you are new to PUMC or have not turned in an updated info sheet recently, we may not have your birthday or anniversary date! Please notify the office. Or submit your info on line at: www.peoplesumc.org/info

August		Dale & Joan Zuhse	
1st	Bette Cropp	13th	Jordan Wendlandt
	Bob Hammon	14th	Kari Borgmeyer
	Emma Hazeltine		Sabrina Freeman
	Gary & Sue Haffele		Eileen Graney
	John & Kristie Halverson		Larry & Kristin Cihla
	Larry & Linda Svanda	15th	Angie Stone
2nd	Ryan Bellisle	16th	Doris Schnabel
	Judy McKernan		Derik & Jeannie Doescher
	Pat Severson		Diane & Rich Strohmenger
	Ron & Nancy Olsen	17th	Irene Draper
3rd	Jordan Dietrich		Morgan Stone
	Royce Donner	18th	Linda Kuhn &
	Ladonna Smith		Brian Rudolph
	Randy Wright	19th	Lisa Tway
	Matt & Amanda Case		Helen & Bill Denson
	Juan & Lisa Alfonso	20th	Larry Cihla
	Tim & Willa Panzer		Dick Trexel
4th	Gabbie Bahrke		Amber & Mike Hawkey
	Rebecca Cole	21st	Jennifer Bradley
	Gwen Szabo		Anila Russell
5th	Trish Hjort	22nd	Bonnie Bohse
	Charlotte Clark		Ralph Lance
	John & Linda Paddock		Jonna Powell
6th	Mary Jean McGrath	24th	Beth Peterson
	Alex Sterling		Dave & Sue Koch
	Jack & Louise Hoffmann	25th	Jordan Tway
7th	Julie Andersen	26th	Thayer & Nicole Bryant
	Allen & Merry Bachim	27th	Kayci Bausch
	Erik & Britt Haslam		Garrett Maier
8th	Dick & Debbie Trexel		Aidan Powers
9th	Dylan Bahrke	28th	Gary Lien
	Dale Zuhse		Sue & Leif McCartney
10th	Dan Behrend	29th	Deb & Rob Zentner
	Shelia Monroe	30th	Brady Behrend
	Ian Vandermause		Mason Higgins
11th	Ann Baungartner		Frankie Jones
	Kristin Cihla		Allison Schnelle
	Barb Deitrich	31st	Meg Dietrich
	Warren & Peg Schmidt		Andrea Schnelle
12th	Alissa Brooks		Jody & Gary Lien
	Garret Powell		
	Steve & Deanna Bahrke		

Church Records

Births - Eli Josiah Halverson (5/23/10)
Parents John & Kristie Halverson
Deaths - Millie Nordhaus (5/26/10)

Marriages - Larry & Barbara Mahr (6/19/10)

Baptism - Andrew Chad Wachtl (7/24/10)

Visitors

In June & July	53
Year to date	211

Average Attendance in Worship

Saturday Eve	29	Last year	27
Sunday 1st Service	55		61
Sunday 2nd Service	64		80

Food Pantry Collection at a Glance

Here are some monthly suggestions to keep the local food pantry stocked.

August Canned Fruit/School Supplies
September Cereal

The food pantry shelves become scarce during the summer months. Please consider some of the items below. This would be in addition to the regular monthly collection. Thank you!

- ◆ **Baked beans**
- ◆ **Crackers**
- ◆ **Spaghetti sauce**
- ◆ **Boxed or canned meals**
- ◆ **Soup**
- ◆ **Tooth paste**
- ◆ **Paper products**
- ◆ **Diapers & wipes**
- ◆ **Hair care products**

Aluminum Can Drive Going Strong

Please dump your bags of empty cans in the chain link kennel in the church parking lot. All proceeds go to our church general fund. Here are some more facts about can recycling.

Using recycled aluminum beverage cans to produce new cans allows the aluminum can industry to make up to 20 times more cans for the same amount of energy.

It's estimated that since 1972 some 18.7 million tons of aluminum have been recycled. These 1,099 billion aluminum cans placed end-to-end could stretch to the moon and back some 174 times.

Aluminum cans have amazing strength. Four six-packs (24 cans) hold a 4,000 pound aluminum bodied sedan.

In 2003, Americans recycled 62.6 billion aluminum cans. Those cans, placed end-to-end, could make 171 circles around the earth.



America recycled enough aluminum cans last year to stretch to the moon and back 8 times.

Since 1972 Americans have recycled 37 billion lbs. or 1,099 trillion aluminum cans and earned over \$25 billion by recycling aluminum beverage cans.

Every minute of everyday, an average of 105,800 aluminum cans are recycled.

When you think it is hot, consider the following: Did you know that aluminum begins to melt at a whopping 1220 degrees Fahrenheit. Over the past 10 years, the number of aluminum cans recycled has doubled.

Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a television for three hours.

The number of cans recycled every 30 seconds equals the number of people who could fill an entire pro football stadium.

10,433 empty aluminum beverage cans weigh as much as Shaq O'Neal.

**The first load has been taken over and we raised \$72.50!
Not a bad start.**

Given the volume of cans that are already there; it would be helpful to use a trailer to haul the cans to the recycling center on Fish Hatchery Road. If you have a trailer, please contact Scott Sanford @ scottparkridge@yahoo.com

For more Information on RECYCLING

Visit the [Can Manufacturer's Institute at www.cancentral.com](http://www.cancentral.com); a web portal for lots of information on cans, their manufacture, history and recycling programs as well as educational curricula.

Summer Poll Results: What is the primary factor in choosing the service you attend?

14.3% said it is based on Discipleship Offerings

14.3% said it is based on Friends that attend

14.3% said it is based on Music program

28.6% said it is based on Children's programs

28.6% said it is based on Time

Stop by and take our monthly survey at: (www.peoplesumc.org). **August survey question: Have you found a place at PUMC to use your gifts & talents?**

Know What You Have to Offer...

The Benefits of Volunteering

Reasons People Volunteer

- They are asked
- Client served or type of work being performed holds significance
- Meeting new people
- Improving the quality of life of members in the community
- Doing something useful or enjoyable
- Community service
- Exploring new career options and networks
- Receiving professional training or experience
- Maintaining skills during an interruption in paid employment
- Fulfilling service to their club, school, church
- To belong
- Repaying what they have received
- Contributing to a personal cause
- Exploring their strengths

We know it is hard to balance work and home life, especially if you have young children involved in several activities. Your time is precious in so many ways. Consider volunteering just once a month. Opportunities are available and can be done as a family, creating a meaningful tradition. Spend some of your time to causes in your community.

Oregon/Brooklyn Food Pantry - Help at the warehouse 1x per month (last Thursday of the month).

Wednesday Night Suppers - food prep, set-up, clean-up, serve. All sorts of opportunities that would fit around your schedule.

For information on any volunteer opportunities, please call the church office at 835-3755

Ministries - Ushering, hospitality, children & youth. Whatever your interest, we have a spot for you!

Library Committee Don't have a lot of extra time? The library committee is for you! Help is needed shelving books.

IHN & The Road Home People's Church is part of a team that supports the Interfaith Hospitality Network program of the Road Home. Families with children live at St. John's Lutheran Church during their stay in Oregon 4 times a year. The PUMC team needs more volunteers. We provide and host a dinner and breakfast, play with the children during activity time one night, and act as overnight hosts for one evening. We provide evening transportation if needed and transport the belongings of the families to their next church home. Volunteering is easy to do; you will receive far more than you give. The next visit of the families is the week of **August 29th – September 5th**. If you are interested in helping or want more information, I encourage you to please contact Peg Schmidt @ 835-3049 or Anne and Steve Staton @835-3253. You may reach us by email at pegschmidt41@gmail.com or staton.anne@gmail.com

Bell Choir - Are you looking for an outlet for your musical gifts? If so, bell choir needs you. If you played an instrument in your high school days think about using those musical skills again. The bell choir practices every Wednesday from 6:00 to 7:00 PM in the music room. The whole group plays the fourth Sunday of the month at the 10:30 service. Small groups also play occasionally at the 9:00AM service, the first Sunday of the month. Practices will start Wednesday August 25 @ 6pm. If you would like more information or to give ringing a try, contact the church office.

17. Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.
18. Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.
19. Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.
20. If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.
21. Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.
22. The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every morning.
23. Always drink upstream from the herd.
24. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.
25. Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.
26. If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.
27. Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

Faith-filled Ways to say “Thank You” to God this summer: As you plant flowers in your garden, say thank you to God for their gift of color. Give at least as much back to God as you spend on flowers this year.

► Use your time and talents to raise money for outreach. Do you have a garden? Do you have more zucchini than you can eat? What about tomatoes, beans, or sweet corn? Maybe you have some friends and neighbors who would gladly give a gift toward a mission of your church in exchange for some of your vegetables – fresh, frozen, or canned.

► Put a container in the middle of the kitchen

table and invite family members to make a special offering – perhaps even \$1/day to say thank you for a job each day.

► If your grocery bill tends to rise during the summer because more people are home and you have more visitors, try planning your menus around what’s on sale each week. Then with the money you save, you can make an extra gift to the mission and ministry of the church.

► Remember, God doesn’t take vacations from us! If you’re heading out on a special vacation – enjoy! Give thanks for the memories you’ll make by signing up for online bill pay through your bank. Then your offerings will be sent to the church automatically whether you’re on vacation or in your regular pew each week.

► Honor those you love with a special gift to the overall mission and ministry of the church through our apportionments. “A-portion-ment for others” can be a wonderful way to remember loved ones as a part of their gift for birthdays, anniversaries and other milestones.

7 Hindrances to Prayer

We don't ask. God can't answer something that hasn't been asked. In the Gospels, Jesus repeatedly exhorts his disciples to ask for things in His name. We must ask first. The worst prayer is the one left unsaid. *"I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete."* John 16: 23-24

Hidden Sin. If we are hiding our sins, we are not right with God. Before coming to God in prayer, we must confess our sins. *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* I John 1:9

Doubt. If we pray for something consistent with our understanding of God's will, we should pray fully expecting that prayer will be answered. However, we should not expect that it will be answered immediately. The waiting time is what gets us into trouble. The longer we have to wait, the more likely it is that doubt creeps in. When that happens, we need to remind ourselves that we believe that God is working, and then trust that God is indeed working on it.

Selfishness. God does not answer selfish prayers; prayers prayed out of a wrong motive. If we trust God, we know that God will take care of us. That frees us up to pray for others, rather than ourselves. If God doesn't give me what I ask for, it's because God has a better idea for me and I'm not smart enough yet to ask for it. *"If God is for us, who can be against us?"* Romans 8:31.

Love Lacking in Your Life. We are to Love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. And we are to love our neighbor as

ourselves. Ask yourself, "What have I done today to make somebody's life better?"

Refusal to Do Our Part. Often we are the answer to prayer, and we need to recognize when it is up to us to do something rather than to ask God to do it for us. We are God's hands and feet on this earth. We have a role to play in helping those in need.

Lack of a Thankful Heart and Praise. Remember to thank God before we pray. There is always something for which to be thankful. Not only is it true, but it will help change our attitude when we approach God.

Submitted by Dan Behrend

LAY SERVANT TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES These upcoming training opportunities will answer your questions about the role of Lay Leaders, Lay Servant Ministers, and other important responsibilities:

Basic Lay Servant Course (*Today's Disciple*)-- August 7, 14, 28; 1 PM-4:30 PM; West Allis UMC. Qualifies graduates to pursue recognition as Lay Servants. Register online at www.discipleconnection.org or call Tom Bolton at 414-704-5478.

Basic Lay Servant Course--August 14, 21; 9:30 AM-3 PM; Covenant UMC, Fond du Lac. Contact Patsy Roe at 920-623-9110 or patsy_stickles55@yahoo.com.

Lay Leader Training--September 12; 1 PM-4PM; Covenant UMC, Fond du Lac. Register by September 1st. Contact Barbara Franken at 920-991-0548 or bfranken@wisconsinumc.org.

Faith Alive!—September 17-19, Mt. Morris Camp/Conference Center, Wautoma. Contact Curtis Wittwer at 608-250-9990 or cwit-ter@charter.net and [click here](#).

Lay Leader Training--October 30; 9 AM-Noon; Bethany UMC, Green Bay. Register by October 19th. Contact Barbara Franken at 920-991-0548 or bfranken@wisconsinumc.org.



Adult Discipleship

Is your faith growing like zucchini? Are your God experiences as plentiful as tomatoes? I hope your summer was restful and full of the fruits of the Spirit. As we wind back up for the coming fall, I invite you to continue to grow your faith through worship, prayer, Bible study, faith education, building community, and service.

Disciple Bible

Disciple Bible is an in-depth study that will introduce participants to living as disciples through studying the Bible. It will transform your understanding of the Bible and your relationship with God.

The first section, covering the Old Testament, will meet each Thursday from 6:30-9pm for 18 weeks starting September 9th (not meeting over holidays, with breaks to accommodate people's schedules). Participants will also study the Bible on their own 6 days per week. Previous knowledge of the Bible is **not** required. The second section, a study of the New Testament, will resume meeting in September 2011 and follow the same schedule.

Contact Jack Hoffmann (219-4472) or Rebecca Otte (835-3755 x33) with any questions or for more information regarding Disciple, Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study.

Some Ongoing Groups

Yoga: gentle, free, every Thursday 5:45-6:45pm (note the time change). Newcomers welcome!

Knitters Group: first Monday each month 6-7pm.

Adult Discipleship: second Thursday, 5-6pm.

Young Adult Group: Join the Young Adult Group for a monthly potluck. Meet with other 25-40 year-olds to talk, have fun and make connections. Ask Rebecca

Radical Hospitality Meeting Aug 4, 6:30-7:30

~all interested are welcome!

Adult Discipleship Planning Retreat: Aug 20-21

Upcoming Events

Is there anything you'd like to learn or teach? We welcome your suggestions!

Back to School Brunch

Sunday, Aug 29 10:15-11:30am

–Facilitator: Laura Flood

–For all teachers and support staff, Sunday School teachers, PT and OTs, confirmation mentors, and anyone on a summer schedule returning to work

–free food and prayers

Retreat Opportunities

–Whispering Winds Retreat Haven in Cambridge has private and group retreats available. Look in the library for a catalog or email MarianKorth@Charter.net

–Walk to Emmaus in March 2011, see www.upperroom.org/emmaus for details

Looking Ahead

All Church Camp-Out

Where do you want to be in a year? How about at Pine Lake, relaxing with your church over the weekend of Aug 12th? Tenting, cabins, and hotel-like rooms at the retreat center available.

Circuit-Wide, Two-Part Communication & Leadership training

Dan Dick will be leading an evening on communication, and early next year we'll have a Leadership Training workshop. Keep an eye out for more details!

Children & Youth Ministries

Come Join Us!! On Sunday, August 29th we are having a day of celebration at Church! We will be celebrating the end of Summer and the beginning of the new school year. We will begin the day with a Blessing for all teachers, group leaders, volunteers and mentors beginning at 9am in the Fireside Room. We will serve a light breakfast as a part of this blessing. Participants may then worship at the 10:30am service if they wish. Following the service, we will have a Picnic lunch for all church families and friends who wish to participate. The church will provide hamburgers, brats and hot dogs, and ask that everyone bring a dish to pass if you are able.

After lunch, we will have an afternoon of programming for children of all ages. We will have many activities, including: games; arts and craft activities; learning about heart health with Nurse Susan; bible stories; drama skits and music; and finish decorating the Youth Room. More specific details will be sent out in August, but be sure to save the date!

Confirmation Program Update: Our confirmation program will become a two year program beginning with the upcoming school year. Students will start the program in 8th grade and be confirmed in 9th grade. **Class will begin on September 19th.** The final program details must still be approved by Church Council at the August meeting. Upon approval, more specific details on confirmation programming will be provided at the Parent Meeting that will be held in early September.

Fall Programming for Children & Youth will start in September! It's hard to believe that summer is almost over and another school year is beginning! Our program year will begin as follows:

- **Sunday School:** We will begin on September 19th. A change to the program this year is that all classes will attend worship the first Sunday of every month. This will allow students to attend a full worship service, as well as be present to receive communion.
- **Wednesday Evening Programs:** We will begin on September 29th at 6pm.

Oregon 4K, Little Angels Christian Preschool and Mom's Day Out programming update:

- **Mom's Day Out** - The program year will begin on Tuesday, September 14th.
- **Oregon 4K** - We are pleased to welcome **Stacy Thompson** as our new 4K lead teacher! The 4K class year will begin Wednesday, September 1st.

- **Little Angels** - The school year will begin on Tuesday, September 7th.

On Wednesday, August 18th, we will hold our Back to School night for both Little Angels and Oregon 4K from 5 - 8 pm. We are trying out a new schedule this year to better facilitate crowd size and provide the opportunity for getting to know each other. The schedule will be as follows:

T/TH AM Class 5 - 5:45pm
M/W/F AM Class 6 - 6:45pm
4K PM Class 7 - 7:45pm

C&Y Staff

Sue Koch
Children & Youth Ministry Dir.
skoch@wisconsinumc.org

Katie Grady
Little Angels Preschool Dir.
Mom's Day Out Dir.
kgrady@wisconsinumc.org

Diane Haag
Little Angels Preschool Teacher
Nursery Attendant

Lisa Unertl
Little Angels Preschool Teacher
Mom's Day Out Teacher

Holly Rausch
Mom's Day Out Teacher
hollyrausch@charter.net

Amy Gonzalez
Children's Music & Drama Dir.

Megan Dietrich
Children's Music & Drama Asst.

Ariana Bonsett-Veal
Nursery Attendant

Aleksandra Martinka
Nursery Attendant

Dana Schiele
Nursery Attendant

Worship: Saturday at 5pm & Sunday's at 9am & 10:30am (Childcare at all services)

Church Phone: 608-835-3755 Fax: 608-835-7941 Parsonage: 835-9907

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am-3:00pm

Pastor	Jon Claude Bartlett, jcb@wisconsinumc.org
Financial Secretary	Sandy Behrend, sbehrend@wisconsinumc.org
Children's Music & Drama Assistant	Megan Dietrich
Adult Vocal Choir Dir./Children's Music & Drama	Amy Gonzalez
Worship & Preschool Dir.	Katie Grady, kgrady@wisconsinumc.org
Worship Media Assistant	Brandon Finch
Building Maintenance	Gary Haffele
Children & Youth Ministry Dir.	Sue Koch, skoch@wisconsinumc.org
Adult Discipleship Dir.	Rebecca Otte, rotte@wisconsinumc.org
Parish Nurse	Susan Payne, spayne@wisconsinumc.org
Administrative Assistant	Sandi Reichert, peoplesumc@wisconsinumc.org
Bell Choir Director	Kathy Schneider, schneka@merr.com
Church Office Email	peoplesumc@wisconsinumc.org
Church Website	www.peoplesumc.org

Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our dream is to make this church, this community and this world a better place.

We are called as a community of faith to reach out by:

listening openly, loving unconditionally and inviting all to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

We will share God's love through circles small enough to care for each, and large enough to encompass all.

We accomplish this with integrity, trust, honesty, respect and inclusiveness.