

The Tower

June 2016

Gathering As Friends... Growing in Faith... Sharing God's Love

From Pastor Tim

As I write this, I am sitting at my desk at First Church, Kenosha. I really feel as though I am living in two worlds at once. This evening I will attend the Church Council meeting at Wauwatosa Avenue. I am finishing up ministry things here, trying to make the transition as smooth as possible. At the same time, I am trying to “learn the ropes” from a distance for ministry in Wauwatosa. Pastor Sue has been wonderful in every way. She has offered information, answered questions, and generally helped assuage the anxiety that always goes with a move.

I am looking forward to my move to Wauwatosa Avenue United Methodist Church. This move seems to have been “in the stars” for a while now. When I was appointed to Kenosha as a three-year interim pastor, Pastor Sue said she was planning to retire in three years and perhaps I would follow her at WAUMC. At the end of the three years, my interim was extended two more years. I called Sue and told her it didn't look like I would be following her. She laughed and told me that she decided to hold off retirement for two more years. Two years later, “Wauwatosa, here I come!”

I have had an opportunity to meet some of the staff and committees. How fortunate you are to have such wonderful leadership — both professional and lay! I can't wait to have the move complete (for all kinds of reasons!). I look forward to meeting the congregation and becoming part of the community. There is much to be done in mission and ministry. Wauwatosa Avenue has a marvelous history and I have great hopes for our continuing ministry together!

VBS-Save The Date!

Come and catch the wave of God's amazing love at this year's Vacation Bible School. Kids will experience crafts, games, Bible stories, science experiments, music and even a guest appearance from WAUMC's very own ukulele band! Join us from 5:30-7:45 on July 28 and 29 and from 9am-Noon on

Saturday, July 30. Join us on Sunday at our 9:45 worship service for a wrap up during children's time! Please use the online sign up to register: <https://2016.cokesburyvbs.com/tosaaveumc>.

Garden Celebration Sunday - June 5

The gardens offer so much to our church. They welcome visitors, provide us and our neighbors an opportunity to reflect and enjoy the beautiful flowers. On June 5, we will be celebrating our church garden spaces as we think about the amazing created order which inhabits our world--especially the smallest creatures. These creatures carry on activities that we often overlook, and we take for granted the gifts they share with us—bugs, butterflies, bees, tiny creatures. Our central scripture for the day will be Psalm 104, in which we are reminded of our God who takes care of all creation. Our challenge is to do the same. There will be a freewill offering for the upkeep of our gardens on this day. Following worship, we will feature an activity out in the garden for children. And special refreshments will be served in the courtyard. Come and be with us as we begin summer in a fun way.

Summer Music

Sing Your Story, Share Your Faith

Once again it's time for our hard working choirs to take some well-deserved rest. Our summer music schedule kicks off on June 5. This opportunity is open to any member of our congregation and can be offered at the 9:45 service. We encourage family and friends to participate as well. You are invited to share a special selection (vocal or instrumental) that expresses your faith. There are two slots per service. A link to the online Sign-Up Genius scheduling program is provided below. We will also send out this link electronically so it's easier to access. If you would rather sign up in person or you have any questions, see Tim or Heather. Send Tim an email at tim.karth@sbcglobal.net or call/text at 414-688-6805. Here is the link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a45aaa829aaf58-waumc>.

**Wauwatosa Avenue
United Methodist Church**

1529 Wauwatosa Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
Phone (414) 453-0700 • Fax (414) 453-0702
www.waumc.org • waumc@sbcglobal.net

Sunday Schedule

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship - Chapel
9:45 a.m. Blended Worship - Sanctuary
9:15 & 10:45 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
10:00 a.m. Sunday School - Children & Youth
11:00 am Adult Sunday School Hour

Church Staff and Office Hours

Sue Burwell

Pastor

Tuesday - Friday • 9:30-3:00

Charles Bauer-King

Pastor of Visitation

Monday & Thursday • 9:15-2:00

Natalie Stumpner

Director of Christian Education

Monday - Thursday • 9:00-4:00

Jodie Hunt

Church Administrator

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday • 9:30-4:30

Jackie Onan

Financial Secretary

Monday • 9:00-2:00; Thursday • 9:00-12:00

Brian McLinden

Adult Choir Director

Tim Karth

Praise Ensemble Director

Martha Aslakson

Organist (9:45 service) & Tower Bells Director

Janet Smith

Pianist (8:15 service)

Amanda Prosser

Cherub Choir Director

Susan Watson

Troubadour Choir & Youth Ensemble Director

Heather Sugden

Praise Ensemble Accompanist

Elena Caceres

Children & Youth Accompanist

Laurie Froemke

Nursery Coordinator

Chick Zaffiro

Maintenance/Security

Marie Rider

Printer/Custodian

**2016
Tower Deadlines**



August 9 - September (Fall start up)

Sept. 13 - October (All Saints/
Thanksgiving)

Please place your articles in the Tower folder in the church office across from Jodie Hunt's office or email to waumc@sbcglobal.net by the above dates.

We'll pray for you!



Our church prayer chain welcomes any prayer requests you would like to forward to us.

You may drop your written prayer concern in the collection plate on Sunday morning, or call or email it to: Penny

McCanles at 414-453-5337, pmccanles040@gmail.com; or Jodie Hunt at 414-453-0700, waumc@sbcglobal.net.

The requests are emailed each Monday to those who have agreed to pray for those who need our help. If you would like to join the prayer chain, please contact Penny McCanles at the above email address.

Feel Free to Contact Your Pastor

There are times when people are hospitalized, or have personal concerns or a crisis, and the pastoral staff would like to be supportive. If you or someone you know, goes to the hospital, or needs our care, please feel free to call the church and let us know. Pastor Sue makes hospital visits Tuesday through Sunday, and Pastor Charles makes hospital visits Mondays & some Thursdays. Also, contact the church office and let us know of the names of any home-bound persons who might like a visit. And, if your address changes, we also would appreciate receiving that information. After office hours, you can reach Pastor Sue at 414-257-1228 and Pastor Charles at 262-681-0570.

I believe I'm in fine company with others who are retiring soon. Clergy colleagues, a friend in my neighborhood, and two Public Radio friends are also retiring—Michael Feldman (Whad'Ya Know) and Garrison Keillor. I can't speak for all the rest of these soon-to-be retirees, but I can't imagine having spent my life in a profession other than ministry, where I would have been more fulfilled. I started out thinking I would work in Christian Education and Music all my life and I have had the great good fortune of continuing to enjoy those interests within the larger scope of my work as a pastor.

Someone recently asked me how many young people I have confirmed in my 32 years in ordained ministry. I didn't know off hand, but I do keep records. Including the class we just confirmed, the number is 299. Then I tabulated my other columns of figures, I will have performed 162 weddings (two of them next month), 202 funerals, and 303 baptisms—that's one baptism every 5½ weeks! I held many wet babies (perhaps wet on both ends), some of them placidly accepting the gift of water, others putting up a little fuss. As you can well imagine, those baptisms, no matter the age of the person being baptized, are wonderful markers within the Christian community. It's the entry rite into our fellowship, where we hope that person will continue their faith journey. And it's a reminder that others will follow along in our footsteps.

Regardless of the numbers, I have found Bishop David Lawson to have been correct when he addressed my class of elders shortly before we were ordained. He said we would spend our years "sharing with people at the high points and low points of their lives, and everything in between." I have come to agree with him. It has been a privilege to walk with people through all those circumstances. I am sure I've learned as much or more from them as they might have picked up from me along the way, and I'm grateful.

I feel good that in my eight years here, we have advanced on some important projects and ministry options which included: an ongoing Strategic Planning Process; children's Christmas program modified into a Children's musical presented on a Sunday morning in Advent; increased youth ministry options; Fellowship Hall remodel; Capital Appeal strongly supported and subsequent demolition of the

parking garage and redesign of our parking areas and creation of a new vestibule; long awaited repairs made to the organ. Obviously there are many more things that need to be done here, but they are moving along in a good way. This summer you will see the beginnings of a much needed tuck pointing project to help maintain our building.

I am so thankful for strong lay leadership which has supported me. In addition, it's been a joy to work with a great staff. I will miss being a part of all these opportunities for sharing life and connecting with people. On the other hand, I've got to be honest—it will be a relief to not be attending meetings for the rest of my born days!

All that said, I am happy to think about this congregation beginning to build a relationship with Pastor Tim. I have known Tim for a number of years, and even though the Cabinet didn't ask me, I think he will be an excellent match for our church. After June 30, he will be your Lead Pastor. I will be sitting in my screened-in porch in Cudahy knowing you are in good hands. It will be helpful, as you build a relationship with him, if you call on him for all your pastoral needs. As a retired pastor, I won't be officiating at baptisms, weddings, funerals for Tosa Avenue. It is my intention to not get in the way of Pastor Tim's ministry here.

You may see me at various Milwaukee venues here and there but, at least for the first few months, I plan on spending a lot of time on my porch and tending the flower gardens in my yard. Do know that I have warm memories of you, the Tosa community, and the ministry we shared for eight years.



Upcoming Sermon Scriptures & Themes

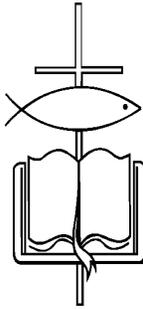
May 29: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12
The Cup of Our Life

June 5: Psalm 104
God's Small Ones

June 12: Luke 7:36-50
The Woman Who Came to Dinner

June 19: Isaiah 40:28-31
Being Upheld

June 26: Matthew 5:14-15
Light Bearers



If you are out of town or miss church some Sunday and would like to read the sermons, you will find them on our church website: www.waumc.org.

Our Church Family

Recent surgery...

Linda Snyder

Recently hospitalized...

Alle Miskinis, Hazel Marie Rickards,

Under special care...

Dick Hey

Our sympathy to...

the family of Bob Urban who passed away on May 19

Our confirmands, who formally joined the church on May 15:

- Jackson Benzinger
- Logan Brown
- Azure Getzel
- Jordan Salentine

The following people who were awarded scholarships from our Endowment Fund's Scholarship Fund: Lauren Sodnik, Alex Swenson, Libby Swenson

I wish to thank everyone for your special prayers, get well cards, notes & warm personal greetings during my back surgery. Thank you very much.

Sallie Peterson

It's Time for Summer Sunday School!

Summer is almost here. Our summer Sunday School program will start on Sunday, June 5. During the summer months, children will continue to be dismissed to Sunday School right after the children's moment in the 9:45 worship service on Sunday mornings. Our youngest children, 3 and 4 year olds, will continue to meet in the Preschool room. There is also a special summer class for our 5k-4th grade classes. Children in grades 5k-4th grade are welcome to gather as a large group class on Sunday mornings in the 2nd-3rd grade classroom.

*Note: there will be no Summer Sunday School over Memorial Day weekend, 4th of July weekend or Labor Day weekend. Children are encouraged to worship with their family on these Sundays.

*There will be no summer program for our tweens group (grades 5, 6, and 7). Tweens are welcome to worship with their families on Sunday mornings or act as helpers in the preschool classroom. Please see Natalie for a very quick training session if you have a tween interested in helping.

Teachers are a vital part of the summer program and will be needed for both preschool and large group classes. We are asking each family to consider leading a class once during the summer months. Sign-up sheets are located in the stairwell leading to the 3rd floor or can be found online at: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0944AAA823A6F85-summer. If you have any questions about our summer program, please feel free to contact Natalie via email at nataliestumpner@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 414-453-0700.

Summer CIA and GANG Schedule

For the summer, youth groups will be meeting only once a month. We will continue to meet from 6:30-8pm in Sarah's Coffee House. Please mark your calendars for June 5, July 10, and August 7. July 10 will be water games if weather permits. Please dress accordingly. There will be a CIA only lock in August 12-13. We will begin our weekly meetings on Sunday, September 11 at 6:30pm. Please see Natalie, Dave or Tess if you have any questions.

Service Opportunities - Spring 2016

- June 5:** Pick up bucket to make **jello** fruit salad for St. Ben's meal program.
- June 13:** Bake **muffins** for St. James meal program at 5:30 p.m.
- June 18:** Make 200 bag **lunches** for The Gathering meal site at 9 a.m.
- July 3:** Pick up bucket to make **jello** fruit salad for St. Ben's meal program.
- July 11:** Bake **muffins** for St. James meal program at 5:30 p.m.
- July 16:** Make 200 bag **lunches** for The Gathering meal site at 9 a.m.
- July 31:** Pick up bucket to make **jello** fruit salad for St. Ben's meal program.
- Aug. 8:** Pick up bucket to make **jello** fruit salad for St. Ben's meal program.
- Aug. 20:** Make 200 bag **lunches** for The Gathering meal site at 9 a.m.
- Aug. 20:** Prepare and serve a hot **meal** at **Summerfield UMC**. Meet 3:30 p.m.
- Soon:** **Donate blood** at a local Blood Center at 1-877-232-4376.

Ingathering for Father's Day



Special Alert: The Tosa Food Pantry is in need of packaged toilet paper for their customers!

Please help feed our neighbors by bringing canned goods — especially protein or meals, breakfast cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, baby food, etc. to church. Put your nonperishable, good-condition food gifts in the Ingathering grocery cart at the bottom of the central stairs, and we will take the food to the Wauwatosa Food Pantry at St. Bernard's. Gifts in the offering plate marked for *Ingathering* will go to The Hunger Task Force or local pantries and meal programs. Thank you!

Also, check out <http://www.hungertaskforce.org/signature-programs/> for other places to bring nonperishable foods to get discounts on Summerfest and other festivals.

Go Green! Get *The Tower* Online

Reduce paper usage and read *The Tower* online at www.waumc.org/AboutUs/TowerNewsletter. Simply email the office at waumc@sbcglobal.net to opt out of receiving a paper copy of our *Tower* newsletter.

UM Summer Camps

Don't have your summer plans yet? Check out the huge selection of UM Summer Camps! Camps cater to a variety of interests including horseback riding, hanging out at the beach, music, arts, and drama. There are camps available for every age group including families. For more information, please see the bulletin board outside of Natalie's office or log on to www.WIUMCamps.org.



WAUMC's 2015 Mission Giving

One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1,899.00
Native American Awareness Sun.	235.00
World Communion Sunday	456.00
U.M. Student Day	105.00
Peace With Justice Sunday	62.00
Human Relations Day	70.00
Zambia Agriculture Project	5,000.00
Paul Webster—Missionary Support	2,550.00
Church World Service-Tools/Blankets	40.00
Heifer Project	543.79
Imagine No Malaria	4,393.96
Red Bird Mission	100.00
US Disaster Response	150.00
International Disaster Response	655.00
UMCOR	359.00
Other GBGM Gifts	1,340.00
Northcott Neighborhood House	842.00
UM Children's Services	320.00
	\$18,576.96

Imagine No Malaria

Take a look at our mission giving above for the Imagine No Malaria project. Our church is among the 408 churches in our Annual Conference that have participated in our Imagine No Malaria Campaign. \$984,155 has been contributed by churches and individuals through May 12, 2016. This means we have met 98% of our \$1 million goal and 89% of our congregations have given amounts ranging from \$5 to \$60,000. In addition to what we gave last year, \$432 was collected from our congregation in 2016, helping with that \$1 million goal. Thanks for your support of this life-saving project.

Check Out These Additions to Your Church Library

“Dreaming in Indian: Contemporary Native American Voices”, ed. by Lisa Charleyboy, c. 2016. This anthology for young adults is on the 2016 reading list for the United Methodist Women Reading Program.



“Just Mercy: a Story of Justice and Redemption” by Bryan Stevenson, c. 2014. (2016 UMW Reading Program selection)

“The Art Spirit: Notes, Articles, Fragments of Letters and Talks to Students, Bearing on the Concept and the Technique of Picture Making, the Study of Art Generally, and on Appreciation” by Robert Henri, c. 1923

“On God’s Side: What Religion Forgets and Politics hasn’t Learned about Serving the Common Good” by Jim Wallis, c. 2013

“Girls with Swords: How to Carry Your Cross Like a Hero” by Lisa Bevere, c. 2013. (2016 UMW Reading Program selection).

“Becoming a Christian in the Wesleyan Tradition: Belonging, Believing, Living, Growing” by John O. Gooch, c. 2009

“What Jesus Meant: the Beatitudes and a Meaningful Life” by Erik Kolbell, c. 2003

“Like Trees that Grow Beside a Stream: Praying Through the Psalms” by Donald E. Collins, c. 1991.

“If Christians Were Really Christian” by John Killinger, c. 2009

“24 Ready to Use Programs for Women’s Groups” by Dorothy MacNeil, c. 1996

“The Thinking Person’s Guide to God: Overcoming the Obstacles to Belief” by Tom Harpur, c. 1996

“The Art of Confession: Renewing Yourself through the Practice of Honesty” by Paul Wilkes, c. 2012.

“In Times Like These: How We Pray” ed. by Malcolm Boyd, c. 2005

“Who is Jesus? Answers to Your Questions about the Historical Jesus” by John Dominic Crossan and Richard G. Watts, c. 1996.

“The Lord is My Shepherd: Healing Wisdom of the Twenty-Third Psalm” by Harold S. Kushner, c. 2003

Children’s Books

“One Little Church Mouse” by Anne E. Kitch, c. 2002 [board book]

“A Creation Story” by Carolyn Pogue, c. 1998

“Less than Half, More than Whole” by Kathleen Lacapa, c. 1994

“Something Beautiful” by Sharon Dennis Wyeth, c. 1998

“God Believes in You” by Holly Bea, c. 2004

“Everyday Prayers for Children”, c. 1993

“My First Prayers: A Book about Talking to Jesus”, c. 1995

“God Says, You’re OK!” by Mary Paolini, c. 1979

In addition to these titles, there are other new adult and children’s books, so please stop and browse the shelves of the church library. The library also has a collection of videos for adults and children. Library volunteers are there to help you on Sunday mornings before the second service.

Lay Leader Reflection

“And God saw... that it was good.”

As we move into the summer months, I reflect back on all the great things our church has celebrated and accomplished. As Lay Leader, I spend a lot of time observing and thinking about the faith relationships that have been/are being created, not just between each other as members of this church, but also between each member and God. What have I observed? We are walking with Jesus! How are we doing this? Well, how about the heartfelt and generous missions, the caring and dedicated staff, the countless volunteers, our amazing youth, our commitment to giving, such delicious food, all those wonderful children, the compassionate listening, the friendly gatherings, we hear “yes” or “*how can I help*” on a daily basis, hours of productive and Christ centered committee meetings, that glorious spirit lifting music, the thoughtful teaching, our prayers, the friendly smiles of our ushers. I could go on. Over the past few years, I have quietly been taking notes and connecting how our church relates, demonstrates, celebrates and lives our greater Wisconsin Annual Conference theme of “Living the Fruit of the Spirit.” I look forward to sharing my conclusions and thoughts on this in the Fall.

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*The Newsletter of
Wauwatosa Avenue United Methodist Church
Published six times a year*

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Gathering as Friends, Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love

TIME-DATED MATERIAL
Please have in-home
May 28

STRENGTH FOR SERVICE – May 29

Our church is one of many across the nation that supports Strength for Service, a devotional book written for those in the service of others. More than 445,000 copies of this life-changing book have already been distributed to service persons overseas, but hundreds of thousands more are needed for those currently serving stateside and abroad. Last year we provided for 55 books, some of them going to members of the military, others going to police officers, fire fighters, first responders. Your donations will make a difference in the lives of American heroes. This year marks the 10th anniversary of September 11. By participating in this special Sunday, we will be helping to distribute *Strength for Service to God and Community* to those who work tirelessly to keep us all safe.

If you would like to make a donation for these books, you will be given the opportunity on May 29. \$7 covers the cost of one book. Please make checks payable to WAUMC and identify "Strength for Service" on your check.

