

## PEUMC has had a busy November and Early December!

### HANGING AND BLESSING OF THE GREENS



It took a village to get our entire church ready for the Advent/Christmas seasons. The Hintz family (shout-out to Adam!) put up the trees and lit them; Jodi and Bill Parks hung the strands of garland; Lisa Miller put the candles in the windows; many people showed up to do the Chrismons and other decorations, too many to remember now.

Some new faces this year, like Tiara, her son Colby, and his girlfriend, Breanna, helped out, too.



## Nekoosa Hometown Parade

**Pastor Douglas Clement, Pastor Caleb,  
Julie & Bob Berg.**

Hundreds of candy canes and glowsticks, each with our church name and info., were once again handed out during the parade.

*Next year, we would like to participate in the*

*Cranberry Blossom festival parade;*

*it's the day of our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – June 23<sup>rd</sup>!*

# Messy Christmas!



Things got a bit “messy” on December 3<sup>rd</sup> as we held our first **Messy Church** event!

The volunteer support from the PEUMC and the preparations were **MAGNIFICENT!**



A hearty **THANK YOU** to Lori, Mike, Lindsey and the entire Hintz Family (a special shout-out to Travis, Gabe, and Eliza!); Becky Taylor; Leo & Sue Thomasgard; Midge Herschleb; Maribeth LaCasse-Salo; her daughter Amy; Ellen & Skip Mazurek; Tiara Grunden; Jodi Parks; Diane & John Sweat; Sue Mitchell; Pastor Doug; Pastor Caleb; DaNita Carlson and her daughter (for ‘COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL’); and Judy Miller!



*Some future events in the works:* A church game night in January; sledding at the Sweats’ home for the church kids (February 18<sup>th</sup>)—  
a Messy Church event mid-April;  
and a one-day Camp Day held at the church in July!

# HOLIDAY BAZAAR—THANK YOU

**NET PROCEEDS \$3,184.38**



A super BIG THANK YOU to absolutely everyone who participated in the November Holiday Bazaar.

We sincerely appreciate those of you who promoted the event, donated generously, worked that day & before (ladies & gentlemen alike were amazing), prepared food, baked, came to have lunch, provided WONDERFUL items for sale, purchased items and prayed for the Bazaar.

Our church could not have had such a successful event without ALL of you. Thank you again.

*United Women in Faith & Julie Berg, Carol Ann Harvestine, Becky Taylor & Mary Heuer*

## **Celebrating Gift-Giving**

At the gift-giving meeting on Thursday, November 9, the UWIF rejoiced over the success of the Bazaar and then designated the proceeds for the following:

### **Missional Support**

Pledge Remainder .....	\$1,000
Thank Offering .....	75
Special Mission Recognitions .....	200
Gift to Mission .....	5
In Memory of Joyce Fehrman .....	25
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,305</b>

Mid-State (2 \$250 scholarships for female students) .....	\$500
ODC .....	4,000
Northcott.....	300
Family Center .....	300
Children's Services .....	200
Harbor House Crisis Shelter .....	400
FOCUS (backpack program) .....	200
PE School District (Christmas Cheer) .....	200
Nekoosa School District (Lunch Program) .....	200
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$2,700</b>

**GRAND TOTAL \$4,005**



A special thank you to everyone for your support, encouragement, and faithful service to the

United Women in Faith.

~ Mary Heuer, UWIF Treasurer.



# FOCUS NEIGHBORHOOD MEALS

**Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>  
was our week to host the FOCUS Neighborhood Meals  
(formerly 'The Neighborhood Table')**

The new location is at the Sparhawk building  
(2321 W. Grand Ave, Wisconsin Rapids)

Each Thursday from 4:30-6:00 PM.

Open to the public, no registration necessary. Doors open at 4:15 PM.



*Pictured above:*

Becky T., Pastor Caleb, Tiara Grunden, Rose W.,  
Pat & Kathy M., Crystal Rietveld  
(John Casey's daughter), Diane & John S.,  
Julie B., Sue & Leo T., Nancy H., and Bob B.

*To the right:* Kathy Mills is pictured by our  
turkey-themed sheet cake.

The turkey is standing in  
for Lucy and Norm Silvester,  
who provided the sheet cake for the evening  
but could not attend.



**IT WAS A JOYFUL EVENING!**  
The food was wonderful, the church was  
well represented, and each volunteer  
socialized with the clients to their  
hearts' content (which is a big part of  
the ministry at FOCUS)!  
**THANK YOU ALL!**

# BUDGET DISCUSSION, PART 1 OF 3

*“Being, and making, disciples of Christ to transform our community and the world!”*

Below is a breakdown of just a portion of our 2024 PROPOSED Church Budget. This portion pertains to the MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES we believe we can appropriately fund based on the giving patterns of the constituencies at Port Edwards United Methodist Church—which includes you! Below represents approx. 17% of the total annual budget.

As your pastor, I am excited to present to you not our Ministry EXPENSES, but our Ministry **OPPORTUNITIES**—funded through \*your\* weekly tithes and offerings!!!

*(My annotations are in red.)*

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

### CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES *(a number given to us by the Annual Conference)*

Conference Apportionments \$25,188.00

*(Congregational Development = \$6,739 / Global Ministries = \$6,736 / Clergy/Lay Leadership = \$2,150 / Conference Ministries = \$8,203 / Conference Support Ministries = \$1,360)*

The main way we support the ministries of the larger United Methodist Church is through **Apportionments**, a method of giving that proportionally allocates the church-wide budget to conferences and local churches. For United Methodists, this method of giving has become a strong, generous tradition. Together, through our connected congregations, we accomplish what no single church, district, or annual conference ever could hope to do alone. In this way, each individual, family, and congregation give a fair share of the global church’s work.

Our apportionments utilize a formula that is partial based on our total **professing membership** (active and inactive), on clergy benefits, church programming and operational expenses, divided by the total conference membership and conference expenses.

Lay Member to Annual Conference Opportunity \$ 400.00

The **Lay Member to Annual Conference** is not the same as the lay leader, a lay speaker, a lay servant, or lay minister. The **Lay Member** is any professing member of the church designated to represent us at the annual conference (early June). Because we must send one lay person per clergy to annual conference, we budget some monies to offset the cost of attending the 4-days conference in Green Bay. Believe it or not, based on our membership size of 124 people, PEUMC is allowed to send a SECOND lay member to A.C. in 2024.

*Q: Why are Apportionments placed in the “ministry” section of our church budget?*

*A: Because these are ways we participate in ministries **outside** the walls of the church.*

They might seem, at first, like administrative or business expenses, but Apportionments and similar A.C. expenses are not simply for organizational overhead; it’s the method we use to fund our church camps, health and welfare agencies, nursing homes, clinics, shelters, special grants, congregational development, new church starts, etc.—all of which operate in the name of the Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church. The denomination and the conference, like the local church, are **non-profit**—our agencies around the world are funded primarily through donations from our **local churches**.

The United Methodist Church is a collection of hundreds of thousands of local churches; we are **\*not\*** churches associated to an outside organization that can “make its own money.”

**Total Connectional Ministries: \$25,588.00**

## LOCAL MINISTRIES

### N.URTURE TEAM

Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 800.00</u>
Adult Education Materials	<u>\$ 150.00</u>
Kitchen Supplies	<u>\$ 250.00</u>

Our **Nurture Team** oversees ministries that care for our congregation; their ministries are those considered “in house.”

For 2024, the Nurture Team has been designated to make sure the kitchen is stocked.

**Total N.urture Opportunity: \$ 1,200.00**

### O.UTREACH/MISSIONS TEAM

Miscellaneous Outreach Opportunity	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
LOVE Inc. (annual pledge)	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Missions	<u>\$ 500.00</u>

Our **Outreach/Missions Team** oversees ministries that reach out into the community, whether near or far from home. Outreach is about doing good without expectation of anything in return. ***\*\*Much of our Second-Mile Missional Giving IS funded through Sunday morning special offerings, collections, and bi-monthly missional giving.***

\$100 is budgeted for any out-of-pocket expenses for doing outreach, and \$500 is budgeted for any out-of-pocket expenses while doing any kind of missional work.

For our purposes, **Outreach** pertains to something locally;

**Mission** pertains to church groups travelling elsewhere to do work offsite.

**Total O.utreach Opportunity: \$ 1,100.00**

### W.ITNESS TEAM

Miscellaneous Witness Opportunity	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
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Our **Witness Team** oversees ministries that **connect the community to the church**. In the business world, this would be considered the “marketing” or “public relations committee.”

In the church world, Witness is about helping the church “tell its story” to the wider community and offering opportunities for the community to connect with the church and vice versa.

**Total W.itness Opportunity: \$ 500.00**

### CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM

Children Education/Formation Materials	<u>\$ 950.00</u>
Sunday School Treats, Prizes, and Supplies	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Confirmation and Youth	<u>\$ 350.00</u>
Vacation Bible School	<u>\$ 250.00</u>
Miscellaneous and Special Events	<u>\$ 200.00</u>

Our **Children and Youth Ministries Team** is self-explanatory.

This is our commitment to fund age-appropriate faith-forming opportunities for the youngest members of our congregation.

**Total Children & Youth Ministries Opportunity: \$ 1,850.00**

## WORSHIP TEAM

Choral Music	\$ 200.00
Miscellaneous Worship Opportunity	\$ 2,000.00
Special Programs	\$ 50.00
Piano/Organ Maintenance	\$ 300.00
Worship Media Personnel ( <i>\$25 a service</i> )	\$ 1,400.00

**Worship** is the “main event” in the minds of many churchgoers; and it’s not free, either. For 2024, our Church Council voted to begin paying a local youth to run the media in the sanctuary (TVs, camera, live-streaming), as we are dipping into the same, intimate rotation of members who also do other Sunday morning duties such as ushering, music, liturgy, greeting, etc. To relieve our members, we are now budgeting to pay a local youth \$25 a service to do the media. This will begin the first week in January. In all cases, we must be discerning when balancing our desire to have our church function on free volunteer work versus investing in paid help.

**Total Worship Team Opportunity: \$ 3,950.00**

**TOTAL CONNECTIONAL / MINISTRY (PROGRAM) OPPORTUNITY:  
\$34,188.00**

Years ago, pastors were challenged to see if their congregations were “tithing” their budgets: *“If we are to expect members to give upwards of 10% of their income (and beyond), then the church itself should be doing the same!”*

***What does that look like?***

Tithing a church budget means **making sure that at least 10% of the total budget is designated for ministries**—especially ministries *beyond the walls of the church*. In this way, the church simply does not exist for itself.

Firstly, let’s recognize that we raise donations **all the time** through our various missional opportunities throughout the year, which is not reflected in our budget. Nevertheless, we ought to be *budgeting* ministries so that our regular income is also tithed.

Without the appropriate inclusion of our A.C. Apportionments in this portion, PEUMC was *\*not\** investing enough in its ministries via the budget. It was about 4% of the total. **WITH** the inclusion of our Apportionments as part of our missional giving (and not operational expenses), this represents about 17% of our budget, which is wonderful!

We should be **proud** of these numbers! These are not ~~EXPENSES~~. These are our **OPPORTUNITIES!** These are our investment in the community around us, in our state, and around the world! And our investment for future generations!

Consider how **YOU** might be called to increase your giving for 2024 to help make sure these numbers remain practical and available for the disciple-making responsibilities given to us as the Body of Christ! *Thank you for your generosity!*

# YEAR-END GIVING NOTICE

*from PEUMC Financial Secretary, Bill Parks*

The very last day to submit your offering electronically to the church for 2023 is Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup>. If you do it manually online, try to do it by Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> to make sure it gets processed by VANCO in time.

REMINDER: VANCO does \*not\* process donations on the weekend. Everything given online Monday through Friday is documented as giving on the FOLLOWING Sunday, not the PREVIOUS Sunday.

Fortunately, the way the dates align this New Years, it works out nicely: everything given between December 25<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup> is documented as giving on Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. Everything given between January 1<sup>st</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup> is credited by the church as giving on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, and etc.

There are currently 6 ways to designate your giving through our website:

- (1) General Operating – for our daily operations
- (2) 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – for Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024
- (3) Elevator Fund – for the elevator project – TO BE REMOVED SOON
- (4) Emergency Special Giving – for when we pick up special emergency offerings, like for U.M.C.O.R., etc.
- (5) Bi-Monthly Designated Mission – for whatever is the current mission project of the congregation.

(6) Endowment – gives to our Endowment fund

*If you want to designate your offering online in a way that is not represented above, you will need to send a notice to Bill Parks: [blp1@charter.net](mailto:blp1@charter.net)*

## ***Consecration Sunday***

Bill Parks announced during the Celebration Luncheon that just with the Estimate-of-Giving card given on Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> **two-thirds** of the people represented had indicated an increase in their giving for the church! **THIS IS WONDERFUL NEWS!**

A sign of our recognition of God's abundance through generosity! **Thank you!** If you received a card in the mail with a pre-stamped envelope in it, please make sure it gets to the church office SOON!

Only Amy (assistant Financial Secretary) and Bill (Financial Secretary) will see your cards.



# The Carters and The United Methodist Church

by Sybil Davidson



Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church on the campus of Emory University in Atlanta had the great honor of serving as the location of the service of tribute to former First Lady of the United States Rosalynn Carter on November 28, 2023.

Mrs. Carter died on November 19 in Plains, Georgia.

The service was carried out according to Mrs. Carter's wishes and included the Carter family, dear friends, her pastor the Rev. Tony Lowden, and the Rev. Mark Westmoreland, pastor of Glenn Memorial UMC. Her husband, President Jimmy Carter, sat in the first row of the sanctuary.

Guests included every living First Lady as well as President Joe Biden and President Bill Clinton. Vice President Kamala Harris and the Second Gentleman. Georgia Governor Brian Kemp, Atlanta Mayor Andre Dickens, Ambassador Andrew Young, and Georgia's U.S. Senators were among those in attendance.

The service was limited to invited guests who filled the sanctuary to capacity but was live-streamed by most major news outlets and covered by national media.

Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church was a gracious host, closing the church and Glenn School for Young Children on Monday and Tuesday to allow the full building to be used for preparation and welcome. Preschool classrooms were reset to welcome the President, White House Staff, First Ladies, and the Governor on Tuesday. Associate pastors Rev. Susan Pinson and Rev. Jennifer Hansen were on hand with Emory University staff to greet dignitaries.

The Carters had a strong relationship with United Methodists over the years. They were married at Plains United Methodist Church in 1946. United Methodist Bishop William R. Cannon gave the inaugural prayer for Jimmy Carter's presidential inauguration. Later, Jimmy Carter participated in the groundbreaking of the William R. Cannon Chapel at Emory University.

Many United Methodists worked alongside the Carters on Habitat for Humanity projects, and joined in their efforts in public health, mental health, and education.

The Carter family returned to Plains on November 29 for a final funeral and burial service.

*Thanks to Brandon Wason, Glenn Memorial UMC, and Ask The UMC for contributing to this story.*

*News article taken from The North Georgia Conference website; unedited but truncated.*



# ELEVATOR NEWS

On Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, the Elevator Committee disbanded, as the bulk of the elevator project is now finished.

There are still some odds-and-ends to complete; some are listed here:

**FIRST ITEM DISCUSSED:** The elevator has stopped working on several occasions. On none of those occasions was anyone inside at the time. Each time, the elevator was shut down for the same reason, and the reason is not *mechanical*, but *electronic*. Thus, we are blessed to say that the elevator has yet to “break down.” As with many new kinds of equipment, there are less “moving parts” and more “software.” Our elevator is equipped with many kinds of high-tech, modern sensors and safety features. OTIS is still checking out the problem and trying to determine exactly why the elevator “brain” is receiving an error code. We believe the control panel is receiving an error code that says the elevator is not aligning perfectly with the exit (it can sense if it is off by even a *millimeter*). As a safety feature, the elevator “shuts down.” This is easily overridden when someone “throws the switch,” which is a breaker inside the locked mechanical room. Certainly, that is not how we want to operate in the long term. There should be no fear of getting stuck in the elevator, because the error code happens only *after* the doors have opened and the people exit, not while it is in use. OTIS is working to get this fixed permanently. *We apologize greatly for the inconvenience this has caused for some members who need the use of the elevator.*

**Additionally, the “call” button inside the elevator calls one number only—9-1-1.**

**SECOND ITEM DISCUSSED:** Our agreement with OTIS includes free maintenance for the first 12 months of elevator service; this is standard, as there are always adjustments and tweaks that need to be done after a major piece of equipment is installed. After the 12 months are up, state law requires us to maintain a monthly service contract with OTIS. That contract will be about \$200 a month going forward.

**OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED:** (1) The creation of a 6-to-7-foot United Methodist cross-and-flames emblem to adorn the elevator tower exterior. This will be ordered through Rapids Signs. (2) The creation of a memorial wall near the elevator where we can place a new plaque to show our gratitude for the many contributors to our elevator project (both living and dead); our other memorial plaques we have already that are not currently on a wall will be placed in this same area. (3) With the removal of the asbestos ceiling and floor tiles in ½ of the lower level, new lighting and ceiling tiles have now been installed (in nursery, hallway, “storage” room, and classroom). Flooring for the entire lower level has been purchased from Freedom Carpet. F.C. will be installing the new tiles soon, but just on the portion currently without any tiles (the rest has been purchased so that when we are ready to de-asbestos the rest of the lower level, the floor tiles are available and will match the existing tiles). The project to de-asbestos the lower level is beyond the scope of the elevator project and is not yet determined when that will begin. (4) The new doors into the Memorial Lounge will receive a few more coats of varnish and the hardware will be installed, finalizing our contract with our project contractor. (5) We are working to change the elevator push buttons from “B” (for basement) to “L.L.” (for Lower Level). (6) Purchase of a new sink, with cabinetry to be installed in the nursery, as well as a sink with cabinetry to be installed in the former “storage” room that we hope will be utilized now as a meeting space. (7) The creation of a photo album that will tell the story of our project through the many photos that were taken this year.

# From the Desk of State Senator Patrick Testin,

*\*\*In June of 2023, our congregation was invited to participate in sending a petition to our state and federal officials concerning gun safety legislation.*

*This was part of June's #WearOrange event; but did not address any one piece of legislation.*

*A response from the office of Tammy Baldwin was received and reprinted in a previous PEUMC newsletter.*

*In November, we received a response from the office of Patrick Testin.*

*As with the Baldwin response, we are including this response for your consideration and \*not\* as an endorsement of either Patrick Testin or Tammy Baldwin nor their respective parties.*

Wednesday, November 22, 2023

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Thank you for contacting my office through the petition submitted by the Port Edwards United Methodist Church leadership regarding firearm legislation. As an elected servant, my primary responsibility is to serve and protect the residents who I represent; and I am committed to continue to advance policy through legislation that achieves that.

Unfortunately, murderous crimes are not limited to firearms which we sadly saw in Waukesha when six people were killed not with a gun but with a vehicle during a Christmas parade. There are numerous other such examples that highlight the importance of law enforcement, accountable bail policies, and access to treatment for those facing mental health challenges.

While some see the sole solution as passing sweeping legislation impeding law-abiding gun owners, addressing violent offenders and stiffening penalties for felons who illegally possess a firearm is crucial to fostering a safe environment. . . . .

Further, many are unaware of the laws already on the books. Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 175 (175.35), outlines restrictions on the sales of handguns—requiring ID, registration of firearms, and background checks through the State Department of Justice. Wisconsin Statutes under Chapter 941 (941.29) cover restrictions on firearm possession for convicted felons, those who have restraining orders against them, and those with an involuntary mental health commitment.

A comprehensive approach to address the underlying reasons for violence is warranted, and I continue to be in conversation with law enforcement, attorneys, mental health professionals, counselors, school district officials, and local government leaders to strengthen policies that help keep communities safe.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me. I will keep your concerns in mind as I continue my work in this area.

Sincerely,

*Patrick Testin*

State Senator / 24<sup>th</sup> Senate District

# P.E.U.M.C. to go Caroling at Edgewater Haven (P.E.)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

2:30 – 3:00 PM

(PLEASE ARRIVE BY 2:15 PM)

NO SIGN UP; JUST SHOW UP!

WE WILL BE SINGING FOR THE RESIDENTS IN THE DINING ROOM

## Free Community Showing of



Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

6:00 – 7:40 PM (100 minutes long, rated G)

on the giant blow-up screen in the P.E.U.M.C. sanctuary

Simple refreshments will be provided.

INVITE A FRIEND TO THE MOVIE!

## SERVICES ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>

10:00 – 11:00 AM – Last Sunday of Advent Service

### CHRISTMAS EVE:

7:00 – 8:00 PM – Traditional Candlelight  
Lessons-and-Carols Service

11:00 – 11:40 PM – Midnight Mass

# Sundays in December

<b>Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Fourth Sunday in Ext. Advent <i>Jeremiah 33:10-18 – Hope when Jerusalem is under siege</i>	Communion
<b>Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Fifth Sunday in Ext. Advent <i>Isaiah 40:1-11 – A highway in the desert</i>	Second Sunday Refreshments Wrapping party after church <i>(for school kids' gifts)</i>
<b>Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Sixth Sunday in Ext. Advent <i>Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-2, 10-13 – The captives are released from Exile Luke 1:26-56 – Mary visits Elizabeth</i>	Recognizing the widows of the church. Blessing of the School Gifts
<b>Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Last Sunday in Ext. Advent <i>Luke 2:1-6 – Mary &amp; Joseph travel to Bethlehem Christmas Eve The Christ Child is Born!</i>	1 service in the morning  2 options for the evening
<b>Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup></b>	First Sunday of Christmastide <i>Luke 2:22-40 – Jesus presented to the Temple</i>	Newborn Saints Sunday

## Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

After the service, we invite you to participate in lots of holiday projects! Not only is it our Second Sunday Refreshments, but we will also be

- (1) *wrapping the gifts purchased for the Port Edwards school kids in need;*
- (2) *decorating cookies to be given to the Port Edwards police and fire departments,*  
*as well as staff at Edgewater Haven;*
- (3) *tying a tie-blanket to be gifted to Nancy Klahn*

## Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

During the worship service, we will be

- (1) *recognizing all those who have been widowed this year; to offer them a prayer and a gift; and*
- (2) *blessing the gifts for the school kids.*

## Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

During the worship service, we will be

- (1) celebrating all those who were BORN this past year. PLEASE GET THE RELEVANT INFORMATION TO THE CHURCH OFFICE

# Looking Ahead



## SUNSHINE READING CIRCLE BOOK CLUB

The Sunshine Reading Circle Book club is a group of women who meet to discuss books that pertain to leadership, education for mission, nurturing for community, social action, and spiritual growth. Any woman interested in the book club may join. A book is selected from each of the categories.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Diane Sweat at **715-887-4373**

Members are asked to read the book and then the group meets for discussion. Four of the books are available through the library system, however, you may opt to purchase the books on Amazon or elsewhere. The following books will be read and discussed in 2024:

CATEGORY	BOOK
Leadership	<p><b>“Lead from the Outside: How to Build Your Future and Make Real Change”</b> by Stacy Abrams</p> <p>This book is in the library system. It will be the first book we will read. If you are interested sign up for it at the library and they will let you know when it is available.</p>
Education for Mission	<p><b>“The Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival and Hope in an American City”</b> by Andrea Elliott</p> <p>Andrea Elliot is a Pulitzer prize winner and a best book seller. The book is in the library system with 37 holds at this time.</p>
Nurturing for Community	<p><b>“The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King Jr., Malcom X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation”</b> by Anna Malaika Tubbs</p> <p>The book is in the library system with 12 holds at this time.</p>
Social Action	<p><b>“Echoes of Grace”</b> by Guadalupe Garcia McCall</p> <p>The book is in the library system</p>
Spiritual Growth	<p><b>“The Church of the Wild: How Nature Invites Us Into The Sacred”</b> by Victoria Loorz</p> <p>This book can be found on Amazon for \$14.99 on prime, used \$6.85 plus shipping, Kindle \$12.99 and Audible Audiobook free with audible trial.</p>

**NO CHURCH COUNCIL IN DECEMBER – next meeting: Sun., January 21<sup>st</sup>**

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

Starting now, every 2nd Sunday Refreshments opportunity for the 2024 year is available on a sign-up sheet. We are asking for one or two families to sign up for one of the twelve months.



Please provide beverages, a snack or treat, and include something for the diabetics. Plates, napkins, and plasticware are available. Plan for at least 30 people. There are always extra sweets in the freezer if needed. You will be asked to clean up afterwards and take the towels home to wash. Thanks for volunteering!  
Contact Diane Sweat for more information (715-887-4373).

## New Addresses for Members

### Kathleen Mills

30 LeTendre Ave, Apt. 1  
Port Edwards, WI 54469  
1-715-887-3211

### Christine Landowski

120 Adams Ave  
Port Edwards, WI 54469

### Nancy Klahn

491 25<sup>th</sup> St. N.  
Wis. Rapids, WI 54494  
(The Waterford)

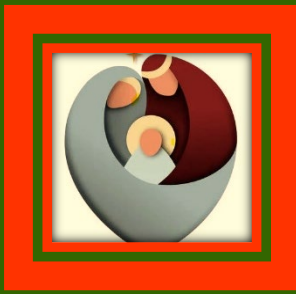
## THE MORE YOU KNOW!

On Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, we had our annual “Native American Heritage Sunday” service. After the service, someone kindly pointed out to me (Pastor Caleb) that the name “Sioux” is no longer the most accurate and appropriate word to use. Of course, most resources more than a couple years old considered this the official term, which is where I referenced our Opening Prayer. Now, this individual was very cordial about the correction, but I thought I’d include a piece in this newsletter for your edification, too.

I enjoyed the lesson learned, so I’m passing on the wisdom!

“Sioux” comes the longer word “Nadowessiou” which is a French insult term meaning “little snakes.” Instead, today it’s better to refer to these Indigenous Nations as **Dakota**, **Lakota**, or **Nakota**—the three largest subsets of the Great “Sioux” Nation.

In an article by *The Oklahoman*, it was stated that “Native American” is better than “American Indian”—as it was Christopher Columbus who coined the term because he thought he had landed in India. But preferable to “Native American” is “Indigenous Peoples” or “First Peoples.” “Indigenous” refers to the earliest known inhabitants to any given area. If you know someone’s ethnic identity, such as Chippewa, Menominee, Ho Chunk, or Winnebago, for example, it’s always best to use whatever term is most specific and how \*they\* prefer to be identified.



# December

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Nov. 26	Nov. 27	Nov. 28	Nov. 29	Nov. 30	1	2
10:00 AM Worship <i>Blessing of the Greens</i>	11 am Advent Study 1 or 4 @Mfld Wesley UMC				<i>Pastor's day off</i>	<b>NEKOOSA HOLIDAY PARADE</b>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:00 AM Worship 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Extended Advent Communion Sunday <i>5 to 7 Messy Church</i>	11 am Advent Study 2 or 4 @Mfld Wesley UMC	11 am Memories & Changes Group Memorial Lounge		12:15 pm UWIF Christmas Tea	<i>Pastor's day off</i>	<b>Kathy Sweet Funeral</b> 9-11 visitation 11 - service
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:00 AM Worship 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Extended Advent <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Refreshments</i>	11 am Advent Study 3 or 4 @PEUMC		1:00 pm - Circle of Friends	6:00 pm Church/Charge Conference Memorial Lounge	<i>Pastor's day off</i>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:00 AM Worship 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Extended Advent	11 am Advent Study 4 or 4 @PEUMC 2:15 - Caroling @ Edgewater 6:00 - 'Polar Express' movie		BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE @ Rapids Moravian 6-7 PM		<i>Pastor's day off</i>	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:00 AM Service 7 <sup>th</sup> / Final Sunday of Advent <i>Christmas Eve Service 7 &amp; 11 pm</i>	<b>Christmas Day</b>				<i>Pastor's day off</i>	
31	Jan 1	Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6
10:00 AM Service Newborn Saints Sunday	<b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>				<i>Pastor's day off</i>	



# Noteworthy

**THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS, FOR  
HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS IN NOVEMBER!**



A program of Aspirus Riverview Hospital  
made possible by United Way of  
South Wood & Adams Counties

## Home Delivered Meals Drivers

Pat & Kathy McGrath  
Skip & Ellen Mazurek  
Becky Taylor  
Leo & Sue Thomasgard

Every four weeks, PEUMC volunteers deliver a hot and nutritious noon meal to homes of Wisconsin Rapids area residents who are unable to prepare their own meals. Anyone interested in helping with this program may contact Becky Taylor (715-887-2163) for more information. **THANK YOU!**

Dear Pastor Caleb,  
Thank you and the Port Edwards  
United Methodist Church so very much  
for the Certificate of Sainthood for Hans.  
I believe that Hans exemplified and  
lived his life as a witness to our Lord  
and Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

I am honored to receive this  
Certificate in memory of Hans.

Blessings,

Nancy Hanson

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Our BIG 125<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
Celebration will take  
place on  
Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>,  
2024.**

## Anniversaries

### December 5

Art & Carol Ann Harvestine

### December 26

Guy & Joann Detlefsen

Terry & Marie Hernesman

### December 29

Peter & Joann Kurth

Mike & Kali Mayek

### December 30

Pat & Kathy McGrath

## Birthdays

### December 13

Lucy Silvester

### December 15

Sue Brzezinski

### December 18

Leona Sweat

### December 21

Sue Thomasgard

### December 31

Pat Arendt

## HOLIDAY SYMPATHIES

We want to offer our sincere and wholehearted sympathy to the following who have lost a close loved one this year:

- Nancy Hansen (husband)
- Kathleen Mills (husband)
- Gloria Wunrow (husband)
- Rose Wirtz (husband)
- Christine Landowski (husband)
- Ann Des Jardin (husband)
- Kari LaBarge (mother & father)
- Bill Parks (mother)
- Crystal Rietveld (father)

Let us surround these individuals and their families during this tough holiday season!

