

Prayer is one of the ways we communicate with God. It is conversation – talking together - listening together - with a generous, caring Friend. Prayer conversation with God can be many things. It can be: praising God’s great goodness, asking for a particular need to be answered, listening to God or listening for God’s message or response, wrestling and questioning God about a problem we have, requesting God’s wisdom or presence or healing or . . . , questioning and challenging God, thanking God for life or blessings or . . . , and on.

Our congregation has a Prayer Chain Ministry that is praying for your prayer requests. You are invited to fill in the prayer request card on the back of the Welcome card, fill in your prayer request and either put it in the offering plate or give it directly to Pastor Wendee. Following worship, a member of the Prayer Ministry Team will collect the prayer requests, will give Pastor Wendee a list of all the requests and will email them to the Prayer Chain who will pray for your request through the week. Please be sure to check the box(es) designating how and where you want your prayer request(s) shared.

Thank you for the privilege of allowing us to share in your life through prayer.

You are invited to pray for the following prayer requests:

- From Bonnie C – for Bonnie’s friend, Joanne. Joanne is asking for prayers for her granddaughter, Sarah. She had brain tumor surgery. The surgery went well they think they got all of the tumor and she did not have any loss of abilities from the surgery. Sarah is 30 and has an 8 year old son. Continued prayers for healing and as we wait for final tests and treatment news.
- From Bonnie C – for Bonnie’s friend Jayne A. Jayne was diagnosed with a cancerous mass and just had surgery to remove it. The next step is radiation. Prayers for comfort, strength and healing.
- From Cherie S – Prayers of comfort for Cherie’s Dad and her cousins. Cherie’s uncle (Cherie’s Dad’s brother) passed away February 2.
- Carol and Tim L – for Carole’s cousin, An; her son, Randy and their dear friend, Fifi. Prayers of healing as An and Randy heal and gain strength from serious illnesses. And prayers of thanks for Fifi, as she continues to give her kind encouragement and time to them.
- From Sandy T – for Sandy’s Granddaughter, Katie. Prayers for healing and hope as she was in a car accident and has spinal injuries.
- Prayers of thanks giving for the celebration of life for Laverne B on Saturday, February 3, and for comfort for Jerry and Christal B and their family.
- Prayers for the family of Roger S as they grieve his death. Roger was not a member of OCCUMC, but Pastor Wendee will be conducting his funeral on Friday, February 9.
- Prayers for healing for Donna W as she is in the hospital. She asks for prayers that she does not have to have surgery.
- Prayer request from Jill S: Jill asks that we put her mother, Nola, and the rest of her family on the prayer list for strength and courage to deal with the journey ahead. They are incurring many health issues. May they experience God’s comforting grace in the midst of all they are going through.
- From Patty A – Prayers of strength for Patty and her family. Patty needed to drive her sister, Margie and husband, Al to the ER in the middle of the night on February 3. He has lung and colon cancer and due to a biopsy procedure on February 2 he experienced a lung collapse and tearing of the lung.
- From Patty A – for Patty’s friend, Judy and Michael A’s youngest sister, Sharon. Judy’s husband has been in the hospital with medical issues since early December and Judy just found out her breast cancer has returned. Sharon also has breast cancer and is having surgery this week. Prayers of encouragement for all.
- Prayers for those suffering in the cold and those dealing with the snow.
- Shut-ins: Dorothy S, Eileen S, Gwen S, Louise L, Jean F, Dave and Jeanne H Marge D, Pat S, Donna S, Eleanor P, Jean B, Walt M
- Prayers of celebration for anniversaries, birthdays, and other special occasions

February 11, 2018

Romans 12:1-3 & 9-21

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Christ Brings New Life

12 Dear friends, God is good. So I beg you to offer your bodies to him as a living sacrifice, pure and pleasing. That’s the most sensible way to serve God. ² Don’t be like the people of this world, but let God change the way you think. Then you will know how to do everything that is good and pleasing to him.

³ I realize how kind God has been to me, and so I tell each of you not to think you are better than you really are. Use good sense and measure yourself by the amount of faith that God has given you.

Rules for Christian Living

⁹ Be sincere in your love for others. Hate everything that is evil and hold tight to everything that is good. ¹⁰ Love each other as brothers and sisters and honor others more than you do yourself. ¹¹ Never give up. Eagerly follow the Holy Spirit and serve the Lord. ¹² Let your hope make you glad. Be patient in time of trouble and never stop praying. ¹³ Take care of God’s needy people and welcome strangers into your home.

¹⁴ Ask God to bless everyone who mistreats you. Ask him to bless them and not to curse them. ¹⁵ When others are happy, be happy with them, and when they are sad, be sad. ¹⁶ Be friendly with everyone. Don’t be proud and feel that you are smarter than others. Make friends with ordinary people.^[a] ¹⁷ Don’t mistreat someone who has mistreated you. But try to earn the respect of others, ¹⁸ and do your best to live at peace with everyone.

¹⁹ Dear friends, don’t try to get even. Let God take revenge. In the Scriptures the Lord says,

“I am the one to take revenge and pay them back.”

²⁰ The Scriptures also say, “If your enemies are hungry, give them something to eat.

And if they are thirsty, give them something to drink. This will be the same as piling burning coals on their heads.” ²¹ Don’t let evil defeat you, but defeat evil with good.

Our Staff:

Nursery Attendants	Ann & Beverly
Preschool Director	Kara P
Choir Director	Shelly S
Bell Choir Director	Shelly S
Choir Accompanist	Connie J
Organist	Todd A
Children's Choir Dir.	Carole L
Administrative Assistant	Linda C
Custodian	Amy P
Pastor	Rev. Wendee Nitz

Assisting In Worship:

Liturgist	8:00	Janet P
	10:45	Jillian I
Acolyte	10:45	
Ushers	8:00	Kirk & Jennifer K
	10:45	Joanne M
Greeters	8:00	Marilyn K
	10:45	Jan K
Counters		Lisa B
		Carole L
Unlocking		Marilyn K



Our South East District has established a district-wide prayer connection, inviting churches to pray for each other in a unified way. The District sends us a list showing which church to pray for each week.

This week we will pray for: New Hope Hmong UMC's, and their pastor Toua Thomas Thao, and their 104 members, Milwaukee: Albright and Milwaukee: New Hope Hmong UMC's are located at 5555 W Capitol Dr. Milwaukee WI 53216.

Calendar:

Sunday – February 11

8:00 am	Worship
9:00 am	Children's Choir
9:30 am	Sunday School
10:45 am	Worship

Monday – February 12

9:00 am	Preschool
9:00 am	Care and Concerns Meeting
6:30 pm	Trustees Team Mtg
7:00 pm	Staff Parish Rel's Team Mtg
7:00 p.m.	AA

Tuesday – February 13

9:00 am	Preschool
6:30 pm	Finance Team Meeting

Wednesday – February 14

9:00 am	Preschool
7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
7:30 pm	Altar Choir

Thursday – February 15 – Newsletter Deadline

9:00 am	Preschool
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Friday – February 16

Saturday – February 17

Sunday – February 18

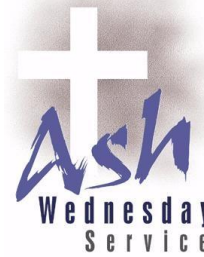
8:00 am	Worship
9:00 am	Children's Choir
9:30 am	Sunday School
10:45 am	Worship



Thursday, February 15, 2018



**Care and Concerns Meeting
Monday, February 12, at 9:00 am**



**Ash Wednesday is
February 14, 2018
Service will be at 7:00 pm**

Upcoming Class

**Three Simple Rules for Christian Living
Wednesday, February 21 – March 21**

Join us as we dream about future relevant experiences in worship with God. A short-term class has been established using Bishop Ruben Job's book, *Three Simple Rules for Christian Living*. The classes will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., from February 21 through March 21 (a total of five nights). This book emphasizes that we are to..."Do no harm, Do Good, and Stay in Love with God."

Save the Date

Monday, February 26 at 6:30 pm

The Leadership Council (a working title!) will have its first meeting on Monday, February 26 at 6:30 pm. We will gather to affirm our mission, take inventory of what we do as a church, and set our vision and goals to accomplish as a congregation this year. All are welcome - bring your ideas! Thank you to those who have already said YES! to this new adventure! For more information, please contact Pastor Wendee or Jenny V, Chairperson of the Administrative and Leadership Councils.



**UMW General Meeting
All are Welcome!**

Saturday, March 3 at 9:30 am in Doyle Hall
Program: DVD - Missionary Conferences of the UMC-In Mission Together /Hostess: Sarah Circle



Supplies Needed...

Sarah Circle is hoping to collect, prepare and deliver several layettes to Children's Hospital, 16th Street Clinic and St. Francis Hospital **late February or early March.**

- We are in need of onesies (sizes 3-6 mos.), receiving blankets or 1 yd of flannel to make into receiving blankets. Some neutral colors would be appreciated in the onesies to make up layettes for either boy or girl.
- We are in need of yarn for our knitters and crocheters who turn it into beautiful blankets.

As always, we are very appreciative of all your efforts to make this a successful ongoing mission project. Any questions, please call or speak to Dona S or Joan K.