

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 Liz I: For Gail B and her husband. He had a stroke last weekend and has some recovery work to do. Gail works with the Wisconsin UMC Conference and with Faith Alive!
- From Ruth B: For her mother, Barbara B, who will have surgery on May 7. Prayers for God's healing love. The family also gives thanks for Dan J and all of the veterans as they participate in the Honor Flight to Washington, DC, to remember his and all of our nation's veterans who served our country in our military forces.
- From Shelly S: For Jeanne R-C after she broke her arm. Jeanne will see the doctor on Tuesday to determine the best course of healing. Prayers for comfort and patience.
- From Alex C: Thankfulness for opportunities that work out in God's time.
- From Kim W: For my mother, Marlene K. On Thursday, 5/9, she will have the second eye surgery to correct the excessive lid issue, caused by the original reconstructive surgery. We are hoping it will solve the problems and she'll have complete healing and remain cancer free. We appreciate your support through prayers.
- For the people in the Middle East as tensions escalate between the Israelis and the Palestinians. God, we pray for peace.
- For the people of Venezuela in this time of political unrest. Care and compassion and hope is needed for everyone.
- Shut-ins: Dorothy S, Eileen S, Gwen S, Dave and Jeanne H, Pat and Rod S, Donna S, Walt M.
- Prayers of celebration for anniversaries, birthdays, and other special occasions.

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

May 12, 2019

**1 Corinthians 12:12-27** The Message (MSG)

<sup>12-13</sup> You can easily enough see how this kind of thing works by looking no further than your own body. Your body has many parts—limbs, organs, cells—but no matter how many parts you can name, you're still one body. It's exactly the same with Christ. By means of his one Spirit, we all said good-bye to our partial and piecemeal lives. We each used to independently call our own shots, but then we entered into a large and integrated life in which *he* has the final say in everything. (This is what we proclaimed in word and action when we were baptized.) Each of us is now a part of his resurrection body, refreshed and sustained at one fountain—his Spirit—where we all come to drink. The old labels we once used to identify ourselves—labels like Jew or Greek, slave or free—are no longer useful. We need something larger, more comprehensive.

<sup>14-18</sup> I want you to think about how all this makes you more significant, not less. A body isn't just a single part blown up into something huge. It's all the different-but-similar parts arranged and functioning together. If Foot said, "I'm not elegant like Hand, embellished with rings; I guess I don't belong to this body," would that make it so? If Ear said, "I'm not beautiful like Eye, limpid and expressive; I don't deserve a place on the head," would you want to remove it from the body? If the body was all eye, how could it hear? If all ear, how could it smell? As it is, we see that God has carefully placed each part of the body right where he wanted it.

<sup>19-24</sup> But I also want you to think about how this keeps your significance from getting blown up into self-importance. For no matter how significant you are, it is only because of what you are a *part* of. An enormous eye or a gigantic hand wouldn't be a body, but a monster. What we have is one body with many parts, each its proper size and in its proper place. No part is important on its own. Can you imagine Eye telling Hand, "Get lost; I don't need you"? Or, Head telling Foot, "You're fired; your job has been phased out"? As a matter of fact, in practice it works the other way—the "lower" the part, the more basic, and therefore necessary. You can live without an eye, for instance, but not without a stomach. When it's a part of your own body you are concerned with, it makes *no* difference whether the part is visible or clothed, higher or lower. You give it dignity and honor just as it is, without comparisons. If anything, you have more concern for the lower parts than the higher. If you had to choose, wouldn't you prefer good digestion to full-bodied hair?

<sup>25-26</sup> The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don't, the parts we see and the parts we don't. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance.

<sup>27</sup> You are Christ's body—that's who you are! You must never forget this.

**Our Staff:**

Nursery Attendants	Ann K
Preschool Director	Kara P
Altar Choir Director	Shelly S
Bell Choir Director	Shelly S
Choir Accompanist	Connie J
Organist	Todd A
Youth Choir Director	Carole L
Administrative Assist.	Alex C
Custodian	Amy P
Pastor	Rev. Wendee Nitz

**Assisting In Worship:**

Liturgist	8:00	Jessie G
	10:45	Jillian I
Ushers	8:00	
	10:45	Cherie & Keith S
Greeters	8:00	Rex & Norma N
	10:45	Ferger Family
Prelude Music		Debbie S/Kelly D
Counters		Jane E / Carole L
Unlocking		Marilyn K
Refreshments		Jennifer S
Nursery Assistant		Cali E

**Reminder for Memorial Day Weekend**  
**Sunday, May 26 - One Service at 9:00 am**  
**Monday, May 27 - Church Office Closed**



Thank you to all who made the UMW Salad Luncheon a success. We had a wonderful day, enjoyed many, many delicious salads and some fun music by TJ and the Ukeladies. Thank you to all who donated salads, helped with set up, serving, and cleanup, and attended the event. The funds raised will go to missions in our church, city, and beyond.

**Calendar:**

**Sunday – May 12 – Mother’s Day**

8:00 am	Worship
9:00 am	Youth Choir
9:30 am	Sunday School
10:45 am	Worship
12:00 pm	Jessie’s Farewell Fellowship

**Monday – May 13**

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

**Tuesday – May 14**

9:00 am	Preschool
1:00 pm	Practicing Our Faith Prayer Experience
6:30 pm	Reaching Out Into Our Communities Class

**Wednesday – May 15**

9:00 am	Preschool
7:30 pm	Altar Choir

**Thursday – May 16**

9:00 am	Preschool
11:30 pm	Sarah Circle Luncheon

**Saturday – May 18**

7:30 am	Men’s Breakfast at OCCUMC
8:00 am	Spring Clean-up Day
10:00 am	Blessing of the Motorcycles

**Sunday – May 19 – Confirmation Sunday**

8:00 am	Worship
9:00 am	Youth Choir
9:30 am	Last Day of Sunday School
10:45 am	Worship
2:00 pm	Tabitha Circle Racine Theater Guild Trip



- Bottled grape, orange, and cranberry juice
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Crackers
- Canned soup
- Canned fruit
- Cookies

**Prayer Experience/Class** | Tuesday, May 14 | 1:00 PM | Please consider joining this six-week prayer experience/class as we build community through participating in many different types of prayer. We will grow spiritually through the use of Dorothy Bass’ book, *Practicing Hospitality*, and our conversations with each other. Contact Pastor Wendee for details.

**Reaching Out Into Our Communities Class** | Tuesday, May 14 | 6:30 PM | Using Nelson Searcy’s book, *Fusion*, to focus our discussion, we will consider how OCCUMC is being called to reach out and share the good news in our communities. Contact Pastor Wendee for details.

**Sarah Circle Luncheon** | Thursday, May 16 | 11:30 AM | Please join the Sarah Circle for lunch at the Market Place on Puetz Road. Contact Carlene W with any questions.

**Spring Clean-up Day** | Saturday, May 18 | 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

It’s that time of year again when we all gather at the church to tidy up everything after a long winter. All ages and skill levels of helpers are welcome to offer as much time as you can. We could really use your help as there are many small tasks to accomplish. We will meet at the church at 8:00 am on Saturday May 18 rain or shine. There is plenty to do both inside and outside. Some of our projects include spreading mulch, weeding the gardens, light tree/bush pruning, and picking up litter. Some things you might find useful to bring are work gloves, shovels, pruners, saws, rakes, brooms, wheelbarrows, rubber gloves, rags, buckets, ladders, etc. We hope you can join us. For more information, contact Doug C (Trustee Chair) or Pastor Wendee.



**Free Breakfast** | Saturday, May 18 | 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM | For all those hardy volunteers who will be working on the Spring Clean- up Day, come early and enjoy scrambled eggs, pancakes, and a muffin along with coffee or juice.



**Confirmation and Celebration of Christian Education and Music Ministers** | Sunday, May 19 | Join us for Confirmation Sunday, where our confirmands will share with us their Statements of Faith and we will welcome them in membership. We will also honor the time and talents our members and friends share through our education and music ministries.



**No Page Left Unturned** | Monday, May 20 | 9:00 AM at Panera Bread | *A Man Called Ove*, by Fredrik Backman | Our reading group is growing and we are always looking for more participants. Join us and share in the discussions – they’re light and lively! Do you have a special book you’d like to share and discuss? Let us know! Contact Mary Ann B for more information.



**MMDC** | Have you heard how much fun we have at Midwest Mission Distribution Center? Would you like to join us? We will be at MMDC August 18 -23. You can come for a few days or all 5. There are jobs for every skill level from sitting at a table counting items to making desks. Come with a friend or make a new one as we work together on a wide variety of projects. Carpooling and scholarships are available. **Contact Bonnie by June 1** if you want to go.