



First United Methodist Church

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

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



TOWER CHIMES

June 2026

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion will be celebrated on **June 7**. If you are willing to serve, please sign up on the church website. For those worshipping online, please have your communion elements ready.

FUMC STAFF CHANGES

Saying Goodbye to Pastor Amy

Our Minister of Discipleship, Pastor Amy Celikay, will be leaving FUMC at the conclusion of the appointment year, June 25. After much reflection, discernment and prayer, Pastor Amy has decided to focus on her seminary education and her family and not take another ministry appointment. Her last worship service at FUMC will be **Sunday, June 21**. We will celebrate Pastor Amy (and a milestone birthday - 50!) during worship and in a gathering afterward. Should you wish to provide words of appreciation (and birthday greetings), cards and notes can be mailed to the church or placed in the basket during our fellowship time on June 21.

During the month of June, all are invited to mark a favorite scripture verse with a message of encouragement and your signature in the margins of a special Bible we will present to Pastor Amy on her final Sunday. The Bible will be in the Asbury Room for those worshipping on Sundays. If you wish to sign the Bible during the week, please contact the church office to make those arrangements. If you're an online worshipper and wish to leave a message in the Bible, please email Dana Meredith (danameredith3@gmail.com) before Saturday, June 20. She will make sure the Bible is marked with your encouraging words.

Celebrating Cheryl Minor

The church staff will continue to transition as we recognize the retirement of Cheryl Minor, our Minister of Congregational Care, effective July 7. Cheryl and Barry will continue to be members of FUMC but will enjoy our community as new retirees! We will celebrate Cheryl's ministry on **Sunday, July 5**, honoring her faithful service and the strong emotional and spiritual support she has offered to our community for almost seven years. If you wish to offer congratulations, cards and notes can be mailed to the church or placed in the basket during our fellowship time on July 5.

Honoring the Ministry of Pastor Amy and Cheryl Minor

Please consider donating to Pine Lake Camp's *Everyone Gets to Touch the Water* fundraising campaign as a way of honoring the ministry of two incredible disciples, Pastor Amy and Cheryl. The hope is to raise enough funds to increase accessibility to the beach and the waterfront, allowing EVERYONE to get to touch the water. You can place your gift in the offering plate during worship or mail to the church office. Checks can be made payable to FUMC, with 'Pine Lake Waterfront' on the memo line. You can also give safely online on the church website (<https://fumcwaukesha.org/>). Please make sure to designate your gift 'Pine Lake Waterfront.'

Welcoming Pastor Joel Mueller

Bishop Dan Schwerin has appointed Pastor Joel Mueller (*pronounced Miller*) as FUMC's new associate pastor, effective July 1. Pastor Joel will resume the responsibilities of the Minister of Discipleship. We will officially welcome Pastor Joel and family on **Sunday, July 12**, both in worship and during the fellowship time.

Joel was born and raised in the greater Kansas City area, graduating from Central Methodist University in Fayette, MO with a degree in Religion and Church Leadership. The past two years, he has served as pastor of three rural United Methodist Churches in southwest Wisconsin. This fall, he begins seminary at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, pursuing ordination as an elder in The United Methodist Church.

Joel and his wife Candice were married in 2017. She is also from the Kansas City area and currently works for the Realtors Association of South-Central Wisconsin in Madison. Their 3 yr old daughter Peyton keeps them on their toes with her love of coloring, making messes, and helping clean them up. The Mueller family is excited to join the Waukesha community and looks forward to getting to know FUMC and our people.

Please join the SPRC, church leaders, staff and Pastor Susan in praying and working for a smooth transition of pastoral leadership, ever grateful for our Pastor Amy and what has been, and ever hopeful for Pastor Joel and what will be.

And please pray for Cheryl and Barry Minor as they start their new chapter of retirement, and please pray for the search and hire process as we fill the Minister of Congregational Care position.

FUMC IS HIRING

We are searching to fill the Minister of Congregational Care position with a compassionate person to oversee the Circle of Care team, coordinate visits, cards and calls, and offer spiritual and emotional care to FUMC members and the community at large. This paid position is 20 hrs/wk with Sundays as needed. For a detailed job description, visit the church website. Please prayerfully consider whether you, or someone you know, would enjoy serving in this position.

WISCONSIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Wisconsin Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church will take place June 4-7 in Madison. Pastors Susan and Joel and lay members Jenny Daugherty and Melissa Freiberg will attend. Please offer prayers of support for this important gathering and for Bishop Dan Schwerin, president.

FAIR TRADE COFFEE, CHOCOLATE & OLIVE OIL

Church and Society will sell Fair Trade and organic coffee, chocolate, and extra virgin olive oil on **Sunday, June 7** 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.

PATHFINDERS

Since 2022 our church family has been providing lunches to the youth at Pathfinders Drop-In Center. Thank you for your endless support with donations and help making and delivering 1,640 bag lunches (give or take). The next opportunity to help assemble lunches is **Wednesday, June 10**, 9-10am, Asbury Room. Please join for a time of fun and fellowship.

We are also newly making Pathfinder dinners! In May we had six people from our church served sloppy joes with fresh fruit and desserts to approximately 25 young adults and 5 of their children. Thank you to all who contributed food, supplies and labor! We hope to start serving dinners on a more regular basis. We'll have options to prepare meals at church which we will deliver or drop off already prepared meals. Please contact Kristi Magoon (krisitmagoon@prodigy.net) or Susan Unger (skunger51@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating in the expanded meal service.

Pathfinders provides critical services to a very vulnerable population including a safe space to study, assistance in finding safe housing, clinical services for those with mental health and drug issues, clothing and food. The support from our church family allows Pathfinders to further their mission.

XYZ (XTRA YEARS OF ZEST)

XYZ is hosting their annual potluck picnic on **Thursday, June 11** (11:15am gathering, 11:45am serving, 12:30pm program), Asbury Room, with a program presented by the ACAP Players. Bring your favorite picnic food (hot dogs and brats, including veggie ones will be provided) and join us for our last gathering of the season. XYZ (Xtra Years of Zest) is a group designed for the 50+ crowd yet open to everyone. Contact Veronica Radowicz with any questions (vradowicz@gmail.com).

XYZ ANNUAL RETREAT

The annual XYZ Retreat is September 13-15 at Pine Lake Camp. Our retreat leader is Philip Char and his program, **Happiness: What It Is and How We Grow It**. Join us for this fun, relaxing and informative time of fellowship. Look for the "interest sign-up" in the hallway outside the Asbury Room, **June 7-28**.

CIRCLE OF SISTERS

The final Circle of Sisters gathering for this program year is **Monday, June 22**, 6pm at Edn Farm, S66W28796 River Road, Waukesha. We'll have a potluck dinner, fellowship and great conversation. Edn Farms is a working flower and lavender farm, and depending on the timing of the harvest, we may have the opportunity to create our own bouquets for a fee. Contact Heather Gergen (hgergen@gmail.com) or Pastor Amy (amy.celikay@fumcwaukesha.org) with questions.

SUNDAY SUPPERS

"Opa!" Join us for Sunday Supper, **June 28**, 5pm as we bring the flavors and fellowship of Greece to our church family table! Enjoy a Mediterranean-inspired meal filled with classic Greek favorites, warm hospitality, and joyful community. Come hungry—and ready to say "Yassou!" to good company and great conversation. Signup is in the Asbury Room or contact Jenny D with any questions (jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org).

INTERGENERATIONAL MISSION TRIP 2026

We have a dynamic team of 12 traveling to Minneapolis, July 12–16, to "be the light," share Christ's love, and grow in faith together. We have a Mission Possible Prayer Team praying specifically for each individual team member. We invite the congregation to join us during the July 12 service as we pray over and send off the team before they depart. Please consider supporting this mission by purchasing stocks. All stockholders are invited to a special Stockholder's Lunch on September 27 as a thank-you for your support and partnership in ministry. Contact Jenny (jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org) for more information.

FORMING FAITH – CHILDREN & YOUTH

Thank you for all the love and support that you give to our children & youth Forming Faith programs! We are so grateful for all who have volunteered their time and talents to bring our programs to life.

Please join us in expressing our joy and deep gratitude to all who participated this year:

Nursery Care: Erin Blum, Debbie Blum, Anna Linz, Zoey Ormond, & Meredith Roso

Children & Youth: Erin Blum, Debbie Blum, Renee' Carlson, Tekla Finland, Anjana & Tyler Jones, Amy Kesler, Tina Melzl, Sarah Meyrose, Betty Mulloy, Bill & Cindy Peterson, Niki & Joe Rodriguez

Confirmation: Amy Thornton, Kitrek Riese, Tom Riese, Janie Riese, Georgie Ewart, Andy & Erica Roberts, Katie Connor, Veronica Radowicz

Children & Youth Sunday programs will resume on Kickoff Sunday, September 13. Please contact Jenny Daugherty (jenny.daugherty@fumcwaukesha.org) for more information.

FORMING FAITH – ADULT PROGRAMS

First UMC believes that faith formation is a lifelong process and we offer several opportunities for adults to explore and expand their faith journey in small groups. We are grateful for all who offer their gifts to keep these valuable opportunities going for our adults.

Please join us in extending our gratitude to:

Living Faith Today: JoAnn Wright, Tom Riese, Tony Linz, Veronica Radowicz, Julie Stuckemeyer

Men's Breakfast: Dirk Wilken, Andrew Mills

Circle of Sisters: Pastor Amy, Larilyn Carpenter, Betty Mulloy, Heather Gergen, Cindy Peterson, JoAnn Wright

Bible Study: Pastor Susan, Sara Caven, Dorothea Honn, Betty Mulloy, Jenny Daugherty, Georgie Ewart, Dave Woerpel

Stewardship & Seasonal Book Studies: Jenny Daugherty, Betty Mulloy, Jill Doerfert

DANCEY MEMORIAL MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to Grant Theesfeld and Yaritzel Jaimes Serratos, winners of the David L. Dancey Memorial Music Scholarships this year, receiving \$1,000 each. David Dancey was a long-time member of the Waukesha Community, a Circuit Court Judge and a devoted member of First United Methodist Church and its Chancel Choir. Grant, a member of a FUMC, won the high school award, playing a Liszt piano solo beautifully. Yaritzel won the middle school award for her violin performance. After much discussion, it was decided to award a runner-up prize of \$300 to middle school student Carsten Mueller who played very well on trumpet. Scholarship winners will share their music with FUMC this summer in a church service. Please welcome and congratulate them. Much thanks to Cynthia Eisemann, who leads the Dancey Scholarships, and to our adjudicators Gary Sampson, Veronica Radowicz, Chris Geiser and Greg Carpenter. FUMC is pleased to support the musical growth of youth in our community.

HAPPY 55TH ANNIVERSARY FUMC MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The Foundation accepts memorial gifts, bequests and estate gifts which enable our church to cover unexpected expenses, or support mission and ministry opportunities. Memorial gifts are the most common way the Foundation is supported. When someone passes away who has ties to the church, often the family will suggest donations to First United Methodist Church of Waukesha in the obituary and at the service. Memorial gifts honor loved ones in a tangible way. All gifts, no matter the size, are added to the Memorial Foundation and are invested conservatively until there is a church need. If you would like more information about the Foundation, please contact FUMC's business manager at fumcfinance@fumcwaukesha.org.

BIRTHDAYS

June Birthdays

06/01	Chris Raasch	06/15	Amy Thornton
06/02	Erika Riese	06/15	Sallie Sickels
06/04	Tom Taft Jr.	06/16	Moiz Bhanpuri
06/04	Katara Drake	06/19	Gregory Carpenter
06/05	Jacque Kohal	06/20	Carl Klein
06/05	Marge Huffman	06/21	Ruth Christensen
06/06	John Nesbitt	06/21	Grant Theesfeld
06/08	Linda Carroll	06/22	Joe Fahl
06/09	Raquel Gerovac	06/22	Joe Harrop
06/09	Cicely Casciato	06/23	Tony Linz
06/09	Susan Mingesz	06/25	Michele McCawley
06/09	Steven Wilson	06/25	Marie Hernesman
06/10	Jill Scheer-Doerfert	06/25	Collin Campbell
06/10	Vienna Fleetwood	06/26	Jackie Gerovac
06/10	Jayne Claflin	06/26	Tom Kelpin
06/11	Gloria Young	06/26	Rev Amy Celikay
06/11	Susan Vaughn	06/27	Sandy Zinos
06/12	Cindy Peters	06/28	Kathy Sewell-Jensen
06/13	Judy Jester	06/28	Jon Printz IV
06/13	Ellie Jensen	06/28	Cheryl Printz
06/14	Gabe McMillan	06/29	Bill Schulz
06/15	Linda Boehm		

Early July Birthdays

07/01	Ella Ozier
07/01	Carly Majerus
07/03	Aaron Erkman
07/03	Andy Thelke
07/05	Steve Jensen
07/08	Chris Geiser
07/09	Jan Brady
07/12	Dave Matthias
07/13	<i>Jim Wiegand</i>
07/14	Tina Melzl
07/15	Pat Westphal



Have an announcement to feature in the Chimes?

Articles for the next Tower Chimes are due by Tuesday, June 23. Late submissions may not be featured. You can email articles to: Office@fumcwaukesha.org

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

HONORING OUR GRADUATES

On May 31, we honored our high school graduates:

- Hagen Anderson** Son of Sue & Bjorn, Anderson graduated from Waukesha West High School and plans to attend UW- LaCrosse to study Finance. Hagen's favorite church memory is "Pastor Susan's advice to live with Intention & Action."
- Max Bhampuri** Son of Becky & Moiz Bhampuri, graduated from Waukesha West High School and plans to attend University of Minnesota to study Finance. His favorite church memory is volunteering with his mom, many years ago, to provide all of the food and snacks after church. He says: "I'll never forget how much I enjoyed helping set it up."
- Teddy Celikay** Son of Pastor Amy & Ray Celikay, graduated from Brookfield East High School and plans to attend UW-Madison to study History & Math. His favorite church memory is touring the Brewer's Stadium with the mission trip team last summer. *Teddy is a recipient of the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation Stern Scholarship.*
- Caroline Gerovac** Daughter of Chris & Craig Gerovac, granddaughter of Carl & Mary Kline, graduated from New Berlin West High School and plans to attend UW-Milwaukee to study nursing. Caroline's favorite church memory is the Christmas Eve candlelight worship.
- Izzie Ross** Daughter of Elizabeth & Ben Ross, graduated from Waukesha South High School and plans to attend UW-Madison to study business. Izzie's favorite church memories are attending the youth retreats at Lake Lucerne. *Izzie is a recipient of the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation Stern Scholarship.*

We also recognized those graduating from college at the undergraduate and graduate levels:

- Elizabeth Geiser** Daughter of Mary & Chris Geiser, graduated with a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Purdue University. Her future plans include working as a pipelines engineer in Houston, TX.
- Jacque Kohal** Received her Master of Business Administration from MSOE and will be receiving a job promotion for her efforts.
- Niki Rodriguez** Completed her Master of Science in Nursing Leadership and Management from Western Governors University.
- Katie Gerovac** Daughter of Chris & Craig Gerovac, granddaughter of Mary & Carl Kline, graduated from UW-LaCrosse, earning a degree in Exercise Science. Katie's future plans include attending UW-Milwaukee to study Physical Therapy.
- Morgan Roberts** Daughter of Erica & Andy Roberts, granddaughter of Donna & Chuck Theesfeld, graduated from Purdue University at Indianapolis with a BS in Computer Graphics Technology.
- Maggie Ross** Daughter of Elizabeth & Ben Ross, graduated from Purdue University with a BA in Elementary Education.

*Congratulations to **Meredith Marcks**, attending St. Norbert College, on receiving a United Methodist Foundation Scholarship.*

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES @ FUMC

PIECEMAKERS

1st Tuesday & 3rd Thursday 9am-12pm, room 123

contact Judy [judypatti@wi.rr.com](mailto:judydatti@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 - **SUMMER SCHEDULE**

Every second and fourth Tuesday 9:30am – see location below

contact Joyce jac1977@wi.rr.com

Yarn Twister summer schedule begins June 9. We will be meeting on the *second and fourth Tuesday of each month June, July and August*. The second Tuesday we meet in room 209 at church, from 9:30-11:30am. The fourth Tuesday of the month we will meet off site at members' homes. Contact Joyce Collins for those locations if you wish to join us.

We are a fun group of knitter and crocheters who love to meet new people. We can provide help with projects and even enjoy teaching beginners. Contact Joyce Collins jac1977@wi.rr.com

LIVING FAITH TODAY

Every Sunday after worship, room 216

contact JoAnn 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

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

2nd Sunday of the month 10:45-11:45am, room 123

contact Dirk 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)

2nd Thursday each month (Sept. - June), Asbury Room

contact Veronica 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

3rd Saturday each month, 10am-4pm, room 209 contact JoAnn giovanna.wright@sbcglobal.net or Lori 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

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

CHURCH AND SOCIETY

4th Monday of every month 2pm, room 216

contact Susan smingesz@gmail.com

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

CIRCLE OF SISTERS

4th Monday of every month, room 216

contact Pastor Amy 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.