

*Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,*

Although the weather is still a little unsettled yet, it is evident we have entered a new season here in Wisconsin. You can't miss the road work signs along State Highway 170. As soon as the weather permits, we are used to road work as evident by the saying that we have two seasons, winter and road work. I was reminded today that road work is not something new. It takes the form of the path created by animals walking the same route everyday to four and six lane or more highways.

It is interesting to find evidence of the path of roads being changed over the years. If you look closely, there is at least one such place between where highway 25 separates from 64 towards Ridgeland and county road O. There are many places around the world where modern roads intersect with those from centuries ago. The image of paths or roads is found in the Bible.

"Don't remember the prior things; don't ponder ancient history. <sup>19</sup> Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness." (Isaiah 43: 18-19 CEB)

These particular verses seem to have greater relevance to us today than perhaps it did a short time ago. We have been in our own wilderness experience for a little more than a year now. As we look forward to coming out of it in hopefully the near future it is good to remember that it was in the wilderness that God prepared the Israelites to leave slavery behind so that they could live in the promised land. It was in the wilderness that God prepared Jesus for the road he would take. And in our own wilderness, even though everyone has not been of the same mind, we have all been prepared by God for what is to come.

In this wilderness we have learned ways of doing things differently than we had before. As we pray that our promised land will soon be here, Isaiah tells us that God is doing a new thing and asks "don't you recognize it?" Many of us may not agree with the statement in Isaiah that we shouldn't "remember the prior things;...ponder ancient history." We have learned that knowing where we have come from can help us move forward but there is a truth in what is said here. When we become caught up in the past and desiring everything to be as it was, we are in danger of missing the "new thing" that God is causing to "sprout up," the new "way in the desert, paths in the wilderness."

As we look with hope towards this pandemic which has disrupted our lives, as well as showing us new ways of doing things, it is now our job to discern which of these we are to keep if we are to continue working toward making the kin-dom of God a reality on earth.

Grace and peace.

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 Menomonie 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 715-651-7880.

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

## **In-Person activities**

All three churches are back to having in-person worship and meetings.

### **Worship Times**

Prairie Farm: Faith - 8:30 a.m.

UMC Boyceville - 10:00 a.m.

Wheeler Grace - 11:10 a.m.

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.**

## **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](https://boycevilleumc.org)

## **Weekend Meal Bags**

Boyceville is scheduled to deliver the weekend meal bags from WestCap to the school on Wednesday, May 19th. 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.

## 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.

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

## 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

## Food Harvest Ministry News

The next Food Harvest Ministry distribution will be from 8-10 a.m. on Saturday, May 15th 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, May 13th.



IN OUR

# Thoughts and Prayers



Samantha Christian      Pat Schoonover  
Chloe Howey              Jackie Vos  
Jeanna Hollister        Parker Knutson  
Ray Cherney             Gloria Kahl  
Our shut-ins & those in nursing homes

Virgil Schoonover  
Rex Nicholson  
Gary 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://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

## *Parish Birthdays and Anniversaries in May*

1 - Lynn Smith  
5 - Janice Salsbury  
7 - Hunter Wilcox  
13 - Lynn & Sherry Smith (anniv.)  
14 - Faye Krueger  
17 - Alan Walk  
17 - Vilai Wilcox  
18 - Gary Frisle  
20 - Marguerite Blodgett  
20 - Allissa Frisle

23 - Adam Carufel  
23 - Angela Wyss  
23 - Gary & Pat Frisle (anniv.)  
24 - Jacob Carufel  
24 - Raymond Delong  
27 - Daisy Turner  
30 - Odella Harvey  
31 - Dan & Dellene Miller (anniv.)

**Grilled Chicken Dinner**  
**Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**At the Wheeler Grace United Methodist Church**  
  
**Take out only**

## **Do You Have Special Skills?**

Stepping Stones wants to see YOUR special skills in action!

The Community Connections Program at Stepping Stones strives to connect volunteers to neighbors to provide free supportive services which often enable people to live independently longer. Jill would like to expand her volunteer pool and help more community members be able to stay safely in their homes. In order to do that, she needs YOU to let her know what you are good at (and yes, everyone is good at SOMETHING)! Some of the skills could include things like:

- The ability to fix a running toilet
- Replace a broken door
- Fix a washer or dryer
- Repairing a ripped window screen
- Replacing a deck board or stair
- Helping to build a wheelchair ramp
- Or....(insert your special skill here)

The list goes on, and I am sure there are some skills you didn't even know we needed! So, let's see what you've got!

If you have a heart for helping, please call (715-235-2920 ext. 204) or email

([communityconnect@steppingstonesdc.org](mailto:communityconnect@steppingstonesdc.org)) Jill and see how you can help. When she gets a request in the community, she will let you know when your particular skills are needed. If you work better as a team, then sign your buddy up as well (Shhhhhh, we won't tell!)? Simply put, we cannot help the community without great community members like yourself...thank you for being YOU!

## **Gleaner Deadline**

**NewsLetter**  
**DEADLine**

Gleaner news is due Tuesday, May 25th.  
Please contact Tammy Nelson at  
715-505-2657 or [rtsmnelson@hotmail.com](mailto:rtsmnelson@hotmail.com)  
with your news. Thanks. ☺

## Help the Homeless Estate Sale

In 2020, with Covid, our annual fundraiser did not happen, but we can do a fundraiser for the homeless this spring and you can help!

The Boyceville area garage sales are happening May 6-9<sup>th</sup> and we have an opportunity. Gaylord Johnson's family has generously donated items for us to host an estate sale at Gaylord's home in Boyceville. Additionally, we have stored items generously donated from the family of Dawn Rogers (which we were saving for our next help the homeless fundraiser). We felt this was a great chance to do our Help the Homeless Mission project!

We also are giving **you** the chance to donate any unwanted items for the event! We will accept items on April 27 & 29 from 5-7 pm at 1333 Tiffany Street (runs by OHLY) which was Gaylord's home. For an alternate time please call Doreen or Carol.

We need volunteers who would like to help set up, price, or work the sale. The more the merrier! For more information you can contact Doreen Olson 715-949-1621 or Carol Cherney 715-643-2141.

Help the Homeless Fundraiser funds go to Stepping Stones in Menomonie, WI.

### Help the Homeless Estate Sale

Accepting Donations at 1333 Tiffany Street

April 27 5-7 pm

April 29<sup>th</sup> 5-7pm

Or by appointment

call Carol @715-643-2141 or Doreen@715-949-1621

### Estate Sale at 1333 Tiffany Street

Thursday May 6, 3-7

Friday May 7<sup>th</sup>, 8-5

Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup>, 8-2



# *Faith United Methodist Church News for May*

## **Worship Service at 8:30 am**

**Remember to wear masks and we will be socially distanced.**

Thank you:

- To Gary and Pat Frisle for their monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Shirley Christopherson.
- To Kathy Christopherson for the monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Margaret O'Flanagan.
- To Tim and Darcy Hafele for monetary donations toward the support of the church ever since they have been coming, even in January and February when we didn't have in-church worship. It is appreciated and you are always welcome.
- To the UMW for purchasing two Easter Lilies for the altar.
- To Dawn Schauer for the monetary donation to the little old country church where she grew up. Fond memories! What a wonderful family!
- To Bill Wiseman for repairing the loose lattice piece on the ramp.
- To Leslie Frisle for changing banners and floral arrangements in the sanctuary.

	<b>Lay Reader</b>
May 2	Robin Burke
May 9	Roxanne White
May 16	Open
May 23	Barbara Bender
May 30	Bill Wiseman

<b>Greeter/Usher</b>
Robin Burke
Roxanne White
Open
Barbara Bender
Bill Wiseman

**GARAGE  
SALE**

**GARAGE SALE APRIL 29-30 & MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>  
8-4 p.m.  
IN THE PRESCHOOL AND CHURCH  
BASEMENT**

## *Faith United Methodist Women*

Faith United Methodist Women met on April 9<sup>th</sup>. We decided to make five Personal Dignity kits for the in-gathering for Conference. Margie has already made five which she is contributing. She will purchase the extra items for the additional five kits. We sent \$25 to the District Treasurer which will be sent to our mission in Bolivia along with other offerings collected at our Spring Day of Enrichment which is May 1<sup>st</sup>. A committee of Robin Burke, Roxanne White, Pat Frisle, and Leslie Frisle was appointed to make plans for the June 29<sup>th</sup> serving in the Ridgeland Park. Ila Knutson presented a most interesting program on diversity with beautiful illustrations. Our next meeting will be June 4<sup>th</sup>. Kathy Neck has the program.

Administrative Council is May 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Graduation Sunday is May 16<sup>th</sup>, honoring Brooke Salisbury.

## Change Nothing stays the same May 2021

*"In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see." ~In the Bulb there is a Flower, Natalie Sleeth, UMH # 707*

There is nothing like a crisis to help us to reset priorities. With Covid-19 we have witnessed job layoffs, deaths, social and economic upheavals, and health emergencies. Despite our natural resistance to change, we are learning new ways to live. On account of Covid 19, what personal priorities have you reset?

Toilet paper. Seriously. Will we ever take lowly "TP" for granted again? Toilet paper is just one of the countless everyday blessings that the pain of COVID-19 has taught us to savor – along with worshiping beside loved ones, going to work, getting paid, shopping, going to the movies, and on and on. (What's on your list?)

We are not just individuals; we are brothers and sisters in Christ. As a follower of Jesus, what priorities have you rearrange? How will the Holy Spirit guide us to a "new normal" of holy living as both disciples and community that will be different – and better – than what we have known?

May the "new normal" find us better stewards of our lives -- less greedy, less self-focused, less preoccupied with silly things, and more centered in Christ, more loving to our neighbor, more generous, more hopeful, and more tolerant.

Rev. Krystal Goodger, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Visit the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at [www.wumf.org](http://www.wumf.org) or [Facebook/wumf.org](https://www.facebook.com/wumf.org)  
or call 1-888-903-9863



# May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8-4pm Faith Garage Sale
2 Worship	3	4	5	6 3-7pm Help the Homeless Estate Sale	7 8-5pm Help the Homeless Estate Sale	8 8-2pm Help the Homeless Estate Sale
9 Worship Mother's Day	10	11	12	13 Packing boxes for Food Harvest Ministry 7pm Faith Ad Council	14	15 8-10am Food Harvest Ministry Distribution
16 Worship Graduation Sunday	17	18	19 1-2pm Delivering backpacks for WestCAP program	20	21	22
23 Worship	24	25 Gleaner items due!	26	27	28	29
30 Worship	31 Memorial Day					

# The Gleaner

May 2021

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



Return Service Requested

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