

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

June 2020

The Gleaner

June 1, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It's interesting that even when people express wanting change in their lives, when it comes to it there can be resistance. But it's even harder when change comes, and we are not prepared for it or do not want it. We are creatures of habit and we are comfortable doing things as usual. We don't like the things we enjoy, our lives disrupted. I believe, at least in part, this is because as things change there can be a sense of loss of control. When several things change at one time, a sense of loss of control can be even worse. Add to this being a culture which has become used to almost instant gratification, which has developed a shorter attention span and length of patience. No wonder wearing masks, remaining physical distanced, and staying home as much as possible is driving many of us crazy.

But look at Isaiah 43:19. Here God says:

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. (Isaiah 43:19 NRSV)

Is it possible that God is using this time to make a new thing? God asks "Do you not perceive it? Think about all the ways people have found to connect, families spending time together, and creative ways to celebrate. If you have been watching the news there has been talk about things which may not go back to the way they were.

I would invite you to take some time to consider how God may be making a new thing and how God is calling his people to be in the world but not of it during this time.

Grace and peace.

Pastor Shannon

Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the LORD your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6 NRSV)

He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:7-8 NRSV)

UPDATE

I would like to thank you for your continued support of UMC Boyceville, Prairie Farm: Faith, and Wheeler: Grace through your offerings, watching the worship services online, and supporting and staying in contact with one another.

By now you probably have questions regarding when we will begin worshipping inside the sanctuary, especially after the Wisconsin Supreme Court ended the Stay-at-Home order. At this time activities in our charge will remain cancelled. We do have one in-person meeting scheduled. While meeting we will be following guidelines set out by the Dunn County Department of Health as well as following strategies set out by the Wisconsin Annual Conference, Wisconsin Council of Churches, and the CDC.

At this time these are the plans for **Worship Services**. They may be amended as needed.

On-line worship until June 21

June 21: begin holding one drive-in worship service for the charge

- It will be held at Boyceville with bulletins and on communion days sealed communion elements will be distributed to each car by one person with mask and gloves or sanitized hands. These are to be held until appropriate time.
- Collecting offerings— an ice cream pail will be placed for each church as leave parking lot
- 10:00 am start, end before 11:00 am.
- Park in a U-shape?
- Use battery powered PA system, keyboard or trumpet, words to the songs in the bulletin.
- We will try to record the drive-in service to put up on the website.
- prayer requests – we do not want those to go on-line. Options include collecting prayer requests before starting recording, stopping the recording or editing the recording.

Set-up and Take-down

Those setting up and taking down equipment for worship will wear masks and practice social distancing as much as possible. Where closer proximity is necessary all effort will be made to have people who live together team up to complete the task. Surfaces will be sanitized.

If the drive-in worship goes well, tentative plan is to use drive-in worship through July, re-evaluating the situation in early July. The SPRC is scheduled to meet July 13 unless an earlier meeting is deemed necessary.



Time for Revolutionary Change

Good people of Jesus Christ, it is time for us to acknowledge and confront our racism and the systems and structures we have created that continue to perpetuate injustice, inequality, and violence. It is not enough for each individual to say, "my heart breaks for the families of victims of violence against black, brown, and Asian people." This is a starting point, but it does nothing to bring about change. When we do this, we become God's dedicated ones who are deaf and blind.

I could say that recent events have raised our awareness, but the recent incidents with Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and Breonna Taylor are just the most recent in decades and centuries in this country. The pandemic has taken an inordinate toll on black and brown communities, because our systems foster continued poverty and marginalization of racial ethnic minorities. We cannot simply voice regret and concern; the time has come for The United Methodist Church to work together for justice for our black family members – all children of God.

Black Lives Matter became a slogan that "those people" used to voice their anger, hurt, and displeasure. No, the truth of black lives matter emerged because story after story, incident after incident showed that it is not safe to be a black person in our twenty-first century reality. No one should have to worry that they will be stopped due to the color of his or her skin. No one should worry that they will be beaten, attacked, or killed because they "fit a profile." Young black people should not have to be told "not to run, not to make eye contact, not to approach white people," and their parents should not have to live in fear whenever their children leave home.

This is not the will of God! This is not acceptable to people who have been baptized into the spiritual community committed to building God's Holy realm on the earth. We need to work for justice. We need to crusade for peace. We need to speak up, speak out, and stand with our black brothers and sisters. We need to embrace our brown brothers and sisters as members of our family. We need to reassure our Asian siblings that they belong. We need to welcome those of every hue and color as acceptable, beloved, gifted and blessed. This cannot simply be a nice concept and a good intention. The day has come to commit our mission work to the peace and justice work of our General Board of Church and Society. It is now time to communicate to our state and federal leaders that racial justice is our highest need, our highest priority.

We must divorce racial justice from a misguided sense that this is a "political" issue, and that we should not be involved. This is a human rights issue. Moreover, it is a Christian witness for the world. We must open ourselves to be the prophetic voice of God, to allow God's message of mercy, justice, humility, peace, and unity to be heard loud and clear. In this time of pandemic anxiety, we should do nothing to contribute to people's pain and suffering, but should do all in our power to offer healing and hope.

If you cannot walk in peaceful protest, you can still write letters, make phone calls, send emails, and vote. When possible, we should rally around our ethnic communities and work to clean up, restore, and rebuild in solidarity and partnership. It is time to make our heartfelt passion concrete. We are not called to sit by and watch God's children be abused and killed. The time has come for revolutionary change. Our core values as Christians include the affirmation of all life, the glory and

goodness of God's creation, and the very real truth that God is love. As we live into our future, we will transcend our vision to confront "institutional racism," so that together we might eliminate not only the outward and visible signs, but might allow the healing Spirit of God to transform the inward and spiritual sickness.

Grace and Peace,
Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

Newsletter DEADLINE

Gleaner Deadline

Gleaner news is due Tuesday, June 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	Jackie Vos
Chloe Howey	Corey Goodell	Jessica Ford
Jeanna Hollister	Parker Knutson	
Merlyn Jones	Jean McIntyre	Food Harvest Ministry
Honduras Mission	Missionaries	
Victims of Violence and Natural Disasters		
Our shut-ins & those in nursing homes		

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

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

Parish Birthdays and Anniversaries in June

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

Mission Update from Honduras

Our most recent expenditure for the public health clinic in Limón, Colón, Honduras was \$1,400 for new parts for Cooper's motorcycle so that he can continue to go to all parts of the county supervising mosquito control, water quality and vigilant malaria testing. We have had no malaria in our county for 2 years, thanks to this important work. This month, dengue is back, so your support for these efforts are especially appreciated right now.

Amigas del Señor Monastery
Limón, Colón
Honduras

Food Harvest Ministry News

The next distribution will be from 8-10 a.m. on Saturday, June 20th at 1002 Main St., Boyceville, WI. Items will be boxed and ready for pick up.



***Father's Day is a time to remember
ALL the men in your life:
fathers, grandfathers,
uncles, cousins, friends,
and teachers***



Giving New Age, New Church June 2020

but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will fly up on wings like eagles; they will run and not be tired, they will walk and not be weary. (Isaiah 40:31)

After Superstorm Sandy, my brother's church on Long Island became the center for recovery efforts in the Mid-Atlantic. 75% sustained damage to their homes; all had neighbors affected by the storm.

Today, we are in the midst of an unprecedented urgent response and recovery effort in which every church must be a center of recovery. Unlike a hurricane, earthquake, wildfire, flood or famine, the COVID-19 pandemic affects every person and every community worldwide.

As we return to church after quarantine, we should not fall into the trap of thinking, "How do we get back to the way we were?" Rather, we ought to ask, "How can we be a better church coming out of the pandemic, than we were going in?" Economic and emotional recovery is going to be a matter of years. What will your church do to help?

Each United Methodist should be discerning his or her own and their congregation's strengths; praying and preparing to join with a small group of congregants who will identify needs in the community/nation/world. Then each group must create, fund, and carry out a plan to address those needs.

There will be children who have fallen behind in school. They will need tutoring and encouragement. There will be those who will have no job to which to return. They will need help applying for benefits, negotiating with banks, or getting enough food for their families. There will be people who continue to fall ill with the coronavirus. Fear and anxiety will continue to be widespread.

Prepare yourself for the times to come.

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

