

# CONNECTION Newsletter

OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.™



## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and Siblings in Jesus Christ,

I want us to continue the story that we started in September following our sermon series on “A Way Forward” which dealt with race relations, particularly exploring the African American community. I don’t know about you, but I learned so much from this series. Beyond the reading of a sermon outline and statements provided by the author of the series Rev. Brian Mckee, I turned to books, interviews, documentaries, and many articles. The series was only four weeks, but it felt like we covered years worth of material. Some of the facts I stated and learned are still on my mind. I cannot imagine how one could have survived during the slave trade. I cannot imagine being on a boat shackled to other slaves. The journey lasted months. The boat was filled with decay, death, horrible smells. It was inhumane treatment. As we know, some of this treatment that sends shock to our heart still occurs today.

Where can we go from here? Well, the conversations need to continue. Some of you have emailed me or have told me in conversation how meaningful this series was in your reflection. I am glad God was working and present in these acts of worship. I urge you to turn to the local public library and find the latest books on some of these topics. Maybe consider studying on how Milwaukee lived through these topics and are currently struggling in these moments of history. What if we found someone who thought differently than ourselves and we had a phone conversation or a safe-distanced conversation on some of the topics we covered in September?

You see, there are many ways for us to continue the conversation. What we did in September was only the start. It was laying the foundation. We must keep up the momentum. Each time we see a headline that bothers us, let us bring it up in coffee hour before or after our Sunday worship that meets online. What if you and I had a parishioner of the month to be Zoom-pals or phone-pals with? What could we share with each other? How can we support each other? If this would be of interest to you, please let me know and I can provide a name for you. Of course, if you want to be on our “no way” list, I would also like to know that information too.

In a few weeks, at the end of October, there will be a sermon that explores the scripture from Matthew’s Gospel on “the greatest commandment”. We know this as “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind...And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37-39, NRSV).

This is a command that should be on our minds constantly and one that lives deep within our hearts. Every action we carry out in life should be done through the lens of this scripture. After all, being a Christian is about how we love God and how we love neighbor. As a Jewish rabbi says, “Love God...

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...and love neighbor; everything else is commentary.” This is particularly of interest to us right now because we are just one month shy of a nasty political election. All sides of the aisle are not behaving well. It is embarrassing. Yet, I myself and you too are stuck in the midst of it, and most likely we add, whether on purpose or on accident, fuel to fire.

This is part of the journey of life though. We were never promised a smooth life. Actually, Jesus did say that if we associated with him, our lives would be filled with persecution, misunderstandings, tribulations, and turmoil. Yet my friends, do not give up! God is with us in this walk of life. We have one another to support and protect. Will you and I stand up for those who need justice? Will we defend the widow, the orphan, the innocent, the mistreated? Will we feed the hungry? Clothe the naked? Shelter the homeless? Embrace those who are different with love?

The choice is ours. God gives us the gifts to make it reality. Just say yes and watch what happens!

Be blessed,  
Pastor Kevin

## Upcoming Events

### Monday-Saturday

Every Monday through Saturday at 10am

Daily Devotional

[www.facebook.com/BVUMC](http://www.facebook.com/BVUMC)

Join Pastor Kevin on Facebook Live

for a daily devotional based on Scripture.

### Wednesdays

Wednesdays at 3pm

Weekly Bible Study

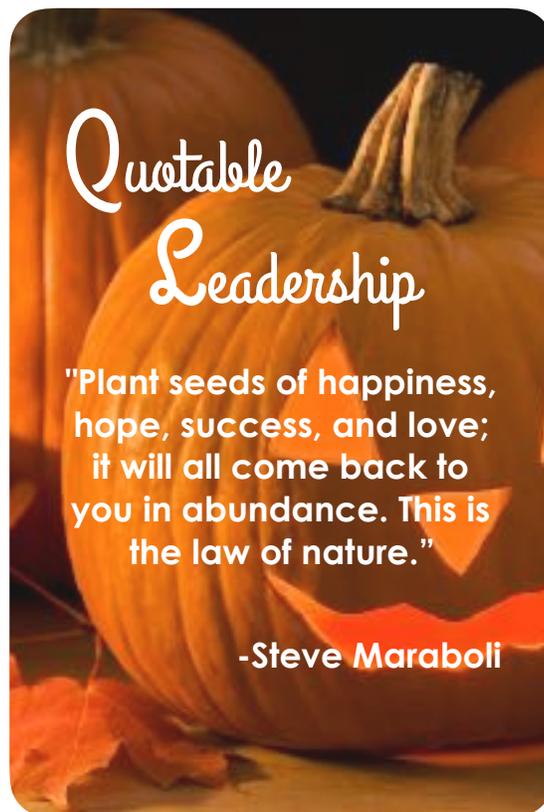
Zoom

Study the weekly lectionary scriptures with us on Zoom!

*Zoom link:* <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83173053327>

#### NOTE

Please see time changes for Bible Study and Sunday Coffee Hour



### Sundays

Sundays at 9:45am: Facebook Live Service of Worship

*Facebook Live:* [www.facebook.com/BVUMC](http://www.facebook.com/BVUMC)

Virtual Coffee Half-Hour will be held AFTER worship at 10:50am for October!

*Zoom Coffee Hour Link:* <https://bayviewumc.org/wordpress/events/>

Meet us at 9:45am on Facebook Live for our service of worship, then hop over to Zoom after worship for a half an hour of coffee-time fellowship! If you would like to be e-mailed the bulletin and hymns, please e-mail: [officeadmin@bayviewumc.org](mailto:officeadmin@bayviewumc.org) to be added to our weekly email list!

# Bread & Jam

During this global pandemic, we have been unable to serve weekly hot meals— but that hasn't stopped our ministry! We are still handing out bagged lunches every Sunday from 2:30pm-3:30pm at the Pryor Avenue Door.



We need volunteers to help assemble and pass out bagged lunches.

Please don't hesitate to reach out for a date where we could use your help! If you would like to help out, we are in need of donations for bagged lunch items, especially jars of creamy peanut butter. We also are accepting donations of juice boxes, applesauce, individually bagged chips/pretzels (snack sized for lunch), and granola bars.

If you are able to donate, please drop your donations at the church during office hours or email [kelly.heipel@bayviewumc.org](mailto:kelly.heipel@bayviewumc.org) to make arrangements.

## “Giving: 'Tis the Gift to Be Simple”

Jim Wells, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

*“'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free; 'tis the gift to come down where you ought to be”*

(Simple Gifts/Shaker Hymn, Joseph Brackett)

During the Covid-19 pandemic, most of us are living under conditions of enforced simplicity. There are fewer luxuries and entertainments to spend money on and for most of us, less traveling, shopping, and visiting. Although, some people find the forced confinement to be stressful itself, most people are, all in all, under less of the kinds of stress they usually experience. John Wesley, in his sermon, “The Use of Money (#50),” insists that simplicity is essential for the Godly use of money. If we earn all we can honestly, then we are to save all we can, meaning retain all we can, by not using it wastefully. Rather than spending on luxury foods and personal ornaments (home, fashion, etc.), says Wesley, we should “be content with what plain nature requires.” Nor, should we lead our children into an extravagant lifestyle. Why, then are we saving? In order to serve God through 1) supplying your own simple needs, 2) and the needs of your family and household, and then 3) giving your surplus to the “household of faith” and to other people for their simple needs. We are not the proprietors of creation, but rather the stewards of it. So, when we are planning an expenditure, Wesley advises us to ask, 1) am I acting as a proprietor or a steward? 2) am I following Scripture? 3) can I offer this as a sacrifice to God, through Jesus Christ? and 4) will this action be judged as righteous? There are plenty of churches and people in need during the pandemic. This is a good time to get even better at God's simplicity. As Wesley says in ending his sermon, “Give all ye have, as well as all ye are, a spiritual sacrifice to Him who withheld not from you his Son, his only Son.”

# Kelly Heipel

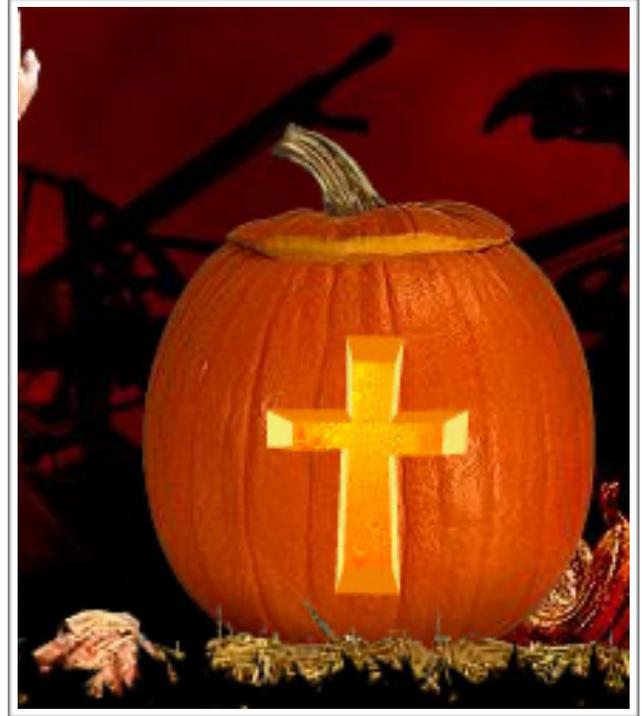
Happy Fall! I hope you all are staying safe and finding creative ways to keep yourselves entertained during these unique times. Some of you may have driven by and noticed that our “butterfly garden” has been updated to new art on our fence near the parking lot. If you have not seen it yet, here is a picture of it, and I would encourage you to get out and take a drive by to check it out:



The colors of the rainbow were used to let our LGBTQ brothers and sisters that they are welcome and have a safe place at Bay View United Methodist to worship. Within the rainbow colors are the colors white, brown and black to signify the social justice movement that continues throughout our nation right now, to show our brothers and sisters of all races, nationalities and ethnicities that we stand with them for equality and they too have a place to call home here at BVUMC. Stay well!

# Complete A Christian Pumpkin Carving Story You'll Love

If you plan to carve a pumpkin with your kids this month, here's a great Christian pumpkin carving story that will turn this activity into a memorable learning opportunity. It's hard to stop with the busyness of life and take time to do an activity like this with your kids, but it's so important. We are the teachers and the leaders of our children, so who better to learn just how much God loves us than from us! Being a Christian isn't always easy, but God's love covers our sins and makes us shiny and new all over again. It's an important lesson we need to hear everyday.



## **Start Your Christian Pumpkin Carving Story like this:**

Being a Christian is kind of like being a pumpkin.  
Here's what God does when we invite Him into our hearts...

### **Step 1: Wash Your Pumpkin**

**Say** – “We’re not a pumpkin, but we’re kind of like one. God picks us from the patch, brings us in and washes us clean. Just like a pumpkin, we have an inside and an outside. People only see the outside, but God sees the inside as well.”

**Bible Verse** – 1 Samuel 16:7 – “The LORD does not look at the things humanity looks at. Humanity looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

### **Step 2: Carve An Opening In The Top**

Make sure the opening of the pumpkin is large enough to fit your hand in to. Continue with the Christian pumpkin carving story by saying...

**Say** – “God wants to change our inside, but the only way God can do it is if we become open to God.”

**Bible Verse** – Revelation 3:20 – “Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them, and they with me.”

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### **Step 3: Put Your Hand In And Pull Out The Insides**

**Say** – “God scoops out all the yucky stuff, the sin, in our lives. God removes the seeds of doubt, hate, impurity and greed. Jesus was willing to get messy for us...He died on the cross to cleanse us from all our sins.”

**Bible Verse** – Ezekiel 36:25b-27 – “I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.”

### **Step 4: Carve The Eyes And Smiling Face**

**Say** – “Jesus gives you a new smiling face. When all the yucky stuff (sin) is gone, you feel so happy!”

**Bible Verse** – Proverbs 23:26 – My son/daughter/sibling, give me your heart and let your eyes keep to my ways.

### **Step 5: Add A Votive Candle To The Inside Of The Pumpkin**

**Say** – “If we leave the pumpkin empty, it will just be hollow. We need God’s light inside of us to make us alive! When Jesus lives inside of you, you can glow! You will want to tell people about God, be kind to others and bless others more than yourself.”

**Bible Verse** – John 8:12 – “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

May we make the most of every opportunity to teach our kids about God,  
scripture and what God means to us...

“Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the LORD swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.”

~Deuteronomy 11:18-21

### **Christian Pumpkin Carving Story More Ideas:**

- ★ Follow up this Christian pumpkin carving story and activity with a prayer about how you can be God’s shining light into the dark world.
- ★ Make a pact that when you see the carved pumpkin during the day that you will pray for someone.
- ★ Talk about some ways that you can be “God’s shining light” during the month of October.
- ★ Give A Smile: Carve and decorate a pumpkin to give away to a neighbor, family member or friend!

# Encourage Church Leaders This 'Pastor Appreciation Month'

By Troy Pollock

2020 has been unpredictable, unstable, and unlike any other year in recent history. Churches were forced to pivot overnight and build completely new ministry strategies to reach their communities. In the same way, church attendees were compelled to change the way they attend a worship service, engage with other members, and participate in Christian community. However, one thing that does not have to change is the way we show pastors our appreciation for all they do.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month This celebration was established in 1992 with the mission of uplifting and encouraging pastors, missionaries and religious workers. And, in 2020, they could probably use a little more encouragement than normal.

## **Why It's Important to Encourage Pastors**

At Summit Conference 2019 in Dallas, TX, Carey Nieuwhof polled a live audience of more than 1,300 church leaders. He asked, "Over the past year, how many times have you experienced burnout symptoms?" A shocking 46% said they've experienced burnout once or twice in the past year. Another 38% said regularly (3-6 times) in the past year, and 9% said constantly. That's 92% of church leaders who have experienced burnout in the past year. And this was last year, before any of us had heard of COVID-19. What would the survey results look like now, if we asked 1,300 church leaders the same question today? I can't say for sure, but I'm guessing it would be closer to 100%.

Why? Pastors and church leaders went into ministry because of purpose and calling. They want to help people. They want to share the good news, make heaven more crowded, and make the world a better place. But today, the stresses and expectations of the role mean pastors have far less time to pray and care for the spiritual needs of their congregation. Additionally, as a result of our politically charged and divided culture, pastors often feel pressured to speak about current events and issues dominating the news cycle.

A senior pastor recently said to me, "This is not the job I signed up for. I went into ministry because I wanted to share the same grace and forgiveness I found from God with others. But today, I am forced to talk on things I know very little about.. It's challenging. For the first time in my 35 years of ministry, I have contemplated resigning more often than ever before."

So, what can you do? Here are a few little suggestions that can make a big difference in the life of your pastor.

## **A Handwritten Thank You Note**

Though this may seem insignificant, oftentimes written words can be the most encouraging for a pastor to read. Pastors are continually fighting the mental battle that they are not doing a good job. A handwritten note is something they can continually go back to as a source of strength.

*(Continued on next page)*

### **An Encouraging Text Message or Video from Your Smartphone**

With the power of a smartphone, you can send encouragement through the click of a button. Craft a heartfelt message and send it via text to your pastor, expressing your appreciation for them. Make them laugh, or reflect on easier times, and they'll remember why they do this for a living. Or you can flip the video around to selfie mode and film yourself — and your family — saying nice things to your pastor. Because many churches are still not gathering in physical locations, they would love seeing your faces!

### **A Social Post**

If you don't have the ability to text them, post a message on social media using their handle. Maybe share your favorite bible verse, or tell them you're thinking back to one of your favorite sermons. Oftentimes, this will go directly to their phone. And if it's a public post, it may remind others who see it to do the same!

### **Generous Giving – Make a Financial Contribution to Your Church That's a Little More than Usual**

Churches sometimes offer a giving fund option in the month of October where people can express their generosity directly to that fund. This goes straight to your pastors and will be a great blessing to them heading into the holidays. If your church doesn't have a Pastor Appreciation Month fund, maybe contact your church's office and request the option to give directly to your pastor as a "special gift."

### **Prepare a Gift Basket**

If a financial contribution is not the route you want to go, preparing a gift basket with snacks and goodies is a great way to create something more personal without breaking the bank. You can even include a gift card to their favorite restaurant – a dinner date on you will always be greatly appreciated by your pastor. There are so many ways we can come alongside our church leaders to let them know we see them, we hear them, and we appreciate them. Remember, a simple word of encouragement goes a long way, especially during this unprecedented time.



## **Candy Corn Facts**

**Candy Corn was created in the 1880s.**

**It was originally called "Chicken Feed".**

**The National Confectioners Association estimates 9 billion kernels are sold every year.**

**Beeswax is used to make its shiny outer coating.**

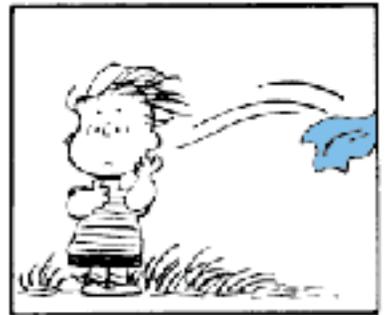
**Candy Corn is not vegan, it's not gluten-free, it's not dairy-free, and it's not egg-free.**



"I know it's early, Pastor, but I figured you'd be up praying."



Church planner Rick was familiar with Unchurched Harry and Mary, but nothing in his preparations had trained him for Green Boy Gary.



## Church Mice

Copyright Karl A. Zorowski



I HEARD YOU MADE A COSTUME FOR THE FALL FESTIVAL...

YEP... I CUT SOME HOLES IN A SHEET

ZOROWSKI



DEACON, IT'S A CHURCH EVENT, NOT HALLOWEEN! YOU WILL NOT GO DRESSED LIKE A GHOST!



I'M GOING AS THE HOLY GHOST!

For the safety of our children, families and staff, Loving Start Preschool will remain closed for the first semester. We will continue to monitor COVID safety regulations and meet with the preschool board in December. In the meantime, we decided to record ourselves and send out fun videos to our families once a week. These videos contain some of our most popular songs and stories which can be enjoyed by the whole family.



We want to extend our thanks to Bay View United Methodist Church and all our dedicated families for their continued support! We hope everyone stays healthy and safe!

Miss Annie, Miss Karen and Miss Mary



**October 3**

Kathleen Kronenberg

**October 5**

Shirley Mae Zoeller

**October 6**

Brenda Comp

**October 7**

Dave Haefner

Kate Krempel

**October 9**

Marianna Bernal

Robin Collins

**October 11**

Sally Warkaske

**October 14**

Kelly Heipel

**October 15**

Gregory Decker

**October 19**

Angela Jackson

**October 21**

Harlan Tranmal

**October 24**

Carol Ann

Kucharski

**October 28**

Scott Elliot

Hertha Kornkven

**October 30**

Thomas Lelivelt

**October 31**

Kim Elliot



# October 2020



**KEY:**

AA: Alcoholics Anonymous  
 ALB: Accountable Leadership Board  
 FB Live: Facebook Live  
 FSF: First Sunday Forum - Missions  
 LSP: Loving Start Preschool

MLCS: Main Level Concert Series  
 NA: Narcotics Anonymous  
 PEP: People Enjoying People  
 SECA: South East Clergy  
 SPR: Staff Parish Relations  
 WBC: Wesleyan Bell Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 10am Daily Devotional on FB Live	2 10am Daily Devotional on FB Live	3 10am Daily Devotional on FB Live
4 9:45am Worship Service on FB Live 10:50am Virtual Coffee Half Hour on Zoom 2:30pm Bread and Jam Bagged Lunch Ministry	5 10am Daily Devotional on FB Live	6 10am Daily Devotional on FB Live	7 10am Daily Devotional on FB Live 3pm Bible Study on Zoom	8 10am Daily Devotional on FB Live	9 10am Daily Devotional on FB Live	10 10am Daily Devotional on FB Live
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# Bay View United Methodist Church

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## **Pastor Kevin Dembinski**

Phone: 920-255-2402

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



*October*  
2020

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



Hope is here. Love is here. Family is here.

WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAYS  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BVUMC](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BVUMC):

9:45am Worship



*Please Recycle*

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday,  
Wednesday  
9am - 1pm  
Friday  
9am - 3pm