

# Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church

## December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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As a praying church family, we are called to hold one another in prayer. ***Please feel free to fill out a yellow card located on the back of the chairs and place it in the blue box*** This week we invite you to hold in prayer these randomly selected members and ministries: Jeanne & Chris C and our Men's Group Members.

- From Oliver C: For Rebecca C whose grandmother passed away this past week.
- For the family of Eileen Stewart who passed away on 12/10.
- For Judi I, Jeanne C & Laurie S-M for healing.
- For all who are struggling with the first major holiday without a loved one being with them.
- From Claire M: For her son-in-law Ray T who is having another surgery.
- From Cathy B: For the Somali Community, especially those in Minnesota.
- From Joan L: For her sister-in-law Deb as she recovers from chemo treatment; sister-in-law Anna who had melanoma surgery; for Thomas Metternich's family as he had passed on.
- From Bonnie C: For Lois R who has been a part of our Midwest Mission Team and who passed away this past week.
- From Diane L: For the people of Sri Lanka who are dealing with the aftermath of cyclonic rains and flooding.
- For all of those affected by food insecurities.
- For all who are experiencing physical therapy and surgeries, that they recover swiftly.

### **Opportunities for Service**



Have you brought in your 2026 Estimate of Giving Card?



Our OCCUMC Annual Charge Conference will take place on **Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> @ 11:15 am** in the Sanctuary. All are welcome to attend.

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The 2026 youth mission trip will be **Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>**. This trip is open to youth who have completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade in the spring of 2026 through seniors who have graduated in the spring of 2026.

If you know of any youth who might be interested in this trip, please contact us at [arc\\_332@att.net](mailto:arc_332@att.net). Make sure to include the name of who will be participating and what grade each participant will complete in spring of 2026. In order to ensure we do not run out of spots, we are asking for a **commitment by TODAY, December 14<sup>th</sup>**.

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All women are invited to join Tabitha Circle for our meeting, **TODAY, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm** for our Christmas party. **Bring a dozen or so cookies to share and a small, inexpensive gift to exchange.** We'll need to get some things completed for the Women's Retreat - finalize the registration form, discuss decorations and door prizes, brainstorm bible verses and songs about joy, etc. Our Theme is *Sharing the Joy of Jesus* and the dates are April 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>.

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This is our **last week** collecting items for the Oak Creek Salvation Army Food Pantry. Please bring: **peanut butter, jelly, and canned meat** (like deviled ham, chicken, spam, corned beef, Vienna sausage, various kinds of fish, luncheon loaf). Please place donations in the Donation Center basket marked with the Salvation Army logo.





The Christmas season can be particularly difficult for those facing grief, mental health challenges, or illness. To honor these experiences, we invite you and others to explore the **Blue Christmas Service** – a special time for reflection, support, and community connection here at OCCUMC. Please join us in **Doyle Hall at 3:00 pm on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>.**

We're asking our church family to help us to the finish line with apportionments. This a relay race, something we do together as a team. **The main way we support the ministries of the United Methodist Church is through our apportioned funds**, a method of giving that proportionally allocates the churchwide budget to conferences and local churches.



**We are currently only \$9,000 short of our goal. A few families have teamed up to match up to \$3,000!** Let's rally together and finish the year strong with 100% Apportionment Giving!



A huge THANK YOU to all who so generously adopted tags from the giving tree this year, offering donations to Rooted and Rising Washington Park and The Cathedral Center. An amazing 79 tags were returned! We delivered 36 gift cards + a cash donation to the Cathedral Center. At Rooted and Rising, we dropped off 8 gift cards + a huge collection of winter gear, hygiene items, and some "bonus items" like bedding and children's craft kits that were not on their wish list but will surely be put to good use. The staff at both organizations were so grateful for your donations and are looking forward to working with us in the future, so stay tuned for further opportunities to support these wonderful groups.



*Christmas Eve Worship*  
*5:00 pm*  
*Carols & Candlelight*



Stay After Worship to enjoy:

- **Sunday School** for our elementary kiddos (L5&7)
- **Bible Browsers** as we discuss Isaiah (L27)
- **Coffee Bistro in Doyle Hall**
- **Sacred Headlines** which discusses current headlines and how they connect with scripture (L28&30)



**Worship with us virtually Sundays at 9:00 am**

YouTube: [@OCCUMCyoutube](https://www.youtube.com/@OCCUMCyoutube)

Please, 'like' us or open the chat to leave a comment so we know this ministry is beneficial.



We love all the children and welcome them in worship! If parents/grandparents need care support, we have a staffed Nursery available during service for ages 0 - 4. There are also activity bags available in the gathering area.

**Connect/Prayer & Praise 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](mailto:office@occumc.org).



**In response to God's love, you may support the ministries and mission of OCCUMC and beyond by giving:**

**In-Person:** place your offering in the blue boxes

**Online:** [www.occumc.org](http://www.occumc.org)

**Mail:** OCCUMC 8675 S 13<sup>th</sup> St, Oak Creek, WI 53154

**Electronic Funds Transfer:** [finance@occumc.org](mailto:finance@occumc.org)

The November-December issue of *The Upper Room* is available in the literature rack in the Gathering Area.

We have extras this time, so feel free to share a copy with friends & family.

