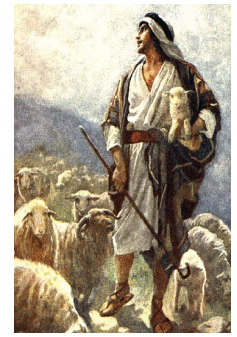




BEACON
February 2021
NEWSLETTER OF THE
STURGEON BAY & JACKSONPORT
UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES



WAYS TO CONNECT

The Sturgeon Bay/
 Jacksonport United Methodist Church
 Charge
 836 Michigan Street
 Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235
 920-743-3241

OUR WEBSITE

<https://www.sturgeonbayumc.org/>
 Or on YouTube Search David Leistra
 To Watch Pastor Dave's Sermons Online

FACEBOOK

Sturgeon Bay United Methodist
 Church Page For Coffee With The Pastor
 &
 Bible Studies

**ZOOM INTERACTIVE BIBLE
 STUDIES AND MEETINGS**

For event times and access codes
 contact :

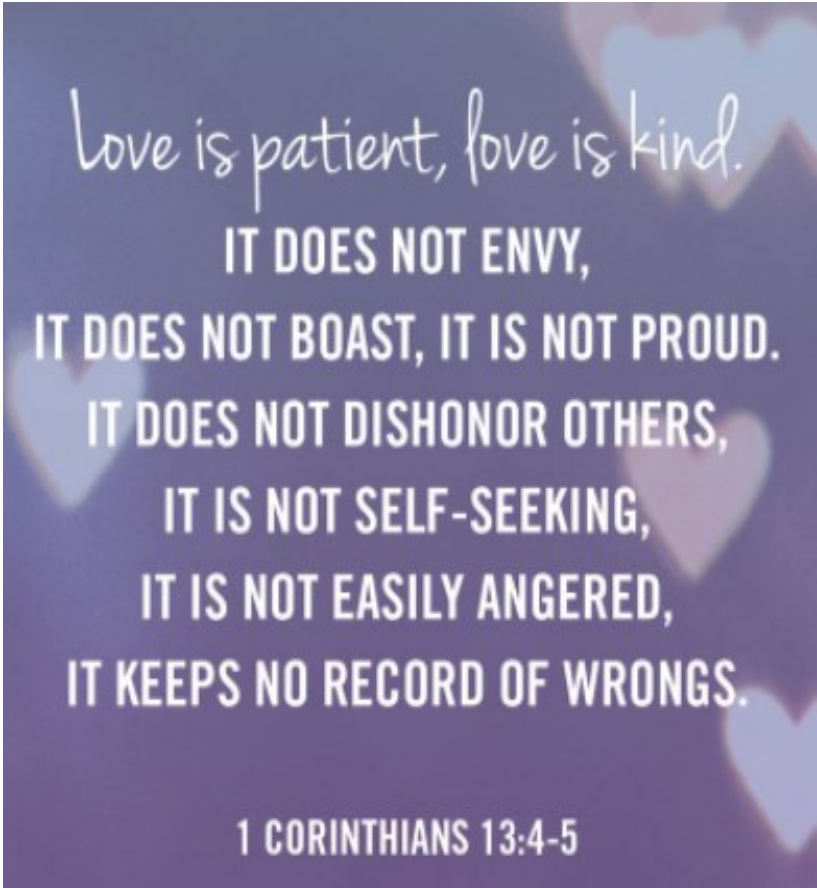
David Leistra, Pastor
pastorleistra@gmail.com
 Cell Phone 920-677-8607

WDOR Radio 93.9 FM 910 AM

Worship Service Sunday 9:30 AM

CHURCH OFFICE

Lorna Magliaro , Office Manager
church.office@sturgeonbayumc.org
 920-743-3241



FEBRUARY 2021 LETTER FROM PASTOR DAVE



Hello Friends,

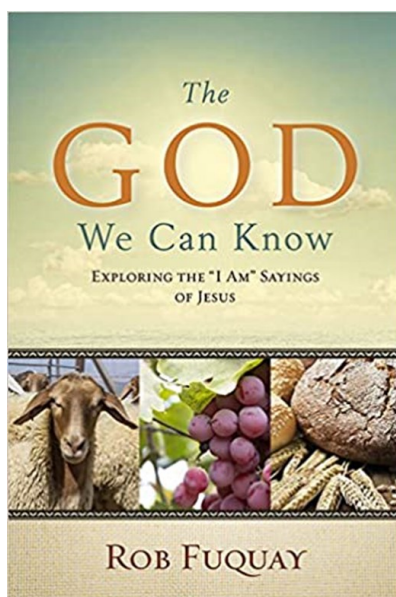
We begin the season of *Lent* on Wednesday, February 17th which is *Ash Wednesday*. During Lent this year we will be offering a study intitled “The God We Can Know” written by Rob Fuquay. This study will be available to you via a live Zoom Meeting starting Wednesday, February 24th at 6:30 p.m. The study will be held in conjunction with “Open Doors Ministry” which are two United Methodist Churches in Minnesota where my son Christopher is pastor. Christopher and I will be co-leading the study. I would encourage you to either order your copy of the study through the church office or acquire a copy from Amazon, Cokesbury, CBD, or whatever source you prefer as soon as possible. To register for the study we need to know your email address. Just email me at pastorleistra@gmail.com and indicate your desire to participate in this study.

Lent is a season where we are called upon to take a close look at what we genuinely believe about God, His Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Indeed, we are challenged to go beyond just making statements of faith but to look deeply within ourselves and examine what we believe in light of how we live our lives. This requires self-awareness which can be a difficult process to gain, however it is this very process that lies at the heart of *Regeneration* that is an aspect of God’s saving grace. Through the process of *Regeneration* which follows our *Justification* (that moment we experience salvation) that we grow in our faith through discipleship of Jesus Christ. Many people have sought ways to aid them in their growth of self-awareness during the season of Lent through self-denial bringing one’s attention to the self. Another means to do so is to set aside time each day to just think deeply about what you believe about God and what your faith means in how you live your life.

Letter From Pastor Dave....cont.

It is a time to reach out to God and seek the wisdom only God offers that will open one's eyes to their own truth. It is an inherently personal and individual work that may seem uncomfortable at first but is vital to our growth as disciples of Jesus Christ. No one can do this work for you, but we all have a willing partner in that process of coming to self-awareness in the Holy Spirit. It is the very work God began within each of us when we came to faith. The Christian religion has many practices and rituals that are designed to call us to do this work, some of which may even help one's growth in self-awareness. However, without a concerted effort on our part to look deeply within ourselves and see ourselves in consideration of what Jesus teaches about human nature we will be hamstrung in our efforts to grow in self-awareness; worse yet without such self-knowledge we will be greatly inhibited in following the Way that is the Lord himself. The reason being that It is through recognizing how sin has entered every aspect of our lives thus inhibiting our relationship with God, and in how powerless we are without God's help to overcome it, Ironically, we discover the means to combat our human nature's tendency toward sin and overcome it. This Lent I am inviting you in joining me in a time of self-reflection and an honest appraisal of what it is you genuinely believe. If we do so and with God's help, we then will be ready to face the Cross on *Good Friday* with integrity, and the Empty Tomb on *Easter Sunday* with true joy because the love and forgiveness that it signifies will be deeply embedded in our hearts and minds.

Blessings,
Pastor Dave



DID YOU KNOW WHO.....

- ◆ Served as liaison to community resources
- ◆ Exhibited excellent listening, communication, interpersonal and caring skills
- ◆ Possessed the ability to understand and communicate the relationship of body, mind and spirit to health
- ◆ Understood and was committed to the mission of fostering wellness in today's society
- ◆ Worked well with other professionals
- ◆ Promoted an understanding of the relationship between faith, lifestyle and health i.e. holistic health
- ◆ Identified needs and planned educational health programs and support groups for those in need
- ◆ Visited and organized visitations for congregation members in times of health related concerns
- ◆ Linked community resources to congregational needs
- ◆ Identified support groups that would meet the needs of the congregation and community
- ◆ Planned and presented (or found presenters) for support groups, exercise programs, and health education for Sunday School lessons as requested
- ◆ Visited the sick and shut-ins
- ◆ Presented health programs of interest from the pulpit on selected Sundays
- ◆ Attended Staff and Wellness Committee meetings
- ◆ Provided monthly educational health insights
- ◆ Graciously offered and gave her all for the care of our grateful congregation.



CAROL MOELLENBERNDT, that's who.

Sturgeon Bay United Methodist Church has been privileged to have Carol Moellenberndt on staff as our Parish Nurse for 18 years. We remember her actions, learned from her programs, and observed community members join her offerings.

Our gift to Carol is our sincere thanks and best wishes as she moves into retirement with her husband, Bob. We can each express appreciation personally as Carol continues to attend and volunteer as a church member. Carol has been a wonderful gift to us all.

We wish her well in retirement.

Submitted By,

Barb Bunning



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you dear church family and friends for your continuing acts of kindness and love, prayers, phone calls, beautiful cards with inspiring messages of support, and the memorial gifts so graciously given for our Krause family and in Jerry's name and honor. This support means a lot to me and to our family. We hope that we can have a memorial service on August 28, 2021 for Jerry. It is a tentative date depending on the status of Covid-19.

Nan Krause and the Jerry Krause family



And so much more!!!!!!

MISSIONS - This Month

Backpack Buddies from Feed My People



One program paid for by Feed My People is the Backpack Buddy Program. It is designed to provide food for children (Pre-K through 5th grade) living in low-income households. Lunch bags contain five items and are packed for delivery each week of the school year. Thirty percent of the food delivered is fresh fruit: apples and mandarin oranges. But other items might be pudding, fruit cups, a juice box, goldfish, pretzels, a granola bar, dried cherries, etc. The items other than fresh fruit will vary each week.

The Backpack Buddy program is very popular with families and school staff. There is a need being met. Volunteers feel satisfied in giving their time. They know that children facing food insecurity are receiving food. Six different school sites are served. Those sites are Sevastopol, Southern Door School and Head Start as well as in Sturgeon Bay: Sawyer, Sunrise and Sunset schools. Children must qualify for the federal standard for free or reduced lunch. The names of children/families is not shared with Feed My People. Schools share only the number of bags needed and whether any children have allergies.

The Backpack Buddy Program makes deliveries of the bags through the school year. Inside each bag are two slips of paper. One is a note of encouragement for the child. The other paper is a quarter sheet with health and wellness information for the parent. To encourage reading, the bag is stapled shut with a fun poem for the child to read on the outside of the bag. This program has been in operation for 12 years. The cost is about \$18,000. per school year. That cost is funded by Feed My People and generous individuals like you.

Thanks for Your Support.

Carol Krueger, Backpack Buddy Coordinator

ALL MISSION GIVING 2020	YTD Total Gifts 2020
Backpack Buddies	\$997.00
Boys/Girls Club Bus	\$1,530.00
CROP	\$5.00
Café Joy Breakfast Program	\$578.50
Food Walk	\$850.00
Etta Projects Bolivia	\$0.00
Golden Cross	\$50.00
Halloween Fund	\$1,270.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$615.00
Human Relations Day	\$50.00
"J" Walkers Mission	\$1,036.00
Lend a Hand	\$775.23
Mittens & Blankets	\$534.00
Mujilla Falls Agricultural Center	\$480.00
Native American Sunday	\$50.00
Neighbor to Neighbor	\$440.00
One Great Hour	\$50.00
Peace with Justice	\$50.00
Shoe Box	\$210.00
Senior Citizen Ministry	\$250.00
Student Day	\$50.00
Women's Fund Door County	\$767.00
World Communion	\$50.00
YTD Total Missions 2020	\$10,687.73

PRAYER & PRAISE REPORT



Prayer List	
Please pray for the family of Jerry Slavik who passed away peacefully at Sturgeon Bay Health Services on January 22, 2021.	
Please pray for Steve & Donna Asher as well as their family. Donna's sister Arelene Peterson passed away on January 13, 2021.	
Doris Kniffin	Jim and Shirley Talmadge
Evelyn Mueller	Jerry Wick
Barb Riederer	Dottie Haviland
Dick & Dottie Shappell	Dorothy Berg
Phyllis Swagel	Vernon Augustine
Michael Olson	Dianne Benishek
Jan Haertel	Marjorie Gambrel
Walter Alvin	Esther Eshelman
Edith Wilber	Elva Spetz
Praise Report	
Lynn Burlo recovering nicely from back surgery. Thankful for prayers.	

A SENIOR'S PRAYER FOR CORONA VIRUS

I'm Shirley Bachelder and I live at the Steeplechase in Tennessee. I'm going to be 99 in the next couple of weeks. I wanted to report about this evil that is inhabiting the world. So this is my little prayer.



Dear Lord and Father of us all, Even by another name, we now know you as God, Ruler of the World and Creator of the Universe and our own Special Father. Hear our prayers. Hear the prayers of seniors, staff, workers and families at Steeplechase, Franklin, Tennessee. Hide us in the shadow of your wings. Make the fortress of our God our safety.

Let us not be weary in loving one another, of taking precautions, of praying each day and praising you. You have control of even this evil day. Be with those desperate souls trying to fathom what they can do to kill the nucleus. Give comfort to those who panic easily. And make the days go quickly.

Let us not forget to pray, not only for ourselves, but for those lonely people who are overwhelmed, and those who meet resistance in their work to overcome this disease. Help us not to be anxious about the future. Help to know that, in spite of all the negative vibes, that you are still able. In each life that my voice reaches, be assured that the least among us that the coronavirus will be overcome. That those who die will find a loving hand to guide them to the promised Heaven. They will not be alone, but will have joy unspeakable.

Bless us here, we ask humbly, not because we deserve it but because we are your people and the sheep of your pasture.



With love, Shirley.

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP JUNG

They have treated the wound of my people carelessly, saying, 'Peace, peace', when there is no peace. (Jeremiah 6:14)

What has happened last month in our country is a tragedy. What has happened in our country today is unacceptable. I am not talking about politics, but it is difficult to comment on this without sounding political, and I know there are many good, loving, and kind Trump supporters, but the violence and aggression in our nation's capital today is an unfortunate mark on the conscience and reputation of the United States of America. It came from those who were unhappy with the election and the will of the American people. But no matter the motivation or the intention, there is nothing defensible about the behavior today in Washington DC.



Now is the time for Christians to set aside political allegiance to be Christians first and foremost. Followers of Jesus Christ are people of peace and justice. Followers of Jesus Christ are healers and reconcilers. Followers of Jesus Christ offer hope and kindness. We are not a people of hate or division or violence.

Jesus said, "Blessed are the peace makers, for they are the children of God" (Matthew 5:9). As children of God, we MUST be peace makers. We must be peace builders. We must be peacekeepers. As some in our country lose and violate the understanding of what the United States is, our Christian witness must oppose in every way violence and aggression that threatens to destroy what is good and just. We are called to stand as light in the darkness.

Violence is never the answer. Attack and destruction and threat of physical harm is never the answer. Love is the answer (and God is love). Pray for peace, but also commit to work for peace. Be a peace maker, a peace builder, a peacekeeper. Pray for our country, pray for our leaders, pray for our people.



Door County Medical Center

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HOSPITAL SISTERS HEALTH SYSTEM

COVID-19 Vaccinations For 65 and Over

On January 19, 2021, the State of Wisconsin approved Phase 1B of the COVID-19 distribution plan and announced that all individuals 65 years of age and older may begin receiving COVID-19 vaccinations as of January 25, 2021. Door County residents who are 65 years of age and older should visit this web site:

<https://www.dcmmedical.org/covid19>

Here you will be able to fill out the online form to register your name. A Door County Medical Center representative will contact you by phone to schedule the vaccination. If you require assistance in completing the form, please reach out to family member, friends, neighbors, or your church office to assist in filling out the form on your behalf.



Wisconsin Conference

The United Methodist Church

All are invited to:

BISHOP'S CONVOCATION OF LAITY LEADERSHIP 2021

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Virtual Event

Saturday, March 20, 2021

9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

- 9:30 AM Welcome and opening remarks ~ Deanna Shimko, Conference Lay Leader
- 9:40 AM Bishop Hee-Soo Jung and Extended Cabinet introductions
Conference Lay Leader and Conference Board of Laity
- 10:00 AM Opening worship
- 10:25 AM Break
- 10:35 AM Introduction of Lisa Wink, Director of Communications
- 10:40 AM Who Is My Neighbor? Bible study ~ Bishop Hee-Soo Jung
- 11:50 AM Lunch (Announcements scroll on screen during lunch)
- 1:00 PM Town Hall: A Forum for Questions and the Exchange of Ideas to Help
Navigate COVID-19 ~ Presenters: members of Bishop Jung's COVID-19 Task
Team
- 2:15 PM Break
- 2:30 PM Radical Hospitality ~ Presenters: members of Bishop's Task Force
- 3:20 PM Remarks and Closing Blessing
- 3:30 PM Adjournment

Registration deadline is March 19, 2021 at noon.

Register now at: <https://wisconsin-reg.brtapp.com/>