

JUNE NEWSLETTER

HAPPY PRIDE MONTH!



A Season of Joyful Growth

"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." – Philippians 1:6



Dear friends, June arrives with the warmth of summer sun and the joy of celebrating new beginnings.

Ok, I say this with a faith that guides me through a day of cool weather and rain. Yet, my heart is full of gratitude and hope as I reflect on the 15 young people who confirmed their faith on May 18. Surrounded by their families and this faith community, they stood boldly to claim a faith of their own—a faith nurtured through your prayers, support, and encouragement.

I'm especially grateful for the leadership of our Director of Family Ministries, Kristal Melbye, whose guidance, teaching, and steadfast presence helped shepherd these youth with wisdom and love. She embodies what it means to walk alongside others in their spiritual journey, and we are so blessed by her ministry.

This season also brings the joy of celebrating graduations—a time of achievement, anticipation, and launching into new chapters. Whether our graduates are moving on to high school, college, or new adventures, we celebrate with them and trust that the God who began a good work in them will indeed be faithful.

We're also experiencing transformation in the very space we call church. As the building evolves to better reflect our missional vision—a more welcoming and serviceable space—we are creating new opportunities for people to connect with one another and with God. These changes are not just cosmetic; they are sacred.

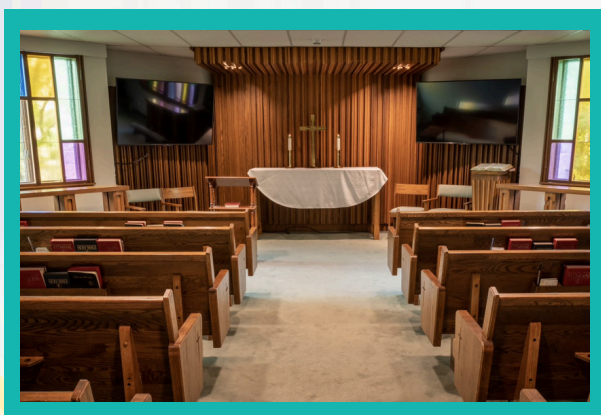


They reflect our desire to be a community that lives out our calling to connect, grow, and serve.

May we continue to lean into this season with joy, giving thanks for all the ways God is at work among us. With confidence, hope, and gratitude,

Gary Holmes
Senior Pastor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gary'.



COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

UMCWFB YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS



CRAFT QUEENS CLUB

Starting June 9!
Held the second Monday of the
month at 7pm at Sarah
Laszewski's home.



ALL CRAFTS
WELCOME-BRING
YOUR OWN
SUPPLIES

Join the Facebook group for more
info/RSVP: Craft Queens Club UMCWFB

Healing Seminar

Beyond Death: What Do We Know?



Sunday June 29, 1 - 4:30 pm
Walnut Room

This seminar invites us to reflect more deeply on the mystery and reality involved in death, dying and evidence of the afterlife. Topics will include death bed visions, life review, near death experiences, the second body and after-death communication. A religious-spiritual perspective is used to better understand the Spirit realm and more fully appreciate spiritual transformation and faith as we grow in our eternal journey.



SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT
FRI. JUNE 6 @ 7PM
"THE LION, THE WITCH
AND THE WARDROBE"

POOL PARTY!
THURS. JULY 10 @ 10AM
SCHULTZ AQUATIC CENTER

SOCIAL MEET-UP
WED. AUGUST 13 @ 6PM
DOCTORS PARK
TRAVELING BEER GARDEN

UMCWFB.ORG



MISSION OF THE MONTH



The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), a unit of Global Ministries, is a humanitarian organization that helps alleviate human suffering, one of the two main goals of Global Ministries. Originally founded in 1940 in response to displaced and vulnerable populations in the wake of World War II, UMCOR assists the most vulnerable people affected by crisis or chronic need without regard to their race, religion or status. UMCOR's

work is carried out by providing relief and assistance in response to natural and human-made disasters and supporting programs in the areas of migration, health, food security and environmental sustainability.



Faith in Action Project



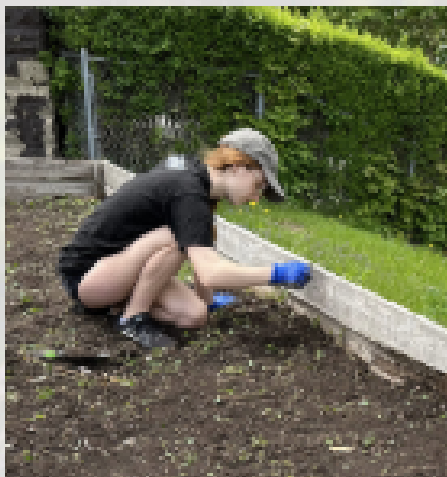
Alleviating suffering all over the world: MYANMAR

Please continue to hold in prayer the people of Myanmar after a 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck the country in April. At least 1,644 people died and millions have been impacted by infrastructure damage and loss of power. The earthquake also led to the deadly collapse of a building in Bangkok, Thailand. Furthermore, May's cyclone has been called one of the strongest storms to ever hit Myanmar, with hundreds more feared dead. Rohingya refugees along the border in Bangladesh also experienced losses. UMCOR recently awarded a solidarity grant to the Bangladesh Methodist Church for emergency relief, and we're focusing on Myanmar as our Mission of the Month throughout the summer months. To donate via Venmo, scan our QR Code!



Scan the QR Code to give your offering to UMCWFB using the Venmo App

GARDEN BEDS FOR MCB!



Building & Planting Gardens at MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary

Our May 17th event was awesome. We hosted 14 year olds through friends in their 80's- everyone had something to contribute!

CAMP LUCERNE!



June 15-18

We're SO excited to lead more than 50 adults, children and youth from our church to grow in their faiths and friendships at camp this month!

Campers will travel to Lake Lucerne and experience lakeside and campfire worship, do arts and crafts, learn to fish, play the harmonica, engage in fun games and of course, lots of time to swim and boat in the lake! Our theme for camp this year is "Trust God in the Wilderness of Life".

Please pray for the spiritual growth and safety of our campers and leaders. Also, join us in worship on June 22 at 10:30am to celebrate their camp experience!



CHURCHWIDE SERVICE

HABITAT MISSION

- Men's Ministry invites the adult and youth members of the church to a mission opportunity with Habitat - Saturday June 28 from 8:15 am to 3 pm. The project for the day is framing the house at 3260 N Achilles in Milwaukee. Serve neighbors and perhaps learn some great new skills!



We need 8 Volunteers registered by June 19!

- Questions or would like to Register?



Don Lybeck
mdonlybeck@sbcglobal.net



Dick Steinmetz
rsteinmetz@wi.rr.com



DONATING BOOKS & TIME

Thank you to everyone who donated SO MANY Books for Marvin Pratt!



Another big pre-emptive thank you goes to Neil Bubke who is teaching a music class this summer to the children at Marvin Pratt. How fortunate for the children to be able to experience Neil's musical gifts!

Calling All Prayer Warriors!

Friends, the Prayer Team is seeking a new administrator to gather and distribute prayer requests from the email box on a weekly basis. Email skills are required. This can be done remotely, and while a computer is nice, it can be done from an iPad, iPhone, or smartphone. The time commitment is about an hour each week. Please prayerfully consider if this is something you might be called to do.

Please email prayer@umcwfb.org. Thank you!

BELOVED COMMUNITY

UMCWFB VOTES TO BECOME A RECONCILING CHURCH!

At the Church Charge Conference on May 27, our church voted **overwhelmingly** to join the United Methodist Reconciling Network as a Reconciling Church. The vote was 94% in favor, far surpassing the 75% vote required by the Network. As part of the vote, the church adopted the Foundational Reconciling Statement of the Network.

This vote commits the church to fully including LGBTQ+ persons into the life and fellowship of the church and to supporting, allying and advocating for LGBTQ+ and other marginalized groups. It is the next step in our vision of building Beloved Community and reaffirms and expands the commitment made in our 2012 Welcoming Statement to welcome LGBTQ+ Christian seekers and believers.

**THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING
IN THE PROMISE AND
CALLING OF BELOVED
COMMUNITY!**



This work has already begun through our partnership with Zao MKE United Methodist Church and education classes and events. As we grow this ministry, we will now have the benefit of the resources and tools available from the Network and the support of other reconciling United Methodist churches.





UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SPRING LUNCHEON WAS A HUGE HIT!



FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

Special thanks to
Dr. Tim Tharp for the
wonderful
presentation on
Climate Change!

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

On May 20th, the Servant Leadership Board (formerly Accountable Leadership Board) met for the regular monthly meeting. In attendance were SLB members: Tom Van Cleave, Hui Zhang, Sam Swartzberg, Jeff McClellan, Chris Kitchens, Vee Jefferson and Tom Groble. Also in attendance were Gary Holmes, Erin Norris, Laurie Jeffery, Dick Steinmetz & Beth Groble.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS

- **Devotion and Pastor's Report:** Pastor Gary Holmes led a devotional discussion focusing on how we build a Beloved Community and the three simple rules for Christian living from John Wesley of: Do no harm, Do good, and Stay in love with God. He reviewed a draft of the Beloved Community Relational Covenant that should be signed as a living reminder of daily practice.
- **Simple Church and Council of Ministries- Next Step:** Tom VC walked through the roll out of foundational elements over the last year that included the launch of our Spiritual Journey Pathway around Connect, Grow and Serve; our church identity of Building a Beloved Community as our vision statement and recently, Pastor Gary's staff alignment. Tom then walked through a recap of the Council of Ministries meeting on May 15th attended by 29 ministry participants that focused on:
 - a. Programs centered around "flagship" events for each Connect, Grow, Serve, Family Ministry domain - make it intentional and multi-generational
 - b. Simplify content and messaging
 - c. Council of Ministries - understand our ministries, what's their role and how they align to our vision and how they make it easy for people to get engaged through in-house ministry and outreach ministry
- **Financials:** Erin Norris presented the financial position for ten months highlighting that although expenses are on track, non-pledge contributions are down along with limited Easter and Christmas giving. Approximately ~50% of capital campaign pledges have been collected – Great News!



Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 24th, with the closed session beginning at 6:30 pm in the Wesley Room. General session will begin around 7:00pm. A Zoom option will be provided. All are welcome!

CELEBRATE JUNE BIRTHDAYS!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 Mike Stolz Fred Vaughan	2 Olivia Fisher Grady Montague	3 Ann Homstad Krista Bayer	4 Eric Bunke	5 Zay’Vion Freeman	6 Cooper Gundrum	7 Brooks Henderson
8 Stacy Knab	9 Russell Case Debbie Siebert	10	11	12 Graham Dadaian Hugo Hawkins Zach Freeman	13 Cassi Carey	14 Terry Scheu Reagan Freewalt Tracy Miller
15 Georgia Lindfors Nell Nash	16 Tracy Goudreau	17 Kira Balmer	18 Kent Anderson Jamie Henley Suzie Van Cleave	19 Larry Rooou Debra Weich Christopher Perry Kayla Bessette	20 Jim Daugherty	21 Steve Brook
22 Madeline LaFrombois Lucia M. Speed Nina Milia	23	24 Karen Greer	25 Carolyn Landwehr	26 Jane Crise	27 William King	28 Ron Jordan
29 Linda Goose	30 Larry O’Toole	31				

HAPPY SUMMMER, FRIENDS!