

## Sundays

**In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship** begins at 9:00am, in-person in the Great Room and livestreamed on People's UMC YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/peopleschurchoregonwi>).

**Sunday School for grades 4K–5th grade** meets at 9:15 in the lower level. Adult Sunday School ("Sunday Second Cup") meets in the Fireside Room 15 minutes after worship ends.

**Nursery Care** is available for children age 4 and under every Sunday. You are welcome to check your child in prior to the start of the service in our nursery on the lower level.

## Crossing the Threshold: *To New Life*

This Lent, we are invited to stand at the threshold between who we have been and who God is calling us to become. In this sermon series, we journey with Jesus through struggle, healing, and hope—trusting that even through the cross, God is leading us toward new life. Join us as we walk together through Lent toward the light of Easter.



March 1	Matthew 4:1-11 Jesus's temptation	<b>Into the Wilderness</b> Following Jesus brings us to turning points where we must decide whether we will cling to familiar ways or follow Christ into a transformed way of life.
March 8	John 4:5-42 Woman at the well	<b>Crossing from Thirst to Belonging</b> What begins as thirst becomes belonging when Jesus names us, knows us, and sends us.
March 15	John 9:1-41 Healing of the blind man	<b>The Blindness We Don't See</b> Following Jesus often means seeing clearly—and crossing a threshold that costs us comfort or certainty.
March 22	John 11:1-45 Raising Lazarus	<b>From Death to the Doorway</b> Jesus does not rush us from death to freedom; he calls us to step out, even while we are still bound.
March 29 Palm Sunday	Mark 11:1-11	<b>When Hope Looks Like a Donkey</b> God's hope doesn't arrive with force or spectacle; welcoming Jesus as King means embracing his humble, upside-down way.

## Revyvibes: Walking the Third Way

by Pastor Vicki Brantmeyer (she/her/hers)



I recently finished reading *A Hidden Wholeness* by Parker J. Palmer, and one image from the book has stayed with me: nonviolence as a “third way.” It’s a concept I first encountered years ago in seminary through Walter Wink’s book *The Third Way*.

When we are under pressure—in our families, in our church, or in the wider world—we usually feel pulled toward two options. We can fight: dig in, argue harder, try to win. Or we can flee: withdraw, go quiet, and hope the conflict passes. Palmer suggests that both responses, in different ways, leave harm in place—sometimes loudly, sometimes quietly.

The “third way” is different. It is not passive or naïve. It is a commitment to act in ways that honor the soul—our own and one another’s. It means refusing to reduce people to problems or enemies. It means speaking truth with compassion, listening with courage, and staying present when it would be easier to retreat or attack.

Palmer also reminds us that violence is not only what we see in headlines. It shows up in everyday life when people are dismissed, shamed, or treated as objects rather than beloved children of God. Over time, these small wounds can erode trust, creativity, and community—yes, even in churches.



The third way invites us to hold the tension between the world as it is and the world as God dreams it could be. Instead of rushing to quick fixes or win-lose decisions, it calls us to stay at the table long enough for something more faithful to emerge. In other words, we listen.

For us at People’s UMC, this might look like asking better questions instead of rushing to argue. It might look like creating spaces where people can tell the truth without fear. It might look like choosing curiosity over certainty, and compassion over control—especially when conversations are hard.

Jesus knew this way well. He refused both retaliation and retreat, and walked a third way—truthful, courageous, and rooted in love.

This path isn’t reserved for heroes. It’s for ordinary people like us, taking simple, faithful steps together toward a more whole and grace-filled way of being the church.



### Request from Creative ConnXions

Got old jeans? We want them! Creative ConnXions for the not so creative are gathering blue jeans with pockets and belt loops intact for an upcoming project. No spoilers—but trust us, it’ll be fun. 😊

Growing in trust and transparency...



Line of Credit total:  
\$75,716.68

## Wednesday Night Supper in March

by Barb Feeney

Come in from the cold for a hot, home-style meal at Wednesday Night Supper!

The meal is served from 5:00-6:30pm. All are welcome!

*Note - dinner is cancelled if the Oregon schools are closed for the day.*



3/4: Chicken Fajita Casserole

3/11: Pizza and Grilled Ham and Cheese Sandwiches

3/18: Tater Tot Casserole

*menus are subject to change*

We are always looking for volunteers to keep this ministry going! If you have a free hour or two on an upcoming Wednesday afternoon, please write your name on our sign-up sheet. To learn more contact Karen Baker: [karenabaker725@gmail.com](mailto:karenabaker725@gmail.com)



You can find the sign-up sheets in the gathering space at church!

## March Mission of the Month: Oregon Youth Center

by Anne Staton, Mission Team

"A free and fun place for youth to belong." This is the goal of the Oregon Youth Center. The Center operates as a drop-in space for youth in grades 5-9. The hours are 3-6 PM weekdays during the school year and noon-4 in the summertime.

Programs are a combination of formal activities run by staff and volunteers and youth-led activities that involve sports, video games, cards, and crafts.

At this time the director is the only paid staff member, but the youth center is hoping to hire and fund an additional staff person to be another presence when youth are there. The rest of the adults at the youth center are volunteers.



Funding to support the opportunities the Center provides for area youth comes from Oregon School District communities, businesses, organizations, and individual donors. An additional source of income is rental of the facility when it is not in use for the regular program hours. Thank you in advance for supporting this mission of the month.

Mission of the Month donations can be made by cash, check (write Mission of the Month: OYC in the memo line) or online on the GIVE tab at [www.peoplesumc.org](http://www.peoplesumc.org).



## Musical Notes

by Kate Rush, Director of Music



### Why do we sing a doxology every Sunday?

The term "Doxology" comes from two Greek words: "doxa" (δόξα), meaning "glory," and "logia" (λογία), meaning "saying" or "expression." In short - a doxology is an expression of glory and praise to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Doxologies have been a part of Christian worship services for centuries.

- A doxology **brings us together**, singing in one voice. We use the same doxology for several months in a row, so the tune and words will become familiar. The hope is that everyone in worship can sing the doxology with ease, regardless of their perceived musical talent, joining the congregation in united praise.
- A doxology gives us a **concise and reverent declaration** of the glory of God. It is a simple lesson boiled down into a few short lines, so that even children can comprehend and praise God.
- A doxology reminds us of the **vast history of the church** and its traditions. Through the years, despite unrest and disagreements within Christianity, the core concepts of the doxology remain true.

Praise God from whom all bles - sings flow! Praise God, all crea - turs here be - low! Praise  
God a - bove, ye heaven - ly hosts! Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! A - - men.

Praise God, from whom all bles-sings flow, Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low, Al-le-lu - ia! Al-le-lu - ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts,  
Praise Jes-us Christ whose power up-lifts. Praise the Spir - it, Ho-ly Spi - rit. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - - ia!

Praise and glo - ry to the Fa-ther, praise and glo - ry to the Son, Praise and glo - ry to the Spi - rit, ev-er three and ev-er one.

Psalm 66 urges us, "Shout for joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious." A doxology is one way we do this in worship.

Copies of the March/April **Upper Room** devotional magazine are available in the office. Please email the church office ([office@peoplesumc.org](mailto:office@peoplesumc.org)) to request one by mail.



# Children & Youth Ministries



## Sunday School

4K-5th grade  
9:15am on lower level

## Youth Group

6th-12th grade  
Wednesdays 6:30-8:00

### Sunday School in March

by Pastor Justin Beatty

All children from 4K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome at Sunday School! Children attend the first part of our worship service on Sundays before heading downstairs to learn in age-appropriate lessons.



March 1—Family Worship, no Sunday School

March 8—Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42)

March 15—Jesus Raises Lazarus (John 11:1-45)

March 22—The Lost Sheep and Coin (Luke 15:1-10)

March 29—Matthew's Holy Week (Matthew 21:1-11, 27:27-66)

### Get to Know the Youngest Members of PUMC's Family

by Anne Staton

I think everyone enjoys our weekly children's time in worship not only for a chance to see the kids but to watch the adult to try to successfully get to the end of their message.



I have discovered a way to get to know these children and have them recognize me with a hug, a shy smile, or a "hi". Most recently one of the preschoolers walked up to me and said "I know you" and then chatted with me while getting a snack.

These connections are happening because once a month I am the second adult for Sunday school which involves simply being in the classroom to help out if needed. Also, I occasionally substitute for one of our nursery workers. This may involve playing with toys or games, reading a story, or snuggling a sleepy little one. Nursery substitutes can be paid and have the opportunity to work more regularly, if desired.



If you are interested in either of these opportunities, please contact Pastor Justin. My name is Anne Staton and I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.

## News from Little Angels Early Learning Center

by Katie Grady, director



This month, Ms. Katie read a book she created specific to each classrooms' lockdown procedure.

We had Dr. Wang from Oregon Family Dentistry come talk with our students about the importance of taking proper care of their teeth.

Some of the Little Angels staff teamed with some of the OSD support staff in the Madison Polar Plunge to support several of our special needs families.



## One of the ways we care for one another well is by sharing our space thoughtfully.

If your group plans to meet at church – whether it's a committee, small group, ministry team, or informal gathering – please email the church office ahead of time to reserve the room you'd like to use.



Even if:

- "We've always met there."
- "It's usually open."
- "It's just a quick meeting."
- "We meet every month."

Reserving the space helps us:

- Prevent double-bookings
- Ensure rooms are set up appropriately
- Keep the master calendar accurate
- Communicate clearly with custodial staff
- Avoid awkward last-minute surprises

When we email the office first, it allows everything to run smoothly – and saves everyone from uncomfortable situations when two groups unknowingly show up for the same space.

Thank you for helping us steward our building with clarity, communication, and kindness.

To reserve space, simply email the church office at [amanda@peoplesumc.org](mailto:amanda@peoplesumc.org).

## Upcoming Blood Drive

Monday March 9

10:00-4:00

Wisconsin Brewing  
Company

1079 American Way, Verona



**GIVE  
BLOOD**  
SAVE A LIFE



## Book Club

by Lois Flee

Winter Break is over. The days are getting longer and the weather is "BETTER" (that may not be true.) We will meet on March 10<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the classic book *The Great Gatsby* and start a list of books we will read in the next few months.



The meeting will be held at Lois Flee's house at 324 Concord Dr. If you have questions give Lois a call at 608-291-2328. Come even if you have not read the book. We would love to have you join us and bring a friend; we hope to see you then.

## Thank You for Your Generosity on Consecration Sunday

by Cody Esser



To everyone who participated in this year's Consecration Sunday, thank you. Your commitment makes the continued mission of People's UMC possible.

Together, our congregation pledged \$249,501 for the coming year. When combined with faithful giving from our consistent donors (\$48,895), loose offerings (\$1,040), and income from building rentals and fees (\$50,511), we are projecting a 2.1% increase in our operating budget over last year.

What does that mean in real terms? It means our ministries continue. It means our doors stay open to the community. It means the mission of People's UMC moves forward because of your generosity.

If you have not yet turned in your Estimate of Giving Card, they are still being accepted. Thank you again for your faithfulness.

Thank You,

Cody Esser

Consecration Sunday Chair

## Green Action Collective Update

by Steve Staton

A new beginning! The Green Action Collective held its first meeting on February 1st. This was a reboot of the former Green Action Team. The former and the new both had a small but committed group of environmental stewards. Our Mascot of Hope is a FROG. (F=Faithful, R=Renewal, O=Obedience, G=Growth). Our mission is to increase awareness of climate change and do our part as Christians to slow it's advance and care for God's creation.

Green Action ~~Team~~ is now...

### Green Action Collective



F. Faithful  
R. Renewal  
O. Offering  
G. Growth



Come be part of the reboot **March 1** @ 6:00 pm  
All ages are welcome!

Our second meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 1st at 6:00 PM in the Fireside Room. We currently have eight committed FROG supporters and hope to add more. Being a supporter can involve attending meetings or just being willing to be on the email list to keep up with the group activities and jump in to help with a project in which you are interested. The group is committed to productive use of time, developing meaningful plans, and not creating burdensome tasks. We will have fun while we work together.

## Voting Our Values - March 2026

by Karen Austin

"The attempt to influence the information and execution of public policy at all levels of government is often the most effective means available to churches to keep before humanity the ideal of a society in which power and order are made to serve the ends of justice and freedom for all people."

UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF RESOLUTIONS, #5012



Upcoming Spring Election - 04/07/2026

Nonpartisan offices will be on the ballot: local officials, school board members, and judicial vacancies. Check your local municipal website to find what's on your ballot or [Myvote.wis.gov](http://Myvote.wis.gov).

Visit Supreme Court candidates' websites for information about [Maria Lazar](#) and [Chris Taylor](#). Other helpful websites are: [WPR](#), [PBS Wisconsin](#), and [League of Women Voters Dane County](#).

## Men's Fellowship Kick-off: March 7 at 9:00am

by Howard Brantmeyer

An opportunity for men in our community to come together for:

- Inspiration
- Building relationships with other men
- Finding our place as Christian men
- Supporting one another



We'll explore who we are and how we can encourage one another to make a difference in our lives.

Breakfast will be served at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

Please let Justin Beatty or Howard Brantmeyer know if you plan to attend on the 7th. Can't make the breakfast? Mark your calendar for the 1st and 3rd weekends at 9:00 a.m. and join us as you're able.

## LISTEN

This Lent, pause at the threshold.

Ask: "God, what are you inviting me to notice—or to let go of—today?"

Sometimes God's voice meets us in the quiet before the next step.



## The Oregon Area Food Pantry needs help keeping their shelves stocked!



Please put a food or personal care item in our carts each Sunday, if you can.

## Calendar & Community Notes

Sunday	9:00am	In-person Worship (Great Room) Livestreamed ( <a href="https://www.youtube.com/peopleschurchoregonwi">https://www.youtube.com/peopleschurchoregonwi</a> )
	9:15am	Sunday School (4K–5th) and Nursery Care (through age 4)
	10:15am	Handbells Rehearsal
	10:15am	Sunday Second Cup Adult Sunday School (Fireside Room)
Monday	7:30am	Ball Exercise
Tuesday	10:30am	Hugs & Stitches (Fireside Room)
	6:30pm	Choir Rehearsal (Great Room)
	7:00pm	AA–Room to Grow (Adult Meeting Rm. LL)
	7:30pm	Aspire Rehearsal (Great Room)
Wednesday	8:30am	Line Dancing (Great Room)
	5:00-6:30	Wednesday Night Supper
	6:30pm	Youth Group
	6:53pm	Creative ConnXions for the Not-So-Creative (Great Room)
Thursday	7:30am	Ball Exercise

Visit [peoplesumc.org/calendar](https://peoplesumc.org/calendar) to see all events, meetings, and links to virtual groups.

### Community Resources for Mental Health

#### Hotlines

Journey Mental Health	608-280-2700
Briarpatch 24 Hour Line for Youth	608-251-1126
Rape Crisis Center	608-251-7273
Dane County Housing Resource Line	855-510-2323
Domestic Abuse Intervention Services	800-747-4045
Oregon Police Department	608-835-3111

#### Suicide Crisis Response Resources

Suicide Prevention Lifeline
800-273-8255
OR Text "HOPELINE" to 741741
Trevor Project Lifeline
866-488-7386
OR Text "START" to 678678

## Contact Information

Have Questions? Want to get involved? Staff check their email regularly on weekdays. If you are not sure who to contact about a specific ministry, email [office@peoplesumc.org](mailto:office@peoplesumc.org).

#### Lead Pastor

Vicki Brantmeyer, [vicki@peoplesumc.org](mailto:vicki@peoplesumc.org)

#### Little Angels Early Learning Center Director

Katie Grady, [laelc.director@gmail.com](mailto:laelc.director@gmail.com)

#### Associate Pastor and Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator

Justin Beatty, [justin@peoplesumc.org](mailto:justin@peoplesumc.org)

#### Director of Music and Worship & Communications Coordinator

Kate Rush, [kate@peoplesumc.org](mailto:kate@peoplesumc.org)

#### Administrative Assistant/Office Manager

Amanda Kuntzelman, [amanda@peoplesumc.org](mailto:amanda@peoplesumc.org)

#### Financial Secretary

Diane Strohmenger, [diane@peoplesumc.org](mailto:diane@peoplesumc.org)

#### Church Treasurer

Karen Binger, [karen@peoplesumc.org](mailto:karen@peoplesumc.org)

#### Lay Leader/Servant Leadership Council Chair

Laurie Kelly, [tlmckelly@tds.net](mailto:tlmckelly@tds.net)