

 BAY VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CONNECTIONS

OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.™



Sunday worship at 9:45 am in our sanctuary or watch online, live or later, at www.facebook.com/BVUMC/ or at www.youtube.com/@bay_view_umc.

Disciples of Jesus Christ All

Pastor Jerry Cho

Office Administrator Jill Weber

Accompanists Stacy Eisman & Vickie Wagner

Wesleyan Bells Stacy Eisman

Faith Singers Vickie Wagner

Custodian Deb Baldwin

Safer Sanctuaries Deb Baldwin & Alba

Loving Start Preschool Annie Espinoza, director

Kid's Sunday School Kelly Supataraporn & Hannah Brylow

Online Ministry Don Evans & Zachary Kitzman

Bread & Jam Ministry Jan Kosanke, Joannie Stepanski & Yvonne Snith

Financial Secretary Linda Kreider (Diane Evans filling in)

Accountable Leadership Board

Chair Pamela Karg; Vice Chair & Trustee Diane Evans; Lay Leader Susan Troyer; Finance Mark Humphrey & Christy Smith; Personnel Kelly Supataraporn & Ron Monroe; At Large Stacy LaPrad & Adrian Largaespada; Ex Officio Pastor Jerry Cho

Got news or photos to share? Story idea? Send to officeadmin@bayviewumc.org.

A Time for Preparation and Reflection

By BVUMC Pastor Jerry Cho

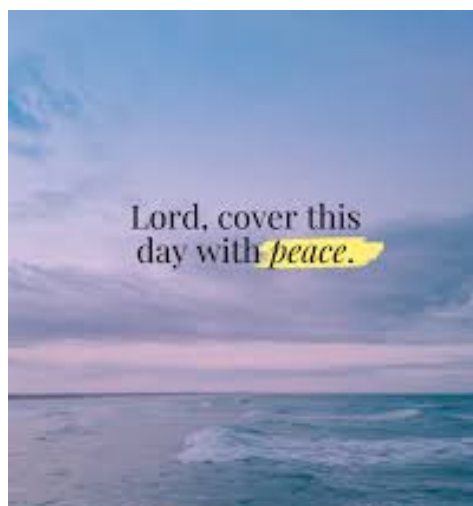
March feels like a bridge between winter and spring. The days are getting longer, the light is changing and, even if the air is still cold, we sense that new life is on the way. Beneath the frozen ground, something is already stirring.

In the church, March often places us in the season of Lent—a time to slow down, reflect and return to God with honest hearts. Before beginning his public ministry, Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness. It was a time of prayer, testing, and clarity. The wilderness was not wasted time; it was preparation.

Lent invites us into that same kind of space. It is not about guilt, but about growth. It is not about punishment, but about renewal.

Perhaps this month we can practice a few simple things:

- Pray honestly each day.
- Let go of something that distracts us from God.
- Offer kindness to someone who needs encouragement.



As we move toward Easter, may we trust that God is quietly at work within us. Even when we do not see immediate change, God is shaping our hearts and preparing new beginnings.

May this March be a month of steady hope and gentle renewal for you.

Musings from the Pews: Healing Humor

By Susan Troyer, BVUMC Lay Leader

This story may sound a bit grotesque and possibly morbid, but I believe it is also an indication of how sorrow and humor, grief and laughter work together to aid the healing process. And it also shows that my family tends to make things complicated.

Our mother died 15 years ago in February. Several years after the death of our father, Mother had moved from their retirement home in Georgia to West Palm Beach. She was happy there, found a church home where she felt comfortable and had a large circle of friends. And all this at the age of 83.

When Mother was in her early 90s, it became apparent that she could no longer live alone, so she moved to be with my sister in southeastern Texas. I was often in Texas during that time helping my sister with Mother's care and we talked about her wishes — cremation, memorial service in her church in Florida with the pastor she had particularly liked and burial in Georgia with our father. You can imagine the logistics and complications.

We needed a month to make all the arrangements. Both the churches in Florida and Georgia had had changes in clergy so I had to first contact the Florida church to get permission to ask the former pastor to officiate the service. Next I had to get in touch with the pastor at the Georgia church to find out if she would be willing to do a graveside service for someone she didn't know. Finally I contacted the former pastor of the Florida church to find out if he would be willing to drive across the state to lead the service. Once all these arrangements were in place, we could set the date and time.

In the meantime I had flown home from Texas to Des Moines, but ended up spending several weeks in Milwaukee doing grandma duty. My poor husband had to bravely dig through my closet in Des Moines to try to find the necessary clothing items I needed for the drive to West Palm Beach and the funeral. He then drove to Milwaukee to pick me up and we headed south—in the midst of a really bad snow storm and horrendous driving conditions with black ice. We finally made it, the four of us siblings all together to bury Mother—Iowa Sister, Michigan Brother, Florida Brother and Texas Sister.

The service was very nice and healing. Florida Brother sang, many friends and family members shared memories and stories about Mother and her deep faith, a faith she didn't often talk about but which was evident in every aspect of her life. We grieved and laughed together.

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March & April Liturgists

Every Sunday, many help Pastor Jerry move through worship, including liturgists who read prayers, share responsive selections, encourage us to give ourselves to benefit others. Liturgists pick which Sunday works best for them, and others can do Children's Time, if they prefer. Volunteer to be a liturgist. Or do just Children's Time. All are appreciated.

March

1 - Cindy Cho
8 - Rabbi Steven Adams message; Christy Smith (Kids Diane Evans)
15 - Mark Humphrey
22 - Pardeep Singh Kaleka message; Kitty Schaefer)
29 - Palm Sunday - Joy Foster Steckler (Kids Pam Karg)

April

5 - Easter - Susan Troyer
12 - Mark Humphrey message; Pam Karg
19 - Bishop Dan Schwerin message, Diane Evans
26 - Rodge Taylor (Kids Cindy Cho)



Order Easter Flowers by March 8

Fill our Easter sanctuary with tulips, azaleas, lilies, hydrangeas and chrysanthemums by ordering yours by March 8. After our triumphant Easter worship with Pastor Jerry, Susan Troyer, Faith Singers and Wesleyan Bells centering us on the Empty Tomb, take yours home as a symbol that Christ is Risen!

ALB March 9

Our Accountable Leadership Board meets March 9, 6 pm, Gathering Space.

All are always welcome to attend ALB, which streamlines board of trustees, administrative council, finance and staff-parish relations to give oversight, direction and purpose to our ministries and outreach.

March 9 agenda highlights:

Further discussion about purchasing 4 furnaces

Update on church insurance changes

Review online document depository

Read Guiding Principles updates (to be voted on in April)

Musings from the Pew

Continued from Page 2

After the service we siblings headed for Georgia. Texas Sister had been in charge of bringing the urn with Mother's ashes to Florida and every time we phoned, I always reminded her not to forget Mama. In the end I was the one who forgot—it was my responsibly to take the urn from Florida to Georgia. After the church service I got into the car to head north—without the urn

Fortunately somebody reminded me just in time. I'm sure Mother was with us the entire time, shaking her head, amused by her four offspring. When we talk about it now, we also laugh and shake our heads at the logistics and complications of planning that funeral and the memories that draw us together.

Ask Questions at March 22 Town Hall

By Pamela J. Karg, Accountable Leadership Board Chair

Everyone is invited to our mid-year town hall meeting March 22!

As we lean farther into our simplified structure of an Accountable Leadership Board—adopted in 2018—we have another mid-year get-together to update you about our church. United Methodists hold town halls to foster transparency, navigate major changes and/or dialogue on social issues. These local meetings are key to our denomination's "connectional" structure, encouraging open communication, feedback and collective discernment on policies.

In addition to local church updates, we're devoting most of our time to the Rev. Krystal Goodger, director of our state's United Methodist Foundation. Our 2025 Charge Conference booklet included a list of our \$400,000+ Foundation investments. That prompted questions, by members and ALB. To get clear insights, Pastor Krystal will provide an overview of the Foundation, and discuss our specific funds and their purposes or restrictions.

If you don't ask, you'll never know. So stay after worship March 22 to get answers to your church questions.



BAY VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2026 SPEAKER SERIES

**Theme: Interfaith Dialogue for
Peace and Harmony in a Violent
World**

"We are more alike than unlike." – Maya Angelou

"He who knows only one religion knows none." – Max Müller

"No world peace without peace among religions; no peace among religions without religious dialogue." – Hans Küng

2772 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Guest Speakers from Diverse Faith Traditions

You Are Invited

Come listen, learn, and build bridges of understanding across faiths as we seek peace together.

Bay View United Methodist Church
Sundays, 9:45AM



March 8

Rabbi Seven Adams

Ovation Jewish Home



March 15

Pardeep Singh Kaleka

Sikh Community Leader



May 10

Dick Smith

Bahá'í Spiritual Assembly



May 17

Ahmed Quereshi

Muslim, Executive Director,
Interfaith Conference of
Greater Milwaukee

Feeding Our Hungry Since 1994

It all started with the jam. The “bread” came later.

In 1994, C3 (Contemporary Christian Choir) musicians were jamming when they decided to start serving soup. “The need for food was so great,” recalls P.J. Early, who organized congregational donations of soup ingredients.

“At first, people were nervous. We were inviting people we didn’t know into our church,” Early says. “Yet those coming for soup—and music—were very grateful for a space to relax, build community and meet others.”

The soup ministry grew naturally from our congregation’s long history with food outreach. Members hosted Bay View business lunches, served the ever-popular Methodist Women’s Chicken, made up to 300 sandwiches a month for the Guest House shelter, supported Hunger Task Force and CROP Walks, and even added a free little food pantry built by Eagle Scout John Warkaske that we still try to keep stocked today.

As the jam-and-soup gatherings grew, volunteers Mary Yank and Mary Kitzman joined Early cooking, serving 24 times a year to an average of 45 people each time. Our congregation funded the \$3,500 annual program before grants from the Empty Bowls fundraiser helped support it. Members still work with Diane Evans and Vickie Wagner at Cream City Ceramics to dip bowls for firing.

A 2001 *Bay Viewer* newspaper described a menu centered on soup with dessert and beverage. Holiday meals were themed, and guests left with a packed lunch of a peanut butter sandwich, fruit and cookies.

“We encourage people to come. It is unimportant if you need help,” Yank said. “It’s food and fellowship.”

After Yank’s sudden death, Kitzman took the lead, planning meals, shopping, coordinating volunteers and musicians, and working with other cooks including Don, John, Jenni and Mary Guardalabene.

Jan Kosanke took over, but COVID paused it. She then worked with volunteers including Joanie Stepanski, Yvonne Smith, Jan Colson and Muriel Blackwood so the kitchen passed health inspections and meals resumed.

“I loved that kitchen,” Early said. “Such a big space, pans and utensils—just a really good place for this outreach.”

Kosanke rebuilt teams of sandwich-makers, lunch-packers, cooks, servers and cleanup helpers from both our church and wider community. Today, 30 bag lunches are offered Sundays from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., each with a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, fruit, dessert and bottled water, plus a Chef’s Choice such as soup, spaghetti, mac and cheese or casserole. On the last Sunday of each month, a hot meal is served in our dining room.

“Once we had to cancel for snow,” Yank said in 2001. “People had walked here. We vowed it would never happen again.” On Nov. 30, 2025, after snow canceled worship, Bread and Jam volunteers still served Thanksgiving!

“That’s great to hear,” Early said, “because feeding people and building community are important now more than ever.”

Bread and Jam welcomes donations of bottled water, granola bars, cookies or desserts, and individual containers of fruit, pudding, Jell-O and other snacks. To volunteer—from packing lunches to helping clean up after a hot meal—talk to Jan, Joanie or Yvonne or sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/2xncj6uj>



What Does Your \$8 Donation Buy?

In packing any of its kits for distribution here or around the world, Midwest Missions strives for consistency in what's packed, its weight and what recipients receive.

When she went shopping locally to assemble the items listed below for the Personal Dignity Kit she showed our children, Diane Evans spent about \$15. However, Midwest Missions can purchase the items needed in bulk and for \$8 total. This is what your donation during Lent buys:

- 1 hand towel - no kitchen towels
- 1 washcloth - no dishcloths
- 1 toothbrush (no multipacks)
- 1 bar soap - 3-4 oz.
- 1 shampoo - 12-19 oz. (secure lid with packing tape)
- 1 deodorant - 2-3 oz. (stick, roll-on or pump)
- 1 lotion - 8-10 oz. (secure lid with packing tape)
- One 1-gallon resealable plastic bag
- \$2 donation for toothpaste and carrying bag

Midwest Mission began in 2000 by Jack Travelstead to pattern a new site after an existing UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) facility in Louisiana. Travelstead was moved to action after seeing needs during mission trips to Haiti and the Great Flood of 1993 (about which our member Pam Karg can share personal experiences.)



We're Raising \$1,200 to Help Others this Lent

During Children's Time at our Feb. 22 worship, Diane Evans introduced a special \$1,200 goal this Lenten season to buy 150 Personal Dignity Kits from Midwest Mission, Pawnee, IL. Sharon Monroe followed-up March 1 on how our children can collect their quarters to each buy a kit that will go to someone around the world. (See more about the kits in the story at left on this page.)

This effort follows decades-long traditions of our adults and youth alike taking work trips, volunteering with projects, donating needed items and reaching out to help others here and around the world. Just this past Christmas, we raised and donated \$3,450.52 from our Community Cookie Walk and Christmas Eve offering and designated it for the Bay View Community Center.

We'll collect money through Lent and then buy from Midwest Mission items needed to assemble the kits. Sharon and husband, Ron, will bring the supplies back to our church just before Easter. (The Monroes are frequent Midwest Mission volunteers and will be there for part of this month.) Then we'll assemble the kits here so that everyone has an opportunity to participate in a mission!

Our lay delegates—Susan Troyer and Zachary Kitzman—to our denomination's statewide annual meeting June 4-7 in Madison will join our kits with supplies from other churches to help fill a truck bound for Midwest Mission so it can meet its mission of "Bringing the hearts and hands of God's people together to transform resources into humanitarian relief...We are Christians who work to show God's love in a practical way to those in need in their time of crisis."

As of March 4, we have raised \$625!

Whether quarters or dollars, donate this Lenten season! Put your gift in a pew envelope with your name and mark it MIDWEST MISSION or designate your gift on your check or electronics funds transfer.

Time, Talent, Resources: Adding Practices in Lent

Lent in the United Methodist tradition is a 40-day season focused on deepening our relationship with God, often by "taking up" holy practices alongside or instead of "giving up" luxuries. Instead of just abstaining from habits, we can add intentional spiritual disciplines, acts of service and daily devotion to align our heart with Christ's sacrifice.

Here are specific holy practices to add, reflecting a UMC perspective:

1. Spiritual Disciplines (Adding Time with God)

Daily Scripture Reading: Read through the Gospels or follow a Lenten devotional such as those offered by UMC.org.

Prayer: Dedicate specific time, like commuting, for daily prayer.

"Holy" Habits: Start each day with a blessing or use a cross/nail in your pocket as a reminder of Christ's sacrifice.

2. Acts of Compassion & Service (Turning Faith into Action)

Intentional Kindness: Perform daily acts of kindness such as paying for someone's coffee, giving a generous tip or donating to our \$1,200 goal to buy the \$8 worth of items for Personal Dignity Kits to send to Midwest Missions www.midwestmission.org/kits in June.

Service Projects: Volunteer a ride to Our Family, clean your closets and donate clothes to Unity Lutheran's free clothes closet or make sandwiches or serve during our Bread and Jam free weekly meal.

Acts of Mercy: Prepare a meal for someone overwhelmed or visit someone who is isolated such as in a hospital or at home. Call our church office for a list of people who need us to act.

3. Reflective Practices (Transforming Fasting)

Gratitude Journaling: List three things you are thankful for each day.

Intentional Listening: Ask people how they are doing and stop to truly listen to their response.

Fasting for Prayer: Use the time/money saved from a fast (e.g., giving up coffee) to directly support our church's mission and outreach or to pray for someone by signing up for our Monday Prayer Chain email.

For more ideas and inspiration, visit UMC.org.



MARCH

Free Meals

Sundays 2:30 – 3:30 pm

– Bagged Lunch*

– Bagged Lunch*

5 – Bagged Lunch*

2 – Bagged Lunch*

9 – Hot Meal served in Dining Room (Clement Ave. do

ndwich, snacks, fruit, bottled water & Chef's Choice (soup, mac & cheese, casserole, stir fry etc.) Pick up at Pryor. or along with special gifts such as soap, lotion, lip balm, hat, mittens, cards, etc. vays accepting donated bottled water, granola bars, fruit/pudding/hello cups for bag lunches! ee to everyone, no reason needed. Volunteer to help at 414-744-4036



Free Food Sources

BV Community Center Pantry

Monday and Wednesday: 4-6 pm.

Saturday: 11 am-1:30 pm.

BVUMC Meal & Pantry

Little Food Pantry on Clement: 24/7.

Meals: Bagged lunches Sundays 2:30-2:30 pm.

Sit-down meal last Sunday each month.

Immaculate Conception Meal

Last Saturday of Month: 12-1 pm, carryouts allowed.

Milwaukee Co. Senior Meals:

12 sites (Wilson Park Senior Center, Kelly Senior Center, Muslim Community & Health Center, etc), and 3 restaurants for people 60+. \$3 suggested (not required.)

Download menus and sites at <https://tinyurl.com/3dp873tv>.

St. Veronica's Pantry

Wednesday: 4-6 pm.

First and Third Saturday: 9-11 am

St. Vincent de Paul Pantry at St. Veronica's

First and Third Thursdays 1-7 pm

TrickleBee's Cafe

4424 W. North Ave. Vegan. Pay what you can. Wednesday-Saturday, 11 am-2 pm.

Unity Lutheran Meal & Pantry

Bag lunch second & fourth Wednesday

5:30-6:00 pm; hot meal first & third

Wednesday 5:30-6:30 pm. Food Pantry and

Clothes Closet: Wednesday 5-6 pm.

March 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 9:45a Worship - Communion, Bells 10:45 Kids Sunday school 2:30p Bread & Jam	2 6p Coffee/tea with Pastor 6p Worship Team 7p Alcoholics Anonymous 7:15p Grief Support Group	3 9:30a Senior Yoga 6p Preparing to Die Well in Faith class	4 9:15a Meditation 10:15a Bible Study 5:30p Lenten Soup & Study 5:30p Unity Lutheran free community meal	5 6p Wesleyan Bells 7:15p Faith Singers	6 	7 Luke Knudson 10:30a Women's AA, childcare available TURN CLOCKS FORWARD 1 HOUR TONIGHT!
8 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY DAYLIGHT SAVINGS 9:45a Worship, Faith Singers, Speaker Rabbi Seven Adams 10:45 Sunday school	9 6p Accountable Leadership Board 7p Alcoholics Anonymous	10 9:30a Senior Yoga 6p Preparing to Die Well in Faith class	11 Heather Haile 9:15a Meditation 10:15a Bible Study 5:30p Lenten Soup & Study	12 6p Wesleyan Bells 7:15p Faith Singers	13 	14 NATIONAL PI DAY 9a Women's Breakfast, Castillo's 10:30a Women's AA, childcare available
15 Yvonne Smith 9:45a Worship, Speaker Pardeep Singh Kaleka 10:45 Kids Sunday school 2:30p Bread & Jam	16 Allan Eckoldt & Joanie Stepanski 6p Coffee/tea with Pastor 7p Alcoholics Anonymous 7:15p Grief Support Group	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY Cindy Cho & Kyle Haile 9:30a Senior Yoga 6p Preparing to Die Well in Faith class	18 Peg Humphrey 9:15a Meditation 10:15a Bible Study 5:30p Lenten Soup & Study	19 6p Wesleyan Bells 7:15p Faith Singers	20 9:46a SPRING EQUINOX	21 Verlie Mae Tranmal 10:30a Women's AA, childcare available
22 9:45a Worship, Faith Singers 10:45 Kids Sunday school 11a Town Hall with UM Foundation updates 2:30p Bread & Jam	23 7p Alcoholics Anonymous	24 Laura Brietzke 9:30a Senior Yoga 6p Preparing to Die Well in Faith class	25 9:15a Meditation 10:15a Bible Study 5:30p Lenten Soup & Study	26 6p Wesleyan Bells 7:15p Faith Singers	27 Bob Baker & Mackenzie Moebius	28 9a Men's Breakfast, Castillo's, Cudahy 10:30a Women's AA, childcare available 12p Immaculate Conception free community meal
29 PALM SUNDAY 9:45a - Worship 10:45a - Kids Sunday School 2:30p Bread & Jam hot meal, dining room	30 7p Alcoholics Anonymous	31 CESAR CHAVEZ DAY	APRIL 1 APRIL FOOL'S DAY	APRIL 2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7p Community Ecumenical Worship, Grace Presbyterian, 2931 S Kinnickinnic	APRIL 3 GOOD FRIDAY 7p Community Ecumenical Worship & Tennebrae, BVUMC	APRIL 4 10:30a Women's AA, childcare available

Bay View United Methodist Church

2772 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 am-Noon

Phone: 414-744-4036

Email: officeadmin@bayviewumc.org

Pastor Jerry Cho

Phone or Text: 920-373-3081 (available 24/7)

Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 4-8 pm; Wednesday 5:30-8 pm; Thursday 10 am-1 pm;

Friday 10 am-1 pm

Email: pastorjerry@bayviewumc.org

Scan with your smart
phone for different
ways to give to the
ministries!



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

Visit us!

WWW.BAYVIEWUMC.ORG

Sunday, April 19
9:45AM



Bishop Dan
Schwerin



Come and listen
to our beloved
Bishop!

All are welcome!

Bay View United Methodist Church
2772 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53207

*Coffee/Tea with
Rev. Jerry Cho:
Conversation about
Life, Religion, and Spirituality*



What: Conversation with Rev. Jerry
Cho

When: Every first and third Monday
from 6 - 7:15PM

Where: Bay View UMC (Gathering
Space)

Who: All are welcome.

