JOY Newsletter

October 2021

United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay

What a blessing it has been to return to four in-person services each weekend here at the United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay. I am seeing children for the first time since the pandemic hit that appear to have grown almost a foot taller! I am hearing from people who have come back to the Sanctuary services remark how good it feels to be back in that sacred space. And yet, many of us are still more comfortable worshipping with the church family via our livestream technology. I am grateful for both that option and the dedicated volunteers who make it possible every week. Our Sunday 8:00 a.m. worship in the park ends each service with the following stanza:

God be with you till we meet again, by His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet;
Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

It feels like an appropriate song. Looking back, I wish we would have sung these words at the last service before we had to suspend in-house worship so many months ago. There are still many dedicated and loyal church members that I haven't seen in person since St. Patrick's Day 2020. I understand completely why that is. And yet I long to once again see the faces of those I used to be able to see on a regular basis.

While I understand why many are, and need to be, worshiping remotely, my fear is that there are others who will only worship with us online moving forward. I fear that there are some who will no longer choose to gather together with the brothers and sisters in Christ that comprise our faith community. I turn to the scriptures and read:

"We should keep on encouraging each other to be thoughtful and to do helpful things. Some people have gotten out of the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that.
We should keep on encouraging each other…." -Hebrews 10:24-25a

Why is gathering together in person whenever possible so important? First and foremost, we know that we were created for community. God said in the creation process that it is not good for us to be alone. (Gen. 2:18) Paul said to the church in Rome; "As in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." (Romans 12:4–5) The whole body suffers when we are missing parts of ourselves.

There are some practical reasons for gathering together in person as well. Gathering with others moves us away from isolation as we offer and receive acts of mutual support. In addition, the spiritual discipline of attending corporate worship services helps to protect us from backsliding in our faith journey.

We have a vibrant church with lots of energy. Thank you for making that happen. I pray that someday soon we will all meet again in God's house at 819 E. Silver Spring, and continue our mission to be deeply committed followers of Jesus Christ who love God, care for each other, and serve in the world.

With Hope,
Pastor Matt

Worship

Taizé Worship Has Resumed Monthly Services!

Join us on Friday, November 5
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 congregation - 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 or 414-339-9212.

Upcoming Worship Services

10 –Haves and Have-nots

17 –In Love We Care For Each Other

24 –Don't Give Up

31 –Loving Our Neighbors

Missions

Mission of the Month for October—Afghan Refugee Assistance

In October, your donations will go to Afghan Refugee Assistance. The donations are financial support for refugees that are being processed at Fort McCoy.

Our financial gift will go through our Immigrant Assistance Fund at the Wisconsin Conference.

Loose change and bills/checks can be placed in the Mission of the Month envelopes at church or mailed to the church. When writing a check out, please add "Afghan Refugee Assistance" in the memo line.

Six Air Conditioners Donated to MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary

The MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary (MBHS) put out a need for air conditioners for elderly people and those with respiratory issues.

Funds were donated through Covid mask sales, money donated specifically for air conditioners, general donations to MBHS, and supplemented by the mission budget. Six air conditioners were delivered to the sanctuary the last week of July.

Thank you to everyone who supported this project.

Events

The Pumpkins Are Coming!!

It is almost time for our annual Pumpkin Patch sale!
This year the sale will take place from
Friday, October 15 to Saturday, October 30.
This sale is a great community outreach event
and a lot of fun. All of the profit goes to missions.

We need YOU to help us
unload pumpkins on **October 14** at **4 p.m.**
and to **sell** pumpkins from **3-6 p.m.** on **weekdays**
and from **10-6 p.m. on the weekends**.

Shifts are 1.5 hours long on weekdays and 2 hours long on weekends.

You can sign up for a shift **HERE**.

Don't forget to buy your pumpkins at the Patch, too!

Upcoming Racial Diversity Events

Community Book Study
The Sum of Us by Heather McGhee.
The **second Thursday of each month from 6:15 - 7:45 p.m. via Zoom**.
You can register for the study by emailing baybridgewisconsin@gmail.com
or by contacting Kathy Schluter at kschluter505@gmail.com for the Zoom link.
Co-sponsored by Bay Bridge and UMCWFB.

Community Witness for Racial Justice and School Equity
Saturday, October 16 from 10-11 a.m.
at Silver Spring and Lake Drive.
This is a silent, faith-based witness.
Bring your sign or use one of ours!
Co-sponsored by Black Lives are Sacred and UMCWFB.

Events

2021 BAZAAR = HOLIDAY FAIR

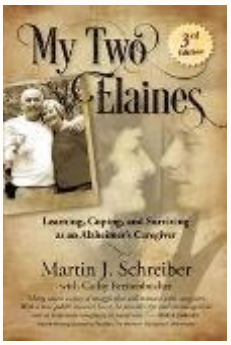
On Saturday, November 13, what we know and love as the "BAZAAR" this year will be the HOLIDAY FAIR!! In concern for the safety of all, we are scaling down (but hopefully will have all your favorites), in the much-better-ventilated Narthex, requiring masks be worn by all.

If you have something stored to sell at the Bazaar, we'd appreciate knowing asap (call or email Lynn Bennett at bennett.lynn@gmail.com or leave a message at 262-238-9916). We are trying to assess the number of tables we will need. If you are in the process of making items, please consider quantity. We will have less space. There will be no auction table. There will be cookies, plated and wrapped. There will be pickles! We will not be serving lunch.

We sincerely appreciate everyone's willingness to do this safely, in consideration of all. It is our prayer that the full Bazaar will be back in 2022.

Chairpersons: Lynn Bennett, Keralyn Bolliger, Katie Daniels

SIGN UP NOW FOR BREAKFAST WITH GOV. SCHREIBER
Hear him speak about his experience as an Alzheimer's caregiver
Saturday, November 6 - 8:30-10:00 a.m. - Fellowship Hall



At some point in our lives, most of us either will know someone with Alzheimer's disease or someone who is an Alzheimer's caregiver. Even if the disease doesn't affect one of our own family members, knowing some basic information about the disease and about caring for someone afflicted with it can help us to be a better friend and supporter for those who deal with Alzheimer's every day.

Former Wisconsin Governor Martin Schreiber knows all too well the impact Alzheimer's disease can have on a family, as he has been a caregiver for a number of years for his beloved wife, Elaine. He shares his experiences in his book *My Two Elaines* and through appearances such as the one he will make at the UMC of Whitefish Bay in November. His charming, witty, personal observations are enlightening and heartwarming.

Our former pastor Janet Hartzell reports that she has read the book and heard Governor Schreiber speak, and she hopes for a great turnout on November 6. **Thanks to a grant from the Foundation of the UMC of Whitefish Bay, the first 30 people or couples to sign up with Anne in the church office will receive a free copy of *My Two Elaines***, which can be picked up prior to the event, if desired, or at the event itself (one book per couple, please). Copies also will be sold on November 6.

There is no cost to attend the event, though a freewill offering will be taken to help cover the cost of the continental breakfast. By signing-up in advance, you will help us adequately plan for breakfast. Feel free to invite friends, neighbors, and others who you know who would benefit from this informative event, and sign them up, too!

Ministries

Saturday, October 16 - Breakfast with Pastor Andrew
Fellowship 7 a.m., Hot Breakfast 7:30 a.m., Inside look into the "Grandparent, Parent, Youth, Children Ministry" of our church, including how the Men's Ministry can support its mission.

Men's Ministry

Activities for Fall

Pictured here: Sept. Men's Ministry Breakfast with Pastor Matt, distancing and a meaningful dialog regarding our church ministry during and after the pandemic.

Saturday, October 23 - Habitat Mission Volunteers
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
3403 N. 3rd St. - Flooring.
Let Don Lybeck at mdonlybeck@sbcglobal.net
know you can be there and for any help with registration.

November

Saturday, November 20 - 8 a.m. -
Visit to UWM School of Freshwater Science
with Val Klump, Dean Emeritus,
at the Greenfield Ave. location.
Update On The State Of The Great Lakes,
Green Bay and ...
a unique opportunity.

UMW Fall Luncheon—Thank You!

The UMW Fall Luncheon was held on September 14 in Fellowship Hall.

The speaker, Suzie Clarkson Holstein, presented
"UMW: Beyond our Church Walls."
We would like to thank all the participants
who made this program so inspiring and enjoyable.

Holidays

Holiday Wreath Sale

2021 Whitefish Bay BSA Troop 400

Items for sale include:

Wreaths - various sizes & qualities
Garland & Planters
Swags, Candy Canes & Crosses
Pinecone Chandeliers & Yule logs
Firestarters & Fallen Soldier wreaths

Automatic delivery of products!

Jacob Mortellaro will be available on Sundays in October to show brochure and take orders.

Or order online
https://go.noblevalleywreathsale.com/tp400

Credit Cards accepted

The last date for ordering is October 31.

Home delivery begins the weekend of November 19.

You may contact Jacob at 414-339-9212 or aamsam@wi.rr.com

If you have any questions, I would be happy to answer them.
I look forward to working with you - Jacob

Youth

Hey Friends,

Last month, we saw many folks return back to school and back to church! The return of Wednesday Night Live, Sunday School, Youth Group, and Confirmation have been an exciting way to start the fall. We were able to bless third graders with their own Bible and welcome many new families to our community of faith! It is my prayer that this fall will offer you a new way to engage in worship and ministry!

Sunday School Serving Opportunities

This is an opportunity to help out with our kids' ministry during Sunday worship. Prefer older kids? Confirmation and youth classes need assistance as well! You can support our teachers once a month or on occasion to provide assistance in our Sunday School. No training or prep is needed! Contact Pastor Andrew for details!

Nursery Workers Wanted

We are looking for caring individuals to work in our Nursery on Sunday mornings or during church events. This is a paid position helping our youngest children (birth -3 years) experience the love of God through care and play. Please contact Pastor Andrew by email (ajones@umcwfb.org) or phone (314-691-7378) if you are interested!

If you have any questions or would like to get involved in serving or volunteering, please contact me at ajones@umcwfb.org.

With Hope,

Pastor Andrew

Notes from the Board

Notes from the Board

The fall relaunch has occurred with, outdoor services at 8 a.m. in School House Park, in-person Saturday services at 5 p.m. and in-person Sunday services at 9 and 10:30 a.m. We gathered for a brat fry, ice cream social, and ministry fair. Wednesday Night Live and School for Seniors began, and our annual Pumpkin Patch will open soon. Although we are not back to pre-pandemic levels, we are on our way. It feels good to be with church friends again!

Missions - Pumpkin Patch
The pumpkin sale will take place from October 15 to 30. The pumpkins will be unloaded on October 14 at 4 p.m. You can sign up online to sell pumpkins.

Staff Parish Relations
We have two applicants for the Director of Adult Education position. We have posted the Director of Visitation and the Director of Hospitality positions and a couple people have expressed interest.

Technology
The website is working well with new content being added by the various ministries. Ministries should work with Anne Eversfield to input new content.
We continue to experience various problems with our technology. Issues have arisen with our livestream in the Sanctuary and with Zoom in the Wesley Room, our only hybrid meeting room. We plan to conduct a review, possibly using a consultant, of all our technology issues and to price our options before proceeding. One option is to add a dedicated internet connection for the Sanctuary.

Trustees
Projects - the dumpster corral on the Danbury walkway is almost complete. The renovation of the women's north restroom is also complete. Work has begun on replacing the Narthex carpeting.
Playground permits - the Village denied a permit for the playhouse on the east end of the playground on three grounds and we were advised that the Board was unlikely to grant a variance for all three violations. As a result, we will either remove or relocate the playhouse.

Finances
FY 2020-2021 Budget - the surplus for our 2020-21 fiscal year ended on June 30 is now about $25,000. It will be carried over into the 2021-22 fiscal year budget.

FY 2021-2022 Budget - we have received $152,091 and $10,373 in pledge and non-pledge income, respectively, and show a surplus for the year of $37,385. We are conducting a detailed analysis to determine a more accurate projection of pledge income.

Notes

Capital Account, Future Fund, and Properties Capital Fund - our Capital Account and Future Fund stood at $69,221 and $97,385, respectively, on August 31. The balance in the Properties Capital Fund is $221,142.

PPP2 Forgiveness - We have submitted our application for forgiveness of our second Paycheck Protection Loan of $196,000. We expect the application to be granted and the loan to be converted to a grant.

The next meeting of the ALB will be Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Our Birthdays for October

J. D.	Davis	10/01
Jack E.	Boehm	10/02
William A.	Rinehart II	10/02
Sandra	Hansen	10/03
Margaret	Lybeck-Smoak	10/03
Bennett	Feix	10/04
Nancy	Anderson	10/05
Thomas	Groose	10/05
Emily Camille	Henley	10/05
Mary	Paull	10/06
Heather	Kotecki	10/06
Lynette	Janssen	10/07
Dylan M.	Rice	10/08
Anthony	Mortellaro	10/09
Kate	Veierstahler	10/09
Evan Jacob	Hawkins	10/10
Margo	Middleton	10/11
Caitlin	Arterburn	10/11
Tess	Fleming	10/11
Kyle	Trimble	10/12
Elizabeth	Hermann	10/12
Chris	Felix	10/12
Evan	Furtsch	10/12
Richard	Marx	10/13
Mary	Middleton	10/14
Wes	Manko	10/14
Laurie	Jeffery	10/14
Andrew John	Folliard	10/14
Annalise	Ebert	10/15
Melanie	Berg	10/16
Laurie	Douglass	10/18
Kelley	Daugherty	10/18
Carleen	Sook	10/18
Anne	Summers	10/18
Elliot	Hatch	10/19
Michael	Rupp	10/20
Ruth	Alt	10/20
Kathleen	Smith	10/21
Joyce	Owusu-Ayim	10/21
Ellie	Strelow	10/21
Ellen	Kile	10/22
Samuel	Aeschbacher	10/23
James	Abram	10/23
Hallie	Sanders	10/24
Suzie	Webster	10/24
Gerry	Harrison	10/24
Ryan	Duncan	10/24
Ross	Kemppainen	10/25
Scott	Chiappetta	10/25
Jennifer	Folliard	10/25
Robert	Batchelder	10/26
Emily	Dettinger	10/26
Jodi	Lambert-Belke	10/27
Lisa	Kurtz	10/28
Jamison S.	Gaffney	10/28
Leona	Jordan	10/29
Betsy	Fruncek	10/29
Roger	Koenke	10/29
Jennifer	Boehm	10/29
Sarah	Milia	10/29
Charles	Ward	10/30
Dennis	Funk	10/31