



OZAUKEE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH July 2016



July Events

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!



Preparation of
World Vision Kits
July 30th @ 10:00



The Musical Line-Up
for July

- ~ July 3 Peter Szczepanek, Cello
- ~ July 10 Ann Lobotzke, Harpist
- ~ July 17 Jazz Sunday
- ~ July 24 Marie Sanders, Flute
- ~ July 31 Magumi and Dietrich, Brass

Celebrating Parents

Two Sunday's ago we celebrated Father's Day. It was a special day for us fathers, but for those of us who attended this service, it was especially memorable as it marked the first Sunday Joel Fredrikson led us in worship. It was indeed a lovely service with a great message and, in case you missed it, you can listen to it on the OCC website, www.occhurch.org.

Joel's father, Roger, passed away June 16 in Sioux Falls, SD at age 95. Shortly before Roger passed, Joel had an opportunity to speak with him and, no doubt found it difficult to be so far removed physically from him during his last hours. In fact Joel suggested that he should travel to Sioux Falls to spend with Roger what time he had left. Roger, a retired minister, told Joel, "no, you are where you need to be." This bit of advice, coming from the father he had loved and respected all his life, made it much easier for Joel to engage himself in the service of his new congregation than to be by his father's side during the last days of his life.

On May 29 Rob Fredrickson experienced the loss of his father. During the memorial service, Rob, an only child, told us that he had lost his second "best friend", having lost his first when his mother passed in 2011.

Both Joel and Rob are suffering the physical loss of their fathers and we, the members of the OCC congregation, need to keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they go through the healing process that is necessary after experiencing such a loss. As they both know and as does everyone else who has lost a beloved parent, though they may be gone physically, our parents remain with us spiritually and live on in each of their living descendants.

We, who have had loving parents, are indeed fortunate. We are who we are by both nature and nurture and, when you have loving and caring parents in your lives, no one exerts more influence on what and who you become. It is sad to note that many people have not had what so many of us may believe is a given of childhood. Due to death, absenteeism or, even worse, abusive behavior, many people do not get to experience the love of one or both parents. If a survey is done, and it probably has been, of inmates in our prisons, I am sure we would find many of them lacked the guidance and role-modeling of two loving parents.

The Next Door Foundation helps encourage inner city fathers to more fully participate in their children's lives. I have witnessed the joy and love that is a two-way street between the children and their fathers at their center. It is visible, palpable and real. There is no doubt that anything we can do to help foster this important relationship will benefit not only the individuals involved, but also society as a whole. So, if you have experienced parental love and guidance, I suggest you first give thanks and then do what you can to help those less fortunate.

Dan Dedrick,
Moderator



TIME FOR SOME SPIRITUAL GARDENING



Some of you may recall the child's nursery rhyme that begins with the line "Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow?" Well, that simple little verse got me to thinking about gardening, not the digging in the ground gardening, but another, more important kind of gardening. Spiritual gardening!

Spiritual gardening is about growing our faith in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. As Christians I believe that someone, somewhere and somehow along our path of life planted those first tiny seeds of our faith. For baptized Christians, we were rooted in God's holy field called creation. We have risen out of the waters of baptism thirsting to learn more about Christ. With each new blossom, each new understanding of God's never ending love, we celebrate the good news of Jesus and want to share it with women and men everywhere.

Spiritual gardening occurs when we set aside the distractions of everyday life and take up the tools to cultivate our faith. Just like the hibernating creatures of the forest, we sleepy believers need to shake off the darkness of our lives and begin to grow our spiritual selves in the brightness of the *Son* who was raised from the dead for the forgiveness of our sins.

Spiritual gardening only requires that we be diligent in our task of growing our faith. We don't need to know what the outcome will be, like the color of the flowers or the juiciness of the ripened fruit. The instruction manual for spiritual gardening is simple. "Love God and love your neighbor as yourselves."

Friends, how is your spiritual garden growing? Today I'm challenging each of us—awaken your dormant seeds of Christian faith and begin to grow your spiritual garden. Turn over the dry soil of your faith, plow up the rich ground of resurrection hope, water the maturing plants of wisdom and knowledge and enjoy the fruits of your labor that blossom forth in joy and peace. Rejoice in the harvest of your deepening faith!



Pastor Barbara Jordan



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Is Planning Ahead

An August event is being planned for OCC's women. We will be meeting in Port Washington **Friday**, August 19th at 10:00 at the Pebble House, Port's historic welcome center, and touring the Marina and Rotary Park, the Exploreum, a variety of shops, St. Mary's Church, and have lunch at The Twisted Willow. How is that for a day of fun activities! Mimi Mead will be the host. There will be a sign-up sheet at church. **Please note it is Friday and not our usual Thursday date.** We have no outing planned for July, so mark your calendars for August 19.



Membership TEAM

WANTED: ENTHUSIASTIC TEAM MEMBER!

Looking for a way to get more involved in the OCC community? The Board of Membership and Events is in need of 1 additional church member to join our Team for a three-year term. Our Board meets on an irregular basis, typically around event times. Our primary events include: The Golf Outing in Fall, The Annual Christmas Party and the bake/craft sale that pays for the party, Pot Lucks, Chili/Souper Sunday. A detailed description of the Board responsibilities can be found in the OCC Constitution on the information table in Fellowship Hall or by contacting Kay Thompson at the church office. Currently serving on the Board are: Jan Davis, Barb Dedrick, Christine Demuth, Mary Scherer, Sonja Coster, Denyl Hewes, George Scannell, Sue Ann Walczak (unofficial honorary member) and chair, Mary Campbell. Contact (marycampbell@wi.rr.com) if you are interested in joining this dynamic Team in helping to plan events geared towards promoting fun, fellowship and friendship in the OCC Community. Senior High or young adult members welcome!!

**BOARD OF MEMBERSHIP
AND EVENTS:**

The Board of Membership and Events is planning the following member/guest events for the summer. Save the dates and join us for Fun, Friendship and Fellowship! You are encouraged to invite guests:

- July 22nd: Summer Sounds concert at Cedar Creek Park in Cedarburg, 6:30 PM. Event is open to all church members/families and guests. Bring your own beverages, an appetizer to pass and a blanket or lawn chairs. Sign-up sheet is posted in Fellowship Hall.
- August 18th: Grafton Gala concert at Veteran's Memorial Park in Grafton. Time TBD. Event is open to all church members/families and guests. Sign-up sheet and additional information will be posted in Fellowship Hall in mid-July.
- September 10th: Annual OCC golf outing/dinner at Meekwon Golf Course. Time TBD. Golfing is open to all church members/families and guests 13 years and older. You need not be a good golfer to participate! And if you don't wish to golf but would still like to participate, plan to join us for the dinner following golf. More information and sign-up sheet coming in the following months.



SUNDAY SIGN-UPS:

Lend a helping hand this summer by signing up to be a liturgist, greeter/usher, coffee hour host, acolyte and/or nursery helper. Sign-up on the white board in Fellowship Hall.

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Don't forget your summer pledge installments. OCC needs cash flow all year round.

Thanks,
Dick Dieffenbach,
Treasurer

**Sunday, Sept. 18 ... Invite a Friend ...
There's Going to be a Picnic !!**

"BRING A FRIEND" PICNIC

*Fun, Food, Fellowship ...
these are all things that will happen at our*

*Annual OCC Picnic on
Sunday, September 18,
immediately following the church service*

*Bring your family, bring your friends -
to experience the fellowship
of our wonderful church family*

Enjoy ...

BBQ pulled pork, grilled hot dogs, and favorite side dishes and desserts from our congregation -

Games for the children -

Music -

Sign up in Fellowship Hall - and indicate how many will be coming, and if you will bring a side dish or dessert.

Everyone welcome - even if not bringing a side.



The County highway crews will be closing the junction of Lakefield and Green Bay roads starting July 11 through the end of August to re-construct the intersection. OCC members to the west will need to plan for an alternate route during the construction.

IRREGULAR SUMMER WEDNESDAYS

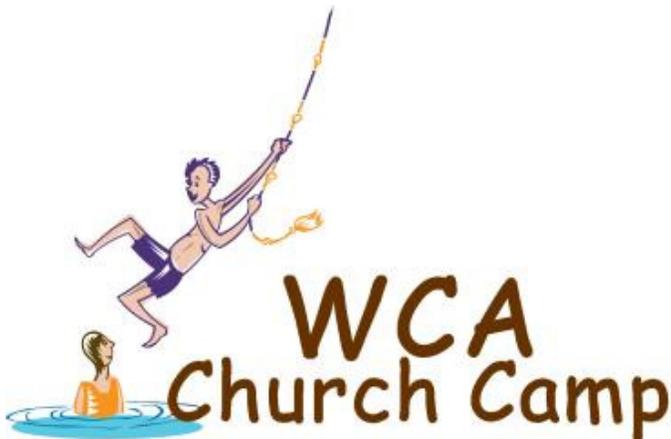
During the summer, no two Wednesdays are quite alike! Here's what's coming up in July:

- July 6: Disc Golf at Lime Kiln, 1:30-3
- July 13: WCA Camp
- July 20: Adam Penno's baseball game!
6:00 at the CHS JV field
BYO snax and such!
- July 27: Photo Scavenger Hunt at OCC
+ help set up for World Vision
Hygiene Kit project
- August 3: Chinooks game, 6:35



WCA CAMP: JULY 10-16

The greatest week of the entire summer is almost here! We're headed back to beautiful Mt. Morris Camp & Conference Center (near Wautoma) for a week of fun, fellowship, and faith formation. A whopping 26 OCC kids will be among the roughly 75 total campers, and OCC will be well represented among the adult leadership, too. Our own **Jeni Branum** will be directing Senior High Camp. **Patti Desrosier** and **Stacey Murray** will be on the kitchen crew. And a veritable gaggle of counselors hail from OCC, including **Emily Campbell, Stephen Campbell, Rob Fredrickson, Maddie Makinster, Katie Radtke, Kev Scherer, Ben Stauss, and Bo Wilkinson**. This year's super-cool theme: "Be Transformed!"



Questions? Want to sign up? Contact Rob at rcf474@gmail.com or 414-688-8991.

BENEVOLENCE BOX WISH LIST

As we move toward the second half of the summer, the wooden box in Fellowship Hall is the place for...

- New or gently used children's books
- Toiletries/personal care items (hotel sizes are great!)
- Red plastic Sendik's bags
- The new heavier-duty Walgreen's bags
- Paper handle bags from any store
- Empty plastic laundry detergent jugs
- And, as you see the sales pop up later this month, **school supplies!**

CAN YOU HELP AT HOPE HOUSE?

OCC volunteers help out in the food pantry at Hope House on the third Saturday morning of each month. More helping hands are needed for July 16 and August 20. Please contact Rob!

FAMILY SHARING NIGHTS

OCC volunteers help out at Family Sharing on the fourth Monday evening of the month, 5:30-7:00. **Advance sign up** is important, as the Family Sharing staff have to plan projects based on our number of volunteers. So, if you can lend a hand on July 25 or August 29, be sure to contact Rob!

HYGIENE KIT ASSEMBLY LINE: SATURDAY, JULY 30

Save that morning on your calendar for this multi-generational service project. Through World Vision, we'll be assembling hygiene kits in Fellowship Hall. Children, youth, and adults can all help make this a fun and impactful morning!

READ WITH ME: AUGUST 2

Spend the morning of Tuesday, August 2 reading with joyful, playful young kids in Next Door's children's library. We're looking for **fourteen** volunteers—*adults and youth* are welcome!

