

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 Toni C for Toni's niece, Audrey M, who had a biopsy of a tumor on her neck.
- From Allan L for graduating students. Please help all graduating students as they move into the next phase of their lives.
- From Joan L for Sandy, Joan's cousin. Prayers for healing as Sandy recovers from thyroid surgery.
- From Joanne M for Todd, Joanne's friend. Todd is in the hospital ICU in Colorado with unknown abdominal pain and possibly kidney rejection. Prayers for a diagnosis and healing.
- From Mary Ann B for Jack. Jack will be having serious surgery on Wednesday this week. Prayers for the doctors and medical staff as they share God's grace through their care for Jack.
- For healing prayers for Dale T as he has sinus surgery on Monday.
- For Judy S who is in hospice care at this time.
- For all who suffer from natural disasters.
- For all who suffer from violence.
- For the United Methodist Church as they discern God's call for how we share grace and love as we discuss human sexuality. The Commission on the Way Forward will be providing our Council of Bishops with a report and their recommendations on how to guide the church toward the General Conference in February, 2018.
- 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.

***Please note: Prayer concerns have been generalized for privacy.**

April 15, 2018

Acts 3:11-26 (New Revised Standard Version (NRSV))

Peter Speaks in Solomon's Portico

¹¹ While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's Portico, utterly astonished. ¹² When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, "You Israelites,^[a] why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant^[b] Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴ But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus^[c] has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷ "And now, friends,^[d] I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸ In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah^[e] would suffer. ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, ²⁰ so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah^[f] appointed for you, that is, Jesus, ²¹ who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets. ²² Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you from your own people^[g] a prophet like me. You must listen to whatever he tells you. ²³ And it will be that everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly rooted out of the people.' ²⁴ And all the prophets, as many as have spoken, from Samuel and those after him, also predicted these days. ²⁵ You are the descendants of the prophets and of the covenant that God gave to your ancestors, saying to Abraham, 'And in your descendants all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' ²⁶ When God raised up his servant,^[h] he sent him first to you, to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

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	Michelle P
	10:45	Carol S
Ushers	8:00	Kirk and Jennifer K
	10:45	Confirmation Students
Greeters	8:00	Bonnie R
	10:45	Norm and Joan L
Counters		Bonnie C
		Cherie S
Unlocking		Paula S



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: Summerfield, their pastor Jennifer Emert, and their 55 members, Summerfield is located at 722 E Juneau Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Calendar:

Sunday – April 15 – Newsletter Deadline

UMCOR Special Sunday

8:00 am	Worship
9:00 am	Children's Choir
9:30 am	Sunday School
10:45 am	Worship
12:00 pm	Youth Work Mission Team & Parent Meeting

Monday – April 16

9:00 am	Preschool
6:30 pm	Finance Team Meeting
7:00 pm	AA

Tuesday – April 17

9:00 am	Preschool
9:30 am	Our Harmony Club Event

Wednesday – April 18

9:00 am	Preschool
6:00 pm	Class: When Bad Things Happen to Good People
7:30 pm	Altar Choir

Thursday – April 19

9:00 am	Preschool
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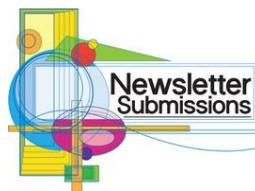
Friday – April 20

Saturday – April 21

Sunday – April 22

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

Newsletter Deadline, April 15...



Please prepare your articles and calendar information for the next two months May AND June for this single, two-month publication.

United Methodist Women's Ticket Sales for the Annual Salad Luncheon will be on Sunday, April 15 after both services.



Contemporary Worship Music

will be projected during our centering music time at both services.

- You are welcome to sing along.
- We are looking for a team of volunteers to set up, run and put away the projection equipment. Please contact Bonnie C.

Our Harmony Club Meeting Tuesday, April 17 at 9:30 am

This nonprofit organization provides social day programs for elderly individuals. Currently, we are looking for volunteers to assist. The program at OCCUMC runs one day a month - the third Tuesday from 9:30 - 3:30. Volunteers participate by:

- Being paired with a client for the day
 - Preparing lunch for guests and volunteers
 - Providing entertainment
 - Lead Light exercises, games, crafts
- Please contact Susan J for additional information,

Cathedral Center April 30, 2018 at 5:30 pm

Please see sign-up sheets in Friendship Room

Thank you from Sarah Circle

In March, Sarah Circle was able to prepare enough baby items to complete twenty-five layettes for St. Francis Hospital, Children's Hospital and Sixteenth Street Clinic. Thank you to all who knit, crochet, quilt and purchase articles for this worthy Mission Project. We could not do this without your support. We will begin stocking our items for the next delivery hopefully in June. If you would like to help us, we need blankets, 1 yard of flannel to make receiving blankets, sleepers and onesies in size 3 - 6 mos. Many thanks again for your donations! Any questions, please call Joan K or Dona S.

SEMINARY INTERN

A few months ago, we shared the news that OCCUMC was exploring the possibility of having a student intern from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary join us in fall of 2018. We drafted a letter providing an overview of our faith family and our community and the strengths and potential for our congregation. In March, Pastor Wendee was contacted by Garrett wanting us to confirm that we were still interested in working with a student intern because they would be matching up students with potential sites within the next two weeks. Seven of OCCUMC's key leaders met to decide about mentoring a student intern for the 2018-19 school year. After much discussion and prayer, we made the unanimous decision to say YES to an intern. Working with an intern is aligned with the education focus of our congregation and complements every aspect of OCCUMC's mission. We interviewed a potential candidate on March 26 who would be a wonderful addition to our faith family. A student intern will work 13 hours per week from September through May. The focus of the internship will be determined based on the student's interests and the congregation's needs. Pastor Wendee and a Site Supervision Team will oversee the student's performance and provide feedback to the student. If you would like to be part of this Site Team, please talk with Pastor Wendee or me. There is a stipend provided to the intern that will be covered by a private donation. Some of Pastor Wendee's duties will be delegated or shared with others to free up time to spend with the intern. We are excited to see what new energy and a fresh perspective a student intern will bring to OCCUMC. The congregation will be kept informed as the process moves forward. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Jenny V.
Chair, Administrative Council