

SALT

ADDING FLAVOR TO LIFE

THE NEWSLETTER OF OUR LORDS UM CHURCH

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

By the time you receive this edition of the Salt, the Lenten Season will be upon us. So allow me to share some thoughts about this special season of the church year.

Traditionally Lent has been a time for personal reflection on the depth of our relationship to Christ, our love for one another, and our witness to the world. Typical of Lenten observances are the practice of the “spiritual disciplines”, such as, prayer, meditation, fasting, solitude, and silence. For many Christians it is a time to “give up” some bad habit; although in recent years many Christians have turned to “adding on” some good practice or habit to their life.

My personal preference is to seek extra time for silence, solitude (preferably in the wilderness), and prayer. I seek the Spirit’s guidance in seeing myself and my living as God sees me, and in that enlightenment to receive new understanding of God’s love for me and new visions of how I can better serve my Savior and my fellow sojourners in this earthly life.

As a church we will begin our Lenten Journey on Ash Wednesday, March 6th at 7: PM with a traditional worship service featuring the imposition of ashes for all who wish to receive this symbol of repentance and rededication. Then on Tuesday, March 12th at 7: PM will begin a series of Tuesday evening Bible Studies which will continue through Holy Week. We will be using the Gospel of John and focusing on Jesus’ final explanations and instructions to his disciples before his arrest, trial and crucifixion.

I invite you to join us as we seek an even better understanding of ourselves, God’s great love for us, and the terrible cost Jesus paid to free us from sin.

Together let us make this the most meaningful and inspiring Lenten Season ever! Yours in Christ,
Pastor Bill

Our Lords UMC

5000 S Sunny Slope Rd

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414-425-7030

Office Hours (Mon.-Thurs.)
8:30am-12:30pm

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United Methodist Women



Upcoming UMW Events

Saturday Afternoon at the Movies

The UMW program Saturday Afternoon at the Movies continues to provide an opportunity for church members to enjoy fellowship during these winter months. The second movie shown in February was a family movie – Finding Nemo. For March, only one movie will be shown – The Case for Christ – on Saturday, March 9. This movie is part 1 of a two-part series – A Lenten Faith Journey. Details of part 2 are given elsewhere in the Salt. A brief overview of the movie follows:

THE CASE FOR CHRIST - In 1980, Lee Strobel's (Mike Vogel) award-winning, investigative reporting earns him a promotion to legal editor at the Chicago Tribune. Things at home aren't going nearly as well. His wife Leslie's (Erika Christensen) newfound faith in Christ compels Lee to utilize his journalistic and legal training to try and disprove the claims of Christianity, pitting his resolute atheism against her growing faith.

If you would like to come to this fellowship time but don't drive, contact Rebecca Radick (262-679-2710) or Gwenda Szczygielski (262-786-5265) and we will be sure to get you to the movies!

A LENTEN FAITH JOURNEY

In March, come join in "A Lenten Faith Journey." This program is open to all adults and teens, who want to dig deeper into their faith. It will be done in two parts.

On Saturday, March 9th as part of the Saturday Afternoon at the Movies series, we will show the movie, "The Case for Christ." This true story tells of a man's journey to solve the biggest mystery of all time. As a journalist at the Chicago Tribune and with a Masters Degree in the law studies, Lee Strobel sets out to disprove the Biblical Christianity of who Jesus of Nazareth really was. As an atheist, he experiences unexpected life-changing results.

The second part of this program will be on Saturday, March 23rd. This segment will provide a time to discuss the movie and examine your own faith. What will your verdict be? There will be small group discussions, based on questions in the book "The Case for Christ"; time for personal reflections and journaling in a Prayer room: and group meditations and prayers.

So, won't you mark these dates on your calendar and plan to come on this Lenten Faith Journey with us!

Mission Crafters

The Mission Crafters program is underway once again on Wednesdays at 1:00 in the Garden Room. These sessions are a great time of fellowship to get to know other women of the church; some women come just to chit-chat and others knit and crochet while chatting! Yarn, needles, crochet hooks, and patterns are available at church, if you need starting materials.



Trustees

Growing Veggies at Church

A meeting was held in February for those people interested in growing veggies in the church's garden plot (outside the Garden Room). At this meeting, it was decided that:

- All remaining fencing in the garden will be removed.
- The half-barrels in each corner, which are rotting away, also will be removed.
- The compost pile and enclosure will be eliminated; no-one volunteered to be responsible for the maintenance.
- The entire garden will be fenced in to keep the critters out.
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Additional details of gardening at church still need to be resolved and will be addressed at another meeting.

At the February meeting we learned that Derek Holschbach of our congregation will participate in the garden work as part of his Eagle Scout project. He and his friends will be valuable additions in making this project successful. If you want to participate in this project, please contact Gwenda Szczygielski and she will keep you up-to-date on when the next meeting will be held and what will be discussed.

Trustee Notes

Ice damming and melted snow from the flat roof over the Wesley Room caused water to back into the church during the first weekend of February. The roof was not leaking. Several individuals are working to keep the walks, door entrances and water spouts clear of ice and snow. Volunteers are welcome to join in the effort!

Please keep in mind you are downsizing and have extra yard tools or yard equipment, a donation to the church is welcome.

Annual Yard Cleanup Saturday May 4th

Spring is around the corner. Church yard cleanup is scheduled for Saturday May 4th, 2019 at 9AM (weekend before Mothers Day).

Women's Fellowship Evening

The next Women's Fellowship Evening will be held on Wednesday, March 27, at 7:00 in the Garden Room. The format for this evening will be an opening devotion then board games. All attendees are asked to bring their favorite board game and a snack to share.

Many discussions at the first meeting concerned what this evening program should be, and decided flexibility will be essential so everyone's schedule limitations and interests can be accommodated. Plan to be at the next meeting so you can give input on future dates and activities.

If enough women cannot come on one evening, such as Wednesdays, perhaps it may be feasible to have another fellowship group meet on a different evening. Please contact Gwenda Szczygielski to give your thoughts on this possibility.

Prior to the introductory meeting, several women had mentioned they would like to participate in a service project. The church has two of those coming up in April. The first is the Gathering, a meal program in Milwaukee, on Saturday, April 6. Contact Debbie Huyck at 414-545-6435; she can give you more info about meeting times etc.

Tuesday Morning Lenten Bible Study

The Tuesday Morning Bible Study group will begin a 7 week Lenten study on Tuesday March 5th titled Embracing the Uncertain by Magrey Devega.

Embracing the Uncertain invites readers this Lent to engage and wrestle with life's uncertainties, not ignore them. The first six chapters focus on six post-Transfiguration, pre-Passion stories in the Gospels. Each of these stories are signposts in the gospel narrative, pointing down at a world filled with uncertainty, but pointing us forward to a cross that can show us how to follow Jesus with courage, hope, and obedience.

Come and join us between 10-11:00am on Tuesday mornings.

Caring Ministries

We here at Our Lord's are a caring group of people and where there is understanding, there is great love. We of the Caring Ministry Team want to be your hands and feet to help you in any situation. Please, call the office or Rebecca Radick at 262-679-2710, so we can help you, to not feel alone.

Here's a prayer
from an unknown
author of
Guideposts:

Lord of the
loving heart, may
mine be loving
too.

Lord of the gentle
hands, may mine
be gentle too.

Lord of the
willing feet, may
mine be willing
too.

So, may I grow
more Like Thee
in all I say & do.

***"Through love serve one another."
Galatians 5:13***



Amen
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Monday-Funday Open Fellowship Group Monday **Monday March 18th - 10am - Garden Room**



Friendships become more important to us as time goes by. We cherish our friends here at Our Lord's. You are invited to come to our Monday-Funday Fellowship on March 18th at 10:00 am. We meet for about 1½ hours. We hear a devotional and discuss it, then play some mental mind games and puzzles.

We enjoy a snack and have great conversations and lots of laughs. Everyone is invited to come and bring a church friend or a neighbor along. If you need a ride, call the office and we'll set one up. Many Blessings to all.



Outreach

New Berlin Feeds Sunday May 5th

Come and join us on Sunday May 5th for the second annual New Berlin Feeds. Starting with a Worship service from 9:30am-10am, and followed by working together with our community to pack 25,000 meals.

Youth Corner

United Methodist Children Center

Due to icy weather, we had to re-schedule our mission trip down to the United Children Center that was scheduled for Saturday February 23rd, 2019. The new date has not yet been determined, we will keep you posted.

Thanks to our Youth who helped the Caring Ministry Team bake meals for our home bound church members the afternoon of Saturday February 23rd.

March Birthdays



- Edward Heinert 1st
- Sue Radzius 2nd
- Wenda Cichucki 5th
- Pete Merschorf 5th
- Mary McGarry 7th
- Isabella Veit 9th
- Dave Broker 11th
- Kathy Depies 11th
- Mark McGarry 14th
- Christopher Rodriguez 17th
- Marge Mewhorter 19th
- Jenny Slater 20th
- Alyssa Beltrame 23rd
- Dave Pauly 27th
- Jennifer Heinert 29th

Sunday Worship

March 3rd

9:30am - Worship
w/ communion
10:30 Fellowship
10:45 Sunday School

March 10th

9:30am - Worship
10:30am Fellowship
10:45am Sunday School

March 17th

9:30am - Worship
10:30am- Fellowship
10:45am Sunday School

March 24th

9:30am - Worship
10:30am- Fellowship
10:45am Sunday School

March 31st

9:30am - Worship
10:30 Fellowship
10:45 Sunday School



Our Lord's United Methodist Church Administrative Council Minutes

Feb. 5, 2019

Prepared by Amy Kesler

Present

Susie Brown, Bill Church, Paul Davis, Pat and Chuck Garrigus, Perry Huyck, Amy Kesler, Andrew Krier, Jane Mackey, Rebecca and Mark Radick, Dave Smith and Joe Whyms

Opening

Pastor Bill opened the meeting with a scripture reading and prayer. The minutes, previously approved electronically, were ratified unanimously.

Blended Service proposal –Andrew Krier

As a follow up to feedback received during the last meeting, a proposal was presented by Andrew to move to a blended service that would balance traditional and contemporary music each Sunday. The goal would be to consistently feature approximately two traditional and two contemporary songs each week at the discretion of the pastor and administrative team to honor the needs of the message and theme of the service. The proposal was approved and the approach will be evaluated again before the end of the year to ensure it going well. (A. Krier, P. Davis)

Music Administration – Dave Smith

A small team is being established to identify and evaluate resources to manage the new blended music approach. As part of the resources for consideration, Susie offered herself to be considered as one of the resources.

Culture – Amy Kesler

Amy introduced an activity for the next Council meeting aimed to help build a cohesive team going forward. This is not intended to replace the work Dick Jones will do with the team to continue our move to a single governance model and identify our vision and strategy to move our church forward. A handout was provided to spur thought in advance of the next meeting.

Nominations – Perry Huyck

A formal list of nominations for the Council leadership team will be presented at the Annual Charge Conference.

Trustees – Jane Mackey

The recent snow and cold caused minor ice damming and water leakage in the Wesley room and nearby restrooms. The Trustees are considering options to better manage snow clearing following a significant snowfall. Perry agreed to work with Jane to identify building and grounds needs, including snow removal, and to develop solutions. Anyone interested in volunteering to assist with this

process should contact Jane. Susie was asked to contact the snow removal service to determine if they were able to clear building downspouts when the parking lot is plowed and at what cost.

A local preschool has expressed interest in potentially leasing space within our facility. This is aligned with our previous conversations to better utilize our largest asset, our building, to offset our cost obligations and demonstrate our presence within the community. Jane will follow up with the organization and report back to the Council.

Finance – Joe Whyms

Income for January 2019 was \$18,482, under budget by \$2,699, while expenses for January was \$20,526, under budget by \$655 resulting in a negative cash flow of \$2,044 for the month. Lower than budgeted Operating fund donations were responsible for the revenue shortfall. A complete financial summary is available through the church office.

In 2018, total income was \$286,033, which was under budget by \$30,157, due primarily to membership attrition. Total expenses for 2019 was \$283,087, under budget by \$33,103, due primarily to negating the pastor's salary during the fourth quarter. A financial summary from 2018 will be reviewed during the Charge Conference.

Charge Conference – Pastor Bill

Due to the recent cold weather, our annual Charge conference has been rescheduled. Dan Schwerin will preside over the meeting scheduled for February 24 at 12:15 pm. All members are encouraged to attend. We will consider options for lunch to make it convenient for all.

Closing

Perry adjourned the meeting with a prayer. Our next regularly scheduled Administrative Council meeting will be held on March 5, 2018, at 7:00 pm.