

June 2024



**Our Vision statement:**

*Learn God's word, Teach  
God's word and  
Share God's love*

**Our Mission Statement:**

*Wesley United Methodist  
Church is a community of  
Christ's disciples who strive to know, love and serve God  
more faithfully through Christ-centered worship,  
education, fellowship and true compassion that show  
God's love for all people in the name of Jesus Christ.*

**Office: 235-3070**

**Pastor Chuck Emery**

## Notes from the Pastor

During the weeks following Pentecost we explore what it means to have God's Spirit among and within us. When we begin to explore our relationship with God, we must first remember who we are. Our core, our deepest DNA, is divine; it is the Spirit of Love implanted within us by our Creator at the first moment of our creation.

Those who have gone to their depths uncover an indwelling Presence. It is a deep and loving "yes" inherent within us. Christian theology names this inner Presence as the Holy Spirit, which is precisely God as immanent, within, and even our deepest and truest self. As Paul tells us in the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans, "If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. He does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans. He knows us far better than we

know ourselves, knows our pregnant condition, and keeps us present before God. That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good." MSG.

The principal characteristic of human beings is our role as bearers of consciousness, of intelligence—in a word, of the spirit. The spirit infuses the whole universe from its very beginning, but in human beings it becomes self-aware and free.

Nothing shows the presence of the spirit in human life as well as love does. When love is expressed as compassion, the spirit enables us to come out of ourselves, put ourselves in the other's place, bend over the person fallen by the wayside. In forgiveness we transcend ourselves, so that the past does not have the last word and cannot close off the present and the future.

The highest expression of the spirit is the one that opens

*(Continued on page 2)*



Sunday, June 2  
**Sleep in Heavenly Peace  
Speaker**  
9:30 a.m.

Sunday, June 2  
**Ingathering Kits will be  
assembled after the service**

June 7-10  
**Annual Conference**



Online Services still available to  
view on  
Facebook at the site below:  
<https://www.facebook.com/wesleyumcoshkosh/>

(Continued from page 1)

us to the Great Other, in love and trust. It establishes a dialogue with God, listens from the conscience to God's call, and delivers us trustingly into the palm of God's hand.

Some saints and mystics have described this Presence as "closer to me than I am to myself" or "more me than I am myself." Yet this True Self still must be awakened and chosen. The Holy Spirit is given equally to all; but it must be received, too. We must activate it within ourselves. People who totally receive this Presence and draw life from it are the ones we traditionally call saints.

The Holy Spirit is never created by our actions or behavior; it is naturally indwelling, our inner being with God. Culture and even religion often teach us to live out of our false self of reputation, self-image, role, possessions, money, appearance, and so on. Only as this fails us, and it always eventually does, will the Holy Spirit within us stand revealed and ready to guide us.

From this more spacious and grounded place, one naturally connects, empathizes, forgives, and loves just about everything. We were made in love, for love, and unto love.

This deep inner "yes" is God in us, already loving God through us.



### BIRTHDAYS

6/1	Vincent Flores	6/12	Steve Karst
6/3	Lawrence Edminster	6/14	Donna Thomas
6/4	Trisha Flores	6/15	Candi Fournier
6/5	Julia Colantonio	6/17	Llynnda Stewart
6/6	Kenshin LaPoint	6/21	Sue Krueger
	Susan Tesch		Royann Peterson
6/7	Lucy Jewson		Chuck Emery
6/10	Cathy Bradley	6/28	Nelson Fournier
		6/29	Natalie

### ANNIVERSARIES

6/03	Bob & Beverly Heisler
6/04	Marlin & Jennifer Wege
6/09	Jim & Pat Witzke
6/10	Wayne* & Deborah Zimmerman
6/21	Jim & Linda Fournier
6/22	Vincent & Trisha Flores
6/24	Steven & Marsha Bathke

## June 16



Sleep in Heavenly Peace

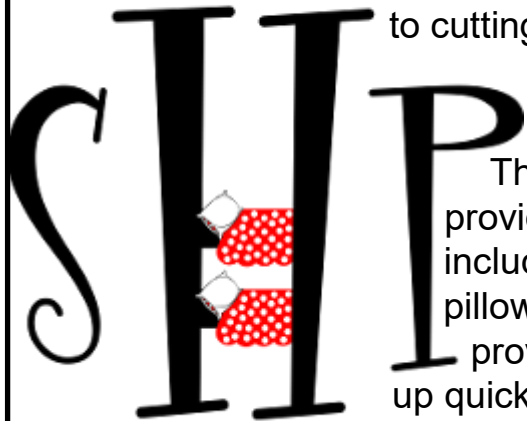
Sleep In Heavenly Peace is a National Organization run completely by volunteers. It started in Idaho when a group of people realized that there were children in the community that did not have a bed to sleep in. These children end up sleeping on couches, blankets and even floors. Some did not have a pillow to use.

This group decided that a bed is a basic need for the proper physical, emotional and mental support that a child needs. All children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads.

With that idea in mind Sleep In Heavenly Peace was born to deliver top notch beds and bunk beds to children and families in need.

As this idea spread others realized that many communities had children that did not have a bed to sleep in. Sleep In Heavenly Peace has grown to become a National Organization. There are chapters in many states including Wisconsin. Oshkosh is the home to one of the chapters in Wisconsin.

How would I be able to help?



Sleep In Heavenly Peace is made up of many volunteers who give of their time and talents. Builds are held as often as need, to assemble and deliver beds. During a building session peoples skills vary from pounding nails to cutting boards and assembling beds. Most builds are held on Saturday mornings so that people who work during the week are able to participate.

The Oshkosh Chapters of Sleep In Heavenly Peace also provides all of the bedding needed for the assembled bed. This includes, mattresses, mattress pads, top and bottom sheets, pillow and pillow case and a comforter. All of these items are provided as new and unopened. The cost of these items adds up quickly so cash donations are always appreciated.

**SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE** During the month of June the Mission Team will provide more information about Sleep In Heavenly Peace. On Sunday, June 2, a speaker from the organization will be at our church.

Membership Care

Just a reminder...



If you have moved, are ill, having surgery, or need a visit for any reason, please contact the church office (920-235-3070) to keep the Pastor and Care Team informed.

## Vacation Bible School



Wesley has joined with six other churches (All Saint's Lutheran, Calvary, Christ Our Savior, First English, Peace Lutheran and Trinity Episcopal) and surrounding community members to offer an opportunity to send youth ages 4K-5<sup>th</sup> grade to learn and play in God's Word this summer. All churches involved are expected to contribute to this event. Our church has been designated as the

Dessert Providers. Last year they had over 60 kids participate. Suggestions for desserts were cookies, rice Krispie treats and brownies. Be thinking about what you'd like to bake to donate to this event. Watch for more information as it becomes available to us.

- When:** July 29<sup>th</sup>-August 1<sup>st</sup> from 4:30-7:30pm  
**Where:** All Saints Lutheran Church, Oshkosh, WI  
**What:** Camp Elm Tree: Bringing the Best of Bible Camp to Our Kids!  
**Who:** Children 4K-5<sup>th</sup> grade

Also, if there is anyone who would like to volunteer their time at this event there are many different roles to fill. Might you be one of those volunteers we are looking for this year's VBS Team! If you are interested in joining this year's VBS team, please [use the link to sign up](#)

Volunteer training (VBS Bootcamp) will be July 11<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Dinner included. A background check will need to be completed by then. Any questions, please contact our VBS Representative Kathy McAloon or Education Chair, Donna LaPoint.

## Support UMCOR

“Two are better than One because they have a good return for their hard work if either should fall, one can pick up the other.” Ecclesiasties 4:-9-10.

May 1, 2024

Dear Friend in Mission,

“Barn-raising” was a common practice in previous centuries and continues today in some rural communities. Embodying the biblical concept that “two are better than one”, a barn-raising leverages the collective action of a community on behalf of the needs of one member or family.

UMCOR operates with similar efficiency and goodwill, harnessing the power of many to come to the aid of a few. When you support UMCOR, you further the mission of an organization well-positions to:

- \*Serve locally by empowering neighbors to help neighbors in need.
- \*Serve globally by strengthening its international network of dedicated partners
- \*Serve whenever you are, ready and equipped to assist the needs of your community if and when the time comes

Few of us today have ever been to a barn-raising. But by supporting UMCOR, we can embody the spirit and generosity of this collective act and elicit a similar outcome—for the resilience of survivors everywhere and the betterment of us all.

In mission and ministry together,  
Roland Fernandes, General Secretary, Global Ministries and UMCOR





## ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE JULY 19-20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The rummage sale is just around the corner and will be here before we know it! Please plan ahead.

- ✓ Start cleaning out your closets, cupboards and garages. Everyone has some to get rid of.
- ✓ Bring your household items, books, clothing, toys puzzles, furniture, pictures and whatever you can donate to the church starting June 16th. Place them on the stage in Koeller Hall or on designated tables as they are made available. We do not take mattresses, TV, computers, or electronics. Bring a little each week to church with you.
- ✓ Please try to have all clothing items separated into women's men's and children when you bring them in. All should be clean and in good condition.
- ✓ Plan to bake now while the temperature is cooler. Put it in the freezer until the day before the sale. Our bake sale is always a big hit.
- ✓ Need pick-up assistance? Call the church office at 235-3070 so arrangements can be made.
- ✓ Be a part of this wonderful event. We will need people to help set up, price, clean up, cashier, and work at the bake sale. The fellowship during this time is so special, so put it on your calendar now!

Please contact Linda Fournier (426-1179) or Jenny Fournier (231-3926) to volunteer to help or for more information.



## Newsletter Sponsorship

Jerry and Kathy Krueger are the sponsors for the June 2024 newsletter. Please consider being a sponsor for the July, October-December 2024 newsletters. Your contribution helps defray part of the cost of the publication and is an extra gift of support to our expenses. Please contact the church office (235-3070) to 'reserve' your chosen month for 2024.



## UMC Wesley CORNER

### Unsung Heroes of Methodism: Thomas Webb

By Philip J. Brooks

You might think Captain Thomas Webb was a pirate as he wore a patch over one eye. Captain Webb was a preacher, one of the first Methodist preachers in America. Captain Thomas Webb appeared on the pages of Methodist history out of nowhere. We know very little about his early life. He was born in England in the 1720s, served in the British army, and lost his eye in the Seven Years' War.

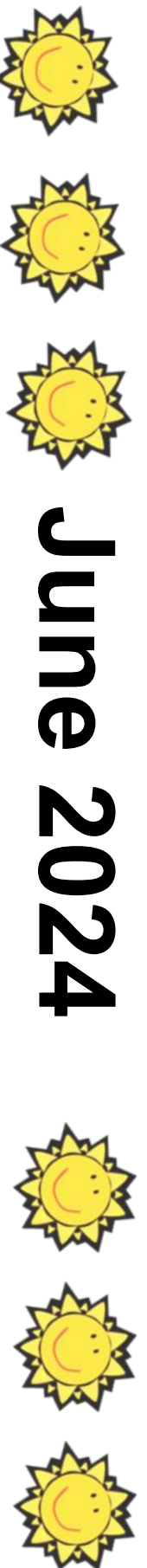
Webb was converted to Methodism in 1765, a very charismatic individual. His appearance gave him a commanding presence. He often preached in his uniform placing his sword on the altar for dramatic effect. However, Webb's powerful preaching is what kept listeners' attention. Wesley was impressed by Webb and allowed him to become an itinerant preacher in England.

Still serving as an officer in the British Army, he was sent to New York in 1767. Methodism had been brought to North America some years before by Irish immigrants settling in Maryland and New York. Wesley granted him permission to preach freely across the American Colonies. When not on duty, Webb spent every free moment traveling and preaching the Gospel. He would travel among the societies freely, assisting their leaders and helping create a sense of unity among them. Webb is credited with spreading Methodism to Delaware.

New York was already home to one of the most successful Methodist societies in the American Colonies, founded by Barbara Heck and Philip Embury. Webb helped the society fund the building of its first official meeting house that would later become John Street UMC and preaching there regularly.

Webb could see the American societies needed more central organization and joined others in petitioning Wesley to send more preachers to North America. Wesley responded by sending a series of new overseers from Britain to administer the societies, including future bishop Francis Asbury. Webb continued to itinerate in America until the Revolution. Still serving in the British Army, he was arrested by the new patriot government and spent time as a prisoner of war. After being released he left America for good and lived the rest of his days quietly in Bristol. He left behind a great legacy. His preaching had brought on many new conversions and his attempts to bring the scattered societies in the American Colonies together paved the way for future leaders like Francis Asbury.

Taken from "Unsung Heroes of Methodism: Thomas Webb " by Philip J. Brooks and reviewed by UMCcommunications



# June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1	
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	
9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45-a.m.—noon Walking in Grace 2024. 10:30 a.m. Kit Assembly	5:30 p.m. MA	10 a.m. TOPS 1-3 p.m. Mat Making	5:30 p.m. MA	10:00 a.m. "How Not to Read the Bible" 5:30 p.m. MA	Annual Conference		
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45-a.m.—noon Walking in Grace 2024	5:30 p.m. MA 6:30 p.m. Trustees	10 a.m. TOPS 1-3 p.m. Mat Making	5:30 p.m. MA	10:00 a.m. "How Not to Read the Bible" 5:30 p.m. MA			
Annual Conference		Pastor Gone					
<b>16 Father's Day</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	
9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45-a.m.—noon Walking in Grace 2024	5:30 p.m. MA	10 a.m. TOPS 1-3 p.m. Mat Making	1:30 Worship committee	10:00 a.m. "How Not to Read the Bible" 5:30 p.m. MA			
Pastor Gone		Pastor Gone					
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	
9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45-a.m.—noon Walking in Grace 2024	5:30 p.m. MA	10 a.m. TOPS 1-3 p.m. Mat Making	5:30 p.m. MA	10:00 a.m. "How Not to Read the Bible" 5:30 p.m. MA			
Pastor Gone							
<b>30</b>							
9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45-a.m.—noon Walking in Grace 2024							

MA = Martial Arts  
TOPS = Take Off  
Pounds Sensibly

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**Change Service Requested**



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