

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 downstairs in the nursery prior to the start of the service.

The Cast of Christmas

This Advent, we're stepping behind the curtain and into the greatest story ever told. The Cast of Christmas invites us to experience the birth of Christ through the voices of those who first witnessed it: the Prophets who pointed to hope, the Angels who proclaimed peace, and the Shepherds who shared joy. Each week, we'll discover how God uses everyday people—and unexpected messengers—to reveal His glory.

At the heart of it all is the One the story has been leading toward:

Christ, the Word who became flesh and lived among us (John 1:14)

Join us this Advent as the story unfolds, the curtain rises, and we prepare room in our hearts for the arrival of our Savior.

November 30 First Sunday in Advent	Isaiah 40:1-11	The Prophets: Hope Has a Voice The prophets proclaimed hope to God's people even when life felt hopeless. Their voices remind us that God's promises still shine in the darkness.
December 7 Second Sunday in Advent	Luke 1:26-38	The Angels: Peace Interrupts the Ordinary The angels declared peace where fear was strongest—whether to Mary, to Joseph, or to the shepherds in the fields. True peace is not the absence of trouble but the presence of Christ.
December 14 Third Sunday in Advent	Christmas Pageant	Operation Christmas Star Our children and youth will share a staged version of the Christmas story, featuring an especially bright star.
December 21 Fourth Sunday in Advent	Luke 2:8-20	The Shepherds: Love That Finds Us God entrusted the good news of great joy to ordinary shepherds, who couldn't keep it to themselves. Joy grows when it's shared.

RevVibes: Preparing Our Hearts for What's Next

by Pastor Vicki Brantmeyer (she/her/hers)

As we enter the season of Advent—a season of holy waiting and wondrous expectation—I find myself reflecting on the ways God is already preparing us for what comes next. Advent teaches us to lean forward with hope, to watch for God's movement, and to ready our hearts for the new life Christ brings. Isaiah's words remind us that God is always doing something new—often quietly, often slowly, but always faithfully.

**See, I am about
to do a new
thing;
now it springs
forth, do you
not perceive it?**

— Isaiah 43:19

It's in that spirit of anticipation that I want to share a glimpse of something that has been emerging through prayer, listening, conversation, and discernment: our Five-Year Ministry Plan.

Over the past several months, I've spent intentional time listening deeply—to God, to you, to our history, and to the unique gifts and challenges of People's Church. What has emerged is not a rigid blueprint or a list of demands, but a hope-filled roadmap for our next chapter. It is

a way of saying: We believe God is not finished with us yet. We believe there is more life to grow into, more compassion to share, more people to welcome, and more ways to shine Christ's light in our community.

- Listen – slowing down enough to hear God and one another
- Learn – growing in wisdom, curiosity, and spiritual maturity
- Love – living out Christ's compassion in real and tangible ways
- Lead – equipping and empowering more people to use their gifts
- Launch – courageously stepping into new ministries and new opportunities to bless the world



In many ways, this plan is our way of preparing the launchpad—strengthening our foundations, fueling our mission, and readying ourselves for the “new thing” God is already igniting among us. Each year will focus on one key movement of discipleship and mission, giving us

time to grow thoughtfully and intentionally as we take the next faithful step together. Nothing about this plan asks us to be something we're not; instead, it invites us to become even more fully the church God created us to be—grounded, generous, courageous, and Spirit-led.

As we prepare for the Christ Child—whose arrival changed the world with vulnerability, light, and love—I am filled with gratitude for this congregation. Your openness, your faithfulness, your willingness to dream, and your hope in God's future make this plan possible. I truly believe the next five years will be years of growth, joy, and transformation.

So as the candles of Advent glow brighter each week, may we carry that same light into the new year. Let us pray for open hearts, listening spirits, and the courage to follow where God leads. And may we be ready—steady on the launchpad, hopeful for the liftoff, and trusting the One who guides our future.

God is doing a new thing in us—together.
And I cannot wait to see where this journey takes us.

Connect

Wednesday Night Supper Ministry

by Barb Feeney



The church is looking to expand the volunteer base for Wednesday Night Supper in order to ensure this ministry can continue well into the future.

We are looking for six or seven people who will each take the lead on preparing one meal between January and early May. There are recipes and specific directions for suggested meals, or the volunteers can make a favorite of their own.



Not able to cook but willing to put in an occasional hour or two to help?

See the sign up sheets on the table outside the office. You can sign up to take a shift at the next supper or the following week.

There are multiple one-hour shifts available on Wednesday nights, and a few tasks that can be done at other times.

For more information, contact Karen Baker at karenabaker725@gmail.com



Serving 5:00-6:30

December 3: Chicken Chili

December 10: Tacos and Mexican Rice

December 17: Soups Galore, with Hot Ham and Cheese Sandwiches

Supper menus are subject to change



Stephen Ministers Available

by Pastor Justin Beatty

People's Church has a group of trained, dedicated Stephen Ministers available for anyone in our church community who would like a sympathetic ear as they go through a difficult or complicated time. Reasons for wanting a Stephen Minister include (but are not limited to) illness, death in the family, rift in the family, divorce, losing a job and/or starting a new one, pregnancy and becoming a new parent, or any combination of things that add up to feel overwhelming. If you would like somebody to talk with as you go through any difficult thing, please reach out to Pastor Justin at justin@peoplesumc.org, or (206) 769-1390.

Music Ministry at People's UMC

by Kate Rush

Advent is upon us—a time when many of us are excited to sing our favorite Christmas hymns. Each Sunday in Advent, we will begin worship by singing two Christmas carols. Do you have one to suggest? Feel free to let me know, and we may be able to add your favorite Christmas hymn to an upcoming service.

Hand Bells

Bell practice is on Sunday mornings following worship (about 10:15). The bells are directed by Faith Portier, and we play at worship services monthly. Everyone is invited to give it a try.



Vocal Choir

Vocal Choir rehearses Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm in the Great Room. We sing great music and have lots of fun together. Come and join us!

Solos and Small Ensembles

Our church is blessed with musicians who contribute special music to our services. If you would like to share your favorite song with the congregation, please volunteer for Special Music!



Questions or suggestions about music ministry? Please feel free to contact me at kate@peoplesumc.org or chat with me on a Sunday!

Join Us for Book Club!

by Lois Flee

Book club is on a 3-month break, staying home reading books to recommend for the club to read next year. This year we have decided to read a classic book over our break: *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

We will start up again March 7th, 2026, when it starts to be warmer and stays light longer, and the roads have less snow (we hope.)

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. Plan to come even if you have not read the book. We would love to have you join us.



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



Children's Time Volunteers

Would you like to share a few moments with the children in our congregation during a Sunday service? Our pastors always enjoy leading Children's Time, but we would also love to have different adults taking turns to share messages with the children.

If you would like to know more about the opportunity to lead Children's Time, please talk to Pastor Justin who is our Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator.

justin@peoplesumc.org



PUMC Connect and Share Bulletin Board and Family Folders!

by Justin Less

We are excited to announce our new bulletin board located by the name tag mailboxes, designed to help our People's United Methodist Church (PUMC) community connect and share information with one another!

Feel free to use the board to post about:

- Upcoming community events
- Personal events or milestones
- Invitations to open houses or gatherings
- Items you are looking to sell
- Christmas cards or holiday greetings
- Anything else you'd like fellow members to be aware of!



A quick reminder about the family folders:

Each family now has a new folder within the name tag mailbox area. Please check yours regularly for important updates and announcements.

These folders are also a great way to share directly with one another! Feel free to place:

- Letters
- Sheet Music
- Notes of encouragement
- Other small, personal items for specific families

Growing in trust and transparency...



**Line of Credit total:
\$105,524.18**



Creating a Welcoming & Fragrance-Aware Space



At People's UMC, we are committed to being a community where everyone can worship comfortably and safely. Some members of our congregation experience significant sensitivities to fragrances—perfumes, scented lotions, essential oils, and other scented products. Even light or pleasant fragrances can trigger headaches, breathing difficulties, and other health concerns for them.

In the spirit of hospitality and care for one another, we invite the congregation to voluntarily refrain from wearing fragranced products when attending worship, classes, or meetings in the building. This simple act of kindness helps us create a space where all can fully participate.

Thank you for your understanding and your willingness to make our shared spaces accessible for everyone. Together, we can practice love in action—one thoughtful choice at a time.

Christmas at People's UMC

Sunday December 14: Christmas Pageant

Our children and youth present a pageant entitled *Operation Christmas Star* during 9:00 worship.

Sunday December 21: Longest Night Service

A contemplative service at 6:30pm. We explore how God is with us during our longest nights.



Wednesday December 24: Christmas Eve

4:00 Family service

6:00 Lessons and Carols service

*please note that there is no nursery care during Christmas Eve services



There will be no Wednesday Night Supper, Creative ConnXions, or youth group on December 24 or December 31.



News from Little Angels Early Learning Center

by Katie Grady, Director



November recap:



Families donated to our annual cereal drive. We collected 192 boxes of cereal. The boxes were set up like a domino maze on Monday, Nov 24th and Tues. Nov 25th as a way to celebrate the boxes we collected. Then they were taken to the Oregon Area Food Pantry on Tuesday for donation.

Ms. Kelly from the public library came to read to our students again this month. Ms. Katie, our center director, read to each class this month. This time her books matched the class themes. She read the following books:

- 4K AM/PM: Whose tool is this? A book about tools different occupations use on the job.
- 4K AM2: MatMan Shapes
- Preschool: Corn. A book about corn facts
- Childcare: The little old woman who wasn't afraid of anything.

Our staff participated in 2 different 1 hour training sessions this month. One was "helping children make meaning after trauma", and the other was "from attention to connection: responding to challenging behavior in caring ways".



Plastic Mat Project

by Kathy Kuehl

Are you looking for another creative outlet that would benefit others as well as yourself?



Midwest Mission has provided the opportunity to make plastic mats for those people that would otherwise need to sleep or sit on the bare ground. These mats are created with a loom, and they are made from plastic shopping bags cut into strips. We have a loom thanks to Pastor Vicki and Howard. We would love to get a group of people who could work together to construct the mats. If you are interested in how it works, Midwest Mission has put a tutorial on YouTube that you can watch at [this link](#).

First, plastic grocery bags to make the strips are needed. There is a quilted bag near the church office door for collecting these bags. If you have bags at home, please bring them to church!

If you are interested in this project, please let Kathy Kuehl know. More information will come in the near future!



Children & Youth Ministries



Sunday School

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

Youth Group

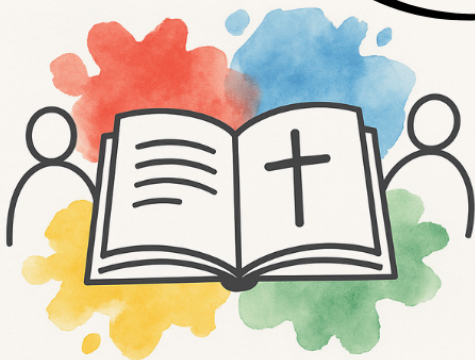
6th-12th grade
Wednesdays 6:30-8:00

Sunday Second Cup



Stick around after worship for Sunday Second Cup... a relaxed, coffee-friendly space to dig deeper into the morning's message. We'll revisit key ideas, reflect on how they connect to our lives, and open up space for questions and conversation. Whether something stirred in you during the sermon or you just want to listen in, your presence matters. No prep, no pressure—just honest conversation and maybe a refill.

Wednesdays
at 6:53 pm



in the Great Room

Creative ConnXions for the Not-So-Creative

Join us Wednesdays for a weekly faithshop where we explore scripture and bring it to life with simple, hands-on creativity. The "X" marks the spot where God meets us just as we are — no perfection required — reminding us that faith-filled creativity can break the rules, coloring outside the lines as the Spirit leads in unexpected ways. Whether you feel creative or not, you'll discover that everyone has something beautiful to contribute.

December Mission of the Month: NINA and Helping Hands

by Jen Wiemer

December is our month to focus on supporting two local ministries: the NINA fund (Neighbors in Need of Assistance) and the Helping Hands fund. These funds stay directly in the Oregon area and have a real impact on Oregon families.



The NINA fund was established in December 2002 through the cooperation of Oregon churches and Joe Sullivan, a Community Social Worker. The fund assists families who are in need of the basic necessities of life. The top two requests have been for rent (to avoid eviction) and utilities (to avoid disconnects/to re-connect), as well as water. The NINA fund is supported by donations from churches, businesses, and individuals.

It's unfortunate, but the NINA fund saw significantly less donations this year than in previous years, which seems to be the trend in many communities. Last year, NINA assisted a little over 40 families who were struggling financially in the Oregon area. This year, they are on target to assist about half of that (roughly around 20 families) just due to lack of funds. It is clear that inflation and the high costs of many things lately has had an impact on everyone, including our donors. Even despite these setbacks, this year NINA has been able to assist several families with rent and utilities, as usual.

NINA was able to help refill one family's LP tank who had been living without power for several weeks during the summer. They helped a single mom move into housing for herself and her children. In addition, NINA helped a grandmother, who was tasked with taking guardianship of her grandchildren, move into adequate housing for herself and her grandkids. There are many more stories, but these are a few highlights.



The Helping Hands Fund, administered by St. John's, is an emergency fund for individuals and families who live in the Oregon-Brooklyn school district. The fund is supported by donations from St. John's members, members of area churches, and individuals in the community.

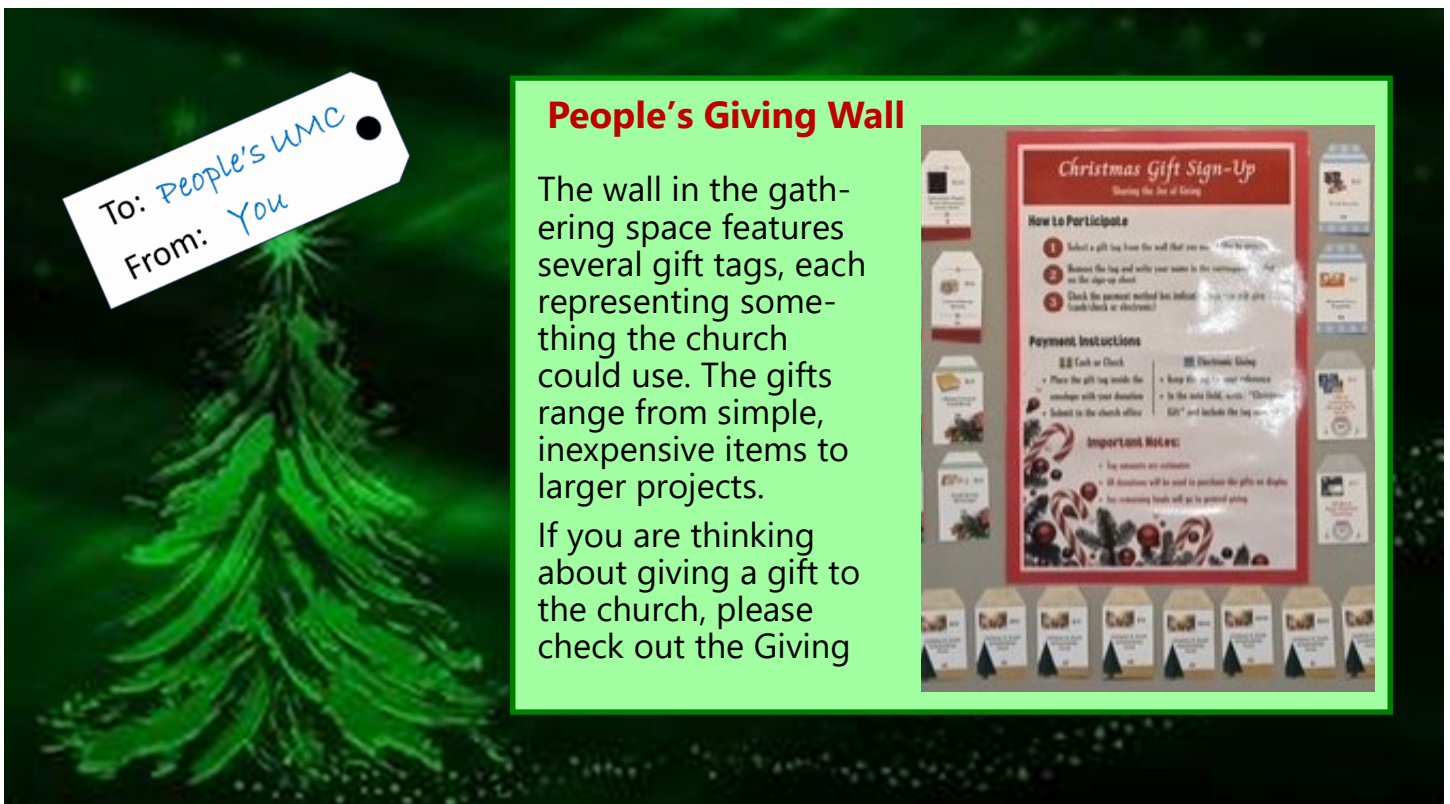
Mission of the Month donations can be made by cash, check (write Mission of the Month: NINA/Helping Hands in the memo line) or online on the GIVE tab at www.peoplesumc.org.

Pastors' Christmas Gift

As the holiday season approaches, it is time to think about the congregation's gift to the pastors. It is a small way of saying thank you to them for their love and care for all of us. Our pastors' favorite gift is a donation to a worthwhile organization. This year, Vicki and Justin have chosen the food pantry's parking lot project as the beneficiary of the gift. You may make your contribution now through the end of January. Please note on your check, the envelope, or online that you are contributing to the pastors' Christmas gift.



Wisconsin state legislators have introduced legislation (SB 578/AB 598) that creates “Patient Representatives” who would be given the authority to consent to patient admissions to nursing homes without requiring a petition for guardianship or protective placement. The Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network and other aging, disability, and legal advocates oppose this legislation, as they believe this legislation creates risk for patients and family members, has legal and operational issues, and does not resolve the issue it was designed to address. People are encouraged to contact their elected state representatives to urge them to vote against this bill.



Calendar & Community Notes

Sunday	9:00am	In-person Worship (Great Room) Livestreamed (https://www.youtube.com/peopleschurchoregonwi)
	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)
Wednesday	7:30pm	Aspire Rehearsal (Great Room)
	8:30am	Line Dancing (Great Room)
	5:00-6:30	Wednesday Night Supper
	6:30pm	Youth Group
Thursday	6:53pm	Creative ConnXions for the Not-So-Creative (Great Room)
	7:30am	Ball Exercise

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

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