

The Newsletter of People's UMC

# The LINK...Keeping You Connected

Issue: October 2011

People's United Methodist Church  
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## Come One Come All: Your Ideas and Thoughts Are Requested



As they work on preparing PUMC for the future and the change in pastoral leadership, the Transition Team is asking for your help. Several opportunities for you to share your dreams for PUMC and your thoughts about future leadership have been scheduled.

These small group, interactive gatherings will last about an hour and will use an easy but effective process to allow everyone to comfortably participate. Your attendance is very important so please review the following dates and times and put the one on your calendar that works best for you. We look forward to seeing you. If you have questions, please contact the church office or one of the Transition Team members.

**Sunday, October 2nd, 11:45 AM**

**Monday, October 3rd, at 1st Monday gathering at 11 AM**

**Wednesday, October 5th, 6 PM**

**Sunday, October 9th, 9:15 AM especially for parents of PUMC's youth**

**Sunday, October 9th, 10:30 AM**

**Monday, October 10th, for staff only**

**Wednesday, October 12th, 6 PM for youth 5th grade and older only**

*MY NEWSLETTER ARTICLE THIS MONTH IS A THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION OF SORTS THAT MY WIFE JEAN WROTE RECENTLY. IT IS RATHER THOUGHT PROVOKING AND OF COURSE COMES FROM OUR OWN EXPERIENCE WITH MULTI-CULTURAL GRANDCHILDREN. GRACE AND PEACE!  
PASTOR JON*



## **A Powerful Reminder**

**August 2011**

It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon. The sun was warm upon my face as I arrived home from church a little after noon and stepped out of my car.

*Often I like to do something with my family on Sunday if I have the chance. My son-in-law, Hugo, plays soccer on Sundays in the summer, so I invited myself over to watch him play.*

After arriving at the soccer field at a park in Madison, I sat in a lawn chair that was offered to my Hugo. We talked some. Spanish language was chattering all around me. As usual, I could speak very little Spanish, but could understand more and more of the conversation. I was offered a cold bottle of water. As I sat in the hot sun, a drink was refreshing. I am always offered generous hospitality when I am with my family's Hispanic friends.

I had not seen my three grandson's to greet them but I knew they were at the field somewhere.

**I looked to the end of the soccer field and saw some tall grass in a little ravine. There they were. I spied their three faces along with several of their friends. They were running and playing, just having a good time together.**

It was about half time, so I walked over to greet them. They didn't have time to talk; they were having so much fun. Their little bodies were sticky from perspiration! I listened for a few minutes and suddenly the words of the game they were playing struck my spirit. My eyes began to tear as I heard them playing. The game the children were playing was "legal and illegal". They pretended the ravine that they were playing in was a river they were to swim across to be safe on land on the other side.

It took my breath away to hear and see these beautiful children playing this game. I watched for a few moments and then went back to sit down in my chair. I said nothing to anyone for a while, I was so sad.



I am in my 60's now, but when I was younger, little boys use to play cow-boys and Indians. Then as years went by, little boys played cops and robbers. And now it is this.

May God help us to accept each other as we have been accepted. It was a powerful reminder to me, there's more work to be done.

Jean Bartlett

# **PUMC Transition Team Membership**

September 2011 – May 2012

Jennifer denDaas PUMC member at-large; 219-3883; jennifer.denDaas@gmail.com

Laura Flood PUMC member at-large; 219-9110; lflood56@gmail.com

Stan Schneider PUMC member at-large; 835-7443; schnest99@gmail.com

Betty Mennenga SPRC; 241-5678 or 577-0936; betty@MTFTeam.com

Jim Shaver SPRC; 335-1009; jimshaver@charter.net

Anne Staton SPRC; 835-3253; staton.anne@gmail.com

Ken Kluz Council; 354-2860; kckluz@charter.net

Larry Mahr Council; 516-9268; ldmahr@wisc.edu

Pam McIntyre Council; 424-6285; grammymc@Frontier.com

Cathy Weis Staff; 354-2230; cweis@weibeg.com

Jon Bartlett Pastor; 835-1945; jcb@wisconsinumc.org

## **Little Angels Christian Preschool (LACP) & 4K:**



Little Angels Christian Preschool began the 2011-2012 school year setting a record. This year we have 4 completely full classes. We have 54 students (36 3-year olds and 18 4K children) as well as 4 teachers. Some other exciting news, Al Kuehl (head of Trustees) and Katie Grady talked with a representative of a playground equipment company. We are in the beginning stages of planning, pricing, and fundraising for a new, bigger, stronger, and safer playground. We will be sharing more information as it becomes available.

In September the children made some new friends, learned about the number 1, the letters L and F. The 3 year old classes also heard the "The Lost Son" and "Jesus feeds 5,000" stories. The teaching staff tested the 4K children's knowledge for baseline assessments with "challenges". On Sept 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> we had a photographer take individual and class photos. Also on Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> the Oregon Public Children's librarian came to read to our T/TH morning 3 year old class.

In October we will be having some fall fun, as well as learning about the letters E & H and the numbers 2 & 3. In October, Pastor Jon will be reading a story to our 4K class, and the children's librarian will be reading to our M/W morning 3-year old class.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AND MID-WEEK PROGRAMS

### ARE UP AND RUNNING!!

We are so excited to have our Christian Education and Mid-Week programming up and running. With God, we all fit to make a great place for learning about God, our church and one another. We saw lots of smiles and had great participation for our start-up and are looking forward to even more! Our children's ministries have a place for all who would like to join us, anytime!!



### THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you! Not only did we have many kids and parents join us for the Sunday School Kickoff, Open House Style, we have been blessed by the piecing together of many volunteers to help us!! Without them, we wouldn't have the programs that we do for the children and youth in our church. A huge thank you to: Jenny Skibba, Peg Schmidt, Jonna Powell, Barb Dietrich, Kelsey Zimmerman, Krista Kienitz, Greg Kienitz, Katie Grady, Jill Garton,

Roberta Rusch, Jon Temte, Jen Kramer, Jill Kiesau, Lydia Russell, Holly Rausch, Dawn Palmer, Blair Sanford, Robin Talley, Sue McCartney, Anna McCartney, Artie Ramos, Colleen Hasler, Jeanne Carpenter, Ellen McKirdy, Charlotte Clark, Rob Meier, Rebecca Higgins, Brandon Finch, Jamie Rogers, Karen Taylor, Molder (Monya) Yerzhanova and anyone else we may have inadvertently forgotten! Our prayers were answered, thank you for answering the call!!

### OPPORTUNITY FOR PARENTS-- AS WE TRANSITION

Parents of PUMC's children and youth are invited to share ideas, thoughts and dreams as we make plans for our future leadership. On October 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 (while kids are at Sunday School) join other parents for an interactive gathering, facilitated by Steve Staton, where you can give your input for our future. Other general sessions will be held; however, this session is geared toward parents—we hope you can make it!

### FOR SAFE KEEPING—AFTER WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

For the safety of our children and to allow our teachers time to prepare activities, please keep your children with you until 5:55 pm on Wednesday evenings. This way we can be sure that there is ample supervision for the safety of all.

### CONVO ANYONE?

Senior High Convo will be Friday, November 11 – Sunday, November 13 at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Although the early bird registration deadline has passed, it is not too late to register. This year's CONVO will feature praise and worship with Rush of Fools, speaker Paul Dabdoub, and fun with other high schoolers. Contact Cathy or Diane if you are interested.

**9<sup>th</sup> GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS** will meet with Pastor Jon on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month.

**The first youth sponsored Wednesday Night Supper will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**PLEASE SEE THE KIOSK AND THE BULLETIN FOR UP TO DATE INFO ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH HAPPENINGS!!**

### C&Y Staff

Diane Haag & Cathy Weis  
Children & Youth Coordinators

Katie Grady  
Little Angels Preschool Dir.  
Parents Day Out Dir.

Amy Gonzalez  
Children's Music & Drama Dir.

Stacy Thompson  
Lead 4-K Teacher

Lisa Unertl  
Little Angels Preschool Teacher  
Parents Day Out Teacher

Sandy Donner  
Little Angels Preschool Teacher  
Parents Day Out Teacher

Celeste Johnson  
Nursery Attendant

Marisa Koch  
Nursery Attendant

Aleksandra Martinka  
Nursery Attendant



The days are getting shorter, the nights cooler, and fall is whispering in our ears. To one she commands, "Hurry, hurry, get in the harvest, there's not much time left!" To another she entreats, "Come, slow down, enjoy the sunshine while it's here." What wisdom does the season bring to *you* this October?

## All are Welcome!

### Stress Management Class

- Sundays, Oct 2, 9. 10:15am
- Facilitator: Amanda Case

September can be a stressful time. Change is in the air, both literally and figuratively. Learn practical techniques to help you manage when life feels overwhelming.

### Grief, Dying and Other Fun Topics

- Wednesdays, Oct 5, 12, 19. 6pm.
- Meet with HospiceCare staff as they explore grief, advanced directives, difficult conversations, and finding peace.
- Attend the class(es) that appeal to you.

### Night at the Movies: Bolt

- Friday, Oct 14. 6:30pm
- Starring John Travolta, Miley Cyrus, and Susie Essman

Free movie, free popcorn, fun for everyone.

### Tips and Tools for Money Management

- Meet with Betty Mennenga one-on-one or in a group to talk about money matters.
- Contact Betty at 835-9366 (home) or 241-5678 (work) to schedule an appointment.

## So much happening!

People's Church is a thriving community, and there's a lot going on! Keep an eye on the kiosk, bulletin, and website for new developments, to find out where events are being held, and to see a part of how your financial contributions become the ministry and mission of God.

### Dinner Connect

- ~Are there folks in church you'd like to get to know better? Do you wish you could connect with people beyond Sunday morning? Here's a great opportunity.
- ~Meet four times with other people (8 people per group) for dinner, brunch, tea; meet once a month, once a week, or whatever works best for your group. Groups will meet in each other's homes, at church, in a restaurant, or at the Firefly, the choice is yours!
- ~People can either sign up and be placed in a group, or they can volunteer to be coordinators and pick acquaintances whom they'd like to have invited.

Contact Rebecca if you'd like to sign up!

### Wisdom Retreat

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Nov 5 9am-3:30pm. Please RSVP to Rebecca.

### PUMC BLOG

Interested in a class but can't make it in person? Heard something in a sermon that touched your heart? Discuss it at [pumctalks.blogspot.com](http://pumctalks.blogspot.com)

Dear Family and Friends,

The beautiful month of October brings to mind autumn leaves, pumpkin patches and pink ribbons. Of course, the pink ribbons are in recognition of National Breast Cancer Prevention month, which is the topic I want to consider with you in this newsletter.

We will focus on facts and numbers. Did you know:

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women and that men can also develop it.

A mammogram can find breast cancer when it may be as small as a pencil point. A cancer tumor is not felt in a breast self-exam until it is about ½ inch in size.

In a recent year it was estimated that 182,480 women in the U.S. would be diagnosed with breast cancer and 40,480 would die of the disease.

A woman's reproductive history (age when menstruation begins and ends; age at first full-term pregnancy; never having had a baby) affects her risk of developing breast cancer.



**Parish Nurse**

We will focus on supporting breast cancer survivors and remembering the saints in our lives who died from breast cancer. This will occur at worship on the weekend of October 15 – 16.

Lastly, please join me for an educational program that is presented in partnership with the *Grapevine Project*. Women will gather on Wednesday evening, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM to learn about risks, symptoms, screening recommendations, and reducing your risk. We will also practice feeling for lumps in breast models. Childcare will be available. RSVP at 835-3755 ext. 24 and I will confirm your registration and desire for childcare. As always, I am available to talk with you about any health questions on your mind. Together we will find answers/resources.

As with all health issues, our greatest resource is knowing that we have a God who always walks with us on the journey and who promises, *I will restore you to health and heal your wounds.* (Jer. 30:17)

Fall blessings,

Susan Payne, People's Parish Nurse

**First Monday Friends!!** Our program topic for this month is ***WE ARE THE CHURCH!***

The collective wisdom of the over-50 group here at church will be tapped by Steve Staton as we consider the mission and the vision of People's Church. Please join us **Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**, first for a potluck meal at 11:00 AM, and then for our discussion. Many of you have been here as foundational blocks of the church for a long time and have "seen it all"; all of you have an interest in the future!

Let's hear your voices! Questions to Nurse Susan are welcomed.

**ADVANCE NOTICE:** November First Monday will feature our traditional catered Thanksgiving Meal. RSVP to Susan (or Kathy in the office) by Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> if you will be coming. Cost will be about \$8.00 but don't let \$\$\$ stop you from joining us!

## Getting to Know You

Many of you are familiar with Rhiannon and Jim Shaver since they help lead our singing during the Sunday services and have added two wonderful voices to the choir. They lived in Chicago and Indiana before moving to Wisconsin about 13 years ago. Jim and Rhiannon are high school sweethearts and have a daughter, Ivy, who is currently studying Graphic Design at MATC, and a son, Nate, who is a senior at Oregon High School with plans to attend culinary school after graduation. Nate is a proud member of the Oregon competitive marching band, Shadow Armada, where he plays bass drum and he occasionally shares his musical talent with us by playing percussion for the choir.



Jim has done property management for most of his professional career and is currently the Chief Housing Officer for Independent Living, Inc. where he oversees the operations of three senior housing communities in the Madison and Sun Prairie area. Rhiannon studied psychology and fine arts in college but presently is pursuing her passion for music as she learns to play both the electric and acoustic guitar and writes music. She also plays the violin, mandolin, and banjo. In their free time the Shaver family likes to travel, go camping, and spend time with family and friends. Nate and Jim love cars and enjoy attending and watching shows about all kinds of cars.

The Shavers have been coming to PUMC a little less than a year. They were drawn to the church because it felt like family and everyone made them feel very welcome. Along with involvement in the music ministry of the church, Jim also serves on the Staff Parish Relations Committee. The way Jim and Rhiannon were invited to become part of church activities and share in leadership is one of the main reasons they call PUMC their church home.

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## Do You Know Amy?



Amy Gonzalez is an energetic wife and mother of 3 young bilingual boys. She has worked in the public school system and taught choir and general music for 8 years. She has served as PUMC adult choir director for three years and drama and children's director for two years. Amy holds a Bachelor of Music Education from UW-Whitewater and is pursuing an ESL (English as a second language) degree from Edgewood College. She loves to work with people and enjoys spreading the word of God through music. She is avidly looking to grow the adult choir and would love any full or part-time singers. Please contact her at (608) 838-1230 or [Amyjeangonzalez@hotmail.com](mailto:Amyjeangonzalez@hotmail.com)

## LOOKING TO SERVE YOUR CHURCH COMMUNITY?

A new Communications Team has been formed to develop a strategy and approach to communicating about all the great things that are happening at Peoples. If you are interested in communications in general, or more specifically in electronic and/or print media, we would love to have you. We will meet occasionally to strategize and identify the priorities, and then communicate via email and phone calls in between.

## New Ministry Opportunities



### TECH TEAM

Do you understand computers and how they work? Or do you enjoy surfing the internet? Maybe you would like to help during worship with the sound system or the PowerPoint. If any of these things sound like you then we need your help. We are in the process of getting a team together to help with four areas.

- Sound System
- Projection of the PowerPoint
- Keeping the church computers working and up to date

### TRANSITION PRAYER TEAM

During the transition period (September-July) we would like to have a group of people to pray for the transition. We would like to have you

- Make time for daily prayer
- Pray for the Transition Team
- Pray for Pastor Jon
- Pray for God's leadership with the SPRC to find a new pastor

We would also like a leader of the team to encourage the member in their work by sending them bi-weekly devotions and scripture.

**If you would like to join the Communications Team, Tech Team or be a part of the Transition Prayer Team, please call the church office and let Kathy know.**

## Lonely Bells

Our bells are lonely just sitting in their cases and waiting to be played. We have a need for four or five more bell ringers to help praise the Lord and provide music for the church services. If you can read music please consider joining the bell choir. New member training is available at 5:30 – 6:00 PM on Wednesdays or as arranged. The bell choir practices every Wednesday from 6:00 to 7:00 PM in the music room. Bells play once a month usually the fourth Sunday. If you would like more information or to give ringing a try contact the church office, Kathy Schneider, Betty Mennenga or Sandy Behrend.



## Wednesday Night Community Supper is off to a good start.

If you have not tried us out, you may want to. Busy on Wednesday, need a break and do not feel like cooking, come check us out. We have a table with small chairs just for little ones with small forks & spoons and plastic cups. There is always something kids will eat and if not there is the good old stand-by, Peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Just ask if it isn't out. We have high chairs too. So bring the kids, tiny to high-schoolers, enjoy a no cook night out.

If you are lonely, tired of eating alone and do not feel like cooking, come try us out. We served balance meals and you can eat with friends. A tough day at work, tired and need a break, come check us out, we serve you with a smile.

We serve from 5:00pm to 6:30pm on Wednesday nights. Come during that time span when it is convenient for you. We take donations only. The basic meal cost is \$1.50 - \$2.00. You put in what fits your budget. The money is used for buying the meal ingredients. If we have an abundance of funds at the end of the year we give them to the Food Pantry and Salvation Army. The servers and cooks are all volunteer. We give God THANKS for our many blessings. So come enjoy and be filled body and soul.



### Are you a member of Facebook?

Peoples United Methodist Church is too.

You can find us at

**[facebook.com/peoples.united.methodist](https://www.facebook.com/peoples.united.methodist)**

We are starting to put church activities on this page to keep you informed.

41 people have connected.

Come join in the fun.

## A COOKIE SMILE

Make these cheerful lollipop cookies to share.

### What you need:

- An adult to help
- 1 roll of sugar cookie dough
- Knife
- Cookie sheet
- Wooden craft sticks
- Frosting
- Sprinkles
- Cellophane treat bags
- Ribbon



### What you do:

1. Freeze the roll of dough.
2. Cut dough into ¼-inch slices.
3. Place slices 2 inches apart on cookie sheet.
4. Bake at 350 degrees for five minutes.
5. Remove cookies from oven and place a stick into the bottom of each cookie (about 1 inch into the dough).
6. Return cookies to the oven until done, three to five more minutes.
7. After cookies are cool, make a "face" on each one, using frosting and sprinkles.
8. Put cookies into bags and tie with a ribbon. Then give away these edible smiles!

# OCTOBER MISSION FOCUS



**Three Gaits, Inc.**  
Therapeutic Horsemanship Center, Stoughton, Wisconsin

Three Gaits was started in 1983 by Gail Brown and Lorrie Renker, one horse and eight riders. The guiding vision was a love for horses and an interest in providing equine-assisted activities for individuals with disabilities in Dane County. The name Three Gaits refers to three movements of a horse -- walk, trot and canter.

Community response to the program was enthusiastic, and by 1986, Three Gaits gained sufficient support to obtain a mortgage for our 20-acre farm located on Highway 138 between Stoughton and Oregon.

Today, approximately fifteen program horses, a large number of volunteers, and a limited, yet very dedicated staff provide more than 250 children, youth and adults each year the opportunity to extend therapy, special education and interpersonal skill development into the horsemanship experience.

Three Gaits is pleased to be able to offer participants the following equine-assisted programming options:

- **Therapeutic Riding** (Sport/Recreational) – Incorporates education, competition, therapy and recreation into horse-back riding
- **Hippotherapy** – A therapist uses the movement of the horse as a treatment tool, working toward functional goals
- **Carriage Driving** – A new therapeutic carriage driving program provides a wider-based therapeutic equine experience
- **Un-Mounted Horsemanship Activities** – An Adult Horse Club for adults involved with Three Gaits to learn about horse care and horsemanship skills from the ground
- **Day Camps** – During the summer day camps are open to participants with and without special needs



Three Gaits relies on support from the community to accomplish its goals. Volunteers give time and special expertise at the stable, property or office. Organizations contribute in many ways, including donating stable and riding equipment, funds for scholarships, buildings and special projects, or contributing a sound, quiet and well-trained horse or pony.

## Mission Giving 2011

January	NINA Fund	<b>\$2,144</b>	
February	World Vision Orphans & Widows Fund	<b>\$1,094</b>	
March	Second Harvest Foodbank	<b>\$1,170</b>	
April	Heifer International	<b>\$1,271</b>	
May	Harbor House	<b>\$1,069</b>	
June	The Road Home	<b>\$1,339</b>	
July	UMCOR - Spring Storm Relief	<b>\$1,283</b>	
August	Samaritan Account	<b>\$1,066</b>	
Mission Giving Year-to-Date		<b>\$10,436</b>	
General Fund Giving through 8/31/11		\$241,694	This figure includes a \$51,471 bequest from the Estate of Hazel Edwards
Loan Repayment Giving through 8/31/11		\$17,665	
Loan Balance as of August 31, 2011		\$148,730	

**Apportionments have been paid through September.**



### **One-on-one help reworking your job search**

Are you unemployed and looking for some help finding jobs, networking, updating your resume, or practicing interviewing? Jennifer den Daas, Human Resources Team Leader, Dept. of Health Services, is offering free one-on-one sessions to help you rework your job search. Please contact her to set up an appointment at [jennifer.dendaas@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.dendaas@gmail.com) or 608-219-3883.

### **CRAFT FAIR AND BAKE SALE**

Holy Mother of Consolation will be sponsoring its 4th Annual Craft Fair and Bake Sale on Saturday, October 15th from 9am-2pm. It's a great opportunity to begin your holiday shopping with some wonderful homemade crafts and treats. Lunch will be served, with all proceeds going to HMC's Relay for Life Team

# Meeting Minutes

## Council Minutes September 12, 2011

Present: Karen Baker, Jon Claude Bartlett, Charlotte Clark, Brandon Finch, Barbara Mahr, Larry Mahr, Mary Malone, Pam McIntyre, Betty Mennenga, Anne Staton. Cathy Weis and Diane Haag attended as guests. Larry Mahr served as Chair of the meeting in Barbara Feeney absence.

Opening Devotions were led by Jon Claude centered around I Corinthians 13 and Five Love Languages by Gary Chapman

### Transition Planning

Jon Claude provided the Council with a Transition Plan document including a schedule for congregational meetings on feedback and ideas for vision/mission.

The plan also calls for idea-gathering visits to other congregations, a survey of church members/ attendees, and transition tasks for Jon Claude and Kathy Itson. This later includes: paperwork for the Transition Team; putting together a transition prayer team; updating the policy/procedures manual; building IT teams for the office/ website, worship power point/sound etc.; updating committee descriptions; finance committee membership, policies, and procedures, a membership update, and Church Conference plan.

We were then joined by the SPRC. Anne Staton shared a "General Plan for the Transition Team and Interim Year. The Transition Team has been named and includes: Anne Staton, Betty Mennenga, Jim Shaver (SPRC); Larry Mahr, Pam McIntyre, Ken Kluz (Council); Laura Flood, Jennifer denDaas, Stan Schneider (PUMC members-at-large), Cathy Weis (staff rep), and Jon Bartlett (pastor). The Team will work on 3 tasks:

- Reaffirm, review, revise, and/or rewrite the mission and vision of PUMC, to be approved by the Church Council.
- Keep the congregation informed, and provide opportunities of congregational involvement in the process.
- Support Pastor Jon throughout the interim year.

SPRC has additional responsibilities to:

- Complete the Annual Conference-required needs Profile for our new pastor.
- Plan our welcome for our new pastor, and for good-

bye to Pastor Jon.

And all committees and team will work throughout the interim year to identify needs and get things in good order for our first year with our new pastor.

### Encourage Generosity in Giving and Serving Leadership/Volunteer Staff Development

The Lay Leadership Development (Nominations) Committee (LLDC is meeting and Al Kuehl has accepted the role of Trustee Chair. Cherie Mozuch and Jim Mavis have agreed to serve on the SPRC. By Discipline, appointments of Committee Members and Chairs are to be made by the LLDC, approved by the Church Council, and then by the all Church Conference.

### Encourage Generosity in Giving and Serving Finance Committee

Pastor Jon reported the checking account balance with all bills paid is \$26,075. The Money Market balance is \$53,544 including \$51,472 from the Hazel Edwards gift. Finance has recommended that the Edwards gift be used as follows: 10% to Missions (undesignated/for use as the committee decides), and \$46,000 to restore our balance sheet items. Clarifying detail added by Betty Mennenga: In the past, if there was a cash flow shortage for general expenses, we would "borrow" from cash available in our checking account because of designated giving. If general giving did not meet all the needs for the year, we were not able to pay ourselves back, thus carrying a deficit into the next year/s. This deficit is what we were able to restore because of Hazel's gift.

The finance committee voted to always balance the accounts at the end of each year, borrowing from the bank if necessary, and not carrying over a deficit. The 2010 audit is underway to be completed at the end of September. It was also noted that we received a \$3000 health care rebate from the federal government.

A question was raised about the difference between a gift or bequest and a memorial. Charlotte clarified that a gift given by a living person or as part of a will is not a Memorial and does not come under the jurisdiction of Memorials Committee but rather is handled by the Finance Committee with approval by the Council. Memorials are specifically given in memory of someone and are subject to the policies of the Memorials Committee.

Pastor Jon told us that the Finance Committee policies and procedures are currently being reviewed and will

come to Council for approval when completed.

#### Stewardship Committee

Betty Mennenga reported that the Stewardship Committee will be meeting on September 14 to plan the October stewardship program. Rev. Jaime Nolla will speak at services the last 3 Sundays in October: 1) Stewardship of time, 2) of talents, 3) of money. The second Sunday in October will feature an Adult Drama Team skit on giving. Adult Discipleship is also planning programs to parallel the Nolla sermons: 1) time management, 2) spiritual gifts inventory, 3) Betty meeting one-on-one with folks on money management ideas. Pledge dedication will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in November which will coincide with the beginning of the Sunday School "Mile of Pennies" campaign.

#### Trustees

The funds from the school district for Pre-K/4-K are coming in on schedule, and we should have \$4000 extra at the end of the year that we are free to use as we choose. Two new doors have been installed in the long classroom to accommodate the Pre-K requirements. Coming up is \$11,000 of new and better playground equipment (the plastic did not last) which Katie will have the money for when it is replaced in her account – see finance report.

#### Memorials

Memorials will meet October 18<sup>th</sup> to talk about use of funds. Requests have not been solicited because this is designated fund money that has not been available. The committee did approve the purchase of kitchen floor mats and some larger cookware suitable for Wednesday suppers. Church budget dollars were not spent for these purchases.

#### Increase Work Beyond Our Walls

The Missions Committee and Living-Our-Faith team held a joint meeting this month and agreed to combine the two groups. They will hold monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of each month, as LOF has been doing, to talk about hands on local LOF-type missions, and hold a quarterly meeting to discuss the monthly giving projects. The recent Crop Walk was very successful raising \$3056 with 66 walkers and support staff (a significantly greater number than is usual expected for a first-time sponsored walk).

#### Grow Children and Youth Programs

Cathy Weis and Diane Haag were welcomed and reported on their plans. Invitations have been sent to 83 potential enrollees. "Kids with a Mission" participated in a backpack fill – they delivered a large box of school supplies to the school district. They will be using new Sun-

day School curriculum which has been billed as easy for volunteers to use; they are still recruiting classroom assistants. (Cathy will handle SS programming.) The Youth Room has been redone to create more "youth roomedness." They are gearing up for Wednesday programming with things like pizza night, AODA talk with Steve Staton, and scavenger hunts for missions. Still need more volunteers for Wednesday nights

#### Build Passion for Worship

Jon reported that Worldwide Communion is the first Sunday in October. We will be seated at round tables with bread from different parts of the world. Children at the tables will serve at all services. Mary Malone reported on the new interactive worship service on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, 6:30-7:15pm will begin on September 22. Pastor Jon noted that December 25 and January 1 are Sundays and a decision will need to be made about worship on these weekends. He said, the 31<sup>st</sup> is a bigger commitment, and we may want to consider a big "New Year's Party/worship event. Barbara Mahr commented that enhancing our worship music needs to be a goal.

#### Enhance Communications

Jon reported that Kathy Itson and Barbara Feeney are working on this. He asked for comments on the new bulletin format. Most liked the change but some also commented that the larger size is harder to handle.

#### Build Hospitality and Connections

Welcome: Barbara Mahr noted that "authentic high-impact hospitality" is in the details like attractive bathrooms, bulletin designs, great treats, usable children's worship bags etc. These are the things the Welcome sub-team is working on. Pastor Jon reported difficulty in contacting new visitors because they are not signing in. To care for this, we need to put renewed emphasis on bringing people to the Welcome table.

Connect: Barbara passed around this teamwork on a visitor system and membership classes. She particularly noted that we plan a new one session "Orientation" overview of the church; at the end of this Orientation people will be encouraged to choose if they wish to simply participate at PUMC or are ready to join. Those who choose simply to participate will be mentored by the Connection Team. The joiners will be asked to attend a 3 session Membership Class: 1) basic Christian beliefs, 2) Methodism, and 3) Getting to Know People's Church. Throughout this process lay people will participate as leaders with the Pastor to develop relationships and to mentor participation. The aim of this change is to create Higher Membership Expectations among new members. Barbara also noted that the monthly "Coffee

Connect” for newer visitors has been successful and will continue.

Care: Barbara reminded the Council that she and Pam McIntyre will begin recruiting Care Coordinators from each existing group this September. The first task will be to learn who the leaders of these groups are to enlist their assistance – any help with this would be appreciated.

### **Invite Adults into Faith Formation**

Pam McIntyre reported on the opportunities that will be offered by the Adult Discipleship team this fall: the Stewardship play reported above (10/9), an Adult Discipleship Expo 9/18, Dinner Connect (similar to Dinners by Design but organized differently), Disciple Bible (Jack Hoffmann), field trip to the Aldo Leopold Shack (Alan Capelle), budget helps (Betty Mennenga), AODA training for adults (Steve Staton), Death and Dying musical & follow-up study (Susan Payne), “Who Is God Really?” Bible study (Dan Behrend), SERRV sale, and Christian crafts (Pam McIntyre).

Submitted by Barbara Mahr

## **Transition Team Minutes September 18, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Jim Shaver, Betty Mennenga, Ken Kluz, Laura Flood, Pam McIntyre, Jennifer den Dass, Anne Station, Cathy Weis, Larry Mahr, Jon Claude Bartlett, Stan Schneider  
Jon Claude lit a candle to represent the light of God amongst us.

One thing recommended from Annual Conference is the book *Creating a Healthier Church*, which is aimed to help churches look at the big picture. Pastor Jon read some selections from the letters of Paul regarding the need to pay attention to the emotional context of a situation, warning against discontent and putting the Word into practice. The first chapter of the book discusses the emotional system of a church which is like a mobile – when one part moves, something else moves. There were examples of the same situation of a problem occurring in two churches. In one church, the situation was looked at objectively and people reacted calmly in a way aimed at solving the problem. In the other church, the reaction was subjective and the reaction was to look to assign blame. People in a church all come with their own emotional systems from their personal lives and each person has a set of relationships within the church. This makes for complexi-

ty. When Howard Hintzman announced he was leaving, this unbalanced the system in the church. Unknown replaced the known. Feelings of grief and sadness were experienced by many. Some people may have been pleased. Everyone processed it on their own. People felt mixture of hope, responsibility to make it work, and sadness. It was a normal process. Jon could have not announced his retirement until Spring of 2012, but decided to announce it sooner so as to be able to help the church make the transition to the next pastor.

One of the main tasks of the Transition Team is to review and reaffirm the church’s vision and mission statements. The congregation will be involved with this task. There will be a process with small groups, facilitated by Steve Staton. He will present people with a question, each will partner with one other person and then another pair. The group of four will decide the most important things to share. Then all will vote on the ideas that are most important. There will be some brainstorming done on what the ideal pastor would be like. The Transition Team will use what is learned from the small group sessions to complete their work on the vision and mission statements and the future goals of the PUMC. This information will also be shared with Staff Parish Committee for their work on developing the pastor profile.

Three sessions for identified groups are already set up: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, Staff, Youth (5<sup>th</sup> grade and up)  
The team agreed that input from each group should be kept distinct. Youth may tend to have a different perspective on what they want from church than what their parents want for them. There would be a benefit to a follow-up discussion with parents, other adults involved with youth, and our youth but it was agreed that, if we want the youth to speak freely, their group should not have adult participants.

There will be general groups for the rest of the PUMC family to attend. Vocal and bell choir members, Sunday School teachers, church leadership, and other groups need to be targeted to participate in one of the meetings. There could an interview sheet for people who can’t attend a meeting and questions posted on the website but this would only happen after the meetings are done.

Dates and times selected for additional meetings:  
Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>: 11:45 AM for anyone  
Oct 9<sup>th</sup>: 9:15 for Sunday School parents, 10:30 for anyone  
Oct 5<sup>th</sup>: 6 -7 PM for anyone

At the Admin Council meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>, the Transition Team will present their findings to the council for discussion and development of a final draft. SPRC carries the main responsibility for developing the pastoral

profile and, since the target date for the completion of the profile is November 15<sup>th</sup> with a deadline of December 1<sup>st</sup>, the draft of the profile may also be presented at this council meeting.

Communication with the congregation about pastoral transition and the interim year is the other main responsibility of the Transition Team. This will happen throughout the interim year. Sharing information about the upcoming small group meetings is the first communication task. It will be put in the Link, bulletin, email blast, phone tree, Facebook, and announced at worship. It may also be helpful to make intentional contacts with individuals. Council, committee and team chairs – all can communicate with members. There could be an effort to reach out to people who have left the church. On Sundays before the small group meetings, an information slip will be passed out. Contact information for the committee members should be shared with the congregation. Meeting notes will be posted on the kiosk and on the website. Reports on the Transition Team activities will be shared verbally by team members at worship services.

The team is looking for people who will visit other congregations during the next month to get ideas on where we want to go as a church. Planning for the arrival and the welcome of our new pastor and how to say goodbye to Jon is something that also will take place during the interim year and is SPRC's responsibility. The Admin Council and the Transition Team will assist SPRC.

Next Transition Team meetings: October 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM at church and October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5 PM at parsonage., and November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 will be joint meeting with Admin Council. The Transition Team will meet through May. Additional meeting dates will be set at future meetings.

Thank you to Barb Feeney for taking minutes for this meeting so all members could fully participate. Cathy Weis volunteered to recruit a youth to video future meetings for her to use to write minutes.



## Living Our Faith Missions

In August, the Living Our Faith Team and the Missions Committee met to discuss the prospects for working together. Paul Smith is the new chair of Missions. He and the rest of the Missions Committee are very interested in expanding the work of the committee beyond selecting and promoting the Monthly Missions giving opportunities. The two groups decided that it makes sense to join forces and become one group. In September, the Administrative Council approved the formation of one committee, to be called "Living Our Faith Missions" (LOFM). The committee will meet quarterly. A work group of committee members and anyone interested in missions will meet on the third Wednesday at 6 PM in the months that the full team doesn't meet. The Wednesday group will work on details, keep plans moving and be a sounding board for new ideas from the congregation. LOFM will plan the Monthly Missions giving and initiatives that complement the monthly giving mission, as well as other outreach projects. Everyone is welcome to drop in for a meeting to see what the group is up to!

LOFM sponsored the CROP walk held on September 11th to raise money for hunger alleviation. The walk has 66 participants and raised over \$3,000 - a very good outcome for a first year effort. The committee will be sponsoring a sale of fair trade goods produced by artisans from around the world on Wednesday, Nov 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, Nov 13<sup>th</sup>.

Do you have an idea for a particular missions/outreach effort you would like to see happen? The group has a vision for PUMC becoming a church of "mission entrepreneurs" - people with ideas to help us all "live our faith". Anyone with an idea is encouraged to come to the LOFM Committee to get feedback about your idea and support to get it started. It is not necessary to be a member of the Committee to get help from the team. Contact Paul Smith at 835-8175 if you have questions or an idea to discuss. We are looking for Mission of the Month ideas from the congregation to discuss at our next quarterly meeting of the LOFM Committee on Monday, October 24th at 7 PM in the Fireside Room.



# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## October Birthdays

- 1 Kathy Desotell  
Don Rowe  
Mike Schmeltzer
- 2 Susie Berg  
Collin Machotka  
Lauren Machotka  
Charlie Rowland
- 3 Stephen Greb
- 4 Jamie Fogel  
Mary Malone
- 5 Dollee Piasecki
- 6 Aaron Kluz  
Eldon Zimmerman
- 8 Dave Fiscus  
Jen Kramer  
Alicia Russell
- 10 John Conklin  
Allen Fogel
- 13 Matthew Delkamp  
Sue McCartney
- 14 Briana Schnelle
- 15 Sandy Behrend  
Ryan Kienitz  
Grant Schnelle  
Nichole Tofte

- 16 Maxwell Higgins  
Dick Piasecki  
Jon Temte
- 17 Kathy Blandford
- 18 Velma Waefler
- 19 Kelly Peotter
- 21 Randy Blumer
- 24 Logan Borgmeyer  
Jill Garton
- 25 Rich Legler  
Steve Peotter
- 27 Megan Edwards  
Rich Strohmenger
- 28 Rachel Hintzman  
Ella Peotter
- 29 James Groenier  
Benjamin Tofte  
Debby Wright
- 30 Evan Case
- 31 Erik Haslam  
John Klassey

## October Anniversaries

- 2 Doug & Deb Moyer
- 4 Gary & Donna Disch
- 6 Steve & Kelly Peotter
- 7 Cory & Holly Dregne
- 11 Dick & Susan Payne
- 13 Steven & Cynthia Culp
- 17 Nathaniel & Amy Keller
- 25 Randy & Marcia Blumer
- 26 Jeff & Jill Garton
- 27 James & Martha Hilgendorf  
Daniel Huebsch & Erika Wagner
- 31 John & Rosann Conklin

**Do you notice an error or an omission? If you are new to PUMC or have not turned in an updated information 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](http://www.peoplesumc.org/info)**



Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am-3:00pm Worship: Saturday 5pm & Sunday 9am & 10:30am

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

Pastor	Jon Claude Bartlett, x22 jcb@wisconsinumc.org
Financial Administrator	Sandy Behrend, x30 sbehrend@wisconsinumc.org
Worship Media Assistant	Brandon Finch
Adult Vocal Choir Dir./Children's Music & Drama	Amy Gonzalez
Preschool Dir., Worship Coord, PDO	Katie Grady, x26 kgrady@wisconsinumc.org
Building Maintenance	Gary Haffele
Children & Youth Ministry Co-Coordinators	Cathy Weis & Diane Haag, x25 pumcchildyouth@wisconsinumc.org
Adult Discipleship Directors	Rebecca Otte, x33 rotte@wisconsinumc.org
Parish Nurse	Susan Payne, x24 spayne@wisconsinumc.org
Church Administrator	Kathy Itson, x21 peoplesumc@wisconsinumc.org
Bell Choir Director	Kathy Schneider
4-K Teacher	Stacy Thompson, x23
Parents Day Out Teacher	Holly Rausch, x32
Church Office Email	peoplesumc@wisconsinumc.org
Church Website	www.peoplesumc.org
Council Chair	Barb Feeney
Board of Trustees Chair	Al Kuehl
Staff Parish Relations Chair	Anne Staton
Worship Chair	Mary Malone
Finance Committee Chair	Wendy Zimmerman
Memorials Chair	Charlotte Clark
Stewardship Chair	Scott Sanford

**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.**