Expect a Miracle

Often times, when I am praying, I remember Jesus' words: "Ask and you shall receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened." The next verse adds, "For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." (Matt 7:7-8) So, where do I find the answers to my prayers. Alexander Graham Bell, whom we can either credit or blame for the invention of the telephone, had this idea: "When one door closes, another opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us." In other words, "Knock and a door (perhaps not the one we're fixated upon) will be opened." When we pray, we may need to keep an open mind as to what we're really asking for or hoping to find or where true salvation lies. Miracles occur every day, but not everyone sees them as an answer to prayer or the hand of God in their lives (Pulp Fiction, 1994).

Several years ago, I was studying the story of the Feeding of the Five Thousand when I came across some significant questions: If Jesus could feed a multitude on that particular day, why didn't he feed a multitude every day? What is the true nature of miracles? Rudolf Bultmann believed miracles were not breaches of natural law, but rather were windows into life in the Kingdom of God. Jesus' miracles were meant to show us how limited our everyday perceptions are. We may think something is impossible, that we don't have the resources to feed multitudes, heal all the sick, or restore sight to the blind, but the solutions to what we truly need or are desperately looking for or the way around life's barriers may be right there in front of us. We just don't see it. Bultmann believed it is God's grace that opens our eyes to see that "in everything God works for the good with those who love him." (Romans 8:22) When we're frustrated by what we think may be God's silence, maybe we could pray for God's grace to open our eyes to see the "open door," or the "treasure buried in the field" we work in every day, or the "pearl of great price." If you've ever frantically searched for something that was right under your nose all the time, you may know the value of praying for the grace to open your eyes to see what's been there all the time.

There may be times when God leads us in circles in the wilderness (like the Hebrews in the Exodus), but there are also times when the open door is before us, the miracle is right under our noses, our prayers have been answered. Don't give up on the power of prayer. Expect a miracle.

Pastor Jim

Scriptures & Sermon Titles

<p>| September 1 | Genesis 2:15, 3:23 | Luke 14:1, 7-14 | &quot;Why America Works&quot; |
| Labor Day, Communion | | | |
| Rally Day | | | |
| September 15 | Psalm 98 | I Corinthians 1:18-24 | &quot;Wavy Gravy&quot; |
| September 22 | Psalm 14 | Luke 15:1-10 | &quot;Who's the Fool?&quot; |</p>
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### VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

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<td>Kaylie Bromberg</td>
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VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Acolytes: Rachel Sromalski, Matthew Maher, Kaylie Bromberg, Rachel Sromalski, Matthew Maher

Ushers: Pete Kopfhammer, Nancy Kopfhammer

Liturgists: Martha Nelson, Martha Nelson, Martha Nelson, Marilyn Kral

Fellowship: Panera, Rally Day Potluck, Jansen

Baskets: United Methodist Childrens Services, United Methodist Childrens Services, United Methodist Childrens Services, United Methodist Childrens Services, United Methodist Childrens Services
Rally Day is Sunday, September 8
This year’s Sunday School program begins Sunday, September 8 immediately following the Children’s Sermon.
Join us for a Potluck meal after worship.

Sussex United Methodist Church,
Thank you so much for the Target gift card. It will come in handy when buying supplies for school.
Thanks again,
Kenzie Kolesari

Golf Outing Update!
After a stormy morning, August 18th eventually became a beautiful day for golf at the always well-groomed Songbird Hills Golf Club. Our third annual golf outing netted us over $2,000 towards our apportionments. Many thanks are due to the 36 golfers who turned out, also to our many donors and sponsors. Special thanks to Kathryn, Gwen, Debbie and the crew who served tasty hors d'oeuvres, wonderful lasagna, and yummy salad for our awards banquet meal. You didn’t have to golf to eat. We ate well! Special shout out to Chris, Jill, and Annita for waging war on our fruit flies.

Many of our teams came in below par. The foursome of Randy and Nancy Ludin, Lucas Keller and Tim Jansen came in lowest with a scalding 28, 7-under par, for nine holes! Eric Grismer was Closest to the Pin on #7, Pat Keller sunk the Longest Putt on #5, and Jim Coplin hit a monster Longest Drive on #2. There was a winner for the 10th hole Trivia Contest. And one of next year's trivia questions might be who that was.

The staff from Songbird Hills GC were again incredibly gracious. We're already looking forward to a return engagement. A good time was had by all. And best of all, we raised over $300 more than last year towards our World Service Fund apportionment and missions around the world. Hoo-ray!

😊 Pastor Jim

Community Banquet
September 12 (clean up)
September 26 (no duties)
5:30 pm
St. James Church
W220 N6588 Town Line Road
Menomonee Falls WI

Community Banquet is a free meal offered twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at St. James Church to serve a nutritious hot meal and time of fellowship to any who choose to attend. Volunteers from community churches take turns providing the meals, serving and cleaning up.

AmazonSmile
Giving Funds to the Church Without Giving Cash!
Sussex United Methodist Church has been issued a $27.67 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between April 1 and June 30, 2019.

Year to date we have raised $88.34 from Amazon contributions.

Amazon’s sister website Smile.Amazon.com offers the same goods, prices and shipping with a big bonus. If you sign on to Smile.Amazon.com and choose Sussex United Methodist Church as your designated charity (EIN: 39-1144815), a percentage of your Amazon purchases will be directly donated to our church. Just be sure you choose the church in Sussex, WI as there is another Sussex UMC in another state!
Operation Backpack Thank You!

We collected the whole big basket of supplies plus $206 that was used to purchase supplies. The group of items donated here at church was a nice variety including some very nice backpacks. Together we made back to school shopping happen for families in our community.

Items needed at the Pantry include Chunky soup, meals (Hamburger helper, canned chili, ravioli), rice, pasta, jelly, ketchup, mustard, salad dressing, pasta sauce, cereal, oatmeal, stuffing, baked beans (pork-n-beans), cake/brownie mixes, soap, shampoo and toilet paper.

SUMC’s next volunteer day at the Pantry is Saturday, September 7 from 9:00 am to Noon. To be sure the Food Pantry is well staffed, each church within the Cooperating Churches of Sussex (CCOS) is assigned one day a month to provide three people to assist their volunteers. SUMC provides our team on the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 am to noon. If you would like to volunteer please sign up on the clipboard at Church or contact Annita Moore.

T.A.C.O.S. Outreach Ministry (Teens Around the Community of Sussex)
Located at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
N59 W22476 Silver Spring Drive

Back 2 School Bash! Kickoff for TACOS: Friday, September 6
Middle School 2:40 - 5:00 pm • High School 5:30 - 6:30 pm
Taco Bar • Music • Games • Friends • Fun

Middle School TACOS: 2:40 - 5:00 pm Wednesday Nights starting September 11
High School TACOS: 7:00 - 8:30 pm Tuesday Nights Starting September 10

What do we do? Live out our faith in service to others • Join together in meaningful conversations • Share spiritual traditions and aspects of faith journey

What’s the Purpose? Being grounded spiritually is important for a life of wholeness • TACOS creates a space for young people to be affirmed in their self-worth and to foster opportunities to find support and guidance

Website: https://tacos442.wixsite.com/outreach • Facebook: tacosoutreach
Instagram: tacos.outreach • Email: tacos@coslc.com

Overdose Awareness: Naloxone (Narcan) Training

Training topics will include: education about the opiate issue and how it got started; how to identify opiate intoxication; how to identify an opiate overdose; how to respond to an opiate overdose; how to administer Naloxone

Learning how to spot an overdose is the first step in saving someone’s life. Overdose can happen whether using a prescribed medication or from illicit drug use. This is an issue for all ages. Adults who attend the training will be offered a Naloxone kit to take with them free of charge. (While supplies last) Facilitated by Your Choice to Live Inc. – Contracted by Waukesha County HHS PDO Project

Monday, Oct. 7, 6-7 pm: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, W156 N8131 Pilgrim Road, Menomonee Falls, Gathering Place (Park on north or south side, enter doors SE#3 or NE doors by #6)
Monday, Oct. 28, 6-7 pm: Menomonee Falls Public Library, W156 N8436 Pilgrim Road, Menomonee Falls

Tuesday, Nov. 12, 6-7 pm: Community Memorial Hospital, W180 N8085 Town Hall Road, Menomonee Falls, Treiber Conference Center (Enter Driveway B, park in lot C, enter D doors)
For more information call 262.896.8234 or email overdoseprevention@waukeshacounty.gov.
Community Blood Drive  
Monday, September 9 from 2:30 - 6:30 pm  
At Lisbon Fire Department, N54 W26445 Lisbon Road

All presenting donors during the month of September will receive a pair of Versiti ear buds as a special thank you gift for donating.

To schedule an appointment visit bit.ly/lisbonsept2019 or call 877.232.4376.

Appointments are encouraged.

Want to double your impact? Consider a dual red donation, or bring a friend and save lives together!

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UMCS Board Interim Executive Director

United Methodist Children’s Services of WI, Inc. has happily welcomed Bill Schmitt as our new Interim Executive Director. Bill will be serving as the Interim Executive Director for the remainder of 2019 as we continue toward fulfilling our long term plan for this leadership position.

Bill comes home to Milwaukee after serving extensively on the international stage for Catholic Relief Services. We are very excited to welcome his experience and expertise as we further our Mission here in the Washington Park community of Milwaukee.

Bill Schmitt was born and raised in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. He completed his undergraduate degree at Marquette University in 2001 (International Affairs, Political Science and Spanish) and earned a Masters in International Public Affairs from the La Follette School at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2005

After graduate school, Bill began working for Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in 2006 as a Fellow in Nicaragua, where he worked primarily with cooperatives of small coffee farmers. The following year he moved on to West Darfur, Sudan, to serve as the Area Coordinator and helped manage CRS’ emergency humanitarian intervention in the Northern Corridor of West Darfur. In October 2008 Bill moved to Bamiyan, Afghanistan, to set up a new field office and oversee the implementation of activities in agriculture, watershed restoration, and women’s self-help groups in one of the poorest and historically most marginalized regions of the country. Following a short-term assignment as the Emergency Team Leader for the 2009-2010 West Sumatra earthquake response, Bill served as the Regional Technical Advisor for Emergencies in Latin America and the Caribbean from 2010-2012, during which time he supported the agency’s large-scale response to the catastrophic earthquake in Port-au-Prince, Haiti

From 2012-2015, Bill was the Country Representative for CRS in Afghanistan, where he was responsible for overseeing more than 360 staff members in five provinces nationwide, where, together with partners, CRS continues to implement programs focused on community-based education, agriculture and rural livelihoods, and natural resource management. From 2015 until late 2018 Bill served as the Country Representative in Turkey, overseeing the Turkey-based team as part of the broader CRS response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis inside Syria and across the region, particularly in neighboring countries such as Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq.

Please join us in welcoming Bill to the UMCS family!

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SUMC September Basket Offering Benefits
United Methodist Children’s Services of Wisconsin

United Methodist Children’s Services of Wisconsin is a not-for-profit social service agency which has developed and operated programs for women, children and families in Milwaukee County. Services include the Growing Tree Children’s Center which is a state licensed childcare center; a transitional living program which provides safe and affordable housing to low-income, single-parent families; and a family resource center which distributes emergency food resources and clothing.
A faith-based, community-centered nonprofit organization serving Waukesha County, Wisconsin

When volunteering with ERAs, you can decide how much or how little you would like to volunteer. When called for a specific task, you can say no if it does not fit into your schedule.

In 2018, 1325 active Eras volunteers donated a total of 26,598 hours of their time.

Seasonal Opportunities

Summer Lawn Mowing  Help a senior maintain their yard by volunteering to provide lawn mowing services. This opportunity is flexible around your schedule and dependent on how fast the grass grows! Volunteer individually or gather a group and take turns mowing a client’s lawn throughout the season. Contact Marisa at 262.522.2402 or MarisaS@ErasWaukesha.org.

Fall Yard Clean Up  Help someone prepare for the changing seasons. This opportunity is perfect for individuals and groups. Clients need help with weeding, raking leaves, washing windows, cleaning first floor gutters, and/or putting away lawn furniture. Dates and time are flexible around your availability during the end of October into the beginning of November – once most of the leaves have fallen. Contact Marisa for more details at 262.522.2402 or MarisaS@ErasWaukesha.org.

School Volunteer Opportunities

Pen Pals  Exchange letters with your assigned elementary-aged pen pal once a month during the school year. This program offers students an opportunity to work on their reading, writing, and social skills, while offering you a meaningful volunteer experience from the comfort of your own home. Volunteers are asked to participate in an end of the school year Pen Pal Party, where you will have the chance to meet your pen pal(s) in person! Programs are located in the School Districts of Waukesha and Menomonee Falls.

Student Reading and Math Assistance  Share your joy of learning by working with students as a reading buddy or math tutor. Volunteers are typically scheduled one day a week for 30 minutes to an hour working with students one on one or in small groups. Programs are held in the School Districts of Waukesha, Menomonee Falls and Pewaukee and serve students Kindergarten through 12th grade.

Readers Cafe  A fun volunteer opportunity for those who have a love for reading and working with elementary-aged students. This program encourages students' interest in reading, while developing comprehension and social skills. Read with students one-on-one or in groups of two during the students' lunch and recess hour (about 1 hour). Students enjoy bringing their lunch to the library and reading with their volunteer. This program typically runs for a 6-8 week session with multiple sessions in a year. Sign up for as many as you’d like!

Intergenerational U.S. History Program  fosters relationships and communication between high school students and older adults. Students gain a better understanding of our Nation’s history by learning from an older generation who have life experiences and wisdom to share. In turn, the senior volunteers gain a better perspective of the lives, attitudes, and intelligence of teenagers. Volunteers meet with students in small groups (4-5) and discuss the topics/articles that the students are covering in their U.S. History studies. A volunteer orientation is held at the beginning of the school year and discussion points are given in advance before each session.

Intergenerational Heritage Fair  Do you enjoy interacting with elementary-aged students? Then this exciting volunteer opportunity is for you! Help the Waukesha County Historical Society and Museum and Eras Senior Network present fun, historical, and educational fairs for elementary students in Waukesha County. The Heritage Fair helps to preserve our cultural and ethnic heritage by displaying old time crafts, hobbies, collections, trades and more. Volunteers are needed to assist with existing exhibits as well as offer any new ideas for historical exhibits or special performances. Volunteers of all experience levels are welcome!
Holiday Giving Program We aim to distribute care packages to 350 community members this year through our 2019 Holiday Giving Program which provides self-sufficiency care packages to isolated and low-income Waukesha County seniors and adults with disabilities. Items we are collecting include the following gift cards: $10 Walgreens, $10 Pick 'n Save, $10 Walmart, $5 McDonald's; books of Forever stamps; handmade flat ornaments, bookmarks, and door hangers; and puzzle books (crossword, word search, Sudoku.) Items are needed by Sunday, December 8.

Friendly Visiting Be a friend to a senior or an adult with a disability who is isolated and looking for someone to talk to. Opportunities are available to visit with clients in their home on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. If you are interested, contact Judith at 262.522.2411 or JudithA@erawaukesha.org.

Drive Eras Senior Network’s new shared-ride van in Menomonee Falls! Our Find-a-Ride Network program transports seniors and adults with disabilities to medical appointments at Community Memorial Hospital and Froedtert Town Hall Health Center. We need volunteers interested in serving on a regular basis to drive our new Dodge Caravan with access to a mobile tablet with GPS mapping. Only clients living in Menomonee Falls will be transported with the shared-ride van at this time. Contact Jenn at 262.522.2414 or JenniferS@ErasWaukesha.org.

Urgent Ongoing Need for Volunteer Drivers Transport seniors and adults with disabilities to their healthcare appointments and grocery store. Only drive when you have the time! This opportunity is very flexible and can be scheduled week to week. Areas of need include Waukesha, Menomonee Falls, New Berlin, Oconomowoc, and Brookfield.

Sussex and Hartland Meal Drivers Deliver meals to homebound seniors in Sussex and Hartland weekdays between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. Mileage reimbursement provided. Must be at least 18 years of age, show proof of car insurance, and have a valid Wisconsin driver’s license.

Volunteer from Home Call clients to talk with them or just make sure they are doing okay.

Volunteers age 18 years and older are welcome to participate in all programs as volunteers of ERAs Senior Network. Volunteers age 55 years and older are encouraged to become RSVP members. Special youth volunteer opportunities are also available.

ProHealth Care Community Education Classes
Each month ProHealth Care offers a wide variety of Community Education classes and events. Classes help you make informed health care decisions and develop healthy habits. All classes and events are free unless otherwise indicated. Registration is required for all events. For a complete list of classes go to ProHealth’s website at prohealthcare.org/Classes.

Noah’s Ark Christian Learning Center (NACLC)
www.noahs-ark-sussex.org 262.246.9650

Noah’s Ark Christian Learning Center is Nationally Accredited through the National Accreditation Commission Association for Early Learning Leaders.

The goal of Noah’s Ark Christian Learning Center is to produce happy, intelligent, well-adjusted children. Here you will find a nurturing, educational environment for children of ages 6 weeks to 12 years. Classes include infant, toddler, preschool, 4-K, as well as before and after-school programs. We recognize that each child has unique talents, learning styles and personalities. Our highly-qualified teachers and staff are committed to working within each child's comfort zone to ensure optimal social, emotional and educational results. Classes are kept to a low student-teacher ratio.
Opportunities for SUMC Nurture, Outreach and Witness (NOW)

Crafts for a Cause is a fun and friendly group who meet at the church every other Tuesday evening to make prayer shawls, lapghans, and prayer squares. Please join us! If you cannot join us, please consider taking one of the easy patterns in the folder on the shelf outside the office and making something at home. You can also help by donating yarn. **Our meetings are back to Wednesday. This month’s meetings will be Wednesdays, September 11 and 25 at 6:30 pm.**

**Prayer Shawls** are available for you to take at any time. The display is set up outside the church office.

**Prayer Squares** are small knit or crocheted squares (about 18”- 20” square) to offer to those parents whose babies do not survive the birthing process.

**Lap Robes** are for persons confined to wheelchairs that are often chilly and appreciate a hand crafted blanket to keep their legs and laps warm. Blankets may be knit or crocheted. Size should be from 25” x 36” to 30” x 40”.

**Kingdom Workers** If you need help with a project around the house that you are unable to tackle yourself (cleaning gutters, washing windows, small painting projects), contact Pat Keller, Roberta, or Pastor Jim. Your needs will be assessed and a crew will be established to assist you whenever possible. If you are willing to assist when there is a need, let us know to add your name to the list.

**Naomi’s Cupboard** This ministry of caring for those recovering from illness or surgery is still active. If you need help as you recover, please contact Verda, the church office or Pastor Jim and meals and other help needed will be arranged. If you are willing to provide meals, please let us know to add your name to the list.

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**Giving Funds to the Church Without Giving Cash**

Amazon’s sister website **Smile.Amazon.com** offers the same goods, prices and shipping with a big bonus. If you sign on to Smile.Amazon.com and choose Sussex United Methodist Church as your designated charity a percentage of your Amazon purchases will be directly donated to our church. Just be sure you choose the church in Sussex, WI as there is another Sussex UMC in another state!

**Scrip gift card** purchasing is a great way to benefit the church. There is a six page list of participating retailers that will sell you gift cards then donate a portion back to our church. You can get a copy of the Scrip vendors from the table outside the offices and choose your gift cards. Then give me a list along with a check made out to SUMC for the total and I can order the cards for you. Or, sign on to [ShopWithScrip.com](http://ShopWithScrip.com) and set up an account for yourself. Make your account Presto Pay and order your cards online. **Our church enrollment number is FC24B7A136863.** You will need this number to designate your orders go to SUMC. Scrip will then take the correct amount of your purchase out of your account and deposit the profit right in our SUMC checking account. I will process your order and deliver your cards to you either way. Before I can process orders I do need a large enough quantity to cover shipping so the more people that order the more often I can order and the more profit we can make. We are going to designate the Scrip profits to specific needs within our church.

**Questions?** Please contact Debbie Jansen at 262.617.5748 or dandjansen@gmail.com.

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**Are you an Online Banker?**

Do you pay any of your bills online through your bank? Did you know you can set up Sussex United Methodist Church as a payee and a check could come weekly, bi-weekly or monthly - at no additional cost to you? This is a great way to support the well-being of your church.
Sussex United Methodist Church
Rev. Jim Altman, Pastor
N63 W23523 Main Street, Sussex WI 53089
Website: www.sussexumc.org
Office Phone: 262.246.3748
Office Email: sussexmethodistchurch@gmail.com
Office Hours: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Mon. Tue. Thur.
9:00 am - 12:00 pm Wed.

Find Sussex United Methodist Church on Facebook to hear a hymn, read a summary of the sermon, and see what Scripture was read on Sunday.

If you would like to have an article posted in our monthly newsletter, please submit it to the church office by the 21st of the month.

PRAYER FAMILIES
The purpose of the prayer families is to share our concern and support at times other than during a crisis. Ways to do that are to include the person or family in your prayers during the week. You may wish to let them know that they are in your thoughts by sending a note, talking to them at church or a telephone call. The names are chosen at random, but sometimes seem by design, in that it has come at a particularly appropriate time for them.

September 1  Jeff & Debbie Jansen
                Jason & Amber Enderle
September 8  Bub & Midge Morris
                Pete & Nancy Kopfhammer
September 15 Carrie Bromberg
                Skip & Jane Burg
September 22 Art & Betty Elsesser
                Paul & Natalie Hubbard
September 29 Pat & Susan Keller
                Arlene Mamerow

September Birthdays
1  Nicola Nielsen
1  Tony Povletich
1  Jackie Shively
8  Tracy Dow
8  Maria Frank
9  Terry Brecklin
9  Dean Molstad
18  Jen Mochman
18  Jake Povletich
20  Gabe Kolesari
20  Barbara Molstad
21  Amy Brissette
21  Karen Thomsen
22  Paul Maher
23  Jan Vowels
24  Mary Maher
26  Susan Blau
27  Adam Nielsen

September Anniversaries
1  Don & Shirley Edmonds
21  Adam & Nicola Nielsen
Sunday Morning Schedule
9:00 am   Traditional Worship
9:00 am   Sunday School (Sept - May)

Rev. James Altman, Pastor
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