

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 has concluded for the year, and will return in September.

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.



June 7	Matthew 13:1–23	<p>Where Will the Word Land?</p> <p>The parable of the Sower & the Soils: God's word bears fruit when our hearts are open.</p>
June 14	Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43	<p>Handle with Care</p> <p>The parable of the Wheat & the Weeds: God is patient, and not everything is ours to sort out.</p>
June 21	Matthew 13:31–35	<p>Contents Will Expand</p> <p>The parable of the Mustard Seed & the Yeast: God's kingdom grows in hidden and surprising ways.</p>
June 28	Matthew 13:44–46	<p>Worth Everything: Signature Required</p> <p>The parable of the Treasure and the Pearl: The kingdom of God is priceless — worth giving up everything else.</p>

Reyvibes: Who Helped Shape Your Faith?

by Pastor Vicki Brantmeyer (she/her/hers)



Most of us can name at least one adult—outside of our immediate family—who helped shape who we became.

For me, one of those people was Nancy Cook.

Nancy always greeted me like I mattered. She genuinely wanted to know how things were going in my life. Looking back now, I realize those small interactions were not small at all. They helped shape my sense of belonging in the church.

I suspect many of us carry memories like that.

Perhaps it was a Sunday school teacher who remembered your name. A youth leader who listened when life felt hard. A choir member who encouraged you. A coach, mentor, neighbor, or church member who simply showed up consistently and cared.



Children remember who made them feel seen.

Research consistently shows that children and youth benefit from relationships with multiple caring adults beyond their parents. Those relationships help shape resilience, belonging, confidence, and even long-term faith development.

In many ways, this is one of the quiet gifts of the church.

Faith is not formed only through lessons or curriculum. It is nurtured through relationships—through adults who notice children, welcome them, encourage them, pray for them, laugh with them, and remind them that they belong.

Scripture reminds us: “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” — Gospel of Matthew 19:14

Jesus did not treat children as interruptions or merely the “future of the church.” They were already part of the community. They mattered in the present moment.

As we look ahead toward the fall and begin preparing for children’s and youth ministries once again, I find myself especially grateful for the many adults who already serve faithfully and quietly each week. Their presence matters more than they may ever fully realize.

And perhaps this is also an invitation for some of us to consider how we might help surround the next generation with encouragement, consistency, and care. Sometimes the people who shape a child’s faith most deeply are not the ones standing at the front of the sanctuary, but the adults who consistently show up, listen, encourage, and care.

We never know how God may use a simple relationship, a kind word, or a faithful presence in the life of a child.

June Mission of the Month: Youth Mission Trip to Boston

by Anne Staton, Mission Team

Those of you who were able to attend the youth mission trip Spaghetti Dinner and Dessert Auction fundraiser are well aware that the youth are excited about their mission trip to Boston this summer.



Members of the youth group sold tickets and served a delicious spaghetti meal to the guests.



The fundraiser was a great success, raising over \$3,000, and the support of so many members of the church family is appreciated.

The youth served as auctioneers to sell 28 desserts donated by church members.

The seven middle and high school youth who are going on the trip are well on their way to raising the funds needed for the trip, but the unexpected rising cost of gasoline is creating a need for additional funds. Because of this, the mission committee has selected the youth mission trip to be the recipient of our June mission giving.

The amount that will be needed is unknown as the cost of gas is increasing on a regular basis. If more funds are donated than are used, the excess will be seed money for future trips and some may also be donated to one of the organizations that the youth will be assisting in Boston. The mission team thanks you in advance for your support of this mission of the month.

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

Office Help Needed

We are currently seeking to hire additional office assistance, as Amanda has made the decision to return on a limited basis. Amanda is currently covering the church office from 9:00am to noon, Monday through Wednesday. We are looking to hire a new staff member to cover the office from noon to 2:00pm, Monday through Wednesday.

Until the position is filled, we are seeking volunteers to help cover the office. If you are available and willing to help on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday from 12:00 to 2:00, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084CAAA62BA7FC1-62243063-office>



News from Little Angels Early Learning Center

by Katie Grady, director



Teacher Appreciation Week



Our staff were treated with words of gratitude from the Advisory council, gift cards, and little treats in their classroom and/or mailboxes during the week. Additionally, they were treated to a taco/nacho bar lunch made by Ms. Katie and desserts made by Ms. Maria.

May Visitors

This month each class got to experience a visit from an Oregon Police officer, Special Agent Bol (LAELC's Ms. Karie's husband) and Special Agent Moose (his police dog), to celebrate Law Enforcement week.



Playground Work



On May 2nd Allen Fogel, Howard Brantmeyer, and Mike Mozuch moved a portion of the board walk to ensure we are following the licensing codes.

On Friday, May 15th, Ms. Katie, her husband Tom, Granddaughter Louise, one of LAELC's High school interns, Ms. Ella, and a parent volunteer, Mr. Kyle, spent 1 hour and 45 minutes moving sand and rock into position around the playground to maintain licensing required fall zones.

End of Year Programs:

This school year has really flown by, as we are in enrollment mode for next year already. We are taking the time to celebrate all the fun and learning that happened this year. Each year our programs put on an end of the year performance for their families.

- MWF & TTH Preschool: Spring Sing was on Thursday, May 14th.
- 4K AM2: End of Year Celebration was on Monday, May 18th.
- 4K AM & PM: Graduation was on Thursday, May 28th.

Men's Fellowship Group

by Howard Brantmeyer

On the first Saturday of every month, Men's Fellowship meets at 9:00am in the great room. It is a time to connect with other men in our community, and enjoy coffee and donuts together. Please join us on Saturday June 6, and invite a friend!



Musical Notes

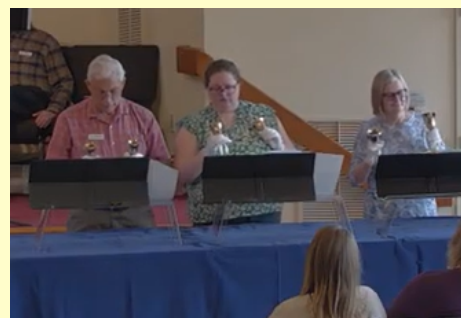
by Kate Rush, Director of Music



Our worship services have been full of meaningful music in the last couple of months! Here are some of the highlights:



We had a joyful Easter service, including our choir's first attempt at choreography in the song "Love Brought Me Back."



The hand bell choir treated us to a lovely Easter Medley on April 26.



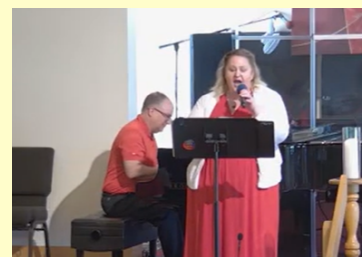
Our church celebrated Holy Humor Sunday on April 12 for the first time, proclaiming that death did not win and God had the last laugh. Worship was full of energy (and silly costumes).



We used a musical setting in our communion liturgy for the first time.



Father-son duo Justin and Jon Berntsen-Less prepared and presented "Hosea (Come Back to Me)" for our service on May 17.



Sara Ganser sang the moving solo "If I Can Help Somebody" for our May 24 worship.

A few members have been giving me some very helpful feedback about worship, telling me about songs they especially liked or suggesting new things we could try. Please talk to me at church, or use the song request sheet in the gathering space, to help our Worship Design Team plan services that are meaningful to you!

Join Us for Book Club

by Lois Flee

The next Faith Book Club meeting is scheduled for June 9th at 6:30. We will be discussing Lynda Rutledge's book *West with Giraffes*.



The books chosen for the next three months are as follows:

July: *The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife* by Anna Johnston

August: *Beautiful Ugly* by Alice Fee

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.

Wisconsin United Methodist Camps Are Open for Registration!

Lake Lucerne and Pine Lake camps are offering a wide range of programs this summer! Available programs include art, survival skills, video games, adventure sports, cycling, tree houses, and more. The camps are once again holding Grandparent/Grandchild Camp and Mother/Daughter Camp, as well as camps for adults with differing abilities. For more information, visit: <https://wiumcamps.org/>



Growing in trust and
transparency...



Line of Credit total:
\$ 57,250

LISTEN

The rhythm of summer shifts—
not always slower,
but different.

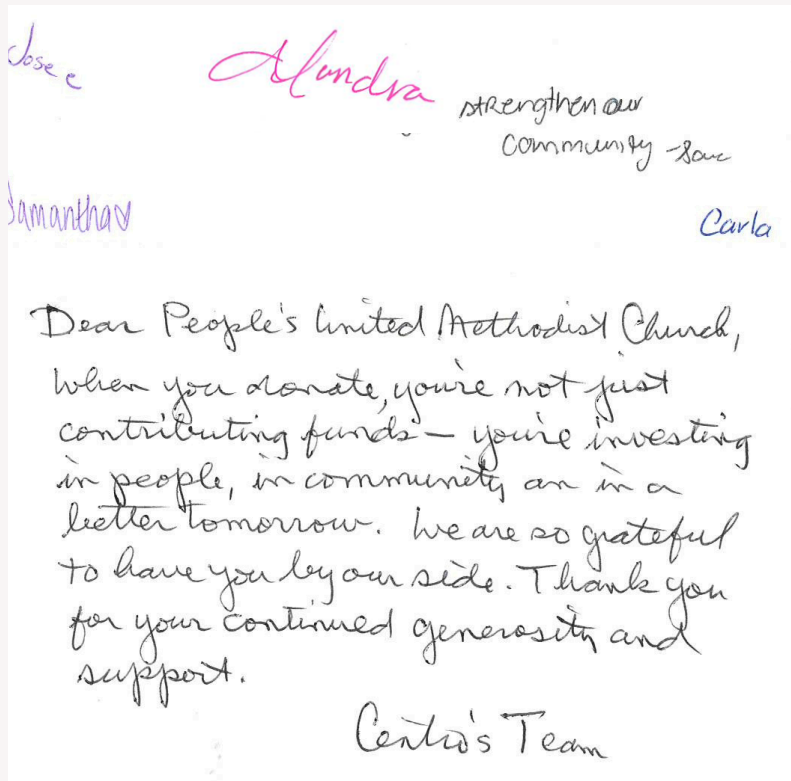
In the movement and the
moments between,
God is still speaking.

Listen while you're on the way,
not just when you arrive.



A Thank-You Note from Centro Hispano

In February of this year, the Missions Team chose Centro Hispano of Dane County to be our Mission of the Month. Recently we received this kind letter.



Dear People's United Methodist Church,

When you donate, you're not just contributing funds--you're investing in people, in community and in a better tomorrow. We are so grateful to have you by our side. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Centro's Team



Oregon Area Food Pantry



Located across the parking lot from People's UMC, the Oregon Area Food Pantry serves residents of the Oregon School District who need some assistance with food and basic necessities. The pantry has seen rising numbers of visitors each year; in 2025, they served approximately 14,000 guests.

Our church keeps two shopping carts in our gathering space to collect items. Each Tuesday, we bring the carts across the parking lot to deliver our donations. If every family brings one item to worship each Sunday, our carts consistently fill up! Please bring a food or personal care item to church, if you can.



Items that are consistently needed:

- Chunky soups
- Peanut butter / jelly
- Cereal (especially sweeter cereal)
- Canned fruit and applesauce
- Hamburger helper type box meals
- Rice/noodle side dishes like Rice-a-Roni
- Paper towels / toilet paper
- Shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste

News from our Social Justice Team by Deb Lee

Social Justice committee met on 5/20/26 with 7 members present including Pastor Vicki. Here is a summarization of our discussion:



- 1) We continue to work on the "Pulse of the congregation" project. Based on congregation responses, we have a list of activity options for church members to consider (prayer groups, chat groups, guided nature walk, volunteering).
- 2) We discussed the importance of getting input from our younger church members. We'll be reaching out to our youth group to consider being a part of social justice discussions.
- 3) We discussed organizing a regular support group for parents of our congregation to share experiences, concerns and resources. This will be on the agenda for next month.
- 4) We discussed finding ways to support our youth in the community at the Oregon Youth Center. Will continue to explore our options/opportunities at the next meeting.
- 5) Pastor Vicki continues to represent us at the Immigration Support Network. This group continues to provide vital support and education materials to the community.



- 6) We will be exploring the "Moses Madison" group here in Madison to possibly collaborate with them and expand our knowledge of the disenfranchised in the area.
- 7) We will be reading a social justice book selection as a group and discussing chapters at each meeting. Our intention is to expand our knowledge and understanding of where God is calling us.

Copies of the May/June *Upper Room* devotional magazine are available in the office. Please email the church office (office@peoplesumc.org) to request one by mail.

Finance Team Report by Associate Pastor Justin Beatty



When Liina-Ly and I first moved to the Midwest (to Minneapolis) back in 2019, one of the first things we were excited to do was to explore the new city we were living in. There were so many new experiences that we wanted to have—State Fairs aren't quite the same on the West Coast—so many new interesting restaurants we wanted to try, and of course, so many new breweries to sample.

Unfortunately, we weren't able to do all that right away, because we had spent most of the money we had moving ourselves and all our stuff from Seattle to Minneapolis. We had to give ourselves a few months to build our bank account back up so that we had a cushion in case something happened. That's a pretty common thing; for most people, you save up until you have enough to put a down payment on a house, for example, then you use most of the money you have in your account on that down payment, and it takes a bit of time to replenish those reserves so you don't have to live paycheck-to-paycheck.

Last year, we as a church community made a pretty big purchase when we completely re-did our parking lot. Thankfully, after our Paving the Way capital campaign we had enough cash on-hand that we were able to pay for the parking lot without taking out a loan, which is something to be celebrated.

After completing the parking lot, we dove right in to the second goal of our Paving the Way campaign, aggressively paying down the line of credit we opened when we bought the parsonage. Just like the parking lot, these efforts have been wildly successful, and we've paid off almost half of what we owed this time last year. Your generosity in both pledging to our Capital Campaign and fulfilling those pledges is truly humbling, and something that the church leadership is sincerely grateful for.

Our Finance Team was recently looking at the Church's Statement of Financial Position, which is a long way to say our balance sheet, and the amount of money in People's checking account is not quite where we would want it to be. We're not in trouble as of yet, but if we were to have a couple of months with lower amounts of giving, or if there was a sudden major expense, things might get a little shaky.

What happened was, not unlike when I moved to Minneapolis, we used most of the money we had on hand to pay for the parking lot, and we were so excited to start paying off the line of credit, that we didn't take the necessary pause to replenish the checking account. "Better late than never" is a common saying for a reason, there's some real wisdom there. Over the next few months, we're going to take our foot off the gas when it comes to paying down the line of credit, focusing instead on building the checking account back up to a place where we know we'll be able to pay our bills.

We'll be using the money that comes in from the "Paving the Way" campaign to do that. Because we're replenishing the account we drained to pay for the parking lot, we feel like that's still a faithful use of those funds. We do have some members in our congregation who have been giving towards debt reduction long before the capital campaign, and those contributions will be continuing to go towards paying off the line of credit. What we need from you all is to continue to pay towards your pledges faithfully, which we are so very grateful for.

I, on behalf of the Finance Team, am letting you know all of this because we do want to be fully transparent with the church's finances. Also, we've been quite vocal about how quickly we've been paying off the debt, and we want to let everyone know beforehand why we might stop talking about that for awhile, and why you might not be seeing those donuts in the Gathering Space go up quite as quickly.

Thank you for your trust, your patience, and your generosity.

June 2026 - Voting Our Values

from the PUMC Social Justice Team

The decision to vote, and the candidates we choose are a way we express our values!

The August 11 Partisan Primary election is often overlooked in the busy summer season - but it is very important. This election will narrow the field of candidates for Wisconsin Governor and Lieutenant Governor - and determine the choices you will have on the November 3 ballot.

Have you moved since the last election? Go to myvote.gov to register to vote at your current address.

Will you be around on August 11 to vote in person or do you have difficulty getting to the polls? Order an absentee ballot at myvote.wi.gov! Or vote in-person at your clerk's office up to 14 days before the election.

When voting in the August primary you will need to choose a political party and only vote for candidates in that one party. If you vote for candidates in multiple parties, your votes will not count. Please see the graphic from League of Women Voters on how to fill out your ballot.



August 11, 2026 Voting Deadlines

- July 22, 2026. To register to vote at your current address online at myvote.wi.gov. Miss the deadline? You can still register by mail or by going to your clerk's office. Proof of residence is needed to register to vote.
- Order an absentee ballot at myvote.wi.gov. As soon as possible. Ballots must be at the clerk's office by Election Day, August 11 - so allow enough time for the clerk to mail you the ballot, and for the postal service to return the ballot.
- July 28 Clerks may begin to issue absentee ballots.
- Early in-person voting starts 14 days before an election. Hours and days will vary by municipality.

Who to vote for: Seek out the best information you can about the candidates, from multiple sources. The Social Justice team will provide sources of information about the candidates in the next two months.

... And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God". (Micah 6:8)

Calendar & Community Notes

Sunday	9:00am	In-person Worship (Great Room) Livestreamed (https://www.youtube.com/peopleschurchoregonwi) Nursery Care (through age 4)
	10:15am	Sunday Second Cup Adult Sunday School (Fireside Room)
Monday	7:30am	Ball Exercise
Tuesday	10:30am	Hugs & Stitches (Fireside Room)
	7:00pm	AA–Room to Grow (Adult Meeting Rm. LL)
	7:30pm	Aspire Rehearsal (Great Room)
Wednesday	8:30am	Line Dancing (Great Room)
Thursday	7:30am	Ball Exercise

Visit 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.

Lead Pastor

Vicki Brantmeyer, vicki@peoplesumc.org

Little Angels Early Learning Center Director

Katie Grady, laelc.director@gmail.com

Associate Pastor and Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator

Justin Beatty, justin@peoplesumc.org

Director of Music and Worship & Communications Coordinator

Kate Rush, kate@peoplesumc.org

Administrative Assistant/Office Manager

Amanda Kuntzleman, amanda@peoplesumc.org

Financial Secretary

Diane Strohmenger, diane@peoplesumc.org

Church Treasurer

Karen Binger, karen@peoplesumc.org

Lay Leader/Servant Leadership Council Chair

Laurie Kelly, tlmckelly@tds.net