

The United Methodist Churches of Lakeview & Spooner

The Good Word

News for January/February 2022

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- Wed., January 5th at 5pm

Finance - Tues., January 4th at 9:30am

Trustees - Tues., January 11th at 5:00pm

Missions- Wed., January 12th at 6pm - Philippines Trip

SPRC - Tues., January 4th at 5:30pm

At Lakeview UMC - Tues., January 18th 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!



“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” – Isaiah 41:10

We are entering another new year in our lives. Thus, we are welcoming the new year 2022, whether we are excited about it or treat it just like another ordinary day or year. But if we just ponder about it for a few minutes and ask this question – ‘What is waiting for me in the year 2022?’ What’s the first thing that comes to your mind, especially when you’re carrying lots of baggage from the past year? (Who isn’t?) But here was the promise to the remnants of Israel, who were in exile in Babylon, to not be afraid of their future because God is simply with them. These people were stripped of everything including their honor, dignity, freedom, and identity. They were plucked out from their country and their enemies had destroyed their Temple, which was considered then the earthly abode of their God. They were literally annihilated, humiliated, and destroyed to pieces. And God is promising them not to be afraid? Where was their confidence and strength coming from? The obvious answer is that it was not emanating from them as a people, but from the compassion and awesomeness of Yahweh their God. If this promise had been fulfilled and found true, then I don’t have a single iota of doubt that it will also be fulfilled and true in our own time, in our lives. God is, indeed, good all the time!

“Do not fear.” “Do not be dismayed.” Two negatives which were negated by God’s powerful statements – “I am with you,” “I am your God,” “I will strengthen you and help you,” and “I will uphold you.” Yes, we have no crystal ball to see the future that awaits us, but the love of God is already set in place; God’s presence is already waiting ahead of us. Whether we will have smooth sailing or bumpy roads to our destinations, it doesn’t matter because Immanuel -God with us and ‘Great is thy faithfulness.’

Charles Ellis of Indianapolis, Indiana is a tremendous sports fan. When he’s not at home, he will record all the sports events that he would like to watch later. However, he has the peculiar habit of

watching first the ending of the game and not the beginning. By doing so, if his team lost, he'll stop watching. But when his team won, he'll start the game at the beginning, get out some snacks, and watch the whole game.

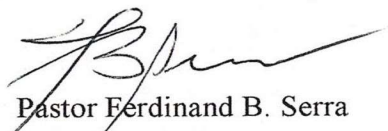
Some say that his method can't be much fun. But he loves it. No matter how bad things look for his team. He doesn't have to worry because he knows the end of the story.

That's how we might think about what Jesus did for us on the cross: no matter how bad things look, we don't have to worry because we know the end of the story. At Bethlehem, God with us; at Calvary, God for us; and at Pentecost, God in us.

Thus, through faith his strength becomes ours, and he reaches out to keep us from falling. Basically, he's saying to us, "I'm here. Let's walk together this year and the years to come."

May you have a blessed new year!

The journey continues,



Pastor Ferdinand B. Serra

1/2022

Pastor's Additional Notes

1. On behalf of my family, I am expressing my utmost gratitude for all the kindness and love that you have given to me and to my family this Christmas season. Thank you for all your well-wishes, prayers, and your gifts in kinds and in cash. May the good Lord bless you all and give you peace.
2. Please join with me also in expressing our deep appreciation to Carol Iverson for her faithful service as office manager of Lakeview-Spooner UMCs, and as treasurer of Spooner UMC. We highly value her contributions and dedications to her ministry. However,

she is leaving her positions this January 2022 on her volition in order to take care of her mother. For sure, we are going to miss someone like her who managed our church business/ministries well.

Thank you, Carol! We are blessed by your service. To God be the glory!



Mission News

Mission Minute: Focus on UMCOR

"Founded in 1940, the United Methodist Committee on Relief is the global humanitarian relief agency of The United Methodist Church. A part of Global Ministries, UMCOR works in more than 80 countries worldwide, including the United States and its territories. The agency's mission, grounded in the teachings of Jesus, is to alleviate human suffering with open hearts and minds to all people. Working in the areas of disaster response and recovery, sustainable development and migration, UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters that are interruptions of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own."

Summary of two of many projects:

"United States Disaster Response"

UMCOR responded to these disasters in 2021: Tornadoes in the Midwest and Southeast, Hurricane Ida, Flash flooding in Tennessee, Tropical storm/Hurricane Henri, Tropical storm Fred, Wildfires in the West, Surfside Condo collapse in Florida, Flood recovery in Oregon, Severe weather in the Southeast and Winter storms in Texas.

UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. Through UMCOR, United Methodists extend loving care to people within the United States. When disaster strikes, it is local churches that provide the first response to their communities. This basic understanding—that disaster response is local—forms the foundation for UMCOR's US

disaster training and response. When responding to a disaster in the United States, UMCOR provides training, financial assistance, expertise, community collaboration to churches and partners making them more resilient to disasters. Special advance number is Advance #901670

“Love Beyond Borders”

Global Ministries is launching a new initiative and joining interfaith partners in an effort to increase the equitable distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine around the world. Funds donated to a new Advance giving project will support “Love Beyond Borders: The Interfaith Movement to End the Pandemic” campaign supporting UNICEF’s global vaccine distribution efforts.

Proposed to Global Ministries by First United Methodist Church of Boise, Idaho’s, missions team, “Love Beyond Borders: The Interfaith Movement to End the Pandemic” seeks to engage The United Methodist Church in supporting UNICEF’s global COVID-19 response, including distributing safe, effective COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX facility, diagnostics and treatments. Global Ministries and UMCOR have supported partners in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and North America as they work to respond to the pandemic and its impacts.

Through this initiative, members of The United Methodist Church will contribute to UNICEF’s historic efforts in leading the procurement and supply of 1.4 billion COVID-19 vaccines to approximately 196 participating COVAX countries and economies by the end of 2021. For just \$37 dollars, members can help provide 10 people with two doses of the vaccine.

Global Ministries has created **Advance #3022671** for this effort to ensure that 100% of donations go directly to UNICEF USA for this project.

VIM TRIP TO PHILIPPINES - A Zoom & In-person orientation meeting will be held January 12, 2022 at 6pm.

AGENDA: Update on Philippines COVID situation
Firm up list of those going
First Orientation of activities on the trip
Deadlines for passports/immunizations/visa?
Brainstorming for fundraising

Questions? Call Billie at 715-939-0118



UMW News & Notes

We had a nice Christmas lunch at Tracks to honor Pastor Ferdinand and Rosemary on December 16. Jean Parker developed a calendar of giving to use as our Sarah Circle fundraiser since we cancelled the October auction. We have been busy knitting prayer shawls, blessing them and have given out four. I have ordered more Homespun yarn so contact me if you are in a knitting mood. Sewing group is also working on several quilts including regular, baby and toddler quilts. The last two Maple Ridge communion services had to be cancelled due to illness and snow. We plan to start up again in January. God Bless!
Jean Kissack, UMW President 715-520-2201



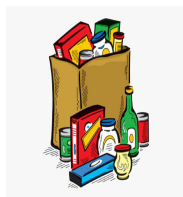
PARISH NURSING & WELLNESS NEWS

8 – A Sabbath Break

Let your soul catch up with you this week. Take a break from your hectic schedule! The biblical notion of a Sabbath, a day of rest, is a powerful idea that can really make a difference in the quality of one’s life. Your Sabbath can be any stretch of time during the week that works for you. An entire day may not always be possible, but a half day or an hour may work. The important

thing is that you quiet down, slow down, and stop for awhile. Sabbath is a time of recreation in the fullest sense—a time to be recreated in God's image and likeness, a time of rest and renewal. When we create some emptiness in our lives, we allow God to show us a hint of the fullness of creation. The wisdom of Sabbath is that it gives us permission to value something other than our many tasks and obligations, important as those may be. It helps us realize there is more to life than doing; there is also being. Remember, God rested on the seventh day. Don't you deserve a break today?

Food Pantry Donations -The Food Pantry can no longer accept egg cartons or magazines. Drop off non-perishables on Sunday at Worship or in the cart by the Church Office Monday thru Thursday 9am-1pm.



SPOONER UMC - THERE WILL BE NO OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2022. Just place your check into the offering plate or you may use your own envelopes if you would prefer. Any questions, please contact Mary Shepherd.



Hospitality/Community Meal

We will be doing a "drive up" meals for January & February. If you would like to come and help, please call Mary or Lon.

Wednesday, January 19th 4-6pm
Wednesday, February 16th 4-6pm

Thank you to the volunteers who help to make these dinners a success and for all the wonderful deserts. We always have lots of fun.

Your Hospitality Committee

Sewing Group

The sewing group is meeting on Tuesdays from 8:30-11am. You do not need to sew to participate. Come & join us!



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Spooner Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Team still meets Tuesdays from 4:30 - about 5:30pm. Prayer is one of the most important things we can do as Jesus Followers & praying together is such a blessing! Jean Parker

Cyber Prayer Chain

Call Jean Parker with your prayer request at 635-3203 or email at parkerjj@charter.net.



Daytime Prayer Chain

Evelyn Safeblade 635-7536

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Eddie Hovey; Ted Mitchell; Edith Todd; Luann Bergmann; Terri's sister Debbie; John Safeblade; Marge Bestler; Julie & Don Lawrence; Colleen Haines; Sandy Christner; Michael Stair; Elizabeth Walker; Pat Morris; Ruby Aukema; David Skille; Ryley Holden; Shirley Knutson, Alice Scalzo; Geri Skillie

Remember our Shut-Ins in your prayers:

Glenview Living Center - John & Eddie Hovey

Maple Ridge Care Center- Jo Henrikson

Cambridge Assisted Living- Sheilda Kahl

At Home- Laurel Caruthers; Pat Morris

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

SPOONER CELEBRATIONS

January Birthdays

9th Geri Skille
 15th Chuck Spelbring
 19th Paty Brayton
 Billie LaBumbard
 20th Kati Stumph
 26th McKenzie Mitchell
 27th LuAnn Bergman
 Molly Arf



February Birthdays

3rd Pastor Ferdinand Serra
 6th Jamie Dunn
 9th Rose Serra
 10th Madison Mitchell
 12th Tom Caruthers
 26th Cheryl Starr
 28th Andrea Schullo

January/February Anniversaries

February 14th Gary & Colleen Haines

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



Office Manager & Spooner Treasurer

Needed: Carol is stepping down from her position here at the church office. It is very convenient to have one person doing both of the duties, but it is NOT necessary for it to be one person. The hours of the office are currently

Monday through Thursday from 9am to 1pm (total of 16 hrs/wk), with occasional extra hours. If you or someone you know may be interested, please have them contact the office (715-635-3227 or spoonerumc@gmail.com), SPRC Chair - Tami Holden, or Pastor.

Spooner UMC & Lakeview UMC are following the CDC guidelines for gathering in groups. Facemasks are now optional. We will still have plenty of hand sanitizer available upon entry.



January 8th/February 12th
2nd Saturday Morning of Every Month
At the Fairgrounds
NO INCOME REQUIREMENTS

Distribution 9-10:30am
 \$20 donation – cash only – checks not accepted
 For info or to volunteer call 715-635-9309

Online Worship Services Offered

Online Worship Services are posted on our Facebook pages, "Spooner United Methodist Church" or "Hertel: Lakeview UMC")



Thank you to my church family & friends. Your kind words, prayers & thoughtfulness meant so much to me during my sister Carol's illness & death. God Bless you all.

Alice & family



Our thoughts & prayers go out to Sheilda Kahl & the Kahl family. David Kahl passed away December 3, 2021..

Save the Date!

Bishop's Convocation of Laity Leadership

Saturday, February 12, 2022 is the date set for the Bishop's Convocation of Laity. Each year the Board of Laity hosts the

Bishop's Convocation of Laity Leadership forum. This is open to all lay persons in the Wisconsin Conference. More information about the gathering will be available soon!

Lakeview News & Notes

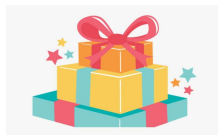


The First Sunday of Each Month is Food Pantry Sunday. Don't forget your first Sunday donations for the Food Pantry. Non-perishable goods. Everything is much appreciated!

LAKEVIEW CELEBRATIONS

January Birthdays

7th Jacob Gerlach
9th David Lester
11th Angie Quinton



January/February Anniversaries

None

February Birthdays

3rd Pastor Ferdinand Serra
6th Janet Nelson
9th Rose Serra
14th Dave Dunn
26th Melissa Gerlach
Cheryl Starr

Lakeview Prayer Ministry

Keep these friends in Prayer:

Harvey Asmus; Matthew Allwine; Eleanor Grunnes; Jimmy Harden; Don & Pat Israel; Joyce Jacobs; Kay Krentz; Steven Durand; Desire Rosseli; Jerry Brown; Becky Lawrence; & 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 the office know. (715-635-3227 OR spoonerumc@gmail.com) Thank you!***



Our hearts & prayers go out to Williamson/ Denotter family. Michael Williamson passed away December 8, 2021.



NORTH WEST DISTRICT GATHERING

January 22, 2022 9:00-3:00 Online Gathering via Zoom

Rev. Susan Amann Keynote Speaker on "Out of the Boxing Ring and Into the Baptismal Font – Clergy Wellness"

A district-wide workshop featuring worship, keynote speaker, and afternoon breakout sessions including:

- Trustees Training with Rev. Paul Gregerson
- Finance 101 with Sarah Sneider
- Intro to Accountable Leadership Board Model with Rev. Dick Jones
- Lay Servant Ministry with Barbara Hill and Jan Lorentz
- Racial Justice: Where to Start with Rev. Teena Racheli
- Clergy Wellness with Wisconsin Council of Churches
- Brick River Basics with Heidi Careaga

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/leadership-in-the-post-pandemic-church-tickets208006492017>

There is no cost to attend.

