

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 Vicky Strupp  
Parsonage: 715-749-6351  
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

August 2021

The Gleaner

*O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. 1  
Chronicles 16:34*

Dear Church Family,

I'd like to express my thanks for the wonderful welcome you have given Jim and me. We're grateful for the food, laughter, and stories you've shared in just a few short weeks.

In her book, *One Thousand Gifts*, Ann Voskamp recounts her journey from despair to joy. Her perspective changed radically when she began to literally count her blessings: numbering them in a notebook she kept on her kitchen counter. She learned an important lesson that we can learn too-- that stress can be an addiction and worry can be a grasp for control. How can we find the joy that God's word tells us is possible?

Scientific research shows that gratitude improves our health-- emotionally, spiritually, and physically. Let me urge you to look around with eyes of appreciation and give thanks for the many blessings God has given. Then... tell a friend. Thankfulness is contagious!

I look forward to getting to know all of you! We'll find ways to make that happen. I look forward to participating in your traditions and finding new ways to minister to our communities together. I am grateful to be your pastor.

With thankfulness,

Pastor Vicky



On Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a short program and potluck meal at noon at the Boyceville United Methodist Church to welcome Pastor Vicky to our church family. All are welcome!



## “Consider the Lilies”

Relationship is the essence of creation. We live as created and Creator, as well as sibling, partner, and members of the interdependent life we are given. God has created in such a way that everyone's faithfulness is needed to live well. We live each day trusting each person will keep to one lane on the road. We are a 'love your neighbor' religion. More deeply, Jesus also asked us to consider the lilies.

Let us reflect for a moment on our relationship with creation. According to the July second issue of *The Week*, 72% of the west is under severe drought conditions as it is reckoned according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, and more than 25% is in an 'exceptional' drought, the most extreme category. The current drought is on track to become the worst in at least 1200 years according to Kathleen Johnson of University of California: Irvine. For many, wildfire is now a climate condition and not a season. According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the entire Badger state is impacted by global climate change. Communities of color, tribal nations, and low-income communities feel the impact physically and economically when we experience deaths due to extreme heat and flooding events impact drinking water. Toxic waste is often left behind in our cities. A spiritual and physical staple to Native Americans in Wisconsin, wild rice is an early indicator of climate change. Wild rice is vulnerable to a range of climate impacts, from changes in water levels to increases in temperature. Climate change may move the plant's habitat farther north, which threatens a way of life for many tribal nations in Wisconsin. These conditions and many more cry out for climate justice.

While some may deny the human impact on climate change, our faith calls us to respect the nest that God has given us and our neighbor. When Genesis 1:26 says, 'let them have dominion over...' that word we render, 'dominion' in the Hebrew means, 'responsible care.' It is the care of shepherding the whole for the purposes of the shepherd. In Philippians 2:5-11, Paul reminds the church that, 'he emptied himself.' God's self-emptying in Jesus Christ is the way of God's living in the world for the redemptive and salvific good of creation. If we join God where God is, we live in ways that empty our consumption patterns of waste. We empty our lives of greed, and we consider living with the earth in ways that more functionally love our neighbors. God's self-giving in Jesus the Christ does not worry about running out of self-giving compassion but trusts that self-giving love is enough for the healing of the universe.

It sometimes costs more to change the light fixtures in the church or make cooling and heating systems more energy efficient. Once the windows are installed, we have made a long-standing decision about efficiency. Perhaps the pandemic taught us that we can be nimble about ministry and rely less on buildings. Might we make these considerations more easily if the earth were in our prayers? Climate justice is another way of increasing racial justice and radical inclusion. John Wesley called us to personal and social holiness. What might happen to our social holiness if we regularly and prayerfully considered the lilies? What might be our witness if the church's self-giving cared for the planet and its people more than the church's preservation? Let's consider our carbon footprint and planetary health as an opportunity to witness to our reliance on Jesus the Christ who's self-giving makes us whole. Thank you for your ministry in the world God loves.

Gratefully,

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

## 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.

## *Scripture Readers for Boyceville*

	Reader
Aug. 1	Carol Cherney
Aug. 8	Glenise Thomas
Aug. 15	Merlyn Jones
Aug. 22	Earl Blodgett
Aug. 29	Carol Cherney
Sept. 5	Merlyn Jones



Members and those who attended the Boyceville UMC worship service, Thank you for hosting the wonderful program and going away party and gift. We do not always know why God brings us together for a time, but we know there is a reason. God bless you as you transition to your next pastor. Grace and peace,  
Shannon

## **Operation: Back to School Boyceville Mission Project for August**

It's that time of year again to collect school supplies. Last year West Cap, with the help of donors just like you, provide school supplies to in Boyceville, Colfax, Elk Mound, Glenwood City and Menomonie School Districts. Supplies needed: large backpacks, spiral notebooks, folders, pens, pencils, washable markers, 24 count crayons, colored pencils, scissors, pencil boxes/pouches, loose leaf paper, highlighters, basic & scientific calculators, 3-ring binders, glue & glue sticks, rulers, pencil sharpeners, dry erase markers, black sharpie markers, USB/flash drives, and erasers. Don't want to shop, we will be collecting cash donations. The noisy can will be making its way around in Boyceville until Sunday August 11th. Let's fill up that Noisy Can. Thank you for your support. All school supplies are due at the church by Sunday August 11th.

IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*

Samantha Christian      Pat Schoonover  
Chloe Howey              Rex Nicholson  
Jeanna Hollister        Parker Knutson  
Family & Friends of Virgil Schoonover  
Food Harvest Ministry  
Our shut-ins & those in nursing homes

Gloria Kahl  
Gary Kahl

Honduras Mission

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

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

*Parish Birthdays and Anniversaries in August*

2 - Jessica Hiben  
2 - Anita Harvey

7 - Jared Kegen  
8 - Sandy Christian

8 - Leslie Olson  
9 - Mason Nelson  
10 - Hunter Jones  
13 - Zackery Smith  
14 - Anthony Wilcox  
17 - Jessica Gove-Minor

21 - Pat Schoonover  
21 - Dusty Harren  
21 - Ray & Karen Wreford (anniv.)  
23 - Russell Roemhild  
25 - Edna Forrest  
25 - Gary Kahl  
25 - Earl & Marguerite Blodgett (anniv.)  
27 - Larissa Krueger  
30 - Jerry Neck  
31 - Ila Knutson  
31 - Gary & Ila Knutson (anniv.)

**Food Harvest Ministry News**

The next Food Harvest Ministry distribution will be from 8-10 a.m. on Saturday, August 21st 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, August 19th.

**Gleaner Deadline**

Gleaner news is due Tuesday, August 24th. Please contact Tammy Nelson at 715-505-2657 or [rtsmnelson@hotmail.com](mailto:rtsmnelson@hotmail.com) with your news. Thanks. ☺

**NewsLetter**  
**DEADLine**

# *Faith United Methodist Church News for August*

Worship Service at 8:30 am



- To all who helped/contributed to the Baked Potato Bar at the Ridgeland Park.
- To the Salsbury Family for the monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Shirley Christopherson.
- To Chris and Robin Burke for the monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Shirley Christopherson.
- To Barbara Bender for the monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Shirley Christopherson.
- To Chris and Robin Burke for the monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Ron LaBlanc.
- To Barbara Bender for the monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Ron LaBlanc.
- To Lay Readers: Roxanne White, Barbara Bender, and Bill Wiseman.

	<b>Lay Reader</b>	<b>Greeter/Usher</b>
August 1	Roxanne White	Roxanne White
August 8	Barbara Bender	Barbara Bender
August 15	Frisle	Open
August 22	Bill Wiseman	Bill Wiseman
August 29	Open	Open

## *Faith United Methodist Women*

Faith United Methodist Women just received word that Roxanne White will not be able to be off work on August 6<sup>th</sup>. The other office worker's Mom is having knee replacement that day and just turned in the request for the day off, so Roxanne needs to be there since she has the program. We will discuss this Sunday and will let everyone know the alternate plan.



Our sympathy to the family of Sylvia Willmott. Sylvia, a former member, 83, passed away on July 16<sup>th</sup> at the hospital in Mankato, MN. Her husband, Tom, passed away in 2003. They had 3 girls and 3 boys---all are living. Sylvia leaves 19 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. She will be buried in SD.

Administrative Council will be in September.



## Summer God is Not on Vacation! August 2021

Matthew 6:34~ "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

The pace of August is often hectic and life (yours, your children's, your family's) takes you in many directions. But let us remember, God does not take a summer vacation! God is always here for us, so should not we make time for God this summer?

The church is not closed during the summer, we are still open! We still worship on Sundays! The pastor continues to preach sermons and the secretary still writes and prints the bulletin. The pianists prepare and practice each week to lead music in worship. The ushers and greeters show up each Sunday and the communion stewards set up communion. The church is open for worship!

So, I invite you to make church part of your summer plans. When you are in town, I invite you to come to worship. (Though sleeping in may sound fun, remember, God doesn't sleep in.) When you are out of town, I encourage you to find a church wherever you may be. If you cannot find a church, try to worship as a family. Sing hymns, read scriptures, and ask one another where they see God present.

Church is an important part of Christian discipleship. It is good for you to be with other Christians and with God. It is good for you to give of your time, talents, and treasures. It is good for you to recharge and recenter.

It may be nice outside, but don't forget you also need Sun-shine!

What are your summer plans? School may be out, but church is not. Summer is here. Enjoy the Sun-shine!

Rev. Krystal Goodger, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation  
Contact us at: 608-837-9582 or [kgoodger@wumf.org](mailto:kgoodger@wumf.org).

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

