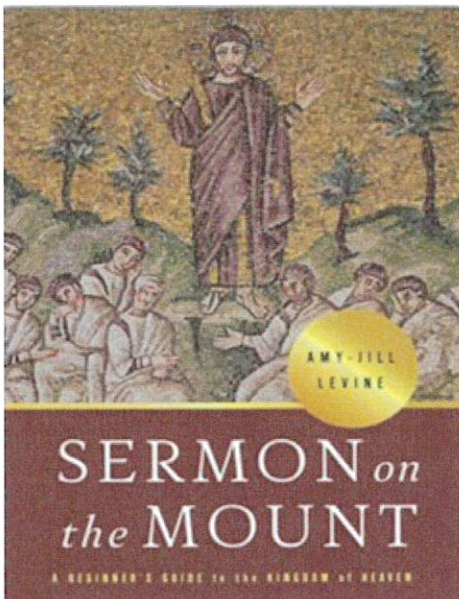


Mission Statement: As the Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church family of faith, we will help people experience God through...transformational worship, lifelong learning, inspiring music, life changing service and passionate witness.

abumc.org March 2023

Sunday Book Study



**Begins March 12th on Sundays
at 10:45 a.m. in the Fireside Room,
led by Don Nelson**

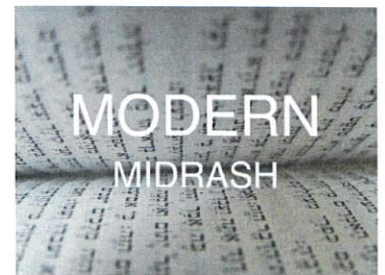
In *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine introduces the major topics in the Sermon on the Mount, explains historical and theological contexts, and shows how the words of Jesus echo his Jewish tradition and speak forward to reach hearts and minds today. Books are available in the church office.

Tuesday Evening Scripture Discussion Group

**Begins March 8th on Tuesdays
at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room,
led by retired Pastor Keith Wolf**

Midrash refers to a rabbinic mode of interpretation of the Bible. The word itself means "textual interpretation," or "study," derived from the root

verb *darash* (דָּרַשׁ), which means "resort to, seek, seek with care, enquire, require." Midrash explores the multiple translations of the text, the multiple perspectives of the readers, and the multiple levels of meaning — from the surface-level meaning of the literal words, to deeper/metaphorical meanings, to life applications, to hidden mysteries waiting to be revealed. Jesus engaged in midrash. We see this, for example, when he is teaching and states, "You have heard it said ..., but I say to you..." (Matthew 5).



Each week, we will dive deeper into the scripture passage from the past Sunday's worship service and explore the questions for reflection from Sunday's bulletin. If you missed the Sunday service, come anyway. No book to purchase. No homework. Just come when you can and bring your favorite Bible.

Capital Campaign Update

ABUMC

ALGOMA BOULEVARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

building • connecting • growing



The Trustee Committee has been actively working to get quotes on the projects we are planning to complete over the next three years.

They will prioritize projects and timelines with the money that has been received.

The first priority is replacing the boilers that heat the Sanctuary and Paine Hall. These are the oldest and most problematic of our boilers.

A final bid will be approved in March. The boilers will be ordered with the expectation that they will be installed this summer and be ready to keep us warm in the coming winter.

In addition to the boilers, there may be outdoor painting projects this summer, and research is being done on sanctuary lighting, security, and key options.

Beyond the Capital Campaign, the trustees have decided to use memorial funds to replace the burned out dishwasher, and to install two new screens at the back of the sanctuary to further enhance our worship experience.

Wednesday Communion During Lent

You are welcome to receive Holy Communion Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. during the season of Lent.

Our retired pastors have agreed to bless and serve anyone who wishes to come.

Thanks to Pastors Keith, Jack, Chuck, and Barry.

6:30 p.m.

March 1 - April 12th

Prayer Chapel in the Nativities Collection

Lent



District Superintendent Zoom Conversations

Rev. Park Hunter is hosting monthly zoom devotions and conversations for everyone in the North East District. There will be a time of devotion and prayer, an opportunity to have discussions in small groups, share news and ask any questions.

If you'd like to join the conversation, please email Pastor Cathy pastor@abumc.org and she will send you the link.

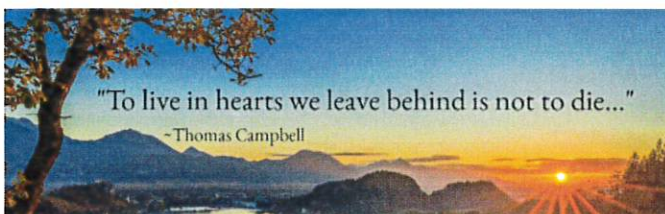


We hold in prayer the family and friends of Claud Thompson, who died on February 22nd. His memorial service will be at the church on Monday, March 6th at 11:00 a.m. There will be a visitation prior to the service from 9-11, and a lunch after.

If you are available to help with food set up and serving for Claud's lunch, please contact the church office.

We hold in prayer the family and friends of Jean Steinbrecher, who died on February 23rd. Her memorial service will be at the church on Monday, March 13th at 11:00 a.m. There will be a visitation prior to the service from 9-11.

We also give thanks for the lives of Carl Schroeder who's service was held on February 4th, and Donna Kaufman who's service was on February 18th.



ABUMC has a fund called the “**Pastor's Discretionary Fund**”. People are welcome to donate to this fund at any time, simply by writing “Discretionary Fund” on the offering envelope or in the memo line of your check.

This fund is common in many congregations. It is intended to give the pastor discretion and authority to provide confidential financial support to people in need or to help support small projects that aren't funded by our budget.

In the past months, it has been used to help with rent, and gas and grocery gift cards for a variety of people connected with the congregation.

Apply To Be A Global Mission Fellow

Global Mission Fellow US-2s are young adults ages 20-30 who spend 2 years living and working with a local community in the United States on issues of social injustice. US-2s must have US work authorization in order to participate in the program. If you or a young person in your life are passionate about alleviating suffering in the United States and looking for a way to put their faith into action, consider applying for the Global Mission Fellows US-2 program at umcmmission.org/gmf The final deadline is April 1.

Mark Your Calendar



May 20 is the date for the 6K for Water! This will be the third annual walk for our team, the Oshkosh Water Warriors, and we hope it will be our biggest group yet! The 6K for Water is a worldwide event that raises funds to provide clean drinking water for people across the globe. Why a 6K (about 3.7 miles)? Because that's the average distance women and kids in the developing world have to walk to fetch water for their family. And often, that water is dirty and unsafe.

So, put May 20 on your calendar to join us for a fun, beautiful walk along the WIOUWASH Trail to provide this basic need for our neighbors. Can't join us? We hope you'll support our team. See our team page [here](#) to join or support us!



March Coins



The Lakota people of South Dakota have some of the highest unemployment and poverty in the nation. Diabetes, alcoholism, substance abuse and despair affect a large portion of the population. Tree of Life Ministries was created in 1985 to provide free home repairs to the Lakota people of the Rosebud Reservation. In addition to repair work, they provide a food pantry and soup kitchen, hygiene products and clothing, and recruit Native Americans to serve in the ministry to their people.

During March, the coins we contribute during the offering will help bring hope to the Lakota nation through Tree of Life Ministries. Additional donations may be added to your offering envelope or online. Please be sure to indicate that your donation is for Tree of Life Ministries.

Read School Staff Appreciation



We would like to show the amazing staff at Read Elementary School just how much we appreciate their hard work and the love and dedication they have for the children in their care. Read School is a challenging environment every day and we know it can be exhausting for the staff. We provided lunch for the staff last year and they were thrilled and so thankful! We will be showing our gratitude to them again on Friday, March 10, and we are looking for a bunch of people to provide appetizers, treats, salads, flavored breads, etc.

Spaghetti Dinner & Auction



The long wait is over! The spaghetti dinner and auction to support the youth summer mission trip will take place at 5 p.m. **Saturday, April 29**. Be sure to put this fun, worthwhile event on your social calendar. Tickets will go on sale in April. Contact Sam Rospel, youth@abumc.org, if you are interested in donating a new or handmade item, the use of a vacation property, or a service to the auction.

UMCOR Sunday

Throughout the United Methodist calendar year, there are several Sundays where we take special offerings. Special Sundays are designated days each year that deepen the connection between the local church and ministries on a global scale. On each unique Sunday, individuals and congregations are encouraged to give to support the church's collective work with a special offering. **March 19** is UMCOR Sunday. UMCOR is the United Methodist Committee on Relief. The UMCOR Sunday offering underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use **100%** of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need. These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable.



*REMEMBER NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES DUE

THE 10TH OF THE MONTH

Prayer Doves for Peace



February 24 marked the one-year anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. There is still no end in sight to the bloodshed, destruction, and loss of life. We lift our prayers to God for an end to this senseless horror.

Please join us as we collectively pray for peace in Ukraine and all over the world. We are creating a collection of paper prayer doves that will be displayed in our church. Look for the supply of prayer doves in Paine Hall, take one (or more) and write a prayer for peace on the dove and leave it for our collection. Feel free to get creative and color or decorate your dove. Anyone is invited to contribute to our display, so feel free to share a dove with anyone you think may want to be a part of our community prayer for peace.



Can you help prep the Day By Day Warming Shelter meal on Monday, March 13th or serve the meal on Tuesday, March 14th? Reach out to Lisa-Marie if interested.

Operation Not Alone



Operation Not Alone wants to thank the members of ABUMC for their generous food donations. Wisconsin's own Miss America, Grace Stanke, along with other pageant contestants were able to pack care packages for active service members and veterans across the nation.

Easter Flowers

**Order Deadline
Sunday, March 12th**



Lilies - 6" pot, 5-8 buds, foiled and bow, \$22.00

Tulips - 6" pot, foiled and bow, \$18.00

Place your order on the clipboard in Paine Hall. Make checks out to ABUMC and place in envelope by clipboard.





Are you familiar with Hope Fridge? Hope Fridge is a mutual aid project based out of the Fox Valley with two Oshkosh locations and one in Neenah. According to their website, their mission is to ensure that everyone knows where their next meal is coming from. They believe everyone deserves access to delicious food to eat with no questions asked and no paperwork to fill out. There is no limit to how many times someone can visit their fridges and there is no limit to how much someone can take home. Hope Fridge contents are always entirely free to everyone, regardless of their circumstances, thanks entirely to their generous donors and kind volunteers.

The ABUMC Crossfire Youth Group as well as the Ames families have made sandwiches for the Wagner Market Hope Fridge, which can be found behind Wagner Market downtown. Leftovers from our Open Table community meal have been dropped off as well. And in February, the Read School kids who attended Fun + One prepared soup that was delivered to the fridge.

How it works:

In the fridge and freezer, please donate only sealed, unopened, clearly labeled & unexpired foods and fresh produce, including

- - ready-to-eat / grab-and-go meals and snacks
- - fruit juices, water and sports drinks
- - bananas, oranges, apples and other fresh produce
- - pastries, baked goods and bread
- - cheeses, yogurt, pasteurized eggs and pasteurized milk
- - cured sandwich meats
- - frozen dinners
- - cooking oils (no glass containers, please!)
- - homemade meals: please practice basic food safety guidelines when preparing meals, label with ingredients and include the date made.

We hope you will consider how you can help fill the fridge for our hungry Oshkosh neighbors! Maybe you have leftover food from a family gathering you'd love to share, or you see some beautiful fresh fruit on sale when you're grocery shopping and decide to buy some extra to drop off at the Hope Fridge.