



OZAUKEE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH May 2019



May
Happenings

**Green Eggs and Ham
Bruncheon
Sunday, May 5
10:30 a.m.**



**Mother's Day
May 12**

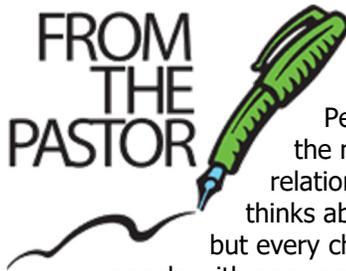


**Children/Youth Sunday
May 19**



CHILDREN/YOUTH
SUNDAY

**FROM
THE
PASTOR**



body?"

Relationships are so important. While we worship God on Sundays, another primary way we connect with God is through our connections with one another.

People come to church for different reasons, but one of the main reasons people stay at church is for the relationships and friendships they form there. Every church thinks about, and plans worship services on Sunday morning, but every church also asks the question, "How do we connect our people with one another and facilitate relationships within our church

As one of the answers to that question, last fall we launched the OCC Dinner Club! Thanks to the idea and organization of Denyl Hewes and the oversight of the Board of Membership and Events, people at OCC signed-up to have dinner in the homes of different church members every other month. The result? People got connected. New relationships were formed. People got to know one another in a new way. Relationships that had begun at church were fostered outside of Sunday morning. Every report I heard about the OCC Dinner Club, including that of my wife, was very positive. So, we are launching round two and we'd love for you to be a part of it! If you haven't yet signed up, look for the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall this Sunday!

I have said before that we want the church to be a family, which doesn't mean that everyone will spend as much time at church or with church members as with their immediate family, but I hope it does mean that everyone at OCC feels like they have someone to call in times of need or in times of celebration. I hope it means everyone at OCC feels connected not only to OCC but also to specific people within it. Neither you nor I can have the same relationship with everyone, but each of us needs a strong connection with someone; each of us needs some close, positive relationships. Hopefully OCC is a place where such relationships can be formed, fostered, and cemented, and perhaps the OCC dinner club is another means through which that can happen.

As I look back on the past number of months, I am grateful for the relationships I have been able to form with many of you, and I look forward to the coming years and the relationships at OCC that will come out of them.

"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts." Acts 2:46

See you at dinner,

Jeff



From Your Moderator

Spring is finally here! Well, at least we hope it is. After a long cold winter, we long for spring and look for the signs of renewal.

I have been thinking recently how our church is like the small buried tulip bulbs of winter holding great potential to become beautiful flowers and now bursting forth in spring. We have spent the time to prepare the “earth” and to have the best “bulbs”: a great congregation full of friendly caring people, our great pastor, Jeff and his family, fantastic music, and many new faces coming to share the message of Jesus with us.

We are seeing the benefits of patiently preparing and are now blessed to be seeing spiritual growth and new faces, including little ones, bursting thru our doors at OCC. Our OCC garden is beginning to spring forth in glorious fashion.

Easter, too, is about renewal. The renewal of our faith, reminding us that God is always with us even when we sometimes forget that He is there beneath our surface. We are reminded to tend our personal and church faith gardens and revel in the love that Jesus has brought forth! I look forward to watching us grow in faith as a family of followers.

Stacey



Sign up for Electronic Pledge Deposit

OCC now can accept contributions via Direct Debit Giving. For anyone who has a desire to give

using an auto-withdrawal directly from their account, we can now set them up to do so. Our Treasurer, Dick Dieffenbach, is the man to see if you are interested in Electronic Pledge Deposits.



Joyous Journey and the nursery at OCC carry on in fine fashion! We are so grateful for the volunteers who have helped out over the past number of weeks, and for those who will help out in the coming weeks. The kids continue to enjoy each Sunday morning as they serve as acolytes, participate in worship with the youth, and then have their own lesson and craft.

The kids also loved Palm Sunday, on which they got to hide eggs for the annual Easter Egg Hunt but still be the recipients of most of the chocolate and candy!



Thank you to the Board of Christian Ed and to the members of MP3 who prepared things for the egg hunt and made it a fun event for everyone.

The summer is coming quickly, and we are so thankful for Emelia Peterson who has agreed to lead Joyous Journey for the summer months! Joyous Journey kids will participate in the first part of the adult service and then will be dismissed to their own class. We are looking forward to a great summer! And please continue to pray with us as we look for the right person to lead Joyous Journey in the fall. Thank you!



Welcome,
Emelia!!



Midweek Bible Study to continue through May

We WILL take a summer hiatus, but first we'll have some very stimulating and fruitful discussions during the month of May. We'll be looking at some of "Paul's Greatest Hits"—some of the best-known, most dearly loved passages from the apostle Paul's New Testament writings.

You have your choice of two time slots:
7pm Tuesdays or 10:30 Wednesdays.

Pick your preferred time and join the conversation!
It's free and open to all.

Women's May Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship for May is TBD. Stay tuned for further information on what the outing will be, but mark your calendars for **Thursday, May 16!**

Women's Fellowship always has wonderful trips and lunches, so we will keep you informed on what will be happening for the month of May!!



The 2019 Multiple Sclerosis Walk (MS) will be held in Cedarburg on Saturday, May 4.

As in the past this is a fundraiser to raise monies to aid in the fight to combat this terrible debilitating disease. You may know someone who has MS and can see how it effects their life. We are inviting people to join us in the walk for *Bobbi's Team* (Bobbie Herman) or make a Pledge to *Bobbi's Team* in care of the Wisconsin Multiple Sclerosis Society. **Join us, we need you!!** All interested parties may contact **Erv Herman** for more information:

winemkr2@att.net or (262) 677-1593



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28, in Fellowship Hall.

Please come if you enjoy working together in warm fellowship, accompanied by laughter and lively conversation. Knitting supplies and patterns are available. If you have questions (or suggestions for recipients), please contact Barbara Read. 414-899-5257. Beginners and/or those wanting some help with either knitting or crocheting are invited to attend.



Five to Thrive!

Five ways to jump in, engage, and get involved — in May!

- Assist in the nursery on ... May 5, May 12, or May 19.
- Be an usher on ... May 5, May 12, or May 26.
- Be the liturgist on ... May 12 or May 26.
- Join the OCC dinner club (groups of 6-8 sharing dinner in homes, bi-monthly).
- Help sort donated food at Family Sharing on Saturday, May 18, 2pm.



OCC COUNCIL MEMBERS

NAME	PHONE #	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Jeff Larson Sr. Minister	469-236-4222	pastor@occhurch.org
Rob Fredrickson Assoc. Minister	414-688-8991	rcf474@gmail.com
Dick Dieffenbach Treasurer	262-375-3536	dick@dieffenbach.com
Stacey Murray Moderator	262-377-1813	Stacey.murray@sbcglobal.net
Sue Ann Walczak Clerk	262-442-8365	sueann0110@gmail.com
Linda Krieg Benevolence	571-286-6208	lindakrieg2@gmail.com
Bob Hinson Benevolence	262-512-9277	rhinson@wi.rr.com
Sue Peksa Christian Ed.	414-217-2981	dkb4ds@gmail.com
Mary Campbell Deacons	262-339-8984	marycampbell@wi.rr.com
George Scannell Facility	262-375-8801	gascannell@gmail.com
Sonja Coster Membership/Events	414-732-1261	sonjacoster54@gmail.com
Rachelle Peters Membership/Events	262-376-9332	rachelle.peters@gmail.com
Ed Wrathall Stewardship	262-618-2700	ewrathall@wi.rr.com
June Burkeen Trustees	414-581-5475	junebird@aol.com
Tim Nolan Nominating Committee	414-595-7433	nolantj13@gmail.com

Youth Ministry Happenings

All activities are for those completing grades 6-12 unless otherwise noted.

Sunday morning MP3 to wrap up the year

We'll meet on Sunday, May 5 and Sunday, May 12, 9:30 in the Youth Room. After that, it's Children's & Youth Sunday, and then into summer mode!

Children's & Youth Sunday: May 19

The May 19 worship service (9:30) will feature music and liturgy led by some of OCC's kids, plus recognition of teachers and youth group volunteers, presentation of Bibles, celebration of graduating seniors, and more! Kids, be sure to let Rob know if you'd like to be an usher, reader, or singer, for this very special worship service!

Wednesday PF meetings

Pilgrim Fellowship, a.k.a. "PF," will meet twice in May, wrapping up the year. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, May 8 and Wednesday, May 22, 7-8:30 in the Youth Room.

WCA Camp: July 7-13 at Mt. Morris "Shine"

Remember, WCA Camp is for current **3rd**-12th graders! This year's leadership team includes...

- Mini-Kamp (grades 3-5) Director: **Becca** Penno
- Junior High Camp (gr. 6-8) Director: Tonia Wallner
- Sr. High Camp (gr. 9-12) Dir.: Rachel Siebenaller
- Camp Administrator: Abby Cole
- Camp Minister: OCC's own **Rob** Fredrickson

Other familiar OCC faces include counselors **Shannon** Brophy, **Bo** Makinster, **Willie** Moran, **Sarah** Peksa, **Tom** Penno, **Jimmy** Radtke, and **Bo** Wilkinson; nurses **Pam** Roble and **Linda** Stauss; and kitchen crew members **Patti** Desrosier and **Karen** Gventer.

Many kids say that camp is THE very best week of the whole summer. Needless to say, you won't want to miss out! Online registration is available at wiscongregational.net/camp and you can conveniently pay right on the site!

Agape Table (young adult fellowship)

The last Agape Table gathering of the academic year will be at 6pm on **Monday, May 6** at Ma Fischer's on Farwell in Milwaukee. It's a time for good food and good conversation for college students and other 20-somethings. If you, or someone you love, may be interested, let Rob know the best cell number for texting purposes.

utreach opportunities

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

Green Eggs & Ham Bruncheon: May 5

Bring a platter or bowl of an appetizer or finger food to share. Or, just bring your appetite...and a free-will donation for **Next Door** in Milwaukee. (And, for what it's worth, it's Cinco de Mayo!)

Food sorting at Family Sharing: May 18, 2pm

The annual food drive through the USPS mail carriers will culminate with a massive food-sorting effort at Family Sharing on Saturday afternoon, May 18. If you can lend a hand that afternoon at 2pm, even if only for an hour or so, please let Rob know ASAP!

Hope House food pantry: third Saturday...

...morning of each month, 9:20-12:40. Contact Rob to sign up for any of these dates:

May 18
July 29

June 15
August 17

Easter Offering contributors: Thank you!

Our Easter Offering will benefit the **Hope House food pantry**, one of four Friedens pantries in Milwaukee. OCC has been engaged at Hope House for nearly a decade now, sending a team of volunteers there on the third Saturday morning of each month. Our volunteers know first-hand that the pantry is run with compassion, excellent stewardship of resources, and the utmost concern for human dignity. Thank you for your generosity!

Benevolence Box Wish List

The wooden box in Fellowship Hall stands ready to receive your donations of...

- Plastic Sendik's bags (Hope House)
- Paper handle bags (Family Sharing)
- Empty laundry jugs (Family Sharing)
- **New:** pots & pans, new or gently used*
- **New:** new men's t-shirts, especially L-3XL sizes*
- **New:** men's personal hygiene products*

* = for Guest House & Nehemiah Project

What's coming up this summer?

- **Hosanna Mission Trip:** June 22-28
- **Read with Me** at Next Door: dates TBA
- **Hope House** food pantry: 3rd Sat. of each month
- **Family Sharing:** 4th Mon. evening of each month
- **School supplies collection:** Stay tuned!
- Booking airline tickets for the December 26 – January 2 **Mexico Mission Trip.** Interested? Contact Rob TODAY!