

February 2024

PINE CHIPS



United Methodist

Church of the Pines



Living Christ's Love



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 to make and grow disciples of Jesus Christ to love and serve the world through community, spirituality, and generosity.



February 2024

Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m.
In-person and Livestreamed
on Facebook and YouTube

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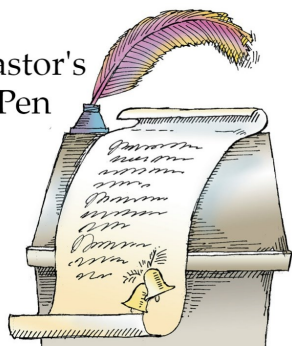
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Did you get Pine Chips 2.0 in your email?

*Not only is the monthly Pine Chips 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 Message

Pastor's
Pen



Welcome to February 2024. Happy Leap Year! We have 29 days in February this year, and I think we need them. Here in Wisconsin, we often are grateful for a short February as it is still winter, and spring seems like months away. Valentine's Day is often the only exciting thing happening, but not this year. Two exciting things are happening in the life of Church of the Pines during February.

The first is the season of Lent, which begins on February 14, 2024.

What a neat thing that Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday are on the same day. Valentine's is a day to celebrate love, and Ash Wednesday is the start of a holy journey that culminates in the ultimate expression of God's love for us, combined this year on the same day! In honor of this great combination, our Lenten worship is focused on the depth of God's love for us. More details about this focus can be found in this newsletter.

I invite you to join me on Ash Wednesday at 6:00 pm to begin Lent's journey into God's great love.

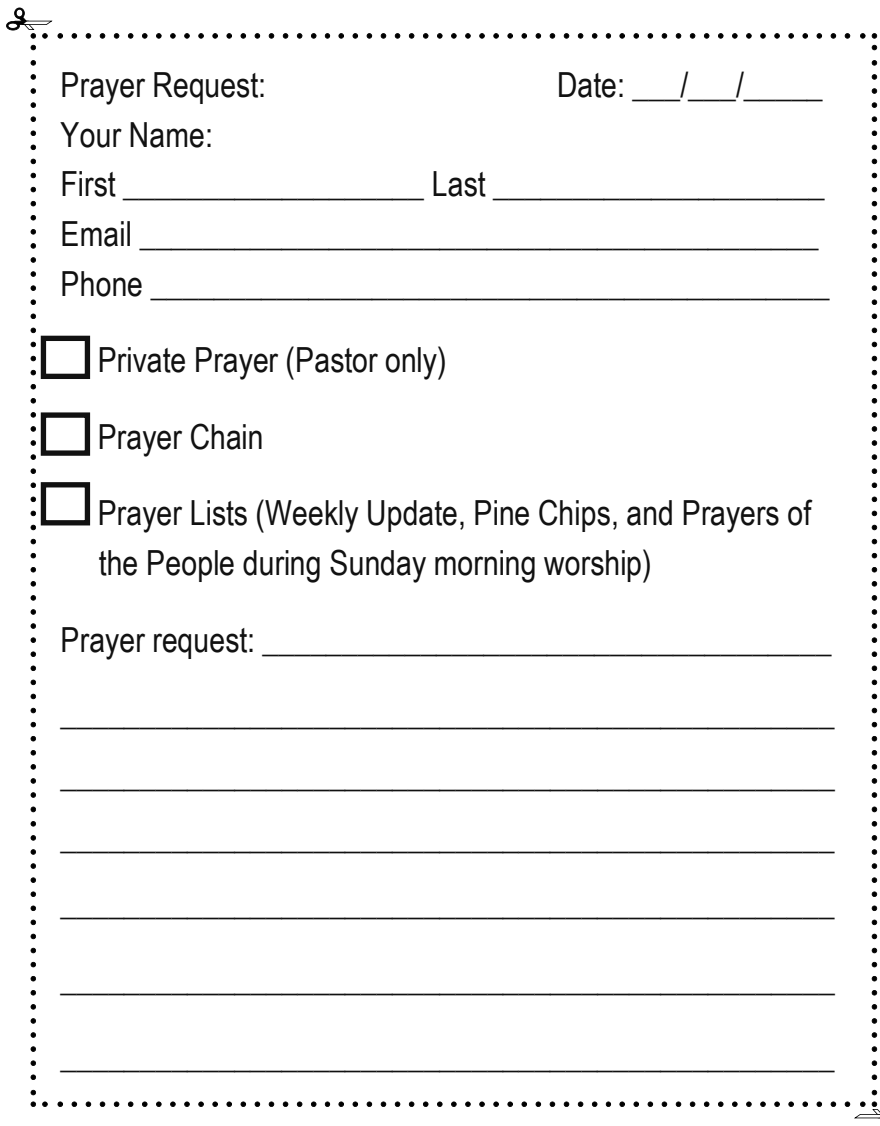
The second thing happening this February is we will take a key first step in working towards our mission focus of increasing food security in our community and throughout the world. We begin by offering an excellent study called "Hunger at Our Doorstep." This study, developed by the Wisconsin Council of Churches, is an excellent resource for congregations like ours that want to make a difference in the world. The class combines a Bible study and real-life information about the issue of food security. What I like about it is that we will not only learn about what the Bible says about the issue of hunger and what is meant when we talk about the term 'food security,' but we will also learn practical ways for us to engage with others in a variety of actions that are shown to be effective.

Please join me and the congregation's leadership in attending "Hunger at Our Doorstep" during this season of Lent. The class begins on Thursday, February 15, 2024, at noon and will have five sessions. There is a sign-up sheet in the Ministry Center, or contact Merry in the church office to register. There is no cost to attend this class. We will also record each session and upload it to our YouTube channel.

As you can see, there is much to be excited about this February. I am happy for that extra day!

LENT
40 Days of Renewal

There are times when we are away from the office, so it is a good idea to call in advance to ensure we are available to assist you. Call 715-356-3041.



February Birthdays, Altar Flowers, Prayer Requests, 2024 Special UMC Offerings

Happy birthday to . . . **FEBRUARY**

Birthdays and Anniversaries

February 1	Stephanie Hilgart
February 3	Noah Lottig
February 7	Dick Rhyner
February 9	Gary Johnson
February 10	Sue McDougall
February 12	Maria Caroselli
February 14	Betty Hewitt
February 16	Gretchen Voigt
February 18	Karen Stinemates

Happy anniversary to . . .

February 17 - Emerson & Julie Coy
February 24 - Larry & Bonnie Duffee

Blessings to you on your special day!

If you are celebrating your birthday or anniversary in February and your name is not listed, contact the church office so we can update our records.

Altar Flowers



Please consider signing up to provide a flower arrangement or a plant for the altar on Sunday mornings. It is a nice way to honor or remember a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion.

Arrangements can now be made online at our church website at www.umchurchofthepines.org by completing a reservation form. For folks who don't have internet access, contact the church office at 715-356-3041.

To check to see if a particular Sunday is available, you can view the church calendar link on the homepage of the church website at www.umchurchofthepines.org. On the menu, go to "More." In the drop-down list, click on "Church Calendar," where you can go to the date. If Altar flowers have already been reserved, you will see the words "Altar Flowers - and a name of the person who has reserved that date." In this case, you can select an alternative date, if you would like to do so.



Please pray for...

John Fisher
Debbie Kilps
Family of Luella Lakich. Luella passed away on January 8, 2024.



Ash Wednesday

*Worship Service
with imposition of ashes*

February 14 - 6:00 p.m.

United Methodist Special Offerings Calendar 2024

March 10 - UMCOR Sunday
April 14 - Native American Ministries Sunday
May 12 - Golden Cross Sunday
May 26 - Peace with Justice Sunday
September 22 - Blanket Sunday
October 6 - World Communion Sunday
November 24 - United Methodist Student Day



Cookies for Valentine's Day

The United Women in Faith's Esther/Martha Circle will be delivering cookies for Valentine's Day to a number of our members and friends of Church of the Pines who live alone, are recovering from illness or surgery, or are unable to attend worship services and other church activities.

You can participate by baking some cookies. They can be brought to the church kitchen by February 11th.
Thanks for supporting this special project!

Worship, Winter Weather Policy, Stay Connected



Attend the 10:00 a.m. Sunday worship services held in the sanctuary.

Please be advised that we live-stream our services online through various electronic methods such as Facebook and YouTube. These broadcasts provide valuable information to visitors to our site and those planning to attend our service in person. We may use any recorded media and photos taken from the recorded media in materials produced by and for our church.

Watch Sunday morning worship services on our Church of the Pines YouTube channel by going to: <https://www.youtube.com/@umchurchofthepines>

Livestreams of Sunday Worship Services are on Church of the Pines' Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/live/>

Watch videos of Sunday Services on our church website at <https://www.umchurchofthepines.org/worship-videos.html>

stay
CONNECTED

Ways to stay connected at Church of the Pines

*Weekly Update & Pine Chips
Church Directory
Facebook/YouTube/Church Website
Bulletin inserts and bulletin boards*

Contact the church office to subscribe to publications, get help with navigating electronic publications, be included in and have access to the church directory, and submit meeting dates and event information for announcements or included in publications.

WINTER Weather Policy

Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

Sunday Morning Worship

For severe winter weather, cancellation of the Sunday Worship service will be considered when there is dangerous ice and when there is a winter storm warning.

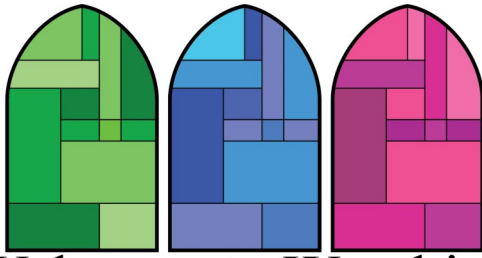
A decision to cancel worship services during a winter storm will be made no later than 6:00 p.m. on Saturday evening. A mass email and phone call will be made to the church membership, and a special notification will be sent via MailChimp to everyone who subscribes to our church Weekly Updates. Notifications will also appear on our Facebook page and sent to local television stations that provide cancellation notices for church activities.

Weekday Church Activities and Office Hours

Children, Youth, and Family ministries will be canceled if schools are closed or if after school activities are canceled. Parents will be notified via email.

The Church office and other church adult ministries will be closed at the discretion of the pastor and/or the Chair of the related ministry, based on safety. Appropriate forms of communication will be used to inform the congregation.

February, Lent. and Easter Worship



Welcome to Worship!

February Worship Themes

February 4 - Sunday, 10 am

Scripture: Isaiah 40:21-31 and Psalm 147:1-11

Theme: Trusting God and Finding Strength. Have you not heard? Have you not known? The prophet Isaiah expressed God's surprise that the people of Israel have lost hope and feel threatened in all things. God reminds them and us that when we place our trust in God and not in ourselves or other earthly powers, we find hope and all the strength we need to face all the chaos of life.

February 11 - Transfiguration Sunday - 10 am

Scripture: Mark 9:2-9

Theme: Higher Resolution.

The only constant is change. Perhaps not. While change is a part of life, some things do not change. God's love for us never changes, but sometimes we understand it better. We see it more clearly with higher resolution. It seems like Jesus changes before the disciples' eyes in this passage, but they are actually seeing him more clearly than before.

Lenten Worship



Depth of Love

The Season of Lent is a time of self-reflection and spiritual examination. While that is a healthy and necessary exercise, we don't examine ourselves in isolation. Instead, we are invited to lay our lives alongside the life of Jesus. It is a sobering exercise to say the least. And yet, what we discover in this

examination of his life and ours, is not condemnation or recrimination. Instead, the further we go on this journey with him, the more overwhelmed we are by his depths of love for all of us. Lent is a time for getting our spiritual house in order, which is true. But, it is an invitation to commit once again to love like Christ loves.

February 14 - Ash Wednesday - 10 am

Scripture: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Theme: Ash Wednesday is about refocusing and realigning ourselves in relationship to God and one another. We must encounter our sinfulness and frailty not with shame and blame but with honesty and truth, trusting that God receives our confession.

February 18 - First Sunday of Lent - 10 am

Scripture: Mark 1:9-15

Theme: Fast Start.

The Gospel of Mark starts at a fast pace, quickly moving from major event to major event. Wait, aren't there more details to these stories? Why is it moving so fast? Life doesn't always wait for us to catch our breath, either. Look at our church year. Barely a month ago, we were still in the Christmas Season. Now, we are in the season of Lent! Here we go. Let's start our Journey with Jesus to explore the depth of God's love.

February 25 - Second Sunday of Lent - 10 am

Scripture: Mark 8:31-38

Theme: The Way of the Cross.

Loving is not easy. It is challenging and often requires sacrifice. Jesus begins to teach the true depth of God's love as he describes the challenges and sacrifices God makes to express his love to us.

March 3 - Third Sunday of Lent - 10 am

Scripture: John 2:13-22

Theme: When Love Gets Angry.

We see Jesus getting angry today. It might seem shocking to picture Jesus yelling at people, overturning tables, and using physical force, but sometimes love means we get angry. Jesus' anger is an expression of the depth of God's love for us. What can we learn from when Jesus gets angry?

Lent and Easter Worship. Lenten Devotional

March 10 - Fourth Sunday of Lent - 10 am

Scripture: John 3:14-21

Theme: God's Love is really Deep.

Jesus' familiar words to Nicodemus challenge us to open our eyes to how deep God's love truly is. It is easy for us to focus on the surface level of God's love - God's love for you, for me. But that is just the surface. God's love is for **all** people. I mean all.

March 17 - Fifth Sunday of Lent - 10 am

Scripture: John 12:20-33

Theme: Serving is Love

We hear a familiar expression about following God today. We are reminded of the depth of God's love for us in Jesus's service to us, but we are also encouraged to show the depth of God's love in our service to others.



March 24 —Palm/Passion Sunday - 10 am

Scripture of the Palms: Mark 11:1-11

Theme: Today, we celebrate and welcome Jesus into Jerusalem, and we hear the true depth of his love for us in the Passion story from the Gospel of Mark.

March 28 — Holy Thursday - 7 pm

Scripture of the Palms: John 13:1-17

Theme: God's Love for You.

Do you let God express God's Love to you? Or do you, like Peter, draw away for a moment? Tonight, let God tell you how much you are loved. Receive it. Let it wash over you. Let it fill you to overflowing.

March 29 — Good Friday - Noon

A Service of Tenebrae

We will hear the passion of Christ and experience with the first disciples the darkening of the world as Christ goes to the cross.

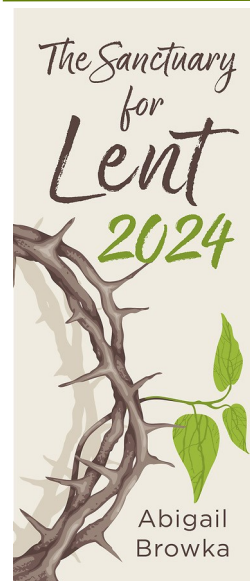


March 31 - Easter Sunday! - 10 am

Scripture: Mark 16:1-7

Theme: Love enough to Live.

Oh, the depth of the divine love we have experienced leading up to this day. What 'weight of glory' we see this day as the cross and tomb stand empty before us. Yet, where is Jesus? Mark tells us that we will him as he said, but where? So, we look to see Jesus.



Devotional for Lent

The Sanctuary for Lent

2024 contains brief readings for each day in Lent, from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday, including a suggested Scripture, a short devotion, and a short prayer or practice—all based on the Revised Common Lectionary.

This Lenten season, you can experience the joy of the Resurrection by having Lenten Devotionals emailed to

you. We have subscribed to the 2024 Sanctuary for Lent and will happily email you the devotional. By having a digital copy of the devotional, you can make the print larger and easier to read.

Contact Merry at

office@umchurchofthepines.org to request digital copy of the Lenten devotional.

For people without access to the internet and email, contact the church office to arrange for a hard copy of the devotional. 715-356-3041.

Hunger at Our Doorstep, Change for Hunger



Hunger at Our Doorstep, a new study that will be held at Church of the Pines, begins on February 15th. This study will prepare our congregation and individuals to actively promote public policies and direct service projects that will reduce hunger and vulnerability to hunger in our community and throughout the world. We will take a study-action approach, which turns what we learn into concrete actions. As James 1:22 says, we are to be “doers of the word, and not just hearers.”

Classes meet in the Ministry Center at noon. You are welcome to bring your lunch. There is no cost to attend. The church will provide the handouts.

Register for the study by going to our church website, www.umchurchofthepines.org, and on the menu bar at the top of the homepage, under Programs and Classes, click on Hunger at Our Doorstep, fill out the registration form and click on “Submit.”

February 14 - Session 1

Hunger at Our Doorstep in Wisconsin.

February 22 - Session 2

Why are Our Neighbors Hungry?

February 29 - Session 3

What Can Be Done About Hunger?

March 7 - Session 4

Hunger in Our Community

March 21 - Session 5

Taking Action Against Hunger

Change for Hunger



Usher, Patty Frandy, holds the offering plate as Nicole Bruette drops her “change” into the special offering can, contributing to “Change for Hunger.”

As part of our new Mission Focus Plan, a special offering called Change for Hunger will be taken during the worship service on the first Sunday of each month.

So, on Sunday, February 4th, you are invited to drop your “change” into the decorated cans as the offering plates are passed.

The funds we collect through our “Change for Hunger” offerings will be donated to the Lakeland Pantry, the Midwest Mission Distribution Center for rice meals, and Food for Kidz.

“Change for Hunger” is one of many ways our congregation will move forward in this new year together as we continue to learn, serve, and give to increase food security for people in our community and throughout the world.



Stephen Ministry



Have you ever judged a gift by its wrapping? If a gift was wrapped in plain paper with no bow, what were your expectations? Compare it with a gift wrapped expertly in thick, decorative paper, with a handsome bow. Were your expectations higher?

As we have just started the New Year, we all have some expectations of what the year will be like. What do our expectations tell us?

Knowing Emmanuel, God is with us, we should be expecting good. Our lives are lived best when we **expect** God to be at work for our good – when we believe that God **can** and **will** work for our good. Our outlook for the day and even the year changes when we expect good.

This may take a while to learn.

When Mary, the mother of Jesus, was told, as a virgin, she was going to have a child, the Son of God, what were her expectations? Many of us would have been nervous and worried about all the repercussions: what would Joseph do, what would the community think, how would this change her life? Mary, though, accepted the news, and she actually praised God:

“My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors.”



Picture reprinted with permission from Pexels.com

Mary had great expectations.

Develop your view of the world to be one of awe and wonder. Rather than looking for miracles, shift to seeing everything as miraculous. Someone said, “expectation is the breeding ground for miracles.”

By being in a state of awe, you won’t be able to mentally experience boredom or disappointment. Try seeing the invisible God flowing through and supporting everyone and everything. A rainstorm becomes a miraculous event, the lightning a fascinating display of electrical fireworks, the thunder a booming reminder of the invisible power of nature. Live the mystery by beginning to perceive what average eyes fail to notice. So what do you expect? Remember, as Jonathan Lockwood Huie said, “A wonderful gift may not be wrapped as you expect.”

This year, 2024, look for miracles, and you will find them.

If you need help seeing miracles, let a Stephen Minister help. Call Holly Nash, Stephen Leader, at 715-356-6861.

Ministry Council Meeting Summary, Cabin Fever Fun Day

Ministry Council Meeting Summary

The Ministry Council met on January 23, 2024, with the following members in attendance: Sue Claflin, Mary Fasse, Tom Frandy (representing Trustees), Pastor Mark Gilbert, Jay Hull, Merry Jorgensen, Dave Kozeluh, Sara Kozeluh, Sue Loeffler, Bob Nash, and Bob Schuld. Absent: Noah Lottig and Jerry Weber.

Jay Hull and Bob Nash were welcomed as new Council members, class of 2026. Highlights of UMCOP church life were noted: The Change for Hunger offering began in January and will be held the first Sunday of each month; 229 socks were donated to the Lakeland Pantry during the Drive that was held in December; A Pancake Brunch was held on January 18; Christmas Eve Worship services were well-attended; and the Bible Study on the Parables began in January, is going well, and has 15 people participating.

The new Missions Team held its first meeting. It recommended to the Council that the Missions Focus Plan, which was previously approved, be revised to change the name of the new monthly special offering from "Noisy Offering" to "Change for Hunger" and that we collect the offering throughout the year and disperse the proceeds at the end of the year to the recipient organizations. These changes were approved.

Bob Schuld, Finance Chair, reviewed the 2024 Operating Budget and the 2024 Budget for Facilities Operation & Maintenance. After responding to a few questions regarding the proposed budget, the Ministry Council approved the Finance Committee's recommended church budget for 2024.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Ministry Center.



Cross-country Ski

Shake off the winter doldrums for a special event on Sunday, March 3, when your church family will gather for our second annual "Cabin Fever Fun Day."

At 2:00 p.m., we will meet at the Raven trailhead (Woodruff Road just past the Clear Lake Campground) to enjoy a leisurely ski or snowshoe outing.



Snowshoe

Not interested in skiing or snowshoeing? Then, head to the church at 2:00 p.m. for an afternoon of snacks, games, and conversation.

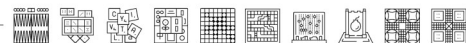
At 3:30 p.m., we will return from the Raven Trail for our 4:00 p.m. soup supper potluck. Prepare your favorite soup, side dish, or dessert to share. The church will provide beverages. Continue the fun as Pastor Mark once again leads us in a friendly game of Family Feud.



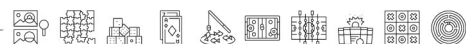
Soup Supper Potluck

For questions, directions to the trailhead or assistance locating snowshoes or skis, call Dave Kozeluh at 715-892-8611 or Sara Kozeluh at 715-482-4089.

CABIN FEVER FUN DAY



Board Games



Stained-glassed Widows of Church of the Pines

Architectural features of the United Methodist Church of the Pines include its beautiful stained glass windows. Photos of the windows are being featured on our Facebook page this year. Every window depicts an aspect of our Christian faith. Let's look at some of the windows and learn more about them.

As we sit in the pews in the church sanctuary on Sunday mornings, we see the three stained-glassed windows depicting the Trinity above the altar.



The window on the left in the photo represents God the Father. The familiar symbol of the all-seeing eye represents God. Below is a likeness of the Bible, the Father's inspiring counsel to His children and the Christian's guide for living. The light rays symbolize the outpouring of God's creative activity in life.

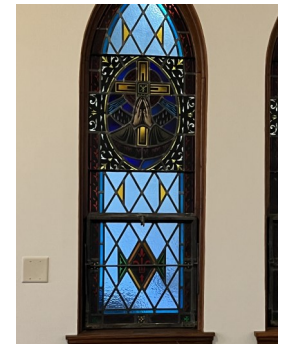
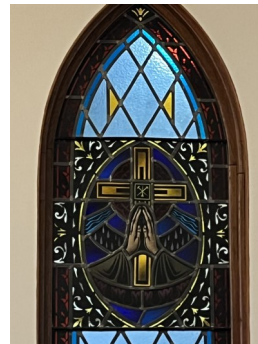


The center stained glass window above the altar in the sanctuary of Church of the Pines represents God the Son. The lamb, meaning Christ as the "lamb of God," is shown reclining upon a book of seven seals (Revelations 5:1). He is holding a banner, often referred to as the Resurrection banner, symbolizing Christ's victory over death. The three-rayed nimbus surrounding the lamb's head signifies divinity. "Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals;" - Revelation 5:1.



God the Holy Spirit (on the right when looking at the photo.) In this window, the most authentic symbol of the Holy Spirit is the descending dove with the tri-radiant nimbus. It is based on the account of the baptism of Jesus in Matthew 3:13-17. "Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'"

Do you know what this stained glass window represents? Where is it located in the church? Take a close-up look at it this Sunday when you attend the worship service at 10:00 a.m. Hint: It is in the sanctuary. This window is called "Worship." Praying hands symbolize the fellowship with God, which we are privileged to have through prayer. It is so clearly related to worship and our need for it that the two are found together. The cross denotes God's redeeming love through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



Upcoming Church Activities, United Women in Faith

Everyone is invited to attend **Tom's Community Table**, a free community dinner that is offered at St. Matthias' Episcopal Church on Tuesday, February 13th, at 5:00 p.m. The menu is: spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, dessert, cupcakes, brownies, cookies, etc.), and hot and cold apple cider.

Keenagers will meet for a potluck at noon on Wednesday, February 21st, in the Ministry Center. Sue Henning and Val Susor will discuss the Mission Trip last fall to Midwest Mission Distribution Center that is located near Springfield, Illinois. Learn a little more about this United Methodist mission project. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you want to come for the program only, come around 12:30 p.m.

Keenagers also wants to thank everyone who contributed to the **Sock Drive** for the Lakeland Pantry.

Men's Breakfast will meet at Holiday Café on Thursday, February 22nd at the Holiday Café at 8:00 a.m.

Between Friends meets on Tuesday, February 27th, from 9:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Bring your lunch and your sewing or craft project and meet up in the Ministry Center to spend the day with friends.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

Wednesday Church School is for kids in 1st through 8th grades and meets weekly at 3:30 p.m. in the lower level of the church.

On Wednesday, March 6th, the youth of the church will participate in a **Rice Meal Packing Mission Project** and will assemble 480 rice meals at 4:00 p.m. in the Ministry Center. Thank you to all who contributed to the brat fry fundraiser. Funds from the brat fry will be used to purchase the ingredients for the rice meal packaging. Sue Loeffler will bring everything needed for this mission project back from the Midwest Mission Distribution Center where she will be spending two weeks volunteering at MMDC. Venus Hilgart and Rosalie Widstrand will lead the youth as they assemble the rice meal packets. All are welcome to join the group on March 6th.

The next **CYF Potluck** is on Wednesday, March 6th, at 5:30 p.m. in the Ministry Center. Everyone interested in Church of the Pines Youth Programs is welcome to attend the potlucks.

The **Youth Group** for middle and high school students meets on February 18th at 2:00 p.m. in the youth room.



The **Cookie Walk and Craft Sale** were a huge success!!!

The profits totaled \$2600. Thank you to all who helped make this a successful event.

February Circles:

Dawn Circle: Thursday, Feb. 1, at 9:30 am in the ministry center.

Deborah Circle: Wednesday, Feb. 7, at 6:00 pm in the ministry center. We will be making Valentine's Day cards for the shut-ins. Val Susor will host.

Esther/Martha Circle: Tuesday, Feb. 6, at noon at the home of Jeanne Van Order. The members of the Circle are decorating boxes for cookies that will be taken to our homebound members and friends of

Church of the Pines and those who live alone to enjoy for Valentine's Day.

Lydia circle: Thursday, February 8, at 9:30 am in the Ministry center.

Ruth Circle: Wednesday, February 14, at 12:30 pm in the Ministry Center.

Thank offering for February: We thank God for our loved ones!! Put a quarter in the box when thinking of the ones we love.

Upcoming events:

General Meeting: Wednesday, March 27th at 10 am in the Ministry center. Martha/Esther Circle will host, and Pat Bechtel will present the program.

Spring Rummage and Bake sale: April 24-26 at the American Legion Hall in Minocqua.

Endowment, Ways to Give, Volunteer Opportunities

United Methodist Church of the Pines



ENDOWMENT FUND



Thank you for considering an endowment gift to Church of the Pines.



We are the seeds of hope for those who succeed us. We are called to partner in faith with those who have gone before us and to offer the best that we have to give to those who will follow.

Contact the church at 715-356-3041 or send an email to: office@umchurchofthepines.org to arrange a confidential consultation with a member of the Endowment Committee.



Ways to Serve Your Church:

Coffee Fellowship Hosts

Greeters

Ushers

Liturgists

Altar Flowers

Special Music - Vocal/Instrumental

Congregational Care - Phone Calls/Mail Cards/Visits

Transportation - to medical appointments/to church/run errands

Meal Ministry

For information:
715-356-3041 (church office)
office@umchurchofthepines.org

Giving to Church of the Pines is easy!

Thank you for continuing to financially contribute to Church of the Pines as you are able. There are a variety of ways to make your gifts:



- Use your smartphone camera to scan the above QR code to make an online gift to Church of the Pines.
 - Text "give" to 833-358-0472.
- Use ACH (Automatic Clearing House) to contribute from your checking or savings account.
- Go to www.umchurchofthepines.org and click on the GIVE button to make an electronic gift using your debit or checking account.
- Drop off or mail a check made out to Church of the Pines to P.O. Box 144, Minocqua, WI 54548.



Finance Report

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF THE PINES FINANCE REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>December Actual</u>	<u>Year Actual</u>	<u>Incr (Decr) Versus Year Budget</u>
<u>Income</u>			
Operating *	17,418	188,152	(7,623)
Reserve Fund	6,980	4,470	(6,480)
Endowment Fund	5,300	17,100	1,000
Total Income	29,698	209,722	(13,103)
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Pastor **	8,000	99,826	(1,241)
Worship	946	5,274	115
Nurture	1,023	7,496	2,996
Outreach	859	4,648	(552)
Finance & Administration	5,566	70,965	141
Facilities Operation & Maintenance	2,700	41,218	(771)
Capital Improvements Fund	0	3,353	2,453
Youth Fund	0	1,000	1,000
Missions Fund ***	120	7,940	2,585
Reserve Fund	179	2,949	249
Conference Apportionment ****	5,300	18,652	0
Total Expenditures	24,693	263,321	6,975
Net Cash Excess (Deficiency)	5,005	(53,599)	(20,078)
Total Available Funds 12-31-23		279,502	

* Prepaid Pledges of 26,986 were included in January Operating Income

** Includes Salary, Benefits, Expenses

*** Includes Special Sundays

**** 2023 Assessment is 37,305

Net cash deficiency (income minus expenditures) for the full year is 53,599 which is 20,078 worse than the approved operating budget.



Stay connected by visiting us on Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/>


Watch our church services on



<https://www.youtube.com@umchurchofthepines>



FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30am - Dawn Circle (Ministry Center) 9:30am - Key Leaders (Library) 12:00pm - Parable Remix, vol. 2 (Ministry Center)	2	3
4 10:00am - Worship Service/ Communion/ Change for Hunger Offering 11:00am - Coffee Fellowship (Ministry Center)	5 1:00pm - Missions Team (Library)	6 12:00pm - Esther/ Martha Circle (Jeanne Van Order's home)	7 3:30pm - Church School (Lower Level) 6:00pm - Deborah Circle (Ministry Center)	8 9:30am - Lydia Circle (Ministry Center)	9	10
11 Transfiguration Sunday 10:00am - Worship Service/ Program 11:00am - Coffee Fellowship 11:30am - Valentine Cookie Packaging (Kitchen)	12 1:00pm - Prayer Shawl (Pine Room)	13 10:00am - Worship at Milestone 1:00pm - Worship at One Penny Place 5:00pm - Tom's Community Table (St. Matthias' Episcopal Church)	14 12:30pm - Ruth Circle (Ministry Center) 3:30pm - Church School (Lower level) 6:00pm - Ash Wednesday Worship Service 	15 12:00pm - Hunger at Our Doorstep (Ministry Center) 1:00pm - Stephen Ministry (Library) 5:30pm - Turn the Page Book Group (Gretchen Voigt's home)	16	17
18 First Sunday of Lent 10:00am - Worship Service 11:00am - Coffee Fellowship 2:00pm - Youth Group (Youth Room)	19 7:00pm - SPRC (Library)	20 7:00pm - Ministry Council (Ministry Center)	21 12:00pm - Keenagers (Ministry Center) 3:30pm - Church School (Lower level) 5:30pm - CYF Potluck (Ministry Center)	22 8:00am - Men's Breakfast (Holiday Café) 12:00pm - Hunger at Our Doorstep (Ministry Center)	24	25
25 Second Sunday of Lent 10:00am - Worship Service 11:00am - Coffee Fellowship	26	27 9:30am - Between Friends (Ministry Center)	28 3:30pm - Church School (Lower Level)	29 12:00pm - Hunger at Our Doorstep (Ministry Center)		

Have something for Pine Chips 2.0? Email the church at office@umchurchofthepines.org.
The deadline for receiving information for the March Pine Chips is on February 15th.
 Announcements for weekly updates are due no later than Monday for the following weekend.
 Call the Church Office at 715-356-3041 with questions.



Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

There are times when we are away from the office, so it is a good idea to call in advance to ensure someone is available to assist you.
 Call 715-356-3041.



Contact Us

UM Church of the Pines
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Visit us on the web at
www.umchurchofthepines.org

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