



Grand Ave Church
the **VINE**

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

Lead Pastor: Rev Don Greer

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

October 2021



Pastor Don's Retirement Luncheon
Sunday, Oct 17 following the service

*Let's celebrate the time we've had with Pastor Don and Eldene
and wish them well in the next chapter of their life.*



Please sign up to bring a side dish.
The church will provide ham, buns, condiments, cake, coffee, and water.

Bookshelves

Forty years ago, I built a set of bookshelves, five of them, 24 inches wide and 72 inches tall, with adjustable shelving to accommodate a pastor's library of books. I did not build them alone. In fact, I did not have the equipment or carpentry skill to build anything remotely square or sturdy at that time. An older man who was a member of one of the churches in my first ministry appointment noticed that I had no bookshelves, knew I would need them, and asked me if he could show me how, and build them with me. It was a first and powerful lesson for a young pastor about the supportive team relationship between laity and clergy. We never do our own ministry. We are not lone rangers. We as clergy team with our laity to do ministry together.

I have deconstructed and reconstructed those bookshelves eleven times since then. I have loaded and unloaded those shelves with books, an increasing number of them accumulating over the years, each time rethinking which ones to keep, and which ones have served their purpose and need to go away. I tend to keep more of them than not.

Going through the books is like a walk down memory lane. It is a reminder of the issues and priorities of various years and eras in ministry. It brings back memories of the things we studied and programs we participated in at the different churches. But most importantly, all these books are a reminder of the people, the conversations with them, the stories of their lives, the books not written on paper but written on the heart. These are the things behind and beyond the books that are kept on my bookshelves. This is the important part. It is about people, God's people, relationships with one another that are grounded in a relationship with Jesus Christ. It is always about us, about us together, our common life as people of God.

I am deconstructing my bookshelves one last time. They will be reconstructed in the house in Beatrice, NE, where Eldene and I will be living and supporting our mothers and my brother. With my bookshelves, I take my memories with me. I am grateful for my time here with you at Grand Avenue United Methodist Church in Port Washington. The time has been short, but you all hold an important place in my professional pastoral journey, as I end it here. It began in a two-point student charge in Union Star and Helena, Missouri; then Nebraska to a two-point charge in Adams and Hopewell; then St. Paul; then a four-church parish in Falls City; then a two-point charge in Tecumseh and Sterling; then to Omaha as Executive Director of United Methodist Ministries; then Bemidji State University in Minnesota as Director of Upward Bound and Student Support Services; then a chaplaincy residency at Aurora St. Luke Medical Center in Milwaukee; then to Summerfield UMC in Milwaukee; then to Sussex; then to the WI Conference Ministry and Outreach Office as Coordinator of Circuit Ministries; then a three-year interim assignment to Community UMC in Cedarburg, and Grand Avenue UMC in Port Washington just a little over a year ago.

My bookshelves and the contents on them reflect this journey. It has ended up here with you. What I take with me are friendships and a shared relationship in Jesus Christ.

Thank you for sharing this time and this ministry with me.

Pastor Don

LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES (LSM)

Lay servant ministries of The United Methodist Church have its origin in early Methodism. As the Methodist movement grew, there came to be more society meetings than there were clergy. Societies were local gatherings of Methodists that met about once a month and included testimonies, music, and teachings. John Wesley realized that laity could be effective leaders of these meetings. The role of these laypersons was not only to preach and conduct worship but also included other leadership roles, like leading studies and visiting the sick and imprisoned. They formed small groups, which were called class meetings where they were to “watch over one another with love.” These early leaders were the forerunners of today’s lay servant. The ministry of the laity is the DNA of the Methodist movement.

Lay servants have a sacred role and a wide range of functions both in the church and in the community. Lay servants are leaders who can help guide change. How you become involved as a lay servant will depend on your individual spiritual gifts and areas of passion. We all have different gifts for mission and ministry so it is important to align our gifts and passions with God’s purposes.

What are the 3 tenets/principles of LSM? The three tenets of Lay Servant Ministries are LEADING, CARING AND COMMUNICATING. These words describe what lay servants do in mission and ministry both within and beyond The United Methodist Church.

There are three categories of lay servants: certified lay servant, certified lay speaker and certified lay minister. Book of Discipline 2016, §266-271.

Fifth Ave. UMC in West Bend is planning to have a Lay Servant Ministries (LSM) class and would like to invite the sister churches to join them. For more info, please contact Rev. Clarissa Martinelli, Fifth Avenue UMC at rev.cmartinelli6@gmail.com by October 15.

LIGHTHOUSE NEWS



Lighthouse - October

Lighthouse Youth | Oct 3 6 - 7:30 PM
Lighthouse Youth | Oct 10 6 - 7:30 PM
Fall Break | Oct 17 No Lighthouse
Lighthouse Youth | Oct 24 6 - 7:30 PM
Pumpkin Patch | Oct 31 1 PM - 3:30PM
No Lighthouse youth that Evening

Questions? Visit Lighthouseyouth.org

Erica Brooks, Lighthouse Youth Director
erica.brooks@lighthouseyouth.org

INDIVIDUALITY

By Stevie Stibor

Individuality is what makes us interesting. It sets us apart from everyone else and it brings us together, draws us toward one another. If we did not embrace our own individuality, think about what a boring world this would be. It is our uniqueness that makes us beautiful as a family of God.

I want to share with you a passage from a book written by Marianne Williamson entitled, *A Return to Love*:

“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?”

Actually, who are you not to be?

You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us, it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.”

This is one of my favorite quotes as it reminds us to not hide who we are, to not shrink in the obscurity of conformity. The bottom line of Williamson's message is this – do not try to blend in when you were meant to stand out.

God is one of a kind, with no beginning and no end. Everything God has created is unique and one of a kind, including people created in God's image. Every person is an original reflection of God in how they love, care for others, imagine, create, and solve problems. To see how we can do this well, we should look to Jesus. Jesus showed us what it means to be created in God's image in the way He loved all people and helped people feel like they had value—no matter who they were or what they had done. We can reflect this as we discover who we are meant to be and live out the individuality God gave us.

Psalms 136:14 (ICB) reminds us that we are already amazing.

“I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way. What you have done is wonderful. I know this very well.”

We know this when we are kids, right? But as we grow older, somewhere along the line, we tend to forget as we just try to fit in. Remember, God made only one you, and He did it for a reason. When you discover who you are meant to be, you can make a difference in the world around you. After all, no one does *you* better than you.

Throughout the month of October, children's ministry will focus on individuality in our virtual Sunday school messages. These messages can be accessed via our Facebook group, Families of Mosaic Kids, as well as our on the family website at cumcmosaic.com/sunday-school

While these messages are prepared for children, **they are resources for everyone**, so please check them out and discuss them with your family, friends, and neighbors.

Always show the world how beautifully amazing and wonderfully made you are.

God bless,

Stevie Stibor

Director of Children's Ministries

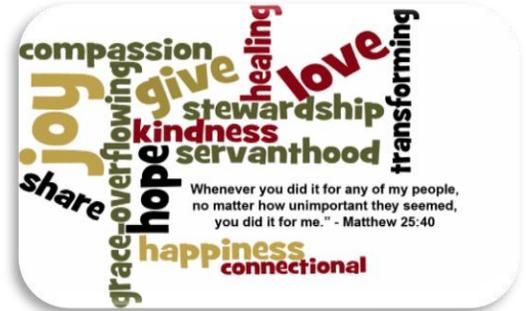


NOISY COLLECTION - 3rd Sunday each month

Bring your coins & let's make a lot of noise to help support our church's apportionments on Sunday, October 17 (of course, quiet contributions gladly accepted too).

Our Church's APPORTIONMENTS

The ministry of apportionments is a vital ministry of the local church, beyond the local church, and in obedience to the Lord Jesus who said, "...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)



A Portion Meant for Ourselves: Includes ministries that ...

- Help underwrite wide variety of youth ministries, camps, work-shops, training events, Schools of Mission and spiritual growth experiences for our church members.
- Pay a portion of retired pastors' health care.
- Pay the cost of moving expenses when there is a change of pastors.
- Provide funds to develop, support and assist new congregations.
- Provide salary & pension support for churches unable to meet minimum standards.
- Provide training for our local church leaders through District & Conference training events.
- Provide administrative and spiritual leadership to us through the ministry of our Bishop and District Superintendent.
- Provide funds for professional counseling for pastors and/or their families when needed.
- Assist congregations in revitalization / redevelopment.

A Portion Meant for Our Neighbors: Includes ministries that ...

- Provide support for ethnic and inner-city ministries and Hispanic & Hmong congregations.
- Provide support for our seminary students, student chaplains, scholarships and continuing education funds for our pastors.
- Provide funds to support Harbor House Crisis Shelters, Hillcrest Family Services, Northcott Neighborhood House, and United Methodist Children's Services.
- Provide support for ministries to college students through the Wesley Foundation

A Portion Meant for Others: Includes ministries that ...

- Provide for the support of over 1,000 missionaries around the world and in our own country.
- Provide financial support for over 9,000 mission projects around the world and in our own country including relief & aid to disaster victims around the world and in our own country.
- Provide support for our for the training of pastors and other church leaders.
- Provide support for United Methodist schools, colleges, including 13 United Methodist seminaries, UM hospitals, homes for the aged, & community centers.
- Provide support for ministries to African-Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans (Indians) and Asian-American and other minorities.
- Assist in programs of evangelism, stewardship and Christian education; develop Church School materials; publish the *Upper Room* and other publications and aids.
- Provide support for Bible distribution around the world.

World Communion Sunday October 3



Each year we participate in Holy Communion together with other churches and share our gifts to support racial-ethnic students and trainees in their quest to become leaders who embody the mission of The United Methodist Church. Your gifts provide scholarships for ethnic students and trainees from the U.S. and around the world

Thank You...! for your generosity in 2020. Giving totaled \$400,254 towards the ministries funded by the World Communion Sunday offering. This offering supports diverse mix of national and international ethnic young adults to make a global impact for Christ. Half of the offering benefits World Communion Scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries; the remainder assists Ethnic Scholarships for U.S. and international undergraduates studying in the U.S. and Ethnic In-Service Training. These funds are administered by the General Boards' of Higher Education and Ministry and Global Ministries.

COMMUNITY CAMPFIRES Wednesdays 6-7pm through Nov 3



Our campfires are a lot of fun!

Be sure to join us and invite your friends, neighborhood families, and acquaintances to join us for pizza, s'mores, and casual conversation.

Handouts are available with the information to watch an episode of "The Chosen" each week on You Tube or for best results, download "The Chosen" app. Watch what God will do in our midst *when we step out in faith to invite, communicate and share* the excitement.

Have questions? Contact Nate Gruber, Director of Family Ministries & Discipleship nateg@cedarburgcumc.org

THANK YOU to all the volunteers for your hard work and dedication to our church rummage sale. It was another great year!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to **Gwen, Netta and Mary Kae** for your many years of great leadership with our church rummage sale! You've gone above and beyond the call of duty to help our church, people in the community, and local non-profit organizations.





**Turning hunger into hope with YOUR own two hands
Mobile Pack Event November 12-13, 2021**

This year, St. John XXIII parish is spearheading FMSC in Ozaukee County. Over the past 11 years, more than 1.3 million meals have been packed, just at Portal, Inc., alone. The volunteer mobile packing event for Feed My Starving Children will take place at Portal, Inc. 1015 Cedar Creek, in Grafton on November 12 and 13. Masks are required.

Watch for a sign-up sheet to volunteer for this event.

Congregational Meeting

After the service on October 24, we'll have a short congregational meeting with general information and a question & answer time.

Church Directory Updates:

Muriel Ford – new address
333 W Walters #3E Port Washington WI 53074

Renee Keller – new address
W61N403 Washington Ave Cedarburg WI 53012



October

- Daniel Strand 7
- Sue Penkivech 7
- Grace Eernisse 8
- Judy Maechtle 8
- Jan Young 11
- Bob Griesmeyer 13
- David Didier 15
- June Caro 19
- Bryan Olson 19
- Claire Olson 19
- Charlie Olson 19
- Sandy Grams 24
- Amanda Kissinger 24
- Jack Lentz 25
- Eva Gates 26
- Mallory Zwicker 29
- Syndi Foster 31



October

- Mike & Pat Draeger 5
- Ed & Joanne Schmidt 9
- Bill & Erin Foster 11
- Daniel & Patricia Strand 11

October Volunteers

Thank you for serving in our ministry

| October | Host | Lay Reader | A/V |
|---------|----------------|------------|-----------------|
| 3 | Larry Maechtle | Lin Lohr | Dan Benning |
| 10 | Larry Maechtle | Pat Craig | Scott Penkivech |
| 17 | Larry Maechtle | Sue Killey | Vicky Schafman |
| 24 | Larry Maechtle | Kay Hamann | Dan Benning |
| 31 | Larry Maechtle | Mark Grams | Scott Penkivech |



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



GRAND AVE CHURCH ORDER FORM

| 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** _____

GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Lead Pastor: Rev. Don Greer pwumc@wi.twcbc.com

Lay Leader: Dan Benning bennida01@att.net

Admin. Assist: Vicky Schafman office-gaumc@wi.twcbc.com

Shared Regional Mission Team:

Director of Family Ministries & Discipleship Nate Gruber nateg@cedarburgcumc.org

Director of Children's Ministry Stevie Stibor stevies@cedarburgcumc.org

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

October 2021

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|----------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 World Communion Sunday 10 am Worship | 4 | 5 | 6 6pm Campfire & Pizza 7pm AA Mtg - FAC | 7 5:30pm Private Group FAC | 8 | 9 |
| 10 10 am Worship | 11 Columbus Day | 12 9:30-11:30 Caregiver Connection - Flwship Hall 5-9pm private mtg fellowship hall | 13 6pm Campfire & Pizza 7pm AA Mtg - FAC | 14 5:30pm Private Group FAC | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Noisy Collection 10 am Worship Retirement Luncheon for Pastor Don | 18 | 19 10am Stockbox Distr. FAC | 20 6pm Campfire & Pizza 7pm AA Mtg - FAC | 21 5:30pm Private Group FAC | 22 | 23 |
| 24 10 am Worship Congregational Mtg following worship | 25 | 26 | 27 6pm Campfire & Pizza 7pm AA Mtg - FAC | 28 5:30pm Private Group FAC | 29 | 30 |
| 31 Halloween 10 am Worship | 1 All Saints' Day | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |