

December
2025

River Glen Shared Ministry

“United in Christ”

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

Dear Friends,

Once again, the holiday season is upon us, and with it, the exhortations to remember the true meaning of Christmas. We observe Advent to help us stay on track: to remember the Hebrews' longing for a Savior and to recall that we still await Jesus' return.

And as we wait for Jesus' second coming, we rejoice that Christians have nothing to fear about the end of time. Even though we are not immune to the pain of this world, we are comforted. We hold on to hope in the midst of chaos. Friends, let us demonstrate our faith and faithfulness by acting on the things God is calling us to do. As we look forward to the celebration of Christmas, we also anticipate that day when Jesus will reign and we will experience a new heaven and a new earth.

Peace on earth, and goodwill to all!

Pastor Vicky

Keep Praying! December 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.



Christmas Eve Services December 24th

4 p.m. at the Glenwood City
United Methodist Church

7 p.m. at the Prairie Farm Faith
United Methodist Church

Las Posadas

We are celebrating Las Posadas on Sunday December 7th at 2 pm. All 5 churches are participating. At each stop we will sing carols, hear a part of the Christmas story, and enjoy fellowship with the progressive meal. The first stop is Faith (Prairie Farm) where we will enjoy cheese and crackers. The group then progresses to Glenwood, where there will be appetizers. Downing is next with salads. Boyceville will have soups. Then we finish up with desserts at Peace (Wheeler). Volunteers are needed to provide food for each stop. All are welcome to this time of food, fellowship and sharing of the story of Jesus. If you have any questions contact Carol Cherney at raycher@centurytel.net.

Charge Conference

Our charge conference is at 5 p.m. on December 3rd at the Glenwood City United Methodist Church.



We will have Hymn Sings at each church on Sunday, December 28th. Choose your favorite hymns and join us in song!

Children's Christmas Program at Boyceville

There will be a joint service at Boyceville on Sunday, Dec. 14, at 10 am. Come join us as we hear the joyful voices of children present their Christmas Program. The service will be followed by a potluck meal. Come to worship and stay for the fellowship. There will be no services at Faith, Glenwood City, Downing or Peace that day.



I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year.

PRAYER

list...

DECEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sister Alegria
Julie Babbit
Ray Wreford
Harry Christian
Darrell Nykanen
Marlys Tews
Pastor Sue Oeffler
Roxanne White
Pastor Shannon Mattison
Rick Bonte
Family & Friends of Don Stoddard
Family & Friends of Duane Wilmer Johnson
Family & Friends of Todd Miller
Victims of natural disasters
Our shut-ins & those in nursing homes
A reminder: Please remember our
shut-ins with calls and cards.

Carol Cherney
Sister Confianza
Nancy Smith
Karen Wreford
Pete Bodette
Karolyn Larson
Barb Meser
Myron Anderson

December birthdays:

3 Cody Keeley
4 Judy Schlottman, Roger Smith,
Lavonne Nelson
8 Karen Wreford
13 Julia Hoff
16 Sharon Zachow
17 Gail Mitchell
17 Kevin Smith
24 Brooke Salisbury

Happy Birthday and God bless you!

December anniversaries:

9 John & Rosanne Wurtzler
21 Merlyn & Shirley Jones
Congratulations and God bless you!

NewsLetter DEADLine

Gleaner news is due by
noon on Tuesday, December 23rd.
Please contact Tammy Nelson
at 715-505-2657 or
rtsmnelson@hotmail.com or
riverglensharedministry@gmail.com
with your news. Thanks.



Thank You to our Worship Leaders:

Howard Hintzman Earl Blodgett
Bruce Drinkman Russ Rindsig
Bonnie Walters

We couldn't do this without you!

Will you be part of the “inn” crowd or one of the “stable” few?

Women's Evening Fellowship Group

The Monday night Bible Study will meet on December 1st at Irma's House. We will be sharing thoughts on Chapter 2 "Turning Sorrow Into Joy" from the study Experiencing Contagious Joy. If you are interested in joining the group contact Judy Bender (715-265-7362) for more information.

Men's Group

The Men's Fellowship Group will meet at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, December 3rd 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:

- Food to WestCAP
- 268 crocheted squares to Pine Ridge Reservation

Weekly Audio or Video Sermons Available

Sermon by Phone is an audio version of the weekly service - call 715-309-5114. This is a Menomoneie 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.

HELP US RESTOCK TOWELS, TOILETRIES & CLEANING SUPPLIES NEEDED

MISSION RESTORING HOPE

RESTORING HOPE, ONE HOME AT A TIME

NEW ITEMS NEEDED

- Trash bags 30 gallon
- Trash bags 13 gallon
- Laundry soap liquid/pods
- Hygiene items including sample sizes
- Shower liners
- All purpose cleaner
- Dish Soap
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Sponges/scrubbers

**MISSION RESTORING HOPE
NEEDS YOUR HELP**

We're collecting essential items to restock our emergency care kits—providing cleaning, hygiene, and home starter supplies to local families in need. Your donations help restore comfort, dignity, and hope during times of crisis

November 13th

—

December 17th

♥ Mission Restoring Hope is a registered nonprofit. All donations are tax-deductible.

NEW OR LIKE NEW ITEMS

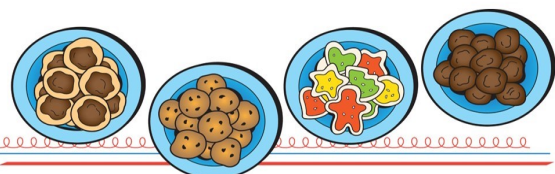
- Bath Towels & Washcloths
- Kitchen Towels & Washcloths
- Silverware & Utensils
- Toaster & small appliances
- Mixing bowls
- Bowls with lids
- Strainers
- Pizza pans/ cookie sheets
- Pizza cutters
- Dish Drainers
- Bath Rugs
- Curtains

DROP OFF LOCATION:
105 Tower Road West,
Wheeler, WI 54772

Or by appointment: Call Doreen @715-505-1621

Wed. & Fri 11-4
Sat. 8:30 -12:30

The magic of Christmas is not in the presents, but in His presence.



Cookie Walk

Glenwood City United Methodist Church
240 E. Oak St., Glenwood City

Saturday, December 13, 2025

From 9:00 a.m. — until cookies are
gone — usually before noon

We will offer pre-boxed cookies as well
as trays of cookies & candy for you to choose your own.

Handmade crafts will also be available.

Cookies are priced per pound
Containers will be provided (no outside containers accepted)

Pre-orders will be accepted at gcmethodistch@cltcomm.net
Or call Judy 715-265-7362 or Jean 715-607-4087

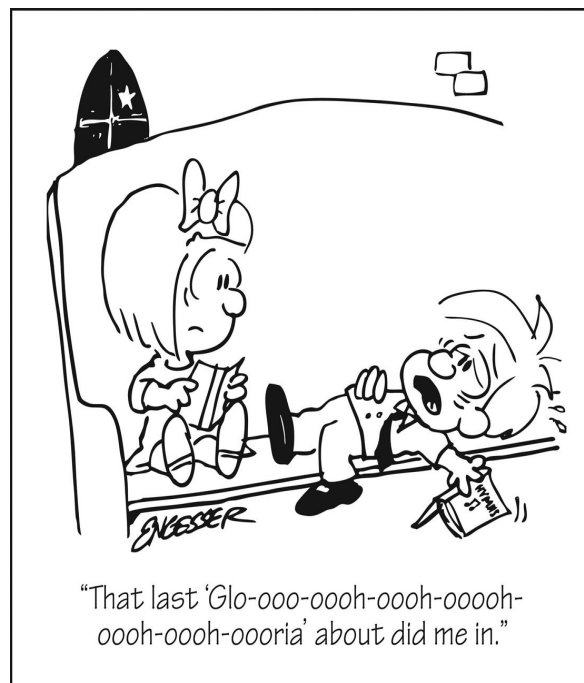


Peace United Methodist Church Wheeler

Worship Service at 11:15 a.m.



Thank you to everyone who helped
make our meatball dinner a success!



*Don't let your traditions put too much emphasis on the bling,
and not enough on the King.*

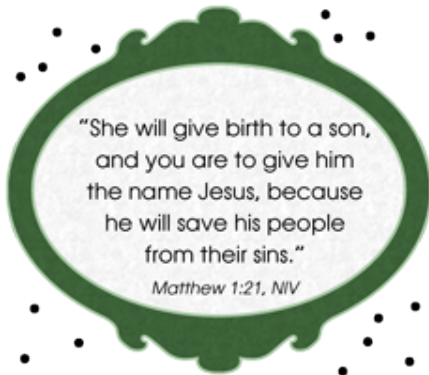
United Methodist Church of Boyceville

Worship Time: 10 a.m.

Scripture Readers for Boyceville

Reader

December 7 Carol C & Melissa B
December 14 Children's Program
December 21 Earl Blodgett
December 28 Marguerite Blodgett



Mission Project for November & December



The Boyceville Angel Tree will be sponsoring 6 children through Christmas Program at WestCap. The tags for the children are on the tree. All gifts should be unwrapped. Gifts are due at the church by Sunday November 30th. Don't want to shop, cash donations are welcome too. Thank you!

The Boyceville Mission Team.



Have yourself a merry little Christmas!

**Faith
United Methodist Church
Prairie Farm**

Worship Service at 8:30 a.m.

thank you

- To the following to the Memorial Fund in memory of Philip Hellendrung:
Roger and Anita Smith
Gary and Pat Frisle
Chris and Robin Burke
Charlotte Bottolfson
Barbara Bender
Gary and Ila Knutson
- Barbara Bender in memory of James "Jim" Johnson
- To all the Prayer Warriors for Roxanne White. She is going to be a survivor.
- To Lay Readers: Jim Strupp, Bill Wiseman, and Leslie Frisle.



Lay Reader Coffee/Snack

Dec. 7	Leslie Frisle	Open
Dec. 14	Children's Program at Boyce.	
Dec. 21	Bill Wieman	Open
Dec. 28	Robin Burke	Robin Burke

Our sympathy to the Todd Miller family.

**Announcing
Nativity
Greetings
Everywhere
Lovingly with
Singing**

**Outstanding
News for**

**Everyone,
Alleluias
Ringing
Throughout
Humanity**



Love the giver more than the gift.

Downing United Methodist Church

Worship time: 11:00 a.m.



Our Advent mission is a Mitten Tree with new and gently used winter items being donated to the school.

Downing United Women in Faith

The Downing United Women in Faith met at 1 p.m. on Thursday, November 20, 2025 at the church. There were 4 present. Purpose was read. Minutes from last meeting were read and approved by consensus. Treasurer's report was given.

A motion was M/S/P to donate \$10 to Glenhaven for Care Tree Lights. Mission Today form was discussed. Cookbooks have all been sold! We will have a Christmas potluck at noon on Thursday, December 18th at Juanita's home. Each person is to bring a \$5 gift for the gift exchange. We will not meet in January. Sylvia Stang had devotions.

Downing Administrative Council

The Downing Administrative Council met at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 6, 2025 at the church. There were 8 present. Dick Tews opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes from last meeting and treasurer's report were given and approved by consensus. A motion was M/S/P to approve the 2026 budget.

Dick has been running the water, flushing toilets, etc to keep the water good. No update on Slama Trust Fund. Pastor Vicky took a class on Ethics in October and she's visited a few people. The Ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25 at St. John's Catholic Church. Our charge conference will be at 5 p.m. on December 3rd at Glenwood City. Downing would like to participate in the Las Posadas event in December. Time and food needed tbd.

Closing the church for the winter was discussed and was tabled until our next meeting. We will have a Mitten Tree for our Advent Mission and use money received from Thrivent and the Glen Hills Lions Club. Items will be given to the school and we may also donate items to Grace Place. The school is in need of M-XL snowpants and waterproof gloves and mittens. Tom & Matt Berends will do our snow removal again this year. There will be a circuit event presentation on India from 1-3 p.m. on January 25th at the Menomonie UMC.

Our next meeting will be at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 8th. Pastor Vicky closed the meeting with prayer.

***It's not what's under the Christmas tree that matters,
it's who is around it.***

Glenwood City United Methodist Church

Worship time: 9:15 a.m.

Thank
you

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Hot Dish Supper on November 12th! With the help of many hands we were able to raise the amazing amount of \$1,000 to feed the victims of the recent hurricane in Jamaica through the World Central Kitchen Organization. To those who generously donated we thank you so very much! To those who cooked, baked, served, organized and helped clean up thank you! We are truly grateful for your support!



Cookie
Walk

Just a reminder that the Cookie Walk will be held on Saturday, December 13th

from 9:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. at the GC Church. Members and friends should have cookie donations to church on Wednesday the 10th, Thursday the 12th or on Friday the 13th by 6:30 pm.

We are planning to do some serious cookie decorating on Wednesday the 10th . If you can spare some time we would sure appreciate your help!

We will be assembling pre-ordered boxes of assorted cookies on Friday evening as well as the trays for the Cookie Walk. Cookies will once again be sold by the pound. Craft items and candy are priced separately. If you have any questions please contact Patty Kosmosky or Judy Bender.



Christmas is doing something a little extra for someone.



And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David. To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in the manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The Gleaner
December 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