

United Methodist Church
PO Box 94
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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
Email: shannonmattison@yahoo.com
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

October 2020

The Gleaner

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we enter into fall and are beginning to experience weather changes, I have found myself thinking how nice it is to live where we experience defined seasons. Of course, I may not be saying that when winter comes, especially when it gets icy. Even then, there is beauty to be found.

In worship we have been reading from Exodus, following the Israelites as they journey in the wilderness after escaping slavery through the reed sea. (No, this is not an error. Although it has been referred to as the red sea for years, a more accurate translation is reed sea.) After their initial escape, they sang, danced, and worshiped God. But it wasn't long before they began complaining about their leaders and reminiscing about how much better they had had it as slaves then in the wilderness their journey to a better life was taking them. We don't see them worshiping God or finding any joy in their journey.

My choice of scripture from this part of the lectionary would usually be from the Gospels, but the readings from Exodus have taken on new significance as we travel through our own wilderness this year. Wilderness journeys have a way of changing people. Some of these are positive, some not so much.

We have significant choices to make during our wilderness journey. We can complain and look back with nostalgia about the way life was, or we can embrace changes that come in the wilderness, especially those which help us through, even when they are inconvenient. We can praise God and live out our faith or we can complain and miss the joy and beauty that exists in the wilderness.

The seasons change fast during this part of the year. I hope you take some time to see the trees changing colors, the changes in the fields as they are harvested, and nature preparing itself for the winter ahead, praising God as you do.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Shannon



Congratulations to Skyler Hall of Boyceville in her baptism and becoming a member by profession of faith on September 13, 2020.

WORSHIP

Boyceville: Boyceville will continue meeting at 10 a.m. indoors. We will continue spacing ourselves and wearing masks.

Prairie Farm: Faith: Worship at 8:30 a.m. Please use only the ramp, space yourselves and wear a mask.

Wheeler: Grace: Grace has a target date of opening on the 4th of October.

Please remember at all sites to wear masks, keep physical distance, and stay home if you are ill. Boyceville will continue to put worship online after the worship service. It can be accessed through the Boyceville web site or Facebook page.

Be aware, as situations change, there is a possibility that in person worship will be suspended again.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Our charge conference has been set for Sunday, October 18 at 5:00 pm. It will be done through ZOOM. An invitation to join will be sent out to those we have email addresses when it is received. Boyceville has internet so the meeting will be accessible through the large screen TV at that site for those who do not have the capability. There should be a way to join the meeting by phone but forms will be shown on the screen so video conferencing is the best option.

CHARGE CONFERENCE PAPERWORK

All Charge Conference forms must be done and to Pastor Shannon **by September 29th.**

CONFIRMATION

Plans are being made for confirmation classes in Boyceville beginning in mid to late October. How they are held will be affected by CDC and Public Health guidelines as well as decisions of SPRC and local Ad Councils.

ADVENT

Advent is coming faster than we would expect. Look for an opportunity to join in an Advent study in next month's Gleaner.

GLEANER

If you would like to receive the Gleaner by email rather than a paper copy, please provide Tammy with your email address. Thanks. ☺



Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. (Romans 12:9-13)

This year has been difficult in so many ways. We have been tested, afflicted, frustrated, separated, masked, sprayed, disconnected and disinfected until we want to pull our hair out, shouting, "Enough!" In so many ways, it has almost been too much.

But through it all, I must admit, I am overwhelmed and deeply impressed by your faithfulness. The generosity, giving, sacrifice, and commitment of our laity and clergy across the Wisconsin Conference has never been greater. Your support of critical ministries has been unflagging and dedicated. We have seen a very small drop in our connectional giving, allowing us to continue to support key ministries. We have been able to keep our financial commitments to Harbor House Shelter, United Methodist Children's Services, and Northcott Neighborhood House. We have been able to provide crucial resourcing to our Camps at Pine Lake and Lucerne and to support our campus ministries. We have met our denominational commitments to the very best of our abilities, and this is at the Conference level.

Congregations have provided amazing ministries in their communities, continuing to worship in creative and virtual ways. Support of feeding, shelter, and crisis intervention ministries has continued unabated. Though we have not been able to engage in hands-on mission experiences this year as a Conference, many local church groups have participated in providing essential services across the state.

I need to commend you all on your abundant generosity and your sacrificial giving of time and talent in addition to financial resources. I especially want to thank the clergy and laity who have participated in peaceful demonstrations and protests across the state. I want everyone to be aware of the pastoral and spiritual aid given by our leaders to protesters, law enforcement, business owners, and residents, in Kenosha and other cities, towns, and communities around the state. The pandemic has caused us to be more cautious and considerate of others, preventing us from gathering in our sanctuaries, but it in no way has slowed the faithfulness of Wisconsin United Methodists. My beautiful people, I am so proud of you!

It is a testimony to our deep faith that we continue to give and serve in difficult times. I pray for the day when the virus will pass, the quest for equitable justice might be achieved, and we can gather together to raise our voices in worship and praise. I hope this day comes soon, but I know that in the meantime our churches will continue to witness to the goodness, the love, and the abundant generosity of our God. Thanks be to God, and thanks be to all of you.

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

NewsLetter DEADLine

Gleaner Deadline

Gleaner news is due Tuesday, October 20th.
Please contact Tammy Nelson at
715-505-2657 or rsmnelson@hotmail.com
with your news. Thanks.

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Angie Thomas	Samantha Christian	Pat Schoonover
Chloe Howey	Jackie Vos	Shannon Carufel
Jeanna Hollister	Parker Knutson	Nick Carufel
Jean McIntyre	Irene Schmidt	Virgil Schoonover
Darlene Wilcox	Marguerite Blodgett	Frisle Family (death of her sister)
Honduras Mission	Missionaries	Food Harvest Ministry
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 October

2 - Mitchell Matthaei	16 - Bob & Sharon Wyss (anniv.)
3 - Kay Jones	17 - Larry & Glenise Thomas (anniv.)
5 - Elaine Grutt	17 - Pete Bodette & LaVonne Nelson (anniv.)
5 - Terry & Vilai Wilcox (anniv.)	18 - Lori Koehler
6 - Judy Steinberger	19 - Samantha Nelson
7 - Lauren Olson	19 - Gary & Becky Dunn (anniv.)
7 - Bill & Margie Wiseman (anniv.)	23 - Kelly Dummer
8 - Chelsey Piper	25 - Harry Christian
9 - Dan Miller	25 - Tom & Kelly Dummer (anniv.)
9 - Mindy Nelson	26 - Virgil & Pat Schoonover (anniv.)
9 - Kevin Zebro	27 - Dean Frisle
10 - Ray & Carol Cherney (anniv.)	27 - Gary Dunn

Faith United Methodist Church News for October

Worship Service at 8:30 am



- To the Dean Frisle Family and crew who put up the barn quilt in the sanctuary. It is a welcoming addition. It is in memory of Rose Larson and in honor of Patsy Frisle.
- To Bill Wiseman for putting linseed oil on the ramp.

Parish Duties for October

	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Greeter/Usher</u>
October 4	Barbara Bender	Barbara Bender
October 11	Bill Wiseman	Bill Wiseman
October 18	Robin Burke	Open
October 25	Roxanne White	Roxanne White

Faith United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women met on September 10th for our Pledge Service and Election of Officers. Barbara had the Pledge Service program. Pat Frisle was Nomination Chairman for election of officers. Since all officers have served one term and are eligible for a second term, they all agreed to serve a second term. So, for 2021 they are: President, Barbara Bender; Vice-President, Pat Frisle; Secretary, Margie Wiseman; Treasurer, Kathy Neck. Margie volunteered to be on the 2024 Class of Nominations. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no Annual Fall Gathering, no potato/buttermilk pancake supper, and no UMW Sunday. Church cleaning will be October 8th at 9:00 a.m.

Charge Conference will be October 18th at Boyceville UMC at 5:00 p.m.

Have a Happy, Healthy, and Safe Halloween!!



Giving “Tis the Gift to Be Simple” October 2020

‘Tis the gift to be simple, ‘tis the gift to be free; ‘tis the gift to come down where you ought to be (Simple Gifts/Shaker Hymn, Joseph Brackett)

During the Covid-19 pandemic, most of us are living under conditions of enforced simplicity. There are fewer luxuries and entertainments to spend money on and for most of us, less traveling, shopping, and visiting. Although, some people find the forced confinement to be stressful itself, most people are, all in all, under less of the kinds of stress they usually experience.

John Wesley, in his sermon, “The Use of Money (#50),” insists that simplicity is essential for the Godly use of money. If we earn all we can honestly, then we are to save all we can, meaning retain all we can, by not using it wastefully. Rather than spending on luxury foods and personal ornaments (home, fashion, etc.), says Wesley, we should “be content with what plain nature requires.” Nor, should we lead our children into an extravagant lifestyle.

Why, then are we saving? In order to serve God through 1) supplying your own simple needs, 2) and the needs of your family and household, and then 3) giving your surplus to the “household of faith” and to other people for their simple needs. We are not the proprietors of creation, but rather the stewards of it. So, when we are planning an expenditure, Wesley advises us to ask, 1) am I acting as a proprietor or a steward? 2) am I following Scripture? 3) can I offer this as a sacrifice to God, through Jesus Christ? and 4) will this action be judged as righteous?

There are plenty of churches and people in need during the pandemic. This is a good time to get even better at God’s simplicity. As Wesley says in ending his sermon, “Give all ye have, as well as all ye are, a spiritual sacrifice to Him who withheld not from you his Son, his only Son.”

Jim Wells,

Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation Helps for the Stewardship Chair
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