

The United Methodist Churches of Lakeview & Spooner

# The Good Word

## News for September 2020

### CONTACT US

715-635-3227

312 Elm Street, Spooner, WI 54801

[spoonerumc@gmail.com](mailto:spoonerumc@gmail.com)

website: [spoonerumc.org](http://spoonerumc.org)

Pastor Ferdinand B. Serra

[fb Serra96@gmail.com](mailto:fb Serra96@gmail.com)

### FOR CHURCH SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Spooner UMC is at

312 Elm Street in Spooner

Across from City Hall

Lakeview UMC is at

23980 County Rd X

At the corner of Williams & Cty Rd X,

2 miles south of Hwy 70 and Hertel

Find us on

facebook

### Church Meetings

#### At Spooner UMC

**Council/Church-** Tuesday, Sept. 8th at 6:00pm  
via ZOOM

**Finance-** Tuesday, Sept. 8th at 10:00am

**Missions -** Wednesday, September 23rd at 5:00pm

**SPRC -** Wednesday, September 23rd at 6:00pm



**At Lakeview UMC -** September Lakeview Meeting Cancelled

*Minutes of Church Council & Trustee meetings are posted at each church. Ask at Office.*



Check out the Spooner UMC website!

**[www.spoonerumc.org](http://www.spoonerumc.org)**

You can view the calendar, newsletter & any upcoming church events! Spooner UMC can now accept online giving!



When a Community Prays

*Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of*

*Christ. Galatians 6:2*

On Christmas morning 1998, Russ Robinson and his family climbed into their motor home and headed from Chicago to Phoenix, Arizona. Russ and his wife took turns driving all day and into the night. While cruising along in the darkness, the headlights suddenly revealed a woman dressed in black, walking in the middle of the road. Russ swerved, but it was too late. The motor home crashed into the woman. Her head hit the windshield, and her body smashed into the right side of the vehicle, tossing her into the ditch.

The woman, who was trying to commit suicide, survived. But Russ was devastated. He phoned a friend in his small group. His wife called someone in her group. The two groups gathered to pray for Russ. He writes:

Their prayer support helped me begin the road to emotional recovery. My community listened during long conversations while I tried to process confusing emotions. When I wrestled with God — seeking to make sense of the experience — people offered reassurance and other help. I needed people to pray with and for me, and I came to know what it was to have someone “weep with those who weep” (Romans 12:15). I experienced how the body of Christ can extend real, personal hands to someone in pain.

You need to invest in community today so you can reap the benefits during tomorrow's seasons of deprivation and loss. — Based on Bill Donahue and Russ Robinson, *Building a Church of Small Groups* (Zondervan, 2001)

We are in a pandemic time and no one can really expect or prepare for it. We are traumatized by our inability to control it and, much more, our inability to comprehend its devastating effects socially, economically, politically and even spiritually in us. This is a reality. This is a trauma. Someone explains trauma like this – “We become traumatized when our ability to respond

to a perceived threat is in some way overwhelmed. Trauma is about loss of connection – to ourselves, to our bodies, to our families, to others, and to the world around us.” And if I may add, we even lose our connection to our God. Thus, it is imperative for us believers to share each other’s burden because we are stronger than when we are apart.

The ‘tomorrow’ that Bill Donahue and Russ Robinson have been talking about is NOW. Let us support and pray for one another. Let us also persevere. We must not forget that the word “persevere” comes from the prefix *per*, meaning through, coupled with the word *severe*. It means *to keep pressing on, trusting God, looking up, doing our duty – even through severe circumstances*. - RJ Morgan

We are doing this without being judgmental to those who are suffering. Because “(s)uffering is not always a sign of something we are doing wrong. Sometimes we suffer so that God can prepare us for something greater.” - Nicole Kauffman

Our calling is to carry each other’s burden so that no one is living for himself/herself alone. COVID-19 is now here. We must be true to our callings and strengthen our connections/bonds with each other and with our God in spite of. Remember, there is nothing that could separate us from His love – not COVID nor other sickness or even death. Love. Pray. And Hope.

The journey continues,

Pastor Ferdinand B. Serra

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## Wisconsin Annual Conference 2020

The 2020 Wisconsin Annual Conference will be held virtually on Saturday, October 24th starting at 9am. You can watch the live-stream at [www.wisconsinumc.org](http://www.wisconsinumc.org).



## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

### Wednesday Evenings

The Wednesday night Women's Bible Study that was scheduled for September is on hold for now. Watch for future announcements.



We will not be having Sunday School to start out the year. We will reassess this decision bi-monthly. Please watch for future information.

## Children's Ministry Leader!

No special knowledge or experience required, just a willingness to support our children on their faith journey. Please contact Pastor or Carol at the church office (715-635-3227) or [spoonerumc@gmail.com](mailto:spoonerumc@gmail.com).



## Mission News

### September/October Mission Focus

Local Missions/School Lunch Accounts

We will be raising funds for the school district account that provides money for lunches for students with \$0 balance. We are also going to be collecting donations of masks & school supplies for the district. Watch for further information. We continue our year-round support for the food pantry and Ruby's Pantry.



## UMW News & Notes

UMW President Jean Kissack:

I recently purchased a book called Finding Peace in an Anxious World. It was meant to be a book for discussion at UMW Mission U this summer. Since so much is cancelled at this time & we are not seeing each other face to face, I am choosing to give you a book report. The book was written by Pastors at the Urban Village Church in Chicago and based on the Serenity prayer. It is so helpful in this difficult time. They define anxiety as excessive fear and worry that is disproportionate to the threat of danger. This anxiety affects how we are able to function in society. To help improve our ability to cope, they give a four step Examen practice. It can be used to close out one's day.

- 1) Invite God In: Say something like, "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46)

- 2) Express gratitude for God's wonders: "What am I thankful for?"

- 3) Review the day: "Where did I feel God's presence? Where did I feel His absence? Where did I feel peace? Where did I not feel peace?"

- 4) Pray for everything to be put in God's hands and for you to be released from it. Pray for wisdom.

Close with a verbal or physical act that helps you let things go. I hope you find this helpful information.



### Hospitality/Community Meal

We are very happy to report that our Community (Drive Thru) Meal is growing every month. It was a very slow start when we began the "Drive-thru Meal" in June, but it has been growing each month. This month, on August 19th, we served a blessed **104** meals. Our hours are from 4 - 6pm, but we were actually out of food by 5:30pm. A huge "Thank you & Bless you" to all those who baked goodies and to those who helped to serve the meal.

They can correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe that servers had a good time practicing God's rule to "Love your neighbor". The next Community Dinner is Wednesday, September 16th from 4-6pm. If you want to sign up to help us & also have a good time serving our community, call the Church (715-635-3227), Mary Shepherd (715-635-3742), or Lon LaBumbard (715-520-3933).

In God's Service,  
Your Hospitality Team



### Spooner Coffee Fellowship

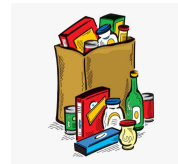
Coffee Fellowship is temporarily closed until further notice.

### Spooner Ushers & Greeters for September

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Mary Shepherd 715-635-3742.

### Online Worship Services Still Offered

If you are not comfortable/ready to come back to worship in-person, do not worry. Online Worship Services are posted on our Facebook page, "Spooner United Methodist Church", OR on YouTube - search for "Spooner Church Online Service September xx, 2020". (Change the date for each Sunday.)



**Food Pantry Donations** - Reminder that you may still bring in donations for the Food Pantry. Drop off non-perishables on Sunday at Worship or in the cart by the Church Office Monday thru Thursday 9am-1pm.



### **PARISH NURSING NEWS**

#### *Learn to be Resilient*

Often we will experience stress in our relationships. Resilient individuals develop satisfying

relationships in their lives. A cornerstone of such relationships is the capacity to be empathetic and to place oneself inside the shoes of others and see the world through their eyes. To become more empathetic ask yourself, "In anything I say or do, what do I hope to accomplish? Do I say or do things in ways that will motivate others to be willing to listen and respond to me? Do I behave toward others in the same way I would like them to behave towards me?" Make a list of words you hope people would use to describe you and then the words you think they would actually use. Reflect upon what actions you might make to change your behavior so that the two lists of words are more in accordance with each other.



### **Spooner Prayer Ministry**

***We have a vital and active prayer ministry at Spooner. We invite you to be a part of it. On this page you will find some of the ways you can participate. If you are interested, please contact: Jean Parker 635-3203 with questions.***

***There is such a cry for prayer right now & we need all the prayer warriors we can get. Wars, rumors of wars, natural disasters, unrest in our own country & many others, unrest in the house of the Lord. If you feel the burden too, join us every Tuesday at 4:30pm for a time of online prayer. Let Pastor know you would like to join. Everyone is welcome!***

### **Cyber Prayer Chain**

Call Jean Parker with your prayer request at 635-3203 or email at [parkerjj@charter.net](mailto:parkerjj@charter.net).



### **Daytime Prayer Chain**

Evelyn Safeblade 635-7536

### **In Our Thoughts & Prayers**

*Eddie Hovey; Ted Mitchell; Muriel Mitchell; Edith Todd; Judy Andrea; Luann Bergmann; Darlene Heller; Chet Peterson; Terri's sister Debbie; John Safeblade; Tammera Hartwig; Marge Bestler; Julie and Don Lawrence; Paty Brayton's mom, Shirley;*

*Brad Patchin & his daughters, Leah & Sophia; Colleen Haines; Sandy Christner; Michael Stair; Sue Staves' cousin, Julie Dahlgren; Elizabeth Walker; Mavis Cook; Pearl Andrea; Pat Morris; Florence Millard*

### **Remember our Shut-Ins in your prayers:**

**Glenview Living Center** - Mavis Cook

**Maple Ridge Care Center**- Grace Daniels; Jo Henrikson; Avis Thompson

**At Home**- Laurel Caruthers; Pat Morris

*\*\* If you see someone that needs to be added or removed, please let Carol know in the office. (715-635-3227 OR [spoonerumc@gmail.com](mailto:spoonerumc@gmail.com)) Thank you!*

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Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ at Spooner UMC:

Thank you for your generous donation of \$150 to Midwest Mission. Each donation is a blessing God uses to bless you & others. Your donation will leave Midwest Mission & be a practical example of God's love in the world to the "least of these". "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers & sisters of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:40 (NIV)

It is due to your generosity & partnership with Midwest Mission that we can touch so many lives for Christ around the world & around the corner. Thank you so much for blessing others through the ministry of Midwest Mission!

Yours in Christ, Chantel Corrie, Executive Director

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**SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE  
FOR WILL BE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST.**





**September 12th**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Morning of Every Month**

**At the Fairgrounds**

**NO INCOME REQUIREMENTS**

**Distribution 8:30am**

**\$20 donation – cash only – checks not accepted**

**For info or to volunteer call 715-635-9309**

## **Lakeview News & Notes**

### **LAKEVIEW CANCELLATION**

As your pastor, it is with regret to announce to the Lakeview church family that we will temporarily stop the in-person gathering starting Aug. 30 to Sept. 19, 2020. We will continue monitoring and doing consultations as much as possible in order to assess our situation. Please watch for more updates. We will resume gathering in person by Sept. 20, 2020 barring any complications. Online Worship Service will be available on Sundays at 10:45am.

We are ceasing to gather in person because four of our members got infected with the COVID-19 virus. We do believe that they had contracted this virus outside our church activities, but through personal interactions in their jobs and in their homes. Nonetheless, we are exercising caution. Let's take this time, therefore, to reflect, pray for one another, and share each other's burdens. We stop gathering but not acting or living as a church. We are the church. Let us continue, therefore, to shine God's love wherever we are. May the Lord bless and keep us. Amen.



Thank you to everyone who brought in underwear &/or socks for Lakeview's Undie Sunday! Your donations will be dropped off at the local elementary schools.

### **Coffee Fellowship Servers**

Coffee Fellowship is temporarily closed until further notice.

### **September Ushers** - Dennis & Terecia Zwart

### **September Birthdays**

Hank Mangelsen	22nd
Gladys Knoop	24th
Sue Mroszak	27th
Claudia Place	28th
Alecia Knoop	29th



### **September Anniversaries**

Roger & Sue Mroszak	1st
Don & Pat Israel	2nd
Hank & Karen Mangelsen	3rd
Mark & Noel Knoop	26th

### **Lakeview Prayer Ministry**

#### ***Keep these friends in Prayer:***

Harvey Asmus; Matthew Allwine; Eleanor Grunnes; Jimmy Harden; Pat Israel; Gene Hotchkiss; Scott Hotchkiss; Joyce Jacobs; Kay Krentz; Steven Durand; Hank & Karen Mangelsen; Laverne Hubbard; Desire Rosseli. All who need our prayers.

***Our military & their families at home and deployed.*** Matt Lester; David Lester

*\*\* If you see someone that needs to be added or removed, please let Carol know in the office. (715-635-3227 OR spoonerumc@gmail.com) Thank you!*

### **Clam River Tuesday Club Fundraiser**

The Clam River Tuesday Club ladies (majority of members are from Lakeview UMC) are taking orders for homemade pies. Due to Covid-19, the pie sale will replace their regular Autumn fundraiser. Orders must be placed by Monday, October 5th 10am. The pies will be ready for pick-up Friday, October 9th 3pm-6pm at the backdoor of Spooner UMC. If interested, contact Karen Mangelsen (715-468-2940) or Terecia Zwart (715-468-4135). Please leave name, phone #, & why you are calling if you leave a message. Clam River Tuesday Club provides support to local families/people in need.

## **GIVING - Resilience in Clay Jars**

### **September 2020**

*But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; (2 Corinthians 4:7-9)*

There is much being written about the need for resilience in our home lives, in our churches, in our communities and in our institutions. Resilience is the ability to recover quickly from difficulties; think of the tree that bends but does not break. Clearly, the Apostle Paul had resilience in mind when writing to the Corinthians.

There are three things that I believe a resilient church needs:

1. Devotion to a vision of ministry and mission
2. Knowledge of the spiritual gifts of members and friends of the congregation (the “treasure in clay jars”)
3. Nurturing of gifts through spiritual disciplines of prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness.

In these pandemic times, we will need to discover and nurture resilience because, first, our affliction will not be ending any time soon. Until there is an effective vaccine that has been broadly implemented (2 or 3 or more years in the future), church attendance will be dangerous to members over 60 or those with chronic illnesses. Our churches must be resilient, second, because we are not going back to where we were. A mix of online and in-person worship, participation and giving will be the new normal going forward. Finally, we must be resilient because the newcomers we need to survive will judge us according to how we adhered to Christian values during the pandemic.

In all ways acknowledge God, and God will make straight your paths.

Jim Wells, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation



**Spooner Community Blood Drive** will be held on Thursday, Sept. 3, 1-7 p.m. and Fri. Sept. 4, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at **Trinity Lutheran Church** in Spooner. The Red Cross is urgently needing blood. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit [RedCross.org](https://www.RedCross.org) and enter: Spooner to schedule an appointment.

### **The Bishop's Soul Food**

There are no good excuses, no acceptable reasons, no justifications, or rationalizations: the murder of unarmed black people must end. The brutal shooting of Jacob Blake, evidence of excessive use of force and abusive violence, is the latest in an indefensible string of the taking of black lives. This tragic event in Kenosha brings our national shame close to home.

Some claim that we don't know the whole story. We know enough. “Thou shalt not kill,” is a commandment from God. Jesus expanded the understanding of murder to include intention and desire to harm. We are viewing multiple images of a fundamental abuse of power.

This is not a blanket indictment of law enforcement and police in general. There are incredibly careful, compassionate, moral, and ethical police officers and police forces. We do not want to paint a picture of an evil empire of law and order through violence. This would be wrong on many levels. We support the legal, ethical, and morally correct enforcement of the law. But we are seeing regular evidence of broken, imperfect, harmful – and even evil – conduct from individuals wearing the uniform of law enforcement. This must end.

We pray for the family, friends, and community of Jacob Blake. We call for change, for accountability, for appropriate punishment for those responsible and culpable. We pray for every black woman and man, older and younger, who live in fear for their lives whenever they leave their homes. I want you to know that I and the entire cabinet hear you – racial justice must be a hallmark of ministry in the Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church. This is not simply an empty pledge, but a commitment to work together throughout our conference, with our local churches and the resources of our whole denomination to demand racial justice for all. Your brother-in-Christ, Bishop Hee-Soo Jung