

The “Good News” letter

February 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.

How Do We Fall in Love With God?

I believe that one of the best ways to fall in love with God is to love God’s Word. In other words, we make it a top priority to fall in love with our Bible. Not our only priority, but a top-tier, get-it-done priority that automatically appears on our to-do list every day. I’m not telling you to get up every morning at 4:00 a.m. I’m not even telling you that Bible reading needs to be a morning ritual. Maybe afternoon or evening works better for you.

Every day has 1,440 minutes. Subtract 480 of those minutes for sleep. You still have 960 minutes left. Subtract 480 minutes for work, and you still have 480 minutes left. If you read your Bible and pray for just ten minutes a day, that’s only about 2 percent of your free time! Unless you’re willing to give God a few percentage points of your free time, how can you say that you love God?

John Dryden said, “We first make our habits, then our habits make us.” Habits come in two flavors: good and bad. The good habits make us healthier, happier, stronger, and smarter. Plus, the good habits tend to keep us on the spiritual path that God has chosen for us. Bad habits do the opposite. They sap our strength, waste our time, deplete our resources, and send us down many spiritual dead ends.

That’s why it’s so important to select our habits on purpose, not by accident. No habit is more important than spending time each day with God. If you’ve picked up a few bad habits along this twisting, turning path called life, don’t panic, and don’t beat yourself up. All people have their assortment of unfortunate habits, some of which may have started long ago and far away.

However, please remember this: no problem is too big for God, not even yours. So the best way to start offloading bad habits and replacing them with better ones is to form the foundational habit of spending a few minutes every day with God.

“Now is the operative word. Everything you put in your way is just a method of putting off the hour when you could actually be doing your dream. You don’t need endless time and perfect conditions. **Do it now.**”

– Barbara Sher-



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Church Stewardship Information (from the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation)

Prayer & Gratitude

Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! (2 Corinthians 9:15)

Henri Nouwen has said, “As our prayer deepens into constant awareness of God’s goodness, the spirit of gratitude grows within us.” This implies a cause and effect relationship: prayer causes gratitude. Therefore, it seems that just saying, or praying, “Thanks” is not enough. What does prayer do to grow gratitude?

Focuses us on God. Prayer moves our focus from ourselves to God. It reminds us that we are not intended to be self-sufficient, rather, God provides us with we need, sometimes, even with the gift that moves us toward God’s grace.

Reminds us Who is the Giver. God is the giver of all good gifts and graces. All of our blessings come from God. Through prayer, we come to recognize that we have so much to be thankful for... just pray for the most important people and blessings in your life and you will find that the list gets very long very quickly.

Keeps us Positive. With our eyes on our blessings, we have little room for complaining and negativity. One cannot be thankful and negative at the same time.

Moves us closer to God. Debbie McDaniel has pointed out that prayer, “opens up the door for continued blessings. It invites His presence. Our spirits are refreshed and renewed in Him. God loves to give good gifts to His children. He delights in our thankfulness and pours out His Spirit and favor over those who give honor and gratitude to Him.” This is what Stewardship looks like in the Kingdom of God. Let us pray ourselves and our churches into the Kingdom.

To give means to sacrifice proportionately

The month of February includes Valentine’s Day. In the King James Version of the Bible, the famous “love poem” in 1 Corinthians 13 uses the word “charity” wherever we modern-day Christians have memorized the poem with the word “love.” Many of us have memorized, “Love is patient; love is kind; it is not arrogant or boastful or rude...Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.” The KJV reads, “Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not.....charity never faileth.”

New Year’s is gone. Our resolutions are fading. The winter doldrums have set in and there’s an increasing amount of suspicion and fear about the state of our economy. Yet, scripture reminds us that “love never ends” and “charity never faileth.”

By giving regularly through the church, we carry out these promises of scripture. Christ didn’t hold back on his love when he willingly went to the cross for us. God didn’t hold back and make the cross the last word. Our faith leads us to give what we can – 10%, 7%, 5%, 1%, more or less. We are called to give in charity and love so that through our lives the world will know that the love of Christ never ends.

What is God calling you to give this year? Even if your income has changed dramatically, what is God calling you to give as you make your statement of faith?

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

Holy Communion Sunday On Sunday, February 3rd



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.

A Health and Wellness Sunday On Sunday, February 17th

Tabor starts a Health and Wellness Sunday on the third Sunday of each month. Sarah Turner and Stacy Rose lead this program. More information to come. See Sarah Turner if you're interested in helping.



“Challenge 52”



“Challenge 52” is to memorize 52 bible verses. I challenge all church families to memorize 52

bible verses in 2019.

Challenge 5 – “Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.” - *1 Corinthians 16:13*,

Challenge 6 – “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.” - *Colossians 3:23*

Challenge 7 – “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” – *Luke 12:34*

Challenge 8 – “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” – *Philippians 4:13*

Shut Up & Dance at Oakfield UMC



We are excited to have Kids and Adult Dance classes at Oakfield United Methodist Church. Classes will be:

- A Kids Dance class on Tuesday from 4 P.M.- 5 P.M. (Grades 1 thru 5). The cost will be \$7 drop-in rate or \$25 for 4 weeks.
- The Adult Class on Thursday from 6:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M. The cost will be \$10 per class

This includes Waltz, Cha Cha, Foxtrot, Swing, Salsa and more... Classes start in the week of FEBRUARY 4th.



OAKFIELD'S LITURGIST, GREETER AND USHER SCHEDULE

Liturgist	Greeters
February	
3 Karen O'Laire	Roxanne & Kelly Schmitz
10 Bob Dvorak	Lee & Heidi Martin
17 Laurette Guy	Ron & Karen O'Laire
24 Bob Dvorak	Elly and Mason Garner

Ushers – Elly Garner and Bernadine Pea

March	
3 Julie Tennie	Joyce Kindschuh
10 Bob Dvorak	Dick & Julie Tennie
17 Denise Shaffer	Mark & Denise Shaffer
24 Bob Dvorak	Al & Joann Vey
31 Alice Wilder	Liz Hayward Family

Ushers – Lamonte & Alice Wilder

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. 583-3352

Sara Straub from Tabor Church is the Scheduler for Liturgists and Greeters. Please contact her to volunteer.

TABOR'S LITURGIST AND GREETER SCHEDULE

Liturgist	Greeters
February	
3 Davion O'Laughlin	Sandy Syms Family
10 Logan Birschbach	Erica Soyk
17 Logan Soyk	Jeremy Soyk Family
24 Austin Knepprath	Joy & Alan Tassler
March	
3 Not	Kristel Guelig Family
10 available	Deanna Serman & Joe Miritz
17	Jess & Jess Burmeister
24	Donielle Miller
31	Judy & Allen Straub



February 3rd Practice-8:00AM Sing at Service
February 17th Practice-8:00AM Sing at Service
Come sing with the Tabor Choir.



Tabor December Giving Update

The congregation was blessed by December offerings which surpassed \$15,000, bringing 2018 giving to: \$90,181.08. This along with a \$6300 grant from the WI UM Foundation, brought 2018 total church income to \$96,481 (91% of budgeted expenses-\$106,600).

As we begin 2019, budgeted expenses to carry out the church's missions this year average \$2,000/week (a \$50/week decrease from 2018) To reach this goal, we need to work together to increase the weekly church offerings by \$270/week.

Thank you for your prayerful support of our church. We look forward to great things for Tabor church in 2019!

Christmas Eve Offering

The wonderful Christmas Eve program put on by the youth of the church make Christmas Eve at Tabor Church a special tradition. This year's Christmas Eve offering allowed 2 special gifts of \$246.71 each to go to 1. The ARC of Fond du Lac, and 2. Big Brothers Big Sisters of FDL.

✉ **Change of Address** ✉

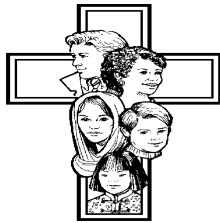
Joann Goodlaxson
C/O Prairie Ridge Assisted Living
819 Wilcox Street, Apt #6
Waupun, WI 53963
920-324-6099



TABOR UMW

Tabor United Methodist Women will meet Thursday, February 14th, 6:30 PM at the Tabor Church. The Program, "Women Investing In Shalom" will be led by Terri Van Bladeren. Hostesses for the evening are Cindy Glass and Sarah Turner.

Reminder the UMW is selling Sub Sandwiches for Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 3rd. See Judy Straub for your order.



Oakfield Ladies Fellowship

Will meet Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Noon at the Oakfield Church for lunch.

Bring a dish to share and come join us for fellowship and fun. All are welcome to attend.



FEBRUARY

OAKFIELD

- 02/06 Denise Shaffer
- 02/07 Roxanne Schmitz
- 02/11 Marvin Pea
- 02/20 Mary Jane Thill

TABOR

- 02/04 Konnor Plautz
- 02/07 Eltayrius Wilson-Kohlman
- 02/08 Joe Miritz
- 02/10 Kalista Hodorff
- 02/14 Eltayvion Wilson-Kohlman
- 02/17 Kayli Hodorff
- 02/17 Kim Soyk
- 02/19 Sara Struab
- 02/24 Travis Immel
- 02/25 Sadie Fideler
- 02/27 Brianna Halfmann



OAKFIELD

- 02/10 Chad & Tracy Schmelzer
24 Years

TABOR

- 02/07 Amanda and Nick Wiedmeyer
4 Years



80th Birthday Club

February 11, 1932 Marvin Pea 87th

February 20, 1933 Mary Jane Thill 86th

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

February 2019

Oakfield United Methodist
Church
Worship Sundays at **10:45AM**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Pastor's Sabbath Day	2
3 Holy Communion 08:45AM-Worship(T) 10:00AM-Bible Study(T) 10:45AM-Worship(O)	4	5 7:00PM-Confirmation Class at TUMC	6	7	8 Pastor's Sabbath Day	9
10 Noisy Can 08:45AM-Worship(T) 10:00AM-Bible Study(T) 10:45AM-Worship(O) Social Sunday(O)	11	12 7:00PM-Confirmation Class at TUMC	13 Valentine's Day	14 Valentine's Day 6:30PM-UMW Meeting	15 Pastor's Sabbath Day	16
17 08:45AM-Worship(T) A Health&Wellness(T) 10:00AM-Bible Study(T) 10:45AM-Worship(O)	18	19 7:00PM-Confirmation Class at TUMC	20	21 6:00PM-Finance Committee(T) 7:00PM-Church Council(T)	22 Pastor's Sabbath Day	23
24 08:45AM-Worship(T) The Collection of Personal Products (T) 10:00AM-Bible Study(T) 10:45AM-Worship(O)	25 6:30PM-Stephen Ministry Cont. Ed & Supervision at TUMC	26	27	28 12:00PM-Lady Fellowship at OUMC		