

**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 .....October 2023



Dear Beloved ~

It's our first fall together, and I am so EXCITED!!! It has been a great joy to be with you at the "meet & greets." Thank you to our hosts and all who were able to attend. My heart is overflowing with love and joy.

Our journey continues with the next season of our adventure as we engage our first stewardship season together. John Wesley's teachings on money: *Earn all you can. Save all you can. Give all you can.* provide the foundation for this series. In a nutshell, Earn.Save.Give.

We are about equipping for our discipleship journey, so in addition to sharing Wesley's simple rules for financial management, you will learn about *Saving Grace: A Guide to Financial Well-Being* ~ a program that will provide tools you need to address the topics of saving, earning, giving, spending, and debt, along with helpful strategies for achieving a sustainable financial life. Come and learn more about this program that Andy Irvine will be leading later.

Please invite friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers to this series. We often don't talk about money and never know who could use support and encouragement around money matters.

***As we journey through the series, Earn.Save.Give., I invite you to a time of discernment regarding how you will utilize your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to God in 2024. On October 29- Commitment Sunday, we ask that you share your plans for 2024.***

Together, we continue to make an impact in our lives and the lives of our neighbors. I am very impressed with the number of opportunities we offer for education, service, and fellowship. In addition to Sunday morning's worship and fellowship time, join in the fun at these fellowship and special music offerings:

**Open Table**

**Community Meal & Fellowship**

**Mondays, 10/9 & 10/23, 5 to 6 pm**

**Jair-Rôhm Parker Wells**

**Potluck & Concert**

**Sunday, October 15, 12:30 pm**



**Special Music 9am October 29**

**Bluegrass Band**



Love & Peace,

Pastor Ellen

# What's Up In Worship

Sunday, October 1, 9 & 10:30 am

*World Communion Sunday*



Philippians 2.1-13 NIV  
Special Music @ 10:30 am  
ABUMC Choir

Sunday, October 8, 9 & 10:30 am

Earn. Save. Give.

Stewardship Campaign

Week 1:

We Don't Need More Money:

We Need Wisdom

Proverbs 3.13-16; James 1.5-6a



Sunday, October 15, 9 am & 10:30 am

Earn. Save. Give.

Stewardship Campaign

Week 2:

Earn All You Can

Luke 16.1-13



\*SMG @ 9 am  
JAIR-ROHM PARKER WELLS

Sunday, October 22, 10:30 am

Earn. Save. Give.

Stewardship Campaign

Week 3:

Save All You Can

Matthew 25.14-30



Sunday, October 29, 9 & 10:30 am

Earn. Save. Give.

Stewardship Campaign

Week 4:

Give All You Can

Commitment Sunday

Luke 19.1-10



\*SMG @ 9 am  
Buckboard Truckers

\*SMG = Special Music Guest

**JAIR-ROHM PARKER WELLS**

is a jazz/experimental

electric bassist

10/15/2023 @ 9 am for worship

12:00 pm for potluck & concert in

Paine Hall

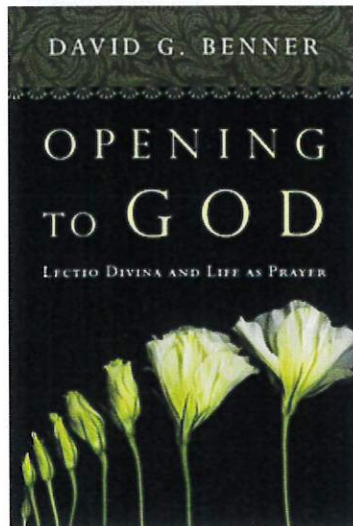
**Buckboard Truckers**

**Bluegrass Band**

10/29/2023 @ 9 am

## “Opening to God: Lectio Divina and Life as Prayer”

Prayer is not merely something we do; prayer is what God does in us. Prayer is not just communication with God; it is communion with God. As we open ourselves to God, God does the spiritual work of transformation in us. All of life can be prayer when offered to God in faith and with openness.



Using the four movements of lectio divina, spiritual director David Benner explores prayer as attending, pondering, responding, and being. Along the way, he opens us to a world of possibilities for communion with God: praying with our senses, with imagination, with music and creativity, in contemplation, in service and much more.

Learn how prayer can be a way of living your life. Move beyond words to become not merely someone who prays, but someone whose entire life is prayer in union with God.

Order your book at local or online booksellers or check availability at your local library.

The group will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, October 3rd through November 28th, in the Fireside Room. The discussion will be led by retired pastor Keith Wolf.

**Please email Pastor Keith ([pastorkeithwolf@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkeithwolf@gmail.com)) if you plan to participate so he can email you the first week's study guide.**

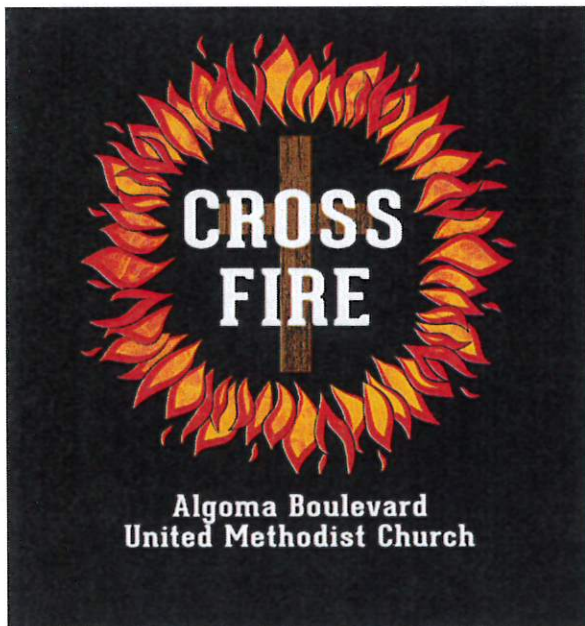
## October Coins

Our TV screens have been filled with the horror of one natural disaster after another across the globe. Our hearts break for the many lives lost, the devastation of homes, livelihoods and nature, and the emotional toll on thousands upon thousands of people. During the month of October, our loose coins will go to the humanitarian relief efforts of UMCOR. Please feel free to make an additional donation via the offering envelopes.



# Crossfire

Crossfire youth group will be meeting twice each month, on the second and fourth Wednesdays, from 7-8:30 p.m. All youths and their friends, grades 6-12, are welcome to join us! At Crossfire, we always have a lot of fun and make great connections. We play outrageous games, have super discussions, and continue to figure out what it means to be a Christian. In addition to our normal meeting times, we'll be having some awesome outings and community service opportunities. See you there!



## Adopt-A-Highway

ABUMC has adopted a stretch of Highway 91, west of Oshkosh, and we are responsible for removing litter twice a year. Our next cleanup will be Saturday, October 14th. We'll meet at church at 9:30 and return by noon. We need several volunteers who are able to walk 2 miles, pick up litter, and carry a bag of trash. Please let Lisa-Marie know if you will join us.

**DEADLINE:**

**CIRCUIT RIDER**

Please submit your articles by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month! Thank you! 😊

**Editors:**

Jaye Alderson, [jayema3@gmail.com](mailto:jayema3@gmail.com)

Cindy Overton, [ceokini@gmail.com](mailto:ceokini@gmail.com)

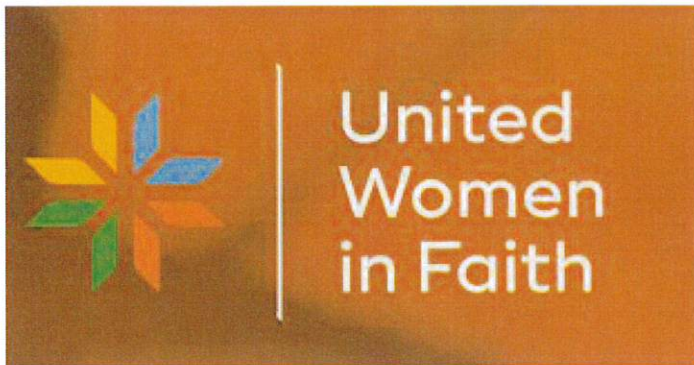
# Trunk-or-Treat



**Saturday, October 28**, is the date of our third annual Trunk-or-Treat event in the church parking lot from **1-3 p.m.** Kids from Read School and the greater community are invited to come trick-or-treat with us. We've had a lot of fun doing this for the past two years and we hope we'll get a few more ABUMC individuals or families to join in!

This is how it works: people decorate the trunk of their vehicle. It can be a Halloween theme or anything you want! It can be super simple or as extravagant as you wish. You can dress in costume if you'd like. We also ask that you bring candy to hand out. Can't take part? You can help by donating some candy!





September 10, 2023, was United Women in Faith Sunday. Thank you to those who participated during the morning. Especially Pastor Ellen!! It was a wonderful Sunday, with a great message about a few of the women during the history of Methodism, then and now.

During the 9 a.m. worship service, Barbara Diener-Blumer helped showcase the United Women in Faith reading program with the simple act of reading. The Reading Program is a cherished tradition that brings together members to explore, share and discuss books. There's something for everyone: adults, youths, and children. There are enlightening subjects and diverse genres. Books span five key categories: Spiritual Growth, Social Action, Leadership Development, Education for Mission, and Nurturing for Community. This year, there is an expanded selection of books offering more choice for readers and a larger number of youth and children's book selections, including several intentionally paired sets to facilitate intergenerational interaction.

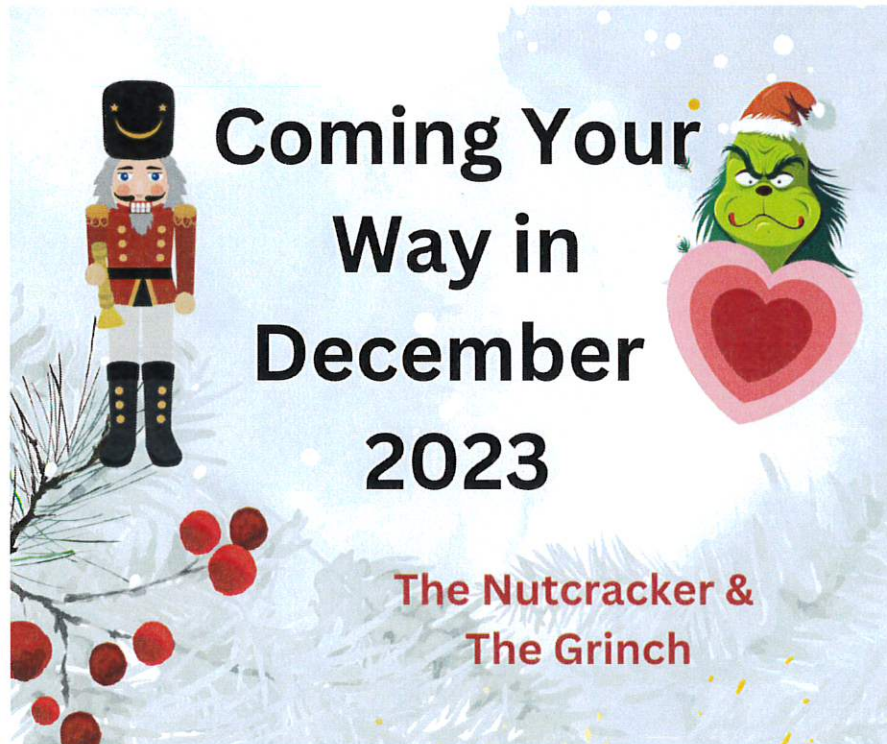
- United Women in Faith also took this opportunity to recognize several very special women in our unit history. Longtime members who exemplify the true spirit of our "sisterhood" are actual sisters! Carol Dorschner and Claire Kliss-Zentner received the UWF lapel pin, and a \$40 donation in their honor was made toward missions. Also receiving this recognition was longtime church member Judy Burton. Sharon Kardoskee and Chris Prust were not able to be in church but were recognized later. Thank you all for everything you have done in so many different areas. You are all very important and we appreciate you!
- September 10th was also a great start for the year ahead. Information was shared about two initiatives that are very important in our mission.  
  
First, we have the Interrupt the School-to-Prison Pipeline Campaign. The school-to-prison pipeline is a term describing how children and youths of color are rerouted and funneled away from educational success toward the criminal justice system when they are over-policed and punished in schools.

To successfully interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline, we must resist efforts to criminalize children of color and move toward comprehensive, community-rooted solutions that offer genuine safety for all children. Follow this link on the United Women in Faith website for more information and action items through the United Women in Faith: [uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/racial-justice/](https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/racial-justice/)

The second initiative is Just Energy 4 All. I invite you to check out the webinar that is focused on hearing from experts, community leaders and United Women in Faith members advocating for just energy solutions in their communities and around the world. These 90-minute sessions occur every other third Wednesday at 2 p.m. Central Time. All are welcome to join the call. The next one will be held October 18, 2023. Follow this link for more information and action items: [uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/just-energy-4-all/](https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/just-energy-4-all/)

- At our unit meeting in November, Jan Nash will provide information regarding the selections for 2024. She is happy to answer any questions you have and get you reading selections for 2024. Follow this link for more information: [uwfaith.org/resources/reading-program/](https://uwfaith.org/resources/reading-program/)





### **YES! It's True! Duel Themes for Advent & Christmas 2023**

Pastor Ellen and Deb Madel have been cooking up something very special for this year's Advent series and Christmas themes. We're offering TWO Advent series! *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes* (based on the story of The Grinch Who Stole Christmas) will be offered at the 9 a.m. services, and *The Gift of the Nutcracker* will be offered at the 10:30 a.m. services.

Your assistance is needed to help make this happen! We need:

- ★ **Someone who loves to put Christmas lights on a tree, a BIG tree!** This can be done now, the deadline is Thanksgiving.
- ★ **Loan of Nutcrackers - any size for the Advent season.** These will be returned, but don't send them if they are valuable to you.
- ★ **Large red and gold tree ornaments and large 18" or so candy canes for on the tree.**

**PLEASE CONTACT DEB MADEL IF YOU CAN HELP WITH OR DONATE ANY OF THESE ITEMS. THANK YOU!**

**Mark your calendars: 2023 Christmas Eve services are at 5:30 and 8 p.m. on Sunday, December 24, 2023.**

**Advent 4 services will be held at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 24, 2023.**

**Advent in the morning. Christmas in the evening. :)**