

Fifth Avenue United Methodist Church
323 S Fifth Ave
West Bend, WI 53095-3391

September 2025

The Fifth Avenue Family Connection
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Ministers: All friends and members

Lay Leader: Alana Dalton dalton42019@gmail.com

Staff Parish Relations Chair: Kaonou Latham lathamkaonou@hotmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Hae-Jeong Yoon pastor@faumc.org

Christian Education Chair: Kathy Schneider schneka99@gmail.com

Accountable Leadership Board Chair: Ellen Johnson handejohnson123@gmail.com

Trustees Co-Chair: Brett Barnett bwbarnett9628@sbcglobal.net

Trustees Co-Chair: Dean Pok dean@heartlandconstruction.net

Wills & Memorials Chair: Thomas L. Thomas tltwb@hotmail.com

Finance Chair: Doug Fitzgerald fitzyjd@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Eric Peters ewpeters11@gmail.com

Recording Secretary: Betty Clement rclement001@wi.rr.com

Lay Member to Annual Conference: Dot Edison edison2060@sbcglobal.net

Volunteer Coordinator: Jean Krell jkrellwb@gmail.com

Pianist/Organist: Deanna Gibeau deannagibeau99@gmail.com

Chancel Choir Director: Dave Bertelsen badgerbert@charter.net

Handbell Choir Director: Kathy Schneider schneka99@gmail.com

Office Manager: Aimee Liepert church@faumc.org

Property Custodian: Michael Lewis heylewis1979.ml@gmail.com

COME WORSHIP WITH US!

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Communion First Sunday of Each Month

**Church Service can be watched on our
YouTube Channel: FAUMC WEST BEND WI**

Instagram: 5thavefaumc
Facebook: Fifth Avenue United Methodist Church
Website: www.faumc.org

Office Hours M-F 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Office: 262-334-2059 **Fax:** 262-334-6117



FAMILY CONNECTION

“Making Christian Disciples”

Published Monthly by

Fifth Avenue United Methodist Church—West Bend, Wisconsin

September 2025 Volume 30, No. 9



Are Your Prayers Answered?

One thing God has made abundantly clear to me is that prayers are always answered. While some prayers are answered immediately, others may be answered at the right time, even if not immediately. In some cases, prayers may take a very long time to be answered, such as 10, 20, or even 30 years.

Book of Revelation 8:3-5 states that the prayers of the saints rise with the incense of the angel before the throne of God. The rising incense symbolizes that these prayers are heard, valued, and ascend to God. Then the rising prayers are answered by God. God has great joy in answering our prayers, and these answered prayers deepen our faith.

However, there are prayers that don’t rise to the throne. Unfortunately, 80% of our prayers don’t reach God, while only 20% are heard. Why is this? If your urgent prayers remain unanswered, your heart loses the courage to pray again.

There are crucial elements we should understand from the Bible. It’s Hebrews 11:6, which states, “And without faith it is impossible to please God, for anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (NIV). This verse emphasizes the importance of believing in God’s reality and recognizing that He rewards those who diligently search for Him.

Is God REAL to you? It’s the central focus of answered prayers. God isn’t distant or vague; He’s incredibly real, just like the chair you’re sitting on, the cup you’re drinking from, or the phone you’re using. God knows every aspect of your life, even the smallest details like the number of hairs on your head. He knows you better than you know yourself because He created you. When you search for Him, He becomes tangible—a person who is infinitely loving and powerful, sitting right next to you.

The next step is to speak to God with YOUR HEART. If your heart isn’t poured in your own words, your prayers won’t be heard. When you speak to God, you speak from your current state, pouring out your heart, whether it’s pain, worry, depression, drug addiction, or alcoholism. You’re to speak from your heart. Then, your prayers ascend to the throne, and God answers powerfully with “peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.” (Rev. 8:5)

God guides you, God heals you, God restores you, God reveals heavenly wisdom when you needed to discern an important decision when you pour your heart in your own language. It is the way that your prayers are heard, and always heard. Do not hide anything at all. Frankly speak, what you cannot do at all.

Your life and struggles should be the first things you pray for. After that, you can continue praying for your family and friends, your community, and the nation. You can also pray for peace and justice in the world. It’s like a stone dropped into a pond, creating ripples that spread outward.

Talk to Jesus always through prayer, asking questions, seeking guidance, in all big and small things of life. There is no small things to God. God is delighted to listen and answer your prayers.

Grace and Love,

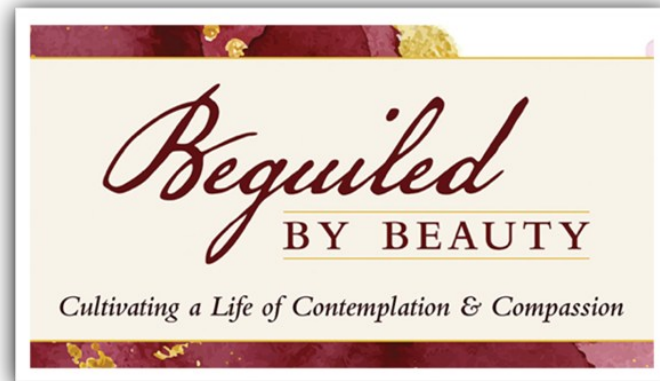
Pastor Hae-Jeong



Our Vision:

A welcoming faith community that makes devoted followers of Jesus freely sharing their belief.

SERMON SERIES



- | | | |
|--------------|------------|---|
| September 7 | Theme: | Beauty, Contemplation, and Radical Compassion |
| | Scripture: | Ezekiel 31: 3-7 (Inclusive Bible) |
| September 14 | Theme: | We Are Made for the Beloved |
| | Scripture: | Psalms 16: 7-11 (Inclusive Bible) |
| September 21 | Theme: | Awakening to Beauty, Falling in Love with the World |
| | Scripture: | Psalms 147: 1-11 (Inclusive Bible) |
| September 28 | Theme: | Abyss, Mystery, and Wonder |
| | Scripture: | Psalms 135: 1-3; 13-21 (Inclusive Bible) |

SEPTEMBER MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 21:22

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer" (NIV).

5 WAYS TO GIVE TO FIFTH AVE UMC



IN-PERSON BY
CASH OR CHECK



BY MAIL



AUTOMATIC
DEDUCTION



ONLINE AT
FAUMC.ORG/GIVE



VANCO
MOBILE APP

September 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Labor Day Office Closed 7p Scouts Soles for Souls Begins	2 1p Prayer Shawl 6p Musical Masquers 6:30p AA Mtg 7p SA Mtg	3 9:30a UWF Meeting 5p FANT 6p Musical Masquers 6p Handbell Choir	4 6p Trustees Meeting 6p Musical Masquers 7p AA Mtg	5 9a Investment Club	6 9a SA Mtg
7 9:30a Rally Sunday Outdoor Worship Service & Communion Potluck	8 6p Musical Masquers 7p Scouts	9 1p Prayer Shawl 6p Musical Masquers 6p ALB Mtg 6:30p AA Mtg 7p SA Mtg	10 1p Sewing Homeless Blankets 6p Musical Masquers 6p Handbell Choir	11 6p Musical Masquers 7p AA Mtg	12	13 9a SA Mtg
14 8:30a Chancel Choir 9:30a Worship Service 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Fellowship Time	15 6p Musical Masquers 7p Scouts	16 1p Prayer Shawl 6p Vision Mtg 6p Musical Masquers 6:30p AA Mtg 7p SA Mtg	17 1p UWF Sewing Day 5p FANT 6p Musical Masquers 6p Handbell Choir 7p Ecumen	18 6p Musical Masquers 7p AA Mtg	19	20 9a SA Mtg
21 8:30a Praise Band / Chancel Choir Practice 9:30a Worship Service 10:30a Fellowship Time	22 6p Musical Masquers 6:30p Bible Study (1 of 6) 7p Scouts	23 1p Prayer Shawl 6p Musical Masquers 6:30p AA Mtg 7p SA Mtg	24 6p Musical Masquers 6p Handbell Choir	25 6p Musical Masquers 6:30p Healing Service 7p AA Mtg	26	27 9a SA Mtg
28 8:30a Chancel Choir 9:30a Worship Service 10:30a Fellowship Time	29 6p Musical Masquers 6:30p Bible Study (2 of 6) 7p Scouts	30 1p Prayer Shawl 6p Musical Masquers 6:30p AA Mtg 7p SA Mtg				

SOLES4SOULS
WEARING OUT POVERTY™

Gently Worn
Shoes or
New Shoes



September 1 – October 31

The Youth Group is collecting shoes for the needy. Shoes donated can be new or gently used and will be sent to countries in need.

The Shoe Container is outside by the North Entrance.

New Members Reception—Sunday, July 27th



Pastor Hae-Jeong welcomes our new members Chloe Barnett, Ashley Barnett, John Kocourek, Jackie Kocourek, Tiffany Planasch, Pekelo Pusateri, Tom Blumenberg, and Sandy Blumenberg.



Pastor's Fund

We have a Pastor's Fund that can financially help church members or other residents in Washington County. If you are in need of such assistance, please contact Pastor Hae-Jeong in the church office, 262-334-2059.

If you would like to contribute to this fund, please make check payable to FAUMC and mark "Pastor's Fund" in the memo section. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

NewsLetter
DEADLine

For the October Newsletter
All Articles
Are Due By September 15th
THANK YOU!

DO YOU NEED HEALING?

Healing
SERVICE

GOD IS THE HEALER!

EXODUS 15:26

**THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 25TH
6:30 P.M.
IN THE SANCTUARY**



FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH:

The Waterford, 831 E Washington St, West Bend 53095

2 Pastoral Assistants to assist with Communion & Helping Residents - arrive at 10:15 a.m.

SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH:

Hawthorn Manor, 321 Hawthorn Dr, West Bend 53095

2 Pastoral Assistants to assist with Communion & Helping Residents—arrive at 10:15 a.m.

THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH:

Tentative: Ivy Manor, 370 S Forest Ave, West Bend 53095

2 Pastoral Assistants to assist with Communion & Helping Residents—arrive at 10:15 a.m.

FOURTH MONDAY OF EACH MONTH:

The Samaritan Health Center

531 E Washington St, West Bend 53095

Volunteer Needs at the Samaritan—Arrive at 10:15 a.m.

2 Wheel Chair Pushers

2 Pastoral Assistants to assist with Communion & Helping Residents

DATES WE WILL NOT HAVE THE MINISTRY:

Holidays & Fifth Mondays

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING AUGUST 5, 2025—Page 2 of 2

Christian Education: Kathy Schneider

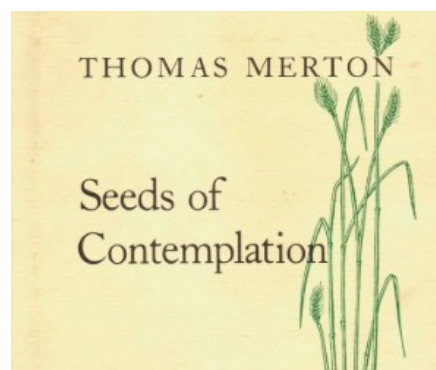
- A. Rally Sunday is September 7th.
- B. Forms were sent out to register for Kids Ministry and Youth Fellowship.
- C. Teachers and assistants are in place.
- D. Letter with new curriculum to be sent mid-August to Kids Ministry families.
- E. Youth Fellowship starts in October.
- F. Soles for Souls – thinking about doing September-October-November.
- G. Dorothy Dahlen talked about school supplies for Green Tree School.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee (SPRC): Kaonou Latham

- A. Background checks continue to be done-completed Dorothy Dahlen.
- B. Landscaping project done.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Hae-Jeong

- A. People:
 - Michael Cahoon, son of Sandy Cahoon, passed away.
 - Tom Latham's father passed away.
 - Ron Katchever (our member) passed.
 - Visitations to shut ins – Charise Kirst and Ron, Carol Flanders
- B. Nursing Home Ministry on Mondays:
 - 1st The Waterford
 - 2nd Hawthorn Manor
 - 3rd Ivy Manor (tentative)
 - 4th The Samaritan Health Center.
 - No ministry on 5th Mondays and holidays.
 - Need 2 wheelchair pushers at the Samaritan, and 2 volunteers at every location to assist Pastor with Communion and assisting residents.
- C. Visitation Team with Polly, the visitation committee. Need more volunteers/interpersonal skill-training might be needed.
- D. Homeless Winter Preparation in partnership with Casa Guadalupe – Our church prepares blankets – currently researching costs, size, etc. – volunteers from our church & community – start work in church in September – Dates at the beginning of October
- E. FANT: September – every Wednesday. All volunteer cooks. Our church volunteers 1st and 3rd weeks, community 2nd, 4th, 5th Wednesday.
- F. September 7th Outdoor Service – hot dogs, burgers, potluck
- G. Leadership Conference – Kansas City at beginning of October. Pastor Michael preaching first Sunday.
- H. Healing Service – Thursdays – September 25th and October 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
- I. New Wisconsin Conference Leadership Role: as a Worship Experience co-chair



Love Is My Name

To say that I am made in the image of God is to say that love is the reason for my existence: for God is love. Love is my true identity. Selflessness is my true self. Love is my true character. Love is my name. If therefore, I do anything or think anything or say anything or know anything or desire anything that is not purely for the love of God, it cannot give me peace, or rest, or fulfillment, or joy.
— Thomas Merton



HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING
August 5, 2025

Finance Report: Doug Fitzgerald
Doug Fitzgerald discussed resolutions for authorization of tracking future gifts. A **Motion** was made by Brett Barnett, and seconded by Kathy Schneider, to accept the resolutions giving the Finance Chair authorization for future gifts & bequests. **Motion Carried.**

Doug provided a handout of the 2025 account summary for the UM Foundation Legacy Fund and Parsonage Fund, as well as the Elaine Gust and Betty Nelson funds. There was further discussion regarding the Betty Nelson fund. A **Motion** was made by Brett Barnett, seconded by Alana Dalton, to approve the removal of the Betty Nelson fund from the Foundation and put into a money market account or CDs. **Motion Carried.**

Treasurer’s Report: Eric Peters
Income: The YTD (2025) total income gain is \$122,409 with a budgeted amount for the entire year of \$395,825. This is 30.93% of the budgeted amount for the current year. July 2025 pledged/unpledged amounts are down \$8,147 compared to June 2025. (Note: This YTD percentage will likely not reach 100% since we budget for future expenses & not income)
Expenses. Total YTD (2025) expenses are \$233, 114 with a budgeted amount for the year of \$395,825. This is 58.89% of the budgeted amount for the current year.
Booked Income: The booked income YTD (2025) loss is -\$110,705.
Investment Income: YTD foundation withdrawal is \$210,424. YTD foundation Deposits are \$0. Current checking has \$24,278 balance as of July 31, 2025.
Parsonage Fund: YTD Parsonage withdrawal is \$6,000. YTD parsonage total deposits \$0.00. We are using money to pay utilities & maintenance with this fund. Current balance in 40213 is \$3,383. July 2025 Utilities/ Maintenance amount for parsonage was \$176.00.

- Notes from Eric:**
- * Stock Market was down for July 2025.
 - * Unpledged/Pledged amounts are down compared to June 2025. July is the lowest month for income this year, and we are spending most in Maintenance & Insurance.
 - * Expenses are up for July, mostly in Maintenance and Insurance.
 - * We took out \$60,423.79 withdrawal from Foundation this past month.
 - * We need to focus on more income & cautionary measures for our expenses.

A **Motion** was made by Kathy Schneider, seconded by Doug Fitzgerald to approve the report. **Motion Carried.** Discussion was held regarding the increased cost of insurance (doubled) and the increase in the building value. Kathy inquired as to whether we can determine the months we have the biggest hits. Doug will review the last five (5) years of the financial reports and provide information.

- Trustees:** Brett Barnett
Brett said that there was no Trustees meeting. The ALB meeting was moved up a week.
- A. **Senior Dining Negotiations:** Brett provided them with a proposal for Senior Dining, which would include additional costs for trash and utilities. Sharon has presented it to the County.
 - B. **Carpeting:** Trustees have two (2) estimates, and are waiting on a third from Polly Bertelsen.
 - C. **Roof:** Roofer repaired this end at no charge.
 - D. **Lawn:** The lawn landscaping is completed and the drainage fixed.
 - E. **Youth Room:** Kathy Scheider had discussed with Brett the need for new blinds in the youth room. Brett will present to Trustees at next meeting. When approved, Kathy will ask Wills & Memorials for money for the new blinds.



United Women in Faith

UWF Meetings, 9:30 a.m.

Fireside Room

September 3rd

Sewing Day, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

September 17th

Debra Matthies, extends her heartfelt thanks for all the cards and prayers she’s been receiving. She had a good meeting with her doctors and they have caught the cancer early. A lumpectomy will be done in the next 2-3 weeks.



DEATH

Michael Cahoon,
son of Jim & Sandy Cahoon,
passed away on July 29th



MEMBER UPDATES

Charise Kirst
charisekirst@hotmail.com

Larry Krueger
New Apt #355
Cell: 262-623-1653

Mark Scheel
mscheel1959@yahoo.com

FALL BIBLE STUDY

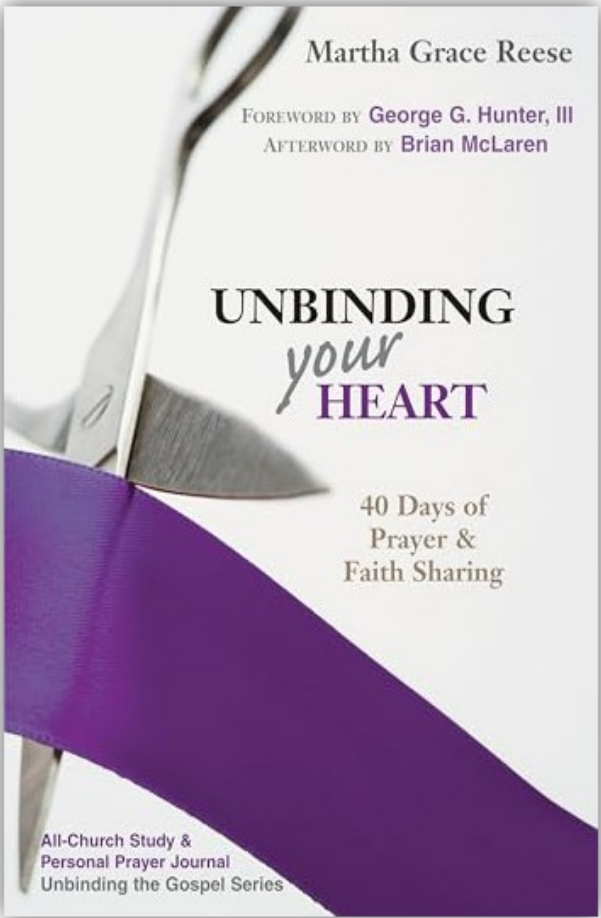
Unbinding Your Heart
Mondays
September 22nd—October 27th
6:30-7:45 p.m.—Fireside Room

This fall’s Bible Study will be UNBINDING YOUR HEART: 40 Days of Prayer & Faith Sharing written by Martha Grace Reese. It will be facilitated by Pastor Hae-Jeong. It is a brilliant book—witty, engaging, and grounded in a four-year Lilly Endowment Study.

UNBINDING YOUR HEART is a six-week individual and small-group study. The Unbinding Series has been enthusiastically endorsed by eight heads of denominations, Brian McLaren, George Hunter, Becky Garrison, Richard Peace, and countless pastors and church leaders.

Please register with Aimee in the church office at: 262-334-2059 or church@faumc.org

Book Cost is \$10



September Prayer

"We commit this month of September into your hands, Lord. Guide our steps, bless our work, and help us to live each day in accordance with your will.

May your love and grace be with us always,
and may we be a blessing to those around us." Amen.



Thank you!

I want to thank those who have responded to our survey for the new ministry we have started called Connectional Ministry. To-date, we have received 17 responses from those who want to share their skills and gifts. If you haven't filled out the forms yet, copies are available in the main entrance.

This ministry was started in order to connect the work of our church's ministries to those who would benefit from your God-given skills and gifts inside and outside of the church. Thank you for sharing your love with others. Here is our mission statement!

Mission Statement

To love and care for our church families and friends with the love of Christ by helping people who are in need and connecting people to people, people to ministry teams of Fifth Avenue UMC and people to community organizations that can provide support to people with a compassionate heart.

Blessings, Alana Dalton, Lay Leader



Food Donations - September 7

On the **first Sunday** of every month, our church collects **nonperishables** for the Full Shelf Food Pantry in West Bend. Please bring your items and place in the **baskets in the North Entrance**. You may also write a **check** payable to Fifth Ave UMC and indicate Food Pantry on the memo line.

GOOD AT SEWING?

Volunteers Needed!
Winter Preparation for
Homeless and Low Income People



Wednesday, September 10th
1:00 pm - Fellowship Hall



To Sign-up:
please contact Aimee at
262-334-3451 or church@faumc.org

Fifth Avenue United Methodist Church, 323 S 5th Ave, West Bend, WI 53095



SEPTEMBER

*If your name is not on this list, please call
the church office at 262-334-2059.*

BIRTHDAYS

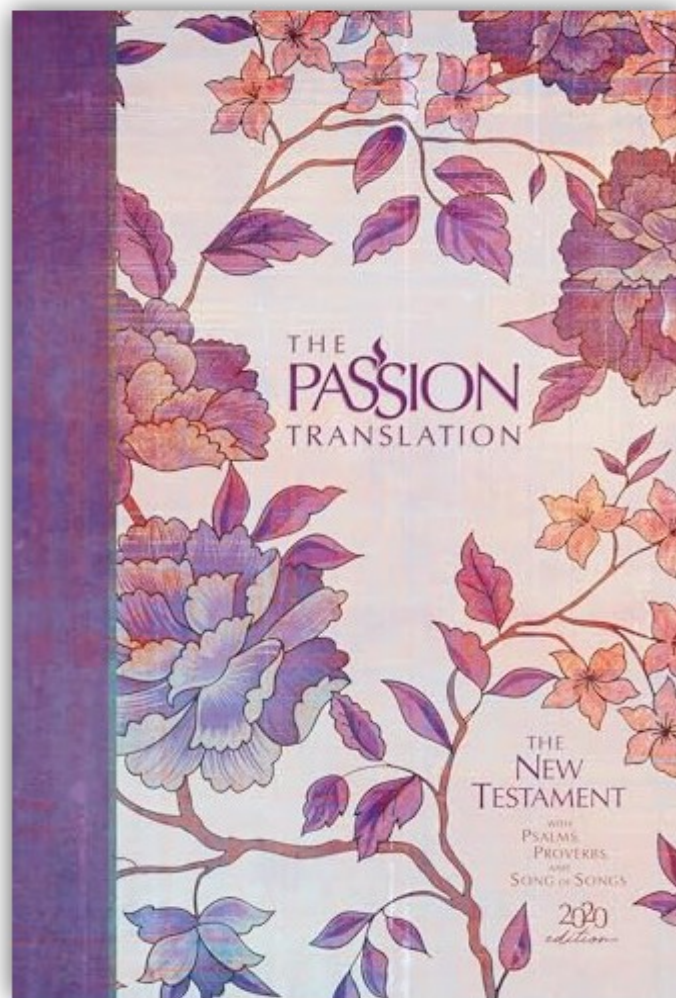


1 Jac Ward	14 Bobette Gibbons	21 Leo Mattmann
2 Jean Welzien	15 Ken Liepert	22 Emma Louk
4 Nancy Kritz	15 Vicki Krajna	24 Grace Pok
7 Jenny Tsuzuki-Korbar	16 Krystal Fechter	24 Mark Scharenbrock
11 Laura Weis	16 Alice Ruff	27 Dean Pok
12 Kathy Fuehrer	17 Shirley Simmons	28 Eileen Mattmann
13 Jon Ward	18 Joyce Walters	29 Steve Gerhartz
13 Kathy Schneider	20 Linda Smeaton	30 Alison Propson



ANNIVERSARIES

No Anniversaries in September

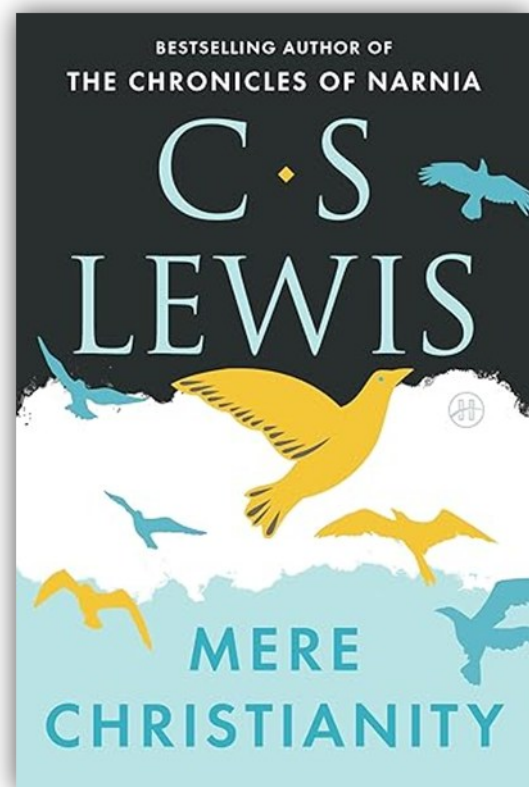


Encounter the heart of God.

The Passion Translation® is a modern, easy-to-read Bible translation that unlocks the passion of God's heart and expresses his fiery love—merging emotion and life-changing truth.

This translation will evoke an overwhelming response in every reader, unfolding the deep mysteries of the Scriptures.

If you are hungry for God, The Passion Translation will help you encounter his heart and know him more intimately. Fall in love with God all over again.



Mere Christianity explores the core beliefs of Christianity by providing an unequalled opportunity for believers and nonbelievers alike to hear a powerful, rational case for the Christian faith. A brilliant collection, *Mere Christianity* remains strikingly fresh for the modern reader and at the same time confirms C. S. Lewis' reputation as one of the leading writer and thinkers of our age.

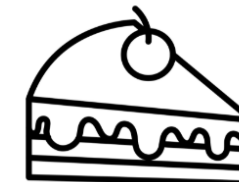
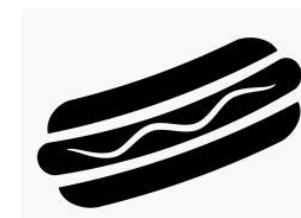
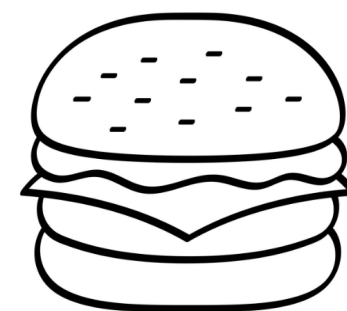
The book brings together Lewis' legendary broadcast talks during World War II. Lewis discusses that everyone is curious about: right and wrong, human nature, morality, marriage, sins, forgiveness, faith, hope, generosity, and kindness.

"C.S. Lewis is the ideal persuader for the half-convinced, for the good man who would like to be a Christian but finds his intellect getting in the way." — Anthony Burgess, *New York Times Book Review*

Our moral consciousness and moral judgements are proof to the human race that a moral being exists—God.

RALLY SUNDAY

Sunday, September 7th



Outdoor Worship Service & Celebration of Ministry

9:30 AM SERVICE | 10:30 AM POTLUCK

**CHURCH WILL PROVIDE
GRILLED HAMBURGERS & HOT DOGS**

**PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH TO PASS
OR DESSERT!**

THE SIGN-UP SHEET IS ON THE TABLE BELOW THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MAIN ENTRANCE ☺

A FREE DINNER



FIFTH AVENUE NEIGHBORHOOD TABLE

323 S 5th Ave, West Bend 53095

5:00-5:30 p.m. Food Served
6:30 p.m. Evening Ends

MENU

SEPTEMBER 3rd:

- ♦ Pasta
- ♦ Broccoli with Cheese Sauce
- ♦ Salad
- ♦ Dinner Rolls
- ♦ Peach Slices

SEPTEMBER 17th:

- ♦ Chicken Penne Pasta
- ♦ Green Beans
- ♦ Salad
- ♦ Dinner Rolls
- ♦ Cherry Pie

Intergenerational Family Night & Spaghetti Dinner was a Great Success!

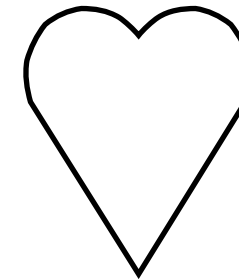
Chair Volleyball was the favorite. Tears of laughter and joy!



Isaac Wagner from Musical Masquers stopped by to take part in the fellowship. Vivien Loomis and Tait Mauland took part in the chair volleyball. Isaac is a wonderful entertainer!



Sebastian, Joshua and Rex battle Giant Jenga!



Mary Barnett is eating a spaghetti noodle because she was the last person to touch the ball before it hit the floor. Everyone had a noodle!



Pastor Hae-Jeong and Janet Hiatt expressing tears of joy!



Brett Barnett contemplating his next pass!