



**First United Methodist Church**

Waukesha, Wisconsin • Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



**TOWER CHIMES**

**April 2026**

## **HOLY WEEK / EASTER SERVICES**

We will gather on **Holy Thursday, April 2**, at 7pm, remembering a meal of love and a mandate from Jesus to share God's love everywhere. We will share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the blessing of anointing.

The following day, on **Good Friday, April 3**, we will worship at noon, embracing the darkness of death, reflecting on the love and compassion that flows from God's breaking heart.

On **Easter Sunday, April 5**, we will celebrate the Risen Christ at our 9:30am worship service with song, celebration, praise and a beautiful display of colorful springtime flowers! How special it will be to worship the brightest, most brilliant color of all: the Light of the World in all his glory and splendor! The service will also include the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All the colorful shapes we collected during the season of Lent will be transformed into a brilliant display of color, resembling an impressive and energetic Matisse composition. For those worshipping online, please have your communion elements ready.

All FUMC worship services will be in-person in the sanctuary, as well as live-streamed and recorded for later viewing.

## **EASTER OFFERING**

As Easter people, we recognize that Christ is indeed alive and because of this, we are empowered to do great things in his name. FUMC has a long history of second-mile giving (doing more than what is expected) and traditionally uses the Easter offering to support the needs of God's people. The Missions Team has designated this year's offering to support the **Hope Center**. This past year, the needs have increased dramatically, as the sources of funding have decreased.

The Hope Center provides a courageous and determined witness of caring for the needs of others as they strive to bring hope to those living in despair. FUMC has been a part of the Hope Center's story since its inception 30 years ago and continues to support its mission of hope. What a privilege to have this ministry in our neighborhood.

If able, please use the Easter offering envelope mailed to all friends and members of FUMC for this special gift. If no envelope, please clearly designate your offering for the Hope Center. You can also give safely online.

Thank you for doing your part in bringing out the colors of light, hope and promise as you offer a courageous and determined spirit of resurrection love.

## **FORMING FAITH – CHILDREN & YOUTH**

April brings Easter and the celebration of Jesus' resurrection! *Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!* We invite everyone to join us Easter Sunday for wonderful music, a terrific children's moment, and Holy Communion. There will be NO children & youth Forming Faith classes following the Easter worship service.

There will also be no regular Forming Faith classes **April 12** due to FUMC's rescheduled Pi/e Day Auction. Instead, all families are invited to stay and enjoy fun and fellowship.

The last two Sundays of April we will have our regular Forming Faith lessons as we learn about Jesus being the Good Shepherd and calling us to be the light and salt of the world. Contact Pastor Amy ([amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org](mailto:amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org)) or Jenny ([jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org](mailto:jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org)) for information.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURE

Please note the church office is closed on **Monday, April 6** for Easter holiday.

## SPRING ELECTIONS – VOTE APRIL 7

Church and Society Committee members urge you to vote in the upcoming election on **Tuesday, April 7**. These elections will determine key roles in local government. Depending upon your municipality, your ballot may include school board-members, county supervisors, mayors, city attorneys and judges. These elections are extremely important to your local community and the state of Wisconsin. Candidates elected will lead your local community and shape its well-being for the next several years. Spring elections typically have lower voter turnout. This makes your vote even more crucial.

Information about voting can be found at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov). You can also call (608) 266-8005 or email [elections@wi.gov](mailto:elections@wi.gov). You can find your voting place, registration information, view your ballot, and learn what documents are required to vote. If you are disabled, and need help returning your ballot, you can call the Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline at 844-347-8683 or you can email them at [infr@disabilityvote.org](mailto:infr@disabilityvote.org). Be sure to check your polling location before you go to vote. You may also vote "in-person absentee voting in Wisconsin" beginning 14 days before Election Day at your clerk's office or request a mail in ballot - but hurry as deadlines are fast approaching. Voting is a right & a civic responsibility. Please learn about the candidates and **cast your ballot on April 7**.

## XYZ (XTRA YEARS OF ZEST)

The April XYZ Potluck and Program is *What Is Hospice All About?* **Thursday, April 9**, Asbury Room, 11:15am with serving starting at 11:45am. Our presenter is Jeremy Jaskolski, a volunteer coordinator at Badger Hospice. This program is sure to answer questions and give information on a topic everyone may face. There will be handouts as well as information on their Simple Alert Response system.

XYZ (Xtra Years of Zest) is a group designed for the 50+ crowd yet open to everyone. XYZ meets the second Thursday of the month from September to June with a potluck lunch and program. Contact Veronica Radowicz with any questions ([vradowicz@gmail.com](mailto:vradowicz@gmail.com)).

## PI/E DAY

Due to the weather conditions on our scheduled March Pi/e Day, this fun-filled and important fundraising event was rescheduled to **Sunday, April 12** immediately following worship in the Asbury Room.

Pull those favorite pie recipes back out and kindly recommit to bringing a pie or two and plan to attend the live auction! Whole pies will be available to bid on as well as slices of pie and ice cream to enjoy while you bid against your friends for that pie you must have. **PIES MUST BE DELIVERED TO CHURCH ON FRIDAY, APRIL 10 OR SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 9am-12pm**. Proceeds from the pie sales will go to support Lutheran Social Services. LSS is in dire need as it has lost most of its federal funding. To make the paying process easier, there will be two lines – one for cash and one for credit cards and checks. For more information, contact Anjana Jones [akjones6@gmail.com](mailto:akjones6@gmail.com).

## FAIR TRADE COFFEE, CHOCOLATE & OLIVE OIL

Church and Society will sell Fair Trade and organic coffee, chocolate, and extra virgin olive oil on **Sunday, April 12** after worship in the Asbury Room. Please stop by to check out our inventory. We accept cash or checks made out to FUMC with "Fair Trade" in the memo line.

## SOPHIA'S ON-LINE AUCTION

SOPHIA's On-Line Auction is a vital part of their major fundraiser. Join the fun and support a great cause! View the auction before it goes live on **Sunday, April 12**, at the link below. Auction items include: a 5 night stay for four at the beautiful *Jungle Creek Villa* in Manuel Antonio, Costa Rica; Milwaukee Tool M12 Radio + Charger; Milwaukee Brewers tickets; manicure & pedicures; gift baskets of all kinds; museum and theater tickets; dining opportunities; beautiful handmade jewelry; and awesome gift cards! Contact Larilyn Carpenter ([larcar293@sbcglobal.net](mailto:larcar293@sbcglobal.net)) for more information.



Visit [www.32auctions.com/SOPHIA26](http://www.32auctions.com/SOPHIA26)  
or click the QR code (at left).  
Then SET UP AN ACCOUNT to enter a bid!

## PATHFINDERS

Put your sandwich making skills to the test on **Friday, April 17**, 9-10am, Asbury room. We'll make lunches for Pathfinders of Milwaukee.

A great big THANK YOU to the FUMC family for supporting Pathfinders' meals. On March 13, 40 lunches were prepared & delivered. On March 25 dinner for forty teens and young adults was lovingly prepared and served. Watch for the upcoming "Dinner with Pathfinders" April date and information in the FUMC bulletin. For more information, contact Kristi Magoon at [kristimagoon@prodigy.net](mailto:kristimagoon@prodigy.net)

## 2026 MISSION TRIP COFFEE FUNDRAISERS

Howard Schultz, founder of Starbucks, has said: "I was taken by the power that savoring a simple cup of coffee can have to connect people and create community." The Mission Trip Team is planning to enhance our community building by offering a variety of coffee selections to a few of our Sundays as fundraisers for this year's mission trip. **On April 12, May 10, and May 31**, the team will be brewing and selling espresso-based drinks for a freewill donation. A variety of flavored syrups will be available to add into your latte or cappuccino. Thank you in advance for your support.

## CHURCH & SOCIETY

SOPHIA's Annual Community Breakfast is **Saturday, April 18**, 8:30am-12:30pm, at La Casa de Esperanza Charter School. This year's theme is "Solidarity as Resistance" with keynote speaker Janan Najeeb, founder and executive director of the Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition. There is also a fund-raising silent auction (see next article below). Tickets for the breakfast are available at [sophiawaukeshasha.org](http://sophiawaukeshasha.org) or by contacting a member of the Church and Society committee.

SOPHIA is an organization made up of 13 Waukesha County faith-based congregations that have banded together to be more effective in working toward a more just society. FUMC is one of these congregations. We are SOPHIA, and every member of FUMC is also a member of SOPHIA. Let's gather together to support the important work of our church community.

The Church and Society team meets on the **fourth Monday of every month**, 2pm, room 216. For more information, contact Susan Mingesz.

## BASICS/NEW MEMBER CLASSES

FUMC's Basics/New Member classes will be held on **Sundays, April 19 and 26**, 10:45am – 12:45pm. Hybrid format available. Learn about membership, United Methodism, and FUMC. Sign up on the website or contact Cheryl Printz ([cheryl.printz@fumcwaukeshasha.org](mailto:cheryl.printz@fumcwaukeshasha.org)) for more information. Anyone is welcome to attend!

## **SUNDAY SUPPERS**

Join us for a joyful Easter/Spring Sunday Supper on **April 26**, 5pm, Asbury Room. Sign-up is in the hallway to bring an Easter/Spring-inspired dish to share. Celebrate the season of renewal with good food, warm fellowship, and a welcoming time together for all ages. Bring a friend or neighbor and come enjoy an evening of community, conversation, and springtime cheer. Sign up is in the Asbury Room or contact Jenny D with any questions ([jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org](mailto:jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org)). All are welcome!

## **INTERNATIONAL MISSION EXPERIENCE 2026**

The 2026 Mission Trip team's fundraising kicks off with our Stock certificate sales this month. Stocks are \$10 per share, and all stockholders are invited to our Stockholders' Lunch held after the trip (date TBD) to hear the stories and enjoy fellowship with the team.

In addition, we will be selling ice cream at our rescheduled Pi/e Day Auction. Ice cream sales will be cash only.

This year's mission team includes: Larilynn Carpenter, Pastor Amy, Katie Connor, Jenny Daugherty, Katara Drake, Anjana, Mira, & Layla Jones, Sarah Meyrose, Cindy Peters, Joe & Christopher Rodriguez, Julie Stuckemeyer, Susan Telford, & Susan Unger.

We also are looking for people to support us spiritually. Please pray for all the members of the team as we fundraise and prepare for the mission. If you would like to be part of the "ground control" crew who will support us immediately before and during the trip by offering messages and gifts of encouragement, please contact Pastor Amy ([amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org](mailto:amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org)) or Jenny ([jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org](mailto:jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org)).

## **SUMMER GROUNDS MOWING**

Calling all who want to join the "grounds crew" to keep our church looking great this summer!

Volunteers are needed to mow the church lawn. Mowing takes about an hour on a Friday or Saturday each week. *You decide what time works best for you.* Push mower and gas are provided.

Please consider volunteering if you are able. The season is short, and we have TWO more two-week blocks available! Thanks to those who have already signed up but *we need new people* too! Dates available are listed in the sign up (<https://fumcwaukesha.org/sign-ups>), or call the church office to select the dates when you can help.

First timers will go on a "walk through" with someone more experienced. This is a great way to get some fresh air while serving our community!

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

The "Soup"er Sunday Noisy Offering collected \$1,553.25. This money was sent to the Food Pantry of Waukesha County along with 149 pounds of food!

Additionally, FUMC collected \$1,895.00 on UMCOR Sunday. This collection helps offset the operating costs of UMCOR's work so that other donations go directly to the areas in need.

Thank you for your support and care for these two important missions.

## **FUMC "FOUNDATION FACT" FOR APRIL**

Each month we are highlighting fun facts about the FUMC Memorial Foundation during its 55<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. The Foundation accepts memorial gifts, bequests, and estate gifts which enable our church to cover unexpected expenses or support mission and ministry opportunities. In 2024, the Foundation supported the church to help pay for two unexpected expenses: elevator repairs and security system upgrades. The generosity of the congregation, combined with the Foundation's support, enabled FUMC to pay more than \$98,000 for these expenses while not reducing our other ministry and mission activities. For more information about the Foundation, please contact FUMC's business manager at [fumcfinance@fumcwaukesha.org](mailto:fumcfinance@fumcwaukesha.org)

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

On **Sunday, May 17**, at the 9:30 worship service, we will celebrate the Rite of Confirmation, recognizing and affirming the faith of our confirmation students. Please be praying for our youth and their mentors as they prepare for this important and meaningful milestone:

Katara Drake and Katie Connor  
Daniel Gerovac and Veronica Radowicz  
Chelsea Riese and Janie Riese & Georgie Ewart  
Kate Theesfeld and Andy Roberts  
Amy Thornton, Confirmation Assistant

### Looking ahead:

On **Sunday, May 31**, at the 9:30 worship service, we will honor our graduates and recognize our teachers, shepherds, and facilitators.

## BIRTHDAYS

### April Birthdays

04/01	Bonnie Giese	04/19	Katie Gerovac
04/01	Elle Luczak	04/19	Dominic Trovato
04/02	Tron Melzl	04/20	April Casciato
04/04	Rev Joyce Rich	04/20	Mark Komp
04/05	Pam Brown	04/20	Anna Linz
04/06	Meredith Marcks	04/20	Lawson Finland
04/08	Scott Evans	04/21	Tekla Finland
04/08	Jordan Thompson	04/22	Marissa Lenz
04/08	Tom Ajack	04/22	Barb Sedlock
04/10	Tim McCawley	04/22	Shawn Theesfeld
04/10	Ellen Graham	04/23	Shelley Carpenter
04/11	Isabella Ainsworth	04/24	Emma Lenz
04/12	Paul Schindler	04/26	Blake Roberts
04/14	Dale Evans	04/26	Sara Caven
04/14	De Honn	04/27	Paityn Lien
04/15	Polly Mather	04/28	Georgie Ewart
04/16	Paul Brennan	04/28	Meredith Roso
04/17	Audrey Hebert	04/29	Margie Hayes
04/18	Maelyn Klepp	04/29	Kelsey Shook
04/18	Camden Byrne	04/30	Julie Stuckemeyer



## Have an announcement to feature in the Chimes?

Articles for the next Tower Chimes are due by **Friday**, April 24. Late submissions may not be featured. You can email articles to: [Office@fumcwaukesha.org](mailto:Office@fumcwaukesha.org)

No email? Feel free to drop off information or call the church office at 262.542.4256

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES @ FUMC

### PIECEMAKERS

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 9am-12pm, room 123**

contact Judy [judy.patti@wi.rr.com](mailto:judy.patti@wi.rr.com)

Join this quilting group. We utilize donated fabric while enjoying the camaraderie of each other's company. No particular skills needed. There are tasks for everyone.

### YARN TWISTERS

**Every Tuesday 9:30am, room 209**

contact Joyce [jac1977@wi.rr.com](mailto:jac1977@wi.rr.com)

Knit and crochet activities, making gifts of comfort and warmth for our church family and community. We will teach you how to knit and crochet. We have supplies to get you started.

### LIVING FAITH TODAY

**Every Sunday after worship, room 216**

contact JoAnn [giovanna.wright@sbcglobal.net](mailto:giovanna.wright@sbcglobal.net)

A discussion group for adults, exploring current events through the lens of faith and how it relates to the world around us. Each week a new topic is discussed. Members of the class come and go as their life allows. This is a hybrid class.

**For Zoom link** [jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org](mailto:jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org)

### MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month 10:45-11:45am, room 123**

contact Dirk [dwilken1@wi.rr.com](mailto:dwilken1@wi.rr.com)

Calling all fellas! This ongoing group offers fellowship with other men, good food, and good discussions about being a man of faith in today's society. Each month a different discussion leader brings a topic for the group to discuss.

### XYZ (Xtra Years of Zest)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday each month (Sept. - June), Asbury Room**

contact Veronica [vradowicz@gmail.com](mailto:vradowicz@gmail.com)

Designed for the 50+ crowd yet open to everyone. Bring a dish to pass by 11:15am. Potluck lunch begins at 11:30am with a program to follow.

### CREATIVE PALS

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month, 10am-4pm, room 209**

contact JoAnn [giovanna.wright@sbcglobal.net](mailto:giovanna.wright@sbcglobal.net)  
or Lori Tompkins [lorirtompkins@gmail.com](mailto:lorirtompkins@gmail.com)

A monthly gathering of people who take dedicated time to work on a variety of projects together. Whether your project is scrapbooking, crochet, organizing, crafting, or something else, this is a place where you can get away and work on it.

### SUNDAY SUPPERS

**Every last Sunday of the month 5pm, Asbury Room**

contact [jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org](mailto:jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org)

Each month a different cuisine (Italian, Mexican, German, etc.) shared - dishes and conversation. Sign up in the hallway.

### CHURCH AND SOCIETY

**4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month 2pm, room 216**

contact Susan [smingesz@gmail.com](mailto:smingesz@gmail.com)

Each month a different topic is discussed that centers around Social Justice Action.

### CIRCLE OF SISTERS

**4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month, room 216**

contact Pastor Amy [amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org](mailto:amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org)

A women's ministry of fellowship, discussion, and worship to meet the unique needs of women.

## MULTIPLE WAYS TO KEEP UPDATED ON FUMC HAPPENING

### ONLINE OPTIONS: FUMC WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Worship services online** (live services 9:30am) <https://www.youtube.com/@fumcwaukesha6341> or view past services <https://fumcwaukesha.org/services>
- **Weekly worship bulletin** is linked to **FUMC homepage** each week <https://fumcwaukesha.org/>
- **ENGAGE tab on website** contains snapshots of activities & opportunities to serve <https://fumcwaukesha.org/engage>
- **"Follow Us"** we post almost every day (sometimes a couple of times a day)
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/fumcwaukesha/> **Instagram:** (<https://www.facebook.com/fumcwaukesha/>)  
For FUMC posts to make it into your feed, first follow our page, then regularly like, comment, or share our posts.

**EVENTS NOT POSTED ONLINE** are on the large bulletin board in the church hallway and announcements during Sunday mornings on the TV screens in the hallway.