

# Bellringer

**Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church August 2019**

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## *From The Pastor:*

*But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man." Matthew 16:23*

In 1962, the reality television show *Candid Camera* offered a glimpse into a psychological phenomenon that helps explain how emotions spread. They did it through a now-famous experiment.

The experiment went like this: an unsuspecting man walked into an elevator that had been secretly rigged with cameras. Two more people walked in after him. But they turn to face towards the back wall of the elevator.

The man looked confused, but continued facing front, despite the two people next to him. But when a third person came in and faced the back wall, the man cannot take it anymore and turned to the back wall as well.

The comedy skit/experiment illustrated what psychologists have told us for decades: emotions and moods are contagious.

If we are happy, others are happy around us. If we are sad, others around us become infected with sadness. If we are worried, well, you get the point.

Have you ever considered avoiding a coworker, a friend, a family member who is always negative, always complaining, always gossiping about something?

Of course, we have. We have because we know that their negativity can rub off on us, and we'd prefer not to be in a negative place.

In the passage above, Jesus had just revealed to His disciples for the first time the plan: He was to go to Jerusalem to suffer, die, and be raised to life. Contrary to their expectations of Him, Jesus explained that He had not come to establish an earthly Messianic kingdom that would politically unite the people of Israel at that time.

The disciples were not prepared for this Word from Jesus. And Peter began to rebuke Jesus for preaching this gospel.

And Jesus told Peter to "Get behind me, Satan". Peter went negative and was doing the enemy's work by putting negative energy into the universe. That negative energy had the potential to discourage Jesus from doing what He came to earth to do. So, Jesus rebuked Peter.

Whether we're aware of it or not, we are closely connected to one another, and we contract the feelings and thoughts of the people around us, like a cold.

So, the next time you're in a group and someone's bad vibes are pulling you down, consider asking how would Jesus handle the situation?

Let us surround ourselves with positivity.

Rev. David

## Annual Conference Update

*Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. Only let us hold true to what we have attained. Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.*

*Philippians 3:12-17*

This year's Annual Conference theme was wilderness. Delegates from United Methodist Churches throughout Wisconsin gathered from June 14-16 at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay, WI. Presiding was our "Beautiful Bishop" Hee-Soo Jung beside Conference Secretary Susan Haller. The Annual Conference included worship, reports on our collective ministries, voting for general and jurisdictional delegates and the approval of various action items.

Some of the approved action items include:

- Resolution for Disavowal of the Traditional Plan: Action Item #12 condemned "the decision of the 2019 General Conference to pass the Traditional Plan and apologizes for the harm that it has caused LGBTQ+ persons, their families, their friends, and the body of Christ".
- Revision to Policy 10.3.0 on General Conference Apportionments: Action Items #21 and #23 were discussed and modified on the floor of Annual Conference. This vote changed the way our Conference gives to the General Church. Beginning in July local United Methodist Churches in Wisconsin will be apportioned in 3 separate categories: 1) General Conference Apportionments, 2) Jurisdictional Conference Apportionments, and 3) Wisconsin Conference Apportionments and the funds that are received will be used as designated.
- Resolution on Anti-Racism Training: Action Item #24 requires all clergy, elected conference leadership, and conference staff to attend a training on eradicating racism each quadrennium.

Other highlights from Annual Conference include the graduation of 57 Laity and 2 Clergy from the Institute of Congregational Development; and the collection of 5,880 pounds of items and \$5,109 for Ingathering (including 14 kits and \$203 from our own Sherman Avenue UMC).

Tamara C. Wims

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### Jabez School's Sixth Anniversary Celebration

August 17, 2019 @ 12:00 pm

Meet the Board of Directors and see what has been accomplished in just six years.

Lunch will be provided at 12:30.

The program will start at 1:30. Bring a friend!!

Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church  
3705 Sherman Avenue  
Madison, WI 53704

Contact Person: Patsy McDonald 608 249 0734



### Annual Church Picnic

August 17, 2019 2 pm - 6 pm

Token Creek Park (Shelter #2)

We will have games and activities for all to participate in.

Please bring a dish to share.

Eating at 4 pm.

Contact Neng Ya for questions.

# August 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Save the Date: Craft & Direct Sales Fair Saturday, November 9, 2019, 10-4 PM,				1	2	3 6:30 Men's Group
4 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship 12:30 Hmong Men	5	6 6:00 United Methodist Women	7 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC 6:30 Book Club	8	9 6:00 Hmong Ministry & Youth Bible Study	10
11 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship	12 6:00 Stephens Ministry	13 6:45 Communications	14 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC	15	16	17 9:00 Trustees 12:00 Jabez School Celebration Second Service Church Picnic
18 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship Breakfast 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship 12:30 Hmong Service	19	20 6:30 Admin Council	21 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC 6:00 Craft Night	22	23 6:00 Hmong Ministry & Youth Bible Study	24 Homeless Shelter Meal
25 Homeless Shelter Meal 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship	26 <b>Bellringer Deadline</b> 6:00 Stephens Ministry	27 6:30 Outreach & Missions	28 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC 6:30 Bible Study with Rev David	29 9:00 Copy & Fold	30	31

## August Birthdays

8/1 Ron Hoffman  
8/3 Caitlin McGahan  
8/3 Janell Knutson  
8/4 Jason Van Pelt  
8/4 John Van Pelt  
8/6 Ralph Stinson  
8/7 Cyndy Hoffman  
8/13 Brooks Brown  
8/18 Tracy Albedyll  
8/24 Ethan Brown  
8/27 Ronnie Hart  
8/31 Kimberley Neve

## August Anniversaries

8/16 Cindy & Curt Van Pelt

*These are the dates that are in the database. If you find that your name is not included with the Birthdays or Anniversaries, please contact Cyndy Hoffmann.*

## Please take a moment to remember our homebound members

### Linda Jungbluth (B-day 7/11)

Deerfield Place, 15 State St,  
Deerfield, WI 53531-9530

### Justin Kramer (B-day 12/13)

1601 Wheeler Rd #208  
Madison, WI 53704-7056  
608-416-5343

### Ralph Stinson (B-day 8/6)

4218 Green Ave  
Madison, WI 53704-1124  
608-244-6172

## Christian Education Opportunities

Anyone interested in learning about God's love is invited to join any of these classes at any time.

**Early Adult Sunday School** meets on Sundays at 8:30 in the Youth Room.

**Sunday School for All at 10:45** The Adult Class meets in the Choir Room. The Children's Class meets in the Youth Room.

**Wednesday Bible Study begins at 4:30.** This is an ongoing study of the Old and New Testament.

**The Youth Group** meets Wednesday and Friday. Please check the Bellringer and Bulletin for activities, topics and times.

**Dinner with Rev. David** will continue on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 in the Parsonage.

**Mid-Week Meditation** The call in number is 1-641-715-3836. The access code is 486727.