

United Methodist Church
PO Box 94
804 St. John St.
Boyceville, WI 54725

Return Service Requested



Newsletter of Boyceville, Faith and Grace
United Methodist Churches
Pastor Shannon Mattison
Parsonage: 715-749-6351 Cell: 715-220-0081
Prairie Farm: Faith Worship Service 8:30,
Boyceville Worship Service 9:45,
Wheeler: Grace Worship Service 11:00
Welcome

The Gleaner
June 2019

May 22, 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I write to you today as the weather has turned cool and wet with a breeze we will probably be wishing for as the temperatures rise this summer. It's enjoyable to watch the changes that are taking place as we have transitioned from winter into spring. The little calves in the pastures, buds on trees turning into leaves, and flowers on the crab apple tree.

These changes are a little nostalgic for me as I have participated in a challenge to organize something every day. In the process I have discovered several things I had forgotten, have remembered them mostly with warmth, and have decided it was time to let many of them go. I have also considered, with some nostalgia, changes happening in my family—my grandson getting his first car as he prepares to take his driver's test in it, anticipation of a new baby to arrive in the early fall, two daughters who are planning weddings.

All of us see changes happen in our lives, in our families, in organizations. Although nostalgic feelings often accompanying changes, we either participate in it or falter as we try to hold onto a past that we cannot have.

As I have become nostalgic over things while organizing during this season of Easter, I can't help but think of the disciples. As the disciples gathered in the days following the death of Jesus they were confused and discouraged. The disciples had expected Jesus to lead the Jewish people to freedom from the Roman Empire. On top of it all the tomb Jesus had been laid in was empty. As Jesus appeared to them, they did not fully understand what the future would hold. Things were happening differently than the way they had understood the scriptures. They could have retreated to the past but, they listened to what Jesus told them. Even so, I would suspect they faced uncertainty with some fear and doubt as they moved forward rather than retreating into the past.

We read in John that Jesus told them, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (John 20: 21a CEB). They followed instructions and waited until Pentecost for the Holy Spirit to descend upon them all. (If you read in Acts you will find it was more than the 12 the Holy Spirit came to.) Pentecost Sunday is considered by many Christians as the birthday of the church.

In the Epistles Paul says that we as the church are the body of Christ, the hands and feet of Christ in the world. As we prepare to celebrate the birthday of the church, I want to share with you the texts that were shared at the Boyceville Baccalaureate. The first reading was from Micah.

"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly[a] with your God." (Micah 6:8)

The second is from Matthew,

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?' Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (Matthew 22:36-40 NIV)

May Gods love and mercy, peace and grace be with you.

Pastor Shannon



Hard Choices in Troubled Times

There are many people in our United Methodist Church today who are not experiencing the peace of Christ in their hearts, minds, and spirits. Rarely in our history has there been such division, such hurt, such disagreement, such anxiety, and such widespread discontent. This is one of the reasons that we changed our Annual Conference theme to "Wilderness." Wilderness is not our destination, but it is an accurate appraisal of our current reality.

The hard question that challenges us at this moment in time is this: do we still believe there is a Promised Land on the other side of the wilderness? Are we still moving toward a "future with hope?" Is there ANY possibility we can make this journey together?

I understand that many people are feeling desperation and hopelessness. There are many who feel our only future is to divide, go our separate ways, and continue our journey with only the like-minded and acquiescent. To some people, the integrity of the body of Christ has been so badly compromised that they no longer choose to fight for unity.

My deepest hope and prayer through this messy and hurtful time is that God's Holy Spirit might inspire and work through our better natures, that we might make the healthiest, most sustainable, and least damaging choices possible. Once we burn our bridges, we limit our options, perhaps to our detriment. So, a very important first step is to acknowledge that what we are doing is making choices.

One lay person in our conference wrote, "you leave me no choice but to leave The United Methodist Church." It doesn't matter whether this person is conservative or progressive, liberal or traditional – what matters is that she has given away her power by saying she has no choice. I want to say that no matter how upset we are, no matter how angry we may be, no matter that others make decisions we disagree with, we still have choice. We may not choose to feel frightened or angry or anxious or confused, but we still have power to decide how we will respond.

Every time I write or speak about what is happening in our denomination and our conference, some people like what I say, some vehemently dislike what I say, some have no idea what I am saying. If I say, "I will work to lead a church that welcomes ALL people," I get a wide variety of responses. Some people praise me, some say I do not go nearly far enough, some say I go too far, but it is not as interesting to me what people say as how they say it. Some will tell me they disagree with me, some that they do not understand how I can say what I do, some say they are disappointed by what I said, but others insult and say terribly personal things. These people choose how they will disagree with me.

I am calling upon the beautiful people of the Wisconsin Conference to carefully, mindfully, kindly, compassionately, and with mercy and justice in mind, choose how you will live through this time of division and hurt and anxiety. Choose life over death; choose blessing over curse; choose hope over despair; choose grace over judgement and condemnation. Choose to preach faith and love and hope, even when you don't feel it. Choose to be patient and gentle and generous so that you might be numbered among the peace-makers that Jesus blesses. And above all, don't give up. Choose to fight for a church that equips all people to be gifted and used by God for the transformation of the world. Choose to look at all we can be, not where we fail and where we disagree. The good that God calls us to be is greater than any bad of human design. Choose God and let us make our way through the present wilderness to a future brimming with hope and promise.

Grace and Peace,

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

Boyceville Coffee Time

Coffee Time will be Sunday, June 9 and 23. Glenise Thomas is looking for someone to serve with her on June 9th and Marguerite Blodgett is looking for someone to serve with her on June 23rd.

Boyceville Ushers

June ushers are Ray & Carol Cherney



Scripture Readers and Greeters for Boyceville

	Reader	Greeter
June 2	Carol Cherney	Frank Dummer
June 9	Glenise Thomas	Merlyn Jones
June 16	Marguerite Blodgett	Stephen Silvius
June 23	Kim Silvius	Pete Bodette
June 30	5 th Sunday Celebration at Pioneer Park in Prairie Farm	
July 7	Melissa Blodgett	Dawn Rogers

Greeters: If you are unable to be at church on your Sunday, please find someone to trade with. If you can't find someone, call Dawn Rogers, 643-2116. Thank You.

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Gleaner news is due Tuesday, June 25th
Please contact Tammy Nelson at 715-505-2657 or
rtsmnelson@hotmail.com with your news. Thanks.

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Angie Thomas	Samantha Christian	Jim (Buck) Knops
Anita Harvey	Larry Smith	Russell Roemhild
Coat Closet	Victims of Violence	Missionaries
Food Harvest Ministry	Victims of Natural Disasters	

Our shut-ins & those in nursing homes

There is power in prayers to God.

A reminder: Please remember our shut-ins with visits, calls and cards.

Please keep our prayer list current by letting Pastor Shannon or Tammy know when names should be added or removed.

Peace with Justice Sunday

We will be observing Peace with Justice Sunday on June 16th. Your Peace with Justice Sunday gifts change lives in places where the joy of knowing Christ is mixed with the tragedy of violence. United Methodists relate to this special Sunday by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in their conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world.

Parish Birthdays and Anniversaries in June

June

1 - Regina Frisle	15 - Ron & Gina Harren (anniv.)
1 - Jada Kahl	17 - Jennifer Wilson
	18 - Brian Kahl
2 - Sharon Wyss	19 - Frank & Dianne Dummer (anniv.)
3 - Dale Feyen	19 - Doreen & Jerry Olson (anniv.)
3 - Brian Ford	19 - Joe Ford
3 - Rosemary Zachow Tracy	19 - Gloria Kahl
4 - Brent & Jessica Zobel (anniv.)	21 - Loraine Goodell
4 - Shirley Jones	22 - Bob & Beverly Stalker (anniv.)
4 - Mary Kegen	22 - Jackie Dummer-Vos
6 - Shelby Bauer	24 - Jessica Ford
10 - Steve Dummer	
13 - Dan Fedderly	30 - Michaella Kegen
14 - Jerry & Kathy Neck (anniv.)	

Food Harvest Ministry News

The next distribution will be from 8-10 a.m. on Saturday, June 15th at 1002 Main St., Boyceville, WI. Aluminum cans can also be dropped off at this location.

Faith United Methodist Church News for June

Worship Service at 8:30 am

Thank You!

- To all who contributed/worked/participated for the Soup and Sandwich Supper. We took in \$481 for the meal and \$145.50 for the bake sale. There will be some expenses.
- To Russ White for furnishing the chicken and turkey.
- To those who contributed to Native American Sunday.
- To those who contributed to Golden Cross Sunday.
- To Bill Wiseman for cleaning the eave trough on the educational unit.
- To Leslie Frisle for changing the banners.
- To Roxanne White for purchasing, planting, and having flowers for Mother's Day.

Parish Duties for June

	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Greeter/Usher</u>	<u>Coffee/Snack</u>
June 2	Bill Wiseman	Bill Wiseman	Margie Wiseman
June 9	Roxanne White	Roxanne White	Ila Knutson
June 16	Barbara Bender	Barbara Bender	Roxanne White
June 23	Gary & Gloria Kahl	Gary & Gloria Kahl	Gary & Gloria Kahl
June 30	5 th Sunday Worship at Pioneer Park at 10 a.m.		

Faith United Methodist Women

Faith United Methodist Women will meet on June 6th at 12:30 for potluck lunch. The business meeting will follow. Kathy Neck has the program. We will be planning the menu for the 5th Sunday at Pioneer Park.



Grilled Chicken Dinner Thursday, June 6th

3:30-7:00 p.m.
At the Wheeler Grace United
Methodist Church

Grilled Chicken, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw



GIVING Are You Giving in All the Ways You Should? June 2019

Are you giving to the church in all the ways you could or should be giving? You may be supporting this year's budget, but what about the future of the church, missional support, and special projects? Are you providing for these as well?

I think of the church's assets and giving as an ice-cream cone. The church's assets such as the building, parsonage, and endowments as the cone. Essential, but not very appetizing all by themselves.

Annual budget giving is the first scoop. It is needed and provides basic support and flavor to the church. However, too often, this is where we stop thinking about supporting the church. What about other scoops?

What about missions? Mission-related giving can include apportionments (sometimes paid with the annual budget, sometimes not), conference projects, Special Sundays, UMCOR, national and international advance projects and support of individual missionaries. Are you thinking about your offering for missions this year? These are usually donations over and above what is collected for the annual budget.

What about planned giving? Planned giving provides for the future of the church when you are no longer around. Have you included the church in your will or as a beneficiary to your investment accounts or life insurance? Ten percent is a good number, leaving plenty for your family.

Finally, what about special projects. Capital fundraising can support new ministry, ministry growth, new building or renovation and maintenance of existing structures. Remember the Imagine No Malaria campaign a couple of years back that raised over one million dollars?

Jim Wells, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation Helps for the Stewardship Chair
Visit the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at www.wumf.org or [Facebook/wumf.org](https://www.facebook.com/wumf.org)
or call 1-888-903-9863

