



BAY VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CONNECTION Newsletter

OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.™



Celebrate Each Moment in Ministry

Thanks be to God! The ministries of Bay View UMC are wonderfully blessed by the generous and faithful hearts of this congregation all through the year. Once again, the annual church conference (11.20.16) reflected on a fantastic year of ministry in this place. They acknowledged the hard work of leaders who volunteer their time to bring programming, mission, education and added funds that supplement the operating and apportionment budgets. While we trust that 2016 will end in the black, the group also approved another deficit budget for 2017. Andy and I acknowledged the faithful response to every occasion of need/opportunity and the above and beyond response to the summer season fun-d raisers, as well.

As an urban church, we are committed to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood as well as our church family. This makes for wonderful, exciting ministry that is often unpredictable and chaotic. Our “established”/ “traditional way” of ministry opens us to “moments in ministry” more and more. This focus will be the driver of our discipleship for 2017 – “Methoducks in the Moment” if you will!

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The new accountable leadership board structure, ministry teams, and work teams affirmed at church conference for 2017 will continue to focus on the gifts among us that spark and propel ministry forward. I look forward to the blessing of more ideas, short term opportunities, classes and fun as we work together for God’s glory. I also anticipate a rise in the energy the Spirit will bring as we share our stories, our experiences and the new friends we’ll make through our moments in ministry together.

My dear church family, it is my deepest honor and blessing to serve you. My commitment to celebrating our understanding of God’s call upon us here at Bay View UMC is a joy for me every day! I am blessed with the best colleague on the planet, a cohesive and lovely staff with which to work. We ALL come before you, just as we are, and we appreciate your gentleness, your gratitude and your generosity in collaboration as we continue to serve in the year to come.

Thanks be to God for the ministry of Bay View United Methodist Church!

Pastor Kelly

Reflections on the Election

Several months ago I mentioned in a sermon that regardless of who won our presidential election, God would still be God. I've found myself going back to those words again and again as I try to make sense of what happened on November 8th. Now, before I go any further I want to be clear that this article reflects only my own thoughts and fears, knowing that they might not be yours.

Almost twenty years ago I made a career change that brought me into ministry. I was drawn to this role for a variety of reasons but not the least of them was simply people. I found myself being drawn to others in a way I had not experienced before. Being a white male of the age I was at that time, one of the things I came to realize was what a sheltered and privileged life I had been blessed with. Something (God?) was drawing me to try to better understand the lot of those who didn't grow up as I did.

This need to know more about "the other" and to recognize the light in them is what continues to inspire me in my interfaith work, my support of immigrants and immigration reform, not to mention the full inclusion of ALL into our church and denomination. To see our country electing someone who seemingly stands in complete opposition to these things has been difficult for me to accept or understand.

I had to keep asking myself: what was it about this candidate, one who I personally found so repulsive, that made him the choice of so many people? Does there really exist in our country such a strong undercurrent of racism and hatred of others? Or is it simply fear that drove this election - fear that everything that was held dear was being slowly eroded away? (I hear that in some of the responses of people who chose this candidate.)

I guess only time will tell and the next few years will provide the answers to those questions. So what do we do in the meanwhile? What do I do? I will tell you that my first reaction to the election results was a desire to run away and bury my head in the sand. But I can't do that. Just three weeks before the election, Julie and I were in Nuremberg, Germany. We stood in the very spot where Adolf Hitler filled his followers with the idea that all of their troubles were caused by one particular group of people and if those people could be eliminated, all would be well. In retrospect, one has to wonder how an entire nation could believe his words. Well, they didn't. There were always those who continued to value the lives of others and who in many cases paid with their own lives.

America is and has always been a nation of immigrants. And if we believe scripture, we must believe that there is room for ALL, both in this country and most importantly, in our hearts. May it be so.

Pastor Andy

Grief Share on Hiatus

After Sunday, December 4th, Grief Share will be on hiatus for several weeks. Start-up date to come as more information becomes available.



Secret Angel Gift Shoppe

Saturday, December 3rd 9am - 12pm

Secret Angel Gift Shoppe allows our younger shoppers to browse tables filled with items for siblings, parents, 'grands', neighbors and friends that their nickels, dimes and dollars can easily afford. Kids get a chance to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus (between 10am and 11am only). Adults relax in the cafe and enjoy hot drinks and sweet treats while the kids shop!

Enter through the Big Main Church Doors on Kinnickinnic Ave.



Hanging of the Greens

Kitty Schaefer

Trimming of the tree and beautifying our church will be Saturday, December 3rd from 1pm to 5pm. We need anyone who could give an hour or more to get the church ready for the Christmas season. Come and enjoy some fellowship and hot cider while we hang the greens and make the church sparkle. Sign up on The Cube.

New First Sunday Forums

On Sunday, December 4th Kirsten Shead from the Milwaukee Water Commons (MWC) will be with us to talk about our water quality, both that which we drink and that in which we swim and sail. The MWC has developed an extensive plan for making Milwaukee a model water city, utilizing the wonderful gift of Lake Michigan.

There will be no First Sunday Forum in January as we will have one worship service only at 10:45am on January 1st.

February 5th we welcome Dr. Aaron Chevinsky, Director of Surgical Oncology with Aurora Cancer Care. He will be talking with us about some of the myths and realities of cancer diagnosis and care. So many of us have been touched either personally or through our families by this disease that we felt this would be an important topic to address.

On March 5th Kayla Steinke, the new Regional Director of South Shore Interfaith will be here along with Vickie Jensen, their Volunteer Outreach Coordinator, to talk about the great work they do with seniors in our community. In 2015 their volunteers provided nearly 14,000 hours of services to over 900 clients.

“Redemption of Scrooge” Adult Study – Mondays

Due to the popularity of this class we have ordered more books and have some room for a few more participants. Books are available from Pastor Kelly at \$10. Next class meets Monday, December 5th at 6:45pm in the Gathering Space. Please contact Pastor Kelly to sign up and get your book. This 4-week class is scheduled for Monday evenings in Advent, 6:45pm - 8pm.

I'm excited to offer a \$5 incentive for everyone to see the NEW 2016 incarnation of the Dicken's classic *A Christmas Carol* at our Milwaukee Repertory Theatre!

<http://bit.ly/AChristmasCarol2016>

#seeoneofourown

Pastor Kelly



Bread & Jam Update

Bread and Jam has had a very successful year. Many new volunteers and groups have joined us in our community meal program. We are blessed!

In past years, Bread and Jam raised money from pledges for "Miles for Meals" through Feeding America. This year there was no walk but if you would like to support this great community outreach program, call Feeding America business office at 414.931.7400 and specify the donation is for Agency 2768 (Bread & Jam) or write a check to Feeding America and be sure to specify that it is for Agency 2768. That money is kept in our account and used when we purchase food from Feeding America - for as little as .09 cents a pound!

We thank you for all of the blessings of your time, money and ongoing support of this ministry. Wishing you Peace and Joy in this Christmas season!

Jan Kosanke & Mary Kitzman

You can sign up to volunteer by going to SignUp.com or use the QR code with your phone, by talking to Jan Kosanke on Sunday mornings or emailing at breadandjam@bayviewumc.org.



	Meals Served	Bag Lunch Served
November 6	81	58
November 13	62	62
November 20	81	59
November 27	138	74

Guests Served November 2016

Cookie Walk – 10th Annual

We would like to welcome church members and friends to bake for our 10th Annual Cookie Walk. Exciting, isn't it? We have a very special day happening this year, so mark it on your calendar:



December 11th - 9am to 2pm

We always have a wonderful variety of cookies but also will have gifts by Go Earth, Nancy Radtke will have her special jewelry for sale, and some of our members and friends prepare special treats. Profits from the cookie and gift sales will benefit local groups such as the Bay View Community Center and others. This year we feature the Bay View Children's Choir at 12:30pm. ALL are welcome!

Bakers

There is a small but important change this year. We would like to try for more of each variety as we tend to run out of cookies every year. Bakers will want to sign up in the Gathering Space (see the red notebook on the credenza) for the variety of cookies they are baking so we can have the correct labels. Bake 18 to 20 dozen of your favorite recipes and bring drop them off in the Gathering Space on Saturday, December 10th between 9am and 12pm.

Concerned About Space in Your Home Kitchen?

We are offering scheduled time in the church kitchen for baking. We will have a scheduled number of hours available for a limited number of bakers. Bakers needing space must sign up with Kitty Schaefer ahead of time and bring prepared doughs ready for the oven so that we can accommodate as many bakers as possible.

Event Day Volunteers

We are always looking for event-day volunteers for our cookie walk. Please sign up on The Cube if you are interested in assisting with setup, teardown, packaging, hosting, or other tasks.

The Servant Leader Board Is For Everyone

Paula Zarling

A couple of weeks ago, Pastor Kelly and I talked about the scattered nature of our sign-ups for Sunday morning worship. We discussed a couple of options for helping all of us who are helping make Sunday mornings happen. In order to keep everything together, we came up with a single sheet for all scheduled servant leaders. From altar flowers to acolytes, it's all in one location. So, if you are interested in signing up for a color bulletin or if you simply need a reminder which Sunday you've volunteered to help, the new servant leader board is there to help. It's located on the wall adjacent the coat closet in the Gathering Space.

Craft Club Dates in December

Tuesday, December 13 th	12:30pm	In the Craft Room
Tuesday, December 27 th	6:30pm	@ Diane Evan's House

Our Christmas Gift to the Community

Andy and I want to make attending and enjoying the services of worship on Christmas weekend easier so...

Here is the SPECIAL weekend schedule:

Christmas Eve	Saturday 12.24	4:30pm & 10:45pm
Christmas Day	Sunday 12.25	10:45am only
New Year's Day	Sunday 1.1	10:45am only

We share the blessing of being your pastors and we pray God's glorious love and peace to be with you and among us through these holidays and into every day to come.

Merry Christmas! Pr. Kelly and Pr. Andy

Sunday School Update

Pr. Kelly

PLAN NOW TO BE IN WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 18TH @ 10:45am!

December will bring happy chaos to our scheduling as we anticipate the children's expression of Christmas in worship at 10:45am on December 18th. You won't want to miss this loving gift from the children to their church family! There is nothing like the excitement of those hearts adorned with wings, smocks and crowns and nothing better than hearing the Christmas story from the voices of our youth! Friends, your presence and appreciation for the work the children, and their guiding adults, put forth is the great gift you give in return.

Thank you for participating in the Sunday School Heifer Project gift giving! The ornaments, the collection box, and the fun facts were a hoot for the kids to produce and it was a good first effort of understanding for the children to realize their ability to fundraise to help children around the world. Look to next month's Connection for an update with fundraising totals and our donation. Again, thank you for your generous support! It "Mooooo-ved" us!

The Sunday School/Worship Rotation Schedule:

- Chimes Choir will continue to practice each week – in the Sanctuary @ 9:30am
- Bread & Jam Sandwich making in the Dining Room @ 10am
- Advent "Jesus" birthday cake wreath lighting and release to practice spaces w/teachers on the lower level for the upcoming "pageant".
- Especially with Children @ 10:50am in worship & rotation time continuing our pageant practice time as needed.
- Pick up in the Gathering Space/Nursery @ 11:45am.

Sunday School will be OUT OF SESSION December 25th and January 1st.

Sunday School will RESUME with a special EPIPHANY PARY on Sunday January 8th.

The Longest Night/Blue Christmas Service

led by Pr. Kelly

Wednesday, December 21 6:30pm - 7:30pm

There is no sign up for this event – it is open to ALL – pray and then extend personal invitations to struggling folks in your midst. What a special gift!

“...it must be recognized that Christmas can be a particularly difficult time for people who may be grieving a loss, for those who are living alone, or those who have painful association with this time of year.”

Is this time of year difficult for you or someone you know? Are you tired of trying to hide your poor mood or just plain tired from always explaining the way you feel? Does recent or remembered loss, the darker, longer nights or the cold make this a dreaded rather than celebrated time of year? Join me at 6:30pm and gather to share a warm mug of spiced cider, coffee or tea. Music will invite us to enter the sanctuary space at 6:45pm. Soft light will greet us. Warm words of hope will be shared and a visual expression will be offered. We'll light candles and gift the room and ourselves with tags of honoring, remembrance and release.

Whether your heart wants to find God or blame God you are welcome!

Poinsettia Orders Due Tomorrow

[Click Here for an order form](#)

Don't forget to order your Christmas poinsettias. We have a range of varieties available to us this year, including [Marble Star](#), [Winter Rose](#), [Ice Punch](#), and [Jingle Bells](#).

Please submit your order forms with your payment by December 2nd to reserve your poinsettia.

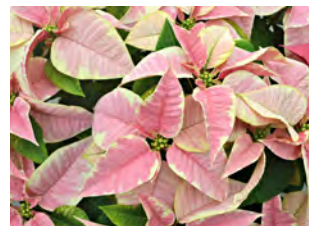
Poinsettia Varieties



Ice Punch



Jingle Bells



Marble Star



Winter Rose

Support Trowbridge School Fundraiser – December 4th only!

We've been invited to participate in this \$5 fundraiser! If you have a heart for teachers and/or for our local MPS school please consider placing your order on the mass order being compiled from our Church. Payment is due WITH your order. Delivery is December 21st and will be available at the Church for pick up between 8:30am and 7pm on Tuesday, December 22nd, and 8:30-2pm on Wednesday, December 23rd for your holiday enjoyment!

A Note From Your Financial Secretary

Jeannie Schultz

A friendly reminder that if you have your 2016 pledge automatically withdrawn (EFT) and HAVE NOT sent in a new pledge card, or if you have changed your pledge amount and want to continue having it withdrawn, you will need to complete a **new** EFT form and return it to the church office by Christmas.

Thank You!

We were overwhelmed by the amount of support you all showed for our Bread & Jam guests. Our Sunday School children did a great job packing gift bags last Sunday. After all the packing was done, we found that we have many more socks than toiletries. So:

We are extending the toiletries drive through December so that we hopefully have enough to give out new bags. Please donate your travel-sized items such as:

Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Lotion, Hand Sanitizer, Soap & Body Wash, Toothpaste & Toothbrushes, etc. Please drop off items in the bin in the Gathering Space under the Welcome Center credenza.

We thank you all again for your generosity and huge hearts for this ministry!



Senior Stockbox Building – Hunger Task Force



Date: February 4, 2017

Time: 9am-noon

Location: MKE Regional Business Park,
300 E College Ave., Milwaukee

Volunteers Needed: 18-25 people (minimum 18)

Volunteers will build and fill boxes of basic needs food for low income senior citizens. This box contains 16-17 items which Hunger Task Force provides to almost 10,000 seniors a month. Sign up to be a part of the Bay View UMC team! Sign up is in the Gathering Space.

Please Note: Volunteers will be doing some lifting, up to 30 pounds. You must be able to be on your feet for the activity and bend, stoop and lift.

Free Financial Seminar Series

Taxes - What to Do (and Don't)

This talk will be on tax basics - why you should file a tax return, and when you don't need to file. Bring your questions: How do I file? Who do I include in my return? What is itemizing?

Sign-up is on The Cube and on Facebook.

Monday, January 9, 6:30pm in the BVUMC Gathering Space

A light snack will be provided. Bring a friend or neighbor.

These seminars are a part of our free financial series and are open to anyone wishing to know more. Each seminar will take place at 6:30pm in the Gathering Space on the first Monday of each month (second Monday in the case of national holidays - no talk in December).

Note: No Finance Meeting in December

Thanks for Stewardship 101!

The church has responded to the call for Time, Talent, and Treasure and the Stewardship Team is thankful for all your participation. With the help of Gwen Erdman, Judy Banta, and Jeannie Schultz, the 2017 budget was presented to the Church conference and approved.

We are thankful for:

- Your many ways that you give of Time, Talent, and Treasure
- General envelope pledges: \$156,023
- Apportionment pledges: \$24,124

Blessings for your generosity that allows us to continue our mission and ministry.

Julie Oren - Finance Team Lead

2016 November Giving Record						
Fund	Rec'd This Month	Needed Monthly	(Short)/ Over This Month	Rec'd This Year	Needed So Far This Year	(Short)/ Over This Year
General	\$14,001	\$17,927	(\$3,926)	\$162,407	\$197,197	(\$34,790)
Apportionment	\$1,691	\$2,442	(\$751)	\$23,294	\$26,862	(\$3,568)
Totals	\$15,692	\$20,369	(\$4,677)	\$185,701	\$224,059	(\$38,358)

Thank you to all who bought cookie Dough.
Orders will come in on December 12th.

Christmas is coming and we are getting ready for our Christmas Family Sing-A-long on December 14th. We will be dressing up for pictures, learning songs. We plan to make gifts for our families and look forward to hearing many Christmas stories. We plan to bake gingerbread men soon, so if you open the oven, don't let them run away. To learn about giving to others we will bring peanut butter and jelly to help Bread and Jam and the Bay View Community Center Food Pantry. We hope you have a wonderful holiday season!

Miss Martha, Miss Debbie, Miss Mary, Miss Karen

LOVING START PRESCHOOL



December 2nd

Wendy Boedecker

December 3rd

Andrew Kosanke
Doris Van Dervort

December 4th

Carl Kucharski

December 6th

Linda Balfanz

December 8th

Magdelana Bernal

December 11th

Jose Bernal

December 18th

Maya Elliott
Henry McJorin

December 19th

Elizabeth Comp
Mitch Wagner

December 22nd

Arnold Balfanz
Rodge Taylor

December 24th

Kirsten Decker

December 2016

KEY: AA: Alcoholics Anonymous
 ESCP: East Side Chamber Players
 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
27 8:15am Worship 9:15am Coffee Hour, Sunday School 9:30am Adult Study 9:30am Chime Choir 10:45am Worship 2pm Grief Share 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA Mtg	28 8:45am LSP 6pm Music Team 7pm AA Mtg <i>Redemption of Scrooge Skips This Week</i>	29 8:45am LSP 10am AA Mtg 5:30pm AA Mtg	30 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Faith Singers	1 8:45am LSP 7pm AA Mtg 7pm WBC	2 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg	3 9am Secret Angel Gift Shoppe 10:30am AA Mtg 1pm Hanging of the Greens
4 8:15am Worship 9:15am Coffee Hour, Sunday School, FSF 9:30am Chime Choir 10:45am Worship 2pm Grief Share 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA Mtg	5 8:45am LSP 6:45pm Adult Study 7pm District 28 AA 7pm AA Mtg	6 8:45am LSP 10am AA Mtg 5:30pm AA Mtg 6:30pm Praise Band	7 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Faith Singers	8 8:45am LSP 7pm AA Mtg 7pm WBC	9 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg	10 10:30am AA Mtg
11 8:15am Worship 9am Cookie Walk 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Chime Choir 10:45am Worship 12:30pm Bay View Children's Choir 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA Mtg	12 8:45am LSP 6:45pm Adult Study 7pm Ad Council 7pm AA Mtg	13 8:45am LSP 10am AA Mtg 12:30pm Craft Club 5:30pm AA Mtg 6pm Trustees Mtg	14 8:45am LSP 10am Bible Study 12:30pm Cards 6:30pm LSP Family Sing-A-Long 6:30pm Faith Singers	15 8:45am LSP 7pm AA Mtg 7pm WBC	16 8:45am LSP 7pm NA Mtg	17 10:30am AA Mtg
18 8:15am Worship 9:15am Coffee Hour, Sunday School 9:30am Chime Choir 10:45am Worship 3pm Bread & Jam 7pm AA Mtg	19 8:45am LSP 1pm Memory Café 6:45pm Adult Study 7pm AA Mtg	20 8:45am LSP 10am AA Mtg 5:30pm AA Mtg 6:30pm ALL Music Rehearsal	21 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Dark Night/ Blue Christmas Worship Service	22 7pm AA Mtg 7pm WBC	23 7pm NA Mtg	24 12pm Alkathon 10:30am AA Mtg 4:30pm Candlelight Service 10:45pm Candlelight Service Christmas Eve Holiday Alkathon 12pm Dec 24 - 11:59pm Dec 25
25 12am Alkathon 10:45am Lessons & Carols Single Service Worship 3pm Bread & Jam Christmas Day	26 7pm AA Mtg <i>Church Office Closed</i>	27 10am AA Mtg 5:30pm AA Mtg 6:30pm Craft Club	28 10am Bible Study 12:30pm Cards 6:30pm Faith Singers	29 7pm AA Mtg 7pm WBC	30 7pm NA Mtg	31 10:30am AA Mtg New Year's Eve Holiday Alkathon 12pm Dec 31 - 11:59pm Jan 1

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Pastor Andy Oren

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December
2016

We're on the web:
bayviewumc.org

*From All of the tireless
servants charged to serve
among us as paid staff,
Blessings and Peace this
Christmas to you and yours!*

*Pastor Kelly, Pastor Andy, Paula,
Stacy, Linda, Kathleen, Mark,
John, Debbie, and Liz*



WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAYS:

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

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