



HILLTOP HERALD-SEPTEMBER 2019

MONONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH & IGLESIA METODISTA UNIDA EL LIBERTADOR

SEEDS OF PEACE WORSHIP SUNDAY

On **September 1st**, St. Luke's Episcopal Church (4011 Major Ave) will be hosting members from the Seeds of Peace congregations for worship at 10am. This will be the third annual Seeds of Peace joint worship service. ***Seeds of Peace Madison*** is a coalition of progressive faith communities on the east side of Madison working together to help alleviate suffering, injustice and poverty on the east side.

FEED THE CROSSING STUDENTS

Students at The Crossing, the UW Madison campus ministry, are appreciative of the **free** Sunday evening meals they enjoy following their Bible study. This year we have taken responsibility for the meal on **Sunday, September 22**, and need some help. We need people to provide the meal, including casseroles, bags of salad, bread, and bars; please sign up on the clipboard on the table in fellowship hall. We will need a vegan option and a gluten-free option again this year. The food would need to be at our church by 5:00pm that day. We encourage Confirmation students and their families to participate.

SPECIAL MUSIC/AFTER WORSHIP CONCERT VARSHAVSKI/SHAPIRO PIANO DUO

We are excited to host the Varshavski-Shapiro Piano Duo during the 10:00 a.m. worship service on **Sunday, September 22**. They will be sharing their glorious music during the service and will also present a 25-minute concert following the service.

Stanislava Varshavski and Diana Shapiro began playing together in 1998. Since then, they have gone on to capture the top prize at numerous prestigious national and international competitions, including the most prestigious competition for piano duos – the Murray Dranoff International Competition in Miami. Madison Magazine describes the Duo's performances as "edge-of-your-seat stuff" and says, "the audience seemed mesmerized as one."

They hold Bachelor and Master Degrees from the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, where they studied under the legendary Israeli duo Alexander Tamir – Bracha Eden. Later on the duo continued their education under famous American pianist Victor Rosenbaum. Both pianists completed Doctoral degrees at University of Wisconsin-Madison. Today both serve on the faculty of Silver Lake College in Manitowoc, WI.

This is a "not to miss" Sunday service! Please spread the word and bring your friends and family!

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Not long ago one of the email lists I'm on (*The Porch Magazine: A Slow Conversation About Beautiful & Difficult Things*) said a friend had heard the poet-farmer Wendell Berry speak about hope. At his talk an audience member asked Mr. Berry where he sees signs of hope; and he said something like this:

I don't spend much time looking for hope. Instead, I try to listen to the teaching of Jesus to take no thought for tomorrow. I ask myself what good thing that can help the world can I get good at doing. Then I try to get really good at doing that.

At a time when many of us are thinking about fear, and thirsty for signs of hope, those words offer both comfort and a path forward. And there are signs of hope all around us. For instance, the current mass movement of nonviolent resistance in Hong Kong is a sign of hope to me. Every loving and courageous act performed in defiance of intimidation and bullying is a sign of hope.

The editor of *The Porch Magazine* went on to say that in order for us human beings to prioritize care for each other and Earth, each of us must play a part in that change. That each of us is invited to *become* the hope. I like that. But that requires us to support one another to walk through our fear and anger, and find on the other side the fuel for courageous action. That's something that we as church do for each other. We move forward on our journeys toward spiritual maturity and serve the common good *together*, devoted to God, and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

So by all means look for signs of hope, but also ask yourself *what good thing can I get good at doing that will help the world?* And then try to get really good at doing that.

Then I want to share a word about the new sermon series that starts this month: ***"Habits of the Heart: The Spiritual Habits of the Christian Life."*** This series is a response to the question "How can I live a spiritual life?" I believe we discover a deeper spirituality and strengthen our relationship with God through a few basic habits. These practices orient our life toward Jesus Christ and help us demonstrate Christ-like patterns of life, which I am calling "habits of the heart."

Over the next three months we'll cover the personal characteristics, qualities, and virtues of those who follow Christ in their quest to understand and connect with their spiritual selves, and to bless the world. I hope you will join me for this beginning on September 8th.

I'm so glad you are part of the Christian community of Monona UMC. Thank you for all you do for us and for the way you live your life in the service of Jesus Christ, the hope of the world.

Pastor Brad

UPPER ROOMS ARE HERE

The Upper Room is a great little devotional book to center on a Bible verse and read a short meditation and prayer. The new September / October issue has arrived, and is in the Narthex information center.

BIBLE PASSAGES & SERMON THEMES 10:00AM SERVICE

September 1 - Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16;
Luke 14:1, 7-14

Guest Preacher: Rev. Katya Ouchakof

Late Pentecost sermon series:

“Habits of the Heart”

The Spiritual Habits of the Christian Life

September 8 – Mark 1:16-20

Habits of the Heart: “The Spiritual Habit of Courage”

September 15 –

Peace with Justice Sunday

September 22 – Matthew 5:38-48

Habits of the Heart: “The Spiritual Habit of Loving”

September 29 – Matthew 6:24-34

Habits of the Heart: “The Spiritual Habit of Centering”

CARING COORDINATOR COLUMN

The silver/grey bracelet with white lettering I am wearing reads “REUNIR” – which means “to bring together.” It also has several broken hearts on it. Many in our church family have expressed deep sadness and concern about government policies that continue to break apart families at the US/Mexican border. What can we do? Contact your government representatives calling for an end to policies that separate children and families. Go to: www.govtrack.us/congress/members Follow and like on Facebook: **Reunir – Reuniting Families at the Border** and Twitter **@Reunir12** Donate to groups actively working with children at the border for reunification: KIND (Kids in Need of Defense) <https://supportkind.org>, ACLU Foundation of Texas (Immigrant Rights Fund) <https://www.aclutx/en/issues/immigrantsrights>, The Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights <https://www.theyoungcenter.org>
Together we will make a difference.

We have trained Stephen Ministers here at Monona UMC who are ready and willing to serve! Who are Stephen Ministers and what do they do? Stephen Ministers are people in our church family who receive special training to provide one-to-one Christian care to members and friends in our congregation and community who are experiencing life challenges. Grief, loneliness, divorce, hospitalization, disability, illness, injury, and job loss to name a few. To receive care from a Stephen Minister or if you know of someone who might benefit from a care partner, please talk to me or Frank Gaylord. Stephen Ministries was founded on the idea of Christ caring for people through people. At Monona United Methodist we partner with St. Stephens Lutheran to train and equip laity to serve as Stephen Ministers. If you are interested in finding out more about this ministry or feel your gifts and talents are leading you to pursue caring ministries, please talk to me or Frank Gaylord. There is a new training session beginning in October.

Caring & coordinating, Mark Buffat

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Jewish Social Services (JSS) of Madison

Jewish Social Services is a non-profit organization working to help Dane County residents get their basic needs met. JSS provides assistance to refugees and their families through a variety of services and resources to help them become self-sufficient and create a safe and stable life.

JSS' Reception and Placement (R&P) program is a 90-day intensive case management program that assists families and individuals who come through the US Refugee Admissions Program to resettle in the Madison area. Through this program, JSS works with several community partners to provide a furnished apartment, access to health care, public benefits and other services in order to help newcomers settle into their new community. JSS has resettled families and individuals from Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan and Syria, among others.

Refugee Support Services case management and referral program is for individuals with refugee status within 5 years of arrival who are looking for assistance with employment and career advancement. This includes creating an employment plan and can include referrals for ESL or other programs, job search and placement, interview preparation or assistance with planning for an advanced degree.

Preferred Communities is a year-long, intensive case management program is for individuals with refugee status within 5 years of arrival, who are experiencing particular barriers to self-sufficiency related to the following:

- Physical Health
- Social or Psychological Difficulties
- Survivor of Sexual/Gender Based Violence
- Survivor of Torture
- LGBTI
- Minor
- Elderly
- HIV+

JSS is a Department of Justice recognized organization and can help individuals and families understand their immigration legal options through consultations. JSS helps people with refugee or asylee status to apply for adjustment of status (Green Card), family reunification, travel documents and citizenship.

Thank you for your generous support of this mission. The Mission Team

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Our next Blood Pressure Screening will be **Sunday, September 8**, 9:30-10:00am in Pastor Brad's office. The screening is staffed by medical volunteers from the congregation.

OUR SYMPATHY

Goes to the Barb, Julie & Rob Larson and their families, upon the death of Barb's mom, Babs, on August 5.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

“There are so many things happening in my life! Some days seem confusing. Other times it feels like chaos. I hardly know where to turn. None of these things by themselves are earth shattering, but I guess it is simply the confusion of so much coming at me at the same time.

I just wish I could sort it all out and make sense of the demands that come knocking at my door.” Does that sound like something you are experiencing?

A Stephen Minister could listen to the needs of a person for whom this sounds familiar! The care of one of our confidential Stephen Ministers is not only for the traumatic, devastating times that come to us, but also for whatever can help make life more manageable and healthy.

Stephen Ministers in our congregation are here and ready to walk alongside you with care-filled, confidential listening ears. You can talk with a Stephen Minister confidently about anything that needs to be talked over. For more information, speak to Mark Buffat or Frank Gaylord.



HILLTOPPERS

The Hilltoppers will be meeting on **Monday, September 9** at 11 AM at the Monona Garden restaurant. Those that wish can stay for lunch after the program if they like. The program will be presented by Skye Harnsberger. She is a graduate student in Entomology at the University of Wisconsin. She will be talking about Monarch butterflies.

The Monarch population has seen quite dramatic declines over the past few years and she will be talking about Monarch conservation and preserving their habitat. I know many of our church members are concerned about the Monarch butterfly species and will be interested in hearing her presentation.

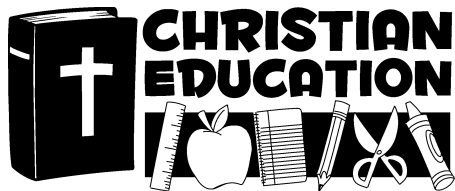


READ 'EM & MEET

The book club will meet on **Sunday, September 15 @ 2pm** to discuss, *The Stolen Marriage*, by Diane Chamberlain at the home of Doreen Peterson. Judy Acheson will provide dessert. Visitors and new members are always welcome to attend. Just a heads up: the book for October is *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood.

MEN'S GROUP BREAKFAST

Join the men of Monona UMC for fellowship and breakfast at Monona Garden Family Restaurant (6501 Bridge Rd) on **Saturday, September 14 at 9:00am.**



ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

- **An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith** by Barbara Brown Taylor \$12
*"In her critically acclaimed Leaving Church ("a beautiful, absorbing memoir"...The Dallas Morning News), Barbara Brown Taylor wrote about her experience leaving full-time ministry to become a professor, a decision that stretched the boundaries of her faith. Now, in her stunning follow-up, An Altar in the World, she shares how she learned to encounter God far beyond the walls of the church.
... Through Taylor's expert guidance and delicate, thought-provoking prose, we learn to live with purpose, pay attention, slow down, and revere the world we live in." (Amazon)*

Please sign-up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall and indicate if you would like us to purchase a book for you. The first class will be held on **Sunday, September 8**, 8:30-9:30am in the church Library.

- **The Jesus I Never Knew** by Philip Yancey \$12.00
How does the Jesus we read about in the New Testament compare to the Jesus we think we know so well? For years Philip Yancey taught a class on Jesus that relied on movie depictions of his life, which gave him a new and different perspective on Jesus' work – his teachings, his miracles, his death and resurrection – ultimately, who he was and why he came. Each session will be based on a chapter of the book that we will read beforehand, and we will reserve plenty of time to share our impressions, respond to prompting questions from the class leaders (Patsy McDonald and Pastor Brad), and generally "chew the fat" over the week's topic.

Please sign-up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall and indicate if you would like us to purchase a book for you. The first class will be held on **Sunday, September 8**, 9:00-9:50am in the Cry Room.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Children's Sunday School program begins on **Sunday, September 8 at 9:00am until 9:50am**. The teachers will be dedicated during worship on **September 8**.

We would love to have additional teachers in order to provide flexibility for all volunteers. Prep work for lessons will be minimal. Please contact the church office (secretarymumc@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested or have any questions.

3rd GRADE BIBLE GIFT

On **Sunday, September 15** our third grade Sunday school members will be presented with Bibles. This ceremony will take place during the 10am worship service.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL THANK YOUS

Thank you to all who attended our VBS. Thank you to the Leaders who shared about God's Creation and taught us some special music to thank God for sharing it with us. We couldn't have done it without all of you!

THANKS FOR YOUR DONATIONS OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Thank you for helping the neighborhood kids get ready for school with supplies. The kids and their families are thrilled.



Thank you to Pastor Brad for all his visits and prayers while mom was in the hospital and Hospice. Thank you as well for the beautiful graveside and memorial services; several friends said it was the nicest service they had attended.

Thank you to Dianne for putting together a medley of mom's favorite music for the prelude and postlude, and the special music of her favorite song.

Thank you to Kay for doing the bulletin and all the other things she helped with.

Thank you as well for all the cards, calls, kind words and hugs from the congregation!

Love Barb Larson and family

SAVE THE DATE:

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY POTLUCK - SUNDAY OCTOBER 27

This year's stewardship campaign kicks off on **Sunday October 6 and wraps up October 27**. This year we are focusing on Living Simply. Whether it is the tiny house movement based around simplifying our physical space requirements or the drive toward CSA or personal gardening to simplify the food we are eating, people are longing for simplification in our day to day lives. Over the coming weeks we will be exploring how to incorporate this concept of simple living into our religious selves. In doing this we will try to reclaim Christian discipleship as our priority, including stewarding our resources responsibly and giving them generously. Please join us on October 27 for a celebratory potluck to both celebrate the success of our campaign and reflect upon the teachings that will help us get there. The Potluck will be held in Fellowship hall after the morning church service on October 27. More details to follow, including signups for which desserts (um.....food, yeah food) people would like to bring.

OCTOBER STEWARDSHIP WEEK

A wonderful group of volunteers did special church cleaning projects last fall prior to Stewardship Sunday in October. That effort has been formalized this year into what we are calling "Stewardship Week". This year that will be **October 21 -25**. Please note the dates on your fall planning calendars and help out as you are able. There will be all kinds of projects listed on the Trustee board by the restrooms over the next few weeks for you to ponder.

--Kay Cowing, coordinator



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN INFORMATION

Quilters – Mondays at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall, except Labor Day. Quilters make baptism quilts for infants, as well as youth quilts for Project Linus and lap quilts for others.

Yarncrafters – Meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 1pm (**September 10 & 24**) as well as with the RSVP group “Monona Knit ‘N Stitch” on the 3rd Wednesday of the month,

September 18, from 10:00 until 11:30am. All are welcome. For more information contact Polly Brandes (222-6709) or Marjorie Kaukl (222-4243).

Faith Circle - Thursday, September 12 at 1pm at the home of Hazel Estervig.

Reading Circle – Thursday, September 26 at 1:30pm at the home of Jean Van Dreel. Teaching About Religion in an Age of Intolerance by Linda K. Wertheimer will be our book for discussion. This book was scheduled for last May; however that meeting was cancelled. We welcome everyone. Books to be read during the coming year will be selected.

Friendship Circle – will meet on **Tuesday, October 1** at 6:45pm. Watch for information about the location.

Executive Committee –will meet **Monday, October 14** at 1:30pm in the church library.

UMW FALL POTLUCK

Fall kick-off event for UMW is planned for **Tuesday, September 10**, 6:15pm in Fellowship Hall. A Potluck supper, conversation and sharing followed by a program by Joshua Forehand, the principal of Nuestro Mundo School. There is no charge and you need not be a member to attend. Invite a friend to join you. (Bring an item for the Food Pantry Cart; it would be a great way to start our UMW Fall season).

JAVA JIVE

Fair Trade Sales at Monona United Methodist Church featured on EEx website

We're turning the spotlight on longtime Equal Exchange supporters Monona United Methodist Church in Monona, Wisconsin! Their congregation has been buying fair trade products through the UMCOR Coffee Project since 2003. They are what we call “top customers” because they're in the top 5% of faith-based groups who buy from Equal Exchange and re-sell to their members.

Team Coordinator (right) pictured with Patsy McDonald “As a congregation Monona United Methodist definitely comes through for the small farmer coops worldwide. Our United Methodist Women’s purpose in this Mission is to sell as much as we can to **help small farmers have a stable and reliable marketplace** as they do with Equal Exchange. In 2018 our sales placed us #23 out of 7,600 US interdenominational congregations who participate in Equal Exchange’s faith-based program.

We sell monthly and also have a display area up all the time with a container for payment on the honor system. Sales generate about \$500/ month. We are a Reconciling church and this is **a Mission we all unite together on!** When we presented our “Top Customer” certificate to the congregation at church everyone received an Equal Exchange mini chocolate bar as a thank you. Our team of 10 volunteers finds it a **JOY to participate in this Mission of Justice, Equality and Sustainability** for these small farmer coops and enjoy their excellent products.” -

Kay Mackie:



For more information on Equal Exchange and their products, visit their website <https://shop.equalexchange.coop/>

Members & Friends of Monona UMC, You make this possible plus you get great products for fair prices! Our next Sunday Sale date is **September 15**. Remember, products are always available at the table in Fellowship Hall. Sales between our Sunday Sales contribute \$500.00/month and more. All purchases help to support small farmers world-wide!

CHURCH & SOCIETY

Church & Society, what exactly is the role of this work area in our church? Reaching out to society around us? Feeding hungry school kids? Collecting blankets for the homeless? Raising funds for emergency care for refugees?

Our Christian religion urges us to express our love for all of God's creation through **compassion**. Compassion, however, only goes so far. Compassion is helpful in emergencies. But compassion does not change the structural injustices in society that result in poverty or homelessness or mass migration. What compassion eventually does is make us realize that something else is needed to combat these serious structural societal issues.

This is where **social justice** comes in. Jesus wore many hats. One of them was the hat of the social prophet. As a prophet, says Marcus Borg, in his book *Days of Awe and Wonder*, "Jesus aggressively and provocatively challenged the corporate direction of his people."

In her book, *The Time is Now, A Call to Uncommon Courage*, Joan Chittister, states that "the future depends on whether we make serious decisions about our own roles in shaping a future that fulfills God's will for the world, or simply choose to suffer the decisions made by others intent on imposing their own visions of tomorrow." Says Chittister, "we can distance ourselves from the difficulties of it all,... maybe crawl into a comfortable cave with nice people and become a church, a culture, a society within a society...or we can follow the path of the prophets of old."

"The prophet," she says, "is a person who says no to everything that is not of God, no to abuse of women,... to rejection of strangers, to crimes against immigrants, to the rape of trees, to the pollution of the skies, to the poisoning of the oceans, and to the despicable destruction of humankind for the sake of more wealth, more power, more control for a few."

Prophets draw people's attention to these injustices in the world, help ordinary citizens understand their root causes and suggest ways for us to help each other overcome the causes. Says Chittister, "faith is invalid unless... we ... are living it." Heartfelt concern is a first step. But unless it is followed by developing awareness of what ails our society, taking the risk to speak out about it, and choosing in union with God's will for the world to live out our faith on the streets of society, significant transformation will not happen.

Our MUMC Church & Society Group is all about social justice. Right now, our group has four areas of focus: racial justice, environmental justice, restorative justice (prison reform), and immigration. There are many other areas of injustice in our world that we could address. What we need is those of you who keep thinking "what can I do?" to join us. What issue is vital to you? What concern has God put upon your heart? Only God knows where your involvement will take you and what your impact on the world will be.

Church & Society, Siv Goulding

FOOD PANTRY

Next time you are shopping, add a couple things to your cart for the St. Stephen's Food Pantry. Donations of food, personal items, paper products, and diapers (larger sizes) are all gratefully received. Please be sure to check the expiration date on the food. **Also bring in your extra paper grocery bags for St Stephen's.**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are so many different ways that you can serve Monona United Methodist Church. Please contact the church office if you can help.

Check out the signup sheet on the table in fellowship hall to find other openings.

- The new **fall liturgists** schedule is also online. Use the link to signup:
<http://bit.ly/2Z3D7mx>
- We also have the **altar flower signup online** so check that out too.
<http://bit.ly/2HePDVI>

CONCERT AT MONONA OAKS COMMUNITY CHURCH

Join in for a memorable time of live music, fellowship and fun on **Thursday, September 12** at 7pm at Monona Oaks Community Church (6200 Monona Dr.)! Admission is free and a love offering will be received. New Legacy Project (formerly the Blackwood Legacy) will share a blend of country gospel, traditional and edgy newer southern gospel with today's popular worship music. Check out the poster on the kiosk in Fellowship Hall for a link to their website.

JUST BAKERY

Just Bakery (a Madison-area Urban Ministry Program) will sell bakery items **Sunday, October 6**. Contact The Madison-area Urban Ministry at 256-0906 if you would like to order something in advance that they will bring that day.



ONLINE NEWSLETTER

Our church website has a copy of the current month's newsletter. If you misplace your paper copy, you can go there to read it:
www.mononaunitedmethodistchurch.org.

LAY SERVANT TRAINING WEEKEND **Friday & Saturday, September 27 & 28**

Pine Lake Camp & Retreat Center, W8301 County Road M, Westfield WI 53965

Participants may choose from **ONE** of the following classes. Please indicate your selection when registering:

- Leading Prayer – InWha Shon
- Leading Worship – Cathy Christman and Deb Verdegan
- Spiritual Gifts – Roxi Gnatzig and Pat Gallus
- UM Heritage – Vicki Brantmeyer
- UM Polity – Scott Carlson
- Continuing Ed: The Scientific Evidence for the Existence of God – Wesley Jacob

Classes begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, September 27 and conclude at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 28.

\$110/per participant for attendees staying at Pine Lake. \$40/per participant for those not staying at the retreat center.

The cost includes rooms (if you are staying at Pine Lake), meals as well as covering costs of class materials. Please register with: Corrine Daniels, 608.934.5258, email corrie.email@gmail.com
Registration Deadline is September 9, 2019.

UMC POLITY

Advanced Lay Servant Class

Date: **Saturdays, October 5 & 12, 2019**

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Location: Dodgeville UMC, 327 N Iowa St
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Instructor: Rev Jim Droste

Cost: \$10.00

Materials: Purchase *The Method of our Mission* by Lacey C. Warner and read by the first class session. The book is available at Cokesbury or Amazon for around \$25.00.

Please bring a sack lunch

Registration Contact: Carla Pustina, Dodgeville UMC Office Manager; 608.935.5451 or Carla@dodgevilleumc.org by September 20

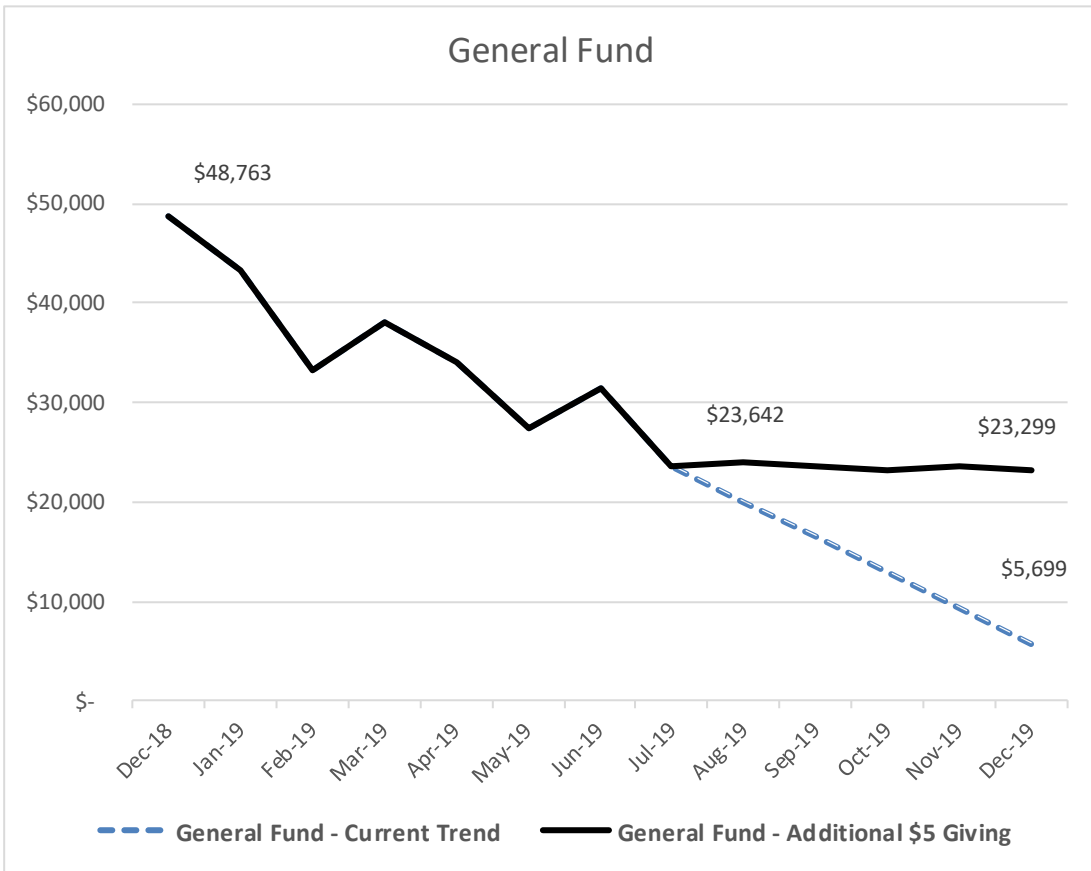
AGRACE HOSPICE CARE

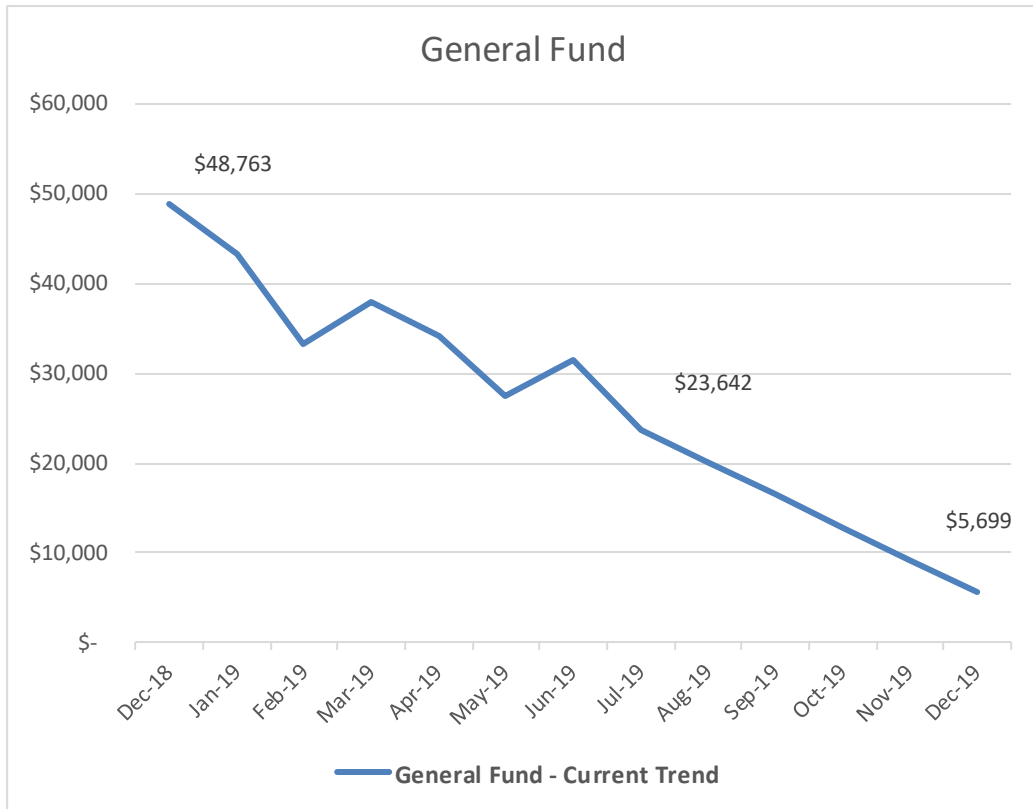
New Volunteer Orientation

Agrace HospiceCare is seeking volunteers across Dane County. Two new-volunteer trainings are scheduled at Agrace's Madison campus: **September 9, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** for those who want to work directly with hospice patients, and **September 11, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.** for roles without patient contact. Pre-registration is required. Call (608) 327-7163 or visit agrace.org/volunteer to fill out an application.

Grief Support Groups at the Agrace Grief Support Center, 2906 Marketplace Drive, Fitchburg. For details, fees or to register, visit agrace.org/griefgroups or call (608) 327-7118.

- **Bridges Grief Support Group** is for adults meets **Wednesdays**, alternating by week between morning and evening sessions. No pre-registration is needed.
- **Family Grief Support Program** is for families with children aged 5 to 18. Meets **every other Tuesday**, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; dinner is included. Call (608) 327-7135 for details
- **Journey Through Grief Support Group** is for adults meets **Mondays, September 9 to October 14**, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- **Spouse/Partner Loss Support Group** meets **Fridays, September 13 to October 18**, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.





FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

After making some progress in reducing our deficits in June (+\$3,944), we fell back to our negative deficit pattern in July (-\$7,795). The dashed line in the graph above shows the rate at which we will reduce our general funds at our current deficit run rate at years end. The solid line in the graph shows where we would end the year with if we all commit to give \$5 more a week. We are beginning to plan our budget for 2020. If our giving for 2020 is similar to our giving pattern for 2019, we will be forced to make some significant cuts to our annual budget. Since we cannot control costs like insurance, heating, garbage pick-up; we will have to focus on those expenses we do have control over...mainly personnel. We will be faced with the possibility of cutting back or eliminating our Caring Coordinator position, possibly cutting our office hours and/or reducing our music programs. These are actions we would rather not take, but we will be forced to make some very difficult choices unless we can increase our contribution levels. As we go through the remainder of the year and as we look towards 2020, please prayerfully consider how we can bless each other and our community by giving a little more to the Church's general budget.

\$ Financial Report \$

Cash Flow July 31, 2019

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$ 19,060	\$ 148,956
General Operating Expenses	26,855	174,077
Net Surplus (Shortfall)	\$ (7,795)	\$ (25,121)

The Life and Ministry of God's People In Monona United Methodist Church

September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pastor Brad Vacation thru September 3 10:00 Worship at MUMC 10:00 Seeds of Peace Worship-St Luke's Episc. 5:00pm El Libertador Worship/Spanish	2 Labor Day Office Closed	3 9:30am Staff Meeting 7:00 Media & Communication	4 7:15-9:15am Hall in use 2-4pm Library in use 6:30 Lay Leadership	5 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 Trustees	6 Kay vacation	7 6-7:30am E.L. Prayer Vg 10am English 3:30-8pm Hispanic Conf. Pentecost Emergence
8 <u>See schedule below</u> Rally Day – Sunday School 8:30 Altar in World 9:00 Jesus I Never Knew 9:30 Blood Pressure 11:15 Church & Society	9 Pastors' Day Off 11:00 Hilltoppers Monona Garden 1:00 Quilters/ 6:30 Stephen Ministry-library	10 9:30am Staff Meeting 1:00Yarncrafters 6:15 UMW Fall Meeting, Potluck & Program	11 7:15-9:15am Hall in use	12 1:00 Faith Cr 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 SPRC 7:30 Adult Choir	13	14 6-7:30am E.L. Prayer Vg 9am Men's Group Breakfast out 10am English
15 <u>See schedule below</u> Celebrate Peace with Justice Sunday Coffee Sales 8:30 Altar in World 9:00 Jesus I Never Knew 10:00 3 rd Grade Bibles 2pm Read 'Em & Meet	16 Pastors' Day Off 1:00 Quilters/ 6:30 pm Reconciling Ministry	17 9:30am Staff Meeting	18 7:15-9:15am Hall in use 10-11:30am Monona Knit 'N Stitch-Hall 12-4 New Bridge Foot clinic Hall 1-2:30 Circuit-Sun Prairie UMC 7-8pm Confirmation With Mentors	19 6:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	20	21 6-7:30am E.L. Prayer Vg 9a-5p Learner Leader-wksp Pastor Brad, Mark & Patsy 10am English
22 <u>See schedule below</u> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 8:30 Altar in World 9:00 Jesus I Never Knew 10am Special Music/After Worship Concert Varshavski/Shapiro Piano Duo 5pm Crossing Meal food needed	23 Pastors' Day Off 1:00 Quilters/ 6:30 Stephen Ministry-library	24 9:30am Staff Meeting 1:00Yarncrafters 6:30 Ad Council	25 7:15-9:15am Hall in use 12-4 New Bridge Foot clinic Hall 7-8pm Confirmation	26 8:30 Newsletter Helpers 1:30 Reading Cr. 6:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	27	29 6-7:30am E.L. Prayer Vg 10am English
29 <u>See schedule below</u> 8:30 Altar in World 9:00 Jesus I Never Knew Mark Vacation Through October 19	30 Pastors' Day Off 1:00 Quilters/	<u>SUNDAY SCHEDULE (starting September 8)</u> 9:00 Sunday School for children 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 5:00 El Libertador - Worship in Spanish				

MONONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The HILLTOP HERALD is produced monthly for distribution to the members and friends of Monona United Methodist Church & Iglesia Metodista Unida El Libertador.

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SEPTEMBER 2019



ADULT CHOIR

It's time to fire up the Adult Choir! First rehearsal is **Thursday, September 12 at 7:30pm** and first Sunday anthem is September 15. This is a wonderful "family" who enjoys music, is super friendly and a lot of fun! We are always ready to welcome more people who simply delight in singing and supporting our Worship. Please consider joining us!

RINGING NEWS

An invitation to you! If you were ever curious about the Bell Choir, just want to learn a little more and see what goes on behind the scenes, please come visit a rehearsal! We rehearse **Thursdays (starting September 5)** at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Always entertaining, sometimes downright hilarious. Drop in anytime!

