

The United Methodist Churches of Lakeview & Spooner

The Good Word

News for November 2020

CONTACT US

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Pastor Ferdinand B. Serra

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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- Wednesday, November 4th at 6:00pm via ZOOM

Finance- Wednesday, November 4th at 9:00am

Missions - Wednesday, November 18th at 7pm via ZOOM



At Lakeview UMC - Tuesday, December 8th at 6pm

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

Ask at Office.



Check out the Spooner UMC website!

www.spoonerumc.org

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



Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. – Eph. 5:20

One winter I sat in army fatigues somewhere near Anniston, Alabama, eating my supper out of a mess kit. The infantry training battalion that I had been assigned to was on bivouac. There was a cold drizzle of rain, and everything was mud. The sun had gone down.

I was still hungry when I finished and noticed that a man nearby had left something that he was not going to eat. It was a turnip. When I asked him if I could have it, he tossed it over to me. I missed the catch, and the turnip fell to the ground, but I wanted it so badly that I picked it up and started eating it, mud and all.

Time deepened and slowed down. With a lurch of the heart, I saw suddenly that not only was the turnip good, but the mud was good too, even the drizzle and cold were good, even the Army that I had dreaded for months was good.

Sitting there in the Alabama winter with my mouth full of cold turnip and mud, I could see at least for a moment how if you ever took truly to heart the ultimate goodness and joy of things, even at their bleakest, the need to praise someone or something for it would be so great that you might even have to go out and speak of it to the birds of the air. — Frederick Buechner, The Sacred Journey (HarperOne, 1991)

St. Paul had reminded us that we should always be giving thanks to God for everything (Eph. 5:20). Including this COVID-19 pandemic? If we understand the word “everything,” it means everything. Yes, absolutely even it’s hard to swallow or accept this pandemic. It is like eating “cold turnip and mud” at the middle of cold drizzling rain in an open field and the surrounding is also enveloped with darkness. This is the reflection of Frederick Buechner when he’s hungry, tired, and situated in an uncomfortable place, activity, and company. In his deeper thoughts, he could still see the ‘ultimate goodness and joy of things even at their bleakest.’”

This pandemic has forced all of us to have our own bivouac (a temporary camp without tent or cover). It has exposed our way of life and our obsession to always be in control. The hard truth is that we are not, but God is. Some people are now hungry not only of food, but they hunger for touch, fellowship, company, healing and salvation from this viral disease. I implore you that we need to seek more of God's grace and presence so that nothing will separate us from God's love.

During this pandemic, we also learned how to adjust in our expectations. We celebrated our birthdays, anniversaries, and reunions in our own (little) ways. It doesn't need to always be big in order to have a meaningful and joyous celebration. But we can still go big in giving thanks to the Lord instead. On Thanksgiving Day, we might not have all the usual people sitting around our table. We might not have all the food that we have last year. But there is no justification to not give thanks to the Lord for his faithfulness and to not be grateful to the people who made our lives bearable to live (the frontliners/essential people, the known and unknown people). Even those who threw or have been throwing a cold turnip with mud to us.

May you have a blessed celebration, and Happy Thanksgiving to all of you!

The journey continues,

Pastor Ferdinand B. Serra

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF SPOONER by Lon LaBumbard

In 1879 the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railroad completed construction of tracks to the railhead. A small community formed there named Chandler. In 1882-1883 the railhead and population was move south two miles to become the settlement of Spooner, named for John Coit Spooner, an attorney who was instrumental in the merger which formed the railroad company.

According to information from the program for the dedication of the current church building, by Pastor Myron E Taylor, Methodist work in Spooner was begun in June, 1886, when Rev. L.A. Willsey,

then pastor at Shell Lake, began holding services at Spooner. The first meetings were held in a little frame schoolhouse "located near the place now occupied by the residence of Theo. LaFond". The early ministers were guaranteed \$1.50 per service, which was raised from free will offerings. The ministers drove up from Shell Lake with a horse and buggy. The population of Spooner at that time was 150.

Mrs. George Scribner was one of the first Sunday School Superintendents and was president of the Ladies Aid, the dues being ten cents for each meeting. The ladies sewed carpet rags, made quilts and had rummage sails to raise money. By 1888 the population of Spooner had risen to 400 people.....to be continued

Dear Spooner and Lakeview Church Families,

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we are deeply grateful to God and to all of you who have been so kind and generous to us. We especially thank you for sharing your time, talents, and resources for our churches during this unprecedented time of pandemic crisis.

In spite of the many changes brought by the coronavirus, you've been faithful in giving your support in leadership, presence in meetings, giving of offerings and help whenever a need or special event arises. You have created face masks that were given away in schools and to other people, carry on the mission projects of our churches, continue to hold community dinners, work in the parsonage, helped your neighbors in times of need and many other services that you do that were not mentioned.

Although we are restricted by social distancing, we are encouraged that we keep doing our activities such as prayer meetings and worshipping together whether in-person or virtual means, which many of us had just started to learn. We are truly blessed knowing that we dedicate all our effort to God to lift each other up in church and other people who need our help. We could have not done all of these without your participation, readiness to help, and most especially your prayers during these challenging times.

May God's unfailing love, grace and protection bless your families with good health, joy and peace as we continue to pray for strength and hope for the future. HAVE A WONDERFUL THANKSGIVING!

Gratefully yours,
Pastor Ferdinand, Rose and family



Spooner UMC 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.



Mission News

November/December Mission Projects:
International Advance Project & Partnership Project -
Baguio Project in the Philippines. Continue prayer and communication with pastor Lennox in Mwinilunga, Zambia.



UMW News & Notes

UMW is looking for fundraising ideas. In this time of uncertainty, cancellations and isolation our funds are low. We would like to offer two ideas for fundraising to pay our monthly UMW amounts to Harbor House and Washburn Christian Outreach. We have a beautiful queen sized quilt made by Cheryl Starr and our quilting group that can be seen on our church website. Minimum bid is \$100. Send any bid over that amount to jeankissack@yahoo.com.



The second fundraising idea for UMW is to make and sell pumpkin pies around November 24. We could bake them at home then sell them at our back door. I would need names of interested pie bakers, donations of canned pumpkin, flour, spices, evaporated milk and of course those willing to purchase a pie! UMW President Jean Kissack



Hospitality/Community Meal

Greetings from your Hospitality Team

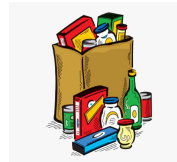
As you know, at the October meeting, because of the spike in COVID 19 numbers and the recommendation of the Conference, the council voted to suspend in-service Church Services for a time and we are looking forward to resuming those services in November. When we continue in house services, we will also continue all the safety practices previously in place.

This month was a different experience for those volunteers who make our drive-through meal a success month after month. So again, a huge "Thank You" to all those volunteers and to the bakers for the wonderful cookies and cup cakes.

Because of the weather this was a different experience for many of us. We had plenty of help this month and as usual we had a fun time. We served 76 meals and although the numbers were down compared to last month, the fewer numbers was not a surprise due to the weather. Lon and Pastor spent the entire time outside taking orders and delivering meals to cars. The rest of us hid out in the kitchen and took orders via peeking out through the partially open door.

So again, Thank you to everyone who makes the Community Meal such a great time and a huge success no matter how many attend.

In God's Service,
Your Hospitality Team



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.



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.



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 parkerjj@charter.net.



at

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; Elizabeth Walker; Mavis Cook; Pearl Andrea; Pat Morris; Florence Millard; Ryley Holden; Ruby Aukema; David Skille; Dorothy Hills' sister Cathy

Remember our Shut-Ins in your prayers:

Glenview Living Center - Mavis Cook

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

At Home- Judy Andrea, 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) Thank you!***



Pastor Serra & congregation,
Thank you for the continued prayers for Ryley Holden. His surgery at Mayo went very well! He is starting a clinical trial later this month. They have had good success with it and say he is the perfect candidate. We appreciate the thoughts, prayers and support!
-Ryley, McKayla, John (2 yrs) & Warren (8 mos)

SPOONER CELEBRATIONS

November Birthdays

2nd Bill Schroder
4th Mavis Cook
7th Dorothy Hills
8th Evelyn Safeblade
Karen Mitchell
9th Mort Dahl
10th Sheilda Kahl
14th Martha Matte
15th John Safeblade
24th Sue Staves
Barb Anderson
25th Jo Henrikson
26th Dale Glasscock
Mabel Mathieson



November Anniversaries

None

*****Please contact Carol at the church office (715-635-3227 or spoonerumc@gmail.com) if I missed you or you would like to add someone to the birthday or anniversary list. We want to celebrate with you!***



**DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
FOR WILL BE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD.**

November 14th
2nd 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

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 pages, "Spooner United Methodist Church" or "Hertel: Lakeview UMC") OR on YouTube - search for "Spooner OR Lakeview Church Online Service November xx, 2020". (Change the date for each Sunday.)

Lakeview News & Notes

Offerings/Tithes

Just a gentle reminder that Lakeview UMC still has bills to be paid during this time. If you have not been attending the Sunday worship services in person, you can mail in your offering/tithe to Terecia . She is continuing to make the regular deposits from Sunday worship along with those mailed to her. Thank you for your continuing support of our little church! Please send to:

Terecia Zwart
21222 county Rd H
Barronett, WI 54813



The First Sunday of Each Month is Food Pantry Sunday.
Don't forget your first Sunday donations for the Food Pantry. Non-perishable goods. Everything is much appreciated!

Coffee Fellowship Servers

Coffee Fellowship is temporarily closed until further notice.

November Ushers -

LAKEVIEW CELEBRATIONS

November Birthdays

1st	Pam Dunn
3rd	Karen Mangelsen
6th	Marie Andreas
19th	Scott Hotchkiss
23rd	Ernest Ziemer
26th	Don Israel



November Anniversaries

None

Lakeview Prayer Ministry

Keep these friends in Prayer:

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

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

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Lakeview Carryout Pork Dinner

Saturday, December 5th
4:00pm - 6:00pm
Tickets: \$8/meal





For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's

faith, both yours and mine. (Romans 1:11-12)

After long months of preparation and hundreds of hours of planning and coordination, we experienced our first-ever virtual Annual Conference, hosted on Zoom by GNTV. It was a learning opportunity for us all and I celebrate all the things that went well – and so much went well – and I confess that there is much we can improve. But I am deeply impressed and grateful for the way we worked together through this pandemic time to make our Annual Conference a success. With very few glitches – a momentary loss of electricity at the Conference Center gave us a moment of concern, but God is good! – we were able to conduct our business, celebrate our ministries, and offer worship and praise.

I will not list all the people who worked hard to make Annual Conference a success, because I do not want to leave anyone out, but I do want to acknowledge so much hard work on the part of so many people – Program and Arrangements, Conference staff, cabinet, elected laity and clergy leadership – I cannot thank everyone enough. Members of our Annual Conference have no idea how much is required to make this massive event happen. As I reflect on this year's Conference, there are a few significant insights that emerge from my heart.

First, there is an impressive and sacred energy that occurs when we gather together in person. Certainly we can get our work done, we can share presentations, and we can celebrate pre-recorded worship experiences – and these are very meaningful and important – but there is a completely different spirit when we are not face-to-face and side-by-side. Second, communication is very different and difficult when we are separated in space and time. We used a "Q&A" feature of Zoom, and this allowed us to work through our Action Items, but in "real time" it caused some frustration and some confusion. It reminds me just how much communication comes from seeing one another – words are often inadequate to fully

convey meaning and intention. Seeing raised hands, watching faces and body language, and engaging in person-to-person dialogue is a much richer form of communication than text messages. We were challenged to recognize and respond immediately to messages as they were received.

But third, and most important, my reflection is that God is good, and God's people working together in the power of God's Holy Spirit can accomplish great things. Beyond any limitations and deficiencies, what we accomplished together was amazing for this year's Annual Conference. The worship experiences and our ordination were not as we might have hoped, but they were wonderful and memorable in their own way. I found myself deeply touched by the memorial service. I had a wonderful, holy, grace-overflowing experience with our ordinands and provisional members. I loved and celebrated our diversity, our rich ethnic and cultural community. I am excited by all the new ministries and revitalized ministries reaching new people. I commend the dedicated and committed leadership, especially my partnership with Deanna Shimko and our Conference Board of Laity. I am so hopeful and inspired by our vision and priority to become truly radically inclusive and racially just. I know that we will work together to honor and glorify God in our thoughts, our words, and our actions as we create together – by God's grace and Spirit – a bright and beautiful future with hope.

For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. These words of Paul are my words. Paul's hope and desire is my hope and desire. I cannot wait to be with you all again, but until that time, I am grateful to God for the technology and community that connects us and keeps us united in our holy work. Blessings my beautiful Wisconsin people. Thanks be to God!

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung