



Dear Friends,

In these days when we seem more divided than ever, I want us to remember that much more unites us than divides us. Please keep this in mind as the election season draws near. Let our Christlikeness outshine our politics. Here's an excerpt of my message from July 21st:

The Lordship of Jesus Christ is greater than any previous division between Jew and Gentile. And, the Lordship of Jesus Christ is greater than any difference we have with others – be it political, racial, economic, geographic, language, or whatever.

This reconciliation comes through the blood of Christ. The idea that such uniting of humanity was won not through the blood of conquest and victory, but through the blood... of what appeared to be defeat. Where the unity in the Roman world came through conquest and uniformity to Rome's ways..... the victory of God came in a completely different manner. The death of Christ was costly and painful. Its redemptive purpose is access to the Father... and peace for all believers.

In 2024, our Holy Reminder from Ephesians is this: **Christ is our peace.**

In our time, the divisions are between black and white, rich and poor, Democrat and Republican. Christians squabble over differing interpretations of scripture.

We forget that we are saved by the same gospel and that we have the same access to God.

Christ came to reconcile us to one another and God. And we Christians are called to peace, not violence.

Mass shootings, gang violence, attempted assassinations and coups... None of this glorifies God or advances God's purposes. We must resolve **not** to be desensitized to violence. Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers." We are called to be one family--- through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Let us reach out to others with the much-needed peace of Christ. May God's peace rule in our hearts!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Vicky

Keep Praying! August 2024

Dear Friends,

God calls us to be people of prayer. And not just the repetition of holy words, but truly connecting with God and praying with our whole hearts. Let us continue to pray daily for our churches! Meditating on Scripture can guide our prayer life. Our prayer-prompt Scripture for this quarter:

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19

There are colorful cardstock copies in the back of the churches if you'd like to post them somewhere in your home or office.

Let me know how these Scriptures are helping you to pray, and please share answers to your prayers. If you have other suggestions for praying together, please get in touch! Let's build one another up in our faith.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Vicky



2 - Jessica Hiben
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 - Ray & Karen Wreford (anniv)
23 - Russell Roemhild
25 - Edna Forrest
25 - Earl & Marguerite Blodgett (anniv)
27 - Larissa Krueger
30 - Jerry Neck
31 - Ila Knutson
31 - Gary & Ila Knutson (anniv)

NewsLetter
DEADLine

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



Dear God,
Thank you for the gift of children.
Please watch over
our children & grandchildren
as they go back to school this year.
Keep them safe every day.
Help them to remember
that you are right there with them
in the halls and classrooms.
Help them soak up good knowledge
and to dismiss any negative or
worldly messages they may hear.
Help them treat others with
kindness and respect,
and to guard their hearts
with the armor of Your Word.
Give them joy and peace as
they put their trust in you.
Amen

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.



Amanda Roper
Carol Cherney
Darcy Hafele
The Rihn Family

Sister Alegria
Julie Babbitt
Sherri Williams

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
August 4	Jim Harvey
August 11	Marguerite Blodgett
August 18	Carol Cherney
August 25	Earl Blodgett



Boyceville Coffee Time

Coffee Time will be Sunday August 25 after the service. Sheila Hegeman and Sonya Zebro are serving. We are having trouble getting volunteers to serve coffee time so we will be going to having it just once a month for the time being.

Mission Project for July & August

Operation Back to School

In just a few weeks children will be heading back to school in our communities. WestCap is having their annual back to school drive for supplies and cash donations. All school supplies are needed. Think paper, pencils, markers (washable and regular), notebooks, erasers, highlighters, scissors, pencil bags, glue sticks, crayons, pencil boxes, 3 ring binders and backpacks. Cash donations are used to buy needed school supplies. Cash donations also go to buy food for the weekend food program and to pay off lunch accounts with outstanding balances. WestCap welcomes cash donations any time for these. **School supplies need to be at the Boyceville Church by Sunday August 11, so WestCap has time to get them to the children.** Thank you for supporting this mission project.

Food Harvest Ministry News

The next Food Harvest Ministry distribution will be from 8-9:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 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, September 19th. **There will be no distribution in August due to Pickle Fest.**

Blessing Box

The biggest needs in the summer are breakfast and lunch items for kids. When we keep the Blessing Box well stocked, our neighbors know they can rely on finding help when they need it. Thank you.

Fall Bible Study at Boyceville

Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith

Everyone has doubts. Where is God when bad things happen? Does God hear our prayers? Is there a heaven? How can we know? Often we treat such questions as the enemy of faith. But uncertainty doesn't mean our belief is lacking. Doubt can be a path to a deeper, richer encounter with God. Wrestling With Doubt, Finding Faith is a 6 week study written by Adam Hamilton. The study will start Wednesday September 11th and run for 6 weeks. Marguerite Blodgett is leading the study. We will start with a light supper at 5:30 pm, followed by a video and the study. Books cost \$14 and Marguerite is happy to order a copy for you. Contact Marguerite at crazy2quilt@gmail.com or 715-651-7880 to order your book. Books will be ordered Monday August 26 so they will arrive in time to hand them out before the first session. All are welcome to join us for this time of fellowship and growing in our faith.

Summer Treat Booth at Pickle Fest

The Boyceville Church has a booth at Pickle Fest this year. We will be selling popcorn, snow cones and cotton candy. The stand will be located near the Ambulance Station. The Ambulance Station is loaning us the machines to make the popcorn, snow cones and cotton candy. The hours of the stand are Saturday August 17 from noon to 6 pm and Sunday August 18 from noon to 4 pm. Set up will be at 11:30 am each day. Volunteers are needed to work the stand both days. Cash donations are needed to purchase the supplies. A signup sheet will be passed around at church or contact Marguerite to sign up. Cash donations can be placed in the offering plate or giving to Marguerite. Marguerite can be reached at crazy2quilt@gmail.com or 715-651-7880. This will be a fun time to work together and be visible in our community. Proceeds will go to support church programs.

**Help
Support
our
Missions**



Faith United Methodist Church Prairie Farm

Worship Service at 8:30 a.m.

	Lay Reader	Coffee/Snack
Aug 4	Open	Open
Aug 11	Jim Strupp	Open
Aug 18	Bill Wiseman	Open
Aug 25	Roxanne W	Roxanne W

thank you

Thank you to:

- To Jim Salsbury for moving the clotheslines.
- To the Salsburys' for donating the hamburger for the gravy and the taco meat.
- To Jim and Janice for preparing the potatoes.
- To Robin for preparing the taco meat.
- To Roxanne for organizing/purchasing/working in the kitchen, etc.
- To all who contributed cookies, milk, money, and water.
- To all who worked on the 16th; you were the backbone. It all came together well. Free will offering was \$1520.
- To Lay Readers: Bill Wiseman, Roxanne White, and Jim Strupp
- To Coffee Server: Roxanne White

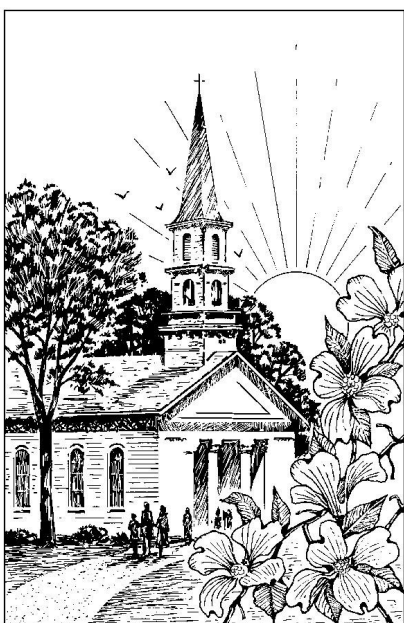


United Women in Faith

United Women In Faith met on June 27th. We completed plans for 5th Sunday service at Pioneer Park and plans for the Baked Potato meal which will be July 16th at the Ridgeland Farmer's Market. Fall Gathering will be at Trinity UMC in Chippewa Falls on September 28th. The Ecumenical service will be at 11:00 a.m. Kathy had the program. Margie will have the July program. We do not meet in August. Our next meeting will be September 12th.

**Peace
United Methodist Church
Wheeler**

Worship Service at 11 a.m.



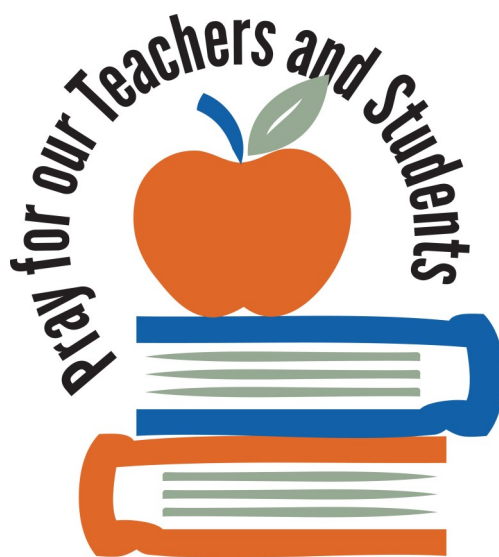
Peace Mission Thrift Shop

Thrifting Hours:

Fridays: Noon—5pm

Saturdays: 9am—2pm

**701 West 2nd Ave., Wheeler,
WI**





“Empathy is on the Rise Among Young Americans”

August 2024

“Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.” ~Romans 12:15

A study led by the Lily Family School of Philanthropy finds that empathy is increasing among young Americans since 2008, almost rising to levels similar to the highs of the 1970s. Late Millennials and emerging Gen Zs are showing increases in empathy, as compared with earlier generations, countering negative stereotypes about today’s youth.

This study, which is an updating of a similar study conducted in 2011, underscores that empathy is not predetermined; it is a fluid trait that can grow or shrink, depending on one’s experiences.

Here are some key findings from the study:

- Changes in empathy over time in young Americans move in cycles and can go up and down. Both taking (cognitive empathy) and empathic concern (emotional empathy) increased between 2008 and 2018.
- Economic variables don’t play a major role in empathy changes in U.S. youth—either to promote or impair empathy.
- Changing interpersonal dynamics might play a larger role in these empathy fluctuations. Empathy was higher during times of loneliness. The studies author noted that when young people see loneliness and other difficulties around them, they may reach out with care and empathy. It’s also possible that their own experiences of loneliness may increase their hunger for social connection.

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

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

August 2024

The Gleaner