OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.TM

XO

I have used these letter symbols for hug "X" and kiss "O" all of my life. My mom taught me about them when I was young and I remember putting them on thank you notes to my Nana for gifts I'd received. A 'cute' way to offer a token of my affection rather than a committed statement like writing out the words, "I love you."

This month of February heightens our awareness of love with the Hallmark commercials, storefront displays

Contents

2 Pastor's Columns 3 Pastor's Columns Memory Café Events 6 District & Conference Events Finance & Announcements Ministry Spotlight LSP & Birthdays 10 11 Calendar 12 **Contact Information**

and special "package deals" at many restaurants and hotels promoting loving expressions to our special ones through cards, gifts and a night on the town. Great for those who can afford it and for those who have a 'special one'.

Our gospel call is to love God, ourselves and ALL others ALL the time, every day. In this world where stress, poverty, under employment and continuing injustices of many kinds this call is daunting. As we prepare to enter the Lenten season of reflection, perhaps the Valentine's Day reminder is our push into practicing loving acts every day.

People have edges: fear and misinformation often drive attitudes and action. Apathy and over-burdened lives cause many to miss opportunities to offer loving kindness to themselves and to others.

Friends, our community is so great at our Sunday morning welcome! Our community offers a wonderfully welcoming meal every Sunday afternoon too! We purposefully extend invitations to the greater community to our events and we welcome community groups to use our space for their meetings, classes and events. This is all good stuff, but sometimes it feels to me like X's and O's. It feels like a cute token of our love for these neighbors, strangers and friends. And, sometimes I wonder, is that how it feels to those

who receive from us these acts of welcome?

This Lent I am asking us to pray deeply, talk seriously and work vigorously to heed the leading of the Spirit on our continuing quest to welcome ALL. Let us look, listen, speak and pray together about how every person experiences our ministry efforts and then let us create a spirit of willingness to further extend ourselves to offer God's love to ALL through the ministry we share in this place. Commit to being in

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XO...

continued from page 2...

worship weekly, attend Pr. Eddie's Sunday School faithfully, join Pr. Andy's Monday study group, help Bread & Jam weekly and pray continually for one another and the world.

I love you ALL,

Pastor Kelly

"Martin Luther King called us to be lovestruck with each other, not colorblind toward each other. To be lovestruck is to care, to have deep compassion, and to be concerned for each and every individual including the poor and vulnerable."

~Cornel West from the foreward to The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

Friends, It's Time to Have "The Talk"

At our January Administrative Council meeting we reviewed an article from Jim Wallis entitled 15 Things a Church Needs to Do in 2015. Number 6 on that list was "Have honest conversations about race." It's no secret to any of us that Milwaukee is the most segregated city in our country and that is reflected within our own congregation by the fact we are 99% White...this despite the fact that our zip code is only 86% White.

Recent events here in our city and around our nation have once again brought the issue of race to the forefront. Wallis suggests that "how the church responds to the issue of race in the 21st century will be extremely important."

Beginning February 23rd we'll have an opportunity to respond ourselves as Pastor Rob Odum (Central UMC), Pastor Afi Dobbins (Solomon Community Temple UMC) and I join forces to co-lead a 6-week Lenten study. We will be reading the groundbreaking 2010 book *The New Jim Crow, Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander.

This book looks at how the so-called "War on Drugs" has resulted in unbelievably disproportionate differences in the arrests and especially in the sentencing of African-American males as opposed to White males. It also addresses the private prison system which in this country translates to big business...a business which is dependent on an ever-increasing supply of prisoners.

This will not be an easy book for most Whites to read as it forces us to confront some ugly truths. Are you willing? Are you willing? Are you willing to begin a conversation that will most certainly challenge you but might also help us understand better the struggles our brothers and sisters in the Black community face each and every day? I hope you will join me.

This class will take place at Central United Methodist Church, 639 N. 25th Street, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm, beginning Monday, Feb. 23rd and ending on Monday, March 30th. Carpooling is recommended for ease of parking. I have books available for purchase (\$16). See me to get yours.

Who will go with me?

Blessings,

Pastor Andy

"Being" A Reconciling Church

Last Spring I visited Bay View United Methodist Church for the first time. I met in the Gathering Space with Pastor Kelly for what was, in some ways, an interview for me. It was also an opportunity for me to see if I thought BVUMC would be a good fit for me and my learning goals. There were a lot of clues in that first meeting that the church would be a good fit for me, but the one that really stuck out to me was a rainbow flag in the Gathering Space. I make a point when I visit a new church to look for what is welcoming or not so welcoming about the space. I asked Kelly about the flag and she told me that at the time the church was working through discussions about being a Reconciling United Methodist Church. I was excited to learn over the summer that the vote had taken place and Bay View United Methodist Church could officially be part of the Reconciling Ministries Network.

I was excited to learn of the church's welcoming nature and its public stance for the inclusion of ALL of God's children. I was excited because one of my learning goals was to find out what happens next. How does an open, inclusive church live their statement of welcome? Who are we to be as a community of faith that opens its doors to the broader community of Bay View? How is our commitment to love our neighbor reflected in our witness?

Let us continue to explore what it means to be a reconciling church and to offer welcome to ALL those who may pass through the doors of the church. If you have thoughts on how, as a community of faith, we can live our words of welcome, speak to me before or after church or email me at pastoreddie@bayviewumc.org

Pastor Eddie



Winter Campers 2015

alzheimer's $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{S}}$ association

Memory Café

Share your stories and socialize with others who have worries about their memory.

A social engagement opportunity presented by the Alzheimer's Association

Memory Café Schedule

1:00 to 2:30 PM

Dates for 2015
February 16th, 2015
March 16th, 2015
April 20th , 2015
May 18th, 2015
June 15th, 2015
July 20th, 2015
August 17th, 2015



When: 3rd Monday of Each Month. See Schedule.

Time: 1:00 to 2:30 PM.

RSVP to Wendy Betley at 414.479.8800

Where: Bay View United Methodist Church 2772 South Kinnickinnic Avenue, Milwaukee, WI

Who: Individuals with early to moderate Alzheimer's and their care partners as well as those who worry about memory problems. Please note this is **not** a support group.

Why: Being active physically, socially and mentally is good for the brain! And we all understand: "We're all in the same boat!"

For further information:

Wendy Betley, Alzheimer's Association at 414.479.8800

Our partnership with The Alzheimer's Association will begin on Monday, February 16, 2015 as we host our first Memory Café from 1pm to 2:30pm. We had a number of our members, as well as some community friends, attend a special training with Wendy Betley, to help prepare us for our role as hosts for these once a month gatherings.

The Memory Café is not a support group but rather provides an outlet for couples to simply have fun and enjoy themselves with singing, games and other group activities. We'll certainly be learning as we go, but our plan is to offer this to our community the third Monday of each month. Early on we'll be relying on the expertise of the Alzheimer's Association to guide our sessions, but in time we expect the group participants will help us learn how best to provide for them.

If you know a couple, one of them dealing with early stage memory issues, we encourage you to have them contact Wendy at wendy.betley@alz.org or at 414-479-8800 for more information about how to join this group. We're excited to offer this!

Let's Explore Discipleship Using TED Talks

This Lent we will have a new opportunity for adult education. Pastor Eddie will lead a study that combines TED Talks and scripture. We will watch short lectures on a wide ranging set of topics and connect them



to the Bible and our discipleship during Lent. You can come either on Thursday nights or Sunday during the coffee hour. Thursdays and Sundays will follow the same TED talk, so come on the day that works best for you.

We will meet in the Library from 5:30pm to 6:30pm on Thursday nights starting February 19th and from 9:15am to 10:15am on Sundays beginning February 22nd. Please feel free to come on the weeks that interest you most or work best for your schedule.

TED Talk Schedule

Feb. 19/22 – Everyday Leadership by Drew Dudley (Leadership Development Coordinator)

Feb. 26/Mar. 1 – The Doubt Essential to Faith by Lesley Hazleton (Author)

Mar. 5/8 – Never, Ever Give Up by Diana Nyad (Distance Swimmer)

Mar. 12/15 – Let's Revive the Golden Rule by Karen Armstrong (Author)

Mar. 19/22 – My Daughter, Malala by Ziauddin Yousafza (Teacher and Father)

Mar. 26/29 – Why I Take Piano on the Road and in the Air by Daria van den Bercken (Pianist)

Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Supper

This is a great ALL church event that's great fun for ALL ages and stages. Decorations, music, sweets and candy galore AND all the pancakes and sausage you can eat for \$5.00!



Doors open at 4:30pm and the kitchen stops serving at 6:30pm with the dining room closing at 7:00pm.

Bring your friends and neighbors and help us "eat up the fat" before Lent begins!

Dr. Seuss' Birthday Bash: Saturday, February 28th



This is a children's event not to be missed!

Please take flyers to schools and day care facilities in your neighborhoods and share with teachers you know! Follow the Cat in the Hat feet to register the children and get a map for this wonderful adventure. Begin in the dining room for breakfast for the family. Then the kids follow their map to make-it/take-it craft stations and story time getting their Dr. Seuss sticker of completion as they experience fun and fellowship with their friends.

Saturday, February 28th 9am - 12pm In the church dining room

Metros Annual Regional Event



9:30am to 3pm
(Registration at 9am)
Christ Church UM
5109 Washington Ave.
Racine WI 53406





The Metros Region continues to Imagine Wisconsin Anew during our annual event for both districts on February 7 from 9:30am to 3pm at Christ Church UM in Racine. All churches in the Wisconsin Conference are invited to this <u>free event</u> that will focus on **Tools to Make the Connection: Community Engagement.** The keynote speakers are **Dr. Angela Cowser**, Director of the Center for the Church and the Black Experience and Assistant Professor of the Sociology of Religion at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary; and **Dr. Mark Teasdale**, E. Stanley Jones Associate Professor of Evangelism at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. Dr. Teasdale specializes in helping ministries attract youth and young adults. Dr. Cowser specializes in community development.

The day will include discussions on relationships between churches and communities, helping people looking for a God connection, and ways to reach out to young people, diverse people, and new people. A donation will be taken for Imagine No Malaria. Lunch will be provided. At the 2pm District Annual Meeting an offering will be taken for local Community Developer support. We encourage each Metro Districts Church to give toward these offerings, whether or not the church can be represented at the event. RSVP to Barb Ridgely, 414-271-5080 or metro@wisconsinumc.org.

Attend Bishop Jung's Laity Leadership Convocation!

All laity in Wisconsin are invited to attend Bishop Jung's second annual Laity Leadership Convocation on February 13-14, 2015, at Wesley UMC in Wausau.

We will learn about the redistricting plan, the Imagine No Malaria campaign, and our New Faith Development/Starts. We will engage in Bible study, celebrate our gifts, recognize laity leadership, worship and praise, study and vision, break bread and enjoy fellowship.

Event begins at 7pm on Friday, February 13th. with a banquet and program on redistricting. On Saturday, February 14th the event begins at 9am with registration and ends by 4pm. Friday dinner and Saturday lunch are included. (The Friday dinner is limited to the first 200 people and the Saturday lunch is limited to 230 people.)

For more information and to register go to: https://www.signup4.net/public/ap.aspx?EID=LAIT15E&OID=50

Ash Wednesday Service of Worship



The journey through the Lenten season begins on Wednesday, February 17th at 7:00pm with worship, which will include the imposition of ashes.

Scout Sunday: February 8th

Two dads in our community, Kyle Haile and Paul Warkaske, guide young ones in the early stages of scouting. We welcome these scouts and their families as they serve among us in worship, offer fellowship for the Coffee Hour and share their gifts of leadership and music with us. Special thanks for Mark Humphrey for providing bells teaching and rehearsal time for interested scouts.



First Sunday Forums

Opportunities for you to learn about all types of Missions and how your apportionment dollars are at work. The first Sunday of each month from 9:15am to 10:15am we will have a speaker who is or has been involved with a mission outreach either locally or in another part of the world. The forums will take place in the Gathering Space.

- March 1st: Imagine No Malaria Nicole Wilken
- April 5th: He Is Risen! Happy Easter Sunday!
- \bullet June 7th: In Gathering Collection - School Kits

Automatic Emergency Defibrillator Pr. Kelly

Thanks to a very generous family in our congregation we will be receiving this important piece of emergency medical assistance equipment this month! Watch the weekly Green Sheets and The Cube for training opportunities.



Sunday School Collection

Sunday school children will once again collect travel sized toiletries for our bread and jam folks. Especially needed are items such as tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant, socks for men and women, lotion, nail clippers, and kleenex. We will make up treat bags and include collected items for Valentine's week. A collection box has been started in the Gathering Space.

Thank you,

Miss Debbie Bernal



Giving Gifts of Love Seminar

Leaving your Legacy through Charitable Giving



Wednesday, February 25th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Brown Deer UMC

All Metro Region Churches Invited Refreshments Served – Please RSVP!

Rev. Jean Ehnert Nicholas will have a conversation about helping you meet your charitable giving goals. She will discuss a variety of opportunities available to help you make gifts to our church with assets other than cash. She will not be selling anything! A free gift to all that attend!

Please RSVP to Pastor Paul Armstrong 414-354-4477

Or email PArmstrong@wisconsinumc.org















New Church Office Hours

Beginning February 1st the new church office hours are: Mondays 8:30am - 1:30pm Tuesdays through Fridays 8:30am - 2pm Saturdays, Sundays Closed

Daylight Saving Time Begins

Sunday, March 8 2am

Making Sense of Prayer Adult Study

Offered by Dwight Judy
Oak Creek Community
UMC
March 21st

Details to Come

2015 January Giving Record										
Fund	Rec'd This Month	Needed Monthly	(Short)/Over This Month	Rec'd This Year	Needed This Year	(Short)/Over This Year				
General	\$12,147	\$17,851	(\$5,705)	\$12,147	\$17,851	(\$5,705)				
Apportionment	\$1,565	\$2,361	(\$796)	\$1,565	\$2,361	(\$796)				
Totals	\$13,712	\$20,212	(\$6,501)	\$13,712	\$20,212	(\$6,501)				

^{*}Apportionments were paid in full

Ministry Spotlight

by Katy Meyer

Focus On:

Ministry Spotlight: Divine Intervention

What began as a winter service to individuals living without a warm home, has become a year round ministry. Leading the effort is Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church located at 125 W. Saveland, in the Bay View neighborhood. We know that Wisconsin nights can be deathly bitter at their worst and terribly uncomfortable even at their best. Divine Intervention doors are open nightly December 1 - March 31 and the program is considered an "Overnight Prayer Vigil/Warming Room". Perhaps one of the greatest benefits of the ministry is the growth of an on-going meal program called S.O.S. Meals (Sharing Our Suppers), which are Friday nights at 6pm April 1 - November 31 and are hosted at various Bay View Churches. WE ARE ONE OF THOSE CHURCHES! This is a chance for building community and bridges of understanding. I had the opportunity to serve as a host for a Friday night potluck this Fall and it was a excellent experience to humbly host and share a meal. The program focus is dignity so diners can serve themselves rather than holding out their plate for a "handout". There are 39 intra-faith communities that work together and attempt to provide these basic needs of food, warmth and companionship.

How can YOU HELP? Well, in the Winter months monetary and in-kind donations are extremely appreciated. You can also volunteer as a Nightly Host after attending an annual training session.

WISH LIST ITEMS INCLUDE:

- Bus tickets (for health, dental appointments, interviews, support during inclement weather)
- Environmentally friendly rock salt for winter sidewalks
- Decaf and Regular Fair-trade Coffee, Creamer and Sugar
- Toilet Paper & Paper Towels & Kleenex and cough drops
- New/Gently used socks, new underwear, male and female long johns, bras, warm gloves
- The ONLY CLOTHES needed are: Sweat pants and shirts for medium sized for men and medium/large sized for women.
- Shavers
- Hand warmers
- Individual portioned laundry soap (pods work great) and drier sheets.
- McDonalds Gift Cards and Target Gift Cards

Campers that do not participate in the Divine Intervention Warming Room are also served by a program called "Larry Under the Bridge", which provides bagged dinners and basic supplies 52 Sundays per year!

When Spring comes around again, won't you join us in the Gathering Space and volunteer as hosts for Sharing Our Supper?

Watch out for Penguins! We have been learning about ice and snow, even brining the snow inside! We will be learning about penguins and will soon be making life-size penguins for the hall. We are having our parent teacher conferences earlier this year to help parents as they select a school for next year.



If you know of someone whose child will be 3 by Dec 31st, 2015 we will have an Open House on March 1st at 12:30pm. More details to come.

Miss Martha, Miss Debbie, Miss Nicole, Miss Mary and Miss Karen

February 1st Vivian Beyer

February 3rd Debra Bernal Valanee Schmitz

February 4th Saydee Kallio William Payne

February 6th Muriel Blackwood Donald Decker

February 9th Dorothy Cigale February 14th Sara Lewin

> February 15th Ethlyn Roepke Kitty Schaefer Bob Schaefer

> February 18th Paul Warkaske

February 23rd Robin Arpke-Lone

February 24th Maria Romfoe

February 26th Nancy Grzesiak February 27th Ben Greenberg

March 4th Anthony Bernal

Calendar 2015 February

AA: Alcoholics Anonymous ESCP: East Side Chamber Players FSF: First Sunday Forum - Missions

LSP: Loving Start Preschool NA: Narcotics Anonymous KEY: PEP: People Enjoying People SECA: South East Clergy

SPR: Staff Parish Relations

WBC: Wesleyan Bell Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY	Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
l 8:15am Worship 9:15am Coffee Hour 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am FSF 9:15am Breaking Bread 10:45am Worship 2pm GriefShare 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA Mtg	2 6:30pm Music Team 7pm AA Mtg	3 8:45am LSP 10am AA Mtg 12:15pm LSP 5:30pm AA Mtg 6:30pm Praise Band	4 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 12:30pm SECA	5 8:45am LSP 12:15pm LSP 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm AA Mtg 7:30pm WBC	6 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg	7 9:30am UM Metro Annual Event 10:30am AA Mtg
9:15am Coffee Hour	9 8:45am LSP 6pm Amazing Faith 7pm AA Mtg	10 8:45am LSP 10am AA Mtg 12:15pm LSP 5:30pm AA Mtg 6pm Trustees Mtg	11 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 12:30pm Cards 7pm Craft Ministry	12 8:45am LSP 12:15pm LSP 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm AA Mtg 7:30pm WBC	13 8:45am LSP 5pm Suzuki Strings 7pm NA Mtg 7pm Laity Leadership Convocation	14 9am Laity Leadership Convocation 10:30am AA Mtg Valentine's Day
15 8:15am Worship 9:15am Coffee Hour 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 2pm GriefShare 3pm Bread & Jam 4pm Confirmation 7pm AA Mtg	16 8:45am LSP 1pm Memory Café 6pm Finance Mtg 7pm AA Mtg 7pm District 28 AA Presidents' Day	17 8:45am LSP 10am AA Mtg 12:15pm LSP 4:30pm Mardi Gras Pancake Supper 5:30pm AA Mtg 6:30pm Praise Band Shrove Tuesday	18 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 7pm Ash Wednesday Worship Service Ash Wednesday	19 8:45am LSP 12:15pm LSP 5:30pm TED Talks Bible Study 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm AA Mtg 7:30pm WBC	20 8:45am LSP 2pm PEP: Train Show & Fish Fry 7pm NA Mtg	21 10:30am AA Mtg 5pm WFAA Open Meeting 7pm East Side Chamber Players Free Concert
22 8:15am Worship 9:15am TED Talks Bible Study 9:15am Coffee Hour 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 2pm GriefShare 3pm Bread & Jam 4pm Confirmation 7pm AA Mtg	23 8:45am LSP 6:30pm New Jim Crow Adult Study 7pm AA Mtg	24 8:45am LSP 10am AA Mtg 12:15pm LSP 5:30pm AA Mtg	25 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 10am Planned Giving Seminar 12:30pm Cards 7pm Craft Ministry	26 8:45am LSP 9am Men's Breakfast 12:15pm LSP 5:30pm TED Talks Bible Study 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm AA Mtg 7:30pm WBC	27 8:45am LSP 5pm Suzuki Strings 7pm NA Mtg	28 9am Dr Seuss! 10:30am AA Mtg
1 8:15am Worship 9:15am TED Talks Bible Study 9:15am Coffee Hour 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am FSF 10:45am Worship 12:30pm LSP Open House 2pm GriefShare 3pm Bread & Jam 4pm Confirmation 7pm AA Mtg	2 8:45am LSP 6:30pm New Jim Crow Adult Study 7pm AA Mtg	3 8:45am LSP 10am AA Mtg 12:15pm LSP 5:30pm AA Mtg 6:30pm Praise Band 7:15pm SPR Mtg	4 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 12:30pm SECA	5 8:45am LSP 12:15pm LSP 5:30pm TED Talks Bible Study 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm AA Mtg 7:30pm WBC	6 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg	7 10:30am AA Mtg 2pm Baby Shower

BAY VIEW United Methodist Church

2772 S Kinnickinnic Ave Milwaukee, WI 53207

Phone: 414-744-4036 Fax: 414-744-4928

Email: officeadmin@bayviewumc.org

Pastor Kelly Fowler

Phone: 414-378-4012

Email: pastorkelly@bayviewumc.org

Pastor Andy Oren

Phone: 414-744-3927

Email: pastorandy@bayviewumc.org

February

We're on the web: bayviewumc.org

■ Hope is here. ♥ Love is here. **﴿** Family is here.

Let Us Pray



For our Mission Team going to Texas the week of February 8th.



For our Student Pastor, Eddie Crise, as he prepares for his Board of Ordained Ministry interview for Commissioning.

WINTER SERVICES:

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



Please Recycle

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday 8:30am - 1:30pm

Tuesday through Friday 8:30am - 2:00pm