



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

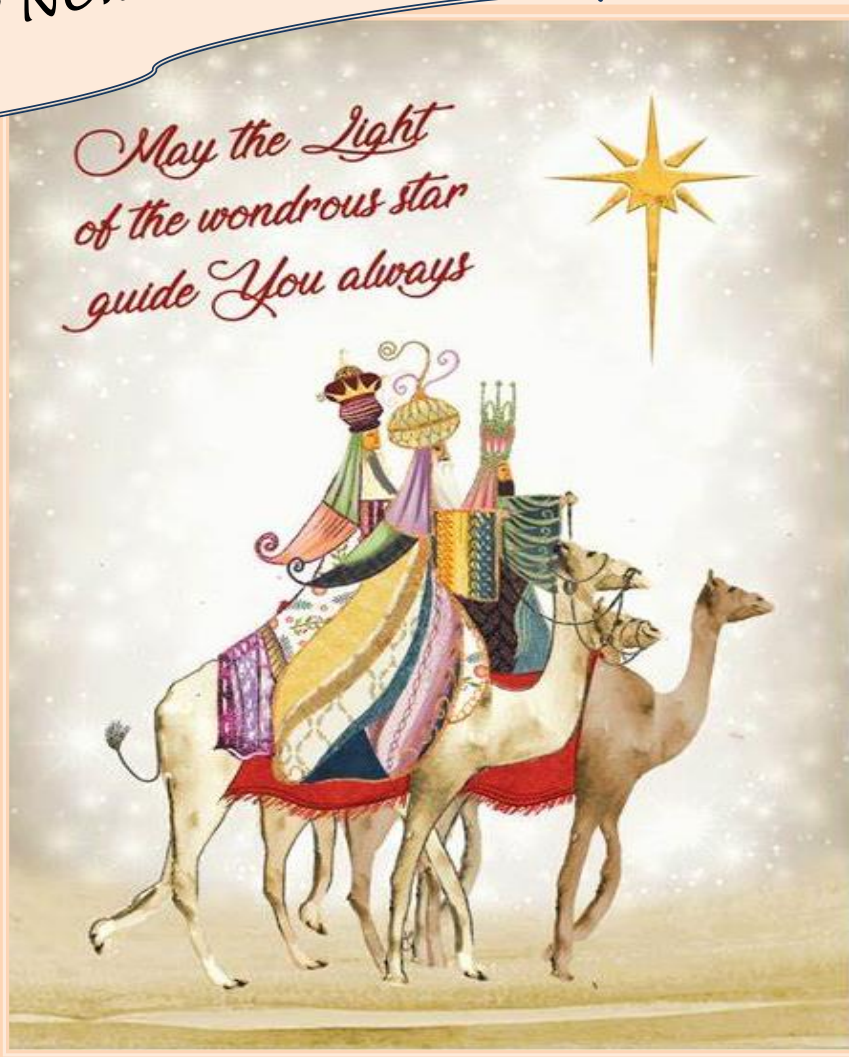
Grand Ave Church the **VINE**

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

January 2022

Happy New Year 2022

*May the Light
of the wondrous star
guide You always*



Pastor's Message

I'm proud to be a United Methodist. That may sound rather strange considering all the inhouse squabbles we have been having within our denomination. But I reached this conclusion after hearing the story of the tornado that destroyed much of Mayfield, Kentucky including First United Methodist Church. Pastor Joey Reed of First U.M.C. was interviewed afterwards. He and his wife had miraculously escaped injury while hiding in a crawlspace in the basement of the church. They asked him how do you navigate through such a loss and destruction. He spoke of the United Methodist Church being a connectional church. We are connected and are in covenant with other United Methodist churches here in the U.S. and across the globe. He spoke about how a neighboring United Methodist Church had invited his congregation to worship with them. He spoke of how the disaster relief coordinator and others will come and assess the damage and create a plan to assist them. Other United Methodist Churches will send financial support and even volunteer teams to help with Mayfield's cleanup. I had mentioned in a sermon that God will help us through the unthinkable. We are never meant to handle things alone. The First U.M.C. community is surrounded by other United Methodists through which they can lean on for support. We are partners in serving Christ.

What I really appreciate about the United Methodist Church is that we don't just seek to minister to people's spiritual's needs alone. We seek to minister to the whole person; spiritually, emotionally and physically. The premise behind our Regional Mission is that we can have a regional outreach and presence through shared staff who can lead us to be Christ's body in the world. Our SPRC is presently reworking the job descriptions that will address Grand Avenue's priorities for the future. More information on this process will be forthcoming. In the meantime, I will be collaborating with Mark Weaver to see where we can find areas for cooperation and collaboration between our communities of faith.

As we begin this new year in this season of Christmas, I offer these profound poetic words from the late Howard Thurman:

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas begins:

to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart."

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Dave

Holy Communion will be served on Sunday, January 9



Cathy and I want to express our appreciation for your gift basket of goodies including a gift card for Sendiks. We will put that gift card to good use.
Pastor Dave

Thank you for the generous Christmas gift. Your thoughtfulness and encouragement, not just during the Christmas season but all year long, is much appreciated. I am blessed to work for you through the church.
Vicky Schafman



Sunday Coffee Hour will be provided as we have volunteers. If you would like to provide a coffee hour after worship, please sign-up on the volunteer sheet posted on the bulletin board. The church provides the coffee, coffee condiments, napkins, and plates (if needed). Coffee Hour Volunteers will make coffee, set out the coffee condiments, provide a simple treat (optional), clean up afterwards, turn off lights and verify all doors are locked before leaving.

Any questions, contact Vicky Schafman in the church office.



Sister Circle is an ecumenical women's group that meets monthly. *We hope you will join us!*

This year we are reading and discussing the book, In His Image: 10 Ways God Calls Us to Reflect His Character by Jen Wilkin. Please read Chapter 6 God Most Gracious and Chapter 7 God Most Faithful for this month's meeting on January 20, 7:00 pm at Christ the King Church.

Any questions, contact Mary at 377-3720 or mariwags@gmail.com

PLEASE JOIN US FOR:

CREATING OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2022
4 – 6 pm

An interfaith event with churches, schools and individuals, celebrating Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's birthday with music and speeches.

To register for this free, live zoom event, contact Pat Morrissey at patmorrissey19@gmail.com



Now that you're using your GAUMC bags, are you wondering how to get rid of your plastic grocery bags?? ... We have an answer!

We've just learned about a 93-year-old woman who helps on a project using plastic bags to make mats for the homeless! The plastic bags are smoothed out, cut into strips, and then crocheted into mats 6 feet long by 4 feet wide. **It takes 800 bags to make a mat this size.** The homeless use them to sleep on; it keeps them dryer and warmer. What a great way for us to recycle our plastic grocery bags!

Soon we will have a container in the kitchen for you to place your unwanted bags --- but please note: *it's grocery bags only*, not any other kind of plastic bag. Thank you!!

The Social Principles Group of Grand Ave Church

meets the second Tuesday each month at 1:00pm in the gathering area.

All are welcome!

- WHO:** Everyone is invited
WHAT: **Special Presentation** by Paul Bissett of Family Promise
WHEN: Tuesday, January 11 at 1:00 pm
WHERE: Grand Ave Church Gathering Area

Please join us for this short presentation on how Family Promise helps find Emergency Shelter for residents here in Ozaukee County. Paul Bissett will also talk about the new Portlight Project expected to open this year and how our church can help. He will also accept the donations we recently collected to benefit Family Promise.



| | January |
|--------------------|---------|
| Larry Maechtle | 1 |
| Tori Riechers | 3 |
| Lin Lohr | 13 |
| Axton Meins | 16 |
| Lawrence Caro | 19 |
| Charles Kirkendall | 23 |
| Ann Schmidt | 23 |
| Rick DeYarman | 25 |
| Rama Bharadwaj | 27 |
| Gregg Lentz | 30 |

January Volunteers

Thank you for serving in our ministry

| January | Host | Lay Reader | A/V |
|---------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 2 | Larry Maechtle | Gailya Geib | Scott Penkivech |
| 9 | Larry Maechtle | Kay Hamann | Vicky Schafman |
| 16 | Larry Maechtle | Sandy Grams | Scott Penkivech |
| 23 | Larry Maechtle | Jan Young | Dan Benning |
| 30 | Larry Maechtle | Pat Craig | Vicky Schafman |

Self-Control

Happy New Year! It seems the start of every new year comes with the start of everyone's new year resolutions and, if that is true for you, I wish you the best in keeping whatever goal or promise you made to yourself. It is easy to renege on these commitments as other obligations and habits quickly resume their normalcy in our daily lives so, remind yourself why you thought it was worthy of a new year resolution and stick to it. These are usually goals we set in the new year because they are things that have slipped or evaded us in the past but are truly important to our health, our well-being, our peace of mind, our happiness so, don't sell yourself short.

When it comes to self-control, it is all about choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to – it is not always easy but, with God's help, we can stay in control of our actions, and our choices. As we follow Jesus throughout our lives, the Holy Spirit transforms us and helps us live more like Jesus. We can follow His example and choose to do what we should do, instead of just what we want to do. The Holy Spirit can give us the power and wisdom to show self-control.

Remember 2 Timothy 1, as Paul encouraged Timothy to hold tight to his faith. Paul said, "That is why I remind you to use the gift God gave you. Now let it grow, as a small flame grows into a fire. God did not give us a spirit that makes us afraid. He gave us a spirit of power and love and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:6-7). Let your gifts grow like a flame into a raging fire! You have the power to do whatever you choose to do, to overcome any obstacles that stand in front of you, and to be your very best self. If the words of the Bible do not arm you with a renewed strength, then remember these words from Winnie the Pooh, "You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

When all is said and done, the bottom line is God does not make mistakes. He has equipped you with the Fruit of the Spirit, He has made you in His image, and He has provided you with free will because He knows that you are strong enough to do what is best. What is best for you, for your family, for your community, and for your church. Changing old habits requires developing new behaviors. New behaviors then become new habits and habits are things we do without even thinking about it. The hard part is recognizing the need for change and then allowing yourself the discipline to move forward ... to move forward, not remain stationary, not move backward, but move forward.

You have the power. Your head may try to convince you otherwise, but you know better, you are a child of God, a child of the One True King! Think about 2 Peter 1:5-8 "Because you have these blessings, you should try as much as you can to add these things to your lives: to your faith, add goodness; and to your goodness, add knowledge; and to your knowledge, add self-control; and to your self-control, add the ability to hold on; and to your ability to hold on, add service for God; and to your service for God, add kindness for your brothers and sisters in Christ; and to this kindness, add love. If all these things are in you and are growing, they will help you never to be useless. They will help your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ make your lives better."

Whatever your goal, whatever you want for yourself, persevere with self-control, and give yourself the discipline necessary to achieve whatever you have set out to do. After all, the only thing you can control is *you* so exercise that control wisely because you matter and what you want for yourself is important. The new year is here, and we have so much ahead of us!

Stevie Stibor, Director of Children's Ministries



NOISY COLLECTION - 3rd Sunday each month

Our January Noisy Collection will help support the UMCOR Disaster Relief efforts in the states that suffered from the many tornadoes on December 11, 2021.



When disaster strikes, United Methodists have a long legacy of helping their neighbors and communities.

UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. Through UMCOR, United Methodists extend loving care to people within the United States. When disaster strikes, it is local churches that provide the first response to their communities. This basic understanding—that disaster response is local—forms the foundation for UMCOR's US disaster training and response. When responding to a disaster in the United States, UMCOR provides training, financial assistance, expertise, community collaboration to churches and partners making them more resilient to disasters.

Bring your noisy coins to help support UMCOR and shout Hallelujah as you drop them in the bucket on Sunday January 16 (of course, quiet contributions gladly accepted too).

CHARGE CONFERENCE will be held on Sunday, January 16 after the worship service. Everyone is invited to stay for this short meeting to celebrate our ministry and look forward to new opportunities in 2022. Rev. Forrest Wells, SE Superintendent, will preside.

2022 Church Directory will be coming soon! If you have any changes to your email, phone, or mailing address please notify Vicky Schafman in the church office no later than January 14.


Remember to


Scrip orders are due by the 1st Sunday each month. Please remember to include your payment. Of course, you can always order on-line or through the RaiseRight app.

Your order of Scrip Cards will be ready for pick-up at church on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Questions? Contact Vicky in the church office. 262-284-9478 or office-gaumc@wi.twcbc.com

For a complete list of over 700 retailers, go to www.shopwithscrip.com

|  ShopWithScrip <small>Powered by Great Lakes Scrip Center</small> | | GRAND AVE CHURCH ORDER FORM <small>updated 10/2/2020</small> | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Retailer | Card Value | # of Cards | Total Cost |
| Exxon/Mobil | \$50, \$250 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Kwik Trip | \$25, \$50, \$100 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| BP | \$50, \$100, \$250 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Meijer | \$25, \$50, \$100 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Piggly Wiggly | \$25, \$50, \$100 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Sendik's Food Market | \$25, \$50, \$100 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Kohls | \$25, \$100 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Walmart | \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Target | \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Home Depot | \$25, \$100, \$500 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Mills Fleet Farm | \$25, \$100 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Domino's | \$10, \$25 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Pizza Hut | \$10 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Papa Murphy's | \$10 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Burger King | \$10 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| Panera Bread | \$10, \$25 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| _____ | \$ _____ | _____ | \$ _____ |
| _____ | \$ _____ | _____ | \$ _____ |
| _____ | \$ _____ | _____ | \$ _____ |
| | | ORDER TOTAL | \$ _____ |
| Your Name _____ | Check # _____ | Order Date _____ | |

| January 2022 | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|------------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | | | 1 New Year's Day |
| 2 10:00 am Worship | 3 | 4 | 5 7pm AA Mtg - FAC | 6 5:30pm Private Mtg - FAC | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Communion 10:00 am Worship | 10 10am SPRC Mtg - FAC | 11 9:30-11am Caregivers Connection - kitchen 1pm Social Principles Group- Gathering Area | 12 7pm AA Mtg - FAC | 13 5:30pm Private Mtg - FAC | 14 | 15 |
| 16 Noisy Collection 10:00 am Worship Charge Conference following Worship | 17 Martin Luther King Jr. | 18 10am Stockbox Distribution - FAC | 19 7pm AA Mtg - FAC | 20 5:30pm Private Mtg - FAC | 21 | 22 |
| 23 10:00 am Worship | 24 | 25 | 26 7pm AA Mtg - FAC | 27 5:30pm Private Mtg - FAC | 28 | 29 |
| 30 10:00 am Worship | 31 | | | | | |

GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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 SPRC Chairperson: Marc Eernisse marc@eernissefh.com
 Shared Director of Children's Ministry: Stevie Stibor stevies@cedarburgcumc.org

Bishop: Rev. Hee-Soo Jung District Superintendent: Rev. Forrest Wells