

November 2022



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.*

**Notes from Pastor
Emery**

When Did We See You?

In Jesus' parable, The Final Judgment, Matthew 25:31-46, what stands out to me is the lack of awareness by both groups, the sheep and the goats, "When did we...?". Over the years in my study of this passage the puzzlement of the people becomes more and more the focus. We live much of our time blithely reacting to what is occurring around us with little reflection on the significance of what we are doing or saying. We are just being us, whatever that means. And probably that is as it should be.

So what is Jesus getting at? The righteous are not commended for spotting Jesus in the poor, the hungry, the imprisoned. They did not. They just treated all folks at the point of their need, to quote one of my professors.

But if so, then suppose that those who had failed to do so were to ask the Judge a counter-question. "When did we ignore you, Lord?" and the Lord replies, "You did it every time you ignored them." Then

suppose these folks respond by asking, "Well, how were we supposed to know that? If we had known it was you all along, Lord, we would've certainly acted differently! Why didn't you tell us?"

If they asked that, maybe the reply would have gone like this: "You didn't have to know it was me all along—the righteous didn't either. It should have been enough to realize no more than that this other person was a human being created in the very image of God! If you had known no more than that, and you did, that would have been enough.

You didn't need to know it was me. Had you simply acknowledged their humanity, their God-likeness, you would have been led to do the right thing." Ah yes, hindsight is always 20-20.

In Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, Our Town, the play's central character, Emily, is given a chance, following her death, to view a scene from her past. She is told that it cannot be some obviously important day but should be a

Continued on next page

**Dates
to
Remember**

November 2, Wednesday
1:30 p.m.—**Missions**

November 6, Sunday
11:00 a.m.—**New Members**

November 8, Tuesday
6:30 p.m.—**Education**

November 14, Monday
6:30 p.m. —**Trustees**
6:30 p.m.—**SPRC**

November 15, Tuesday
6:30 p.m.—**Council**

November 16, Wednesday
1:30 p.m.—**Worship**

November 27, Sunday
9:45 p.m.—**Harvest Escape
Room (Sunday School)
Prepare & Serve
Day By Day Dinner**

Online Services still available to view on Facebook and YouTube. See page 3 for instructions on how to subscribe to the Wesley YouTube channel.

(Continued from page 1)

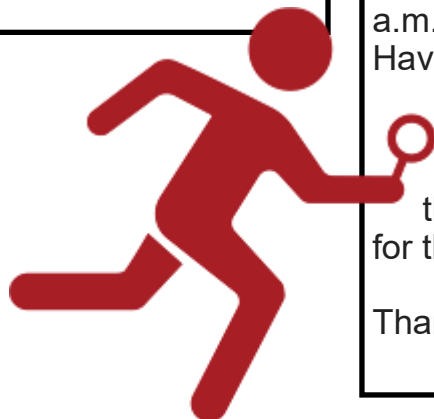
fairly ordinary time from her bygone life. Indeed, she is told that re-visiting even the least important day of her life would suffice to teach Emily something very important.

Emily chooses to re-visit her 12th birthday, only to discover a vast array of things about that day she had completely forgotten. More than that, she is stunned to see how fast life moves and how little she or anyone paid attention to what was happening when it was happening. In the end, Emily cannot bear to watch. "I can't. I can't go on," she cries. "We don't have time to look at one another. I didn't realize. So all that was going on and we never noticed . . . Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it—every, every minute?" she asks. The answer is no. Instead, Emily is told, for the vast majority of people, what it means to be alive is "To move about in a cloud of ignorance."

Emily didn't realize. She simply was not aware of the larger meaning around her 'every, every' minute of 'every, every' day. "They don't understand," she says of the living.

A similar phenomenon plays a surprisingly large role in Jesus' words about the sheep and the goats. Sometimes the most important things we do in life are things that, at the time, seem to have no real significance.

In this parable Jesus tells us the Kingdom of God is all about how we see the world. He begins his story with our comfortable dualistic view, dividing the world into good and bad, worthy and unworthy, the sheep and goats. Once he has shocked us out of our self-righteousness, he switches to a new way of seeing, "... just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."



BIRTHDAYS

2	Holly Roe	17	Sally Counts
6	Aria Tuttle		Gracie Thomas
11	Lilly Fournier	19	Kathy McAloon
17	Sally Counts	24	Susan Sapaula

ANNIVERSARIES

5	Donna & Mike LaPoint
11	Becky & Bill Zimmerman

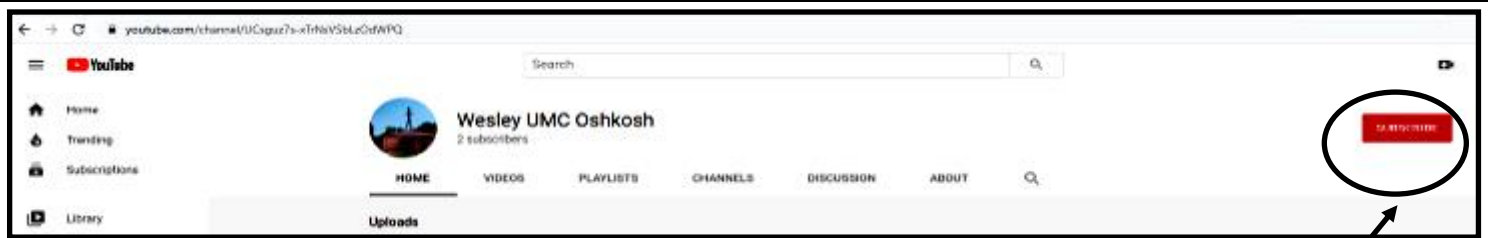
Harvest Escape Room Sunday, November 27

Our education committee is planning a Harvest Escape Room event on Sunday, November 27, for our middle and high school students. We'd like everyone to attend worship service at 9:30 a.m. and then when the Sunday School kids are dismissed after children's time, we'd like the middle and high school kids to go to our Escape Room in the Sunday School wing. They will have about 30 minutes to solve 4 coded messages. Their mission will be to shed light on a mystery. Each code will reveal interesting facts about the harvest and how it applies to yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Teams will be set up to compete. There will be help if needed for the teams. Prizes will be awarded. They should finish about the same time the worship service wraps up about 10:30 a.m.

Have the kids invite friends, the more the merrier.

Any questions, please contact me. Hoping this can be a start of more events to come for the kids.

Thanks, Donna LaPoint, Education Chair



1. Open **YouTube.com**
2. Click the Search button
3. Key **Wesley UMC Oshkosh**



wesley umc oshkosh|

4. Press **Enter**
5. Click the **SUBSCRIBE** button when you first view this YouTube site.

New Member Class

November 6—11: a.m.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming a new member at Wesley, join us for our first new member class. Times and dates for additional classes to follow.

All Saints Day Remembrance Request

Please email or drop off a picture of your loved one that died this past year. We will need the name to go along with the picture. We will share the pictures during the service on November 6th. Actual photos can be picked up at the church office after we air the service.

Thank you for participating.



Cookie Walk



Women Of Wesley

We are planning to bring the Cookie Walk back this year. The date will be Sunday, December 11, 2022. It will take place after the church service.

REMINDER – We ask for donations of some of your delicious cookies that you bake for the season. We will also have a craft table available.

We did not forget about our bread making. Please plan to help with bread making on Friday, December 9th.

We will be making pumpkin and cranberry breads that will be available for purchase at the cookie walk as well.

Quotes from the Daily Walk Bible

“ Most of us don't put our best foot forward until we get the other one in hot water.”

Newsletter Sponsorship

- There sponsors for the November newsletter are Tracey and Randy Lovell. Please consider being a sponsor for the December 2022 newsletter.
- 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 months for 2022/2023.

Midwest Mission Sends 45th International Shipment of the Year

On **October 12**, Midwest Mission sent its **45th international shipment** of the year. This exceeds last year's international total by 12 shipments (sending 33 international shipments in all of 2021).

This Angels of Hope shipment went to St. Catherine - Spanish Town, Jamaica. Jamaica is the third largest island in the Caribbean with a population of nearly 3 million people. Within that population is a large number of vulnerable children. Angels of Hope is a Food For The Poor program that “sponsors neglected or abandoned children. Through the compassionate support of donors, the children are clothed, fed and schooled. Most importantly, they are shown God's love in a caring and nurturing environment.”

Midwest Mission sends needed resources to those children through this program.



UMC CORNER

Thank you for your generosity. You gave 272,159 last year toward ministries funded by the UM Student Day Special Sunday offering. Your gifts support over 70 loans and scholarships for undergraduate and graduate United Methodist students.

Dating back to 1872 this fund was the first collection taken in Methodist Sunday School classes to advance the education of their children. The UM church recognizes educating their children was and still is today a strong investment in the future of the church. The special Sunday was established as a Children's Fund and in 1940 was renamed as Student Day. Initially this Sunday was observed in June but since 1968 it is celebrated on the last Sunday in November.

Let us share our gratitude to God and greatly support students' education. Your gifts to UM Student Day Sunday support scholarships for students who are poised to become the next generation of leaders in the church and the world. You support future missionaries, engineers, teachers, pastors, film producers, nurses and many other careers.

Here are the words of one student, Emma Storer. about the Gift of Hope. She said, as she applied for the scholarship, “It was so meaningful to know that someone out there, a brother or sister in Christ, supported me, regardless of never meeting me face to face. That is a godly act to me, for which I am incredibly fortunate.

THANK YOU EVERYONE who helped make Trunk or Treat and the Haunted Hallway a big success!



Order your books by December 1, for a new class starting in January. Our Bible Study class that meets on Sunday mornings following the worship service will be using the book titled "Walking In Grace 2023, Formerly Daily Guideposts, New name...Same inspiration! Walking in Grace 2023 brings you a scripture verse to bless your day with the word of God. There will be a short true personal story shared followed by a prayer. The class on Sunday mornings will share and discuss the devotionals from the previous week, To order a book, contact the church office. If ordered through the church, the church's tax-exempt number can be used. Regular Print (hard cover) \$16.99, Large

Print \$17.99 (paperback) and Pocket Sized (paperback) \$10.99. It will take about 2 weeks for the books to come in. Don't delay in ordering.

Our Sunday School children during the month of November will be collecting much needed items for the Day-by-Day warming shelter. Please help them collect creamy peanut butter, jams & jellies, boxes of single serve oatmeal packets and hand & feet warmers. The items will be delivered to the shelter on Sunday, November 27 when Wesley will be serving the evening meal there. A box to put your donations in will be in the narthex during November.

Submitted by
Donna LaPoint, Education Chair



Poinsettia Order Form 2022



Would you like to sponsor a Poinsettia for the church sanctuary? You are welcome to take it home after the Christmas Eve Service.

The cost this year for each plant is **\$14.00** and you may designate it in honor of someone special or to celebrate an event.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND PLACE IT WITH YOUR PAYMENT IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY NOVEMBER 22nd.

Circle the number of plants desired: 1 2 3 Paid ___Yes ___No

Total amount enclosed \$ _____ Envelope # _____

Your Name _____

___ In Memory of _____

___ In Honor of _____

___ To Celebrate _____

The Mission of the Month for November is the Salvation Army. Most people think of the Salvation Army during disasters and Christmas time. This is good, but they operate the year round, assisting members of our community in many ways.

Love Beyond Christmas



You may know The Salvation Army for our red kettles, our angel trees, and our strong presence during the Christmas season, but we support local families every season. *Put a present under someone's tree today. And a roof over someone's head tomorrow.* The donations we collect during the Christmas season not only help us provide gifts to children who would otherwise go without but also help us provide food, shelter, and utility assistance to those who need it most.

Brighten Christmas morning. And the hardest nights for hardworking families.

Every dollar dropped into a red kettle helps give local families the Christmases they deserve and the yearlong support they so desperately need. A kettle will be in the narthex for donations to help those in need.

Help us carry the spirit of Christmas throughout the year by donating any loose change.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Salvation Army Oshkosh requires approximately 14,000 volunteer hours each year to plan and administer its various programs geared toward those in need. Volunteers are needed for a variety of functions, including preparing meals in our cafeteria, sorting and stacking in our food pantry, distributing toys and coats during the holidays and ringing bells to assist in our annual Red Kettle fundraising campaign.

Community Hot Meal

Volunteers help with our free community hot meal Monday-Friday between 9 am-1 pm. Volunteers assist with food preparation, serving, and cleanup.

Food Pantry

Volunteers help in the food pantry from 9 am-11:45 am Monday-Friday. Tasks include stocking shelves, sorting food, helping clients select food, and if physically able, unloading trucks. Must complete a full background check and Safe From Harm training.

Kids Club Assistant

Assist with activities and snacks during Kids Club, Wednesdays after school. Must complete a full background check and Safe From Harm training.

Maintenance and Driver Assistant

Volunteers can assist with pickups, deliveries and general facility maintenance.

Veteran Drivers

Volunteer drivers provide rides to Veterans to appointments at the Appleton VA Clinic. Must pass a background check, have a clean driving record, and complete Safe From Harm training. A Salvation Army Vehicle will be provided.

Toys for Tots

Volunteers assist with sorting toy donations, prepping for Toy Store and assisting families with Toy Store Distribution. It also is time for the Salvation Army's seasonal assistance programs – Coats for Kids and Toy Shop/Toys for Tots. Registration for families to participate in Coats for Kids has ended. Registration to participate in Toy Shop/Toys for Tots ends Nov. 25. There will be no in-person registration. To register, call 920-232-7660. Distribution will be done by appointment only. The distribution dates for Toy Shop/Toys for Tots are Dec. 13-15 at 2211 Oregon St.

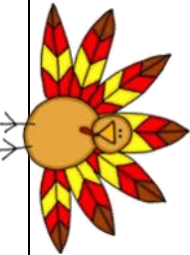
Holiday Meals

Volunteers assist with the Thanksgiving meal, Christmas meal, and Easter breakfast.



November 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10 a.m. TOPS	2 5:30-6:30 p.m. MA 1:30 p.m. Missions	3 10:30 a.m. "The Daily Walk" Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA	4	5
6 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45-11:45 a.m. . The scripture reading discussion	7 5:30 p.m. MA	8 10 a.m. TOPS 6:30 p.m. Education	9 5:30-6:30 p.m. MA	10 10:30 a.m. "The Daily Walk" Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA	11	12
13 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m.-11:45 a.m. The scripture reading discussion	14 5:30 p.m. MA 6:30 p.m. Trustees & SPRC	15 10 a.m. TOPS 6:30 p.m. Church Council	16 1:30 p.m. Worship 5:30-6:30 p.m. MA	17 10:30 a.m. "The Daily Walk" Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA 6:30 p.m. Education	18	19
20 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45-11:45 a.m. The scripture reading discussion	21 5:30 p.m. MA	22 10 a.m. TOPS	23 5:30-6:30 p.m. MA	24 Thanksgiving 	25	26
27 9:30 a.m. Worship (9:45 a.m. Harvest Escape Room (Sunday School)) 10:45-11:45 a.m. The scripture reading discussion Prepare & Serve Day By Day Dinner	28 5:30 p.m. MA	29 10 a.m. TOPS	30 5:30-6:30 p.m. MA			

Wesley United Methodist Church
761 Florida Avenue
Oshkosh, WI 54902-6549
(920) 235-3070

Change Service Requested



*The Wesleyan Connection is
published monthly for the
members and friends of Wesley
United Methodist Church,
761 Florida Avenue,
Oshkosh, WI 54902-6549*

*Chuck Emery, Pastor
Church Phone: 920-235-3070*

*Email:
[Contactus@oshkoshmethodistchurch.onmic
rosoft.com](mailto:Contactus@oshkoshmethodistchurch.onmic
rosoft.com)*

*Church Web:
www.umcwesley.com*

*Facebook:
Wesley United Methodist*