

MARCH 2017

PINE Chips^{2.0} United Methodist of Church of the Pines



Live Christ's Love

Nurture Outreach Worship



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.



Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do and he will show you which path to take.
- Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen	2
Prayers/Birthdays	3
Missions/Visitation	4-7
Stephen Ministry/UMW	8-9
Lay Leader/LOGOS Lite	10-12
Trustee/Odd Couples/Keenagers	13
News/Events	14
Calendar	15

Regular Worship

Sunday

10 am Worship

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

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, March 1, 2017. In the early church, the season of Lent was a time of final preparation for baptism and membership in the church. During this time in the history of the Church, Easter was the only time that people would become members of the church. The goal was that people would be fully living out their faith as Disciples of Christ before baptism and join the Church. Over time, as the understanding and practice of baptism grew, the season of Lent developed into a time of self-examination and self-sacrifice in preparation for remembering Jesus' sacrifice for us. Thus, becoming what we are more familiar with as the season of Lent.

This year during worship our Lenten theme will be more in line with the original focus on baptism. In the coming weeks we will examine the baptismal vows in the United Methodist Church; with the purpose of encouraging one another live out our baptismal vows. I realize that many of you might be thinking "I wasn't baptized in the United Methodist Church," or "I have no idea what the baptismal vows are." That's why I include an edited version of the baptismal vows found in the UMC Hymnal; so that we can prepare ourselves for Lent.

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

Will you nurture these children (persons) in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves, to profess their faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

These vows form the heart of the understanding of baptism and being a follower of Jesus in the United Methodist Church. They will also form the heart of our Lenten season this year.

Blessings.

Pastor Mark

Office, Misc., Sympathy & Celebrations

Church Staff & Leadership

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Dennis and Lonni Harrison
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Worship Team Leader:
Sue Altschwager
sue@whitebirchvillage.com

Please Pray For...

Susan Teichmiller; Donna Liebenstein; Hedy Blank; Jim and Nell Goetz; Diane Treu; Beverly Kramer; Howard and Alice Fager; Michele Alexander; Marion Burmeister; Jim Bollwinkle; Bill Spetz; Doretta Strasburg; Mary Ellen McEwen; Peggy Drehmel; Betty Jones; Barb Saving; Shirley Peterson; Irene Boudreau; Judy Adams; Sandi Rexroade, Gary Binette.

Prayers are needed for our missionaries Mateus Francisco and Dan and Rachel Gabler, and for their families. Please also pray for our church and leaders, our pastor, our youth program, and our Stephen Ministers.

Prayer Chain— *“Be joyful always; pray continually . . . “ I Thessa-
lonians 5:16-17. Our Prayer Chain is over 50 members strong. If
you are interested in being a part of our Prayer Chain, please con-
tact the church office or Patty Frandy (715-356-2172
or pattyandtom@frontier.com). There will also be a sign-up sheet
in the Ministry Center. You can either be a part of our traditional
telephone chain or our e-chain.*

*“I would like to thank everyone for the prayers and cards before
and after my surgery in February.
I sure felt the strength of the prayers.” Sue Claflin*

March Birthdays

March 3—Jaime Jorgensen

March 4—Sue Claflin

March 6—George Douma

March 7—Ken Schmidt

March 9—Eli Bonack

March 12—Bonnie Noonan

March 13—Adam Hinkens

March 14—Mary Nell Currie

March 17—Erin Jorgenson

March 20—Carli Capacio



March 18 —Amy Pointer

March 21—Tracey Snyder

March 26—Tom Frandy

March 31—Jodi Capacio

Missions:

WHAT'S UP IN MISSIONS?

MARCH MISSION OFFERINGS

The two Missions that the Mission Committee is highlighting for March are The **PASTIME CLUB** Adult Day Center and **UM Harbor House** in Superior, WI. Your "Missions" offerings will help express Christ's Love NOW through these ministries.



THE PASTIME CLUB is a service program that offers a safe and secure environment for those with dementia and early memory loss. Participants have an opportunity to interact socially with peers and share in stimulating activities. The program gives Caregivers a much-needed break for themselves, all the while allowing them to feel confident that their loved ones have professional care in a "home-away-from-home" atmosphere. It is located at Ascension Lutheran Church on Mondays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



HARBOR HOUSE CRISIS SHELTERS (HHCS) is a Ministry of Faith United Methodist Church in Superior, WI. **Emergency Shelter-** Harbor House provides thirty days of emergency shelter for homeless women and children and families. (Other groups provide service for single men.) 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. **Case Management-** HHCS 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 an Advance Special of the Minnesota Conference as well as the Wisconsin Annual Conference (Advance #7788) Your help makes a difference in the lives of homeless women and children. Thank you for your support.

Missions:



MEETING NOTES

At our February meeting of the Missions Committee we welcomed SUE SHAPIRO, UMW Co-ordinator for Education and Interpretation. We're very glad to have her with us!

ALLOCATIONS of available Missions offerings - \$300 for the second quarter payment of our Covenant Relationship with Dan and Rachel Gabler.

\$200 each to Frederick Place (NATH) shelter for the homeless in Rhinelander, and UM Hospitals Ministry, pastoral care for those in Madison too far from their home church for their pastor to visit. These were our January Missions emphases.

\$100 kept for emergency requests

FEBRUARY emphases were the Caritas Ministry, emergency help for Lakeland neighbors, and Midwest Mission Distribution Center, "help for people in need locally, nationally, and around the world..." (See photos on Pine Room Bulletin Board) Since MMDC's immediate need is especially for crayons, protractors, bathroom hand towels, and receiving blankets, it's likely that our February Missions offerings will help supply those.

MARCH emphases are the local Pastime Club and Harbor House in Superior. APRIL will be Twin Ports Seafarers' Ministry and Grace Children's Hospital in Haiti.

UMCOR SUNDAY (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing) is March 26.

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY is April 30.

ITEMS WE'RE WORKING ON: How to include Missions in the new UMCOP website?

Bible study with UM church in Senegal

Finding out current activity of Northwoods Habitat for Humanity and the Senior Center

Celebration of Africa University's 25th anniversary?

Mission-themed Art Exhibit?

NEXT MEETING - MONDAY, APRIL 3, 5:30 P.M. (No meeting in March because of a schedule conflict for two of the members.)

UMCOR Sunday



Your contribution to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is helping disaster survivors across the nation recover from events that never made the headlines.

How does UMCOR stretch your “disaster dollar” to quietly bring hope to countless people and their families? And what is a “low-attention disaster?” It often means that there is little financial assistance and volunteer labor for people most in need, said Catherine Earl, a disaster response program manager for UMCOR.

“It is possible, however, to turn a low-attention disaster into a highly meaningful recovery for survivors through the dedicated efforts of the church in partnership with UMCOR,” Earl said.

Across the nation, conference disaster responders help stretch recovery dollars by partnering with other organizations. In Florida, responders are working in a small community in North Escambia, which was hit by tornadoes in February. Through a National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) connection, the Florida Recovery Team is working with the HOPE Animal-Assisted Crisis Response (ACCR), an organization that assists disaster survivors with emotional care through the use of therapy dogs.

Service dogs and their handlers met with children at the Camp Fire Century Youth Learning Center and then had personal visits with two other children. “Knowing that some of the children in the community continue to struggle every time a storm comes to town, I believe this is a really fun way to help them open up and begin discussing their feelings and fears,” said Lynn Dobry, executive coordinator for the Florida Recovery Team (Alabama-West Florida Conference). Partnerships such as this help the United Methodist Church to provide holistic care, extend our reach, and make best use of donor dollars.

Volunteers also help UMCOR reach more for less money. “Every dollar can be stretched because of the help of volunteers who are willing to go where there is little or no media attention,” said Earl.

How do disaster responders focus when working in a community that’s receiving seemingly little attention? They focus on the people, said Forrest White, a disaster recovery manager in the Virginia Conference. At least eight tornadoes touched down in southern and southeastern Virginia in February 2016, and hundreds of people are in the throes of a long-term recovery.

“We try to focus on the survivors, and try to serve them as God calls us to do,” he said.

All disaster survivors deserve your help and prayers. Please give to UMCOR Sunday (March 26).

Visitation Team:



I would like to reorganize our Visitation Team. I feel there is a real need for more visitation for our shut-ins. This is an important mission that any member can participate in. Of course I need your help! If you can't visit in person, notes and cards are always appreciated. Even a phone call breaks up their day.

Please let me know if you would like to join my Team. I would also like to hear from those that would like to be visited.

Please leave your name and phone number on my voice mail, so I can schedule a meeting as soon as possible.

Mary Fasse
715-358-5032

Change of address:

Judy Adams
Milestone Senior Living Center Apt 206
750 Elm St
Woodruff, WI 54568
(715)-358-3986

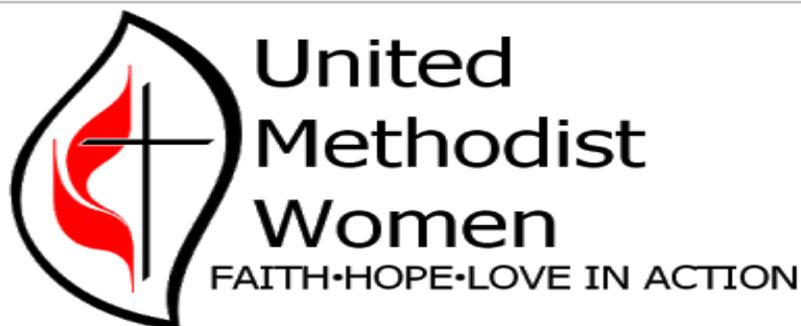
Stephen Ministry at UMCOP

These principles offer some good ideas to consider for our spiritual enrichment. The blog is from Your Charmed Life by Victoria Moran. Remember, YOU are the only one that God created!

- ◆ **Accept yourself.** None of us is ever going to be perfect, but we can start each day fresh and feel good about our imperfect lives.
- ◆ **Claim your joy.** Joy is necessary. It's contagious, so being joyful is a great way to help others. And it begets more of itself.
- ◆ **Keep a Sabbath.** If you don't have a religious Sabbath, just pick a day and set it aside for spiritual, recreational (that means re-create, you know) and delightful endeavors.
- ◆ **Cultivate greater compassion.** "Feel with" (that's the basic definition of the word compassion) the homeless guy on the corner, whether you opt to give him a buck or not. Feel with the people you read about in the paper or on the news. Expand your circle of compassion. "To every creature, his own life is very dear."
- ◆ **Treat your body as a temple.** Honor it. Care for it. Treat it kindly. Use it well. Feed it the best food, give it enough rest and exercise, and show it some appreciation; it does a lot for you.
- ◆ **Share your time, talent, and treasure.** Give of your time; let the world benefit from your talents, and give of your resources either through tithing or some other system of sharing. This makes the world better and opens the way for the universe to give back to you.
- ◆ **Study and learn.** Read the scriptures or of your own tradition. Read the spiritual classics such as Brother Lawrence's *The Practice of the Presence of God*. This will open your mind to more wonder and beauty and grace.
- ◆ **Create community.** You need people around you whose spiritual questing is in keeping with yours, but you also need to allow other people to be on other paths and some to be on, seemingly, no path at all. Shine your light....they may want what you have and they will ask how you got it. If not, trust that they have a Higher Power, too, and that they're just where they should be.
- ◆ **Find Spirit everywhere.** Look around your life and your day and find God, Spirit, Presence. See it in nature, in serendipity, in children and animals, in art and beauty, in simple pleasures.



United Methodist Women



United Methodist Women will meet for lunch and meeting Wednesday, March 22 in the Ministry Center at 12:00 noon.

Lydia Circle is hosting. Please call Luella Lakich with reservations. Sue Loeffler will be sharing with us about the Mid West Distribution Center.

She will have been there again recently volunteering. We will find out what happens to the InGathering Kits we send. This is our MISSION at work!

UMW Circles for March 2017

Martha Circle: Thursday, March 2nd at 1:00 pm at the home of Helen Wentz.

Esther Circle: Wednesday March 1st at 12:00 noon. Bring a sandwich. Jeanne Van Order is hostess.

Lydia Circle: Thursday, February 9th, 9:30 am in the Ministry Center. Kathy Almekinder is hosting. We will continue our study, "First Corinthians", Living Love When We Disagree. Week 5 in the book, Lonni Harrison leading.

Deborah Circle: Deborah Circle will meet at 6 pm on Tuesday, March 7 in the Pine Room. Patty Frandy will host and have the program. Please note we are meeting one week earlier than usual.

Dawn Circle: Dawn Circle will meet on Wednesday, March 8th at 9:30 am in the Ministry Center.

Ruth Circle: Ruth Circle will meet Wednesday, March 8th at 12:00 noon for lunch at "Thirsty Whale". RSVP to Sue Shapiro.

Lay Leader

From under...



I (Holly Nash) am thankful that I can, for the next two years, be your Lay Leader. It is a very humbling experience to “lead” such an extraordinary group of people as the members and friends of the United Methodist Church of the Pines. I’d rather think of myself as a “fishing companion” versus a “lay leader” as we journey together on our Christian road.

According to the United Methodist Book of Discipline, a Lay Leader can have a diverse number of roles. During these next two years, I have 3 main goals:

Communication: This means a lot of listening and a lot of sharing. Please, if you have a question, a concern, or a “Eureka!” moment, let me know.

Encouragement: I want to support each of you in those ministries to which you have been called. Fill me in on how we all can enable you in your ministry.

Discipleship: I would like to grow as a disciple of Christ, and help make more disciples. I ask you to join me - let’s go fishing.

Associate Lay Leader

We are going to try something new, which I think is a great idea. In addition to a Lay Leader, we will have an Associate Lay Leader whom the Lay Leader will mentor for two years. During those two years, the Associate Lay Leader will “learn the ropes” and be well-prepared and able to take on the Lay Leader role after his/her two year Associate term is concluded. In this plan, there will always be an Associate Lay Leader who will work alongside the Lay Leader. The Associate Lay Leader position is still open. If you have any ideas on whom would be a good fit (including yourself) give me a call or e-mail: 715-356-6861 or nashholly@yahoo.com.

Get in Your Boat and Join the Fleet!!

CS Lewis is one of my favorite Christian authors. In his book, *Mere Christianity*, which I have read so many times it’s falling apart, he says this about living the Christian life in relationships, and I feel it pertains very well to our church:

“...think of us as a fleet of ships sailing in formation. The voyage will be a success only, in the first place, if the ships do not collide and get in one another’s way; and, secondly, if each ship is seaworthy and has her engines in good order. As a matter of fact, you cannot have either of these two things without the other. If the ships keep on having collisions they will not remain seaworthy very long. On the other hand, if their steering gears are out of order they will not be able to avoid collisions.



But there is one thing we have not yet taken into account. We have not asked where the fleet is trying to get to... However well the fleet sailed, its voyage would be a failure if it were meant to reach New York and actually arrived in Calcutta.”

I think this is an excellent way of looking at us as a church. It seems we should be concerned with three things.

First, we need to look inside of us. We need to make sure we, as individuals, are grounded in the faith. This means doing some serious introspection to see how our living compares to that which Christ would have us do.

Secondly, we need to look at our relationships. Are we in harmony and in sync with others in our family, our church, our community? If not, how can we fix that?

Thirdly, we should agree on what course our church is on and all be headed in that direction. That’s what we’ve been doing with the Strategic Planning process. We’ve identified three main areas we’d like to work on. One is spiritual growth - which is getting our own boat seaworthy. The other two involve ministry between and for others, i.e., relationships. We feel God is calling us to focus on Senior Ministry and Family Ministry. Easels are set up in the Ministry Center and I invite you to write your ideas under each category: Spiritual Growth, Senior Ministry and Family Ministry.

So, get your boat in order, take care of those around you, and join in what we feel is God’s vision for our church. And if you need any incentive, Mike Lakich still has a supply of dynamite!

Holly Nash, Lay Leader, 2017-2019

LOGOS Lite



Mark your Calendar

Join us in worship on

April 26th for the 3rd Grade Bible Presentation

On Wednesday, April 26th, our 3rd graders will receive their bibles. As a church family please join us at the worship service to help the kids celebrate the joy of being given God's Word. The LOGOS Lite children will also be doing the call to worship that night. Hope to see you there.

LOGOS is coming!

On Wednesdays we have been doing LOGOS Lite by running a smaller version of the LOGOS Ministry. The exciting news is that we will begin the full LOGOS ministry this fall. LOGOS is a ministry that takes an entire congregation to come together to minister to each other.

Please join us on

May 3rd at 6PM in the Ministry Center

For a LOGOS Dinner and informational meeting

This is open to any family interested in LOGOS and any person who wants to find out how you can be a part of an amazing ministry that will bring joy.

United Methodist Church of the Pines



Trustee- January Report

We will have 2 new Trustees after the Ministry Council approves them. They are Holly Nash and Wayne Kinkade. Thank you for joining the team. The sprinkler system is working fine after we had it inspected. That will be something we have to do yearly. We have a new pest control company. They are Diamond Back Pest Management company. We have long term agreement with Otis Elevator Company to check our elevator. We are still trying to locate a contractor to do the repairs needed on the north and south walls in the RHDC. There is damage from years of water leaking in.

Larry

Odd Couples

Odd Couples will meet on Friday, March 24th at 5:30 pm, at The Minocqua Brewing Co. Dessert will be back at church afterwards. Candy & Blair Rudy & Sue Claflin are hosting. Call or email Sue, 715-358-0343 /dcsc2129@charter.net to reserve.

Keenagers

Keenagers will meet at noon on Wednesday, March 15 at Molly's Cafe (70W near Papa Murphy's) to have lunch together. Anyone is invited to join us. Just show up at Molly's at noon!



UMCOP Community News and Events

Worship on Wednesday is back!

We are now worshipping weekly on Wednesday evenings at 5:15 pm in the Sanctuary.

This service is a contemporary service with a variety of music styles.

This a come as you are service, everyone is welcome to come and worship together!

Our church website has been updated. Please visit umchurchofthepines.org to see the changes that have been made.





Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

			1 12:00 Worship at St. Matthias 12:00 Esther Circle 3:30 LOGOS Lite 5:15 Worship at Ascension Lutheran	2 1:00 Martha Circle	3	4
5 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	6 6:00 Lay Members Circuit 6:30 Trustees	7 9:00 MOPS 6:00 Deborah Circle	8 9:30 Dawn Circle 1:00 Ruth Circle 3:30 LOGOS Lite 5:15 Worship 6:30 Bible Study	9 9:30 Lydia Circle 1:00 Stephen Ministry	10	11
12 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	13 1:00 Prayer Shawl	14	15 12:00 Keenagers 5:15 Worship 6:30 Bible Study	16 6:00 Strategic Planning	17	18
19 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	20 7:00 SPRC	21 9:00 MOPS	22 12:00 UMW Meeting 3:30 LOGOS Lite 5:15 Worship 6:30 Bible Study	23	24 5:30 Odd Couples (Minocqua Brewery Company)	25
26 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	27	28 9:00 Steering Team 10:00 Between Friends 6:00 Lakeland Gem Club	29 3:30 LOGOS Lite 5:15 Worship 6:30 Bible Study	30 6:00 Cub Scouts	31	

Have something for Pine Chips 2.0? Email the church, office@umchurchofthepines.org, or call (715) 356-3041. Deadline is the 15th of each month.

Children are important...

We offer children the gifts of love, acceptance, and participation. Children learn about the love of God in our LAMBS and King's Kids programs. Children are invited to participate in Time for Children during worship, and older kids can serve in worship.

So are youth...

Our youth participate in worship in youth group. Students are asked to serve as ushers, liturgists, and with special music. 6th-8th grade students are mentored in our G.R.O.W. Confirmation program, and we plan special events and a summer mission trip.

And adults...

We offer weekly Bible studies, small group meetings, fellowship events, and opportunities for Outreach. No matter your season of life, there is a way for you to encounter God at UMCOP.

Live Christ's Love NOW.!

We grow in our relationships with God and one another. We reach out beyond ourselves and our church to love others. We live lives that glorify God, every day. Together, we are *Living Christ's Love NOW!*

Contact Us

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE



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