
November
2025

River Glen Shared Ministry

“United in Christ”

Pastor Vicky Strupp
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Dear Friends,

...Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

In these beautiful, crisp days of Autumn, we're reminded that the holiday season will soon be upon us. We celebrate Thanksgiving as a nation, but God's people are called to live our *whole lives* with thankfulness. I often quote that it is not joy that makes us thankful, but thankfulness that leads to joy.

Being thankful may not come naturally for all of us.

In her book, *One Thousand Gifts*, Ann Voskamp wrote of living a life of intentional gratitude. When she began to literally count her blessings by writing them down in a notebook on her kitchen counter, her life changed. It ignited a deep joy that she couldn't keep to herself. I highly recommend this practice.

To change things up, try a “Gratitude Frenzy.” Set a timer for one minute, and give yourself 60 seconds to rattle off all the things you're grateful for that you can think of.

Ready? Set. Go! When you get this one down, increase the timer to 90 seconds.

Gratitude increases when it's shared. Call a friend and make sure to mention what you're thankful for today. Come to worship with your church family, and your thankfulness and joy will expand!

With gratefulness,

Pastor Vicky

Keep Praying! November 2025

Dear Friends

I encourage you to continue to pray daily for all our churches. Find a specific time that works for you! My Breakthrough Prayer alarm reminds me every day at 5:15 pm.

God is always up to something new! We need discernment to see where God is leading us, and we also need grace as we seek to follow his 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.



There will be an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25th at St. John's Catholic Church in Glenwood City.

Charge Conference

Charge Conference will be at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 3rd at Glenwood City.



Thank You to our Worship Leaders:

Carol Cherney	Earl Blodgett
Howard Hintzman	Russ Rindsig

We couldn't do this without you!

PRAYER

list...

Sister Alegria	Carol Cherney
Julie Babbitt	Sister Confianza
Ray Wreford	Nancy Smith
Harry Christian	Karen Wreford
Darrell Nykanen	Pete Bodette
Randy Nelson	Pastor Sue Oeffler
Karolyn Larson	Marlys Tews

Pastor Shannon Mattison

Rick Bonte	Barb Meser
Myron Anderson	

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, November 18th. Please contact Tammy Nelson at 715-505-2657 or rtsmnelson@hotmail.com or riverglensharedministry@gmail.com with your news. Thanks.

NOVEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

November birthdays:

4	Judy Schlottman, Roger Smith, Randy Peskar
5	Carol Cherney, Justyne Frisle
7	Deanna Schone
8	Tim Buttles
10	Nick Schone
11	Kim Smith
16	Brady Drinkman
22	Courtney Walk
23	Margie Wiseman, Barbara Bender
27	Russ White
29	Julie Babbitt

Happy Birthday and God bless you!

November anniversary:

14	Dean & Leslie Frisle
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Congratulations and God bless you!



Women's Evening Fellowship Group

The Monday night Bible study group will meet on Monday, November 10th at 7 p.m. at the Glenwood City church. We will be beginning a new study, "Experiencing Contagious Joy". If you are interested in joining this study, please contact Judy Bender at 715-265-7362 or jbender298@gmail.com.

Men's Group

The Men's Fellowship Group will meet at 9 a.m. on Thursday, November 13th at the Glenwood City Methodist Church. If you are interested, contact Julian Bender at 715 265 7362 or jbender167@gmail.com.



Thanks to your generosity we were able to donate:

- 184 Empty Pill Bottles to Matthew 25 Ministries
- Food to WestCAP

Weekly Audio or Video Sermons Available

Sermon by Phone is an audio version of the weekly service - call 715-309-5114. This is a Menomonee number. The service is update each Sunday afternoon and is usually available by 4 pm. A video of each week's service is available on the United Methodist Church of Boyceville Facebook page, the Glen Hills Parish Facebook page, and at : boycevilleumc.org.

Las Posadas

Las Posadas is a progressive Christmas celebration. In the past Boyceville has had 4 host locations. At each location we share part of the Christmas story and sing carols. Then we share a different food at each location, appetizers, salads, soups and deserts. At the last worship team meeting we discussed making this a River Glen Shared Ministry event on Sunday Dec. 7th at 2 pm. The idea would be to progress from church to church. If your church would be interested in participating in Las Posadas please contact Carol Cherney at raycher@centurytel.net. Once we know which churches are participating we can assign readings and the type of food for each location. This is a fun time of food, fellowship and sharing of the story of Jesus.

Hot Dish Supper



Wednesday, November 5

4:30-7 p.m.

Glenwood City
United Methodist Church

240 E. Oak St., Glenwood City, WI

Serving:

Variety of hot dishes
and desserts

Dine in or Take out

Freewill Offering for Disaster Relief

Peace
United Methodist Church
Wheeler
Worship Service at 11:15 a.m.



Don't forget to turn your clocks back
1 hour before bed on Saturday,
November 1st.

United Methodist Church of Boyceville

Worship Time: 10 a.m.

Scripture Readers for Boyceville

	Reader
November 2	Carol C & Melissa B
November 9	Marguerite Blodgett
November 16	Earl Blodgett
November 23	Carol C & Melissa B
November 30	Carol C & Melissa B



Mission Project for November & December



The Boyceville Angel Tree will be sponsoring 6 children through Christmas Program at WestCap. As soon as we have the information for the wants and needs of the children the tags will go up on the tree. All gifts should be unwrapped. Don't want to shop, cash donations are welcome too. Thank you!

The Boyceville Mission Team.

Coat Closet Distribution Dates

Where: 510 Winter St., Boyceville, WI

(Entrance is in the alley behind building)

When:

Saturday, November 1 9am-12pm

Saturday, November 8 9am-12pm

Faith United Methodist Church Prairie Farm

Worship Service at 8:30 a.m.

thank you

- To all who contributed/worked at the pancake supper. We took in \$435 for the bake sale, and \$1820 for the supper. Thanks to all who volunteered. It was much appreciated.
- To Tim Hafele for a monetary donation to our church budget.
- To the following for a monetary donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Dennis Hellendrung:
Roger and Anita Smith
Gary and Ila Knutson
Charlotte Bottolfson
Chris and Robin Burke
Roxanne White
Barbara Bender
- To Lay Readers: Roxanne White, Bill Wiseman, Leslie Frisle, Robin Burke
- To Coffee Servers: Barbara Bender, Leslie Frisle, Robin Burke

Lay Reader Coffee/Snack

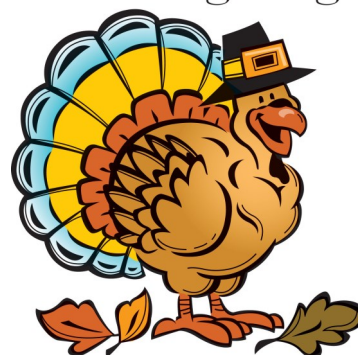
Nov. 2	Jim Strupp	Open
Nov. 9	Bill Wiseman	Open
Nov. 16	Leslie Frisle	Leslie Frisle
Nov. 23	Open	Open
Nov. 30	Open	Open

United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith did not meet in October as this is the month we usually do church cleaning. We will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 13th.

**Administrative Council meets
on November 11th at
5:30 p. m.**

**Happy
Thanksgiving**



DOWNING UMC

Worship time: 11:00 a.m.



Our Advent mission this year is a Mitten Tree. New and gently used winter outerwear items will be collected and donated to the school.



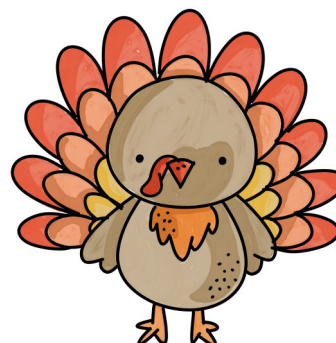
We will be having a potluck meal and decorating the church after the worship service on Sunday, November 30th.

Downing UWF

The Downing United Women in Faith met at 1 p.m. on Thursday, October 16, 2025 at the home of Sylvia Stang. There were 6 present. Purpose was read. Minutes from last meeting were read and approved by consensus. Treasurer's report was given.

A motion was made by Janice Annis and seconded by Juanita James to pay our 2025 pledge amount. Motion passed. A motion was made by Juanita James and seconded by Marlys Tews to set our 2026 pledge. Motion passed. We chose to keep our officers the same: President/Secretary is Tammy Nelson and Vice President/Treasurer is Marlys Tews.

River Glen has finished 3 mats for the homeless. The Downing Advent mission will be a mitten tree with items being donated to the school. We are using a Thrivent grant to help buy the items needed. Poinsettia orders were discussed. Our next meeting will be November 20th with Marlys as our hostess. Sylvia had devotions from Micah, Psalms and Hebrews.



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.

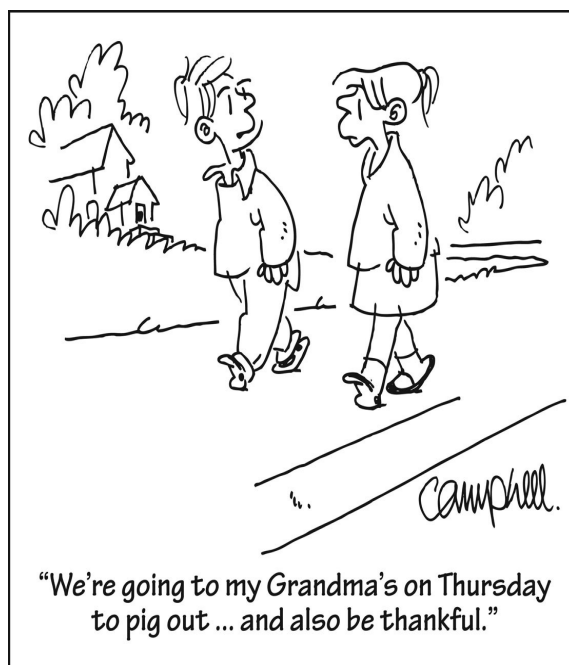
We are also collecting old toothbrushes, dental floss containers, electric toothbrush heads, clean styrofoam meat trays, old pens, dried up markers, used glue sticks, empty cereal bags.



We were able to finish 3 plastic mats for the homeless!



6.5" Poinsettia \$15 with foil. Color options are red, white or pink. Need orders by 11/9/25. There is a sign-up sheet at church or you can contact Sarah Berends at sberends96@hotmail.com to place your order.



"We're going to my Grandma's on Thursday to pig out ... and also be thankful."



Thanksgiving as a Spiritual Discipline

Gratitude is often treated as an emotion - something we feel when life is good and blessings are obvious. But Scripture calls us to something deeper. "Give thanks in all circumstances," Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:18. That's not a suggestion to ignore pain or pretend that everything is fine. It's an invitation to practice thanksgiving as a spiritual discipline - a way of seeing and living that reorients our hearts toward God, even when circumstances are difficult.

Practicing thanksgiving means intentionally naming God's gifts, even the small ones. It means pausing long enough to recognize that every breath, every meal, every relationship, every new morning is evidence of grace. When we make gratitude a habit rather than a reaction, it transforms our perspective. We begin to notice abundance where we once saw scarcity. We start to trust God's provision more deeply. And that trust becomes the fertile soil where generosity grows.

As you enter this season of thanksgiving, I encourage you to make space for a daily practice of gratitude - perhaps writing down three things each day for which you're thankful or saying a prayer of thanks before bed. Over time, you may find that thanksgiving doesn't just change your mood; it changes your heart.

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
November 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