



PINE Chips^{2.0}

United Methodist

Of Church of the Pines



Live Christ's Love

NOW!



At Church of the Pines, we offer everyone an opportunity to come to know the Lord Jesus Christ and to grow in a committed relationship with God. We are Living Christ's Love NOW through Nurture, Outreach, and Worship.



"The thankful receiver bears plentiful harvest."
- William Blake

Sunday Worship - 10:00 am (LIVESTREAMED)
Wednesday Prayer Service - 10:00 am (LIVESTREAMED)

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Did you get Pine Chips 2.0 in your email?

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

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

Pastor's Pen

A New Advent

PASTOR'S PEN



The pandemic has made this a challenging year. Many of us struggle with what Advent and Christmas will look like this year. We are longing for our favorite and most meaningful traditions that make the season special. Even if we had limited in-person worship, things would be different. As difficult as this year has been, it gives us a chance to embrace some familiar traditions and create new traditions this Christmas season.

This is a great year to slow down and really examine and embrace our family Christmas traditions. We may not be able to do all of our favorite things this season, but we can really make the ones we can do that much more special. Take some time and revive traditions from your childhood. Perhaps you can make a special recipe that a grandparent made. Enjoy the slower pace of the season. Do what you can.

Perhaps one of the traditions we will miss the most will be singing our favorite Christmas hymns and carols. There is a way that we can continue this tradition. Please, send me your favorite Christmas song or hymn and why it is meaningful to you. It can be a traditional hymn or even a contemporary song.

I will use the songs you share in worship during Advent and Christmas worship services. I also want to share why the songs are meaningful to people and perhaps a little bit of that song's story during worship. Please send me your favorite Christmas hymns by November 16th so we can get them ready for worship. You can email your songs and stories to pastor@umchurchofthepines.org or mail them to the church. I look forward to seeing what songs you share.

Another tradition that we can continue is the lighting of Advent candles. This is a tradition that we can continue to do in our homes together. During worship, we will light our Advent candles together. I am also scheduling families to make a video of their advent candles' lighting to be used during that Sunday's service. If you do not have Advent candles at home, the church has some sets that you can use. Let us know if you would like to borrow one by November 16th so we can plan for you to pick them up in time for the first Sunday of Advent.

As you can see, we can still engage in some of our favorite traditions this year. But some we cannot. One tradition that I will miss is being together on Christmas Eve and lighting our candles together in the sanctuary. But, we can make a new tradition that I am excited about. We will make Christmas Candles/luminaires and light them as part of the Christmas Eve service. It is hoped that each household will plan to make at least 3 luminaries: one for their home, one to bring back to the church, and one to share with a neighbor or friend.

During the Christmas Eve worship service, luminaries at the church will be lit as you light your luminary at home. We'll sing Silent Night and Joy to the World together. Instructions and materials will be provided for you to pick up at the church.

Yes, this Advent and Christmas season will be different, but we will still be able to celebrate the light of Christ that is shining in the darkness right now.

Pastor Mark

Leadership, Fall Back, All Saints Sunday

Church Staff & Leadership

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

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

Custodian:
Rudy Vlosak
(715) 892-2949

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

Lay Leader:
Gretchen Voigt
Gretchen.voigt@gmail.com

**Staff-Parish Relations
Committee Chair:**
Holly Nash
nashholly@yahoo.com

Ministry Council Chair:
Ted Voigt, ted.voigt@gmail.com

Trustees Co-Chair:
Jerry Weber
jerryweber727@outlook.com
Val Susor
valaries@parkcitycu.org

Finance Chair:
Bob Schuld, bob.pat1@frontier.com

Treasurer:
Cherie' Hein, cheriehein@mac.com

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



All
Saints'
Sunday

**Sunday,
November 1
10:00 a.m.**

**Livestreamed
service on Facebook**

*“Let us not forget to remember and pray for all
the departed souls who are dear to us on
All Saints Day.”*

We light a candle for...

Irene Boudreaux, her church family

Margaret Erm, friend of Tom & Patty Frandy

Ollie Johnson, Tom Frandy's cousin

Barbara Novak, Tom & Patty Frandy's daughter's
mother-in-law

Brant Loichinger - Karen Loichinger's husband

Ruth Faber, Sue Damske's aunt

Eugene Splitt, Nancy Splitt's husband

Pat Schuld, Bob Schuld's wife

Judy Wix, Mary McCadden's sister-in-law

*“They are not here with us, but they will always
stay with us in our hearts and memories.”*

Prayer Requests, Stewardship, Your Vote/Your Voice



*"I want all of you to
pray for everyone.
Ask God to bless them.
Give thanks for them."
- 1 Timothy 2:1*

Clayton Crum's sister, Pat
Barbara Jurries
Debbie Kilps
Patty Stone (contact the church office for
Patty's new address)

Call the church office at 715-356-3041 or email the office@umchurchofthepines.org if you would like to request prayer support for yourself or for a loved one. Through the dedicated members of our Church of the Pines Congregational Care Ministry, there may additional ways that we can help you during difficult times.

You can also be connected with one of our Stephen Ministers who can listen and help support you.

**The Church building
remains closed.**

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

*"Generosity in
Uncertain Times"*



Stewardship

By now, everyone should have received a letter and 2021 estimate of giving card in the mail encouraging us to prayerfully consider how each of us plans to give of our resources to Church of the Pines in the coming year. If you did not receive this information, please email the church at office@umchurchofthepines.org or call 715-356-3041 and we will mail the information to you. If you have not yet returned your estimate of giving card, please return it by November 5th.

Thank you.



EARLY DEADLINES - Pine Chips

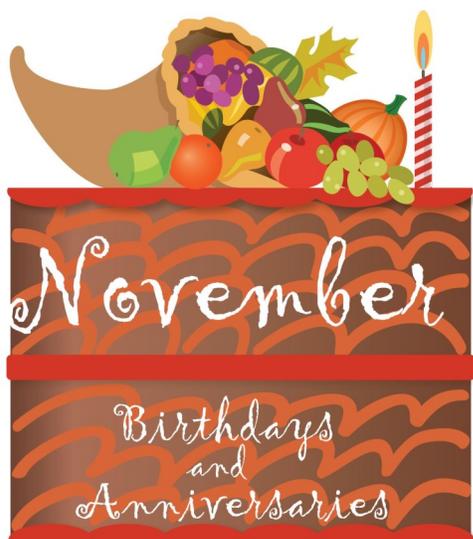
Due to Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holidays, information for December newsletter information needs to be emailed by November 1st. To have information in the January newsletter, email your information by December 1st to office@umchurchofthepines.org

Your VOTE

**ELECTION
★ DAY ★
November 3, 2020**

Your VOICE

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Thank You



Happy birthday to....

November 1	Sue Damske
November 2	Norah Gilbert
November 2	Bev Melms
November 5	Don Pallin
November 8	Dennis Eberwein
November 8	Bob Schuld
November 9	Chuck Wickman
November 12	Patty Frandy
November 16	Anna Gilbert
November 18	Dave Kozeluh
November 18	Mike Lakich
November 22	Meyer Lottig
November 22	Pat Bechtel
November 23	Mike Nienow
November 23	Donna Clark
November 24	Mary McCadden
November 26	Corbin Lottig
November 26	Pattie McEwen-Kiel
November 27	Louise Caroselli
November 27	John Fisher
November 27	Braedon Blank
November 27	Jeanne Van Order

Blessings to you on your special day!

Happy anniversary to....

November 22 Gretchen & Ted Voigt
November 26 Peggy & Dennis Eberwein

Blessings to you on your special day!

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



"Thank you to all those who sent flowers and well wishes when I fell in July and for flowers and birthday wishes for my 99th birthday in September. I am blessed to have so many great family members, friends, and acquaintances.

Thank you."

- Helen Wentz

"My birthday was extra special this year because of all of the birthday cards, phone calls, and Facebook birthday wishes from so many members of my church family.

Thank you so much!"

- Carolyn Hendry

Livestream Worship, November Worship Themes, Annual Charge Conference



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

When you watch worship services, be sure to record your attendance on the "check-in" link or type your name and the name(s) of anyone else watching with you in the comment section on Facebook or on our church website.

Worship Themes for November

November 1 - All Saints Sunday
Revelations 7:9-27 and Matthew 25:1-13

November 8 - Living in the Kingdom of God
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Matthew 25:1-13

November 15 - We Can Trust God
Psalm 90:1-8, 12 and 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

November 22 - We live the kingdom here and now with thanksgiving
Matthew 25:31-46

November 29 - First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 64:1-9

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 and Wednesday prayer services.

Worship Services will continue to be livestreamed on our church Facebook page, and also via a special Livestream link. Videos are also placed on our church website. Contact Merry if you would like worship service DVDs mailed to you.



**United Methodist
Church of the Pines
Annual Charge Conference**

**Tuesday, December 1, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

This year's Annual Charge Conference will be held on Tuesday, December 1st, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

The Rev. Mark Klaisner will preside. More information will be available at a later date.

Lay Leader

LAY LEADER



When I look around at what is happening in our world: the coronavirus and all that it represents, wild fires, hurricanes, people losing their jobs, racial unrest, terrorist groups within our own country, political unrest, and many other things, I start to get anxious and afraid and I don't like that feeling! Many of you may be feeling the same way.

In Isaiah 41:10 the Word tells us: do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

So my aim is even though I may feel the fear, I am going to pray and ask God to help me to trust in Him and to know that He is with me and not let my fear or anxiety overcome me.

It also tells us to: Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12

What wonderful words from Paul, who as we all know suffered many injustices, but was still telling people to live their lives with joy and in hope. This is as relevant today as it was then. So what is this joy and hope that Paul is talking about. Wikipedia says hope is an optimistic state of mind that is based on an expectation of positive outcomes with respect to events and circumstances in one's life or the world at large. My hope is that something good is going to come out of all of this and in the meantime I pray that I can live my life with joy, which I believe is peace, love, and happiness. Maya Angelou has a quote about joy: When you wish someone joy, you wish them peace, love, prosperity, happiness... all the good things.

So my wish and prayer for all of you through all of these hard times is that you be strengthened by God and experience the joy that God wants you to have.

And if you have not already voted, be informed and vote.

Gretchen Voigt, Lay Leader

Stephen Ministry



Find Peace in God and Give Thanks

Peace seems hard to come by during these turbulent times. I pray these verses will help you.

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

-John 14:27

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.” - Philippians 4:6-7

“The Lord gives strength to his people, the Lord blesses his people with peace.” -

Psalm 29:11

Cast all your anxiety on Him,
because He cares for you.

1 Peter 5:7

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” - Matthew 11:28-30

“For God is not a God of disorder but of peace.”

- I Corinthians 14:33

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” - John 16:33

“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.” - II Thessalonians 3:16

“...the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace.” - Romans 8:6

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things...and the God of peace will be with you.”

- Philippians 4:8-9

“For He Himself is our peace...” - Ephesians 2:1

“The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.” - Numbers 6:24-26

If you have worries and anxieties and would like to talk to a Stephen Minister, contact Holly Nash, Stephen Leader, at 715-356-6861. A Stephen Minister provides one-on-one, confidential Christian care.

Holly Nash, Stephen Leader

Christmas Shoebox Online



BLESS A CHILD IN NEED IN
JUST A FEW EASY CLICKS

Build a Shoebox!
ONLINE

samaritanspurse.org/buildonline



Build a Shoebox Online

This year we are asking you to Build a Shoebox ONLINE! Our goal is to build 50 shoeboxes that will be sent to children worldwide to brighten their Christmas and let them know that God loves them. **A link will be shared in upcoming Weekly Updates, on our Facebook page, and on our church website.** Click on the link, and with just a few clicks you can select items to pack and then personalize your shoebox with a note and photo. Samaritan's Purse will do the rest. If you don't have access to the internet, you can send a check to Church of the Pines in the amount of \$25 (write Christmas Shoebox in the check memo and we'll build a box for you).

**OUR SHOEBOX GOAL IS 50
BUILD YOUR SHOEBOX BY DECEMBER 24**

Last year members of Church of the Pines packed 32 shoeboxes with gifts that were mailed to children around the world. This year we will build our shoeboxes online.



Go to
www.umchurchofthepines.org
and click on Build a Shoebox.

Advent & Christmas

ADVENT DAILY DEVOTIONALS

Begin each day by going to our church Facebook page to read scripture during each day of Advent:
<https://www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/>
 or on our church website:
<https://www.umchurchofthepines.org/daily-devotionals>

Hope

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE & ACTIVITY PAGE

Peace

A weekly scripture, story, prayer, list of Bible verses to read each day, a Bible verse to remember, and a few activities to challenge your mind can be emailed or mailed to you. Call or email Church of the Pines to register. Include your name, address, phone number, and email address. Indicate whether you want this mailed or emailed.

WORSHIP

Worship together during Advent by attending virtual Sunday worship services and Wednesday Prayer services held on the church's Facebook page weekly at 10:00 a.m. Videos of the services are placed on the church's website. You can also call the church office to request a DVD to be mailed to you. **Coming soon - Sermon by Phone - Stay tuned....**

Joy

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Love

Help keep our congregation connected by:
 Making phone calls
 Mailing cards and notes of cheer
 Making and delivering meals
 Providing transportation to medical appointments
 Sending emails of encouragement
 Praying for others

CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Christmas Eve worship will be Livestreamed on the church's Facebook page on December 24th, at 5:00 p.m.
<https://www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/live/>

Christ

UMW Mission Trip



Four UMW women will be heading to the Springfield, Illinois area in mid-November to volunteer at Midwest Mission Distribution Center. Confirmation has been made that the center is practicing strict COVID-19 precautions to keep their missionaries safe in the work areas. This trip has been planned for over a year and the UMW team is ready to be put to work! The team is excited about this “hands on” mission experience. They are ready for whatever task needs to be done, whether it is assembling Personal Dignity Kits or UMCOR Flood Buckets to bundling pencils for school bags. The Team is Ready! Your prayers for this Nov. 10 -14th journey are appreciated. You will be able to follow along through daily blog and picture postings on the church website and Facebook page.

Please consider making a gift to Midwest Mission Distribution Center

Because United Methodist Women is sending a team of volunteers in November to Midwest Mission Distribution Center, the October and November focus for mission donations is the Midwest Mission Distribution Center.



Mission
Offering

Midwest Mission Distribution Center, located south of Springfield, Illinois, is a disaster relief facility that serves the Midwest. It is a ministry that is related to the North Central Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church (which we in Wisconsin are part of) and the Illinois Great Rivers Conference. It is one of ten cooperating depots in the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Supply Network. Midwest Mission is a non-profit organization and receives 100% of its funding from private donors. The United Methodist Church and UMCOR do not provide any financial support.

Please show your support for this mission trip by making a contribution to Midwest Mission Distribution Center: Mail a check payable to Church of the Pines and write MMDC on the memo line; make an online gift by going to our church website and clicking on GIVE; make a text gift on your cell phone. Text the word “give” to 833-358-0472 and follow the prompts.



MIDWEST MISSION
DISTRIBUTION CENTER
midwestmission.org

Good luck! Be safe! And God bless Sue Loeffler, Sue Claflin, Louise Caroselli, and Maria Caroselli. We'll look forward to hearing about your trip and seeing some photos!

Nonagenarian Birthdays, Snowbirds, Veterans Day



November
Nonagenarian
Birthdays!



Mike Lakich
celebrates his
93rd birthday on
November 18th!



Chuck Wickman
turns 93 years
old on
November 9th!



Jeanne
Van Order has
her 91st birthday
on November
27th!

*May your birthday and every day be filled with the warmth of sunshine, the happiness of smiles, the sounds of laughter, the feeling of love, and the sharing of good cheer!
Happy birthday! Blessings on your special day!*

If you would like to send birthday cards to Mike, Chuck, and Jeanne, and need their addresses, contact the church office at office@umchurchofthepines.org or call 715-356-3041.



Are you leaving for the winter?

If so, please call the church at 715-356-3041 or send an email to office@umchurchofthepines.org and let us know the date you will be leaving, when you plan to return, and your mailing address and phone number where you can be reached. We would like to stay connected with you over the winter months!



United Methodist Student Day, Upper Room

“The main hope of a nation lies in the proper education of its youth.”

DESIDERIUS ERASMUS
ROTTERDAMUS,
DUTCH PHILOSOPHER



UNITED METHODIST
STUDENT DAY



United Methodist Student Day November 29

Education matters - Please give generously on November 24

The United Methodist Church believes that every person has the right to education and that the responsibility of educating young people rests with the family, faith communities, and the government. On United Methodist Student Day, we have the opportunity to support scholarships and low-interest loans that help young leaders achieve their dreams.

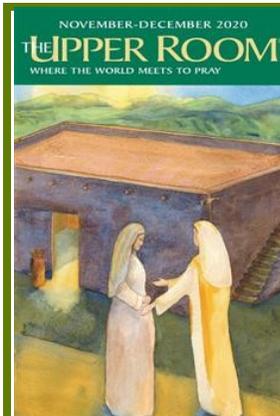
Morgan Murdock, a 2018 graduate of North Carolina State University, was a Gift of Hope scholar. According to her, when we give on United Methodist Student Day, “You are reminding and encouraging students of all majors and walks of lives to remain constant in their faith and to continue to uphold the great qualities that The United Methodist Church has instilled in us.

The church has shown me so much unconditional love over the years in many forms, and this was a very meaningful form of that love. I was encouraged to pursue more in my community and remember the church that helped make me who I am.”

As a child who experienced being bullied, Benjamin Carlson found refuge in his church. As a college student, the Gift of Hope scholarship offset some of his college expenses and he says it “reinforced my understanding that The United Methodist Church supports [its] students.”

As a community of faith, let’s make this United Methodist Student Day the most successful yet. We have the opportunity to contribute to the development of young people like Morgan and Benjamin. Together, we can help propel the next generation toward success.

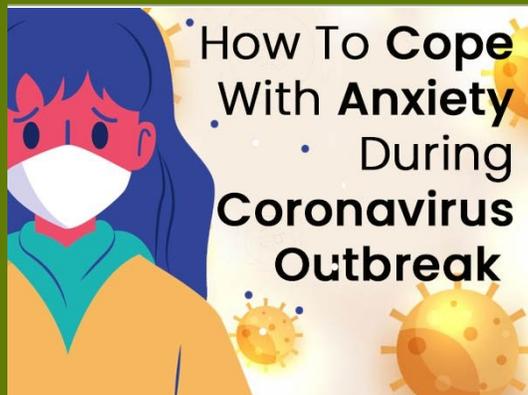
You can make an online gift to United Methodist Student Day by going to our church website, click on GIVE and follow the prompts for giving. On the drop down box, scroll down and click on Missions - UM Student Day. You can also text the word GIVE to 833-358-0472. You will be guided through an initial registration for your first contribution. A check can also be made out to Church of the Pines and mailed to P.O. Box 144, Minocqua, Wisconsin 54548. Write “Missions - UM Student Day” on the memo line of your check.



There are large-print and regular-print copies remaining of the Nov/Dec issue of The Upper Room daily devotional.

If interested, call the church office at 715-356-3041.

The Healing Ritual for Families



How To Cope With Anxiety During Coronavirus Outbreak

Helping Our Kids Through Stressful Times

In an recent article on the United Methodist Church website, The Rev. Dr. Leann Hadley, shared information about “**Helping our kids through stressful times.**” She has spent her career working in children’s ministry in a variety of settings and is the founder of *A Time for Children*.

“Upon observing a virtual Sunday School class for first through fifth graders, where the kids appeared to be as happy and carefree as ever! The teacher invited the kids to take a deep breath, and another, and another and then lit a candle. She

asked them to type into the chat box anything they needed prayers for. The kids wrote: COVID, getting, sick, COVID, my grandmother getting ill, COVID. We were reminded that kids are good at masking their feeling under smiles, play and silliness.”

Rev. Hadley suggests using a simple healing ritual at least once a week at home with your child, which will help your children acknowledge their stress and discover positive ways to express themselves followed by a time of stillness in the presence of God.

To try this ritual, you will need the following: A can of unopened soda pop, a candle and lighter and your finger.

The Healing Ritual

Part One: Acknowledging our stress

Sit down with your child and start shaking the pop can! This will definitely “get their attention! And when they ask you about it, say, “This pop can is you and this pop can is me! And we have been shaken! Each bubble in this can is a feeling we are having. Let’s see if we can name the bubbles in our pop can! Because, do you know what will happen if we don’t let our bubbles out? This can will explode! When we don’t let our feelings out, they grow and we explode (we say things we wish we hadn’t, we yell at the people we love, and we might even hit someone or throw something and hurt someone!). So, let’s name our feelings right now and get them out of our can.”

Spend some time naming your feelings. And then you and your child should spend a few minutes thinking of some ways you might get your bubbles out of your cans. Things like: kick a ball, go for a walk, dance, sing, write in a journal, paint or draw a picture. Choose one activity to do regularly for the next week. Promise each other that you will do this activity during the coming week.

Part Two: Be still

After your child and you share time together identifying your feelings, and coming up with ways to express them, light the candle. Candle light is calming and kids are universally drawn to it. Light the candle and ask your child to sit with you in its light, breathing in and out the love of God for 1 minute. After a minute, invite your child to blow out the candle, and hug them!

Part Three: Bless them

A blessing is a time where you look your child in the eye and tell them that they are strong, that they are resilient, that you know that they are trying their best and that God is always with them! Then, using your finger, make a symbol (a heart or cross) on your child’s hand or forehead as a reminder of God’s love for them!

To read more, go to <https://www.umc.org/en/content/helping-our-kids-through-stressful-times>

Fun for the Kids!

We miss seeing everyone at church! Some of you have been watching our worship services on Sunday morning on Facebook with your parents. And, you get to see Pastor Mark do a special Children's Time just for you and other kids.

We're excited to announce some ways for you to become even more involved, whether you watch worship LIVE with your parents or if you watch the worship video later on our church website.

When we were able to be together at church in the sanctuary on Sunday to worship together, there were special children's bulletins that had stories, pictures to color, scripture lessons to go with the worship theme for each Sunday, and other activities.

One of the things that we can do is send you a special bulletin every week. AND there is a secret code on the front of the bulletin that unlocks lots of fun learning at home.

This secret code is unique to our church and allows SAFE and secure access to online games that reinforce the message for the week.

Several games are rotated - Memory Match, Word Search, Gems of the Bible and Coloring Book—so each week you will have something new to play. The games are geared toward all age levels so everyone can join in the fun!

Here's all you need to do to join:

1. Have your parents send an email to office@umchurchofthepines.org with your name and your age saying you want to join. The bulletin will be emailed to you every week.



Your children's bulletin unlocks ONLINE FUN at home.

We're excited to announce a **NEW feature** of *Children's Worship Bulletins* that will have children lining up to get their bulletin this Sunday! They'll be looking forward to the secret code on the front of the bulletin that unlocks hours of fun learning at home.

This secret code is unique to our church and allows SAFE and secure access to online games that reinforce the message for the week.

Children's Worship
Bulletins™ @HOME!

2. You can print off a copy on your printer at home to use on Sunday when you watch worship services with your parents.
3. At home, your parents enter the secret code at Games.ChildrensBulletins.com
4. Pick a game, play, and have FUN!

Be sure to have your parents join by sending an email, so we can begin sending the bulletins and secret codes to you!



Ministry Council Meeting Summary, Fall Clean Up

Ministry Council Meeting Summary

The Ministry Council met on Tuesday, October 20, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom with the following members in attendance: Jim Anderson, Sue Claflin, Pastor Mark Gilbert, Merry Jorgensen, Rich Klatt, Holly Nash, Gretchen Voigt, and Ted Voigt. Absent were: Jodi Capacio, Tom Frandy, Dave Kozeluh, Sue Loeffler, Bob Schuld, Jerry Weber, and Sharry Wuest.

Pastor Mark reported that the Infection Control Team developed building usage guidelines to be followed for use by Barbara Hallock for using the music room to give piano and violin lessons. Because of the high incidence of COVID-19, Barbara has chosen not to resume giving lessons at the church at this time.

Council members reviewed what they felt were some of our church accomplishments and blessings over the past month that included: Thanking God for the three weeks of beautiful fall colors; the first snow of the winter season; the ongoing church communication with cards mailed and phone calls made; the ability of church members to step in to cover worship in Pastor Mark's absence. Bob Nash and Jonah Gilbert are learning how to livestream worship services; thanking God for helping the Gilbert family to get through their COVID-19 experience; thanks to the Trustees for cleaning up the church yard; and how the congregation has been supportive during the pandemic, being patient and acknowledging the necessity for taking precautions.

The Council voted to give Noah Lottig a gift for the use of his time and talent in providing technical assistance and setting up equipment for the livestream worship services and for being present on Sundays to livestream services. The Council also approved an expenditure of \$2,175.00 to purchase a remote-control camera for the streaming of worship services, as the equipment that has been used was on loan to us.

The next Ministry Council meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.



United Methodist Women

UNITED METHODIST *Women*

Faith | Hope | Love in Action

Use your Thank Offering box . . . Put in a penny for the date of the first snowfall of this month. (If it's the 10th, put in a dime. If it's the 30th, 30 cents.)

November Mission Trip . . . Sue Loeffler, Sue Claflin, Louise and Maria Caroselli are traveling this month to Springfield, Illinois to work at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center of the United Methodist Church. You can still make a donation during the first week of November if you wish. Just mail a check with "MMDC" written in the memo line to the Church of the Pines, Box 144, Minocqua, WI 54548.

Cookie Walk . . . The Executive Board has agreed that it would be safest to not have a Cookie Walk this year. However, the Board does plan to make cookies for our shut-ins. (See article on **Fundraisers** for more information.)

Christmas Tea . . . Early in 2020, the Executive Board decided that with December being such a busy month, we would discontinue the Christmas Tea but instead hold a

similar event in the spring. We are unable to decide at this time if it will happen this year, but a decision will be made at a later date and we will keep you informed!

Fundraisers . . . Because of problems created by the pandemic, all of the UMW fundraisers have had to be cancelled. You can still make a difference to those in need. Please consider making a donation to UMW in lieu of baking pies for the pie sale, bakery for the rummage sales and cookies for the Cookie Walk. Or maybe you purchased pies and cookies from our events and would like to donate the value of what you would have purchased. Or you could put a value on the time you would have spent working at rummage sales and Cookie Walk and that could be your donation. Checks can be made out to UMW and sent to Sue Claflin, 9797 Norway Lane, Woodruff, WI 54568. Now more than ever the missions we support need our help!! Thank you!



Giving, AmazonSmile, Endowment Fund

Giving a contribution to United Methodist Church of the Pines is easy!



Church of the Pines
5 Ways to Give

-  **Mobile**
-  **Online**
-  **Text**
-  **Mail a Check**

For ACH giving, print a form by clicking on the button below, complete the form & return to Church of the Pines.

Find out more at <https://www.umchurchofthepines.org/>

Your generosity shown this past year by continuing to financially support Church of the Pines is greatly appreciated. There are a number of easy ways to give your gifts. Checks can be made out to Church of the Pines and mailed to P.O. Box 144, Minocqua, Wisconsin 54548. If you would like to designate your gift to a specific purpose, please indicate your designation on the check memo line.

Arrangements can be made to have automatic payments made to the church from your checking of savings account by completing an ACH (Automatic Clearing House) form that can be printed from our church website or we can email or mail the form to you.

You can also 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 also go to our church website: www.churchofthepines.org on your computer, laptop, or I-pad and click on the green GIVE button on the homepage 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. Arrangements can be made 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.



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.



Church of the Pines Endowment Fund

Consider making a gift that keeps on giving by making a contribution to our Church of the Pines Endowment Fund.

Contact the church office for information - 715-356-3041

Mission Highlights, Pastor Appreciation, Mask Makers

The following local organizations have been selected as our focus this month because of how they are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lakeland Sharing Foundation - *YOUR GIFT BRINGS JOY TO CHILDREN ON CHRISTMAS MORN-ING!* At the end of January, our seasoned volunteer shoppers start prowling local stores and Internet sites for year-end close outs on thermal gloves and stylish hats. Local knitting and quilting clubs start working on items that they will ultimately donate to us for distribution in December.

In November, we set up donation boxes throughout the community. Teams of volunteers clean and then sort through the used toy donations to make certain all the pieces are included and that the mechanical toys work. We also conduct our annual appeal for cash contributions to fund our direct purchase of new toys and books at discount prices.

We coordinate with schools, child-care centers, and social service agencies such as Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) to distribute invitations to families who qualify for our program. The invitation process is entirely anonymous – we don't know who qualifies. The families who receive an invitation choose from a list of gifts, and mail it back to us. We order the gifts and package them up for the distribution. Usually the first week of December we have our distribution days. When parents arrive at our site – no children allowed! -- volunteers greet them with coffee and cookies. Then, we provide the parents with their pre-packaged bag of gifts. We also have limited availability on Stocking Stuffers, Freebies, and Hats and Gloves.

After the parents have finished shopping, we provide batteries for all the mechanical toys, and a coupon provided by the Lakeland Food Pantry www.lakelandpantry.com to receive a complete holiday dinner. Then, another volunteer carts all the goodies to the car and wishes the family a Merry Christmas. <http://lakelandsharing.org/>

Lakeland Food Pantry - The Lakeland Pantry's mission is to provide individuals and families with a dependable source of supplemental food, household, and hygiene products plus offer programs designed to improve quality of life for those in need in the Arbor Vitae, Hazelhurst, Lac du Flambeau, Lake Tomahawk, Minocqua, and Woodruff area.

Midwest Distribution Trip - Don't forget to support the group of women going to Midwest Distribution Center to work in November (see page 11)

Pastor Mark was honored on Pastor Appreciation Sunday, October 12th, with a beautiful plant and gift certificate for a family at-home pizza and movie night. We hope he and his family felt the love and appreciation being sent their way!



Hedy Blank and Gretchen Voigt have been sewing face masks together while wearing masks, of course!



**Staying safe...serving others...
and having FUN!**

Finance Report, Offering Envelopes

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

	<u>September Actual</u>	<u>Year Actual</u>	<u>Incr (Decr) Versus Year Budget</u>
<u>Income</u>			
Operating *	15,799	178,515	11,145
Reserve Fund	2,582	28,989	25,358
Total Income	18,381	207,504	36,503
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Pastor **	5,373	67,350	(4,804)
Worship	462	8,512	(1,967)
Nurture	0	2,168	(964)
Outreach	65	4,034	784
Finance & Administration	6,116	47,839	(2,043)
Facilities Operation & Maintenance	1,640	23,136	(6,973)
Capital Improvements Fund	1,282	1,998	998
Youth Fund	0	1,000	0
Missions Fund ***	0	3,927	(2,129)
Reserve Fund	169	2,996	765
Conference Apportionment ****	0	0	0
Total Expenditures	15,107	162,960	(16,333)
Net Cash Excess (Deficiency)	3,274	44,544	52,836
Rocking Horse	0	(11,363)	715
TOTAL	3,274	33,181	53,551

Total Available Funds 9-30-20

212,782

* Prepaid Pledges of 48,564 were included in January

** Includes Salary, Benefits, Expenses

*** Includes Special Sundays

**** 2020 Assessment is 36,108

Net cash excess (income minus expenditures) for 9 months is 33,181 which is 53,551 better than the approved operating budget.

Reserve Fund Income—higher due to an estate bequest to the church of 36,404 offset by lower return on investment 11,559.

Pastor—decrease for travel 1,537, education 465, and professional 219.

Worship—lower costs for organist, choir director, and campground leaders 4,808 partly offset by higher supplies 3,163.

Finance & Administration—lay members to annual VM conference postponed 1,200 plus lower costs for office supplies 450.

Facilities Operation & Maintenance—deferral of projects 3,600 plus decreases for custodian 2,189 and insurance 1,384.

Offering
ENVELOPES

Offering envelope packets for 2021 are available for those who ordered them and can be picked up from the church office. Call Merry at 715-356-3041 to arrange for curbside pickup or to arrange to have them mailed to you.

November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 10:00a Livestream Worship/ Communion	2	3 	4 10:00a Livestream Prayer Service	5 Turn in your Estimate of Giving Cards	6	7
8 10:00a Livestream Worship	9 7:00p SPRC (Zoom)	10	11 VETERANS DAY 10:00a Livestream Prayer Service	12	13	14
15 10:00a Livestream Worship	16	17 10:00a Ministry Council (Zoom)	18 10:00a Livestream Prayer Service	19	20	21
22 10:00a Livestream Worship	23	24	25	26 Church office is closed 	27 Church office is closed	28
29 UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 10:00a Livestream Worship	30					

Have something for Pine Chips 2.0? Email the church at office@umchurchofthepines.org.
To appear in the December Pine Chips, email information no later than November 1st by 5:00 pm. Announcements for the Weekly Update are due Monday for the following weekend. Call the Church Office at 715-356-3041 with questions.

Who in your family to **CONTACT** in case of an emergency



There have been times when we have had to try to contact family members of people who attend Church of the Pines as a result of an illness or other emergency situation. We would like to offer to place emergency contact information for your family members in your church record. Complete, sign, and return the form to the church office if you would like to do this. If you would like to have the form mailed to you, please call the church office - 715-356-3041 or email office@umchurchofthepines.org. The form can also be printed by going to our website www.umchurchofthepines.org and click on the Emergency Contact Form on the homepage.



Contact Us

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

Office Phone: 715-356-3041

Visit us on the web at
www.umchurchofthepines.org

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



PO Box 144
415 Chippewa Street
Minocqua, WI 54548



United Methodist Church of the Pines