

# ONALASKA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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## 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!

October & November 2024

# THE CHIMES

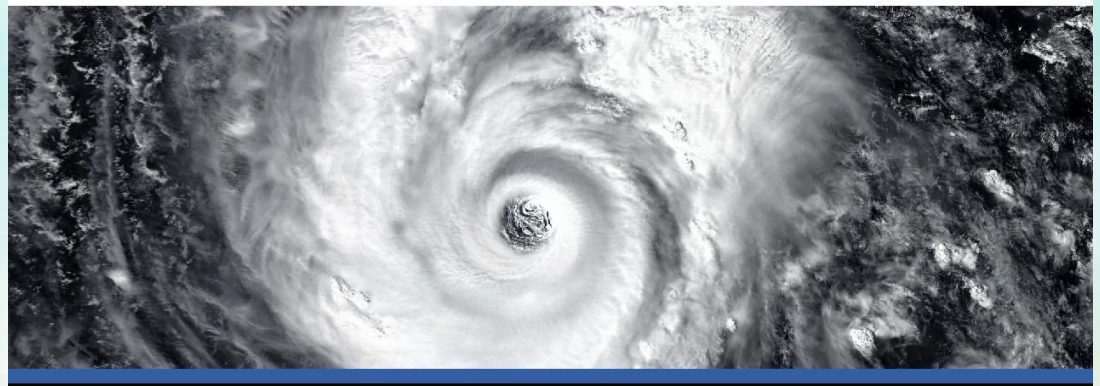
MIDWEST

disaster relief • education



MISSION

health • micro business



OUMC will be collecting the following items to provide relief for the victims of the recent hurricanes:

### UMCOR Cleaning Kit

- 1 five-gallon round bucket with lid
- 1 32-64 oz. bottle liquid laundry detergent
- 1 16-40 oz. bottle liquid concentrate household cleaner
- 1 16-34 oz. bottle liquid dish soap
- 1 4-8 oz. pump spray air freshener
- 1 16-14 oz. pump spray insect repellent
- 1 scrub brush
- 18 reusable cleaning wipes
- 5 scouring pads
- 36-50 clothespins
- 1 50-100 ft. clothesline
- 24 roll of heavy-duty trash bags (33-45 gallon sizes)
- 5 N95 particulate respirator dust masks (1-3mm thickness)
- 2 pairs of kitchen gloves
- 1 pair of work gloves

### UMCOR Hygiene Kit

- 1 hand towel (15x25-17x27 inches)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb
- 1 toenail or fingernail clipper
- bath-size soap (3 oz. or larger)
- 1 adult toothbrush
- 10 adhesive bandages (3/4 by 3 inches)
- 1 1-gallon size re-sealable bag

Anything helps! We will graciously accept individual items, completed kits, and even SCRIP cards for our Mercy Ministries to buy supplies with.

# OCTOBER EVENTS



## MOMS OF Faith

Contact Becca Hegge with any questions at 608-345-5592

**What:** Come to Becca's house for some backyard playtime, coffee, and cider. Please bring a snack to pass! If you'd like to join for a trip to Ferguson's Orchard afterwards, plan accordingly :)

**When:** October 19th @ 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** N13639 Canar Rd. Trempealeau



**"WE WALK WITH OUR NEIGHBORS TO END HUNGER"**

## HUNGER WALK

Coulee Region

### Coulee Region Hunger Walk/Run/Bike

*In-Person & Virtual*

Form teams or participate as individuals.

**In-Person:** Sunday, October 13, 1:30 PM at Myrick Park Main Shelter

**Virtual:** October 6-13: Submit your individual or team name to register at: [couleeregionhungerwalk.org](http://couleeregionhungerwalk.org)

You might want to participate in person on October 13 & also virtually October 6-13.

Proceeds to Hunger Task Force & WAFER Food Pantry & other non-profit food agencies, listed on website: [couleeregionhungerwalk.org](http://couleeregionhungerwalk.org)

**Pledge Sheet:** Call 608-385-5422, or website, [couleeregionhungerwalk.org](http://couleeregionhungerwalk.org) or email: [couleeregionhungerwalk@gmail.com](mailto:couleeregionhungerwalk@gmail.com)



## CHRISTIAN GREETINGS

You are invited to attend Bishop's Day Apart to welcome **Bishop Dan Schwerin** to the Wisconsin Conference. Please plan to attend one of the following days:

**Monday, October 14th**  
Hartford UMC  
738 W Monroe Ave  
Hartford, WI 53027-2336  
2pm - 4pm for Clergy  
6pm - 8pm for Laity

**Tuesday, October 15th**  
Chapel Heights UMC  
300 E Hamilton Ave  
Eau Claire, WI 54701-7269  
2pm - 4pm Clergy  
6pm - 8pm Laity

**CLERGY Registration:**  
<https://wisconsin-reg.brapp.com/2024BishopsDayApart71>

**LAITY Registration:**  
<https://wisconsin-reg.brapp.com/2024BishopsLaityDayApart7171>

If you have any questions, contact the District Office at 608-837-0056 or your District Superintendent. See you there.

**FAITH UMC**



Support your neighborhood vampire. Donate blood.

## ONALASKA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE

**Monday, October 21, 1:00pm – 6:00pm**

**LOCATION:** Onalaska United Methodist Church, 212 4<sup>th</sup> Ave North, Onalaska

**DONATE & RECEIVE:** All donors will receive 1 free month (if not a current member) of basic washes at Ship Shape Car Wash. Current members will receive 1 free wash. Coupons must be presented by Nov 20<sup>th</sup> to receive promotion.

**MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT:** Appointments are highly encouraged. Secure your spot by visiting the link below, scan the QR code, or call 877.232.4376.

**Versiti.org/wi**



Thank you Ship Shape for supporting a stable and ready blood supply in our community!



# Courageous Conversations Purple: America We Need to Talk by Resetting the Table

Monday, October 14 at 6:00pm-8:00pm

This short film captures an ideologically diverse group of everyday Americans in rural WI and Iowa coming to see the humanity and motivations behind each other's positions. To date, PURPLE has reached tens of thousands of viewers and screened in over 340 faith communities, universities, high schools, public libraries, museums, think tanks, and non-profit organizations across the country.



**THE SWEETGRASS BAND**  
OCTOBER 26th 2:30 pm



**Don't Be Scammed!**

**Preventing Identity Theft and Fraud**

**Lunch and Learn**

Thursday, October 17, 2024  
12 noon-1:00 p.m

**Guest Speaker**

*Ingrid Parshall*  
Branch Manager  
BMO Bank N.A.

Onalaska United Methodist Church  
212 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Onalaska, WI

Free

Light Refreshments Served

RSVP to: [office@onalaskaumc.org](mailto:office@onalaskaumc.org) before Monday October 14

Sponsored by the OUMC Care Connection Team

Topics Include

Learn how to identify the signs of identity theft and fraud and how to protect yourself.  
What can be used to steal your identity?  
Common scams



## BREAKING BREAD OVER BOARD GAMES



**SATURDAY OCTOBER 19th 2-5pm**



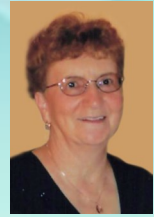
**Join Faith Alive!**  
**2024-2026: A Journey of  
Faith, Learning, and  
Growth**  
**Registration Deadline:  
October 15th**

The Faith Alive registration deadline is fast approaching. Registrations will be accepted until October 15th. If you do not join us, the next Faith Alive sessions will not begin until the fall of 2026. Faith Alive is a two-year study for laity and clergy on theology, the Bible and ministry in today's world. "My experience with Faith Alive came at a crucial time in my life. A time when I was really questioning what god wanted from me. It helped me in so many ways for my faith, family, church and God above all."- Julie Mieke [Click here to learn more and register.](#)

# NOVEMBER EVENTS

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR WILMA DETTINGER SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2

10:30 am Visitation  
11:30 am Celebration of Life



## 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**



## ELECTION DAY

November 5th 8:00 am to 8:00 pm  
Self-guided in the church sanctuary



November 12th  
5-6 p.m.  
Soup-a-thon!



Wednesday November 27th  
6:30 pm  
@ First Lutheran Church  
410 Main St. Onalaska

## THANKSGIVING DAY—THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28th

*The church office will be closed*

# COMING IN DECEMBER



## HANGING OF THE GREENS

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 4th**



**SUNDAY DECEMBER 8th**

Onalaska United Methodist Church



# MERRY CRAFTMAS

**CRAFT SHOW & BAKE SALE**



**07 DECEMBER | 9 AM - 2 PM**

212 4TH AVE. N. ONALASKA, WI

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE HIGH  
SCHOOL SUMMER MISSION TRIP



Now taking  
applications for  
vendors! Scan QR code  
to apply.



## the Longest Night

A WINTER SERVICE OF HOPE & HEALING

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 21st**



## Christmas Eve Service

EVERYONE IS INVITED

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 24th**

# We Welcome Through Holy Baptism



On Sunday September 8th  
*Grayson Floyd Westenberg*

Born: May 5, 2024

Parents: Zaria & Matt Westenberg

On Sunday October 6th  
*Wyatt Robert Larson*

Born: July 21, 2024

Parents: Kacie & Nate Larson

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## BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

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.*

## 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.** 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.

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# WORSHIP SERIES



**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.

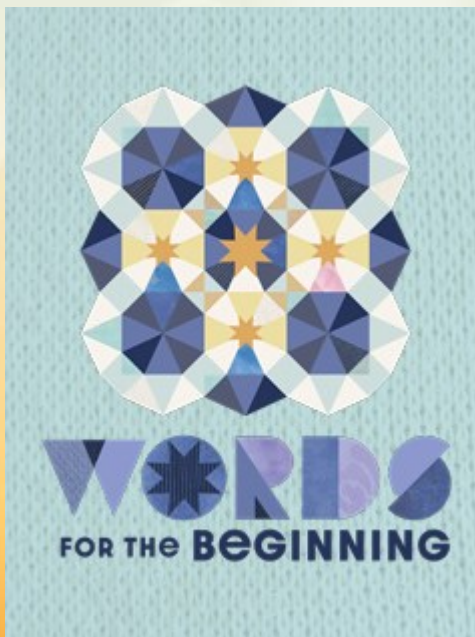
## **CREATED FOR CONNECTION 11/3-11/27**

This upcoming sermon series will focus on a need that we all have: for connection and belonging. The church is a place for everyone to find welcome and hospitality. Consider inviting your friends to this series, especially those who are longing for connection.



## **WORDS FOR THE BEGINNING 12/1-12/22**

Advent is a season of endings and beginnings. As the calendar year comes to a close, a new church year begins. Christ's birth ushers us into new ways of living and loving; and yet, the world as we know it spins madly on. In many ways, pregnant Mary was surrounded by endings—large and small, personal and political. But Mary proclaimed hope in a God who was and is making all things new. Christ's birth offered a beautiful new beginning for shepherds and Magi alike—all the while, King Herod tried to bring Christ's story to an end. When we ourselves navigate seasons filled with endings and beginnings, we need reminders. We need words that can feel like steady ground, like a path for our feet to find as we step forward into the unknown.



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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



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



Seeking office volunteers who can come in one day a week for 1 to 2 hours. If you are interested, contact Gretchen in the church office [office@onalaskaumc.org](mailto:office@onalaskaumc.org), click on the Sign up link: [Office Volunteer Sign Up](#) or scan this QR code



## 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](mailto:youth@onalaskaumc.org) by July 1st to fill out a brief application.

**WORKIN' ON IT**

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



# ADULT EDUCATION



## HISTORY & MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE STUDY

**Sunday Mornings at 9:45 am**

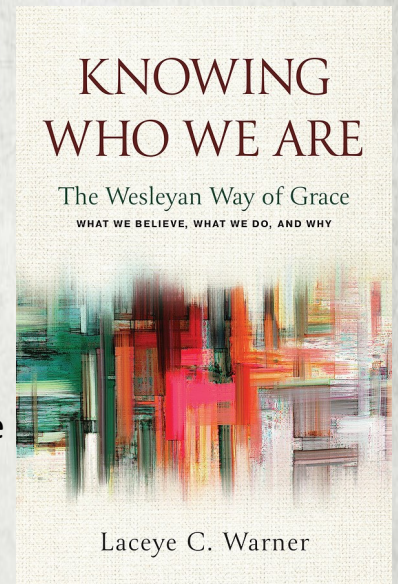
*Facilitated by Margret Awtray meeting in the Resource Room*

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

**Fall 2024-Spring 2025 Season**

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 EDUCATION



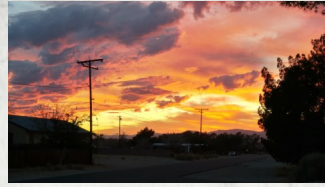
## Sunday Morning Education

### Bible 101

Learning how to use and navigate your Bible

Sunday, October 13

9:45 am *FREE*



## Sunday Night Studies

### Sunday's 6:00pm-7:30pm

Participation is open to anyone and offers open conversation

### Learning to Disagree

October 20—November 17

### Advent study TBD

November 24-December 15



## GriefShare Sunday Evenings

### September 22-December 1

from 6:00-7:30pm

*Facilitated by Pastor Claudia Deede at OUMC*

Onalaska United Methodist Church is excited to offer an opportunity to launch a grief support group that will meet weekly (with some exceptions). The GriefShare program equips those struggling with grief to take steps on the long path through that grief toward healing and hope. This is a Bible based program that provides a multi-faceted way of processing that has been helpful to many others.

## 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays—Food Pantry Collection

On the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays- 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays.

# KID'S MINISTRY



## FAITH ADVENTURES ON THE FIRST SUNDAYS

Faith Adventures on the First is our once-a-month Sunday School, hosted for children preschool-5th grade during both services. Faith Adventures will include a short devotion or Bible story, a craft, game, and/or activity. **Stay tuned during the worship services for an announcement of which adult leader to follow back to the Art Room!**

A fun & safe Halloween experience...

# TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 31, 4:30-6:30 P.M.

Onalaska United Methodist Church upper parking lot  
212 4th Ave N, Onalaska

Fun for all ages! Neighbors and friends are welcome to come for one-stop trick-or-treating in our parking lot, plus free hot dogs and hot chocolate.

OUMC members: decorate your car and hand out candy to our visitors. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Zoe de Boer ([youth@onalaskaumc.org](mailto:youth@onalaskaumc.org)).

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

# PEEPS

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT ONALASKA UMC

doves

youth programs at onalaska umc

grades 6-8  
wednesdays 6:30-8 pm

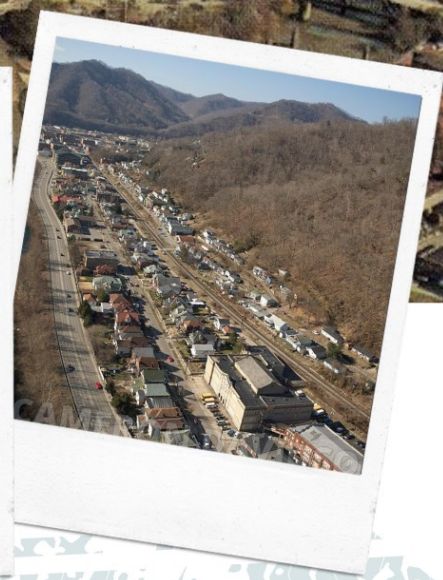
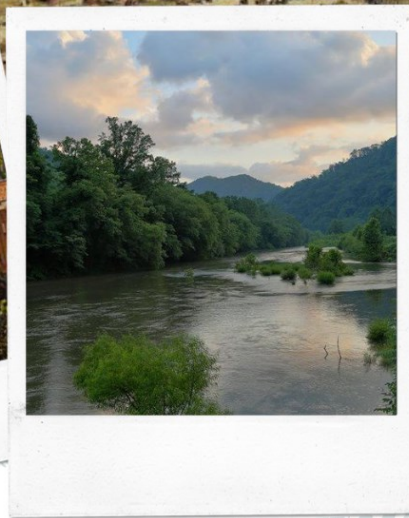
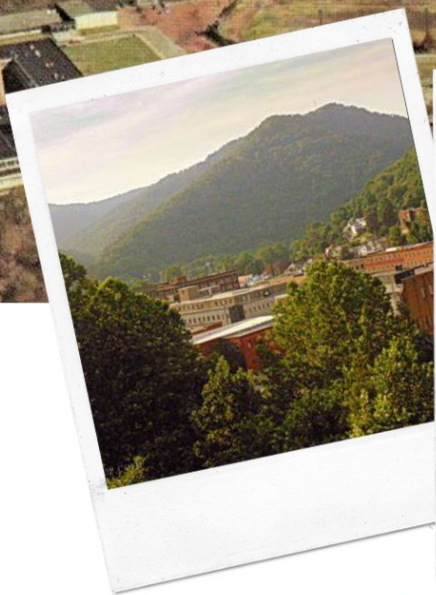
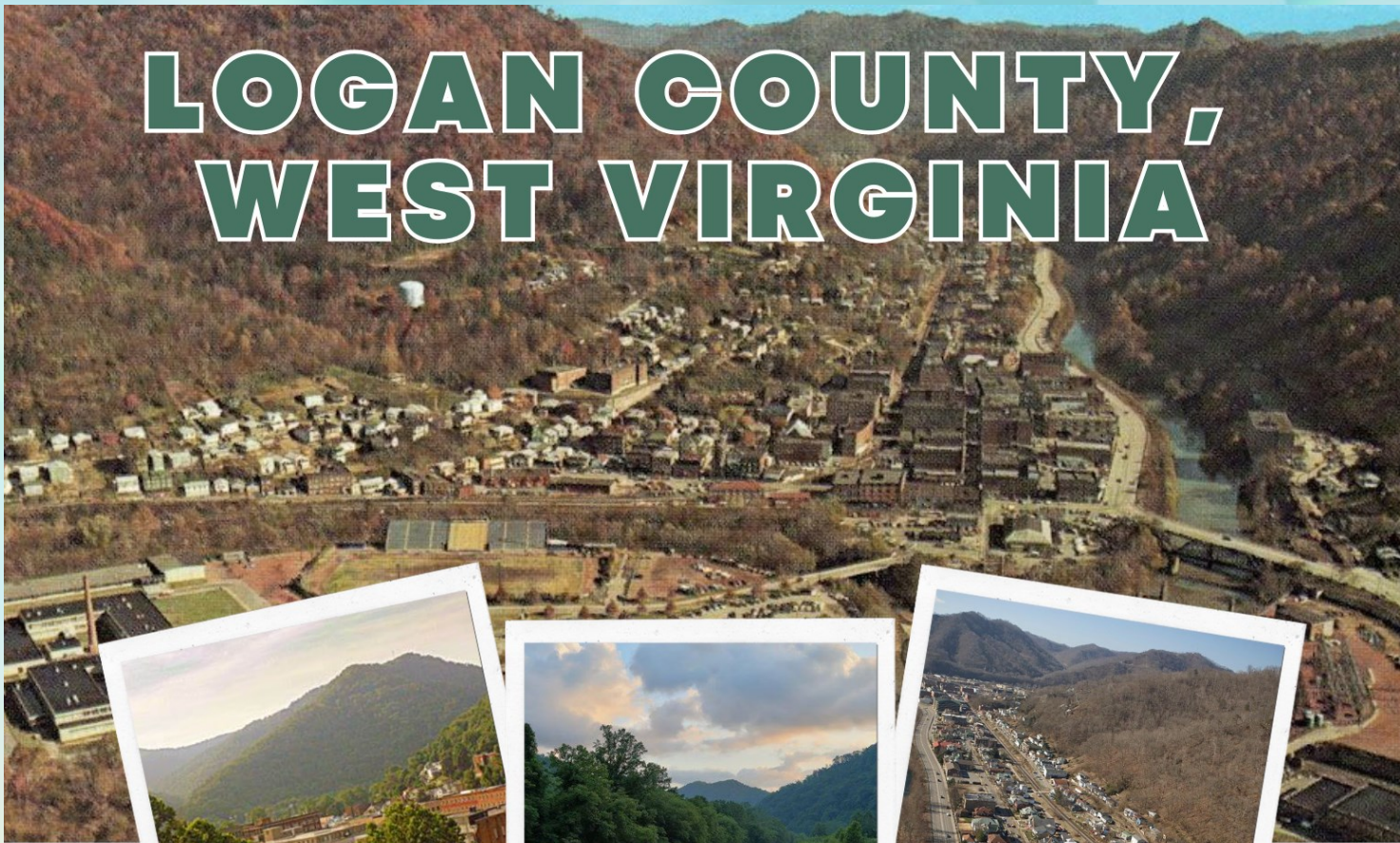
SOAR, SOAR, SOAR, SOAR

WEDNESDAYS 6:30-8 PM

GRADES 9-12

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT ONALASKA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# LOGAN COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA



— high school mission trip —

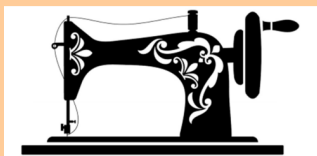
**JULY 5-12, 2025**

**\$50 deposit due by Nov. 1st to secure your spot!**  
Checks can be made out to OUMC & given to Zoe  
*For incoming freshmen through graduating seniors*

**\$700/STUDENT**  
**+ FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES**

ANY QUESTIONS CAN BE  
EMAILED TO  
[YOUTH@ONALASKAUMC.ORG](mailto:YOUTH@ONALASKAUMC.ORG)

# 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

If you cannot come in the afternoon and morning is better, please come then. If only afternoon is better, please come at that time, but you are welcome all day, too. We have work that can be done even if you do not sew, if you would like to learn to sew, or if you are an accomplished seamstress. Please join us for conversation if you would only like to visit while you knit, crochet, or do other handwork. You are welcome to join us!

## SUNSHINE GIRLS



Sunshine Girls meets every 2nd Monday of the month from September to May. 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!**

If you are interested in joining us, please call Peg Benz @ 608-780-7214.



## 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.



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](mailto: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.



# MISSION FOCUS



Your generosity helped September's mission focus so much! An entire trunk of cat & kitten food was delivered to the Humane Society and that's thanks to our congregation! Thanks for helping to feed the hungry kitties!



# 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 cantata type event 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.

**MUSIC DIRECTOR  
Dean Gunnarson**





## CHURCH ROOF REPAIR FUND

*Where we stand*

### From Fundraisers

Pampered Chef	\$620.00
Rummage Sale	\$6,000.00
Kwik Trip Scrip Sales	\$854.00

Currently we are around **\$80,000** raised from the above fundraisers and members pledges!



**The submission deadline for the November-December Chimes newsletter is October 16th.**

Please submit your information to Gretchen in the church office [onaumc@gmail.com](mailto:onaumc@gmail.com) or call 608-783-3380.

Thank you!

## STAFF

**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