

JUNE 2021



PINE Chips^{2.0}



United Methodist

Of Church of the Pines



Live Christ's Love

NOW!



At Church of the Pines, we offer everyone an opportunity to come to know the Lord Jesus Christ and to grow in a committed relationship with God.

We are Living Christ's Love NOW through Nurture, Outreach, and Worship.



Sunday Outdoor Worship - 8:30 a.m.
in churchyard at the back of the church.

Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.
In-person and Livestreamed on Facebook

Wednesday Prayer Service - 10:00 a.m.
Livestreamed on Facebook

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Did you get Pine Chips 2.0 in your email?

Not only is the monthly Pine Chips 2.0 sent to our church community via email, but we also have weekly announcements and events emailed and posted online!

Contact the church at (715)356-3041 or email office@umchurchofthepines.org

Pastor's Pen

PASTOR'S



PEN

How Will They See?

On April 25, a small group gathered on Zoom to explore possible ways for our faith family to reach out in practical ministry to our community. We talked about dealing with medical debt, addressing issues of poverty, and working towards racial equity and justice within our community.

We all agreed that these were significant issues, and there was good work we could do, yet we felt like we had more questions than answers.

Where do the passions and interests of more of the congregation lie? Is there another practical ministry area that we should explore or a need we haven't thought of that is not being met? How can we engage more of our faith family? How can we help people think about these issues?

Simply put, we need to hear from you. In the coming weeks, you will hear about different ways to share your thoughts, questions, and ideas and ways you can learn more about these crucial issues. You can share your thoughts if you are coming back to in-person worship through the Listening Well. On Sundays after worship in June, a member of the ministry council will be available for you to share your ideas and ask your questions. If you cannot come back to worship, you can email your thoughts and questions to listeningwell@umchurchofthepines.org.

I am excited about another idea we had to connect – a church picnic! We are working on a church-wide picnic on Saturday afternoon, July 31, 2021, out at the 70 west complex. More details to come but put it on your calendar, and I hope you can make it. It will be a fun way for us to safely gather as a community and learn more about how we can be in meaningful ministry to our greater community.

Finally, I want to invite you to be part of a unique book study I will be leading this summer. It is based on the book *Touch* by Rudy Rasmus. It is a powerful and easy book to read. Yet, it will challenge us to reach out and touch those in need around us just like Jesus. I led a small group of people through this book back in 2007. Inspired by the book, the group began a ministry to feed the homeless and hungry in Janesville, and the ministry is still going strong after 14 years!

How will people see Jesus? People will see Jesus through us if we are willing to live the resurrection every day of our lives. Brothers and Sisters, please thoughtfully and prayerfully look at the issues facing our community and see how we can live Christ in them.

Blessings.

Pastor Mark

Notice of New Worship Policy

Dear Church of the Pines Family,

May 20, 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a significant disruption to pretty much everything, including the life of our church. Throughout the pandemic, we have sought to make the best decisions we could given the information we had. Often realizing there was no one right or best answer. We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding. We also thank the Infection Control team and Ministry Council members for their work during this challenging time.

Considering the growing availability of vaccines and the most recent guidelines from the CDC (released May 14, 2021), the Ministry Council made the following decisions about how the Church of the Pines will move forward. Upon evaluating the Infection Control Team's recommendations and lengthy discussion at the Ministry Council meeting on May 18, 2021, the council amended those recommendations.

First, we will continue the requirement of everyone, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a mask inside the church building while with other people. We ask everyone to continue wearing face masks to expedite when people who cannot receive the vaccine can be active in the church's life—especially those ineligible for the vaccines, like families with young children.

Second, we are lifting the physical distancing restrictions and the attendance limit for worship effective immediately. We do ask that everyone be respectful if people wish to distance themselves from others physically and continue practicing safe community health behaviors. With this, we no longer require people to register for worship. We are asking everyone to sign in as they enter the building for worship. We will also continue to have some parts of the building closed at this time.

Third, we allow those in the worship service to sing and join in responsive readings during the service while masked. We will continue some of our safety practices, such as not passing the offering plates and not using bulletins at this time.

Finally, the Ministry Council decided to lift the vaccine requirement for indoor worship attendance on Sunday, June 20, 2021. We continue encouraging all eligible people to be vaccinated. This is the best way to care for the health and safety of our church community, especially those who cannot be vaccinated.

Again, these decisions were made after consideration of the CDC guidelines and careful discussion and debate. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this unprecedented time in our world and our church. The Infection Control Team and the Ministry Council will continue to monitor the situation and will recommend and make any needed changes in the future. You can find a bullet point summary of these decisions on page 4 of this newsletter.

Blessings.

Pastor Mark Gilbert

Jim Anderson, Ministry Council Chair

Worship Policy Summary, Church Member Death, Church Picnic

Worship ● Policy

Updated Church of the Pines Worship Policy

All people will continue to properly wear face masks while in the church building with other people regardless of vaccination status.

Physical distancing requirements are lifted effective May 19, 2021.

The maximum worship attendance requirement is lifted effective May 19, 2021.

Pre-registration to attend worship is no longer required effective May 19, 2021. You are asked to sign in as you enter the building to attend worship.

The vaccine requirement for worship attendance is lifted for Sunday, June 20, 2021, and moving forward.



**Mark Your Calendar for Saturday, July 31st,
at the 70 W Complex.
Stay tuned for more information.**

*A death in our
Church Family*

Dorothy Maas
August 22, 1925 - May 1, 2021

*"The Lord be with you, Dorothy,
and may you rest in peace."*



It is with sadness that we share that Dorothy Maas died on May 1, 2021. Dorothy, age 95, became a member of Church of the Pines in 1971. She will be greatly missed. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers. As per Dorothy's request, memorial gifts can be given to Church of the Pines' Endowment Fund. If you would like to mail a card to Dorothy's family, please contact the church office at 715-356-3041 or send an email to office@umchurchofthepines.org.

Bolger Funeral Home of Minocqua is serving the family. Dorothy's Celebration of Life will be Wednesday, June 16, at the United Methodist Church of the Pines, 415 Chippewa Street, Minocqua (parking across the street). Visitation begins at 10:00 a.m. preceding the 11:00 a.m. service. Friends and family are invited to share additional fellowship and memories following the service at the Black Bear Bar and Grill, 11045 State Hwy 70 West.

Leadership, Prayer Requests, Thank You!

Church Staff & Leadership

Pastor Mark D. Gilbert, ext. 4
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Church Administrator:
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Finance Chair:
Bob Schuld, bob.pat1@frontier.com

Treasurer:
Cherie' Hein, cheriehein@mac.com

Stephen Ministry Leader:
Holly Nash, nashholly@yahoo.com



Prayer Requests

To have your name or the name of a loved one included on this Prayer List, in the bulletin Prayer List, or on our Prayer Chain, please call the church office at 715-356-3041 or send an email to office@umchurchofthepines.org.

Please pray for...

*Berklee Adamovitch
(Debbie Palmatier's grand-niece)*

*Craig Black
(Debbie Palmatier's brother-in-law)*

Jane Hull

Please pray for the family of Dorothy Maas. Dorothy passed away on May 1, 2021.



After 15 years of service, **Carolyn Smith** has decided to retire from Stephen Ministry. She has served faithfully not only in walking alongside her care receivers, but also in all the wisdom and support she shared with the Stephen Ministry team.

We thank you, Carolyn, for all the ways you have contributed to the life of the UMCOP and how you have made a huge difference in the lives of others. You are a good and faithful servant and your dedication is greatly appreciated.

God bless,
The Ministry Council on behalf of the UMCOP

Call 1-715-203-1990

to hear our latest sermon
CHURCH OF THE PINES



sermonbyphone.com

Worship, Birthdays & Anniversaries



On Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary of Church of the Pines.

Outdoor Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m. in the backyard area at Church of the Pines.

Campground Sunday Worship at 9:00 a.m. at Crystal-Musky Campground beginning June 13th.

Livestream of Sunday Worship Services on Church of the Pines' Facebook page.

Livestream of Wednesday Prayer Services on Church of the Pines' Facebook page.

Watch videos of Sunday and Wednesday Services on our church website.

Listen to Sunday Messages each week by calling 1-715-203-1990 or by going to our church website.

DVDs of the worship service. Call church to order.



Consider making a gift that keeps on giving by contributing to our Church of the Pines Endowment Fund. Contact the church office for information at 715-356-3041.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

If you are celebrating your birthday in June and your name is not listed below, please contact the church office so that we can update our records.

Happy birthday to...

June 3	Mia Coy
June 5	Raelynn Rausch
June 6	Bruce Currie
June 8	Joe Augitto
June 9	Barbara Hallock
June 9	Venus Hilgart
June 10	Elva Spetz
June 13	Tim Ladwig
June 16	Molly Larsen
June 16	Jake Fieck
June 24	Sophia Bensen
June 25	Celeste Teichmiller
June 26	Clayton Crum
June 27	Peg Roska
June 27	Justin Schlecht
June 27	Wyatt Citta
June 28	Merry Jorgensen

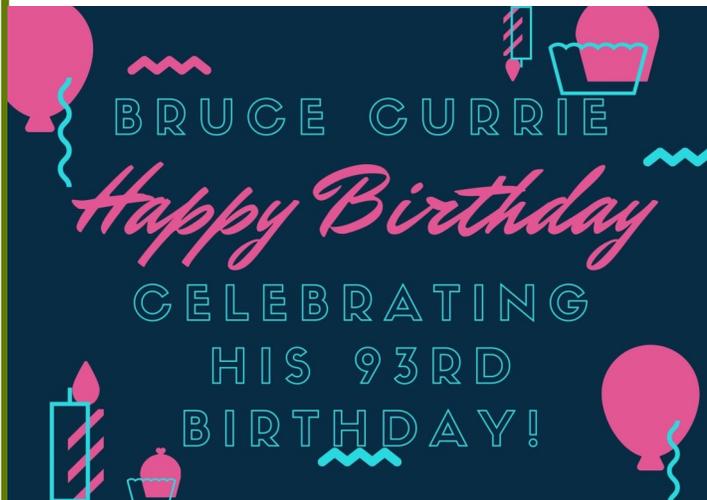
Happy anniversary to...

June 2	Louise & George Douma
June 5	Val & Loran Susor
June 8	Marilyn & Bill Remien
June 10	Kay & Dick Rhyner
June 13	Lynn & Skip Tosch
June 14	Luella & Mike Lakich
June 14	Barb & Fred Prindle
June 19	Anna & Mark Gilbert
June 23	Bonnie & Mike Noonan
June 24	Barb & Bill Simic
June 24	Breanna & Jake Fieck

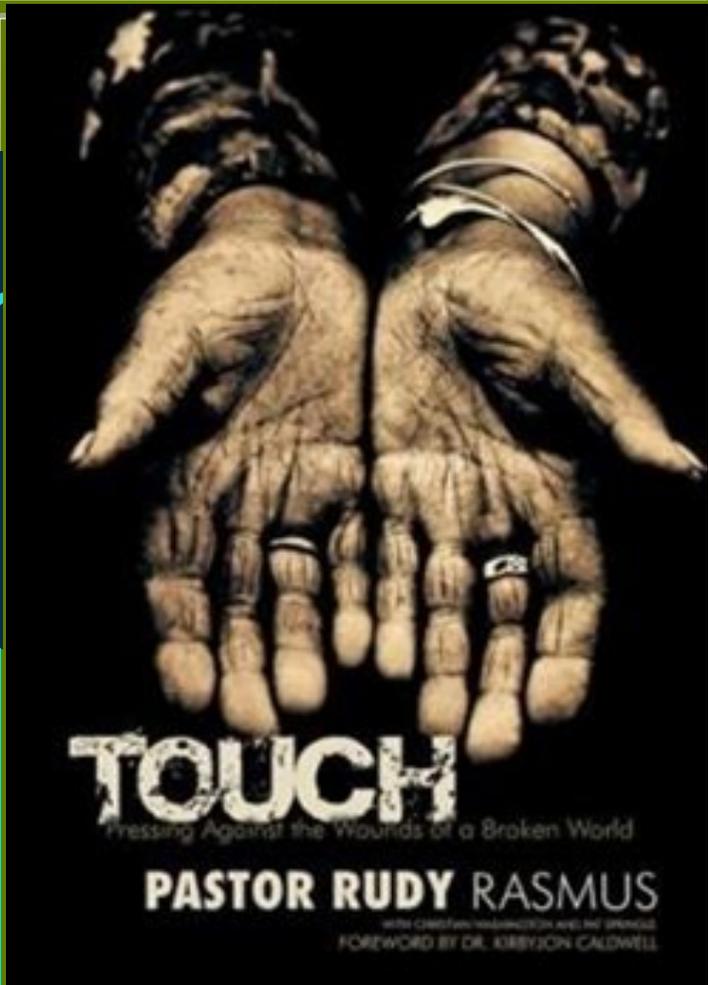
Blessings to you on your special day!

Nonagenarian Birthdays, New Book Study

June Nonagenarian Birthday Celebrations



Happy Birthday to Bruce Currie who celebrates his 93rd birthday on June 6th.

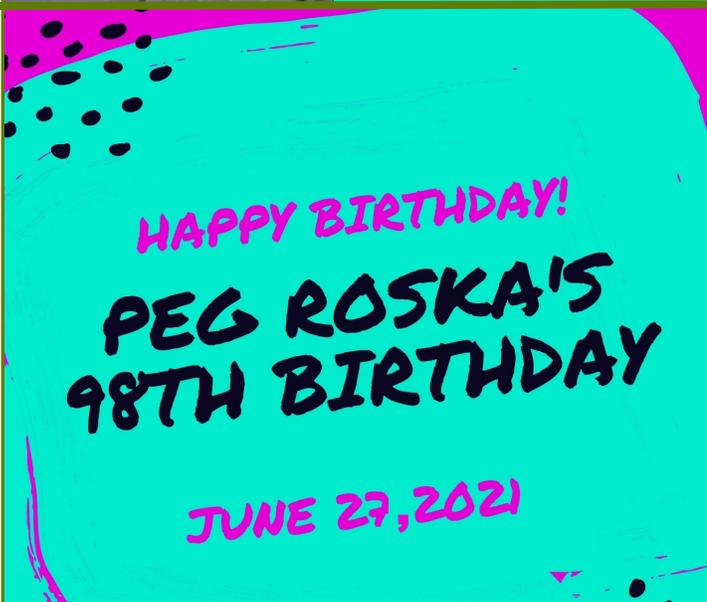


NEW Book Study Begins June 16th!

Join Pastor Mark in this dynamic book study, *"Touch: Pressing Against the Wounds of a Broken World"* by Rev. Rudy Rasmus, each Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom starting June 16, 2021, through July 28, 2021, as we are encouraged to take practical action to meet the needs of people in our community.

Join this study if you want to be challenged, if you want to be encouraged, or if you are willing to reach out and touch the broken places of this world. It has been known to inspire meaningful ministries in churches just like ours.

Contact Pastor Mark by June 9th to register and pre-order your copy of the book. The cost of the book is \$14.00.



We wish the very best to Peg Roska as she celebrates her 98th birthday. Blessings to you on your special day!

May/June Worship Themes



WHEN THE SPIRIT MOVES

Worship Series

May 30, 2021 – June 27, 2021

When the Spirit moves, amazing things happen. But they happen through the people who allow that Spirit to motivate them, to guide and direct them, to empower them for the work of making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This isn't a small thing, not just a personal, in-house thing. This is a transforming the world thing. And all would agree that this needs transformation.

This series is about what can happen when a people submit to the Spirit. It is a journey through the lectionary texts that will help us see and understand how to be a Spirit-filled people of God. We are equipped to be communities of faith who are ready to go when the Spirit moves.



Born of the Spirit

May 30, 2021

John 3:1-17

Since Advent last year we have been focusing on Jesus' story, his life, his teaching, his suffering, death, and resurrection. Now in Pentecost the story shifts to us—to all the followers really, to how we seek to live out that call to discipleship, to how we fulfill the commission that Jesus gave us as he ascended. And yet, we begin that journey not with a reflection on our humanness but on the unique nature of God as we have come to experience that presence. We begin our story by turning to our Creator first.

This isn't an accident, as you might surmise. In part at least, this is a reminder that we are who we are because of who God is. Our identity is in God. Our story is wrapped up in "The Story" or in "God's Story."



Being Renewed

June 6, 2021

Mark 3:20-35 and 1
Corinthians 4;13-5:1

Where do you go for Sabbath rest? For time with God, alone or in community? Where is the place? When is the time? How do you plan for a time when you surrender fully to the presence of God and set aside everything else?



Growing into the New Creation

June 13, 2021

Mark 4:26-34 and
2 Corinthians 5:6-10,
11-13, 14-17

Worship this week is about growing into the new creation that we are called to be in Christ. So, think about talking about growing. Those who are raising kids find themselves telling stories about the latest thing, the latest mischief, the latest accomplishment that their child has gotten into. We need stories to help us see what living as a disciple is like. We tell our stories, and we tell stories of others as examples of a faithful life.



Enduring the Storms

June 20, 2021

Mark 4:35-41 & 2 Co-
rinthians 6:1-13

We are telling/living the story of Jesus in/for the real world. This task we are given is glorious, and it is a source of joy to the very core of our being, but it isn't easy.

May/June Worship Themes, COVID-19 Vaccine Information

June Worship Themes, continued.

It isn't easy because we live in a messy world and we are messy people. And stuff happens. That's the background of our texts for today. Stuff happens - difficult stuff, tragic stuff, stuff that knocks us down and threatens to overwhelm us. This might be natural stuff, like the storms in our Gospel text that seem to come from nowhere and are indiscriminate in destruction. Or it could be human stuff - the way we mistreat, abuse, oppress one another simply because we can, like the abuse Paul suffered that he recounts in 2 Corinthians 6. Stuff happens. How we live Jesus when stuff happens is what is important.



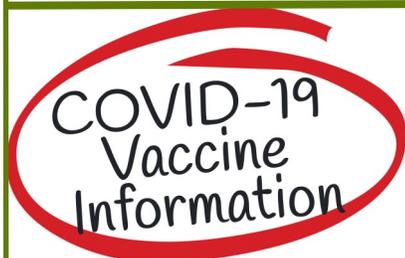
Giving What You Have

June 27, 2021

Mark 5:21-43 &

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Stewardship is not simply a once-a-year item. This week's texts provide a perfect opportunity to talk about stewardship without following it up with a pledge card or a capital campaign. Though the impetus for the Corinthian text is a monetary collection, it could easily be shifted to sharing of gifts and offering of grace, stewarding what we have been given in a way that gives glory to God.



Go to the following websites to register for Covid-19 vaccine appointments:

Oneida County Health Department

<https://hipaa.jotform.com/210184449588061>

Vaccine Finder

<https://vaccinefinder.org/>

Marshfield Clinic Vaccine Information

<https://www.marshfieldclinic.org/specialties/infectious-diseases/covid-19-vaccine/>

Vilas County Health Department Information

https://www.vilascountywi.gov/departments/services/public_health_department/covid-19_.php

Walgreen's Pharmacy Vaccine Information

https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19?ban=covid_vaccine_landing_schedule

Aspires Vaccine Information

<https://www.aspirus.org/covid-19-vaccineinfo>

REMEMBER



& HONOR

CHURCH OF THE PINES

How Will They See?

How Will They See? - Medical Debt



We need to see and better understand the need so that we can better serve in caring for it. Take a moment and go to RIPmedicaldebt.org to learn how medical debt is affecting people in communities just like ours and what we can do to help. You can also find information on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RIPMedicalDebt>.

RETHINK POVERTY.

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO SURVIVE A MONTH IN POVERTY?

How Will They See? - Poverty Issues

Going hungry or not buying nice clothes are not the only things people in poverty have struggled with. To better understand all the issues surrounding poverty, play this online simulator that will help you see why living in poverty is hard to get out of <http://playspent.org/html/>. Other types of in-person poverty simulations help build an understanding of living in poverty. Learn more about it here: <https://www.povertysimulation.net/about/>.

We could host one here—let Pastor Mark know if you would like to be involved.

How Will They See? - Racial Justice and Equality

How can we begin working for racial justice and Equality? The United Methodist Church has some excellent resources to help us learn about racial inequality and injustice and things we can do to begin to make a difference. You can go to: <https://www.org/en/how-we-serve/advocating-for-justice/racial-justice>.

Here are some books to read:

Dear White Christians: For those still longing for racial reconciliation by Jennifer Harvey; *Understanding and Dismantling Racism: The 21st Century Challenge to White American* by Joseph Barndt; *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* by James H. Cone.



What are you willing to do? Then repeat each one through the end of June.

Lay Leader



Words to Live by Lay Leader Emerson Coy “Headaches”

Summer is a time of rest, relaxation, and exercise with more outdoor activities. This beautiful season of the year seems to help us feel better. When suddenly the grass turns green and the trees bloom, we can breathe a breath of fresh air. Summer is a good time to get rid of headaches as well.

A man went to his doctor complaining of severe headaches. He was told to stop smoking, so he did. But, the headaches continued. The doctor told him to lose weight. He did lose weight, but nothing helped his headaches. Then, it was discovered that he was wearing a size 15-inch collar on a size 16 neck. That will give anyone a headache!

Many things can cause headaches like defective vision, poor lighting, smog, and too much tobacco smoke. But some headaches come from emotional upsets. When people have a certain amount of stress, the body produces adrenaline, making more blood circulate in the brain. The brain swells inside the skull, causing pressure, and the result is a headache. So, stress can cause headaches literally and metaphorically. Next time you say, “So and so is a real headache,” you may be hitting the nail on the head.

There is some stress we cannot avoid. We cannot get away from it altogether. We often need the stress of a test at school to encourage a student to study. Soldiers need the stress of an inspection to get them cleaned up. Athletes respond to the stress of the big game. But, overwhelming situations can produce stress that is more than people can handle. We become bottlenecked, “so to speak,” like the size 15-inch collar.

But even amid shattering experiences, the psalmist says to “Be still.” It is the opposite of what our instinct tells us. When we are confronted with troubles that could overtake us, instead of running away from them in hysteria, “be still.” Being still and calm collectively is easier when there is nothing to give you a headache. But to react in an unnatural way is difficult when things get tough. Being still helps us know the Creator is present to help us. We need to let the peaceful stream of the Creator’s existence flow in our lives.

Communicating our feelings also helps us to alleviate stress. Exercise is helpful too. Planning and not procrastinating are good habits to acquire. But, the warmth of summer and more daylight helps us as well. Please take advantage of it. We are free to enjoy summer and relax in it. Go fishing, walk in the woods, sunbathe, have a picnic, attend a campground service.

After laughter and play, the muscles relax. The cardiovascular system dilates, and breathing deepens. T-cell production increases, which is a boost to the immune system. Endorphins are released (more powerful than morphine), and blood pressure and pulse drop slightly.

So, there are great reasons to be still in the Creator’s presence who gave us summer. Enjoy life, play, and laugh.

Stephen Ministry

A Glass of Water

A professor entered his classroom with a glass of water. He raised the glass of water. Everyone in the room expected the “half empty or half full” question. Instead, to everyone’s surprise, the professor smiled and inquired: “How heavy is this glass of water?”



The answers called out ranged from 8 oz. to 15 oz.

“I need to weigh it to know exactly how much it weighs. But the question, I really want you to answer is – what if I held the glass up for a minute?” asked the professor.

“Nothing” the students answered unanimously.

“But what if I hold it for an hour?” asked the professor.

“Your arms will start aching,” answered one of the students.

“You are right! But what if I held it up for a whole day?” queried the professor.

stephen
MINISTRY®

“Your arms will feel numb, your muscles will be stressed and you may even get paralyzed,” ventured another student.

“You are right!” exclaimed the professor. “So what should I do to avoid the pain?” asked the professor.

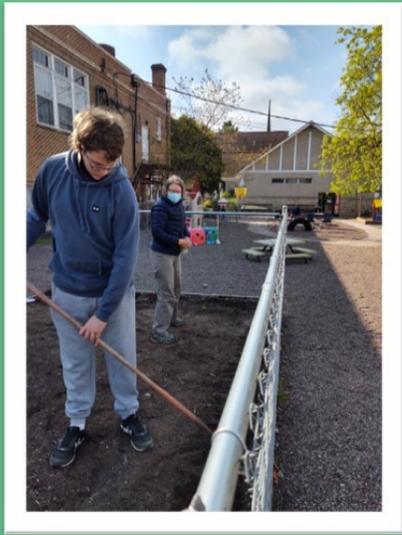
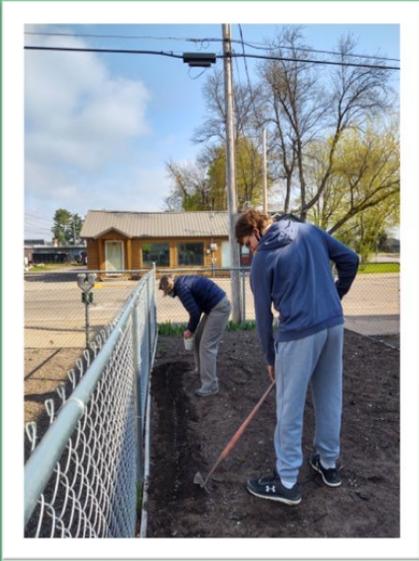
“Keep the glass down,” answered a student.

“Exactly!” said the professor. He continued, “In all the cases the weight of the glass remains the same. But, the longer I held it up, the heavier it became. The stress and worries in life are like the glass of water. If you think about them for a while, nothing happens. Think about them for longer; they will start hurting. Think about them for even longer, you will feel stress and be paralyzed.”

It is important to think about the problems in life. But, you should not carry the stress long enough that it begins to ache and paralyze your life. It is important to let go of your stresses. Don’t carry your stress all day and always remember to put the glass down before you go to bed! *-anonymous*

If you are carrying a lot of stress, a Stephen Minister can help by listening to you, supporting you and praying with you. Call Holly Nash, Stephen Leader, at 715-356-6861 for more information.

Church Vegetable Garden

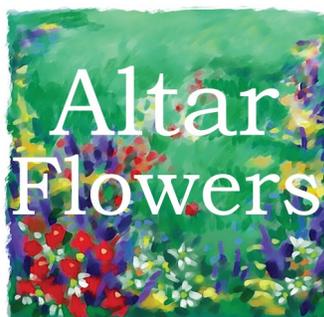


Mission Highlights, Altar Flowers, Daily Devotionals

Mission Highlights

Harbor House Crisis Shelters (HHCS) is a Ministry of Faith United Methodist Church in Superior, Wisconsin. Harbor House Emergency Shelter provides thirty days of emergency shelter for homeless women and children and families. The shelter is open 24 hours a day, every day of the year, providing daily needs such as clothing, bedding, hygiene products, food, diapers, and cleaning supplies. Harbor House case management incorporates coaching, life skill enhancement, goal setting, assessments, referrals, and community resources on a bi-weekly basis. Transitional Living Center (TLC) is supportive housing assistance for homeless families and single women. All residents participate in weekly case management and monthly resident meetings. This is Advance Special of the Minnesota Conference and The Wisconsin Annual Conference #77788. Your help makes a difference in the lives of homeless women and children. www.harborhouseecs.org

Generations - The Lakeland Retirement Foundation is to build a community that promotes wellness, learning, services, and fullness of life for the aging population of the Lakeland area. Generations serves residents in the communities of: Arbor Vitae, Hazelhurst, Lac du Flambeau, Lake Tomahawk, Minocqua, and Woodruff. www.lakelandretirement.org



Altar flowers on June 6th are given by Bruce Currie in celebration of his 93rd birthday. Happy birthday, Bruce!

You can provide flowers for the Altar on Sunday morning and dedicate them in honor of a person or special life event, or in memory of a loved one. To reserve one or more Sundays in 2021, please call the church office at 715-356-3041 or send an email to office@churchofthepines.org. Include the date, name of the person and indicate if the flowers are given in honor or in memory of the person, and any additional formation that you like to have shared in the Weekly Update and announced during the Sunday worship service. You can arrange to provide the flowers yourself and bring them to the church, or request that we order the flowers for you. Please contact the church office to discuss how to make these arrangements. If you leave a voice message on the church office phone or send an email, please make sure to leave your phone number for a follow-up call.

Daily Devotionals



Daily Scripture Readings on Facebook

Begin your day by going to our church's Facebook page to read a scripture passage and inspirational message.

www.facebook.com/churchofthepines

Congratulations 2021 Graduates

Congratulations!

Class of 2021



Tyson Coy is graduating from LUHS.
His parents are Matthew Coy and
Jennifer Cator.

His grandparents are Emerson and Julie Coy,
Michelle Duhr and Rick Winger
He is a member of the National Honor Society,
Science Olympia, is very active in many sports,
and certified in climbing.
He plans to attend UTI Auto Mechanic School
in Lisle, Illinois, and also teach climbing.



Jenevieve Van Order, who is a graduate from
UW-Madison School of Pharmacy, is the
daughter of Tom Van Order
and Jane Van Order, and
granddaughter of
William and Jeanne Van Order.
She graduated with a Doctorate of Pharmacy
(PharmD) from the University of Wisconsin-
Madison School of Pharmacy
on May 8th, 2021.



Colin Duffy graduated from UM Milwaukee with a degree in
Journalism, Advertising and Media Studies. He is the son of
Becky and Jon Duffy, with whom he is currently living. His grand-
parents are Church of the Pines' members, Kay and Dick Rhyner.
Colin's sport was swimming. He will be a member of the team at
Simply Swimming in Middleton, Wisconsin, beginning in June.



United Methodist Women



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

United Methodist Women

Use your Thank Offering box . . . Find 6 things to let go of. It could be a bad habit, an old book or an outdated ministry. Then put 6 coins of your choice into your Thank Offering box.

UMW Reading Program . . . It's not too late to participate in the UMW Reading Program! It ends in August. Books read must be on the official list for the program. Any book on the Library Cart that has a white, red, green, blue or yellow dot on it is eligible. You need one book from each subject area (or each color dot). Turn your list in to Mary Fasse in August.

Books are now available . . . You can pick up books for the Reading Program from the Library Cart in the Pine Room. If you would like to choose some books to read, contact Patty Frandy or Merry Jorgensen to make arrangements to look through the books available. While our budget did not permit buying books this year, there will be two new books available, *"Sleep, Pray, Heal: A Path to Wholeness & Well-Being"* by Donna Fado Ivery (Spiritual Growth) and *"The Bird Boys: A Delphi Wade and Tom Pelan Mystery"* by Lisa Sandlin (Nurturing for Community).

Mission Action Day . . . Co-President Sara Kozeluh attended the Mission Action Day in April. It was a resounding success with one hundred twenty-five women attending. Mission Action Day was on Zoom this year and

Sara was very impressed with how they handled the technology. While they did meet in a large group format, they also broke up into small groups for discussion purposes. Topics were Maternal Health and Racial Inequality. It was very educational and very well done. After that experience, Sara would like to encourage UMW members to attend one of the "mission u" sessions.

mission u . . . will all be done on Zoom, with different subject areas on different dates and all sessions held during the evening. It's a no-travel way to do things, plus you are not in class all day! Here are the areas of study:

1. **Finding Peace in an Anxious World**—July 6 & 8, July 13 & 15—Deadline for registration is June 22. Study Leader: Rev. Barb Certa-Werner.

2. **Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom:** Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship—July 27 & 29, August 3 & 5—Deadline for registration is July 13. Study Leader: Rev. Rob Odum.

3. **Youth Study**—(Grades 6 - 12)—**Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence**—June 15 & 17, June 22 & 24—Deadline for registration is June 1. Study Leader: Dr. Deb Pattee.

If you are interested in participating in one of these studies, please contact Sara Kozeluh (dskozeluh@gmail.com) or Patty Frandy (pattyandtom@frontier.com) for registration forms.

Ministry Council

Ministry Council Meeting Summary

The Ministry Council met on May 18, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The following people were in attendance: Chris Anderson, Jim Anderson, Sue Claffin, Emerson Coy, Tom Frandy, Pastor Mark Gilbert, Merry Jorgensen, Rich Klatt, Sue Loeffler, Noah Lottig, Bob Schuld, Ted Voigt, and Sharry Wuest. Absent were Jodi Capacio, Donna Clark, Dave Kozeluh, Holly Nash, Perry Schuette, and Jerry Weber.

Highlights shared from this past month: The 8:30 a.m. Sunday outdoor worship service is going well and the backyard of the church is a nice setting; the 10:00 a.m. indoor worship service is also going well.

The Infection Control Team made a number of recommendations to the Ministry Council regarding how Church of the Pines should move forward in response to the most recent CDC guidelines that were released on May 14, 2021. Upon evaluating the Infection Control Team's recommendations, the Ministry Council amended those recommendations. In summary, the following worship policies were approved:

- All people will continue to properly wear face masks while in the church building with other people regardless of vaccination status.
- Physical distancing requirements are lifted effective May 19, 2021.
- The maximum worship attendance requirement is lifted effective May 19, 2021.
- Pre-registration to attend worship is no longer required effective May 19, 2021. Everyone is asked to sign in as you enter the building for worship.
- The vaccine requirement for worship attendance is lifted for Sunday, June 20, 2021, and moving forward.

An adhoc committee of the Ministry Council shared a draft of a Financial Health Goal for the Church of the Pines for informational purposes, with continued discussion to occur.

Paul Todd and his son offered to do a concert at Church of the Pines on August 16, 2021, with 100% of the proceeds to benefit Church of the Pines. The Council voted to turn down the offer with regret.

The agenda item regarding reinstatement of the Ministry Council Listening Well after worship services was tabled until the next meeting.

It was suggested that a special token of appreciation be presented to Carolyn Smith, who has retired from Stephen Ministry service after 15 years.

The next Ministry Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.



Giving, Campground Worship, Juneteenth Freedom Day

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

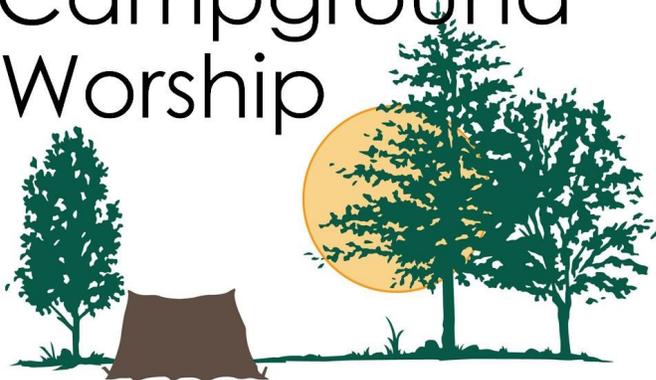
Online Giving - Go to www.umchurchofthepines.org and click on the GIVE button, which guides you through making a one-time or recurring gift from a bank account or credit card.

Text Giving - Use your cell phone to text the word "give" to 833-358-0472 and follow the prompts.

ACH Giving - Arrangements can be made to have automatic payments made from your checking or savings account by completing an Automatic Clearing House form that can be printed from our website or the form can be mailed to you. **Checks** can be made out to Church of the Pines and mailed to P.O. Box 144, Minocqua, WI 54548.

Gifts of any amount are appreciated!

Campground Worship



Church of the Pines will be leading Sunday morning worship services at the Crystal-Musky Campground (1.7 miles on Country Road N on left) this summer at 9:00 a.m. beginning June 13th through August 8th. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the summer campground worship services last summer were not held.

Greg and Nancy Krings are coordinating our Campground Worship Services this summer. We appreciate their continued commitment to our Campground Ministry.

Your help is needed! We are seeking volunteers who are willing to lead one or two of the worship services. Worship leaders are needed for June, July, and August.

If you would like more information about our Campground Ministry and becoming a volunteer campground worship leader, call Nancy or Greg Krings at 715-522-0029.

JUNETEENTH FREEDOM DAY

J U N E 1 9

The freedom of African Americans from slavery in the U.S. in 1865 is celebrated on the holiday Juneteenth on June 19. Juneteenth is made up of the words 'June' and 'nineteenth,' and it is on this day that Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Texas more than 155 years ago to inform slaves that slavery had been abolished.

Spring Clean-up Day

Spring Clean-up Day at Church of the Pines - April 24, 2021



Finance Report

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF THE PINES
FINANCE REPORT
AS OF APRIL 30, 2021**

	<u>April Actual</u>	<u>Year Actual</u>	<u>Incr (Decr) Versus Year Budget</u>
<u>Income</u>			
Operating *	16,758	102,118	11,319
Reserve Fund	5,587	16,857	12,240
Total Income	<u>22,345</u>	<u>118,975</u>	<u>23,559</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Pastor **	8,043	31,479	(1,874)
Worship	1,361	2,120	447
Nurture	185	234	1
Outreach	293	1,411	211
Finance & Administration	5,643	22,071	538
Facilities Operation & Maintenance	2,730	10,521	(2,157)
Capital Improvements Fund	169	169	(31)
Youth Fund	0	0	0
Missions Fund ***	0	590	(1,902)
Reserve Fund	242	864	(49)
Conference Apportionment ****	0	1,250	0
Total Expenditures	<u>18,666</u>	<u>70,709</u>	<u>(4,816)</u>
Net Cash Excess (Deficiency)	3,679	48,266	28,375
Total Available Funds 4-30-21		318,211	

* Prepaid Pledges of 32,399 were included in January

** Includes Salary, Benefits, Expenses

*** Includes Special Sundays

**** 2021 Assessment is 36,840

Net cash excess (income minus expenditures) for 4 months is 48,266 which is 28,375 better than the approved operating budget.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 10:00am - Prayer Service (Livestream)	3	4	5
6 Communion 8:30am - Outdoor Worship Service 10:00am - Worship Service (In-person and Livestream)	7	8 7:00pm - Infection Control Team (Zoom)	9 10:00am - Prayer Service (Livestream)	10	11	12
13 8:30am - Outdoor Worship Service 10:00am - Worship Service (In-person and Livestream)	14	15 7:00pm - Ministry Council (Zoom)	16 10:00am - CANCELED - Prayer Service (Livestream) 11:00am - Memorial Service - Dorothy Maas with Visitation at 10:00 a.m. 2:00pm - Book Study (Zoom)	17	18	19
20 8:30am - Outdoor Worship Service 10:00am - Worship Service (In-person and Livestream)	21	22	23 10:00am - Prayer Service (Livestream) 2:00pm - Book Study (Zoom)	24	25	26
27 8:30am - Outdoor Worship Service 10:00am - Worship Service (In-person and Livestream)	28	29	30 10:00am - Prayer Service (Livestream) 2:00pm - Book Study			

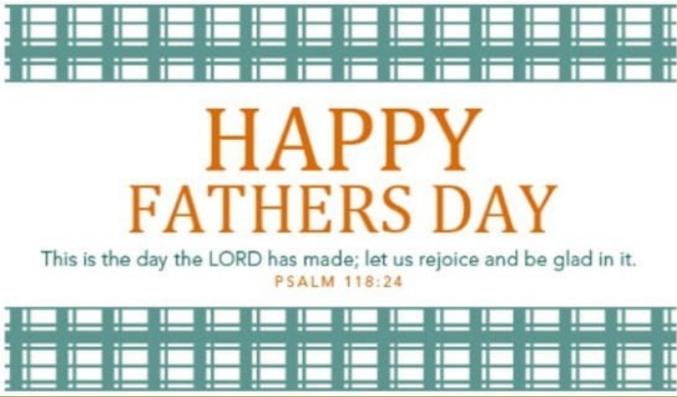
*Have something for Pine Chips 2.0? Email the church at office@umchurchofthepines.org.
To appear in the July Pine Chips, email information no later than June 15th.
 Announcements for weekly updates are due Monday for the following weekend.
 Call the Church Office at 715-356-3041 with questions.*



<https://www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/>



The next time you shop online, remember to shop at AmazonSmile.com and register so that a percentage of your purchase is donated to Church of the Pines.



Contact Us

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churchofthepines](http://www.facebook.com/churchofthepines)

PLACE
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