

BVUMC *Connection*

OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.™

And Jesus said, "Let the children come." "

We offer this invitation responsively every week in worship. A reminder that children are welcomed by God and by our community into our midst and into the ministry we share.

Why put so much emphasis on welcoming?

I began to answer this question in the light of Advent and find myself today looking out from the darkness as the nation grieves with Newtown, CT.

How quickly the darkness can come – and yet we are people of light!

Friends, there are no answers adequately prepared or rightly offered that bring sense to senseless acts. As we bear witness to another act of violence in our schools let us be mindful of Jesus' lifelong mission of shedding light in the darkness. God gives us Jesus as a beacon of hope for our own journey AND as a prompt for our action in the dark places that exist in our world.

Continued on Page 2...

Contents

2 *Pastors' Columns*

Events

3

Events

4

Finances & Events

5

LSP & Birthdays

6

Calendar

7

Contact Info

8



Looking Back, Looking Ahead

As the old year draws to a close and 2013 comes ever closer I'd like to share some wonderful words from Joyce Rupp;

"The old year runs away from me. I hang onto her sleeve but she shakes me loose. Where does the old year go when the new year comes? She slips away into memories, falls into the crevices of wishes and ought-to-have-dones. She waits no longer upon promises, turns her back on might have-beens. The elves of the old year step in, pack up the struggles, store the joys, tuck them away in the bulging

box spreading out on the psyche's floor.

It's up to the new year now. I bring a lot to her domain; expectations, dreams, hopes...and I place them all before her strong, abundant door. I walk into her untamed territory, with a meek apprehension and a vast sense of mystery, assured by the welcome I receive, yet anxious about what is waiting behind the drawn window shade, curious about what I will discover in the hidden folds of her new days."

Continued on Page 2...

And Jesus said ...

...Continued from Page 1

The in-breaking of Emmanuel, God-with-us,
IS the hope AND promised message of Christmas.

Will the adults in our community engage in discussions on the facets of change that we might be called to in the effort of joining Jesus in the work of light-bearing? I hope so. Today, though, the children need us! Those with mental illness need us!

The children need to know that our community is safe space and that they are loved.

Those who struggle with mental illness need a safe place to claim their hopes and fears and to know that they are loved.

The children need to hear God's assurance, through us, that light does triumph darkness.

Those with mental illness need God's assurance, through us, that they are not alone.

And those who work in classrooms and school environs along with those trained as first responders need to have safe space to process, heal, question and regain equilibrium.

As the New Year commences, promise along with me to see, hear and be present for the children. Offer your time to a child in a new way this year here at church, in your families and out in the community. Promise with me to actively participate in the welcoming hospitality our community extends to ALL people. Let us commit ourselves to claiming anew our own place in God's heart as God's children and then, with joy, let us say together {for the sake of ALL}:

"Let the children come." And God will bless us all.

Peace to each of you,

~Pastor Kelly

Looking Back ...

...Continued from Page 1

This past month has personally been tough for me as I've said good-bye to three old friends who live now only in memory but I thank God for these memories and for these friends. Lord knows what the new year will bring but I trust that no matter what joys or sorrows I might encounter, I will face them in the company of blessed friends and a God who will never let me go. Happy new year to you all!

~ Pastor Andy

From the Bay View UMC Office

Thank you to everyone for making my first months here so memorable. I have been welcomed so generously by everyone. I still believe what I said my first day here: this is a strange and wonderful place!

*Paula Zarling
Office Administrator*

Coming Soon from Pastor Andy!

Adult Study

Happy New Year to all! I'm looking at a couple of possible adult study opportunities to begin in January. One possibility is "Embracing a Life of Meaning" featuring noted author Kathleen Norris. This would be similar in nature to the Marcus Borg study I led last fall. I'm just waiting to review the materials before making a final decision. This would be a Monday night class.

New Members

Also, we'll be offering a three to four week new member orientation class, probably on Sunday mornings between services utilizing materials from "A Disciple's Path, Deepening Your Relationship with Christ and the Church." Watch for more information on both of these opportunities on The Cube.

Winter Camp!

Camp Lucerne (near Wautoma) and Pine Lake Camp (near Westfield) are both beautiful and are available to us year round through a variety of opportunities for both children and adults. This year we'll be there the weekend of January 18-20, 2013. It's a great time for families and individuals with lots of opportunity for sledding, ice skating, cross-country skiing or, if you prefer...jigsaw puzzles! Watch for more information on The Cube.

Two Bishop Jung Events

A SPECIAL INVITE TO WISCONSIN'S MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION

Save the date! A Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration hosted by Bishop Jung for the Wisconsin Conference will be held on Sunday, January 20 at 7 pm at Central UMC in Milwaukee. Bishop Linda Lee will be the preacher for the event.

Bishop Jung has asked all the laity of the Metro Region to gather with him for an evening of reflection and study.

I ask you to set aside Thursday, February 21, 2013 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to join Bishop Jung and me at West Allis: Calvary UMC, 3177 S. 107th St., West Allis, WI 53227.

Please RSVP to Barb Ridgely at bridgely@wisconsinumc.org or (414) 271-5080, with the name of your church and number of people attending. More information will follow.

Life-Line Health Screening

Bay View UMC will be hosting a stroke risk assessment day on January 30, between 8am and 4pm in the dining room. An appointment is necessary for this screening. For information or to register, forms are available on the table next to the church office. A list of frequently asked questions is also available.

Some of the frequently asked questions:

Will it hurt? No. We use Doppler, color flow ultrasound, which is painless and considered the gold standard in uncovering early stroke and vascular disease. It is the same equipment commonly used on pregnant women.

How accurate are results? Very. We've been classified as hospital-grade and state of the art.

How old should someone be to get a baseline test? 40 with family history. All those over 50 should be screened so if there are findings, they can get under their doctor's care and receive treatment as early as possible.

What is Connectional Giving?

It's as simple as people coming together, combining their money to accomplish something bigger than themselves. United Methodists support apportioned and designated funds through their connectional gifts.



The General Conference establishes budgets for the denomination's general funds. These are divided among annual conferences, based on a specific formula. Each annual conference, using its own approved formula, divides these fund requests, along with conference administrative and benevolence fund requests, among local churches. In addition, individuals, local churches, districts and annual conferences may make monetary gifts to the designated funds, of which 100 percent goes directly to a specific project or ministry. Together, apportioned and designated funds represent our connectional giving.

By combining several smaller gifts into a larger amount, we can effect change across the world. Individual churches can minister to a small area; however, as a connectional church, we can do big things, all in the name of Jesus Christ. Did you know that your apportionment giving helps all these organizations?

Julie Oren
Finance Team Leader



All are welcome to a new session of GriefShare beginning Saturday, January 5th at 10:00am. This support group is for those coping with loss. For more information or to register contact Allan Eckoldt at (414) 628-4671 or email him at allaneckoldt@sbcglobal.net

From the Stewardship Team

As we go into the New Year, thank you for picking up your giving envelopes, for giving the initial \$2.00 offering found in the box, and thank you for your generosity!

Judy Banta
Stewardship Team Leader

“People think that if they were rich they would contribute to charities. My experience has been that if you don’t start giving away your money when you have very little, you won’t do it when you get a lot.”

~Robert Bainum

From the Finance Team

FINANCE REPORT FOR ENVELOPE GIVING as of November 30, 2012	
Monthly Pledged	\$12,838.00
Received from Pledges	\$11,534.00
Difference	(\$1,304.00)
Total Pledged (January - Sept)	\$141,218.00
Total Received (January - Sept)	\$137,781.00
Difference	(\$3,437.00)
<i>Please Give Generously</i>	
YTD Apportionments	(\$13,420.00)

Save the Date!

Ash Wednesday



Comes early

this year

February 13th

Loving Start Preschool News

December flew by in a whirl of activities - we made gingerbread men (good for arm/hand strength, writing-readiness) and the fur-year-olds made the mistake of opening the oven to peek. (For those of you who don't know, the gingerbread men escape if you look too soon!)

- we made ornaments: squeeze bottles for paint, shaking to mix colors in the ornament, wrapping (all great for hand/arm strength)

- lots and lots of cutting, drawing, painting, and secrets!

Thank you to everyone who purchased cookie dough last month. It is our only fundraiser of the year and is very important to our program.



Miss Martha, Miss Mary, Miss Joan, Miss Dawn

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1st

Jacqueline Nah
Angeline Nah
William Payne
Becky Thomas

4th

Paul Gibson
Phyllis Neumann

6th

Emily Kallio
Gwen Schultz

7th

Brandon Blakeley

10th

Elsa Eggert
Don Evans

10th

Shirley Lone

12th

MacKenzie Daub

13th

Samantha Ilovshek

15th

Phyllis Ditch

18th

Gwen Erdman

20th

Cheryl Berry

22nd

James Felber

24th

Glenwood Haggith

27th

Francine Knepper

28th

Sue Neiderheiser

30th

Doris Chavez
Matthew Daub
Gary Haase



Calendar

January 2013

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
 YAH: Young At Hearts
 NA: Narcotics Anonymous

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1 10am AA 5:30pm AA New Year's Day	2 3:00pm SECA Mtg	3 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 12:15am LSP 6pm Praise Band 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm Keystone AA 7:30pm Wesleyan Bells	4 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg	5 10am Grief Share 10:30am WF AA
6 8:15am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA	7 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 6pm Music Ministry 7pm AA	8 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 10am AA 12:15am LSP 5:30pm AA 6pm Trustees Mtg 7pm Yarn/Quilt Ministry	9 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 12:30pm Card Ministry	10 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 12:15am LSP 6pm Praise Band 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm Keystone AA 7:30pm Wesleyan Bells	11 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg	12 10am Grief Share 10:30am WF AA
13 8:15am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 7pm AA	14 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 7pm Ad Council 7pm AA	15 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 10am AA 12:15am LSP 5:30pm AA	16 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study	17 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 12:15am LSP 6pm Praise Band 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm Keystone AA 7:30pm Wesleyan Bells	18 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg -----Winter	19 10am Grief Share 10:30am WF AA Camp-----
20 8:15am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 7pm AA --Winter Camp-----	21 8:45am LSP 7pm District 28 AA 7pm Finance Mtg 7pm AA	22 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 10am AA 12:15am LSP 5:30pm AA 7pm Quilt/Yarn Ministry	23 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 12:30pm Card Ministry	24 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 12:15am LSP 6pm Praise Band 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm Keystone AA 7:30pm Wesleyan Bells	25 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg	26 10am Grief Share 10am Rain Gutter Regata 10:30am WF AA
27 8:15am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA	28 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 7pm AA	29 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 10am AA 12:15am LSP 5:30pm AA 7:15pm SPR Mtg	30 8am Life-Line Screening 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study	31 8:30am Outpost BHS 8:45am LSP 12:15am LSP 6pm Praise Band 6:30pm Faith Singers 7pm Keystone AA 7:30pm Wesleyan Bells	1	2

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January

2013

We're on the web:
www.bayviewumc.org



**Out of the Heart of our Community,
ALL Are Welcome at Bay View
United Methodist Church**

2772 S Kinnickinnic Ave
bayviewumc.org/wordpress/

414-744-4036

FALL HOURS

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



Please Recycle

OFFICE HOURS:

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

Wednesday

8:30am - 1:30pm