



*Fifth Avenue United Methodist Church*  
*Family Connections*

Volume 22 No. 1

January 2017

**Our Mission:** “We are a welcoming Christian Community where all can experience the saving grace of Jesus Christ. We are growing as disciples of Christ as we teach, support, and nurture one another in ministry to our community and world.



## **WORSHIP WITH US!**

**Sundays: 8:30am & 10:45am**  
**9:30am Service on Jan. 1**

- Jan. 1**                    **9:30am Worship Service**  
**Epiphany Sunday/New Year’s Day**  
**Sacrament of Holy Communion**  
**10:30 am Tasting for Future Fortune (see page 2)**
- Jan. 8**                    **First Sunday after the Epiphany**  
**Baptism of the Lord**  
**Choir at 10:45am**
- Jan. 15**                    **2nd Sunday After the Epiphany**  
**Human Relations Day**  
**Choir at 8:30am**
- Jan. 22**                    **3rd Sunday After the Epiphany**  
**No Choir**
- Jan. 29**                    **4th Sunday After the Epiphany**  
**Choir at 10:45am**



# A Graceful Mess

By: Megan Vollmer

## New Year's Resolutions

We often ring in the New Year with a New Year's resolution that we quickly drop before the end of January. We sign up for gym memberships that we either forget about or cancel. We start a trendy diet that we quickly realize was a scam. This year let's set realistic resolutions about our health and nutrition that will *actually* stick with us for years to come. This means we can really look at what we're putting in our bodies, and what we should be putting in our bodies. We can figure out how much exercise we personally need in our lives because there is no one size fits all plan to being healthy.

Start small with baby steps. Hold ourselves accountable, but don't let that get us discouraged from accomplishing our goals if we slip up a couple times or eat a few too many cookies on the weekend. Make your resolution about you, and what you feel you should and can accomplish! That's the best way to have a healthy lifestyle that will last! Here's to a happy, HEALTHY, and blessed New Year!



*Traditional Southern*  
New Year's Day  
Recipes  
*DeepSouthDish.com*

## A 2017 Tasting for Future Fortune

**January 1** offers an opportunity to forget the past and make a clean start. On New Year's Day throughout the South, eating black-eyes peas, greens, and a variety of foods believed to be lucky and improve one's odds for a prosperous New Year is consumed.

We invite you to "come and sit a spell" immediately following New Years Day's Worship Service at 9:30am when my daughters, Biancha and Sophia, and I "will be up and at

'em". We're "tickled pink" to share a TASTE of our TRADITIONAL SOUTHERN New Year's Day cuisine.

Come and "eat for luck" as we celebrate and hope to gain riches, love, or other kinds of good fortune during 2017—"Ya'll be happier than a pig in sunshine!"

**-Pastor Clarissa, Biancha, and Sophia**

## Parish Updates



### Change of Address

#### **-Lexie Hopp**

2028 Fish Hatchery Rd. #7, Madison WI 53713

#### **-Doug & Salina Winslow**

W135 N7255 Lund Circle #309  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

### Death

**-Neva Hardy**, mother of **Carol (Frank) Adkins** on Nov. 16

**-Arnold Bertelsen**, father of **Dave (Polly) Bertelsen** on Nov. 27

### New Members—Dec. 4

- **Stan & Kathy Schneider** transferred from Peoples UMC in Oregon, WI



### Reminder!

There will be just one worship service at **9:30am on Sunday, Jan. 1, 2017.**



### Fifth Ave. UMC Alive in Mission!

Come **Sunday Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>** to **worship service at 8:30am or 10:45am.** Hear all about how Fifth Avenue has made a difference in the lives of the children at the Endomaghan Primary School and at Light In Africa Orphanage. Relationships are strong and hearts have been touched in Tanzania. A job well done Church! We have the opportunity now to affect lives through continued mission and clean water filtration. Check out [www.gongalimodel.com](http://www.gongalimodel.com) or friend Dr. Askwar Hilonga on Facebook. See you all in worship!

- **Rev. Amy Jo Anderson**



## Adult Sunday School

Adult Bible Study - Winter 2016-2017

This winter, lessons in Adult Bible Study follow the theme, "Creation, A Divine Cycle."

January - "Praise From and for God's Creation -

The five lessons in this unit employ five different psalms. Several psalms emphasize praise for God that emanates from creation itself. Others invite us to praise God for creation.

The adult bible study meets from **9:45-10:30 in the Disciple Room**. Please join us and add your voice to our discussions.

# Thank You!

## Thank You from the Cookie Walk

A **big thank you** to all the wonderful individuals who: (1) baked delicious cookies; (2) provided a wonderful variety of specialty items; (3) helped out at the cut-out "Frosting Party"; (4) helped set up the day before; (5) helped the day of the sale and (6) those who bought the "goodies" or monetarily supported the UMW Mission.

All your help was truly appreciated and we could not be successful with you!

**Ann Cording & Barb Johnson, Co-Chrs**

**Martin Luther King Day**



The Church office will be **closed on Monday, Jan. 16, 2017** in observance of **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.**



Breakfast Group will meet at **8:30am on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2017** at the **Copper Penny**, 1700 E. Washington St., West Bend. No sign up is necessary.



### Lunch Group At the Ridge!

The Lunch Group will meet on **Thursday, Jan. 19 at 12:00 Noon** at Top of the Ridge Restaurant. No sign up necessary. Lunch will be the special of the day. Join in for food and fellowship.

The following "People at Home" will have Jan. Birthdays

Happy  
Birthday

**Linda Sponholz (Jan. 17)**

Cedar Bay East

5577 Home Dr. #206, West Bend 53095



### Notes of Appreciation and Thanks!

The **staff** would like to thank the congregation for the kind notes of appreciation and monetary gifts you gave them during the month of December.

**Your support is very important to us!**

*Alana, Amy, Clarissa, Dave, Jean,*

*Kathy, John, Leslie, Wes*

**Thank  
You!**

### Thank You !

Thank you to **Linda Childers, Barbara Johnson, Ellen Johnson, Jean Krell, Debra Matthies, and Betsy Winquist** for helping out in the office when I was on vacation. Thank you also to **Joyce Walters** for printing the bulletins, etc. during this time. All of you are very much appreciated! Thank you for your ministry!

- **Alana Dalton**



## Thank You ...

...to all who helped **decorate the church** Nov. 20th. A special thank you to Bruce & Bonnie Nissly for providing the greenery and decorations for the flower pots.

...to all of you to everyone who purchased gifts or gave a monetary donation to our **Angel Tree program**. The gifts and gift cards for food have been delivered to the Gingerbread House. Your generosity has brightened the season for needy families in our community.

...to everyone who helped with our **cookies for the homebound** by baking, packing, and delivering. It is much appreciated and means a lot to our church family.

...to the Children's Sunday School and Chancel Choir members for presenting the **Christmas Story** during the worship services on Dec. 18th.

...to each of you for saying YES when Jean Krell called you to serve as a **Liturgist, Acolyte, Greeter, Chalice Bearer, Advent Reader or Candlelighter, or to serve coffee** for fellowship time. Your time and service is a very important part of our worship services.

...to our **Boy Scout Troop 780** for the wreaths to decorate our church.

...to everyone who attended and many thanks to all who donated items for the **White Elephant Auction**. It was another fun filled afternoon with fellowship and refreshments. We gathered \$286.00 to be divided between Casa Guadalupe and Interfaith Caregivers. To my wonderful helpers, Ellen Johnson, Betsy Winquist, Mary Rogge and Jean Krell, I give my deepest thanks in appreciation for all your help. Blessings to all and Merry Christmas. Pat Barnhouse

... to everyone who contributed items to **Harvest House** for the gift bags given to our guests on Saturday, December 24th. They were presented to the guests with a Christmas plant. The guests appreciated your generosity.

... to all the cooks, volunteers that served and all the people who baked a cake for **Saturday, December 17th when we served the meal at Harvest House**. The meal was appreciated by all our guests. The next time 5th Avenue serves is in February.

Wonderful  
Wednesday

### Wonderful Wednesday

Our Wonderful Wednesday meal will be held on **Jan. 11, at 5:30pm.** Join us for food and fellowship. Please sign up in the north entrance. **Free will offering.**



**Holiday  
Hours**

### Office Hours During The Holidays

The office will be closed on **Friday, Dec. 30, 2016 and Jan. 2, 2017.** The office will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2017, at 7:30am.

If you are in need of a pastor, please call **Pastor Clarissa at 262-346-8413** or **Alana Dalton at her home, 262-644-7758.**

Welcome  
Committee



### Welcoming Words of Wisdom

Most visitors are seeking a place to worship for a reason. Many have just moved here, others have had a life changing event. If you are comfortable, please ask them what brought them to our church. The Welcome Team will welcome this feedback if you get it. **- The Welcome Team**

Join Us!

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

Please join Vicki Roth & Barbara Johnson on **Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017 at 1pm in the Fireside Room** to knit or crochet prayer shawls. We will have information on shawls in different sizes and baby nursing & baptismal shawls. We will have healthy snacks, patterns, fellowship & prayer. We hope you will join us to get this ministry started at our church.



## **Happy Birthday, Missionaries!**

**Caring Schwenk**, in 1965, went with her husband, Ric, to Sarawak, Malaysia. In 1979 they went to Manila where she developed a ministry on Smokey Mountain, a smoking garbage dump where thousands lived. She usually took teachers, nurses and medical supplies with her when she went to the dump. Through all the years they raised four children. Every three years they faithfully came to our church on itineration and we gave salary support for all those years. They are retired now and live in Illinois near their two daughters. Their sons are in California. However, Ric has been very active in restoring the area near Hudson, WI where his family emigrated and farmed.

**Martha Kuhlman** another who followed her husband, Frank, into mission. She raised her two children in Kobe, Japan, where they went in 1961 where he taught in the University and she ministered to the students. After 27 years there she was called to China to teach English. Every three years they came here to share with us and we gave then salary support for all those years. After that, Rev. Frank ministered in churches in Pepin and Alma. They are retired now and living in Ohio near a son. Their daughter lives in California.

## **Wills & Memorial Report**

In 2016, the Wills & Memorial Committee dispersed the following funds from interest money received from the 5th Ave. Legacy Funds.

Harvest House	\$975
Pastor's Fund	\$1500
India Children's Fund	\$1500
Prison Ministry	\$450
Interfaith Care Givers	\$300
Albrecht Free Clinic	\$1000
Ecuador Earthquake Relief Fund	\$500
Full Shelf Food Pantry	\$500
Rawhide Counseling Services	\$500
Name tags for new members	\$200

**Marolyn Kell, Chair-W & M Committee**



## Thank You!

A hearty thank you to the Christmas Workshop volunteers on Saturday, Dec. 3rd. It was a great day.

Registrars **Linda Smeaton** and **Betsy Winquist** started things off by helping registrants get oriented. Engineers, **Aimee Liepert** and **Carol Pok** operated the equipment. Story teller **Pam Bast**, with **Vicki Roth** on piano, presented the Christmas story with video and carols. Glue gun operators, **Len McGinnis** and **Jerry Goehring**, were busy gluing yule log stuff and party hats. **Kelly** and **Payton Louk** manned the jewelry station. Some pretty stuff came out of there. **Alina Prahl** and **Carol Pok** manned the tree angel station. Those angels will look good on any tree. The cookie brigade (**Barb Johnson**, **June Knowlton-Sengpiel**, **Sheila McGinnis** and **Nancy Whitson**) kept the kids busy rolling out and cutting out cookies. Confirmands **Will Bast** and **Kevin Fitzgerald** lent much appreciated helping hands at the yule log and angel stations.

Lunch (pizza, juice, cake and ice cream) was enhanced by the lighting of the yule logs. Cookie frosting was the agenda after lunch. (Thanks to **Joy Kuhaupt** for interrupting her rehab to join us.)

Our day ended in the sanctuary with carols and reflection with **Pastor Clarissa**. A great day and thanks to all.

Also thanks to: **John Childers**—the FaceBook ad was great; **Fay Lewis**—the red cloth was perfect and so was all the rest on Friday. **Ed Fowell**—all that beautiful wood made into such great yule logs. Great job and so attractive. **Vicky Hopp**—so willing to run errands. etc,

**-Marge Wendt, Coordinator**

**(Editor's Note:** A special thank you to **Marge Wendt** for her leadership and guidance in making this workshop happen!)