



NORTH POINTE NEWS

MAY 2024

Pastor Emerita Post (P.E.P. Talk) May, 2024

Dear Family at North Pointe,

On a recent Sunday, the NP Youth Group gave each person at worship an origami creation that held a packet of flower seeds. The gift was a thank you for the congregation's support of the youth program. The gift was creative and timely. Regarding Wisconsin weather, planting flowers in May is usually safe.

The distribution of seeds reminded me of an old hymn I loved to sing. Here's the first verse:

The seed I have planted in springtime with weeping
And watered with tears and with dews from on high
Another may shout when the harvesters reaping
Shall gather my grain in the "sweet by and by."

The hymn acknowledges the transitory nature of life. I will plant the seeds that were given to me by the youth, but I'm 84-years-old. I may not live to see them flower. Someone else may enjoy their beauty.

According to Jesus-the-Storyteller, seeds have a tough time surviving. (Matthew 13.3-9; Mark 4.39; Luke 8.5-8) They could be eaten by birds, choked by thorns, and fall on inhospitable soil. There are also "good seeds" and "bad seeds." Good seeds that make it to maturity are food for both body and spirit.

Seeds became a metaphor for me during my years of ministry. I began to understand seeds as ideas. Church folks were full of ideas: new carpet for the lounge; a prayer team; a novel way to do the fall finance drive, etc. Often idea-seeds that were deemed "good," were referred to a committee with a variety of results. Some flourished. Some grew for a short while and then died. Some didn't even get past the person who "sowed the seed" for consideration. We need ideas to do ministry.

Last Fall, as the threat of Covid waned, one of our members approached me with an idea. "We're having an all-church meeting after worship next month," she said. "What do you think about having a light meal then, too?" "I'm missing potlucks. I'm also missing the conversations that happen when we eat together."

"What's your picture?" I asked, wanting to hear more about her idea.

"Something simple," she said. "Soup. Bread. Cookies. We could use paper ..."

"Great idea!" I said, "I'd be glad to make a pot of soup. Check it out with some others. See if
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it works. It did. Maybe some of you were there. The all-church meeting agenda was attended by over 60 people who enjoyed homemade soups, breads, and cookies and were delighted to be visiting with each other after a long period of social distancing. Many thank-yous were given to the woman who had the idea for the combined meeting and lunch, as well as gratitude to others who had helped bring the idea to fruition.

Back to the old hymn I mentioned earlier. I love to sing it because of the refrain. When not feeling too conspicuous, I belt it out:

Over and over, yes deeper and deeper, my heart is pierced through with life's sorrowing cry
But the tears of the sower and the songs of the reaper shall mingle together in joy by and by.

It's May! I'll plant the flower seeds the youth gave me. Sometimes through grace, the sower or sowers of the seeds and ideas, are still around to reap the harvest together.

What mingling joy, indeed!

NBK

We Need Your Graduate's Information



Please give the names of your 2024 graduates from high school, technical, college or university. Please include the following:

Name of School he/she will be graduating from, the school planning on attending in the fall, name of parents, grandparents or guardian.

Please have this information to our secretary, Sue Dennison, by Sunday, May 13th. Thanking you in advance.

Baptism of Rylee Ann Hanson

Rylee Ann Hanson, daughter of Katie and Tyler Hanson, was baptized at North Pointe UMC on Sunday, April 14th. God's blessings on Rylee and her family. The Hanson's are Friends of North Pointe UMC.



Coffee Hour Is Back

Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and fellowship before our Worship Service on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am. There is a sign up sheet for a snack to go with the coffee.

Pick your own date! Thanks to Kent McReynolds for making the delicious brew.



Thank You!

I would like to thank Restoration Ministries Inc., and Rev. Kelly Scroggins-Powell for Women's History Month Award: Celebrating the Power and Resilience of Women—The Phenomenal Women Education TrailBlazer Award on Saturday, March 30th at 1st Presbyterian Church.

Thanks to my parents and grandparents. Special thanks for my family, friends, church family and students. I am so grateful for those who attended the event: Pastor Sue and Terry Barham, Betty Brenneman, Elena Eckblad, Sally Hoelzel and Peter Eckblad, Eric and Maureen Ellis, Jevetia Ellis, Rommel Ellis, Darice Griffin, Brigit and Ricky McNeal, Pauline Mitchell, Gloria Oliver, Martha and Steve Oppeneer, Henry Owens, Malakai Owens, Tom Wendt, and Kathy Young.

I was truly honored and SO HAPPY receiving something I always LOVED to do, **TEACH!**

Seeing the students learn was a great inspiration to me. I truly wanted them to reach their full potential. **EDUCATION**

E ducate	Teach All
D edicate	Care
U nity	Work Together
C alculate	Organize
A ble	Talent
T each	Learn
I llustrate	Show
O bey	Obedient
N ice	Good



I am very grateful for also the gifts of love from everyone: beautiful words from your cards; finance, totaling \$100, which I donated to Delta Kappa Gamma –Pi Chapter Racine Scholarship Fund for girls in high school going into education and 15 Gideon Bibles donated in my name.

I am so overjoyed at the amount of LOVE expressed to me.

Jesus is my guide for how I live my life, I am seeking to make a difference (Upper Room).

God's Blessings to each of you. Thanks Again!

Georgia Owens (Much Love)



Memorial Day. Monday, May 27th

Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for honoring and mourning the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. From 1868 to 1970, it was observed on May 30. Since 1971, it is observed on the last Monday of May.

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Prayers and Sympathy

***Nina Unterbrink**, passed away on Thursday, April 18th. Nina was a long time member of Faith UMC and a member of North Pointe UMC. We hold her family, Wanda (daughter) and Craig Fair in prayer. Nina's funeral was*

held

at North Pointe UMC on Friday, April 26th with Rev. Sue Barham officiating.

Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th

The modern form of Mother's Day originated in the United States. Anna Jarvis, inspired by her mother Ann Reeves Jarvis (a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers during the American Civil War), campaigned to establish Mother's Day as an official holiday. The first Mother's Day service took place in 1907 at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia. Today, this church serves as the International Mother's Day Shrine.



Mother's Day Gift Idea

Mosaic Art and More Show on Saturday, May 11th, from 9:00 am—3:00 pm at 5511 Erie Street. Artists of mosaic art, jewelry, garden pots, paintings and much more will be shown.

From the YOUt.h. T.E.A.M.



We had a lot of fun getting our thank you gift ready to hand out to our church family

as well as hoping to get everyone to participate in planting seeds to honor Earth Day. We hope this blessed you as much as it did us. We want to extend a special thank you to Betty Brenaman for her love and support as well as the encouragement to do origami with the gifts of 2 origami books and paper for the Youth TEAM. We hope that our origami flowers bring smiles for months to come.

We also want to share that 3 of our TEAM members are now CPR certified and this past week also got Narcan certified. We are really excited about this and hope to lead the way for others to get this kind of certification so that if there is an emergency and need for help someone from NPUMC will be ready, willing, and able whether here at church or out in our community and world. We believe that this is putting our love of neighbor into practice as we take care of one another and our neighbors.

Last but not least the TEAM is currently praying over and contemplating a variety of projects, missions, and possibilities for us to do, lead, sponsor, and offer. We hope that some decisions will be made by the next newsletter and look forward to sharing what we'll be up to next.

Don't forget – the resin heart project as well as the Banned Book library are ongoing ministries and both are located in the Youth Room and available to any and all that are interested – you are welcome to come take a look anytime you're in the building.

The YOUt.h. T.E.A.M. will be meeting next on Sunday, May 19, 2024 right after worship.



The Eckblad/Hoelzel family invites everyone to a reception in Fellowship Hall after worship service on Sunday, June 9 to celebrate Elena's college graduation.

Food - but not beer :) - will be provided by Pico's Tacos & Cerveza. Vegetarian options will be available, of course. Please come by for tacos and cake as Elena's thank you for the amazing love and support she has received from her church family throughout her entire life.

MAY SCRIP NEWS



May is a month of spring flowers popping up everywhere, remembering our Mothers, Graduation and the beginning of new life journeys in the form of weddings..

All of these events can be celebrated with a gift of a SCRIP Card.

Don't forget about those last minute, "what will I wear" thoughts. SCRIP Cards to the rescue.

Cash & Carry (cards that we carry 'in stock') are available for sale in the church office when Sue Dennison is in the office. Cash or checks are accepted. We carry a variety of cards in our Cash and Carry. Questions/help contact: Elinor Offerdahl, or Lillian Brown. **The May SCRIP Order Date Is: Sunday, May12th.**



Food Pantry Items for MAY

Pasta Sauce Pasta Tuna

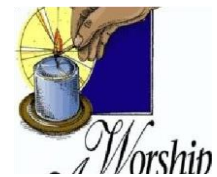
Worship Assistants for MAY

Liturgists

May 5 Kim Hendrickson
May 12 Scott Fregien
May 19 Georgia Owens
May 26 Brigit McNeal

Ushers Team C

Rommel Ellis
Jack Duchac
Jared Ellis



**North Pointe United
Methodist Church
3825 Erie Street
Racine, WI 53402**
ADDRESS CHANGE REQUESTED



MAY 2024

***SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM COMMUNION
ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE
MONTH ALL ARE WELCOME***