#### Greetings,

I hope this note finds you well on this blustery day. I let my dog, Beau, out this morning, only to discover a thin layer of ice underneath an equally thin layer of snow. I almost fell on my amply padded posterior (so I would have been fine)! Over the past few weeks, I have been inundated with calls and had numerous conversations with people, wondering how we are going to get through these times. For many in the Progressive Mainline Protestant tradition, what is happening now is a quick jog backwards after so many years of struggle were spent to attain human rights at so many levels – for black, brown and African Americans; for Bi-Racial people and People of Color; for Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersexed, Asexual, non-Binary, and gender non-conforming people; for the poor and those who live on the margins; for those who are differently abled. The past sixty plus years have been about making slow, measured advances for the rights of all of these groups. Right now, over fifty executive orders have been signed. Two themes occur repeatedly in these orders. Elimination of DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) and Issues related to the Transgender population. However, as news swirls, there are also other pieces of legislation in the works, and requests before the Supreme Court to abolish Marriage Equality. These things have a way of shaking us at our core. They have a way of making us be afraid. They have a way of pushing to make quick and rash decisions. And, I would dare say, they push up against what it is we hold near and dear to our heart as Christians.

So, I will put the reminder out, over and over again. Whatever happens, our purpose as a church and as a Christian people is unwavering. We are to love God (with all of our hearts, minds, soul, and strength) and to love our neighbor (no exceptions). According to Matthew 25, we are to feed the hungry, give the thirsty something to drink, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, take care of the sick, and visit those who are in prison. Anything less than this and we are not the church. Throughout history there has been a lot that has come against the church, and it has survived. There has been much that has transpired, and people of faith have held their heads up and met trials and tribulations with strength, courage, and LOVE. We can and must do the same. Here is some of what is going on or coming up in the life of the church:

Annual Pizza Sale to Begin: Each year, participants on the Intergenerational Mission Trip sell pizzas through the month of February to raise funds for the upcoming trip. Pizzas are made fresh on March 15, and will be ready for pick up from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. on that day. There are four different types of pizza to choose from — Cheese, Pepperoni, Sausage, or Sausage/Pepperoni Combo. Pizzas are \$9 each, or 3 for \$25. One of the options of the sale is to purchase pizzas and donate them to The Guest House. In 2024, we had 178 of our pizzas donated to Guest House.

**Sunday February 9** pizza will be available for tasting during coffee hour. You can order pizza by filling out the form in the bulletin and then seeing one of the Mission Trip people in the Fellowship Room, or attaching your payment to the form and putting it in the offertory plate. Our Mission Trippers and the Gentlemen at Guest House thank you for your support.

Freezer Meal Ministry In September, the Mission Board kicked off a new ministry of the church. It was designed to help folks who are stressed out. Perhaps you have a day when you are running from doctor appointment to doctor appointment, or you are taking care of an elderly family member, or you have a family member who is sick and you are spending all day at the hospital. We have fully cooked meals in the freezer. Simply take one home, thaw in the microwave, and then reheat. There are poultry, meat, and meatless options available. This is one way that we, as a church, can take care of you when you are going through a stressful time. You can pick a meal up any time the church is open. Monday through Wednesday (10-3), Thursday morning, evenings when there is a function going on here at church, or on Sundays. Meals are located in the freezer in the Community Room.

#### Peace, Pastor Dave

# GCC Activities

6 THURSDAY

Community Yoga 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM February 6-February 12

FRIDAY

**Bunco** 

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

8 SATURDAY **Candemas Retreat** 

9:00 AM - noon

10
MONDAY

Values & Visions 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

10
MONDAY

Tai Chi

9:00 AM - CONTINUING 10:00 AM - BEGINNER

11
TUESDAY

Mindful Movement and Heartful Restore-a yoga and sound healing for your heart

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

11
TUESDAY

Adult Ed: Introducing Me

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM



GREENDALECOMMUNITYCHURCH

FEBRUARY 9, 2025

0\_\_\_\_\_0

**CLICK HERE TO WORSHIP** 

GREENDALECOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG

GCC MISSION BOARD SPONSORED

# WILDFRERELIEF

## THROUGH CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

#### WHO ARE WE DONATING FOR?

We are collecting donations to aid those in California impacted by the wildfires by partnering with Church World Service.

# JAN 26- FEB 28

#### **DONATE 2 WAYS**

#### **WEBSITE**

Click above or the QR code to the right to donate directly to CWS.

#### **CHECK OR CASH**

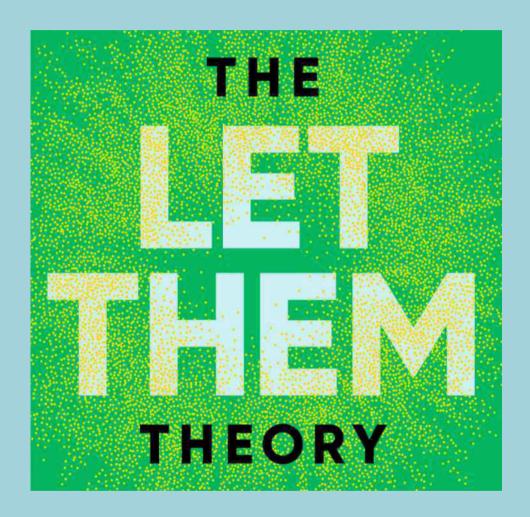
We accept cash and/or checks. Please make checks out to Greendale
Community Church
with <u>"Wildfire Relief"</u> in the memo line.
(Funds will be sent to CWS the end of February)



Join us for the love of reading

If you've ever felt stuck, overwhelmed, or frustrated with where you are, the problem isn't you. The problem is the power you give to other people. Two simple words—Let Them—will set you free.

### **BOOK STUDY**



# The Let Them Theory

AT THIS TIME WE ARE TRYING TO GAUGE INTEREST FOR A LATE SPRING BOOK CLUB. SIGN UP IF YOU ARE INTERESTED

www.greendalecommunitychurch.org/events

# Values&Visions

#### Where Do We Go From Here

Come join us for this special evening with Grief Counselor Abigail. Goelzer.



2/24·6:30pm

MUSKEGO FEEDS

# VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

Come pack meals with us. The meals will be distributed to hungry families in Peru and outlying areas, including an orphanage sponsored by the host church.



WHERE: LAKEPOINT CHURCH

S63W13694 W JANESVILLE RD, MUSKEGO

**VOLUNTEERS MUST BE 12 YEARS AND OLDER** 

Tables of teams use the assembly line method to combine various ingredients and package meals to be shipped to hungry families. This is a well organized event with great participation from the community. All supplies are provided.

Must be able to stand for an hour.



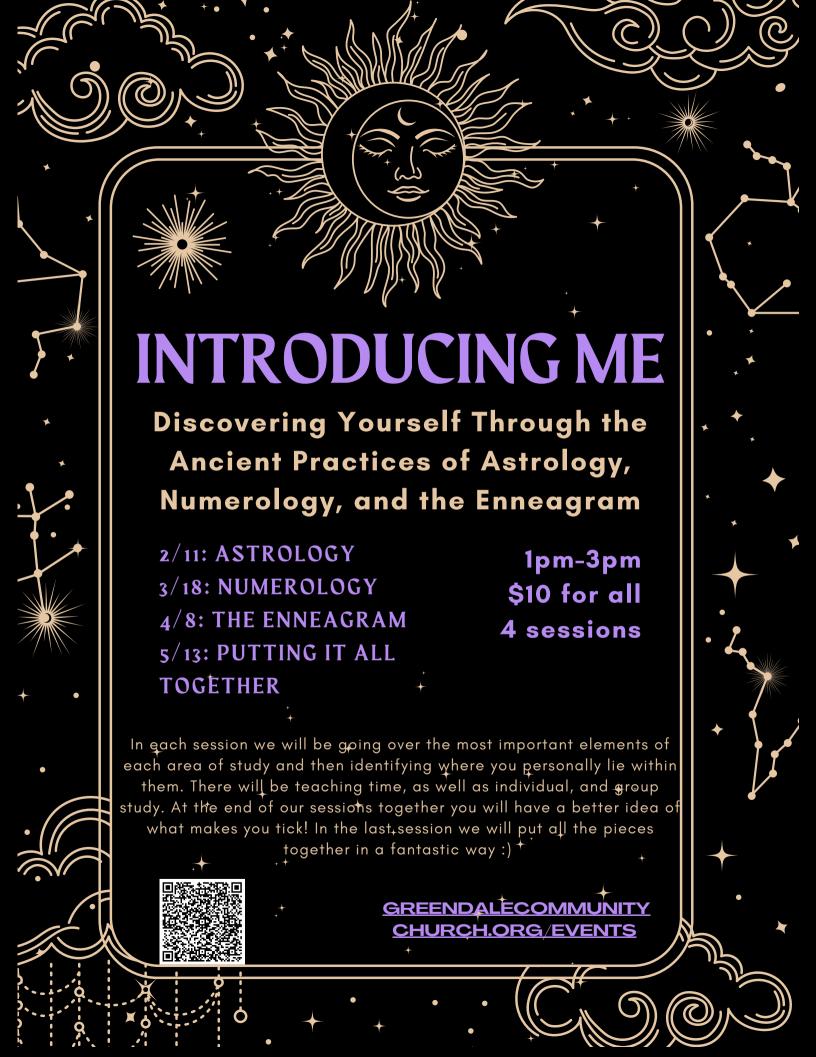
JOIN US!
MARCH 15
2025

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

VOLUNT ER

FOR REGISTRATION CLICK <u>HERE</u> OR USE THE QR CODE





# 

Join us for a special Grief Circle as we welcome Grief Coach and Death Doula, Abigail Goelzer.

# INTEGRATING GRIEF: HOW WE REMAIN.

2/17/25 • 6:30 PM

# WIRTER USED CLOTHING CRIVE BY CHARLES CIVE A Little, Help a Lot



- Men's & Women's sweaters
- · Men's & Women's fleece
- Men's & Women's flannels
- · Men's & Women's sweatshirts
- Men's & Women's sweatpants
- · Men's & Women's jeans
- · Men's & Women's winter coats

Clothing Drive in Partnership with Street Angels