
March
2026

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

Lenten Challenge

Dear Friends,

Lent is often misunderstood as just a time to “give up something.” But let’s not limit our thinking to that. Lent gives us a chance to reflect deeply on the way our imperfect selves get in the way of our spiritual growth.

The heart of Lenten disciplines is not about giving something up – it’s about drawing closer to God. It’s about a better and more faithful walk of discipleship.

In this frame of mind, I want to challenge all of us. I’ve been pondering the importance of sharing our faith. It’s essential not only to the health and well-being of the church, but to our individual spiritual health as well!

I’m not asking you to go door-to-door passing out tracts and asking people if they have been saved. I’m not sure if that was ever effective. Don’t hit people over the head with the Bible. Instead, let them see the hope you have in Jesus. Be a thankful person, and sprinkle your conversations with what God has done for you. Invite people into your life, care for them, and invite them to church.

And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. 16 But do this in a gentle and respectful way.

1 Peter 3: 15b-16a

Let us be thankful, joyful, compassionate, and ready! I’m looking forward to hearing your thoughts and discussing how this can work for all of us!

A blessed Lent,

Pastor Vicky

Keep Praying! March 2026

Dear Friends,

I encourage you to continue to pray daily for all our churches. If this has been difficult, consider adding it as a Lenten discipline. Find a specific time that works for you.

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.

Look for the cardstock copies of the prayer at the churches so you can place one somewhere that it can be seen and remembered.

Remember to listen as you pray. Please let me know where you think God is leading us and how these prayers are helping you.

~Pastor Vicky

“I wait for the Lord; my soul waits, and in his word, I hope.”

Psalm 130:5

Loving God, we thank you for the hope that you give. Open our eyes to the new things you're doing among us, and help us to join you in your work. Give us wisdom to see and act on your new possibilities.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lent Worship Schedule

Wednesday evening services will be held at Boyceville

A meal will begin at 5:30 p.m. and a brief service will follow

The meal will be provided by the churches noted

March 4: Meal provided by Glenwood

March 11: Meal provided by Downing

March 18: Meal provided by Boyceville

March 25: Meal provided by Glenwood

March 29 Palm Sunday

10 a.m. Joint Service at Boyceville

April 2 Maundy Thursday

Hosted by Prairie Farm

April 3 Good Friday

Ecumenical Service at United Lutheran Church in Prairie Farm

April 5 Easter Sunday

10 a.m. Joint Service at Glenwood City

The Lord's timetable is different than mine.

2-3-2026 Upper Room

5th Sunday Celebration

We will be having a 5th Sunday Celebration on Palm Sunday, March 29th. With a 10 a.m. joint service and potluck at the United Methodist Church of Boyceville. There will be no services at Prairie Farm, Glenwood City, Downing or Wheeler that day!

PRAYER list

Sister Alegria	Carol Cherney
Julie Babbit	Sister Confianza
Ray Wreford	Nancy Smith
Harry Christian	Karen Wreford
Darrell Nykanen	Pete Bodette
Pastor Sue Oeffler	Karolyn Larson
Barb Meser	Myron Anderson
Marlys Tews	Roxanne White
Sylvia Stang	Colton Peskar
Nguyen Ly (Win Lee)	Marlene Larson
Vernon Swinson	Mary Swinson
Pastor Shannon Mattison	
Victims of natural disasters	
Our shut-ins & those in nursing homes	



MARCH Birthdays & Anniversaries

March birthdays:

3	Jason Jones
5	Jordan Nelson
6	Ray Wreford
7	Colton Berends
9	Earl Blodgett
11	Cory Christian
12	Kim Silvius
14	Sue Mason
16	Makayla Nelson
17	Julian Bender
19	Rhonda Johnson
20	Janice Annis, Kylie Kahl
22	Kasen Hintz, Jacob Nelson
23	Shawna Webb
24	Bill Wisema
26	Roxanne White

Happy Birthday and God bless you!

March anniversary:

20	Randy & Mindy Nelson
----	----------------------

Congratulations and God bless you!

NewsLetter DEADLINE

Gleaner news is due by noon on Tuesday, March 24th. Please contact Tammy Nelson at 715-505-2657 or rtsmnelson@hotmail.com or riversglensharedministry@gmail.com with your news. Thanks.

God is by my side all day, every day.
2-9-2026 Upper Room

Women's Evening Fellowship Group

The Monday night Bible study will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 2nd at Irma's home in Glenwood City. We will be doing Lesson Five "Sing For Joy of Heart" in the Contagious Joy book. All are welcome to attend! If interested, please contact Judy Bender at jbender298@gmail.com or (715)265-7362

Men's Group

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

UMCOR Sunday

(Formerly known as One Great Hour of Sharing) On Sunday, March 15th we will be observing UMCOR Sunday. The monetary gifts given to UMCOR Sunday lay the foundation for all United Methodist Committee on Relief work by covering the costs of doing business. This means all contributions designated to specific UMCOR programs can go 100% to those programs because UMCOR's basic expenses are covered.

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.



Thank You to our Worship Leaders:

Carol Cherney	Earl Blodgett
Bonnie Walters	Russ Rindsig
Bruce Drinkman	

We couldn't do this without you!

I will share what I have because with it God can do great things.

2-7-2026 Upper Room



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

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead 1 hour on Saturday night, March 7th or you will be late for church on Sunday!



Thank you to everyone who helped make our creamed chicken dinner a success.



Thanks to your generosity we were able to donate:

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



***I am unique and loved by God.
2-14-2026 Upper Room***

United Methodist Church of Boyceville

Winter Mission Project

Worship Time: 10 a.m.

Scripture Readers for Boyceville

	Reader
March 1	Marguerite Blodgett
March 8	Jim Strupp
March 15	Earl Blodgett
March 22	Jim Strupp
March 29	5th Sunday Celebration



We are collecting socks for those in need at Boyceville. Socks are needed for men, women and children. Socks should be wool or cotton. Thin socks from manmade fibers are not warm in the winter. Socks can be dropped off at the church. Don't want to shop? Cash donations are welcome too. We'll be happy to shop for you.

Thank you!

The Mission Team



There is an abundance of grace, and God gives it generously.

2-4-2026 Upper Room

Faith United Methodist Church Prairie Farm

Worship Service at 8:30 a.m.

thank you

- To all who initiated/participated in the "Valentine Basket" for Roxanne. What a kind gesture! She appreciated the involvement of the church family. She has now started chemotherapy.
- To Lay Readers: Jim Strupp, Leslie Frisle, Bill Wiseman, and Robin Burke
- To Coffee Servers: Leslie Frisle and Robin Burke



Life is uncertain, but God never changes.
2-15-2026 Upper Room

Lay Reader Coffee/Snack

Mar 1	Jim Strupp	Open
Mar 8	Leslie Frisle	Leslie Frisle
Mar 15	Robin Burke	Robin Burke
Mar 22	Bill Wiseman	Open
March 29	5th Sunday Celebration	

United Women in Faith

NOTE TIME CHANGE

United Women In Faith will meet on March 12th at 4:00 p.m. Margie has the program which will be our Call to Prayer and Self-Denial. Be prepared with the special offering.

Administrative Council will meet on March 12th at 5:30 p.m.

DOWNING UMC

Worship time: 11:00 a.m.

The Downing United Women in Faith will meet at 1 p.m. on Thursday, March 19th. We will have a guest speaker sharing about building houses in Guatemala.



We will be having a garage sale April 23-25. Gently used donations are welcome!

St. Patrick's Day



St. Patrick was born in Wales in about A.D. 385. He knew God wanted him to convert people to Christianity. He traveled throughout Ireland. Since Patrick didn't have books to give the people to teach them about Jesus, he used what he did have----lots of shamrocks. A shamrock has three leaves and Patrick used the 3 leaves to explain about the Trinity. He used it in his sermons to represent how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit could all be separate, but at the same time they could all be one God. He died on March 17 and that day has been celebrated as St. Patrick's Day ever since.

The Downing Ad Council will meet at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 5th.

***God can work miracles.
2-24-2026 Upper Room***

GLENWOOD CITY UMC

Worship time: 9:15 a.m.

The Glenwood City United Women in Faith is currently collecting the following items for Terracycle:

Bread Clips (plastic)
Coffee Bags (bulk) & K-pods
Coffee Creamers (individual)
Candy & Granola wrappers
Drink Pouches (Capri or any brand)
Treat Bags (chip bags, etc)
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste tubes
Flosses
Electric toothbrush heads
Deodorant Containers
Eye Glasses & Cases
Make up Containers
Pumps & Triggers from plastic bottles
Socks (mismatched or holey) Gold Toe
Ribbons & Bows
Cancelled Stamps (NOT Christmas or flags)
Glue Sticks
Expired Gift Cards
Tape Dispensers
Pens, Pencils, Markers or Crayons
Styrofoam Meat Trays
Cereal, Cracker and Bread Bags



Glenwood City UWF

The Glenwood City United Women in Faith group will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 12th.



The Glenwood City Ad Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 19th

***God invites me to release the past and embrace the present.
2-18-2026 Upper Room***



Grace That Keeps Moving

March 2026

There's a difference between grace that stops with us and grace that keeps moving.

Grace, at its core, is a gift we didn't earn and can't repay. God offers love, forgiveness, mercy, and belonging not because we've checked the right boxes, but because that's who God is. And while receiving grace can be life-changing, one of the most faithful responses to grace is letting it flow through us to someone else.

The 2000 movie ***Pay It Forward*** explores this idea through a simple, hopeful premise. A middle-school student is given an assignment to come up with an idea that could change the world. His solution is disarmingly small: instead of paying someone back for a kindness, you "pay it forward" by doing something generous for three other people; something they couldn't easily do for themselves. Those people then do the same for others, creating a ripple effect of generosity and compassion.

The film isn't naïve about the difficulty of living this way. Not everyone responds. Some people stop the chain. Others are changed deeply. But the idea at the heart of the story rings true: grace grows when it's shared.

That's how God's grace often works in the real world. We receive forgiveness and choose to forgive someone else. We experience generosity and become more generous. We are shown patience and learn to extend patience to others. Grace doesn't lose power when it's shared – it multiplies.

Stewardship, at its best, is not about extracting resources or enforcing obligations. It's about helping people recognize the grace they've already received – and inviting them to pass it along. When generosity is rooted in gratitude and grace, it stops being a burden and becomes a joy.

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



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

March 2026

The Gleaner