



## Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church

# Reminder



### Sunday Worship:

Service at 9:00 AM  
on *Facebook Live!*  
or  
watch at a later time  
[facebook.com/occumc](https://facebook.com/occumc)  
and  
Parking Lot 4/4 & 5/2

### Sunday School:

For all ages, join us  
at 10:30 AM through  
May 23 via Zoom

### Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday  
9:00 AM - Noon

### Our Staff:

Administrative Assist.  
[office@occumc.org](mailto:office@occumc.org)

**Judie Peterson**  
Treasurer  
[treasurer@occumc.org](mailto:treasurer@occumc.org)

**Ed Kubes**  
Asst. Treasurer

**Bonnie Clement**  
Financial Secretary  
[finance@occumc.org](mailto:finance@occumc.org)

**Edith Gamble**  
**Amber Yeary**  
Asst. Financial Secretaries

**Rev. Wendee Nitz**  
Pastor  
[pastor@occumc.org](mailto:pastor@occumc.org)

Greetings to All!

We are moving toward coming out of the pandemic. There is much conversation in my pastoral care circles about how to be present with people who suffered much during the past year. Everyone has suffered trauma as a result of the lockdown, the disease, the death of a loved one or a friend, and the constant anxiety and worry about what we will need to do individually and collectively as a society to heal. How will we care for each other and our communities?

Other pastoral care circles share conversations and webinars on how faith-families will reengage in worship, education, fellowship, mission, and inviting new people to meet God in Jesus Christ as our congregations reopen our buildings and ministries. There is so much potential and all people of faith are being encouraged to use coming out of the pandemic as an opportunity to launch new ministries, do things differently to effectively reach new people for Christ, and not settle back into the same pre-Covid patterns of declining mission and ministry.

We are working with the My Church Can Improve Initiative (MCCI) to learn about where we stand in mission and ministry today, to be trained in ways to change how we share God's love, and to discern how God is leading us to reach new people for Christ in the future.

Friends, we are God's people and our mission as United Methodists is to *Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World*. This is a challenging mission for the whole denomination here in the United States, if we are going to be honest, has not been very successful attaining and engaging in the past 40 years. Collectively as a whole, statistics show that our UMC worship attendance and membership rolls have declined precipitously in the past four decades.

As we come out of the other side of the pandemic, we will need to seek, discern, and rely on God's call and vision to help build a beloved community in the Kingdom of God where all are welcomed, accepted, and affirmed as people of sacred worth who are needed to reach new people for Christ. There are challenges of racism, rebuilding our economy and individuals and family's monetary stability, getting our school-age kids back to their classrooms, and everyone on track to success including all who, in the past, have been left behind. How will we address one or more of these challenges so that more people can come to a sense of peace following the chaos caused by the pandemic?

I look forward to reengaging, discussing, and discerning with each of you as to where God is leading our faith-family in the future. For now, keep praying our Break Through Prayer Initiative prayer, *Creator God, we humbly ask what your plan is for us here at Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church. Please, direct our path to your vision for us in our community. Amen.*

Blessings, *Pastor Wendee*

# Sunday Worship

**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.

## Worship Schedule - in April

- April 1 Maundy Thursday—Communion  
Luke 22:14-27  
Sermon Title: *The Last Supper: Risking the Loss of Friends*
- April 2 Good Friday  
John 18:1-11  
Sermon Title: *The Garden: Risking Temptation Again*
- April 4 Easter Sunday—Parking Lot Worship/Communion  
Sermon Title: *Rejoice!*
- April 11 Native American Ministries Sunday—Special Offering  
1 John 1:1-9  
Guest Preacher: Larry Gamble  
Sermon Title: *We Are Called!*
- April 18 The 3rd Sunday of Easter  
Psalm 72 *God delivers the needy when they call.*  
Sermon Title: *Precious*
- April 25 The 4th Sunday of Easter  
Psalm 29 *My God gives strength to the people and blesses the people with peace.*



Sunday Morning  
Worship - 9 AM

On Facebook Live!  
Or watch later  
and  
Parking Lot Worship  
on 4/4 & 5/2

## Worship Schedule - in May

- May 2 The 5th Sunday of Easter—Parking Lot Worship/Communion  
Psalm 139—*You have searched me and know me.*  
Sermon Title: *Where Can I Go?*
- May 9 The 6th Sunday of Easter  
Psalm 62 *God alone is my rock and salvation . . . I shall not be shaken*  
Sermon Title: *In God Alone*
- May 16 Ascension Sunday  
Psalm 111 *The works of God's hands are faithful and just.*  
Sermon Title: *Whole Heart Hallelujah!*
- May 23 Pentecost Sunday  
Psalm 147 *God heals the broken hearted, and binds up their wounds.*  
Sermon Title: *We Wait, We Hope, We Stay*
- May 30 Trinity Sunday—Peace with Justice Sunday—Special Offering  
Psalm 50 *God speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to it setting.*  
Sermon Title: *The One Is Shining Forth*



Holy Week



## Sunday Worship

### Ways to Worship with Us

- **Listen to the Weekly Recorded Worship Service Via Your Phone!**

OCCUMC has added this resource for you to listen to the weekly worship service via a simple phone call. All you need to do is call 414-253-0437, listen, and enjoy!

- **Watch our worship services live on our Facebook page.** You do not need a Facebook account. Just go to [occumc.org](http://occumc.org), click on the Facebook link, and then click videos. You can join our services live at 9:00am Sunday mornings or view past worship services at this link too.

- **Worship in the Parking Lot . . . on Easter, Sunday, April 4, 2021, May 2, 2021, and starting weekly on June 6, 2021, through and including September 5, 2021.** A special word of thank you to Lois and Steve D for helping organize and run the parking lot worship services. Of course Lois and Steve will not be volunteering every Sunday and they cannot do everything alone. We want to thank the following people for their assistance with helping our parking lot worship services be a success: Lois & Steve D, Shelly S, Devin W, Diane L, Patty W, Judy E, Jan K, Janet P, Liz I, Jeanne C, Dale T, Stefanie P, Todd A, Devin W, Patti W, Keith S, Rich I, Jean C. and Suzie M. If you would like to help with our Summer Parking Lot services, contact Lois or the office.



**Facebook:**

[facebook.com/occumc](https://facebook.com/occumc)

**Website:**

[occumc.org](http://occumc.org)

**Recorded Worship:**

414-253-0437

### Daily 9 am Facebook Offerings

Join OCCUMC on Facebook each day of the week at 9 am for the following community offerings:

Mondays – Children’s message usually based on the previous day’s worship text

Tuesdays – Sing-a-long with hymns from the United Methodist Hymnal

Wednesdays – Devotional using Bishop Sally Dicks’ book *The Faithful Heart*

Thursdays – Sing-a-long with hymns from the United Methodist Hymnal

Fridays – Children’s book read

Saturdays - Reading of the scripture text for worship the next day and prayer

Sundays - Worship on Facebook Live!



Pastor Wendee will be on vacation from April 5 thru April 11. Rev. Rob Odum, from Blessed Hope UMC and Memorial UMC will be the pastor on call for any needs that may arise. Pastor Rob’s contact number is 414-238-8367.

## Take Note

### Attendance

**Please help us with attendance records.** If you are viewing our worship service online, we ask that you send an email to the church at [attendance@occumc.org](mailto:attendance@occumc.org) to help us keep track of our faith-family's weekly attendance. Type all the names of the people who viewed the service with you in the subject line and include the date (ex: Jane, John & Johnny Cass attended worship 2/21/21.)

**NOTE: If you have prayer requests or other office items please email [office@occumc.org](mailto:office@occumc.org).** Thank you!



### Snail Mail List

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



### Drop off & Pick up Bins

We have 2 bins located outside the office entrance. They are labelled for drop off and pickup.

**The Green bin is for drop off .** This may be Personal Dignity Kits, Layette items, etc. We will check it daily Monday—Thursday. If you plan to leave something time sensitive or very important, please contact the office.

**The Blue bin is for pick up.** This includes Sunday School materials, bible study books, etc. We will notify you if we are leaving something in the Blue bin for you. Then you can pick it up within a few days, at your convenience.

### Special Sunday Offerings

**Native American Ministries Sunday celebration is April 18, 2021.** This offering is collected the third Sunday of Easter and funds urban ministries with Native Americans, scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist seminaries and annual conference Native American ministries.

**Peace with Justice Sunday celebration is May 30, 2021.** This offering is collected the first Sunday after Pentecost and it supports peace with justice ministries through the General Board of Church and Society and the annual conference.



You can support these vital UMC ministries by using the special offering envelopes in your church envelope pack, by designating an amount in your regular offering, or by giving online—pick Miscellaneous and designate the Special Sunday you choose.



## More Notes

### Parking Lot Worship Notes

#### Process for participating in Parking Lot Worship on April 4 and May 2:

We are looking forward to seeing you all on Easter Sunday at our first parking lot service (weather permitting). We have a great group of volunteers who have worked hard to make this an meaningful experience and tried to plan everything to run smoothly. You will enter from 13<sup>th</sup> Street only.... and exit out onto Puetz Road. Once in the parking lot, you will immediately turn right and be directed to a parking space. Once parked, volunteers with masks and gloves will come and give you a bulletin, collect any offering you may have, give you the option to check out hymnals, give you the communion elements and an Easter cross. Please come early enough for all to be parked as the service will start promptly at 9am. This is being live-streamed on Facebook also.

This past Sunday, we had a “dry run” and we found the music (you will hear Todd on the organ and Shelly singing) was very clear and sufficiently loud in the parking lot. Obviously this can be affected by wind, airplanes, traffic and motorcycles....but that’s all part of outside services! Remember to stay in your cars, the church is not open for use or access to the restroom. But feel free to sing, bring your own coffee, donuts and ENJOY!! The service will last approximately 35-40 minutes. This is the first important step in being back together and trying to regain some normalcy. The church’s Our team is excited to see you all.

*Join us for our Easter Service*

From Returning to Church Taskforce  
Lois Dillon, Chairperson



### Compassionate Care - Send them a note!

During this health crisis, many of us have felt alone and distance from others. We can only imagine what folks who could not get out of the house regularly feel like during this strict lock-down.

You are invited to show your care for those members and friends of our congregation by contacting them via the phone and/or sending them cards. Please call the church office for our shut-in’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 shut-ins:

Janice B	Ginger P
Kim D	Diane P
Gay D	Rod & Pat S
David & Jeanne H	Gwen S
Jean J	Eileen S
Elaine L	Dorothy S
Robert L	Rick Z



## Your Teams



### Leadership / Finance Team Meetings

**Meetings are on Mondays  
at 6:30 pm via Zoom**

- Monday, June 7, 2021
- Monday, August 23, 2021
- Monday, Sept. 27, 2021
- Monday, October 25, 2021
- Charge Conference Date to be determined
- Monday, Dec. 6, 2021



### Marketing Team Meetings

**Meetings are held on monthly basis  
as we set up this new team.**

**Our next meeting is April 12 at 6:30 pm via Zoom**

We are designing a marketing strategy for OCCUMC that we hope to launch in June. Please keep our team in your prayers as we do this work on behalf of our church and God. You are most welcomed to talk with Judy D (Chairperson), Allan L, Dale T, Patty A, or Pastor Wendee for more information.

### Trustees Team Meetings

**Meetings are on the 2nd Tuesdays  
at 6:30 pm via Zoom**

- Tuesday, April 13, 2021
- Tuesday, May 11, 2021
- Tuesday, June 8, 2021
- Tuesday, July 13, 2021
- Tuesday Aug. 10, 2021
- Tuesday Sept. 14, 2021
- Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021
- Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2021
- Tuesday Dec. 14, 2021



### Staff Parish Relations Team Meetings

**Meetings are held once a quarter on Mondays  
at 6:30 pm via Zoom**

- Monday, May 10, 2021
- Monday, June 14, 2021
- Monday, August 9, 2021
- Monday, September 13, 2021
- Monday, October 11, 2021
- Monday, November 8, 2021

## UMC Circuit 07 & 08 Shared Ministry

**Welcome to the Masih Family to the Milwaukee area!**

The Masih's are a Pakistani Christian family who recently moved to the USA via the refugee relocation process. The Algoma Boulevard UMC has been working to help settle the family for a while. In November, the Masih family moved to the Milwaukee area to connected with other Pakistani families. The father is Fiaz, the mother is Iffat, the oldest boy is Ayan (5 years old), the second boy is Jason (3 years old), and the youngest is Megan (18 months).

As part of UMC Circuits 07 & 08, we hear the call to assist, support, and build relationships with the Masih family. Each church will ask a few people to be a part of a support team. So far from OCCUMC, we have Dale T Oliver C, Diane L, and Pastor Wendee Nitz. West Allis: Blessed Hope UMC, Greenfield: Memorial UMC, and Greenfield: Christ UMC are involved and responding to the Masih family's needs. If you are interested in forming a circle of care around this family, please contact Dale T or Pastor Wendee.

## Your Teams (continued)

### Sunday School



Words of gratitude for all who have participated in our “unusual” Zoom Sunday School this past year. Families have participated in class. Teachers have shared their love of God with their students. The Christian Education Team has dedicated time and energy to make Sunday school happen. We have all been blessed! We want to thank all who have made Sunday school happen this year!

Please share your thanks with the following people:

Our Christian Education Team members: Jen K (Chairperson), Mark O', Alex C, Laura M, and Pastor Wendee

Our Sunday school teachers: Oliver C, Cheryl C, Alex C, Dale T, Allan L, Eric vH, Pastor Wendee, Diane L, Jen K, Wendy B, Susan J, Megan F, Bonnie C, and Lynn W

Our Sunday School Substitute Teachers: Debbi S and Laura M

Our Sunday School Curriculum Official Organizers: Jen K, Mark O and Diane L

### Staff Parish Relations Team update

One of the responsibilities of the SPR Team is hiring staff. We are currently searching for a qualified Administrative Assistant. Although we have interviewed some candidates we have not yet found the right fit.



We especially thank Kathy B, Bonnie C, Barb K, Judith P, Diane L, Alex C and all others who are helping in the church office while a search is taking place.

SPR Team along with Pastor Wendee have developed 3 Smart Goals going forward in 2021.

1. How are we going to move through Covid 19 and make disciples for Jesus
2. To prepare the members of OCCUMC on how to support an increase in the Diversity of its membership and in staffing.
3. Reaching out into the community to serve the needs of others and our members especially families, youth, and young adults.

If you wish to share any ideas or thoughts on these 3 goals please feel free to reach out to any of the SPR Team members.

Our next meeting is Monday May 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 on Zoom.

Dale T [dalet251160@hotmail.com](mailto:dalet251160@hotmail.com) 847-917-9294

### Message From Bishop Hee Soo Jung

#### Moving Forward

As the scripture has said, “Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.” Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, ‘This is really the prophet.’ Others said, ‘This is the Messiah.’ But some asked, ‘Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he? Has not the scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?’ So there was a division in the crowd because of him. (John 7:38b-43)

One rhetorical question Christians ask on a regular basis is, “Are we being faithful?” The fundamental answer is, “not yet, but we are trying.” John Wesley spoke regularly about how human beings are “being perfected in love in this life,” but this was an honest acknowledgement that we are not yet perfect. We are flawed and weak of will, and for this reason we need a Savior. This is why we need Jesus.

But the author of the gospel of John returned regularly to a clear human failing: even with Jesus, we do not always agree, and things do not always play out the way God intends. God’s grand vision for unity and oneness as the incarnate body of Christ for the world is regularly undermined by our human penchant for disagreement and debate.

United Methodists who have represented our global church at General Conference have first-hand experience of disunity within the fellowship. We find creative ways to discuss and debate just about anything you can think of. And yet, this is what it means to be the church of Jesus Christ, as Paul reminds us in Philippians, “to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling.” (Philippians 2:12b) Our reality is that different groups of United Methodists discern God’s will for the world and the church differently. Some feel that God intends we be one in Christ, reflecting Paul’s vision in Philippians 2:1-5, “If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,” Others are more persuaded by words attributed to Jesus in Luke 12:49-53, “I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three;” where not everyone belongs together. All of us wrestle with our baptismal covenant and the theology of our communion liturgy which asks the Holy Spirit to “make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry for all the world.

We have come to a critical crossroads in our life of faith together as United Methodist disciples and stewards. Some have determined they can no longer abide a denomination committed to full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ peoples and who hold a more inclusive and progressive interpretation of scripture and an adaptive and expansive theology. There is a heartfelt desire and need for a more historic and traditional interpretation of the Bible with a stricter and clearer defining theology.



Others have decided they can no longer wait for The United Methodist Church to get its act together and actually love and affirm all of God's blessed children, created as they are in God's image without judgment, condemnation, and hate. They are seeking a Biblical faith and theological frame that recognizes that the Holy Spirit is alive and at work to help us move from a mythic/magic interpretation of the Christian faith to a transcendent awareness of God as love.

While we may debate various points of doctrine, polity, and theology, almost everything boils down to our interpretation of the authority of Biblical interpretation and our defining discernment of God's Holy Spirit at work in the world and church today. We seemingly cannot agree.

For this reason, some United Methodists have banded together to launch new denominations – the Global Methodist Church (<https://www.globalmethodist.org/>) and the Liberation Methodist Connexion ([Home - Liberation Methodist Connexion \(thelmx.org\)](http://thelmx.org)) – that offer people an option if they feel The United Methodist Church is no longer the best fit for their sense of belief, behavior, and belonging.

The United Methodist Church is still proclaiming an invitation to full inclusion and the offer of God's unmerited grace and unconditional love to all people regardless of race, gender, language, ethnicity, sexual orientation, caste, class, education, economic status, or culture. We remain committed to serving all of God's children and creation. Our leadership seeks to live into a unity and fellowship grounded fully in the power and strength of God's Holy Spirit.


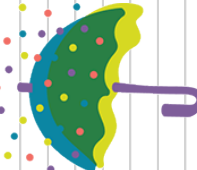



I want to also make sure everyone is aware that our General Conference has been postponed a second time due to the global pandemic, and we will (hopefully) gather in Minneapolis, Minnesota to figure out our future together or apart. We openly acknowledge the many challenges facing our church, but we also confess that what is impossible for flawed and well-meaning human beings is always possible for God through the power of the Holy Spirit. This will be a Holy Conference, worshipful work, regardless of disagreement or debate. I am calling on all Wisconsin United Methodists, regardless of your allegiance to the existing or new denomination to hold General Conference, Jurisdictional Conference, and the future of our church and witness.

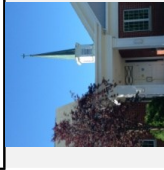
It is never easy to break apart, to separate and go our own way. Relationships are precious, fellowship is essential, and we often believe that our covenants are forever. There will be pain. There will be grief. There will be loss. But this is part of life; we face such partings all the time. How we separate, how we unite, how we disagree, and how we speak of one another is critically important. Let us pray that regardless of the future that unfolds, we may travel through with the utmost grace, kindness, compassion, mercy, and love as possible, truly trusting that God will walk with us all, every step of the way.

Thanks be to God!

*Bishop Hee Soo Jung*

*Note from Pastor Wendee—Please contact me if you would like to talk about the Bishop's letter.*





<h1>April 2021</h1>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>4 Easter Sunday</b> 9:00 am Worship Parking Lot and Facebook Live 10:00 am Facebook Recording	 <b>5</b> NO Preschool	<b>6</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>7</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>1</b>  <b>Maundy Thursday</b> Communion NO Preschool 10:30 am Sarah UMC Circle 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship	<b>2</b>  <b>Good Friday</b>	<b>3</b> 9:00 am UMW Mission Action Day
-----Pastor Wendee on vacation April 5 thru April 11 Rev. Rob Odum on call 414-238-8367-----						
<b>11 Larry Gamble preaching</b> 9:00 Worship Facebook Live 10:00 am Facebook Recording 10:30 am Sunday School	<b>12</b> 9:00 am Preschool 6:30 pm Marketing Team 7:00 pm AA	<b>13</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>14</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>15 Taxes Day!</b> 9:00 am Preschool 10:30 am Sarah UMC Circle	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18 Native American Ministries!</b> Special Offering 9:00 Worship Facebook Live 10:00 am Facebook Recording 10:30 am Sunday School	<b>19</b> 9:00 am Preschool 6:30 pm Leadership/Finance 7:00 pm AA	<b>20</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>21</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>22</b> 9:00 am Preschool 10:30 am Sarah UMC Circle	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:00 Worship Facebook Live 10:00 am Facebook Recording 10:30 am Sunday School	<b>26</b> 9:00 am Preschool 7:00 pm AA	<b>27</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>28</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>29</b> 9:00 am Preschool 10:30 am Sarah UMC Circle	<b>30</b>	



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 8675 S. 13th Street (corner of 13th & Puetz Rd)  
 Oak Creek, WI 53154  
[www.occumc.org](http://www.occumc.org)  
 414-762-4600 | Church Office Hours - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Mon-Thurs.

**Sunday Worship Schedule: Facebook Live!** 9:00am  
 & Parking Lot Worship Easter Sunday  
 Sunday School for all ages on Zoom 10:30am  
 Facebook link at [occumc.org](http://occumc.org) - you do not need a Facebook account  
 Worship live at 9:00am or watch recording anytime after

# May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2 Communion Sunday</b> 9:00 am Worship Parking and Facebook Live 10:00 am Facebook Recording 10:30 am Sunday School	<b>3</b> 9:00 am Preschool 7:00 pm AA	<b>4</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>5 Cinco de Mayo</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>6</b> 9:00 am Preschool 10:30 am Sarah UMC Circle	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9 Mother's Day</b> 9:00 Worship Facebook Live 10:00 am Facebook Recording 10:30 am Sunday School 1:00 Tabitha UMW Circle	<b>10</b> 9:00 am Preschool 7:00pm Staff Parish Relati 7:00 pm AA	<b>11</b> 9:00 am Preschool 6:30 pm Trustees	<b>12</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>13</b> 9:00 am Preschool 10:30 am Sarah UMC Circle	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLIN
<b>16 Ascension Sunday</b> 9:00 Worship Facebook Live 10:00 am Facebook Recording 10:30 am Sunday School	<b>17</b> 7:00 pm AA	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 2:00pm-6:30pm Blood Drive 	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23 Pentecost Sunday</b> 9:00 Worship Facebook Live 10:00 am Facebook Recording 10:30 am Sunday School	<b>24</b> 7:00 pm AA	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10:30 am Sarah UMC Circle	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 
<b>30 Trinity Sunday</b> Spec Offering-Peace w Justice 9:00 Worship Facebook Live 10:00 am Facebook Recording	<b>31 Memorial Day</b> 7:00 pm AA					



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Sunday School for all ages on Zoom 10:30 am  
Facebook link at [occumc.org](http://occumc.org) - you do not need a Facebook account  
Worship live at 9:00am or watch recording anytime after  
OR Listen to the recorded service at 1-414-253-0437

## Opportunities

### Versiti Blood Drive - Wednesday, May 19



Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church has generously offered space for a blood drive and invites YOU to save local lives. Please roll up a sleeve on Wednesday, May 19— 2:30 to 6:30 P.M.

Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin is the sole provider of blood to every hospital in southeastern Wisconsin, and there is a great need to provide this lifesaving gift to our local patients. Appointments are highly recommended to provide for a streamlined experience and proper social distancing. Watch for a link in upcoming E-mails/bulletins to sign up online or call **877-232-4376**. The COVID Antibody test will be preformed on all successful blood donations.

OAK CREEK COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
8675 S. 13TH ST. 5/19/21  
OAK CREEK, WI 53154 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm



Thank you for being a blood donor! Double your impact by donating dual reds. or signing up with a friend. All blood types needed.

### Food Pantry

Because we no longer operate a food pantry here at OCCUMC, we encourage you to drop off non-perishable food items at the Salvation Army. Or you can visit their website to make an online donation <https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/oakcreek/>



Giving  
Hope  
Today

### Our Harmony Club

Will be open when the COVID-19 guide-lines allow for gatherings and OCCUMC is prepared to host. All precautions will be followed to protect all clients and volunteers.

Once we open, new and exciting venues are being prepared to entertain. We hope all clients, caregivers and volunteers are continuing to stay safe and healthy.

Blessings, Our Harmony Club

### Kenosha Civil War Museum

Would any church member enjoy a **FREE zoom with Kenosha Civil War Museum** 1x per month? Our Harmony Club has been offered this zoom. Just call 262-653-4141 or email Doug Dammann at [SPARK@Kenosha.org](mailto:SPARK@Kenosha.org) and **MENTION OUR HARMONY CLUB**, give Doug your email and he will send an invite 1 day before event.

## Opportunities (continued)

### Bibles available

There is a box of old Bibles no longer needed from the Adult 1 Sunday School classroom. Carlene said they can be given away. Please contact the office if you would like to see them. You can pick out one or more for yourself and/or a friend.



### Ingathering 2021

The Ingathering for 2021 is underway. Annual Conference, June 18 -19 will be virtual again this year. In each District several churches have agreed to be drop-off sites and OCCUMC is one.



Gathered supplies can be dropped off in the green

bin outside the office entrance. The Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC) truck will be in Wisconsin on Wednesday, June 23rd to pick up all the gathered supplies.

We are encouraged to begin gathering the supplies for Personal Dignity Kits and Homecare Kits. The lists of supplies needed for those kits are below. Items can be put together in kit form as indicated, or they can be donated separately. Monetary donations can also be made. Make checks out to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center.



#### Personal Dignity Kit

- 1 Bath Hand Towel - No kitchen towels
- 1 Bath Washcloth - No kitchen towels
- 1 Adult Toothbrush - No multipacks
- 1 Bar Soap – 3 - 4 oz.
- 1 Shampoo – 15 - 18 oz.
- 1 Deodorant – 2 - 3 oz. - stick, roll on, or pump

Place items in a 1-gallon resealable plastic bag

Video at [www.midwestmission.org](http://www.midwestmission.org)

\$2 for toothpaste and razor



#### Homecare Kit

- 2 Liquid Household Cleaners 16 - 40 oz (no spray bottles)
- 2 Dish Soaps 16 - 34 oz
- 2 Liquid Laundry Detergents 32 - 64 oz
- 1 scrub brush with or without handle

Place items into a 5-gallon resealable bucket with a resealable cover.

### Masih Family

We are assisting a young family who emigrated from Pakistan to Oshkosh and now Greendale. Iffat & Fiaz are raising 3 young children. We can help them by providing support in the way of gift cards...



Gas cards – Kwik Trip  
Pick n Save

AT&T Pre-paid  
Aldi

Wal-Mart  
Pizza Hut

The have 2 little ones in diapers – size 2 or larger 12 hour Pampers (please no substitutions here.) Please contact the Church Office to drop off your donation and God Bless!



We have one goal: building a world where  
there is enough for all



After seven decades moving towards this goal, CWS has the faith and experience to know it's possible. Working around the world, we've seen gardens flourishing in barren land. Migrants and refugees finding home even after every door has been closed. Houses standing strong against nature's worst disasters. That's the power of your compassion at work when it links to human resilience.

Sometimes the simplest changes can make all the difference in the world.

- A few dozen old soda bottles and some scrap wood become a water-saving nursery for plants to feed a family.
- A hand-powered briquette maker compresses agricultural waste products into eco-friendly fuel.
- A rooftop rainwater collection system helps a family thrive when water is scarce.

Will you make one simple change today - a change in the way you change the world?

[As a Sustaining Partner](#), you choose how much you want to give each month. It only takes a minute, and you can change your commitment at any time just by getting in touch with us.

It's as simple as the monthly subscriptions you probably already have for streaming TV or an online magazine.

You may remember that we're seeking to grow our Sustaining Partners by 75 new members by March 12. It's not about the numbers - it's about being able to count on reliable income so that we can plan to make the most effective use of every resource.

I know you understand how important that is in these days when many families are living on the brink. [Will you become a Sustaining Partner today?](#)

For more information about CWS visit [cwsglobal.org](http://cwsglobal.org).

## NORTHCOTT NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

A Message from Gail Nelson, SE District UMW President

Greetings UMW Sisters,

As we proceed into 2021 and figure out how to deal with our collective “pandemic fatigue,” I'm excited to share some of the good things that are happening at our UMW National Missional Institution, Northcott Neighborhood House.

Northcott continues its three-pronged success of training community members for living wage jobs, improving the community, and raising unrestricted funds through its Milwaukee Builds, YouthBuild, Habitat for Humanity, Transitional Jobs, Arborist, and demolition programs.

With one of its primary missions being youth services, Northcott is striving to find innovative programming for the community's young people that can be conducted safely. During 2021, Northcott will be starting a new and exciting program for youth in Aquaponics. They currently have two donors to help offer the program to Northcott's youth participants and ultimately the community. You may view the technology at <https://forkfarms.com/> to learn more.

Northcott is continuing to meet the needs of community members, many more of whom are struggling due to the ongoing pandemic. Northcott provided dinners for 1,000 families of four on Thanksgiving day, and as a result of the success of that program, was asked to provide meals on Christmas day. Northcott fed 700 families and provided 2,400 toys and gifts for children and youths age 0-18 on Christmas morning. Donations were provided for the event by a number of foundations and private donors. I had the pleasure of wrapping about 120 of those gifts! Safely-distanced wrapping stations were set up in the gymnasium, and the energy and joy were palpable as many hands made light work.

The food pantry is operating in full swing, including the delivery of 3,000 stock boxes to seniors, which will continue until the pandemic is under control or funding for the stock box service runs out. In addition, partnership with medical clinics has provided space for free COVID-19 testing and chronic disease care for the elderly.

Besides Northcott's community activities, the Board of Directors has been at work (via Zoom) updating the Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation, which hadn't been updated since Northcott was formed in the 1960s. Those changes impact both who are the members of the corporation and who are voting members of the board of directors, which in turn will require some changes to the wording of our South East District UMW standing rules. We'll vote on the applicable changes to the standing rules at our fall gathering/annual meeting. The details will be communicated closer to the meeting date, but I wanted to give you a “heads-up,” and let you know the reason for the necessary changes.

All the joy I feel when I think of the good things Northcott is achieving despite the current challenges helps dispel my own “pandemic fatigue.” I pray that it can do the same for you!

Blessings, Gail Nelson, SE District UMW President



## Open to All Women

### United Methodist Women



[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org)

#### United Methodist Women: Faith • Hope • Love in Action

##### We are women with a Purpose!

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

### Sarah Circle meets Thursday mornings at 10:30am

When the weather became too cold to gather in the church parking lot, the Cudahy Family Library invited us to meet in the Ladish Room. The room is open to non-profit groups by invitation. We resumed meeting January - March in the Garden Room - ten people. We share devotions, concerns and celebrations. We close with a prayer for Peace composed by one of our group. When the weather permits, we will resume meeting in the parking lot at church. That way more people will be able to gather together.



### Layette Mission Project



Sarah Circle has continued to collect, prepare, package and deliver layettes this past year, despite the pandemic, to areas around Milwaukee County. We now have four recipient organizations who wish to be a part of our mission, they are: Sixteenth Street Clinic and their satellites, United Methodist Children's Services, La Causa and Aurora Sinai.

We have had the support of others in our church besides Sarah Circle and would like you to consider being a part of this mission. We would welcome your donation of any of the following: one yard of flannel (watch for sales at JoAnn's Fabrics) for receiving blankets, a knitted, crocheted, quilted or purchased blanket, sleepers (size 3 mos. 6 mos, 3-6 mos, 9 mos, or 6-9 mos), onesies (same sizes), or if you would like us to purchase any of these items a cash donation letting us shop for you.

Questions, please call Joan K @ 414-215-7088. I would meet you at church or you could drop them off at the church office during office hours or in the blue bin outside.

Thank you to all who have been so faithful in supporting this mission.

### Tabitha Circle meets 2nd Sundays at 1:00pm on Zoom

All women are invited to join Tabitha Circle the second Sunday of each month at 1:00pm via Zoom. We share a short devotion, our cares and concerns, then catch up on what everyone has been up to. Please join us for an hour or so of discussion. Contact Bonnie C at [cc32drc@tds.net](mailto:cc32drc@tds.net) so she can send you the link.



## Mission Opportunities

### Cathedral Center - a little different this year!

Our church serves a meal once a month April - October at Cathedral Center in Milwaukee. To keep safe until COVID is under control, instead of asking for food donations we are asking for cash donations so they can order food. This will save us the drive downtown when we can't stay to visit and will support local restaurants.

They need about \$250 each month to order food for about 60 people. You can include your donation with your offering, note the amount you want for Cathedral Center. You may also give online at [occumc.org](http://occumc.org), pick Miscellaneous and enter Cathedral Center. Funds collected by the third Sunday of each month will be sent to Cathedral Center to cover the cost of the meal we are responsible for that month.



### Midwest Mission Distribution Center Trip (MMDC)

**August 15 –20, 2021**

**Would you like to join the 2021 mission team** for our annual trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Chatham, IL the week of August 15 - 20? You can come for the entire week or just a few days. Cost is \$20 per night (dorm) + \$12 per day (materials) + \$20 (registration fee.) Carpooling and scholarships are available. There are jobs for every skill level from sitting at a table to making desks. At this time masks are required for inside work areas. They can provide outdoor tasks such as the new community garden where masks are not required. It will be only our group in the dorm. We will be "family" for the week so masks are not required there. Come with a friend or make a new one as we work together on a variety of projects. Don't delay if you want a bottom bunk! Contact Bonnie at [cc32drc@att.net](mailto:cc32drc@att.net) or 262-895-2644 for details. Registration Deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup>.



**Can you help with the cost of this year's trip?** Scholarships allow someone to be part of this mission when they can't afford the entire cost. MMDC is holding the entire dorm for our group. We'd like to cover that cost if we can. Make check out to OCCUMC. Send it to 8675 S 13th Street, Oak Creek, WI 53154. Note MMDC Trip donation in the memo. Or you can give online on our website [occumc.org](http://occumc.org), pick Miscellaneous and note MMDC Trip donation.

### Missions Team Spotlight - Prayer Shawl Ministry

We have a collection of quilted, crocheted and knitted prayer shawls available for gifting. The prayer shawls are crafted by members of the congregation, with prayers woven into each stitch, and blessed upon completion.



If you know of anyone who would benefit from being wrapped in a tangible prayer, please feel free to pick one up at church. They are located on the table just outside the office.

Please help us keep track by providing the date, your name and the person you plan to give it to on the list on or near the bulletin board. You can provide a name or brief description, e.g. co-worker who is dealing with health issues, a neighbor grieving the death of her husband, etc. This will also enable us to keep your recipient and you in our prayers.

## Finance

### Treasurer's Corner



	Month of:	<u>February-21</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<u>General Fund</u>		Income	15,473	
		Expenses	16,605	23,958
		Excess/(Shortfall)	<u>(1,132)</u>	
<b><u>Fiscal 2021 YTD</u></b>				
<u>General Fund</u>		Income	31,708	
		Expenses	37,807	49,167
		Excess/(Shortfall)	<u>(6,099)</u>	
<u>Apportionment</u>		Income	1,595	2,693
		YTD	3,150	5,386

### 2021 Contribution Update

	2020	2021	Difference
General	32,185.00	28,725.95	-3,459.05
Apportionment	1,083.00	3,180.00	+2,097.00

## Many Thanks!

Farewell and thank you to Edith and Larry Gamble who will be moving back home to South Carolina in June. They have been a part of OCCUMC for 17 years. Their three children were raised in our congregation. Both Larry and Edith have been involved in many different ministries here at OCCUMC including: Trustees, Finance, Staff Parish Relations, Christian Education, Missions, Worship Leadership, and so much more! Recently in our communities, Larry has been a part of the Oak Creek/Franklin School Board and Edith has been a long-time child care provider at a local facility. Both Larry and Edith are dedicated and faith-filled people. We will miss their presence here at OCCUMC very much.



The SPR Team will be celebrating Larry's and Edith's shared ministry with our faith-family in June (date to be determined). Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we will gather after our parking lot worship at a safe distance to send them off with God's speed, our love, and thanks. At this gathering, we will present Larry and Edith with gifts in their honor for the Oak Creek Salvation Army and the United Methodist Milwaukee Children's Services organizations. If you would like to share a gratitude donation to these gifts for Larry and Edith, please send your check written out to OCCUMC with "Gift for Larry and Edith Gamble" in the MEMO line. If you have any further questions, please contact Pastor Wendee



## Many More Thanks!

OCCUMC is really blessed in that we have members who offer their time, tools, talents and gifts to make our little church beautiful. All churches rely on a strong volunteer effort. Without active members giving their time and energy, the church could not function. Strong lay leaders, strong volunteers and strong support makes for a strong church.



Members have stepped up and provided hard work and long hours... all for the love of God and our church. The result is we have beautiful new flooring and carpeting in many areas of the church due in large part to a donation from the "Tetzlaff, Fairbanks Donation Fund". New furniture, curtains in the restrooms from the Quilting group from their Vendor Faire monies. New drywall, painting, woodworking, chair rail removal, plywood flooring underlayment, trips to the dump, trips to Goodwill from the trustees, especially Daryl B and Keith S.

There was movement of A LOT of furniture, books, book shelves, computers, phone systems, nursery equipment, banquet tables, chairs... out of rooms.... and back into the rooms. Thanks to Kathy B, Pastor Wendee, Larry and Edith G, Steve and Lois D, Judy E, Judie P, Doug and Bonnie C, Keith S, Shelly S, Carlene W, Eric vH, Alex C, and anyone we might have missed. Everyone's help is appreciated. Incredible amounts of hours, meetings, phone calls by Kathy B with International Flooring Co. The trustees "rehabilitated" the sanctuary pews...tightening, repairing and replacing all the pads.

The Plan has the sanctuary floors to be stripped, cleaned and refinished this summer. There will be fresh paint in the Adult Sunday School rooms, Nursery and some hallways. Many HUGE maintenance projects completed. Generally church projects like these don't happen so fast. Possibly the fact that Covid had the church closed, we had a window of opportunity and the projects moved along quickly. All of these projects would have been very difficult if we had been open and using the church in full capacity.

Our church looks beautiful! Clean, fresh, updated, safe... the stained lumpy carpet in the office area is gone!! Stained Friendship Room and Doyle Hall carpet is gone!! Asbestos is gone!! It is very exciting! Soon we will be back together worshipping in the new version of our 175+ year old church...thank you God. ----anonymous

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Thank you to Kathy Brekeller and Kari Bloom and Dale Tetzlaff for their work on the new Church website and email system. Both Kathy and Kari will be supporting our new website for the next year.



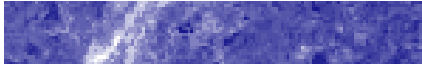
# Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church



8675 S. 13th Street, (Corner of 13th & Puetz Rd) Oak Creek, WI 53154

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Locate us on Facebook! [facebook.com/occumc](https://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.***

## ***April/May 2021***

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