

JUNE 2020

# 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.



Sunday Worship - 10:00 am  
Wednesday Prayer Service - 10:00 am  
Wednesday Children's Time - 4:00 pm  
(LIVESTREAMED)

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)

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## Pastor's Pen

### PASTOR'S PEN



I have a confession to make. During this time of social distancing, I have found myself watching historical fiction shows on TV. Now, I am not ready to confess exactly which shows, but most take place pre-American Revolution. I am not sure why I am drawn to these shows right now, but I think it has something to do with a simpler way of life. I also think it might be to pick up some survival tips if things get really out of hand - just kidding.

Whatever the reason I have for watching these shows, I am struck by a similarity between then and now. That similarity is that things are not easily accessible. In the shows, people couldn't just run to the store and grab what they wanted, just like now – you never know what the stores will be out of. People then were much more intentional about what they did and where they went, just like we do now. It has helped me not to take the conveniences of modern life we still have open to us for granted.

As a pastor or, as I referred to myself in a recent sermon as a "God nerd," I have also noticed a similarity about church then and now. That is to say it was and is hard to go to church. The history of American Methodism reminds us that people couldn't go to church as we think of it for a significant period. That was because they did not have a typical pastor. What they had were Circuit Riders who traveled from community to community, from church to church. They maybe got there once a month and sometimes longer than that.

The surprising thing is that during this time, American Methodism exploded. It grew as fast as the country was growing. I think a crucial reason for this is that the people had to figure out how to be the church without being at church. Instead of causing the movement to slow or to shrink, it grew as the people found ways to express their relationship with God outside of traditional church environments. It was such a profound time of growth that John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, worried that it would be the death of Methodism when the circuit riders got off their horses and became traditional pastors.

Perhaps you see where I am going with this. Right now, we cannot attend church as we did in the past. Yes, we can worship together online, connected by the Holy Spirit, but that's not how we traditionally understand church. I wonder if right now is a time for us, like the early Methodists, to learn how to be the church in new and different ways. How can we express the love and grace of God to others at this time? How can we use this situation to be creative and innovative in sharing the Good News of God while not sharing germs?

Join me in praying for the Holy Spirit to breathe a new and creative way for us to be the church for today and tomorrow.

Blessings.

Pastor Mark

# Leadership, Prayer Requests, Reopening Church Statement

## Church Staff & Leadership

**Pastor Mark D. Gilbert**, ext. 4  
[pastor@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:pastor@umchurchofthepines.org)

**Church Administrator:**  
 Merry Jorgensen, ext. 2  
[office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org)

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

**Choir Director:**  
 Lisa Hernandez  
[lisa.hernandez@ldfschool.org](mailto:lisa.hernandez@ldfschool.org)

**Lay Leader:**  
 Gretchen Voigt  
[Gretchen.voigt@gmail.com](mailto:Gretchen.voigt@gmail.com)

**Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair:**  
 Holly Nash  
[nashholly@yahoo.com](mailto:nashholly@yahoo.com)

**Ministry Council Chair:**  
 Ted Voigt, [ted.voigt@gmail.com](mailto:ted.voigt@gmail.com)

**Trustees Co-Chair:**  
 Jerry Weber  
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**Finance Chair:**  
 Bob Schuld, [bob.pat1@frontier.com](mailto:bob.pat1@frontier.com)

**Treasurer:**  
 Cherie' Hein, [cheriehein@mac.com](mailto:cheriehein@mac.com)

**Stephen Ministry Leader:**  
 Holly Nash, [nashholly@yahoo.com](mailto:nashholly@yahoo.com)



**Please pray for:**

*Dorothy Wright*

*Elva Spats*

*John Fisher*

*Temba Nkomozpi, missionary*

To have your name included on this Prayer List or on our Prayer Chain, please call the church office at 715-356-3041 or send an email to [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org).

## Message from Pastor Mark

Dear Church of the Pines Family and Friends,

On Wednesday, May 13, 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled against Governor Evers' Safer at Home order and immediately lifted its provisions. What does this mean for us?

To be clear, the court did not rule against the order because the coronavirus is no longer a threat to us or because the provisions of the order are not effective in dealing with the coronavirus. The court ruled that the Safer at Home order was not put into place properly and, therefore, not legal.

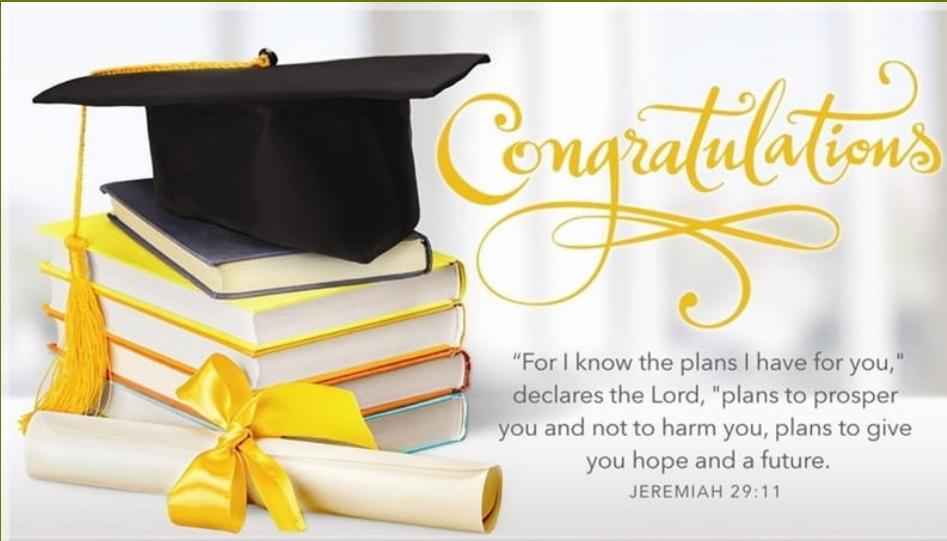
In the letter shared earlier this week, I said that the Ministry Council and I are committed to a carefully phased reopening of our church. We remain committed to this approach. We will continue to look to the scientific and medical experts to indicate when it is safe to begin our phased reopening.

Our Infection Control Team is working to put the policies, procedures, and resources in place that we will need. In the meantime, we will continue to operate as we have been since March. We will keep you informed. Thank you for your patience.

Please continue to keep our world, nation, state, community, and one another in prayer as we are all in this together.

Pastor Mark

# Congratulations, Graduates!



*Church of the Pines  
presents 2020  
High School and College  
Graduates*

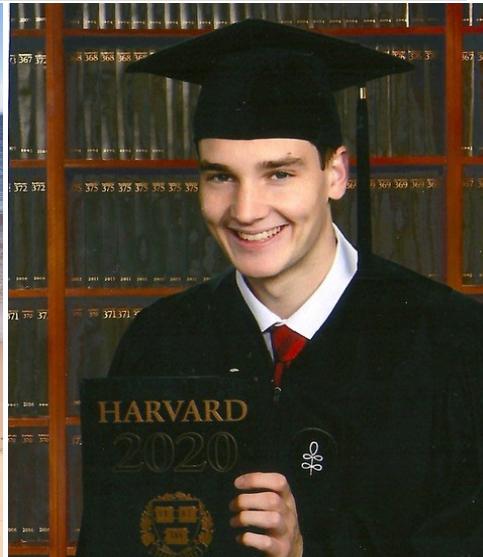


**CARLI CAPACIO**

**Parents:**  
**Ron & Jodi Capacio**

Carli graduated from Northern Michigan University (Marquette, Michigan). She graduated on May 2nd, 2020 with the honor of Cum Laude in Environmental Studies and Sustainability.

*Congratulations, Carli!  
May God bless you in your future endeavors!*



**MACK FITZPATRICK**

**Parents:**  
**Kevin & Joanne FitzPatrick**

Mack graduated from Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts with a degree in Computer Science and Archeology. He will continue his education at Harvard as a PhD candidate in Archeology.

*Congratulations, Mack!  
May the Lord bless you as you continue your education!*



**JASON HILGART**

**Parents:**  
**Bill & Venus Hilgart**

Jason graduates from Lake-land Union High School and plans to attend Itasca Community College in Wildlife Fire Fighter and/or Forestry, and also plans to participate in the wrestling program.

*Way to go, Jason! Best of luck to you and may God be with you as you continue your studies!*

# Congratulations, Graduates!



*Church of the Pines presents 2020  
High School and College Graduates*

**"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD,  
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give  
you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11**



**KAYLA LENZ**

**Parents:**  
**Jake & Becky Lenz**  
**Grandparent:** Sharry Wuest

Kayla graduates from Lakeland Union High School and will attend Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Michigan. She will study Environmental Science.

*Congratulations, Kayla!  
Good luck and God bless you  
in your future studies!*



**ADAM REXROADE**

**Parent:**  
**Sandi Rexroade**

Adam is a graduate from the University of Wisconsin in Madison, with a degree in Conservation Biology and Environmental Studies. He will pursue a Master's Degree at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

*Congratulations, Adam!  
May the Lord bless you as  
you continue your education!*



**JUSTIN SCHLECHT**

**Parents:**  
**Jeff & Leana Coy Schlecht**  
**Grandparents:**  
**Emerson & Julie Coy and Thomas & Sue Schlecht**

Justin graduates from Lakeland Union High School. He plans to attend Nicolet College and specialize in Auto Mechanics. Justin is on the Hazelhurst Fire Department and is employed at Custom Caretaking.  
*Congratulations, Justin!*

## Birthdays, Livestream Worship Services



### Happy birthday to....

June 3 Mia Coy  
 June 5 Raelynn Rausch  
 June 6 Bruce Currie  
 June 8 Joe Augitto  
 June 9 Barbara Hallock  
 June 9 Venus Hilgart  
 June 10 Jayne Claflin  
 June 10 Elva Spetz  
 June 16 Jake Fieck  
 June 16 Molly Larson  
 June 26 Clayton Crum  
 June 27 Wyatt Citta  
 June 27 Peg Roska  
 June 27 Justin Schlecht  
 June 28 Merry Jorgensen

*Blessings to you on your special day!*

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



## Join us

### CHURCH OF THE PINES

Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Prayer Service - 10:00 a.m.

Children's Time - Wednesday - 10:00 a.m.

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

## online

Go to

<https://www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/> to participate in the service. 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 clicking on the following link. To see the worship service live, you will need to go to this link 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/>

Once you are on our website home page, scroll down until you see a box that says "Worship Service Videos". Click on this box and you will be taken to a listing of all of the archived services for Sunday worship services, Wednesday prayer services, and Wednesday children's time.

## Anniversaries, Five Ways to Give



### Happy anniversary to....

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

*Blessings to you on your special day!*



The best way to access the most up-to-date information regarding our church calendar of worship services, meetings, and other activities is to check the online calendar by going to our church website at [www.umchurchofthepines.org](http://www.umchurchofthepines.org), scroll down and click on UPCOMING EVENTS. Please email information for the calendar to [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org).

**Giving a contribution to United Methodist Church of the Pines  
is now easier than ever and more important than ever!**

# GIVING IS EASIER THAN EVER

Mobile — Online — Text — Mail a Check — ACH



During this difficult time, it is our hope that you will financially contribute to Church of the Pines as you are able.

You can now text your gift on your cell phone. Text the word **give** to 833-358-0472.

You will be guided through an initial registration for your first contribution.

You can go to our church website: [www.umchurchofthepines.org](http://www.umchurchofthepines.org) and click on the green **GIVE** button on our home page and give using a debit or credit card or pay from your checking account **AND** you can designate your contribution to the fund of your choice.

**You can also make arrangements to have automatic recurring gifts debited from your checking or savings account.**

For additional information or assistance, please contact Merry Jorgensen at 715-356-3041 or email her at [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org).

## 42 Years of Planting our Church Garden

### CHURCH GARDEN PLANTING

2020



(Above) Planting flowers each spring at Church of the Pines is a family tradition! THANK YOU - Jonathon, Judy, Joey, Barbara, Jim, and Jack Jurries and their furry friend, Jiffy!



(Above) Can you believe this?....JJ (aka, Jim Jurries) has been planting flowers at Church of the Pines for 42 years! **THANK YOU**, Jim Jurries! YES...believe it - 42 years!  
(Left) What a special photo this is..... Barbara, Jim, and Jiffy, pausing to have their photo taken.



(Above) Jack and Judy Jurries plant flowers beneath the Church of the Pines sign. I wonder just how many plants it takes to plant this garden?

We **THANK**  
the entire  
Jurries'  
family & JJs  
Acres for their  
wonderful  
generosity!



(Above) Grandpa JJ proudly watches Jonathan fasten a flower box to the church windows.



(Below) Joey and Jack Jurries organize the flower plants in preparation of planting them in the flower garden under our church sign.

(Below) Joey and Jonathon carry all of the flower boxes that will be placed under the church windows.



(Above) Barbara and Jim Jurries and Jiffy prepare to plant flowers in the garden.



## Lay Leader



What to do? Why is this happening? I'm sick of staying home and social distancing. I want to see my friends and family. I want to go to church. This pandemic has changed life as we know it. Even though God has not caused this pandemic, He has promised that He can bring good from this horrible situation. What that looks like I do not know. I do know that God works in mysterious ways, and I do know that God is faithful. I trust that even now, God is working.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. - Romans 8:28

In the meantime, what should we do? I feel that we need to be patient. This virus by all accounts will be with us for a while and a threat until we find a vaccine or treatments that are very effective. As the country opens up and as our church opens up, it needs to be done in a very careful and measured way to try to mitigate any risky exposure. We need to do the things that protect us and protect those around us, such as continuing to wash our hands, social distancing, and wearing masks. We need to not only think of ourselves, but how we can help others.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to your interests, but also to the interests of others. - Philippians 2:3-4

Doing this will take time, and we all need to be patient and keep working on safe ways to stay connected and involved.

The following prayer from Pastor Ann Williams of St. Matthews Evangelical Church in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, really spoke to me, and I would like to share it.

"God, your love is unending, and your ways are mysterious. Open our hearts and minds to the possibilities that you are doing a new thing, that even now it is taking place. Bring comfort to those who grieve. Bring strength to those who care for others. Bring hope to those who have lost their way. Bring joy to all of us in unexpected moments. Bring peace to the world and health to every living thing. Let us rest in you, O God. Amen."

Gretchen Voigt, Lay Leader

## Stephen Ministry



It's May 8th as I write this, and we have just experienced a supermoon. Supermoons occur when the moon is in its closest approach to Earth in orbit. As a result, the moon appears brighter and bigger in the night sky. Last night, appearing just over the tree tops, the moon was blazing white and the light spread across the hills and the lakes.

The amazing thing is the moon has no natural light of its own. All of its light is light reflected back from the sun. Like the moon, we too do not shine of our own accord, but as Christians, reflect the light from the Son. As the moon can wax and wane in size and brightness, so can we. We may shine brightly at times, and at others be hardly noticeable. Usually, we have a choice of whether we shine or not. We can usually decide if we are going to bring God's light to the world, or allow the darkness to win over us.



If you or someone you know has depression, you realize that try as you might, it is difficult to reflect the Son's light. Through no fault of your own, you feel more like a black hole than you do the moon. One way to help is to talk to another person who cares. This could be a Stephen Minister. A Stephen Minister will listen nonjudgmentally to you and keep what you say confidential. The Stephen Minister won't try to "fix it" but will help you find the light again.

For information, contact the Stephen Ministry Leader, Holly Nash at 715-356-6861.



**A BIG THANK YOU** to all who purchased plants at the Spring geranium sale and donated to the church's Landscape Fund. We sold 30 geraniums and received close to \$250 for the Landscape Fund. That means lots of beautiful flowers for the UMCOP and the homes of some of our church families. Way to go!!

- Holly Nash

## Teacher Appreciation

# Hats Off to Teachers

The following teachers share their experience of teaching their students from home during our "Stay safe at home" time.



directly. We were able to have a class meeting using Google Meet, but the video and audio were choppy and made communication a challenge. The kids were really excited to see and hear each other regardless of the technical difficulties, so we're going to have more meetings.

Here is a picture of me working from my "desk area" at my parents' dining room table. I set up and take down my computer daily so we can continue to eat supper together. I have commandeered the buffet for my staging area, so my mom had to move some of her decorations. I take my laptop when I go to my brothers' house, so I can check in with my students, parents, and other school staff during those days. My two year old nephew is always curious when he hears me having video chats with my teammates and pops in to say hi to everyone.

This is my 19th year teaching at MHLT. I've been teaching third grade for six years, and I taught middle school math before that. Every year of teaching I learn something new: curriculum, a computer program techniques, and strategies for teaching a wide range of students, and a variety of other things. Much of that learning is by my choice

We want to say "**THANK YOU**" to the following teachers who are part of our Church of the Pines family for their commitment to teaching the children in our community!

Karen Stinemates (MHLT—3rd grade)

Erin Jorgensen (AV-W—7th grade)

Jeremy Jorgensen (AV-W—8th grade)

Sarah Rausch (Lac du Flambeau—speech/language pathologist)

Lisa Hernandez—(Lac du Flambeau - music)

Gayle Komarek (AVW—1st grade)

*From Monday to Friday, we want to say, "Thanks!"  
to our teachers, they work hard every day!*

### KAREN STINEMATES

"Teaching remotely with no advance notice or training has been a big challenge, to state the obvious. Living in the Northwoods is wonderful, but does not lend itself well to reliable internet service for communicating with families spread out across the district. I miss seeing my students every day and getting and giving handshakes, hugs, or high fives. During this time of distance learning, I have relied a lot on emails to parents to communicate through them to my students. I've also used Good Classroom to send out messages and assignments to my students directly.

We were able to have a class meeting using Google Meet, but the video and audio were choppy and made communication a challenge. The kids were really excited to see and hear each other regardless of the technical difficulties, so we're going to have more meetings.

## Thanks, Karen!

# Teacher Appreciation



Teaching is a family affair for **Erin and Jeremy Jorgensen**. They both teach at AV-W. So, not only are they teaching their students at home, they are also homeschooling their two children, Molly and Jaime.

**JEREMY JORGENSEN'S** first teaching position was with AVW. Now, 22 years later, he still teaches 8th grade science and social studies at AVW. Jeremy, along with others on his teaching team, are working to provide learning activities for student to complete through the week. According to Jeremy, "We connect with each student in our homeroom once per week. We try to support students using tools like Google Classroom, Zoom, Flipgrid, email, and screen casting. It's challenging trying to support students not being face-to-face. We try to offer feedback and encouragement as often as possible. I really miss the day-to-day interaction with students."

## Weekly Recap, Check In, Good News

Apr 23, 2020



Here's a picture of my  
Flipgrid check in  
**JEREMY JORGENSEN**

Watch the introductory video and then use the prompts below to prepare to share. Remember your CORE VALUES as you comment and share. Message your classmates and encourage them to share.

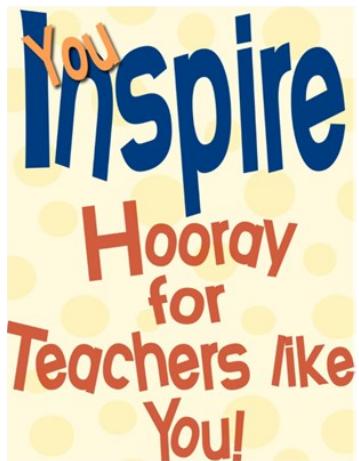
1. Summarize what you learned this week in three sentences or less. Stick to the most important concepts/ideas.
2. Share two questions you have connecting to the work for this week. These should be questions that are researchable and not answered with a simple "yes" or "no".
3. Conduct some research to answer **ONE** of your questions and share what you learned.
4. Share some good news from the week. This was inspired by recent YouTube videos I watched called "Some Good News". I will include a link to an episode attached to this assignment.



**ERIN JORGENSEN** has taught at AVW for 11 years, and currently teaches 7th grade Social Studies and English Language Arts. Erin shares: "The things I've been doing during the 'stay safe at home time' include contacting students weekly to check on academic progress. A week or so ago, I and other teachers did a drive-by parade for a student who was feeling down. I am also busy organizing weekly lessons and do weekly Zoom meetings to connect with students. I try to come up with engaging lessons, which is challenging to do online, especially when you're not there in person to add personality. Giving students feedback on the work that they do, creating weekly trivia games, and documenting work for administration and state requirements is all part of teaching from home.

**Thanks! That's 33 (combined) years of teaching!**

## Teacher Appreciation

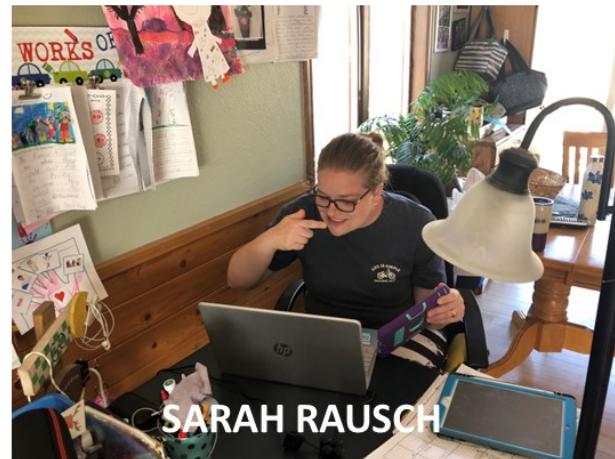


**SARAH RAUSCH** "I am one of two speech-language pathologists at Lac du Flambeau Public School where I serve children three years old through eighth grade with speech and language concerns. Since March, I have tried to embrace sitting at my computer to reach my students, rather than getting to see them face-to-face at school. I miss them terribly. We are using Google Meets, Zoom meetings, virtual documents, read a-louds, and (when possible) sending pictures/videos back and forth. Right now, a group of us are putting together a video for our students to send them off into summer with some fun and smiles. Here is a photo of me practicing speech sound with a student on a Zoom session."

**LISA HERNANDEZ** - Most of you know Lisa as our church choir director. Lisa is a music teacher at Lac du Flambeau Public School. "The music teachers of the Lakeland consortium have been having meetings via Zoom every couple of weeks, and we've been coming up with different ways to keep our students interested in band and choir. It's been a challenge because a lot of the children are doing their core classes and the last thing they think about is their applied classes. I post assignments for them to practice their instruments.

Students receive music to listen to, and recordings are made for the choir students to practice the songs that we had planned to use in the spring concert. I've also been giving lessons via videos of other music teachers around the country who have been doing really cool things."

In addition to teaching all of her students during the "stay safe at home", Lisa is also spending time with and caring for her father at his home in Burlington.



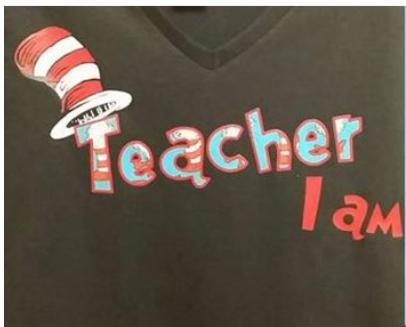
**SARAH RAUSCH**



**LISA HERNANDEZ**



**LISA'S TEMPORARY OFFICE**



Celebrated May 4-8, 2020

**Teacher** **Appreciation**  
Week

# United Methodist Women



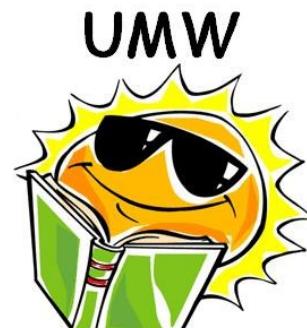
United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION



## *Use your Thank Offering box.*

We are so lucky to have daisies growing wild here. Pick a daisy and put in a penny for every petal.



## **Reading**

**Reading Challenge . . .** You may remember that the Reading Challenge was due to end on May 31. That deadline has been extended to July 31 since people have not had access to the church library and may not have had access to the slips to write the names of your books and authors. We hope this will give you a little extra time to read and an opportunity to report it.

**Remember**—the books we read for the Reading Challenge do not have to be on the approved list for the official UMW Reading Program. They should, however, be of a religious or spiritual nature or address a social issue.

**UMW Reading Program . . .** The UMW Reading Program ends in August. Books read must be on the official list for the program. Any book on the cart that has a white, red, green, blue or yellow dot on it is eligible. You need one book from each subject area (or each color dot). Turn your list in to Mary Fasse in August.

## **Books are now available**

You can pick up books from the library cart between 11 am and 12 noon on Wednesdays. Either Patty Frandy or Sue Shapiro will have the books available at the entrance outside the kitchen. We will also have the report slips for the Reading Challenge available and can collect any slips you have ready to turn in.

**Stay Connected** - Call someone in your Circle just to say hello, or send a card or an email to someone to let them know you are thinking of them.

**Check out the official UMW website:** [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/)  
**and the Wisconsin Conference website:** [www.wisconsinumw.org](http://www.wisconsinumw.org)

## Mission Highlights, Peace with Justice Sunday

### Family and Children's Services

Family and Children's Services provides services predominately for the poor and focuses on crisis intervention, rebuilding lives, and strengthening families. These Ministries are very dependent on contributions from the Conference and congregations since they are used as matching funds to obtain foundation, business and government grants. Services are in the area of head-start programs, life-skill training, homeless shelters, food pantries, gang prevention, nutrition education, parenting training, and transitional living.

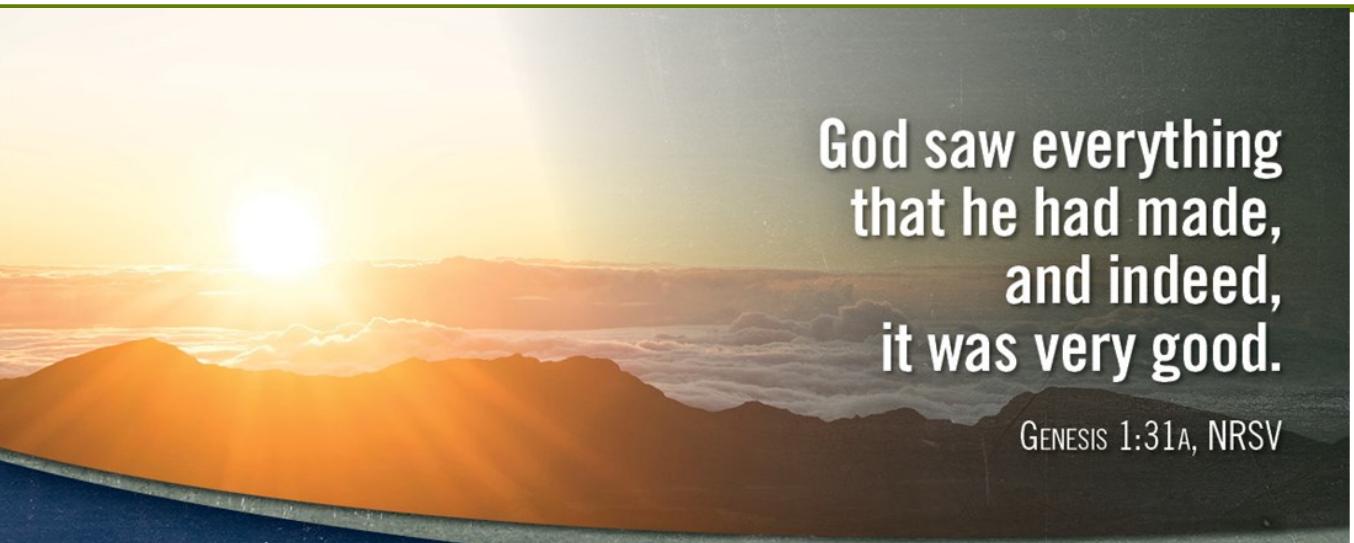
### UMCOR Covid-19 Response Fund

You are part of an extraordinary legacy of undaunted human beings—people of action, people of compassion, people of mercy.

By giving to UMCOR's COVID-19 Response Fund, you are:

- Giving emergency food supplies
- Providing water and sanitation facilities
- Strengthening health care systems
- Responding to economic instability

Even as you shelter in place, you can be there for others. One hundred years from now we will be remembered for how we respond to this pandemic. Please give today.



**God saw everything  
that he had made,  
and indeed,  
it was very good.**

GENESIS 1:31A, NRSV

**June 7, 2020**

**PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY**



When you give on Peace with Justice Sunday, your gift makes possible our critical kingdom work in the world. You can give by texting **GIVE** to 833-358-0472 or go to our church website at [www.umchurchofthepines.org](http://www.umchurchofthepines.org) and click on the green **GIVE** button. Be sure to designate your gift to: Missions - Peace with Justice.

## Ministry Council

### Meet Your Ministry Council Members



#### Sue Loeffler, Lay Leader to Annual Conference

815-546-5033

susanellenloeffler@gmail.com

"I was the oldest of four kids, one brother, and two sisters, and grew up on a potato and onion farm in Dousman, Wisconsin, until age 10 when the family moved to Nashotah. I went to Hartland Arrowhead High School and enjoyed choir, band, and color guard. I worked at Oconomowoc Hospital as a Nurse's Aide when I was 16. I received a scholarship from the hospital "pink ladies" to go to nursing school at St. Mary's in Madison. Oconomowoc hospital was my first job as a Registered Nurse. In 1972, I moved to Baton Rouge LA with a girlfriend who decided to go to LSU for graduate school. I briefly lived in New Orleans and North Babylon, NY (Long Island).

Don and I were married in 1977 and lived on the east side of Milwaukee and then Germantown. We bought our first home in Nashotah, and we lived there until Don's job was transferred to Chicago. We lived in Frankfort, Illinois, for 15 years until returning to Wisconsin. Our families had vacationed in Vilas/Oneida counties when we were kids, and we had great memories of the Northwoods. We decided that this is where we wanted to retire. We moved" up north" in November 2013 and built our retirement home on Grand Portage Lake in Mercer in 2014. Don and I were married for 39 years. He died in November 2016. We have one son, Bryan, who lives in Crystal Lake, Illinois, with his wife and two children.

I spent over 40 years working in my chosen profession of Nursing. Initially, diploma prepared, I went on to obtain a BSN and an MBA. I worked as a staff nurse in hospitals early in my career. I then spent many years in home health care and home hospice nursing, eventually moving into management and administration. I ended my career doing case management for health insurance companies.

I am a volunteer at the Paw Shop Thrift Store in Mercer; a board member of the Mercer Senior Center; a volunteer at Midwest Mission Distribution Center 1-2 times/year; and am co-leader of a women's ecumenical bible study held weekly at the Mercer Library. I love being outdoors, kayaking on the lake, hiking, and snow shoveling in the winter. I enjoy music, reading, sewing, photography, and enjoy learning new things. I enjoy traveling and plan to continue traveling as much as possible.

Being an active member of the United Methodist Church for 30 years, I've served on almost every committee at one time or another through the years. I was not active in UMW until transferring my membership to Church of the Pines. I'm a member of Lydia Circle and am the Social Action & Nurture Coordinator.

My nursing background, with expertise in home health, hospice, and case management, brings an understanding of the challenges in attaining health and wellness, the support and resources that seniors and caregivers need, and the importance of a holistic and collaborative approach problem-solving.

**I love my church because it fulfills me.** People show love for me through their acts of kindness, patience, and interest in my wellbeing. The worship services lift me with joyful music, singing, and contemplative prayers and sermons. I feel like I'm part of a caring family that loves being together."

## Ministry Council

### *Meet Your Ministry Council Members, continued.*



#### **Holly Nash, SPRC Chairperson**

715-356-6861

nashholly@yahoo.com

"I hail from Brillion Wisconsin, which is 30 miles south of Green Bay and is home to the Ariens snow blowers. Our family was always very active in the church. My alma maters include Marquette University (BS), University of Minnesota-St. Paul (DVM), and University of Wisconsin-Madison (MS). I worked as a veterinarian in a number of roles until I retired in 2014. I moved to the Northwoods in 1995, married my husband Bob in 2004 and am happily living thereafter. We have one dog and would have multiple cats, except Bob is allergic to them. I have been a Sunday School music leader, Building Committee member, Lay Leader, Assistant Lay Leader and a member of SPRC. I am currently a Stephen Ministry Leader, SPRC chair, Certified Lay Speaker, and member of Ministry Council. I enjoy playing and singing music at Church of the Pines and taking care of the gardens and shrubs around our beautiful church. I volunteer weekly at hospice and work in the Food Pantry garden in the summer. I enjoy canoe camping in the Boundary Waters, gardening, snowshoeing, doing puzzles, reading, and serving wherever I can."

I enjoy helping people and serving God and have been actively involved in the life of the church since moving here. I want to help us fulfill God's vision for our church in this community and world.

**I love my church** because as a community of Jesus' disciples we can work together in many ways to share God's love with others. I appreciate the friendliness, and supporting and helping character of our church. I am thankful for the importance of prayer within our congregation. Plus, we have great cooks!

I feel the vow we make as we become members of United Methodist Church of the Pines – to support the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness are one of the most important vows each one of us has taken in our lifetime. The vow should not be an obligation, but an eager witness to our love of God and fellowman. Let us support each other in keeping those vows."



#### **Bob Schuld, Finance Committee Chairperson**

715-356-6872

bob.pat1@frontier.com

"I grew up in Walworth County in southern Wisconsin and met my wife Pat in high school. We have been married for 51 wonderful years and have one son, Derek, now 47 years old. I attended UW-Whitewater and graduated with a bachelor's degree majoring in accounting. Following graduation, I was employed by Amoco Corporation, a multinational oil company. My entire 30-year career was spent as an accountant or financial manager in Amoco's international exploration and production division. During that time, we lived in Chicago, Trinidad, Germany, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Houston, Netherlands, and Norway."

Continued on page 18

## Ministry Council

### *Meet Your Ministry Council Members, continued*

#### **Bob Schuld, continued**

"We moved into the home we built in Timber Ridge in March 2007 and became members of Church of the Pines the following year. We have been ushers and greeters. Pat has been chair of Dawn Circle, and I have served as chair of the Finance Committee and Ministry Council member for the last 11 years. I have excellent communication skills. Ocean cruising has become our favorite getaway, and we also enjoy sports, playing cards with friends, and dining out at all the good restaurants in the area. **I love my church** because of friendly and caring people. Some years ago, we experienced a serious medical issue, and church members helped us through it with amazing compassion and prayers. Attending church services and hearing about good things we do give me an optimistic outlook on life."



#### **Gretchen Voigt, Lay Leader**

715-614-4291

Gretchen.voigt@gmail.com

"Early in life, up until I married Ted, I have lived in many different places. Born in Omaha, Nebraska, moved to a suburb of Chicago, moved to a location outside of Rockford, Illinois, moved to Menomonee Falls, and went to college at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where I graduated with a degree in zoology. At Madison, I met Ted, my husband of over 50 years. Ted and I then went to Eau Claire, where we continued to go to school. I started my teaching degree in grades 7 through 12 science. Ted got a job at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and I finished my teaching degree at Madison. There we had our first son, Matthew. In 1974 Ted, Matthew, and I moved to the Northwoods and have been here ever since. Katie, our daughter, arrived soon after our move, and Scott, our youngest, followed a year and one half later. When Scott was in first grade, I began substitute teaching and subbed in all grades from preschool to high school. One of my subbing jobs was working with preschool children with disabilities, where I worked with hearing impaired and visually impaired children. That subbing job eventually worked into me getting a degree in visual impairment, where I worked with visually impaired children for 30 years.

Three years ago, I retired from teaching and Ted, and I have spent a lot of time traveling and spending time with our grandchildren. I enjoy living and walking in the Northwoods, surrounded by all of God's beauty.

I believe that I have excellent people skills and experiences that help the work of the Ministry Council.

**I love my church** because I love the way our congregation cares so much for one another."

*Meet the remaining members of the Ministry Council Members next month  
in our July issue of the Pine Chips 2.0.*

# Ministry Council Meeting Summary, Mask Making Ministry

## Ministry Council Meeting Summary

Church of the Pines' Ministry Council met via a Zoom conference call on May 5, 2020, with the following members in attendance: Jim Anderson, Jodi Capacio, Sue Claflin, Tom Frandy, Pastor Mark Gilbert, Merry Jorgensen, Rich Klatt, Dave Kozeluh, Sue Loeffler, Holly Nash, Perry Schuette, Bob Schuld, Gretchen Voigt, Ted Voigt, and Sharry Wuest. Jerry Weber was absent. Council members shared some of the church accomplishments during the Stay Safe at home time: Livestream of worship services is going well; the Congregation Care Calling Crew is doing a good job of staying connected with members of our church family; Operation: Compassion (the sending of cards and letters to others) is greatly appreciated.

Much of the meeting was spent reviewing guidelines received from the Wisconsin Conference and the State of Wisconsin guidelines related to COVID-19 and the three phases to be met prior to re-opening churches for in-person services and activities. A motion was made and passed stating that Church of the Pines will follow the guidelines set forth by the Wisconsin Council of Churches for the re-opening of Church of the Pines.

An Infection Control Team will be created to work on a plan for bringing people back into the church building. The following people will be asked to serve on this team: Dave Kozeluh, Venus Hilgart, Jodi Capacio, Holly Nash, Val Suzor, Jerry Weber, Merry Jorgensen, and Pastor Mark Gilbert.

A scholarship request from Jason Hilgart (2020 LUHS graduate) was approved in the amount of \$1,000.

The next Ministry Council (Zoom) meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. With there being no further business, the meeting was closed with prayer.



## MASK MAKERS ARE NEEDED!

Are you good with a sewing machine? Here is a ministry you can do from your own home. We are in need of volunteers who are willing to sew masks for Church of the Pines. We want to be able to provide masks to people when we resume having in-person worship services and for those who enter the church when we resume other activities.

**Would you be willing to sew some masks for our new MASK MAKING MINISTRY?**

If you want to be a part of this new ministry, please contact Merry Jorgensen at [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org) or call her at 715-525-1004.

Some people are willing to sew masks, but are in need of fabric, elastic, and thread. Please let Merry know if you have any of these items and are willing to donate them for others to use.

## COVID-19 - How You Can Help



### MAKING A DIFFERENCE...SERVING... AND HELPING THOSE IN NEED!

In our previous “normal” times, you would find Helen Gray at The Lakeland Food Pantry as a volunteer receptionist assisting our community residents in need of food and household supplies and processing registrations every Tuesday morning. Now, in this time of COVID-19 pandemic, Helen remains committed to helping those in need by continuing to serve safely. She still volunteers at The Lakeland Food Pantry every week. The way the volunteers work and the way recipients receive food have been modified, with safety being of the highest priority. The Lakeland Food Pantry provides individuals and families with a dependable source of supplemental food, household, and hygiene products. There is still a registration process, but instead of entering the building, registration forms are completed outside of the pantry. Helen does the processing of the information, and a minimal crew of volunteers prepares bags of food and other household items and takes them outside to the vehicles.

When the Stay Safe at Home order was issued by our Governor, new ways of serving were implemented. One of the things that Helen and other pantry volunteers did early on was to sew masks, not only for themselves to wear, but they made masks to give to people who came to pick up food. Just like Louise Douma, a member of Church of the Pines, who has been sewing masks for Marshfield Clinic patients, Helen also ran out of elastic to complete the face coverings she was making and was unable to find a source to purchase more elastic. Instead of using elastic, Helen began making cloth ties to attach to the masks she was making. As more people become furloughed from their jobs, The Lakeland Food Pantry volunteers want people to know that they are there to help. For information about the pantry, call 715-358-2222. Helen Gray says, "The process for receiving help with food is easy. Please don't be afraid or feel embarrassed to ask for help. We're here to help, so please don't let pride stand in the way." Food is available, and people are encouraged to take advantage of this community service. To receive assistance, bring your I.D., proof of address and monthly income, and information about your minor children. Current hours of operation: Every Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. and every other Thursday from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. **Thank you, Helen Gray,** and other volunteers for assisting so many residents in our community who need food! If you are currently volunteering in some way to help others at this time or if you know of someone who is using their time and talents during this challenging time, please contact Merry Jorgensen, at office@umchurchofthepines.org or call and leave a message at 715-356-3041 and she will return your call. We want to share your story because we know that by sharing your story, others may discover ways to help. The pantry receives no government funding or subsidies and relies solely on donations. You can make a financial contribution to the pantry. Mail checks to the Howard Young Foundation office to P.O. Box 470, Woodruff, Wisconsin 54548. You can also make an online gift by going to the following website and click on "Lakeland Pantry Greatest Needs":

<https://www.howardyoungfoundation.org/give/>



## LOGOS

United Methodist Church of the Pines



We're looking forward to nurturing all into Christian relationships through intergenerational gatherings with children and youth this FALL at Church of the Pines!

NOTE: All in-person-church-sponsored programs and activities planned to meet at Church of the Pines this fall are subject to change as determined by guidelines for safely resuming activities in our church building.

### LOGOS Registration Begins

LOGOS offers an approach to Christian nurture and is a ministry that engages young people in the life of the church by giving them opportunities to:

- Build relationships with mature Christian adults in the church.
- Experience what the early church in Acts lived out...study, fellowship, a shared meal, and the practice of worship.
- Learn and practice what it means to be a child of God and a disciple of Christ.

#### LOGOS Dates for 2020-2021:

**LOGOS Lite** (for 1st through 8th graders) begins on Wednesday, September 14th, for a 4-week session and starts right after school and ends at 5:15 p.m.

**LOGOS** (for 1st through 8th graders) and **LITTLE LOGOS** (for ages 4 through Kindergarten) begins October 14th, with snack time from 3:30 - 3:50 p.m.; Worship Arts from 3:50 - 4:40 p.m.; Bible Study from 4:40 - 5:30 p.m.; and Dinner from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

**TO REGISTER:** You can go to our church website, [www.umchurchofthepines.org](http://www.umchurchofthepines.org), and click on the LOGOS REGISTRATION button on our homepage that will take you to a fillable PDF registration form. Please return the completed form by scanning and emailing to [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org) or mail it to Church of the Pines, P.O. Box 144, Minocqua, WI 54548. For those who need a form emailed or mailed, please email your request to [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org) or call 715-356-3041.

**Program Fee:** \$25/child/year. We ask, if possible, to please make payment Fees via text or online using Tithe.ly, by texting the word **GIVE to 833-358-0472**. and clicking on LOGOS fund or go to our church website. [www.umchurchofthepines.org](http://www.umchurchofthepines.org) and click on the green **GIVE** button on our homepage, designating your payment to the LOGOS fund. If you must pay by check, please make check out to Church of the Pines, write LOGOS in the memo line, and mail to P.O. Box 144, Minocqua, WI 54548.

## More Church News

Have something for Pine Chips 2.0? Email the church at [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org).

**To appear in the July Pine Chips, email information no later June 15th.**

Announcements for the Weekly Updates are due Monday for the following weekend.

Call the Church Office at 715-356-3041 with questions.



If you want to know what is happening at Church of the Pines, go to our Facebook page: [facebook.com/churchofthepines/](https://facebook.com/churchofthepines/)



### CALLING ALL KIDS!

On Wednesday afternoons at 4:00 p.m., ask Mom and Dad to go to our church Facebook page

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

for Church of the Pines' Livestream **CHILDREN'S TIME** with Pastor Mark.

*See you there!*

### DAILY DEVOTIONALS

Begin each morning with a scripture reading and reflection by going to our Church of the Pines' Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/> or by going to our church website <https://www.umchurchofthepines.org/>. Questions are asked that will cause you to reflect on the words and how they might impact your life. There are words of hope, encouragement, and love that can help us in these uncertain times. Be sure to comment on our Facebook and our Website and share your thoughts.

### DAILY DEVOTIONALS



#### OPPORTUNITY to SERVE OTHERS

There are members and friends of Church of the Pines who, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, are also caring for their spouses, as well as caring for themselves. Some are addressing medical challenges, such as having medical procedures done, recovering from medical procedures, and at the same time, are still trying to cook meals for their spouse and for themselves.

**CAN YOU HELP BY MAKING A MEAL?** The next time you plan and prepare a meal for your family, could you make an extra serving or two that could be frozen and delivered to members of our church family....a casserole, side dish, baked items, etc.?

**DO YOU LIKE TO "FIX" THINGS?** There are church members who need assistance with small home repairs, have small projects to be done, or need help with lawn care, etc.

If either of these is something you would be willing to do, please let Merry Jorgensen know by sending her an email at [office@umchurchofthepines.org](mailto:office@umchurchofthepines.org).

# Finance Report

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF THE PINES  
FINANCE REPORT  
AS OF APRIL 30, 2020**

	<u>April Actual</u>	<u>Year Actual</u>	<u>Incr (Decr) Versus Year Budget</u>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
Operating *	12,769	96,405	( 5,410)
Reserve Fund	(26,025)	(25,991)	(27,799)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>(13,256)</b>	<b>70,414</b>	<b>(33,209)</b>
<b><u>Expenditures</u></b>			
Pastor **	7,401	31,071	( 887)
Worship	68	4,895	712
Nurture	0	1,695	304
Outreach	0	3,547	714
Finance & Administration	4,785	20,989	( 688)
Facilities Operation & Maintenance	1,315	11,790	( 2,219)
Capital Improvements Fund	0	716	16
Youth Fund	0	0	0
Missions Fund ***	0	2,425	( 892)
Reserve Fund	424	1,624	( 4)
Conference Apportionment ****	0	0	0
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>13,993</b>	<b>78,752</b>	<b>( 2,944)</b>
<b>Net Cash Excess (Deficiency)</b>	<b>(27,249)</b>	<b>( 8,338)</b>	<b>(30,265)</b>
<b>Rocking Horse</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(11,363)</b>	<b>715</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(27,249)</b>	<b>(19,701)</b>	<b>(29,550)</b>
<b>Total Available Funds 4-30-20</b>		<b>159,772</b>	

\* Prepaid Pledges of 48,564 were included in January

\*\* Includes Salary, Benefits, Expenses

\*\*\* Includes Special Sundays

\*\*\*\* 2020 Assessment is 36,108

Net cash deficiency (income minus expenditures) for 4 months is 19,701 which is 29,550 worse than the approved operating budget. This was primarily the result of a 26,025 decrease in investment value of the Morgan Stanley Reserve Fund in the first quarter due to the COVID-19 effect on the U.S. stock market.



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





## Contact Us

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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

