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

December 2022

The Gleaner

### Thoughts from Pastor Vicky

Dear Church Family,

Before we rush into the Christmas frenzy, let us take time to observe Advent. The Scriptures we read in our worship services remind us of Israel's longing for their Messiah, and that this Messiah, who came to us as a baby, will come again in glory. That IS Good News! Prepare the way of the Lord!

December provides an opportunity each year for us all to look back and take stock; to look forward and dream. I invite you to ponder in your heart the awesome, life-changing gift of Jesus Christ, and to give thanks for the ways we have seen God at work in us and through us in the past year.

I'd like to share a benediction appropriate for this season of joy and giving:

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. May God bless you.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Vicky



## TO FULFILL WHAT THE LORD HAD SPOKEN BY THE PROPHET.

Matthew 1:22, ESV



And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed everyone into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David. To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in the manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.



The United Methodist Church of Boyceville and the Glen Hills Parish United Methodist Churches of Downing and Glenwood City

invite you to a Service of Hope

Wednesday, December 21 at 6 p.m. at the Downing United Methodist Church.

A quiet and reflective service for anyone facing a difficult Christmas



Christmas Eve Services December 24<sup>th</sup>

4 p.m. at the United Methodist Church of Boyceville

7 p.m. at the Prairie Farm Faith United Methodist Church



Christmas Day Worship December 25th

10 a.m. at the United Methodist Church of Boyceville

#### 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

December 4 Marguerite Blodgett
December 11 Glenise Thomas
December 18 Glenise Thomas

December 25 TBD

#### **Boyceville Coffee Time**

Coffee Time will be after the service on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Sonya Zebro and Jennifer Hall will serve.

#### The Zebro & Hall families will be the ushers during the month of December.

#### Las Posadas

Come join us for a progressive Christmas dinner Sunday, December 4th at 4 pm at Boyceville. We will share scripture, song, food and fellowship as we progress from the Boyceville Church to various homes. There will be appetizers, salads, soups and deserts. Let Marguerite or Doreen know if you plan on attending. Volunteers are needed to provide food at the various stops. We would like to extend an invitation to the folks at Grace and Faith to join us.

#### **Mission News for Boyceville**



# Angel Tree – Mission Project for December

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**

Through the Blessing Box we have seen the faces of homelessness and poverty. See the couple who are struggling to make ends meet, living in their car. They have jobs but can't raise enough money to get into an apartment. See the single man or woman, living on social security having to decide between medicine or food. If you encounter these people walking down the street you would have no idea of their struggles, they look just like you and me. The number one items taken from the box are laundry soap, toilet paper and tissues. We even had requests for trash bags, paper plates and plastic silverware. When you are living in your car, it's hard to do dishes. Blessings to everyone who has helped us reach out with the Blessing Box.

#### **Food Harvest Ministry News**

The next Food Harvest Ministry distribution will be from 8-9 a.m. on Saturday, December 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, December 15th.



Gloria Kahl Rex Nicholson Amanda Roper Irene Schmidt Angela Jackson Sister Alegria Sister Confianza Julie Babbit Nancy Smith Family & Friends of Gary Thatcher

People in Ukraine Hurricane victims
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 Vicky or Tammy know when names should be added or removed.

### Birthdays and Anniversaries in December

4 - LaVonne Nelson 13 - Julia Hoff

5 - Thomas Dummer
6 - Dianne Dummer
8 - Karen Wreford
16 - Sharon Zachow
17 - Gail Mitchell
17 - Kevin Smith

9 - Mark Vos 21 - Merlyn & Shirley Jones (anniv)

9 – John & Rosanne Wurtzler (anniv) 24 – Brooke Salsbury 10 - Kirstin Dummer 26 – Louise Roemhild 11 - Mary Barstad 27 – Shellie Dean

11 - Eric Carufel 30 - Gary & Gloria Kahl (anniv.)

11 - Jordan Carufel



#### **Gleaner Deadline**

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

## Faith United Methodist Church News for December

#### Worship Service at 8:30 am

#### Thank you:

- To Dennis and Janice Swanson for their donation to our church. Janice is Kenneth and Irene Miller's daughter.
- To Nate and Becky Splett for their donation to our church. Becky is Raymond and Gloria Miller's daughter.
- To Roxanne White and Bill Wiseman for cleaning snow from the ramp.
- To all who helped decorate the church for Christmas, which included assembling the new artificial tree. Beautiful!!
- To Lay Readers: Pastor Vicky, Roxanne White, and Bill Wiseman.
- To Coffee Servers: Barbara Bender, Ila Knutson, and Robin Burke.

	Lay Reader	Greeter/Usher	Coffee/Snack
December 4	Jim Strupp	Open	Open
December 11	Leslie Frisle	Open	Open
December 18	Bill Wisemar	n Bill Wiseman	Bill Wiseman
December 24	Frisles C	hristmas Eve Service at 7 p.m.	
December 25	Christmas D		

#### Faith United Methodist Women - United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith met on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. for our annual Thank Offering program which was led by Robin Burke. We were also given handouts for homework which included a Thanksgiving Holiday Word Search and an open one letter A-Z of "I Am Thankful For". We also did our Mission Today report and planned our program for 2023. We decided to have our December meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. We will assemble our "goodie baskets" for special ones. If you would like to contribute any baked items, have them to the church by noon on that day. Thank you.

New Year's Day will be regular worship service time. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!





# Giving Breaks the Temptation of Greed December 2022

"The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind."
(2 Corinthians 9:6-7a)

Are you 70-1/2 or older?
Or do you know someone 70-1/2 or older?
If you are, what ministries are you most passionate about?
Don't pass up the chance to make a special gift this year!

Don and Sandi always wanted to see a youth minister in place at their church. When they learned they could make a distribution directly to their church from their Traditional IRA to provide the seed money to start this ministry, they decided to tithe their IRA. A few other members of their church joined them in this effort, and now the youth ministry position is funded for the next five years.

The IRA Rollover is a special giving option that is only available to persons 70-1/2 and older. Call your IRA administrator today and request to have your Required Minimum Distribution for 2022 (or a gift of your choice up to a maximum of \$100,000) sent directly to your local church (or other charity). This gift will benefit the ministry you have designated and will NOT be included in your gross income for tax purposes.

What types of IRAs qualify? Only Traditional and Roth IRAs qualify.

Where can I make Qualified Charitable Distributions from my IRA? Only to qualified public charities. All United Methodist Churches and United Methodist Ministries are qualified public charities: UMCOR, any of our Health and Welfare Ministries, UM Camps, or Advance Specials. You may make an outright gift or make a gift that establishes a permanent endowment fund. For more information contact us at:

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