



SPECIAL POINTS OF IN- TEREST:

- Apportionment Giving
- Fellowship opportunities
- Summer Highlights

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Giving 2

Pastor's
Columns Cont. 3

LSP News 4

Fellowship 5

Birthdays/Other
News 6

Calendar 7

New Worship
Hours 8

The Time Has Come: Church Needs to Be Different

Personal Reflection: June 2011 - a time of great angst coupled with great hope as I have struggled privately, professionally, theologically and spiritually to reconcile the gospel with the law of the church.

Easter renewal gave way to Pentecost action early in June as we welcomed new members, promoted Sunday School children and thanked their teachers and launched graduates with our blessing. The 2011 Annual Conference gathering was loom-

ing with all of it's business action, opportunities for worship and affirmations for those called to serve to be closely followed by the church trial of my colleague, Rev. Amy DeLong. We came and celebrated at the Table that Sunday and I was moved by the awareness of all that was before me - my questions, burden of concern and uncertainty regarding my own sense of pastoral integrity were heavy on my heart. "How can I lead these people to this Table

of grace in a church that fails them?" I believe if it (the church) fails any one person or group it fails us all.

I believe in the gospel promise that Rob Bell uses to title his book, "Love Wins" and that as people of God who are United Methodists we are bound to journey along our valued spectrum [of belief] with grace and fluidity toward the fullness of God's love for all people, not bound

(Continued on page 3)

"What a Difference a Week Makes!"

During these last two weeks I've attended two major events in the life of our church, one of which, our Annual Conference (AC) in Wisconsin Dells, left me weeping tears of despair; and the other, Rev. Amy DeLong's church trial in Kaukauna, left me rejoicing with tears of joy. The contrast between the two gatherings reflected all that we struggle with and all that we celebrate as people of God.

Annual Conference is first and foremost about doing "the business" of the church. It is here we ordain and commission new clergy, celebrate the retirements of others, learn about new ministry opportunities and this year, elect delegates to next year's General Conference. AC always has a tight agenda and this year was no exception. In this setting we are governed by the Rules of the Conference and there seems precious little room for the Spirit to move.

For me, this year's AC experience was to put it bluntly...demoralizing. Because of a situation which occurred within the confidentiality of the clergy session I was left wondering how I could, in good conscience, remain a United Methodist pastor much longer.

I carried the pain of that knowledge with me as just days later I traveled to

(Continued on page 3)

Special Gifting
Apportionment
Sunday, July 24
“Christmas in
July”



Please use the
special envelopes
to keep our
apportionment
payments up to
date.

Apportionment Campaign

A recent call from 36 retired bishops for The United Methodist Church to eliminate its ban on gay and lesbian clergy has outraged some members and encouraged others. The Episcopal Fund, which is funded by our apportionment dollars, supports our United Methodist Bishops as they seek to interpret the laws of the church. In March, United Methodist-related groups on both sides of the ordination dispute issued strong responses and the debate has hit home for individual United Methodists on both sides of the question.

The Renewal and Reform Coalition, representing six unofficial evangelical renewal caucuses in the denomination, called the bishops' document “woefully inadequate.” The bishops did not address “the clear pronouncements of Scripture in both the Old and New Testaments and almost 2,000 years of Christian history,” they said. “The teaching of The United Methodist Church on human sexuality is consistent with the teaching of the church universal.”

However, the retired bishops received an “Amen!” from the Common Witness Coalition, which encompasses three unofficial church caucuses that advocate for greater inclusion of gay and lesbian members. For many United Methodists, homosexuality is not an abstract issue that comes up at each General Conference but something that affects their daily life and the way they serve out their ministry in their local churches.

The Book of Discipline, the United Methodist law book, currently states that “the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Therefore self-avowed practicing homosexuals are not to be certified as candidates, ordained as ministers, or appointed to serve in The United Methodist Church.” 42 percent of the denomination's 85 retired bishops have asked that this passage be removed. Only General Conference, the denomination's top lawmaking body, can change the Book of Discipline. Both supporters and opponents of the church's current stand expect the topic to surface again when General Conference next meets April 24-May 4, 2012, in Tampa, Fla.

The request by the retired bishops to move the discussion to General Conference was voted on at Annual Conference, which I attended. The focus of the Annual Conference was ‘Love Unconditionally’, and this topic hung over the meeting like a dense fog. I pray that as United Methodists, we love and accept the faith and ministry of all.

As we approach the Christmas in July celebration, please use the special apportionment envelope in the bulletin to keep our apportionments coming.

Julie Oren: Finance Chair

The Time Has Come...

(Continued from page 1)

by assumptions, fear and unjust action. We are to recognize our diversity as a strength that enhances the welcome of all people rather than only those who think, believe or act along one specific path. And that we live in unity through the Wesleyan sharing of our experience, reason, tradition and scriptural understanding.

Month's end brings with it more angst and more hope with the promise of more struggle into July and beyond. But, what I gained more certainly from this month is the need for you, my community of faith, to be near, to join me in conversation and perhaps even in the struggle for what it means for us to hear God's call in this place.

From "Call to Commitment", Elizabeth O'Connor writes, "The church is not going to be different until someone in it is different. God waits for each of us to hear, "Behold, I do a new thing—through you!" The question is always: Can we open our lives so that the Holy Spirit may descend and new power break that we may be the kind of person around whom renewal begins?"

As we enter our fifth year together, I invite you into this emerging time for our church. Let us commit ourselves to conversation, study, planning and action that reflects our collective belief that, "love wins".

Amy will be busily crafting language (in the coming year) to help clergy as we struggle, in covenant, to offer God's unconditional love to whomever is before us through ritual action that, at present, is administratively bound by outdated, unjust rules. I believe it is our time to be intentionally crafting our message of God's unconditional love for folks in our midst, neighborhood and beyond.

Your Administrative Council has taken a first step after seeing so many signatures on the 'All Means All' board by unanimously adopting words I offered in response to that Pentecost action sermon. (see the statement in full on the back page)

Friends, I confess that our denomination has challenged me to my core around my call, my willingness to remain in covenant as Ordained Clergy and my theological understanding of God's love. A UM church in NYC, (yes, we are a connectional church) gave me great hope in the Body of Christ as it welcomed all, even me, a vacationing visitor, to fully participate in it's community worship. And so I come back to you. Here is where I am called to serve, for another year, and it is here that I believe God's Spirit will bring 'a new thing' through US for the good of ALL.

Let it be so.

Pastor Kelly

What a Difference...

(Continued from page 1)

Kaukauna to lend my presence and support to my colleague and friend, Rev. Amy Delong, who was being tried by the church she loved for the crime of simply being who she is. I knew the outcome of this trial would go a long way to determining my own future.

The three and a half days spent attending Amy's trial were painful and difficult, while at the same time being joyful and hopeful. The first night I was invited to read a piece of scripture and the words I read proved at the end of the trial to be true..."Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning (Psalm 30:5b)."

By now you will hopefully have read all the details of Amy's trial in the local press but let me simply say that I left this gathering of "peaceful, loving, angry people" filled with a renewed sense of God's love and grace for all people and eager to offer that same love to all who enter our doors or who live in our world. I pray you will join me in offering this same love.

Peace be yours,

Pastor Andy

All Church Picnic!

There will be an all church picnic, sponsored by Young at Hearts on Thursday, July 14, 2011 at Noon in Grant Park. Please bring a dish to pass, your own utensils, beverage and games (if you have them). If it rains, we will meet at church. Please sign up on the cube, be sure to indicate the dish you are going to bring.

“Do You Chill?”

Did you know? Bay View UMC is a Chill on the Hill Sponsor! We believe in this community and we value our relationship in this neighborhood. This summer event brings people of all ages together to enjoy outdoor fun, food and a great variety of music every Tuesday night (weather permitting) at Humboldt Park.

Mark your calendars now and sign up to greet in our tent:

Bay View UMC will be participating in Chill's Family Night
Tuesday, August 2nd 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Featuring: Informal Blues and Orpheus with opener The Aqua Knots
(Rock/Jazz, Ska music)

The Bay View UMC sponsored night will be
Tuesday, August 9th 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Featuring: Reilly with opener Kinsella Academy of Irish Dance (Irish)



Loving Start Preschool News

Loving Start Preschool is excited to be running its first ever summer program! We had to say “so long for summer” to Miss Francine, Miss Joan, and Miss Dawn, but we were able to welcome Miss Mai Lee to the group.

We are having a lot of fun and will update you in August!

Miss Martha and Miss Mai



New at Bay View UMC!



A support group for people dealing with the deep hurt of loss following the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend.

Starting August 23

Contact Allan Eckoldt with questions,
or call 414-483-1347; 414-628-4671 for more information

Interfaith Day at Miller Park

Not up for Chill? Come to the second-ever Interfaith Day at Miller Park! Bay View UMC has 20 tickets for the game. Faith UMC will be joining us and they have 10 more tickets. The game is Tuesday, August 2 at 7:10pm; tickets are \$10. We will be watching the Brewers take on the Cardinals.

The Hunger Task Force will also be running a food drive at the ballpark that night. Please bring your food donations to the Right Field Gate.

Miller Park Interfaith Day

Date: Tuesday, August 2

Time: 7:10pm

Tickets: \$10

For more information:
Contact Pastor Kelly

Youth Mission Trip Update:

Minneapolis, MN Urban Immersion

July 10-14 is fast approaching! Do you have your red wristband yet? All participants are selling these to fund our trip – and to serve as a visible witness and reminder of everyone who is supporting us as we go out into the world. Wristbands are available on Sundays in the Gathering Space: we're asking for support at \$1/day = \$5 total and we welcome all gifts of any amount with gratitude.

Join us on Sunday, July 10th at 9:45am as we receive your blessing and sending forth that will launch us north and on our way to a wonderful, faith-filled, fun mission experience.

And please keep us in your prayers: Alex Berry, Travis Drow, Adam Garside, Mackenzie Moebius, Alex Romfoe, Maria Romfoe, Samantha Ilovshak, Fiona Odum, Eryn Jackson, Isabelle Kelley, Ronata Kelley, Gina Wrobel (coordinator), Mary Kitzman, Judie Liebenstein, Pastor Andy and Pastor Kelly.



July Birthdays



OTHER NEWS

1 - Tami Krempel	11 - Doris Hennell	22 - Becky Garside
1 - Barbara Pelletier	13 - Leslyn Prott	22 - Ann Pier
3 - Sidney Carter	18 - Nadine Barthuli	25 - Jennifer Moebius
5 - Edith Boeshaar	18 - Samuel Petrie	26 - Dennis Larsen
7 - Jean Larsen	19 - Judie Liebenstein	27 - Jeannie Shultz
7 - Eleanor Rice	19 - Dorrine Stroleny	29 - Jacob Berry
8 - Shawn Berry	21 - Jan Colson	30 - Troy Daub
8 - Kai Liebenstein	21 - Al Roepke	30- Sue Davey
9 - Noah Elliott	22 - Ken Balfanz	30 - Susan Oseland

Let's Put Our Feet in the Street on July 4

It's been a few years since I've joined with you in marching on the 4th of the July but I'll be there this year and I hope you will join me. It's a great opportunity to reach out to our community and show them who we are! We'll be assembling on Kinnickinnic Ave, at Lincoln and KK, between 8:15am and 8:30am. The parade kicks off at 9:00am and we're in the First Division! We'll be handing out flyers along the way inviting folks to join us at church for worship, Bread & Jam and to come see us at Chill on the Hill. Pastor Kelly even has a special treat in mind for all who march. (Hint: Don't try to "duck" out on us!) So come on and let your light shine in the middle of Bay View! See you there, Pastor Andy

Alive Now Study Resumes

The July/August issue of the Upper Room publication "Alive Now" is available. Please use July for personal study and the daily reflections in the back as your guide. Alive Now readers are encouraged to join in the weekly discussion group to be held on Wednesday evenings in August from 7-8pm and hosted at Pastor Andy's home: 3156 S Kinnickinnic Ave, 53207. Please sign up on the CUBE for hospitality preparation.



New Directories...

...Are available in the Gathering Space, or you can call the office and Erin will send you one.

JULY 2011

Key:

- SPR = Staff Parish Relations
- SECA = South East Clergy Association
- Oasis = Mid-week meal & fellowship
- Outpost = Outpost Alternative High School
- Key. AA = Keystone AA Group
- YAH = Young At Hearts

The BVUMC Calendar is available ONLINE! <http://bayviewumc.org/calendar.html>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 Retirement Celebration 9:45am Worship 11:00am Youth Mission Mtg 3:00pm Bread & Jam 7:00 pm Sun Night AA	27 8:45am LSP Summer	28 8:45am LSP Summer 10:00am AA 5:30pm AA 6:00pm Faith Singers Party - DiMarini's 7:00pm Yarn Minsitry 7:15pm SPR Meeting	29 8:45am LSP Summer 9:00am Connection 6:00pm Praise Band	30 8:45am LSP Summer 7:00pm Key. AA	1 8:30am LSP Summer	2 10:30am Women's Freedom AA
3 8:00am Worship 9:45am Worship 3:00pm Bread & Jam 7:00pm Sun Night AA	4 8:45am LSP Summer	5 8:45am LSP Summer 10:00am AA 5:30pm AA 6:00pm Music & Min	6 8:45am LSP Summer 3:00pm SECA 6:00pm Praise Band 7:00pm Mission Trip Mtg	7 8:45am LSP Summer 7:00pm Key. AA	8 8:45am LSP Summer	9 10:30am Women's Freedom AA
10 8:00am Worship 9:45am Worship 7:00pm Sun Night AA	11 8:45am LSP Summer	12 8:45am LSP Summer 10:00am AA 5:30pm AA 6:00pm Trustees 7:00pm Yarn Ministry	13 8:45am LSP Summer 12:30pm Card Ministry 6:00pm Praise Band	14 8:45am LSP Summer 7:00pm Key. AA	15 8:45am LSP Summer <i>August Connection Articles due</i>	16 10:30am Women's Freedom AA
17 8:00am Worship 9:45am Worship 7:00pm Sun Night AA	18 8:45am LSP Summer 1:30pm VBS Whitefish Bay 6:30pm Finance Mtg 7:00pm District 28 AA	19 8:45am LSP Summer 10:00am AA 1:30pm VBS Whitefish Bay 5:30pm AA	20 8:45am LSP Summer 1:30pm VBS Whitefish Bay 6:00pm Praise Band	21 8:45am LSP Summer 1:30pm VBS Whitefish Bay 7:00pm Key. AA	22 8:45am LSP Summer 1:30pm VBS Whitefish Bay	23 10:30am Women's Freedom AA
24 8:00am Worship 9:45am Worship 7:00pm Sun Night AA 31 8:00am Worship 9:45am Worship 3:00pm Bread & Jam 7:00pm Sun Night AA	25 8:45am LSP Summer	26 8:45am LSP Summer 10:00am AA 5:30pm AA 7:00pm Yarn Minsitry 7:15pm SPR Meeting	27 8:45am LSP Summer 9:00am Connection 12:30pm Card Ministry 6:00pm Praise Band	28 8:45am LSP Summer 7:00pm Key. AA	29 8:30am LSP Summer	30 10:30am Women's Freedom AA

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Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.™



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As [your] pastor, from Kelly:

I have experienced the community of Milwaukee: Bay View in four years of relationship to orient to people through loving, open and encouraging action. [Yours] is a way of life, being and ministry that comes out of [your] experience, reason, tradition and scriptural understanding.

Diverse in belief, journey and call, the community values ALL through acts of welcome, invitations to service and celebrations of loving kindness and Godly witness in the world and with one another.

Here is the statement that our Administrative Council affirmed and accepted unanimously on June 6, 2011.

Out of the Heart of our community
we welcome ALL
into this safe {and sacred} space.

Out of the Heart of our community
we welcome ALL
to come and know the heart of God.

Out of the Heart of our community
we welcome ALL
to share their lives in service with us
into ALL the world.

It is out of the heart of our collective understanding of God's complete and unconditional love that we invite, encourage, support, love and welcome ALL.

Summer Worship

8:00 am
Outdoors
9:45am
Sanctuary

Office Hours

8:00 am — 1:30 pm
Monday - Thursday

8:00 am — 1:00 pm
Friday



Thanks for recycling!