

May 2024

# the VINE

As the United Methodist Church General Conference continues through May 3rd in North Carolina, we were wondering...has the General Conference ever been held in the same place twice?

Since the creation of The United Methodist Church, the location of General Conference has rotated among the church's five geographic U.S. jurisdictions (North Central, Northeastern, South Central, Southeastern, Western). Three cities have hosted the worldwide assembly more than once.

The 1784 Christmas Conference, which formed the Methodist Episcopal Church in America, was held at Lovely Lane Chapel in Baltimore, Maryland. The first regular General Conference met again in Baltimore in 1792 and established the cycle of meeting once every four years. Two hundred years after the Christmas Conference, the 1984 General Conference again met in Baltimore.

Portland, Oregon, was the site of the 1976 and 2016 General Conferences. Three General Conferences have been held in St. Louis, Missouri — the 2019 Special Session, the 1970 Special Session and the 1988 General Conference.

Organizers originally planned to hold the 2024 gathering out of the U.S. for the first time, in the Philippines. However, those plans were canceled due to lack of convention and hotel space.

## **Sites of United Methodist General Conferences:**

- 1968 Dallas, Texas (Uniting Conference)
- 1970 St. Louis, Missouri (Special Session)
- 1972 Atlanta, Georgia
- 1976 Portland, Oregon
- 1980 Indianapolis, Indiana
- 1984 Baltimore, Maryland
- 1988 St. Louis, Missouri
- 1992 Louisville, Kentucky
- 1996 Denver, Colorado
- 2000 Cleveland, Ohio
- 2004 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 2008 Fort Worth, Texas
- 2012 Tampa, Florida
- 2016 Portland, Oregon
- 2019 St. Louis, Missouri (Special Session)
- 2020 Postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- 2024 Charlotte, North Carolina

And now you know!

Source: Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications.

# CELEBRATE

## May Birthdays

Joanne Schmidt	8
Ed Freier	18
Merton Lueptow	21
Jackson Foster	23
Danielle Klinski	25
Peter Schmidt	25
Melissa White	26
Erica Lueptow	29
Kay Hamann	30
Joe Klinski	30
Noah Laabs	30
Justin Meins	31

## May Anniversaries

Charles & Joyce Kirkendall	7
Mark & Beth Davis	13
Joe & Lisa Klinski	20
Ed & Gwen Freier	21
George & Bonnie Pachner	23

# VOLUNTEERS

***Thank you, Volunteers, for serving in our ministry!***

Date	Usher	Liturgist	Cupbearers	Coffee Host	AV
5/5	Larry Maechtle	Mark Grams	<i>Needed*</i>	Grams Family	Scott Penkivech
5/12	Larry Maechtle	Rama Bharadwaj	n/a	Val Nichols	Scott Penkivech
5/19	Larry Maechtle	Cathy Guse	n/a	<i>Needed*</i>	Scott Penkivech
5/26	Larry Maechtle	Kay Hamann	n/a	<i>Needed*</i>	Scott Penkivech

\*Please see sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board.

# MISSIONS & OUTREACH

## Fair Trade Coffee

Dave Guse is collecting Equal Exchange coffee orders and would like to place an order by the end of May if there are enough orders.

Organic Breakfast Blend	\$8.20 per 12oz. bag
Organic French Roast	\$8.70 per 10oz. bag
Organic Decaf	\$9.70 per 12oz. bag

Please see Dave Guse or use the order sheet on the bulletin board to place your order by May 31<sup>st</sup>.



# MISSIONS & OUTREACH, cont.



## Non-Perishable Donations

Thank you for your continued support of The Food Pantry! The most pressing current needs include:

Jell-O & Pudding  
Fruit Cups  
Cereal  
Soup  
Pasta

Pasta & Rice Sides  
Jam & Jelly  
Hash Browns  
Vegetable Oil  
Toilet Paper



## Shelter Needs

Paper Towel, Toilet Paper, Lunch Boxes, and Lunch to-go containers

**The shelter is running extremely low on paper towel.** Items can be purchased locally and dropped off in our Family Promise bin at church or purchased from their Amazon Wish List at <https://a.co/74ONt19>.

## Upcoming Meal Week

**Our next opportunity to serve meals at the Portlight Shelter with Christ the King Church is May 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>.** The shelter currently has 10 adults and six children ages 13-20. Funds are available for reimbursement of your meal costs.

Please consider helping with this mission by providing a side dish, helping serve a meal, or being a meal leader. Sign up using this link [Grand Ave/Christ the King: Family Promise Meals Week of May 13 \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com) or call Stacy in the GAUMC office at 262-284-9478. Thanks for considering being a part of this important ministry!

## Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who participated in Family Promise's annual Giving Day. Together, we raised over \$20,000!

# MISSIONS & OUTREACH, cont.



Voices for Wellness Series Presents:

## Meg Kissinger

Award winning Journal Sentinel investigative reporter and author of 'While You Were Out: An Intimate Family Portrait of Mental Health in an Era of Silence'

May 14th, 2024 | 5:00 - 7:00 PM



**Family Promise of Ozaukee County is pleased to present Meg Kissinger for an evening of storytelling to raise awareness of mental health and the reality of its affects on our community.**

Meg Kissinger spent more than two decades traveling across the country writing about America's mental health system for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. As Pulitzer Prize finalist and winning dozens of other honorable awards, she advocates for mental health awareness through her art of writing.

Kissinger teaches investigative reporting at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism and was a visiting professor at DePauw University, her alma mater.

### Event Schedule

5:00-6:00 PM | Social Hour and music

6:00-7:00 PM | Mental Health Conversation, Q&A

7:00 | VIP Photos and Book Signing

### Location

Mercantile Plaza  
211 N Franklin St.  
Port Washington, WI 53074

### Register Now

Scan the QR code above or visit [familypromiseoz.org/megkissinger](https://www.familypromiseoz.org/megkissinger)

*The 'Voices for Wellness' series aims to educate, inform and share stories within our community about mental health, trauma and wellness through voices of those who have lived it as well as those who work in the field.*

Family Promise of Ozaukee County is a 501C3 TIN# 46-4227704

Click <https://www.familypromiseoz.org/megkissinger> to order tickets by May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

# FAITH GROUPS & ACTIVITIES

## Social Principles Group

The Social Principles group will meet on **Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m.** in the Gathering Area. We will put the final information together for our "green booth" for the Parking Lot Celebration. Come with your ideas and desire to participate on June 8<sup>th</sup>.



## PASS IT ON!

### FREE YARD SALE

Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>

9:00am – 1:00pm

Grand Avenue UMC Parking Lot

**WHO?** Anyone who wants to freely share their items with the Community

Reduce – **REUSE** – Recycle

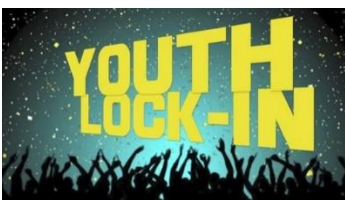
Looking for a way to keep your usable household items out of a landfill?

Reuse them by sharing with others at our FREE YARD SALE!

**GOOD FOR GOD'S WORKS!  
GOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY!  
GOOD FOR US!**

No money changes hands, just set up and **GIVE!**  
Start putting your shareable bounty aside at home.  
No drop-offs at church. Guidelines will be coming.

Questions? Contact Committee Members:  
Barb Jones, Cathy Guse, or Sue Merrill



**Friday, May 17th from 8:00 pm - 8:00 am Saturday -  
LIGHTHOUSE LOCK-IN!**

Many of you have been asking for this event and here it is! Join us for 12 hours of late night fun as we enjoy games, snacks, more games, midnight worship, movies, and more. Please RSVP by Sunday, May 12th if you plan to attend. *Students can be dropped off/picked up from Christ the King Lutheran Church (420 W. Whitefish Rd. in Port)*

**Lighthouse events are open to all students in grades 5-12.**

Questions? Contact Christin Flucke at 262-483-9582 or [christin.flucke@lighthouseyouth.org](mailto:christin.flucke@lighthouseyouth.org)

## FAITH GROUPS & ACTIVITIES, cont.

Living Hope and Christ the King are hosting a collaborative VBS this summer and ALL kids ages 3 to completed 4th grade are invited to join, regardless of church affiliation. To register by June 1<sup>st</sup>, use the QR code below or see <https://www.myvbs.org/pws>.

**ALL GOD'S CREATURES**  
An awesome 4 days of music, games, crafts, and learning about God's love!

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

I am a Child of God, created GOOD!

**JUNE 24-27, 2024  
MORNINGS  
MONDAY-THURSDAY**

**ALL KIDS  
AGE 3  
TO FOURTH GRADE**

**LIVING HOPE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SAUKVILLE**

**\$10 PER  
STUDENT**

**REGISTER BY JUNE 1  
AT MYVBS.ORG/PWS**



# United Methodist Corner

Our General Conference of the United Methodist Church will be meeting from April 23rd through May 7th in Charlotte, North Carolina. This has been a long-anticipated gathering since the last Conference that was to take place in 2020 and subsequent rescheduling's were forced to cancel because of the pandemic.

The history of the General Conference originated with the founders of Methodism, John and Charles Wesley. John and Charles met with a select group of pastors in 1744, just a few years after the beginning of the Methodism movement. They spent six days together discussing issues of doctrine, discipline, and practice. From those roots, the Annual Conference was born. An Annual Conference is a regional, organizational unit. It is also a yearly business meeting attended by pastors and lay members from local churches in that region. The bishop presides over both the day-to-day affairs of the Annual Conference as well as the yearly business meeting.

The General Conference, which meets every four years, is the supreme legislative body of the United Methodist Church. It is the only body that can speak for our entire denomination. Pastors and Lay Delegates at GC are elected from their respective Conferences in the United States and across the globe. Those participating during these two weeks have a grueling schedule in preparation for the Conference as well as spending 14 hours a day on General Conference concerns. Below are some bullet points describing the primary work of the Conference:

- Reviewing, updating, and revising [The Book of Discipline](#), which orders our life together as United Methodists
- Adopting position statements on a wide range of social issues contained in the Discipline and Book of Resolutions
- Determining denominational ministries, programs, and the budget for the next four years
- Electing bishops to serve on boards and agencies, persons to serve on various General Conference bodies, and the [University Senate](#)

The delegates will be facing the task of reviewing over 1,000 petitions that revise the Book of Discipline. Some key petitions will center on the disaffiliation process as well as our stance on sexuality.

The decisions at General Conference will, we pray, enable us to more effectively carry out our ministry and mission on a local church level as we seek to “make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”. It is my prayer that this Conference will pave the way for us to move forward as United Methodists, lamenting those who have left us, but firmly committed to carrying on the will and purpose of God in the future.

Blessing, Dave

# CHURCH NEWS

## Plant & Outdoor Sale

**Friday June 7<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 9 am – 4 pm**

We will once again be participating in the Port Washington city-wide rummage sale with a plant and outdoor sale on the church grounds.

Look around your garage, potting shed, or cottage for plants and outdoor items you no longer want (but don't bring to church just yet). We hope to offer a variety of indoor plants, garden perennials, and anything having to do with the outdoors, including bikes, furniture, tools, children's toys, and garden items. Think about perennials you can divide and plan to have them ready for the sale in June.

Please let Gwen Freier (262-365-7055) or Margaret Lueptow (262-490-8122) know if you have items for the sale or see the sign up on the bulletin board.



## Community Parking Lot Party June 8, 2024, 4 pm to 7 pm

We have invited our fellow congregational families, service organizations, and community members to join us for fun, food, faith, and fellowship.

- There will be free games, food, cake and ice cream, a bonfire with s'mores, and activities for the whole family.
- We will collect non-perishable food donations for The Food Pantry and want to fill several barrels.
- We will have a really good time together.

Please plan on joining in the fun if you are able and contact the office at 262-284-9478 if you are interested in helping serve food, staff information tables, or take down and clean up.



# SUMMER CAMP INFO



Information on Wisconsin United Methodist summer camps and retreats at Pine Lake & Lake Lucerne is now available at <https://wiumcamps.org/>.

## CALENDAR

### May Events

Worship Service	Weekly Sunday at 10:00 am	Sanctuary
Choir Practice	Weekly Sunday at 11:20 am	Balcony
AA Meeting	Weekly Wednesday at 8:00 pm	FAC
Private Meeting	Weekly Thursday at 5:30 pm	FAC
ADRC Meal Distribution	Mon – Fri from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Kitchen
National Day of Prayer	Thursday, May 2	
Finance & Admin Council	Thursday May 9 at 6:30 pm	via Zoom
Mother's Day	Sunday May 12	
Family Promise Meal Week	Monday May 13 – Friday May 17	Portlight Shelter
Social Principles Group	Tuesday May 14 at 1:00 pm	Gathering Area
Stockbox Distribution	Tuesday May 21 at 10:00 am	FAC & Parking Lot
Newsletter Article Deadline	Thursday May 23	Office
Peace with Justice Sunday	Sunday May 26	
Memorial Day	Monday May 27	

### GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

505 W Grand Ave Port Washington WI 53074 262-284-9478 [www.portumc.com](http://www.portumc.com)

Pastor:	Vince Pepin	<a href="mailto:pastor@portumc.org">pastor@portumc.org</a>
Pastoral Assistant:	Dave Guse	<a href="mailto:senegaldave1@gmail.com">senegaldave1@gmail.com</a>
Administrative Assistant:	Stacy Peters	<a href="mailto:office@portumc.org">office@portumc.org</a>
Lay Leader:	Dan Benning	<a href="mailto:bennida01@att.net">bennida01@att.net</a>
Council Chairperson:	Mark Grams	<a href="mailto:mgrams@wi.rr.com">mgrams@wi.rr.com</a>
SPRC Chairperson:	Mary Kae Geittmann	<a href="mailto:mkaeg214@gmail.com">mkaeg214@gmail.com</a>
Bishop: Rev. Hee-Soo Jung / District Superintendent:	Rev. Dr. Ebenezer Insor	



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
**The people of The United Methodist Church™**

Orders are due in the church office on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. Please remember to include your payment. You can also order on-line at [www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com) Your order of gift cards will be ready for pick-up at church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

Questions? Contact the Kay Hamann at 262-284-3168 or [khamann530@yahoo.com](mailto:khamann530@yahoo.com)

*Each retailer makes a donation to the church for every gift card purchased.  
For a complete list of over 700 participating retailers, go to [www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com)*

RETAILER	QTY	TOTAL
Amazon \$25		
Amazon \$100		
Arby's \$10		
AutoZone \$25		
Barnes & Noble \$10		
Barnes & Noble \$25		
Bath & Body Works \$10		
Bath & Body Works \$25		
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25		
BP \$50		
BP \$100		
Burger King \$10		
Cousins Subs \$10		
CVS Pharmacy \$25		
CVS Pharmacy \$100		
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25		
Dick's Sporting Goods \$100		
Exxon \$50		
Fleet Farm \$25		
Fleet Farm \$100		
Home Depot \$25		
Home Depot \$100		
Jiffy Lube \$30		
Kohl's \$25		
Kohl's \$100		
Kwik Trip \$25		
Kwik Trip \$50		
Kwik Trip \$100		

RETAILER	QTY	TOTAL
Meijer \$25		
Meijer \$50		
Meijer \$100		
Mobil \$50		
Noodles & Company \$10		
Panera Bread \$10		
Panera Bread \$25		
Papa Murphy's Pizza \$10		
Pick'n Save(WI) \$25		
Pick'n Save(WI) \$50		
Pick'n Save(WI) \$100		
Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL) \$25		
Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL) \$50		
Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL) \$100		
Qdoba Mexican Grill \$25		
Sendik's Food Market \$25		
Sendik's Food Market \$50		
Sendik's Food Market \$100		
Speedway \$25		
Speedway \$50		
Starbucks \$10		
Starbucks \$25		
Subway Restaurants \$10		
Target \$25		
Target \$50		
Walgreens \$25		
Walmart \$25		
Walmart \$50		
Walmart \$100		

Total number of gift cards ordered: \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount due: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to  
Grand Ave Church