

Love is in the air...

Valentine's Day holds many expectations. Roses, chocolates, sweet messages of love, dinner out... Somehow, this observance of an early Christian martyr's life has morphed into a celebration of romantic love.

This year, Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day. A day of remembering our mortality coincides with a day often marked by sentimentality and indulgence.

But as Christians, we remember that God is the author of love. He set the greatest example of love, sending his only son for us. In Romans 5:8, we read that ...God demonstrates his love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. God loves us that much. God created us to love, express that love to others, and receive love. As we observe Lent, let us remember that it is indeed the love of God that we recall. Even though we remember that we are dust, and to dust we shall return, we do it with an underlying joy. Our salvation is found in Jesus Christ. Let us not look at Lent as just a time of "giving something up," but a time to find new ways to share the love of God with others.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Vicky

Keep praying!

Dear Friends,

As we enter another Lenten Season, we mark the first anniversary of our Breakthrough Prayer. If the Breakthrough Prayer was meaningful to you as written, go ahead and keep using it as you set your alarm to pray at 5:17 each day.

As we grow and change in our spiritual practices, I'd like to suggest a new way for us to continue to pray for God's direction and growth for our churches. This Lent, I'd like to begin sharing a monthly specific Scripture verse for us to ponder. Let's use the verse as inspiration in our prayers. In February, we'll begin our new prayer practice with Colossians 1:9-10 :

9 So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. 10 Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better.

(New Living Translation)

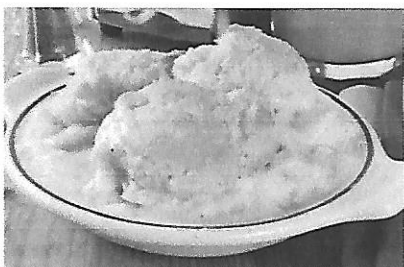
Daily we can appeal for God's will in our lives with our monthly verse. Let's keep praying and growing together!

Pastor Vicky



Ash Wednesday Worship Service will be at 7 p.m. on Feb. 14th at the Wheeler Peace United Methodist Church

Creamed Chicken Dinner



Peace United Methodist Church,
Wheeler, WI

Served at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Thursday, February 22nd

3:00-7:00 p.m.

Creamed Chicken & Biscuits, Mashed
Potatoes, Coleslaw, Cranberries, Desserts
and Beverages

Free Will Offering

Lent Worship Schedule

7pm Worship, 6:15 pm Meal

February 21— Prairie Farm

February 28— Boyceville

March 6 - Prairie Farm

March 13— Boyceville

March 20—Prairie Farm

March 28— Wheeler
Maundy Thursday
No Meal

March 29—Good Friday
Ecumenical Service at
United Lutheran Church,
Prairie Farm

March 31—Easter Sunday
Joint Service at Boyceville
8 am Breakfast and 9 am Service

NewsLetter
DEADLine

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

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.



FEBRUARY Birthdays

- 1 - Bridgett Kahl
- 2 - Jeremy White
- 10 - Gilbert Krueger
- 15 - Linda Miller
- 15 - Jerod Nelson
- 15 - Doreen Olson
- 16 - Gary Knutson
- 25 - Glenise Thomas



Amanda Roper	Irene Schmidt
Sister Alegria	Carol Cherney
Sister Confianza	Julie Babbit
Frankie Alone	Nancy Smith
Judy & Dave Wirth	Pam Rosen
Darcy Hafele	
Family & Friends of Robert Wyss	
Victims of natural disasters	
Our shut-ins & those in nursing homes	
A reminder: Please remember our shut-ins with calls and cards.	

United Methodist Church of Boyceville

Worship Time: 9:45 a.m.

Scripture Readers for Boyceville

The lay reader on Communion Sunday is asked to help Pastor Vicky with communion

	Reader
February 4	Carol Cherney
February 11	Glenise Thomas
February 18	Glenise Thomas
February 25	Doreen Olson

Boyceville Coffee Time

Coffee Time will be after the service on February 11th and 25th. Roseanne Wurtzler and Irene Schmidt will serve on the 11th and Sonya Zebro and Jennifer Hall will serve on the 25th.

Food Harvest Ministry News

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

February & March Mission

February and March starts a new mission project and you are all welcome to help out. We will be collecting items for Mission Restoring Hope to help those in need in our community.

The greatest needs are:

- Bath Towels
- Kitchen Towels
- Washcloths
- Kitchen Items
- Linens

Mission Restoring Hope

Do you need help? Mission Restoring Hope is here to help. We offer a variety of essential items, from clothing and household goods to tools, health and beauty supplies, and baby items. Our mission is to provide access to these necessities at absolutely no cost to you.

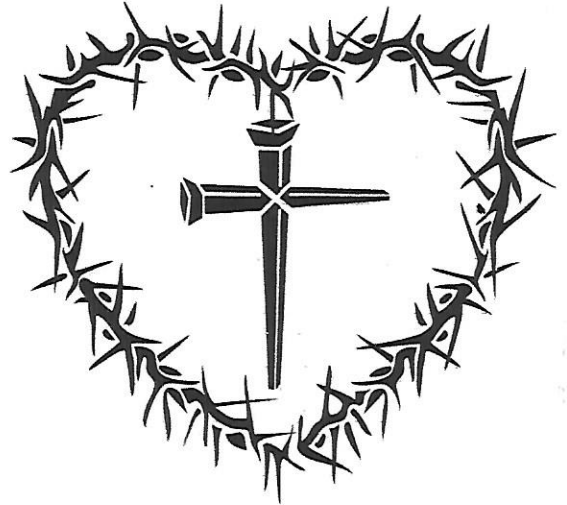
If you, or someone you know is experiencing a hardship or crisis, please connect them to us to see if we can assist. We are located in Boyceville and are here to help our local community.

They are open for donations by appointment.

Please contact Doreen at 715-505-1621 or Doreen@missionrestoringhope.org or use our contact us page on our website: missionrestoringhope.org

Blessing Box

The blessing box is being restocked 5-6 times a week! It is a real need in the community. With the cold weather we are in need of items that won't freeze. Great items for the blessing box: toilet paper, tissues, paper towels, cereal, oatmeal, granola bars, breakfast bars, dry pasta and rice side dishes (we have plenty of Mac and cheese), main dish helpers like hamburger or tuna helper, deodorant, bar soap, laundry pods, baggies of all sizes, toothpaste, coffee, cocoa mix, tea, dry soup mixes, cake mixes, brownie mixes, muffin mixes, cookie mixes, cookies, crackers, and trash bags are items we could use. Please consider adding an item or two to your weekly shopping for the blessing box. Together we are showing God's love to our community.
















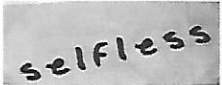
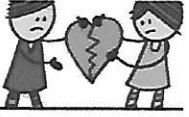





















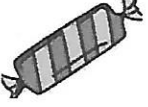


Containers Wanted

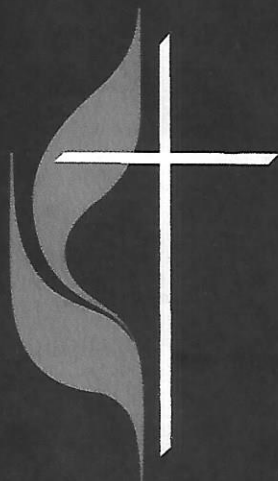
We are looking for clean plastic containers, 18 oz and 32 oz sizes. Examples are peanut butter jars, Miracle Whip or mayo jars. Make sure they are clean and if possible have the label removed. We are looking at making some meals in a jar to put in our Blessing Box. These can be brought to the Boyceville church. Thank you for the help!

Lent Bingo

The following page has a Lent bingo card. These are 40 ideas that are selfless acts that you can do during lent. At first, they look easy but some of these may be uncomfortable. The idea behind this is to make us stretch and think about how these small acts can bring joy or do good for someone else. Try and challenge yourself to fill out the whole scorecard and do "blackout"! The prize will be the warm feeling you get when you bring joy to another person.

40 Random Acts of Kindness for Lent Bingo

Send a Card by Mail Someone 	Call Someone And Talk 	Shop at A Small Business 	Donate Items Charity 	Visit Parent or Family Member 
Cook Spouse or Family Member A Favorite Meal 	Volunteer 	Leave your Server A Large Tip 	Compliment Someone 	Pray for Another Person 
Send A Card or Letter to a Shut In 	Play A Game That Another Person Chooses to Play 	Family Dinner Together 	Do A Selfless Act 	Forgive A Hurt For Another Person 
Thank Your Checkout Person 	Give someone A Hug 	Compliment Someone 	Donate to A Mission Or Cause 	Visit Someone At A Nursing Home 
Write Down 10 Things to Be Thankful for Pray Gratitude 	Help Someone Without Being Asked 	Be Positive And Uplift Another Person 	Be Patient with Short Staffed Service And Thank Them For Their Service 	Take someone Or Perform An Errand for Someone 
Call A Family Member 	Fill A Need HELPING HANDS	Donate Books 	Leave A Thank You Note for Family Member 	Say I Love You To Someone I LOVE YOU 
Pray for Our Country And The World 	Let Someone Go In Front Of You in Line 	Day of No Complaining 	Make Handmade Item to Donate 	Invite To Your Home Someone For Coffee/Visit 
Reconnect With an Old Friend 	Ask Someone to Share A Story From Past And listen 	Leave A Treat Or Thank You For someone 	Take Someone On A Scenic Drive To Area They are Familiar and Listen to The Stories They Tell 	Random Act of Kindness 



*Join us along with
Grace Bridge
Korean UMC
for an authentic
Korean Meal!*



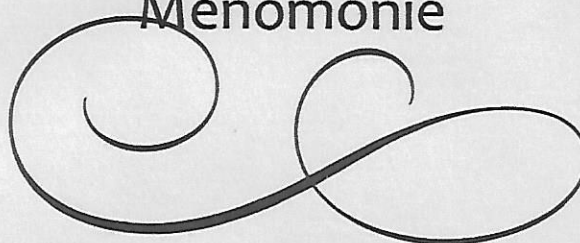
Join your fellow
United Methodists
for fellowship, worship,
and collaborative
ministries!

Our first Laity Circuit
meeting in 2024 will be:

**Sunday, February 18
at 1:30 pm**

Menomonie UMC

2703 Bongey Drive
Menomonie



We'll prayerfully plan ways we can work
together throughout the year –
VBS Day Camp? Meal packing mission day?
A campaign for kindness during
election season?

Then we'll get to enjoy worship with the
dynamic new church start,
Grace Bridge Korean UMC.
(English translations of the songs and sermon
are always provided.)

They'll even share an authentic Korean Meal
in celebration of the Asian New Year!

If you'd like to bring a dessert or a
dish to pass, you're welcome but not
required to do so.

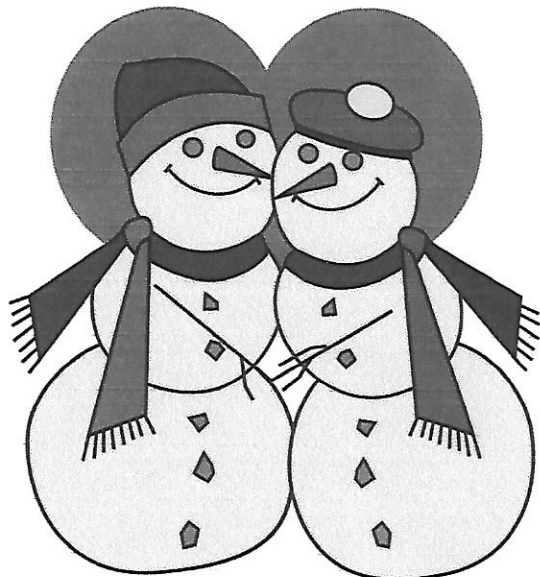
***Come one and all for a celebration of the faith and mission
we share as United Methodists!***

**Faith United Methodist Church
Prairie Farm**

Worship Service at 8:30 a.m.

For God so loVed the world
thAt He gave His
onLy
begottEn
SoN,
thaT whoever
belIeves
iN Him should not perish
but havE everlasting life.

(John 3:16, NKJV)

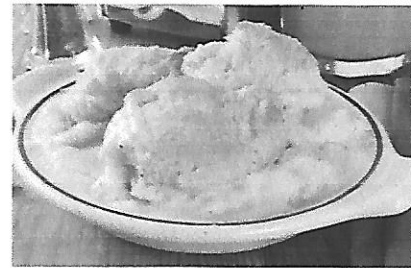


LOVE
NEVER FAILS

**Peace
United Methodist Church
Wheeler**

Worship Service at 11 a.m.

Creamed Chicken Dinner



**Peace United Methodist Church,
Wheeler, WI**

Served at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Thursday, February 22nd

3:00-7:00 p.m.

**Creamed Chicken & Biscuits, Mashed
Potatoes, Coleslaw, Cranberries, Des-
serts and Beverages**

Free Will Offering

Soul Food by Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

January 2024

"When they saw the star, they were overjoyed" Matthew 2:10

On Sunday, we celebrated the beginning of the church season of Epiphany. The word Epiphany comes from the Greek epiphaneia, meaning "appearance" or "manifestation," and refers to the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the whole world – Jews and gentiles alike!

Epiphany is also the time in the church when we recognize the arrival of the wise ones, who followed a star, and brought luxurious gifts to a Child born in Bethlehem. One of the Scripture texts that we read during Epiphany is from the Gospel of Matthew 2:10, 'When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.'

As I engaged with this Scripture, I was struck by the term, "overjoyed." This is a word we rarely use. It is a challenging word, invoking in us perhaps many other emotions. The Scripture text is an invitation to reflect, dive deeper into how to we, as Christ followers, live in the joy of salvation, let alone be "overjoyed."

What do you praise God for? What are the things in which you have expressed gratitude? What are your joys? In a world full of concerns, struggles and burdens – where and how do you see the joy of faith alive and active?

None of these questions are new. Each is an opportunity to explore how we understand that God is alive in this world. Indeed, this is the Good News of Jesus Christ, that in Emmanuel, God is with us! Our joy does not negate the sadness, injustice nor brokenness of this world, joy gives us a framework in which to be the joy-bearing, justice-seeking, burden-sharing people of God in any circumstance.

On Monday, January 15 we celebrate the national holiday of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. A day set aside to honor the ministry of a courageous, faith-filled, and faithful man. His witness continues to challenge us to move our faith into action through a beloved community grounded in Christ's love, grace, and joy - even when facing the direst circumstances. The Wisconsin Conference invites you to join together on Sunday, January 21, for an evening of worship featuring an African Choir and the Harmony Choir, honoring The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Brown Deer United Methodist Church, 5736 Brown Deer Rd., Milwaukee. My prayer is that our speakers and music will fill our hearts with such joy that we can do nothing less than to live into being a beloved community of Christ Jesus.

In closing, may the words of Romans 15:13 be so, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Amen.

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung



Practice, Practice, Practice February 2024

Believe it or not, even though Christmas feels like it is just behind us, Lent is about to begin (Ash Wednesday is February 14 this year). In the church, Lent is a period of 40 days (not including Easter) during which we re-examine our lives and our faith practices as we prepare for the coming of Easter. The practice of re-examination and recommitment dates to the very beginning of the church as new members prepared to be baptized on Easter Sunday. We may ask ourselves, however, **why is the observation of Lent important to us today?**

The reality of the situation is, if we don't take the time to re-examine what's important to us and practice the basics of faith, we run the risk of forgetting who we are, where we've come from, and what God has done in our lives. Every professional sports team gathers before the season begins and focuses on many of the things the players have done since they were small children. In baseball, they field ground balls (and coincidentally, Spring Training also begins on February 14 for many teams this year). In football, they go over tackling and blocking. In basketball they dribble and pass. These are adults who are the best players in the world, and yet their coaches start them off at the very beginning every year. Only the teams who've mastered the basics have a chance of contending for a championship.

As Lent approaches let's be encouraged to get back to the basics of faith. Come to worship regularly. Take time to become a part of a study group to grow in your faith together. Pray daily. Give generously both your time and your money. The basics aren't just for the young or inexperienced in faith. They are for everyone — from the youngest child to the champions of faith who've been an inspiration to us.

Let's take time to refocus on the basics as we begin our journey to the cross with Jesus.

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation
Contact me at: 608-837-9582 or jmahnke@wumf.org
Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at www.wumf.org or
[Facebook/wumf.org](https://www.facebook.com/wumf.org) or call 1-888-903-9863

FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Worship	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Worship Coffee Time: Wurtzler/Schmidt	12	13	14 7pm Ash Wednesday Service at Wheeler Peace	15 Food Packing	16	17 8-9am Food Harvest Distribution
18 Worship 1:30pm Circuit Event at Menomonie UMC	19	20 <i>Newsletter items due!</i>	21 6:15pm Lenten Meal 7pm Lenten Service at Prairie Farm Faith	22 3-7pm Creamed Chicken Dinner at Wheeler Peace	23	24
25 Worship Coffee Time: Zebro/Hall	26	27	28 6:15pm Lenten Meal 7pm Lenten Service at Boyceville	29		

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

February 2024

The Gleaner