



You're A Candle: Let Your Light Shine (Matthew 5:16)

We have been given spiritual gifts to help the church, specifically, our local congregations. But once you've acknowledged your gifts and learned how to use them, it's time to start using your spiritual gifts to serve others.

Have you identified your top 3 – 5 Spiritual Gifts?

Devotional: 6 - 12 February 2022

Let your light so shine before people, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven (Matthew 5:16).

Have you ever been just a little bit afraid of the dark? Have you ever been in a place that was so dark that you couldn't see your hand in front of your face, even with your eyes wide open? If you've ever been afraid of the dark, or been in a deep, dark cave, then you know how welcome a ray of light can be. Even a small light makes a big difference in a dark place.

Jesus Christ taught those who followed Him that they were “the light of the world.” He said that you don't light candles and put them under baskets. When you light a candle, you put it on a candlestick so that it gives light to everyone in the room. He told us, “Let your light so shine before people, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” (See Matthew 5:14–16.)

What does that mean? It means that if you are a good example, if you “let your light shine,” then when other people see your good example, they will know that you love Heavenly Father and they, too, will want to honor Him.

How can you let your light shine? One way is by keeping the Commandments and choosing to do right. When we are honest, when we keep the Sabbath holy, when we are kind, we are letting our lights shine. When we obey the Word of God, when we use the names of God and Jesus Christ reverently, we are letting our lights shine. Each small light makes a big difference!

We can be good examples. We can share our testimonies with others. We can be missionaries and invite our friends to Fifth Ave. UMC activities (Wonderful Wednesday; Worship; Boy Scouts Sunday, Senior Dining). We can be radical with our hospitality and welcoming. Blessings will come to others and our faith in Jesus Christ will grow when we let our lights shine.

Our lights are our purposes that God has established in our lives, part of His plan to bring believers to His kingdom and eternity in heaven. When we accept these purposes — these callings in our lives — our wicks are lit inside and shine through us for others to see.

With God as our Leader, may we be prepared to live another year under His guidance.

How can we pray for you today?

- Prayers of healing and comfort are warmly and lovingly extended to Ms. Bev Vogel who broke her left wrist. Living Lord, your love has held Ms. Bev and kept her through this pain and suffering. Now may your hope and healing lead her quickly to a place of restoration. And we love Ms. Bev so much more!

Correspondence can be mailed to: Ms. Bev Vogel, 125 Cedar Ridge Drive, #S143, WB 53095.

- Mr. Robert and Ms. Nancy Whitson, request your prayers of healing and restoration as both of them were hospitalized for cardiac (heart) concerns. Please send your cards and notes to: Mr. Robert and Ms. Nancy Whitson, 922 Hickory Street, West Bend, WI 53095.
- Mr. William (Bill) & Mrs. Ginger Hornung would love to hear from you! Cards or notes of encouragement or “just thinking of you” can be mailed to: W194N16744 Eagle Dr. Room 3, Jackson, WI 53037
- We extend our deepest and loving condolences to Mr. Eric (Ms. Jennifer) Peters on the passing of his mother, Ms. Bette Peters, on 18 January 2022. Celebration of Life Service will be held in the spring. Cards of condolences and love can be mailed to: Mr. Eric and Jennifer Peters, 1519 Green Tree Road, West Bend, WI 53090.
- Ms. Annie Griffin, Aunt of Pastor Clarissa (Bro. Martin), had her left leg amputated at the knee on 18 January 2022. Your prayers of hope and support has been a blessed comfort. Cards and notes for promises of healing, restoration and encouragement and can be mailed to: Ms. Annie Griffin, 1122 Hutchinson Ferry Road, Bainbridge, GA 39819
- Fifth Avenue UMC's Laity, Accountable Leadership Board ALB). To God be the glory, great things He has done! We have entered into a period of prayer and discernment as a person has stepped forward for the ALB Chair position. Join us as we pray for this servant-leader. Lord in your mercy, please hear our prayer.
- Praise God! Mr. Ted Meilahn, has returned home. The blessings continue as his brother has moved from Illinois to Wisconsin to care for him. It is truly wonderful when relatives live together in peace. (Psalm 133:1) Please send cards or notes of joy and encouragement to: Mr. Ted Meilahn, 1085 Fond du Lac Avenue, Box 23, Kewaskum, WI 53040. He would also appreciate a phone call: 262-626-2535.
- Our Lay Leader, Mr. Dale Zarling, is continuing to recover from spinal surgery. Please continue to keep Mr. Dale and Ms. Rita in your thoughts and prayers. Cards of support and healing can be mailed to: Mr. Dale and Ms. Rita Zarling, 5464 Moraine Drive, E., West Bend, WI 53095.
- Ms. Linda Green, sister of Ms. Debra Matthies, needs our prayers for strength and courage as her cancer has returned. Cards and notes to let Ms. Linda know we are present in this journey can be mailed to: Ms. Linda Green, c/o Ms. Debra Matthies, 1466 North 12th Avenue, West Bend, WI 53090.
- Bro. Bob Krell, prayers for strength and healing. Please mail cards and notes of prayer and encouragement to: Bro. Bob Krell, 804 Lenora Drive, West Bend, WI 53090
- Mr. Len McGinnis, Jr., cards and notes of support, cheer and well wishes for Mr. Len and Ms. Shelia McGinnis can be mailed to: 1230 Vogt Drive, West Bend, WI 53095
- Ms. Trisha Funke, daughter of Mr. Ralph & Ms. Bonnie Hensel. Cards of encouragement and prayers for continued healing and diagnosis can be sent to her parents: Mr. Ralph & Ms. Bonnie Hensel, 629 Highland View Drive, West Bend WI 53095
- Mr. Roger Sacia, is requesting prayers for healing; Mrs. Nobi Sacia words of encouragement and prayers for healing. Mr. Roger and Ms. Nobi have permanently relocated to Madison with their daughter. Their new address is: 1626 Jefferson Street, Madison WI 53711
- Mrs. Janice Liepert-Kempf, continued healing; alankempf33@gmail.com; 414B. South Pleasantview Road, Plymouth, WI 53073; phone number: 920.838.1830.
- Mr. Phil Heimerl, son-in-law of Mike & Fay Lewis. He was diagnosed with ALS.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, drive away from me all forms of sickness and disease. Restore strength to my body and joy to my spirit, so that in my renewed health,
I may bless and serve you, now and forevermore. In the miraculous healing name of Jesus. Amen.

Your humble Pastor & Servant Leaders,
Pastor Clarissa & Bro. Martin