

The “Good News” letter

May 2019

The “Good News” letter is a joint publication of Oakfield United Methodist Church (UMC) and Tabor (Eden) UMC highlighting upcoming events, worship updates and ministry opportunities.

Is the Resurrection the legend?

We have just celebrated the glorious resurrection. Why is the resurrection of Jesus Christ important? Hundreds of years before Jesus was born the prophets of Israel foretold the coming of Messiah and the Savior of the world. The resurrection of Jesus provides irrefutable proof that Jesus is the Son of God, the Messiah, and the Savior of the world.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus made many statements beginning with “I am” that helped his follower understand his identity and purpose. To the first-century Jewish listener, Jesus’ “I am” statements had particular significance. In Exodus 3:13-14, Moses said to God, “when the Israelites ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God answered to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” God had revealed Himself to Moses with a resounding “I AM.” Jesus used the same words to describe Himself. “I AM the bread of life,” “I AM the light of the world,” “I AM the good shepherd,” and “I AM the way, the truth and the life.” Jesus equates himself with God, and revealed his identity to his disciples through teaching and stories, miracles and prayers.

Through the New Testament we believe there is strong evidence that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and the Savior of the world. However, how can we be confident Jesus’ disciples weren’t fabricating stories about Jesus or lying about what they knew or thought about him?

Lee Strobel, the author of the book, *Case for Christ*, says, “I used to think that the resurrection is a legend. But I learned that famed classical historian A.N. Sherwin-White of Oxford said it took more than two generations in the ancient world for legends to develop and wipe out a solid core of historical truth. Yet the scholar James Dunn said “we can be entirely confident” that this report (of the resurrection) was formulated within months of Jesus’ death. And that’s not the only early report we have. The four Gospels contain others that date back to within a generation of Jesus.

Now we agree with the fact that by the atoning death of Jesus on the cross and his resurrection from the dead, Jesus proved his identity as the unique Son of God. However, our goal in our Christian life is to be transformed, not merely informed, we must do something with the information we have been gathering. I want to ask you, why is the resurrection of Jesus Christ important to you?



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Church Stewardship Information (from the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation)

Why Do I Give? Part 2

1b I exhort the elders among you 2to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight ... as God would have you do it ... 4And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. (1 Peter 5:1b-4)

The answer to the question, “Who should know what I give?” is simple and straightforward: 100% of the people who need to know and 0% of the people who do not need to know. I have donated to a number of nonprofit organizations and have never wondered who sees my donation. Nevertheless, I would certainly expect that the number who do see it includes those needed to process the gift, and those who would solicit the gift and thank me, including the CEO who is also gift solicitor-in-chief. In addition, there would be auditors who would need to have access to all financial records. In our churches, it is the same. The financial secretary and counters process gifts. During the week, office staff may process checks that come in and produce reports on giving from the church database. The Stewardship team needs to see giving records in order to make plans for stewardship campaigns, say thanks, and to guide asking for future gifts. Finally, the Pastor needs to know in order to participate in financial Stewardship of the church as well as congregational care. The 2016 General Conference confirmed what the pastor’s role was already by amending the Book of Discipline to read, “To ensure membership care including compliance with charitable giving documentation requirements and to provide appropriate pastoral care, the pastor ... shall have access to and responsibility for professional stewardship of congregational giving records.” [Emphasis added.] During the annual church audit, the church may share giving data with the auditors, as well.

An Attitude of Gratitude

Being grateful is a way to control toxic stress. It can improve our sleep patterns and give us a better night’s rest.

Try something for the next month: Either journal or share verbally with another person what you are grateful for each day and end your day with a prayer of gratitude. When we end our day with a focus on our gratitude, we tend to sleep better, with more REM cycles (Rapid Eye Movement) and less unwanted wake ups. We all know that a good night’s sleep is essential to good health, and good health is important for a good life.

It is said that even on a bad day there is something good. However, we need to get rid of the ANTS (automatic negative thoughts) to see the good. Journaling or sharing our gratitude helps us remove the ANTS from our brain, giving us greater power over our fears, anxieties, bitterness and insomnia. It helps us build courage, enthusiasm, and more joyful and positive relationships. Intentionally focusing on our gratitude helps us to see the hidden gift even in the hard times.

If you’re still having trouble getting rid of those pesky ANTS, remember the Serenity Prayer:

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.

Visit the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at
www.wumf.org or [Facebook/wumf.org](https://www.facebook.com/wumf.org)
Or call 1-888-903-9863

Worship & Events



**Worship Times will change
On Sunday, June 2nd!**

- **Oakfield UMC at 8:45AM**
- **Tabor UMC at 10:45AM**

**Holy Communion Sunday
On Sunday, May 5th**

The First Sunday of each month, our church does Holy Communion. We offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to God for all God has done for us. Through offering ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, and through receiving the bread and cup celebrating the Lord's Supper together nourishes and sustains us in our journey as disciples of Jesus Christ.



**OAKFIELD VILLAGE TEA
"The Fairy Queen"**

Saturday, May 11th from 1:00 – 3:00PM

The 2019 Oakfield Village Tea program will feature Ms. Laura Detert. She will lead us to Fairy Land. This program include Fun Silent Auction item you will want to take home. Tickets: \$7.00 for "Ladies of Wisdom" (those over 70) and "Young Ladies" (10 years of

younger); all other \$8.00—To reserve you seat, contact Denise Shaffer

(eaacook67@gmail.com
or (920)583-3062) or Julie
Tennie(rten@charter.net
or (920) 583-3848)



**GOLDEN CROSS SUNDAY:
Sunday, May 12th, 2019**

You are encouraged on this Sunday to provide a special offering (envelopes will be labeled) to *Golden Cross Sunday*. The Health and Welfare Ministries Committee of the Wisconsin Annual Conference wants you to know that your monetary offering goes to support fourteen helping ministries in the state of Wisconsin. Four of the Ministries are particularly dependent on this offering since they primarily serve persons with great needs and few resources. These are Harbor House Crisis Shelters, Northcott Neighborhood House, United Methodist Children's Services, and United Methodist Hospitals Ministry. We have the opportunity to live out the Gospel beyond the walls of our church.

"Challenge 52"

Challenge 18 – "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

Challenge 19 – "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31)

Challenge 20 – "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (1Thessalonians 5:18)

Challenge 21 – "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love and of a sound mind." (2 Timothy 1:7)

**OAKFIELD'S LITURGIST, GREETER
and USHER SCHEDULE**

May: Liturgists	Greeters
5 Dick Tennie	LeeAnn & Darwin Boelk
12 Julie Tennie	Beulah Opperman
19 Denise Shaffer	Monty & Alice Wilder
26 Laurette Guy	Roxanne & Kelly Schmitz Family

May: Ushers – Ron & Karen O'Laire

June: Liturgists	Greeters
2 Rebecca Foster	Lee & Heidi Martin
9 Bob Dvorak	Ron & Karen O'Laire
16 Stephanie Wonzer	Donna & Edward Kolterman
23 Liz Hayward	Dick & Sharon Martin
30 Karen O'Laire	Elly & Mason Garner

June: Ushers- Myron & Lenita Ehrhardt

Thank you so much for serving. If you cannot help on the Sunday listed please trade with another person and let Rev. Lee or the office know of the change so reading material can be sent to the correct person. Office phone is: 920-583-3352

**TABOR'S LITURGIST and GREETER
SCHEDULE for MAY**

Liturgists	Greeters
5 Staci Rose	Lolly Nichols
12 Diane Kuenzi	John & Bonnie Burmeister
19 Josh Glass	Orville & Joan Glass
26 Linda Hodorff	Glen & Micki Gade



TABOR CHOIR

Choir dates for May are the 19th and the 26th. Practice at 8:00am Sunday morning and singing for worship at 8:45am.

*Thank you,
Jeannie Miller, Tabor Choir Director*



50th Plus Anniversary Club
Myron and Lenita Ehrhardt – May 18,
1957
62 Years

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Oakfield

05/04	Sharon Martin
05/04	Shawn Schneider
05/05	Barbara Williams
05/06	Trisha Holz
05/16	Darwin Boelk
05/21	Lee Martin
05/26	Lenita Ehrhardt
05/27	McKenna Boelk

Tabor

05/06	Doug Hodorff
05/08	Kellie O'Laughlin
05/14	Shaelee Hodorff
05/20	Marcus Birschbach
05/23	Vann Kempf
05/24	Roger Glass
05/25	Logan Birschbach
05/25	Sawyor Straub
05/29	David Rose

Oakfield Women's Fellowship

May 23rd at 12- Noon
Meeting and Potluck Luncheon



Tabor UMW

May 9th -Meeting at 6:30 PM

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Oakfield

- 05/12 Roxanne & Kelly Schmitz
27 Years
- 05/12 Magen & Shawn Schneider
7 Years
- 05/18 Lenita & Myron Ehrhart
62 Years
- 05/25 Julie & Rich Franke
28 Years
- 05/27 Jed & Jenni Mazur
12 Years

Tabor

- 05/01 Kyle & Heather Straub
4 Years
- 05/28 Julie & Alan Miller
42 Years
- 05/28 Karen & Mark Holzman
31 Years
- 05/30 Sheila & Rob Roehl
38 Years



80th Plus Birthday Club!

Lenita Ehrhardt – May 26, 1937 – 82st
Dave Rose – May 29, 1927 – 92st

CARE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST (CareINC)

OUMC and TABOR are partners with CareINC. They are looking for One Volunteer this year to serve in the following areas:

- to take referrals and facilitate meeting client's needs.
- to serve on one of Care's coordination teams. (Church, Agency, Donor)
- to recommend Officers and Board members so they can rotate responsibilities more often.

They are also asking partnering churches to prayerfully consider contributing \$50-\$100 or more per year to offset the cost of hosting and maintaining the new database. (The old CareINC database will soon be retired.)

Oakfield
UMC will be
holding a
Cleaning
Party
on
Wednesday



May 1st from
8:30am until done.

All available members are
encouraged to attend to make our
beautiful Church sparkle!



Tabor Health and Wellness

The topic this month will
be Grief and Depression.

We will have a speaker who will describe their experiences. A discussion of coping mechanisms of how to get through lows will follow. All are welcome to attend.

Sarah Turner

Tabor Health and Wellness

Tabor Financial

Thank you for your generous Easter Giving!

- * Regular Service Offering- \$3,565.87
- * Destination for monies from the Sunrise Service Offering (\$435.20) along with the Easter Envelope Offering (\$160) will be decided at the April 25th Church Council Meeting.
- * Easter Breakfast Offering (\$256) will help Kanthala Sailaja, the young lady from India whom we support through World Vision.

Linda Hodorff

Tabor United Methodist
Church
Worship Sundays at **8:45AM**

May 2019

Oakfield United Methodist
Church
Worship Sundays at
10:45AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:30AM-Spring Cleaning Day(O)	2	3 Pastor's Sabbath Day	4
5 Holy Communion 08:45AM-Worship(T) 10:00AM-Bible Study(T) 10:45AM-Worship(O) Roadside Cleanup(T)	6 Tabor Softball Game	7	8	9 6:30PM-UMW Meeting(T) 6:30PM-Church Council(O)	10 Pastor's Sabbath Day	11 1PM-3PM Oakfield Village Tea
12 Golden Cross Sunday 08:45AM-Worship(T) 10:00AM-Bible Study(T) 10:45AM-Worship(O) Noisy Can Offering	13 Tabor Softball Game	14	15	16	17 Pastor's Sabbath Day	28
19 08:45AM-Worship(T) 10:00AM-Bible Study(T) 10:45AM-Worship(O) 10:00AM- Health&Wellness(T)	20 Tabor Softball Game	21	22	23 Noon-Ladies Fellowship Meeting(O)	24 Pastor's Sabbath Day	25
26 08:45AM-Worship(T) The Collection of Personal Products (T) 10:00AM-Bible Study(T) 10:45AM-Worship(O)	27 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	28	29	30	31	