

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

JANUARY 2025 TOWER

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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

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JANUARY 2025 TOWER

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*Please join us!*  
*Worship 9:00 a.m.*  
*Fellowship 10:00 a.m.*  
*Spanish Worship at Noon*

★ **January 12 – 10:30 a.m.**  
**Town Hall Meeting**

Website: [www.delavanumcwi.org](http://www.delavanumcwi.org)  
E-mail: [delavanumcwi@gmail.com](mailto:delavanumcwi@gmail.com)



We wish God's blessings to everyone celebrating a birthday in January. Please notify the church office of any additions or corrections.

Gail Thompson	January	6
Kylene Yartey		8
Jeannette Boss		17
Jean Pippitt		17
Paul Brandt		25
Barb Foster		25
Reese Pelnar		27
Ed Foster		28

### NOISY CANS

During the Sunday morning offering, we pass the Noisy Cans, and at the end of the month the proceeds benefit local charities, or our Food Pantry, or Pastor's Discretionary Fund. In January your donations will benefit Food in a Backpack. Thank you for your donations!



Town Hall Meeting

We will have a Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Our Council will be on hand to answer any questions or concerns you may have. This is your chance to ask questions or voice any concerns you may have.

### DELAVAN UMC STAFF

Pastor:	Angel Rosario	Church: (262) 728-3644
		Home: (262) 725-6203
	E-mail: <a href="mailto:delavanumcpastor@gmail.com">delavanumcpastor@gmail.com</a>	
Secretary:	Jeanne Esch	Cell: (262) 233-0453
	E-mail: <a href="mailto:delavanumcwi@gmail.com">delavanumcwi@gmail.com</a>	
Custodian:	Paul Esch	Cell: (262) 745-2885
Pianist:	Laurie Gianitsos	Cell: (608) 728-1372

### *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***

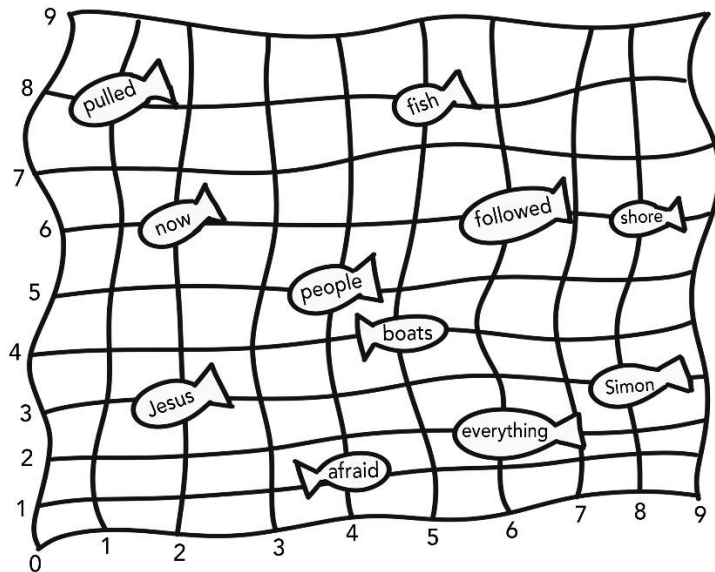
# PUZZLE



## FISHING DIRECTIONS

When fishermen obeyed Jesus and let down their nets, they caught so many fish that their boats began to sink! Simon Peter fell at Jesus' knees. What happened next?

Directions: Use the coordinate clues to locate the correct words and complete Luke 5:10-11 (NIV) below. The first number in each clue pair goes across, and the second number goes up.



Then Jesus said to \_\_\_\_\_, "Don't be \_\_\_\_\_; from \_\_\_\_\_  
 on you will \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_." So they \_\_\_\_\_ their  
 \_\_\_\_\_ up on \_\_\_\_\_, left \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ him.

Luke 5:10-11, NIV

Answers: Jesus, Simon, afraid, afraid, Simon, Simon, followed, followed, everything, everything, shore, shore, boats, boats, pulled, pulled, people, people, fish, fish, now, now, afraid, afraid, pulled, pulled, boats, boats, followed, followed



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who brought me gifts for Christmas. I feel very blessed that I work for such caring, generous people. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. Thank you!

Jeanne



Thank you to everyone who donated poinsettias for our sanctuary at Christmas – they were beautiful!

Anita Ryan in memory of Howard L. Ryan and Richard S. Yaeger.

Joan Jones in memory of Franklin Jones.

Susie Pegel in honor of the staff at Arbor Village.

Van & Pat Brown in memory of their son, Van Jr.

John & Martha Behlman in memory of Don & Alice Behlman.

Jeff & Tammy Demet in memory of their parents:

Les & Joyce Davis and Frank & Sandy Demet.

Joyce Francis in memory of Rev. John J. Francis and

Sylvia Francis.

Cindy Gallup in memory of Marlys Gallup and in honor of Gene Gallup.

Ellie Lee in memory of Lois Lee.

Don Francis in honor of Joyce Francis.

Vernola Anderson in memory of Ron Anderson.

Joe & Phyllis Almburg in memory of their sons:

Joe Almburg, Jr. and Mark Almburg.

## JANUARY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

### Sunday, January 5

**Ushers:** John Behlman, Greg Matthews, Van Brown  
**Communion:** Martha Behlman & Joanne Howe  
**Lector:** Ed Foster  
**Greeter:** Joanne Howe  
**Coffee:** Paul Brandt & Katie Harrington

### Sunday, January 12

**Ushers:** Dick Martin, Don Edmunds  
**Lector:** Jesse Guzman  
**Greeters:** Cathy and Lindsey Duesterbeck  
**Coffee:** Martha Behlman

### Sunday, January 19

**Ushers:** Jim Aldinger, John Behlman  
**Lector:** Joan Jones  
**Greeter:** Martha Behlman  
**Coffee:** (coffee host needed!)

### Sunday, January 26

**Ushers:** Dale Thompson & Friends  
**Lector:** Jesse Guzman  
**Greeters:** Ed & Barb Foster  
**Coffee:** Sandy Edmunds

*“When it comes to life, the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude.”*  
—G.K. Chesterton



United  
Women  
in Faith

Delavan United Methodist Church  
United Women in Faith  
January 2025 Happenings



We hope everyone had a Merry and Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year! Here is something to conclude our study of *Food, Faith and Fellowship* that was sent to me by Barb Mamerow, NE Spiritual Growth leader for Christmas. It will also kick off our mission program theme for 2025 *Carrying Our Faith Forward*. It reads: *The measure of an amazing woman is the*

*blessings she brings to others – generosity, kindness, patience, honesty, faith and love.* I believe that describes UW Faith & church members as they seek to serve others in many ways. Please take this to heart and know you are loved by those around you.

Starting with our new program theme center on the effect of water on our faith, I would like to describe it briefly from the January Reflection: *Water is an important symbol of our faith. From the ritual of baptism to living water, it is a vehicle for the Holy Spirit to transform our lives, relationships, and communities. It has been doing so for generations, shaping the faith of those going before us.* We will learn more about this in our devotions at upcoming meetings. Our Program Book for 2025 will be coming out soon. Tentative meetings will be : Thursdays, 2/6, 4/10, 8/21, 11/20 all at 10 a.m. in the church library. Our tentative Salad Luncheon will be Thursday, May 15. We are open for mission project suggestions. The Reading Program cart will be available in the Fellowship Hall. January is a great month for reading and catching up on these interesting books.

Anyone who would like to work with missions for women, youth and children, please contact Jeanne at the church office at 262-728-3644 or Chris at [christinemarie1950@gmail.com](mailto:christinemarie1950@gmail.com).



Please remember to keep the following members and friends in your prayers:

*For healing and strength:* Dick Martin, Don Hummel, Joe Almburg, Jeannette Boss, Gene Gallup, Jacob Blair, Leona Kruizenga, Ann Scott, Jenni Mirus, Dan Cannon, Donna Boltz, Pat Wierenga, David Rosario, Steve Jones.

*For our military:* Nicholas Bell.



Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> was Tom Bradshaw's last Sunday as our pianist. We will surely miss Tom's talents! We honored Tom at coffee hour.



As we begin the new year, I wish to thank all of you for your generous support of the Food Pantry in 2024, and especially for the support of the drive to gather Christmas ham dinners for many of our families.

Your generosity this Christmas helped us exceed our goal of dinners for 30 families. Your gifts (both literal dinners or components and cash) allowed us to provide 33 families with dinners! I pass along the grateful smiles and words of "Thank you" and "God bless you" from all these families as they received their dinners.

Again, this month I am postponing writing about the organizational structure of a successful food pantry. I promise that I will complete this task by writing an article in February's Tower about the fourth pillar of a successful food pantry.

As many of you know, Delavan UMC houses the Spirit of Hope Men's Homeless Shelter November through April each year. This is another outreach ministry to the needs of people in our community. The church accommodates these two missions rather well. However, this past week was a time when we faced a challenge of how to manage both of them on the day after Christmas. The challenge came from an outbreak of COVID illness among the men staying at the Shelter starting on Sunday, December 22, 2024.

Because Christmas Day and New Year's Day fell on Wednesdays in 2024, the plan was to shift the pantry day to Thursday morning. That got changed with the illness of the guests in the Shelter, and in order to protect our food pantry families and our volunteers from exposure to illness, we made the decision to not open the pantry the week of Christmas. This decision was disappointing to the volunteers who were prepared to work and certainly to the families who were not able to receive food. It is an important example of "safe rather than sorry" action.

(con't on page 5)

## FOOD PANTRY (con't)

The Shelter men have recovered and the pantry will be open on Thursday, January 2, 2025 to help feed hungry families in our community. We are pleased that the illness cleared quickly and that the pantry is in operation again. This is the second occasion that the pantry has had to cancel a day of scheduled operation. In over 8 years of continuous operation, we only closed one other time and that was because of treacherous weather. This time, it took a serious illness to make it happen.

Here is a list of popular items that are distributed by your food pantry for you to consider donating:

Ketchup/Mustard	Hamburger/Tuna Helper	Salt/Pepper
Jelly	Chunky Peanut Butter	Sugar/Flour
Pork & Beans	Spaghetti Sauce (w/Meat)	Tortillas
Tomato Soup	Chicken Noodle Soup	Elbow Macaroni
Mushroom Soup	Refried Beans	Pancake Mix
Syrup		

Thank you again for your support in 2024. I hope and ask that you continue to support the pantry's mission of feeding hungry families in our community. As the folks tell us "God bless you"!

Rev. Ed Foster,  
DUMC Food Pantry Coordinator



## A New Year's Blessing

**The eighth day of Christmas,  
the eighth day of Creation,  
the Next New Day,  
New Year's Day.**

**May every day be a new year's day for you:  
a chance to forgive and be forgiven, to start again.  
May you take courage to begin anew.**

**As you let go of the year past, may you ...  
in your free fall find yourself held by an eternal love  
that has come ages to be with you,  
and will carry you all the way to the end.**

**Every day may you trust your belovedness,  
your freedom from having to prove yourself,  
and receive the grace that is given to you.**

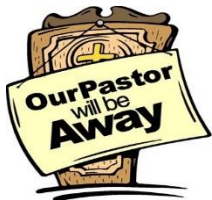
**May this year be a year of grace and hope.**

—Steve Garnaas-Holmes, [unfoldinglight.net](http://unfoldinglight.net)



The Lord has a unique plan for your life, Jeremiah 29:11 states *"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."* We serve a good God who loves you so dearly and wants to use you regardless of your past. He alone can turn your messes into a miracle, your trials into your testimony. He loves you, and it is because of that love for us, that He made the ultimate sacrifice; gave up his life so we can gain abundant life.

### *Pastor Angel Rosario*



Pastor Angel will be in Puerto Rico from January 6 through January 17<sup>th</sup>. Please call the church office (or Jeanne on her cell) or our SPRC Chair, Joan Jones (262) 728-2309 in case of emergency.



The week of Super Bowl (Feb. 9), Don Edmunds will be making his famous chili! His chili will be for sale on Superbowl Sunday. Proceeds will benefit DUMC. Don's chili sells out fast, so if you would like to reserve some chili, let Don know at least a week or more before the day of the sale.



### *Pastor Angel's Page*

## Masterpiece

Psalm 139:13-16


I wish someone would've read this Psalm when I was young. In my teenage years, I dealt with the problem of identity, rejection, deception. I was rejected from all the girls I liked, I was called ugly many times and I believe it was because of the color of my skin or because my nappy hair. I used to compare my hair with other guys and always wished to have their hair. Many times, I asked myself "why in the world was I born?" No one told me about Psalm 139 or explained to me what it means.

Often, society wants to change the way we look, how we act, what we say in order to fit in. As a result, several people have harmed themselves; believe something that is contrary to God, in order to be the perfect woman/man, the perfect wife/husband, mother/father, friend, colleague, etc. Some people fight very hard trying to fit into society and still feel empty.

If you can relate to some or all of these, I have great news! **You are not a mistake** because God does not make mistakes; He made you perfectly the way you were born for a particular reason, with a purpose. His words says in Psalm 139:13 *"You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb"* No one in the universe, no other being can create such a masterpiece like you, only God.

He knew the challenges that you will face in life and He has preserved you all this time for a purpose and that purpose is, to do His will on earth. He has an assignment for you to do and regardless of what you have done, where you have been, whatever challenge you may be facing today, God loves you and He wants to show you to the world as his beloved and precious son/daughter. (con't on pg. 8)

# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2 <b>9-12 Food Pantry</b> No Bethel Bible Series today.	3 9 am OA (FH) 10 am AA (CR)	4
5 <b>9 am Worship</b> 10 am Fellowship 10:45 am Choir 11 am SBP 12 pm Spanish Worship	6 <b>11 am BIBLE STUDY (FH)</b>	7 2 pm Bridging the Gap (YR) 5 pm TOPS (FH) 7 pm Spanish Bible Study (FH)	8 <b>9-Noon Food Pantry</b> 1 pm Delavan Serv. League (FH) 7:30 pm AA (CR)	9 6-8:30 p.m. Bethel Bible Series at Chapel on the Hill	10 9 am OA (FH) 10 am AA (CR)	11
12 <b>9 am Worship</b> 10 am Fellowship <b>10:30 am Town Hall Mtg.</b> 10:45 am Choir 11 am SBP 12 pm Spanish Worship	13 <b>11 am BIBLE STUDY (FH)</b>	14 2 pm Bridging the Gap (YR) 5 pm TOPS (FH) 7 pm Spanish Bible Study (FH)	15 <b>9-Noon Food Pantry</b> <b>6 pm COUNCIL</b> 7:30 pm AA (CR)	16 <b>11 am OUTREACH COM. (FH)</b>  6-8:30 p.m. Bethel Bible Series at Chapel on the Hill	17 9 am OA (FH) 10 am AA (CR)	18
19 <b>9 am Worship</b> 10 am Fellowship 10:45 am Choir 11 am SBP 12 pm Spanish Worship	20 <b>11 am BIBLE STUDY (FH)</b>	21 2 pm Bridging the Gap (YR) 5 pm TOPS (FH) 7 pm Spanish Bible Study (FH)	22 <b>9-Noon Food Pantry</b> 1 pm Delavan Serv. League (FH) 7:30 pm AA (CR)	23 6-8:30 p.m. Bethel Bible Series at Chapel on the Hill	24 9 am OA (FH) 10 am AA (CR)	25
26 <b>9 am Worship</b> 10 am Fellowship 11 am SBP 12 pm Spanish Worship	27 <b>11 am BIBLE STUDY (FH)</b>	28 2 pm Bridging the Gap (YR) 5 pm TOPS (FH) 7 pm Spanish Bible Study (FH)	29 <b>9-Noon Food Pantry</b> 7:30 pm AA (CR)	30 6-8:30 p.m. Bethel Bible Series at Chapel on the Hill	31 9 am OA (FH) 10 am AA (CR)	

SBP=Spanish Band Practice; TOPS=Take Off Pounds Sensibly; AA=Alcoholics Anon.; OA=Overeaters Anon.  
FH=Fellowship Hall; L=Library; CR=Community Room; YR=Youth Room