

**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 .....July 2022*



# *This n That In The Church*

## **Online Service Transitioning to Live Streaming**

Since online worship was added at the start of the pandemic, the virtual congregation has met at 10 a.m. on Sundays.

We are getting the technology and plan worked out to change that. The goal is to have both in-person worship services streaming live — the 9 a.m. casual service with the band and the 10:30 a.m. traditional service with the organ. We will be working our way up to doing both services and working to get the tech issues and kinks worked out.

**Currently there is ONE online service at 10:30 a.m.** We hope to add the 9 a.m. service soon and will keep you posted.

Please pray as we make this transition and have patience as we work through the details and possible problems. Thanks to Todd, the tech team, and everyone who is helping make this happen.

## **New District Superintendent**

The Rev. Park Hunter will become our new District Superintendent starting July 1, 2022. Rev. Hunter currently is appointed to the Onalaska UMC and brings experience as a business owner, has provided clergy service in three states, and has made contributions to the North Central District Committee on Ministry. He has strong gifts as a clergy mentor, a deep commitment to interfaith work, and service with the Annual Conference Program and Arrangements Committee.

## ***Ice Cream Social***

In celebration of our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we're having an old-fashioned ice cream social Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, between worship services. Come indulge in a delicious sundae with all the toppings or a tasty root beer float.







## ABUMC Receives Large Anonymous Bequest

*Every day I will bless You, and I will praise  
Your name forever and ever. Psalm 145:2*

The church recently was blessed with a large anonymous bequest. The \$296,000 has been invested in ABUMC's Permanent Endowment and Opportunity funds (90%/10%), per a policy adopted by our 2006 charge conference.

Earnings from the Permanent Endowment fund support our many ongoing missions while preserving principle. The church may decide to access the Opportunity balance for special ministry opportunities identified in the future.

We are so grateful for the generous financial gifts of legacy and other donors, all of which allow us to continue building God's kingdom here on earth!

— Andy Irvine, Finance Committee

## What Will Your Legacy Be?

Planned giving involves providing for a future gift through your financial and estate plans. You can take care of you and your loved ones and provide for the ministries closest to your heart. If you are interested in learning more, we'll have a representative from the Wisconsin UM Foundation here Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at noon. Please register for lunch and this free seminar in the church office. Join us for lunch and learning and bring any questions you have. 920-231-2800 or [admin@abumc.org](mailto:admin@abumc.org).

*Here are some types of planned giving:*

### **Wills and Bequests**

Have you included the church in your will or considered the ways to give in addition to cash?

### **Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds**

A gift of securities, including stocks or mutual funds, is an easy way for you to make a gift.

### **Retirement Assets**

Retirement assets, such as a gift from your IRA, 401k, 403b, pension or other tax-deferred plan make excellent gifts.

### **Real Estate**

If you own appreciated real estate, you can avoid paying capital gains tax by making a gift to the Foundation for the benefit of your church, favorite ministries or charities.

### **Life Insurance**

A life insurance policy is an excellent gift, especially if your policy is no longer needed or will no longer benefit your survivors.

### **Donor Advised Fund**

You can make a gift now and receive your charitable tax deduction immediately. Then take your time in distributing your gift proceeds to the qualified charities of your choice.

### **Life Income Gifts**

A Life Income Gift is an arrangement that provides you or others with income and leaves a gift for charity in the future. These gifts also may entitle you to a tax savings.

### **Charitable Gift Annuity**

You transfer cash or appreciated property to the Foundation in exchange for a fixed income annuity payment (with rates based on your age) for the rest of your life.

### **Charitable Remainder Unitrust**

You transfer cash or appreciated property to fund a charitable trust. The trust sells your property tax free and provides you with variable income payments for life or a term of years.

## Back-to-School Fair

It doesn't seem right to be thinking about getting back to school already, but in order for kids to be ready when that first day of school arrives, we need to consider their needs. The United Way Community Back to School Fair assists **more than 1,000** lower-income families in our school system in getting their kids off to a good start with school and hygiene supplies. We've been asked to help with providing clothing items. Check out the slips hanging in the missions area at church. The tags indicate the gender and age of a student and what items of clothing they need. It is possible to also buy a department store gift card for them to use to choose their own outfit. Take a tag, purchase the gift, and return to the mission shelves by Aug. 1.

Thank you for loving on our kids!



## Zoe Empowers July Coins

Can you imagine only eating three times per week, never accessing a doctor, being unable to read this, sleeping on a tree branch? 380 million children live this life.

Zoe Empowers began as a relief organization, Zimbabwe Orphan Endeavor, to address the huge numbers of children orphaned by the 2004 AIDS/HIV pandemic in Africa. In 2007, they were introduced to Rwandan social workers who were using an unconventional technique. Instead of giving away resources, they were teaching orphans how to care for themselves and their siblings.

Within a year, Zoe embraced this empowerment model. Guided by the core belief of not doing anything for these young people that they can be taught to do for themselves, Zoe Empowers equips orphaned and vulnerable children to overcome extreme poverty by addressing multiple barriers simultaneously. Children receive a small grant and training. Children who once lived in poverty become entrepreneurs, providers and leaders in their communities.

The coins we place in the offering basket in July will help orphaned children in Kenya, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Liberia, India and Tanzania to live self-sufficient healthy lives.





## Way To Go, Water Warriors!

On May 21, the Oshkosh Water Warriors, consisting of 18 walkers, joined thousands of people globally who walked or ran a 6K (3.7 miles) to raise money to bring clean, safe water to children and families around the world. It was a gorgeous day for a walk and the time flew by.

Our team raised more than \$4,600, surpassing our goal! Thank you for your donations, prayers and support. We look forward to our third annual 6K for Water on May 20, 2023, and hope you will be part of our awesome team!



# United Women in Faith

June 12, 2022



United Women in Faith Sunday, held June 12, 2022, was an amazing day! Many thanks to Joan Deming and Laura Jean Deming for making this Sunday so special. Laura Jean played the cello throughout the morning and with several of our other talented musicians. Joan and Laura Jean shared stories and memories of their time here at Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church as the children of our Pastor Roy Deming and mother Mirabel Deming. They also shared how their time in this church and with the guidance of their parents, their future lives were influenced. Thank you for your participation and for everyone who made this such a success.

We also explored the history of the United Women in Faith in our church history 153 years ago, as well as the beginning of our church building history 150 years ago.

The purpose of today's organization United Women in Faith remains essentially the same as it was when it began. We are organized for mission. We seek wholeness for ourselves and for others, especially women, youth and children.

The Algoma Boulevard United Women in Faith have presented 180 Mission Service Recognition pins to members of our congregation. According to our records, I am pleased to note, one of those recipients was Mirabel Deming.



On June 12, we awarded a Mission Service Recognition pin to Pastor Cathy Weigand, Lisa-Marie Wesenberg, Todd Kaphaem, Nancy Kaphaem and Valois Brothers. A gift of \$40 was given to United Women in Faith Missions in honor of each recipient. Thank you for your leadership and dedication to our church and especially for your efforts for women, children and youth missions.

We served refreshments after both services that included a variety of pies and beverages. The gorgeous punch bowl set recently was donated to United Women in Faith in honor of its previous owner, Rachel Benton! We look forward to many occasions in the future for its continued use. Thank you to everyone who attended this important day and stayed to enjoy the social time. Thank you for all who helped to serve and help clean up.

### **Mission U**

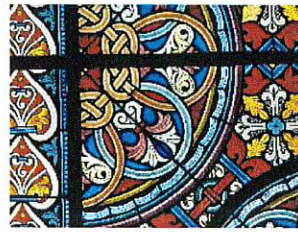
Mission u is coming this summer. Come join us for a time of sharing and Bible study. We are gathering together in person as well as on our computers to learn about and think about the parables that Jesus shared with his followers. These stories made people reflect on their lives and relationships.

As we learn about the cultural context and the expectations in their time, we connect the meaning from then and relate it to our lives now. Cultural details change; human motivations endure and speak to us today as it spoke in the era of John Wesley at the beginning of the Methodist movement. It speaks to us today.

Study Leaders for Mission u 2022 are Pastor Anna-Lisa Hunter, Pastor Anita Lang, Pastor Carlos Careaga, and Alice Staley.

The Zoom class will be held on four evenings: July 12, 14, 19 and 21. In-person classes will be held July 28, 29 and 30 at Christ United Methodist Church in Watertown, Wisconsin. Additional information is available.

— Sandy Butcher



### ***Stained-glass Window Recalls Story of Remarkable Female Preacher***

As we continue to remember the history of our congregation in this building, you might be curious about our beautiful stained-glass windows. Maggie Van Cott is featured on one of these windows. This is amazing and confusing because she was born in New York on March 25, 1830, and she never lived in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Here is a small part of her story:

Margaret Newton Van Cott had been preaching and saving souls wherever churches called upon her. She had been preaching from the Bible for two years when she finally was given a license to preach on March 6, 1869. She was the first woman to be granted a license to preach in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

She had memorized Bible passages and she preached without consulting her script. She would convey whatever illustrations were needed to help each audience find a way to Christ. In addition, she had a beautiful singing voice and would break into song at any moment as the Spirit moved her.

She was well-known in Oshkosh because she had preached at First Methodist Episcopal Church more than once and had brought large numbers of people to Christ.

An 1872 revival was held over several days, in a tent in McMillen's Woods, which was owned by Robert and Alice McMillen. The property was the area south of Oshkosh Avenue between Eagle and Westfield streets where Davis Child Care Center and Evergreen Retirement Community now stand.

Many of our charter members would have heard her preach and taken more seriously their role as followers of Christ. Their success during the early years of Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church is in large part due to the influence of Maggie Newton Van Cott. By the time she retired in 1902, she had converted more than 75,000 people, half of whom joined the Methodist Episcopal Church.





## YOUTH MISSION TRIP - SUMMER 2022



Join the youth in worship on July 10th and hear all about their projects, their experiences in mission and ministry, and the impact of serving God and others.







Both of our camps were hit hard by the storms on June 15th. Tornadoes and high winds tore through forests and communities,

uprooting trees and taking down hundreds of power lines.

At Lake Lucerne and Pine Lake, whole stands of trees were torn or toppled, electricity was out and the rains came hard and heavy. Even in the storms, God was present and visible in the spirits of the campers and staff and helpers.

All the campers and leaders sheltered safely. Even with no electricity, they turned on their flashlights, sang, worshiped together, told stories, and supported each other. They emerged from their safe shelter to witness the astounding devastation of trees blocking their way and branches everywhere. And yet, God's presence was experienced through the night.

By midday Thursday, electricity was back on at Pine Lake. Lake Lucerne didn't get electricity back until Friday and Saturday, so they made the difficult decision to send campers home early - food couldn't be kept safe and the septic and water systems weren't functioning. Throughout, God's presence was experienced in the good will of campers and all the helpers.

Since the storm, volunteers have been showing up with chain saws and willingness to haul brush and help clear the roads and trails, including ABUMC's Zehner family.

Through the United Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the camps have received a \$10,000 solidarity grant to defray expenses not covered by insurance.

Foresters are assessing the trees to guide recovery and removal. Service workers are assuring the safety of the electricity and repairing the Lucerne dishwasher which was damaged by an electrical surge – staff are hand washing dishes for the 70 campers that arrived on Sunday.

Each camp has hundreds of trees down. Cleaning up after this storm will take a long time. What a gift to have willing and capable workers already offering help! God is present through all the volunteers and service workers arriving.

New campers have arrived at both sites, eager to experience all that camp has to offer. The summer staff, while exhausted by all the extra work, are energetic and caring for the new campers. (Our own Kellyn, joins the Lucerne staff this week! Pray for her!)

While directors, Tanner and Nick are still busy with cleaning, clearing, and restoring the camps, they are also working with staff to welcome the next groups of campers all summer and assure that they have a wonderful experience at camp.

God is present through it all! If you want to help, financial donations are welcome through the camp websites. If you want to help in other ways, Pastor Cathy can connect you with our coordinator or the Wisconsin UM Volunteers in Mission who are gathering work crews.

