



PEACE IN  
THE NEW YEAR

# JOY Newsletter

January 2022

United Methodist Church  
of Whitefish Bay

## **This year is going to be different**

***“Remember not the former things,  
nor consider the things of old.  
Behold, I am doing a new thing;  
now it springs forth,  
do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.”***

**Isaiah 43:18-19**

***“Cheers to a new year and another chance for  
us to get it right.”***

**- Oprah Winfrey**

As I am writing this, the New Year is only days away. What surprises, challenges, and/or blessings will 2022 bring? Will it be a better year than 2021? For some, 2021 was an incredible year of blessing. For many others, it was a year that they would rather forget. Who will forget the images of the Capitol building in Washington, D.C. being stormed? How much damage did the wildfires do? There was great unrest in our world. There was a new variant in the pandemic that seemed to spike just as families and friends were gathering together for the holidays. 2021 saw incredible violence. Here at home, 16 different communities set an all-time high in the number of homicides. Across our country last year (as of December 29<sup>th</sup>), there were a documented 28 different mass murders. There were 687 mass shootings, and our children are at risk. There were 1,517 children shot dead and 4,083 additional injured. Please 2022, be different!

If I am still awake on New Year's Eve when the ball drops in New York City, I want to cry out as Alfred Lord Tennyson did, “Ring out the false, ring in the true.” I have heard it said many

times that the New Year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written. What are we going to write? Ralph Waldo Emerson suggested that we “write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.”

Many people approach a new year with a long list of resolutions, most of which will be broken before Valentine's Day. Every year the gyms are packed in January, filled with good intentions. Jonathan Edwards, leader of the Great Awakening in faith of the 1700's, only made two resolutions each year.

“Resolution One: I will live for God.

Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will.”

Here at the United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay, we want to get the year started off on the right foot. Our January sermon series, ***This Year is Going to be Different***, is geared to help us live into that reality. We will explore a **New Vision, New Understandings, New Attitudes, and New Practices**.

In February, we will continue to live into the “new thing” that God is doing by exploring and expanding our practice of faith. Our sermon series that month, ***Practice Makes Perfect***, will give us the opportunity to explore the **Practice of Slowing**, the **Practice of Play**, the **Practice of Patience**, and the **Practice of Mindfulness**.

It is truly my prayer that 2022 will be a year of blessing for all of us. I hope to see you in worship (or you seeing me via Livestream) as often as possible, so that together as a church family we can grow in faith, friendship, and fellowship!

With you on the journey,  
Pastor Matt

# Worship

## All are Welcome Friday, January 7th for Taizé Worship



**Taizé Worship will occur the first Friday of every month at 7:00 p.m.**

The Sanctuary is darker in order to let the candles and icons be focal points. The atmosphere and service is designed for individual worshipers to focus on God and find peace.

Our Taizé worshipers sit throughout the Sanctuary - naturally distanced safely. Masks are optional. So is the singing. A small group of musicians will lead from the darkened front of the church.

Contact Sue Stanley with questions - [sstanley@umcwfb.org](mailto:sstanley@umcwfb.org) or 414-339-9212.

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## New Sermon Series

### “This Year is Going to Be Different”

**New Vision,  
New Understandings,  
New Attitudes,  
and New Practices**



**Shout out THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this Advent season so festive!** Grateful thanks to: our anonymous donors of the Sanctuary tree and door wreaths, Troop 400 for Sanctuary wreath, Todd, Natalie, Nicholas, Elliot, and Oliver Hatch for setting up the Sanctuary and Chrismon trees, banners, nativity, and candle wreaths (AND putting it all away!). Nelda, Tasha, and Dan Mngoja for shepherding the many beautiful poinsettias and Gladys Martin for the exterior greenery. Our church home was warm and welcoming because of these extra efforts.

Abundantly thankful,  
Mary Paull

# Outreach



## Mission Team and Youth

The Mission Team and the Youth corroborated in providing gifts to 60 first-grade students at Bryant Elementary School in Milwaukee this December. The Mission Team provided waterproof gloves, the Montague family provided crayons, and the Youth wrapped the gifts. Thank you to all!



## Thank you for all your “Tree of Love” Donations!

The “Tree of Love” was very successful again this year. We made this Christmas a little happier for 100 young children aged 2 to 4 years old who attend the “Next Door Foundation.” We also donated 85 \$25 Walmart gift cards to the families who live at United Methodist Children’s Services, which they received at their annual Christmas party. Thank you to all of you who made this event so successful by donating money or gifts and to those who helped carry out this event.



## JANUARY 2022 MISSION OF THE MONTH UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

University Christian Ministries (UCM) is an interdenominational campus ministry at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) campus. UCM works to engage students at UWM in discovering, exploring, experiencing, and growing their faith as followers of Jesus Christ. Their programs range from free lunches to study/discussion groups. This fall, many students returned to in-person classes at UWM. To support students, UCM has opened again to in-person meals and programs. Over 50 new students have attended UCM this fall as we continue to draw new participation almost every week. Our student staff continues to do an excellent job of helping to rebuild our campus ministry as we nurture student bodies and spirits. UM Women from our church have provided lunches one Wednesday of each semester and our members are or have served on the governing boards of UCM.



# Events

**Our next BLOOD DRIVE is THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2:00-7:00 p.m., in Fellowship Hall.**

There is no substitute for blood. It is precious, it is perishable, and the need for it is vital. Any one of us might need a transfusion at any time, and we rely on one another to meet that need!



Please consider donating on January 6 if you are able. It only takes about an hour. Call or text Jim Schacht any time before the blood drive at 414-332-2834. Or sign up online at [www.versiti.org](http://www.versiti.org).

New donors are always welcome! If you've never donated before and want to talk about possibly donating, please see Jim in the Narthex or give him a call.

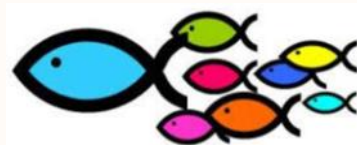
## NSSS

### North Shore School for Seniors begins Winter Session Feb. 15

North Shore School for Seniors (NSSS) classes will be offered at United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay, 819 E. Silver Spring Dr., beginning Feb. 15.

Classes are on Tuesdays, and meet from one to six times, depending on the subject matter.

Fees are \$8 for one-week classes and \$48 for six-week classes.



Six-week classes meet Feb. 15-March 22, and include Acrylic Painting Studio (12-2 p.m.); Apple I Phone Basics (9-10:30 a.m.); Genealogy: Basic Steps to Discover Your Family Tree (12-1 p.m.); Mah Jong (10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.); Preparing You and Your Home for Sale (1-2 p.m.); and Indian Boarding Schools (10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.).

One-week classes are Anarchists, Murder and Justice? (9-10 a.m.); China and the USA (1-2 p.m.); Consider the Conversation – End-of-life Issues (1-2 p.m.); Custer: A Re-examination (9-10 a.m.); Navigating Senior Living (1-2 p.m.); Oh, My Aching Feet (12-1 p.m.); Preplanning Your Funeral (12-1:30 p.m.); Quilts and the Stories They Tell (9-10 a.m.); Senior Scams and How to Avoid Them (1-2 p.m.); Ten Warning Signs of Dementia (1-2 p.m.); Understanding Dementia & Memory Care (1-2 p.m.); I Want to Stay in My Home (1-2 p.m.); and Women Air Force Service Pilots (9-10 a.m.).

A brochure will be mailed to those who registered for the Spring 2020 session and Fall 2021 session. To request a brochure, phone the NSSS office at (414) 292-0960 and it will be mailed. Information also is available at [umcwfb.org](http://umcwfb.org) under the adult ministries heading.

Registrations will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis and can be done by returning the form in the brochure. There also will be in-person registration before Feb. 15 and the first day of classes.

Face masks are required on the second floor of the church, where NSSS classes take place and a daycare is operated. Other measures for the safety of all may be implemented.

# Events

## Social Justice Happenings

There are several events coming up that will focus on social and racial justice issues.

### **January 18 from 7 - 8 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

Live Interfaith Devotional for Martin Luther King with readings, Music, and meditation on the themes of Truth, Justice, Courage, and Change. Co-sponsored by our church, Bay Bridge, and others.

### **January 20**

“When Claude Got Shot” documentary and panel discussion on crime. Sponsored by Bay Bridge. Registration will be required.

### **January 27 - February 24**

A five-week “Training on the Criminal Legal System.” Sponsored by WISDOM. Registration will be required.

### **February 10 at 7 p.m.**

A training session at church on how to have productive dialogue on controversial subjects entitled “Depolarizing Within.” Facilitated by Braver Angels. Sponsored by Church & Society.

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## **Church and Society to Host Zoom Workshop with Braver Angels**

The national group Braver Angels, known for their programs that encourage political civility, will present a Zoom event called “Depolarizing Within” on **Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 7 p.m.** Our church’s Church & Society Team will host this Zoom workshop.

“Depolarizing Within” workshops teach participants to look within and develop strategies for engaging politics without demonizing ....” The mission of Braver Angels, a nonprofit group, is to “bring Americans together to bridge the partisan divide and strengthen our democratic republic.” Stay tuned for more specific instructions on how to join us for this important event.



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

### UMW luncheon celebrates joys of Christmas

The UMW Christmas Luncheon, held on Dec. 14, was a glorious celebration of Jesus' birth through song.

The tables were individually decorated and guests served by our United Methodist Women: Nancy Batchelder, Sue Daugherty, Linda Lybeck, Nell Nash, Linda Mazumdar, Nancy O'Toole, Cheryl Sapinski, Cassi Carey, Rena Szewczuga, Loretto Steinmetz, and Leona Jordan. It was a beautiful display of Christmas.

David Hein, pianist, and Sunni Tyler, soloist, led the women in song. Scripture readings preceded the songs.

The Carpenter's Shop children created our life-sized painted drawings of the nativity scene. These delightful pieces of art were presented on stage as the story of Jesus' birth was revealed.

A delicious meal was prepared by Greg Swanberg and his dedicated staff. Eileen Swanberg added to the culinary delights with her homemade cranberry strudel.

A heart-felt appreciation to all who participated and helped make this event a memorable moment for the women of United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay.



*UMW continued  
on next page.*

## Souper Bowl fundraiser makes the Big Game event better

The UMW Souper Bowl is back, after a one-year hiatus. Soups will be available for pickup **Saturday, Feb. 12 and Sunday, Feb. 13**. Orders will be taken during the last two weeks of January and the first week of February. All proceeds go to mission.

The price for soup is \$10 per quart. With every order of 2 quarts or more, a can of soup will be donated to our Mission Team food collection.



Soup offerings for 2022 are:

- Southwest Chicken Tortilla (back by popular demand)
- Hearty Minestrone (vegetarian)
- Butternut Squash (gluten-free and vegetarian)
- Oven-Baked French Onion
- Chef Greg's Favorite Chicken Dumpling

## Start the new year with a "reading resolution"

The Deborah Reading Circle welcomes all to join the conversation on the first Tuesday of each month. *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson will be discussed at a Zoom gathering at **7 p.m. on Jan 4**. Contact [nnash@umcwfb.org](mailto:nnash@umcwfb.org) for the Zoom link. *The Book of Lost Friends* will be the focus on **Feb. 8**. (In person or Zoom? That's yet to be decided.)

# Men's Ministry

## January Events

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - FRIDAY, JAN. 7 - 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Meet at 3350 N. 3rd St. This will be a chance to improve your flooring skills. Our church has committed for

8 volunteers - presently we have 4 volunteers signed up.

Please let Don Lybeck ([mdonlybeck@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mdonlybeck@sbcglobal.net))

or Dick Steinmetz ([rsteinmetz@wi.rr.com](mailto:rsteinmetz@wi.rr.com)) know you have registered with Habitat to be there. See you then!



**MISSION AT HOME POSTPONED** - Because of the present surge in COVID cases, we have decided to postpone the **Saturday, January 15** Mission At Home Day at UMCWFB. We thank those of you who had planned to volunteer on that day. We look forward to the day soon when the Mission At Home can be rescheduled so that we as members can help maintain our church building and houses. Stay tuned and stay safe.



# Youth

Hey Friends,



It is a new year! This means a new opportunity to focus our lives toward faith. At the end of last year, we were able to spread joy by serving others as our youth wrapped gifts for elementary children at Bryant in MPS. Kids shared Christmas by singing their way through the neighborhood adjacent to the church. This year we hope to continue spreading Christ through a musical, a mission trip, and other activities! Happy new year!

## **Summer Plans**

Kids Grades 2-5: Lake Lucerne Camp: June 19-22

Youth Quest Camp: June 26-July 1

Appalachia Service Project (High School Only): July 16-24

Vacation Bible School: August 1-5

[If you have interest, would like information, or want to volunteer for any of these summer events, fill out this SURVEY!](#)



We're back - ASP 2022! Save the Date!

Our next adventure with Appalachia Service Project will be from July 16-24, 2022, so mark your calendars. ASP is open to all current 8th graders through current high school seniors. We also need adult and youth leaders to accompany us on the trip. This is a great opportunity for adults and kids to have an experience they can share for a lifetime. Please get your deposits in ASAP.

Please let Lori Aeschbacher ([loriaeschbacher@sbcglobal.net](mailto:loriaeschbacher@sbcglobal.net)) or Pastor Andrew know if you have interest in going or have questions about the trip.

If you have any questions or would like to get involved in serving or volunteering, please contact Andrew at [ajones@umcwfb.org](mailto:ajones@umcwfb.org).

With Hope,

*Pastor Andrew*



# Notes from the Board

As we say goodbye to 2021, it is difficult to say it was a good year. We are reeling from COVID variants, climate disasters, and political infighting with no end in sight. But there were some things to celebrate and one was our church. We can be thankful that our church is here for us in good times and bad and will support us and help us grow in our faith through our spirit-filled worship, vibrant music, and impactful missions and ministries.

Here is what ALB was discussing in December.

## **Inter-Church Projects**

Our church will partner with St. Mark AME and Keefe Avenue Elementary School on a musical this spring. There will be one cast but separate sets and separate performances at our church and Keefe Ave. school. St. Mark is primarily an African American congregation.

Our church will also collaborate with Bay View UMC on bells or choral music this year. Bay View is primarily a Latinx congregation.

Many thanks to Sharon Garrett for initiating these conversations and to Neil Bubke for planning these projects. We hope that these projects will lead to further collaborations and relationships.

## **Staff Parish Relations**

The board discussed the new job description for Director of Engagement. Questions were raised about whether the social media responsibilities should be separated from adult education and engagement. It was decided to post the job description and simultaneously do a deeper dive into how to allocate these responsibilities. Pastor Matt noted that more resources may be needed to fund necessary staff.

## **Facilities Use Agreement with Troop 400**

The board approved the Facilities Use Agreement with Troop 400. The agreement was requested by the Conference in response to the pending bankruptcy of the Boy Scouts of America due to mounting liability for claims of sexual abuse by Scout leaders. The agreement will preserve our long-term relationship with Troop 400 while clarifying our relationship with the troop and providing protection for the church.

While the church supports the troop and provides space for its meetings and events, it does not charter the troop or supervise its activities. The board was asked to consider whether a similar agreement should be used for other facility-use arrangements.

## **Engagement**

The board is discussing ways to enhance personal connections with and within the congregation. Ideas included congregation phone calls, lunches, 1x1's, and personal notes in the eJOY.

*Continued on next page.*

# Notes from the Board

## **Technology**

Our Technology Team is consulting with Steve Brooks on possible consultants to conduct an audit of our technology.

It was suggested that the website should include a members-only section requiring a sign-in for materials such as ALB minutes.

## **Trustees**

The dumpster corral is complete and working well.

There was water leakage in the second-floor computer room and the Walnut Room during a recent rain.

Trustees have contacted the roofer to check for leaks in the roof and outer brick wall.

Trustees continue to explore improvements to the Narthex.

The church will hold a Mission at Home in January [now postponed].

## **Finances**

**FY 2021-2022 Budget** - revenue in November improved with \$70,000 in pledge and non-pledge income and our expenses were below budget. Consequently, we had a surplus for the month of \$7,242, which increased our surplus to \$23,040. This is a huge improvement over last year when we had a deficit of \$10,804.

**Capital Account, Future Fund, and Properties Capital Fund** - our Capital Account and Future Fund remained the same at \$63,931 and \$97,385, respectively, on November 30. The balance in the Properties Capital Fund was \$216,487.

**Apportionment** - our Conference apportionment for 2022 is \$138,672, or \$1,000 more than last year. The apportionment is based on a formula that compares our membership and expenses to those of the Conference. So, although our church experienced a slight decline in membership and expenses, the Conference suffered a greater decline, resulting in the slight increase in our church's apportionment. The Conference apportionment supports Conference services and missions and pays the administrative expenses of UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief).

## **Plan for ALB**

With the terms of three members, including the chair, expiring at year-end, there has been some concern about the future of the ALB. We are excited to report that we have two, and possibly three, excellent candidates for the board and hope to approve them at our next meeting. The board also asked Kathy Schluter to continue as interim chair until a new chair is appointed or for one year, whichever is sooner. Kathy agreed to the arrangement.

Happy New Year!!

**The next meeting of the ALB will be Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.**





## *Our Birthdays for January*

Jacob	Donovan	01/01	Helen	Proffit	01/17
Steve	Jefferson	01/01	Alexander G.	Boehm	01/17
Scott	Besette	01/01	Ryan	Ballentine	01/18
Joe	Ketchum	01/01	Ania	Kotecki	01/18
Jean	Hidde	01/03	Joelle	Karth	01/18
Sue	Mortellaro	01/03	Norva	McCutcheon	01/19
Karin Bloom	Welstead	01/04	Cynthia	Boock	01/20
Daniel	Montague	01/04	Erik	Haglund	01/20
John	Daugherty	01/05	Peter	Van Volkinburg	01/20
Grey	Waedekin	01/05	Joann	Cochran	01/21
Keralyn	Bolliger	01/06	Linda	Mazumdar	01/21
Stephen	Scheil	01/06	Susan	Patrick	01/22
Peter T.	McMahon	01/06	Benjamin	Sincoular	01/22
Kathy	Thomson	01/07	Annette	Buor	01/22
Peggy	Mulligan	01/07	Paul	Jacobson	01/23
Jennifer	Kunde	01/07	Mary	LaFrombois	01/23
Nathan Grey	Kurtz	01/07	Jennie	Plaster	01/23
Heather	Pokey	01/08	Christine	Martin	01/23
Steve	Mortonson	01/09	Sarahnetta G.	Mike	01/23
Connor	Trimble	01/09	Lois	Kailhofer	01/24
Diane	Wais	01/10	Sadie	Barnes	01/24
Roger	Stafford	01/10	Daniel	Morse	01/25
Jeffrey	Ballentine	01/10	Griffin	Hentzen	01/25
Aaron	Gorham	01/10	Elizabeth	Freuck	01/26
Katherine	Thomson	01/11	Martha	Kriefall	01/26
Richard	Jones	01/12	Joan	Robertson	01/27
Craig	Walker	01/12	Jackson V.	Speed	01/28
Alex	Rinehart	01/12	Lori	Aeschbacher	01/29
Teresa	McClellan	01/13	Emily	Chou	01/29
Luke	Trebatoski	01/14	Claire	Starling	01/29
John	Krezoski	01/15	David	Anderson	01/30
Jacquelyn	Oliveira	01/15	Mary Myers	Read	01/30
Crystal	Stinimates	01/16			