

August 2026
the VINE

Dear Grand Avenue Church Family,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As I begin my ministry with you, I want to express my sincere gratitude for the warm welcome you have extended to me. It has been a joy to worship with you and begin getting acquainted with this wonderful congregation.

One of my hopes in the months ahead is to get to know you and your family better. Building relationships is an important part of pastoral ministry, and I would love the opportunity to visit with you. If you would like to meet, I am happy to welcome you to my office, visit you in your home, or meet for coffee or lunch at a local café or restaurant.

If you or a loved one would appreciate a pastoral visit at home, in the hospital, or in a nursing home, please let me know. You may also contact our Office Administrator, Stacy, or Pastor Dave Guse, and we will gladly arrange a visit.

I hope and pray that you enjoy good health and God's many blessings during this beautiful Wisconsin summer. May these warm days provide opportunities for rest, renewal, and time with family and friends.

As we continue our journey together, let us keep before us the simple yet profound calling found in Hebrews 10:24: "Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds." As Christ's church, may we encourage one another, grow in love, and serve our community together with joyful hearts.

I look forward to seeing you in worship and getting to know each of you in the days ahead.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Jerry Cho

Jerry Cho: 920-373-3081

CELEBRATE

August Birthdays

Mark Grams	3	Geny Vernon	19
James Sorenson	4	Bonnie Pachner	20
Daniel Lueptow	5	Jon Meins	22
Erika Davis	7	Eric Didier	29
Kayson Meins	8	Ed Schmidt	30
Steve Prom	13	Barbara Frank	31

August Anniversaries

Bob Graff & Jill Eernisse	13
Brian & Mardy McGarry	18
Marc & Grace Eernisse	22
Larry & Mary Jo Lueptow	26

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you, Volunteers, for serving in our ministry!

Date	Usher	Liturgist	Cupbearer	Coffee Host	AV
8/2	Larry Maechtle	Sandy Grams	Needed*	Cindy Cho & Mary Kae	Scott Penkivech
8/9	Larry Maechtle	Mary Downing	n/a	Needed*	Scott Penkivech
8/16	Larry Maechtle	Nancy Haacke	n/a	Guse & Jones	Scott Penkivech
8/23	Larry Maechtle	Marc Eernisse	n/a	Lighthouse Potluck	Scott Penkivech
8/30	Larry Maechtle	Rama Bharadwaj	n/a	Needed*	Scott Penkivech

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

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## THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you to my church family for the great welcome into the "Octogenarian Club". Your Happy Birthday singing was wonderful! Thanks also to my "scoopers" for their help.  
- Mary Kae Geittmann

# MISSIONS & OUTREACH



## Current Shelter Needs

Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Disinfecting Wipes, Bathing Wipes, Travel Size Mouthwash, Scrub Brush set of 3 pieces, Toilet Bowl Cleaner.

[Portlight Shelter Amazon Wish List](#)

## Upcoming Meal Week

Our next opportunity to serve meals at the Portlight Shelter with Christ the King Church is **August 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>**. Please consider helping with this mission by providing a side dish, helping serve a meal, or being a meal leader. Funds are available for reimbursement of your meal costs. Sign up using [this link](#) or call the church office at 262-284-9478. Thanks for considering being a part of this important ministry! Yours in service, Sandy 262-490-4856 and Cheryl 414-477-3411

## Thank You!

Thank you to everyone that donated to the Family Promise barrel this month. Thanks to your generosity, we delivered 30 rolls of toilet paper, 4 tubes of toothpaste, and 6 rolls of paper towels in July.



## Current Needs

Canned meats, canned beans, condiments, large soups, peanut butter, jelly, assorted pasta, and salad dressing. Also, new or gently used bath towels, sheets, and blankets.

Thank you for your continued support of this important mission to help our neighbors in need!

# **SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE**

**BENEFITING THE FOOD PANTRY, INC.**

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NEEDED FOR THE  
2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR:**

- 7 POCKET ACCORDIAN FILE FOLDERS
- PAPER FOLDERS & PLASTIC FOLDERS (RED, YELLOW, BLUE, PURPLE)
- 150 PAGE PKG OF WIDE RULED PAPER
- COMPOSITION BOOKS IN VARIOUS COLORS
- DRY ERASE COLORED MARKERS
- DRY ERASE BLACK MARKERS - FINE TIP
- DRY ERASE ERASERS
- GLUE STICKS
- 4 PACKS OF POST-IT NOTES
- WIDE-LINED NOTEBOOKS (RED, YELLOW, PURPLE, GREEN, BLUE)
- 3 SUBJECT NOTEBOOKS
- 4 PACKS OF PLAY DOUGH (40Z.)
- PROTRACTORS, COMPASSES
- PENCIL SHARPENERS
- 7X9 INCH PENCIL POUCHES W/BINDER HOLES
- SCOTCH TAPE
- GRAYOLA BRAND PAINT SETS

THE FOOD PANTRY, INC.  
1777 W. GRAND AVENUE  
PORT WASHINGTON, WI  
[WWW.THEFOODPANTRYINC.COM](http://WWW.THEFOODPANTRYINC.COM)  
262-284-1148



## MISSIONS & OUTREACH, cont.



Monday,  
September 14th, 2026  
at  
Fire Ridge Golf Club, Grafton



Register Now  
Early-Bird Pricing  
ends July 31st



Family Promise of Ozaukee County and the Ozaukee Food Alliance are pleased to come together to raise funds to support families in our communities. Our collective fundraising efforts will provide more resources for those in need.

### Schedule

8:45 - 9:45 AM | Registration

9:45 - 10:00 AM | Welcome

10:00 AM | Shotgun Start

3:30-5:00 PM | Reception

Register Today at  
[ofa.auctionsnap.com/2026fairwaysforfamilies/event](https://ofa.auctionsnap.com/2026fairwaysforfamilies/event)



Family Promise of Ozaukee County is a 501C3 TIN# 46-4227704  
Ozaukee Food Alliance is a 501C3 TIN# 45-3248143

# FAITH GROUPS & ACTIVITIES



## August Calendar

### 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 10 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!



### Sunday, August 23 at 10:00 am - Lighthouse Ecumenical Worship and Potluck

All of our Lighthouse partner congregations are invited to come together for an ecumenical worship celebration on Sunday, August 23rd at GAUMC.

This special service will focus on our call as the Body of Christ to "Do Something" to show our love for both God and our neighbors and celebrate what God has been able to do through our ecumenical efforts. Photos and stories will be shared from the Lighthouse service trips to both Nashville and Chicago, as well as the other service projects and activities that have been part of our "Do Something" summer of service theme. Following worship, everyone is invited to stay for a time of fellowship and food together through a potluck-style cookout (as well as a couple more service project opportunities!) Lighthouse Youth Ministry will provide burgers and hot dogs, **members of GAUMC are asked to bring salads**, and the other churches will be asked to bring items as well.

**If you're interested in participating in one of the area service projects we've got lined up for our "Do Something" summer of service this month, be sure to check out the [online sign-up sheet](#).**

**You can also perform your own acts of service wherever you are!**  
**Attached is a BINGO style card with lots of great ideas to help you share God's love with your neighbors, co-workers, friends, and around the community!**

*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)*

## FAITH GROUPS & ACTIVITIES, cont.

# DO SOMETHING SERVICE BINGO



Love God. Love Neighbors.  
-Mark 12:30-31

|                                                             |                                                                     |                                                                                |                                                                                 |                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Pick up litter at a local park or around your neighborhood  | Hold the door open for at least 5 people today                      | Pay for the coffee or order of the person behind you in a drive-through        | Donate non-perishables to one of our local food pantries                        | Write a thank-you note to someone you appreciate    |
| Return a grocery cart for someone in the parking lot        | Leave a positive review for a favorite local restaurant or business | Write an encouraging note and leave it somewhere in public                     | Bake some treats and surprise a neighbor or co-worker                           | Compliment a stranger                               |
| Donate gently used clothes or toys to St. Vincent           | Call a friend or loved one you haven't spoken to in a while         | <b>FREE SPACE</b><br>Reflect on an act of service <u>you</u> received recently | Let someone go ahead of you in line at the store                                | Donate pet supplies to the Ozaukee Humane Society   |
| Send a physical piece of mail to someone                    | Leave a larger than usual tip at a local business                   | Spend time praying for someone in need today                                   | Help a neighbor (yard work, getting their mail, taking trash to the curb, etc.) | Purchase school supplies for a back-to-school drive |
| Offer a word of encouragement to a parent of young children | Volunteer your time to help someone else                            | Make a donation to a cause that you care about                                 | Bring snacks and/or a thank you note to local emergency departments             | Help pick up something someone else dropped         |

Summer of Service Celebration  
Ecumenical Worship & Lunch

Sunday, August 23  
10:00 am Grand Avenue UMC



# United Methodist Corner

A teaching of Jesus that often gets misunderstood is his beatitude, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God." What did Jesus exactly mean by the term peacemaker? There is a big difference between the act of peacemaking and the act of peacekeeping. I suspect that many Christians were taught to practice peacekeeping instead of being a peacemaker. This was certainly true in our household while growing up. I was taught to keep the peace, avoid conflict at all costs, which did not serve me well in my earlier years. You have probably heard of the phrases, "don't rock the boat" or "don't make waves." Unfortunately, we have often equated Christian love to being nice.

Jesus didn't mind making waves when the situation called for it. He drove out moneychangers from the temple accusing them of turning God's house of prayer into a den of thieves. If Jesus was about just keeping the peace, he never would have sat down to dine with sinners and tax collectors to avoid being criticized by the scribes and Pharisees. Peacemaking in the spirit of Jesus means seeking to lift up the dignity and sacred worth of all of God's children. It's not about calling upon people who are mistreated by others to accept their situation. The Psalmist writes in Psalm 82, "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." We are called as the church to be peacemakers which means seeking God's justice in the world.

Peacemaking is not confined to the grand stage. How many of us, especially as parents, were confronted with the decision to try to be a peacemaker or peacekeeper. Peacekeeping is much less work, but we know it doesn't lead to long term solutions. It's important to note that being a peacemaker is not a task or something we achieve by our own efforts. We grow as a peacemaker as we grow in the spirit of Christ's love and walk in his way. Peacekeeping may work in the short run, but the only way to true peace is the way of Christ that leads to a right relationship with God and with one another.

Blessings, Dave

# CHURCH NEWS

## FINANCE SEMINAR

Have you ever wondered...

- What happens to the money you give to the church? How is it handled? Where does it go?
- How the church is doing financially? Are we in trouble or are we living in the lap of luxury?
- How you can know when church finances change?

Your finance committee thinks transparency is important, so we are planning a one-hour seminar to be held in **Fellowship Hall at 7:30PM on August 20, 2026.**

All are invited. If you come, you will:

- Learn how funds are handled from the moment you give them until the moment they are spent
- Learn how giving restrictions and memorial gifts are honored
- Learn what financial reports are prepared every month
- Learn how to receive them monthly and how to read them
- Learn how to evaluate the church's financial condition in thirty seconds or less from these reports
- Have an open-ended opportunity to ask questions

**Aug. 20, 2026 at 7:30PM**  
**Fellowship Hall**

## CHURCH NEWS, cont.

### United Methodist Student Day is August 30th

Mark Your Calendars for United Methodist Student Day! On August 30<sup>th</sup>, we'll come together to support students pursuing education and ministry. Student Day invites you to support United Methodist students in achieving their educational goals. You can make a special offering any Sunday by indicating "UM Student Day" in the memo line.



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Please Note: Stacy's office hours are changing to Tuesday through Thursday, 10 am to 3 pm, starting July 28th. Please stop by the church office during those hours if there is anything she can help you with.

CALENDAR

August 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, August 5 at 9:30 am	Christ the King
Primary Election	Tuesday, August 11 – All Day	Fellowship Hall
Administrative Council	Thursday, August 13 at 7:00 pm	Zoom
Stockbox Distribution	Tuesday August 18 at 10:00 am	FAC
Finance Seminar	Thursday, August 20 at 7:30 pm	Fellowship Hall
Lighthouse Worship & Potluck	Sunday, August 23 at 10:00 am	Sanctuary/F. Hall
Family Promise Meal Week	August 24 – August 28	Portlight Shelter
Newsletter Article Deadline	Monday, August 24	Office
UM Student Sunday	Sunday, August 30 at 10:00 am	Sanctuary



Follow us on Facebook 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

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

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 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 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 pickup 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