

# MAY

The  
Times of Peace

2023

PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PIPESTONE, MN

So many ask where is God when terrorists attack or when a tornado wipes out the majority of a town or city and lives are lost? Why do children die from cancer and why does our beloved mother or father, grandfather or grandmother lose their memory and no longer know who I am?

We want to know what is going on and if God really cares about us or any of this. Why doesn't God redirect a destructive tornado, prevent children from starving and help law enforcement find a murderer before another person becomes their victim and dies.

Our questions get a little more personal when a drunk driver injures or kills a family member or friend. We ask - how can human beings who are created in your image God --- be so careless and even murderous?

Where does the evil come from and how do we overcome it in our lives? Evil is a very real force in our world and in our lives – but God --- God is not surprised by evil. God is not the source of evil – but when disaster happens – God is there.

Many people turn to the Bible and look for the answers to those questions. We won't find all the answers to our questions because God does not give us all the answers. Instead, we need to learn to trust God even in our darkest days of suffering and/or pain. And what is so beautiful about God's everlasting, pursuing love for us is this --- even though we ignore him or turn away from Him – He continues to have supreme power and authority of this world He created --- and He does not turn away from us.

The Bible is the world's number one best-seller of all times and is the most stolen book of all times. Millions of copies in more than two thousand languages and dialects are sold every year. And yet, many do not open and read the Bible on a regular basis. Despite the impression of the Bible's popularity, many find it hard to dig into the pages of scripture and find the answers they are so desperately looking for.

**Good and Evil** - where did they come from? For the answer to that question, we go all the way back to the beginning – to Creation and the Garden of Eden. When God had completed our universe, He looked around at all He created and said, "it was very good."

Evil entered our world when Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate from the one and only tree they were told not to from in the middle of the Garden, The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. They wanted to be like God, they wanted to know all things and not rely on His goodness or His wisdom and care --- and sin and evil entered our world. We can try and place blame on Adam and Evil – but ask yourself – if I had been tempted by the serpent - would I have obeyed God? **OR** would you have succumbed to the temptation just as Adam and Eve did?

Currently we are walking through the series of **Good and Evil**. We began with "*How Did We Get Here*" and then moved on to "*Dealing with Disasters*." We are going to be looking at "*Human Disabilities (physical and mental) and the Goodness of God*" followed by "*Struggling with Disease and Illness*," then looking at "*Who is Our Enemy in this World*," and "*The Enemy Within Each of Us*," "*Overcoming Death's Grip on Our Lives*" and wrapping up with "*Finding Hope in Our World*."

Will we find all the answers we are looking for? Most likely not and these topics may even raise more questions that you have about **Good and Evil**.

My hope is that these questions and others that you have, will lead you into a deeper exploration into your relationship with God and therefore, help you to find and see the unfathomable depth of God's love for you and His infinite goodness.

Be blessed,

Pastor Velda

## Leadership Council Meeting

April 15, 2023

7 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Steve Schulze                      Sandy Lopau  
Rick Erks    Pastor Velda Maine

### **Pastoral Report:** Pastor Velda

March Report:

Pastoral Calls – 23

Pastoral Prayer Breakfasts – 4

Community Meetings – 1

Peace Quilters Ministry – 1

Completed another Course of Study/Seminary Class this past week-end April 14 & 15.

Funerals – 1

Congregation Related Meetings – 4

Ecumenical Prayer Shawl Ministry – 2

### **SPRC:** By Report

Secretary/Treasurer job description has been completed. Posting to Indeed job site for potential candidates/applicants.

### **Treasurer's Report:** Sandy Lopau

All bills are paid to date.

Appointments are paid to date.

Received to date for April \$4,784.88

### **Trustee's Report:** Rick Erks

Chuck has all the bills paid. Pete is checking with Robbie to see if we can use his carpet cleaner for the rug in the nursery.

Discussion was held regarding possible solutions to the leaky roof vent.

Regarding 5-10 year plan: Attempt to complete a project annually.

The zero turn lawnmower needs repairs but perhaps both units will be traded for a larger unit.

Rick is checking with Nancy Terry about power washing the stone in front of the church & the parsonage. He will also check with Ryan Blaue about painting the ceiling in the sanctuary. Ryan painted the courthouse recently.

The kitchen flooring needs replacing eventually.

### **Peace Foundation:** Chuck Vaux by report

Two applications for scholarships are in the mail box. Would like board to approve these using education funds.

### **Children's Education:** Becky Sietsema

No report.

### **Worship:** Elly Erks by Report

"Muffins for moms" will again be celebrated on May 14. Elly, Barb, & Amy each volunteered to make 2 dz muffins each. People to hostess the event will be determined at the May meeting. This will need to be placed in the May newsletter.

Pentecost is May 21. Easter décor will need to be replaced with red banners, fabric etc. A final date to switch décor out will be decided at the May meeting.

Pastor Velda announced that there would be Sr. recognition on June 4. The children will also be playing bells. Barb will order 2 cakes: 1 with Colman colors for Easton & the other with Pipestone colors for Alyssa. Amy volunteered to purchase plates, napkins & forks. We'll plan on 75 people. Elly will take care of putting up the Jeremiah banner.

Julie informed us that her family would like to donate memorial money to our committee for a project. After much discussion, Christmas updating is at the top of the list. This would include LED lights on the cross, fabric for the cross, & 2 items for the small tables near the pulpits where our trees were usually placed.

The next meeting will be May 10 at 11 am.

### **United Women of Faith (previously UMW):** Jan Wussow

No report. Planning on meeting Thursday for the first time since November because of weather.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pastor Velda Maine

# BBQ Drive Thru Dinner



Wednesday May 17, 2023

5-7pm

\$8

Serving BBQ pork sandwich,  
potato salad, chips, and bar

Peace United Methodist Church

Corner of Hwy 23 & 30

Enter the parking lot from the south

Proceeds go for camperships and youth activities.



## COMMUNION SUNDAYS

*Sunday - May 7*

*Sunday - June 4*

*Sunday - July 2*

*Sunday - August 6*

### *Mother's Day*

*May 14, 2023*

*Please come and celebrate Mother's Day with us at church on Sunday, May 14. Following our worship service we will be serving muffins to honor and celebrate Mom's and all the women of our faith family. Please mark your calendar and come and join us.*



Thank you to all who donated Easter Lilies for the beautification of our Sanctuary for Easter morning - in memory of:

**Rick & Elly Erks** - Warren, Catherine & Bob Argetsinger, Carl and Vera Erks and Connie Hurd

**Steve & Lynda Ewing** - Robert Zimmerman & Kenzie & Bev Wenger

**Julie Dallmann** - Phyllis & Walter Wussow & Chriss Wussow

**Dudley & Deb Houselog** - Marge & Kelley Selken

**Jim Long** - Wilma Deen & Verne Long

**Sandy Lopau, Jenny Severson, Becky Sietsema** - Delwin Lopau

**Elaine & LeRoy Misfeldt** - Frank Tirrel & Connie Crane

**Jim & Candy Whipple** - Glenn, Olympia, Dorothy, Glenda, Jerry Whipple & George and Venita Sutherland

**Dale & Jan Wussow** - Arlo & Marjorie Schroeder & Craig Schoeder







## ***PIPESTONE COUNTY FOOD SHELF***

It is our turn to serve once again at the  
Pipestone County Food Shelf on  
Thursday, May 11 from 1:30 to 5 p.m.  
If you are able to help in serving those in our  
community who suffer from food insecurity  
please contact Sandy Lopau.  
Thank you for your service!

United Women in Faith met on Thursday, April 20 for the first time since November due to the weather. We voted to disburse some of the money in our treasury that we made last year, especially from our craft and bake sale. Money will be disbursed to the church, Hope Harbor, Nomads, the Food Shelf and the Living Waters Mission in Ukraine where Sarah Walker is currently serving.

We also discussed moving our meetings to the morning instead of afternoons like we are currently doing. We will make a decision at our next meeting in May.



United  
Methodist  
Women

**IS NOW**



United  
Women  
in Faith



*You are invited!*

## ***YOU ARE INVITED***

to come and celebrate with

**Alyssa Winter**

Saturday

May 27, 2023

3-7 pm

at her home

2094 US Hwy 75

Pipestone, Minnesota

# MAY BIRTHDAYS



## May Anniversaries

May 1 - Clayton & Val Klumper  
May 7 - Rich and Barb Visker  
May 15 - Pete & Barb Sietsema

May 2 - Erin Lanie  
May 5 - Jenny Severson  
May 9 - Chris Sietsema  
May 9 - Rick Jepsen  
May 10 - Ben Kampmann  
May 15 - Milo Lane  
May 16 - John Shaffer  
May 21 - Deb Houselog  
May 24 - Trent VanRoekel  
May 30 - Leroy Misfeldt



### Good Samaritan Society

Gretchen Blom

### Falls Landing

Violet Werner



Church Clean Up night is on Monday - May 1, 2023 - the first Monday of the month.  
Please join us! We meet at the Church at 7 p.m.

If you are making a donation for the church cleaning by Progress, please write a separate check to the church and indicate in the memo portion of your check that it is for the cleaning service. If you are giving cash, please place in an envelope and indicate on the outside of the envelope for Church Cleaning. We are having some accounting issues when you include it with your Sunday morning giving. Thank you for your consideration and anticipated assistance.

*The Trustees Committee*



You know it makes cents!

During the month of May  
Change for Change  
will be received for  
Veteran's Donation



Donation will be given to  
**The MN Veteran's Home**  
in Luverne

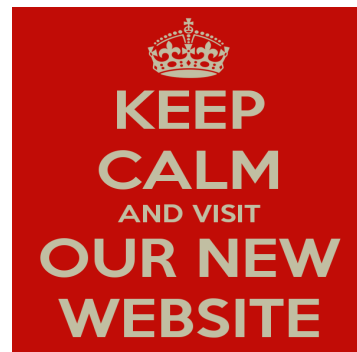
for use in their Activity Department.

Money's will be used for a wide  
varieties of games and activities that  
our Veteran's participate in for their  
physical and mental wellbeing.

Please consider giving this month as  
a way of thanking our Veteran's for  
their service to our country and our  
freedom.



Peace UMC has  
a WEBSITE!!!

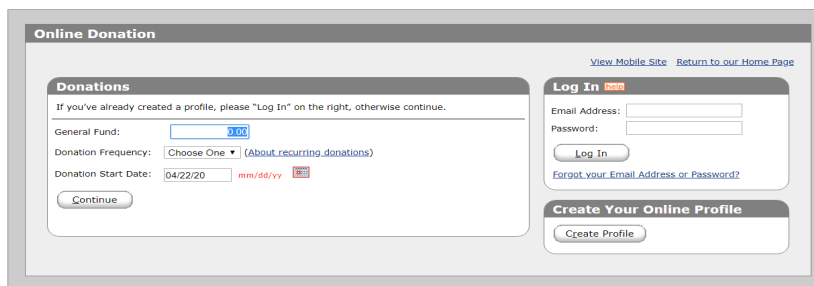


**www.peaceumcpipestone.com**

Now there are 3 different ways to give back to  
your church!

- ◆ \*Through the Postal Mail:  
PO Box 26, Pipestone MN 56164
- ◆ Auto Giving - set up by Church Treasurer  
(Sandy Lopau)
- ◆ ONLINE - by clicking on the GIVE tab on our  
website, you are taken to the page below  
where you can choose to donate once, or  
set it up to automatically donate as you  
wish. Its very simple and very secure!



Peace United Methodist Church



**Peace UMC has an Auto Giving Option  
that allows you to pick an amount you  
would like to give and how often you  
would like to give it! Its as easy as  
filling out this form and providing a  
voided check!**

**Talk to Sandy Lopau (Church Treasurer)  
if you would like to set this up!**

# Church Calendar of Events MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1</p> <p>9 am Peace Quilters</p> <p>7 pm <b>ALL CHURCH CLEAN-UP</b></p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>10 am Worship</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7 pm Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11 am Worship Committee</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>10 am Worship</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>9 am Peace Quilters</p> <p>7 pm Leadership Council Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5-7 pm BBQ Drive thru Dinner</p>	<p>18</p> <p>2 pm Women In Faith (UMW) Meeting</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>10 am Worship</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>10 am Worship</p>		<p>30</p> <p>5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl</p>	<p>31</p>			



## **2023 Giving Goal**

\$139,205

## **Needed Each Month**

\$11,600

## **Received to-date for April 2023**

\$7,358.38



### **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

Looking for volunteers to help in the Sound Booth on Sunday mornings.

Help with sound board, power point/slide projection and camera operation for FACEBOOK Live. Training available.

Rick Erks says if he can do it - so can you.

Please contact Rick at 605-413-3431 to let him know you are willing to help.



Be sure to 'like' us on Facebook!!  
Stay up-to-date with what's going on at the church. See photos, connect with members and talk with the Pastor!

@peaceUMCpipestone

### **Peace United Methodist Church**

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PO Box 26

Pipestone, MN56164

**Phone:** (507) 825-4348

**Email:** office.peacemethodist@gmail.com

### **Velda Maine, Pastor**

301 8th St SE

Pipestone, MN 56164

**Mobile:** (507) 227-5453

**Parsonage:** (507) 825-4418

**Email:** pastor.peacemethodist@gmail.com



If you are unable to join us in person on Sunday mornings,  
remember to tune in to our Worship Service broadcast via  
Facebook Live at 10 am!

<https://www.facebook.com/peaceUMCpipestone/>



**PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
PO BOX 26  
PIPESTONE MN 56164