OCTOBER 2026

Practicing Hope
Spotlight

"PRESSING ON"
by Pastor Kelly

The October worship series theme is "Pressing On" and we've been steeped in Paul's letters in the New Testament, specifically Philippians. I believe it's important for communities of faith to hear that you are NOT called to 'do it all', rather you ARE called to do 'some-thing', as our Breakthrough Prayer reminds us, within the life and ministry we share.

I am pleased to invite you to join me in worship on Sunday, October 11th, at the 10:30 a.m. service as we welcome together Rev. Eric Swanson, Director of Connectional Ministries, as our special guest. Eric comes to encourage us and to challenge us as we strive to step forward in ministry, creatively, intentionally and faithfully. The Accountable Leadership Board will meet with Eric following worship - this is an open meeting and anyone with a heart for visioning and the future of the church is welcome to attend. Please hold this experience for our church in your prayers, with heartfelt hope.

Brothers and sisters, I myself don't think I've reached it, but I do this one thing: I forget about the things behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me. The goal I pursue is the prize of God's upward call in Christ Jesus.

~Philippians 3:13-14, CEB

More of What's Happening!

BUILDING PARTNER HIGHLIGHT
TORI COLYER, MS, LPC
CALM & COLLECTED COUNSELING

We welcomed Tori Colyer in 2023, eager to share space with yet another community based business that meets with the goals and ministry philosophy here at Our Lord's UMC. Tori serves individuals of all ages, couples (she has published 2 books on relationships), and she offers workplace counseling and support as well. Tori also gives back to her alma mater, Concordia University, by providing space for interns working toward their therapist license. Tori promotes a safe, judgement-free space and has expressed her gratitude to Our Lord's for signage and flags that express an inclusive welcome as this has aided clients leery of entering a 'church space'. Pastor Kelly married Tori and Jon a few years ago and this summer they welcomed their daughter, Carson Rae!

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS...

ALL Welcome to Serve every Sunday as Greeters and Ushers! Please see Karen Haubert or Pastor Kelly if you have questions. Sign up on the Servant's Sheet! Practice hope by offering hospitality to everyone who enters for worship!

Sunday School "Learning Time" begins Sunday, October 4th, during worship. Third graders and above will receive their Bibles and children will help with the bread placement while learning about World Communion. Anyone interested in adding their name to the list of adults willing to teach or provide nursery care please see Wendi Haubert or Pastor Kelly.

Trunk or Treat Friday, October 30th, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Our third annual parking lot ministry event welcomes your creativity, treats, and a love for "ghosts and superheros" of ALL ages! Find out more in the Narthex.

ALL Saints Ofrenda Sunday, November 1st, in worship. Bring photos of loved ones remembered, list their names on the clipboard for Pastor Kelly to read while you light a candle in their memory during worship.

Story Path 'Strike' Event Sunday, November 1st, following worship. It's been a wonderful ALL Together Story Path season. Now, many hands are needed to disassemble the story boards (outside), wash (inside) and store them (upstairs) in the church for the winter. A pizza slice is our 'thank you' for your time and effort!

Accountable Leadership Board View
"YOUR seat at the board table"

NOTE: ALL monthly meeting minutes and supporting documents are openly shared in the rack across from Pastor Kelly's office in a marked binder. Monthly meetings welcome everyone!

September highlights: gratitude for the "Float into Fall" Story Path event, Panera Fundraiser, partnership with New Berlin Soccer Club; Shared Ministry picnic, and special music in worship. Also, preparations are underway for Church Conference.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
CHUCK GARRIGUES
ALB MEMBER, FINANCE COMMITTEE

Our Chuck knows our church!

If you were to visit Our Lord's church on any given day, there is a great chance that you would see Chuck Garrigues either waiting to greet guests coming in for a hot meal on weekdays or attending service on Sunday mornings.

Chuck and his wife, Pat, became members of Our Lord's in November of 1995, an exciting time in our history, as a new addition that now includes the Narthex, Sanctuary and Wesley rooms was in the finishing stages of being built. Chuck previously served as a chairperson on the building committee at a United Methodist Church in Elmhurst, Illinois, and within a couple of months at Our Lord's, was asked by Jim McCowen of Trustees to join a Vision Group on the future usage of the new addition, most urgently, what the "new" kitchen would look like.

During his 31 year membership at Our Lord's, Chuck has been a worship leader, served as a delegate to Church conference for Our Lord's, sang in the choir, served on numerous committees, boards, and teams, including Trustees, Missions, SPR, and Education, and is currently on the Accountable Leadership Board as head of finance. He was part of the Honduras Mission Trip Team that went to Honduras yearly for over 15 years which included fundraising, collecting supplies for building and community projects, transportation of supplies & volunteers, disbursement of supplies, and coordinating building projects.

Thank you, Chuck, for being a faithful follower of Jesus here at Our Lord's and for the numerous hours spent attending board meetings and forming committees that served the needs of the church, congregation and community.

WEEKLY IN THE WORD

Pastor Kelly preaches from the Revised Common Lectionary as a matter of consistency and practice and invites you to a weekly lectionary study. This prepares ALL who attend for the Sunday message and steeps attendees in a regular, spiritual practice in the community. ALL are welcome for these weekly one hour sessions, in person or via Zoom, on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. CT beginning Tuesday, October 6th, 2026.

FINANCE SNAPSHOT

Missional Giving through Our Lord's

Human Relations Day $82.69
Peace with Justice Sunday $90.00
Miracle Sunday $50.00
Rooted & Rising $350.00
Caldwell Food Pantry$250.00
Menasha Storm Recovery $1310.00
UMCOR Sunday $460.00
World Communion Sunday $65.00
Annual Conference Ingathering $50.00
Cathedral Center $100.00
New Berlin Food Pantry $250.00
Becas con Bendiciones $100.00

As of 8/31/26, Our Lord's has paid $11,927 (41%) in apportionments. Our goal is to pay at least 50% in 2026 and at least 75% of our $30,616 apportioned amount in 2027.

The finance team, along with the accountable leadership board (ALB), is currently working on gathering numbers for the 2027 budget. If you are involved in a committee/program/mission that requires funding please contact the finance office at finance@ourlordsumc.org with your budget requests by October 11th, 2026.

Our 2027 stewardship drive will run through October with information available for practical ways to set up: automatic giving online through VANCO; automatic bank transfers or checks; IRA charitable giving and other forms of giving that can support ministry in meaningful ways.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

10/4 - World Communion Sunday, Sunday School begins
10/6 - Lectionary class begins (Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.), Milwaukee Rescue Mission Presentation (6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary)
10/11 - Eric Swanson, Director of Connectional Ministries to preach w/ALB workshop to follow
10/12 - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED for Indigenous People's Day
10/25 - SHARED MINISTRY WORSHIP @ Caldwell (9:45 a.m.)
10/30 - Trunk or Treat (4:00 - 5:30 p.m.)
11/1 - Daylight Savings Time ends, All Saint's Sunday/Offrenda, Story Path disassembly for the winter season
11/8 - SHARED MINISTRY WORSHIP @ Our Lord's (9:45 a.m.)

Be sure to check the church website for upcoming events and important dates to remember. Go to www.ourlordsumc.org or scan the QR code.

He said to me," Human one, these bones are the entire house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope has perished. We are completely finished.' So now, prophesy and say to them, The Lord God proclaims: I'm opening your graves! I will raise you up from your graves, my people, and I will bring you to Israel's fertile land. You will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you up from your graves, my people. I will put my breath in you, and you will live. I will plant you on your fertile land, and you will know that I am the Lord. I've spoken, and I will do it. This is what the Lord says."

~Ezekiel 37:11-14, CEB

Let us pray:
Loving God, lead us into the future you have designed for us. Amen.