



# OZAUKEE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

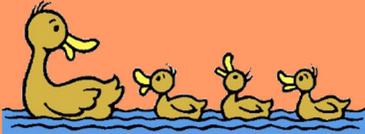
## May 2018

### May Events

**Green Eggs & Ham  
Bruncheon**  
Sunday, May 6  
Following the  
10:00 Service



**Mother's Day**  
Sunday, May 13



**Confirmation  
Sunday**

May 20 @ 10:00

**SUMMER**  
WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Begins Sunday, May 27  
@ 9:30 (1 Service)

### **“Are We in This for Good?”**



There's a group of us that gather each Wednesday morning for Bible Study. We just began reading the book of Acts. In chapter one, Luke, (the author of Acts) lists the names of the disciples and some others (about 120 in all) who were followers of Jesus and in vs. 14 there's the phrase "they agreed they were in this for good, completely together in prayer." We live in a day and age where commitments often are tenuous at best. "I'll support this cause until something

better/more exciting/newer comes along." or "this relationship is important to me for now – but things could always change." Even people's relationships with their churches can be temporary - it's more and more unusual to find people that stay with one congregation for most of their lives – even when they may be settled in "their town" for the duration.

Our consumer mentality has affected the ways that we "do church" today. So, if the church down the road has better \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank: preaching, music, educational opportunities, small group ministries, mission programs, buildings – you name it) maybe we'll go check them out. Our journeys of faith can become centered primarily around "what's in it for me – or me and my family" rather than "how can I utilize my God-given gifts to help grow this congregation?"

I'm a realist and I know there are times in life when relationships, business enterprises, automobiles, hobbies, or habits, can become more hurtful than helpful and it becomes advantageous to "pull the plug" and cut our losses. But sometimes, I fear, we may reach that conclusion too quickly. Have we really done everything we can to make this work? Are we willing to do the challenging work of growth and transformation that may need to happen to bring us to a new place? (Jan and I are blessed with two sons in their early 30's that we thank God for every day and who've turned out to be pretty wonderful people. But during those tumultuous adolescent years, there were some times when I was tempted to just quit parenting – but that wasn't really an option.) We were "in this for good."

Ozaukee Congregational Church is a wonderful Family of Faith that God has drawn together. And we thank God that so many of you are "in this for good." You've found the church the home you've been looking for (or you helped establish) and you're in it for good.

Over the years, people have come and gone. Sometimes we know why they leave or where they've gone – sometimes we don't know. There are some out there now who apparently are "waiting to see what happens."

My heart and soul rejoice with those of you who are "in it for good." I see it in your faces. I hear it in your comments, and questions about faith, and life, and church. I observe it in your faithfulness in stewardship and service. The future that God is leading this congregation into, is bold and bright and strong because you "are in it for good." God bless you for that. And, I'll look forward to seeing you on Sunday.

In Christ's Love,  
Joel



# From Your Moderator

## A Moderator's Retrospective

Three years ago, I began my term as Moderator. I would like to say the time flew by, but that would be untrue. It has been an activity-filled 3 years and I must say it seems like all of three years. However, I do want all of you to know that it was an honor to serve you in this capacity. During this chapter we have had to replace two directors of Christian Education, evict our tenants, accept the retirement of Jim McKenzie, manage a "pre-interim" period, hire Joel Fredrikson as our interim minister, renovate the parsonage, make a few constitutional amendments, run a capital campaign, and initiate much-needed work to our facilities. There were quite a few other things we managed, but I think these are the highlights of what the Council accomplished during the last 3 years, at least from my perspective.

In the newsletter, I have had the opportunity to share with you my spiritual observations, updates to what is being addressed at the Council level and, what I have enjoyed the most, my observations of what a wonderful Christian community we have at Ozaukee Congregational Church. Being involved as I have been, I have had the opportunity to gain a much fuller appreciation of all the good work done by those who make sure we have comfortable and safe facilities, manage our financial responsibilities, keep our website current, provide spiritual enrichment, volunteer to help those less fortunate, reach out to fellow congregants during times of need, enhance our services with their musical talents and do all the little but, not insignificant, day-to-day things.

I truly embrace the Congregational "way" of rule "by the people and for the people". Many of you have reached out to me during the past three years to ask questions, and to share with me things that you like as well as things that you do not like. I appreciate that people embrace the Congregational way the same way I do and let me know what was on their minds. In return I can say I have taken to heart your suggestions, and sometimes criticism, all of which I viewed as constructive. Although some may not agree with all the actions we have taken, I know that in everything I have done as Moderator, I have had the best interests of OCC in mind.

Because of the challenges we have faced during this period, I have come to fully realize that the church has little to do with the buildings we worship in, and is not defined by the clergy who lead us spiritually, but is the cumulative effort of our members who ***"covenant together, of our own free will, to love God and to enjoy God forever, to walk in God's ways, known and to be made known, to study the life and the teachings of Jesus Christ, to live and work together in unity and peace, and to care for those whom God has given us to love."***

As I look back at roles I have served in my life thus far, serving Ozaukee Congregational Church as Moderator, ranks among the most fulfilling. Thank you all for allowing me this honor.

*Dan Dedrick*, Moderator

## JOYOUS JOURNEY Celebration of Miracles

### Continues. . . .

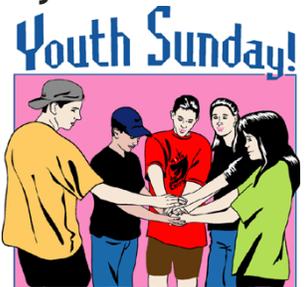
The blossoms of spring welcome in new miracles of renewal, as we continue our discussion about biblical miracles.



Stories will include some classical favorites, such as the parting of the sea, the lion's den, the great flood, and many others. Join us on this Journey!

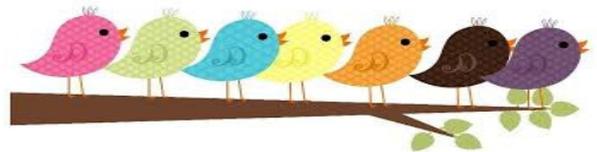
### Continue on the Journey Youth Sunday - May 20th

On this day our youth will honor the congregation with a worship service. The service includes recognition of our confirmation class, graduates, and volunteers.



For more information or to find out how to get involved contact Leona at:

[ChildrensMinistry.OCCChurch@gmail.com](mailto:ChildrensMinistry.OCCChurch@gmail.com)



### Ozaukee Congregational Church April 2018 YTD Financial Summary for OCC operating Account

	4 Months 2018		4 Months Actual
	Actual	Budget	2017
Receipts – Pledges	\$113,331	\$105,327	\$112,061
Plate Collections/Other	4,014	3,125	5,161
Transfers/NACCC Grant	42,045	42,045	0
Total Cash, Transfers & Grant	159,390	150,497	117,222
Disbursements	(92,154)	(87,621)	(95,244)
	67,236	62,876	21,978
Positive Budget Variance Year to Date	4,360		
Budgeted 2018 Budget Variance	(18,710)		
Projected 2018 Deficit	(14,350)		

Questions, please contact:  
Dick Dieffenbach, Treasurer

**Women's Fellowship Outing  
Riveredge Nature Center  
Thursday, May 17**



Join OCC's Women's Fellowship on Thursday, May 17 for a guided spring wildflower visit to Riveredge Nature Center in Saukville. Lunch will follow at the Firehouse Restaurant, also in Saukville. Further details will be communicated. Contact Sue Ann Walczak or Mimi Mead for any immediate questions.



**Wanted: Summer Pianist  
(June 3-September 2, 2018)**

If you know of a pianist who would be interested in playing for the 9:30 summer services, please contact Lori Dominiczak at 414-354-8830 or email at [bob.lori@yahoo.com](mailto:bob.lori@yahoo.com)

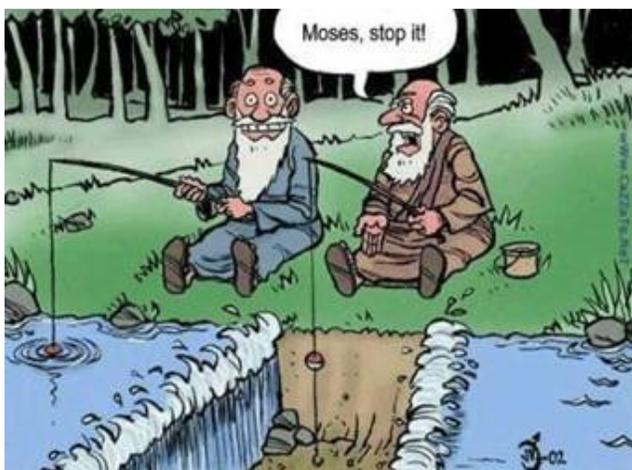
**Sunday Sign-ups:**

**We Need:**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday sign-up sheets for Greeters/Ushers, Coffee Hour Hosts, Liturgists, and Acolytes are posted on the bulletin board near the coffee table in Fellowship Hall. Please check the sheets and consider

volunteering your time and service on one or more Sundays over the next 6 months. ALSO. . We have no one signed up for flowers in July. How would you like to sign up???



**OZAUKEE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

Officers & Board Members for **2018-2019**

Underlined names are new in their position on this slate,  
*italics are chair positions*

- Moderator:**.....Rebekah Barsch
- Moderator Elect:** .....Stacey Murray
- Past Moderator:**.....Dan Dedrick
- Treasurer:** .....Dick Dieffenbach
- Assistant Treasurer:**.....Kay Thompson
- Clerk/Historian:**.....Sue Ann Walczak

**Board of Benevolence**

- 1-year..... Abby Gventer, *Kathryn Lukanich*
- 2-year.....Linda Krieg, Pam Price
- 3-year.....Bob Hinson, Gail Roeder

**Board of Christian Education**

- 1-year.....*Sharon Neece*, Julia Peksa
- 2-year.....Sue Lundsten, Sue Peksa
- 3-year..... Carolyn Herem, Nancy McGivern

**Board of Christian Stewardship**

- 1-year.....Cindy Helm, Peggy Stutz
- 2-year.....Bill Davis, Jim Kuist
- 3-year..... Dan Dedrick, Ed Wrathall

**Board of Deacons**

- 1-year..... Beulah Erickson, Barb Glass, *Sue Ann Walczak*
- 2-year.....Mary Campbell, Judy Rehfeldt
- 3-year.....Pat Hillman, Kathy LaBarre

**Board of Facility Management**

- 1-year.....Steve Bersell, *Evan Hewes*
- 2-year..... George Scannell, Dick Wilde
- 3-year.....Mike Rehfeldt, Tony Peksa

**Board of Membership and Events**

- 1-year.....*Barb Dedrick*, Christine DeMuth
- 2-year..... Karen Gventer, Rachele Peters, Rachel Wilde
- 3-year.....Carol Larsen

**Board of Trustees**

- 1-year.....Jay Stutz, Ellen Wilde
- 2-year.....June Burkeen, Tim Wilkinson
- 3-year.....Craig Campbell, Bob Posorske

**Nominating Committee (moderator automatic)**

- 1-year: Lori Dominiczak, Steve Holtan, Yasmin Leischer, Marcia Smith

Congratulations to all our new leaders and board members. As we move forward in our journey, let us remember to *“covenant together, of our own free will, to love God and to enjoy God forever, to walk in God’s ways, known and to be made known, to study the life and the teachings of Jesus Christ, to live and work together in unity and peace, and to care for those whom God has given us to love.”*

## Youth Ministry Happenings

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

### Final two MP3 Sundays of the school year

- May 6 → MP3, including communion
- May 13 → Last MP3 Sunday of the school year
- May 20 → Confirmation/Youth/Children's Sunday
- May 27 → Summer "9:30 only" schedule begins

### Midweek Youth Activities

- Thurs., May 3 → Real Talk, 7:15a, Fiddlehead's
- Wed., May 9 → PF, 7-8:30p, Youth Room
- Thurs., May 17 → Real Talk, 7:15a, Fiddlehead's
- Wed., May 23 → PF, 7-8:30p, Youth Room
- Wed., May 30 → *Hosanna Mission Trip meeting for team members & parents, 7-7:45p in Fellowship Hall*

### WCA Camp (grades 3-12): July 8-14

Join many kids from OCC, along with kids from other Congregational churches around the state, at Mt. Morris Camp & Conference Center, Sunday afternoon, July 8 through Saturday noon, July 14.

The awesome camp staff includes quite a few familiar faces from OCC: Mini-Kamp Director **Maddie Makinster**; Senior High Director **Rob Fredrickson**; counselors **Bo Makinster**, **Becca Penno**, **Tommy Penno**, **Bo Wilkinson**, and **Dibet Wilkinson**; and veteran kitchen crew member **Patti Desrosier**.

For maximum convenience, you can download all the info, and even register right online, at [wiscongregational.net/camp](http://wiscongregational.net/camp). Need-based scholarship money is available—both from the WCA and from OCC. If you have any camp-related questions, talk with Rob!



## Outreach Opportunities

Questions? Want to sign up? Contact Rob at [rcf474@gmail.com](mailto:rcf474@gmail.com) or 414-688-8991.

### Green Eggs & Ham Bruncheon for Next Door

You won't want to miss coffee hour on Sunday, **May 6**, following the 10:00 worship service. You'll be able to sample a mouth-watering array of **appetizers** and **finger foods** as you enjoy coffee and fellowship. There's no admission fee, and no ticket to buy. But there will be a **free-will donation** box on hand, with all proceeds benefitting **Next Door's** early-childhood programs such as Head Start, Early Head Start, and Educare.

### All hands on deck! Saturday, May 12, 2-5pm

Our friends at Family Sharing in Grafton have asked for our help—and this is a "the more, the merrier" situation. Saturday, May 12 is the date of this year's USPS Mail Carrier's Food Drive, and Family Sharing is a main destination for food donated in Ozaukee County. If you can help sort donated food for one, two, or three hours that afternoon, please contact Rob. *Advance sign-up is important.* So please check your calendar and let Rob know ASAP if you can lend a hand that afternoon.

### Benevolence Box Wish List

- Toiletries, incl. small sizes (Guest House)
- Plastic Sendik's bags (Hope House)
- Paper handle bags (Family Sharing)
- Empty laundry jugs (Family Sharing)

*A big "thank you!" to everyone who donated men's and women's socks and underwear in March and April. These items were delivered to the Guest House (men's) and Advocates (women's).*

### Hope House food pantry: Saturday, May 19

The carpool leaves OCC at 9:20, returning about 12:40. Contact Rob to reserve a spot for this or any "third Saturday!" (*Rob is eagerly looking for June, July, and August sign-ups right now!*)

### Easter Offering: Thank you for contributing!

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this year's Easter Offering for Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County. This organization is a lifeline for many seniors struggling to do simple errands and keep crucial appointments amid mobility challenges. Thank you for your generosity and compassion. And don't forget that Interfaith is always looking for more volunteers! For details, we encourage you to go to [interfaithozaukee.org](http://interfaithozaukee.org) and then click on the "Become a Volunteer" tab.