



Pastor's Corner



Worship is very important to the life of the church. When we say that we are “going to church,” what we simply mean is that we are going to attend a worship service. Worship is mentioned in the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. For example, in Genesis

4, we find the difference how Cain and Abel worshipped God. In Genesis 8:20-22, we are told how Noah and his family worshipped after the flood. Fast forward, in the book of Revelation is a vision of heavenly worship. Clearly worship is important. But what is worship?

Worship includes proclamation of God’s Word, yet worship is more than Scripture lessons and a sermon. For some people, music is their favorite element of worship; yet, worship is more than a collection of songs. We pray during worship, yet worship is more than prayer. People need to gather for worship to happen, yet worship is much more than just a meeting. Clearly worship is more than the sum of its parts. The heart of worship, at least for Jews and Christians, is the celebration of God. True celebration of God is quite festive, sometimes almost playful, and visible in its gladness as it takes delight in what God is about... Such worship celebrates God, the God known by prophets, psalmists, and apostles, and by multitudes of Jews and Christians, for whom worship is not a duty but a privilege, not a burden but a delight. Worship gladly celebrates the God whose character is caring and sharing, the God who is gracious.

People of faith have realized for millennia that in worship; we remember who God is and who we are to be as God’s people. Worship was crucial to the first Christians. The book of Acts describes the early days of the church this way: “The believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders

and signs through the apostles. All the believers were united and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God’s goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved” (Acts 2:42-47). This text describes an amazingly vibrant community life, including worship. They met together every day in the Temple for worship, and most likely their home gatherings were not only shared meals but also a home-based worship service that included celebrating Holy Communion. They were following Jesus’ direction during the Last Supper to share the bread and the cup “in remembrance of me” (Luke 22:14-20). The apostles understood the importance of worship for each individual believer and for the community. It was together as a worshipping, praying, sharing, learning, serving community that they were able to continue the work of Jesus Christ.

John Wesley also believed that worship was crucial to the Christian life. Wesley was concerned that people grow spiritually. He wanted Methodists “to evidence their desire of salvation” by keeping the General Rules, three easy-to-remember guidelines for the Christian life: (1) Do no harm. (2) Do good. (3) Attend upon all the ordinances of God. These ordinances of God are also known as means of grace or spiritual disciplines, practices that help us to grow spiritually. Wesley understood these means of grace to include “the public worship of God; the ministry of the Word, either read or expounded; the Supper of the Lord; family and private prayer; searching the Scriptures; and fasting or abstinence.” Wesley understood that worship, including participating in Holy Communion, is vital for spiritual growth. The focus of worship is God. Yet worship also affects us. Worship has the ability both to inform us and transform us. When we worship, we remember who God is and who we are to be as God’s people.

In His Service,
Pastor Kyabuntu

Fundraising



Our next fundraiser is the Rummage Sale on August 22nd and 23rd, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It is a fun time, and we'd love for you to help us out by cleaning out your closets and volunteering to work as well. We'll have a brat fry too, with some delicious brats and hot dogs. You should definitely come!

Drop off your donations from Monday to Wednesday, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Just place your items on the appropriate table before you leave.

Coming up on the heels of the Rummage Sale will be parking for Harvest Festival which is being held on September 20 & September 21. Look for the sign-up sheets in September.

Thanks again to our incredible volunteers! We're truly blessed to have such a wonderful group of people supporting us.

Save the Date!

Please don't forget that on Saturday, August 16, the Mission Outreach Committee will be holding a Brat Fry at Sendik's in Grafton. We will be selling brats, hot dogs, and various types of hamburgers as well as chips and soda. All of the proceeds will go to Ozaukee Family Services.

Please consider stopping by for something to eat and to visit those of us working at the event. We will be serving from 11:00 am until about 3:00 pm. Thank you in advance for supporting us in this fund-raising activity...and bring your family members, friends and neighbors!

Telephone Ministry

Would you be willing to make a simple phone call or a send a card to a church member or friend of Cedarburg Community United Methodist Church you have not seen lately in church this summer, enquire how they are doing and pray for them? Someone will benefit a lot from knowing that their church family is looking out for them.

Happy Birthday to You!

August 2	Bill Barnard Pam Kolis	August 12	Quinn Donaldson Susie Heiniger
August 3	Alexandra Wade Sharon Parker	August 13	Linda Dillman
August 4	Dave Armstrong	August 14	Jeffrey Wade
August 6	Saaba Annor Nancy Severson	August 17	Jennifer Hansen
August 8	Grayson Swarthout Noah Swarthout	August 23	Susan Hale
August 9	Shirley Krenzke	August 24	Kathleen Michaelchuck
August 11	Patty Rabas	August 25	Gerald West
		August 28	Jacob Grams
		August 30	David Olson

Not on the Birthday List? Please contact the CUMC office.

Goodbye Summer, Hello Wonder!

Hey friends! Can you feel it? Summer is starting to wind down. The long, sunny days are slowly getting shorter, and the warm evenings aren't quite as long as they used to be. Maybe you've noticed the air feels a little cooler or the bugs aren't buzzing as loudly anymore.

It's kind of like summer is waving goodbye – but that doesn't mean it's gone completely. Summer is a special season that leaves behind a lot of memories, feelings, and stories to hold onto.

For lots of kids, the end of summer feels a little mixed up. You might feel excited because school is starting or you're seeing friends you haven't seen all summer. But you might also feel a little sad or nervous because summer is your favorite time of year.

Maybe you miss the freedom of waking up late or spending all day outside. Maybe you miss the splash of the pool, the taste of ice cream, or just having lots of time to play. It's okay to feel all of those things. Sometimes endings can be hard, even when they're good.

When summer is ending, it's natural to think back on everything you did. Maybe you went on a family trip, or you learned how to ride a bike without training wheels. Maybe you had lots of time to play with friends or spent time exploring outside.

All of those things are like little treasures you get to keep in your heart – memories that can make you smile whenever you think of them.

And guess what? God was with you in all those moments – in the laughter, in the adventures, and even in the quiet times when you just rested.



One of the coolest things about God is that he doesn't take a vacation just because summer is ending. He's always with you, no matter what the season is or what's happening around you.

When you're running through sprinklers or sitting quietly watching a sunset, God is there. When you're feeling happy or even when you feel a little scared or unsure, God is right beside you.

The Bible tells us this in a special verse: "The Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

That means that as summer ends and a new season begins – God's love never ends.

Sometimes change feels a little scary because it's new and unknown. You might wonder what the next season will bring. Will it be fun? Will you be ready?

But here's the thing – change is also a chance to grow. Just like the trees change their leaves every year, you get to learn new things, meet new people, and try new adventures. And God promises to help you through it all.

So even if you're a little nervous about what's coming next, remember: you don't have to be afraid. God's got you.

The best part? Life is like a big adventure with many seasons. Summer is just one chapter, and there are so many more to come. Some chapters will be full of sunshine and fun. Others might be quieter or a little harder. But every chapter is important, and God is the one who walks with you through all of them.

So as summer comes to a close, remember this: you are never alone. God's love follows you wherever you go – through every season, every day, and every new thing you try.

You don't have to say goodbye to summer – just carry the memories and God's love with you. And get ready, because your story with God is still unfolding, one amazing day at a time!

*Stevie Stibor
Director of Children and Youth Ministries*

School Supply Collection



CUMC will participate in the Ozaukee Food Alliance and Family Promise school supply collection for Ozaukee County children. The list of needed items is on the collection barrel in Fellowship Hall. We will be collecting until August 8.

Thank You CUMC!

Yesterday (on Sunday, July 27) I invited the congregation to join the Mission Outreach Committee in trying to reach a goal of donating \$1,500 to the UMCOR U.S. Disaster Response and Recovery Fund. The Mission Outreach Committee has committed \$1,000 from our budget, meaning that we would need to receive an additional \$500 in donation to reach our \$1,500 goal.

As I am writing this...just the day after the appeal to you was made...we already have pledges totaling \$800, meaning that, at a minimum, we should be able to provide \$1,800 in support to those affected by the flooding in Texas, North Carolina/Virginia, and other places. I now find myself wondering if we might be able to reach \$2,000...or even more!

If you have not yet donated but would still like to do so, your donation will be received with gratitude...even if it might come after the "deadline" of Sunday, August 3.

I should not be surprised by your awesome generosity, because you always come through. So on behalf of all those who will be blessed by your financial gifts, THANK YOU!

*Craig Pierce
and the Outreach Committee*

New Series: Killing the Giants in Life

In September, we will begin a new series called "Killing the Giants in Life." Every one of us has got some giants in life, visible or invisible. These giants come at any time in our life and they come in different forms and shapes. For example, we have the giants of fear, discouragement, guilt, loneliness, failure, doubt, worry, procrastination, temptation, anger and many more. The sole purpose of these giants is to weaken the faith and destroy the lives of believers. That is why when we experience these giants in our lives, we do not need to run from them, but rather face them head on. We do not need either to take them lightly but rather, bring them down through the power of God that is in us and the good news is that every giant can be defeated. This is a very interesting series that I would not want you to miss, and I believe this series will be a great help and inspiration for many.

Pastor Kyabuntu

Cedarburg Community UMC Ministry Giving & Spending Report for June 2025 Year to Date

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Revenue:		
Pledged	\$ 98,440	\$105,000
Unpledged	\$ 3,365	\$ 5,000
Other	\$ 33,392	\$ 30,938
Total Revenue	\$135,197	\$140,938
Expenses:		
Conference	\$ 19,860	\$ 19,860
Facilities	\$ 25,827	\$ 24,500
Staff Relations	\$ 78,202	\$78,978
Other	\$ 13,699	\$ 17,600
Total Expenses	\$137,588	\$140,938
Net Revenue	\$(2,391)	

The Finance Committee will be sharing the financials in the bulletin and newsletter on a quarterly basis for 2025. Questions can be directed to Shirley Krenzke, Treasurer, at treasurer@cedarburgcumc.org.

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finance

Real Life. Real Faith.

Let's be real – being a teenager today isn't easy. Between school stress, social pressure, sports, family stuff, and a world that feels louder and more confusing every day, it's easy to feel overwhelmed, disconnected, or even lost at times.

You might wonder:

- *Does anyone really understand me?*
- *What's my purpose?*
- *Why do I feel so anxious, even when things seem "okay"?*
- *Where is God in all of this?*

The good news is – Jesus gets it. And even better? He wants to walk with you through every part of your life – the messy, the amazing, the ordinary, and the confusing.

Sometimes it's easy to think of Jesus as just a Sunday story or a distant figure. But the truth is, Jesus came to Earth as a real person – with real feelings, real struggles, and real relationships.

He knows what it's like to feel rejected, misunderstood, tired, and even alone. He had friends who betrayed Him, people who didn't believe in Him, and moments when he cried, prayed hard, and felt pressure.

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin."
(Hebrews 4:15)

That means Jesus isn't far away. He's someone who understands. He's not asking you to be perfect. He's inviting you to come as you are. You don't have to have it all figured out to be close to Jesus. In fact, most of the people he spent time with were the ones who were struggling, searching, or hurting.

He hung out with people who asked questions, made mistakes, and didn't always know what they believed. He didn't push them away. He welcomed them. He loved them. He's still doing that today – with you.

Here's the thing: Jesus doesn't want to be a box you check off once a week. He wants to be a part of your everyday life. Not in a cheesy or forced way – but in a real, steady, personal way.

It's kind of like any friendship. The more time you spend with someone, the more you get to know their voice, their heart, their character.

Here are a few ways to start connecting with Him:

- Talk to him honestly. Prayer isn't about using fancy words. It's just talking to God – about your day, your struggles, your dreams, your doubts.
- Listen. Sometimes God speaks through the Bible, through worship, through a quiet moment, or through people in your life. Get curious. Read about Jesus in the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John). See what he said, how he loved, how he lived.
- Ask hard questions. God's not scared of your doubts. He wants you to seek truth and wrestle with real stuff.

The world tells you to be the best, get more likes, stay busy, and fit in. But Jesus offers something better – a life of *meaning, peace, freedom, and real love*.

When you follow Him, you start to see your life differently. You realize:

- You don't have to pretend to be someone else.
- You have a purpose that goes beyond popularity or performance.
- You are deeply loved, no matter what.

Here's the challenge: Give Jesus a chance. Even if your faith feels small, or your life feels chaotic, or you don't even know where to start – just show up. Start a conversation with Him. Ask questions. Lean in. You don't have to have perfect faith to meet Jesus. You just need a willing heart.

You're not just a face in the crowd or another student trying to survive middle or high school. You are seen, known, and loved by the One who made the stars – and he wants to walk with you through every part of your life.

You don't have to figure it all out. You just have to take the next step. And the next. And the next. Jesus is ready to meet you where you are. Will you let Him?

Stevie Stibor
Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Splash into Fun at Bear Paw Adventure Park

Ready for an adventure like no other? We're inviting YOU to join us for an action-packed day at Bear Paw Adventure Park – Wisconsin's largest water obstacle course! If you love challenges, laughter, and getting a little (or a lot!) wet, this is the place to be.

What's Bear Paw Adventure Park?

Imagine a giant floating playground on the water – with slides, climbing walls, balance beams, and so much more! Bear Paw Adventure Park is an awesome water obstacle course that stretches across a beautiful lake, giving you the chance to race your friends, test your skills, and splash around all day long.

It's safe, super fun, and perfect for middle and high school students who love adventure. Plus, it's a great way for families to hang out together and cheer each other on.

This isn't just a kids-only adventure – it's a family-friendly event where everyone can join in the fun. Parents, siblings, cousins, and friends can take part, relax on the shore, or cheer from the sidelines.

It's a perfect chance to make memories, have some laughs, and enjoy a summer day outdoors with people you care about.

Date: Wednesday, August 13

Time: We will meet at CUMC at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Bear Paw Adventure Park, Caledonia

Come ready to have the best day ever! No experience needed – just bring your energy and enthusiasm. Whether you're climbing, jumping, sliding, or just splashing around, Bear Paw Adventure Park is the perfect place to challenge yourself and have a blast.

Don't miss out on this awesome chance to enjoy Wisconsin's largest water obstacle course with your friends and family. It's fun, exciting, and a great way to celebrate summer before school starts.

Please let me know if you and/or your family plan to join us so we don't leave without you!

IMPORTANT HEIGHT AND AGE

REQUIREMENTS: To jump on Adventure Island, participants must be at least 6 years old and 42 inches tall. To jump on Mini Adventure Island, our new kids' course, participants must be between ages 4-6 and be 39"-59" tall. A parent or guardian must be near their child using the course at all times. Adults are not permitted on the course. All participants must sign a waiver prior to their visit. **Participants under 18 years old must have a parent or legal guardian sign a waiver for them (see QR code below).**

*Stevie Stibor
Director of Children and Youth Ministries*



Baptism

Baptism will be offered on Sunday August 17, 2025. If you have any questions or wish to schedule a baptism, please contact the church office.

Stewardship Moment: A Tree of Hope

"That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither whatever they do prospers." Psalm 1:3

Plant a tree that your grandchildren and the next generations will climb. Remember Cedarburg Community United Methodist Church in your Will.

Rummage Sale



Our rummage sale is quickly approaching and planning and preparations have been steadily moving forward since April. We are so fortunate to have such an amazing group of people participating in so many ways to make this year's sale a huge success. One of the great things about this committee is the friendships and comradery that comes along with the planning and running of the sale. We always have room for more so, if you are looking to deepen relationships with other members, please join us, we would love to have you on the team!

When can donations be dropped off?

- Donations will be accepted Monday, August 18 through Wednesday, August 20 from 9:00am until noon. If you have items you would like to drop off but cannot make it during one of our drop times, please let me know and we will make arrangements that fit your schedule.
- Please remember as you drop things off to spend a little time placing your items in the designated areas. This helps our volunteers continue to organize and price items.
- Carts are available to move things from your vehicle into the church.

- If you have items that you are not able to deliver to the church, please contact Jaime (jaimestibor@gmail.com) and she will help to make arrangements for someone to pick your things up.

What items cannot be accepted?

Mattresses, Box Springs, Beds, Cloth Furniture, Hardwired Lighting Fixtures, Broken, Stained, or Damaged Items, Tires, Weapons, Large Entertainment Centers, Exercise Equipment, Televisions - 5 years or Older

We will also be offering a brat fry throughout the rummage sale on both days so be sure to stop by, do a little shopping and stay for a brat or a hotdog! And do not forget to pick up something delicious from our bake sale!

If you would like to help make a difference but do not have the time or inclination to serve on the committee, consider helping us advertise by purchasing one of our CUMC Rummage Sale t-shirts. These shirts have our logo on the front and promote our rummage sale on the back. T-shirts can also be ordered with just our logo on the front (no rummage sale promo on the back). If you would like to buy a shirt, please contact Jaime.

We will be having a recap meeting on Wednesday, August 27 at 9:00 a.m.

Please watch our Facebook page and group for more rummage sale information and, please share the information on your Facebook feed to help us spread the word. Please contact Jaime at jaimestibor@gmail.com with any questions.

CUMC All Church Rummage Sale

Friday, August 22, 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

AND

Saturday, August 23, 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Jaime Stibor



Cedarburg **Community** United Methodist Church

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Monthly Newsletter of Community United Methodist Church

Please worship with us on Sunday mornings, either in-person
or online at cedarburgcumc.org | 10:00 a.m.

Memorial Day Through Labor Day - Sunday School for all ages at 9:00 a.m.

Pastor | Pastor Banze Kyabuntu | PastorKyabuntu@CedarburgCUMC.org

Church Office | 262 • 377 • 3832 |

Hours | Memorial Day Through Labor Day | Monday - Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

After Labor Day | Monday - Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

W68N563 Evergreen Blvd., Cedarburg, WI 53012

www.CedarburgCUMC.org

"We are a Safe Sanctuary Congregation"