

BEACON July 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
Sunday Afternoons

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

Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM
1 Week Delay

Public Access TV on Channel 989 Sunday Worship Service

Wednesdays at 8 a.m. and PM and Sundays
at noon and 3 PM 1 Week Delay

CHURCH OFFICE

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



JULY 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 7/4/21 8:30 AM Worship Service Jacksonport
- 7/4/21 10:00 AM Worship Service Sturgeon Bay
- 7/7/21 1:00 PM Parkinson Support Group
- 7/11/21 8:30 AM Worship Service Jacksonport
- 7/11/21 10:00 AM Worship Service Sturgeon Bay
- 7/14/21 8:00 AM PEO Meeting
- 7/15/21 6:00 PM Quilting Group
- 7/18/21 8:30 AM Worship Service Jacksonport
- 7/18/21 10:00 AM Worship Service Sturgeon Bay
- 7/20/21 9:00 AM PEO Meeting
- 7/25/21 8:30 AM Worship Service Jacksonport
- 7/25/21 10:00 AM Worship Service Sturgeon Bay



JULY 2021 LETTER FROM PASTOR DAVE



Hello friends,

I have asked the members and friends of our two churches to be engaged in praying together for a breakthrough of the Holy Spirit into our life as the church. The words of this prayer are: ***“Mighty and Holy God, I know all things are possible through you. I ask that you show we the people of Sturgeon Bay and Jacksonport United Methodist Churches the way to flourish in our lives as disciples of your Son Jesus, and to be fruitful in your mission for us. Amen.”*** What I have asked is that you incorporate this prayer into your daily prayers, or if you do not practice daily prayer that you use this prayer to begin doing so. The reason for this is that each of our churches are at a critical time. The pandemic sped up a trend that has been troubling all Christian Churches in our nation. It is a trend toward people no longer being involved in the life of their church, or any church. We have seen a dramatic rise in those who claim to be spiritual but not religious. By this they generally mean that they believe in God and perhaps understand Jesus to be the Savior of humanity, but do not feel the need for organized religion to live into such belief. However, the reason Christians are religious, and church (a community of believers) is necessary, is precisely because we are spiritual! You see Jesus recognized that for his followers to remain intricately connected to him they would need each other. Hence, he said “where two or more are gathered in my name there I am among them.” Christ’s mission is both for each of us individually and all of us collectively. As an individual Christian we are called upon to love God with all that we are (worship/prayer, spiritual practices, etc.), and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves (acts of love and justice and remaining in peaceful relationships with all). As a community of believers, we are to act together in carrying the Gospel to the ends of the earth so that all will have the opportunity to know the love of God in their own lives and enter a relationship with Jesus as their personal, and humanities, Savior. These aspects of discipleship can only be accomplished in community. The purpose of the breakthrough prayer is as a community to ask God’s intervention into the life of our church to help us to become a people where these acts of discipleship are common to all and natural in our fellowship. The days are coming, and are here in many places in the world, where our lives as Christians in the twenty-first century will have more in common with those who lived in the first century than in the twentieth century when most of us grew-up. We will be faced with challenges that are not technical and therefore will require us to adapt. We United Methodist are experts in dealing with technical challenges, however not so much so when the challenges require adaptation.

Cont...

July 2021 LETTER FROM PASTOR DAVE cont....

It will take all of us working together to meet the new challenges the rapidly changing world will present to us in the months and years to come.

It will take our being connected to our faith in the power of God to make things happen when it seems there are limited or no options available to us. We will need to keep faith with one another, as well as, supporting each other in living within the mission of Christ to which we are all called. We will need to do so without regard to the politics of the world that will only cause disunity which will divert us from God's will for our journey of a common discipleship. I implore you to pray to God for the breakthrough of the Holy Spirit into the life of our churches. I believe our two churches working together have a vital role to play in God's mission here in Door County. These next couple of years will tell the story and set the stage for what will be our future for several years to come. Will it be a story of faithfulness to the mission of Christ and of experiencing flourishing in our lives and seeing fruitfulness in the mission we are called to? That remains to be seen and will only be true if we as a community stay true to our calling. Please join me in praying for a breakthrough of the Spirit and be in anticipation of what God will do with and through us.

May you and your family have a wonderful 4th of July, and may this summer be a blessing for us all,

Pastor Dave

UPDATE ON THE JACKSONPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our services are held at 8:30 AM outside (weather permitting) or inside the church if the weather isn't cooperating. If you are highly susceptible to the COVID-19 virus, or are showing COVID-19 symptoms, please stay home and worship on-line with the SBUMC services. If not, please join us - remember that masks are mandatory (we have extras) and social distancing is required when we worship in the church. We have hand sanitizer and some chairs/benches. If you have a favorite chair, please bring it.

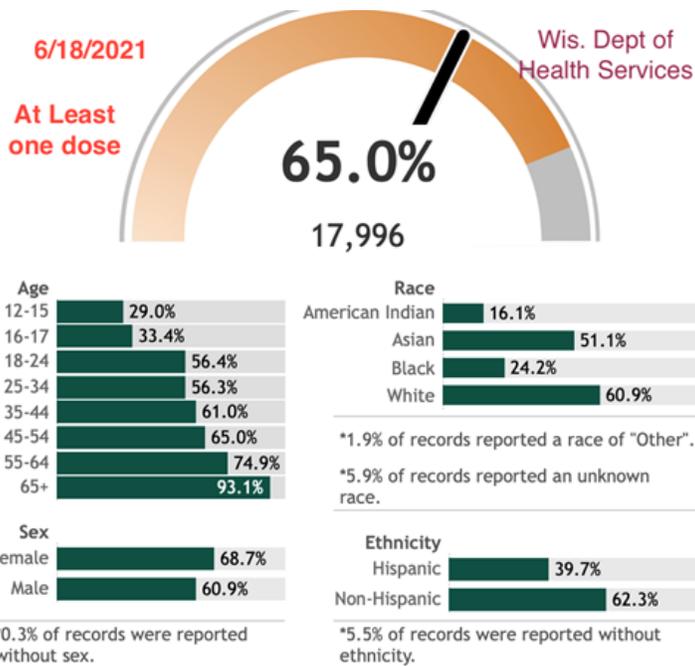
We pray the severity of the outbreak continues to lessen, and we pray for our brothers and sisters who are impacted by this virus. Please remember the Jacksonport UMC in your giving, as we need to cover our fixed costs of the church.

The Love of our Lord Jesus Christ upon you and your family.

Paul Schumacher

ARE WE ENTERING THE “OLD NORMAL OR THE NEW NORMAL”? By Dr. Rod Krueger

We have a lot to celebrate living in Door County. Case Activity for COVID-19 has improved to “medium” and over the last two weeks we have a Case Burden of 28.5 per 100,000 population. Cases remain steady but at a low rate and no new cases have been reported since 6/9/21. One of the most encouraging bits of news is that we as a county have the highest rate of vaccinations in the state. 65% of people eligible to receive the vaccine have gotten at least one dose and 61.5% are fully vaccinated. Over 91% of people over 65 years of age are fully vaccinated. Even in the youngest age group 12-15 years of age who recently became eligible to receive the vaccine, 20% are fully vaccinated. We owe a huge thank you to those in public health in our area who made that possible, and of course another thank you to those who have gotten vaccinated. I truly believe that this high level of people being vaccinated has had a significant impact on the decrease in viral activity in our area. There are a number of benefits if you get vaccinated.



The benefits of getting vaccinated?

- High probability of not getting COVID-19 if you do get COVID, low risk for hospitalization or death.
- You help protect vulnerable people around you.
- The vaccines are SAFE and EFFECTIVE.
- Vaccination is a key step in stopping the pandemic.
- Current vaccines offer protection against all variants of SARS-COV-2.
- Vaccination is a safer and better way to achieve immunity.
- If you are fully vaccinated you no longer need to wear masks or social distance in most settings.

What are the implications of not getting vaccinated?

- You are vulnerable in getting COVID-19, and this is the group now being infected.
- New variants such as “Delta” appear to be more highly infective and may cause a more serious infection with a greater risk to require hospitalization and potential death.
- You allow the virus to survive and continue the pandemic.
- To be safe and to help prevent others from being infected, you will need to wear a mask and practice social distancing in public settings.
- If you do get COVID and survive or have few symptoms, your immune response may not be as effective in preventing a recurrent infection as it would be if you were vaccinated.

Our church has now opened again and people are welcome to attend. We want to be as safe as possible. We ask that people who feel sick not attend. We also recommend that you wear a mask at this time. We do this for the following reasons:

- Not all people are fully vaccinated or can be vaccinated at this time.
- Some people who are vaccinated may not be capable of mounting a sufficient immune response.
- Pastor Dave in his “Coffee with the Pastor” message of June 9th said the following: “ In the Christian church we believe love your neighbor as you love yourself. Who is your neighbor? Whoever you encounter, so why would you not act in a way that would put someone’s safety above your own comfort. What discomfort did Jesus experience for our benefit? As Christians we need to think about this and not let something like wearing a mask or not wearing a mask separate us.”

Being in Door County in the summer of 2021 is a wonderful place to be if you think about the old normal or consider the new normal. This is truly nature’s air conditioned wonderland. It is also relatively safe as we move through this pandemic. But we need to be a bit cautious. There are many places in our country where vaccination rates are much less than 50%. There also many countries in the world who are in the midst overwhelming infections with COVID-19. We will not be safe from the potential ill effects of this virus until the world is also safe and that time unfortunately is well into the future. The Delta variant is a reminder of the potential danger that exists. Right now in Door County we are in a good place and the new normal is a whole lot better than where we were before. We need to help each other to be safe. We need to advocate for reaching out to the rest of the world to get the assistance needed to bring this pandemic to an end.

TRUSTEE PROJECTS CONTINUED THROUGH COVID By Mark Holey, Chair of Trustees

Though the pandemic shutdown of the building and most activities at church, the following projects were still able to be completed during COVID.

- New paint freshened up the following areas - Fellowship Hall, hallways, roof soffit, and carport.
- Electrical outlets were replaced in Fellowship Hall.
- Tiles at doorways to the back kitchen and janitor room were replaced to remove the tripping hazard that had developed.
- Our church's mission statement was redone and spruced up.
- The audio-visual system was tuned up.
- Touchless soap and paper towel dispensers were installed to reduce germ spread in the main bathrooms.
- After the cold snap in February the boiler pipes froze (but did not break) and had to be repaired on an emergency basis and heat tape installed.
- The furnace pump for the Marshall House was replaced.
- A new hose bib was installed on the north side of building.
- The kitchen refrigerator ice maker is now operational after a water line was installed.
- No-mow grass was installed in parking lot strips to minimize mowing costs.

FLAT ROOF REPAIR STARTED JUNE 21, 2021 By Mark Holey, Chair of Trustees

Three companies were invited to bid on fixing the roof leaks that occur after most rains and Security Luebke Roofing from Appleton was awarded a contract for \$10,377 to complete required repairs. The project is expected to last three days and began on Monday, June 21. Issues that will be addressed include repairing metal edge where needed, open laps and seams, failed patches, wet insulation, sealing leaks in chimneys, repair gutters, loose fascia, and clogged gutters. The current project should eliminate the leaks that cause current problems of stained ceiling ties and walls, until a new roof is required.

Trustees evaluated installing a new roof versus repair and decided to repair the roof at this time. The repair job is expected to protect against leaks for 5-7 years. Security Luebke Roofing provided a comprehensive review of all church roofs and concluded that the shingled roof over the Fellowship Hall will need to be replaced in 5-7 years and over the church sanctuary in 8-10 years. Total replacement of all roofs will likely need to be addressed in 5-10 years at an estimated cost in today's dollars of \$125,000. At that time the flat roof area will be replaced with a membrane roof with a guaranteed life expectancy of 20-25 years.





MISSIONS Mission of the Month Pastoral Fund

You may be wondering what the Pastor's Emergency Fund is. It is a fund where, as the pastor, I can go to provide financial assistance to those experiencing some financial crisis. While their use is at my discretion, I have sought out advice of others before using the funds when they are larger in amount. However, the identity of the person being helped is known only to me and the treasurer who writes out the check. This account, like all the accounts of the church, is subject to audit each year. Because of the limited amount of funds available, in my time here these grants have been in amounts less than \$1000, and most commonly have been around \$500 for such things as assistance in paying rent or utilities, medical bills, car repair, and car maintenance. As I was told years ago these funds are available only for members and people with a direct connection to the church. With the long-term financial effects of the pandemic still unknown we may see a growing need for such funds in the months and even years to come. For example, the moratorium on paying rent and mortgages for those unable to do so because of loss of employment during the pandemic is coming to an end this October without further action of the federal government. There maybe folks in our church for whom this will mean needed help as they try to become current in back rent. We simply do not know. In general, when someone has approached the church for assistance, and they are not a member/friend or connected to the church we have directed them to the hospital social workers who have access to funds and guidance. For those connected to the church we have provided information on help available in the community where appropriate and have provided financial assistance by paying in-part or in-whole their liability provided they brought us a bill/invoice. We very seldom never write a check to an individual. For all who come to the church seeking help, and regardless of a connection to the church, we retain a few prepaid cards for gas and groceries in the office. These are small in value 20 or 25 dollars and are just to help someone with an immediate need. We keep track of those so helped and limit the number of times they can receive such help to two to three times per year. We would like to build this fund up so that we are well positioned to be able to help should there be a greater need in these next several months as we come out of the time of pandemic.

MONTHLY MISSION GIVING 2021	
January - UMCOR Covid 19 Response Fund	\$705.00
February - Backpack Buddies	\$480.00
March - "J" Walkers	\$480.00
April - Midwest Mission Dist. Center	\$430.00
May - Restoring Hope Transplant House	\$505.00
June - Boys/Girls Club Bus	\$425.00
July - Pastoral	
August - Door County Habitat For Humanity	
September - Food Walk	
October - Mujilla Falls Agricultural Center	
November - Open	
December - Mittens & Blankets	
2021 Monthly Missions YTD Total	\$3,025.00



2021 Monthly Missions:

- **January** - UMCOR Covid -19 Response Fund (Don Z)
- **February** - Backpack Buddies (Carol Krueger)
- **March** - "J" Walkers (Angel Roig)
- **April** - Midwest Mission Dist. Center (Ken Boettcher)
- **May** - Restoring Hope Transplant House (Don Z)
- **June** - Boys & Girls Club food program (Dave and Lee Ann Casper)
- **July** - Pastoral Fund (Pastor Dave)
- **August** - Door County Habitat for Humanity
- **September** - Food Walk (Ken Boettcher)
- **October** - Mujilla Falls Agricultural Center (Nan Krause)
- **November** - (open) probably a child day-care program in Sturgeon Bay - (Jeanne Barnard will research)
- **December** - Mittens & Blankets (Colleen Elliott)

Some suggestions/ideas for future missions held in reserve: Sunshine House, Habitat for Humanity, Loaves & Fishes, UMCOR Native American program, Honduras Medical Center, Etta Dental project, & Community clinic?

PRAYER requests

PRAYER LIST FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING & COMFORT

Please pray for Susan Pfannenstiel who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS WHO ARE HOME-BOUND OR ILL

Elly Hoague	Jeanne Barnard
Jim and Shirley Talmadge	
Evelyn Mueller	Jerry Wick
Barb Riederer	Dottie Haviland
Dick & Dottie Shappell	Dorothy Berg
Phyllis Swagel	Vernon Augustine
Tom Pontzloff	Dianne Benishek
Jan Haertel	Marjorie Gambrel
Walter Alvin	Elva Spetz
Edith Wilber	Doris Kniffin

UMC CAMPING & RETREAT MINISTRIES

WIUM Camps are planning and preparing for the 2021 summer camp season and are currently hiring summer staff. Positions include Camp Counselors, Support Staff, and Healthcare Coordinators. If you know of people who may be suited for these roles, please encourage them to apply at <https://wiumcamps.org/about-us/employment/>



Visit wiumcamps.org for the latest information regarding COVID-19 and summer camp. They are offering many resources for families and children. Nick Coenen, Camp Director at Pine Lake Camp and Retreat Center, is posting thoughtful prayers and camp-based activities for children at <https://www.facebook.com/pinelakeumc> and <https://www.facebook.com/lakelucernecamp>

.United Methodist Camp & Retreat Ministry members from around the country are contributing to <https://Virtualdaycamp.wixsite.com/umcrn> Each day, campers can log in and follow a day camp session.

JULY OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES IN DOOR COUNTY—MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!



- **July 3rd Egg Harbor Harbor View Park** - Live music (Modern Day Drifters, 5-9:30 PM), food & refreshments (4-10 PM), and fireworks (dusk)
- **July 3rd Baileys Harbor** - Festivities all weekend! With a parade on the 4th (10 AM), arts & crafts, live music, food and drinks, and more. Overflow parking at the Rec Park, with a free trolley to downtown (8 AM - 3 PM)
- **July 4th Downtown Gills Rock Ellison Bay** Food & refreshments (5 PM), live music (6-9 PM), boat regatta (7 PM), and fireworks (dusk).
- **July 4th Sunset Park Sturgeon Bay** - Join the 4th of July fun and festivities! Food and drinks available beginning at PM along with live music by Unity leading up to a spectacular firework display at dusk
- **July 9th - 11th Belgian Days** - Brussels Town Park, 1366 Junction Road 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM
- **July 10 Freedom Fest Sister Bay**

SUNSHINE HOUSE - Day Service Activities for Seniors



Sunflower Cottage provides Day Services for individuals that are diagnosed with Parkinson's, Alzheimer's or Dementia. Their private, home-like setting provides a peaceful atmosphere to provide the comfortable feeling of home, with their own kitchen, restroom and living area to relax by the fireplace. Compassionate care-givers assist in ensuring participants have a comfortable and meaningful day. Each individual has activities throughout the day planned that provides personal enjoyment. This can range from assembling puzzles, taking walks, gardening, reading and cooking. For more information call Jennilee Jorgenson 920-818-1452 or email at: jjorgenson@sunshinehouseinc.org

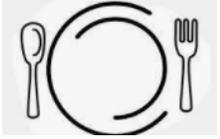
“Creating More Housing) is a key Mayor Priority.” Sturgeon Bay Mayor David Ward doesn’t vote unless a tie-breaker is needed, so he conceded during the Sturgeon Bay Common Council’s second meeting of the year that he needs to convince the rest of the council members that the things he wants to commit to in 2021 are worthy of priority attention. That was his preamble to listing the top-five things he told the council he’d like them to focus on:



1. Reopen and recover from the pandemic. Ward said a lot of local businesses have made it through so far, and there’s another round of federal Payroll Protection Plan money now being distributed. At the city level, he said they did what they could to help businesses, and they should make it a priority to do that again this year.
2. Create more housing. “We continue to hear from employers that the number one barrier to employment is housing,” Ward said, “that their workers can’t find housing.”
3. Build and fund sidewalks. Ward said he wants to not only create more sidewalks, but also find the money to build them. “Assessments are not popular,” he said.
4. Build the commercial tax base. He said that will help to alleviate the tax burden on residential properties.
5. Engage in water research. UW-Green Bay will be selecting one or more locations to conduct estuary research.

“I think Sturgeon Bay is an ideal place for a water-research facility,” Ward said. Green Bay is one of the largest fresh-water estuaries in the world, and Sturgeon Bay would be competing with places such as Marinette and Green Bay. But Ward has put together a small group that will start building relationships and looking at what it would take to compete. “This is a way to draw university interest not only from the Wisconsin system but a variety [of organizations] that are interested in water research,” he said. “In order to play the game, you have to drive a stake in the ground and say, ‘This is what we want to do.’ So this is what I want to do this year.” By Debra Fitzgerald, Door County Pulse,

As you know, the coronavirus situation here in Door County is still ever-changing and our plans are always subject to change. Additionally, we appreciate your understanding and patience as we continue to gradually open our doors and welcome everyone back in a safe and healthy manner. The following information are our plans for reopening throughout of the month of June. We are excited to announce that we are planning on resuming in person meals at every meal site starting on Monday, June 7th. This of course is a tentative start date and is subject to change. Space for each in person lunch will be limited to 30 people at first and reservations will be required. Seating will also be limited per table. Because space is limited for each meal, initially we are only allowing individuals the ability to reserve one in person meal a week and only for two weeks at a time. We are limiting the in person meal reservations so that everyone will have a chance to dine in person. We know that individuals are ready and excited to come back, eat with friends but we ask that you work with us as we continue to work out all of the many details and logistics. Thank you!



WE ARE STILL SERVING CARRYOUT MEALS! If you call and are unable to reserve an in person lunch for a particular day, please reserve a carryout meal instead. Pick up time for the carryout meals: 11:15 AM to 11:45 AM.

We will continue to schedule, coordinate and welcome back small in person activities and programs. Preregistration is still required for all activities, classes and programming. Class sizes are limited. Please call (920)7462372 to register. We ask that all participants and visitors continue to do their part in supporting efforts against this pandemic. We are grateful that over 56% of Door County residents have chosen to be vaccinated.

Taken from the ADRC June Newsletter. Article by Jake Erickson, Director