

Methodist the messenger

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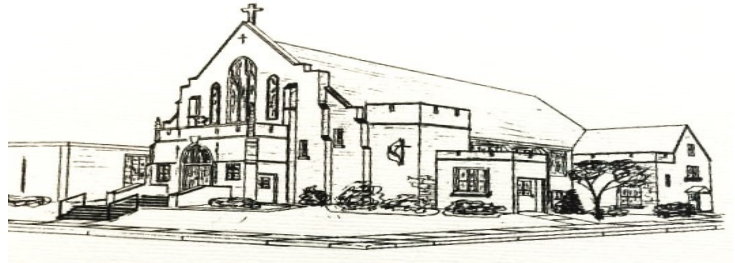
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God cares about you



and so do we

JUNE 2025



"June is bustin' out all over!"

I can't believe I'm finishing my first year with you on June 30! I can believe, however, how you, the church, continue to impress me with your stewardship and discipleship. Your deep love for God comes through your steadfast mission and ministries in and around the church and community.

I am grateful to be in this faith journey with you, especially in these changing times of our church and society and discovering the expansive ways God is calling us to witness and embody love, justice, and compassion.

The vision statement from the Council of Bishops is exciting. It is the first time (in my view) that we have had clear guidance grounded in a concrete vision on how to be the church and be a church that is authentic to us as a local church while being in the worldwide connection.

In the coming months and long term, we will discern how we at First West Allis will *love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously*, that is relevant to who we are, whose we are, and who our neighbors are. Our witness will continue to reflect our relationship with God through one another and the world.

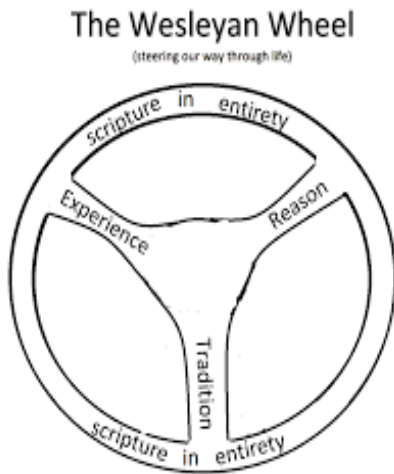
Christ is alive, not because it is still Eastertide, but that he lives in us and through us! All praises to God!

Pastor Grace



**The United Methodist Church forms disciples
of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy
Spirit, *love boldly, serve joyfully, and
lead courageously* in local communities
and worldwide connections.**

A Message From Our Lay Leader, Tom Bolton

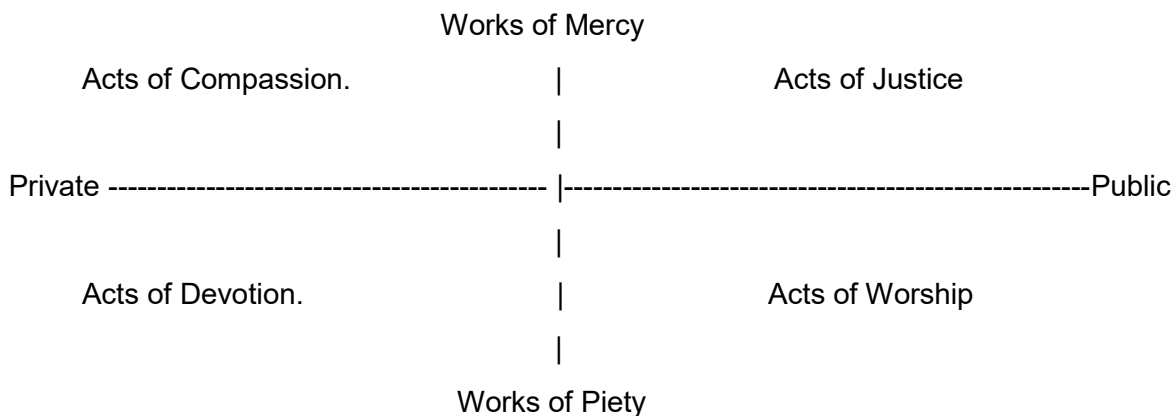


Disciplines

I like this presentation of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral.

The Wesleyan Quadrilateral, or Methodist Quadrilateral, is a methodology for theological reflection that is credited to John Wesley, leader of the Methodist movement in the late 18th century. The term itself was coined by 20th-century American Methodist scholar Albert C. Outler. The Wesleyan Quadrilateral explicates the Methodist belief of *prima scriptu*. This method bases its teaching on four sources as the basis of theological and doctrinal development. These four sources are chiefly scripture, along with tradition, reason, and Christian experience. I like the wheel because it depicts the methodology as helping us drive our journey.

I also like the way we use quadrants in our Lay Servant Classes:



Next month, I will fill in more detail in the quadrants, but I would like you to be thinking this month about the practices and disciplines that go in these quadrants, but now I want you to be thinking about what these acts are. What are the Acts of Justice and why are they the hardest for many to pursue? Why are acts of worship becoming less common in our modern society? Where do our daily devotions and Christian Education fall?

I give much emphasis to Adult Christian Education in my activities and writing. And again, I want to encourage you to regularly participate in classes.

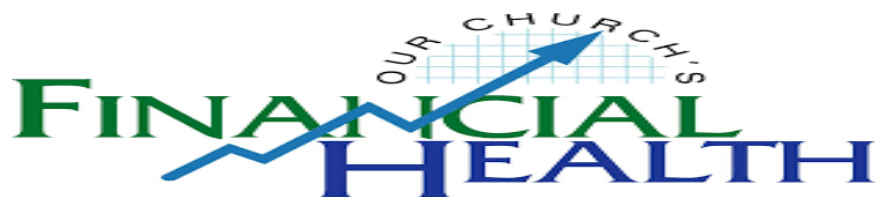
I also want to recognize some of our cohorts who spent 72 weeks over almost two years studying "Jesus in the Gospels." We read privately and studied for about one hour and a few more minutes each week, and spent at least an hour in the classroom together. There were some additional people who visited us some weeks, and I commend these people who participated for many weeks: Barb Pier, Laura Gradowski, Pamela Carlson-Gohil, Kishin Gohil, Deacon Nancy Lanman, Nancy Karr, Bonnie Chesky, and Karen Bolton. They worked hard and helped us each to learn from Jesus' words.

If you are looking for something different or special in Christian education, please tell me or any member of the Adult Christian Education committee. I am doing something a little different this summer at 9:00 am on Sundays. I will be sharing videos of the Holy Land, starting on June 8. No required reading or prep! I call this class Experience the Holy Land. The videos are from Adam Hamilton and Brian Hardin.

I look forward to seeing you in Church!

Tom Bolton, Lay Leader

God loves you and so do we. Discipleship Never Ends.



The Church Financial Statement of Activities ending April 30, 2025:

	Year To Date Actual
Giving & Other Income	\$151,800.65
Expenses	\$137,823.45
Operating Income/ (Deficit)	\$13,977.20

Our hope with prayers is that members will continue to give generously as we envision a better and brighter future with goals and strategies to keep FUMCWA healthy, growing, and vital. God cares about you and so do we. Thank you for your financial support to the life and the mission of FUMCWA.



SCRIPTURE READINGS & THEMES JUNE 2025

June 1, 2025, Seventh Sunday of Easter/Communion

Texts: Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; John 17:20-26

June 8, 2025, Pentecost

Texts: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; John 14:8-17, 25-27

June 15, 2025, Trinity Sunday/Father's Day

Texts: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; John 16:12-15

June 22, 2025, Second Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: 1 Kings 19:1-15a; Psalm 42; Luke 8:26-39

June 29, 2025, Third Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: 2 Kings 2 1-2; Psalm 77:12, 11-20; Luke 9:51-62

VBS 2025: Join us for **ROAD TRIP VBS: ON THE GO WITH GOD**, based on Joshua 1:9 – "The Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Kids (Travelers) in 3K-Grade 5 will embark on exciting adventures with our Navigator and a puppet named Scout, exploring stories from the Bible that highlight God's presence in their lives. This fun-filled week, from July 21-25, 2025, Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to Noon, will include engaging activities, games, and lessons about God's love. Registration and information is available in the Narthex, on the website, and church office. Invite friends and family for a memorable experience!



FUMCWA MINISTRIES

Church Library Ministry (The Bernice Nailen Memorial Library): “Feed your spirit with the bread of books.” This quote by Edwin Markham is on the wall of the Bernice Nailen Memorial Library. Your library committee invites you to “feed your spirit” this summer by reading. Visit your church library.



Food Pantry Ministry: Our food pantry stewards continue to welcome those in our community who need extra assistance during the week. They are most grateful, and many say that without our help, they don't know what they would do.

We thank this generous congregation for donations of food, personal care items, and household cleaning aids. We are also very thankful for monetary donations, all of which go toward the purchase of items that are given to our guests.

Any non-perishable food items are welcome. Always welcome are cereals, canned pasta (Chef Boyardee), stews, canned chicken, chili, pickles, syrup, mustard, etc.

Laundry detergent, kitchen sprays, and dish soap are also needed. Shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, body wash, hand lotions, and liquid hand soap are also things people need. All of these mentioned items can be purchased at the Dollar Stores. Please help if you can, as it helps the people in our community so much! God bless you!

May Good Samaritan Offering: \$224.00

PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED FOR JUNE:

INSTANT OATMEAL VARIETY PACKS AND LAUNDRY DETERGENT

United Women in Faith: We were so happy to have had Betty Grypp present our program on May 12th. She talked about some new books, the history of our library, how the books are categorized, the book club, and many other points of interest. Thank you so very much, Betty!

Our June 9th meeting will be our last Unity gathering until September. It will be a pot-luck luncheon at 11:30 am in the Fireside Room. Note the change in time!! It will be a time to socialize and share our food with one another. Please join us!

There will be NO Unity meetings in July or August. We have had a wonderful year of fellowship and interesting programs. We have also brought in new members. How about you? Please join us in the Fall.

Have a wonderful summer everyone!!



Laurie Halvorsen, Senior Ministries Coordinator: It's our 50th Anniversary Senior League Party time! Join us on Wednesday, June 4th, at 11:30 am for punch, with the luncheon beginning at noon. The wonderful entertainment will follow at 1:00 pm, featuring Caribbean Eclipse. Enjoy the Steel Pan & Marimba Band and our special surprises of the day! Reservations Needed - Ticket sales are now closed.



Our Senior League was established in 1975 by a steering committee from the church, with the purpose of providing friendship and fellowship to all members who are semi-retired or retired. This was to be achieved through entertainment, fun, inspiration, cooperation, and service. It has consistently been an ecumenical fellowship group over the years and has now grown to over 100 members. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at noon for a \$10.00 lunch and a program, concluding at 2:00 pm.

Meetings in June

June 4 Senior League Celebrates 50th Anniversary Party (Reservations Required)

11:30 am Punch and Noon Luncheon

Program: 1:00 pm: Caribbean Eclipse

June 18 12 Noon Lunch: Raggity Beef, Cheesy Potatoes, Salad, and Brownies

Program: Lenny Sings 50's and 60's Music

Devotions: Sylvia Cody

Fireside Coach Trip: Friday, June 13th, The Church Basement Ladies "In the Last (Potluck Supper)"

This trip is currently filled. If you are interested, you can be placed on the waiting list by calling the office (414-774-5500). Leave Franklin 9:00 am, FUMC 9:30 am.

Come join Senior League in our 50th Year for Fun, Food & Fellowship in 2025!

FUMCWA LOCAL MISSIONS



Second Saturday Servants is looking forward to serving our neighbors on June 14th, and we could use your help! We're hoping for more hot breakfast casseroles to ensure a delicious and hearty meal for everyone. If you can contribute, please bring your hot casserole to the church kitchen by 7:45 am. If you need a disposable pan, just let Val Holzman know—she'll be happy to provide one. Thank you for making a difference in our community!

June's Coins of Love will support the **Philippine Free Medical Clinic** located on the lower level of the Philippine Cultural & Civic Center at Zablocki Park Pavilion, 3717 W. Howard Ave., Greenfield, WI 53221. The clinic operates on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, providing healthcare services to uninsured and underinsured individuals.

April's Coins of Love- Pine Lake Active Young Adults Camp (PLAYA) \$386.21

May's Coins of Love - Ingathering 2025 Wisconsin Annual Conference \$86.00



FUMCWA CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Adult Christian Education: Summer is fast approaching, and with it, the planning of our vacation times, but our UMC tradition of growing discipleship can go right along with us in exciting and relaxing ways. Our FUMCWA team is working to help you so there will be no extra packing, just adding some interesting and thought-provoking reading to your leisure time away. There will be an opportunity to tour the Holy Land and learn about its historical sites through a video series.

This fall, we will be offering the final introductory series relating to the UMC Social Principles, the Community of Creation in Peril, and our reliance on fossil fuels being a core cause. We will learn ways our ministries and personal activities can become sources of sustainable stewardship and regeneration.

Methodists from our beginnings have responded with heart, mind, and soul to John Wesley's teaching that there is "no religion that is not social religion!" Engaging in study and learning enables us to become effective and compelling role models and leaders, not just within our churches but between our churches and the world where we live and work.

Speaking of work, April's discussion of the relationship between labor and divine sabbath continued in May with a challenging discussion about how one well-respected Chief of Police in a small Virginia town has made his way as such a role model during the recent pandemic and beyond. His ability to thoughtfully and creatively weave his faith within the context of policing duties in the many crises inherent in our country's social fabric today shows us one way our faith can inform the lenses through which we can positively impact the broader society and create avenues for renewal through the work we do.

Your team of educators and teachers are working diligently to bring you new and engaging methods to become effective disciples of Christ while living your regular, ordinary lives, but as people more knowledgeable and understanding of the critical social problems facing our world.

Watch out for a summer reading table to appear in the narthex by June 8th that will be put together for those interested to stretch and grow while relaxing this summer!



Book Discussion Group: This month's book discussion will take place on Monday, June 16th, at 1:30 pm. We will discuss **My Body is Not a Prayer Request: Disability Justice in the Church** by Amy Kenny (Leadership Development). Offering a unique blend of personal storytelling, fresh and compelling writing, biblical exegesis, and practical application, this book from disabled scholar Amy Kenny invites readers to create a more inclusive community within

the church. Kenny reflects on her experiences inside the church to expose unintentional ableism and present a new vision for Christian communities to engage in disability justice. Winner of the 2023 Silver Book Award. Sojourners calls it "a book the church desperately needs. The group meets in the church library and welcomes anyone who loves reading! Please note that there will be no book discussions in July or August. Book discussions will return in September.

Experience the Holy Land: A Summer Adult Sunday School Class: Looking for a meaningful and enriching way to spend your Sunday mornings? Join us for a **new adult summer Sunday school class**, where Tom Bolton will take us through the Holy Land. Starting **Sunday, June 8th at 9:00 am in the Lighthouse Room**, Tom will share **video presentations** by authors **Adam Hamilton and Brian Hardin**, bringing the history, culture, and spiritual significance of these sacred places to life. This class is designed to be **relaxed and engaging**—no required reading or prep work, just come as you are and enjoy the experience! Whether you've dreamed of visiting the Holy Land or want to deepen your understanding of biblical history, this class promises to be **inspiring and insightful**. We'd love to have you join us for this special summer session.

FUMCWA EVENTS



Lance Lambert / Events Coordinator:

Let's Float into Summer Sundae - Sunday, June 1st: Slip down to the Small Dining Room following worship to kick off Summer '25 with a Root Beer Float, Banana Split, or a "Build-it-Yourself" sundae! These ice cream events are always *FUN, FILLING*, and a super way to enjoy the fellowship of your Church Family and friends. Hope to see you there!

"Dogs for Dads" - Father's Day - June 15th: More food! After worship, drag Dear old Dad down to the Small Dining Room (or come by yourself) for a good old-fashioned hot dog and chips. Celebrate Dads everywhere in fellowship with your Church Family. Hope you join us, and why not bring a friend (or someone else's Dad)!

Methodist Movie Matinee / Discussion - Sunday, June 22nd: For our last movie before Fall, we'll see *"Unsung Hero"*. Based on a remarkable true story, this PG-rated film follows David Smallbone as he moves his family from Down Under to the States, searching for a brighter future after his successful music company collapses. In the end, the family finds success with sons Joel and Luke's duo, *For King and Country*, and daughter Rebecca in the field of Christian music. One more time... the movie, popcorn, and beverages are FREE! We'll have a brief discussion after the movie with pizza and beverages if you'd like to stay. A free-will offering will be taken to help cover the cost of the pizzas. ALL ARE WELCOME! Hope to see you in the sanctuary immediately following worship for this event.

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, July 20th is our All-Church Picnic & Swim. Plan to join us!!!

FUMCWA FAITH COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Joe Pitterle, Stewardship Chair: On Sunday, May 18th, Pastor Grace shared a long list of our members and guests as part of a Recognition of Stewardship. If you did not see the list, know it was all of you! As Pastor Grace shared, this is our call; we are all Disciples, not volunteers, as part of our commitment and covenant with God.

Worship is not just the music, but the liturgists, the soloists, the acolytes, those who attend, it is all of us. In work you may do, your time, your talent, and your expertise are all forms of Stewardship. But where you can use these gifts is where people can see the witness of God. As a baker or a cook, for the casseroles that are made for others, that is your impact of sharing your talent.

As we think ahead, let us continue to think of ways we can share our time and talents with others, whether in the church or in our communities every day. This is where we can be Disciples with God all the time!

God Bless, and thank you all for your acts of Stewardship!

Recycle Socks & Support Northcott Neighborhood House: We're keeping the momentum going—our sock collection drive continues! Help us spread the word to neighbors and coworkers, encouraging them to clean their drawers and upcycle their old socks. Our latest shipment of well-worn socks contributed a \$10 donation to Northcott Neighborhood House, a local Methodist mission dedicated to literacy and mentoring. Every pair makes a difference! Drop your old, clean socks in the collection basket in the Gathering Room and be part of this simple yet impactful way to give back. Thank you for supporting our mission!