

Sundays

In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship begins at 9:00 a.m., 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 has concluded for the year and will resume on September 13th.

Nursery Care is available for children ages 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.



September 6	Speaker	Guest Speaker from Workers Justice Wisconsin
September 13	Exodus 3:7-12 Exodus 4:10-17	Stepping Back Into It God does not wait for us to feel fully ready before calling us forward.
September 20	Genesis 32:22-31 Genesis 33:1-11	Finding the Rhythm Again Sometimes the hardest part of moving forward is facing what we left unresolved. Yet God can transform both us and our relationships as we return with honesty and humility.
September 27	Luke 4:14-21	Claiming the New Season The parable of the Sheep and the Goats: We encounter Christ in the way we treat others - especially those in need.

Revyvibes: Seeing People Along the Way

by Pastor Vicki Brantmeyer (she/her/hers)



Over the past several months, I have been grateful to share the progress we have made through our Paving the Way campaign. Together, we paid for our new parking lot and significantly reduced our line of credit.

However, this month you will notice that the line of credit balance has increased. Because you have faithfully supported this campaign, I want to be transparent about why. As our Finance Team has taken a closer look at our overall financial picture, we discovered that the designated funds recorded in our accounting system exceeded the actual cash available in our bank accounts to support those balances. Some designated funds that were no longer needed for their original purposes had previously been redirected, with permission, to Paving the Way. While our records showed sufficient funds to pay for the parking lot, doing so used more of our available cash than was understood at the time.

Growing in trust and transparency...



**Line of Credit total:
\$ 80,125**

We then continued applying incoming Paving the Way contributions toward the line of credit. That successfully reduced our debt, but it also left too little cash available to comfortably support the ongoing ministries and obligations of the church.

Scripture reminds us, "It is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy." (1 Corinthians 4:2) Sometimes faithful stewardship means celebrating progress; sometimes it means recognizing that new information requires us to adjust our course.

This will be a long-term effort. Our Finance Team and church leadership are working toward rebuilding healthy cash reserves, honoring designated funds, sustaining our ministries, and responsibly managing our debt.

For that reason, we are drawing from the line of credit to restore adequate operating cash. This does not mean Paving the Way has failed. Our parking lot is completed and paid for, and the debt reduction we accomplished was real. What has changed is our understanding of the church's overall financial position and therefore how we need to manage our resources going forward.

Thank you for your generosity, your trust, and your continued commitment to the ministries of People's Church. There is work ahead, but there is also much for which we can be grateful.

September Mission of the Month

by Anne Staton, Mission Team

The Madison chapter of Voces de la Frontera (VDLF) is the organization that People's mission team, working with the social justice team, has chosen to receive September's mission giving. Voces de la Frontera is a membership-based community organization led by low-wage workers, immigrants, and youth whose mission is to protect and expand civil rights and workers' rights through leadership development, community organizing, and empowerment. It strives to create a world where all people live free of poverty and discrimination, have access to safe and dignified work, quality education, and health care; where immigrants can cross borders with dignity; where human rights and workers' rights are respected; and where government is truly "of the people" so all families thrive. Voces began 20 years ago as a newspaper in Texas. It started in Wisconsin, in Milwaukee, in 1998. The youth program, for multi-racial high school and college youth, was founded in 2003.



The VDLF Legal Aid and Worker Justice Fund was established "to defend our rights, keep our families safe, and make sure no one faces injustice alone." With workers and immigrants facing a growing wave of attacks and the erosion of their most basic rights, the fund's resources are currently being heavily used to stand with and defend their rights so that they can live, work, and belong without fear. No government money goes to this fund. It is totally supported by private donations from people who believe in solidarity. For more information, please visit the Voces de la Frontera website at vdlf.org.

—The mission team thanks you in advance for your support.



Emily Theresa Brickner is turning 100 years old, and her family warmly welcomes anyone who is able to join them in celebrating this incredible milestone.

The celebration will be held on Sunday, September 13, 2026, at the Skaalen Heritage Center 1 Club House, located at 400 N. Morris St., Stoughton, Wisconsin.

Please feel free to stop by anytime between 1:00–3:00 p.m. to visit with Emily and wish her a very happy 100th birthday!

Rice Blessings Bag Project

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

SUGAR RIVER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.



This year our goal is producing 5,200 bags to feed over 31,000 people. To achieve this goal, an additional line of production was created, shifts shortened for participants' satisfaction, increasing the need for 150 volunteers.

Please note the display table in the gathering space for signup information. There are QR codes provided to use SIGNUP GENIUS to choose the shift you desire. Volunteer opportunities for Adults and Youth include crews to SET UP, TABLE LEADERS (supervising line production, making sure enough bag supplies are available for workers, relieving for breaks, etc.), BAG ASSEMBLY, AND CLEAN UP.

Please note the shift times—Table Leaders do 4-hour shifts.

There are 3 Bag Assembly shifts—9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m., 11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m., and 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m. There are jobs for both sitting and standing, and can be alternated.

This is a community event, so invite your family, friends, and neighbors to participate! Carpool! Sugar River UMC on September 26th is the place to be!

Join Us for Book Club

by Lois Flee

The next Faith Book Club meeting is scheduled for September 8th at 6:30. We will be discussing *Symphony of Secrets* by Brendan Slocumb.

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

October-The Great Alone by Kristin Hannah

November-The God of the Woods by Liz Moore

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.



Musical Notes

by Kate Rush, Director of Music

It's a new year, with all kinds of opportunities to participate in music at People's UMC. If you are a music lover, there is a place for you here!



Vocal Choir, directed by Kate Rush

Vocal choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings at 6:30, beginning on September 8. We usually sing in worship on the 3rd Sunday of each month. In choir we work to prepare beautiful music for our church services, and we are also a community that cares and prays for one another.

We love to laugh and have fun in our rehearsals together. Everyone is welcome to give it a try! Please contact kate@peoplesumc.org if you have questions.



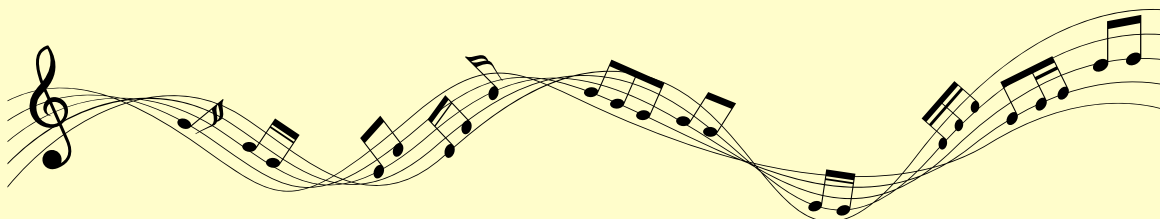
Handbell Choir, directed by Faith Portier

September 13 is the first handbells practice of the fall. We rehearse most Sundays after church on the lower level at 10:30 and play for the 4th service of each month. If you've ever wondered what it's like to ring bells, come and try it out one Sunday. You don't have to read music or have played handbells before. We'd love to see you!

Please contact faith.portier@gmail.com if you're interested.

Special Music

We always love to have members of our congregation providing special music. If you are interested in singing or playing something as a solo or in a small group, please talk to Kate!



Communion Companions

NEEDED!



Help share Christ's grace at the table!



Offer the cup and share the words,
"The blood of Christ shed for you."



Offer the gluten-free elements and share the words,
"The body of Christ given for you."



Occasionally assist with the bread and share the words,
"The body of Christ given for you."

Join the Communion Companions!
Training provided. All are welcome!

Men's Fellowship Group
by Howard Brantmeyer



NOTICE: DATE CHANGE

Due to Labor Day, Men's Fellowship will be meeting on the second Saturday in September. Men's Fellowship is a time to connect with other men in our community, and enjoy coffee and donuts together. Please join us, and invite a friend!

The next meeting is on Saturday, September 12th, at 9:00 in the Great Room.

Sip & Support

Saturday, September 12th
10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

Leslie Adams and Lauren Aitken are starting a new Sip and Support group!

Sip & Support will be held on the second Saturday of the month from 10am-11am in the Fireside Room at People's UMC. Everyone is welcome!

Come enjoy coffee and tea while spending time together in a relaxed and supportive setting.

An email has been sent to those who previously expressed interest. If you think you might like to join the group, please reach out to Leslie or Lauren for more information.

Sunday School Resumes

Sunday School is starting up again on September 13!

Here are the Bible stories the kids will be learning about in September:

Sept. 13—Ruth and Naomi

Sept. 20—Call of Samuel

Sept. 27—David is Anointed

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



Coats for the Community

Sponsored by the Social Justice Team

People's UMC Social Justice Team is teaming up with the Oregon Public Library, Oregon Area Food Pantry, Oregon Area Progressives, and Oregon Area Immigrant Support Network to sponsor a community coat drive.

Clean, gently used coats can be dropped off at the Oregon Public Library Community Room on the following dates and times:

- September 5: 9:00 AM–3:00 PM
- September 9: 12:00 PM–8:00 PM
- September 11: 1:00 PM–6:00 PM
- September 12: 9:00 AM–3:00 PM

Coats will be distributed at People's Church to help community members stay warm.

Val Brickner from the People's UMC Social Justice Team is leading this effort.

If you would like to volunteer to assist with any of the coat distribution days at People's Church, please reach out to Val.

Thank you for helping keep our community warm!



COATS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Free to anyone who needs one!



We are collecting clean,
gently used coats for men,
women, and children.

Please drop your donation at
Oregon Public Library
Community Room:

Sept 5, 9-3
Sept 9, 12-8
Sept 11, 1-6
Sept 12, 9-3

Anyone needing a coat can
pick one up directly across
the parking lot from
the Oregon Area Food Pantry
on:

Oct 1, 11-2
Oct 3, 8:30-11
Oct 6, 8:30-11
Oct 8, 4-7



DROP-OFF LOCATION:

 **Oregon Public Library**
200 N Alpine Pkwy, Oregon, WI 53575

PICK-UP LOCATION:

 **People's United Methodist Church**
(Across the parking lot from the Oregon Area Food Pantry)
103 N Alpine Pkwy, Oregon, WI 53575

Sponsored By: Oregon Area Food Pantry | Peoples United Methodist Church
Oregon Area Immigrant Support Network | Oregon Area Progressives

Update from the Social Justice Team

Hi all! It's Leslie Adams from our Social Justice Team.

Barb Feeney shared with our team that there is a group called MOSES in Madison - this stands for "Madison Organizing in Strength, Equity, and Solidarity." This is a chapter of the Wisdom Network, which is an interfaith group working for criminal and racial justice. We will be learning more about this group in the coming month. If you are interested in learning more about this organization, check out www.mosesmadison.org

Mary Malone and Barb Feeney have been working on how we can, as a church, better support parents and their children. We are planning on starting up a Parents Anonymous Group at People's UMC in the future, likely first through a Parent PODS option—stay tuned for more information and reach out to us with any questions. As a parent, I am so grateful to be one for our kids—but parenting is challenging—and connecting with other parents for support, camaraderie, and even some humor can help!

Group Activities are Coming! Many of you have expressed interest in activities that we can do as a group that make us feel better!

Deb Lee will be hosting Nature Walks soon—the first likely at Anderson Farm County Park in Oregon. Those who expressed interest in this, stay tuned—we will be reaching out about this! If you might not have signed up and want to, reach out to Deb Lee.

Val Brickner is helping connect those who expressed interest in volunteer opportunities, as helping others helps us all! We are Better Together! Look for emails coming from Val about this and reach out to her with questions or additional interest!

Last thing to share—we have a Book Club that we are doing as part of our Social Justice Meeting. We are reading "Corrections in Ink" and doing about 5 chapters per month to review the next month. There are some spare copies at the Oregon Library. I missed the last one, so I have to catch up—no worries if you join us and have to catch up too!

Our next Social Justice Meeting is Thursday, September 17th, from 6:30 p.m. until about 8 p.m. in the Fireside Room at People's UMC. If you are interested or have questions, reach out to Val or any of us on the Social Justice Committee! We would love to have you!

Take care and I'll see you at church!

Leslie Adams

News from Little Angels Early Learning Center

by Katie Grady, director



THANK YOU!

We are so thankful to be able to start the school year with a fresh start.

- Thanks to the youth and adults that helped to paint the nursery/childcare room and our center office. It looks wonderful.
- Thanks to the trustees for setting up the floor maintenance.

In August, the LAELC staff completed their mandated reporter and CPR/First Aid recertifications.

They also attended a training about reversing trauma in children.



With the help of Howard, Pastor Vicki, and Pastor Justin, we welcomed our families to our center to drop off their forms and supplies, meet their teachers, and spend time in their classrooms.



NOW HIRING: **Childcare Assistant Teacher:**

Monday-Friday 8:45 AM-5:15 PM
Paid holidays, vacation, and sick days

Childcare Lunch Helper:

Mon, Wed, Fri from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM
& Tues, Thurs from 11:00 AM-2:00 PM
Paid holidays, vacation, and sick days

For More Info or to Apply:

Contact our Center Director, Katie Grady @ 608-835-1945 or laelc.director@gmail.com



Wednesday Night Supper Resumes!

Wednesday, September 16th

5 - 6:30pm

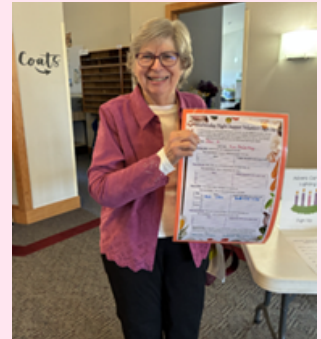
Wednesday Night Supper resumes on Wednesday, September 16, with our annual Fall Picnic!

Everyone is welcome, so be sure to invite your friends and family to join us for an evening of good food and fellowship.

We are also looking for volunteers to help keep this wonderful ministry going!

Amanda has made it her mission to find four new volunteers to join the Wednesday Night Supper serving team! The shifts are only an hour and a half, and you can volunteer as little or as often as you'd like. It's an easy, fun way to get involved—and even better if you bring a friend or buddy along with you.

If you have questions or would like to learn more about volunteering, please contact Karen Baker at karenabaker725@gmail.com.



Green Thumb? Volunteers Needed!

Leslie Adams has graciously agreed to care for the beautiful garden in front of the Visitor Parking Spots and would love to have a partner or two join her in this endeavor!

Do you have a green thumb and a little free time to help? If so, please reach out to Leslie Adams.

Your help would be greatly appreciated in keeping this special garden looking beautiful!

LISTEN

September brings new rhythms
school bells ring, calendars fill,
and ministries come alive again.

As the pace picks up,
don't let the noise drown out the
voice that matters most.

Pause. Pay attention. Listen.

God is speaking
in the midst of it all.



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 (music room - LL music room)
Tuesday	10:30am	Hugs & Stitches (Fireside Room)
	7:00pm	AA-Room to Grow (Adult Meeting Rm. LL)
	7:30pm	Aspire Rehearsal (Great Room)
Wednesday	8:00am	Line Dancing (Great Room)
Thursday	7:30am	Ball Exercise- (meets in music room - LL music room)

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 Kuntzelman, amanda@peoplesumc.org
Kelly Klitzman, office@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