

Hello Grand Avenue Church Family and Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy 4th of July. The 4th is a special holiday designed to honor the establishment of our country, founded on God and the principles of liberty. If we take the time to reflect on the 200-plus years of national history, we can easily identify many challenges that were overcome to maintain our unique American freedom. A freedom that allows us to freely debate the course of our great nation. And while this can sometimes cause division, it is important for us to remember that the person standing in opposition to us is an American, and even in opposition, we should remain united in that solidarity. It is a day to celebrate the freedom of diversity in unity.

It is also a day to reflect on the many men and women who have sacrificed to maintain our way of life. As a veteran, I remember many hardships endured and friends lost in defense of the place we all call home. However, I contrast this sacrifice with the experiences and blessings I have enjoyed living in the land of the free. I feel blessed that God allowed me to be born here, and I am excited for the blessings that are available to my children and grandchildren.

I feel the greatest of these blessings is the religious freedom our liberty provides us. What a fantastic gift from God. To live in a nation where we can openly worship and serve Him. So, as we celebrate the birth of our great nation, let us do so in a spirit of profound gratitude for the blessing God has bestowed upon us. And as we enjoy His gift of personal freedom, let us seek to honor Him by diligently growing in our faith and our service to His Kingdom. There can be no greater purpose for freedom.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Vince



CELEBRATE					
			Birthdays		
		July	Billing	,• •	
	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 & Sa	ndy Grams 3		
Steve & Grace Prom 12					
Charles & Lin Lohr 17					
Eric & Karen Didier 21					

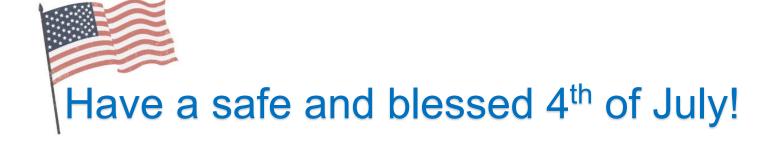
VOLUNTEERS

Thank you, Volunteers, for serving in our ministry!

<u>Date</u>	Usher	Liturgist	Cupbearer	Coffee Host	AV
7/6	Larry Maechtle	Lin Lohr	Needed*	Needed*	Scott Penkivech
7/13	Larry Maechtle	Ardelle D.	n/a	Needed*	Scott Penkivech
7/20	Larry Maechtle	Mark Grams	n/a	Needed*	Scott Penkivech

7/27 Worship is at 10:00 am at Kolbach Park with Christ the King, First Congregational, and Living Hope and will be followed by a picnic potluck. Bring a lawn chair and a dish or dessert to share.

^{*}Please see coffee hour sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board.



MISSIONS & OUTREACH



Non-Perishable Donation Needs

Soup (large and small cans), Canned Chicken (large and small cans), Granola Bars, Spam, Beef Stew, Pudding (large & small), Condiments (Ketchup, Mustard, Pickles, Olives, Relish, BBQ sauce), Rice sides, Pasta sides, Rice-a-Roni or Pasta Roni.



Meal Week Thank You

We served 9 adults and 8 children at the Family Promise Portlight Shelter during our meal week. Thank you to Mary Kae Geittmann, Gwen Frier, Dave & Cathy Guse, Ann Schmidt, Sandy Grams, and John & Cheryl Wozniak for preparing and/or serving 3 of the meals. Christ the King served the other 2 meals.

Current Shelter Needs

Gift Cards, Disposable Gloves (Size Large, Latex/Powder Free), Disposable Food Prep Gloves, Pizza Pans, Ice Cream Scoops, Affresh Washing Machine Cleaner, Laundry Detergent Pods, Plastic Shower Curtain Liners, and Toilet Paper.

Portlight Shelter Amazon Wish List

Thank you!

The following were donated to Family Promise from GAUMC in June, from either Costco/Amazon purchases or donations in the church barrel:

12 bottles Clorox Clean-up Cleaner

3 bath mats

2 shower curtain liners

4 baking pans

Ziploc 1 gal Double Zipper Bags, box of 250

72 rolls Paper Towels

120 rolls Toilet Paper

Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry!

FAITH GROUPS & ACTIVITIES



Summer Events



Thursday, July 10th - Day Trip to Lifest

Lifest is a 4-day Christian music festival that takes place every year in Oshkosh. Lighthouse will be taking a group up for the day on Thursday when the headlining artists include Jason Gray, Megan Woods, We are Messengers, and Matthew West. We will leave from Lighthouse at 12:30 pm

and be back around midnight. Lighthouse will cover the cost of tickets, but students should plan to bring their own money for food, activities, and/or souvenirs. Please also bring your own camping chair. **RSVP to Christin by July 1st if you plan to attend.**

Sunday, July 13th - Friday, July 18th - Service Trip to St. Louis

We have an awesome team of 5 youth and 3 adults heading to St. Louis with Serve Boldly for full week of service, learning, and lots of fun! Please keep this group in your prayers throughout this week that we may have safe travels, open hearts and minds, and that God would be at work in and through us as we serve our neighbors in St. Louis!



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

United Methodist Corner

Our new Bishop Dan Schwerin said something at our Annual Conference gathering that got my attention. He wrote, "we are not living into what we planned but what we didn't plan for." His words remind me of the New Testament passage in Acts where Paul had his missionary journey all worked out, but the Spirit prevented him from going to his planned destinations. Instead, the Spirit beckoned him to go to Macedonia.

The Bishop's quote relates to how we live out being the church. In light of our denominational decline, where it is more and more difficult for pastors to find full time appointments, we need to steer away from old, uninspired approaches for making disciples for Jesus Christ such as trying to attract visitors and then throwing them on a committee.

According to the Bishop, we are in a time of experimentation in our Conference. I have to admit, that I don't personally mind trying new things, but I also confess that in the back of my mind I am also concerned about failing. The very nature of experimentation means we are going to fail at times in searching for that which will prove fruitful in our discipleship.

What leads us forward is knowing that when we are in a relationship with Jesus Christ we have hope, no matter what our current circumstances may indicate. The Bishop offers the following as hopeful signs for us to live as the Body of Christ.

- 1. The Northern Illinois and Wisconsin conferences have plans to resource churches to experiment with ways to turn their missional focus toward their neighbors.
- 2. Churches can practice being the collaborative body of Christ. In our connectional denomination, churches can rely on each other and learn from each other.
- 3. We can turn to the Old Testament prophets and the Epistle of James to recall our Christian morality. Listen to prophets like Micah who wrote, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God."

I will keep us informed in the future on ongoing developments regarding the Bishop's call not to be afraid to leave the shore line as we seek to "live into what we didn't plan for."

May you have a good and refreshing summer! In Christ,

Dave

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone that donated items or volunteered at our June Plant & Outdoor Sale. The sale raised \$1095.55 for our church.

Also a HUGE thank you to Gwen Freier and Mary Kae Geittmann for all their hard work co-chairing and running the sale this year.













Join us for a joyful morning filled with worship with ATHIRST Praise Band, sunshine, community, and a delicious potluck picnic in the park.

Sunday, July 27 at 10 AM

Kolbach Park, 940 N. Holden Street, Port Washington



Christ the King ELCA First Congregational UCC
Grand Avenue UMC
Living Hope ELCA

Bring a lawn chair and a side dish or dessert to share!

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 from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Kitchen

Independence Day Friday, July 4 Office Closed

Stockbox Distribution Tuesday July 15 at 10:00 am FAC

Office Closed (Stacy on vacation) July 15 – 25 Office Closed

Newsletter Article Deadline Friday, July 25 Office

Worship in the Park Sunday, July 27 at 10:00 am Kolbach Park

Remember to 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 you.
- Craft Booth at Port's Artisan Market Donate crafts, books, puzzles, or gently used quality items for us to sell at our church craft booth in downtown Port.
- RaiseRight Scrip (Gift Card) Program Order gift cards to give as gifts or to use at stores you already shop at. Forms are on the counter in the narthex or go to www.raiseright.com and use our enrollment code of 45F776D958L66.

GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Pastor: Vince Pepin <u>pastor@portumc.org</u>
Pastoral Assistant: Dave Guse <u>senegaldave1@gmail.com</u>

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. Ebenezer Insor

Remember Our Endowment Fund



RaiseRight

formerly ShopWithScrip

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