

Mission Statement: *As the Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church family of faith, we will help people experience God through...transformational worship, lifelong learning, inspiring music, life changing service and passionate witness*

abumc.org May 2023



Dear Church Family and Friends,

Change is hard. Transition is hard. It always has been. When the Israelites were set free, they no longer knew how to **be** free. Some longed to return to slavery in Egypt rather than continue in the wilderness on the way to the promised land.

After Jesus was killed, the disciples struggled with the fear of what came next for them. Were they safe? How would they move forward in the ways that Jesus had taught them?

These examples are far more significant than the shift from one pastoral appointment to another. My leaving and Pastor Ellen's arrival are easier to navigate than the stories we find in scripture.

That doesn't mean we aren't experiencing fear, discomfort, or apprehension at what comes next. Of course we have concerns about what the next chapter looks like, but we have the reminder through Scripture that throughout countless generations, God has been with the people. God has led the people. God has shown the way. And God is with us in each part of this.

The United Methodist Church has a system of appointed clergy, so the congregation

won't be waiting and wandering for 40 years. Living in a country with religious freedom, we have the opportunity to safely proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

How, then, do we navigate this time in-between?

Pray.
Pray for me.
Pray for Pastor Ellen.
Pray for the church staff and leaders.
Pray for all of the people at ABUMC.

We've been praying Ephesians 3:20.
"Glory to God, who is able to do exceedingly above and beyond all that we ask or imagine according to God's power at work within us."

I trust that God is walking this journey with each one of us and will accomplish more than we could ever have imagined. I look ahead with great hope and deep trust in how God continues to call this place and these people into new ways of faithfulness.

With Joy and Hope,

Pastor Cathy



THE AWOROWA
ORPHANAGE
PROJECT

May Coin Mission

United Methodist missionaries Barb and John Munson have been doing work in Aworowa, Ghana, for the past 12 years. They have helped many people in their village over the years with projects such as the small Aworowa Health Clinic, paying for women to attend a three-year nurses' training program, and getting donated textbooks and teaching supplies shipped to the six schools in Aworowa. They are currently in the process of building an orphanage to serve 70 young people and constructing an obstetrics clinic to provide prenatal, delivery and postnatal services to women of the village. During the month of May, the generous coins we drop in the offering basket will assist them in completing the orphanage. As always, if you are so moved, you may contribute additional funds to this mission. Please indicate that your donation is for the Aworowa Orphanage.

Highway Cleanup

Our church has adopted a section of Highway 91 in Winnebago County through the Wisconsin Adopt-A-Highway program. We



are responsible for picking up litter a couple of times during the year and our first cleanup will be **Thursday, May 11**, from 10 a.m. to noon. We're in need of several people to throw on some sturdy shoes and work gloves and help us tidy up our area. We'll meet at church at 10 to get our gear and travel to our highway spot.

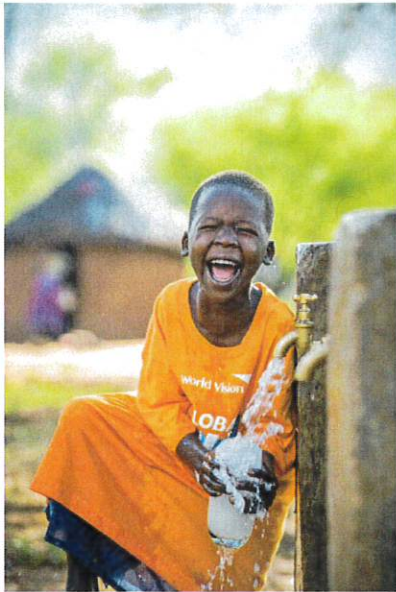
Who Are Our Grads?

If you know of a high school or college student who will be graduating this year or who graduated in December, please let us know so we can acknowledge their accomplishment! Contact Lisa-Marie, connections@abumc.org, with the student's name and which school they will graduate from. If they have post-high school plans, let us know. If they will graduate from college, please share the degree earned.



6K for Water

Can you imagine your life without clean water at your fingertips? Cheru, 6 years old (pictured below), is one of 319 million people in sub-Saharan Africa who worry about where and how they'll get enough water. Along with other children, she used to walk 6 km daily to carry water to school and home. Now a 16-km gravity-fed World Vision pipeline brings water to both places.



The 6K for Water is a global fundraising effort to raise money to bring water to Cheru and to many other children around the world. This will be the third year our team, **Oshkosh Water Warriors**, will take part in the 6K for Water. We will meet at church at 9 a.m. **Saturday, May 20**, and will take a leisurely 3.7 mile walk together along the WIOUWASH trail. We hope you'll join our [team](#) or support us with a donation. The fee to take part in the

event brings water to one child. When you get others to support you in the 6K, more children and families will know the blessing of clean, healthy water.

If you cannot join us on the trail, but would still like to take part, you may walk or run your own 6K wherever you are ... even on your treadmill! So, you may still join our team to save lives!

Join the Celebration!

Of Our ABUMC Senior Friends

We would like to invite EVERYONE to a special celebration on **Sunday, May 21**. We are so grateful for all the older adults who've blessed our congregation throughout the years. We appreciate their love, their presence, their gifts, their wisdom, their heart, and their many contributions to Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church. Please join us as we all worship together during **one service at 10 a.m.** followed by a celebration for our honored guests in Paine Hall featuring appetizers, treats and beverages. Come help us show the love to our ABUMC spring chickens!



Save Those Empty Pill Bottles

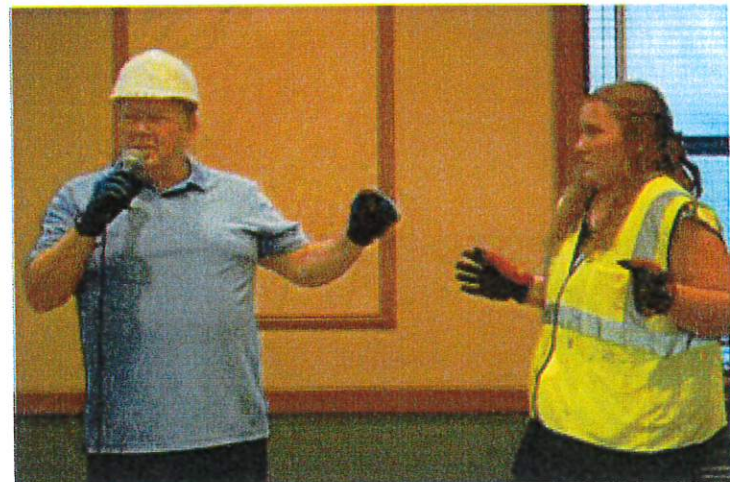


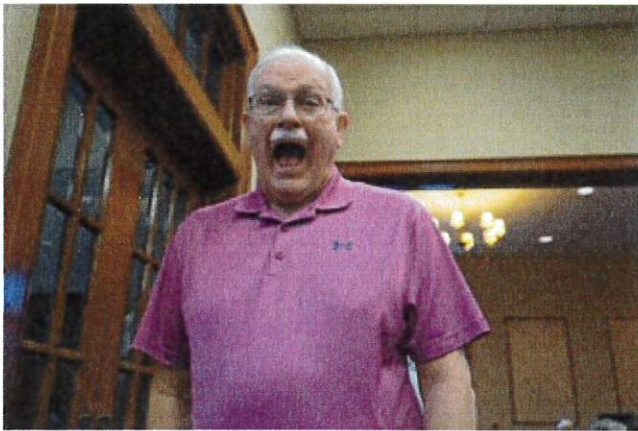
Matthew 25: Ministries is an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization helping more than 20 million people in need each year. Their mission is to fulfill Matthew 25:34-40 by providing nutritional food to the hungry, clean water to the thirsty, clothing to the naked, affordable shelter to the homeless, medical care to the ill, and humanitarian supplies to those in need. Additionally, **Matthew 25: Ministries** is committed to fulfilling Matthew 25:40 by educating the public on the conditions and needs of the “least of these” and by providing resources for action. One of their many missions is to collect empty pill bottles, which they use for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies.

ABUMC will be collecting **empty** over-the-counter and prescription pill bottles. Please be sure to **remove the label and include the lid**. Look for a basket in the mission collection bins in the hallway to Paine Hall where you may deposit them.



2023 Youth Mission Trip
Spaghetti Dinner and
Auction





Another fun-filled, delicious and successful Spaghetti Dinner and Auction supporting the Youth Mission Trip!

