Platteville United Methodist Church



I drove home from a church meeting last night in a terrible fog. From the parking lot to the road, I couldn't see where the church driveway was. I decided to take business 151 to highway 151 because I thought it would be the safest route. I couldn't see the on-ramp until I was right in front of it. Once on the highway, I had trouble seeing

Maple Ridge Road. On Maple Ridge, I wondered if I had taken a wrong turn because you can usually see the light on Dan's shed as soon as you turn. I kept driving and kept driving, wondering if I had driven passed my house. I finally saw the light on Dan's shed when I was right in front of it. I was grateful to make it home safe, and noticed that I could hear the cars and trucks traveling down highway 151, but I could barely see their lights, and I live very close to the highway! The weather report said that we had zero visibility. You could only see just in front of you.

Verse 105 of Psalm 119 says, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." The lamp the Bible refers to is an oil lamp with a single wick. It would have given off the same amount of light as a candle. In the darkness, a candle will only let you see what is right in front of you. This verse is from the Old Testament and refers to scripture. It was written hundreds of years before Jesus was born. It is helpful that the Bible gives us light to see right in front of us, but we have an even better light! John, best friend of Jesus said, "[Jesus] brought light to everyone. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness can never overcome it (John 1:4b-5). With Jesus, no matter what choices we have made or what circumstances have affected our lives, we do not need to live in a dark fog. Jesus shines his light of love and we are able to see our purpose clearly.

We have entered into advent, the time when we anticipate this light shining deeply into our lives. I hope that we have learned from our Advent Conspiracy and are trying to worship fully, spend less, give more and love all. As we focus on Jesus, may we live into his light. This Christmas, I wish you the light of Jesus, to light up your life more than ever before.

I'll see you in church, where we let his light shine!

Pastor

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MINISTRY

For over 130+ years, the UMW, under several name changes, has been actively involved in mission work with women, children and youth. The members have faithfully kept that goal at forefront through the years, locally, nationally and internationally.

Through their meetings, the women get to know one another really well, make new friends and have fun as they share their many ideas and thoughts. They become informed about world issues through themes in their programs and reading program. Being a member has changed the lives of many women as they learn about these issues and have bible studies that help them better relate to family, friends and others. It happens so quietly and easily that they do not realize it is happening as they grow in their faith journey and relationship with others in mission. They develop leadership skills and some have become deaconesses, missionaries, and pastors. UMW IS MISSON. Why not become a UMW member and be a part of this great group of women? Why not share YOUR talents with them and also help start some new small groups to further mission?

Barely Seniors

Barely Seniors will meet on Thursday, December 13 at 12:00 pm in the fellowship hall with a potluck lunch and program. Table service and beverages are provided. Seniors are asked to bring a dish to pass. The program will be, Carol Lange will lead us in a "Christmas Sing-A-Long" She will share interesting facts about the origins of some of our favorite hymns

Gift Exchange:

A gift exchange will be held after the program. Please bring a wrapped gift(\$5 or less) with a W marked for woman or a M for man Bring a friend!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Sat., Dec. 1-Christmas Fair 8:00AM-Early Morning Coffee 9:00AM-Doors Open for Shopping 11:00Am-Lunch If you wish to work and/or donate food or some item, please check the sign-up sheets in the narthex, or talk with Rosemary Anderson

Tues.Dec.4th-1:00 PM-General Meeting in Wesley Room Program: Christmas Meaning/Memories-Katie Cottingham

Hosts: All members furnish 6/? cookies. Collection of the Christmas Stocking money for the UM Chaplaincy Program in Madison will be taken. If you are unable to attend the meeting, send or give your money gift to Norma Meisel (348-7823) Thank you!

Pecans are here! They are in the library and you may pick up your orders anytime. If you did not order early and wish to purchase some now, please list your purchase on the clipboard in the office. They are \$9.50 for a 1 lb. bag. Thank You!!!

Volume 1, Issue 1

Christmas Bazaar

Mark your calendars for the annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 1. Early coffee and rolls begin at 8AM, with the crafts and "goodies" area opening at 9AM. Lunch -- turkey dressing sandwiches, BBQs, salads, desserts and beverages -- will be served from 11AM-1PM.

The Cap Club met on Nov. 6th. Members present were Pastor Brenda, Jim & Carol Kirkpatrick, Dolores Hutchenson, Tom Ziegenfuss, Hank & Judy Bossenbroek.

We were sadden to report that we have lost so many of our friends we have been visiting. We continue to visit with many of our other friends and with everyone's help we can add to our list more people that would like to have a visit from our members.

Our prayers go out to the family of Frank Nimocks who passed away on Nov 10th. Our next meeting will be Dec 4th. Blessing to all. The Cap Club

Home Alone for Christmas? The annual Home Alone for Christmas dinner will be at Lutheran Church of Peace on Christmas day. Sign-up sheets for volunteers and donations will be available soon in the Narthex. Our representatives will be Carol Lange, Marion & Norenne Masbruch.

Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.; Monday-Friday

Contact Information

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Ellen Carnahan ellen.carnahan@yahoo.com

PLATTEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Come and Sing Choir!

Would you love to sing in the choir, but don't have time for the rehearsals every week?

Do you think it would be great to sing in a multi-generational choir?

Did you sing in a choir "once upon a time" and miss singing?

Do you want to be part of something new at the church?

Do you enjoying singing (even if you think you aren't good enough to be in a choir)?

If your answer is yes to any or all of these questions, we hope you'll consider joining us for our new COME and SING Choir! It is just what the title says. COME and learn the song, and then SING it during the service that day. We will meet at 8 am on the designated Sundays. Please join us on *December 9th* for our next rehearsal and performance. Our choir director, Jill, will lead everyone in learning the chosen hymn or song. Then we will sing that same day at the 8:30 service. We will sing songs that are catchy, have repeated parts, and are (hopefully) familiar and/or easy to learn. Singers of all ages are welcome. We'd love to have whole families!



MUSIC SUNDAY





Poinsettias

Would you like to order a poinsettia to share with the church this Christmas? Plants can be given in honor or in memory of someone important in your life. The plants can be ordered in red or white, and will come with foil wrap and with a bow. The cost for each plant is \$13.50. You may pick up your poinsettia following Christmas Day Worship.



Please fill out and return this form to the church office by December 10th.

Name		
Plants given in honor / in memory of _		
Total number of poinsettas:	Color of poinsettas:redwhite	
Total Cost (\$13.50 per plant)	(checks made out to PUMC)	

Birthdays This Month

1 Jack Kirby		
1 Darrell Henry		
2 Betty Smith		
3 Sarah Hasker		
4 Bret Feist		
9 Frances Allbaugh		
12 Lisa Mumm		
12 Logan Uppena		
14 James Bailie		
15 Jason Weigel		
15 Anna Hilfer		
16 Gene Digman		
16 Kaylie Feist		
16 Brooke Kuhls		
17 Dan Griffiths		

17 Christina Berning
18 Margaret Ambrosius
19 James Harle
20 Dawn Drake
21 Janice Steinback
21 Carrie Hardy
26 Ryan Wieters
26 Jordon Schulte
26 Shane Freiburger
26 Trenton Mumm
29 Pastor Brenda
30 Joan Kuehl
30 Peg Burkard
31 Steve Lozeau

31 Adam Goninen



Anniversaries This Month

02 Robert & Marlene Winkers
05 Richard & Eunice Dagnon
06 Keith & Arica Wanezek
06 Travis & Michelle Hromadka
17 Gary & Pam Craugh
22 Tom & LeeAnn Lindahl
23 Jim & Carol Kirkpatrick
27 Lenny & Sharon Glass
27 Merle & Beth Duggan
29 John & Deb Putnam

Special thanks to the money counters, Rita Elver, John Ambrosius, Mary June Rewey, Katie Cottingham and Ellen Carnahan. Your help is deeply appreciated. Norma Meisel, Financial Secretary

In October, we welcomed two new families to our congregation.

Pete & Lisa Mumm, Morgan, Nathan & Trenton

Chad & Amy Pohle, Autumn & Zachary

Congratulations to Amber & Christophe Vrielinck, who welcomed a baby boy, Eli Thomas, on November 23rd.

The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other.

~Burton Hillis

The Christmas Toy Painting Shop Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:30p.m. from November 13th – December 18th

Advent, Anglicized from the Latin word *adventus* meaning "coming", is a season observed in the Christian church as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas.

This Advent Season we focus on worshiping fully, spending less, giving more, and loving all.

Give more of your time this Advent season by helping paint toys for those in the community in need.

- Help paint the wooden toys that members of our congregation make each year. Help others who can't afford to buy gifts for their children
- Build relationships with others in the community through painting together.
- Painting will help reduce your stress & turn this holiday season into an Advent Season.
- Classes will start Tuesday, November 13th and go through December 18^{th.}
- Time will be Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Come to all classes, come to one, come for 2 hours or come for just one hour, just come.
- Help yourself by helping others. Reduce the stresses in your life through opening up your creative side.
- Classes will be in the 2nd and 3rd grade classroom (downstairs in the church).
- Have items to paint for the upcoming Bazaar?
- Have something else you want to paint?

Come do it with our painting group.

All are welcome.

All ages are encouraged. No prior painting experience necessary.

Have extra paint? Extra paint supplies? Donate them to The Christmas Toy Painting Shop.



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

Thank you to all who came and supported the College Students in raising money to go

to Atlanta Georgia during winter break. We served a lot of pancakes, and loved sharing our quirkiness through music. We were able to raise over \$1000 towards our trip!

In January, 12 of our college students will be going to Atlanta Georgia to Passion Conference. This is a conference for solely college students, and focuses on social



justice. If you would like to help by donating, our next fundraiser is Dec. 8th. We will be having a game afternoon at Whig UMC. There is a suggested donation of \$10, and we will be having a bake sale at the same time. Please join us if you can from 1-4pm on the 8th! If you are unable to come, and would still like to help the students, we would very much appreciate any donation. Thanks again



Sun	Mon	Tue
2 Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Youth Group 4:30 pm	3 Breakfast Prayer Group @ Country Kitchen 6:45 am Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm Church Council 5:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm	4 CAP Club 10:00 am Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Memorials 7:00 pm
9 Come & See Choir 8:00am Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am <i>CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS</i> <i>PROGRAM</i> Youth Group 4:30 pm Mallow Ringers 6:00 pm	10 Breakfast Prayer Group @ Country Kitchen 6:45 am Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Finance 6:30 pm	11 Nurture Cmte 2:00 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Missions 5:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm
16 MUSIC SUNDAY Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Youth Group 4:30 pm	17 Breakfast Prayer Group @ Country Kitchen 6:45 am Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm	18 Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Troop 82 Meeting 7:00 p
23 Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am	24 Office Closed 5:00 pm Family Service 10:00 pm Traditional Service	25 MERRY CHRISTM Office Closed Pastor Brenda on

2012 ECEMBER

	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 UMW Holiday Fair 9-3 pm
	5 Bible Study 7:30 am Hearts & Hands 1:00pm Worship Cmte 6:00 pm Redeemer 6:30 am Holy Rollers 7:00 pm	6 Dance Elite 3:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Recovery Group 7:30 pm	7	8 Campus Ministry Game Night Fundraiser at Whig UMC 1-4pm
	12 Bible Study 7:30 am Hearts & Hands 1:00pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Redeemer 6:30 am Holy Rollers 7:00 pm	13 Barely Seniors 12:00 pm Dance Elite 3:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Pack 89 Meeting 5:00 pm Recovery Group 7:30 pm	14 Newsletter Deadline	15
om	19 Bible Study 7:30 am Hearts & Hands 1:00pm Redeemer 6:30 am Holy Rollers 7:00 pm	20 Newsletter Assembled 12:00 pm Dance Elite 3:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Pack 89 Meeting 5:00 pm Recovery Group 7:30 pm	21	22
AS	26 Bible Study 7:30 am Hearts & Hands 1:00pm Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm	27 Dance Elite 3:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Recovery Group 7:30 pm	28	29
Vaca	tion until Jan. 6 ————		→	

PLATTEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULES

Usher Schedule			
8:30 a.m.	John Meisel		
11:00 a.m.	Dan & Deb Dunbar		
Greeters Sci	hedule		
December 2	8:30 a.m.	Roger & Rita Elver	
	11:00 a.m.	Eleanor Noble	
December 9	8:30 a.m.	OPEN	
	11:00 a.m.	Jason & Jennifer Fiedler	
December 16	8:30 a.m.	Teddy McNett	
	11:00 a.m.	Dale Griffith	
December 23	8:30 a.m.	Randy Karsten	
	11:00 a.m.	Kyle James	
December 24	5:00 pm	Doug & Kathy Martin	
(Christmas Eve)	10:00 pm	Joe Witmer	
December 30	8:30 am	Doris Tatge	
	11:00 am	Bailie Family	
Readers Sch	nedule		
December 2	8:30 a.m.	Carol Lange	
	11:00 a.m.	OPEN	
December 9	8:30 a.m.	OPEN	
	11:00 a.m.	Christmas Program	
December 16	8:30 a.m.	Choirs/Bands	
	11:00 a.m.	Choirs/Bands	
December 23	8:30 a.m.	Ellen Carnahan	
	11:00 a.m.	Kyle James	
December 24	5:00 pm	OPEN	

(Christmas Eve) 10:00 pm Joe Witmer December 30 8:30 am OPEN 11:00 am OPEN

December 2nd

Advent Conspiracy: Love All Matthew 25:31-46 Communion Both Services 8:30 Mallow Ringers 11:00 Blind Faith

December 9th

8:30 The Cost of Carrying the Christ Luke 1:26-38 Come And Sing Choir Special Music: Becky Demarree 11:00 Children's Christmas Program Blind Faith

December 16th

Music Sunday!

December 23rd

The Advent of Signs and Wonders (variety of texts) 8:30 special music TBD 11:00 Blind Faith

***Special Music is being planned for 8:30 worship for each Sunday. Be sure to come to church each week to see what is offered to the glory of God!!

Lighting the Advent Candles

December 2	8:30 a.m.	Michael & Tonia Olds Family
	11:00 a.m.	Warner & Pam Smidt
December 9	8:30 a.m.	Hasker Family
	11:00 a.m.	OPEN
December 16	8:30 a.m.	Deb & John Putnam
	11:00 a.m.	Scanlan Family
December 23	8:30 a.m.	Koeller/Fairchild
		Families
	11:00 a.m.	Pluemer Family
December 24	5:00 pm	OPEN
(Christmas Eve)	10:00 pm	OPEN

The deadline for the December newsletter will be on Friday, December 14. (this is a week early due to Christmas)

Need Used Carpet??

If you know of a use for the dark blue carpet from the chancel platform, please contact Warner Smidt. It would help us we didn't have to pay to dispose it.

Weekend Sidewalk Snow Shoveling

Sara and Calvin Koeller will once again be coordinating the winter weekend church sidewalk snow shoveling. If you could help with this project please list your name and contact information on the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Chancel Update

The chancel is near completion! The new carpet has been installed on the platform, the AV desk is in and all the new technology is in. A cleaning crew will be coming in to clean the sanctuary, carpets in the sanctuary, narthex and Wesley Room will be cleaned and the sanctuary will be painted.

Please Notify the Church Office When...

- * You or a member of your family is hospitalized.
- * You have a change of address, especially if you are going away for the winter.
- * Your phone number has changed.
- * Your email address has changed.
- Your board or committee changes a meeting date or time.
- Members of your family are students attending school away from home or are living at a different address

Your help with all of the above is very much appreciated!

Would you like to receive you newsletter electronically? If you would, please contact Jennifer in the church office. Just a friendly reminder of the weekly announcement and newsletter deadlines.

Weekly Announcements

Wednesday morning

Newsletters

3rd Friday of the month

Please have any articles to the office no later than Friday afternoon. This will ensure that your article will get in the newsletter. Dates are posted in the weekly announcements, newsletter and sent out by email.



Our volunteer crew:

Deb Dunbar, Dave Carnahan, Max Anderson, Roger Elver, Warner Smidt, Tom Ziegenfuss (not pictured: Jordan Schulte, Dale Griffith, Dan Dunbar & Chad Phohle)

A tremendous thanks to Warner Smidt and his volunteer crew. They saved us a tremendous amount of money on our chancel project. Warner served as architect and general contractor, and worked for countless hours. The volunteer crew also did a tremendous amount of work. Thank you so much!!!

Photos of the Chancel Project









We had a wonderful response for our Commitment Sunday! We had wonderful worship, a fantastic brunch, and a large number of pledge cards have been turned in. So far we have received 88 cards for a total pledge of \$203,987 for 2013! Three families are taking the 3 month tithe challenge. A total of 9 families are tithing, three are working toward a tithe, and four are giving above a tithe! Praying for blessings for everybody!

It is not too late to turn in your pledge card. There are extras available at the church.

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." Malachi 3:10



Month Tithe It's not too late to sign up for the 3 month tithe challenge. Everything we have is a gift from God. The Bible asks us to put God first in our lives by giving our first and our best back to God, and he will bless the rest. This

first is the tithe, or tenth of our income. We return to the Lord 10% of what he's given us, because it belongs to him. God then makes sure we have enough.

Because we want you to experience the growth of faith that comes from tithing, we offer the Three Month Tithe Challenge. In the Three Month Tithe Challenge, we commit to you that if you tithe for three months and God does not hold true to his promises of blessings, we will refund 100% of your tithe.

Earlier this year, the Finance Committee proposed, and the Church Council approved, a budget that had a \$10,000 deficit. Monies were added to the budget to support our pastor at a senior pastor level, as we had done before we had clergy couples, we added Mindy as program staff, and then increased ministry area budget items to reflect our growing programs. The challenge that we have is that giving so far this year has not made up all of the difference. Our giving through October is roughly \$17,000 behind our budget. Apportionments have been paid at 100% through September. The Finance Committee has decided to put on hold apportionment payments for now, hopefully to be paid at the end of the year. You are encouraged to catch up on your pledge if you are behind. You are also welcome to give an end of the year gift to our operating expenses. All that we do to make disciples for Jesus Christ comes from our church budget. Thank you for your generosity in building the Kingdom of God in Platteville!

In the November newsletter we stated that Finance Committee was trying to have the 2013 budget available for a vote during Charge Conference. Even with the tremendous response to Commitment Sunday, because of the ebb and flow of members and their giving, the number we anticipate for income in 2013 is too low for a budget that would be similar to this year. We are working hard, looking specifically at individual budget lines, to see where we can cut administrative spending so that we do not have to cut program or staff. We want to manage well the resources that our congregation entrusts to us. We therefore need more time before we are able to present the 2013 budget.

If it seems like this page has bad financial news, it isn't necessarily so. We are experiencing the financial challenges of a GROWING church, not a dying one. Praise God!

Wesleyan Call: Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.

Adopted Families

Thank you for your generous donations to the adopted families' Thanksgiving food baskets. The baskets were delivered on Tuesday before Thanksgiving.

This year we are serving an even greater number of area families (12 families) who are having financial difficulty due to job loss, illness, etc. We will continue to collect food and offer Christmas gift ideas for these families until December 19. Please watch for the gift tags on the Christmas tree in the narthex. Thank you for reaching out to care for the community around us.

Hurricane Sandy Relief

Seven flood buckets were delivered to the Conference office just in time to be shipped to Hurricane Sandy victims. The clean up for the hurricane disaster victims will continue for months. The mission committee will continue to collect and assemble cleaning buckets. Thank you for remembering our neighbors on the east coast.

Thank you Wayne Simmons for the generous donation of Lands' End clothing for men, women and children. The clothes were folded, sorted and sent with the Grant County hurricane relief collection that left for the east coast this week. The children's clothing will be offered to our adopted families.



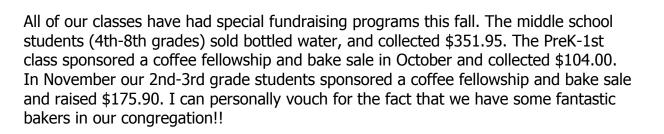
Watch in the Narthex for the giving tree. Take a tag or two and help our adopted families during the holidays.

Thank you for your support.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Our Sunday School student's "Water For Life" mission project has been an amazing success this fall. Our goal for the school year is to collect \$2,300.00 to build a well in a small village in Liberia, Africa. Two months ago, that seemed like an impossible goal for a small group of school-age children!

But after totaling up all of our offering money, and the collections from our special projects, we have already collected <u>\$838.34</u>!!! That means we are now 1/3 of the way to our goal.



We will continue to sponsor the coffee fellowship on the first Sunday of each month. Our 4th-5th grade class will be hosting the next fellowship on December 2.

Thank you to all our dedicated teachers, to those parents who helped by contributing baked goods, to our special angel Carolyn Woodward who made the coffee for us, and to our generous congregation for supporting our children in this project. God has truly blessed us!



Sunday December 9th 11:00 Worship Service

Kids will be practicing during music time at Sunday School

water



PLATTEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1065 Lancaster Street Platteville WI 53818

Phone: 608-348-9508 Email: platttevilleumc@centurylink.net

WE'RE ON THE WEB

PLATTEVILLEUMC.ORG

&

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ PlattevilleUMC

If you would no longer like to receive this newsletter, please contact the church office to take your name off the mailing list. Thank you!



Non-Profit Organization U.S Postage Paid Platteville, WI Permit No. 97

Sunday, December 9

8:30 amTraditional 11:00 am Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 16

Music Sunday (both services)

Sunday, December 23

8:30 am Traditional 11:00 am Contemporary

Christmas Eve Monday, December 24

5:00 pm Family Worship Service 10:00 pm Traditional Worship Service