



## *The Current of The River of Life*



### ***UPDATE ON THE MATS FOR THE HOMELESS PROJECT***

This is a good project to work on during this time of quarantine. We have nine mats ready to be delivered, with 5 people continuing to crochet. Please remember, even if you don't crochet you can participate by donating plastic bags (please hold on to them for the time being) and making plarn.

Refresher in making plarn: Smooth out the plastic bags, it usually works well to stack about 5 at a time, cut off the tops and the bottom, fold over (the long way) about 3 times and then cut in three-inch blocks. Join the strips and roll them into a big ball, about the size of a soccer ball. The people crocheting really appreciate the balls of plarn. YouTube has detailed instructions for making mats for the homeless.

Going forward, instead of holding workshops we will join with the knitting group when they gather at 1:00 p.m. on the last Wed. of the month in the workroom at the church office. Join us (once the Safer-at-home ban has been lifted) for knitting, crocheting or the craft of your choice.

If you have any questions please call Sandy Ovist at 608-362-6583 or Pat Sands at 608-921-6755.

# United Methodist Church in Beloit and Clinton

*Loving People Into Taking Their Next Step with Jesus*

## **BELOIT CAMPUS**

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Beloit, WI  
608.362.8866

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Fax 608.362.0554

## **CLINTON CAMPUS**

402 Church Street  
Clinton, WI  
608.676.4646

## **LAY LEADERSHIP 2019**

**Chairperson** Shellie Olson

### **Lay Leaders**

Tom Alverson

### **Ad Council Chairperson**

Shellie Olson

### **Annual Conference Lay Members**

Bob Scheets Carol Scheets

### **Board of Trustees Chairperson**

Lee Kuska

### **Decorating Committee Chairperson**

Tracy Maxwell

### **Finance Chairperson**

### **Homeless & Human Trafficking Chairperson**

Beverly Osborne

### **Hospitality Chairperson**

Diane Gemignani

### **Memorials and Wills Chairperson**

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**

Derek Bergh

### **United Methodist Women Chairperson**

Marlene Eric kson

## **CLERGY STAFF**

David Carlson, Pastor 608.362.8866

dcarlson@rolumcwi.com

Retired Pastor Keith Putney 608-774-3162

## **CHURCH OFFICE**

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Worship Leader

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Bonnie Moore

Receptionist

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## **MUSIC STAFF**

Lois Ulvin

Director of Music

Judith Paddock

Organist

Marge Johnson

Pianist

## ***We Gather Together...***

### **Sunday**

9:30 am Worship (Beloit)

10:00 am Worship (Clinton)

### **Monday**

10:00 am Adult Bible Study (Clinton)

5:30 pm WATR (Dinner & Classes)

### **Saturday**

5:30 pm Service (Beloit)



Our condolences to the Family and Friends of...

Sonja Brill  
Kathy Butchart (Sister-in-law of John Butchart)

**People we have prayed for....**

Bill Watson Family,  
Priscilla Pann & Family,  
Ellen Butchart,  
Doug Mitchell,  
Tom Michels

Daily Devotionals and a  
shortened simplified  
Sunday Worship Service  
can be found at:  
[www.rolumcwi.com](http://www.rolumcwi.com)

First, I want to wish everyone health and happiness, in hopes everyone is doing well with the current situation at hand. Today's concerns with the Coronavirus is affecting everyone's families and daily living. All of us at church are waiting eagerly to get back to our regular schedules and being able to attend church on Sundays. I hope everyone that can is taking advantage of the items we have been posting on the website and social media.

Second, I wanted to thank everyone for their continued donations and pledges to the church. We sincerely appreciate everyone still contributing during these tough times. We added a mail slot into the front door of the office for anyone to be able to drop off their pledges and I can also take payments over the phone.

Finally, I wanted to let everyone know that this section will contain the basic finances for everyone to be able to see how the church is doing. This month, I am going to include the general income for the month of April so far. I am going to create more of a format in the future editions of the Current, but I am also hoping to receive some feedback as to what else anyone would like included in the numbers I publish.

April Pledges	\$8,838.50	(Includes all fund accounts)
Monthly ACH	\$3,580.00	(Includes all fund accounts)
April	\$12,418.50	(As of 4/14/2020)

**Christina Bergh**  
Office Manager  
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W:608-362-8866



Special Offering  
April 26th  
Native American  
Ministries





**EASTER WORD SEARCH**  
JESUS ON THE CROSS

- Love - Cross
- Pray - Thorn
- King - Nails
- Sin - Tomb
- Mary - Jesus
- Crucifix
- Resurrection

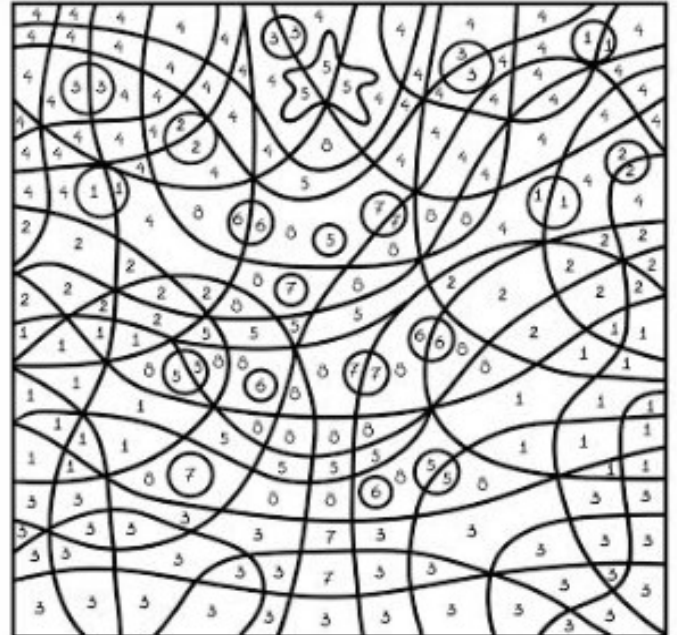


...elle...  
let your  
**FAITH**  
BE BIGGER  
than your  
**fear**

Jesus answered,  
Thou couldest  
have no power  
at all against me,  
except it were  
given thee from  
above.  
John 10:11, KJV



For more activity pages make sure to visit [busybooksandmore.net](http://busybooksandmore.net)



- 1. White 2. Light Blue 3. Blue 4. Dark Blue
- 5. Yellow 6. Red 7. Brown 8. Green

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 Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

LUKE 2:10-11, KJV



Happy Spring to Everyone,

Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote: "The earth laughs in flowers." Like most flower lovers, the thought brings a smile to my face whenever I hear it. The image also brings to mind a quote from Gerard Manly Hopkins that says: "The world is charged with the grandeur of God." What a blessing for us! What a responsibility for us!

As we recall in Genesis (2:15), you and I are called to "cultivate and care for" the world. Considering the Scripture, I know how important it is to nurture our beautiful environment but I have to ask myself, "How do I nurture all of God's gifts in my life?" This can be even slightly more challenging than keeping my flowers watered, conserving energy and recycling.

Hoping each and everyone is doing well during this Covid 19 Virus. This unknown virus has us all on a new beginning. There are so many, many options' going on about this virus. Those who can admit that they know nothing about this unknown virus to those who seem compelled to speak their minds about how fake this virus is and that isn't as bad as what certain folks are making this out to be. This compels us to cultivate a new strength within ourselves. It can lead us to test to our own faith and strengths. A new strength on how we look at caring for our neighbors, our loved ones, friends, and especially for ourselves. Folks, we are all in this together. If there is a time that you need to speak to someone, give your family a call, call a church member, call your Pastor. This is a time that we all need to check up on each other. This is also a part of our stewardship life. A time for caring for one another. A time to reach out to one another. Maintaining in doing God's work and love.

I'd like to take this moment to Thank each and everyone of the continued support in mailing in your pledges each week and or month. For those who would prefer to drop off your payment to the office, we have installed a mail slot in the front door of the office. This way, if you would like to drop off your payment, you can at anytime. We do ask that you make sure that the envelopes are securely sealed. You may want to put on a piece of tape on the flap. If you would like to get on the EFT, electric fund transfer, please contact Chrissy Bergh, Office manager. Her email address is: [cbergh@rolumcwi.com](mailto:cbergh@rolumcwi.com).

I'm going to work with Bonnie to see if we can put a small section in each Current telling what the special giving is for the month. This way folks will know what Special Giving is and if that is the one that you like to give to, you'll know.

Through God's Love, Hope and Grace, we'll make it through this pandemic. Keep Strong! Stay Healthy! and Stay Well!!

Peace and Love,  
Stewardship Team

## Mission News and Ministry Opportunities

It is with a heavy heart that I must tell you that both of the Sidekick mission trips have been cancelled for 2020. Covid-19 has caused states to discourage traveling of the youth/adults for the summer. All money will be refunded. Sidekick will send checks back to the people who paid from personal accounts. Any check from a church account will go back to the church. We will have this money held until next year, unless the youth no longer wishes to go.

Thank you to everyone who has helped our youth this year. Especially to those two individuals who helped Zekaeus Lutzow with the missing money from his fundraiser. We are truly blessed to have such caring people in our congregation.

Please stay safe with this pandemic and we will look forward to next year.

Sincerely,

Lora Cawkins

ROL Mission Trip Coordinator



**Adult Mission Trip to  
Midwest Mission Distribution Center  
Chatham, Illinois  
May 27 – 29, 2020**

Our Adult Mission Trip is currently still on schedule. We have four adults signed up, and we can accept more participants. We will continue to watch the news and listen to advice from health care professionals. We will make definite decisions in mid-May. If you have any questions, or if you would like to sign up, please contact Diane Gemnani at 608-290-5274 or dianegem23@gmail.com.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**MAY 1**

Dennis Boschma  
Elzbieta Cudney  
Shelby Ward

**MAY 2**

Alan Wilson

**MAY 4**

Jacob Christensen  
Kathy Smith

**MAY 5**

Linda Mathews

**MAY 7**

Laverne Hays

**MAY 8**

Mindy White

**MAY 9**

Rev. David Carlson

**MAY 10**

Joanne Klett

**MAY 12**

Peggy Lund  
May Opperman

**MAY 13**

Diane Mitchell

**MAY 16**

Trey Caple

**MAY 19**

Julie Day

**MAY 23**

Steve Austin

**MAY 24**

Jacque Patch  
Mark Tudor

**MAY 25**

Trysta Heidenreich

**May 26**

Eva Hoff

**MAY 29**

Tony Bachim  
Dale Gemignani

**MAY 30**

Charlotte Jacobson  
Kennedy Maxwell  
Claire Parsons

**MAY 31**

Dick Moon

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

**May 1**

Doug & Tina Henthorn

**May 26**

Tom & Joan Michels

**May 31**

Robert & Patti Novy

Note: If your name is not on our lists, please call the office so we can update our records.



Meets the 3rd Wednesday, 1:00 pm



Meets the first Tuesday at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall



Meets the 3rd Wednesday, at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall

Just a reminder.....All church activities, meetings, and events are closed at this time, due to the public health emergency.

## WHAT'S NEW

- ⇒ Have you been watching the Services on line? They are aired each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. You can get to them each and every week at: [www.rolumcwi.com](http://www.rolumcwi.com). Once the webpage has come up, go to the Service Online tab and click on it. We've done on-line communion. This will be done on the first Sunday of each month We even live stream the Special services. You can get these on your smart phone, tablets and your desktop computer. If you are having trouble getting onto the webpage, please contact Derek Bergh, webmaster, at 608-921-2528, [dbergh@rolumcwi.com](mailto:dbergh@rolumcwi.com) or Tom Alverson—608-346-1424, [talverson@rolumcwi.com](mailto:talverson@rolumcwi.com).
- ⇒ Watch for "facebook live" information spots. I have done two of them. My will is to keep doing those. I have heard from a lot of folks that they like them. They'll get better. My best day to do these are on Fridays.
- ⇒ Check out the facebook pages! I have put a lot of information out on these pages lately. The facebook pages are: The River of Life United Methodist Church (this page is the Beloit campus); The River of Life United Methodist Church Clinton Campus. It does not matter which Facebook page you choose. There are two Youth facebook pages, but they are "Closed" pages for the protection of the Youth.
- ⇒ COMING TO YOUR LOCATION: There will be a plastic tote at each campus. In these totes, you will find the new publication of The Current and also will be the Upper Rooms. The Current is also available on the webpage under the tab, "The Current."
- ⇒ Please remember, staff members are still working during the regular office hours remotely. The office hours: Monday—Thursday, 10am to 3pm. IF you need to talk to one of us directly, please look up on the webpage, [www.rolumcwi.com](http://www.rolumcwi.com), on the home page, scroll down and you will see the breakdown on who handles which type of call and our telephone numbers are published there. If you call the office and leave a message on the office telephone answering machine, Bonnie calls the office each business day and checks for messages.

Stay Healthy and Stay Safe!!  
Tom Alverson



### *A Mother's Day Prayer*

*Dear Lord,*

*Please watch over  
and support all mothers  
on earth and in heaven . . .*

*and help them to know how much  
they are loved and appreciated  
on Mother's Day and every day.*

RightQuotes4all.Com



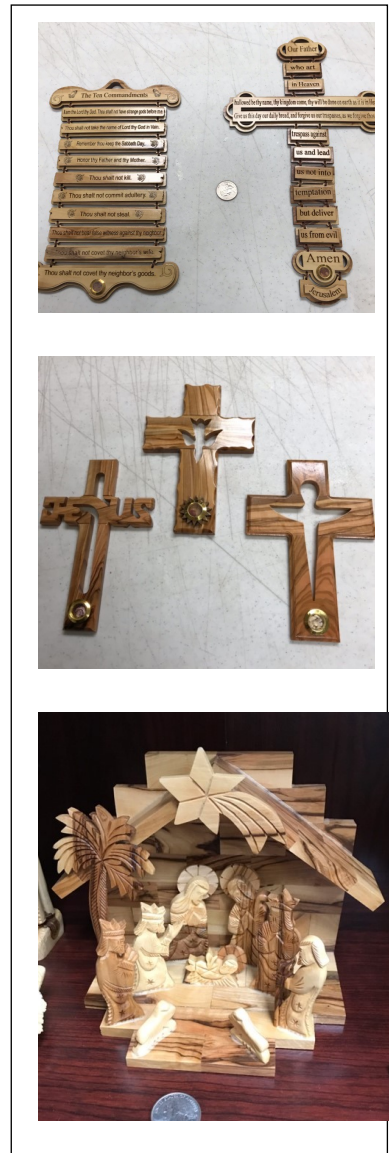
On Saturday and Sunday, May 9 and 10, we have a guest, Mr. Jeryes Qumseya, scheduled to speak. He will be speaking about the plight of Christians living in Palestine. Jeryes leads Blest Art, an organization in Beloit that supports Christians living in Palestine. Due to violence that keeps erupting in the Holy Land, the tourism industry has dwindled and is at an all-time low, especially in Bethlehem.

Christians living in Palestine depend on tourism as their only source of income. As a result, Palestinian Christian emigration has increased. At one time, Christians made up more than 63% of the population of Palestine. Christians are now less than 1% of the total population in the Holy Land.

For centuries, Christians in the Holy Land have earned their living by carving religious art from olive wood they have pruned from trees in their family olive groves. Blest Art is dedicated to supporting these master artists and the Christian community in Palestine by creating jobs for needy fellow Christians and creating a more stable source of income for them.

Jeryes Qumseya will be bringing many of the carvings to sell in Fellowship Hall: statues, crosses, nativity sets, jewelry, and ornaments. If you would like to see what Blest Art has to offer, you can go to their website at [www.BlestArt.com](http://www.BlestArt.com).

-Diane Gemignani



COUNT YOUR  
**BLESSINGS.**  
NAME THEM ONE BY ONE.  
COUNT YOUR  
**MANY BLESSINGS**  
SEE WHAT GOD HAS DONE.



# WEEKLY EVENTS & MEETINGS

## Monday

10 am Adult Bible Study @ Clinton  
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

4:00 pm Tutoring (FH)  
5:30 pm WATR ((FH) Dinner & Classes)

## Thursday

4:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

## Saturday

5:30 pm Service (FH)

## Sunday

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

## OUTSIDE GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Thursday 7:00 pm (Mid. School Room)

## LUNCH BUNCH

Meets the 4th Thursday of the month at  
11:00 am at a designated restaurant



## Just a reminder.....

ROL Church is closed until further notice due to the public health emergency.

All services, meetings, and events are cancelled.

Daily Devotionals and a shortened simplified

Sunday Worship Service can be found at:

[www.rolumcwi.com](http://www.rolumcwi.com)

### Issue deadline:

May 8th

The next issue of the  
Current will be available

May 17th

*Don't be afraid, for I am with you.*

*Don't be discouraged,  
for I am your God.*

*I will strengthen you and help you.*

*I will hold you up with my  
victorious right hand.*

Isaiah 41:10

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www.sparkleofnature.com