

2023—the Year to Step Up!!

Is this your year to resolve to be a better person? To show people what it means to be a team player in a larger group,? Is it time to Step Up and be more involved in your church? We all set resolutions at the beginning of a new year. We all strive to use our time more wisely and make all the minutes count. We are all given the same 60 minute hour. How will you spend your 60 minutes?

Each group at Wesley has someone who has 'taken over' and did what needed to be done. Some of those people are ready to be done with their tasks. Some have been doing these things for Years! We need new people to take over and do those things that need to be done.

- Organizing who brings the treat for Coffee Hour after service on Sundays
- Sending cards to people on their Birthdays
- Ushering each Sunday
- Changing the sign on 60th St. to reflect current events
- Becoming a liturgist
- Helping count the offerings after each service

God blessed you with gifts, skills, and experience. Thank him for those gifts by stepping up and giving back. There are so many opportunities to be more active at church. Make this be the year you Step Up and allow us to Count on You!

Each week in January there will be a place on the insert to let us know where you will help. You are also encouraged to email or call the office with the task that you are willing to do.

GRACE NOTE A New Year - A New Covenant

Happy New Year! OR I hope the year is better than the last! I think that's a more honest approach or wish to the coming year.

It's 2023 and we are still in the midst of recovering from what started in 2019, COVID 19, that has propelled lockdowns in 2020 and 2021. 2022 started promising with most people all over the world receiving vaccines to keep us from dying if we contracted the virus.

In my family, my siblings and I vowed to get together as soon as we could healthily see each other in person. And it happened! My brother and his wife and daughter came over to the US to visit my sister-in-law's sister in Seattle, Washington. We planned this grand reunion for five months with the siblings living in the US going to Washington to meet them. With all the precautions we made, we still were affected by the virus. My one sister who is not vaccinated was asked not to come. It was hard, but at the end, it was a good decision because she would have been infected and come out worse. She's still going for rehab and therapy for the three times she's had COVID.

I read an article recently by a psychologist and counselor who framed 2022 truthfully: we started the year with decreased and still low energy, still uncertain circumstances, and still in the midst of healing. We haven't really overcome or conquered the pandemic and the chaos of the political climate. I concur. Another article called it the "messy middle." And life is messy with so many uncertainties with health, finance, societal structures, political power abuse leading to violence and incivility.

In all of this, I am more convinced that God is needed, therefore, the church—US, the body of Christ, is needed to be relevant and compassionate and socially active to be the hands and feet of God. The call to covenant with God to make a difference, a good and just impact, to the world, is what is needed. We are called to be truthful with our witness and to see the world for what it is. But also to be the witness of goodness for what God created—a rich, diverse, beautiful, abundant blessing for ALL.

The world is still messy. But we can have and be peace and justice in the midst of the mess.

7 pray 2023 brings peace amid the messy middle. Pastor Grace



To Lana Frank-Krause and Jean Thompson for their generous donation of Poinsettias to beautify the church for Christmas! They added so much loveliness and color!

More Thanks from

Kathy Mulroy

I want to extend a big thank you to all who have helped the families of Curtis Strange, whether it was donating underwear, coats, hats, mittens, snowpants, boots, deodorant, school supplies, Christmas gifts, or food. It is very appreciated by the families who receive them and by the school staff. We are truly showing our Christian love by loving our neighbors.

Even More Thanks !!

With Deep Appreciation Pastor Grace and Chris Herigstad thank you so much for your gifts. They are humbled and grateful for your generosity.



Kairos Outside Ministry Program

Kairos Outside Ministry is a Christian program, although no religious affiliation is necessary to be a guest. Any 20-year old or older female whose life has been impacted by the incarceration of a loved one, or a woman who was unable to attend the Kairos Inside program while in prison, is eligible to attend Kairos Outside. The Kairos Outside weekend is a 2 1/2 day program based on a series of talks by volunteers designed to address the pain of enduring separation from the person inside and the judgment of the others from their community. Guests hear the talks in small "family" groups. The program is interspersed with music, prayer, and fun activities. This program helps women impacted by incarceration by providing a safe place to share; by offering unconditional love and acceptance in a Christian setting; by fostering spiritual growth and community; by promoting participation in small groups; by creating an opportunity for a relationship with God; and by women journeying together in small groups through SWAP (Share, Witness, Account & Pray) and reunion meetings after the weekend.

Wesley UMC has the opportunity to help with this ministry for the upcoming Kairos Outside Weekend #6 which will be held from Friday, April 21 - Sunday, April 23, 2023 at Spencer Lake Christian Center in Waupaca, WI:

* Purchase a meal ticket for \$10.00. The signed meal card will be placed at the place setting of a guest to show her that real people care about her. This is a great way to show her the love Christ has for her.

* Sponsor a guest for \$125.00. This signed room card will be placed on the door of the room where she will be staying to let her know you care. It will also show her just how much she matters and is loved by Christ.

* Color our Agape logo and write out a prayer or piece of scripture on it with just your first name on it to be posted all over the community room of the retreat so the guests will know they are being prayed for.

* Place a prayer and/or scripture on a strip of construction paper with just your first name on it. This will be added to many others that will be linked together into a prayer chain for the guests that will be in the community room.

One other way of supporting this ministry is by volunteering to serve on the team. Both women and men can serve on the support team in the kitchen, however, only women can serve on the team that is in the community room with the guests. If you are interested in serving on the team, please contact Mary Borckardt (she is the team leader for this weekend) and she will answer all of your questions. There are 5 training meetings prior to the weekend that will teach you the ropes.

Mary Borckardt has placed zip lock baggies on a Kairos Prison Ministry Table in the Narthex that has all of this information. She has included a self addressed envelope so you can mail the items to her. Checks should be made out to Kairos Outside of Eastern Wisconsin. You may contact her with any questions that you may have at (214) 714-6028 or at <u>maryborckardt@gmail.com</u>. Please find it in your hearts to help in at least one of these opportunities to show the love of Christ to others who may not know Him.

The Faithful Pig Keeper

Stewardship at Wesley

Thank You!

 What a wonderful year Wesley had! Thank you for giving of your <i>time, talents, and monetary gifts</i> to help our church grow and continue to reach our community in love! Our Curtis Strange family was blessed with our donations of school supplies, after school snacks, underwear, deodorant, Christmas gifts and two weeks of meals through the Christmas break. In addition, many gave their time and talents to help with the Saturday Academy. Thank you for your stewardship! Through the donations of time, talent, and items, our church was able to raise money through the rummage sale, Christmas Bazaar, and Cookie Walk. These funds were put toward our apportionments and helped with the gift donations for Curtis Strange. Thank you for your stewardship! Wesley was able to pay off our church mortgage so that we have more available funds for "everyday" expenses. With this debt relief, we were able to establish a Capital Maintenance fund (instead of Capital Improvement) to help with needed repairs and maintenance in our church and on our property. Without this, we would not have been able to install a new boiler to provide heat during these cold months. Thank you for your stewardship! Our quarterly Melodies of Compassion supported UMCOR and local ministries. Thank you for your stewardship! We are on track to end 2022 in the BLACK! We were able to stay within our budget and meet all our expenses. Thank you for your stewardship! As we move into 2023, let's keep on being "Faithful Pig Keepers" and act on our discipleship for the local and global ministries. Your sacrificial stewardship (of time, talents, and monetary gifts) has made mission possible. We strongly encourage each one of us to complete the Commitment of Estimated Giving, which will help us develop a roadmap to answering our expected income, it is difficult to budget and plan for our outreach ministries. If you haven't received your pledge card, please contact Kathy Mulroy. Thank you for your time and commit	0
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Financial Facts: November 2022

Monetary Gifts and Other Income---\$18,819.71 Expenses---\$20,288.28 Net Funds---(\$1468.57) *Expected* Year End Balance---**\$1,873.54**



SHALOM FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Thank you for your donations! Arnold Parise brought 92 lbs. of your donations to the Shalom Center. That is on top of all the food donations you brought for the families of Curtis Strange!

You may drop off items at the church from 8-noon, Monday through Friday or on Sunday morning .

As always, thank you for your generosity! Actions speak louder than words and your actions are screaming their thanks!

Cotkie Drive~Thru

Was a HUGE Success!!!!! Thank you to everyone who took part. Whether you baked, packaged, helped sell, or bought—we couldn't have done it without you! The cookies were sold out in *Minutes*! *Profit was about \$1000*!

GREAT JOB WESLEY!!!!!



January

Joan Hall

3

- 3 Joyce Dreyer
- 5 Kim O'Brien
- 9 RJ Barrientos
- 12 Bill Ricchio
- 14 Deon Frieri
- 14 Kathy Mulroy
- 15 Sid Brooks
- 18 Mary Brehm
- 18 Bill Peche
- 23 Christie Hansen
- 25 Lauren Kugler
- 25 Leigh Kugler



- 1 Ava Hansen
- 6 Janie Khoury
- 10 Charli Valentine
- 11 Virginia Westman
- 13 Candice Briscoe
- 14 Felicia Gaines
- 18 Martha Mock
- 22 Ellen Shuemate
- 23 Brandon Trumbo
- 26 Renee White



- Jan. 1 Deon Frieri
- 8 Patti Sloca
- 15 Joy Delwiche
- 22 Pastor Ri and Jennifer Rose
- 29 Lana Frank-Krause

Counters



- Jan. 1 Tom Shaughnessy & Jennifer Rose
- 8 Jean Thompson & Lana Frank-Krause
- 15 Arnold Parise & Patti Sloca
- 22 Bob Petersen & Kris Trumbo
- 29 Bill Thurau & Bob Petersen



February

- 18 Grace Cajiuat & Chris Herigstad
- 19 Felicia & Carlton Gaines



UWF

Elizabeth Circle will meet Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 9:30a.m. We hope to usher in the new year with both familiar and new faces.

The Deborah Circle will be meeting on Wednesday, January 18 at 6:30 pm.

Wesley Knit/Crochet



Okay, it's a new year! Your resolution is to learn one new thing every month. Resolve to come to learn how to knit or crochet. Kathy Mulroy is happy to teach you mad skills!

You already know how?—well then it's time to make something for yourself! Gift giving is on hiatus for a couple of months.

Join Kathy at church the first two Thursdays of each month. The first Thursday we meet at 6:30; the second Thursday, class is at 10:00 in the morning.

Knit/Crochet Thursday, Jan. 5 at 6:30 pm Thursday, Jan. 12 at 10:00 am Wesley United Methodist Church 4600-60th Street Kenosha, WI 53144



Ministers: All members and friends Pastor: Rev. Dr. Grace Cajiuat gcajiuat@kenoshawesley.org Lay Leader: Alan Mulroy amulroy@wi.rr.com Administrative Assistant: Janice Mowry jmowry@kenoshawesley.org Custodian: Jean Thompson gnjthom@wi.rr.com Treasurer: Nancy Mix nancymix@gmail.com

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