
**August
2025**

River Glen Shared Ministry

“United in Christ”

Pastor Vicky Strupp
Pastor's Cell: (715) 404-5284
Parsonage Phone: (715) 749-6351
Pastor's email: trustandobey24_7@hotmail.com

Dear Friends,

We're just a few weeks into our new adventure as five churches, and I am grateful! Grateful for the opportunity to make new connections and brainstorm new ways to work together. Mat-weaving for homeless people is getting off to a strong start.

I'm grateful for everyone's positive attitudes and willingness to try new things. The Trunk Treasure Sale during Pickle Fest should be a lot of fun!

It will be a joy to share our gifts in a joint worship service on August 24th. Let me know if you have an idea for special music!

Let me remind you that I will be available to all the churches for pastoral care, and will be glad to listen to everyone's questions and concerns.

And let us not forget to offer one another grace in this Year of Grace. We're all in this together!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Vicky

Keep Praying! August 2025

Dear Friends,

I encourage you to continue to pray daily for all our churches. God is always up to something new! We need discernment to see where God is leading us, and grace as we seek to follow God's lead.

Remember to listen as you pray. Let me know where **you** think God is leading us, and how these prayers are helping you!

~Pastor Vicky

Isaiah 43:19

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.

Loving God, open our eyes to the new things you're doing among us, and help us to join you in your work. Break through into our lives and our churches with new possibilities. In the hope Jesus offers us, Amen.



5th Sunday Celebration

There will be a 5th Sunday Celebration at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 24th at the Glenwood City United Methodist Church. A potluck lunch will follow the service. All are welcome! **No services at Prairie Farm, Boyceville Downing or Wheeler that day!**

Pickle Fest Trunk Treasure Sale Saturday, August 16th 8-noon

Sell your vintage, craft or rummage items

One-stop -shopping offers a fun time of treasure hunting!

Be a vendor!

Bring your treasures to sell in the church parking lot Saturday morning during Pickle Fest in Boyceville.

Sell items right out of the back of your car or set up a stand in the space provided. Food and refreshments available. A flea market experience. Space is limited!

Drive in, bring a table, and rent a space for only \$10! Reserve your spot at (715)901-0009 and pay when you arrive.

Questions? Call the above number or email boycevilleumc@gmail.com

Today I will look for opportunities to show kindness and compassion.

7-3-25 Upper Room

PRAYER

list...

Sister Alegria	Carol Cherney
Julie Babbit	Sister Confianza
Ray Wreford	Nancy Smith
Harry Christian	Karen Wreford
Darrell Nykanen	Pete Bodette
Dick Skover	Randy Nelson
Pastor Sue Oeffler	Karolyn Larson
Pastor Shannon Mattison	
Rick Bonte	Barb Meser
Myron Anderson	Marlys Tews
The Family & Friends of Cody Klasse	
The Family & Friends of Del Shay	
The Family & Friends of Rebecca Harvey	
Victims of natural disasters	
Our shut-ins & those in nursing homes	

A reminder: Please remember our shut-ins with calls and cards.

Newsletter DEADLine

Gleaner news is due by noon on Tuesday, August 19th. Please contact Tammy Nelson at 715-505-2657 or rtsmnelson@hotmail.com or riverglensharedministry@gmail.com with your news. Thanks.

AUGUST

Birthdays & Anniversaries

August birthdays:

2	Jessica Hiben
4	Mary Miller
7	Jared Kegen
8	Sandy Christian, Leslie Olson
9	Mason Nelson, Colton Peskar
11	Juanita James
10	Hunter Jones
13	Zackery Smith
14	Anthony Wilcox
17	Jessica Gove-Minor
23	Russell Roemhild
25	Edna Forrest, Laurie Tone
26	Taylor Drinkman
27	Larissa Krueger
30	Jerry Neck
31	Ila Knutson

Happy Birthday and God bless you!

August anniversaries:

20	Jeremy & Jolene Leduc
21	Ray & Karen Wreford
25	Earl & Marguerite Blodgett
26	Rick & Peg Bonte
29	Tom & Vicki Larson
30	Marvin & Jean Booth
31	Gary & Ila Knutson

Congratulations and God bless you!

In the hands of God, my gifts are made sufficient.
7-7-25 Upper Room

Glen Hills Women's Evening Fellowship Group

We have chosen a book called "12 Women of the Bible" for study. The study is authored by several well-known Christian writers and talks about both old & new testament women. There is also a video to accompany each lesson. The Fellowship Group will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, August 4th at the Glenwood City United Methodist Church. Lesson 11, "The Woman at the Well" will be discussed. All are welcome here!

Men's Group

The Men's Fellowship Group meets at the Glenwood City Methodist Church. If you are interested, contact Julian Bender at 715 265 7362 or jbender167@gmail.com.



Thank You to our Worship Leaders:

Russ Rindsig	Earl Blodgett
Howard Hintzman	Bruce Drinkman
Carol Cherney	

We couldn't do this without you!

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 Menomoneie 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.

A video of each week's service is also available on the United Methodist Church of Boyceville facebook page: and their website: boycevilleumc.org.



We have a new email address. It is riverglensharedministry@gmail.com

***Relationships are a gift from God.
7-9-25 Upper Room***

Bible Study at Boyceville

The Boyceville Church would like to invite members & friends of the Downing, Glenwood City, Prairie Farm Faith and Wheeler Peace churches to join us for our fall Bible Study. This fall we will be using Adam Hamilton's book, Why: Making Sense of God's Will. The Study will run four Wednesdays starting on September 3. We start with a light supper at 5:30 p.m., followed by the study. Earl Blodgett will be leading this fall's study. Those attending the Bible Study can sign up to bring food for the meal. We usually have a main dish, veggies, fruit and dessert. Several people provide for each meal so you don't have to bring everything. Books are \$13. If you'd like Marguerite to order you a book, **please let her know by Sunday, August 17.**



Thanks to your generosity we were able to donate:

- 510 Empty Pill Bottles to Matthew 25 Ministries
- 1 Mat for the homeless

Peace United Methodist Church Wheeler

Worship Service at 11:15 a.m.

(Please note worship time change)



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

Prayer is my first option, not a last resort.

7-14-25 Upper Room

United Methodist Church of Boyceville

Worship Time: 10 a.m.
(please note worship time change)

Scripture Readers for Boyceville

	Reader
August 3	Carol Cherney
August 10	Jim Harvey
August 17	Marguerite Blodgett
August 24	Joint Service & Potluck at GC
August 31	Earl Blodgett

Boyceville Coffee Time

We will not have coffee time this month due to Cucumber Fest.

Mat Weaving at Boyceville

Boyceville was able to finish the mat started by the Menomonie United Methodist church and start another mat. The loom at Boyceville will be traveling to Glenwood City next.

August Mission Project

Operation Back to School

The Boyceville mission project for July and August has been school supplies for WestCAP. Items needed: 3 ring binders, single subject notebooks (wide and narrow ruled), pocket folders, crayons, 8 pack classic markers (fat & skinny, washable and regular) No. 2 pencils, rulers, pencil bags, highlighters, scientific calculators, backpacks, glue sticks, disinfectant wipes, tissues, pencil boxes, erasers, scissors (small & medium), colored pencils and dry erase markers. If you don't want to shop, we are collecting cash for WestCAP so they can order needed items in bulk. **All cash and items need to be at the church by Sunday, August 10th.**



My faithful actions can encourage others.

7-17-25 Upper Room

Faith United Methodist Church Prairie Farm

Worship Service at 8:30 a.m.

thank you

- To Barbara Bender for a monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Elsie Krause.
- To Gary and Ila Knutson for a monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Gary Lamb and Elsie Krause.
- To Pastor Vicky, Pastor Sara, and Tim Vettrus for planning/delivering the Ecumenical Service for Dairy Days.
- To Jim Strupp, Bill Wiseman, and any others who have had a part in deciding what shall be done with the educational building.
- To Lay Readers: Jim Strupp and Roxanne White.
- To Coffee Server: Roxanne White.

Lay Reader Coffee/Snack

Aug 3	Jim Strupp	Open
Aug 10	Bill Wiseman	Open
Aug 17	Robin Burke	Robin Burke
Aug 24	Joint Service & Potluck at GC	
Aug 31	Ecumenical Svc at Ridgeland	

United Women in Faith

United Women In Faith will be meeting July 24th. Kathy has the program.

The last nitrate test was 2.4.

We now know the name of our new insurance provider. It is:

Travelers Insurance--Property
Philadelphia Insurance--Liability
Philadelphia Insurance--Umbrella
Philadelphia Insurance--Management

God can do great things with simple gifts.
7-30-25 Upper Room

DOWNING UMC

Worship time: 11:00 a.m.

Downing Administrative Council

The Downing Administrative Council met at 2 p.m. on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at the church. There were 7 present. Pastor Vicky had devotions from Luke 6 and opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes from the last meeting and treasurer's report were given and approved by consensus.

Dick and Rick are working on the sign. The toilet in women's bathroom still flushes slowly. A motion was M/S/P to approve the SPRC recommendation of hiring Tammy Nelson as the treasurer for the River Glen Shared Ministry with Marguerite Blodgett as second signer.

Pastor Vicky has Mondays off and she does the Glenhaven service at 2 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday of the month. She would like a shut-in list. The church insurance has all been switched over to the new company and we got a nice refund from Church Mutual. The garage sale leftovers were taken to the Veteran's Home in Chippewa, Mission Restoring Hope and Hope Gospel. A few items were kept to have at the Trunk Treasure Sale event at the Boyceville UMC on August 16th. We may also sell baked goods. Group discussed ways to save on church utilities.

Our next meeting will be at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 11th. Dick Tews closed the meeting with prayer.

Operation Back to School

We will be collecting school supply items for WestCAP for their back to school program. There is a donation bucket at the back of the church.

Downing UWF

The Downing United Women in Faith will have their summer potluck at noon on Thursday, August 21st at Juanita's home



\$5 each

They make great gifts!

I can find peace knowing that God loves me always.

7-13-25 Upper Room

GLENWOOD CITY UMC

Worship time: 9:15 a.m.

(please note worship time change)



Bring us your holey, mismatched, and unwanted CLEAN socks

We will continue collecting socks to be recycled through the District UWF for Northcott House.

We are also collecting old toothbrushes, dental floss containers, electric toothbrush heads, clean styrofoam meat trays, old pens, dried up markers, used glue sticks, empty cereal bags.

Mats for the Homeless

The weaving loom will be arriving at the Glenwood City church soon. Watch bulletins and emails for work days. All are welcome to come and help!

Glenwood City UWF

The GC UWF group will be meeting on August 14th at 5:00 pm. We will be heading to Menomonie for supper and then attending a free concert in the park. All are welcome to attend! Please let Patti know if you are planning to attend. We will meet at the church and car pool to Menomonie.

Lord, in my work — whether at a job, at home or in a service—

help me
to do it with
purpose and
peace.

Keep me from being
overwhelmed, and remind me
that my worth is not in what I
produce, but in
who I am in You.
Amen.



You change your life by changing your heart.
~Max Lucado



Ministry of Presence

August 2025

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

— Matthew 18:20

In a world of crowded calendars, overflowing inboxes, and endless notifications, there is one gift that remains powerful, rare, and deeply spiritual: presence.

Not presence as in "attendance," but presence as in attention. As in showing up — wholeheartedly — for God, for one another, and for the sacred work to which we are called. When we talk about stewardship, we often speak of time, talent, and treasure. But we don't always name how transformational it is simply to be present.

Presence is what turns a worship service into a community. It's what transforms a hospital visit into holy ground. It's what makes a church meeting more than a checklist — when someone takes time to listen, pray, or ask, "How are you really doing?"

Think of Jesus. He didn't publish books or host podcasts. He sat at tables, walked dusty roads, and looked people in the eye. His power was not just in what He said, but in how fully He showed up.

This month, as many of us squeeze in final vacations, youth trips, or back-to-school prep, let's remember that presence is a form of generosity. And one that doesn't require a budget line or a campaign. Your willingness to show up — for worship, service, conversation, prayer — may be one of the most meaningful offerings you give this season.

When we are present to each other, we bear witness to the presence of God. Let's not underestimate the holy work of showing up.

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

RIVER GLEN SHARED MINISTRY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
P.O. BOX 129
GLENWOOD CITY WI 54013

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The Gleaner
August 2025
Newsletter of Boyceville, Downing, Glenwood City,
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.
Glenwood City Worship Service: 9:15 a.m.
Boyceville Worship Service 10 a.m.
Downing Worship Service 11 a.m.
Wheeler: Peace Worship Service 11:15 a.m.
Welcome