

April 2026



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*

Office: 235-3070

Pastor Chuck Emery

Notes from the Pastor

United Methodist leaders often speak of denomination as “the connection.” This concept has been central to Methodism from its beginning.

The United Methodist structure and organization began as a means of accomplishing the mission of spreading scriptural holiness. Methodism’s founder, John Wesley, recognized the need for an organized system of communication and accountability and developed what he called the “connexion,” a network of classes, societies, and annual conferences.

Today, our denomination continues to be organized in a “connectional” system, which “enables us to carry out our mission in unity and strength.” Every local church is linked to an interconnected network or organizations that join together in mission and ministry, allowing us to accomplish far more than any one local church or person could alone.

When I was the Ecumenical/ Interfaith Officer for the Northern Illinois Annual Conference, I often explained to

other religious communities the unique gift of our denomination was the connection. We were not individual congregations but part of a world-wide web that made us all a part of United Methodism wherever it was present. There are many ways that this connection draws us into Christ’s work through the Mosaic of missions, the institutions of learning throughout the world, hospital and homes that provide care for people across the globe. We act and speak wherever United Methodists gather.

Within the connectional structure of the United Methodist Church, conferences provide the primary groups of people of churches for discernment and decision-making. Wesley described Christian conferencing as a spiritual discipline through which God’s grace may be revealed. At every level of the connection, church leaders and members come together in conversation, or conferencing, to discuss important issues and discover God’s will for the church. The word, conference,

(Continued on page 2)



Sunday, April 5
Easter Service
9:30 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, April 8
Membership Care
2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 14
Education
6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15
Worship
1:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 25
Spring Clean-Up
8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Pork Chop Dinner
4:30 p.m.—To Go
5:00 p.m. Dine In

Tuesday, April 28
Church Council
6:30 p.m.

(Continued from page 1)

thus refers to both the assembly and organization of people as well as the process of discerning God's call together.

As the primary legislative body, General Conference is the only body with the authority to speak on behalf of the entire United Methodist Church. The General Conference meets every four years to consider the business and mission of the church. An equal number of lay and clergy delegates are elected from United Methodist conferences around the world to decide matters of policy and procedure for the denomination.

United Methodists around the world are organized into nine regional conferences.

There are five geographic jurisdictions, or regions, in the United States, which are comprised of eight to fifteen annual conferences each. We belong to the North Central Jurisdiction which includes: Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, the Dakotas, and Wisconsin.

The annual conference is a geographical entity, an organizational body (made up of elected lay and clergy members), and a yearly meeting. It is the fundamental body of the church. This is where the rubber meets the road. Each local church is an annual conference is an extension of the Conference to the locale in which it is placed.

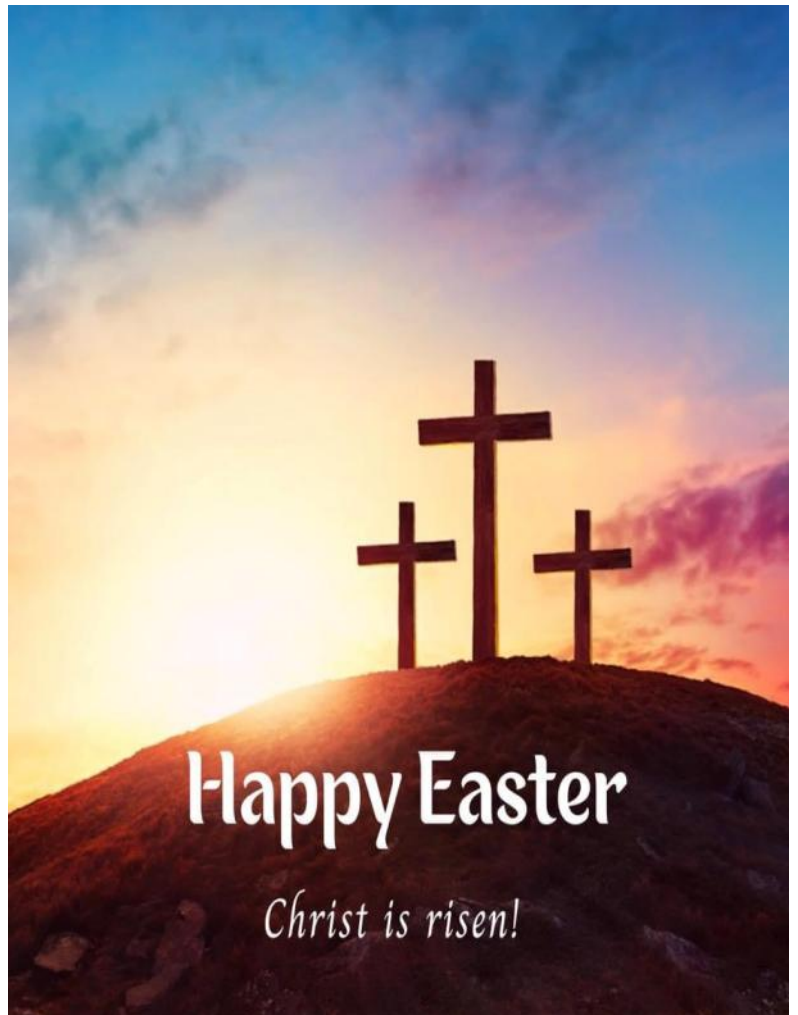
Each local church is part of a district, which is an administrative grouping of churches in a geographic area.

As the visible presence of the body of Christ, the local church is the place where members grow in faith and discipleship, putting their faith into action through ministry in the world.



BIRTHDAYS

April 2	Jean Roe	April 11	Meghan LaPoint
April 3	Brian Green	April 15	Craig Heisler
April 4	Garrett Vienola	April 19	Lorry Sallee Steven Bathke



Newsletter Sponsorship

The sponsor for the April newsletter is Rick & Sue Yell. Please consider being a sponsor for the May, June or November 2026 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 2026.

From your Education Committee:

Happy Easter!!

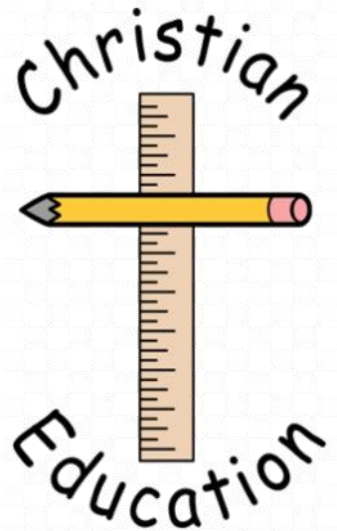
We will have the final total of money collected for the Heifer International mission for our Sunday School soon. We definitely surpassed our goal and the children are excited to see how many chicks (and maybe a pig, sheep, or goat) they can send to people in need. Thank you to all for your help in contributing to this great mission.

On Easter Sunday, April 5, an egg hunt is planned for the Sunday School.

Recognition Sunday is May 17th.

Children's choir will sing on April 19th and May 17th.

Next Education meeting is scheduled for April 14th at 6:30 p.m.



Vacation Bible School 2026

Warmer days are ahead and Vacation Bible School will soon be here! Camp ELM Tree (Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist), an ecumenical partnership started in 2023, hosts VBS at member churches each summer. Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church will be hosting this year.

When: Monday, July 27—Thursday, July 30

Time: 4:30 p.m. –7:30 p.m. (Dinner Included)

Ages: 3 & potty trained through 5th grade

This year's theme is Spy School! We will have many Special Operations and Covert Ops to find trust, courage, bravery, and belief while investigating God's Word. We will begin registration in May. Watch for more details.

UMCOR Changes

We are writing to let you know that today UMCOR will announce a plan to reimagine UMCOR's approach to disaster relief kit materials management for greater efficiency and reduced cost. As part of this restructuring, UMCOR will no longer operate the Sager Brown facility, effective January 2027.

We are exploring partnership with an experienced logistics organizations who can aid us in modernizing our approach to materials management, while reducing costs. We are also developing a capacity-building grant program for affiliate warehouses across the United States, to help support volunteer engagement, enhance kit readiness, and expand national distribution.

Throughout 2026, we will continue to make and move relief kits from the UMCOR Sager Brown facility and will welcome volunteers, as scheduled.

We recognize that this represents a significant shift for staff and volunteers. We will share updates as UMCOR's plans to evolve and look forward to conversations with the leadership of Louisiana Conference as we explore possible engagement with local community for the property.

We are sincerely grateful for the faithful support of volunteers, staff, and all who have sustained UMCOR Sager Brown for many years.

Blessings,
Jim Cox & Amy Fuselier



The Boys and Girls Club of Oshkosh is the mission focus for the month of April this year. For over 50 years the Club has been part of the Oshkosh community landscape. Their mission is: “To improve the lives of children and families.” Their vision “is to be generation-changing leading provider of programs emphasizing youth development services and family outreach support to meet the needs of young people 6-18 and their families, especially those who need us most.”

The Club, located on East Parkway Avenue, offers a dynamic learning environment that includes quality, age-appropriate programs, mentoring by caring adult professionals and outstanding facilities, all for a small annual fee. By providing safe facilities, caring adults and engaging activities, they help each young person realize their full potential. Thanks to a recent expansion the Club is now serving over 500 kids daily in Oshkosh, and 120 in Omro. The growth reflects not only the increasing need in our communities, but, also the impact of continued support.

From the Oshkosh Boys and Girls Club website: “Boys and Girls clubs have services that are unique to their organizations. At our club, this means we provide things like healthy meals and snacks, shower and hygiene support, on site mental health counseling, grief support groups, dental and vision care, after school care, transportation services for our youth from school to the Club and much more. By providing services like these, we hope to make it easier for kids to focus on participation our life changing programs and having fun.”

The Boys and Girls Club of Oshkosh focuses on five core areas of programming and development that have been nationally proven to address today’s most pressing youth issues and assist in teaching young people skills they need to succeed in life. These areas are: 1.) Character & Leadership, 2.) Education and Career Development, 3) Health & Life Skills, 4) Sport, Fitness and Recreation, and 5) Arts.

In order to provide the children with the services needed, the Club relies on donations from outside sources. Gas and grocery gift cards are very helpful, and cash is always a good option.

The Bible, Jesus & Jewish-Christian Relations

Two Days with Amy-Jill Levine

Tuesday April 21: Pastors’ & Teachers’ Workshop

Understanding Jesus and Paul Through Jewish Practice and Belief.

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Tuesday April 21: Parables as Jewish Stories

Amy- Jill Levin, Jesus’ Parables as Jewish Stories. Evening talk with time for questions.

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday April 22: Entering the Passion Q & A

Conversation and Q & A with Amy-Jill Levin on her book, “Entering the Passion”.

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday April 22: Questions of Faith Forum

Questions of Faith Forum with Amy-Jill Levine.

6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

All of these events are at First United Methodist Church in Oshkosh.

Pork Chop Dinner



Once again, Wesley is ordering Pork Chop dinners from Waukau Methodist Church for April 25, 2026. The cost is \$15.00 a dinner. There will be two options for dinner: 1) To Go Order for pick up ready at 4:30 p.m. **OR** 2) Join us in Koeller Hall at 5:00 p.m. to enjoy your meal and fellowship time with other. If you would like a pork chop dinner, please contact Randy Lovell at 920-589-5136 or sign up on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex for the quantity you would like. Orders are due by April 5th but the sooner you order, the better your chances of a getting a meal as quantities are limited.

Randy Lovell



Do You Know Your Hymns?

Dentist's Hymn	Crown Him with Many Crowns
Weatherman's Hymn	There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
Contractor's Hymn	The Church's One Foundation
Tailor's Hymn	Holy, Holy, Holy
Golfer's Hymn	There's a Green Hill Far Away
Politician's Hymn	Standing on the Promises
Optometrist's Hymn	Open My Eyes That I Might See
IRS Agent's Hymn	I Surrender All
Gossip's Hymn	Pass It On
Electrician's Hymn	Send the Light
Shopper's Hymn	Sweet Bye and Bye
Realtor's Hymn	I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop
Massage Therapist's Hymn	He Touched Me

An for those who speed on the highway—a few hymns:

55 mph	God Will Take Care of You
75 mph	Nearer My God to Thee
85 mph	This World Is Not My Home
95 mph	Lord, I'm Coming Home
100 mph	Precious Memories

Give me a sense of humor, Lord, Give me the grace to see a joke, To get some humor out of life,
And pass it on to other folks.

Answers to United Methodist Circuit Rider Quiz

1. **Who were the original Methodist circuit riders?**

The correct answer is itinerant preachers who traveled a specific area preaching the gospel. Methodist Church records from 1844 record a church membership of over 1 million, with 4,000 ministers riding circuits in the U.S.

2. **The first female Methodist circuit rider was:**

The correct answer is Helenor Alter Davisson. Davisson was the first woman ordained in the Methodist Protestant Church by Wabash Annual Conference (Indiana) in 1866. She often rode the Bradford Circuit in northwest Indiana.

3. **What does it mean to be an itinerant preacher?**

The correct answer is you are willing to accept whatever assignment your bishop gives you. Itineracy is the system in The United Methodist Church by which pastors are appointed to their charges by a bishop.

4. **What is the definition of a preaching circuit?**

The correct answer is a specific geographic route to new or established congregations. Especially in sparsely populated areas of the United States, it was common for clergy to serve more than one congregation at a time, a form of church organization sometimes called a “preaching circuit.”

5. **On a typical ride once around the circuit, the rider traveled...**

The correct answer is 200-500 miles. Especially west of the Appalachian Mountains, circuit riders rode great distances between communities and congregations. Some circuits were so large it took six weeks to complete on cycle.

6. **What were the most treasured items in a circuit rider’s saddle bag?**

The correct answer is books to read and sell. Often circuit riders carried copies of the Methodist Discipline for sale, as church members in the wilderness did not have access to these instructions.

7. **The circuit rider Peter Cartwright was known as....**

The correct answer is all of the above. Peter Cartwright (1785-1872) was a Methodist circuit rider known for his colorful appearance, direct manner, and oratory skills.

8. **Pastors in Zimbabwe in the 1970s didn’t have horses, so they rode circuits on...**

The correct answer is bicycles. One pastor in Zimbabwe reported the longest distance he rode a bicycle was on the circuit totaling 17.36 miles.

9. **The preacher who order 265,000 miles on horseback and help grow Methodism in America was:**

The correct answer is Bishop Francis Asbury, who during his 45 years of ministry rode on horseback more than 265,000, roughly the distance of riding from New York City to Los Angeles 95 times!

10. **John Wesley believed that preachers who moved from place to place were more effective.**

The correct answer is true. John Wesley believe that itinerant preachers who moved from place to place were more effective than those who settled in, grew comfortable, and wore out what they had to say.



About Jesus

A Y L O R D O B M E W E N I V J K S W C
R B E L I E V E T D D U Q Z E F S U A M
I V J V R S I J G C M D W X O M F S Y W
A A M G Q B E J W P R Z P V M Y G E X X
S Z F F Q J V S N I S F R G T G P J K U
I S L W I F T M H A I S S E M L S L R K
R N E T W R E P L E H T M L O M W Y E C
F O A N G Y S L M S K Y S P C C I F V F
B I D W E J O T B S T L W A R S J S W K
W T E F X V T D N E I R F S V O R M U S
B C R K E N I C F N E C X T G I A D O N
J E S I E T A G P S O C K E N N O E N V
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Q I Q K H J T K O I F L Z M L N E A U Z
L P L W B O L O Y R X L T B H V L R L J

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|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| • JESUS | • MESSIAH | • KING |
| • SAVIOUR | • HEALER | • FORGIVENESS |
| • HELPER | • FRIEND | • LORD |
| • CROSS | • SINS | • TEACHER |
| • RESURRECTION | • LIGHT | • GATE |
| • VINE | • FIRST | • LAST |
| • WAY | • TRUTH | • LIFE |
| • LOVE | • BELIEVE | • LEADER |
| • CREATOR | • RIGHTEOUSNESS | |



April 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA 6:30 p.m. MG 7:15 p.m. CC	2 2:30 p.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA	3	4
MA= Martial Arts TOPS = Take Off Pounds Sensibly MG = Morning Glory Singers CC = Chancel Choir			8 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. Membership Care 5:30 p.m. MA 6:30 p.m. MG 7:15 p.m. CC	9 2:30 p.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA	10	11
5 9:30 a.m.—Easter Worship 10:45-a.m.—noon Lectionary Study	6 5:30 p.m. MA 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	7 10 a.m. TOPS 1:00 p.m. Mat Making				
12	13 5:30 p.m. MA 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	14 10 a.m. TOPS 1:00 p.m. Mat Making 6:30 p.m. Education	15 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Worship 5:30 p.m. MA 6:30 p.m. MG 7:15 p.m. CC	16 2:30 p.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA	17	18
9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45-a.m.—noon Lectionary Study	5:30 p.m. MA 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	10 a.m. TOPS 1:00 p.m. Mat Making				
19	20 5:30 p.m. MA 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	21 10 a.m. TOPS 1:00 p.m. Mat Making	22 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA 6:30 p.m. MG 7:15 p.m. CC	23 2:30 p.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA	24	25 Spring Cleaning 8 a.m.—12 p.m. Pork Chop Dinner 4:30 p.m. To Go 5:00 p.m. Dine In
9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45-a.m.—noon Lectionary Study	5:30 p.m. MA 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	10 a.m. TOPS 1:00 p.m. Mat Making 6:30 p.m. Church Council	10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA 6:30 p.m. MG 7:15 p.m. CC	2:30 p.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. MA		
26	27	28	29	30		

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Change Service Requested



*The Wesleyan Connection is
published monthly for the
members and friends of Wesley
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