



BAY VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# CONNECTION Newsletter

OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.™

## What Does Our Connection Mean?

Our United Methodist denomination sets itself apart from other Christian denominations in part around this idea of connectionalism. We want to be intentionally “connected” with United Methodist Christians worldwide in the sharing of God’s grace for the transformation of the world through teaching, preaching, mission and service. Our expanse around the world strengthens in some areas (Korea and So. Africa) it

continues to shrink in other areas (Continental U.S.) due, in part, to how people across the globe narrow their view and interpretation of our Wesleyan Quadrilateral as our model of discipleship. Simply put, we are challenged to our faith through a four-pronged lens: Reason, Experience, Scripture, and Tradition (acronym REST) Additionally, we express our faithful living (discipleship) along a spectrum, that albeit vast, aligns us along the same continuum as we strive to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our connection begins locally in Wisconsin through the assigned “circuit” groups, into which churches are placed geographically. Clergy are then appointed to both local congregations and the circuit in addition to the community where these entities are located. Andy and I are appointed to Milwaukee: Bay View, and to Circuit 33 in addition to the Bay View community to bless, teach, preach and serve among you. For us, it is a mutually celebrated gift to offer ourselves, as a team, in your midst. And we are blessed

as much by each other as we are by ALL of you as we share ministry, together.

Our Annual Conferences are grouped in Jurisdictions. WI is in the North Central Jurisdiction. Globally, our connection gathers once every four years in a General Conference held in various locations, the next being in Portland, OR in 2016.

The beauty in the concept of connectionalism is our shared support as we minister to the needs of the poor, those in crisis, children and wherever there is injustice or oppression.

Support comes through the many special offerings we take throughout the year, through the voluntary support of missionaries working around the world, through the supplies collections we take for local and regional outreach ministries, and through the welcome we extend to ALL people.

All of this is exciting and yet overwhelming at the same time. As we strive to be faithful to the care and stewardship of our own little corner of the connection here in Bay View, we can easily lose our ability to see or to care for our greater call to connect with our brothers and sisters around the world.

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## Connection...

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It is challenging to balance the demands of all of the levels of the church and the areas of need, for sure. It is also, by God's grace, that we are abundantly blessed to share our time, talent, treasure, witness and willingness to serve in whatever way God calls us.

These Sundays after Easter invite us to share with energy and hope about the many ways God calls ALL of us to share our gifts as "church" in this place. Pray with me that we will be energized with the range of possibilities rather than paralyzed by the fear of too much to do.

We serve a mighty and ALL-loving God, dear friends!

Let it be so, for you and for me, together in this place!

Peace to each of you,

*Pastor Kelly*

## We're On a Mission from God!

That memorable line first came to us back in 1980 from Jake and Elwood, otherwise known as "The Blues Brothers." It made us laugh back then but hasn't it also stayed with us all these years later? I'm guessing you've probably uttered those same words at one time or another and maybe even when you've been on a church mission trip. In all honesty, those words should be part of who we are and what we do every single day.

We haven't had an organized Missions team here at church for awhile but I think that will be changing soon. We have some folks who individually have expressed a real desire to see all of us do a little more to help our neighbors, our city and our world. Pastor Kelly and I are working to bring those folks together along with their ideas and once that happens we'll be looking for your participation in a variety of ways. One of these folks has the wonderful idea "that every person in the congregation would do at least one mission-related thing a year, even if it is to make sandwiches for Bread & Jam."

Now just because we haven't had a team in place doesn't mean we haven't been doing mission stuff. Think about all the Pay It Forward toiletry kits our Sunday School children have assembled for our Bread & Jam guests. Likewise, we continue to provide food for the Bay View Community Center food pantry and children's clothing for Kid's Kloset. Just recently thirteen of us gave up a Saturday afternoon to assemble food packets for children in Haiti (Feed My Starving Children event).

In February, five of us traveled to Navasota, Texas as part of a very rewarding, week-long Volunteer-in-Mission trip. We have a similar opportunity that I want to encourage you to consider. September 28<sup>th</sup> through October 3<sup>rd</sup> are the dates for the annual work camp at our own Lake Lucerne Camp in Neshkoro. Many of us enjoy being there for Winter Camp and now we have a chance to help out with painting, roofing, carpentry, preparing for winter and cleaning the 50-plus buildings that make up this beautiful facility. Cost is \$150 which includes lodging, meals, work supplies and a donation to the camp. Watch for more information on The Cube. Wouldn't it be great if we could put together a good-sized group for this week? Maybe we can even get some "We're On a Mission from God" t-shirts! Who will go with me?

Blessings,

*Pastor Andy*

# Annual Conference InGathering

This is an event at Annual Conference where all the churches bring items for missions in the form of kits. We have the InGathering tree ready for those who would like to donate a kit. Pick ornaments off the giving tree and shop. Return list items to the church by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Include the ornament with your purchases.

Tote bag sewing kits will be also available on the giving tree. Sewers are welcome to come to craft club on May 28th for help with the pattern. All church kit packing will be Sunday, June 1st during Sunday School hour.



# Annual Conference Free Learning Day

Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> will be a Learning Day open to all clergy and laity. Our day together will focus on our vision of every congregation, charge and circuit becoming transformational centers of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Our opening plenary will have greetings from Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, a keynote from Director of Connectional Ministries, Dan Dick, and equipping workshops on evangelism, community organizing, spiritual formation, worship in the world, Christian unity, community organizing, youth leadership, and missions.

This learning day is open to everyone, beginning at 9am, concluding by 3pm. Every participant will leave with resources for use in the local church to help launch our conference-wide, fruit-producing strategy.

There is no charge for attending this event. Prior to May 20, you may purchase meal tickets during the registration process, if you wish. You will also indicate which workshops you wish to attend.

Questions? Please call Karen Lamoree in the Conference Office at 1-888-240-7328 during regular business hours or email her at [klamoree@wisconsinumc.org](mailto:klamoree@wisconsinumc.org)

## Craft Club



Craft Club welcomes new crafters as we prepare tote bags for the Annual Conference InGathering. The tote bags will be used to hold the collected school kit items and sent to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center to be held for distribution by UMCOR. Please join us!

## Eat at Culvers

Help support Loving Start Preschool by eating at Culvers, 575 W. Layton on Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 7pm. 10% of the evenings profit will come back to Loving Start.

LOVING START  
PRESCHOOL



# Announcing a Circuit 33 Collaboration: A Free (Fantastic) Concert!

Friday, May 16, 2014

7:00pm

Central UMC

(Wisconsin Ave & 26<sup>th</sup> St.)

Watoto Children's Choir

*-Beautiful Africa: A New Generation*

The concert is 1 hour and 15 minutes of wow! You will want to bring your family and friends.

The items for purchase are beautiful: too numerous to list here.

The opportunity to participate in the love offering to support this ministry will help Watoto to Rescue a Child, Raise a Leader and Rebuild a Nation.

Bay View UMC - we will be working with Central UMC to offer this event and to house these children and their chaperones. More info. coming soon!

## Ministry Spotlight

by Katy Meyer

One of my favorite things about attending Bay View United Methodist Church (besides the Dr. Seuss breakfast, balloon animals from Rainbow Randa, and a welcoming nursery staff...I guess I could go on and on), is being surrounded by a genuine spirit of service and individuals committed to connecting with others beyond church members. Some churches label such programs "social justice" or "community outreach", but at BVUMC this is not so. Perhaps without the label we are reminded that we are not ministering "to others", but to/for/with each other.

I have met many people here that are willing to help others in whatever way is needed. Help is not contingent on converting, joining, or assimilating. Helping hands are offered in a simple, kind and respectful manner. I value this approach greatly.

As a new member, I learned of various programs and Ministries often in passing or even by accident. "What's that pink basket for?" "What's Bread and Jam?" "Who's collecting used greeting cards... and why?" I would like to use this column to share what I am continuing to learn.

### SPOTLIGHT ON: KIDS KLOSET Collection Baskets

Who: This ministry supports families with children. I have volunteered to bring the donations to Kids Kloset as the baskets fill up, so I am able to answer many questions you might have about the program.

What: Collection of infant and children's clothing up to size 14, as well as shoes, toys, and stuffed animals. Special needs include seasonal outerwear as well as shoes/equipment for sports and dance. Your leotards and shin guards will be put to good use! Most items collected are used, but new is appreciated especially for the infant layette packages. Kids Kloset has enough storage to hold items for all seasons, so don't wait to donate!

Where: At Bay View United Methodist Church we have collection baskets in the gathering space under the tables between the Card Ministry rack and The "Cube". You may also bring your donations directly to Kid's Kloset located at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 3200 S. Herman Street in Bay View. Hours: Monday from noon - 3 p.m., Tuesday from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and Wednesday from 12:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. Tax receipts available upon request. Please keep Kids Kloset in mind during rummage sale season! You can find great buys on used kids clothes to donate, as well as refer others to donate any unsold items.

When: Ongoing! When the baskets are full, I take them in to Kids Kloset!

Why: To help fill the shelves at Kids Kloset. Kids Kloset volunteers report that demand has exceeded supply for the past several years. NO proof of need nor income verification are required to participate in this program which assures individuals are treated with dignity and helps families feel welcome.

# Sunday School News

The Sunday school teachers and children want to thank the congregation for donating lotions, soaps and toiletries for our community treat bags. In the fall we will collect school types of items.

Reminder: no Sunday School on May 25<sup>th</sup> (Memorial weekend). June 1<sup>st</sup> will be our last Sunday School day of the season. Thanks to the teachers for their time and effort. If anyone is interested in assisting in Sunday School events this coming fall, please see Judie, Debbie or Pastor Kelly.

**Check the next  
Connection  
newsletter for  
Vacation Bible  
School events.**

*Miss Debbie*



PEP *Tales from a Zoo*  
Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>  
5:00pm

Quilting Bee  
Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>  
7pm

Ad Council  
Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>  
7pm

New Member Class  
Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>  
12:00pm

## Stewardship

Luther Lovejoy has written that “stewardship is not an irksome sacrifice to be made, not a weary, bootless burden to be borne....It is a privilege to be devoutly welcomed, an honor bestowed only on such as are worthy to receive it. Only Christians of quality are genuine Christian stewards.”

Giving is an act of love when we accept our calling as God’s chosen representatives to share Christ’s love with the world - not only through our prayers, our presence, our service and witness but also through the generous offering of our monetary gifts in Christ’s name.

Thank you to all of you who were genuine Christian stewards and gave your monetary gifts to UMCOR in *One Great Hour of Sharing*. We raised a total of \$957 so far.

***Judy Banta - Stewardship Leader***

2014 Giving Record					
Fund	Needed Monthly	Received in March	Needed YTD	Rec’d YTD	Over/(short) YTD
<b>General</b>	\$17,181	\$12,873	\$68,724	\$57,855	(\$10,869)
	Rec’d This Month	Paid Monthly	Due YTD	Paid YTD	
<b>Apportionment</b>	\$2,314	\$2,314	\$9,256	\$9,256	\$0

Loving Start Preschool has been learning about fairy tales. We have read traditional tales, variations of fairy tales (Three Little Pigs from the wolf's side) and made up our own. Our parents came for Fairy Tale Night as we made crowns, capes, and followed a pirate map to discover a treasure chest. May will be busy as we celebrate Mother's Day and wrap up our school year. We look forward to our end of the year program on May 20th at 6:30 and our end of the year picnic.



Miss Martha, Miss Dawn, Miss Mary and Miss Karen

## May Birthdays

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Theresa Kitzman-Kelley  
Jim Liebenstein

**May 5<sup>th</sup>**

Laurie Horne

**May 6<sup>th</sup>**

Kay Putney

**May 8**

Linda Schultz

**May 10<sup>th</sup>**

Ron Hanstad

**May 11<sup>th</sup>**

Casimir Meyer

**May 14<sup>th</sup>**

Tom Shattuck

**May 15<sup>th</sup>**

Diane Balfanz  
Jude Wagner  
Ed Wegenke  
Rachel Wachl

**May 17<sup>th</sup>**

John Warkaske

**May 21<sup>st</sup>**

John From

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Jenna Dillon-Lorenz

**May 27<sup>th</sup>**

Shannon Haefner  
Wendell Sprong

**May 28<sup>th</sup>**

Joy Foster-Steckler  
Barbara Morbeck

**May 31<sup>st</sup>**

Melissa Balfanz  
Hannah Jackson

# Calendar 2014

## May



### KEY:

LSP: Loving Start Preschool  
 Outpost: Alternative High School  
 SECA: South East Clergy  
 SPR: Staff Parish Relations  
 Wesleyan: Wesleyan Bells  
 WF AA: Women's Freedom AA  
 PEP: People Enjoying People  
 NA: Narcotics Anonymous

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27 8:15am Worship 9:15am Sunday School & Coffee 10:45am Worship 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA	28 8:45am LSP 7pm AA	29 8:45am LSP 10am AA 5:30pm AA 7pm Core Team	30 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 5pm LSP Fairy Tale Night 6pm Making Sense Book Study	1 8:45am LSP 6pm Praise Band 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm Keystone AA 7:30pm Wesleyan Bells	2 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg	3 10am Grief Share 10:30am WF AA
4 8:15am Worship 9:15am Sunday School & Coffee 10:45am Worship 3pm Bread & Jam 5pm PEP Tales from a Zoo Volunteer 7pm AA	5 8:45am LSP 6pm Finance Mtg 7pm AA	6 8:45am LSP 10am AA 5:30pm AA	7 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 3pm SECA Mtg 6pm Making Sense Book Study	8 8:45am LSP 6pm Keystone AA Open Mtg & Potluck 6pm Praise Band 6:30pm Faith Singers 7:30pm Wesleyan Bells	9 8:45am LSP 5:30pm Suzuki Strings 7pm NA Mtg	10 10am Grief Share 10:30am WF AA
11 8:15am Worship 9:15am Sunday School & Coffee 10:45am Worship 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA  <b>Mother's Day</b>	12 8:45am LSP 6:15pm Music Mtg 7pm AA 7pm Ad Council	13 8:45am LSP 10am AA 5:30pm AA 6pm Trustees Mtg	14 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 12:30pm Cards Ministry 6pm Making Sense Book Study	15 8:45am LSP 6pm Praise Band 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm Keystone AA 7:30pm Wesleyan Bells	16 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg 7pm Watoto Concert	17 10am Grief Share 10:30am WF AA
18 8:15am Worship 9:15am Sunday School & Coffee 10:45am Worship 12pm New Member Meeting 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA	19 8:45am LSP 7pm AA 7pm District 28 AA	20 8:45am LSP 10am AA 5:30pm AA 6pm LSP EOY Program	21 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 6pm Making Sense Book Study	22 8:45am LSP 6pm Praise Band 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm Keystone AA 7:30pm Wesleyan Bells	23 8:45am LSP 5:30pm Suzuki Strings 7pm NA Mtg	24 10am Grief Share 10:30am WF AA
25 8:15am Worship 9:15am Coffee Hour 10:45am Worship 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA  No Sunday School	26 8:45am LSP 7pm AA  <b>Memorial Day</b>	27 8:45am LSP 10am AA 5:30pm AA	28 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 12:30pm Cards Ministry 6pm Making Sense Book Study 7pm Quilting Bee	29 8:45am LSP 6pm Praise Band 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm Keystone AA 7:30pm Wesleyan Bells	30 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg	31 10am Grief Share 10:30am WF AA

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## **Pastor Kelly Fowler**

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## **Pastor Andy Oren**

Phone: 414-744-3927

Email: [pastorandy@bayviewumc.org](mailto:pastorandy@bayviewumc.org)

May  
2014

We're on the web:  
[www.bayviewumc.org](http://www.bayviewumc.org)



The Keystone AA group is having an open meeting on Thursday, May 8th for anyone interested. It is an open speaker meeting with two AA speakers. It will start at 6:00pm with food and fellowship and the speakers start at 7:00pm. Anyone is welcome to come to this meeting.

☰ Hope is here. ♥ Love is here. ♡ Family is here.

## SPRING SERVICES:

8:15am Worship  
9:15am Coffee Hour &  
Sunday School  
10:45am Worship



*Please Recycle*

## OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday  
Thursday, Friday  
8:30am - 2:00pm

Wednesday  
8:30am - 1:30pm