



July 2026  
*the VINE*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for welcoming me so graciously into your church family. I am deeply grateful for your kindness, hospitality, prayers, and encouragement as we begin this new chapter together in ministry.

As we journey forward, my prayer is that our congregation may become a place where faith is nurtured, hope is renewed, and Christ's love is shared generously with one another and with our community.

The writer of Hebrews reminds us:

“Encourage one another to love and to do good deeds.” (Hebrews 10:24)

May these words guide our life together. Let us support one another in times of joy and struggle, grow together in faith, and serve God faithfully with compassion and humility.

I look forward to worshiping, praying, learning, and serving alongside you. May God bless our shared ministry and lead us with wisdom, grace, and peace.

In Christ's love,

*Pastor Jerry Cho*

Jerry Cho: 920-373-3081

# CELEBRATE

## July Birthdays

Brandon Straughn	3	Dave Derk	21
Stacy Zwicker	3	Susan Merrill	21
Nicholas Graff	4	Mark Breuer	24
Gwen Freier	7	Connie Schmitz	27
Steve Freier	8	Kelly Weltin	27
Bentley Paulson	10	Mary Kae Geittmann	29
Bruce McCullum	19	Mardy McGarry	29
Cassidy Penkivech	19	Erin Foster	30
Keith Betker	21		

## July Anniversaries

Mark & Sandy Grams	3
Steve & Grace Prom	12
Charles & Lin Lohr	17
Eric & Karen Didier	21

# VOLUNTEERS

***Thank you, Volunteers, for serving in our ministry!***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Usher</b>	<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>Cupbearer</b>	<b>Coffee Host</b>	<b>AV</b>
7/5	Larry Maechtle	Lin Lohr	<b><i>Needed*</i></b>	<b><i>Needed*</i></b>	Scott Penkivech
7/12	Larry Maechtle	Mark Grams	n/a	Welcome Potluck	Scott Penkivech
7/19	Larry Maechtle	Ardelle Dionne	n/a	<b><i>Needed*</i></b>	Scott Penkivech
7/26	Larry Maechtle	Cathy Guse	n/a	<b><i>Needed*</i></b>	Scott Penkivech

\*Please see the sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board.



**Have a safe and blessed 4<sup>th</sup> of July!**

# MISSIONS & OUTREACH



## Current Needs

Garbanzo beans, pinto beans, large soup, canned meats, peanut butter, jelly, assorted pastas, condiments, and salad dressing. Thank you for your continued support of this important mission to help our neighbors in need!



## Current Shelter Needs

Gas Gift Cards, Women's Shaving Cream, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, Paper Towels, Bathing Wipes, Men's Body Wash & Shampoo, and Travel Size Mouthwash.

[Portlight Shelter Amazon Wish List](#)

## Thank You for Filling Our Tank!

Thank you to everyone that donated toward gas gift cards for Family Promise. We were able to deliver \$200 in gift cards to help our neighbors in need!



# MISSIONS & OUTREACH, cont.



## Thank You!

Thank you to everyone that donated to the Family Promise barrel this month. Thanks to your generosity, we delivered the following in June:

90 rolls of toilet paper

640 13-gallon kitchen garbage bags

180 33-gallon garbage bags

6-24 oz toilet bowl cleaner

42-30-gallon garbage bags

12 4oz tubes of Colgate toothpaste

1 5.7oz tube of Crest toothpaste

Your donations are greatly appreciated!!

A large, stylized graphic of the words "THANK YOU!" in a bold, yellow, bubbly font with black outlines and radiating lines, set against a white background.



# FAITH GROUPS & ACTIVITIES



## Summer Event Calendar

### Friday, July 31st - Saturday, August 1st: Mini Service Trip to Milwaukee



Join us for a 24-hour service trip focused on housing concerns and those experiencing homelessness. On Friday, we will be serving a meal at Pathways youth shelter and spend the night at a church in the area. Saturday morning we'll help out with Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge, serve lunch, and then head back home to end with hosting an ice cream social for the guests at the Portlight shelter. This will be a great opportunity to learn and share God's love, and is especially designed

for our middle school students (but high schoolers are also welcome!) The cost is \$40. **Please RSVP by July 1st if you plan to attend.**

### Sunday, August 2nd - Tuesday, August 4th: Adult Service Trip to Chicago

We are very excited to host our first ever adult service trip this year and have a great team of 11 adults from 4 of the 5 Lighthouse congregations ready for a fun adventure! We will travel down to Chicago and partner with Jesus People USA for a couple days of partnering with local service organizations and meeting the needs of our neighbors.

Please keep this group in your prayers.



*Plus, keep an eye out for even more local opportunities to use your gifts and serve our neighbors as we come together to "Do Something" this summer!*

***Lighthouse events are open to all students in grades 5-12***

*Have questions about Lighthouse or want to get involved?*

Contact Director Christin Flucke at 262-483-9582 or [christin.flucke@lighthouseyouth.org](mailto:christin.flucke@lighthouseyouth.org)

# United Methodist Corner

The history of the movement of Methodism across England and America and the world was indeed a movement of the Holy Spirit. Without the fire of the spirit leading us, whatever we attempt to do will fail. With that said, one of the major components of our growth was John Wesley's organizational skills. It was said that the renowned preacher and Calvinist George Whitfield could convert thousands by his fiery brimstone sermons. But Wesley, in the long run, had more influence in developing disciples in the way he organized Methodists. Originally, he had organized Methodist societies, not to replace the Anglican church, of which he was a pastor, but to help reform the church. He organized these societies to commit themselves to following three simple rules (probably easier said than done at times).

- **Do no harm.** Avoiding evil of every kind, especially that which is most generously practiced.
- **Do good.** Doing good of every possible sort, and as far as possible, to all.
- **Stay in Love with God.** Attend to all the ordinances of God. Wesley named public worship of God, the Lord's Supper, family and private prayer, searching the Scriptures, Bible study and fasting as essential to a faithful life.

Wesley made an even greater impact in the growth of Methodism by establishing classes of around 10-12 people. Wesley firmly believed that we have free will to accept or to deny God's love and reach. This means that a Methodist could easily backslide if not supported by Christian community. These classes met regular to help to hold each other accountable in Christian discipleship

A key scripture for Wesley in keeping the faith is Galatians 5:13-14. "You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only don't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses, but serve each other through love. <sup>14</sup> All the Law has been fulfilled in a single statement: *Love your neighbor as yourself.* '

**I am happy to say that I will continue in my role of assisting Pastor Jerry in the ministry and outreach of Grand Avenue.** He has asked me to continue to lead small groups as I have done in the past. He is also open to my leading initiatives that will enable Grand Avenue to reach out beyond the church walls to connect with God's children around us. I am excited about that. I am looking forward to reuniting with you again, after my interim ends at the end of June.

Blessings, Dave

# Welcome Pastor Jerry Cho!

## Pastor's Office Hours and Availability

**Pastor's Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Starting July 7, 2026)

**Church Activities:** Pastor Jerry regularly participates in church activities, including Church & Society meetings, Church Council meetings, adult mission trips, Coffee Hour after worship, and other congregational events.

**Availability:** Pastor Jerry is available by cell phone, text message, or email as needed.

**Visitation Ministry:** Pastor Jerry welcomes invitations for nursing home, hospital, and home visits.

**Personal Appointments:** Pastor Jerry is available for personal meetings upon request. Appointments may be arranged by phone, text message, or email.

**Fellowship Opportunities:** Pastor Jerry welcomes opportunities for fellowship, such as golfing, fishing, sharing a meal at a local restaurant, or attending community events together.

**Honoring Life's Sacred Moments:** Pastor Jerry welcomes requests for baptisms, weddings, funerals, and memorial services. It is a privilege to share with individuals and families in these important milestones of faith and life. Pastor Jerry also honors and respects each family's wishes regarding the choice of officiant for their special celebrations and services, and will gladly work with families to support their preferences.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Jerry

Jerry Cho: (Cell) 920-373-3081

Email: [wijerrycho@gmail.com](mailto:wijerrycho@gmail.com) or [Pastor@portumc.org](mailto:Pastor@portumc.org)

## CHURCH NEWS, cont.

### Worship Service July 5<sup>th</sup> and July 12

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, we will have a guest pastor, Pastor Janet Hartzell, lead us in worship and will postpone communion until the next Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>.

July 12<sup>th</sup> will be our first worship service with our new pastor, Pastor Jerry Cho, and we will receive communion that Sunday instead of July 5<sup>th</sup>.

After worship on the 12<sup>th</sup>, we will have a potluck in Fellowship Hall to welcome Pastor Jerry to our church. There is a sign-up on the bulletin board if you would like to bring a dish to share. Please plan to join in this celebration to meet Pastor Jerry.

### New Name Tags

Starting in July, there will be name tags on the credenza in the narthex. Please put on your name tag when you arrive at church each Sunday. This will help Pastor Jerry, and any newer visitors to church, get to know others. Then return your name tag to the name tag holder when you leave church for the day.

### Church Directory

We will be updating our church directory in July. Please let Stacy ([office@portumc.org](mailto:office@portumc.org)) know if any of your contact info (phone, cellphone, email, etc.) has changed. You can also have an updated photo added to your info if you wish. You can email a photo or stop in the office and Stacy would be happy to take your picture for the directory. Thank you for your help updating this!

## Parking Lot Closed July 28–30


**Our parking lot will be closed to all traffic from July 28<sup>th</sup> to July 30<sup>th</sup> for sealing and re-stripping. If you need to visit the church during this time, please park along the street in front of the FAC, the Masonic Lodge, or the hair salon. We apologize for any inconvenience.**

# CALENDAR

## July Events

Worship Service	Weekly Sunday at 10:00 am	Sanctuary
AA Meeting	Weekly Wednesday at 8:00 pm	FAC
Private Meeting	Weekly Thursday at 5:30 pm	FAC
ADRC Meal Distribution	Mon – Fri, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Kitchen
Community Prayer Group	Wednesday, July 1 at 9:30 am	Christ the King
Communion	Sunday, July 12 at 10:00 am	Sanctuary
Welcome Potluck	Sunday, July 12 at 11:00 am	Fellowship Hall
Stockbox Distribution	Tuesday July 21 at 10:00 am	FAC
Newsletter Article Deadline	Friday, July 24	Office

**\*\*\* Parking lot closed July 28<sup>th</sup> – July 30<sup>th</sup> \*\*\***

Did you know GAUMC has a  Facebook page?  
You can follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/GrandAveChurch>

### GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

505 W Grand Ave Port Washington WI 53074 262-284-9478 [www.portumc.com](http://www.portumc.com)

Pastor:	Jerry Cho	<a href="mailto:pastor@portumc.org">pastor@portumc.org</a>
Pastoral Assistant:	Dave Guse	<a href="mailto:senegaldave1@gmail.com">senegaldave1@gmail.com</a>
Administrative Assistant:	Stacy Peters	<a href="mailto:office@portumc.org">office@portumc.org</a>
Lay Leader:	Dan Benning	<a href="mailto:bennida01@att.net">bennida01@att.net</a>
Admin Council Chair:	Mark Grams	<a href="mailto:mgrams@wi.rr.com">mgrams@wi.rr.com</a>

Bishop: Dan Schwerin / District Superintendent: Rev. Dr. InSun Lee

You can help support our church through the fundraisers below:

- **Aluminum Can Collection** – Put your aluminum cans in the barrels at the back entrance into church and we'll recycle them for cash.
- **RaiseRight Scrip (Gift Card) Program** – You can order gift cards for businesses you already shop at and the church gets a donation. Forms are on the counter in the narthex or go to [www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com) and use our enrollment code of 45F776D958L66.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
**The people of The United Methodist Church™**

Orders are due in the church office on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. Please remember to include your payment. You can also order on-line at [www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com) Your order of gift cards will be ready for pickup at church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

Questions? Contact the Kay Hamann at 262-284-3168 or [khamann530@yahoo.com](mailto:khamann530@yahoo.com)

*Each retailer makes a donation to the church for every gift card purchased.  
For a complete list of over 700 participating retailers, go to [www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com)*

RETAILER	QTY	TOTAL
Amazon \$25		
Amazon \$100		
Arby's \$10		
AutoZone \$25		
Barnes & Noble \$10		
Barnes & Noble \$25		
Bath & Body Works \$10		
Bath & Body Works \$25		
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25		
BP \$50		
BP \$100		
Burger King \$10		
Cousins Subs \$10		
CVS Pharmacy \$25		
CVS Pharmacy \$100		
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25		
Dick's Sporting Goods \$100		
Exxon \$50		
Fleet Farm \$25		
Fleet Farm \$100		
Home Depot \$25		
Home Depot \$100		
Jiffy Lube \$30		
Kohl's \$25		
Kohl's \$100		
Kwik Trip \$25		
Kwik Trip \$50		
Kwik Trip \$100		

RETAILER	QTY	TOTAL
Meijer \$25		
Meijer \$50		
Meijer \$100		
Mobil \$50		
Noodles & Company \$10		
Panera Bread \$10		
Panera Bread \$25		
Papa Murphy's Pizza \$10		
Pick'n Save(WI) \$25		
Pick'n Save(WI) \$50		
Pick'n Save(WI) \$100		
Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL) \$25		
Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL) \$50		
Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL) \$100		
Qdoba Mexican Grill \$25		
Sendik's Food Market \$25		
Sendik's Food Market \$50		
Sendik's Food Market \$100		
Speedway \$25		
Speedway \$50		
Starbucks \$10		
Starbucks \$25		
Subway Restaurants \$10		
Target \$25		
Target \$50		
Walgreens \$25		
Walmart \$25		
Walmart \$50		
Walmart \$100		

Total number of gift cards ordered: \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount due: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to  
Grand Ave Church*