



Grand Ave Church
the **VINE**

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

Pastor: Rev Don Greer

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

JANUARY 2021

Welcome.. **2021**

NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.

Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.

Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty,
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.

Amen.

January 2021 Worship

January 3 is the second Sunday of Christmas, the ninth day of a twelve-day season celebrating the nativity (the birth of Jesus) that ends on Epiphany, January 6th. Epiphany is associated with the arrival of the magi in the birth story in the Gospel of Matthew. One of the themes of Epiphany is the international mission of the Church in the world, illustrated by the magi or eastern kings coming to worship Jesus. In keeping with this theme, and the journey of the wise men, we have taken the video worship service on an outdoor journey. This is a communion Sunday, and you may prepare with bread and a cup to share with us at the end of the video service.

The audio worship service will be a concert of Christmas music recorded by CUMC musicians for this holiday season.



Beginning on Sunday, January 10, we are starting a series on parables called *Parables: Inner and Outer Renovation Project*. Each week we will take a parable, or a group of related parables, and explore what Jesus was teaching about God, people, and the world in ways that normal and “factual” language fails to grasp.

We will be creating one video service for both congregations, which will be filmed in locations “out in the world” that illustrate these stories rather than in the sanctuaries. Look forward to some messages from Nate Gruber and Rev. John Strassburger while Pastor Don is on vacation.

The audio worship experience for this series will take on the form of a pod cast for more dialogue and deeper discussion of the parables illustrated each week in the video services. They will build on each other.



Monday, January 11 We restart the weekly Zoom discussion about the audio service dialogue.

Dialogue with the Dialogue on Mondays at 11:00 am.

This is a chance to go deeper, to engage with the worship leadership and each other, and to nurture our connection together. This will be a recurring weekly Zoom meeting with the same address link. This conversation is open for interested people from both congregations. The Zoom connection link and meeting information is listed below.



Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88259905457?pwd=bmk3V2J3ejlsa1I2WE56ZmNUZXFmZz09>

Meeting ID: 882 5990 5457 Passcode: JnkV63

Dear Grand Avenue Friends,
I really appreciate your cards and prayers after the recent death of my cousin. Thank you so much.
Steve Walters

Dear Church Friends,
Thank you for your support after my surgery. I appreciate your calls, cards, and prayers.
Gwen Freier

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, called, and said a prayer for me and my family after the loss of my brother. I am grateful for my church family.
Kay Hamann

A Message from Stevie Stibor, Regional Mission Team

Responsibility

Happy New Year, everyone! I hope you all had a joyful holiday season and stayed safe and healthy. I know the holidays may have been different this year for many of us but, I hope that, despite isolation, you felt the spirit of Christmas and all the joy, hope, love and peace that comes with it.

The new year always brings newfound motivation and enthusiasm to set resolutions and/or start anew. The only problem is our determination to meet our new goals often runs out by the end of January. Then we return to our normal lives. We are no longer pushing ourselves to study harder to improve our grades, trying to get more sleep, eating healthier and less take out, and we certainly are not working out. It happens every year.

But what if we decided this year to become more disciplined in our ambitions? What if we took our determination that starts on January 1st and set goals for which we hold ourselves responsible? Do you recognize how changing the words we use can help us accomplish what we set out to do? Rather than saying, "I am going to lose weight this year" try saying, "This year I will hold myself responsible and accountable for my weight and my journey to a healthier body." Words are very powerful so don't sell yourself short by letting yourself off so easily. Remember, "God gave us His Spirit. And the Spirit doesn't make us weak and fearful. Instead, the Spirit gives us power and love. He helps us control ourselves." 2 Timothy 1:7

To live with responsibility, you've got to play well and finish strong. That's how you can show that you can be trusted with what is expected of you.

God is the author of creation, and God has entrusted us to care for and cultivate it. We do that by taking responsibility. From the work we need to accomplish, to people we meet, to the words we use; life is filled with moments where we can decide to reflect God's character, take responsibility, and use what we have wisely. When we follow through and do what needs to be done, we can point to Jesus, the One who took the ultimate responsibility for us and made it possible for us to be with God forever.

Throughout the month ask these questions: What things you are expected to do? What do you have that you can share? When have you had to work hard? How can you use what you've been given? Why do your words matter? Reflect on these ideas. How do you measure up?

"Anyone who can be trusted in little matters can also be trusted in important matters. But anyone who is dishonest in little matters will be dishonest in important matters." Luke 16:10 CEV

Trust yourself to follow through and live with integrity. No one can do *you* better than *you* so no one can hold you accountable for your goals better than you. Don't let yourself down.

I hope this month closes with a stronger more responsible you; that you find the resolve to finish what you start; and I hope your journey brings you closer to God. I'll be working on this too, walking my own talk!

God bless you all. You are in my prayers as always.

Stevie Stibor



Shout *Hallelujah*

Shout *Hallelujah*

Shout *Hallelujah*

NOISY COLLECTION - 3rd Sunday each month

January Noisy Collection benefits Advocates of Ozaukee

Even though we won't be bringing our noisy coins and shaking the buckets in church on January 17, we can cash in our coins and mail a "quiet" check to the church.

Shout Hallelujah! as you drop it in the mailbox!



Celebrating 40 Years

PO Box 80166 Sauville WI 53080

Office: 262-284-3577 officemanager@advocates-oz.org

24 Hour Crisis Lines: 262-284-6902 877-375-4034

ADVOCATES OF OZAUKEE REMAINS FULLY OPEN AND SAFE DURING THESE DIFFICULT TIMES.

With a commitment to safety, respect, and compassion for individuals and families, Advocates of Ozaukee works to end domestic and sexual violence through education, prevention, and intervention services.

SOME OF THE SERVICES OFFERED INCLUDE:

- Counseling & Education
- Group for adults and children
- Speaking to children, teens, adults
- Legal Advocacy
- Medical Advocacy and accompaniment
- Safety Planning
- Court Accompaniment
- Transportation assistance
- Housing assistance
- Information and referrals
- Children and teen counseling - one on one
- Volunteer opportunities
- Advocacy Services within the Social Services system
- Temporary housing and food
- Advocacy and counseling
- Community education services
- Arrangements for education of school-age children
- Emergency transport to shelter
- Referral and follow-up services

Wisconsin Annual Conference Report by Sue Killey

I had the honor of representing our UMC congregation at the first ever Virtual Wisconsin Annual Conference (WAC) held on Saturday, October 24. GNTV was our host in establishing sessions, elections, as well as thorough pre-service educational programs. As a delegate, I attended the sessions on my computer and voted through GNTV ballot site using my I-pad. The sessions were similar to ZOOM meetings, except that delegates needed to be recognized through selecting the icon and waiting for the microphone. Obviously, this organized the discussion and led to fewer distractions than a meeting in a large banquet room.

I attended the pre-conference Laity Session led by Conference Lay Leader Deanna Shimko. Mark Sheets of Cedarburg UMC is our South East District lay leader and serves on the Conference Board of Lay Ministry. Mark is a good resource for us at Grand Avenue. WAC and the Board of Lay Ministries supports and encourages training programs for certified lay speakers, and our Conference Lay Leader represents us at the Bishop's meetings. Bishop Jung's pre-recorded greeting set the stage for this quadrennium's focus: "**Radical Inclusion and Racial Justice**," in conjunction with our Conference theme: "**In Ministry with All the World**." The Bishop's words were sincere, loving, and motivating.

During the Laity Session we learned about the lay delegates to both the North Central Jurisdictional Conference (postponed until Nov. 2021) and General Conference. Before this pandemic started, we were learning about proposals to General Conference about legislation pertaining to the possible separations of local congregations from the UMC especially in the aftermath of the 2019 special session regarding changes in the Discipline. As you may remember, the General (worldwide) Conference basically upheld the wording of the Discipline prohibiting UMC ministers from presiding at a same sex marriage and prohibiting pastors from living in same sex relationships. Additionally, lay delegates were informed that there will be structural changes regarding the number of bishops and perhaps reforming of annual conferences. (It is likely that the WAC will share a bishop with another conference in the North Central Jurisdiction). As with other changes, these will take time and discussion before taking effect.

After opening worship on Oct. 24, video reports of the budget were presented and passed. The usual consent decree motions were introduced and passed as written in the pre-conference program. One of the more important resolutions, "Disaffiliation Agreement" which the Special General Conference of 2019 added provisions to the trust clause to allow for local congregations to separate from the UMC with their property under certain provisions. One of these provisions includes the pension funds, more specifically, the unfunded portions. The resolution passed accepting the formula determined by Wespath, the UMC's agency that handles pensions.

General and jurisdictional conference delegation nominated Rev. Dan Schwerin as a candidate for Bishop, which was affirmed by the Conference by a "virtual raising of hands."

The worship services were beautiful and meaningful. The ordination service was pre-recorded with individual segments for each candidate to receive the laying of hands. Services of honor and remembrances were important to me as I recognized several of the names.

All the pre-conference and sessions of the WAC are available for all to view and review at: wisconsinumc.org. If you have questions or comments for me please contact me at: sue@killey.org or 262-284-6471 (we have call forwarding during our winter vacation) and leave a message. Thank you for allowing me to attend as a delegate of the Wisconsin Annual Conference.

A Note of Thanks!

Thank you for continuing to mail your monthly tithes and offerings to the church at 505 W. Grand Ave, Port Washington, WI 53074. You may also mail checks directly to our Financial Secretary, Kay Hamann, at 644 W. Briarknoll Ct, Saukville, WI 53080



**Grand Ave Church Is A Collection Site For
THE PORT WASHINGTON FOOD PANTRY**

Stop by the church anytime to make a donation of non-perishable foods in the container outside our church's front door.

Thank you for remembering those who need help during these difficult times.

2021 CHURCH DIRECTORY

A new church directory will be available in February. If you have any changes to your address, phone, or email please notify Vicky Schafman before January 15th.

Happy Birthday

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

CURRENT CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES:

Steve & Grace Prom 231 Main Street
Belgium WI 53004
Cell: 262-483-9072

Dona Keith has a new apartment # 2001

Grand Avenue United Methodist Church

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

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

Lay Leader: Dan Benning bennida01@att.net

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

Shared Regional Mission Team:

Nate Gruber Director of Family Ministry

Stevie Stibor Director of Children's Ministry

Rev. John Strassburger Senior Adult Ministry

Bishop: Rev. Hee-Soo Jung

District Superintendent: Rev. Forrest Wells

LOVE LIGHTS 2020

Giving thanks for all the gifts of life and love. We praise God for the people who have so richly blessed our lives by offering this gift of Love Lights for missions through our apportionments.

In honor of my brothers and their families and Patrick Mears

In memory of my parents Harvey & Doris Maechtle, grandparents, aunts, & uncles, David Olson, and Liz Schaefer

From Larry Maechtle

In honor of my family and friends

In memory of my loving husband Bob and my caring brother Donald Knapp

From Kay Hamann

In honor and with thanks to Pastor Don and the entire Regional Mission Team- Stevie, Nate, & John; and to Dan Benning for his efforts in bringing us our Sunday Services!

In memory of dear son Peter Geittmann, dad Peter Bruno, cousin Peter, our parents: Maxine & Nick and Myrtle & Henry

From Phill Bruno & Mary Kae Geittmann

In honor of Chris & Adrienne, Mike Killey, Pam Emard

In memory of Bud & Kay Condon, Harold & Helen Killey, Frank Condon, Paul Condon

From Sue & Jeff Killey

In honor of Douglas, Patricia, Tyler

In memory of our parents David & Sadie Schmidt, Edwin & Josephine Gontner

From Edward & Joanne Schmidt

In honor of our dear family and special friends

From Marc & Grace Eernisse

In honor of our children Mark & Tina, Randy & Anna, Steve & Hope and our grandchildren Sarah & Jaryd, Karl & Emily, Michael, and Scooter

From Ed & Gwen Freier

In honor of all the front-line workers

In memory of my friend Debby Goss

From Lin Lohr

In honor of Jeff & Jamie, Curt, Kevin, and grandchildren: Allison, Alyssa, Alec, Hunter, Cody, Dakota, Leland, Jordyn, Logan

In memory of Parents Ben & Grace, my brother, nephew Brandon sweet niece Carrie Sue, friends Diane & Ramona

From Cathy Smith

In loving memory of Wayne Frank with love from Spencer Frank Family, Sean Frank Family, Stefan Frank Family, and Barbara. Missing you always.

From Barbara Frank

In honor of family and friends

In memory of Carol Lueptow

From Merton & Margaret Lueptow

In honor of Pastor Don & Eldene

From John & Gwen Strassburger

In memory of George Zyvoloski
From Helen Zyvoloski

In honor of children Tab, Robyn and Marty; grandkids Sarah & Dave, Brittany, Brandon, & Nick; great grandkids Aiden, Jordy, & Ivy

In memory of our parents Richard & Gertrude Freeland, Charles & Frances Price, brothers Ken Freeland & Ken Price, niece Kim Freeland, Sarah's mom Donna
From Netta & Jake Freeland

In memory of Joanne Cross and Tammie Marchant
From Don and Connie Cross

In honor of our church family
In memory of sister, Arline
From Paul & Edna Koskamp

In honor of my immediate and extended families
In memory of cousin Steve Coons and aunt Arline Wisse
From Joanne Koskamp

In honor of all the hands that are reaching out today, knowing that with love and persistence we will survive.
In memory of Louise Ross, George Fortier, Frieda Matthes, Peter & John Geittmann, Charlotte Downing and so many others I have been privileged to love.
From Mary Downing

In honor of Dan Benning, Vicky Schafman, Paul & Edna Koskamp, Joanne Koskamp, Mary Kae Geittmann & Phill Bruno
From Barbara Jones

In memory of Ted & Gerry Henry, Charles Henry, Margaret & Victor Young
From Jan & Mary Young

In honor of children Connie & Dennis, Debbie & Chris, Heidi & Brian, Vickie & Jon, Bob, John & Jackie; grandchildren Jomon & Carla, Emily & Keith, Zach & Ally, Nicole & Brett, Michael, Candy & Adam, Frank, Amber, Danelle & Sara, Jonathan, Justin, Josh & Tori, Jacob & Hanna; great grandchildren Ethan, Izaiah, Carson, Calvin, Iris, Ava, Kaylee, Axton
In memory of mother, dad, step dad; brothers David, Jim, Dan; daughter-in-law Mary, sister-in-law Buzz
From Judy Maechtle

In honor of my sons Dennis and Peter and their families
In memory of my husband Denny, my parents Wilfred & Alma Maechtle, aunt Marlene, and cousins Christine & Dean
From Susan Merrill

thankful
&
blessed

Remember to
ShopWithScrip®

Scrip orders are due by **noon on the first MONDAY of each month.** You can *mail your orders* to the church or drop off your order in the west door mail slot just outside Pastor's office. 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 mailed to you. Any questions, contact Vicky on her cell 920-207-6575 or email at 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** _____