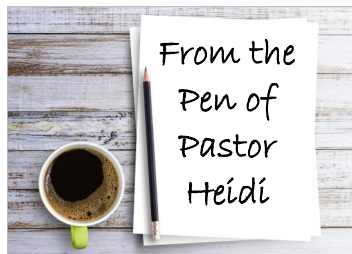




Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church

Newsletter

April-May, 2023



Lenten Stillness

*"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations,
will be exalted in the earth!" Psalm 46:10*

Ok, be honest. How often do you practice being still? Not just standing still, but actually being still? In the rush and hurry of the world, just...be... still...in the presence of the Lord. The picture below, taken by our own Chris Schultz, scrolled through my Facebook feed last week. When I saw it, I had a moment of awe. I stopped, enlarged the picture to fill my screen and I couldn't help but sit and rest with the Lord. It was a moment where I felt still and present with the beauty of God's creation. As my day went on, I found myself going back to this picture for moments of peace and stillness.

I asked Chris for permission to share this photo with you. I pray it offers an opportunity for you to "be still, and know" you are in the presence of the Lord. Thank you Chris for sharing your gift of photography!

Blessings and Peace, Pastor Heidi



Chris Schultz, "Fishin' Before Sunup", 2023

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship In-Person & online: 9:00 am
Sunday School: 10:00 am Sunday School for all ages between Labor Day & Memorial Day

Worship Schedule - April

April 2	Palm Sunday Service Communion Sunday
April 6	Maundy Thursday Service 6:00 pm in Doyle Hall
April 7	Good Friday Service 6:00 pm
April 9	Easter Sunday
April 16	2 nd Sunday of Easter
April 23	3 rd Sunday of Easter Native American Ministries Sunday
April 30	4 th Sunday of Easter



Worship
with us
from
HOME

Watch our worship
services live on our
Facebook page at
9:00 am.



No need for a
Facebook account;
go to occumc.org
and click on the
Facebook link. Join
our services live at
9:00 am Sundays
and/or view past
worship services.
Please, 'like' us or
leave a comment so
we know this ministry
is beneficial.

Worship Schedule - May

May 7	5 th Sunday of Easter Communion Sunday
May 14	6 th Sunday of Easter Mother's Day
May 21	7 th Sunday of Easter Ascension Sunday
May 28	Pentecost Sunday



Sunday School



Classes meet every Sunday after worship:

Love Class (Preschool - 2nd grade)
Hope Class (3rd - 6th grades)
Faith Class (Jr & Sr High 7th-12th grades)
Parents Group
Bible Browsers (Adult)

Listen to the
Weekly Recorded
Worship Service
Via Your Phone!



Just call
414-253-0437,
listen, and enjoy!

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Welcoming Ministries



Ways you can Would you like to help others enjoy our weekly worship services? You can do so by serving as a Greeter, Usher, or Worship Leader! These are very important roles within our Sunday worship. None of these positions take much of your time, and you are rewarded with smiles and the knowledge that you are sharing your gifts and helping OCCUMC reach the community. If you are interested in any of these, please contact Pastor Heidi (pastor@occumc.org) or Jane (office@occumc.org).

Altar Choir



Do you find yourself singing along to songs in your car? Then we want you to join our choir. Just come to a Wednesday night practice from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Sanctuary. You don't have to read music or have an awesome voice.... we welcome EVERYONE from 10-99 who loves to sing!!! Bring a friend! We have the summer off, so if you join now you can see how much fun this ministry is and, if you want, to rejoin us in the fall. If you have any questions, please contact Shelly S. at 414-801-1940, or speak with her after Sunday worship services.

Tabitha Circle



All Women are invited to join Tabitha Circle via Zoom, on the second Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm to share Christian fellowship & devotions. Contact Bonnie C at cc32drc@tds.net so she can send you the Zoom meeting link.

Thursday Morning Gathering



EVERY THURSDAY at 10:30 am everyone is welcome to meet at church. We will share devotions, concerns and celebrations. We close our gatherings with a Prayer for Peace composed by one of our group. There is no limit to the number of people who can come and share with us. If you have any questions, please call Carlene W. at 414-764-5034.

Hospitality Team



OCCUMC needs volunteers to share hospitality! Merrilee M is our new **Coffee Bistro Team Leader** and she now needs a team. She is looking for volunteers for semi-monthly set up of coffee, juice, cookies, etc., along with the cleanup afterwards. If you are interested in serving the faith community with this beautiful ministry, please contact Merrilee at (merrileemahn@gmail.com).

Preschool News



Oak Creek Community Preschool is looking for a preschool teacher for the 2023-24 school year. Join our small, morning only, preschool program! Plan and implement age appropriate activities for preschoolers with special programs throughout the year. Positively interact with families at drop-off and pick-up and at Parent-Teacher Conferences. Work with no more than twenty 3 - 5-year olds and two other teachers per day from September through May and enjoy your summers off! If interested, please contact Stephanie P at occpreschool@gmail.com for more information.

YOUTH & MISSIONS

April Showers



April Showers Hygiene Supply Drive to support United Methodist Children's Services is taking place March 26th – April 30th.

We are collecting personal hygiene items for UMCS. Please consider taking a raindrop from the umbrella display in the Friendship Room and purchasing some of UMCS's most needed supplies:

shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shaving cream, and feminine hygiene products.

Items can be returned in the box beneath the umbrella.

Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need!

Youth Mission Trip - Summer 2023



We are preparing for our youth mission trip for Summer 2023! Our travels will take us to Indianapolis from June 18th - 23rd through the organization Youthworks. Students who have completed 6th grade in the spring of 2023 through seniors who have graduated in the spring of 2023 are eligible to participate.

Youthworks offers a wide variety of assignments, but all are focused on relational work. We may help with youth programming such as VBS, work at food pantries and soup kitchens, sort items at clothing distribution centers, or work on simple home repair projects.

There are two spots open. The cost per participant for this trip is expected to be about \$200. However, participants will be fundraising to help cover the cost, and there are also scholarships which may be available to help with the cost.

Since we have selected a site close enough to reach within one day of driving, we do not need to overnight along the way.

If you are a youth, or know youth who might be interested in this trip, please contact Susan (suej852@hotmail.com) and/or Alex (arc_332@att.net). Make sure to include the name of who will be participating and what grade each participant will complete in the spring of 2023.

Youth Outing - Escape Room



Our Youth Group enjoyed an outing on March 12th in the Pirate's Curse at 60 to Escape. It was a fun

experience and team building adventure to escape a theme room against time, or come to demise. Our team escaped with 2 minutes and 55 seconds left. Fun, laughs and imaginations came together with great strategies.



MISSIONS

OCCUMC Missions support opportunities for members to do God's work and grow as a faith community. The missions outreach includes local, regional and international efforts.

Going to Pieces Fiber Artists



We have many exciting events planned for our group this year. Our Salvation Army Donation Drive will be wrapping up on Easter Sunday. As usual, this congregation stepped up big time!! Final totals will be in after Easter. A huge thank you to everyone that contributed and know that you can stop by their facility any time with a donation of food or money.

We also have two craft events in the planning stages:

First, we are working on being part of the Garden Tour & Art Fair in South Milwaukee on Saturday, June 24th from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. This is an outdoor event, and the crafters are set up in four yards, gardens and on patios. We will keep you informed of the details, but this sounds like a beautiful and different venue for a sale.

Second, we will be at the Oak Creek Community Center on Howell Ave. on Saturday November 18th for their Fall/Holiday Fair. Last year was extremely successful, and we loved the location. Many familiar faces from our congregation attended and, we are always grateful for their support. Mark your calendars and plan to come and see the new and different items we are working on for this year.

Our next meeting is Monday, April 24th in the Library at 9:30 am. Our meetings and Fairs are open to all. Come join us! We finish our meetings with our ever popular "SHOW AND TELL".

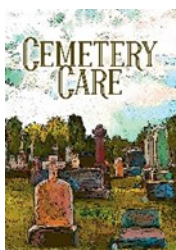
Garden Ministry



The time is quickly approaching, and the church gardens will be waking up! Our gardening group is a small but HEARTY group that labors endlessly to keep our church grounds beautiful.

BUT... we always need help. We are a free spirit group as we have NO meetings, work when we want, in whatever area we want and have minimal/no rules and regulations! Come on a Tuesday morning, Friday afternoon, 30 minutes, 2 hours, it's all up to you. We will have a small donation box in the Friendship Room to help us pay for the annuals that are added to the established beds. If you are interested in our group you can speak to Kathy B, Shelly S, Jan K or Lois D.....OR just come and pull weeds as you feel moved!!

OCCUMC Cemetery



Our cemetery at 13th & Drexel will need to be mowed from April – September, depending on our growing season. We are looking for volunteers to help Keith S. It will require at the most once a week mowing during the season. If we get several volunteers, they could split up the mowing and work together on a schedule. If you are able to help, or have questions, please contact Keith by phone at 414-659-8896 or by email at kcsfamily@att.net. Thank you

MISSIONS

The Cathedral Center & Friendship House



April 25th is our first time back serving dinner at The Cathedral Center! We would like to have at least six workers, and sign-up sheets will be out soon. We leave church at 5:30 pm and return about 8:30 or 9:00 pm. Be aware they still use Covid protocol, which means masks and gloves when serving.



If making food, you may bring it to church: Sunday the 23rd before worship, Monday the 24th & Tuesday the 25th from 9:00 am - Noon and leave it at the office. If you are making a hot & ready to eat main dish, please bring it to church Tuesday the 25th between 5:00 pm & 5:30 pm.

The options for you to continue to support the mission are many... donations of food, finances, or working on our serving team. We will continue with donations, as the need is great. You can include your donation with your regular offering by noting the amount you want donated to The Cathedral Center. You may also give online at occumc.org and pick The Cathedral Center.

Thank you in advance for your help with this mission. Any question can be directed to Joanne M (414-817-2914) or Bonnie C (262-497-9969).

Apportionment



We Support the Apportionment because....Apportionment Funds support the Northcott Neighborhood House. Since 1961, the center has offered a lifeline to the people living in the Sherman Park neighborhood. For example, the food pantry gives out stock boxes to over 1,000 senior citizens each month. Day care and after school care is a haven for young children and teens. Through Milwaukee Build, former felons receive job training and career opportunities. The men in this training have refurbished over 600 formerly derelict homes, providing housing for others as well as upgrading the

neighborhood and getting a second chance at a promising future in construction. These are only a few of the reasons for why we give.

Volunteers in Mission

April 30th – May 5th - Lake Lucerne UMC Camp, Neshkoro. Let's open camp! We will be preparing for the opening of camp rather than helping to close up for the winter. We will help wherever needed. Tasks are likely to include general spring cleaning, installing the pier, general maintenance, cutting down some trees, and more!



Participants should plan to arrive Sunday afternoon, but no meal will be offered that evening. Instead, we will gather in the Ridgewood Retreat Center for snacks and fellowship, and to sign up for our tasks for the week. Lodging will be in the Ridgewood cabins with meals in the Milton Giese Dining Hall. Morning and evening devotions will also be in the Retreat Center each day. The last meal will be breakfast on Friday.

Note – it will be necessary to bring your own sleeping gear and towels. Cost: \$180 (includes lodging, meals, work supplies and donation to camp). **Registration and \$36 deposit deadline is April 7th (Good Friday)**. Checks should be made out to WAC/VIM. Please let us know if you will not be staying for the entire week. REGISTRAR/Co-leader: Gail Burgess - 6510 203rd Avenue, Bristol, WI 53104, 262-945-8578 or Co-leader: Donna Kiefer - momkiefer@juno.com 608-655-3097 (H), or 608-575-9529.

Ingathering



Each year at the Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, churches are asked to donate items for people in need or people suffering from disasters. This year, the conference Mission Motivation Committee is again working with Midwest Mission Distribution to collect items for Personal Dignity Kits and Home Care Kits. All items should be NEW and all kits should only contain the items requested from the below lists. Midwest Mission distributes the kits locally, nationally and internationally to those in need during times of crisis. All supplies are given free of charge regardless of gender, race or religion.

Personal Dignity Kit

- 1 Hand towel - no kitchen towels
 - 1 Washcloth - no dishcloths
 - 1 Toothbrush (no multipacks)
 - 1 Bar soap - 3-4 oz.
 - 1 Shampoo - 12-19 oz.
 - 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz. (stick, roll-on, or pump)
 - 1 1 - Gallon resealable plastic bag
 - \$2 donation for razor and toothpaste
- Please add your heartfelt prayers to each kit



Home Care Kit

- Liquid household cleaner: 56-80 oz. total (no spray bottles)
 - Dish soap - 42-64 oz.
 - Liquid laundry detergent - 100-150 oz. total
 - 1 Scrub brush (with or without handle)
 - 1 - 5 Gallon round bucket with resealable lid
- Please add your heartfelt prayers to each kit



We are also collecting these **urgently needed items separately** :

- ⇒ Shampoo (12 - 19 oz).
- ⇒ Laundry detergent

The following items don't need to be new!

- ⇒ Sewing machines electric and treadles (We can accept sewing machines that need a little tuning up, oiling, etc. We cannot accept the computerized ones.)
- ⇒ Medical equipment such as folding walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, canes, walking boots, slings (no toilet risers please)
- ⇒ Blankets new or gently used for disaster response
- ⇒ Non-electric tools specifically shovels, brooms, rakes






Please place donations by the **OCCUMC Collection sign** near the highboy by the Sanctuary entrance. We are also an **Ingathering Drop Off Site**, so other churches will leave their donations by the coat rack.

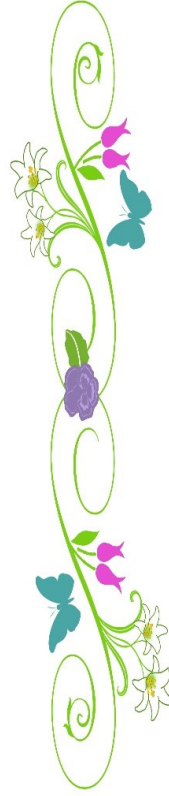
Looking for a chance to help Annual Conference and to meet new people? Volunteers are needed at the Annual Conference in Green Bay:

- ⇒ Help check in and load donations anytime during our drop off hours: Friday, June 9th from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm and Saturday, June 10th 8:00 am - 2:00 pm.
Contact bonnieclement05@gmail.com .
- ⇒ Be a part of the Youth Tech Crew/Stage Crew. No experience is necessary; we will teach you how to set up and use the equipment. As a team, we will also have time to play games and do other fun things to get to know each other. We are looking for committed and responsible volunteers 12 years old or older, by June 1st. In some cases, this time can be approved for community service hours towards graduation (check with your school). Applications must be submitted to Sue Snellenberger at Snellenbergersue@gmail.com by **May 2nd**.

April 2023

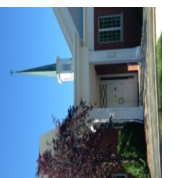
(as of 3/22/23)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Communion & Palm Sunday  9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live! 10:00 am Sunday School All Ages	3 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	4 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	5 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	6 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	7  GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 6:00 PM	8
9 Easter Sunday  9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live!	10 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	11 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	12 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	13 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	14 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	15
16 Pastor's Vacation 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering 10:00 am Sunday School All Ages	17 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	18 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	19 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	20 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	21 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	22
23 9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live! 10:00 am Sunday School All Ages 10:30 am CPR/AED Training	24 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	25 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	26 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	27 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	28 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	29
30 9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live! Rev. Bonnie Bell presiding 10:00 am Sunday School All Ages Walk to Emmaus Concludes Tabitha Circle Retreat Mtg Concludes	31 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	32 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	33 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	34 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	35 9:00 am Preschool 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering BLOOD DRIVE 2:00 - 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Choir Practice	36



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 8675 S. 13th Street (corner of 13th & Puetz Rd) Oak Creek, WI 53154
www.occumc.org
 414-762-4600
 Church Office Hours - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Monday-Thursday
office@occumc.org

Sunday Worship 9:00 am In-Person
 Sunday School for all ages @ 10:00 am every Sunday
 Worship on Facebook Live! at 9:00 am
 or watch anytime at facebook.com/occumc.org
 OR Listen to the recorded service at 1-414-253-0437



May 2023

(as of 3/22/23)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Pastor's Sabbath Day Off 7:00 pm AA	2	3 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering 7:00 pm Choir Practice	4 10:30 am Thursday Morning Gathering	5 Pastor's Sabbath Day Off	6
7 Communion Sunday 9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live! 10:00 am Sunday School All Ages	8 6:30 pm SPRC Team Meeting 7:00 pm AA	9 4:30 pm Marketing Team Meeting 6:30 pm Trustees Team Meeting	10 9:00 am Preschool 7:00 pm Choir Practice	11 10:30 am Thursday Morning Gathering	12 Pastor's Sabbath Day Off	13
14 MOTHER'S DAY 9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live! 10:00 am Sunday School All Ages 2:00 pm Tabitha Circle	15 9:00 am Preschool 7:00 pm AA	16 11:00 am Circuit Clergy Meeting at OCCUMC	17 Preschool Spring Program/Grad 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering 7:00 pm Choir Practice	18 Preschool Teacher Work Day 10:30 am Thursday Morning Gathering	19 Pastor's Sabbath Day Off	20
21 Ascension Sunday 9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live! 10:00 am Sunday School All Ages	22 6:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting 7:00 pm AA	23 Pastor's Vacation	24 7:00 pm Choir Practice	25 10:30 am Thursday Morning Gathering	26	27
28 Pentecost Sunday 9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live! Allen Lindsay Leads Worship	29 Pastor's Vacation 7:00 pm AA	30 Memorial Day	31 9:00 am SE District Clergy Gathering			



"WE GAVE
OUR TODAYS
IN ORDER
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WORSHIP
with us

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MINISTRY TEAMS

Trustees Team Meetings @ 6:30 pm



- Tuesday, April 11th
- Tuesday, May 9th
- Tuesday, June 13th

Leadership Team Meetings @ 6:30 pm



- Monday, May 22nd
- Monday, July 24th

Marketing Team Meetings @ 4:30 pm



- Tuesday, May 9th
- Tuesday, July 11th

Staff Parish Relations Team Meetings @ 6:30 pm



- Monday, May 8th
- Monday, July 10th

Finance Team Meetings @ 6:30 pm



- Tuesday, April 18th
- Tuesday, June 20th

**How can you use your gifts to further the mission and ministry of OCCUMC?
We welcome your help in any of these ministries.
Contact Pastor Heidi or any of the team leaders to say "YES! Count me in!"**

Administrative Assistant	Jane Lentz	Memorial Gifts	Janet Porte
Altar Choir Director	Shelly Swodzinski	Missions	TBA
Computer Support	Doug Clement	Preschool Director	Stephanie Paszkiewicz
ERAS	Joanne Mueller	Preschool Liaison	Janelle Wagner
Financial Team	James Wittenberg	Staff Parish (SPRC)	Dale Tetzlaff
Financial Secretary	Bonnie Clement	Treasurer	Judie Peterson
Asst. Financial Sec.	Amber Yeary	Asst. Treasurer	Ed Kubes
Blooming Garden Group	Lois Dillon	Trustees	Clinton Peirce
Lay Leader	TBA	United Women In Faith:	
Lay Member to AC	Allan Lindsay	Tabitha Circle	Bonnie Clement
Lay Speaker	Liz Imoehl	Sarah Circle / Thursday Morning Gathering	Carlene Wintermote
Certified Lay Speaker	Allan Lindsay		Kathy Brekeller
Leadership Team	Doug Clement		Lois Dillon
Marketing	Dale Tetzlaff	Website Support	Alex Clement-Reichling,
Media & Technology	Devin Wiemann	Worship in the Arts	Eric von Helms,
Member-at-Large	Janet Porte	Youth Team	Susan Jacobs-Tetzlaff

TEAMS

Trustees



The primary focus of the Trustees so far this year has been on smaller general maintenance projects and activities. Things we may refer to as "keeping the lights on". As you know, we are responsible for actually keeping the lights on and many other tasks related to ensuring that we all have a wonderful, well maintained place to worship our God.

Snow removal has been a hot topic this year (hopefully we are done now) and the smooth running of that process is thanks to Keith who works closely with our contractor to ensure that we stay on top of that task.

As soon as the weather allows, we will be finalizing a schedule with our painter who will be taking care of the much needed external painting. Along with that, we'll be assessing and replacing the storm windows where necessary.



With the onset of Spring comes our **Spring Clean Up Day**. As always, we value and appreciate any help that we can get to do that work. We have not decided on a date yet, but are zeroing in on a Saturday at the end of April/beginning of May. So pull out your gardening/work gloves, dust off your pruning shears, shake out your favorite working outfit and please, please, come and join us for this day of work, fun and community.

May God continue to bless the work we do together,
Clinton P, Daryl B, Ed K, Eric V, Fred S, Jane E,
Kathy B, Keith S, Steve D, Terry P

Free Community Market Festival - Input Needed

The mission of the Marketing Team is to **Worship God, Love and Serve** all people. To meet that commitment, the Marketing Team is **considering** holding what we call a "**Free Community Market Festival**". The Festival would be like going to a really nice, large scale garage sale where everything is **FREE**. Our Faith Family and friends would donate gently used items such as clothing, toys, household items, and furniture.



Our mission is to provide goods for budget-conscious and low income shoppers. The event would be held on a Saturday, at the end of July or early August, from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm. Hopefully we will catch those to catch those returning to school and college.

Before the Marketing Team begins to make plans, we would like to hear your thoughts/opinions as to if the festival makes sense, and that you would support it by donating like-new items. Please contact Dale at dalet251160@hotmail.com or (847) 917-9294. Thank you.

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday
9:00 am - Noon

Our Staff:

Rev. Heidi Loomis

Pastor

pastor@occumc.org

Jane Lentz

Administrative Assistant

office@occumc.org

Judie Peterson

Treasurer

treasurer@occumc.org

Ed Kubes

Assistant Treasurer

Bonnie Clement

Financial Secretary

finance@occumc.org

Amber Yeary

Asst. Financial Secretary

Shelly Swodzinski

Altar Choir Director

Todd Anderson

Organist

Lindsay Gardenier

Choir Accompanist

Devin Wiemann

Media & Technology

Cheryl Clement-Reichling

Nursery Coordinator

Heather Reichling

Nursery Care Support

FINANCE

Treasurer's Corner

	<u>Month of February, 2023</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<u>General Fund</u>	Income	20,904	
	Expenses	21,930	23,036
	Excess/(Shortfall)	<u>(1,026)</u>	

	<u>Fiscal 2023 YTD</u>		
<u>General Fund</u>	Income	38,654	
	Expenses	47,942	51,723
	Excess/(Shortfall)	<u>(9,288)</u>	

<u>Apportionment</u>	Income	953	2,629
	YTD	2,301	5,257

Contributions



OCCUMC members are a giving community. Every month contributions are received for various organizations. For 2023, the totals are as follows:

- ⇒ Good Samaritan Fund — \$155.00
- ⇒ Human Relations Sunday — \$100.00
- ⇒ UMCOR — \$990.00
- ⇒ The Cathedral Center — \$1,130.00

Online Giving

Give when & where you want: Online giving allows you to support programs and ministries at OCCUMC conveniently and securely. Make a one-time gift or an ongoing contribution. Give to the General budget to be used wherever needed, or specify projects and missions that are dear to you. Know that your gift will make an impact and be assured it will be directed to its intended purpose.



Online Giving is easy & safe: Our church uses Vanco to allow you to make contributions online easily and safely. On our website, occumc.org click:

Online Giving > Donate Now > Make a Selection > Give.

If you don't see the ministry you wish to donate to, pick "Miscellaneous", then specify where you want your donation applied.

If you further choose to donate by covering processing fees (3% for credit card or 1% for direct debit), you can do so before processing your donation.



Please consider setting up a profile to make giving easier: If you give online more than one time, it would really help if you set up a login - just click sign up to set it up and log in to use it after that.



Please use only 2023 envelopes. Envelope numbers from prior years may be assigned to someone else. If you need envelopes, please contact finance@occumc.org.

Remember: You only need to write one check. You can designate amounts to different funds on the envelope.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Blood Drive



Wednesday, April 5th, from 2:00 – 6:30 pm there will be a Versiti Blood Drive in Doyle Hall. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins will be accepted. Please call 877-232-4376 or register online at https://donate.wisconsin.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/258188

Next drive is June 7th

CPR/AED Class



Part of caring for one another is by being prepared when emergencies occur. On Sunday, April 23rd at 10:30 am, the OCCUMC Marketing Team is inviting you to attend a **compression only CPR/AED** training class provided by the Oak Creek Fire Dept. Class time is approximately one hour. A registration form for the class will be located on the south highboy in the Friendship Room.

SUNNY NOOK & PRAYER GARDEN



Our **SUNNY NOOK** is a “small chapel” that is intended to be a place where you can gather alone, or with a small group to pray, or have a quiet moment with God.

You are invited to stop. Take a moment. Enjoy this space. Sit and just be silent. Let this space be a way to be receptive to God, connect, and quiet your mind and heart.

The beautiful stained glass pieces were donated to bring light and color to the space. They represent, *“That we are all shattered, broken like a piece of glass, our lives have sharp jagged edges and we many times feel we don’t fit in or belong. But Jesus takes our unique form, fits us into the bigger picture and together we become a beautiful work of art”*.

THEN.....As the weather warms up and the sun shines brighter, there is no better time to think about using the **OUTDOOR PRAYER GARDEN**. It has been proven that we feel calmer, happier, less stressed when we are in nature. Many people feel closer to God outdoors. Take in our beautiful outdoor gardens and connect with the trees, flowers and birds. Bring your bible, a book, a coffee and sit awhile.

Missionaries

Meet Our Missionaries



Are you interested in learning more about United Methodist missionaries? Do you wonder what day-to-day life is like in mission? **#STILLINMISSION** is a monthly Zoom event where you can hear first-hand experience from missionaries about their call to mission and the communities they serve. Join them on

April 6th at 7:00 pm and May 4th at 12:00 pm to see how missionaries share God’s love in partnership with communities around the world.

Food Pantry



We support our community and neighbors in need by supporting the Salvation Army. Please drop off non-perishable food items at the Salvation Army or visit their website to make an online donation at <https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/oakcreek/>

The **Oak Creek Centennial Corps Food Pantry on Howell and Centennial Drive**, provides a 2-3-day supply of emergency food to neighborhood individuals and families who are hungry. The food is given on the day it is requested, and represents breakfast, lunch, and dinner for all members of the household. Those receiving food are also informed about how they can participate in supplemental food programs so they can move beyond visiting charity food pantries.

Items Needed Year-round:

Fruits: fruits canned in own juice, or 100% fruit juice

Grains: whole-grain foods like brown rice, oatmeal, cereal (no sugar added), multigrain pasta

Dairy: boxed skim & 1% milk, or milk alternatives like almond & soy milk

Condiments: healthy and salt-free flavors of salsa, oil, mustard, seasonings

Vegetables: low sodium, canned vegetables, pasta sauces

Protein: lean sources of animal and plant-based protein - canned chicken, tuna, peanut butter, dried or canned beans

Snacks: healthy, low in fat foods for on-the-go, like granola, nuts and seeds, breakfast bars, graham crackers

Senior Stock Box Distribution

Hunger Task Force is distributing a box of free, healthy food for seniors at different spots around Milwaukee County. All Stockboxes include cereal, milk, canned veggies and fruits, pasta or rice, protein, fruit juice, canned meats and 2 pounds of fresh Wisconsin cheese. Please share this information.



Qualifications are:

- 60 years or older (Bring an ID showing your age)
- Monthly household income of less than \$1,473 (1 person) or \$1,984(2 persons) (NEW)
- Be a resident of Wisconsin
- Paperwork will be filled out at each site by Hunger Task Force employees.

- ⇒ 1st Wednesday of the month from 8:30-11:00 am at Franklin Senior Meals in City Hall, 9229 West Loomis Road;
- ⇒ 1st Thursday of the month from 1:00-2:00 pm at the Greenfield City Hall, 7325 West Forest Home Avenue;
- ⇒ 1st Friday of the month from 1:00-2:00 pm (NEW) at the Grobschmidt Senior Center, 2424 15th Avenue in South Milwaukee;
- ⇒ 3rd Tuesday of the month from 9:30-11:00 am at the Wilson Park Senior Center, 2601 West Howard Avenue;
- ⇒ 3rd Thursday of the month from 12:00-1:30 pm at the Kelly Senior Center, 6100 South Lake Drive, Cudahy;
- ⇒ Every Tuesday & Thursday from 10:00 am till Noon at St. Stephen Church, 1441 West Oakwood Road in Oak Creek.

OFFICE NOTES

Compassionate Care - Send them a note!

You are invited to show your care for members and friends of our congregation who are homebound. You can contact them via the phone and/or by sending them cards. Please call the church office if you need someone's contact information.

Have fun sharing God's grace with those who may feel like they need a good word! Thank you for caring!

List of our OCCUMC homebound:

Ginger A	Lowell A	Barbara B	Jean B	Chris C	Gay D
Kim D	Joseph D	Jeanne H	Jean J	Bonnie J	Elaine L
Joanne M	Russell P	Eileen S	Pat S	Alicia W	Rick Z



Connect/Share/Prayer Cards Requests



Connect and Praise Report/Prayer Request Cards are located on the back of the sanctuary chairs. Please place completed cards in the blue boxes. If you're worshipping virtually, please email your information/request to office@occumc.org.

Extra Keys



Do you have any church keys you no longer are using? If so, you can bring them to the office Monday-Thursday between 9 am and noon, or give them to Pastor Heidi after worship on Sunday. Thank you!

Membership Information—Name Badge



Do you have a name badge? Our badges are white with gold frames. We would like to have everyone wear one at events and when worshipping. Please contact the office if you need a new badge or have misplaced yours, office@occumc.org

Mailings



Please inform the office if you move. We still mail out statements and special correspondence. The post office doesn't always give us the forwarding information. We don't want you to miss out on anything from us.

We also mail out information such as bulletins and newsletters to our members and friends who are not online. Please contact the office at 414-762-4600 or office@occumc.org if you, or someone you know, should be added to the list of those being mailed materials from the church.



Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church



8675 South 13th Street, Oak Creek, WI 53154

Phone: 414-762-4600

Website: www.occumc.org

E-mail: office@occumc.org

Facebook: facebook.com/occumc

Mission Statement:

Oak Creek Community

United Methodist Church is a

Christian fellowship whose

mission is to worship God,

love and serve all people,

grow in faith, and invite

others to become disciples

of Jesus Christ.

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April - May '23

No matter where you are on your journey, ALL are welcome here.