

Wesley United Methodist Church
4600-60th Street
Kenosha, WI 53144



Love God
Welcome All
Serve Everyone

The People of the
United Methodist Church
FEBRUARY 2024

Ministers: All members and friends
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Grace Cajjuat
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Custodian: Jean Thompson
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COME WORSHIP WITH US!

Sunday Worship: 9:00
Livestream 9:00 also available anytime
Phone: 262.654.8122
Email: wesleyumc@kenoshawesley.org
Web Site: www.kenoshawesley.org
www.facebook.com/kenoshawesley

February 2024

GoodNews

Love God · Welcome All · Serve Everyone

Melodies of Compassion



Faith hope and love’s mission is to build faith, hope and love in the lives of children in crisis through their Duffels for Kids, Camp Hope and Operation Christmas Cheer programs across Wisconsin, in an effort to reach as many children in crisis situation as possible. They are constantly exploring and testing a variety of new programs to achieve this goal. Over the years it has become more and more apparent that there is a great need in Wisconsin, and it doesn’t go away. It only continues to grow. It is their hope to work towards closing that gap so no child is left without being provided basic health and wellness.

Look for upcoming details about having a service day for Faith, Hope and Love, our 1st quarter melody. We will be packing hygiene bags for the children whom they serve.

A VIEW FROM THE PEW

Happy Lent!

A pretty odd combination, right? We've been raised to regard Lent, not as a time to celebrate, but to reflect and repent of our sins and to fast. The custom of sacrifice and repentance, launched with an imposition of ashes to remind us that we are but dust, and to dust we shall return is a somber one, and it is a good thing to remember our failings. That we are not perfect and that we are in need of Jesus to save us, of God to forgive us, of the Spirit to redeem us.

The word "Lent" itself, is derived from the Old English word "lencten" for "springtime", and was meant to remind people that days were lengthening, the world was coming back to life. Lent was not meant to be a sad season, but a reminder that we are indeed forgiven, or again using the Old English, "shrove".

The day before Lent begins was a time for feasting and celebration. All the luxury foods that people in medieval times wouldn't eat during Lent were consumed. Given that those foods include eggs, milk and fat – ingredients for pancake batter – it is clear why it became traditional to make pancakes! In the UK, the day is known as Shrove Tuesday. It is only proper that a saved and forgiven people celebrate, so take some time and eat a stack of pancakes, as you remember that are saved in Jesus.

The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. The original purpose of lent was a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians.

This year, Shrove Tuesday is February 13, and Lent will start with Ash Wednesday on the 14th. We will be observing the occasion with a service at 6PM, at which time we will be imposing Ashes as we begin our time of preparation for the coming Easter. Come join with your brothers and sisters in Christ as we remember who we are, both as sinners and as forgiven.

Alan Mulroy,

Lay Leader

In the Bleak Midwinter, January 2024

By Christie Hansen

As I look out my window in mid- January, the Christmas Hymn, "In the Bleak Midwinter" sang in my head. The words of Christina Rossetti spoke to me. "Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow". I like the song, but I also know that Jesus was not born in cold snowy weather. And we didn't even have snow this year for Christmas. Halloween was colder and had more snow, actually. But that is not the point of the song, of course.

The cold, however, did hit fast after the turn of the new year, that is for sure. "The earth stood hard as iron." Going outside in the bitter cold temps of this past January, can make you feel like something metal hit your face. She could have written the song this past week.

But the other part of Rossetti's poem also spoke to me, "What can I give him, poor as I am?" And it goes on to say a shepherd would bring a lamb, and wise man obviously has something. But what could she give the Christ Child? "Give my heart." Ends the song. Which brings us, of course, to the point.

This time of year can bring us down. The iron cold wind and snow upon snow, can just seem unrelenting. Not to mention, those who get depressed after the holidays, winter is tough.

I often think of those who have no place to rest, or those who have to work in the cold. Lately, too, I have been thinking of the immigrants that have been dropped off in the cold Chicago winter with no warm clothes or shelter. How will they survive? The answer is sadly many won't.

We who are blessed enough to have a home, or who work in a nice warm office, or have the benefit of being born in this country, should spare a thought and prayer for those who are out there in the cold.

Jesus came to bring his kin-dom to earth, we are his people who have given our heart. Now we must let our warm light of faith shine to all who need it. We must do the work Jesus commissioned us to do. Help the sick, feed the hungry, and be a friend to those who have none. And even though "In the Bleak Midwinter" is a traditional Christmas song, we can be inspired by it whenever the snow is upon snow and the cold iron wind is blowing something fierce.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake with Bacon Supper

Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 6 PM

Please join the Nurture Committee for a Pancake with Bacon Supper on Shrove Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 6 PM to kick-off the Lenten Season.

Shrove Tuesday is one of the Methodist traditions at the beginning of Lent, which starts on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Methodists will spend that Tuesday in self-reflection of what wrongs they have done in the past year, and what changes they are going to make in their life and spiritual growth. All of this is done by asking God for His help in making these changes. Shrove Tuesday is all about confession and absolution. During the Pancake Dinner, we will pray for each other to have the strength and dedication to make these changes. The Pancake Dinner will allow us to have a fun time together before the start of Lent, which is a somber time in the church year, a time of sacrifice and engaging in spiritual disciplines such as fasting and praying, Pancakes are used on Shrove Tuesday as they are a great way of using up rich items in your pantry (eggs, milk, sugar, maple syrup, and powdered sugar) which many people give up for Lent. During Lent Christians around the world choose to eat simple food and/or refrain from pleasurable food.

**There is a sign up sheet on the Nurture Bulletin Board.
We hope to see many of you at the dinner.**

2024 Lenten Bible Study

**Sundays: February 18th – March 24th OR
Tuesdays: Feb 20th – March 26th**

**We will be doing a Lenten Bible Study this year entitled
Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple.
The study will be done on Sunday and Tuesday evenings during Lent.
Please sign up for the study on the Nurture Bulletin Board.**

If you have any questions regarding the study, please contact
either Mary Borckardt (maryborckardt@gmail.com 214-714-6028) or
Alan Mulroy (amulroy@wi.rr.com 262-496-4589).
The cost of the book is \$13.99 or \$14.49 for the large print. If you have a financial
issue, we will cover the cost of the book for you. We do not want you to not participate
due to finances.

Everyone is welcome.



Betty Wolf
Bill Peche
Virginia Rodgers
Ellen Shumate
Ruth Callan

**Melodies of Compassion go to
Faith, Hope, and Love.**

*To keep our list updated, we will remove names
after 30 days. Please notify the office to place or
keep a name on the list. Thank you for your help
with this ministry.*



Ash Wednesday service will be
at 6:00 pm. On
Wednesday, Feb. 14.
Please join us and start your
Lent prayerfully.

A WORD (OR TWO) FROM THE TRUSTEES

The lock for the main entrance was changed in December and keys have
been distributed as needed. The office will have a key available for
temporary use as necessary.

If you need to schedule any activities or meetings in the building, please
check the calendar on the wall outside the office for availability. Also in-
form the office of your planned usage to help eliminate potential sched-
uling conflicts.

Several groups are sharing space in the 2 refrigerators and freezer in the
kitchen and the 1 upstairs. There is a need to identify who the food
belongs to so it doesn't get misused and it also determines when it needs
to be removed due to age. Labels will be available to be completed
which will identify the user, date it is put in the fridge and a date when it
should be removed. This should result in a more efficient use of space.

Thanks for your cooperation.
Any questions can be addressed to Bob Petersen

WESLEY YARNERS



The yarners will meet on Feb 1 at 10:00 am
And Feb. 8 at 10:00 am

If you would like to join our yarners but are unable to attend these dates or times please let me know and we can look at adding a date/time to these to be able to include you in fellowship while we do good for others.

Calling all Volunteers for Saturday Academy

There will be a training day for all those who would like to volunteer for Saturday Academy on Sat. Feb 24 from 9-10 am. This will be a meeting to discuss the schedule and jobs that we need help with and expectations. If you would like to help at Saturday Academy even if you have helped in the past, please attend the meeting as this is new. If you cannot make it to this meeting but would still like to help, please let Kathy Mulroy know so she can set up a meeting with you to go over the information with you. Thank you, Kathy Mulroy,

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you or anyone you know is in need of a prayer shawl, please let Kathy know so we can get them a prayer shawl so they can feel the comfort of God and those of the congregation and feel the love and prayers surround them in their time of need.

Please contact Kathy Mulroy at 262-942-1744 or
amulroy@wi.rr.com to get a prayer shawl.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



1	Ava Hansen	7	Kris Trumbo
6	Janie Khoury (80!)	8	Elise Hansen
10	Charli Valentine	11	Richard Boris
11	Virginia Westman	11	Lennie Hill
13	Candice Briscoe	17	Ruth Callan
14	Felicia Gaines	19	James Mulroy
18	Martha Mock	24	Gary Dreyer
22	Ellen Shuemate	24	Karen Lindsey
23	Brandon Trumbo	26	Arlene Maxwell
24	Ri Witer	27	Eleda Winther
26	Carina Kinczkowski	28	Alan Mulroy
		28	Kelli Prim



February Anniversaries

Happy 19th Anniversary on the 18h to
Pastor Grace & Chris Kerigstad!!

and

Happy Anniversary on the 19h to
Felicia & Carlton Gaines!!

THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The outreach committee members want to be like Jesus and be the hands and feet of Jesus and go out into the community and world at large to serve those in need.

The outreach committee plans and attends field trips of service. In the past we have gone to Feed My Starving Children to make food packs to go to feed families in poor countries in Africa and Europe. We have gone to Northcott Neighborhood house in Milwaukee, a Methodist funded mission to serve those who need help in Milwaukee. While we were there, we scrubbed the floor tiles and sorted donated clothing. We helped the ELCA in Kenosha by taking off wallpaper to prepare a couple rooms for painting, as examples of some field trips.

We maintain a **partnership** with Curtis Strange Elementary School, our neighborhood school which is 80% in poverty. We have monthly partnership meetings with members of the school leadership and determine the need for the children and help support the school in any way we can. We collect winter gear every year, underwear for Undie Sunday, school supplies before the school year starts and we adopt families at Christmas time and collect food and gifts for several families in need.

Saturday Academy We organize and support the school for Saturday Academy which is a voluntary partial school day for children who sign up from 9am-12pm and includes cooking breakfast and lunch, providing life skills and teacher support for the students for 1 month at a time twice a year, once in the month of March or April depending on Easter and then again in October. The teachers come in and teach supplementary skills. This has helped the students with enrichment which has helped the students bring up their grades in school.

The outreach team is also responsible for our volunteers who help at the Shalom Center **Soup Kitchen** on the first Saturday of the month. The volunteers serve food, and they also help prepare sandwiches for the meal for dinner.

The outreach committee also picks the **Melodies of Compassion** (loose plate) recipients for the year. The Melodies of Compassion uses donations and the loose change that is given in the offertory plate. We pick one local, state, national and international organization for the donations per year, one per quarter.

Our committee meets on Wednesdays at 6 pm. We pick the next meeting date at the end of the meeting, usually every 4-6 weeks depending on the activities that we have going on.

This is just what we currently do, the outreach committee is open to any other service projects in the future. If this sounds like you, we would love to have you join our committee.



United
Women
in Faith

UWF *Elizabeth* Circle will meet

on Tuesday, February 6th, 2024
at 9:30 a.m.

Hope to see you then!

UWF *Deborah* Circle will be
meeting on

Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 6:30 pm



Please remember to let the office know when you celebrate your birthday and/or anniversary. It is a wonderful thing to be recognized when something special is happening.

Consider them *Prayers of Joy* and the whole church can add to your happiness .



Wesley Day at the
Soup Kitchen is
Saturday, February 3



There are plenty of openings to fill for Saturday. Please either use the sign-up sheet on the Outreach bulletin board or you can contact Andrew Hansen at 262.705.5775 to let him know you will be there, or if you have any questions.



**FOOD
COLLECTION FOR THE
SHALOM CENTER FOOD PANTRY**

Arnold Parise delivered 30 lbs. of food to the Shalom Food Pantry.
Thank you for all of your donations. We will continue to collect non-perishable items , even during this latest shut down. You may drop them off anytime the office is open:
Monday—Friday 8—noon. Thank you!

Wesley Role Models of the Year 2023

Michelle Christensen



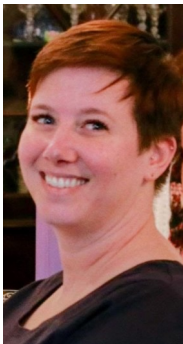
Michelle Christensen was chosen because of all that she brings to Wesley. She is, and has been for years, the lead on the SPRC, working with and for Pastor, Staff and Congregation. Her calm presence and listening skills are critical in that role. Michelle was the bridge between Wesley and Spirit Alive! as the new waters of 'landlord' were tested.

As a member of Outreach, Michelle not only brings good ideas, but she does the work—bringing each mission to its' successful conclusion. She spearheaded Feed My Starving Children, and we learned about the recipient of Melodies "The Underground Railroad" through her research. Clearly Michelle is a Role Model who we should emulate.

Well deserved Michelle! Thank you for all you do.

Cyndi Wolf

Cyndi's work as Finance Chair during Covid sealed her nomination for Role Model. Her knowledge of money and how to raise it via so many different fundraising events kept Wesley above water when no one was allowed to go to church. Cyndi has taken on leadership roles within the United Women in Faith and started a second circle here at Wesley that meets in the evening—for those women who want to participate, but still work outside the home.



Cyndi is seen each Sunday as a member of the assembly singers. And she is lead tenor for the annual Christmas Concert.

Cyndi you have *earned* the title of Role Model. Congratulations!

Jean Thompson



Jean Thompson touches every person here at Wesley. If you attend a service, there she is, playing her violin to help enhance your experience. If you've ever had a need for a pocket prayer, a hug that you can carry with you, or a need for something soft, cuddly, and crocheted—then you will have been gifted with it—made by Jeans' most talented needlework. Church Council meetings have a record of their meetings because Jean has been the secretary for many years.

Jean will step in at a moments notice if there is a need. Her MacGyver talent gets things done—from changing the church sign to fixing the pencil sharpener—and most everything in between. Every church needs a Jean—we are very glad we have her and happier that she is recognized as a Role Model. **Just be Jean!**

Congratulations!

**To our Incredible
Role Models!**

*Thank
You*

For all you do!