



Soul Food: Women's History Month

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

March is an important month for women, marking it as Women's History Month and celebrating International Women's Day on March 8. These highlight the contributions of women to history and contemporary society as well as recognizing the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.

As Christian people, this is a wonderful opportunity for us to reflect and honor both the named (187!) and unnamed women of the Bible. These are the women who have deeply impacted our spiritual development by their courage, faith, hope, actions, and words.

In the Old Testament, I reflect upon Queen Esther, whose story is about wisdom, courage, and the providence of God. Esther was an orphan raised by her uncle. She was chosen to be the Persian King's new queen. With that, Esther and her cousin, Mordecai, find themselves in roles that could prevent the genocide of the Jewish people, her people. Risking her life, she bravely confronts the king and thereby saves her people. When we need examples of bravery and courage, we can look to Esther! (See the book of Esther for the complete story).

In the New Testament, I am drawn to Luke 8:43-48, "Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years; and though she had spent all she had on physicians, no one could cure her. She came up behind Jesus and touched the fringe of his clothes, and immediately her hemorrhage stopped. Then Jesus asked, 'Who touched me?' When all denied it, Peter said, 'Master, the crowds surround you and press in on you.' But Jesus said, 'Someone touched me; for I noticed that power had gone out from me.' When the woman saw that she could not remain hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before him, she declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.'"

Here is an unnamed woman who had been suffering for twelve years with an illness. This woman was incurable, untouchable and an outcast. She was desperate for healing, wholeness, and connection. She knew that if she would just reach out to Jesus, she would be healed. What a testimony to the power of faith, relentless hope, and determination! Her healing is a reminder that everything is possible with Jesus.

There are many women throughout the Bible who inspire us; teach us how to overcome adversity; and remind us to keep our focus on God. As we celebrate Women's History month, let us keep in mind all the inspirational women from the Bible.

Spirit of God, we thank you for this time to remember, celebrate, and honor the women of the Bible. May their stories build within us a deep connection to you. Amen.

Peace,
Hee-Soo Jung, Bishop
Wisconsin Conference



PRAYER SHAWL GATHERING

Thursday, April 20
at the church
4:00-6:00 PM

We continue to make prayer shawls for the church for those who are in need of blessings and extra healing . Also feel free to bring any craft item you are working on to enjoy fellowship with others at the church.

YOUTH GROUP



April 5th - Easter Walk

open to public from
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

(Youth to be there from 5:00 pm - 8:30pm)

April 12th - Regular Youth Meeting

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

April 19th - Regular Youth Meeting

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

April 26th - Wednesday Table

4:45pm - 6:30 pm meet at Christ Lutheran Church

Newsletter Delivery

Due to rising postal rates we would like to invite you to receive your newsletter via email. Postal delivery will still be available for those who do not have email.

Also copies are available at the church. Please contact the church office at 715-235-0654 or office@menomonieumc.org

Thank you!

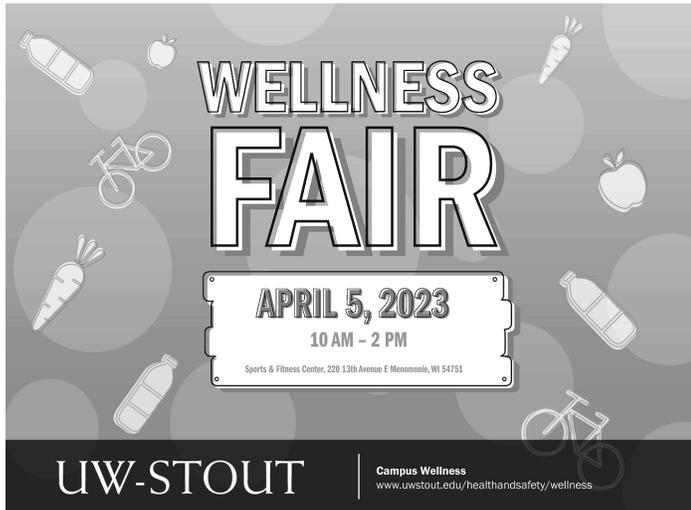


Choir Practice

Wednesday at 7 pm.
Doors open at 6:45 pm.

Mondays Meal menus are posted week to week at the church and on the church website: www.menomonieumc.org and our facebook page.

Cooks Needed for Monday's Meals



WELLNESS FAIR

APRIL 5, 2023
10 AM - 2 PM

Sports & Fitness Center, 220 13th Avenue E Menomonie, WI 54751

UW-STOUT | Campus Wellness
www.uwstout.edu/healthandsafety/wellness

Methodist Youth Group

Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 pm

Join us for Dinner and Fellowship

Any questions contact Amanda at youthministry@menomonieumc.org

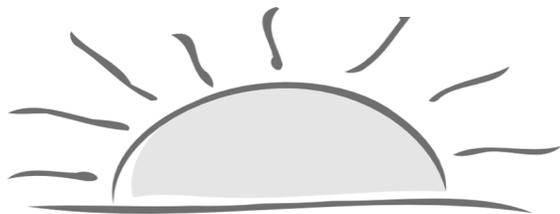
Mom's Group

2nd Monday of every month.

Monday Meal from 5-6 and

Mom's Meeting from 6-7.

Childcare will be available!



Easter Walk

Walk with us
in the
footsteps of
Jesus

Wednesday, April 5, 6:00pm - 8:00 pm—Indoors

Menomonie United Methodist Church

2703 Bongey Dr., Menomonie WI

Open to the public.

If you would like more info contact Amanda Viana - youthministry@menomonieumc.org or 715-235-0654
Come walk through the story of Jesus leading up to Easter.

Put on by the Youth Group.

April 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	3 Mondays Meal 5-6 pm	4 Morning Prayer Group/ Book 10 am	5 Bible Study 10 am Easter Walk 6-8 pm Choir 7 pm	6	 GOOD FRIDAY Service at 6:30 pm	8
9 HAPPY <i>Egster</i>	10 Mom's Group 6-7 pm Mondays Meal 5-6 pm	11	12 Choir 7 pm Youth 6-7:30 pm	13	14	15
16	17 Mondays Meal 5-6 pm	18 Morning Prayer Group/ Book 10 am	19 Bible Study 10 am Choir 7 pm Youth 6-7:30 pm	20 Prayer Shawl Gathering 4-6 pm	21	22
23	24 Mondays Meal 5-6 pm	25 Morning Prayer Group/ Book 10 am	26 Bible Study 10 am Choir 7 pm Youth Wed. Table 4:45-6:30 pm	27	28	29
30 Care Bucket	Mondays Meal 5-6 pm					

Children and Family Ministry Information

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Pre-K through 5th grade

*We will meet during Sunday Service (after the Children's Message until the end of service)

April's Theme



MOM'S GROUP

Next meeting is Monday, April 10th

*Join us as we support one another on this journey of motherhood!

- We will meet the 2nd Monday of every month
- Monday Meal (optional) from 5-6 and Mom's meeting from 6:00-7:00
- Childcare will be available
- Moms of all ages are welcome!

Aspire

Author & Bible Teacher
MARY SHANNON



Comedy by
MICHELLE MILLER



Music by
JAIME JAMGOCHIAN



*1 night – 3 hours
Just for Women
An evening full of laughter,
learning, stories & music*

**FRIDAY
MAY 5, 2023**

**VALLEYBROOK
CHURCH**
412 S. BARSTOW ST.
EAU CLAIRE, WI 54701

7:00PM SHOW
6:30PM GA DOORS OPEN
6:00PM VIP DOORS OPEN

ADVANCE TICKETS
\$25 Gen. Admission | \$35 VIP
\$20 Groups of 10 or more.
Group sales call 480-812-1100

VIP ticket includes early entry for
preferred seating and Q-n-A session
with all the speakers and artists.

Purchase tickets at **480-812-1100**
or online at:
ASPIREWOMENSEVENTS.com



For more information contact Amy Webb or Lori
at the church office 715-235-0654

2023 Ingathering

The Conference Mission Motivation Committee is working with Midwest Mission Distribution Center to collect items for Personal Dignity Kits and Home Care Kits. Midwest Mission distributes these items locally, nationally and internationally to those in need during times of crisis. All supplies are given free of charge regardless of gender, race or religion. Although we are focusing on these two kits, we appreciate any items found at midwestmission.org. All items should be NEW and all kits should have only the items suggested.

Kits and items that make up these kits, will be brought to Green Bay on June 9th and 10th. To process donations efficiently and get them where needed quickly, we ask for a list of the items donated. You can help the person who delivers the items and save everyone some time by filling out the Donation form on midwestmission.org.

Please deliver your items to:

Menomonie United Methodist Church
2703 Bongey Dr., Menomonie, WI
by June 4th

Morning Prayer Group Book Discussion

1st, 3rd and 4th Tuesday of the month
Prayer activity will start around 10 am,
Sarah will be available at 9 am
for anyone who has wellness concerns.

Bible Study

1st, 3rd and 4th Wednesdays at 10 am.

Blood Pressure Checks

First Sunday of every month.



Let's Celebrate!

If you would like us to post in our newsletter birthdays, anniversaries or a note, please let Lori know at the church office in advance.

Your church family would like to celebrate your day!

Christ
is
Risen!

Financial Footnotes

Wow what a winter this has been! I am thinking that most of us are looking forward to warmer weather, flowers in bloom and NO SNOW! We have so much to be thankful for even though we sometimes like to gripe. Our parking lot and our sidewalks were cleared to perfection this winter making safe footing for everyone. Your contributions were put to good use paying our snow plowing bill. We appreciate the gifts we have received from you to support the various ministries of the church.

Monday's Meal continues to average close to 150 meals each week. We are able to receive some products that we serve at a lower cost from Feed My People in Eau Claire, otherwise the grocery shopping is done locally. We appreciate not only the financial help but the individuals that show up each week to cook, serve and carry out meals.

Our apportionments for the year are \$40,040. The apportionments are paid to the Wisconsin Annual Conference. We continue to take 10% of our general giving each week to help pay that obligation.

We appreciate your gifts of time, talents and financial.

Lynn Klatt
Treasurer

What Do You Really Want?

"He who loves money will not be satisfied with money. . . ."

Ecclesiastes 5:10

Many people will say that they want more money. But, the truth is that's not what people really want. As far as I know, we still cannot eat money, make clothes from it, or build a house with it. If we were stranded on a deserted island, it would be practically useless to us.

No one really wants money. Instead, they want what they think it will provide for them. For some people, more, nicer, newer stuff; others want the sense of security or power they think it provides.

I would argue that, until we understand what motivates our desire for money, we won't be at peace in our relationship with it.

This Lenten season, I would encourage you to take time to figure out your money motivation by taking this *Money Motivation Quiz* at the end of this article. As it notes, none of the motivations are inherently

good or bad, but each does have a "dark side". More than just allowing us to lean into the positive parts of our motivation and avoid the dark side, knowing that people may have different motivations regarding money than we do, will help us when we deal with money in our relationships.

Ultimately, we believe that loving God and loving our neighbor as ourselves is our greatest priority. It is always easier to do so when we know ourselves well.

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Help for the Stewardship Team

Stewardship Challenge Grant 3.0

We are excited to announce the release of the *Wells Stewardship Grant 3.0*! The Stewardship Challenge Grant is designed to help congregations develop an intentional stewardship plan for their congregation. By providing a cash incentive, the Stewardship Challenge Grant is intended as encouragement for churches to develop a comprehensive stewardship program to help achieve the goals of the congregation in stewardship. Then, after specific goals have been met, congregations may use the money as a reward to be used toward the congregation's ministries.

Upon completion and approval of the grant application, churches receive \$200 (the encouragement part). Once the final report has been received and approved, the remainder of the money – anywhere from \$300-\$500 – will be sent (the reward part). Churches that apply for the Stewardship Challenge Grant for the very first time are also eligible to receive an additional *Growth Mindset Award* of \$100.

New to the Stewardship Challenge Grant: the opportunity for churches who have previously participated in the grant to receive awards for being a *Stewardship Challenge Grant Ambassador*. If a church applies for the Stewardship Challenge Grant for the first time because of your church's recommendation, your church will receive \$75. If your church helps that church throughout the year with coaching, your church will receive an additional \$150.

For more information and an application, visit: <https://www.wumf.org/grants-program/>

If you have questions or want to learn more, contact:

Jason Mahnke, Director of Programming & Campaigns, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at 608-837-9582 or jmahnke@wumf.org.

See Money Motivation Quiz on next page



Find us at:

www.menomoneiumc.org



Money Motivation Quiz

Source: Freed-Up Financial Living,
Towner, Tofilon & Plate, 2012

Directions: For each of the questions below, circle the letter that best describes your response.

1. Money is important because it allows me to . . .

- a) Do what I want to do
- b) Feel secure
- c) Get ahead in life
- d) Buy things for others

2. I feel that money . . .

- a) Frees up my time
- b) Can solve my problems
- c) Is a means to an end
- d) Helps make relationships smoother

3. When it comes to saving money, I . . .

- a) Don't have a plan & rarely save
- b) Have a plan & stick to it
- c) Don't have a plan but manage to save anyway
- d) Don't make enough money to save

4. If someone asks about my personal finances, I . . .

- a) Feel defensive
- b) Realize I need more education and information
- c) Feel comfortable & competent
- d) Would rather talk about something else

5. When I make a major purchase, I . . .

- a) Go with what my intuition tells me
- b) Research a great deal before buying
- c) Feel I'm in charge – it's my/our money
- d) Ask friends/family first

6. If I have money left over at the end of the month, I . . .

- a) Go out and have a good time
- b) Put the money into savings
- c) Look for a good investment
- d) Buy a gift for someone

7. If I discover I paid more for something than a friend did, I . . .

- a) Couldn't care less
- b) Feel it's OK because I also find bargains at times
- c) Assume they spent more time shopping, and time is money
- d) Feel upset and angry at myself

8. When paying bills, I . . .

- a) Put it off and sometimes forget
- b) Pay them when due, but no sooner
- c) Pay when I get to it, but don't want to be hassled
- d) Worry that my credit will suffer if I miss a payment

9. When it comes to borrowing money, I . . .

- a) Simply won't/don't like to feel indebted
- b) Only borrow as a last resort
- c) Tend to borrow from banks or other business sources
- d) Ask friends and family because they know I'll pay

10. When eating out with friends, I prefer to . . .

- a) Divide the bill proportionately
- b) Ask for separate checks
- c) Charge the bill to my credit/debit card and have others pay me
- d) Pay the entire bill because I like to treat my friends

11. When it comes to tipping, I . . .

- a) Sometimes do and sometimes don't
- b) Just call me Scrooge (no tip)
- c) Resent it, but always tip the right amount
- d) Tip generously because I like to be well thought of

12. If I suddenly came into a lot of money, I . . .

- a) Wouldn't have to work
- b) Would have to worry about the future
- c) Could really build up my business
- d) Would spend a lot on family and friends and enjoy time with them more

13. When indecisive about a purchase, I often tell myself . . .

- a) It's only money
- b) It's a bargain
- c) It's a good investment
- d) He/she will love it

14. In our family . . .

- a) I do/will handle all the money and pay all the bills
- b) My spouse does/will take care of the finances
- c) I do/will pay my bills and my spouse will do the same
- d) We do/will sit down together to pay bills

Money Motivation Quiz continued on next page

Score: Tally your answers by the numbers of times you chose each letter and chart it on the graph below.

	A	B	C	D
14				
12				
10				
8				
6				
4				
2				
0				

Understanding Your Results

Money means different things to different people based on a variety of factors, such as temperament and life experiences. Often the meaning of money and the way it motivates us is subtle and something we are not always aware of.

This simple quiz is designed to give you an indication of how strongly you are influenced by the following money motivations: Freedom, Security, Power and Love. None are inherently good or bad, although each certainly has its dark side.

“A” Answers: Indicates that money relates to **Freedom**. To you, money means having the freedom to do what you like.

“B” Answers: Indicates that money relates to **Security**. You need to feel safe and secure, and you desire the stability and protection that money supposedly provides.

“C” Answers: Indicates that money relates to **Power**. Personal success and control are important to you, and you appreciate the power money sometimes provides.

“D” Answers: Indicates that money relates to **Love**. You like to use money to express love and build relationships.



Thank You!

**Recognizing Volunteers
Monday’s Meals**

For those who don’t know me yet, I am Claudia La Seure, Monday’s Meal Coordinator with AmeriCorps.

I want to give a big shout-out and Thank You to all the cooks, servers, baggers, greeters, runners, dishwashers and so many more volunteers. You all are a big part of Monday’s Meal. Thank you for helping it run so smoothly. Since August we have served 4,768 meals... wahoo!

I enjoy getting the time and chance to work with all of you! The past six months have been an amazing opportunity. Being able to work with all of you has taught me so much. Everyday there is more and more we get to learn from each other and experience together! Thank you all for welcoming me with such warm and open arms.

*Sincerely,
Claudia La Seure*

Many thanks to all who donated their time, take-down or set-up skills, or blood donation to our March 13th Red Cross Blood Drive!

All is appreciated!

We had a very good turnout and exceeded our goal. The weather cooperated for our second try!

We would like to thank Donut Sam's for their delicious donation to our canteen.

he donors enjoyed those donuts!

Our next drive will be

Monday, October 9th, 2023 from 1:00-6:00.

Hope to see you there!

Jan Friest