

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

Return Service Requested



Newsletter of Boyceville, Prairie Farm Faith and
Wheeler 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 10:00 a.m.
Wheeler: Grace Worship Service 11:10 a.m.
Welcome

April 2021

The Gleaner

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It's hard to believe that it is just over one year since the novel Covid virus had spread and our lives changed. We found ourselves in the midst of a pandemic. Our lives were disrupted while working to flatten the curve of its spread. To do this we had to learn to do many things differently. I was reminded this week of all the resources we have at our disposal today that were not available in the pandemic of 1918-1920.

With vaccinations and caution in what we do and how we meet, there is hope that we will be back to normal by the end of the year. But what will that normal look like. Many of the ways we have learned to do things we will continue to do, some we won't.

As we come to the last week of Lent, Holy Week, I can't help but think about how the lives of those who followed Jesus were about to change. Of course, we know what happened that week as we prepare for Easter to come.

We tend to treat Easter as a one-off or one day event, the culmination of Lent. But in reality, it is a beginning. It is the first day of Eastertide. The resurrection wasn't the end of the story. Things changed and Jesus' followers had to learn how to do things with the change. Some things they would try and fail at but they would learn. In the last line of the hymn, *We Are the Church* it says that we are the church and the church is always learning. We have been learning since the beginning and we are still learning.

As has been happening the past year, things will be different this Holy Week. Two of the churches in this charge have started holding in-person worship services but there will not be mid-week services. As with the rest of Lent, alternative ways needed to be considered for mid-week services, Maunday Thursday (Holy Thursday) and Good Friday. Please see the devotional included to help you observe these two days.

It is an exciting time of the year filled with anticipation. Anticipation of the resurrection, new growth with spring, and wondering what things will be like in a new sense of normalcy.

Happy Easter,
Pastor Shannon

Sermon by Phone

The Boyceville church is offering a Sermon by Phone service. Each week you can call into our Sermon by Phone telephone number and listen to the scripture reading and sermon. The phone number is 715-309-5114. This is a Menomonee number, and it is a local phone number for Boyceville and Wheeler. There is no charge to listen to the sermon. The sermon will be available to call Sunday after 8 am. Each service will be available till the following Saturday afternoon. If you have any questions call Marguerite at 715-643-2164.

Sermon by Phone - call 715-309-5114. The message will change each week, but the phone number stays the same.

In-Person activities

UMC Boyceville and Prairie Farm: Faith have both begun in-person worship and meetings.

Worship Times

Prairie Farm: Faith - 8:30 Am

UMC Boyceville - 10:00 Am.

Wheeler Grace is planning on beginning in-person worship on April 18 with worship beginning at 11:10.

There is a shift in the times for Boyceville and Grace. With the recommendation for worship services be limited to around 30 minutes, these times allow for more travel time and will not change the ending time for Grace.

Masks and distancing are required at all worship services and meetings.

Offerings

God has blessed us to be a blessing to others. One of the ways we do this is through our offerings of prayers, our time, talents, gifts, and witness in gratitude for God's unwavering love and countless blessings. In these ways we are able to help God's love and light shine through us to others.

Some of the ways we do this is through online and in-person worship, paper worship material, and phone in worship. . We are also able to continue in other ministries such as supporting local food shelves and backpack food programs for children, coat closet, and medical ministry in Honduras. Through our apportionments we are able to help support various ministries around Wisconsin and the world. But we cannot do any of these things without your support. Check out the following information about ways to contribute.

Please continue to support your church during this time of uncertainty. Donations can be sent to:

Boyceville UMC
P.O. Box 94
Boyceville, WI 54725

Faith UMC
c/o Margie Wiseman
405 Bluff Ave. N
Prairie Farm, WI 54762

Grace UMC
P.O. Box 183
Wheeler, WI 54772

Online Giving at Boyceville

Online giving is available at Boyceville through PayPal. You do not have to have a PayPal account to use this option. There are options to make one-time donations or you can schedule a recurring donation. A space for notes is available for comments if you wish to designate part of your donation to a special project, like our Honduras Medical Mission or Apportionments. The PayPal link is on the church website: boycevilleumc.org

Holy Week

March 28-April 3, 2021

Maunday Thursday (April 1st)

The Maundy part of Maunday Thursday comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means "command or order." *Mandatum* is also the source of the word *mandate*.

Maunday Thursday is so named from words spoken by Jesus to his disciples after he washed their feet while joining in the Last Supper: "I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other," (John 13:34) He continues: "This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other." (John 13:35)

Traditionally two things happen this evening. Some churches gather to wash feet as Jesus had done. Many more gather together to remember this last supper by taking Communion. Because we will not meet for in-person worship this evening, two ways have been planned to be in community and partake in Communion.

1. On Palm/Passion Sunday pick up blessed pre-filled communion cups for each person in your household who will participate. There will also be a slip of paper with words to use on Maunday Thursday. At 7:00pm on Thursday, April 1st read the words and eat and drink the elements, remembering that others will be doing this at the same time.

2. Between 6:00-7:00 at Boyceville UMC there will be drive through Communion available. Drive through under the car port and Pastor Shannon will be there with the pre-filled communion cups.

Good Friday (April 2nd)

Why would we call a day to remember Jesus' death on a cross good? There are many words that we use contractions for today. Some of our everyday words developed over time from contractions. It is thought that good developed from a contraction of the Germanic word meaning God's or Holy. In most languages it would be translated as Holy Friday or God's Friday.

Traditionally people gather Good Friday to remember Jesus' betrayal, and death on the cross. We ponder what it all means, remembering that, while we look forward to the resurrection celebrated on Easter, those who watched Jesus die and his body placed in the tomb had no knowledge or understanding of what was to happen even though he had tried to tell them.

On this Good Friday, take some time to read John 18:1-19:42. Ponder what Jesus does and says as he is condemned and hung on the cross.

Included here is a square of paper infused with wildflower seeds and a cross drawn on it. In John 12: 24 Jesus said, " I assure you that unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it can only be a single seed. But if it dies, it bears much fruit."

Place this piece of paper under some soil in a pot, water it, and watch for what grows from the seeds. Just as Jesus' mother, disciples, and friends did not know what would come from his death, we do not know what grows from these seeds will look like. As you watch them sprout and grow over the next few weeks of Eastertide, ponder what has happened, grown from Jesus' death and resurrection.

Weekend Meal Bags

Boyceville is scheduled to deliver the weekend meal bags from WestCap to the school on Wednesday, April 21st. No packing of bags, just delivering. Bags need to be picked up from WestCap and delivered to the middle school and elementary school between 1-2 pm. Contact Marguerite if you would like to help.

Food Harvest Ministry News

The next Food Harvest Ministry distribution will be from 8-10 a.m. on Saturday, April 17th at 1002 Main St., Boyceville, WI. Items will be boxed and ready for pick up. Volunteers are needed to unload the truck and pack boxes on Thursday, April 15th.

Missions at Boyceville

For a hands-on mission project, we will be putting together Personal Dignity Kits at the Boyceville UMC. All items need to be new and no deodorants in aerosol cans. Note that a \$2 cash donation is requested for toothpaste and razor to be added at Midwest Mission. The money should be placed in the bag. Items need to be at the church by Sunday May 30th. Cash donations are welcome too. A member of the mission team will be happy to shop for you.

Personal Dignity Kit

1 Bath Hand Towel - No kitchen towels

1 Bath Washcloth - No kitchen towels

1 Adult Toothbrush - No multipacks

1 Bar Soap - 3-4 oz

1 Shampoo - 15-18 oz

1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz, stick roll on or pump

Place items in a 1-gallon resealable plastic bag

\$2 for toothpaste and razor



Samantha Christian Pat Schoonover
Chloe Howey Jackie Vos
Jeanna Hollister Parker Knutson
Family & Friends of Gaylord Johnson
Family & Friends of David Forrest
Family & Friends of Dick Zimmerman
Family & Friends of Michelle Knutson
Victims of Violence and Natural Disasters
Our shut-ins & those in nursing homes

Virgil Schoonover
Irene Schmidt
Gary Kahl
Gloria Kahl

Food Harvest Ministry
Honduras Mission

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.

Ingathering 2021

All churches are encouraged to begin gathering the supplies for Personal Dignity Kits and Homecare Kits. The list of supplies needed for those kits are found below. Items can be put together in kit form as indicated, or they can be donated separately. Monetary donations can also be made. Please have donations to your church by June 1st so they can be taken to the drop-off site. Thanks.

Personal Dignity Kit

1 Bath Hand towel – no kitchen towels
1 Bath Washcloth – no kitchen towels
1 Adult Toothbrush – No multipacks
1 Bar Soap – 3-4 Oz.
1 Shampoo - 15-18 oz.
1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz. stick, roll on or pump
Place items in a 1-gallon resealable plastic bag – video at www.midwestmission.org
\$2 for tooth paste and razor

Homecare Kit

2 Liquid Household Cleaners 16 -40 oz (no spray bottles)
2 Dish Soaps
2 Liquid Laundry Detergents 32-64 oz.
1 scrub brush with or without handle
Place items into a 5-gallon resealable bucket with a resealable cover

Gleaner Deadline

The logo features the word "Newsletter" in a blue, serif font with a yellow underline. Below it, the word "DEADLINE" is written in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font with a white outline and a slight shadow effect.

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

Parish Birthdays and Anniversaries in April

2 - Corey Goodell	
2 - Terry Wilcox	18 - Stephen Silvius
2 - Chase Quast	18 - Oscar Wyss
3 - Shanoah Harren	19 - Marvin Jones
3 - Kathy Neck	19 - Gloria Ford
4 - Robin Burke	20 - Gloria Solberg
	23 - Gerald Schlottman
10 - Penny Koehler	26 - Cody Smith
	28 - James Hall
13 - Carolyn Tireman	28 - Bucky Nelson
13 - Donna Otto	28 - Steven Nelson
14 - Pat Frisle	30 - Rick Schmidt

Faith United Methodist Church News for April

Worship Service at 8:30 am

Remember to wear masks and we will be socially distanced.

	Lay Reader	Greeter/Usher
April 4	Bill Wiseman	Bill Wiseman
April 11	Roxanne White	Roxanne White
April 18	Frisles	Frisles
April 25	Barbara Bender	Barbara Bender

Faith United Methodist Women

The Faith UMW met on Friday, March 5th for our first meeting of 2021. Following our business meeting, Pat Frisle had the Call to Prayer & Self Denial program. Our next meeting will be Friday, April 9th at 1 p.m. Ila Knutson has the program. We plan to do some of the kits for Annual Conference.

THRIFT SALE APRIL 29-30 & MAY 1ST IN THE PRESCHOOL AND CHURCH BASEMENT

If you have items to donate to either place, we would welcome them. If you wish to sell your items, we will have a table in the basement for you. Please have your items priced and marked with your initials. Bring donations to the church on Saturday, April 17th or April 24th. The door will be open all day after 8 a.m. If you need to drop off your items on a different day/time, please contact Barb Bender at 715-455-1471



Easter Blessings



Light
There is light ahead.
April 2021

"The way of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, which shines ever brighter until the full light of day." ~Proverbs 4:18, NLT

How is your Lent going? Does it feel long, dark, and empty? Lent can feel that way when we give up fun activities or foods that we like. This year in particular, we are also still dealing with the pandemic. Closed or limited occupancy to our favorite places, the need to stay away from people, and the illness and death rates all increase the feeling of darkness. But is that it? Is that all there is?

There is light ahead. Literally there is light ahead when you look at when the sun sets in the next few weeks. The sun set at 7:37p.m. at the end of March. It will set in April at 8:30p.m. May: 9:17p.m. June: 9:34p.m. There are brighter days ahead.

There is light ahead. On a dark morning, the women will come to the tomb just to find it empty. Christ arose! Christ arose!

There is light ahead. The virus will be beaten down. Our communities will open up. We will be able to see and hug our families again. Our church will open up again. But what will be left of our church? What have we given to the church to sustain it during this long haul? How have we given of our time, talents, and treasures over the last few months... and how will we give for Easter and the next few months to make sure we can continue our church's mission and ministry?

Be the light now so it can burn brighter later!

Rev. Krystal Goodger, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

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

