

**ONALASKA
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**



August & September 2024

THE CHIMES



IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 Pastor's Perspective
- 2 Important Information
- 3 Worship Series
- 4 Volunteer Opportunities
- 5 Adult Education
- 6 Adult Connecting & Intergenerational Ministries
- 7 Kids Ministry
- 8 Young People
- 9 Youth Movie Day
- 10 Sr. High Denver Mission Trip
- 13 Mercy & Justice
- 15 Small Groups
- 16 Music Ministry
- 17 August & September Events
- 18 Connection & Community
- 19 Coming in October
- 20 Finance & Stewardship
- 22 Staff & Stuff

OUR MISSION

Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the **transformation** of the world.

OUR VISION

LOVE all people unconditionally;
PREPARE our hearts, minds & hands;
SERVE in all ways we can;
CELEBRATE GOD in all we do!

Pastor's Perspective

Beginning September 1, 2024, the Wisconsin Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church will welcome Bishop Dan Schwerin as our new episcopal leader. In addition to serving Wisconsin, Bishop Dan also oversees the Northern Illinois Annual Conference. You may be familiar with Bishop Dan as Wisconsin is his home conference. He has served as local church pastor, District Superintendent, and Assistant to the Bishop prior to being elected as a Bishop in July 2022. Plans are underway for times of welcoming him and his spouse, Julie, and when announced will be shared with the congregation. We will be blessed by his leadership.

We offer gratitude for Bishop Hee-Soo Jung and his spouse, Rev. Im Jung, who has faithfully served the Wisconsin Annual Conference for the last twelve years. Bishop Jung will now serve the East Ohio and West Ohio Conferences beginning September 1. Please pray for all the Bishops in this time of transition and added episcopal responsibility.

The days of summer include vacation, concerts, State Fairs, and other activities. For the staff of OUMC, it means mission trips, VBS, and preparations for Fall programming. We look forward to the fall kick-off in September to another year focused on making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

See you at church or in the community.

**Blessings,
Rev. Krysta Deede**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

DreamTable Day Recommendations

Please join in the daily breakthrough prayer to set aside intentional time to listen to God's invitation toward the next season of mission and community building for OUMC.

*Loving God of all, renew our hearts and minds.
Reveal your wildest dreams, break through to each of us.
Unite us in your vision, equip us for your work.
Transform us by your song, create our harmony.
May we embrace your future, and be your loving church. Amen.*

If you have any questions, connect with Cathy Geister, Council Chair, or Pastor Krysta.

Keeping Contact Information Current, Safeguarding Information

OUMC relies on current contact information and changes for each household to effectively communicate and share ministry highlights. **Please contact the church office when you have an address, email, phone number change. Also consider giving your alternate address when you go for extended stays in secondary homes.** We appreciate your communication about changes so we can remain connected with you.

OUMC continues to monitor scam attempts and report to the congregation ways pastor, staff or emergency stories are used to try to scam you. Please understand a staff phone call to verify information received by email is a safeguard we use. **Know that the pastor or staff will NEVER ask you to provide financial resources (money, gift cards, rides) to get them out of an emergency situation or to support ministry needs.** If you get suspicious requests, do not open or reply to them and report them to the church office so that we can take appropriate measures. One of the best ways to detect if something is a scam attempt, look at the originator email. If it does not include onalaskaumc.org in it, then you are probably receiving a scam.

Thank you for your understanding and diligence.

Ready to Partner in the mission of OUMC?



Next Step is a casual gathering where you can learn about the history of Onalaska UMC, hear from our pastor about the beliefs and traditions of the United Methodist Church, and get to know the church a bit better. You will also get to meet Stephen Ministers, connect with other worshippers and learn about opportunities to get connected! After you've met our pastor and learned about the church, there is a short break to offer an opportunity to decide if you want to take that next step and join Onalaska UMC. New Members are welcomed at a service of worship based on their availability. Next Step will occur quarterly.

Plan to attend on Sunday, September 22 at 9:45 am in the Heritage Room.

If childcare is needed, please contact the church office.

WORSHIP SERIES



FOOD TRUCK PARTY - ON A ROLL WITH GOD 8/4-8/11 Ready to cook up some fun? People of all ages get on a roll with God as a parade of Food Trucks rolls into their neighborhood for the summer's biggest party! Food Truck is designed to help everyone build on the practice of using daily prayer to turn to God for their needs — and also to serve as the hands of God in ensuring that the needs of others are met.

BOOMERANG - THE POWER OF CONNECTION 8/18-8/25

A refresher worship series on ways for OUMC to be guest-obsessed. Making space for new faces, new ministries, and new perspectives.



WESLEYAN ROOTED WORSHIP SERIES 9/1-9/29 As a result of taking this journey together, you will gain a renewed understanding of our Wesleyan theology of sanctification and grace. Your heart will be filled with a rekindled sense of God's love at work in and through you. And you will have greater motivation to follow the spiritual practices that will lead you to transformation

in Christ. The result will be a clearer and more passionate desire to engage in the missional work of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

DO UNTO OTHERS - A CAMPAIGN OF KINDNESS 10/6-10/27 We see division and polarization in our country, communities and even inside the walls of our own churches. It's easy to wonder if we will ever go beyond agreeing to disagree, yet Jesus shows us a better way. Jesus taught us that we should treat others as we want to be treated. This is commonly known as The Golden Rule, and holds the power to bring people together again.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERS NEEDED!

FAITH ADVENTURES ON THE FIRST

When: During each service on the 1st Sunday of the month (8:30 & 11:00 am)
Age Group: PreK-5th grade
Who: Adults who enjoy hanging out with the smallest members of our church community! Activities include arts and crafts, simple Bible stories, games. High School students are welcome to be volunteers.

PEEPS

When: Weekly on Wednesday nights from 5:30-6:30 pm
Age Group: K-5th grade
Who: Adults who enjoy hanging out with the smallest members of our church community! Activities include arts and crafts, simple Bible stories, games. High School students are welcome to be volunteers.

DOVES

When: Weekly on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 pm
Age Group: 6th-8th grade
Who: Adults who feel called to teach students in their most formative years. Activities include leading lessons about the basics of the Bible & Methodism, games, arts & crafts, and mission activities.

SOAR

When: Weekly on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 pm
Age Group: 9th-12th grade
Who: Adults who want to be part of more in-depth spirituality with students. Activities include lessons with real-world applications, games, mission activities, and occasional field trips around the La Crosse area. A driver's license & vehicle would be a bonus.

All volunteers must pass a background check & Safe Sanctuaries training through OUMC. If you feel called to be part of the youth ministry leadership team, please contact Zoe de Boer at youth@onalaskaumc.org by July 1st to fill out a brief application.



Seeking office volunteers who can come in a couple of days a week for 1 to 2 hours. If you are interested, contact Gretchen in the church office office@onalaskaumc.org or by calling 608-783-3380.

**WORKIN'
ON IT**

a group that helps
around the church
drop in anytime
Thursdays @ 9a

show **serve** **welcome!**
find your place!
build your church!
refresh **you** **help**
connect **yum**

Aim your camera at the QR code or click this link:
<https://tinyurl.com/serve24oumc>
SIGN ME UP!

ADULT EDUCATION



HISTORY & MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE STUDY

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 am

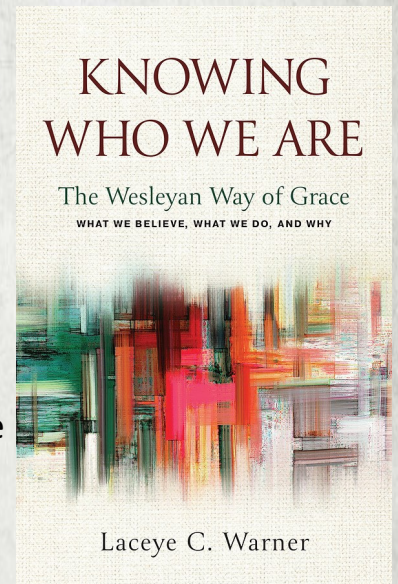
Facilitated by Margret Awtrey meeting in the Resource Room

We will resume meeting on September 8 after a two-week layoff. Through instruction and lively discussion we discover the richness of the Bible and how it applies to us today. **ALL ARE WELCOME**

SUNDAY NIGHT STUDY - Knowing Who We Are - The Wesleyan Way of Grace

Sunday, September 8 - Sunday, October 20 6:00-7:30pm

In this book, Lacey C. Warner invites you to a richer understanding of Wesleyan Christianity so you can have a clear sense of identity, better express your own beliefs, and deepen your connection with The United Methodist Church. She introduces you to important values and characteristics that make the Wesleyan way distinctive, including emphasizing God's grace for all and sanctification as tangible transformation in your life, your community, and all creation. You'll see how The United Methodist Church today is deeply rooted in the Christian tradition and a legacy of care, compassion, and active response to injustice in the world. And you'll find that Christian faith in the Wesleyan tradition holds together personal faith and community life, along with a commitment to justice through ministry and service.



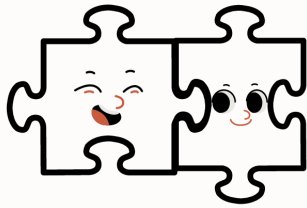
THE WESLEY BROTHERS

Our first class will be held on September 15th.

This study will cover the Wesley Brothers. We will be reading a series of sermons by John Wesley and sing accompanying hymns by Charles Wesley for the Fall 2024- Spring 2025 Sunday School Season. Each week will have a sermon and song! You will not need to buy any materials for this class, all the sermons and hymns will be pre-printed and available each week. You also will not need to read prior to any class (although you are always welcome too!)- all readings covered each week will be short enough that we can cover them fully during class. This class will be run as a hybrid study with in person and virtual options both available. I have an unlimited data plan on my new phone which will mean we will have a full backup if there are technical difficulties. Contact Sophie Molstad for more information.



ADULT CONNECTING & INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRIES



Connect Sunday - September 8

Walk around and check out all the missions and activities going on @ Onalaska UMC. How can you get connected within OUMC and how is OUMC engaged in our community?



Begins Sunday, September 8

6:00-7:30pm

Facilitated by Pastor Claudia Deede
Onalaska UMC

Runs for 13 weeks

OUMC Game Day Squad

One of the ways that our congregation can give back to our young people is by supporting them at their numerous extracurricular activities! This past school year we had students in all seasons of sports, marching band, color guard, drama club, choirs, show choir, band, orchestra, community theater, adaptive sports league, and more! Located on the wall next to the gender neutral & handicap bathroom is a bulletin board with students' activities posted for all church members to come and support. If your child is in an activity, please send schedules, dates, or posters to Zoe (youth@onalaskaumc.org) to be posted. There are Game Day Squad buttons available at the bulletin board for church members to take and wear to support the kids.



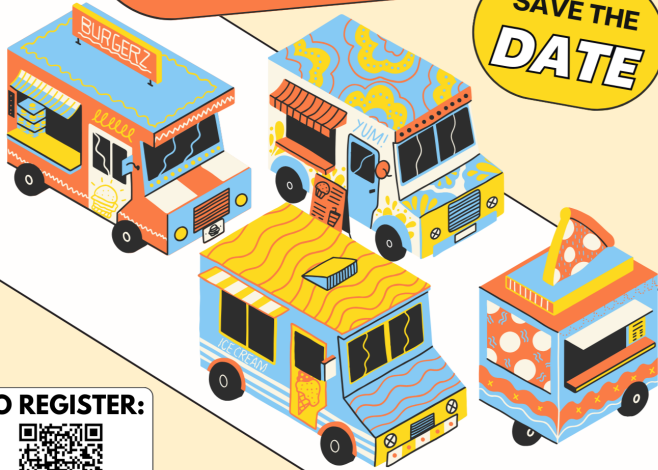
All Saints Sunday November 3

If you have a friend or loved one who passed away within the previous year and would like them recognized during our All Saints worship, **please send their name to the church office no later than Sunday October 27th. THANK YOU**

KIDS MINISTRY

FOOD TRUCK VBS!

SAVE THE DATE



TO REGISTER:



EACH TRUCK HAS A STORY TO TELL

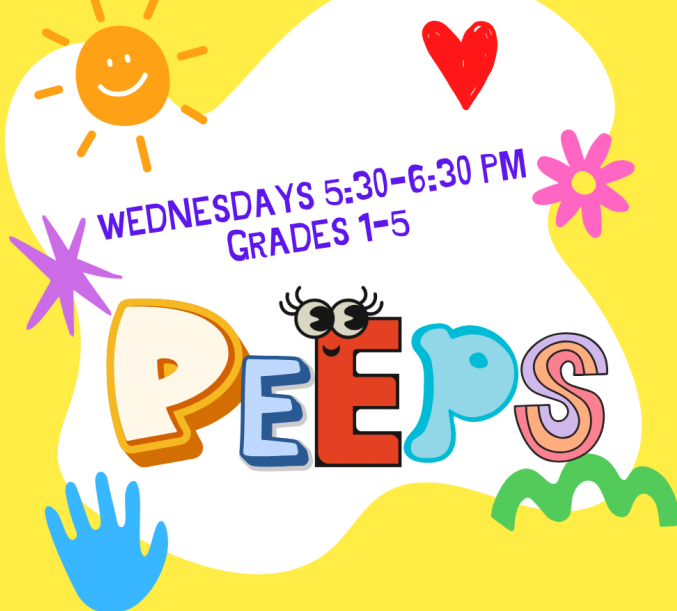
KIDS AGE 3 YEARS (& POTTY TRAINED) UP THROUGH 5TH GRADE

August 4-8

5:00-7:00 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS EVENT EMAIL: YOUTH@ONALASKAUMC.ORG

BEGINS WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4th



**WEDNESDAYS 5:30-6:30 PM
GRADES 1-5**

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT ONALASKA UMC



FAITH ADVENTURES ON THE FIRST
(OUR VERSION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL!)

Meets during the two worship services
8:30 am and 11:00 AM on the first Sunday
of the month for kids through 5th grade!

Begins Sunday September 1st!

You're Invited
TO



TAKE FLIGHT NIGHT

ONALASKA UMC YOUTH MINISTRY'S **WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAYS** KICK-OFF

WHO

5:30 pm - All youth grades 1-5
6:30 pm - All youth grades 6-12

WHAT



A gathering with **food, games, and worship**, to celebrate and learn about the 2024-25 ministry year!

WHEN

Wednesday, Sept. 4
5:30-6:30 pm (Gr. 1-5)
6:30-8 pm (Gr. 6-12)



WHERE

Onalaska United Methodist Church
212 4th Ave. N. in Onalaska, WI

YOUNG PEOPLE

You're Invited
TO



TAKE FLIGHT NIGHT

ONALASKA UMC YOUTH MINISTRY'S WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAYS KICK-OFF

WHO

5:30 pm - All youth grades 1-5
6:30 pm - All youth grades 6-12

WHAT

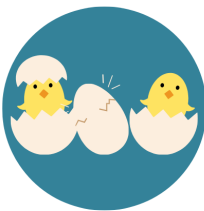
A gathering with **food, games, and worship**, to celebrate and learn about the 2024-25 ministry year!

WHEN

Wednesday, Sept. 4
5:30-6:30 pm (Gr. 1-5)
6:30-8 pm (Gr. 6-12)

WHERE

Onalaska United Methodist Church
212 4th Ave. N. in Onalaska, WI



Confirmation

The confirmation journey begins on **Wednesday, September 11** for all youth in **8th grade or those not yet confirmed.**

The group meets weekly in either the middle school age classroom or as a smaller group to discuss confirmation specific topics.

An information session is planned for Wednesday, August 14 at 6pm or on Sunday, August 18 at 9:45am.

OUMC YOUTH MOVIE DAYS



The group who went to see
Inside Out 2 on Saturday June 29th

**THE NEXT OUMC
YOUTH MOVIE WILL BE
ANNOUNCED SOON!**

*For OUMC Youth
and their families.
Come join us!*



The group who went to see
Despicable Me 4 on Saturday July 13th

SENIOR HIGH MISSION TRIP TO DENVER



July 20-27, 2024



Matt Arsenault, Maggie & Silas Bratsch, Thomas Brown, Ireanna Drury, John Gobel, Adam Marshall, Megan Ramsay, Peyton Scalf, Bailey & Lauren Sommerville, Elizabeth & Ella Vallazza, and Nic White. **Trip Leader**-Zoe de Boer
Adult Leaders-Ned Laughery, Matt Gobel, and Liz Ramsay

faith
CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS





MERCY & JUSTICE

OUMC MERCY MINISTRY TEAM

The Mercy Ministry Team, formerly known as the Outreach Committee, meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and is looking for new members & new mission ideas and opportunities! If you are someone who is passionate about social justice, staying up to date on the needs of the local community, loves to volunteer, or just wants to meet like-minded individuals, the Mercy Ministry Team might be for you! Some of the events the Mercy Ministry Team works on: the monthly Community Dinner, the Coulee Region Hunger Walk, the monthly collection drives for different regional organizations, Pride in the Park, the Juneteenth celebration, and more! To learn more, please contact Zoe (youth@onalaskaumc.org).



La Crosse Area Coalition of LGBTQ Affirming Christians

Our church will have an outreach booth at the Pride in the Park event in **Riverside Park on Saturday September 7th**. This event is organized by The Center: 7 Rivers LGBTQ+ Connection. Contact Kelly Dunn at kellydunn321@gmail.com if you would like to help out at this family-friendly event.



Our Community Dinner ministry continues to grow each month! We have such a strong base of volunteers that love to come in on Tuesdays to cook, set up the space, advertise, serve the meal, and clean up! Well....we're always looking for additional help with clean up.

The Community Dinner is served on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 5-6 p.m. in the Gathering Area and as a drive-thru meal.

The dinner is free for all, but we do accept free-will donations to help offset the grocery costs.

Upcoming Community Dinner dates:

August 13th, 5-6 p.m. Breakfast for Dinner

September 10th, 5-6 p.m.

October 8th, 5-6 p.m.

November 12th, 5-6 p.m.

August focus for collection: Food Pantry

To go along with the Vacation Bible School theme, "Food Truck Party," the Mercy Ministry team has decided to focus their efforts in August to also support the local food pantry! Please consider bringing the following items to church with you on Sundays in August to be donated to the Onalaska Food Pantry:

Try to purchase canned items with pop tabs to make food accessible to families who don't own can openers.

Canned fruits & vegetables

Boxed cereal

Peanut butter

Canned tuna

Canned soup

Macaroni and cheese

Pasta

Spaghetti sauce

Diapers

Baby wipes

Laundry products

Cleaning products

Toilet paper & paper towels

Menstruation supplies

1st & 3rd Food Pantry

The Onalaska Food Basket serves the regional communities of Onalaska, Holmen, West Salem, Galesville, French Island, and Trempealeau. OUMC remains a top supporting faith community to help The Food Basket achieve their mission to "share Christ's love by providing food to people in need." On the 1st & 3rd Sunday's we're each encouraged to bring food items. Shopping carts are at both entrances to receive your donations. Items in need may shift over time but in general soups, canned meat, cereal, pasta, sauce, toilet paper, personal hygiene items and basic items are in great demand.



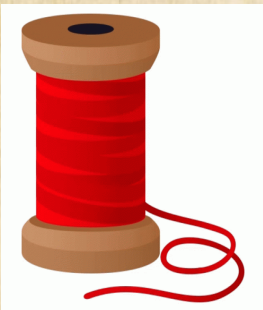
OUMC SCRIP PROGRAM

Did you know that whenever you purchase scrip cards for your shopping needs our church receives a percentage back. Mary Koblitz sells scrip on Sunday mornings at the Scrip Table or you can purchase cards from the church office during the work week.

Every purchase helps support the many ministries of OUMC

2nd & 4th Common Thread

Apportionment is the term used to describe the amount that each United Methodist congregation is asked to contribute to the wider United Methodist Church in support of our missions and ministries around the world. In other words, it is **A Portion Meant for Others**. We sometimes call Apportionments the term **Connectional Giving** because it is an outward and visible sign of the connection within the UMC. The "Thread Spool" is placed out to receive your contributions on the 2nd & 4th Sundays.



SMALL GROUPS



MISSION STITCHERS

Our mission is to provide quilted items for our church family and local community members. In using our gifts and talents, we will grow spiritually in fellowship with

others in our church and the community. Other related projects that involve sewing may occur.

We meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm in the last room to the right of the Fellowship Hall downstairs. All are welcome whether you quilt or not! If you don't know how to quilt, we will teach you what you need to know. If you do handiwork such as embroidery, crocheting or knitting we can use your talents as well.

SOME OF THE REASONS WE GIVE A QUILT:

- Life-threatening illnesses
- Life changing event (loss of a loved one or other trauma)
- Loss of Independence
- Surgery



SUNSHINE GIRLS

Sunshine Girls meets every 2nd Monday of the month from September to May. Time has not yet been determined, but if you are interested in joining us, please call Peg Benz @ 608-780-7214. Peg will inform you of the times we start. We should know in August.

We will start the year by having a get-together potluck, then in October Pastor Bruce will be leading us in the Bible study Simon Peter by Adam Hamilton. We meet either before or after the study to chat and share about what we are up to and to share joys and concerns. We meet from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, *actual times have not yet been determined.*

If you are interested, please come and join us, we would love to have you!

Moms of
Faith[™]
edgy. honest. real.

Moms of Faith is a group of moms who are looking for connection and conversation. It is a time for moms to socialize while their children get to meet new friends and play close by.

Contact Becca Hegge 608-345-5592
or join [Moms of Faith FB Group](#)



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by their Stephen Leaders to offer

care to people who are hurting. A Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week for about an hour. **For more information contact Becky Barnes 608-386-9723 or Melissa de Boer 608-779-0997**



The Care Connections Team reaches out to OUMC members who are hospitalized or in need of extra TLC.

For more information contact Rhonda Akeson rkakeson@gmail.com

THE OUMC CARE CONNECTIONS TEAM

Since we formed the OUMC Care Connections Team last October we have sent 200 cards to people with prayer requests or concerns and performed 20 random acts of kindness. If you know a church member or friend that is facing a crisis, dilemma, or celebration, please call the church office so we can offer them support.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Praise Team

Thank you to the new praise team members that have joined us this year! The current Praise Team consists of five vocalists, two pianists, one guitar player, and one drum player. We are so grateful to have such a joyful group of musicians to lead worship on Sunday mornings, whether two or three can be present one week, or all nine can make it! **If you are interested in listening to the Praise Team's repertoire, search "Onalaska UMC" on your Spotify app, or use the corresponding QR code.**



Chancel Choir

Do you like to sing? Do you have musical talent/interest? Do you like to hang out with cool people and sing fun songs? Come sing with us this fall. You don't have to be trained as a singer, you just have to enjoy singing. The Chancel Choir rehearses most of the time on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:45 and we are recruiting for all voice ranges.

Our first choir rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 4 and we sing for the first service at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday (starting on September 8). If you are interested in participating or have questions, contact the director Dean Gunnarson after church, at dealog7@gmail.com or just show up. If you are an instrumentalist of some sort, we would love to know that as well.



A special opportunity this year will be a special Christmas music event (i.e. cantata) on December 15 (both services) utilizing all the music talent in our church (of all age groups) and beyond. If you have interest in participating in that, rehearsals will be on Wednesday nights (same time) and we will start rehearsing these songs in October.



AUGUST & SEPTEMBER EVENTS



COFFEE WITH
THE PASTOR

5:30 August 15 at Caribou Coffee
(1202 County Rd PH, Onalaska)



BREAKING BREAD
OVER BOARD GAMES

SATURDAY AUGUST 17th 2:00 to 5:00 pm
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21st 2:00 to 5:00 pm

FIRST LUTHERAN AND ONALASKA UNITED
METHODIST CHURCHES PRESENT...

NOSH WITH NEIGHBORS

Noon, Wednesday, August 28
First Lutheran Church

Celebrate the staffs of Irving
Pertzsch Elementary, First Lutheran
Preschool, & Onalaska Headstart



Donations
Needed
Volunteers
Needed

Click here to help:

<https://tinyurl.com/NwN2024>

RUMMAGE

SIGN UP TO HELP WITH ITEM
INTAKE, SALE PREP, AND THE
DAY OF SALE! SECTION
LEADERS ALSO NEEDED!

SALE

20-21
SEPTEMBER



Sunday,
September
29th
Combined
worship at
9:30am,
followed
by brunch!

CONNECTION & COMMUNITY



DISASTER RESPONSE MINISTRY

We are pleased to announce **Early Response Team training!** The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has found a trainer in the Western North Carolina Conference who can come to Wisconsin on **Saturday, September 14** to provide the **eight-hour required training for building up our conference response team.** **Emmanuel UMC in Appleton** has offered to host the training, which will be

from **9am-5pm.** I will be organizing registration so anyone interested in being part of this connectional ministry can **contact me at DisasterWIUMC@gmail.com or 608-799-4547 (text or call)** to sign up. ERT Participants must: attend 8-hour training, pass a background check, be at least 18 years old.

Background Information: Early Response Teams respond early after a disaster to provide compassionate care and work to prevent further damage to people and property in communities that request their assistance. The Virginia Conference has a great [video about ERTs here.](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions about Early Response Teams or this particular training event. I hope we can get some certified ERT's functioning again here in Wisconsin to meet the physical and spiritual needs of people experiencing disasters. Thanks for your support.

Anna-Lisa Hunter

Conference Disaster Response Coordinator

The Wisconsin Conference of The UMC

750 Windsor Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

DisasterWIUMC@gmail.com

Cell Phone 608-799-4547

Hospitality?

August 18 & 25

We all want to “grow our church,” that’s a given. What actually makes those who visit Onalaska UMC want to come back?

The answers may surprise you!

- Key Areas:**
1. How does our building show hospitality?
 2. Hospitality in the ways we connect with each other.
 3. How do we see what true OUMC hospitality looks like when we see it every week?

COMING IN OCTOBER



6th Annual
Coulee Region Hunger Walk/Run - 5K
October 13, 2024 @ 1:30 p.m.

In-person registration starts at 12:30 p.m.

Myrick Park Main Shelter, La Crosse, WI

We walk with our neighbors to end hunger!

UNITED METHODIST SPECIAL SUNDAY
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

50%
 FUNDS TRAINING PROGRAMS & GRANTS

35%
 RACIAL & ETHNIC SCHOLARSHIPS & MENTOR PROGRAMS

15%
 FUNDS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & SCHOLARSHIPS

SUNDAY
OCTOBER
6th

SUPPORT
 Donations support racial and ethnic students with scholarships, grants, mentoring and training for leadership development.

PHOTO BY RON LACH

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
 The people of The United Methodist Church*

Blood Drive

Turn a new leaf
 Fall into giving

Monday
October

21
 1:00 – 6:00 PM

BLOOD DRIVE SPONSORED BY:
ONALASKA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Onalaska United Methodist Church
 212 4th Ave. N
 Onalaska, WI 54650

Monday, October 21, 2024
 1:00 - 6:00 pm

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED
 Click here to schedule:

https://donate.wisconsin.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/263088

Helpful tip:
 Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.

Help to save a life TODAY!

SAVE THE DATE

- OCTOBER 6** **BIBLE SUNDAY**
- OCTOBER 15** **CANTATA PRACTICE**
- OCTOBER 21** **BLOOD DRIVE**
- OCTOBER 31** **TRUNK OR TREAT**



FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP



PAMPERED CHEF FUNDRAISER FOR THE CHURCH ROOF!

Party with a purpose! We need a new roof, and fun fundraiser. Raise the rafters and raise the funds by simply placing an order on our fundraiser party! You can scan the Shop Now QR code to place your order, use the Table Virtual Party QR code to shop, get recipes and tips, check out product videos and sign up for live cooking demos!

Got questions? Contact Sue Page at suepage@charter.net or call/text 608-792-4874 Thank you for your support!



PAMPERED
CHEF SHOP



PAMPERED
CHEF
VIRTUAL PARTY

The generosity of the congregation to meet the mission of OUMC to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world is celebrated. In the past two months, over \$4500 was raised at the Chicken Q to support Mission Guatemala; over \$700 was raised at the Car Wash to support the YouthWorks mission trip to Colorado; numerous toiletry items and VBS supplies continue to flow through the door; HOURS have been labored in the beautification of the church campus and organization of the interior church building; many people have worked faithfully to update the 4th Ave rental property inside and out as well as addressing long overdue projects at the Locust St rental property. In addition to all of this, countless acts of generosity flow from the doors of OUMC into the local community, state, and world. OUMC is blessed to be a blessing.

We are facing the tension between being a debt free church and the need to replace the church roof over the sanctuary. The total project cost could be as high as \$150,000 with bids coming in at approximately \$110,000 and \$40,000 contingency funds to address any unknowns that come up when the current roof comes off. It is a big expense and undertaking. However, it is a necessary project to protect all that is contained under the roof, including the worship space, instruments, and technology.

Your household has probably already received the invitation to give toward the roof replacement project with gifts up front and/or a pledge over two years. Please prayerfully consider contributing so that we go into this project with as little debt as possible.

If you have any questions, please connect with Ben Gibson, Finance Chair or Pastor Krysta.

Trustees Message

A particularly strong storm in the past month took a toll on the roof line on the Locust Street side of the church building. Contractors were called to address the problem but uncovered issues with the roof over the sanctuary.

Upon further evaluation, the roof was determined to need replacement. Bids for the work were secured, conversation and approvals within our committee structure (Trustees, Finance, Church Council) were decided. Onalaska United Methodist Church approved allocating up to \$150,000 for the roof replacement project. Bids are in the range of \$110,000 to not only address shingle replacement, but adding insulation which will assist in long term energy cost savings. There still may be unknown issues when the roof is replaced so the added cushion in the approved funds is to address this possibility.

The proposed project timeline is:

August 12 - Project starts (date accommodates ministry activities the first week of August)

August 30 - Most work substantially complete

September - Address miscellaneous items

Every effort for safety will be made for those on the property when work is being done. There may be building access impacts which will be communicated through the weekly communication tools. Your prayerful and financial support for the roof replacement project is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Matt Gobel, Trustee Chair, Cathy Geister, Council Chair, or Pastor Krysta.

From the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

“Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.” ~Romans 12:15

A study led by the Lily Family School of Philanthropy finds that empathy is increasing among young Americans since 2008, almost rising to levels similar to the highs of the 1970s. Late Millennials and emerging Gen Zs are showing increases in empathy, as compared with earlier generations, countering negative stereotypes about today's youth. This study, which is an updating of a similar study conducted in 2011, underscores that empathy is not predetermined; it is a fluid trait that can grow or shrink, depending on one's experiences.

Here are some key findings from the study:

- Changes in empathy over time in young Americans move in cycles and can go up and down. Both taking (cognitive empathy) and empathic concern (emotional empathy) increased between 2008 and 2018.
- Economic variables don't play a major role in empathy changes in U.S. youth—either to promote or impair empathy.
- Changing interpersonal dynamics might play a larger role in these empathy fluctuations. Empathy was higher during times of loneliness. The study's author noted that when young people see loneliness and other difficulties around them, they may reach out with care and empathy. It's also possible that their own experiences of loneliness may increase their hunger for social connection.

~ Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation



STAFF & STUFF

Rev. Krysta Deede, Lead Pastor
Jessica Gobel, Director of Adult, Connecting, & Intergenerational Ministries
Zoe de Boer, Director of Young People & Mercy Ministries, and Praise Worship
Gretchen Massenburg, Coordinator of Communication & Administrative Support
Dean Gunnarson, Director of Classic Worship
Sandy Koster, Organist/Accompanist
Bailey Sommerville, Nursery Attendant

Sabbath keeping is mandated in the creation story, the 10 Commandments, and in Jesus' summation of them, LOVE God and LOVE neighbor. Staff members have a weekly day of sabbath. Please honor those days of their spiritual renewal.

Rev. Krysta Deede—Friday Sabbath
Zoe de Boer—Friday Sabbath
Jessica Gobel—Monday Sabbath
Gretchen Massenburg—Friday Sabbath

A Prayer for the First Day of School

Dear Lord,

 Open my eyes to see new friends.

 Open my ears to hear my teacher.

 Open my mind to learn new things.

 Open my hands to help others.

 Open my mouth to speak kind words.

 Open my heart to love like You.

I know You are always with me when I'm at school!
In Jesus' name, Amen!

happy home fairy
HELPING HOME SCHOOL PEOPLE SUCCEED

Welcoming through Holy Baptism



August 2—11

Please pray for the mission team as they serve alongside the Guatemalan people.

Lexi Nelson
Anelin Feilen
Zach Feilen
Nic White
Brenda White
Dean Gunnarson
Lisa Gunnarson
Jacqui Streicher



On Sunday August 18th
Eleanor Dea Nordland
Born November 10, 2023
Parents: Marissa & Brian Nordland

On Sunday August 25th
Isla Marie Sampson
Born September 21, 2016
Parents: Matt & Jenna Sampson