



# Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church

## Newsletter

October—November, 2025



## Learning from Creation

Beloved OCCUMC Family,

Fall has arrived once again, and with it comes a familiar rhythm. Our calendars quickly fill up with school events, church activities, and preparations for the holidays. It seems as though autumn has a way of pulling us into busyness. Yet if we pause to look around, creation itself tells a different story.

The trees shed their leaves, the ground prepares for winter, and nature begins its season of rest. Even as life picks up pace for us, God's creation reminds us that rest and renewal are part of His design. Just as the land is restored during its quiet months, so to are our souls renewed when we take time to be still in God's presence.

The psalmist reminds us: "He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul." (Psalm 23:2-3)

This fall, I encourage you not only to embrace the joy of fellowship and service, but also to carve out moments for rest. Let your prayer life, your family time, and even your quiet walks in the crisp autumn air be ways that God restores your spirit.

May we learn from the rhythm of creation—finding balance in both work and renewal, service and stillness.

Grace and peace to you all,

*Pastor Heidi*

Ways to find rest and renewal in the fall...

- ♦ Create a reading nook. Set up space with a blanket, pillows, your favorite book, and a journal.
  - ♦ Go for a walk among the fallen leaves. Breathe in the crisp air.
  - ♦ Visit a pumpkin patch or apple orchard. A truly classic fall experience.
  - ♦ Go stargazing. Take time to look up at the night sky and appreciate the stars.
  - ♦ Take a scenic drive. There's plenty of roads to explore!
  - ♦ Practice gratitude. Make a list of things you're thankful for to shift your focus to the positive aspects of the season.
  - ♦ Craft something. Anything. Be creative.
  - ♦ Unplug. Take a digital detox for a short period each day to be more present.
-

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON

#### **Mark your calendars for our Fall Puzzle Social!**

Do you enjoy making puzzles? Or do you enjoy cheering on others making puzzles?

Everyone is welcome to join us for an afternoon of great company and friendly puzzling on **Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup>**. **Check the connections for more information as the date gets closer.**

Coordinators: Michelle Peirce ([cmjdpeirce1@gmail.com](mailto:cmjdpeirce1@gmail.com))  
& Diane Wittenberg ([dianewittenberg53@gmail.com](mailto:dianewittenberg53@gmail.com)).



### GET OUTDOORS



The next Walk in the Park opportunity is Sunday, **October 5<sup>th</sup>** at Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve in Grafton. Car pool from OCCUMC @ 11:00 am

**MEAL OR  
SNACK  
PROVIDED**

### SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

Participation in a small groups at OCCUMC is important because this is where we form stronger relationships, grow spiritually, and find that sense of community among our faith family. In a smaller, more personal setting, we can share our lives, study Scripture more intimately, and support one another through prayer and encouragement. Small groups also help us stay connected and care for one another more effectively, making the larger congregation feel more like a spiritual family.

Save the dates for these two Small Group opportunities:



In this series, we'll focus on the countercultural, often radical way that Jesus calls his followers to relate to their resources, financial and otherwise. This way of relating stems from a relationship with Christ, shaping values and an identity that comes alive in daily action to transform our relationships with others and the world.

Wednesdays in the Church Library:  
October 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>  
10:30 am Lead by Liz Imoehl  
6:00 pm Lead by Pastor Heidi



Many of us find ourselves doing lots of preparing in this busy season of lights, tinsel, and wrapping paper. Yet, what are we really preparing for? Who are we really preparing for? This Advent, hear God's call: "Prepare!" – for the coming one, Jesus. This is an invitation to remove the fuss and ready your heart and life for the change that is coming when Jesus arrives.

Wednesdays in the Church Library:  
December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>  
10:30 am Lead by Liz Imoehl  
6:00 pm Lead by Pastor Heidi

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

CONTRIBUTED BY JILLIAN



All children are invited to join us for Sunday School on Sunday mornings following worship beginning September 7<sup>th</sup>. Each week we'll learn a lesson, do an activity, and sing a song! Join us in the Sunday School Rooms (L6-8) at 10:00 am (10:15 on Coffee Bistro Sundays).

## SACRED HEADLINES



**Sacred Headlines** is a new multigenerational small group that will meet after worship to explore how current events connect with our faith. Each week we'll look at a headline or news story alongside scripture, listen for God's wisdom in the midst of today's world, and share honest conversation about where we see challenge and hope. Together we'll practice what it means to follow Jesus in real life - at the intersection of faith, community, and the headlines. Come down to the Community Room (L28-30).

## BIBLE BROWSERS

CONTRIBUTED BY OLIVER CLEMENT



It's almost THAT time of year again!! Winter is just around the corner!! Bible Browsers meet after church at 10:15 downstairs in the Conference Room (L27). We are studying Isaiah and are up to chapter 40.

Bible Browsers is open to all ages, but is mainly geared for adults. We are a Bible Study group. ANYONE can join regardless of how much knowledge you may have of the Bible... from "never read it" to "I know it well". Trust me, we ALL learn from the Study Group. Come and Join us!

If you would like to ensure you receive the emails from class, please be sure to send your email address to: [OliverC\\_occumc@yahoo.com](mailto:OliverC_occumc@yahoo.com). Not only will you receive updates from me about the Bible Browsers, but you will also receive prayer requests from both members and friends.

We even have our class on "Zoom" if you can't make it into church for any reason. The link will be posted in the email. Direct questions to Oliver Clement at 262-902-5714 or the above email.

## 365 BIBLE READING



**How are you doing with the 365 Bible Group readings? It's never too late to join in.** Remember this is not an in-depth biblical study, but an opportunity to grow in the spiritual discipline of daily scripture reading.

Connect with others as part of the 365 Bible Group on Facebook.

Upcoming 365 Small Group opportunities:

Sunday after worship with Liz Imoehl in the Church Library  
October 12<sup>th</sup>, November 9<sup>th</sup>, December 14<sup>th</sup>

Monday at 6:00 pm on Zoom with Pastor Heidi  
October 13<sup>th</sup>, November 10<sup>th</sup>, December 8<sup>th</sup>

## SMALL GROUPS

### GOING TO PIECES FIBER ARTISTS CONTRIBUTED BY LOIS DILLON



Fall is here, and that means we are busy "creating" for our next **Craft Fair on Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>** at the Oak Creek Community Center from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. We have always been grateful for this church's support of our group. This year there will be **no** pre-sales.... so mark your calendars. We have stated many times before but it cannot be said enough... **100% of ALL** sales from our craft fairs come directly back to the church for projects and missions.

This last year we again did the Salvation Army Food Pantry Challenge and presented the largest check ever to them in May. We also supported the youth's mission trip this summer with a donation. Most recently, we purchased beautiful new window treatments for Doyle Hall and blinds for the Library and the Kitchenette.



GTP members enjoy sewing, quilting, and crafting items, BUT it's selling them that makes it possible to bring in money to help with these missions and projects in the church. Thank you and see you November 22<sup>nd</sup>!!!

**We welcome** anyone interested in sewing, quilting, crocheting or simply creating items to be sold with 100% of the profits coming back to our church. If you would like more information, contact Judy at [ehomestead02@aol.com](mailto:ehomestead02@aol.com) or Lois at [lsdillon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lsdillon@sbcglobal.net).

### UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

All women are welcome to join **Sarah Circle and Tabitha Circle**, which are a part of United Women in Faith. You do not need to be a member of the church.

**Sarah Circle** meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 10:30 am in the Library. The Book Club meets a bit earlier at 9:30 in the church library. Those participating in the UWF Reading Program come to share and discuss books they've read. Our meetings usually include Bible study, sharing our joys and concerns through prayer, planning for future meetings, and enjoying the camaraderie as women in faith. For more information, contact Diane, [dianelindsay54@gmail.com](mailto:dianelindsay54@gmail.com).

**Tabitha Circle** meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 2:00 pm for devotions and Christian fellowship. For more information, contact Bonnie at [bonnieclement05@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieclement05@gmail.com).

### SARAH CIRCLE CONTRIBUTED BY DIANE LINDSEY

Here are the tentative plans for the next few months:

- ♦ October 18<sup>th</sup> - Fundraiser Tea
- ♦ November 20<sup>th</sup> - we will focus on Giving Thanks.
- ♦ December 18<sup>th</sup> - we hope to have a Christmas party, with carol singing, games, food, fun & fellowship.



### TABITHA CIRCLE CONTRIBUTED BY BONNIE CLEMENT

#### Upcoming Schedule:

- ♦ October we are NOT meeting - we leave for Midwest Mission that Sunday.
- ♦ November 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm will be Retreat Planning
- ♦ December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm will be our cookie exchange and games.



## YOUTH GROUP CONTRIBUTED BY ALEX CLEMENT-REICHLING



The OCCUMC Youth group is for anyone in grades 6 through 12. You do not need to be a member of any church to join. We meet monthly in the Youth Room (L5&7) for faith-building discussion, fellowship outings, and service to others. We are always ready to welcome newcomers!

## HALLOWEEN FUN FOR ALL AGES



We welcome families of children and youth to join us for **mini pumpkin decorating on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am** in Doyle Hall. All decorating needs (markers, paint, glue, stickers, etc) and mini pumpkins will be supplied. There will be refreshments (apple juice, apple cider, and popcorn).

Please **sign up by October 12<sup>th</sup>** to reserve your pumpkin (sheets are on the Connection Counter). This event is brought to you by the youth ministry. Questions? See Alex or Cheryl Clement-Reichling or reach out to [arc\\_332@att.net](mailto:arc_332@att.net).



Please join us for an exciting **Trunk or Treat event on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am** (between worship and Sunday School). Families of children, youth, or young at heart will choose goodies, and there will be a prize for the trunk voted best-decorated! Please **sign up by October 19<sup>th</sup>** (sheets are on the Connection Counter) so we can block out parking spaces. This event is brought to you by the youth ministry. Questions? See Alex or Cheryl Clement-Reichling or reach out to [arc\\_332@att.net](mailto:arc_332@att.net).

## NEED A GIFT IDEA?



Original Art by David White will be available **every 2nd and 4th Sunday during Coffee Bistro**. All proceeds will go towards the Coffee Bistro Fund. Framed and matted artwork, notes w/ envelopes, etc. All artwork is ready to find a good home!



## TRUSTEES

CONTRIBUTED BY CLINTON PEIRCE

If you're a sports fan, this time of year can be pretty exciting! And if you're a fan of OCCUMC, this is an exciting time of year for us as well!!

Thanks to a generous donation, we have been able to make our parking lot beautiful with a new seal coat and bright yellow stripes. We took the opportunity to slightly adjust the bays, specifically the handicap bays to hopefully make overall accessibility easier.



Thanks to that very same generous donation, we added much needed independent air conditioning & heating units to Doyle Hall to help enhance that wonderful space during the hottest or coldest days of the year.



**Fall cleanup is scheduled for October 11<sup>th</sup>** and as always, we hope to use the time from 8:00 am - noon, to enjoy breakfast together and take care of the clean up tasks on our list. This year we are also planting 20 trees as part of the From the Ground Up mission, which is extremely exciting.

As always, if you notice something inside or outside of the church that may require attention, please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the Trustees (listed below) or send a note to Jane at [office@occumc.org](mailto:office@occumc.org).

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

## MEMORIALS

CONTRIBUTED BY JUDY DORDEL



Honor and Remember: a way to recognize those among us and those we have lost. A contribution may be made to OCCUMC to honor our loved ones and to recognize what they have taught us through their effort and example.

If using your contribution envelope or the **Memorial Guide brochure**, please include the honoree's name, the way you would like to honor them, and your name and contact information so we can thank you.

## DO YOU WONDER WHAT OCCUMC HAS TO OFFER ?



We've compiled a booklet titled *Worship. Serve. Grow.* that gives an overview of the groups and ministries we have here at OCCUMC. There are copies in the Literature Rack in the Gathering Area. Please feel free to take one or a few to share!

The Literature Rack also has booklets offering a wide variety of topics for your interest.

# FINANCIAL NEWS

## ENVELOPES

Remember: You only need to write one check. You can designate amounts to different funds on the envelope or in the memo section of your check.

## APPORTIONMENT UPDATE

Help us "Race to the Finish" with 2025 Apportionments! At this writing, we need \$15,702 to meet our apportionment goal of \$33,846 for this year.

**We need your help** -- whether you're a seasoned runner, someone who races to the bottom of a popcorn bucket, or the person who only runs in circles -- you qualify to help us make it to the finish line! We will "track" our progress and share updates and events in the bulletin and during worship. Stay tuned for more.

If you have questions or ideas about apportionments, please contact Jenny vH, [jennyvonhelms@gmail.com](mailto:jennyvonhelms@gmail.com)  
Michelle G, [jeffandmichellegibbs@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffandmichellegibbs@hotmail.com)

The Finish Line  
is in Sight!



## OCCUMC FINANCIAL CENTER

		2025	2024
<u>Month of August</u>	General Fund Income	\$33,446.30	\$13,338.15
	Expenses	\$21,219.85	\$21,237.54
<u>Fiscal / Calendar Year to August</u>	General Fund Income	\$196,820.84	\$161,721.06
	Expenses	\$204,938.69	\$190,985.34
<u>Apportionment</u>	Annual Total Given	\$18,144.05	\$18,494.50
	Annual Goal	\$33,846.00	\$31,884.00

## Contributions for Calendar Year 2025



- ⇒ Flowers & Gardens: \$255.04
- ⇒ Golden Cross Sunday: \$105.00
- ⇒ Hospitality: \$186.00
- ⇒ Human Relations Sunday: \$190.00
- ⇒ Memorial Gifts: \$100,100.00
- ⇒ Native American Sunday: \$165.00
- ⇒ Peace With Justice Sunday: \$105.00
- ⇒ The Cathedral Center: \$2,390.00
- ⇒ UM Student Sunday: \$100.00
- ⇒ UMCOR: \$2,867.00

### Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday  
9:00 am - Noon

### Our Staff:

#### Rev. Heidi Loomis

Pastor  
[pastor@occumc.org](mailto:pastor@occumc.org)

#### Jane Lentz

Office Administrator  
[office@occumc.org](mailto:office@occumc.org)

#### Michelle Peirce

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

#### Ed Kubes

Assistant Treasurer

#### TBD

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

#### Amber Yeary

Asst. Financial Secretary

#### Shelly Swodzinski

Altar Choir Director

#### Todd Anderson

Organist

#### Lindsay Gardenier

Choir Accompanist

#### Steven Siepert

Media & Technology

#### Cheryl Clement-Reichling



Nursery Coordinator

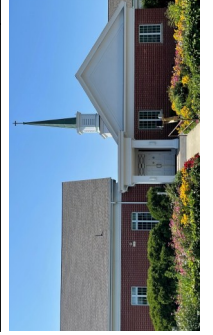
#### Heather Paniagua

Nursery Care Support

# October 2025

(as of 9/24/25)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00 am Preschool	2 Pastor @ Leadership Institute	3 World Smile Day	4 Puzzle Social
			7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm AA Meeting	6:30 pm See Spot Play		
			8	9	10	11
			9:00 am Preschool	Pastor's Sabbath Day	Pastor's Sabbath Day	UWF Annual Gathering
			4:00 pm Merry Mat Makers 6:30 pm SPRC Team Mtg	7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm AA Meeting		8:00 am - Noon Fall Cleanup Day and Tree Planting
			14	15	16	17
			9:00 am Preschool	Pastor's Sabbath Day	Pastor's Sabbath Day	18
			9:30 am GTP Meeting 6:00 pm Zoom 365 Bible Grp 7:00 pm AA Meeting	5:30 pm Cathedral Center 6:30 pm Trustees Team Mtg	9:30 am UWF Book Club 10:30 am Sarah Circle	9:00 am Men's Group 1:00 - 3:00 pm UWF Tea Party
			20	21	22	23
			9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School, Bible Study, Small Group 11:00 am Pumpkin Decorating 4:15 pm See Spot Play	4:00 pm Merry Mat Makers 7:00 pm AA Meeting	7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm AA Meeting	6:30 pm See Spot Play
			27	28	29	30
			9:00 am Worship Coffee Bistro following worship 10:00 am Trunk or Treat 10:15 am Sunday School, Bible Study, Small Group	7:00 pm AA Meeting	4:00 pm Merry Mat Makers 7:00 pm AA Meeting	7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm AA Meeting
			31	Pastor's Sabbath Day	Pastor's Sabbath Day	



**Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church**  
 8675 South 13<sup>th</sup> Street (corner of 13<sup>th</sup> & Puetz Rd)  
 Oak Creek, WI 53154  
[www.occumc.org](http://www.occumc.org)  
 414-762-4600






**WORSHIP**  
*with us*

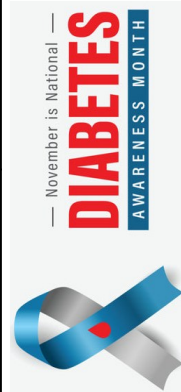
Sunday Worship 9:00 am In-Person  
 Sunday School for all ages @ 10:00 am every Sunday  
 Worship live or watch anytime on [YouTube @OCCUMCyoutube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUJCyoutube)

Church Office Hours: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Monday - Thursday  
[office@occumc.org](mailto:office@occumc.org)

# November 2025

(as of 09/23/25)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
<b>2 COMMUNION SUNDAY</b> 9:00 am Worship  10:00 am Sunday School, Bible Study, Small Group	<b>3</b>  7:00 pm AA Meeting	<b>4</b>  9:00 am Preschool	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Preschool	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Pastor's Sabbath Day	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9:00 am Worship Coffee Bistro following worship Ask the Servant Leadership Team 10:15 am Sunday School, 365 Bible Study Grp, Small Group 2:00 pm Tabitha Circle	<b>10</b> 9:30 am GTP Meeting  6:00 pm Zoom 365 Bible Grp 7:00 pm AA Meeting	<b>11</b> 4:00 pm Merry Mat Makers   	<b>12</b> 7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm AA Meeting	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Pastor's Sabbath Day	<b>15</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 9:00 am Men's Group
<b>16</b> 9:00 am Worship  10:00 am Sunday School, Bible Study, Small Group	<b>17</b> 6:30 pm SPRC Team Mtg 7:00 pm AA Meeting	<b>18</b> 4:00 pm Merry Mat Makers 6:30 pm Trustees Team Mtg	<b>19</b> 9:00 am Preschool 7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm AA Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Pastor's Sabbath Day	<b>22</b> <b>GTP Craft Faire</b> 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 
<b>23</b> 9:00 am Worship Coffee Bistro following worship  10:15 am Sunday School, Bible Study, Small Group 4:15 pm See Spot Play	<b>24</b> Preschool Conferences  6:30 pm See Spot Play 7:00 pm AA Meeting	<b>25</b> Teacher Work Day  4:00 pm Merry Mat Makers	<b>26</b> 7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm AA Meeting	<b>27</b>  Offices Closed	<b>28</b> Pastor's Sabbath Day	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:00 am Worship  10:00 am Sunday School, Bible Study, Small Group						



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Church Office Hours: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Monday - Thursday  
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WORSHIP  
*with us*

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

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Pastor Heidi will be on vacation October 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please call the office if you experience any emergency pastoral needs during these times.

Rev Grace Cajuat on West Allis First UMC will be covering for Pastor Heidi.

### PRESCHOOL CONTRIBUTED BY STEPHANIE PASZKIEWICZ



**Thank you** for helping our preschool with our wish list this fall. We were able to replace some outdated and broken items.

Do you know of any families with 3-5 year old children? Oak Creek Community Preschool offers 2, 3, or 4-day programs, Monday – Thursday, 9:00 – 11:30 am. We offer a quality preschool, licensed by the State of Wisconsin. Contact our Preschool Director Stephanie at [occpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:occpreschool@gmail.com) or 414-762-4600 to set up a tour.

We have another **fundraiser** set for Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. Our two fundraisers last year brought in almost \$500. We hope you can support us again while enjoying a great meal at **Cousins Subs on Ryan Road in Franklin on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm**. The Packers play a night game that day so maybe you can get an early start on food for the game.



### JOIN THE CHOIR



Choir practice **takes place in the sanctuary every Wednesday at 7:00 pm**. Rehearsals last until about 8:30. We welcome everyone from 9<sup>th</sup> grade to age 99. We sing all types of music....from traditional to contemporary. We welcome singers, percussionists, and other musicians.

If you have any questions, please contact Shelly after worship or call her at 414-801-1940. Otherwise, just come on Wednesday. We'll be in the Sanctuary. **We'll have music waiting for you! Bring a friend!**

### WORSHIP & THE ARTS CONTRIBUTED BY LOIS DILLON

Our goal is always to help enhance your worship experience. We have already planned decorations through the end of the year!! There are going to be beautiful things on the Altar and in the Sanctuary.

We hope you all enjoyed the summer series on Sunday School Bible Stories. Fall, Advent and Christmas will be beautiful. The exciting part is that **all of you** will be helping decorate the sanctuary for Christmas this year!! Details coming soon!!!



### Community Meals



MILWAUKEE COUNTY  
Health & Human Services

**Senior Dining** is offered at the Kelly Senior Center (6100 S Lake Drive, 414-481-9611) and the Franklin City Hall (9229 W Loomis Rd, 414-427-7696).

**Anyone 60+ can enjoy lunch.** Register for a Diner Card (applications are in the literature rack in the Friendship Room). There is a suggested contribution of \$3.00. You can view menus online. Reservations can be made the day before you want to dine. If you have any questions, call the local center or (414) 289-6995.

# UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SUNDAY



United  
Women  
in Faith

Thanks to all who helped in many different ways: decorating, putting together a slideshow, participating in the service, providing hospitality, and ensuring everything went smoothly.

Thanks to our two speakers who were both informative and inspirational. Most of all, thanks to the congregation for supporting us, and Cathedral Center, with gifts to welcome the residents back "home". We filled up a car load.



Thanks to you all for another successful event. Congratulations to Debbie K, our newest person to be recognized for all her contributions to missions, both for UWF and for the church. Together, we can do so much, as was proved by the carload of contributions to Cathedral Center, a meaningful service, and the wonderful fellowship and hospitality we shared. It's good to be part of UWF at OCCUMC.



## MISSIONS

### NORTHCOTT NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE



**Sarah Circle mailed out a** third box of used socks which has earned another \$21.75 for Northcott Neighborhood House. Total to date (\$76). We are still collecting CLEAN worn out, holey socks of any size, color, brand or fabric. Place them in the basket marked Sock Ministry in the Collection Center. We will continue to collect clean socks of any size or shape until we have at least 10 pounds, which we will then mail to Terracycle. Thank you.

### LAYETTE MISSION PROJECT CONTRIBUTED BY JOAN KETCHUM

Sarah Circle is so grateful for all of you who keep this Mission Project going. We continue to collect women's clothing for Aurora Sinai Hospital's Women's Closet and children's clothing for La Causa Children's Crisis Nursery & Respite Center.

Please continue to support our Layette Mission by purchasing onesies and sleepers in sizes 0 - 6 months and 1 yard of flannel for receiving blankets. Continue working your magic with yarn and material for quilts and other blankets, and hats/bonnets for each layette. Thank you for your help; if you have any comments or questions, please contact Joan @ 414-215-7088 or [joanmketchum@gmail.com](mailto:joanmketchum@gmail.com).



### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY CONTRIBUTED BY DIANE LINDSAY



Do you know of anyone who may be experiencing feelings of anxiety, loneliness, or uncertainty? A prayer shawl may provide comfort and warmth and remind them they are loved. If a prayer shawl is too big, a pocket shawl could provide the same feelings of reassurance. Shawls are available in the basket in Gathering Area.

If you have any questions or suggestions for how this ministry may be more effective, please contact Diane ([dianelindsay54@gmail.com](mailto:dianelindsay54@gmail.com)) or text/phone (414-510-9342).

### GARDEN MINISTRY CONTRIBUTED BY LOIS DILLON

Well, fall is here and its taking a toll on our beautiful gardens. We hope you enjoyed all the beautiful flowers from April until now.

We will be starting our fall cleanup soon and we are such a welcoming group that we are inviting EVERYONE to participate!! Feel free to help anytime.

If you have any questions on what and where to do anything, talk to Kathy B, Lois D, Jan K, Janet P or Shelly S.



### MERRY MAT MAKERS CONTRIBUTED BY BONNIE CLEMENT



The Merry Mat Makers have finished 18 sleeping mats. We are collecting bags for the sleeping mats. We're asking for thicker ones only (Festival, Menards, Sendik's, Kwik Trip, Target). As always, the bags need to be clean, dry and empty of all contents. Flattened bags are especially appreciated.

If you would like to help make these mats come to Room L09 on Tuesdays from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. If this time doesn't work for you, contact Joanne ([grandmajo414@hotmail.com](mailto:grandmajo414@hotmail.com)). She is happy to show you what to do at a time that is convenient for you. You are welcome to come work on the loom during office hours as your schedule allows or take supplies home to work there.

# MISSIONS

## MISSIONARIES

### Meet Our Missionaries



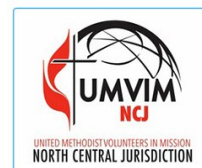
**#STILLINMISSION** – Are you interested in learning more about United Methodist missionaries? Do you wonder what day-to-day life is like in mission? Get details and register at [umcmission.org/stillinmission](http://umcmission.org/stillinmission).

Upcoming online dates: October 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 11:00 am, November 6<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 am, December 4<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 am.

## VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

CONTRIBUTED BY BONNIE CLEMENT

Volunteers in Mission (VIM) provides volunteer opportunities to express Christ's love by helping our brothers and sisters in our local community, across our nation and around the globe through disaster response activities, housing projects and rehabilitation, education, and medical assistance. When we reach out and use what God has given us in the service of others, we have life-transforming experiences.



For more information on mission opportunities such as costs and registration deadlines, go to: [wisconsinumc.org/volunteers-in-mission](http://wisconsinumc.org/volunteers-in-mission).

## UMCOR



United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) responds to disasters in the United States and around the world by working with communities and local partners. When a disaster overwhelms a community's ability to recover on its own, UMCOR provides essential

relief supplies and supports long-term rebuilding efforts, with local churches being the first responders to their communities.

**Now more than ever, your donations big or small are needed.** The biggest concern right now is for the U.S. disasters in Texas. Prayerfully consider a donation with your regular offering by noting the amount you want donated to UMCOR in the memo section of your check, or by giving online at [occumc.org](http://occumc.org) > Online Giving > Donate Now > UMCOR > Guadalupe River Flood. Remember, 100% of your donation goes to the relief efforts.

## THE CATHEDRAL CENTER

CONTRIBUTED BY JOANNE MUELLER

We are serving monthly dinners at The Cathedral Center on **October 21st & November 20<sup>th</sup>**. If you would like to volunteer to serve, please contact Joanne (414-817-2914) or Diane (414-405-0153). We would like to have at least six workers for each date. Sign-up sheets for volunteering and food needs are on the counter in the Connection Center. We leave church at 5:30 pm and return about 8:30 or 9:00 pm.



If making food for October 21<sup>st</sup>, you may bring it to church Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> before worship or Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 am - Noon and leave it in the kitchen refrigerator. If you are making a hot & ready to eat main dish, please bring it to church Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> between 5:00 pm & 5:30 pm.



If you are unable to volunteer, please consider supporting the mission financially. We welcome donations with your regular offering. Just designate the amount you want donated to The Cathedral Center on your check in the memo section. You may also give online at [occumc.org](http://occumc.org) > Online Giving > Donate Now > The Cathedral Center.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### 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** also provides a 2-3-day supply of emergency food to neighborhood individuals and families in these zip codes: 53129, 53130, 53132, & 53154, on **Wednesday & Thursdays: 9:00 am - Noon; and the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month from 2:00 - 5:00 pm.**

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 food pantries.

**The following are required in order to be eligible:**

- Client picture ID (Must have current address and be shown every time).
- School record, Birth Record/Birth Certificate for children in household. If you do not have this information you will only be served for yourself and not the other household members.
- 2 proofs of residence (Mail and utility bill from the last 30 days).

### MOBILE MARKET

The Mobile Market is a grocery store on wheels that travels throughout Milwaukee County with grocery staples: fruits, vegetables, milk (dairy & non dairy options), chicken, beef, pork, deli meat, cheese, yogurt, etc. Canned items or processed foods are not sold here. The market is an active store, not a food pantry or donation center. Prices are 25% off Piggly Wiggly prices. The market accepts debit cards, credit cards and Quest EBT, but no cash.



- ⇒ 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month from 2:00 - 3:30 pm at Lake Forest Apartments, 8471 S Chicago Rd, Oak Creek;
- ⇒ 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month from 2:30 - 4:00 pm at Williamstown Bay Apartments, 3400 E Ramsey Ave, Cudahy;
- ⇒ 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month from 10:00 - 11:30 am at Thompson Meadows Apartments, 32120 E Norwich Ave, St. Francis.

### 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. Qualifications are:



- 60 years or older (Bring an ID showing your age)
- Monthly household income of less than \$1,632 (1 person) or \$2,215 (2 persons)
- Be a resident of Wisconsin
- Paperwork will be filled out at each site by Hunger Task Force employees.

- ⇒ 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month from 8:30-10:00 am at Franklin Senior Meals in City Hall, 9229 West Loomis Road;
- ⇒ 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month from 12:30-1:30 pm at the Kelly Senior Center, 6100 South Lake Drive, Cudahy

## OFFICE NOTES

### NEW MEMBERS



Become  
Part of the  
**OCCUMC**  
Church  
Family

Oak Creek Community UMC is a place where you can see how your Christian faith can change your life, and how, in turn, that can transform the world.

We have five expectations of our members: worship, study, serve, give, and share. These five essential practices are designed to become a part of the rhythm of life on your faith journey toward becoming a deeply committed Christian. We believe fulfilling these practices will change your life in powerful ways, bringing you meaning and joy.

If you're interested in becoming a member, please contact Pastor Heidi [pastor@occumc.org](mailto:pastor@occumc.org).

### EMBRACING OUR COMMUNITY WITH PRAYERS

Please show your care for members and friends of our congregation who are homebound, ill, having surgery, experiencing anxiety, depression or sadness, or in need of encouragement or support, by using one or all of the below:

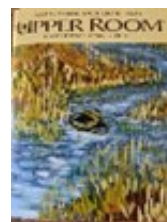
- ♦ The Sarah Circle **Card Ministry** has cards available every Sunday in the Gathering Area;
- ♦ Yellow **Prayer Request/Praise Card** are located on the back of the chairs in the Sanctuary. If you are worshipping virtually, please email your information/request to [office@occumc.org](mailto:office@occumc.org);
- ♦ **Prayer & Pocket Shawls** in the basket next to the coat area that you can give someone to wrap around themselves to provide comfort, or to feel like a hug. All we ask is that you let us know who you gave it to, so we may keep them in prayer as well.

*We always thank  
God for all of you  
and continually  
mention you in  
our prayers.*

**List of our OCCUMC homebound:** Lowell A   Jean B   Eileen S   Kathy Z   Rick Z

### THE UPPER ROOM

The September-October issue of *The Upper Room* is available in regular and large print in the literature rack in the Gathering Area. Please let us know if you find this publication useful. The November-December issue will be available the last week of October.



### CALENDARS



2026 Calendars are available in the Gathering Area.

### NAME BADGES



Do you have a name badge? Our badges are white with gold frames. Please wear one at events and worship. Contact the office if you need a new badge or have misplaced yours, [office@occumc.org](mailto:office@occumc.org)

If you've lost the magnet for the back of your badge, we have extras in the church office.

Oak Creek Community  
United Methodist Church

8675 South 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
Oak Creek, WI 53154

*October - November '25*

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



Oak Creek Community  
United Methodist Church  
Phone: 414-762-4600  
Website: [www.occumc.org](http://www.occumc.org)  
E-mail: [office@occumc.org](mailto:office@occumc.org)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/occumc](https://facebook.com/occumc)  
YouTube: [@OCCUMCyoutube](https://www.youtube.com/@OCCUMCyoutube)

*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.*