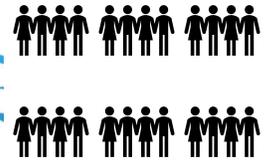
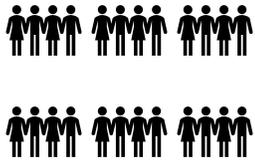


ALGOMA BOULEVARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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.

May 2021



Starting May 2nd in-person worship

Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary at 10:30
(Masked and Distanced)

WORSHIP

- 9:00 AM** Drive-In Worship
- 9:10 AM** Children's Sunday School
- 10:00 AM** Online Worship
- 10:30 AM** In-Person Worship

Dear Church Friends and Family,

The past year has been one of prayer. In addition to praying Mark 12:30-31 each day with all of you, I've been praying through each stage of how to function as a congregation during a pandemic (they didn't teach that in seminary!).

The month of April was focused on how to prepare for in-person worship. The staff and leadership at ABUMC has spent countless hours researching, making plans, praying and discussing.

Our goal has been to offer multiple options for worship as we continue to follow God's lead.

We are reaching people in new ways with online worship and we plan to continue with it.

Drive-In Worship has allowed us to be together at the church. It's been a gift to gather in our cars. We plan to keep doing Drive-In Worship so that, until more vaccines are given, we'll have one service in the building each week. It's one more way we can work to keep more people safe.

I'm preaching the traditional worship service, in the sanctuary, for the first time this weekend. Since we can't yet sing, or do some of the things we usually do, I'm praying that God can use me to lead a service that fills our spirits, even if it isn't fully how we wish it could be.

Please pray for our congregation as we continue to find new ways to love God, to love our neighbors, and to live together as disciples of Jesus Christ.

I'm grateful serve with you.

God's joy,
Pastor Cathy



MISSIONS

6K (Walk) for Water

Wouldn't you like to save a life by taking a walk? Clean water is something we take for granted. We're often even wasteful with it. There are millions of people in the world, however, who don't have access to clean water. **Nearly 1,000 children under the age of 5 die every day** from diarrhea caused by contaminated water, poor sanitation and improper hygiene. The average distance many women and children in the developing world walk for water is 6 kilometers (3.7 miles) and then they have to carry it back! Can you imagine?

On **May 22**, people across the globe will be running or walking in World Vision's **6K for Water**. Be a part of this global movement and help bring clean water to people in need. **Join the Algoma Boulevard UMC team, Oshkosh Water Warriors**, as we walk 3.7 miles along the beautiful WIOUWASH Trail, starting from the church parking lot. Meet at 10:45 a.m. and we'll start our walk at 11. You also may choose to walk virtually if you cannot join us on the trail! Just complete your 3.7 miles wherever works for you. This event takes place rain or shine.

The registration fee is \$50 for adults and \$25 for kids 18 years and under. Through World Vision's water projects, each \$50 registration will provide clean life-giving water for one person. *"I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me."* Matthew 25:40.

To register to join our team, go to this link at [Water Warriors 6K for Water](#). Contact Lisa-Marie if you have questions or would like assistance. **I hope you'll join me May 22!**



410 Feet!

We collected 205 pairs of socks for our brave and selfless men and women of the United States armed services during our Warm Feet for Warriors mission in March. There are going to be 410 really warm and happy feet out there! Thank you for your participation.

Soldiers' Angels, which ran this collection with a nationwide goal of 10,000 pairs, is a well-respected organization dedicated to serving our soldiers and veterans. Started in 2003, they have volunteers in all 50 states, Guam, Puerto Rico and 24 countries abroad. If you would like to find out about some of the other ways you can become involved, go to their website, soldiersangels.org. Perhaps you could send a care package, adopt a service member, support deployed females, be a friend to a soldier's caregiver, join the sewing team, make a donation, etc. All the information you need can be found on their website.



Vaccine Clinic Volunteers

We are all anxious for our lives to return to normal after more than a year of fear, uncertainty and disrupted lives. COVID cases have declined and all people 16 years and older may get vaccinated. **You can help** those who still are going through the process of receiving their vaccination. The Winnebago Health Department seeks **non-medical volunteers** at Sunny View Expo Center. Volunteers are needed to be greeters when customers arrive, to guide customers to the waiting area, to help wipe down chairs, tables, pens, etc., and to receive customer paperwork. Sign-up is easy by going to this link: [Non-Medical Volunteer Sign-Up](#) or contacting Lisa-Marie for assistance. Half- and full-day shifts are available.



Steve Zehner: Carries on Family Tradition of Service



Steve Zehner and his family are active in many aspects of Algoma Boulevard United Methodist Church, and he says his joy in giving service comes from his own parents' example.

He hails from the small town of Dale in Outagamie County, where his father served in local government for 30 years, and the family volunteered at their church and in the community. "Our parents helped take care of things in the parks, the cemetery and at church," he says. "They had us, as kids, helping. They taught us to be involved, to help. It was ingrained in us to give back and work with people."

Steve came to Oshkosh in 1988 to attend college and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh with a degree in political science and criminal justice. He is a salesman for Nercon in Neenah, which sells conveyers.

When his wife, Lesa, searched for a church home for them, she chose ABUMC, and they joined around 2000. Steve has taught Sunday school at the middle school level for 10 years and has accompanied the youth mission trips for 12 years — ever since his eldest child first was eligible to go.

For the past four years, he has served on the board of trustees and currently is the chairman.

Steve and Lesa have three children, David, who graduates this month from UW-Whitewater; Faith, a sophomore at UW-Oshkosh; and Kellyn, 15, a freshman in high school. "They all do things for the community," Steve says. "It's a joy to see them work, give back and they really like it."

He says he likes being a part of ABUMC because it's a community of people who believe in the same things and have similar views of how to do things in life.

"I love doing stuff with my family, travelling, helping out at the church," he says. "I like to spend time with family. Between Lesa and I, we have 16 siblings and 47 nieces and nephews. The babies keep coming!"

Annual Shredding Event

Save the Date: June 12TH, 2021

WHERE:

Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group
2220 Omro Rd Oshkosh WI

It's that time of year again!

Be sure to mark your calendars!

Sponsored by
Coldwell Banker
Real Estate Group



Loving Our Church Home Virtually

We have been recording a prayer tour of our building. It has been so long since we gathered together at ABUMC. We miss it and we miss one another. If you haven't seen the videos, check them out and pray for our building as we ask God how we can use our space to grow in faith and seek new ways to love God and love all of our neighbors. Go to the link below to watch and pray: <https://bit.ly/3IS43MI>.

New E-mail Addresses

There are two new email address to take note of:

- Lisa-Marie:
connections@abumc.org
- Church, our building manager:
building@abumc.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Katie is in the office from
8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Monday through Thursday.

She can be reached at 920-231-2800 or
at admin@abumc.org



**JOIN THE
WEIGAND
FAMILY**



**Graduation
Open House for
John Weigand**

**May 15th 1:00-4:00 p.m.
at our home**

If you need more information
email pastor@abumc.org





Come meet with us at UMW: The United Methodist Women's spring meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. May 24 in the Harmony Room at church! There is a limit of **10 people** at all church meetings, so please let our Membership Chair, **Sandy Butcher**, know you will be coming. Her email is zonianangel@aol.com and her phone is 920-426-3114.

Barb Diener-Blumer will lead the program, "Thankfulness." Your World Thank Offering will be collected. Members may bring their "Thank Boxes" full of change which they have collected throughout the year or any amount they wish to donate, whether cash or check.

Kate Yarbro will present a History Moment with an interesting story from ABUMC's past.

Health Kits for Wisconsin Women: If you have collected items for the Health Kits for Wisconsin Women, please drop completed kits in the **new mission bins** at church during May



or bring them to the May UMW meeting. The kits should be in a large clear bag and marked "Wisconsin Conference Hospitality Kit for Women." Kits should contain one of each: Antiperspirant, toothbrush, toothpaste, washcloth, bar of soap, hand sanitizer, emery board, comb, nail clippers, lip balm, sewing repair kit and travel-size tissue packet, and six plain plastic bandage strips.

Mission u, Issues to Study This Summer: With spring well on its way, summer is just around the corner, and it's time to start planning for the UMW statewide Mission u. Three four-day sessions will be held on **Zoom**, with the first beginning in May. Two sessions will be in July and a Youth Study will be held in June.

- The first study is "Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in School." These sessions will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from May 18 to May 27. All four sessions are from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
- "Finding Peace in an Anxious World" will be held from Tuesday, July 6, to Thursday, July 15. Sessions are at 6:30 to 9 p.m.
- "Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship" will be from Tuesday, July 27, through Thursday, Aug. 5, from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
- The Youth Study is "Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence." It will be held Tuesday, June 15, to Thursday, June 24, from 6:45 to 9 p.m.

You can find more information, registration and links for class resources on the UMW website: www.wisconsinumw.org/mission-u.html You also can contact Rachel Benton at 920-231-7724.



INSIDE THE OPEN DOOR

WELCOME BACK TO THE CHURCH AND OPEN DOOR MEDIA CENTER

As you read the Circuit Rider this past year, did you see a book mentioned in our articles that you wanted to read? But didn't have time to contact us about borrowing it? We will have a copy of each month's article in the Open Door library so if you have forgotten the title, we can help you look for it.

CHILDREN: Jan Nash orders most of the resources we purchase for the library. She makes selections that are highly recommended. Two selections for children are:

- **"The Promise,"** by Nicola Davies (J Fic Dav). The boy lives in an old, dirty, unkept city. Everyone who lives there is grouchy and sad. He steals from people. He fought one old woman for her very full bag. Before he took it, she asked him to make a promise. He agreed. What change did that promise make?
- Because it is like spring outside, here is another book about a tree. Only this one is magical. **"The Old Man and the Tree,"** by Vicki Wisenfeld (J Fic Wis) is about a man who would use a limb or branches of the tree to make objects for people when they made a request. He would ask them to use the object to do something kind for another person. Each person agreed. The magical tree would regrow what had been cut off the tree. Later more magic happened. Can you guess the ending of the story?

YOUTHS:

- Melody Carlson has written a couple of series of books for youths. **"Road Trip"** (Y Fic Car) is about a trio of girls whose

Christian music entertains others. They have been asked to open for a more famous musical group that is scheduled to play in September in Los Angeles. A parent couple have offered to take them across the United States. They will book performances in various towns, cities and churches along the way. They also have a sponsoring company to cover their expenses. They have made a record of their songs. Read about their influence on youth listeners, challenges, surprises and performances as they proceed on their trip.

ADULTS: New books in the UMW section are now available to the congregation. (Hurray! Hurray!) Two books are of interest for the study of racism and equal rights.

- **"Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women,"** edited by Lisa Charleyboy, is in Leadership Development (LD). This is an unusual book published by a Canadian publisher. It is a collection of photography and art with interviews, stories, poetry and essays by Indigenous women. It has won several awards. The writing and art show their feelings of humiliation, abuse and anger. Their powerful voices show a demand for change and how these underserved citizens no longer are willing to be invisible.
- **"The Hate You Give,"** by Angie Thomas, is on the Nurturing for Community (NC) shelf. This book was published in 2017 and a movie has been made. It has been popular in the African-American community. Now it is recommended for people studying the theme of racism. It tells of police brutality from the side of a Black family. The main character is in the car when her friend is stopped and shot by the police, and she testifies. Controversy, protests, headlines, intimidation are all present in the story. It is certainly timely because of current events of Black Lives Matter and the death of George Floyd.

— Rachel Benton and Jan Nash



CIRCUIT RIDER

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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