The Gleaner

November 2022

Mewsletter 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 9:45 a.m. Wheeler: Grace Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Welcome



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

Return Service Requested

Thoughts from Pastor Vícky

As I write this, we are returning from the wedding of our niece, which took place in a charming venue in Lookout Mountain, Georgia. It is a joy to spend time with family in a beautiful place, and it is always heartwarming to witness two people pledge their love for one another "till death do us part." But I was reminded a few days earlier that love is not best expressed in candle-lit dinners and dancing. It's in the everyday ways we put others before ourselves.

Jim and I were staying in a tiny-house Airbnb. I had briefly stepped outside and cut my foot in a spot I couldn't see. I could just feel the flap of skin. Jim painstakingly cleaned out every speck of dirt, then warned me before he used the hand sanitizer. (OUCH!) He then super-glued it. A bandage would not have been adequate.

Brothers and sisters, there are myriad ways we can show the love of God, whether to our spouses, children, friends or strangers. When we take the time to bind up wounds of others, to listen, to care for them, we are doing the same for Jesus.

Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.'

Matthew 25:44-45

Grace and peace,

Pastor Vicky

Charge Conference will be Thursday, November 17th at Prairie Farm Faith with potluck supper at 5:15 p.m. followed by Charge Conference at 6:00 p.m.





Siblings in Christ,

Consider the power of a life called by God. Such a life is to live by listening, a life of utter reliance on the one who sustains the calling, and a life that trusts God will equip what God calls. Whether a nurse or teacher or clergy person, a calling is lived in humble trust. We trust that God is enough, and we are enough to God. We are all called to the ministry of the baptized, to accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves. Life is a process of discovery and trust that each day calls us forward and deeper into the 'yes' of Christ crucified.

I write to thank all of you who have offered the witness of your, 'yes,' to a calling. In this month of October when we celebrate clergy appreciation month, I want to speak my appreciation of you, clergy. Local Pastors, Deacons, Elders, retired clergy continuing to serve, and to you who may be spiritual leaders not yet with clergy credentials—but on the journey—thank you for your ministry!

I think of my life and consider not only my call, but my beloved spouse, Rev. Im. My brother, Rev Heekwon, saying yes to a clergy calling after teaching business with advanced degrees. Yesterday at the installation of Rev. Park Hunter in the North East District, we were blessed to see the callings of choir members, clergy couples and clergy spouses offering support, former superintendents and mentors. Wisconsin is blessed with gifted clergy leaders!

According to the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, nationally, young elders, those age 35 or younger, declined again in 2021 to 721--lower than the previous low of 852. There is a decline of young deacons since 2019 by 23%. 38% of Wisconsin clergy appointed to churches have been in their appointment three years or less—and they are trying to build pastoral relationships across a pandemic and via electronic means of communication. The Wisconsin Conference has 27 clergy serving in their retirement trying to navigate the pandemic and electronic forms of worship, some for the first time.

Ministry has always been hard enough to require both lay and clergy to rely on God and disorienting enough for us to take God's hand whenever it comes. I offer ten concrete ways to show appreciation for your clergy person.

- 1. Pray for your clergy persons. Deeply, earnestly, and honestly pray for their ministry.
- 2. Advocate for an increase in compensation and work to improve your congregation's financial stewardship.
- 3. Serve. Teach. Organize. Your service leads by example and blesses the body.
- 4. Hold accountable gossip and complaining that does not address people directly.
- 5. Visit someone who is grieving or sick or shut-in on behalf of the community of faith.
- 6. Speak well of your pastor in the church and community.
- 7. Share with your clergy something specific that you appreciated about her or his ministry.
- 8. Attend classes that your clergy person offers. Support them with your presence.
- 9. Help others in your congregation respect the clergyperson's Sabbath day.
- 10. Make sure your clergy person takes regular times of vacation and gets away for continuing education.

Siblings, what you pay attention to grows. Pay attention to stewardship or mission or service—and they grow. Pay attention to the voice that may be calling you. Pay attention to the office of pastor or deacon and its value and impact will only increase—as will the people in that office. Thank you, each of you, for your ministry. Know that I am praying for you.

In the hope that Christ offers us, Hee-Soo Jung Bishop, Wisconsin Conference

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 4 pm. 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.

The sermon is also available on the United Methodist Church of Boyceville facebook page: and their website: boycevilleumc.org.

Scripture Readers for Boyceville

Reader November 6 Open November 13 Open November 20 Open November 27 Open

Boyceville Coffee Time

Coffee Time will be after the service on November 13 and 27th. Irene Schmidt, Roseanne Wurtzler and Dephine Danovsky will serve on the 13th. Sheila Hegeman and Shelby Bauer will serve on the 27th.

Confirmation kids will be the ushers during the month of November.

Food Harvest Ministry News

The next Food Harvest Ministry distribution will be from 7-9 a.m. on Saturday, November19th 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, November 17th.



Mission News for Boyceville



Angel Tree – Mission Project for November and December

Come November the Noisy Can will make the rounds as we get ready to "adopt" 12 children for Christmas this year. As soon as we hear from WestCap with the needs and wishes of the children we will get the tags on the tree. Of course, cash donations are always welcome if you would like us to shop for you.

Blessing Box

The Blessing Box continues to have visitors both taking needed items and dropping off items. Thanks to generous donations of cash and items we have a nicely stocked pantry to continue to keep the Blessing Box well stocked. With the weather turning colder we will soon have to go to mostly dry packaged items, since canned goods will freeze. Dry soup mixes, single serving items that just need water, granola bars, powdered milk, etc. are all good items to stock the box with. Thank you for your support as we continue to reach out to the community.



Coat Closet Distribution: 510 Winter St., Boyceville (entrance in the alley behind buildings)

Saturday, October 29 9am-12pm Saturday, November 5 9am-12pm Saturday, November 12 9am-12pm Saturday, November 19 9am-12pm

Call Sonya Zebro for more info 715-308-8435



Parker Knutson Gloria Kahl Rex Nicholson Angela Jackson Irene Schmidt Amanda Roper Sister Confianza Sister Alegria Family & Friends of Jessica Ford Family & Friends of Mary Kegen Family & Friends of Jeff Kegen Honduras Mission People in Ukraine Coat Closet Food Harvest Ministry Our shut-ins & those in nursing homes

Vernon Swinson Nancy Smith Robert Howe Julie Babbitt

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries in November

- 4 Madison Harren
- 4 Judy Schlottman
- 4 Roger Smith
- 5 Carol Cherney
- 5 Justyne Frisle
- 6 Irene Schmidt
- 9 Gina Harren
- 11 Kim Smith
- 14 Dean & Leslie Frisle (anniv.)

- 21 Lori Feyen
- 22 Courtney Walk
- 23 Margie Wiseman
- 23 Barbara Bender
- 24 Eva Mewes
- 27 Russ White
- 27 Jerry Olson
- 29 Dylan Hanson
- 29 Julie Babbitt



Gleaner Deadline

Gleaner news is due by noon on Tuesday, November 22nd. Please contact Tammy Nelson at 715-505-2657 or <u>rtsmnelson@hotmail.com</u> with your news. Thanks.



Soup n'Fixin's for Missions

Thursday November 10th 4 – 7 pm United Methodist Church of Boyceville 904 St. John St.

Assorted soups, fixin's, desserts and beverages.

Free Will Offering. Take out available.

All proceeds go to mission projects.



There will be an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 20th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Boyceville.

Worship Service at 8:30 am

Thank you:

- To Brian Minor for purchasing the potatoes because Lyle was hospitalized with pneumonia. Also, for the use of his cutter—it works so well.
- To Charlotte Bottolfson for making that delicious lefse for the bake sale---that alone made for onethird of our sales.
- To all who contributed/participated/worked for our pancake supper. It wouldn't have happened without you; you see the success when we all work together.
- To Roxanne White for being persistent (she wanted to see if we could do it) for the organizing, planning, and giving of many hours, along with her smiles and caring ways.
- To Pastor Vicky and Jim for giving of their labors of love and energy when also meeting the community.
- To Bill Wiseman for putting linseed oil on the ramp. Also, for his trapping skills—live trapped a skunk which was under the education building.
- To Chris and Robin Burke for a monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Darrin Loofboro.
- To Gary and Ila Knutson for a monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of DeWayne Wirth.
- To Lay Readers: Roxanne White, Jim Strupp, and Bill Wiseman.
- To Coffee Servers: Roxanne White and UMW—UMF.

	Lay Reader	Greeter/Usher	Coffee/Snack
November 6	Open	Open	Open
November 13	Roxanne White	Roxanne White	Roxanne White
November 20	Bill Wiseman	Bill Wiseman	Barbara Bender
November 27	Open	Open	Open

Faith United Methodist Women - United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith will not be meeting in October on the 21st as scheduled for our annual church cleaning. Instead, we all agreed to do what we did last year and to do it whenever we wanted—some is already done. Thanks to all. Our next meeting will be on November4th at 1:00 p.m. for our Thank Offering program. Robin Burke is in charge. We had our UMW Sunday on the 16th with Barbara Bender speaking about "Embracing Change" and sharing information about Midwest Mission.

Charge Conference will be Thursday, November 17th at Prairie Farm with potluck supper at 5:15 p.m. followed by Charge Conference at 6:00 p.m.

We will be assembling our new Christmas Tree on November 20th after worship and coffee.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!!!!!



Accomplish the Impossible November 2022

"God is looking for people through whom He can do the impossible – what a pity that we plan only the things we can do by ourselves." - A.W. Tozer

I recently ran across a story that highlights the power of partnership. In the latter part of the nineteenth century, when the Methodist church was holding its denominational convention, one leader stood up and shared his vision both for the church and society at large. He told the ministers and evangelists how he believed someday men would fly from place to place instead of merely traveling on horseback. But it was a concept too outlandish for many members of his audience to handle.

One minister, Bishop Wright, stood up and angrily protested, "Heresy!" he shouted. "Flight is reserved for the angels!" He went on to elaborate that if God had intended for man to fly, God would have given him wings. Clearly the bishop was unable to envision what the speaker was predicting.

When Bishop Wright finished his brief protest, he gathered up his two sons, Orville and Wilbur, and left the auditorium.

That's right. His sons were Orville and Wilbur Wright. And several years later, on December 17, 1903, those two sons did what their father called impossible. They made four flights that day. The first lasted only 12 seconds, but the fourth lasted 59 seconds and took them 852 feet.

Soon the Wright brothers had built the first practical airplane, the Flyer III, and by 1908, the brothers had demonstrated an improved model in France that flew 60 miles in less than two hours.

The brothers partnered together to accomplish the impossible – and in the process, they changed the world.

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation Contact me at: 608-837-9582 or jmahnke@wumf.org

Visit the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at www.wumf.org or Facebook/wumf.org or call 1-888-903-9863