



MESSENGER

Connecting Salem UMC since 1949

July 2012

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9 am-noon

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Reaching Out With God's Love and Grace



We are proud to announce the opening of Salem UMC's Hope Community Gardens!

Eight raised beds have been built and filled by the parsonage. Planting began on Thursday, June 14. For those interested in volunteering (no experience required), adopting a partial or full bed, or donating needed supplies or excess vegetable plants either for the Thursday planting or through the season, please contact Charis Mitchell at 262-586-9192 or charis.r.mitchell@gmail.com. Harvested produce will go to volunteers who work the gardens, those in the community who are in need, and the Sharing Center in Trevor. There are also plans for workshops to be held at the church through the growing season on topics including gardening basics, cheese making, bread making, or canning of pickles, jams, or applesauce. Workshop topics, dates, and times will be announced on the church website as they are set. Further information will be up soon on the church website, www.salemflamesofgrace.com.



Because we have not been able to secure a director or a full crew of volunteers the Education Team has decided to cancel Vacation Bible School at Salem UMC this year.

Cards for Mike

Mike Perry is in the hospital waiting for his heart transplant. Why don't you let him know he is in our thoughts and prayers by sending a card/message to him? His address is: Mike Perry room 9135S St Luke's Hospital, 2900 W Oklahoma Ave Milwaukee WI 53215





Wisconsin Annual Conference 2012 – by Connie Bevry

Worship, ministry, missions, and resolutions are what the conference is all about. This year four members from our church attended – Rose Kerkman, Marci Morey, Charis Mitchell and me , Connie Bevry. Pastor Grace was part of the Worship Team that created and coordinated all the worship services. She also directed the Conference choir and the instrumentalists as well as lead songs. She was very busy and did a fantastic job. Not only was there beautiful and moving music during the worship, she also invited the Rhemadance Company dancers. It was absolutely outstanding! I wish you all could have seen it.

In addition there was a guest speaker Peter Block, the author of *Abundant Community*. He challenged us to answer questions like “Why are we here?” and “Where are you at? What are your crossroads in life?” and other questions. He helped us understand community and using our gifts (as we all have different gifts) to help others. He often made the statement, “I need you” as he made the point that we need each other to make the community vital. We hope to share the book with the congregation so we can all learn together.

There were also reports and activities from the Revitalization Task Force where we worked in small groups. This allowed us to meet people from other churches and share information. Global Ministries also made us aware of two local missions we can participate in the VIM (Volunteers in Missions) and Wisconsin Disaster Response Team. The Wisconsin Disaster Response Team is made up of 100 people from our district (Metro South), which can respond to disasters within our district. It does require training before you can be added to the team. They are in need of 100 volunteers for our district. Information on these missions groups can be found at church near the bulletin board. Gail Burgess from Bristol UMC is part of the Global Ministries team and she provided the presentation at conference for her team.

We also had a Korean delegation from the Dong Bu Conference. This included the Dong Bu active bishop, two retired bishop and other members from their conference. The bishops participated in the Ordination Service. At the Commissioning Worship Service Keith Hewitt (Wilmot UMC) was recognized as a licensed Local Pastor, and Dan Verdegan (Wilmot UMC –Pastor) was commissioned as a provisional member of the Order of Elders, the step before becoming an elder. During the retirement recognition, the Bartletts showed many photos of Salem UMC as they had served us in the past and are now retiring. There was a retirement banquet for Bishop Lee on Saturday evening. She preached a very moving sermon at the Ordination Worship Service on Sunday.

As the conference closed, the Bible verse for this year was shared once again- John 14:12. As Bishop proclaimed at the Opening worship and during her Sunday message, these were the charge to all of us disciples through the United Methodist Church:

- *We are called to do greater work than Jesus did.*
- *Good enough is NOT good enough – we need to think and act greater!*
- *Let's move forward on faith and create that reality of doing greater works!*

The 2013 Wisconsin Annual Conference will be June 7 – 10, 2013 at Madison West Marriott.

Thank You for the opportunity to attend and represent you and be your voice to the conference.

Pastor's Emergency Fund is in need of donations. Please mark your gift “Pastor's Emergency Fund” and drop in the offering plate or send to the church office.

Westosha Community Senior Fellowship will not meet in July due to the 4th of July falling on the regular meeting date. Next Senior Fellowship is scheduled for August 1.



Cleaning God's House

Volunteers are needed to help keep God's House clean and inviting for all who come here. If you would like to sign up to do some weekly cleaning (vacuuming, tile floors, restrooms, collecting the garbage) Call the church office (843-2525), send an e-mail to jsmith.sumc@wi.rr.com or sign up on the sheet found on the information

The All Committee Meeting Night will not be held in July and August. The next scheduled meeting night is Thursday, September 20th



Noisy Offering

Noisy Offering is the second Sunday of the month – This month's Noisy Offering will be on Sunday, July 8 – all money collected will go for our July Mission – Mike Perry.



Thank you for your generous gifts to the children of Africa and Kenya. It gives these children so much hope, just to know that someone cares. Murry and I are so excited about our BIG adventure, and of course, seeing the Leon Holmstrom School!

God Bless Each of You!

Marjorie Holmstrom



July Birthdays and Anniversaries

(If yours is missing it means we don't have

your birthday/anniversary information in our membership program. Contact Jane Smith at 843-2525 or jsmith.sumc@wi.rr.com to get added to the list)

Celebrating a Birthday

- 4 – Chris Herigstad
- 7 – Annalorraine Eckberg
- 9 – Dave Rust
- 12 – Lisa Hufnagle
- 13 – Jacob Bixler
- 14 – Mark Andrekus
- 16 – Thomas Verhaalen
- 22 – Theresa Leydens
- 23 – Charles Pflueger
- 24 – Jack Verhaalen
- 25 – Scott Hermes, Mackenzie Bevry
- 26 – Paul Schultz
- 27 – Nick Trombley, Peggy Long
- 30 – Marty Stockwell
- 31 – George Tures, Ken Bevry

Celebrating an Anniversary

- 4 – Dave & Elaine Rust
- 6 – Dick & Liz Schultz
- 11 – Brad & Debbie Gilliam
- 30 – Keith & Connie Olsen

Impact Community – 5,000 Hour Challenge

As a congregation we are challenged to do 5,000 hours of community service by the end of the year. If everyone can do at least 1 or 2 hours of volunteer service a week it will quickly add up. An Impact Community slip can be found each week in your bulletin. Impact Community slips can also be found on the SCRIP table in the fellowship area. Fill it out and drop it in the collection plate on Sunday or return to the church office. As of 6/17 we have given 1,549.75 hours of service to the community.

Cool Stuff You Oughta' Know

By Dan Dick

So, what's going on in the Wisconsin Annual Conference that we should know about? Sometimes the staff and elected leadership of the conference gets so caught up in what they're doing, they forget to let anybody else know what's going on. Just so you know that we're not all sitting around playing solitaire on our laptops, there's a short list of some of the exciting things happening in our conference.

In 2007-2008, the conference went through a visioning/planning process, and identified three priorities and objectives for the near future:

1. To equip clergy and laity in collaborative ministry to strengthen positive relationships within and between our congregations and circuits;
2. To support congregational ministry at the local and circuit level, helping to cultivate healthy congregational environments engaged in vital ministries;

To improve communication at all levels through our connection; including not only content and flow, but the use of technologies and methods to improve our ministries. These three priorities have driven our structure and planning, and so far have produced these results:

1. Eight resource teams – spiritual formation, Christian Ed with children, with youth, with adults, worship arts, evangelism, stewardship, & missions – are forming and working as we speak to offer training, consultation, networking, resource sharing, and support for ministry at the local church and circuit level. The commitment we are making with the new resource teams is to deliver helpful resources where you do ministry. When training and events are offered in the future, they will be offered at minimum in each of the four regions, ideally in each district.

Continued on next page

Cool Stuff, cont.

2. The Discipleship-Leadership Council and Executive Team – to be effective in our ministries, we need comprehensive coordination and alignment. We want to work more closely in key ministry areas, making sure that our boards and agencies are working together on our missional priorities and conference objectives. The Executive Team is meeting with the Cabinet on September 14 to share in strategic thinking about our future.
3. Next year culminates our four-year focus on “Live, Give, Love...Beyond All Expectation,” and we are working to create a conference-wide celebration and program. When pastors and laity leadership were interviewed during the strategic planning process, they were asked, “what could the conference do for local churches that would have the greatest positive impact on your ministry?” The three top answers were:
 1. Help us with our financial situation (71%)
 2. Give us practical resources we can use in our church (62%)
 3. Help us feel connected, that we matter (60%)

. To this end, our resource teams, the DLET, and conference staff are working together to lead a conference-wide stewardship campaign with the “Live, Give, Love...” theme in the fall of 2012. We will offer worship and preaching helps, bulletin insets, guidelines, training, devotional materials, small group discussion guides, Bible studies, video resources and other support materials to lead a fall campaign. We will kick off the process at annual conference, host training events throughout the summer, provide .pdfs and downloads of all material to churches, and conclude with a celebration event in November . This will be completely voluntary, but it is a way for all of us to connect and celebrate together across the entire conference.

- 4 From our thinking and planning the best way to implement the results of the strategic planning process, a vision has emerged to guide our work at the conference center. Our focus and vision for the 2013-2016 quadrennium will be “Living the Fruits of the Spirit.” The guiding questions are., “what do congregations and circuits need to become centers of “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control?” What resources, training and support will enable every church to cultivate, produce, harvest, and share fruit that will last? How can we shift our focus from scarcity and need, to abundance and possibility? What will it take to make the Wisconsin Annual Conference’s witness and reputation to the denomination and world one of truly living the fruitful life? This metaphor and vision opens up endless possibilities for creativity, connection, energy and joy.
- 5 Also during 2012, we will have a conference team of lay servants and other leaders equipped and prepared to come to local churches and circuits to preach and teach on the amazing mission and ministry our conference apportionments provide locally, nationally and globally, The current needs for apportionments are not administrative – globally, our mission support is literally a matter of life and death. Additionally, we are doing incredible ministry in Wisconsin that the vast majority of our members don’t even know about. We are committed to making our best kept secret our worst kept secret. The giving of Wisconsin Ums makes a huge difference, and we want each and every member to be proud of the fantastic ministry they do with their unselfish giving.
- 6 Lastly, we’re going to try to continue getting the word out – sharing our thinking and planning and inviting feedback and engagement around the priorities of our conference. We will use the website, e-news, Reflections, and our public gatherings to keep everyone updated on the progress we’re making to become a fruit-bearing/fruit sharing conference.

JULY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship @ 9:30 am	2	3	4 Office closed for 4th of July	5	6 Big Book (AA) @ 8 pm	7
8 Worship @ 9:30 am	9	10 Al-Anon 10 a.m.- noon	11	12	13 Big Book (AA) @ 8 pm	14
15 Worship @ 9:30 am Messenger Deadline	16	17 Al-Anon 10 a.m.- noon	18	19	20 Big Book (AA) @ 8 pm	21
22 Worship @ 9:30 am	23	24 Al-Anon 10 a.m.- noon	25	26	27 Big Book (AA) @ 8 pm	28
29 Worship @ 9:30 am	30	31 Al-Anon 10 a.m.- noon				



Pennies for Mission

Pennies for Mission is our ongoing project where all of the coins dropped in the collection plate are sent to various missions. Each month a special mission is designated to receive that month's offering. Begun in 1989 we have now completed 33 miles of pennies and are currently working on mile 34.

May Pennies: United States Disaster Response through UMCOR (\$64.44)

June Pennies: Kenosha Literacy Guild

July Pennies: Mike Perry

When you buy you donate to the Church's Ministries

Buy your SCRIP cards to use for your every day purchases for food, gas, drugstore items, etc. - when you use a SCRIP card for your purchases a percentage of the card will benefit the church. See Mindy Smouse after church or contact her at 857-2066 or e-mail msgmgs@gmail.com. The following SCRIP gift cards are on hand at church and available for your immediate purchase:

BP Shell Speedway Culvers Wendy's Subway Bristol 45 Diner Lakeside Sentry Wood-
mans Gordon Food Service Marketplace Kohl's Target JC Penney Olive
Garden

Total So Far for 2012: \$1,235.03

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

EFT allows you to keep making contributions even when you are not able to attend a Sunday service. You can designate how your funds are allocated within the church's books (for General and/or Capital funds). There are no bank fees for you to pay and there is complete accountability of your giving. EFT is "green"... you do not write a check, but instead electronically transfer monies into the church bank account. Please consider signing up for this service. Forms for signing up for EFT can be found on the table in the entry area.

Telephone (262) 843-2525

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Website: salemflamesofgrace.com

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.—12: 00 noon Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.