Upper St. Croix Parish United Methodist Church Grantsburg, St. Croix Falls, Atlas P.O. Box 128 Grantsburg, WI 54840



## Happy Mother's Day !

Without God's Grace	
and Mama's love	
Ewouldn't stand as tall,	
walk as proud,	
and feel as blessed	
as I do today.	

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### **A STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE** *Change—Nothing Stays the Same ~ May 2021*

"In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see." ~In the Bulb there is a Flower, Natalie Sleeth, UMH # 707



There is nothing like a crisis to help us to reset priorities. With Covid-19 we have witnessed job layoffs, deaths, social and economic upheavals, and health emergencies. Despite our natural resistance to change, we are learning new ways to live. On account of Covid 19, what personal priorities have you reset?

Toilet paper. Seriously. Will we ever take lowly "TP" for granted again? Toilet paper is just one of the countless everyday blessings that the pain of COVID-19 has taught us to savor - along with worshiping beside loved ones, going to work, getting paid, shopping, going to the movies, and on and on. (What's on your list?)

We are not just individuals; we are brothers and sisters in Christ. As a follower of Jesus, what priorities have you rearranged? How will the Holy Spirit guide us to a "new normal" of holy living as both disciples and community that will be different – and better – than what we have known?

May the "new normal" find us better stewards of our lives -- less greedy, less self -focused, less preoccupied with silly things, and more centered in Christ, more loving to our neighbor, more generous, more hopeful, and more tolerant.

Rev. Krystal Goodger, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Visit the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at www.wumf.org or Facebook/wumf.org Or call 1-888-903-9863



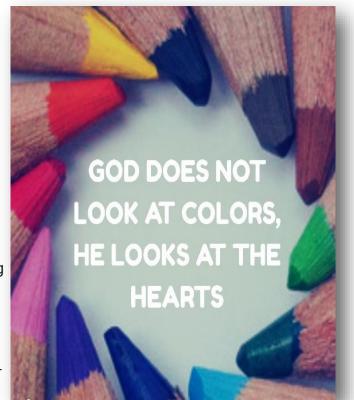
A Pastoral Letter from Bishop Jung

But if you had known what this means, "I desire mercy and not sacrifice", you would not have condemned the guiltless. (Matthew 12:7)

Daily, the news breaks my heart. A one-year-old child is killed by gunfire in Pittsburgh, sleeping supposedly safe in his crib in his home. In Atlanta, a shooting spree at three different spas leaves eight dead, primarily women of Asian descent, terrorizing residents in a year of anti-Asian violence fueled by "China virus" and "Kung flu" rhetoric and racist denunciations. The FBI reports over 3,800 acts of violence by whites against Asians and Asian-Americans, two-thirds of them against women in the past year. Over 20,000 Asian owned businesses have been vandalized or destroyed since March of 2020 in the United States. Most of these businesses have been longtime parts of their communities. I do not understand why violence is such an easy answer for so many, especially of those calling themselves Christian.

The gunman in Atlanta has been described as a devout Southern Baptist. An arsonist in California who destroyed nine Asian restaurants confessed he was acting as "a born-again Christian" opposing those he denounced with obscenities and racial slurs. This is not the witness we want to share with the world as Christian disciples.

I am personally reflecting on what our witness should be as followers of Jesus Christ. Of course, this is personal to me as an Asian-American and a leader in The United Methodist Church, but it is so much larger than my own response and the incident in Atlanta. When I think about what happened in Pittsburgh – and what continues to happen across our country and world - I am called back to a desire to be a peacemaker, working with people of all ethnicities, and cultures, and races to create a society founded upon principles of justice and mercy and equity. I believe that the people called United Methodists should be actively engaged champions of inclusion and justice for all. We should be FOR the love of Christ by standing AGAINST racism and oppression and marginalization and condemnation and violence.



Yes, first and foremost, we should be a people of prayer, but beyond our prayers we should be disciples sent forth "for the transformation of the world." We are God's agents and tools for transformation. God will achieve justice through us. God will show mercy through us. God will end human intolerance and violence through us. But not if we stand passively by.

### FROM THE PASTOR CONTINUED...



The month of May is Asian Heritage Month. It is established to recognize and honor the great contributions Asian leaders and Asian cultures have made in our world. It is a time to celebrate the wonderful diversity within Asian cultures and to embrace this diversity throughout our global community. In most cases, Asian culture is deeply rooted in respectful relationships and communities of hospitality. Caring welcome, respect, and honor are core values of Asian people. I am prayerful that in Wisconsin we might find some substantial and creative ways to raise awareness, educate, and inspire our members to see the blessing of all Asian peoples.

Simply because our current pandemic began in Chinese geography does not mean it was caused by Asian people. Our entire planet has suffered COVID-19 – the pandemic should be our common enemy, not each other. We should work hard to support and encourage and strengthen all people through this global virus time, especially those most at risk and vulnerable. The pandemic has inordinately harmed the poor, the marginalized, the less educated, those considered subordinate by dominant cultures. This is the value system of the world; but it is not the value system of God's people. All are of equal value and should be treated as such. Those of us most advantaged should share abundantly with those who have less. And under no circumstances should we do anything that adds to the pain, anxiety, suffering, or harms the wellbeing of any other human being.

Please join me in prayer, but also consider joining me in action, to stand with those who are oppressed and attacked, and to witness to God's love in a broken and violent world. Let us show mercy to everyone, now and forever.

Blessings, Bishop Jung



### Amazon Smile—Support us when you shop anytime!

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the Upper St. Croix Parish.

The money we receive will be used to support our parish's next generation. Thank you to those who are using the link below when shopping through Amazon. Please feel free to share this link with anyone you know who shops through Amazon. You receive the same products at the same price yet you can make a big difference in supporting our youth!

Copy and past the address below (or click on the link if you're seeing it electronically) into your browser and then bookmark the page for future use. Once you log into your account you can bookmark that and it will save your information if you make that selection! Thank you for your support!

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7429002



## Active Discipleship in a Time of Pandemic



For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. (Matthew 25:14-15)

As we quickly approach a full year under the cloud of the global COVID-19 pandemic it is a good time to reflect on what this past year has meant to us. It has been difficult, it has been depressing, it has been dangerous, it has been frustrating. The year has seen widespread fear and anxiety, illness and death, lifelong impact and family despair. It has kept us home, away from schools and churches, and restaurants, and businesses. It has disrupted sports and entertainment. It has created Netflix and Zoom addictions. It has not been a fun year.

Yet, it is too easy to simply focus on what we have lost, what we have missed, and what we cannot do. It is too easy to fixate on our personal inconveniences and annoyances. It is too easy to be overwhelmed by the health, economic, employment, environmental, and educational negatives. I want to shift the focus to applaud the amazing versatility, adaptability and creativity of our laity and clergy leaders in Wisconsin during this difficult time.

First, the use of the Internet, Zoom, YouTube and other platforms to offer worship, fellowship, learning, counseling, meeting, and support has been nothing short of amazing. Some of our congregations have actually grown during the pandemic by reaching new people in new ways. We have reconnected with shut-ins and those who have moved away. We are in many cases more connected and more productive than ever before. Kudos to the great ingenuity and innovation of our church leaders.

Second, the outpouring of funds and other resources to ministry has been incredible. Our Conference apportionments almost met their intended goal and we received the financial support faithfully that allows us to continue to do ministry across the Conference in each of our districts. I want you to know my appreciation for your faithful giving. And this extends to the local churches as well. Most report no significant decrease in local church support this past year. Thanks also to our United Methodist Foundation for the grants and aid they have offered through this challenging time.

Third, I am deeply impressed by the outreach ministry I am seeing in every area of our state. Support for homeless shelters, food banks, clothes closets, feeding programs, disaster response, counseling and domestic violence response, have increased almost everywhere. People are organizing responses and services for those lives lost in the pandemic, support for early responders, doctors, nurses, healthcare workers, assisted living and retirement home staff members. Church members have gotten organized and active for writing to their congressional representatives and the president, calling for pandemic aid, racial justice initiatives, support for ethical and effective law enforcement, media accountability, election reforms, and supplies for the most vulnerable in our country and world. Many of our Wisconsin United Methodists are more active in ministry during this pandemic than they ever have been before. I am seeing a wonderful shift from passive discipleship to active discipleship wherever I look.

### SOUL FOOD CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

### SOUL FOOD CONTINUED...

So, I offer both encouragement and invitation – get active. Use your phone, your computer, the U.S. mail to communicate and organize. Attend webinars and online forums, many of which are seeking volunteers to make calls and help align resources to offer care for others. Connect with your own church people as much as possible. Make the commitment to focus on what you CAN do instead of what you can't. Ask God's guidance, individually and together, for ways you can engage in faithful service during this time of separation.

In times of difficulty, peril, and distress, it is more important than ever for the church to offer a faithful witness. Together, by the direction of the Holy Spirit, God can do great things with and through us. Let us rejoice in the opportunities we have been given in the days of COVID-19 to be God's hands, feet, and voice in the world. Well done, good and faithful servants! Grace and Peace,

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung has served as resident bishop of the Wisconsin Annual Conference since September of 2012. Prior to leading the Wisconsin Conference UMC, Bishop Jung served eight years as bishop of the Northern Illinois Conference (Chicago area).







### Central UMC will be holding in-church services Sunday's beginning in May at 8:30 am. We hope these procedures will make you safe and feel safe. COVID-19 recommended safety measures:

1. Entrance and exit to the building will be through the southeast doors on Pine Street. Other entrances will not be available. Phased exit to keep social distancing will also be through this entrance.

2. All attendees, including staff and volunteers, will have their temperatures checked upon entry using a non-contact thermometer.

3. Protective facial masks are required for all attendees throughout the entire service— please bring your own mask with you. A small supply of masks will be available for those who forget or for guests.

4. Social distancing, six (6) feet intervals at arrival, seating, and departure will be observed. Families may sit together.

5. No hand shaking or physically passing of the peace.

6. No passing of items, attendance cards, sign-up sheets, offering plate, etc. Offerings can be deposited in offering box upon departure.

7. Singing may be possible wearing a protective facial mask. No Bible books and Hymn books can be used, but we provide info on a screen. Piano music will be provided.

8. Bathroom accessibility only through the door by the baptismal font.

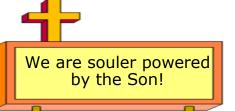
- 9. All other areas of the church, including Wesley room, dining room, kitchen, nursery and basement, will be closed.
- 10. Hand sanitizer and disinfectant will be available.
- 11. No social time in church, no food or beverages will be served.

These changes are designed for everyone's safety! We look forward to seeing and worshipping with you again.

Celebrate ay Birthdays & Anniversaries

Rekha Roelfs 5/1 Kate Lehne 5/2 LuAnne Martell 5/3 Becca Drohman 5/3 Casper Rahkola 5/6 Bevan Branstad 5/9 Kathy Wheaton 5/13 Shayna Schmit 5/16 Mary Lou Wright 5/17 Laura Drohman 5/21 Brad Rehbein 5/21 Link Loomis 5/27 Craig Giles 5/28 Dave Huff 5/30

Emily & Daniel Rahkola 5/21 Sharon & Dave Huff 5/22



### A GLANCE AT CENTRAL'S OFFERING INCOME THROUGH APRIL 2021



Funds	March 2021	Ye	ar-to-Date 2021
General Funds Gifts	\$ 2,250.00	\$	10,230.00
Loose Offering	\$ -	\$	50.00
Upper Room	\$ -	\$	10.00
Rummage Sale	\$ 35.00	\$	35.00
Total General Funds	\$ 2,285.00	\$	10,325.00
Specials	\$ 175.00	\$	235.00
Other		\$	-
All Funds	\$ 2,460.00	\$	10,560.00

### GRANTSBURG: MISSIONS & MEETINGS & MISC.



UMW met on April 14 for our regular business meeting. LuAnne provided materials to make May baskets. We each made one for a person of our choice. We are ready for May Day and also some sunshine.

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 12. This will be a surprise meeting. All active members will receive an email on Monday May 10 telling you where and what time to meet. If you are interested and do not get an email call me at 715-791-8010.

~ Mary McNally



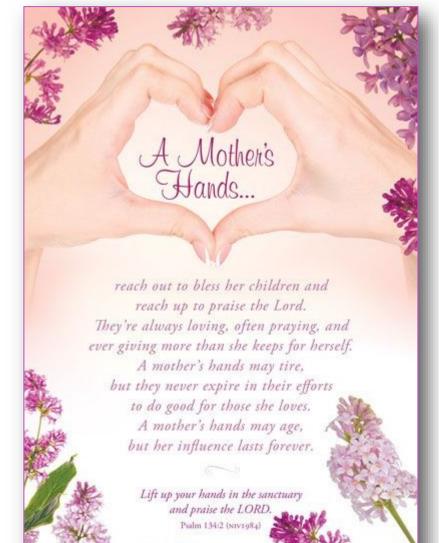
Admin Meeting May 18th 6:30 pm



### MISSIONS UPDATE

No information was available. Please watch the weekly bulletin and insert for updates on the May mission .

Happy Mother's Day to All Types of Moms Everywhere Thank you for all you do!





If possible please print out your own materials that will be emailed out to everyone. There will be some hard copies at available.

Please bring your own bread and juice for the Communion service on May 1st and Pastor Jenny will bless everything that day for Communion.

#### **ZOOM VIDEO WORSHIP SERVICES** 8:30 am Sunday's

There will be a parish-wide ZOOM video service at 8:30 am every Sunday until further notice. The worship materials will be mailed out to those without email, emailed out to everyone in the parish we have email addresses for and posted on our website. The sermon and ZOOM login information will also be sent with the service material and posted on our website. We will have a conference call to attend service every Sunday as well and the video of the worship service will be posted on the parish Facebook page after the service.

## PLANET GREEN INK JET

RECYCLING



Do you have used ink jet cartridges or old cell phones? Every one that you donate to the church provides extra money to fund Atlas Church 's Ministry and outreach. Thank you for your continued support of this program!





Church News



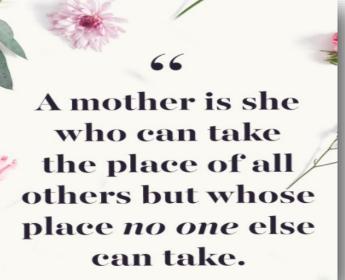
#### Peace with Justice Sunday

Peace With Justice Sunday (first Sunday after Pentecost) enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs.



### SPECIAL DAYS IN MAY

- ✤ May Day 5/1
- National Teachers Day 5/4
- ✤ Cinco de Mayo 5/5
- National Nurses Day 5/6
- National Day of Prayer 5/6
- Image: Mother's Day5/9
- Dance Like a Chicken Day 5/14 (Yes this is real!)
- ✤ Pentecost 5/23
- Trinity Sunday 5/30
- Peace with Justice Sunday 5/30
- Memorial Day 5/31









Barry & Colleen Norenberg 5/31

### LOAVES & FISHES FOOD PANTRY Monthly Report ~ Marcb 2021

Households Served39<br/>Adults67<br/>ChildrenTotal People77USDA Food Received<br/>Groceries Purchased0#<br/>0#

Luck School District 25 Unity School District 14 Other 0 New Families: Unity 0 Luck 0 Other 0 NON-USDA (Donations) 714# Volunteer Hours 40 Hours

Items Needed: Peanut butter, tuna fish and bar soap or shower gel.





### ST. CROIX FALLS N

### REMEMBER THE FOOD SHELF

On Communion Sundays, you are invited to bring in donations for the SCF Food Pantry... just be sure your food items have not expired.



COMMUNION SUNDAY: 5/2/21

Currently there are no Helping Hands signed up for May as we will be holding outdoor Drive-In Services at the park next to Atlas Church at 10:00 am each Sunday until further notice.

We will also hold ZOOM Video services at 8:30 am every Sunday. Check out our website and Facebook page for details. We hope you can join us! Thank you!





MAY MISSION

Sailor Hat Offering will go to support: The St. Croix Falls **Food Shelf** 

Thank you for



your support!



Naomi McLean	5/6
Jim Sciacca	5/10
Nathan Murtaugh	5/11
Clarie Mathson	5/12
Peter Gionis	5/15

nay

Charlie & Joan Zeigler 5/7



Palm Sunday Central UMC





Tablet Ministry-(Bevan Branstad-Grantsburg)



Receiving the "Certification of the Lenten Bible Study" on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

(Deb Hammer, LuAnne Martell, Mary McNally, Sue Olson, Mark Nelson, Karen Sciacca, Kathy Gionis and Pastor Jenny Lee)

Infant Baptism of Walden James Allen Erickson on Easter Sunday (April 4<sup>th</sup>)



Celebrating a New Atlas Church Member on Easter Sunday, Mark Nelson (Atlas) with Sue Olson (Ad Council chair) and Pastor Jenny Lee.





The Holy Easter Event on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at Atlas Park







**Easter Crafts** 





Burning our Prayer Cards



MOTHER'S DAY Word Search

WY U P B U T D N I K N R Q Z WNB T M Q T TUEVESSECUK SREA PBSI UF EMI DWTI CEQ Ω RALNSOKHSTC PUNESMOERZG MORUGQ CILVI OKYCHNAX PAI ESGUHACNRG Ρ

MOMMY TEACHER LOVE KIND HUGS PATIENT KISSES NURSE FLOWERS COOKIES





- **Q: Why is a computer so smart?** A: It listens to its motherboard.
  - **Q: Why did you chop the joke book in half?** A: Mom said to cut the comedy.
  - Q: What did the baby corn say to the mama corn?





### MINISTRY TABLETS AVAILABLE

Just a reminder we have ministry tablets available for all churches to use for their members, please let Pastor Jenny know if you would like to use one.

Our experiences are that users really appreciate them, they are able to hear and see other members during the service.

-Karen Sciacca

# Miscellaneous

**GRADUATION SUNDAY** 

May 16, 2021





May 30, 2021



### TOGETHER OUR REACH IS BEYOND MEASURE

The United Methodist Church's special giving structure ensures your generosity blesses as many people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways

### YOUR DONATION CHANGES THE WORLD ONE LIFE AT A TIME

GIVE TO YOUR CHURCH: Make checks payable to your local church or donate online via credit/debit card at ResourceUMC.org/SSGive



TO GIVE ONLINE SCAN QR CODE WITH YOUR Smartphone camera

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors. The people of The United Methodist Church®

### United Methodist Special Sunday Peace with Justice Sunday

Special Offering Collected May 30, 2021

### WHY DO WE CELEBRATE SPECIAL SUNDAYS?

United Methodists celebrate on specific days to unite and make clear the commitment of the church as the people of God, and to give everyone the opportunity to contribute to special programs approved and supported by the Church. For stories on how you make a difference visit **UMC.org/yourimpact** 

### HOW DO YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT PEACE WITH JUSTICE EFFORTS?

Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict. We insist that the first moral duty of all nations is to work together to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them. Each Annual Conference has a Peace with Justice Coordinator developing local social justice ministries. Fifty percent of the offering remains in your annual conference to support this ministry.

### **Polk County Food Shelves**

### Amery

Amery Food Shelf—230 Deronda Street, Amery Food Shelf is located in the old Amery Regional Medical Center Building. Call (715) 268- 5999 before 12:00 noon on Wednesday. Leave name and number on voice mail. Open Thursday 2-6 pm. Area of service: Amery school district only

**The Congregational Church—201 Harriman Ave. North, Amery** Food distribution: 9-10:30 am every 2nd Saturday of the month . Registration is 7 am to 9:30 am. **715-268-7390 Special note:** No economic restrictions; however, a \$20.00 donation is asked to help cover the cost of the truck.

**Ruby's Pantry –www.amery.ucc.org** or office.ameryucc@gmail.com Area of service: County wide

### Dresser

**People Loving People --- 103 E. Main Street, Dresser** Monday and Saturday 11 am – 1 pm Wednesday 2 pm – 5 pm Phone: 715-501-4657

### Frederic

**Family Pathways Food Shelf—1100 Wisconsin Ave South, Frederic** Phone **715-327-4425** Open Tuesday 9 am—6 pm, Thursday 9 am—6 pm, Saturday 9 am—12pm **For best service please call for appointment.** 

### Luck

Loaves and Fishes Interfaith Food Pantry—300 North 1st Street, Luck Pantry is located in the back of the DBS Hall Open Tuesday & Thursday 11 am—1 pm Phone (715) 472-2003 Area of service: Luck & Unity School Districts

### Osceola

**The Open Cupboard Food Shelf—402 2nd Avenue, Osceola** Call for appointment: **715-294-4357** Open Monday-Friday 8 am – 5 pm (The Open Cupboard also has used furniture & clothing) Area of service: Osceola & Dresser school district

### **St. Croix Falls**

#### St Croix Falls Food Shelf—809 Pine Street, St Croix Falls Phone: 715-520-2397

Open Monday 9 am—11 am Wednesday 3 pm—6 pm Friday 9 am – 10 am Area of service: SCF school district, Dresser elementary, Centuria, Cushing & portions of Balsam Lake & Taylors Falls

#### Family Pathways Food Shelf—2000 US Hwy 8, St Croix Falls Phone: 715-483-2920

Open Monday 9–5 pm, Tuesday 9-5 pm, Wednesday 12 pm– 6 pm, Thursday 9-5 pm, Friday 9–5 pm, & Saturday 9-Noon









### **Burnett County Emergency Food Shelves and Distributions**

#### **Grantsburg Area Food Shelf** No cost

Serving residents of the Grantsburg School District Open Thursday 9:30am-11:30am; **EMERGENCIES ONLY** on Tuesday 9:30am-11:30am Allowed to come 2 times a month Located between the Library and the Village Hall Office, 320 South Brad St., Grantsburg, WI

#### Indianhead Community Action Agency- "Connections" No cost

Serving all Burnett County residents Open 10am-3pm Monday, Tuesday & Friday Located in Webster next to the Holiday Gas Station (715) 866-8151

#### Ruby`s Food Shelf- Siren No cost

Serving residents of the Siren & Webster School Districts Open 10:00am-2pm Monday & Friday 10:00am-4pm Wednesday Closed Thursday

\*\*You`re asked to be there at least 30 minutes before close Located at 24534 State Hwy 35/70 (Ruby`s Secondhand) (715)349-RUBY (7829)

**Ruby`s Monthly Food Distributions** Bring own boxes or baskets Donation: \$20 For dates, times, and locations (no location restrictions at this time), visit <u>http://</u>www.rubyspantry.org/distribution/distschedule.htm

#### Second Harvest Food Distribution No cost

First and Third Thursday of every month Starts at 11:00am until food is gone Located at Connections in Webster (next to the Holiday Gas Station) This distribution is offered to anyone in need of food; please help get the word out

#### St. Croix Chippewa Commodities Distribution

24663 Angeline Ave., Webster II 349-2195, Becky Reynolds Food distribution: Monday to Thursday 7:30am-4:30pm (Native American Income Eligible Only)

Closed first week of each month for inventory. Can only receive one time per month. A variety of items are available each month and may include canned meats; juice; canned foods; dry goods; frozen meats; cheese; rice and pasta; fresh produce.





