

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 a.m.
Boyceville Worship Service 9:45 a.m.
Wheeler: Grace Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Welcome

The Gleaner
July 2019

June 25, 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Just as our season of spring has officially changed to summer, the church season has changed to what is often referred to as normal. The Sundays are counted by the number of Sundays after Pentecost. The color of the paraments (cloths on the table, pulpit, etc.) is green during this time. We refer to the season as normal but that can be deceptive as it is a time for learning and growth just as spring and summer is a time for crops to grow.

We had time to do some of that during the daily Bible study at Annual Conference. This year's presenter was Peter Miano, a United Methodist Elder and founder and Executive Director of The Society for Biblical Studies. A couple of things that I have come back with from his teaching are a reminder that there are many different types of writing in the books of the Bible. Second, these writings were not written in a void. They were written for a people in a specific context. If we are to begin to understand them, we need to learn about the context they were written in. Miano gave some very poignant examples of things we may think we know because of how they have been presented over the years but were probably very different.

Considering the season, we are in is one of growth and Miano's teachings still fresh in memory, we are going to look at some sayings we attribute to the Bible but aren't truly there. Some of these are often heard to try to comfort people or to justify our responses to situations. I've had some used on me in the past and found myself thinking where did they find that and why would a loving god choose to respond that way. We are going to do this by using Adam Hamilton's book *Half Truths* as a guide along with some other resources.

Please join us on Sunday mornings as we embrace this precious season of growth not only as our grass and gardens grow but that we may grow as well.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Shannon



Annual Conference Reflections: Thriving in the Wilderness

My blessed brothers, sisters, and siblings in Christ Jesus, I give you my thanks and appreciation. I am honored and proud to be the bishop of this great Wisconsin Conference. Together this past weekend we spent time wandering in our wilderness of confusion, disagreement, discernment, and desire to be a faithful church. It was not an easy time. There were ups and downs, times to celebrate and times to repent. We struggled in our work to be civil and respectful, and I was reminded to say clearly what behaviors would be acceptable – respectful disagreement and civil confrontation – and the unacceptable – bullying, disrespecting, and injuring. But we came through it all together, and we saw the glory of the Lord in the cloud. Everything may not be clear, but we see God in our midst!

I am still processing all that happened, but I rejoice again in our worship celebrations, the excellent and challenging Bible study provided by our brother, Peter Miano, the energy and faithful spirit of our young people, and the obvious, widespread desire to do justly and rightly to all people.

Our Annual Conference indicated in clear terms its dissatisfaction with the actions of General Conference to pass the Traditional Plan. Together we strategized ways to be faithful with our apportionment giving, to witness to our desire for full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ peoples, to bring the language of our Book of Discipline in line with our lived reality, and to move forward into a more loving and grace-filled church. It is clear that we have a long way to go, that we must make amends and apologize for hurtful actions, but that there is deep commitment to work together for a better, more loving church.

This is true not only of the LGBTQIA+ people who question whether The United Methodist Church really cares about and for them but is equally true for many of our racial and ethnic people who deal daily with destructive acts and attitudes of racism. In some of our Christian communities, hurtful and hateful words and actions communicate to both clergy and laity leadership that they are not welcome, not respected, and not supported. This is not true everywhere and of a majority of people, but racism in any form, in any place, and at any time is not an acceptable expression of Christians. Part of our wilderness is particular and institutional racism, and it is a priority for Wisconsin Conference to work to eliminate racism in all its forms.

We elected a slate of General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference delegates that reflect our desire to change and move forward. We elected a diverse and future-focused delegation of thoughtful, faithful, and dynamic clergy and laity. Pray for your delegation as they prepare for General Conference 2020. We have an amazing bunch of people to represent us.

We are committed to work on a Wisconsin option – a Wisconsin way forward to be a faithful and loving church, with great vision for mercy and justice ministries, for reaching new people in new places, and to strengthen our existing ministries, we reaffirmed our desire to be good stewards of all we possess. Our Launch Out! campaign is still very much a priority, but we voted to “pause,” to give time for local churches to address their response to our general church decisions.

We affirmed our desire to stay in Sun Prairie and to own our Conference Center. In the midst of massive and disruptive change, we still hold our Conference Center. By God’s grace, we will find new and better ways to address our administrative needs. We still face severe budgetary challenges. We still have less than we need to fully fund all our key ministries. We are in different places in our desire to financially support the denomination and connection. But we are in all these things together, and are working together on a Wisconsin way forward.

We are in a time of turbulence and change. This is wilderness at its wildest. Tempest and storm, intense heat, high winds – together we acknowledged that we cannot get through without God’s help and guidance. But God makes us strong. God keeps us strong. What looks so overwhelming at the moment will seem less intimidating as time goes by. We have dynamic young leaders. We have powerful cross-cultural leaders. We have clergy and laity leaders committed to the faithful ministry and witness of the Wisconsin Conference. Is everyone happy with where we are? No. Many are unhappy. But we are still faithful. This is a measure of faith – following Jesus, serving God, loving neighbor whether we are happy or not.

Wilderness time is not fun time, but it is rich time. Wilderness time is not comfortable time, but it is valuable time. Wilderness time is not stable time, but it is essential time. Our deepest desire is not just to survive the wilderness, but to thrive. We come through wilderness stronger, wiser, better prepared and more confident. I am encouraged by our time together. As a Conference, we have spoken. As a Conference, we have witnessed to inclusiveness, justice, and a place for all at God’s table. Do we still disagree? Yes. Is there still pain? Yes. But do we believe – truly know – that God is with us? Undeniably YES. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Grace and Peace,

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

Dear Friends in Christ,

As you know, Jesus Overflowing Ministry is a service organization- through all three churches- that helps both members of the community and members of our church that have financial needs. Requests are made by contacting the pastor or a member of JOFM. We believe that we are called to provide service to others- as Jesus said- *As you have done to the least of these you have done to me*. Jesus calls us to reach out to the least, the last and the lost. We know in today's world, life can happen and a helping hand can make a world of difference. We are here to be that hand- we need to do the work of Jesus. This helping hand can provide hope to the hopeless.

People may be assisted one time.

As United Methodists we have a history of commitment to service and social justice. John Wesley placed strong emphasis on the Christian life as a combination of faith and love put into practice. We help to affirm the love of God for all humankind. When somebody reaches out, it matters to be there. We primarily have had requests for gas for work and medical appointments, food, security deposits and car repairs.

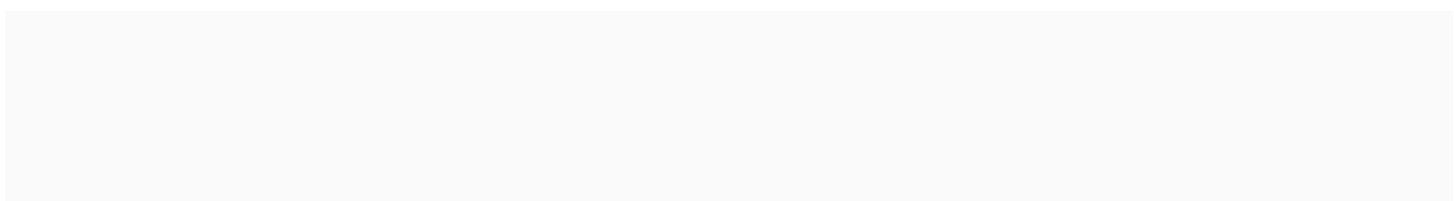
As you well know, life is very expensive. To help somebody out with a stay in a hotel so they don't need to sleep on the street or in their car and can have a shower in the morning that is at least \$55.00 a night. If we help people out with gas- that is about \$100 and if there is a need- we give them a bit of money for food as well in addition to pointing them to other food resources. Security deposits are a hundred or two hundred dollars. Car repairs can be very spendy but people- especially rural people need to have transportation.

Currently, our resources are stretched out. We need your help so that we can help out others. We ask you to pray and if God puts it in your heart, please make a donation. If you do want to make a donation to JOFM, please mark the envelope when you give your gifts on Sunday.

Thanking you in advance for your generous support with prayers and finances. God bless!

Sincerely,

Jesus's Overflowing Ministry



Boyceville Coffee Time

Coffee Time will be Sunday, July 14 and 28. Marguerite Blodgett will serve on July 14th and Shirley Jones & Kim Silvius will serve on the 28th.

Boyceville Ushers

July ushers are Earl & Marguerite Blodgett



Scripture Readers and Greeters for Boyceville

	Reader	Greeter
July 7	Melissa Blodgett	Dawn Rogers
July 14	Pete Bodette	Marguerite Blodgett
July 21	Merlyn Jones	Shirley Jones
July 28	Kim Silvius	Elaine Grutt

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.



Gleaner news is due Tuesday, July 23rd. 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 | Larry Smith |
| Russell Roemhild | Warren Turner | Sheryl O'Flanagan Johnson |
| 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.



Good luck to everyone who is participating in the St. Croix County or Dunn County Fairs this year!

Parish Birthdays and Anniversaries in July

2 - Dawn Rogers	12 - Karen Smith
2 - Beverly Stalker	13 - Jeff Kegen
2 - Jonathan Zebro	14 - Nancy Schlottman
3 - Amy Walk	15 - Steven & Kristi Matthaei (anniv.)
4 - Kristi Matthaei	15 - Becca Wyss
4 - John Wyss	16 - Allan & Amy Walk (anniv.)
6 - Margaret O'Flanagan	17 - Anita Smith
6 - Casey Wilcox	17 - Megan Zebro
7 - Ryan Dummer	19 - Teresa Ankney
7 - Nick Carufel	21 - Daren Smith
10 - Gloria Kelly	22 - Christina Salsbury
10 - Lynda Viebill	27 - Ron Harren
10 - Karen & Larry Smith (anniv.)	30 - Terry & Lottie Hiben (anniv.)
11 - Gary Miller	30 - Jim & Christina Salsbury
11 - Brenda Smith	

Food Harvest Ministry News

The next distribution will be from 8-10 a.m. on Saturday, July 20th at 1002 Main St., Boyceville, WI. Aluminum cans can also be dropped off at this location.

Honduras Mission Update

"For months in a row," you say, "the Sisters sent us reports, then nothing. Have they forgotten us? Do they take us for granted? Are they doing nothing?" Well, finally, there is news to report. The first week in June, the laboratory room was remodeled, paid for by the mayor. Getting the papers done for that fell to Dr. Henry and it took a long time. We (the Monastery) bought a stainless-steel lab table for \$490. We bought four metal chairs for the clinic for \$115. We spent \$94 to have an air conditioner repaired and installed. A medical laboratory must be "nítido"—super clean—to avoid contamination. An open window facing a yard of pure sand is not acceptable. We also spent \$40 for one more lab chemical. Since NONE of us has ever FOUNDED a lab before, the purchases come irregularly and not in the order that an experienced expert would do them. More details are needed, but Monday, June 10, finds the lab tech in the new lab with most of the equipment ready to use.

Thank you for your dollars and your prayers. We now need prayers more than ever as Honduras's president tries to privatize public health care.

Bendiciones,

Sister Alegría

Amigas del Señor Monastery
Limón, Colón
Honduras

Faith United Methodist Church News for July

Worship Service at 8:30 am

Thank You

- To Margie Wiseman for being our Lay Delegate to Annual Conference.
- To Pastor Shannon for representing us at Annual Conference.
- To Janice Salsbury for providing a Women's Kit for Ingathering.
- To Barbara Bender for making 5 School Kits for Ingathering.
- To Mike for keeping the parsonage and church grounds looking so nice.
- To all those who faithfully contribute to offerings. However, with a \$35,000 budget we should take in about \$3,000 monthly. May was \$1516.32. Continue to remember those times when you may be absent; bills continue.

Parish Duties for July

	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Greeter/Usher</u>	<u>Coffee/Snack</u>
July 7	Bill Wiseman	Bill Wiseman	Open
July 14	Dairy Days	Ecumenical Service by Fire Hall at 10:00 a.m.	
July 21	Barbara Bender	Barbara Bender	Barbara Bender
July 28	Roxanne White	Roxanne White	Roxanne White

Faith United Methodist Women

Faith United Methodist Women met at Pioneer Health and Rehab with Margaret O'Flanagan in June, (My mistake in the last Gleaner, but it was a great surprise for Margaret). We will not be meeting in July. Our next meeting is August 1st at the church with potluck at 12:30 p.m. Pat Frisle has the program.

Administrative Council meets on Tuesday, July 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Parkman School Reunion August 4th at Pioneer Park at 12:30 p.m.

Farewell Celebration for DS Rev. Kate Croskery-Jones

All are invited to attend a farewell celebration honoring our outgoing District Superintendent, Rev. Kate Croskery-Jones as she will be appointed to the North East District effective July 1, 2019.

Sunday, July 7, 2019 3:00-5:00 p.m.

At the Frist United Methodist Church

1221 Wesley Dr., Rice Lake, WI

During worship there will be a time for sharing stories of gratitude.

An offering will be collected for Harbor House.



GIVING Integrating Missions with Other Giving July 2019

Mission giving is a principal way we, the visible fellowship of Christians, stay connected with the invisible fellowship of Christians. We support local outreach such as food pantries or homeless shelters, conference projects like flood relief, national or international projects like elimination of malaria. Special Sunday collections support UMCOR, international peace, social justice, world communion, and minority ministries. The Golden Cross Sunday collection supports Wisconsin health and welfare ministries. We also support specific missionaries.

Regrettably, we have gotten away from integrating mission giving into our church budget and planning, relying instead on individual giving and pass-throughs. I think this is a mistake and that we should intentionally embrace mission giving as a percentage of our budget (10 percent has a nice ring to it). If our overall budget were \$160,000, then the mission budget would be \$16,000. We should allow perhaps half the mission budget to be accounted for by pastoral salary, office staff salary, office supplies and building costs related to mission planning and activities (i.e., things we already pay for). However, the other \$8,000 would come from annual pledged giving and special appeals. This approach would result in more mission giving than most churches are now doing.

Encourage your congregation and leaders to integrate mission giving into the annual budget. In this way, you will be able to intentionally give and communally celebrate your mission support.

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

