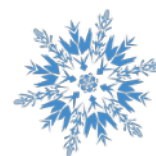


BAY VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# CONNECTION Newsletter

OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.™



## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and Siblings in Jesus Christ,

The day is finally here my friends! The year 2020 is in the history books, and believe me, it will definitely be in the history books. With excitement yet also with some hesitation, I wonder what 2021 will bring to our world. I admit that my greatest fear is 2020 repeat. Do you remember one of my previously favorite movies "Groundhog Day"? I know, I know. I could hear many of you give a loud groan and grunt at hearing the title of that movie. Many thought the movie was horrible. What is the point of a movie that repeats itself for hours when it really could have ended within 15 minutes?

We bring our 2020 fears with us into this new year. It is a time of new beginnings. It is a time to forget past events that were rough and move onward. It is our chance to turn the page of history. There is a hymn in our hymnal called "This Is a Day of New Beginnings." The words could be our New Year's resolutions and suggestions of how we transition from 2020 to 2021. Listen to the words...

*This is a day of new beginnings,  
time to remember and move on,  
time to believe what love is bringing  
laying to rest the pain that's gone.*

*Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,  
step from the past and leave behind  
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving,  
seeking new paths, and sure to find.*

*Christ is alive, and goes before us  
to show and share what love can do.  
This is a day of new beginnings;  
our God is making all things new.*

The words are so powerful. A new year is about a new path forward and knowing that God is already leading us into something new. This is a hymn of Good News. All of the pain, sorrow, grief, fear of the past is set before Christ who took it all to the cross and then to the grave. The love of God through Christ is making our past into a new present. The cross did not end in death. There was the power of the resurrection. It was something unimagined. It was a gift of life eternal for all people. My friends, Christ is alive! Christ goes before us and Christ is already with us right now in this moment.

Whatever the year 2021 may bring our way, know that we are not alone. The world is watching and...

*(Continued on next page)*

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...waiting to see what is in store for all the nations. The journey is far from over. Yet, can you dream new dreams? Can you envision new hopes? Could this be the year of Jubilee? Could this year be the year of freedom from the wilderness journey? Is this our resurrection this year, however you may interpret new life?

I look forward to walking with you all in these next 365 days of 2021. We have endured a lot and I am sure we will endure more. However, I am in this with you and I pray you are in this with me. Through our prayers, service, gifts, witness, and soon I hope our presence together, we will continue to transform our world, our nation, our state, and our communities that we call home. We can become the gift of difference in someone's life this year. May it be so!

Happy New Year! Welcome 2021!

*Pastor Kevin*



## Upcoming Events

### Wednesdays

Wednesdays at 3pm

Weekly Bible Study on Zoom

Study the weekly lectionary scriptures with us on Zoom!

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

### Sundays

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

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

Virtual Coffee Half-Hour will be held

after worship at 10:50am

*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!

## Quotable Leadership

**"Be at war with your  
vices, at peace with your  
neighbors, and let every  
new year find you a  
better man."**

**-Benjamin Franklin**

# 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.



## “Because our Giving Is Worship”

Jim Wells, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

*“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.”*

(2 Corinthians 9:10-12)

God established a design for worshipping when God revealed to Moses the plan for the Tent of Meeting (aka Tabernacle). Central to that worship was sacrificial giving. God required gifts of animals and grain be brought to the Tabernacle to be sacrificed and offered to God because it was pleasing to God. These gifts were the first fruits of the agricultural work of the people representing a tithe (10%) of their production. God knew that an institution like Temple worship would require resources to be sustained. We read in the Old Testament that the people’s gifts of meat and bread, cooked in a way pleasing to God, directly provided food for the priests, guards, and caretakers of the temple and the spiritual leaders of the tribes. Sharing the fruits of the harvest became the large feasts we read about in Jesus’ time. In the modern Christian church, we maintain this pattern of giving designed by God. Now, people are called to give in a way pleasing to God: first fruits representing 10% of each family’s productivity. Though, in modern times, it is money rather than agricultural produce. These gifts to God, offered and dedicated in our worship services, are used to maintain the institution of the church by supporting its ministry and mission. This includes worship, congregational care, spiritual development, hospitality & outreach, and missions by way of support for clergy and staff, building maintenance and other budgetary items. What we can conclude from this is that we give first because it is a gift pleasing to God. As a result of our giving to God in worship, we also support all aspects of the important work of the church.

# New Year's Resolutions

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

"I never make New Year's Resolutions, anymore," the man told me, "I never keep them, anyway." I can remember all too many resolutions I've made and let slip away, too. But I believe New Year's resolutions are worth making. Let me tell you why.

First, we all need changes. Some we find very hard to admit to ourselves. I've heard people who say, "I have no regrets about my life. If I had it to do over, I'd do it the same way again." But that attitude is way too blind and self-serving so far as I'm concerned. There is great power in confession--to ourselves, to God, to others. Owning up to our failures is the first, painful step on the road to something better.

Second, when we change calendars is a good time for reassessment. How did last year go? What do I want to do differently this year? This time of year always reminds me of a passage of scripture, better understood by farmers than suburbanites: "Break up your unplowed ground, and do not sow among thorns" (Jer 4:3). It makes sense. The more land you put into production, the more prosperous you'll be. But some of us are stupid enough to try to sow seeds in land overrun by star thistle without breaking up the soil and taking care to root out the thorns as they come up. Call it laziness. Call it stupidity.

Let me ask you a serious question. What percentage of your life is producing something of value to God? How much "unplowed ground" do you have that ought to be broken up in this coming year and made useful? Reassessment. The brink of a new year is a good time for reassessment.

Third, New Year's is an excellent time for mid-course corrections. Sure, we might fail in what we set out to do, but if we fail to plan, the old saw goes, then we plan to fail. If you're so fearful of failure that you never set up your row of tin cans to shoot at, you're not very likely to hit any at all. Failure is not the end. For the person who determines to learn from it, failure is a friend.

*(Continued on next page)*





One of my heroes in the Bible is the Apostle Paul. Talk about failure! Throughout his life he was opposed, persecuted, shipwrecked, stoned and left for dead, deserted by trusted co-workers, slandered, and scorned. Sometimes it seemed that projects to which he had devoted years were turning to dust before his eyes. But during from one of his stints in prison, we can see from one of his letters an unwillingness to quit. "Forgetting what is behind," he wrote, "and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Phil 3:13-14, NIV) No wonder he made a mark on his world. He stopped looking back, and looked forward instead. He didn't let the fear of failure keep him from trying again.

Fourth, New Year's is a time to learn to rely more heavily on the grace of God. Now I've met a few self-made men and women and so have you, but so often these people seem proud and driven. There is another way: beginning to trust in God's help. One more secret from the Apostle Paul: "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength," he said (Phil 4:13, NIV). And God's strength saw him through a lot--through pain, through joy, and through accomplishment.

If this last year, you didn't practice relying on the Lord as much as you should have, there is no time like the present to make a New Year's resolution. In fact, why don't you say a short prayer right now--use these words if you like: "Dear God, I want the new year to be different for me." Now spell out in prayer some of the changes you'd like to see. And close this way: "Lord Jesus, I know that I'm going to need a lot of help for this. So right now I place myself in your hands. Help me to receive Your strength. Amen." Good. Now you've got a much better chance of a Happy New Year.



# New Year's Resolution

Resolution	Complete By	Done
1.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
9.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
10.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
11.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
12.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
13.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
14.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
15.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No





# BAY VIEW Historian



VOLUME 2020, NO. 4

[www.bayviewhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.bayviewhistoricalsociety.org)

WINTER

Look who  
made the  
News!



## 1912 Signature Quilt Donated to BVHS

BY KATHY MULVEY

Jan Larsen, longtime Bay View resident and member of Bay View United Methodist Church, has given to the historical society a spectacular large signature quilt. The quilt was made in 1912 as a fundraiser for the church by women of the Ladies Aid Society of Trinity M.E. Church (the present-day Bay View United Methodist Church, where Beulah Brinton was a member.)

Ms. Larsen said that the quilt was purchased by Attorney Clarence Bullock. Mr. Bullock gave the quilt to his sisters who lived at 2977 S. Superior St. Gert Bullock was the last of the Bullock sisters to live here and she moved out of the house in the 1950s. At this time, Gert gave the quilt to Ms. Larsen who has kept it in fine condition through all the years since.

The quilt features 62 squares, each with a woman's name in the center (the maker of the square?) and 10 names radiating out like rays around the center. Were these family names, neighbors, other Church members? We do not yet know. Each name is embroidered in red thread on a white background. Smaller squares and triangles between the circles and around the edges feature two or more additional names. All told, there are more than 1,400 signatures in the quilt.

Some of the names in the quilt are familiar, such as Bullock, Steiner, Burdock and Saveland. But all of the names are probably those of people who walked the streets of Bay View more than a century ago.

So much history is contained in this gift, and the Archives Committee is working to make sense of it all. If you might have information that would help, please contact the committee at [kfmulvey90@gmail.com](mailto:kfmulvey90@gmail.com) or 414-744-0408. As soon as we have worked out how to properly protect and display the quilt, and when it is once again safe for people to come together, we will have a grand time showing it to you all.



ENCOURAGING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY BY PRESERVING, CELEBRATING AND SHARING BAY VIEW'S RICH HERITAGE.

ONE

# Some Reasons for Christians to be Happy

by Mike Batot

Christians should be the happiest people in the world. Paul told Christians to rejoice in the Lord always (Phil. 4:4). The Hebrews writer encouraged the Jews who converted to Christianity to be content with the things they had (Heb. 13:5). We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:1). We are free from sin (Rom. 6:18). The love of God is with us (Rom. 5:5). While there are many other reasons for the Christian to be happy, this list is a good refresher on why we should be happy in this life.

We are to rejoice in the Lord. Christians are called by this name because we are followers of Jesus the Christ, who died for us. The Messiah was sent to seek and save the lost. He became the ultimate sacrifice for us (Luke 19:9-10). On the first day of the week we gather to sing praises to our heavenly Father for the blessings He has given us, and the plan of salvation that He put in place. The reason the Christian is to be happy every day is because we have another day to rejoice in the Lord. We can rejoice by praising His name through prayer, by giving Him public credit for all we accomplish, or by being a humble servant in helping others. We rejoice because we can do all these things.

When we rejoice in the Lord, we recognize and exhibit an attitude of contentment. We are not constantly in a mind of covetousness. Luke reminds us to avoid this practice (Luke 12:15). The Christian finds happiness in the life we have in Christ and not the material things we enjoy. We are content with all we have, and to be called Christians.

Being content brings peace to our lives. Being in peace with God means we understand whose will we are to follow. We are to let the peace of God rule in our hearts (Col. 3:15). Yes, we will have trials and tribulations in an imperfect world. There is suffering, but when we understand that someday we are going to a place that promises there will be no sorrow, it should bring a measure of peace that we can overcome anything through our faith in God. Having this inner peace in the good times will sustain us during the bad times. I imagine you see or can think of loved ones or friends that go through trying times and yet project an attitude of peace and happiness. This causes those in the world to wonder how someone can have that attitude. It is because the peace of God rules in their hearts.

Having this peace comes from the knowledge that we have become free of sin through obediently following the teaching of Jesus and the will of our Heavenly Father. We are to stand fast in the liberty in which Christ made us free from the bondage of sin. This is a bondage to which we must not return. We know, as children of God, we can repent when we stumble and remain free of the bondage of sin as we go through this life (I John 1:9).

The opportunity to be free comes from the love God has for us. God's love is unconditional. We need to have the same love for God and the souls of men. We should show agape love daily. It should make Christians the happiest people in the world.





You two quit it or I'm turning this caravan right around!



"New Year's resolution—stay this good-looking!"

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 January. 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.

## LOVING START PRESCHOOL



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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### **January 2**

Andrew Corrao

### **January 3**

Tyhesha Shumpert

### **January 9**

Brenda Gebhardt

### **January 10**

Don Evans

Shirley Lone

### **January 15**

Phyllis Ditch

### **January 18**

Gwen Erdman

### **January 20**

Cheryl Berry

### **January 24**

Jan Kosanke

### **January 27**

Francine Knepper

### **January 28**

Sue Neiderheiser

### **January 30**

Gary Haase



# January 2021

**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  Happy New Year!	2
3 9:45am Worship Service on FB Live 10:50am Coffee Hour on Zoom 2:30pm Bread and Jam Bagged Lunch Ministry	4	5	6 3pm Bible Study on Zoom	7	8	9
10 9:45am Worship Service on FB Live 10:50am Coffee Hour on Zoom 2:30pm Bread and Jam Bagged Lunch Ministry	11	12	13 3pm Bible Study on Zoom	14	15	16
17 9:45am Worship Service on FB Live 10:50am Coffee Hour on Zoom 2:30pm Bread and Jam Bagged Lunch Ministry	18  MLK Jr. Birthday (Observed)	19	20 3pm Bible Study on Zoom	21	22	23
24 9:45am Worship Service on FB Live 10:50am Coffee Hour on Zoom 2:30pm Bread and Jam Bagged Lunch Ministry	25	26	27 3pm Bible Study on Zoom	28	29	30
31 9:45am Worship Service on FB Live 10:50am Coffee Hour on Zoom 2:30pm Bread and Jam Bagged Lunch Ministry			 <p>JOIN US ON            FACEBOOK LIVE:  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/BVUMC">www.facebook.com/BVUMC</a></p>			



# Bay View United Methodist Church

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## **Pastor Kevin Dembinski**

Phone: 920-255-2402

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

WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAYS

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

9:45am Worship



*Please Recycle*

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday,  
Wednesday  
9:30am - 1pm  
Friday  
9:30am - 3pm

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

