



# PINE Chips<sup>2.0</sup>

## 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.



*"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."  
- Jeremiah 29:11*

**Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.**  
**Wednesday Prayer Service - 10 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](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org)

## Pastor's Pen

PASTOR'S  
PEN



The last time we gathered as a congregation in person in the church was a year ago. It seems like a lifetime for it to only be a year.

I remember thinking when we first went to virtual worship that it would only be a few weeks. A few weeks turned into months, and months turned into a year or more. As I look back on the past year since the COVID-19 pandemic began, I am filled with many thoughts and feelings.

I look back and remember the uncertainty and fear about it. There were so many unanswered questions. How long will we have to "stay safer at home?" How long until the church will open? How dangerous is this virus? What if I get it? What if someone in the church gets it and dies? Will the church survive? How many people are they predicting to die? How do we talk about this with our kids? I am glad kids don't get it as quickly – oh wait, they do. I can still touch that sense of fear inside me as I look back.

Fear and uncertainty soon gave way to a sense of 'okay, what's next.' We have been weathering quite the storm the past 12 months on top of the pandemic. Do you believe that 'Murder Hornets' was the least of the things we faced in 2020? The waves have kept coming from the devastating socio-economic situation, racial injustice, and political divides. Even with the good news of the vaccine and the growing number of people who have received it, we still have to face new variants. What's next...?

There is a very important reason that God tells us over 100 times in the Bible not to be afraid. Fear is an important emotion helping us to avoid danger. However, it can become overwhelming and paralyzing. God does not want us to be overwhelmed by our fears; God wants us to lean into grace and our relationship with God. Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us that God has plans for us, for our future, not to harm us but to prosper. God wants to fill us with hope. It would have been easy for us to give in to our fears this past year and give in to despair except for one reason – God.

From the very beginning of this pandemic and challenging time, God has been active. In every place of fear, in every question, I have seen God working. I have witnessed people in our faith family overcoming fear with generosity and commitment. Even though we had to stay apart because of your generosity, we are closer to one another than before. By God's grace, we have learned how to connect and worship in new and different ways.

Even when many of us have had to deal directly with this virus, our faith family's support has been tremendous. I can personally attest to that even as I write this, COVID has come into our house and family a second time – I can feel your prayers and presence supporting us and everyone. This month our Lay Leaders Emerson Coy and Gretchen Voigt are leading worship with the theme of asking how you have seen or experienced God during the pandemic. I look forward to hearing how you have seen God at work and how God has helped us not be afraid.

Blessings.

Pastor Mark

# Leadership, Prayer Requests, Covid-19 Vaccines

## Church Staff & Leadership

**Pastor Mark D. Gilbert**, ext. 4  
pastor@umchurchofthepines.org

**Church Administrator:**  
Merry Jorgensen, ext. 2  
office@umchurchofthepines.org

**Custodian:**  
Rudy Vlosak  
(715) 892-2949

**Choir Director:**  
Lisa Hernandez  
lisa.hernandez@ldfschool.org

**Lay Leader:**  
Emerson Coy  
emersoncoy@frontier.com

### Staff-Parish Relations

**Committee Chair:**  
Holly Nash  
nashholly@yahoo.com

**Ministry Council Chair:**  
Jim Anderson, ander045@umn.edu

**Trustees Chair:**  
Jerry Weber  
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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



## *Please pray for...*

*Family of Jana Ainsworth, who died on February 5, 2021 (Carolyn Hendry's step-granddaughter)*

*Family of Nicole Bruette's friend, Lonnie, whose mother died on February 9, 2021*

*Family of Marion Burmeister, who died on February 10, 2021*

*Clayton Crum and his son*

*Cyndie Dietz (Bill and Barb Simic's youngest daughter)*

*Family of Jim Hodek, who died on February 1, 2021 (Sandi Hodek's brother-in-law)*

*Sue Nienow*

*Helen Robinson*

*Family of Richard Smith, who died on February 2, 2021 (Sally Smith's husband)*

*Patty Stone*

*Dick Wechter*

*Family of Dorothy Wright, who died on January 23, 2021 (Rebecca Wright's mother)*

God wants us to care for others by praying for them. Jesus prays for others and wants us to follow His example. God answers prayers, and praying for others is something we can all do.

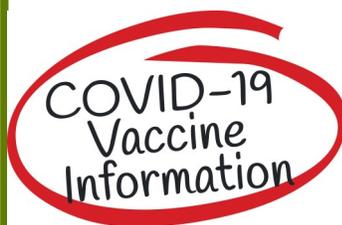
To have your name or the name of a loved one included on this Prayer List, in the bulletin Prayer List, or on our Prayer Chain, please call the church office at 715-356-3041 or send an email to office@umchurchofthepines.org.

**Call 1-715-203-1990**

to hear our latest sermon  
CHURCH OF THE PINES



sermonbyphone.com



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

**Oneida County Health Department**  
<https://hipaa.jotform.com/210184449588061>

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

**Vilas County Health Department**  
[https://www.vilascountywi.gov/departments/services/public\\_health\\_department/covid-19\\_.php](https://www.vilascountywi.gov/departments/services/public_health_department/covid-19_.php)

## Birthdays & Anniversaries, Easter Schedule



### Lent Sunday Worship

March 7, 14, and 21  
10 am - Facebook Live

### Palm Sunday

March 28  
Worship - 10:00 am - Facebook Live

### Maundy Thursday

April 1  
Drive up Communion  
8-9 am, 12-1 pm, and 5-6 pm  
Reflection - 7:00 pm - Facebook Live

### Good Friday

April 2  
Worship - 12:00 pm. - Facebook Live

### Easter Sunrise Service

April 4  
Worship - 7:30 am - Held at Torpy  
Park

### Easter Sunday

April 4  
Worship - 10:00 am - Facebook Live

See pages 10 and 11 for details.

## MARCH

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

#### *Happy birthday to...*

March 2	Adam Hinkens
March 3	Jaime Jorgensen
March 4	Sue Claflin
March 6	George Douma
March 8	Linnea Turner
March 8	Brylee Citta
March 12	Bonnie Noonan
March 13	Pam Fashingbauer
March 15	Delaney FitzPatrick
March 17	Erin Jorgensen
March 17	Julie Coy
March 17	Lynn Romleski
March 18	Amy Pointer
March 19	Andy Lenz
March 19	Robert Van Order
March 20	Carli Capacio
March 22	Dick Theile
March 26	Tom Frandy
March 27	Sarah Stewart
March 31	Jodi Capacio

#### *Happy anniversary to...*

March 22      Dick Theile & Liz Stone

*Blessings to you on your special day!*

***The Church building remains closed.***

If you are in need of assistance, please call  
**715-356-3041** or send an email to  
**office@umchurchofthepines.org** and your  
call will be returned or you will  
receive an email response.

**THANKS!**

## Livestream Services, Daylight Saving Time, Easter Sunday



To watch worship services live, go to <https://www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/live/>  
If you have a prayer request, please email it in advance to [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org) or write the request as a comment at the beginning of the service.

If you do not have access to Facebook, you can watch the worship service LIVE by going to the following site. To see the worship service live, you will need to go to this site just prior to the time of the service.

<https://united-methodist-church-of-the-pines.freeonlinechurch.com/live>

Following each worship service, a video of the service is placed on our church website, which can be viewed at any time. The link to our church website is:

<https://www.umchurchofthepines.org/>

On the homepage, look for "Worship" at the top of the page and click on "worship service videos" in the drop-down box and you will be taken to a listing of all of the archived services for Sunday worship services and Wednesday prayer services.

Worship Services will continue to be livestreamed on our church Facebook page, and also via a special Livestream link. Videos are also placed on our church website. Contact Merry if you would like worship service DVDs mailed to you. *When you watch worship services, be sure to record your attendance on the "check-in" link or type your name and the name(s) of anyone else watching with you in the comment section on Facebook or on our church website.*

**Information about Lent, Holy Week, Easter worship service and activities can be found on pages 10 and 11 of this newsletter.**



Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 14th. Move your clock ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

An Easter Sunrise Service will be held at Torpy Park (weather permitting), April 4th, at 7:30 a.m. The service will be in the traditional Sunrise service format and all are invited to attend. Masks and social distancing will be required. There will also be an Easter Sunday Worship service livestreamed on our Facebook page at 10:00 a.m.



## Lay Leader



### Words to Live By Lay Leader Emerson Coy *“Seasonal Transitions”*

The month of March always seems to be a transition month. At times we experience the freshness of Spring, and then at other times, we are reminded that Winter can produce heavy snow. The transition reminds us that we are always moving forward. When we are not in a pandemic, we are still going somewhere. We go to work, school, home, out to relax, go on vacation, go to church, attend a sporting event, visit family or friends. One day we will be able to do these things as some do more than others as they feel comfortable. As we move forward in life, we are often faced with changes. Change is a constant and something we can count on. During transition and change, it is important to find your direction.

A little girl excitedly explained her experiment to her father. She had planted four seeds a week before, and they already started to bloom. “What are you going to do with them?” he asked. “Watch them grow,” she sensibly answered. “But, what about after they have grown?” he continued, “What then?” “Then I plan to bring them home and put them in a bigger jar so the roots will have more room.”

We human beings grow all the time. But sometimes, we don’t allow our roots enough room to continue expanding. Perhaps we get too busy or so locked into our routine that we don’t take time to sit back and meditate or look inward to evaluate ourselves as a person to deepen our roots. Does your life need a bigger jar? If so, you must look for it and move into it. Solid roots keep us strong and stabilize growth.

So, it has been about a year that we have been told to shelter in place. Many places we liked going to had to close for everybody’s safety. We had time to think, as well as clean, do chores, call friends and family. We might have even thought about what we would do whenever we want to do it if things were different. We hope for a time when everyday life is almost normal. I am sure there is some boredom, loneliness, and watching lots of television. Sometimes we might experience God in ways that we didn’t expect. God is everywhere, not just at church when we meet to glorify His name. So, on March 21, 2021, we are celebrating Laity Sunday. After all, we all are part of the ministry of Jesus Christ both individually and corporately. And because of the circumstances of this past year, some questions we want to explore are:

How have you experienced God in dark times? How is God’s love a calming force? How did you survive last year, and how did you experience God last year? How did you see God working? Gretchen Voight or I might be giving you a call on these questions. We hope that it helps one another, find direction, and set the stage for the biggest transition of God’s love during holy week and Easter.

(continued on page 7)

## Lay Leader, Stephen Ministry

### Lay Leader, continued...

Finding your direction can be somewhat scary. It is comfortable to not go anywhere. With the weather transitioning to warmer days ahead, we can get outside more and breathe the fresh air. During this seasonal transition, it's also a good time to look at new goals and move forward. Because we are human, we have some roadblocks that hold us back. There are things like jealousy, greed, hatred, dishonesty, and pride that become heavy baggage to carry around. As we yearn to improve our lives, it helps immensely to give these up and give them over to God, the Creator of us all. We don't need them.

That's what forgiveness is all about and sets us free so long as we turn and move in a new direction. When we are freed from our baggage and make room for our roots to grow, we become more human and realize who we are. We can release the real person inside. Finding your direction is just a matter of getting started.



### Stephen Ministry

Lent is a time in which we are called to examine our relationship with God. But what if you don't feel close to God at this time? What if you wish your relationship with Him was better, but don't seem to have the energy to do anything about it?

Maria Boulding, in her book, *The Coming of God* has words of hope for you:

"If you want God, and long for union with Him, yet sometimes wonder what that means or whether it can mean anything at all, you are already walking with the God who comes.

If you are at times so weary and involved with the struggle of living that you have no strength even to want God, yet are still dissatisfied that you don't, you are already keeping Advent in your life.

If you have ever had an obscure intuition that the truth of things is somehow better, greater, more wonderful than you deserve or desire, that the touch of God in your life stills you by its gentleness, that there is a mercy beyond anything you could ever suspect, you are already drawn into the central mystery of salvation.

Your hope is not a mocking dream; God creates in human hearts a huge desire and a sense of need, because he wants to fill them with the gift of himself."

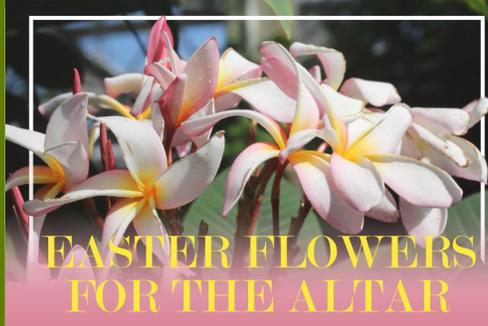
If you wish to strengthen your relationship with God, but feel at a loss, a Stephen Minister can walk along beside you and support you as you search for deeper meaning. Whether you need spiritual help, support during grief, a hand to hold during illness, or a companion as you go through a family crisis, call Holly Nash, Stephen Leader, at 715-356-6861 to receive loving care through our Stephen Ministry Program.

## Altar Flowers, With Sympathy, Easter Altar Flowers



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 you can send an email to [office@churchofthepines.org](mailto:office@churchofthepines.org). Include the date, name(s) of the person(s) 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.

Flowers on the Altar on March 14th are given by Bruce Currie in memory of his wife, Mary Nell, who would have celebrated her 93rd birthday on this day.



Please consider making a contribution to our flower fund for Easter plants for the Altar on Easter Sunday. Checks can be made out to Church of the Pines and mailed to P.O. Box 144, Minocqua, WI 54548. Please write "Easter Altar Flowers" on the check memo line.

Thank you.



### **Marion Burmeister**

*February 13, 1929 - February 10, 2021*

Marion Burmeister died while in Hospice care at Avanti on Wednesday, February 10, 2021, after having contracted COVID-19. Marion would have celebrated her 92nd birthday on February 13th. Arrangements are pending. Contact the church office at 715-356-3041 or email [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org) for contact information for her family should you want to send a sympathy card.



## COVID-19 Status Report, Ministry Council Meeting Summary

### COVID - 19 STATUS REPORT

### CHURCH OF THE PINES COVID-19 Status Report February 16, 2021

The Wisconsin Council of Churches has published recommendations for when churches may safely open. They have a “safer” category, which is not as stringent as the “safest” category. All three criteria (vaccination rate, viral transmission rate, and positive tests) must be met in each category to qualify.

The UMCOP Infection Control Team has recommended to the Ministry Council that the “safest” category be used at UMCOP because of the significant numbers of high risk individuals in the church.

#### February Week 2

Vaccination Rate Target	Target for “Safer”	Target for “Safest”	Oneida County	Wisconsin
Vaccination Rate	50-70%	70-85%	Less than 5%	Less than 5%
Viral Transmission Rate	Cases less than 5/100,000 to 10/100,000	Cases less than 1/100,000	16.7/100,000	15.3/100,000
Positive Tests	Less than 10%	Less than 5%	7.6%	3.3%

You can see that in Oneida County and Wisconsin, we have not reached even the “safer” category in the number of people fully vaccinated and in the viral transmission rate.

The Infection Control Team will continue to monitor the data and report it regularly to the Ministry Council and to the congregation.

### Ministry Council Meeting Summary

The Ministry Council met on February 16, 2021, with the following members in attendance: Chris Anderson, Jim Anderson, Sue Claflin, Pastor Mark Gilbert, Merry Jorgensen, Rich Klatt, Dave Kozeluh, Holly Nash, Bob Schuld, Ted Voigt, and Jerry Weber. Absent were: Jodi Capacio, Donna Clark, Emerson Coy, Tom Frandy, Sue Loeffler, Noah Lottig, and Perry Schuette.

A review of the church accomplishments included: Drive-up ashes at the church provided by Lay Leaders, Emerson Coy and Gretchen Voigt; appreciation to Holly and Bob Nash for facilitating the sale of church chairs; Thank you to Holly Nash for taking care of Helen Robinson as she recovers from a broken hip; the Stephen Minister caregivers now have two care receivers.

Holly Nash prepared a COVID-19 Status Report (see above) that was reviewed. The Infection Control Team will continue to monitor the situation and provide future reports to the Ministry Council and to the congregation.

At the recommendation of Bob Schuld, chair of the Finance Committee, the Ministry Council initiated a discussion on how to address budget concerns for long-term financial stability of Church of the Pines. It was determined that the Ministry Council needs to define an overall objective and establish a timeline to achieve the objective. The following questions need to be answered: What are we willing to do to accomplish the goals? What are we willing to give up? What do we need to hold on to? The discussion will continue at the next Council meeting.

A process will be put into place to ensure the Consent Agenda of the Ministry Council contains current church committee reports. The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for March 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

## Lent, Lenten Study Group



During Lent, our worship and study will be shaped by Amy Ekeh's book, *Lent: A Season of Transformation*. Lent is a time for change, a time for our relationship with God to deepen and for us to be transformed more like Christ. We will be encouraged to turn towards God's transforming love. We will be changed by God's love and become agents of transformation in our community and world.



### Second Sunday

IN LENT

February 28, 2021

Celebrate each Sunday of Lent by participating in the 10:00 a.m. Facebook Live worship service by going to <https://www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/live/>. A video of the service can be watched on our website at: <https://www.umchurchofthepines.org/>. The sermon recordings can be listened to by calling 715-203-1990.



### Third Sunday

IN LENT

March 7, 2021



### Fourth Sunday

IN LENT

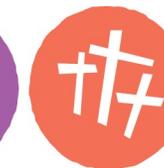
March 14, 2021



### Fifth Sunday

IN LENT

March 21, 2021



## LENTEN



## STUDY GROUP

Pastor Mark will lead a Lenten Study on Sundays on ZOOM at 3:00 p.m. beginning February 21st and will meet for five weeks through March 21st. The study is based on Amy Ekeh's book *Lent: A Season of Transformation*, and also Tom Berlin's book *Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess*.

Contact the church office by calling 715-356-3041 or email [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org) if you would like to participate in the remaining classes.



March 21, 2021

**Laity Sunday is March 21, 2021**, and we would like to explore how our congregation has experienced God during this past year. So, put on your thinking caps and let us know how you have coped with God's help. We would love to hear your thoughts. You can contact Emerson Coy at [emersoncoy@frontier.com](mailto:emersoncoy@frontier.com) or Gretchen Voigt at [gretchen.voigt@gmail.com](mailto:gretchen.voigt@gmail.com). Whatever thoughts you have...big or small...would be very welcome. Please send us your information before March 14th.

## Holy Week

### HOLY WEEK



### WORSHIP SCHEDULE



## Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021

Holy Week begins with a livestreamed worship service at 10:00 a.m. on the church's Facebook page. Refer to page 5 of this newsletter for information about how to watch the livestreamed worship service, watch a video on our website, or call a special number to listen to the worship service sermons.

Drive up communion will be available on Thursday, April 1st, from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m., 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., and 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. outside the church on Chicago Street and Highway 51 for people to pull into a parking spot.

A Holy Thursday Reflection will be on Facebook Live at 7:00 p.m.



## Maundy Thursday

April 1, 2021



## Good Friday

April 2, 2021

There will be a livestreamed worship service on Facebook on Good Friday at 12:00 p.m.

The day between Christ's crucifixion and His resurrection would have been a time of grief and shock as the stunned disciples tried to understand the murder of Jesus, the betrayal of Judas, and the dashing of their hopes.



## Holy Saturday

April 3, 2021



## EASTER Sunrise Service

April 4, 2021

An Easter Sunrise Service will be held at Torpy Park (weather permitting) at 7:30 a.m. The service will be in the traditional Sunrise service format and all are invited to attend. Masks and social distancing will be required.

Easter Sunday Worship Service will be livestreamed on the church's Facebook page at 10:00 a.m.

*"Christ is risen!"*



## Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021

## Mission Highlights, Upper Room

### MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

**Mujila Falls Agriculture Center** is an official project of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. It was founded in the year 2000 with a grant of 2500 acres of land from a Lunda Chief named Kanyama. The land has been developed as a research center and training facility for local entry level farmers. The primary focus is on food production increasing the protein, vitamins, and mineral levels in the local diets and increasing incomes for local people. Milk, eggs, rabbits, goats, sheep, pigs, turkeys, garden produce, strawberries, plantains, bananas, guavas, mangoes, lemons and citrus, field crops, pine trees and many other items are grown.

**UMCOR Wisconsin Disaster Response** - We all know that disasters happen, always without our permission and never on any schedule. Disasters have become a part of our lives - they happen in our communities, in our state, in our country, and throughout the world. What we as United Methodists can do is be prepared for disasters and be ready to respond as soon as possible after disaster strikes. The Disaster Response Team (DRT) of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church steps quickly into a position to help soon after disaster strikes - just as soon as an area is safe, sanitary and secure. The DRT engages in early response, spiritual and emotional care, as well as long-term recovery efforts, long after immediate agencies have left the scene (many times the teams take more than a year to complete their mission). The Wisconsin conference DRT calls on others to volunteer and provide financial support.



### Upper Room Daily Devotional

The Upper Room daily devotional guide includes a suggested Bible passage, a personal story relating to the scripture's message to everyday life, a thought for the day, a prayer, and a prayer focus. Strengthen your faith and deepen your relationship with God through this devotional magazine.

Contact the church office if you would like to subscribe to the Upper Room. Regular and Large-print copies are available. Call 715-356-3041 or email Merry at [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org).

## Community Connections, Congregational Care Ministry



**Gretchen Voigt** "cares for our congregation" by offering drive-up ashes and a blessing on Ash Wednesday at Church of the Pines. Lay Leader, **Emerson Coy**, also helped earlier in the day.

*Thank you!*

### CHURCH OF THE PINES March



Community Connections is a publication of Church of the Pines for anyone who would like to have an uplifting and thought-provoking weekly devotion, daily scripture readings, and activities to challenge your mind or to do just for fun. If you would like to subscribe to this publication or if you know of someone who is somewhat isolated who would enjoy receiving this, please let them know that Community Connections is available and that they can contact the church office to subscribe. Call 715-356-3041 or send an email to [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org).



#### Church of the Pines

#### Congregational Care Ministry Helps People Stay Connected

It's hard to believe that it was almost one year ago that our church building was closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. And today, we are still faced with the pandemic...our church building is still closed, but, we are hopeful that we will be able to resume some of our church activities one day when it is safe to do so. The Pandemic has caused us to do things differently and to create new ways of doing things. Our Congregation Care Ministry is one of the positive things that has evolved over this past year. One of our challenges was to find ways to reach out and stay connected with members of our congregation and to help everyone stay connected with the church and with one another. With enthusiastic support from 52 members of our congregation, we maintained contact with 344 people (unduplicated number) during this time by making phone calls, sending cards and notes of encouragement, preparing and delivering meals, making socially-distanced visits, providing transportation as needed, and serving others. In fact, these 52 volunteers did these things 2,155 times, which is pretty amazing! One thing is for sure...the work of Congregational Care is never finished. There will always be the need to be there for others. If you would like to become involved in our Congregational Care Ministry of Church of the Pines, give Merry Jorgensen a call at 715-356-3041 or send her an email at [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org) to learn more about volunteering a little or a lot!

*"A volunteer is a little pencil in the hand of God,  
who is writing a love letter to the world."  
- Mother Teresa*

## United Methodist Women



## United Methodist Women

### **Use your Thank Offering box . . .**

This March, put 40 cents in your Thank Offering box for the sun, the rainbow, a friend and a heart full of gladness mentioned in this traditional Irish Blessing:

May the sun always shine  
On your window pane.  
May a rainbow be certain  
To follow each rain.  
May the hand of a friend  
Always be near you.  
May God fill your heart  
With gladness to cheer you.

**UMW Executive Board . . .** will be having a Zoom meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 2021.

**Mission Trip . . .** Keep in mind that the UMW has a mission trip to the Midwest Distribution Center planned for November

9-14. If you are interested, please contact Sue Loeffler at 815-546-5033 or email Sue at [susanellenloeffler@gmail.com](mailto:susanellenloeffler@gmail.com).

**Mission Action Day . . .** The Wisconsin Conference of United Methodist Women is sponsoring Mission Action Day on Saturday, April 3, 2021. The theme is Racial Inequality and School to Prison Pipeline. If it is possible to meet in person, the event will be held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 341 Wilson Avenue, Green Bay. For registration, check <http://www.wisconsinumwc.org/> for updates.

**Mission u . . .** The Wisconsin Conference of UMW is planning on conducting mission u over Zoom this summer. The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools, and Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living Into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship.



## UMCOR Sunday, Giving



### UMCOR Sunday is March 14, 2021

**UMCOR** is the **United Methodist Committee on Relief**, and yet they are anything but a typical committee. They are a program by the General Board of Global Ministries taking action when disaster strikes around the globe. We have the opportunity to make a special offering on March 14th to benefit UMCOR. UMCOR acts as the hands and feet of Christ's church, moving towards the most vulnerable in their time of need. Helping people in their darkest days doesn't have to be something "they" do, it can be something "we" do. We hope that you will give generously on UMCOR Sunday so that we, along with our United Methodist congregations around the globe, can share compassionate relief in the midst of devastation. Until then, let's pray for the volunteers, the lives they touch, and for hearts to be moved. If you want to learn more about UMCOR visit: [www.umcsgiving.org/UMCOR](http://www.umcsgiving.org/UMCOR). Checks can be made out to UMCOR and mailed to Church of the Pines, P.O. Box 144, Minocqua, WI 54548. Gifts can also be made by going to our church website at [www.umchurchofthepines.org](http://www.umchurchofthepines.org) and click on the GIVE button on the homepage and designate your gift to Missions - UMCOR Sunday.

Giving to

Church of the Pines

is easy!

**Online** - Go to [www.umchurchofthepines.org](http://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** - Use your cell phone to text the word "give" to 833-358-0472 and follow the prompts.

**ACH** - 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!**

# Finance Report

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF THE PINES FINANCE REPORT AS OF JANUARY 31, 2021

	<u>January Actual</u>	<u>Year Actual</u>	<u>Incr (Decr) Versus Year Budget</u>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
Operating *	46,246	46,246	( 272)
Reserve Fund	4,402	4,402	3,248
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>50,648</b>	<b>50,648</b>	<b>2,976</b>
<b><u>Expenditures</u></b>			
Pastor **	8,007	8,007	( 533)
Worship	0	0	( 96)
Nurture	0	0	( 58)
Outreach	0	0	(1,000)
Finance & Administration	5,880	5,880	551
Facilities Operation & Maintenance	960	960	(1,368)
Capital Improvements Fund	( 315)	( 315)	( 515)
Youth Fund	0	0	0
Missions Fund ***	0	0	( 585)
Reserve Fund	172	172	( 56)
Conference Apportionment ****	0	0	0
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>14,704</b>	<b>14,704</b>	<b>(3,660)</b>
<b>Net Cash Excess (Deficiency)</b>	<b>35,944</b>	<b>35,944</b>	<b>6,636</b>
<b>Total Available Funds 1-31-21</b>		<b>305,903</b>	

\* 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 1 month is 35,944 which is 6,636 better than the approved operating budget.



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.





# March



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 10:00a Livestream Prayer Service	4	5	6
7 <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b> 10:00a Livestream Sunday Worship/ Communion 3:00p Lenten Study (Zoom)	8	9 2:00p UMW Executive Board (Zoom)	10 10:00a Livestream Prayer Service	11	12	13 <b>REMINDER:</b> Turn your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed tonight.
14 <b>UMCOR Sunday Fourth Sunday of Lent</b> 10:00a Livestream Sunday Worship 3:00p Lenten Study (Zoom) 	15 7:00p SPRC (Zoom)	16 7:00p Ministry Council (Zoom)	17 10:00a Livestream Prayer Service 	18	19	20
21 <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b> 10:00a Livestream Sunday Worship 3:00p Lent Study (Zoom)	22	23	24 10:00a Livestream Prayer Service	25	26	27
28 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 10:00a Livestream Sunday Worship 3:00p Lent Study (Zoom)	29	30	31 10:00a Livestream Service			

Have something for Pine Chips 2.0? Email the church at  
[office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org).  
**To appear in the April Pine Chips, email information no later than March 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.

### An Irish Prayer:

May God give you, For every storm, A rainbow,  
For every tear, A smile,  
For every care, A promise,  
And a blessing in each trial.  
For every problem life sends, A faithful friend to share,  
For every sigh, A sweet song,  
And an answer for each prayer.



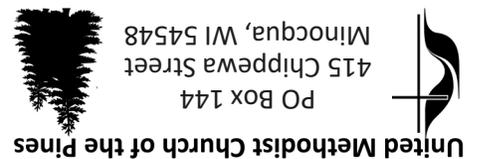
## Contact Us

UM Church of the Pines  
415 Chippewa Street  
PO Box 144  
Minocqua, WI 54548

Office Phone: 715-356-3041

Visit us on the web at  
[www.umchurchofthepines.org](http://www.umchurchofthepines.org)

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



United Methodist Church of the Pines  
PO Box 144  
415 Chippewa Street  
Minocqua, WI 54548