



THE SALT

Our Lord's United Methodist Church, New Berlin, WI

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Dismantle Racism with Lenten Devotions

The United Methodist Council of Bishops invites the people of the United Methodist Church to a season of introspection and self-examination. Together this Lent, we will confess and fast from the sins of racism, discrimination, oppression and exclusion and feast on the beauty and blessing of the diversity of God's Church.

Each week of Lent and every day of Holy Week, a United Methodist Bishop will offer a short devotion. These times of reflection will challenge and inspire us to follow Jesus through the wilderness, alienation, betrayal and even death. Along the way, we will confront the sin of racism, renew our faith, and remember the promise of Easter - that redemption, reconciliation and liberation is possible.

In 2020, the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church vowed to focus intently on dismantling racism in the church and the world. This Lenten devotional series is another step in the journey of repentance, reconciliation and action in which we invite the whole church to participate.

To view the devotional videos and download the journal pages, visit the website [here](#).



A Word from Pastor Kelly



“Holy Vessels/ Carrying Change”

Never have I ever referred to myself as a ‘holy vessel’. This Lenten theme for worship is a challenge as we look at this time as a season of recovery. We’re not to erase this last year of difficulty; rather, we’re invited to assess areas of life and living for changes that we can bring with us into the new days ahead.

Some changes will add a measure of grief/sorrow that we can mutually share and support.

Some changes will challenge “what we’ve always done” in our patterns of living and in our institutional practices.

Some changes will prompt an urgency for study, prayerful support, fundraising and action that fosters equity and justice for some and our own deep need to grow.

Change can be invigorating as well as unsettling and I am praying for our church universal and local, our expanded virtual campus community, our neighbors and each of you as we bear witness to the power of the Holy Spirit in this season of recovery – that will open us to creativity and will bring change to the fabric and landscape of our lives as God’s people.

Please make plans to pick up (or have delivered) your Lenten Packet. This bag has a wonderful study guide for Lent and another that begins Holy Week. It has a guide to activities and supplies to enhance your 40 days with creativity and symbolism.

Our God is a God of New Life – not of the tomb. We are being called out, like Lazarus, to come out of the pandemic tumult with a joy and a hope for living more fully, serving ALL of God’s creation. Join me, holy vessels, in carrying out God’s vision for the days ahead.

Peace be with each of you,

Pr. Kelly

Quotable Leadership

from: The Lewis Center for Church Leadership: Leading Ideas

“The biblical version of heaven is more like the United Nations than any individual culture, race, or nation. If we don’t like being among people of other races, colors, languages, nations, and cultures, heaven might not be the place for us.”

James A. Harnish, retired UMC Pastor

Lenten “Office Hours” via Zoom for Spiritual Care

The Lenten Season is a time to journey inward. In a spirit of repentance and introspection, Christians sojourn with Jesus toward the cross facing the heaviness of shortfalls and wayward discipleship along the way. Daily prayer, weekly Bible study, adding acts of service, or disciplines of denial often accompany these 40 days (excluding Sundays) between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. The faith community is ‘usually’ a ready support and companion during Lent, however, as COVID-19 continues to curtail our ability to safely gather, I want to offer personal time to anyone who would like a pastoral connection and spiritual support for their “good Lent”. Please [email](#) Pastor Kelly to set up your appointed Zoom meeting time.



News from New Berlin Preschool

New Berlin Preschool is beginning registration for the 2021-2022 school year. If you know of someone that is looking for a 3K or 4K experience for their child, please pass along our information. For more information about curriculum, class schedules and registration fees, please visit our [website](#). We can also be found on [Facebook](#).



New Berlin Preschool
 5000 S. Sunnyslope Rd
 New Berlin, WI 53151
 414-630-2063
newberlinpreschool.com
newberlinpreschool@gmail.com

You're Invited!

All lay persons, non-clergy, are invited to attend. You may register on your own if you plan to attend. Please contact Tabitha at the church office if you have questions about registration and she'll assist you.

Bishop's Convocation of Laity Leadership 2021: Radical Hospitality Virtual Event
Saturday, March 20, 2021
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Registration deadline is March 19, 2021 at noon.

Sponsored by the Conference Board of Laity. There is no cost to join the event but you must be registered.

Register now at:
<https://wisconsin-reg.brapp.com/LaityConvo2021>

Happenings @ Our Lord's

A GATHERING FOR COMMUNITY

~ Monthly on the 19th @ 6:30pm ~

ALL ARE WELCOME



"Gathering for Community" will meet on Friday, March 19, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the parking lot @ 5000 S. Sunnyslope Rd. Mark your calendar now and invite your friends and family to this safely-distanced, outdoor event that gathers us to seek understanding, stand for justice and celebrate unity. This month our speaker will be Dana World-Patterson from Foundations for Freedom, a not-for-profit entity existing to strengthen women and girls, reduce their vulnerabilities and eradicate human trafficking through education, awareness, advocacy and prevention.

**Accountable
Leadership Board
Meeting
March 16th
6:30 p.m.
via Zoom**

Articles for the April issue of The SALT are due by Tuesday, March 23rd.



Join Jennifer on Zoom!

Pastor Jennifer White, our student intern, invites you to join her for the Monday night Zoom chats which convene every Monday at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom invite is listed each Friday and Monday in the What's Happening email, or you may call/email Tabitha in the church office M,W,F between 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and she will share the Zoom invite with you. The topic for the Lenten season will be "Forgiveness".

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Ephesians 4:32



And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. (Mark 1:12-13, NRSV)

“Together In Christ”: A Bible Study Opportunity Led by Pr. Kelly

Friends, our Bishop, Rev. Dr. Hee-Soo Jung, here in the WI Annual Conference of the UMC is joining the Council of Bishops nationwide to advance justice work in the areas of inclusion and racial equity. Bishop Jung has prepared a Bible study to ground hearts and open dialogue on the local level. The Holy Week portion of this study is included in the Lenten Packets and I am inviting you and your friends and family to join me in beginning this study/reflection of Mark 11-16 beginning Monday, March 28, through Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021. During Holy Week, please download or print the remainder of the study guide from the church website (found under the Lent tab labeled “Together In Christ” Study) AND register for my ZOOM class which will convene on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. beginning April 7, 2021. I am praying that our Lenten journeys inspire us to dive more genuinely into meaningful conversation that births new ministries and new ways of being God’s people this Easter Season.

UMW News



UMW Reading Program

I hope you have been able to pass these snowy winter months with some good reading. Of course, the UMW reading Program has some good suggestions. In February, I read two books that were very different from my usual book choices and were thought provoking, at least for me: ***Rise! From Caged Bird to Poet of the***

People (Leadership Development category) and ***Sleep, Heal, Pray*** (Spiritual Growth category).

Available in the New Berlin library through the Waukesha County CAFÉ System, the first, by Bethany Hegedus, is the biography of Maya Angelou in picture book format. Looking at the book, you would think it was just for children, but the words give an enlightening overview of Ms. Angelou's life. The illustrations give life to the words. Reading this book is an easy way to learn more about this woman who rose from being a caged bird to becoming the poet of the people.

The second book, ***Sleep, Heal, Pray*** by Donna Fado Ivery, is another biography, setting out the life of the author after an accident causes a severe brain injury and how she works to recover from it. Before the accident, the author had just been appointed as the senior pastor at a UM church in California and her African-American husband, the associate pastor. After the accident, she had to learn how to live with her pain and resulting physical disabilities.

Her therapist suggests she tries her painting again as a way to get through her pain and to help with her recovery. Her first painting is of her pain. She describes her painting materials (oils donated by her sister-in-law and Masonite panels cut to size and donated by a member of the congregation) and how she visualizes her pain – its look, shape, and colors. When the painting is finished, she writes down a prayer about her pain. She follows the same process for many paintings – Healing Headache, Beautiful Mess, and others illustrated in the book and accompanied by her prayers. It was interesting to read how she developed her paintings and seeing the results, reading her prayers, and how these activities helped her to recover to some extent and return occasionally to the pulpit.

When our church reopens, this book will be available in the church library.

Gwenda Szczygielski



**March 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31
6:30-7:30 p.m. via Zoom**

Curious how two verses in scripture could lead to five weeks of discussion? You are not alone! In Luke 4 we learn that Jesus was at the beginning of his ministry when he quoted the beginning of Isaiah 61 to those attending temple in his hometown of Nazareth:

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,

Because the Lord has anointed me

To bring good news to the afflicted;

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,

To proclaim liberty to captives

And freedom to prisoners...

Jesus didn't end there, and the listeners that day didn't receive the message well which of course leads to loads of questions: What would I have done that day if I was in that temple audience? Who were these people who were afflicted, brokenhearted, captive, and who are they today? Do I **see** these people or do I turn away?

If these questions tug at your heart and spirit, please consider joining a time of sharing, questioning, and thinking aloud. Participants will receive weekly links to short videos and 1-2 discussion questions to consider well ahead of the Wednesday sharing time.

If you are interested, contact Mary Schulz at mschulz52@yahoo.com . She will send you the weekly preparation materials and the Zoom links. She will also facilitate the weekly discussions.

Curious what the Holy Spirit will do with this time? Join the discussion and let's discover the answer together.



Update from the Church Office

Happy March! I don't know about you, but I'm ready for Spring! It has been so wonderful to see more of the sun lately - it really helps to lift the spirits!

I wanted to give a quick progress report on the the church directory update project I've been working on for the past few months. I'm still trying to reach people who haven't filled out an update form to be sure we have the correct information for them. This has been a bit of a challenge at times, as some are at work or just not home when I call.

I am including the Church Directory Information form in this issue of The SALT (see page 9). If you have not filled one out previously or haven't received a phone call from me, please assist me by either:

*Printing out the form, filling it out with your current information and returning it to the church office via snail mail or [email](#) (OR drop it off at Drive-In Live on Sundays).

*Calling the church office at 414-425-7030 during office hours (M, W, F, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) with your current information.

*[Emailing](#) me at the church office with your current information.

I appreciate your patience and cooperation as I work to get this much-needed update completed! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by [email](#) or by calling the church office.

Tabitha Manning
Office Administrator

DID YOU KNOW?

Your contributions to Our Lord's, whether it be your annual pledge or a special donation, can be paid in a variety of ways. You may use your giving envelopes, of course, or you can give safely through the church [website](#) via Vanco. Another option is to set up an automatic payment plan through your bank, as most banks offer free online banking. Setting up your pledge to be paid automatically saves paper and ensures you will not have to worry about missing a payment. If you have any questions about how to pay through the church website, please contact Wendi Haubert in the Business Office at 414-425-7030 or by [email](#) and she can assist you.

CHURCH DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Family Last Name _____

Adult Name(s) _____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

Children's Name(s) _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Family Phone # _____ *Allow txt msg _____ Y _____ N

Family Email _____ *Allow email _____ Y _____ N

Phone (each person) _____ *Allow txt msg _____ Y _____ N

Email (each person) _____ *Allow email _____ Y _____ N

Anniversary _____

**From time to time we may send texts or emails to you from the church with news for upcoming events. If you do not wish to receive them, please indicate next to each phone or email listed.*



Ed Heinert	3/1
Sue Radzius	3/2
Wenda Cichucki	3/5
Pete Merschorf	3/5
Mary McGarry	3/7
Izzy Veit	3/9
Dave Broker	3/11
Kathy Depies	3/11
Mark McGarry	3/14
Christopher Rodriguez	3/17
Marge Mewhorter	3/19
Alyssa Beltrame	3/23
Ruth Bock	3/26
Dave Pauly	3/27



What's Happening @ OLUMC?

Visit our online calendar of events [here](#).

Worship @ Our Lord's

Virtually connect every day on the **Daily Point of Connection @ 9:30 a.m.**

Visit Pastor Kelly's [Facebook](#) page or the church [website](#)

Online Weekend Worship Saturdays @ 9:30 a.m.

Livestreamed on Pastor Kelly's [Facebook](#) page and cross-posted to [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#) and the church [website](#) for viewing anytime.

View, like, and share with your friends!

Virtual Sunday Worship Service Sundays @ 9:30 a.m.

Premiers on [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#) and posted to the church [website](#) for viewing anytime.

View, like, and share with your friends!



Join us on Sundays for "Drive-In Live" Sunday Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

5000 S. Sunnyslope Rd., New Berlin
Worship in your warm car in the parking lot of Our Lord's!

Behind the Scenes

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank these two gentlemen, Perry Huyck and Dave Smith, for their continued efforts in keeping our church building and grounds clean and in working order. Both men have been working tirelessly to make sure any problems that spring up with the building, our phone system, computers, internet, etc., are taken care of and fixed in a timely manner. We greatly appreciate their hard work!



Perry empties the trash, vacuums and mops the floors, cleans bathrooms, etc.



Dave S. working with the organ midi.

Reaching Out to Those in Need

Knitters and Crocheters Needed !!

WATER WITH BLESSINGS, INC has sent us a message. First, the address has changed for receipt of water filter socks. Their new address is:

Water with Blessings, Inc.
1902 Campus Place, Unit 11
Louisville, KY 40299

Their oversupply of filter socks is nearly used up and they could use more donations. If you have any socks made for these water filters, please leave them in the brown donation box outside the church north entrance and label them for Pat Garrigues, how many socks are included, and who is donating them. Pat Garrigues (262-298-9097) will pick them up and send the lot together. You may leave any yarn you wish to donate in the brown box as well. Let Pat know also if you need more yarn, or if you need patterns and a sample mock filter to test the size of your product. Use up all your old odd scraps of worsted weight cotton or acrylic yarns for a good cause! A colorful variety of stripes or designs or contrasting ties cheer up the users in bad situations.

These filter socks protect the glass filters from breakage, both during shipment and during use. These glass filters let folks in poor countries, or who have had disasters that damaged their water supply, turn muddy creek water into drinkable water with no viruses or bacteria and save the need for plastic single-use water bottles. While the filters are the same as those used in hospital dialysis units with 0.1 micron filters, they don't remove salt or dissolved minerals. For more details about the thousands of families this program is helping as they train Water Women, see waterwithblessings.org website.

As you stay safe at home, help someone in need of clean water while you watch TV or relax.





Be of Good Courage

All of us need some kind of courage to live in today's world. Where can we find protection these days? What source can we gather our courage? In the Bible, the Psalmist tells us to "Wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord." (Psalm 27:14). The Psalmist also says, "The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" (Psalm 27:1). These words are not just our protection, but should be so built into our consciousness that their truth becomes a part of us.

One of the strongest statements of courage was from Moses when he told the Israelites and Joshua, their new leader, "Be strong and of good courage; fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God will go with you, He will not fail you, nor forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6). In the face of an approaching enemy, Hezekiah restored the courage of his army when he said: "Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed; for with them is an arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God." (2 Chronicles 32:7&8).

The patriarchs of the Old Testament possessed a strong sense of personal relationship with their God. They talked to Him, and even more, they listened to Him. Courage was a natural outcome of their relationship. Jesus, the Nazarene, carried it a bit farther. For He said, "I and My Father are one. The Father that dwells in me, does the work." (John 10:30).

Courage is a spiritual quality, the power of which we have forgotten. In our technical and computerized world, we have turned away from the Spirit. We laugh at the simple faith of our Fathers. Yet each day brings a greater need for courage. It takes courage to live in today's world, for we have never known greater chaos.

In Mark, (Mark 9:7), God speaks plainly, declaring that Jesus, "is His beloved Son", and adds "listen to Him". In today's time, we need this reminder to turn to Jesus more in prayer and listen to His guidance in our lives. If we would like to live in safety, then let us never forget that courage and God go hand in hand.

With my family, our morning prayer is: "Father in heaven, I give you today, all that I think and do and say, through Jesus Your Son. Amen." May you find ways to listen and follow in His guidance, each day during this Easter season and always. Take Courage!

*Excerpts from "God's Corner" by G. Purlicher
Submitted by Rebecca Radick*

HOLY GOD
YOU ARE WITH US

from the spinning planets in our **SKY** to the
 tiniest of the tiniest **mouse**.

you care for the **CREATION** & you care for **US**

Whether we are out in the **WORLD**
 or tucked inside our **HOME**, we know that you are as **CLOSE** as the
AIR THAT WE BREATHE.

Thank You for being our friend and comforter.

Amen

illustratedministry.com



Many thanks for the continued faithful giving offered by so many in our community. Donations for Ministry @ Our Lord's may be made securely on our website. Get set up with VANCO at www.ourlordsumc.org.

Ways to Connect

Website: www.ourlordsumc.org

Facebook: Pr. Kelly's *Daily Point of Connection* is live at 9:30 a.m. Monday through Friday and then pushed to the church **website** and archived weekly.

Telephone: 414-425-7030 Weekly telephone message of encouragement for callers (Please share that this is available with people you speak with or write to who do not have email and won't see this until The SALT arrives via regular mail).

What's Happening electronic newsletter: Currently sent out three times a week and contains important information about "what's happening" at Our Lord's. If you aren't currently subscribed but would like to be, [email](mailto:Tabitha@ourlordsumc.org) Tabitha at the church office and she can set this up for you.