

The Current of The River of Life



YOU KNOW THE SONG; COME WATCH THE STORY BEHIND IT!

THE MOVIE, "I CAN ONLY IMAGINE"

WILL BE PRESENTED IN FELLOWSHIP HALL ON

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, AT 6:30 PM,

RIGHT AFTER THE 5:30 PM SERVICE

(WHICH WILL FEATURE ALMOST AN HOUR OF JUST PRAISE MUSIC)

POPCORN AND PIZZA WILL BE SERVED.

See you there!



United Methodist Church in Beloit and Clinton

Loving People Into Taking Their Next Step with Jesus

BELOIT CAMPUS

2345 Prairie Avenue
Beloit, WI
608.362.8866

OFFICE

2375 Prairie Avenue
Beloit, WI
608.362.8866
Fax 608.362.0554

CLINTON CAMPUS

402 Church Street
Clinton, WI
608.676.4646

LAY LEADERSHIP 2019

Chairperson Shellie Olson
Lay Leaders
 Ken Byerley, Tracy Maxwell, Shellie Olson
Ad Council Chairperson
 Shellie Olson
Annual Conference Lay Members
 Bob Scheets Carol Scheets
Board of Trustees Chairperson
 John Butchart
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Decorating Committee Chairperson
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Hospitality Chairperson
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 Marietta Axmear
Missions & Outreach Co-Chairpersons
 Diane Gemignani & Ellen Butchart
Nominations Chairperson
 Pastor Dave Carlson
Nurture and Discipleship Chairperson
 Karen Parssinen
Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chairpersons
 Julie Hartje & Ann Williams
Stewardship Team Chairperson
 Tom Alverson
Tech Team Chairperson
 Aaron Weber
United Methodist Women Chairperson
 Marlene Erickson

CLERGY STAFF

David Carlson, Pastor 608.362.8866
 dcarlson@rolumcwi.com
 Retired Pastor Keith Putney 515-315-9502
 Missionary in Kitwe, Zambia Paul Webster
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MUSIC STAFF

Lois Ulvin Director of Music
 Judith Paddock Organist
 JoAnn Medernach Organist
 Marge Johnson Pianist

We Gather Together...

Sunday

9:30 am Worship (Beloit)
 10:00 am Worship (Clinton)

Wednesday

1:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Clinton)
 5:30 pm WATR (Dinner & Classes)

Saturday

5:30 pm Service

Our condolences to the Family and Friends of...



Frances Carter

People we have prayed for....

Ken Byerley,
Pamela Anderson,
Nathan Crawford,
Cheryl Rochester,
Dorita Braun
Steve Garber,
John Fredenall,
Melissa & Adam Hendrix,
Phyllis Dooley



Hang in there...
Spring's almost here!

Welcome Everyone!

Fun
LUNCH
BUNCH
Food
Friends
Fellowship

Thursday, February 28th

11:00 am

Johnny's Café

Shopko Mall

Come join our fellowship

Enjoy our Friendship!

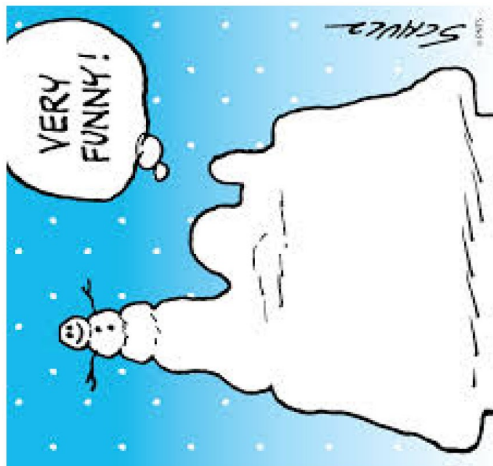
We would like New Members to join us!!

A huge, heartfelt thank you to this wonderful congregation for the gifts and good wishes at the time of my retirement. It hasn't seemed so much a job as it did an extension of our journey together. I am so grateful that even though the job has ended I still get to be here with you. God is good and so are you!

Love and gratitude,

Pat Sands





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Can you figure out what we should do?

α = A ο = O
 β = B ρ = R
 ε = E σ = S
 η = H τ = T
 φ = J υ = U
 λ = L

Use the secret code to complete the words below.

We should ...
 τ ε λ λ ο τ η ε ρ σ
 T -----
 α β ο υ τ φ ε σ υ σ

Matthew 28:16-20, Isaiah 6:8



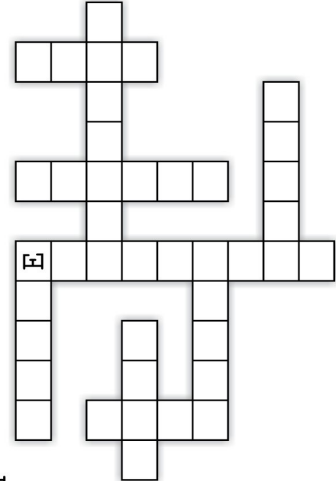
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Even though we cannot see Him, God as the Holy Spirit lives inside every person who has been born again and made new on the inside.

The words below remind us of the Holy Spirit.
 Can you find the right place for them in the crossword?

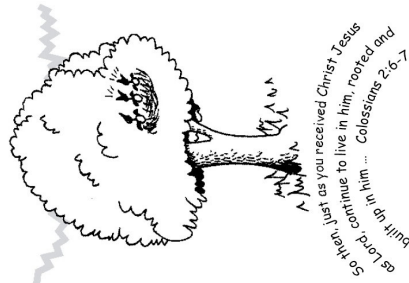
- ENCOURAGE
- COMFORT
- REMINDE
- POWER
- GUIDE
- WARN
- REAL
- HELP
- GIFTS



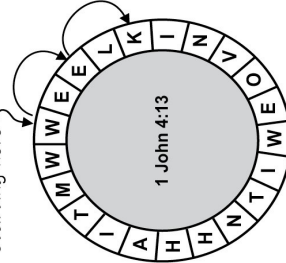
Ephesians 1:13-14, Acts 2:3-4, Romans 8:9



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On the line below, write down every second letter starting here



W ----- and he in us.

Ways to grow....

- Grow in the Word (get to know the Bible).
- Exercise your faith by trusting God in everything.
- Stay away from evil (bad things).
- Try to please the Lord in the things you do and say.
- Let your love for God and others overflow.
- Pray all the time.
- Listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to you.

Romans 10:17, Psalm 139:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:22,23

Aldrich Intermediate School (where the tutoring kids come from) is collecting Box Tops for Education. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents for the school, which in turn buys spirit wear, school supplies, snacks, and numerous other items for the school store. Students earn Aldrich "bucks" for positive behavior (in categories such as citizenship, showing respect, and being a good example to others), that they can spend at the school store. Box Tops also are used to help fund field trips and special assemblies.

This is a very easy way to help out. Boxes of cereal, Ziploc storage bags, Kleenex, and various snack items are just a few of the places you can find the Box Top. Look for the Tie Dye box in the Beloit Fellowship Hall and the green sparkly box in Clinton to drop off your collection. Thanks so much!



Happy Birthday!

March 1

Judy Byers
Dawn Freeman

March 2

Jim Churchill
Stephanie Longman

March 7

Bill Watson

March 8

Rosie Anderson

March 13

Lynn Caple
Diana Merwin
Robert Novy
Hayley Rosenthal
Lois Ulvin
Kathy Weiser

March 16

Sue Hess

March 17

June Divan
Lynn Fosler
Rev. Keith Putney

March 18

Frank Ward

March 19

Debora Kelly

March 20

Jeanette Waite

March 25

Dave Haas

March 29

Carolyn Lynch
Marlene Holcomb

Happy Anniversary!

March 24

Leon & Jeanette Waite

March 25

Jerry & Sarah Parsons

Spring Forward!



Daylight
Savings
Begins

*Sunday
March 10th*



The Kringles are coming!

**Sales will begin Feb 17
and run till March 17th.
Delivery to be March 31st**

**Our goal is to sell 70
so we can have them delivered.**

**Contact a Mission Trip youth
on Feb 17th for details.**

UMC CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRESS

February 2019

Photos provided by Lee Kuska



Finished restroom



**Old restrooms turning into
coat closet**



**Sanctuary with new front
windows and ready for
new carpet**



**Kitchen with new flooring
and cabinets going in**



Youth Room completed



Choir Room completed



**John Butchart and the cross
(photo submitted by Ellen Butchart)**



UMW 2019 Reading Program

It has been a few years since we participated in the UMW Reading Program. Jane DeSoto was the leader for the program for many years. Jane is now in Willowick Assisted Living. She seems to be in good spirits but says she's bored so pay her a visit.

Books are a great way to learn more about yourself and the world. Let them inspire and transform you as you seek to answer God's call to put faith, hope and love into action. There are four Reading Program Plans. The board of directors chose to go with PLAN I: 5 Books a Year.

One book from each category: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth. Regular reading of **response** magazine. The board of directors will be ordering the books soon. We will order one book in each category. Please let any board member know that you want to be put on the reading list and we will pass the books on to each other. Following are the books we will read during 2019:

Education for Mission: Escape From the Green Mansion - Extraordinary Church Women and their Extraordinary Rescue of San Francisco's Brothel Slaves

Leadership Development: Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography - The Faith of the 20th Century's Most Influential Women

Nurturing for Community: Hope for the Future - Answering God's Call to Justice for Our Children.

Social Action: We Are All Fast Food Workers Now - The Global Uprising Against Poverty Wages

Spiritual Growth: What's Your Story — Seeing Your Life Through God's Eyes.



All Circles invited to
1st Baptist Church for the
"Breaking of the Bread" Celebration
Wednesday, March 20th
at 9:30 am

Mission News and Ministry Opportunities

*Please drop off your
pop tops
which benefits
Ronald McDonald's*



We collected \$258.78 in loose coins last month for Northcott Neighborhood House in Milwaukee

Thanks so much!

February coins will go to Bags of Hope and Blankets for Warmth



FOOD BANK

Condiments
Meal Makers like
Hamburger or Tuna Helper

DIAPER BANK

Baby Wipes
Hygiene Product



Please donate
Children's
Picture Books
for

Caritas Little Free Library

JUST A REMINDER.....

If you are admitted through the emergency room, please have a friend or family member notify us. The hospital does not pass that information along.

If you are admitted to the hospital and would like to be called on by the pastor or a member of the clergy team, please be sure to tell them you are from The River of Life United Methodist Church. They will not call us, nor release that information unless you request it.



**Adult Mission Trip to
Midwest Mission Distribution Center
Chatham, Illinois
Sept. 4 – 6, 2019
(Wed. – Fri. after Labor Day)**

Please join our team volunteering at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center! You can choose to stay on-site at the dormitory or stay 5 miles away at the Baymont Inn in Springfield, IL. We will leave Beloit the morning of Wed., Sept. 4, and carpool to Springfield, IL. We will work on Thurs. and Fri., and return to Beloit on Friday evening, Sept. 6.

If you stay in the dormitory, the cost of the trip is \$140 plus the cost of one lunch and 3 dinners at area restaurants. If you choose to stay at the motel, the cost of the trip is \$95 plus the cost your room at the Baymont Inn. The Baymont has a block of rooms under the name of "River of Life" for approximately \$70 per room per night. You are welcome to arrange to share a room with another person on the trip.

Please do NOT let the cost of the trip keep you from signing up! There is money available in a fund specifically to help people with the cost of participating in the adult mission trip. Please let Diane Gemignani know if you are interested in the assistance.

Payment Schedule is:

\$20 deposit* due when you sign up

\$50 payment* due Sun., May 5

balance* due Sun. Aug. 11

If you have any questions, contact Diane Gemignani (608-290-5274 or dianenegem23@gmail.com). If you would like to sign up for the trip, fill out the slip below, include the non-refundable \$20 deposit, and mail it to Diane Gemignani, 1005 Milwaukee Rd., Beloit, WI 53511. **The deadline to sign up is July 10, 2019.**

I am interested in joining the Adult Mission Trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center on Sept. 4 – 6, 2019. (I understand the \$20 deposit is non-refundable, but it is transferable if someone else can take my place.)

Name

email

address

Home phone

Cell phone

* Please make checks out to ROL-UMC with "Adult Mission Trip" in the memo.

ROL UMW Islam Speaker

The ROL United Methodist Women invited Dr. Debra Majeed, Ph.D., a professor in the religious studies program at Beloit College, to speak about Islam in January. Dr. Majeed is a former ordained Methodist minister who has converted to Islam. I knew she was a very knowledgeable and engaging speaker, and I attended out of curiosity. But I left amazed at the similarities between Christianity and Islam!

Muslims worship *Allah*. *Allah* is the Creator or Supreme Being whom Christians call *God*. So many of their prophets are in our Bible: Adam, Isaac, Job, Abraham, Noah, Moses, Joseph, Aaron, David, John the Baptist, Jesus, Mary, Solomon, Elijah, Zechariah, and others.

According to Dr. Majeed, Muslims, Jews, and Christians are “people of the book” – having all received revelations from God/Allah, which were later transcribed. They comprise the Abrahamic tradition, as each faith points to Abraham as the patriarch. Muslims believe that Allah revealed the 144 chapters that became the Qur’an to the Prophet Muhammad in 7th century Arabia.

We learned that a fundamental difference was with Adam and Eve. In the Christian faith, Adam and Eve sinned, did not ask for forgiveness, and were banished from the Garden of Eden. Their relationship with God was broken, and they needed God to send his son, Jesus, to repair that relationship.

In Islam, Adam and Eve sinned, they asked for forgiveness, and God/Allah forgave them. They did not need God to come to earth in human form to repair their relationship. In Islam, Jesus is a prophet receiving revelations from Allah.

Both men and women may serve as religious leaders (imams). In the US, imams perform duties similar to those assigned to pastors/ministers and rabbis. Generally they are not “ordained” as in the Christian and Jewish traditions, but are selected from among the people of a local community.

Islam is not synonymous with terrorism. There has been a minority of Muslims who have taken actions at the expense of innocent lives, just like we have seen some religious sects performing dangerous activities in the name of Christianity. Both of their deeds should not be confused with the dictates of their faith.

Islam is not a Middle Eastern religion. While many Arabs are Muslims, most Muslims are not Arabs. Islamic communities are located on every inhabited continent of the world. It is the majority religion in many countries, and the fastest growing religion in the U.S.

We appreciate Dr. Majeed and all the people who came to hear her speak on that snowy, blustery day! Dr. Majeed will be leaving Beloit College and moving to Charlotte, North Carolina, this spring. We are thankful she was able to share her knowledge with us!

-Diane Gemignani



KNITTING WITH A MISSION GROUP

We meet the last Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm in the Office Workroom. We welcome all knitters, no matter what skill level, and anyone wishing to learn.

Hope to see you!!



Please call Sandy Ovist with questions, 608-362-6583

Update on Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre , Zambia

Last fall, Paul Webster received a promotion at GBGM, and will be working with fundraising for Agricultural Projects around the world. He is now residing in Wisconsin.

Temba Nkomozepe who joined the project in October, 2017, is the now the Caretaker at Mujila Falls. He has established a new Facebook page. It is:
<https://www.facebook.com/MujilaFallsAgCenter>

Let's keep Paul and Temba in our prayers.

Watch Us Online Every Sunday!!



www.rolumcwi.com
Wander on our web.....

MISSION News

Every year the Mission Committee tabulates the Loose Coin giving for the year. Last year we noted that the total was down by more than \$600 from the previous year, and we challenged the congregation to do better in 2018.

To encourage giving, we began highlighting the receiving organization of each month's loose coins, because sometimes it helps to know what an organization is about. In addition, our church office staff reports the monthly Loose Coin giving in each issue of The Current and lists the recipient for the current month.

We are happy to report that giving for the past year increased by just over \$200, to \$3,048.83, up from \$2,844.43 in 2017. However, that is still about \$450 short of our total from 2016. We hope to continue to improve as we raise awareness of the mission needs and opportunities in our midst.

There are several ways to contribute to the Loose Coin offering: You can drop your loose change in the offering plate as it is passed around. You can drop any form of money into the blue can. (In Beloit it's located just inside the sanctuary entrance, but during remodeling it's at the side of the fellowship hall.) Or you may place any form of money in an envelope marked "Loose Coins" and place it in the offering plate.

Jesus calls us to serve Him by caring for others whenever and wherever we can. Thank you for the many ways you do that, including by being a generous, mission-minded church!

Dec. 2017	\$227.48	God's Fund
Jan. 2018	\$216.69	Phillip and Timothy Stains Orphanage, India
Feb. 2018	\$186.49	Bags of Hope
Mar. 2018	\$182.80	Meals on Wheels
Apr. 2018	\$302.87	Caritas
May 2018	\$217.88	Conference In-Gathering
June 2018	\$250.56	Youth Mission Trip
July 2018	\$366.41	Project 16:49
Aug. 2018	\$201.61	Sparrow's Nest
Sept. 2018	\$290.79	Midwest Mission Distribution Center
Oct. 2018	\$310.58	Family Promise of Greater Beloit
Nov. 2018	<u>\$294.67</u>	Stateline Salvation Army
TOTAL	\$3,048.83	

*Note: In the past we've reported in December for the previous December through November. From now on we'll be reporting the total for the calendar year (Jan.-Dec.). So our number to beat in 2019 is the total for January through December 2018, which is \$2,967.75.

-- Ellen Butchart

What's your favorite Bible passage?



WEEKLY EVENTS & MEETINGS

Monday

1:00 pm Card Club ((FH))

Tuesday

10:00 am Men's Coffee Hour @ Milwaukee Road McDonald's
1:00 pm 500 Card Club (Sr High Room)

Wednesday

1:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Clinton) 5:30 pm WATR (Dinner & Classes)
4:00 pm Tutoring (FH)
5:30 pm WATR Dinner & Classes

Thursday

4:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday

5:30 pm Service (FH)

OUTSIDE GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous
Thursday 7:00 pm (Room 1)

Newsletter deadline

February 15th

The next issue of the Current will be available

February 24th

The Youth Group invites you to
Share Some Love
ask them for details....



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MARCH 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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- Feb 25 6:00 pm Trustees (Office Workroom)
- Feb 27 1:00 pm Knitting With A Mission (Office Workroom)
- Feb 28 11:00 am Lunch Bunch @ Johnny's, Shopko Mall
- March 2 5:30 pm Service & Movie Night
- March 4 6:30 pm Liturgist/Lay Speakers (Office Workroom)
- March 5 5:00 pm SPPRC (Office)
6:00 pm Nurture & Discipleship (FH)
- March 6 Ash Wednesday
- March 10 DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
- March 11 6:00 pm Building Committee (FH)
- March 17 HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY@
- March 18 6:30 pm Stewardship (FH)
- March 20 Circles::9:30 am Breaking of the Bread at 1st Baptist Church

SAVE THE DATE:....

- April 4 & April 5 UMW Rummage Sale Mission Fundraiser
- April 6 & April 7 Easter Cantata
- April 18th Maundy Thursday
- April 19th Good Friday Services
- May 5th Confirmation (Beloit)



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<http://www.rolumcwi.com>