



BAY VIEW CHURCH
UNITED METHODIST

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 Anna-Lisa Hunter
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 Smith

Financial Secretary Linda Kreider (Diane Evans filling in)

Accountable Leadership Board
Chair Pamela Karg; Vice Chair & Trustee Diane Evans; Secretary Stacy LaPrad; Lay Leader Susan Troyer; Finance Mark Humphrey & Christy Smith; Human Resources Kelly Supataraporn & Ron Monroe; At Large Adrian Largaespada; Ex Officio Pastor Anna-Lisa Hunter

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

Grace and Peace to You

By BVUMC Pastor Anna-Lisa Hunter

*From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will.
To the holy and faithful people in Christ Jesus in Ephesus.
Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.
Bless the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! He has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing that comes from heaven. God chose us in Christ to be holy and blameless in God's presence before the creation of the world.
Ephesians 1:1-4*

Grace to you, holy and faithful Bay View believers, and peace in the name of our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

I find myself often racing through the first few verses of Paul's letters in the New Testament. He's always greeting his listeners with a prayer of grace and peace, and I think I need to jump ahead to the meat and potatoes of what Paul has to teach the people he is writing to.

But today, I am struck by Paul's constant dedication to the support and encouragement of other believers. No matter where Paul is, and what Paul is struggling with, he is offering the grace of Jesus to other believers. In the case of the Letter to the Ephesians, Paul was imprisoned in Rome and facing the end of his life. What a remarkable moment for Paul to share grace and love with others!

Right now, I often sense a lack of support and encouragement in the world. I wonder, how often do we greet each other with grace and peace? And how often are we judging something in others, or overwhelmed by our personal circumstances, so that our greetings are lackluster or distracted? Where we are trying to jump ahead to something else instead of focusing on the Christ in the person in front of us?

(continued on page 2)

Practicing Hope: Conference Notes

By Susan Troyer, BVUMC Lay Leader

Zach Kitzman and I had the privilege of attending the Annual Conference as lay representatives of our congregation. The theme of the conference was “Practicing Hope” and the focus was on Romans 5:3-5: *We even take pride in our problems, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope doesn't put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.*



At the opening session we were greeted by members of the University of Wisconsin marching band — setting the tone for an energetic and inspiring conference. The Friday evening worship was the Celebration of Ministry Worship where the newly commissioned Licensed Local Pastors, those commissioned as deacons and elders and those ordained as elders were honored and celebrated. Another special worship service was a memorial service for those who passed away since the last conference. Our member Terry Bierer was among those recognized. On Sunday, the retiring clergy were honored with a special worship, including our Pastor Jerry.

One of the highlights for me was the review and revision of the Policies and Procedures Regarding Sexual Misconduct.

Other highlights include the Revive! Community Development which has been established to help both the Conference and local churches successfully handle property challenges.

Another was a Resolution Supporting Gender Inclusivity, Equal Protection and the Sacred Worth of Transgender, Non-binary, and Gender Diverse People.

And we should note that Midwest Missions and UMCOR were the first organizations to respond to the flooding in Milwaukee and the surrounding area in August 2025.

Throughout the weekend, I was impressed by the feeling of unity, of support and caring among the delegates. It was a wonderful experience to feel a sense of belonging and being part of the body of Christ.

July & August Liturgists

Every Sunday, many help Pastor Anna-Lisa 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. Volunteer to be a liturgist by talking to Peg Humphrey, worship team chair, at worship@BayViewUMC.com

July

5 - Christy Smith
12 - Pam Karg
19 - Joy Foster-Steckler
26 - Kitty Schaefer

August

2 - Paul Warkaske
9 - Rodge Taylor
16 - Diane Evans
23 - Mark Humphrey
30 - Pam Karg

Grace and Peace to You

(continued from page 1)

Paul reminds us that we are blessed in Christ with EVERY spiritual blessing that comes from heaven. No matter what Paul was going through, Paul always had the love and grace of Jesus in the front of his mind, so all his actions and teachings went through Jesus before going out to the people he was caring for. Maybe this is part of the meat and potatoes Paul has to teach us.

Isn't this an amazing gift for us to share with the people around us? This month, let us imitate the spirit of Paul, and find ways to offer encouragement and support through the love and grace of Jesus to the people around us. Our family and friends, store clerks and medical personnel, bus drivers and neighbors. Let us put the holy and blameless Jesus in us before all we say and do, so the grace and peace of Jesus go before us into the world. Amen.



Summer Sermon Series

Pastor Anna-Lisa has a summer packed with stories and adventures!

July

12 - Trips
19 - Teams
26 - Bugs

August

2 - Stillness
9 - Storms
16 - Growth
23 - Chores
30 - Festivals

Already have plans for some Sundays?

We've got you covered!

If you can't join in person at 9:45 am on a Sunday (summer or any season), you can watch live or play it back once you're settled in for the day from wherever you are around the world!

If you're already on Facebook, "like" our page and worship with us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BVUMC>

If you're not on Facebook, worship with us on our YouTube channel at http://www.youtube.com/@bay_view_umc

Notes from 2026 Annual Conference

By Zach Kitzman, Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

Thanks for giving me the opportunity to go. It was a good experience and I met many new people, ran into friends and made new acquaintances. I learned insights into the church's overall operations at the state level and higher.

One speaker talked about the future of the church. There is not one big action that is going to turn around church membership. Rather, it's going to take small actions by all to make big change happen. She showed clips from the movie *Dunkirk* of how the small ships and boats from England rescued the soldiers stranded at Dunkirk.

There is a change in how apportionments are determined.

[Apportionments are the share local churches commitment to supporting the whole; in a way, "dues" for being connected to other United Methodist Churches.] Congregations with under 25 members will not pay a membership apportionment. Churches over 25 will pay a membership apportionment of \$80/person. The balance of the local church's apportionment is 11 percent of its local operating expenses.

Our church is blessed to have a full-time pastor. As a church, not only do we need to work on building membership, but also on discerning among *all* members who is called to become a Local Licensed Pastor or Certified Lay Minister (and a fully licensed pastor!) Our church has a great history of sending out people called to serve as lay speakers and pastors. There is a great need to continue this tradition of helping and encouraging folks on this path.

Otherwise, the result will be like this year's North East District where a third to half were listed as "To Be Supplied" (TBS) for pastors. The South East, South West and North West districts have some TBS, but nowhere near as many as the North East District.

Granted, some TBS are by clergy refusing appointments due to not feeling safe or personal reasons (ie, far from aging parents), and by churches refusing suggested clergy due to not meeting certain "ethnicity requirements" for their community.

In our Conference, about 49 percent of churches are served by cross-racial or cross-cultural pastors, which includes both U.S. pastors from diverse backgrounds as well as international pastors

Pastors are being called from retirement two, three, sometimes four times to serve a local church, even on a part-time basis. In the 2026-27 cycle, there are no provisional members in line to be commissioned in our Conference. If conditions continue, our Conference is on track in 2028 to ordain ZERO NEW PASTORS..

Meet Our Newest Members



Katrina Rasler

I was born and raised right here in Milwaukee, and it's where I'm proudly raising my two incredible sons, Esteban and Isaias (who are both having big birthdays this December, turning 18 and 17!) As a single mom and a domestic violence survivor, seeing the resilient, kind young men they've grown into is the greatest joy of my life.

My days are kept busy with my passion for animals and community; I've been self-employed since 2008 doing dog walking, pet sitting and home cleaning. Our own home is happily chaotic with two dogs and a cat, and in 2016, I founded Chained Dogs MKE. We became an official 501(c)(3) nonprofit a few years ago, and we're the only group in Milwaukee dedicated specifically to looking out for dogs that live chained up or outdoors year-round.

My journey back to faith is actually all thanks to Esteban. I grew up Methodist and was in church every Sunday, but I drifted away as I got older. Out of nowhere, Esteban read the entire Bible on his own and started begging me to take him to church. He asked me over and over until I finally gave in!

We chose this church because it's close to where I grew up, but we stayed because of the incredible warmth we felt the second we walked through the doors. I actually sobbed through our first few services because the feeling of being welcomed and accepted was so overwhelming. I just knew in my heart that God meant for us to be here, and we are so grateful to be a part of this church family.



Natalie Mamerow

I grew up in Oak Creek and spent many years living and working in Washington, D.C.—first as a legislative staffer for Congressman Ron Kind, and then as an appointee in the Obama Administration, where I worked on offshore renewable energy development along the west coast.

I moved back to Wisconsin in spring 2024, and found my way to Bay View through Loving Start Preschool, where my two daughters, Meera (5) and Hansa (3), have been students for the past two years.

I now serve as executive director of the Coalition of Skin Diseases, a nonprofit that advocates on behalf of the 84 million Americans living with a skin disease—work that is deeply personal to me because I've had alopecia, an autoimmune condition, since high school. Shortly after college, I developed alopecia universalis and lost every hair on my body.

Outside of work, I love gardening, camping, enjoying all of Wisconsin's beautiful outdoors, and I have a deep love for cooking and feeding others. I believe it's one of the world's greatest equalizers, a way of bringing people of different faiths, backgrounds and beliefs together around a shared table.

I found our church through Loving Start and initially came hoping to help cook for our Bread and Jam ministry. What kept me coming back was the people—a community of caring, values-driven folks doing good work. It feels like home.



Victor Henderson

I was born in Liberia and have been living in the United States for many years. I currently work in the logistics and transportation industry as a portfolio executive with C.H. Robinson, where I help businesses manage their shipping and supply-chain needs.

My family is very important to me, and I stay closely connected with my parents, siblings and extended family. Outside of work, I enjoy fitness, running, sports, content creation and fashion design. I'm also the founder of Victory Reps, a fitness community focused on encouraging people to live healthier lives through accountability, discipline and community. I enjoy learning creative skills, especially sewing and clothing design.

I found this church while looking for a place where I could grow spiritually, build meaningful relationships and be part of a community that genuinely cares for one another. From my first visits, I felt welcomed and I appreciated the strong sense of fellowship, which ultimately led me to join.

One area I think could be exciting for the church to continue developing is creating more opportunities for younger adults and newer members to connect outside of Sunday worship. Building community through fellowship events, workout group and self fellowship classes or activities. I'm grateful to be part of this church family and getting to fellowship.

Steve N. Quoi

Steve literally wandered in on Palm Sunday--one of his first days in Milwaukee. He was here through June 22 in the U.S. State Department's Community Engagement Exchange Program, a year-long leadership development fellowship for emerging civil society leaders aged 21-27. Administered by IREX, it features a three-month U.S. practicum, civic leadership training and then execution of a community project back home. Steve's emphasis was in youth advocacy to help the non-profit he began building in 2018: Center for Reform and Development, Ganta.

Steve has a nursing degree from the United Methodist University, Monrovia. His undergraduate degree was financed largely by a long-term commitment Peoria, Ill., First UMC has in Liberia. Steve visited that congregation during his CEE practicum. With too few jobs at the Methodist Hospital in Liberia, he refocused on building CRD, a youth-led group at the forefront of transformative and sustainable development aiming to create a Liberia where every youth is a catalyst for positive change in their communities by addressing key gaps in education and overall youth development. Learn more about CRD on its Facebook page.



Batter Up Bay View UMC & Friends

We're headed to a Milwaukee Brewers game Aug. 30. Tickets are \$19 each. The game starts at 1-something. Seats are located on the shade side of the upper deck and includes an area for handicap accessibility. Deadline is July 28 so we can order tickets. Contact Diane or Stacy at dbevens2@me.com or stacylaprad@gmail.com



INNOVATIVE • DISCIPLING • COLLABORATIVE

ANNA-LISA HUNTER



MAKING DISCIPLES

Jesus says "go, make disciples." I prayer walk neighborhoods and meet community leaders to make connections and relationships for expanding a congregation's reach in the neighborhood. I help congregations develop discipleship systems to grow spiritually mature Christians who walk with Jesus and make a difference in the world.



TRUNK OR
TREAT



CREATIVE
WORSHIP

8 KID
BAPTISMS
2025



TRANSFORMING LIVES

Jesus calls us as partners to build God's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Personally I make micro-loans through Kiva.com to change lives of low-income people. At church, I work with ministry teams to build relational programs that meet today's needs and build a better tomorrow.



SPIRITUAL
RETREATS

PERSONAL INTERESTS

- OUTDOORS: BICYCLING & BACKPACKING & KAYAKING
- MUSIC: VOCALS, UKULELE & GUITAR, PIANO
- CRAFTS: CROCHET & WATERCOLORS & UKRAINIAN EGGS
- VIDEO GAMES: MINECRAFT, ZELDA, SUBNAUTICA, CIVILIZATION
- TRAVEL: LONDON, GERMANY, HONG KONG, GREENLAND

July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Names listed on dates are birthdays for the month. Thanks to Linda Kreider for her ministry of sending cards on behalf of all of us to our birthday people.			1 Tami Krempel 9:15a Meditation 10:15a Bible Study 5:30p Unity Lutheran free community meal	2	3 Church Office Closed	4 Connor Meyer 250th USA! 9a Humboldt Parade 8a-12 Farm Market 10:30a Women AA
5 9:45a Worship, Diane Evans, Christy Smith 2:30p Bread & Jam to-go lunch	6 7p Alcoholics Anonymous	7 Pastor Anna-Lisa first day in our office 5p Humboldt Park Chill on the Hill food trucks open, 6:30p free concert	8 Shawn Berry, Pam Karg & Kailin Liebenstein 9:15a Meditation 10:15a Bible Study	9	10	11 8a-12p South Shore Farmers Market 9a Women's Breakfast, Castillo's 10:30a Women's AA, childcare available
12 9:45a Communion, Pastor Anna-Lisa starts Summer: Stories of the Outdoor Season - Trips 2:30p Bread & Jam to-go lunch	13 Luella Wolbrink 6p Accountable Leadership Board 7p Alcoholics Anonymous	14 5p Humboldt Park Chill on the Hill food trucks open, 6:30p free concert	15 9-11a Stock food boxes, Hunger Task Force 9:15a Meditation 10:15a Bible Study 5:30p Unity Lutheran free community meal	16	17	18 8a-12p South Shore Park Farmers Market 10:30a Women's AA, childcare available
19 Josie Knudson & Judie Liebenstein 9:45a Pastor Anna-Lisa, Summer: Stories of the Outdoor Season - Teams 2:30p Bread & Jam	20 7p Alcoholics Anonymous	21 Jan Colson 5p Humboldt Park Chill on the Hill food trucks open, 6:30p free concert	22 Becky Joslyn-Garside 9:15a Meditation 10:15a Bible Study	23	24	25 Jennifer Moebius 8a-12p Farm Market 9a Men's Breakfast, Castillo's, Cudahy 10:30a Women AA 12-1p IC Catholic free meal
26 9:45a - Pastor Anna-Lisa, Summer: Stories of the Outdoor Season - Bugs 2:30p Bread & Jam sit-down meal, dining room	27 Jeannie Schultz 7p Alcoholics Anonymous	28 Deadline to order Brewers tickets 5p Humboldt Park Chill on the Hill food trucks open, 6:30p free concert	29 Jacob Berry 9:15a Meditation 10:15a Bible Study	30	31 Ellen Tucker	Some UMCs celebrate Rural Life Sunday in July to honor rural communities and agricultural workers. Keep them in your prayers.

Bay View United Methodist Church

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Pastor Anna-Lisa Hunter
Call or Text: 414-310-9907
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Scan with your smart
phone for different
ways to give to the
ministries!



Visit us!

WWW.BAYVIEWUMC.ORG

lovingstart@gmail.com



At Loving Start Preschool, children learn by playing, exploring, creating and discovering. Through hands-on activities, art, music, yoga and nature-based learning, we inspire curiosity, confidence and a lifelong love of learning.

Serving children ages 2 years 9 months to 5 years, our state-licensed, nonprofit preschool offers 3-hour morning classes (8:45-11:45 a.m.), available 2-5 days per week.

Founded in 1991 as a ministry of Bay View United Methodist Church, Loving Start welcomes all families—church membership is not required.

Schedule a tour! Contact Director Annie Espinoza to see what makes Loving Start a special place to grow.

Where Are We Called Next?

By Pamela J. Karg, Leadership Team Chair

When I was about 12 at a church campfire, someone asked, “How were you called?” I panicked. New to Methodism, I didn’t know what to say, so I made up: a dramatic story about a beam of light in the woods. It sounded spiritual—and it impressed the crowd. The problem: it never happened. Looking back, I realize I was trying to say something true in the only way I knew: I wanted to belong.

That memory connects to where we are as a church family today and the story of Matthew. Jesus calls Matthew, a tax collector and outsider, with two words: “Follow me.” No credentials, no résumé. Just an invitation that changes everything. Matthew reminds us God’s call rarely arrives as lightning bolts. More often it sounds like an ordinary voice inviting unexpected people into purpose and belonging.

That same call echoes today in our communities. It shows up when people prepare meals for the hungry, visit neighbors, connect to newcomers, organize clothing or simply ask, “What else can I do?” Volunteering in church isn’t about being perfect or qualified. It’s about showing up where love is needed and finding God already at work.

So the question is not whether God is calling, but how we will respond. As we welcome Pastor Anna-Lisa Hunter and continue “reawaken after COVID” as someone opined recently, consider taking one step: serve a meal or offer a ride, greet a visitor or usher once a month, join a ministry team or help meet a practical need such as preparing for our annual rummage sale during September’s Bay View Bash. In those simple acts, what begins as service can become something deeper—a sense of purpose, connection and grace shared.