

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 will resume in September.

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

Sermon Series—Come and See: An Invitation to Walk Together

August 3	Psalm 42:1-5	What Are You Looking For? Jesus' first question to would-be followers is not "What do you believe?" but "What are you looking for?"
August 10	Luke 24:13-32	Walking Together Jesus walks with us—even in our doubt, confusion, and grief. We were never meant to journey alone.
August 17	Acts 2:42-47	Staying and Sharing The early church didn't grow through power—it grew through presence, prayer, and shared meals.
August 24	Mark 1:16-20	The Next Step Discipleship doesn't end with curiosity—it leads to courageous next steps.
August 31	Isaiah 43:1-4	Called By Name God doesn't just call crowds—God calls each of us by name, inviting us into relationship and purpose.

People's United Methodist Church



We are a Christian community of faith open to all people. Every one of God's children are welcome at People's, and we celebrate the full diversity of the entire body of Christ. Our commitment is to journey together as we **CONNECT** with God and each other, **GROW** in our faith and understanding of God's will, and work collaboratively to **LIVE** in ways that bring peace and justice to our world.



RevVibes: A Sacred Trust

By Vicki Brantmeyer (she/her/hers)

It's easy, sometimes, to think of the church as something that exists for us. After all, we come here to worship, to learn, to find comfort and community. The doors are open, the lights are on, the coffee is brewed. It feels like home—and that's a good thing.

But every now and then, we need a gentle reminder: *the church is not here to serve us; we are here to serve the church.*

That's not to say we don't receive spiritual nourishment and joy through our life together—we absolutely do! But at its heart, the church is not a service provider. It is the body of Christ. And each one of us is a part of it, entrusted with its care.

We are stewards of this sacred space. Everything from the building and its supplies to our ministries and relationships is held in common, not owned by individuals but entrusted to all of us—together—for the sake of God's work in the world. That trust requires thoughtfulness. Respect. Communication. Accountability.

When we take liberties—whether with property, with people's time, or with shared expectations—we chip away at that trust. We blur boundaries and sometimes unintentionally make others feel unseen or unsafe. But when we pause to ask, to listen, and to honor one another's roles and responsibilities, we strengthen the body. We deepen the trust. We make room for grace.

Jesus said, "*The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve*" (Mark 10:45). That's the model we're given. Not one of ownership, but of offering. Not entitlement, but stewardship.

So let us continue showing up not as consumers, but as caretakers. Let us handle the things of this church—and the people—with reverence, generosity, and humility.

Because this is more than a building. It's a sacred trust. And we hold it together.



Prayer Requests: Prayers of joys and concerns can be shared several ways:



- 1) You may complete the [prayer request form](#) on our website.
- 2) You may call (or text) Pastor Vicki with your prayer requests at 608-289-9739.
- 3) You can email them to Pastor [Vicki](#) or Pastor [Justin](#).
- 4) You can write them down on a prayer card or your attendance slip during worship.

Connect in Prayer: One of the things that is so valuable about coming together as a community in Christ is the opportunity to join one another in prayer. One of the ways that People's UMC lives out that part of our calling is through the Prayer Team. A group of people in our community receive e-mails whenever someone needs prayer, and they commit to lifting that person or situation up to God. It's an invaluable and relatively simple way to connect with your church community. If you're interested in joining our Prayer Team, please let us know at office@peoplesumc.org.

Connect with God and each other. Use your **Blessing Prayer Card** every day!

Musical Notes




By Kate Rush



It is such a privilege to serve in a church that loves to worship with music. A soaring melody can move our hearts; a profound text can help us understand God in new ways; singing joyfully next to our siblings in faith can bond us as a community. As I continue to grow into this position, I welcome your input about what music means to you and what we can do to make our worship services meaningful.



Here's the latest Music News:

-  In late June we put together a special "secret choir" to present a farewell song to Dan and Barbara. Many thanks to those who came to sing! It was great to see some regular choir members as well as some new faces.
-  In August we will assemble a group for a one-time "summer choir Sunday" on August 3. For the following three Sundays in August, we will be treated to some special music presentations from our church musicians. Thank you to those who are preparing beautiful solos and duets!
-  In September we will start vocal choir and hand bell choir again. Choir rehearsals are on Tuesdays (this is a change from last year) at 6:30pm, and the first rehearsal will be on September 9. Hand bells rehearse on Sundays following worship, and the first rehearsal will be on September 7. These musical communities are welcoming and FUN! All are invited to make music with us.

Please contact me (kate@peoplesumc.org) if you have any questions or feedback about music ministry!

Copies of the July/August **Upper Room** devotional magazine are now available in the office. Please email the church office office@peoplesumc.org to request one by mail.



August Mission of the Month: Rice Bags

By Kathy Kuehl

The August Mission of the Month is Midwest Mission's program to fight world hunger---The Rice Blessings Bags Project. This year, Sugar River United Methodist Church is again hosting this event planned for October 4th. The goal for 2025 is to increase the bag production from 3,000 bags to 5,000 bags ---which would feed 30,000 people. Each rice bag is a nutrient-dense meal containing a vitamin pack, dehydrated vegetables, soy, and rice and feeds 6 people. Each bag costs \$2 to make, so the goal of raising \$11,300 to offset expenses was set. So far, a group of 35 Bratfest volunteers earned approximately \$2,000 for this cause---\$12/hr of donated time.



The work day is scheduled for Saturday, October 4th at Sugar River UMC in Verona. This is NOT just a Methodist endeavor---it is a community of churches event. Youth and adults are welcome to participate. This is an excellent time to connect with other congregations, grow teamwork skills, make memories, deepen discipleship---Just like going on a Mission Trip!!!! More information will be available soon about shifts and how to sign up. Please consider this volunteer opportunity---carpooling is helpful, or supporting this cause with a donation.

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

Training Opportunity—Cultivating Connection: Reaching Young Families

This training is for pastors and lay leaders to engage the emerging generations in Millennial families outside their churches.

September 20, 2025

9am - 12pm

St. Paul's UMC

600 Wilshire Blvd

Stevens Point, WI 54481



Speaker: Pastor Kellen Roggenbuck

Pastor Kellen Roggenbuck has been in ministry since 2005 with a strong focus on creative ministries and innovative solutions that he has honed over his many years in youth ministry, consulting, and now as the Executive Director of NextGen Ministries. After earning an MDiv at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, he is continuing his education as he pursues a Doctor of Ministry in Pastoral and Congregational Revitalization. When he is not pastoring, Kellen also teaches ukulele, writes and illustrates children's books, and enjoys finding new and exciting taco trucks.

Register here: <https://wisconsin-reg.brtapp.com/Cultivatingconnection2025>

Grow Getters

By Justin Less

Do you enjoy gardening and landscaping? I am forming a gardening group at our church and would love for you to join. The initial focus will be to maintain new landscaping areas (watering, weeding, etc). We will develop a schedule to help rotate maintenance of existing and future landscaping projects and coordinate fall clean ups, etc. We will also identify other areas on our expansive grounds that could use landscaping updates and join together to create beautiful spaces.



All are welcome, including those without a "green thumb." ☺ Please email Justin at jut9600@yahoo.com if interested in joining Grow Getters.

Just Bakery is visiting People's UMC on August 10



On Sunday, August 10th, we will have the pleasure of a visit from Just Bakery. Please plan to stop after worship and buy some of their delicious treats. Our support helps them provide resources and support for many facing barriers to employment such as former incarceration or homelessness.

Oregon Area Food Pantry

Located adjacent to the People's Church parking lot, the OAFP serves neighbors struggling to meet basic needs and facing hunger daily. The food pantry is open for distribution at the following times:



- Every Tuesday, 9:00-11:00
- First Saturday of the month, 9:00-11:00
- Second and last Thursdays of the month, 4:00-6:00

We have recently placed two shopping carts in our church's gathering space. If most of our members can bring one item each Sunday and put it in the cart, we can make substantial donations every week and help the pantry keep their shelves full!

The items that are most needed at this time are:

- Sides, like noodles and rice
- Cereal—especially sweeter cereal
- Applesauce
- Ramen noodles
- Kleenex/tissues
- Personal care items—soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant

News from Little Angels Early Learning Center

By Katie Grady, director

We are pleased to announce that Alison Berland is our newest staff member! She will be working with Ms. Kathy in our preschool program.



Little Angels is currently enrolling for Monday/Wednesday/Friday preschool. Children must be at least 3 years old by September 30 to enroll. This program focuses on social and emotional skills and very early academics. The children will learn to share, sit/interact through stories, as well as learn about patience, taking turns, and tolerance—all part of learning to be in a group.



For more information: (608) 835-1945

laelc.office@gmail.com

www.littleangelselc.com

Friendly Reminder Regarding Church Use



ALL individuals/groups must submit a Facilities Use Request with the church office prior to any gathering, meeting, or event. Once the request is reviewed and approved it will be added to the church calendar. The church calendar is used to avoid duplication and ensure that spaces are available for use when people submit requests. Please refrain from meeting at the church if you did not contact the church office or are not on the church calendar. Thank you!

American Red Cross: Give Time, Save a Life

As we still live through the tail end of the pandemic, the demand for blood, plasma, and platelets is at a crisis level. There are very few things that *everyone ought* to do, and this is no exception. But if this is something you feel you **CAN** do, please do, soon. For platelet donation, we have two facilities in Madison: [Red Cross Donation Centers](#).

Upcoming Blood Drive:

Thursday August 7 10:00-3:00

People's United Methodist Church



Make an appointment at
redcrossblood.org

News from Our Social Justice Team

By Mary Malone

A priority for People's Church this year has been to discuss the critical needs in our community concerning the safety, well-being, mental health, and stress issues facing our students, teachers, and staff at our schools. Pastor Dan led a community conversation on the topic on June 26th.

Discussion centered around the following:

- What problematic behaviors and mental health issues are present in our schools and community particularly involving children and young people?
- How are these things being addressed?
- What help is needed?
- How can People's help?

Participants included Social Justice Team members, PUMC staff, Oregon school staff and an Oregon Youth Center representative. This is a brief recap of the energetic and informative conversation.

Problematic behaviors and mental health issues: bullying (especially cyber bullying); harassment; intimidation; depression/anxiety/ suicide; THC/alcohol use; anger (which can lead to violence).

Helpful actions and resources: *Be a Champion Program*; mentoring and positive role models; the Oregon Youth Center; building relationship/trust; using a threat assessment process; grants (but very difficult right now); Speak Up, Speak Out outreach; WIDJ/Office of School Safety.

Needs: safety upgrades in buildings; continue positive relationships with law enforcement and courts, more awareness/accountability from parents; awareness about Oregon Youth Center's goals; financial assistance for OYC; and volunteers of all ages (especially volunteers age range from 15-30 for OYC).

Our church can help by: forming partnerships with other churches and organizations, continuing support for the food pantry and family support services, highlighting needs and opportunities to volunteer, and continuing our welcoming messaging.

Our Social Justice Team would like safe schools and safe community to continue to be a priority for our work moving forward. Please see any member of the team or Val Brickner fval-brickner@gmail.com for more details on the June conversation and how to become part of this initiative.

Join Us for Book Club

By Lois Flee

For August, the Book Club is reading *The Traveling Prayer Shawl* by Jennifer Lynn Cary. We would love to have you join us on August 13th at 6:30. We will be meeting at the home of Lois Flee, 324 Concord Drive, here in Oregon. If you have questions, give Lois a call at 608 291-2328. Come join us and bring a friend even if you have not read the book. Upcoming books are:



- September 9th – *Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towler
- October 14th – *Too Old Women* by Velma Wallis

See you in August!

Calendar & Community Notes

Sunday	9:00am	In-person Worship (Great Room) Livestreamed (https://www.youtube.com/peopleschurchoregonwi)
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)
Thursday	7:30am	Ball Exercise

Visit peoplesumc.org/calendar to see all events, meetings, and links to virtual groups.

Church Office Hours: 9:00am–2:00pm Monday–Wednesday; Closed Thursday & Friday

Community Resources for Mental Health

Project Recovery Crisis Counseling by Phone—Counselors are providing crisis counseling by phone free of charge, focusing on nonjudgmental listening and helping navigate emotions and reactions to stress caused by the public health crisis. Resource referral is part of the process, so counselors have knowledge of local resources for needs related to food, shelter, and health. To be connected to a crisis counselor call 608-237-1255, or call 2-1-1 and ask for Project Recovery.

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

Associate Pastor

Justin Beatty, justin@peoplesumc.org

Administrative Assistant/Office Manager

Amanda Kuntzelman, amanda@peoplesumc.org

Director of Music & Worship Arts

Kate Rush, kate@peoplesumc.org

Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator

Justin Beatty, justin@peoplesumc.org

Little Angels Early Learning Center Director

Katie Grady, laelc.director@gmail.com

Church Treasurer

Karen Binger, karen@peoplesumc.org

Financial Secretary

Diane Strohmenger, diane@peoplesumc.org

Worship & Communications Coordinator

Kate Rush, kate@peoplesumc.org

Lay Leader/Servant Leadership Council Chair

Laurie Kelly, tlmckelly@tds.net