

Thoughts from Pastor Vicky

A New Year-- With New Possibilities!

Dear Friends,

You may have heard that the Ridgeland-Dallas UMC closed in December. It is always heartbreaking when this happens, but God can bring joy from grief.

The people of Wheeler: Grace UMC have agreed to merge with the Ridgeland-Dallas UMC. This will take some financial pressure off Grace UMC, and consequently, Faith and Boyceville UMCs. We will honor the generosity of the Ridgeland-Dallas congregation by diligent stewardship of the funds we will receive, and work with DS Barb Certa-Werner to set goals and receive coaching for revitalization.

Along with the merger will come a new name: Peace UMC! This merger will provide new opportunities to work together as a charge and use our gifts to introduce more people to Jesus through the ministry of the church. I'm looking forward to brainstorming with folks about the needs of Wheeler and the surrounding area, and how we can help meet those needs as God's people. God has a plan--let's find it together!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Vicky



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.



January 29th is a Fifth Sunday!
We'll have a joint service at
Prairie Farm Faith at 10 am.
The United Lutheran Youth-in
Christ will have the program

JANUARY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 James Harvey
- 4 Kevin & Sonya Zebro (anniv)
- 6 Harry & Sandy Christian (anniv)
- 7 Charlie Hall
- 9 Jessica Blodgett
- 9 Melissa Blodgett
- 9 Haiden Salsbury
- 10 Sonya Zebro
- 12 Nichole Hiben
- 13 Matthew Blodgett
- 22 Roger & Anita Smith (anniv)
- 24 Sherry Smith
- 26 Jim Salsbury
- 29 Eileen Klicko
- 31 Chris Burke

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

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

**Renewing Rural Ministry
Fresh Expressions 2023 via Zoom**

Saturday, January 28, 2023

9 am-12 pm

**\$18.00 non-refundable registration fee
will cover participation**

Led by Michael Beck

Across North America, urban centers are growing, creating new challenges and opportunities for rural cities and towns. Rural churches, once a centerpiece of small-town life, need new tools for loving their neighbors, sharing the gospel, and connecting in community. This gathering will help our churches be prepared for the next

season of ministry. If you are a pastor, lay leader, or are simply interested in vital ministry in small towns, this opportunity is for you.

9:00 - 9:15 Welcome & Centering Time
9:15-10:00 Session 1: Soil Map:
Assessing the Opportunities and Challenges
of the Rural Church
10:00-10:10 Break
10:10-10:50 Session 2: The Blended
Ecology: Re-Imagining our Congregations
and Communities as a Spiritual Ecosystem
10:50-11:00 Break
11:00-11:45 Session 3: Cultivating the
Ground: How to Cultivate Missional
Communities from the Local Church
11:45-12:00 Closing and Next Steps

Registration link:
<https://na.eventscLOUD.com/website/49667/>

**NewsLetter
DEADLine**

Gleaner news is due by noon on Tuesday, January 17th. Please contact Tammy Nelson at 715-505-2657 or rtsmnelson@hotmail.com with your news. Thanks.

Human Relations Sunday

We will be observing Human Relations Day on Sunday, January 15, 2023. Gifts to Human Relations Sunday support the Community Developers Program and community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services, related to the General Board of Global Ministries, and at-risk teens through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation program.



United Methodist Church of Boyceville

Worship Time: 9:45 a.m.

Scripture Readers for Boyceville

	Reader
January 1	Earl Blodgett
January 8	Glenise Thomas
January 15	Carol Cherney
January 22	Jonathan Zebro
January 29	5th Sunday at Faith

Boyceville Coffee Time

Coffee Time will be after the service on January 8 and 22. Glenise Thomas, Irene Schmidt and Rosanne Wurtzler will serve on the 8th and there will be an all church potluck followed by an ad council meeting on the 22nd.

The Hall family will be the ushers during the month of January.

Food Harvest Ministry News

The next Food Harvest Ministry distribution will be from 8-9 a.m. on Saturday, January 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, January 19th.

Mission News for Boyceville



Warm Feet, Warm Hearts

Brrrr it's cold outside! Just about everyone has had cold feet at some time and it is not pleasant. It feels so good to put on a dry, warm pair of socks. But if you are homeless, cold feet can be dangerous when you are on the street. The Boyceville mission project for the next months is socks for the homeless. Warm socks are needed for men, women and children of all ages. In addition this year we are collecting personal care items as well. Think bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, shampoo, and hand lotion. Cash donations are welcome too, we are happy to shop for you. Please have all items to the Boyceville Church by Sunday, February 26, 2023. Together we can warm their feet, and hopefully warm their hearts by letting them know someone cares. Thank you.



The Angel Tree was a huge success this year. Twelve children received needed items as well as some wished for items. Wrapping paper, tape and bows were included too. Each family received an Aldi gift card for groceries. The generosity of the congregation and others was so great that after filling the last few tags, buying wrapping paper and gift cards we still had money left over. Marguerite and Sonya had a delightful time wandering through the toy department and buying games, dozens of games for children of all ages. The folks at WestCap were delighted with the games and planned on giving one to each family.

Blessing Box

The Blessing Box is a busy place. Laundry soap, toilet paper and tissues continue to be hot items. Dried soups are popular too. With the cold weather we have removed all canned goods. A notebook was placed in the box for requests for items needed and prayers. By request trash bags are now a part of the pantry. Sheila, Sonya, Carol, Pastor Vicky and Marguerite all check the box and restock it with needed items throughout the week. People are starting to drop off items in the box and we have received donations from the community to purchase needed items. We have heard from some users of the Blessing Box that it is so helpful to be able to get needed items.

Thank you for your support of our many mission projects. Together we are making a difference in our community, state, country and world - one person at a time.



Faith United Methodist Church Prairie Farm

Worship Service at 8:30 a.m.

Thank you:

- To Michelle McMorrow for a monetary donation to our church. Michelle is Roger and Anita Smith's daughter.
- To Bill Wiseman for shoveling the ramp. (I don't know how many times).
- To Roxanne White for purchasing the poinsettias for the United Methodist Women—United Women in Faith.
- To all of you who faithfully support our church financially, physically, and spiritually. We should be able to meet our apportionments in full.
- To Lay Readers: Jim Strupp, Leslie Frisle, and Bill Wiseman.
- To Coffee Server: Leslie Frisle.



	Reader/Greeter	Coffee/Snack
January 1	Bill Wiseman	Open
January 8	Frisles	Frisles
January 15	Roxanne White	Roxanne White
January 22	Open	Open
January 29	United Lutheran Youth-in Christ Program at 10 a.m.	

Faith United Methodist Women - United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith met at the home of Barbara Bender on December 16th. During our business meeting, we approved the following mission giving: Food Pantry, \$100; Prairie Farm Public Schools, \$100; Benjamin House, \$100; Midwest Mission, \$100; Kacie Wright \$100; and \$300 toward apportionments. We shared some Christmas readings and did some fun activities. We then put together nine goodie plates which included cookies, popcorn, and doughnuts. Some were delivered that day and some in the following days. We don't meet in January. Our next get-together will be at Pioneer Care and Rehab on February 2nd at 1:30 p.m. to play bingo, providing the air is clear of bugs! Margie is in charge. We will serve cake, strawberries, and ice cream.

Administrative Council meets on January 5th at 5:00 p.m.

Invite/Bring friends to the 5th Sunday Charge Service so we have many in attendance. Lunch will be served following the presentation.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

**Peace United
Methodist Church
Wheeler**

Worship Service at 11 a.m.

The people of Wheeler: Grace United Methodist Church have agreed to merge with the Ridgeland-Dallas United Methodist Church. The new church name is Peace United Methodist Church!





I Like Floormats January 2023

This story is from “I Like Giving” by Brad Formsma. His book and corresponding website, www.ilikegiving.com, are full of stories and videos about the power of generosity.

It is hard to characterize my brother-in-law, James. He’s not a guy who draws a lot of attention to himself, and he’s not a guy with great wealth. In fact, James is, well, quite average, but when it comes to generosity, James is one of the most above-average people I’ve ever met.

For instance, if James needed to borrow your car, he would likely return it with a full tank of fuel or maybe a new set of tires. Or maybe it would have been detailed. And unless you happened to notice, he wouldn’t draw any attention to it.

Which is exactly what happened with the floor mats in our Honda Accord. They were worn-out. I mean, they’re floor mats. They are one of those things you think about replacing when you vacuum the car and say to yourself, “Wow, these look terrible. I need to replace them.” You finish vacuuming, put the mats back, and never give them another thought until the next time you clean your car.

However, this particular time I did notice them. They were new. I immediately asked my wife if she’d bought the new car mats. She said she thought I had. Immediately we knew it was James. I could not think of when he might have done it. I went back in the house, called him, and asked if he was responsible. As I suspected, he was.

“When did you put new mats in the car?” I asked since we hadn’t seen him in weeks. “About three months ago,” he sheepishly replied.

I couldn’t believe I’d been so unobservant, but I wasn’t the least bit surprised by James thoughtful act of generosity. It’s a lifestyle with him. I truly can’t think of anything he enjoys doing more than giving, and I can’t think of anyone who has more fun finding unique ways to give. I mean, who would ever think of replacing someone’s floor mats?

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](https://www.facebook.com/wumf.org) or call 1-888-903-9863

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

Return Service Requested



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

January 2023

The Gleaner