

Delavan United Methodist Church
213 S. Second Street
Delavan WI 53115

DECEMBER 2023 TOWER

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Delavan United Methodist Church
213 S. Second Street, Delavan WI 53115
(262) 728-3644

DECEMBER 2023 TOWER

Please join us!
Worship 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall 10:00 a.m.
Hispanic Worship at Noon

Coming Events:

- ✦ Sunday, December 10 – UWF Christmas Tea
10:00 a.m.
Charge Conference at First UMC-Elkhorn
3:00 p.m.
- ✦ Saturday, December 16 – Cookie Walk 9-11 a.m.
- ✦ Sunday, December 24 – **Christmas Eve**
9:00 a.m. Worship
4:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship



Have you searched your recipes for the cookies and/or candies you'll make for Cookie Walk? We'll need lots of goodies to make our Cookie Walk a success! Please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Cookies should be delivered to the church kitchen by Friday, December 15th. See you at the Cookie Walk!

DELAVAN UMC STAFF

Pastor: Angel Rosario Church: (262) 728-3644
 Home: (262) 725-6203
 E-mail: delavanumcpastor@gmail.com

Secretary: Jeanne Esch Cell: (262) 233-0453
 E-mail: delavanumcwi@gmail.com

Custodian: Paul Esch Cell: (262) 745-2885

Mission Statement

We strive to love God with open hearts, minds, and souls, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Vision Statement

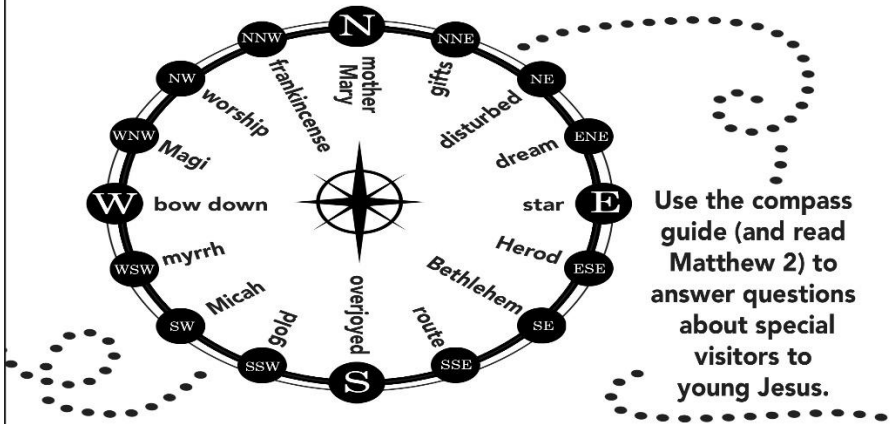
The people of Delavan United Methodist Church are committed to deepening our understanding, living, and sharing of our faith by worshiping God and reaching out to members of the community, regardless of age, race, ethnic origin, gender or economic status, sexual orientation, mental or physical ability.

The people of the United Methodist Church

Live the Fruit of the Spirit

The UNITED METHODIST CHURCH consists of 458 congregations in Wisconsin and 12 million members worldwide. We are global, connectional, inclusive, Wesleyan, grounded in Scripture, concerned about social justice, mission-oriented, and ecumenical. For more information: www.wisconsinumc.org

Puzzle!



Use the compass guide (and read Matthew 2) to answer questions about special visitors to young Jesus.

1. Who was king at the time of Jesus' birth? _____ (ESE)
2. Who came from the East to worship the one born king of the Jews? _____ (WNW)
3. How did King Herod feel about Jesus' birth? _____ (NE)
4. Which prophet did the chief priests and teachers of the law quote when King Herod asked where the Christ would be born? _____ (SW)
5. In what city would Christ be born? _____ (SE)
6. King Herod lied to the wise men, telling them to search and report back so he, too, could do what to Christ? _____ (NW)
7. What did the Magi see in the east and follow to find Jesus? _____ (E)
8. When the star stopped, how did the Magi feel? _____ (S)
9. Who else did the Magi see with Jesus? His _____ (N)
10. Before they worshiped the child, what did the Magi do? _____ (W)
11. Name the three treasures the Magi brought for Jesus. _____ (SSW) _____ (NNW) _____ (WSW)
12. These three treasures were all brought for Jesus as _____ (NNE)
13. What warned the Magi not to return to Herod? A _____ (ENE)
14. The Magi had to return to their country by another _____ (SSE)

Answers: 1. Herod; 2. Magi; 3. disturbed; 4. Micah; 5. Bethlehem; 6. worship; 7. star; 8. overjoyed; 9. mother Mary; 10. bow down; 11. gold, frankincense, myrrh; 12. gifts; 13. dream; 14. route



Thank you to the following volunteers who rang the bell for the Salvation Army kettles, for taking the time to help others during a busy Christmas season:

Jeanne Esch, Chris Anding, Jim Aldinger, Denise Bruneau, Judy Weyrough, Cheryl Wolfe, Anita Ryan, Jean Pippitt, Phyllis Almburg, Pat & Van Brown, Joan Jones, Katie Harrington & Paul Brandt.



Denise Bruneau & Judy Weyrough



This year Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, so we will have our regular 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning service, and at 4:00 p.m. we will have our Christmas Eve Candlelight service. It will be a joint service with Vida

Abundante. This is going to be a wonderful musical service filled with ringing of the bells and Christmas carols, so please join us!



We wish God's blessings to those of you celebrating a birthday or anniversary this month!

Van Brown	December	1
Ellie Lee		13
Don Edmunds		14
Zelbert Williams		16
Jackson Pelnar		17
Joy Nelson		22
John Behlman		23
Krista Edmunds		24
Beckett Pelnar		27
Martha Behlman		28
Katie Gallup		30

Happy Anniversary to:

Jerry & Kathy Vance (55 years!)	December	21
<i>Congratulations Jerry & Kathy!</i>		

NOISY CANS

Our Noisy Cans collection is taken every Sunday during the offering. In November we collected donations for the Food Pantry. This month's collection will benefit The Time is Now to Help. Thank you for your donations!



United Women in Faith

**DELAVAN UWF HAPPENINGS
DECEMBER 2023**

Four of us met on Thursday, Nov. 16th to plan for 2024 and many things were decided. Our program theme will be "Food, Faith & Fellowship" aimed at being hospitable to our community. Our schedule will be:

Thurs. 1/18/24 10 a.m. Fellowship Hall: Program on the 2023 Mission u program on the Lord's Prayer.

Thurs. 4/18/24 10 a.m.: April program from Food, Faith & Fellowship, planning for Salad Luncheon May 15.

4/21/24: SE District Gathering, Milton UMC.

4/26/24 – 4/28/24: Oak Creek UMC Spring Retreat at Camp Lucerne, Neshkoro, "Soul Sisters, Walking with Jesus."

Weds. 5/15/24 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Salad Luncheon. Linda Lemmen has agreed to chair it.

Bake Sales with the church rummage sales – Pat Brown has agreed to chair them.

Thurs. 8/21/24 10 a.m.: Aug. program, Board meeting to get reports in for the SE District Fall Gathering.

9/24: UW Faith Sunday (to be determined)

11/21/24 10 a.m. World Thank Offering meeting and planning for 2025.

UW Faith giving for 2023: World Thank offerings were received. We gave our 5 channels of giving including \$1000 for our pledge to the District which goes to the Conference, plus we donated \$100 each to the Tree House, Twin Oaks Shelter, New Beginnings (APFV), Time is Now to Help, and Shop with a Cop. \$250 was donated to Midwest Mission from donations for the Heritage Church Cookbooks. We also provide and support the Upper Room magazines subscription as a mission to the church. Thank you for your support.



The Food Pantry is collecting gently used winter coats for their customers who need a warm coat for winter. If you have a coat you would like to donate, please hang it in the hallway outside the church office. Thank you!



Prayer LIST

Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers:

For healing and strength: Ann Scott, Beth Brick, Anna (Armstrong) Streitzler, Pat Wierenga, Sue Neiger, David Rosario, Steve Jones, Jesse Williams, Clare Brooks, and Alice Halverson.

For our military: Nicholas Bell.



The Outreach Committee is again sponsoring the Angel Tree Mission Project, which ministers to children of a parent who is in prison by providing gifts to children at Christmas upon the request of the parent. The Angel Tree is in the Fellowship Hall. You may choose an Angel Tree tag for the child you would like to sponsor. The cost to adopt a child is \$30. Please make your check payable to DUMC with "Angel Tree" in the notation line. Place your check in the envelope and place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office. The deadline to donate is Sunday, December 10th. Thank you!

10

December Worship Participants

Sunday, December 3:

Ushers: John Behlman, Greg Matthews, Van Brown
Communion: Van & Pat Brown
Lector: Ed Foster
Advent Candlelighters: Ed & Barb Foster
Greeters: Dale & Gail Thompson / *Coffee:* Dorie Kosche

Sunday, December 10:

Ushers: Dick Martin, Don Edmunds
Lector: Jesse Guzman
Advent Candlelighters: Dori Kosche & Aven Farmington
Greeters: Ron & Jean Pippitt / *Coffee:* United Women in Faith

Sunday, December 17:

Ushers: Jim Aldinger, Don August, John Behlman
Lector: Katie Harrington
Advent Candlelighters: Katie Harrington & Paul Brandt
Greeters: Van & Pat Brown
Coffee: Denise Bruneau, Judy Weyrough, Van & Pat Brown

Sunday, December 24 - 9:00 a.m.

Ushers: Dale Thompson & Friends
Lector: Don Edmunds
Advent Candlelighters: Don Edmunds & Cheryl Wolfe
Greeter: Dorie Kosche / *Coffee:* Susie Pegel

Sunday, December 24 - 4:00 p.m.

Ushers: John Behlman, Greg Matthews, Van Brown
Lector: Chris Anding
Advent Candlelighters: Chris Anding & Susie Pegel
Greeter: Susie Pegel

Sunday, December 31:

Ushers: (to be announced)
Lector: Jesse Guzman
Greeters: Zelbert & Nancy Williams
Coffee: (volunteer needed)



Pastor Angel's Page

More than a Wreath and Candles

The Advent wreath is a symbol of watchfulness and increasing joy as Christmas approaches. Lighting its candles is a common practice on the four Sundays leading to Christmas. Different color combinations for the candles are used depending on the church or denomination. The wreath, the candles, and the colors all have symbolic significance. The circular green wreath symbolizes the everlasting love of God, having no beginning or end. Green represents eternal life.

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. One tradition says that each candle also represents one thousand years. They total 4,000 years – the time from Adam and Eve until the birth of Christ.

Purple, in ancient times, was expensive and considered the color of royalty and kings. On Christmas, Christ is proclaimed King of Kings. Purple also symbolizes humility and penitence. The first purple candle signifies Hope. The second purple candle stands for Peace. The pink candle for the third Sunday symbolizes Joy and signifies the halfway point of Advent. The final purple candle is for Love. The large white candle in the center is the Christ candle. Its light symbolizes Christ the Savior – “the light of the world.”

The beauty and brightness from the glow of all five candles is a reminder that Christ's life was the light for all earth's people – *“the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.”* (John 1: 5 NLT)

Pastor Angel Rosario

5

On Sunday, November 26th we celebrated Pastor Angel's birthday during coffee hour.



A Little Bit of Humor

Church leaders who shared stories with Outreach magazine describe an alarming number of Christmas candle vs. hair incidents. Here's what else has transpired:

- One pastor was sharing the Nativity story when he bumped the button on his singing Christmas tie, which didn't have a mute button. So congregants had to listen to the entire verse and chorus of “Jingle Bells.”
- A child discovered a live mouse in his chocolate-filled gift bag on Christmas Eve. Although the creature jumped out and scurried out the door, worshipers saw it return for the next service.
- After flames were distributed for the candlelight service, a pastor said, “Now that we're all good and lit ...,” causing laughter throughout the pews.

9

They raised \$1,000 for emergency help that is administered by Delavan Human Concerns. It was wonderful to see how the churches in Delavan could make an interfaith response to a community need. The variety of music and its quality was outstanding. A mainstay of the program was our trio representing Delavan UMC.

We will be providing Christmas dinners to our families centered around 36 hams that we are getting from Feeding America. *We are gathering sweet potatoes, canned pineapple, boxed cookie mixes, and boxed scalloped potatoes. We are asking you to consider donating some of these items to complete the meals.*

The following is our December list of most needed items in our pantry. We welcome your donations anytime and especially on **Red Wagon Sunday, Christmas Eve, December 24th.**

- Ketchup
- Hamburger Helper
- Tuna Helper
- Jelly
- Peanut Butter
- Salt/Pepper
- Spaghetti Sauce with Meat
- Sloppy Joe Sauce
- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Pork & Beans
- Sugar
- Tomato Soup
- Mushroom Soup



In Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, we met the disabled young boy Tiny Tim early on in the story and again at the close of the novel.

Although disabled, Tiny Tim manages to find hope, joy, and faith in life, and it is at the Christmas dinner at the end of the novel he offers these words: *"God bless us, everyone."* These are heartfelt genuine words of blessing. At the food pantry each Wednesday, we hear from most of our families, "Thank you. God bless you." This benediction is spoken with as much heartfelt warmth and sincerity as Tiny Tim. We believe that it is important that we pass along this blessing to you, the supporters and donors of the pantry, for without your generosity and sense of mission the food pantry would not exist and help so many.

In Nov. we distributed 40 complete Thanksgiving turkey dinners. We received the turkeys without charge from Feeding America, but we supplemented the turkey with side dishes that made the meal complete, including dessert. Your donations of food and funds made this special meal possible. On behalf of those families, we pass on these words: *"God bless you!"*

We have seen our number of families slowly increase, so that we are serving an average of 33 families each week. We are successful enough to create a traffic problem on Weds. mornings in our parking lot. In addition to the food pantry families, the men's coffee group, and Meals on Wheels, all are vying for space near the office entrance. It is a challenge for the Meals on Wheels delivery driver to park and make his delivery, and for the men to get into their coffee group. Growth and success in ministry come with challenges and opportunities such as this one. Compared to not helping hungry families, this is a wonderful challenge.

We are grateful to Don Edmunds, Jesse Guzman and Pastor Angel for their gifts of music at the recent fund-raising concert at First Baptist Church. The concert featured musicians from several Delavan churches and gathered food for Delavan and Darien food pantries. (con't on pg. 8)

DECEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
HBP=Hispanic Band Practice					1 9 am OA (L) 10 am AA (CR)	2
3 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am HBP 12 pm Hisp. Serv.	4 11 am BIBLE STUDY (FH)	5 9 am Food Pantry Quarterly Meeting (FH) 5 pm TOPS (FH)	6 9-12 Food Pantry 7:30 pm AA (CR)	7 5 pm FINANCE COM.	8 9 am OA (L) 10 am AA (CR)	9
10 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am HBP 12 pm Hisp. Serv. 3 pm Charge Conf. at 1st UMC-Elk.	11 11 am BIBLE STUDY (FH)	12 5 pm TOPS (FH) 6 pm Homeless Shelter Board (L)	13 9-12 Food Pantry 1:30 pm Delavan Service League (FH) 7:30 pm AA (CR)	14 12-3 pm PEO (K & FH)	15 9 am OA (L) 10 am AA (CR) Cookie Walk Set- Up (FH)	16 9-11 am COOKIE WALK 
17 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am HBP 12 pm Hisp. Serv.	18 11 am BIBLE STUDY (FH)	19 5 pm TOPS (FH)	20 9-12 Food Pantry 6 pm COUNCIL 7:30 pm AA (CR)	21	22 9 am OA (L) 10 am AA (CR)	23
24 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am HBP 4 pm Candlelight Worship	25 	26 5 pm TOPS (FH)	27 9-12 Food Pantry 1:30 pm Delavan Serv. League (FH) 7:30 pm AA (CR)	28	29 9 am OA (L) 10 am AA (CR)	30
31 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am HBP 12 pm Hisp. Serv.			AA – Alcoholics Anon. OA – Overeaters Anon.	TOPS – Take Off Pounds Sensibly PEO – Palenthropic Education Org.		