

Grand Ave United Methodist Church



the VINE

March 2023

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

Hello Grand Avenue Church Family and Friends,

March is the season of Lent and it is important for us as Christians to truly embrace the meaning of this season. I think there is a natural tendency to look forward to Easter, but in doing so we lose the benefit that Lent holds for us in our Christian walk. Lent, from its inception in the 4th century, was a period of self-imposed sacrifice for the purpose of drawing closer to God. This ancient tradition was designed for the disciple to reflect on the life, ministry and sacrifice of Jesus, in an effort to seek to purify or prepare them for His glorious resurrection. Historically, this sacrifice would often involve periods of fasting or seeking to abstain from negative or unhealthy things (e.g. alcohol). This practice was instituted as a means to draw closer to God.

Unfortunately, today our Lent observance seems to have lost the true value for which it was instituted. Often the Lent sacrifice of today is less about our relationship to God and more about a means for self-improvement. While I acknowledge that giving up sweets or coffee might improve physical health, the focus should be on things that improve our spiritual health. The true spirit of self-denial is to remove things that keeps us from reconciling to God and institute things that promote reconciliation. We should seek to remove things that command our attention at the expense of God, internally and externally. Additionally, we should add things that draw us closer to God (personal prayer and Bible study).

It is important that we recognize Lent is a season of spiritual renewal. A time to prepare and make ourselves straighter, in preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ. As we enter this season let us be mindful of the reason for the season and truly dedicate ourselves to a personal spiritual renewal.

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Vince

CELEBRATE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Brian Mc Garry	March 2	Edna Koskamp	March 14
Erica Lentz	March 3	Cathy Smith	March 16
Tim Paulson	March 3	Dick Maher	March 21
Grace Prom	March 4	Mark Flack	March 23
Madison Zwicker	March 5	Ava Johnson	March 26
Jan Griesmeyer	March 10	Floyd Swanke	March 29
Jennifer Davis	March 14	Mary Young	March 31

EASTER FLOWERS

Help decorate our church for Easter morning!

Please complete this form and place it in the offering box with cash or check made to Grand Ave UM Church and indicate "Easter flowers" on the memo line.

Orders due Sunday, March 12

	Qty		Total
Lilies	_____	@\$10.00/plant	\$_____
Tulips	_____	@\$8.00/plant	\$_____
Daffodils	_____	@\$8.00/plant	\$_____
Hyacinths	_____	@\$8.00/plant	\$_____
		Total enclosed	\$_____

Your Name _____

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 9, 2023

Please take your flowers home after the service.

Questions, please contact Larry Maechtle 262-692-2390

VOLUNTEERS

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

Date	Worship Host	Liturgist	A/V	Coffee Host
3/5	Larry Maechtle	Marc Eernisse	TBD	Judy, Debbie, & Vicki
3/12	Larry Maechtle	Gus Geib	TBD	Bonnie Pachner
3/19	Larry Maechtle	Lin Lohr	TBD	Nancy Haacke
3/26	Larry Maechtle	Jan Young	TBD	Needed – Please sign up

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

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

PORTLIGHT SHELTER IMMEDIATE NEEDS

With guests moving into the new Portlight Shelter, Family Promise is in need of food items to stock the kitchen cabinets. They are looking for non-perishable breakfast and lunch items, condiments, etc. These items can be placed in the Family Promise barrel in the hallway.

They have also updated their Amazon Wish List, which includes some things still needed at the shelter. Click on this link to purchase items on their Wish List:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/PSDVRRW02N25/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex

Please let Cheryl Wozniak at clwozniak@gmail.com or Sandy Grams at sgrams@wi.rr.com know if you have any questions.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The Food Pantry has been dedicated to meeting our community's needs for healthy food since 1982. They are open for food and clothing distributions to qualified individuals and families on Tuesdays from 9:30 – noon and 4:00 – 6:00 pm.

You can help The Food Pantry by donating non-perishable foods in the bin outside our church's front door. Cathy Smith checks the bin regularly and delivers items to the pantry. Current needs include:

Potatoes
Onions
Flour
Canned Fruit
Canned Tuna

Suddenly Salad
Peanut Butter
Toilet Paper
Laundry Detergent
12 Count Egg Cartons

FAITH GROUPS & ACTIVITIES



March Events

March 12th from 6:00-8:00 pm - Movie Night

Get out of the house/in from the cold and join us for dinner and a movie, complete with popcorn of course!

The movie selection will be made that night by those attending.



March 26th from 7:00-8:00 pm - Easter Basket Service Project



We will be assembling Easter baskets for children served by Family Promise of Ozaukee County. This was a project Lighthouse started last year and it was so well received we've been asked to do it again! Our supporting congregations will be asked to help us collect supplies this month (more info coming soon!) and then we'll meet at this time to assemble all of them as a way to share God's love with our neighbors this Easter!

EGG MY YARD!
LIGHTHOUSE YOUTH MINISTRY FUNDRAISER

SIGN UP TO HAVE CANDY AND TOY FILLED EGGS DELIVERED IN YOUR YARD AND WAKE UP TO A FUN AT HOME EGG HUNT ON EASTER MORNING!	2 DOZEN - \$20 4 DOZEN - \$35 8 DOZEN - \$60
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SIGN UP AT
WWW.LIGHTHOUSEYOUTH.ORG/EGGS

Support Lighthouse by participating in our "Egg My Yard" fundraiser! Let us help you create a fun at-home egg hunt by spreading plastic eggs filled with candy and toys throughout your yard. You can also order this as a fun surprise to be sent to a friend or family member to help brighten their Easter! Delivery by Lighthouse youth is available for any home within Port Washington or Saukville, or you can arrange to pick up a collection of pre-filled eggs and hide them yourself if you live in other areas.

For more information or to sign up please visit www.lighthouseyouth.org/eggs or call Christin Flucke at 262-483-9582. The deadline to order eggs is **Sunday, March 26th** and all deliveries will be made the evening of Saturday, April 8th - just in time for Easter morning!

CHURCH NEWS



Stacy will be in in the church office Tuesday through Friday, from 10 am to 4 pm. Please stop by during those hours if there is anything she can help you with.



General Board of Higher Education and Ministry College Scholarships

The general application for all GBHEM scholarships is available through March 30th for fall term awards. Applicants must be active, full members of The United Methodist Church for at least one year. See <https://www.gbhem.org/scholarships/> for more information and a link to the on-line application.

GAUMC is Hosting a March 22nd Soup Supper & Lenten Worship

We are the host for the March 22nd soup supper and ecumenical service. The soup supper is at 6pm, followed by worship at 7pm. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to volunteer for supplying soup, bread, or beverages.

THANK YOU NOTES

Thanks to all who donated hats, mittens, scarves, and gloves on our giving tree in November and December. Mary Downing and Cathy Guse gave them to a very grateful Foster Care staff person at the Ozaukee County Courthouse. We plan to do this again next year, maybe earlier in the fall.

Thank you!

*Dear Grand Ave Church,
Thank you for **donating 52.25 pounds of food and 29 non-food items** in January.
Your continuing support is appreciated.
The Food Pantry*

CONTACTS AND CALENDAR

GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Join us each Sunday for worship at 10:00 am

Pastor Vince Pepin

pastor@portumc.org

Office: 262-284-9478 Cell: 262-388-4765

Office

office@portumc.org

Lay Leader: Dan Benning

bennida01@att.net

Administrative Assistant: Stacy Peters

office@portumc.org

Council Chairperson: Mark Grams

mgrams@wi.rr.com

SPRC Chairperson: Mary Kae Geittmann

mkaeg214@gmail.com

Bishop: Rev. Hee-Soo Jung / District Superintendent: Rev. Dr. Ebenezer Insor

GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Monthly Events

Worship Service	Weekly Sunday at 10:00 am	Sanctuary
AA Meeting	Weekly Wednesday at 7:00 pm	FAC
Private Meeting	Weekly Thursday at 5:30 pm	FAC
ADRC Meal Distribution	Mon – Fri from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Kitchen
PW Woman's Club	2 nd Monday 9:30 am – 3:30 pm	Fellowship Hall
Social Principles Group	2 nd Tuesday at 1:00 pm	Gathering Area
Stockbox Distribution	3 rd Tuesday at 10:00 am	FAC & Parking Lot
Finance & Administrative Council Meeting	2 nd Thursday at 6:30 pm	via Zoom



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™

Orders are due in the church office on the 1st Sunday of each month. Please remember to include your payment. You can also order on-line at www.raiseright.com Your order of gift cards will be ready for pick-up at church on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Questions? Contact the Kay Hamann at 262-284-3168 or 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*

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