

The Messenger

FEBRUARY 2022

A Newsletter of Portage United Methodist Church

When I was a kid, from time to time my grandmother jokingly said to me, "If you keep crying, I will let a tiger come and get you." I didn't understand why she said this weird thing to me. Asking myself, 'What? A tiger is coming to get me?' Anyhow I stopped crying.



From
the
Pastor

About 10 years ago, when I began digging into the modern history of Korea, I was shocked by the fact that Korean Tigers, more often known as Siberian Tigers, literally lived in every nook and cranny of the Korean

Peninsula. That was the reason why Korea's traditional fairy tales talk about Tigers over and over again. Then, you may ask me: Where have those tigers gone? First, during Japan's occupation, Japanese soldiers began to extensively capture Korean tigers to make money with the tiger skin. It was far more than a hunting. They made use of military strategies to capture as many tigers as possible. Second, it is the Korean War that removed all Korean tigers that had survived the Japanese occupation from the peninsula. During 1950-1953, about 635,000 tons of bomb were dropped on Korea, not counting 32,557 tons of napalm. Don't be surprised that, in the entire Pacific theater in World War II, about 503,000 tons of bomb were dropped (Bruce Cumming, *The Korean War*, p. 159). That was why I couldn't resonate with my grandmother who mentioned a Korean tiger. She had grown and lived with it. But, I didn't. According to the lunar calendar, 2022 is the Year of Black Tiger. At present, there are almost no tigers in and around the Korean Peninsula. But, Koreans sincerely hope that Black Tiger helps and guides their 2022 with its mysterious power of courage, wisdom, and generosity.

At the beginning of this year, we all hopefully said to one another, "Happy New Year!" But, what we are facing now is the Omicron Variant that immediately put the US back in the chaotic situation we were all terrified with two year ago.

A few days ago I got two emails with regard to Covid - one from the Wisconsin Council of Churches and the other from the Wisconsin Conference of the UMC. The WI Council of Churches urgently asked us to temporarily go back to remote worship if possible, bringing our attention to the gravity of Covid. Our conference also took the same stance, yet at the same time carefully suggested our church make Covid Guidelines and adhere to them. What relieved me after going over their suggestions is that most of them are already being observed by Portage UMC. It hints that many churches out there do not have such Covid Guidelines. Let us keep in mind that, until we eventually get out of this long and dark tunnel of Covid, we are consistently required to sacrifice our freedom to pursue personal happiness to some degree. From a different point of view, however, I think this could be a time when Christians can show how to care for one another to their neighbors.

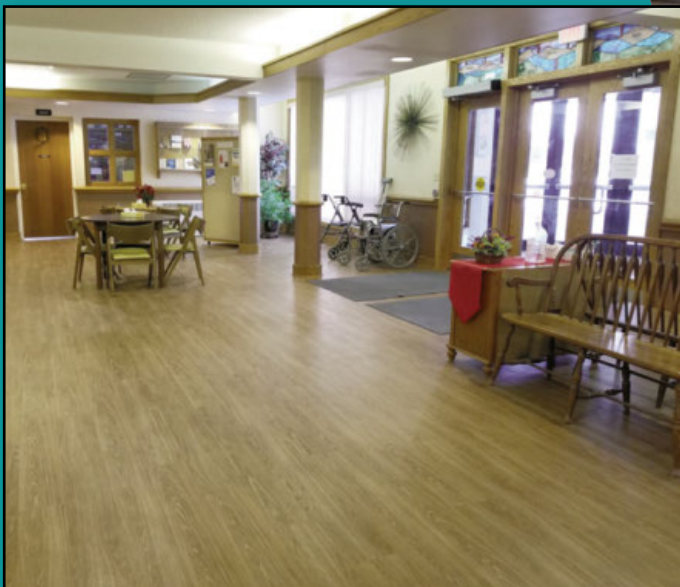
Jan. 13, 2022

Pastor KwangYu Lee

Portage United Methodist Church
Tel. (608) 742-2107 (Office)
pastor.portageumc@gmail.com

Our narthex gets a much needed new floor!

Thanks to our volunteers: Jim Kuhl, Bill Johnson, Jim Jensen, Mike Hoffman, Rosemary McTier and family, Lynn Kreier, Kevin Homan and Sheril Lannoye.





Articles for the
March newsletter
are due February 13

You Can Donate
Directly from Your Smartphone!

It's simple and easy! Just text the amount you want to donate, including the dollar sign (ex. \$20) to [844-556-1238](tel:844-556-1238) and click on the link they send you. Follow the prompts to complete your donation.

As you may have noticed... We are moving to a shorter newsletter, and making a few slight changes to accomodate less pages. This will help alleviate the costs of publishing without really impacting much of the content. We hope you like it!

Snowy Days and Cancelation Policy

Pastor KwangYu's policy is to be present every Sunday for worship, regardless of the weather. If you wish to attend, he will be here. However, we do not want you to take unnessesary risks on slippery roads or during storms. Please use your best judgment before venturing out.

(MATC) Red Cross Blood Drive:
Thursday, February 24
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

If you want to schedule an appointment ahead of time, please call the Red Cross, or go online.

Portage
Pop-up
Drive-thru
Pantry
Fresh Produce & Perishables
2:00 - 5:00
Every 4th Wednesday
held at
1804 New Pinery Rd., Portage
Portage United Methodist Church



Something to smile about....

According to a news report, a certain school in Garden City, MI had been faced with a unique problem.

A number of 12-year-old girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the washroom. That was fine, but after they put on their lipstick they would press their lips to the mirror leaving dozens of little lip prints.

Every night, the maintenance man would remove them and the next day, the girls would put them back.

Finally the principal decided that something had to be done. He called all the girls to the washroom and met them there with the maintenance man. He explained that all these lip prints were causing a major problem for the custodian who had to clean the mirrors every night.

To demonstrate how difficult it had been to clean the mirrors, he asked the maintenance man to show the girls how much effort was required.

He took out a long-handled squeegee, dipped it in the toilet, and cleaned the mirror with it. Since then, there have been no lip prints on the mirror.

There are teachers... and then there are Educators.

Children's Ministries News



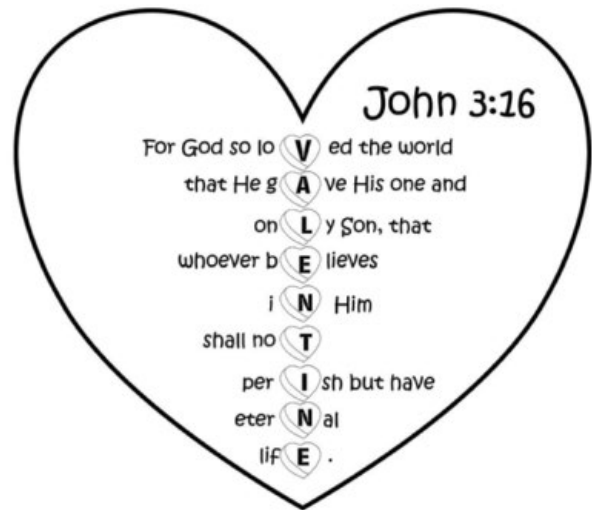
In the month of February:

Feb. 6: Family Service & Scouting Sunday

Feb. 13: Sunday School at 9:30am

Feb. 20: Sunday School at 9:30am

Feb. 27: Sunday School at 9:30am



CUB SCOUTS



February 6, 2022 9:30 am

Happy Birthday to Scouting! February 8th marks the 112th birthday for Scouting. Our Arrow of Light scouts, 5th graders, are hard at work completing their requirements to get ready for crossing over into the troops. Our Blue & Gold banquet celebrating Scouting's Birthday will be tied in with our Arrow of Light Crossover into Scouts BSA troops. We hope to see you online or in person for Scout Sunday, February 6th!

Upcoming Cub Scout Events:

February 6th - Scout Sunday

February 12th – Arrow of Light Crossover Ceremony/Blue and Gold Banquet

March 5th & 12th – Scouting for Food

-Judy Jesberger, Cub Scout Committee Chair

Welcoming all youth ages Kindergarten to 5th Grade

Call: (608) 347-9844

Email: jjesberger@portagescouts.org



February 2022

CHOIR

As we continue to look forward, the choir will begin in a virtual setting to start. I will be sending the music to anyone interested, their recorded part, and a recording of the song to listen and practice to at home. Hopefully, this surge of Covid will slow down and we could begin actual practices with precautions starting in March. The goal would be to sing in church by Holy Week, depending on the virus. If you are interested, please let me know and I will make sure to include you. It is exciting that we could maybe get back to having choir again!

YOUTH

The Sunday School children will be sharing a musical selection on February 6 with something special added. You don't want to miss it! This

Sunday is also Scout Sunday. The Scouts will be helping with our 930 service.

We will be starting tone bells with the youth of the church. They will practice during a small part of Sunday School. If your child or youth is interested in being part of this opportunity, please contact me via email or text. This would be open for youth 5 years old through confirmation.

THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who shared their musical talents, ushered, and shared the liturgy this month. Your time and talents are greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Katie Zirbes kzirbes3@gmail.com or 608-417-0247.

**Thought for the month:
Be not afraid of moving slowly, be afraid of standing still.**



FEBRUARY Birthdays

1 Ryan Banks	10 Bill Johnson	17 Keith Keller
2 Phil Berg	Sue Mckinney	Jessica Weaver
3 Connor Hentz	Jen Powers	18 Todd Benz
Judy Tetzlaff	11 Mattie Bredeson	Ashlyn Kohler
4 Ekow Malsack-Amphe	12 Jean Jenkins	19 Lexi Buckett
5 Chandler Breene	George Smick	22 Ron Woodard
Iona Gray	13 Mark Banks	24 Addison Butson
Lori Myhre	Allison Kallungi	25 Calumina Johnson
Carissa Ratz	Sarah Polk	29 Kay Jenkins
6 Kristen Hill	14 Corrine Robson	
9 Hayden Breene	16 Tim Narel	

FEBRUARY Calendar of Events

Sunday Worship is in the sanctuary at 8 am & 9:30 am. We provide a 9:30 am Live Streaming of the service on YouTube, and will then have it available later for viewing as a video.

February 6, 13, 20, 27 - Sundays

8:00 & 9:30 am Service in the sanctuary
 9:30 am Live Stream of service
 Recording on YouTube
 9:30 am Sunday School

February 6, 9:30 am - Scout Sunday

February 23, Wednesday

2-5 pm: Pop-up Pantry Drive-thru

February 24, Thursday

9:00 am - 2:00 pm: MATC Blood Drive

Church Meetings in February:

February 7, Monday

6:30 pm: Trustees
 6:30 pm: Staff Mtg

February 14, Monday

6:30 pm: Finance

February 21, Monday

6:30 pm: SPRC

February 28, Monday

6:00 pm: Church Council

FINANCIAL SUMMARY SHEET

December 2021

GENERAL FUND

Income: 15,439.72
 Expense: -9,945.74
5,493.98

DEDICATED FUNDS

Income 2,219.00
 Expense 4,590.60

FUND BALANCES

General Fund	(13,972.88)
Dedicated Fund	63,815.20
*Checking Account Balance (total of Gen. and Ded. Fund)	49,842.32
Memorial Checking	9,511.02
Jenkins Fund	53,442.92
Anderson Fund	25,329.66
Wiedenhaupt Fund	6,548.38
Endowment Fund	20,554.56
Hamele Fund	13,133.49
Edward Jones	35,867.45
TOTAL *(checking balance not in total)	214,229.80

Rich Jacobson, Church Treasurer

**support our
ADVERTISERS**

Atkinson Real Estate Inc.
608-742-2848

When Buying or Selling Your Home Call!
Jim Atkinson, Broker/Owner
jim@atkinsonrealtor.com
www.atkinsonrealtor.com

BHA
Ben H. Anderson Mfg.

Specializing in
Stainless Steel
Manufacturing

608-846-5474
www.benhanderson.com

**Community
Bank of
Portage**
A Branch of Bank of Wisconsin Dells

608-745-4300
2930 New Pinery Rd, Portage
dellsbank.bank

**CHARLES MANTEY
ROBERT MENDRALA**

PORTAGE
742-2126
POYNETTE
635-2763

Funeral Homes
Locally Owned & Operated Since 1853
Portage & Poynette Wisconsin
WWW.PMMFH.COM

Aspirus Divine Savior
Hospital and Clinics is
proud to be a part of
the Aspirus family.

Find a healthcare provider:
call 608.742.4131 • visit aspirus.org

Watson Health
15 TOP
HEALTH SYSTEMS
2020

Heritage House
ASSISTED LIVING

Assisted Living
Caregivers available 24-hours a day

Schedule a tour and receive a \$25.00 Gift Card with this ad.

608.448.6181

Call today and ask about a move-in gift!

**GROTHMAN
& ASSOCIATES, S.C.**

LAND SURVEYORS
JAMES R. GROTHMAN * PLS
SCOTT P. HEWITT * PLS
625 E. Slifer St. Portage, WI 53901
Phone 608/742-7788 Fax 608/742-0434

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

WIESER CONCRETE
Innovation, Quality
and Service
Since 1963

800-362-7220
www.wieserconcrete.com
2815 Riley Rd. • Portage, WI 53901

**BREMNER
GRANITE CO. LLC**
For All Your Memorial Needs
Mark Bublitz - Owner
N6828 Hwy 51-16 S • PO Box 78
608-742-3939

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!

ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact **Marcia Boswell** to place an ad today!
mboswell@4LPi.com or **(206) 550-5220 x2246**

**Joe's Auto &
Truck Service, LLC**
Timothy Gaffney, Owner
(608) 742-2776
24 Hour Towing
1615 New Pinery Rd • Portage

**Thrive
Locally**

WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community
- Paid Training
- Some Travel

Contact us at: careers@4lp.com | www.4lp.com/careers

The Messenger is published monthly by
Portage United Methodist Church
1804 New Pinery Road, Portage WI 53901
Ph: 608-742-2107

VOLUME 22 ISSUE 2

Staff:

Rev. KwangYu Lee, Pastor
Shar Kuhl, Office Administrator
Rich Jacobson, Church Treasurer
Amanda Thiele, Children's Coordinator
Katie Zirbes, Worship Coordinator
Chris Hurd, Church Musician
Scott Maass, Custodian

E-Mail:

General Office: office.portageumc@gmail.com
Pastor's Office: pastor.portageumc@gmail.com

Facebook: Portage United Methodist Church

YouTube: Portage UMC

Website: www.portageumc.com



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PORTAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1804 New Pinery Road
Portage, WI 53901

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POST PAID
PORTAGE, WI
PERMIT NO. 91