



505 W Grand Ave Port Washington WI 53074 www.portumc.com

Grand Ave Church
the **VINE**

*I am the vine, you are the branches ...
John 15:5*

June 2022

Happy 2nd
Retirement
Pastor Dave

*Thank you... for coming out of retirement to be our
interim Pastor.*

Thank you... for your leadership, time and time again!

*Thank you... for blessing us with your heartfelt ministry
and deep love of the Lord.*

*Thank you... for the joy and hope you brought to the
congregation of Grand Ave UMC.*



This is my final column serving as your interim pastor. It has been very much a privilege serving you once again. I never would have dreamed of this scenario. My final Sunday will be June 26th. We will also be celebrating Holy Communion that morning.

We face an interesting future together. The usual protocol is that the pastor who ends his or her appointment leaves for another appointment. If a pastor serving a church retires and decides to live in the community, he or she is expected not to visit the church for at least a year. My situation is a bit unique. Cathy elected to transfer her membership here. We plan to attend worship and be involved in the life of this community of faith. For me, this will be in the capacity of a pastor in retired status. I will have the authority to perform pastoral responsibilities, but it will come under the leadership and authority of the pastor who is appointed to serve at Grand Avenue.

Parker Palmer has a fitting quote in his book *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation*:

“As often happens on the spiritual journey, we have arrived at the heart of a paradox: each time a door closes, the rest of the world opens up.”

This quote is especially appropriate for those who are newly retired. The door to pastoral ministry will be closing for now, but new opportunities will present themselves if we are open to them. I love Christ's church. Now, I will need to discern where God will seek to use me as His child and as a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ. Cathy and I are looking forward to working and serving the Lord with you in this wonderful and blessed life we have been given.

I trust that the work of the Holy Spirit and Bishop Jung and cabinet will result in a pastoral appointment for you in the near future. You have a lot going for you. I think you will agree that it is such a blessing to be able to congregate again in worship and fellowship afterwards. The Lord has a path for us, but that path will always be about establishing and strengthening our relationship with one another, with those outside of our community and with all of God's sacred creation.

God bless you all!

Pastor Dave

Dear Friends,
Words cannot express how grateful we are for your donation received in March. Your gift is an investment in the families and community of Washington Park and the surrounding areas through better housing, more affordable childcare, better food security, and an increased quality of life that all families deserve.

Blessings and gratitude to you all at Grand Ave UMC!

William Schmitt
Executive Director
United Methodist Children's Services of WI

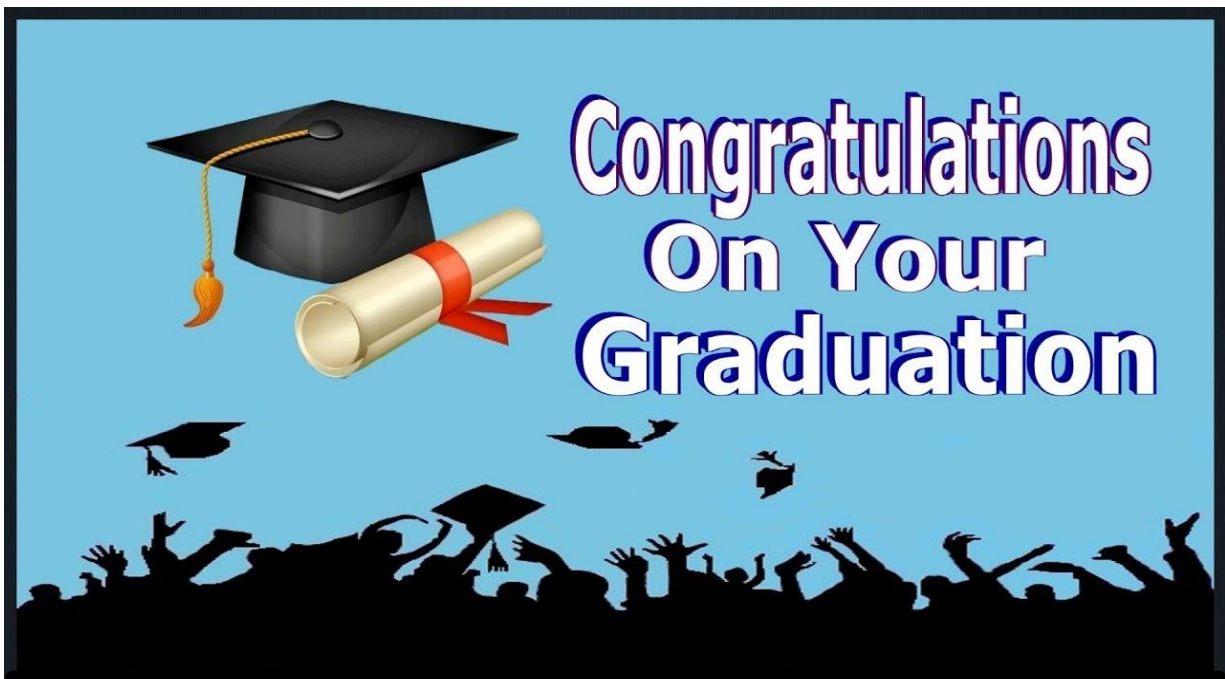
Praying

By Mary Oliver, from *Thirst*

It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few
small stones; just
pay attention, then patch

A few words together and don't try
to make them elaborate, this isn't
a contest but the doorway

Into thanks, and a silence in which
another voice may speak.



High School Graduate

Will Kissinger

Emily Greene

Kyle Karoening

Proud GAUMC Parents / Grandparents

Jill Eernisse & Bob Graff

Marc & Grace Eernisse

Rob & Vicky Schafman

Ardelle & Gordon Dionne

College Graduate

Jenny Davis

Seth Lanser

Alyssa Smith

Proud GAUMC Grandparents

Kay Hamann

Muriel Ford

Cathy Smith

Our Pews



The pews that you sit on every Sunday were installed in our then new sanctuary in early 1967, which makes them fifty-five years old. They have held up well but, like all of us, are showing their age in some spots.

Your board of Trustees have now completed a program of minor repairs. We have re-glued loose veneer, stained spots where the veneer was damaged or missing, and fixed seven of the hymnal racks that have been damaged over the years. We have also installed two new hymnal racks on the back pew on the west

side of the sanctuary to create a space for wheelchairs and wheelchair companions.

In the weeks to come, we will be working on a few stains on the pew cushions and on one spot where the cushion fabric has been damaged. Although we have taken care of the most obvious problems, we are sure that we have missed some of the less obvious ones. We invite you, now and in the future, to examine the pews around you. If you find things that you think need our attention, please let us know.

Jan Young, Trustees Team Member



Food Pantry needs include:

Pears	Pineapple
Taco shells	Cranberries
Taco seasoning	Yams
Canned dinners	Meals for One
Spam	Rice A Roni
AuGratin Potatoes	Pasta Sauce
Mayonnaise	Pancake mix
Syrup	Jelly

The Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays 9:30am-Noon and 4-6pm for distribution of food and clothing to qualified individuals and families.

How About a Dog Visit?



Kota is a certified therapy dog through "Therapy Dogs International". Kota and I are a team. We would be happy to visit you. Please call us at 262-305-9503.

Kota is not

- An emotional support animal
- A service dog

Kota offers comfort and companionship.

This helps to increase emotional well-being, promotes healing, and improves quality of life for those being visited and the staff that care for these persons.

Cathy Guse

Noisy Collection 3rd Sunday of each month

Let's continue to help support **UMCOR-Ukraine** on Sunday, June 19th

Connecting the church in mission



UMCOR works with partners to relieve distress inside Ukraine

Serving needs whenever and wherever possible

A refugee shelter in Batiovo, Ukraine in Transcarpathia, not far from the Hungarian border, is supplied by ACT, Alliance partner Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA), an ecumenical humanitarian agency of Protestant and Orthodox churches. This facility helps about 90 displaced Ukrainians giving a place to sleep, water, shower facilities and three meals a day. The playground outside allows children to play with other Ukrainian children, away from the sounds and devastation of the missiles.

The refugee shelter is one of more than 120 centers supplied by ACT Alliance partner with food, water, hygiene products and household appliances by Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA). The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is a partner in this work through its support of ACT Alliance relief work in Ukraine as well as in countries receiving refugees outside the country. UMCOR has so far contributed \$1 million to ACT Alliance relief efforts. In addition to the HIA outreach, Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and Swiss Church Aid (HEKS/EPER) conduct similar ACT missions in other parts of Ukraine.

Several relief organizations have been able to increase their work in Ukraine with UMCOR support. In the southwestern part of Ukraine, a long-time UMCOR partner, International Blue Crescent (IBC), reaches people in the Odessa region with food, water and medical supplies. Odessa has been a target of Russian forces attempting to capture territory along the Black Sea. As Odessans evacuate, IBC distributes emergency food rations at the Moldovan/Romanian border in the city of Izmail. UMCOR support provides 75,000 meals as well as a 2-month supply of food staples for 1000 households in this besieged region. IBC also provides medical supplies to Bolgrad and Artsyz state hospitals based on their urgent needs.

Direct Relief to Ukrainian United Methodists

UMCOR has released two emergency grants to the United Methodist Church in Ukraine. According to the district superintendent for the Ukraine/Moldova Provisional Annual Conference, the Rev. Oleg Starodubets, Ukrainian Methodists continue to serve refugees and people struggling in areas under siege.

In addition to the UMCOR grants, United Methodists support the direct relief efforts of Ukrainian Methodists through the Advance. As of May 17, Global Ministries has tracked \$414,608 received for Ukraine in 2022 through this channel. United Methodists have also supported relief work with refugees offered by churches in neighboring countries through the Advance.

Summary of the Congregational Focus Groups

Mission Statement:

By the grace of God, we seek to love God and to serve humanity as Christ did.

Pastor Dave also adds:

We are proud of our Methodist Theology of love of God, love of neighbor, a strong set of values, a strong foundation of social justice, and outreach in compassion ministries.

With the above statements in mind, it's time to think about Grand Avenue, our theology, participation, and church. SPRC sees our congregation as small but vital.

Below are the top 3 answers to each question discussed at the focus groups.

1. Who are we as United Methodists? What if someone unfamiliar with our church asked that of you. How would you answer?

- Open table
- Social justice
- Wesleyan way

2. What sets us apart from other churches? Why select GAUMC?

- Open table
- UMCOR
- Physical location

3. Why do you stay in this church when others have left?

- Christian friends and family
- Mission focused
- My church

4. What are the three most important qualities of Grand Ave?

- Surroundings – inside and outside of the building
- Stability
- People – openness and reaching out

5. What are your gifts that you can share at Grand Ave?

- Willingness to say “yes”
- Need to take a step of faith
- Opportunities

6. How do you envision our GAUM church for the future?

- Partnerships & collaborations
- Small groups – adult ministry (social, spiritual, outreach)
- Community based ministry/outreach

Next Steps to our future ...

Establish a team to review our church mission statement, create a vision statement and goals.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

	June
Vickie Meins	1
Jill Eernisse	6
Bill Foster	8
Kayla Killey	15
Sue Hamann	15
Netta Freeland	17
Rachal Guse	17
Jason Kissinger	20
Pat Craig	28
Frank Schroeter	29
Natalie Benning	30

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

	June
Jake & Netta Freeland	3
Mark & Laura Flack	6
Dan & Kelly Weltin	11
Scott & Stacy Zwicker	12
Keith & Emily Betker	14
Rob & Vicky Schafman	20
Jeff & Sue Killey	24
Jan & Mary Young	24
David & Laura Didier	30

June Volunteers

Thank you for serving in our ministry

Date	Host	Lay Reader	A/V	Coffee Host
5	Larry Maechtle	Cheryl Wozniak	Vicky Schafman	Netta Freeland
12	Larry Maechtle	Mark Grams	Scott Penkivech	
19	Larry Maechtle	Rama Bharadwaj	Scott Penkivech	
26	Larry Maechtle	Marc Eernisse	Dan Benning	

To host a coffee hour, please sign-up on the bulletin board.



**Communion will be served on Sunday, June 5 (typical 1st Sunday of the month)
However, communion will also be served on June 26 instead of July 3rd.**

GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

505 W Grand Ave Port Washington WI 53074 262-284-9478 www.portumc.com

Join us for worship, Sundays at 10:00 am

Interim Pastor:	Rev. David Guse	pastor@portumc.org
Lay Leader:	Dan Benning	bennida01@att.net
Administrative Assistant:	Vicky Schafman	office@portumc.org
Administrative Council Chairperson:	Mark Grams	mgrams@wi.rr.com
SPRC Chairperson:	Marc Eernisse	marc@eernissefh.com
Bishop: Rev. Hee-Soo Jung	District Superintendent: Rev. Forrest Wells	

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June 2022						
◀ May						July ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7pm AA Mtg - FAC	2 5:30pm Private Mtg - FAC	3	4
5 Communion 10:00 am Worship Service	6	7	8 7pm AA Mtg - FAC	9 6:30 pm Ad Council 5:30pm Private Mtg - FAC	10	11
12 10:00 am Worship Service	13	14 Flag Day 9:30-11am Caregivers Connection – kitchen 1pm Social Principles Group Gathering Area	15 7pm AA Mtg - FAC	16 5:30pm Private Mtg - FAC	17	18
19 Father's Day Noisy Collection 10:00 am Worship Service	20	21 Start of Summer (Summer Solstice) 10am Stockbox Distribution FAC	22 7pm AA Mtg - FAC	23 5:30pm Private Mtg - FAC	24	25
26 Communion Pastor David Guse's last day 10:00 am Worship Service	27	28	29 7pm AA Mtg - FAC	30 5:30pm Private Mtg - FAC		