

The Current of The River of Life



V B S

Sunday, July 28 thru Wednesday, July 31

5:30 pm - 8:15 pm

(Registration Form page 9)



June 23, 2019

www.rolumcwi.com

Vol. 16 Issue 6

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

Building Committee Chairperson

Brian Maxwell

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

Aaron Weber

United Methodist Women Chairperson

Marlene Erickson

CLERGY STAFF

David Carlson, Pastor 608.362.8866

dcarlson@rolumcwi.com

Retired Pastor Keith Putney 608-774-3162

Missionary in Kitwe, Zambia Paul Webster

pwebster@wisconsinumc.org

CHURCH OFFICE

608.362.8866

Christina Bergh

Office Manager

cbergh@rolumcwi.com

Tom Alverson

Worship Leader

talverson@rolumcwi.com

Bonnie Moore

Receptionist

bmoore@rolumcwi.com

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)

Saturday

5:30 pm Service





People we have prayed for....

Allen Kiser,
Brian Rochester,
John Fredenall



**Watch Us Online
Every Sunday!!**

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

Welcome Everyone!

*Food
Fun
Friends
Fellowship*

Lunch Bunch



Thursday, June 27
11:00 am
Salvador's
907 Bayliss Avenue

Come join the fun!

Enjoy our Friendship!




Don't forget to pray for our
Youth on the Mission Trip
to Hopkinsville, Kentucky,
June 22-29.

Adult Mission Trip Details

So far, we have 8 people going on the trip: Bruce and Lora Cawkins, Diane Gemignani, Delores Hahn, Mary Alice Harris, Joanne Johnson Bob Novy and Ellen Butchart. There is still time to sign up, and you are welcome to bring a friend!

The Adult Mission trip departs from the church parking lot at 9:00 am on Wednesday, Sept. 4. Our car pool will stop for a fast-food lunch in Bloomington, IL. Our next stop is Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site where Abraham Lincoln lived from 1831 to 1837. We can walk through the village, enjoy the visitor center, and/or tour the museum. – You decide how much you would like to walk!

You have a choice of staying in the dormitory at Midwest Mission Distribution Center or at the Baymont Inn. If you choose the motel, they have a block of rooms set aside for Wednesday and Thursday nights at the rate of \$59.99. Please mention you are volunteering at MMDC when you make your reservation. Reservations need to be made by August 22. The hotel phone number is 217-529-6655.

Many of us will be staying at the dormitory. You will need to pack your own towel and bed linen. The dorm has showers, air conditioning, and beds. The sign-up form for the trip is included in this issue of the Current. We look forward to you joining us this year!



Midwest Mission Distribution Center

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.

The River of Life United Methodist Church

"Summer Supper"

Monday, July 22, 2019

5:00 - 7 PM

Adults
\$10.00

Children 8 and under
\$5.00



Beverage Included

Carry Outs Available
(Call 608-346-5887 to call ahead for pick up)

The River of Life United Methodist Church
402 Church Street
Clinton WI 53525

Mission News and Ministry Opportunities

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



DIAPER BANK

Diapers Size 5 & 6
Baby Wipes
Feminine Hygiene Products

LOOSE



**C
O
I
N
S**

We collected \$274.56 in loose coins
last month for
Conference In Gathering
Thanks so much!
June coins will go to
Youth Mission Trip

Please donate
Children's
Picture Books for



Caritas Little Free Library



**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 "Midwest Mission Distribution Center" for approximately \$60 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:

\$50 deposit* due when you sign up
balance* due Sun. Aug. 11

If you have any questions, contact Diane Gemignani (608-290-5274 or dianegem23@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.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

The next phase of Prairie Avenue re-construction is starting soon, on Tuesday June 25th. There will be one lane Northbound, and one lane Southbound from Cranston Road to Huebbe Parkway. In that area, the only place to turn left between Cranston and Huebbe is Elmwood only. Right-hand turns will be permitted. The only place to cross Prairie will be Elmwood. We anticipate this phase will last about 6 weeks. If you have questions, please call Wes Brill at 608-362-1791.



wisconsin conference
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

IMAGINE
WISCONSIN
ANew

June 3, 2019

Bishop Forms a Wisconsin Option Task Force

In response to the recent General Conference and Judicial Council rulings in February and April, respectively, Bishop Hee-Soo Jung is assembling a team of clergy and laity leadership from across the Wisconsin Conference to envision a Wisconsin way forward – a Wisconsin Option to the calls for separation on both the traditional and progressive sides of our theological spectrum. Rev. Dan Schwerin, lead pastor of First United Methodist Church in Waukesha and chair of our Conference Committee on the Episcopacy, will facilitate the task force in partnership with Bishop Jung. Other members of the task force are Forrest Wells, Chet Ward, Lisa Wink, Jenny Arneson, Sheri Graeber, Esther Fahm, Kate Jones (secretary), Don Greer, Lisa Jones, Jonah Overton, and Jack Stubbs.

The purpose of the task force is to help clarify and refocus the identity of the Wisconsin Conference with a missional focus, and inclusive foundation, and a “grace margin” process that allows clergy and laity from across the Conference to share their thoughts and responses. The Wisconsin Option builds upon the Wesleyan General Rules to “do no harm, do all the good we can, and to attend together to the ordinances of God.” We commit to help leaders and congregations across the Conference live out these General Rules in tangible and transformative ways.

In a time of deep emotional and spiritual division and disagreement, the leadership of the Wisconsin Conference is seeking a healing, collaborative, and sustainable alternative that can be a witness to the Conference, the denomination, and the world that the reconciling grace and power of God is greater than any human dividing walls. This is a journey we invite the whole Conference to make together



The River of Life Vacation Bible School 2019
 2345 Prairie Avenue, Beloit 608-362-8866
In the Wild--Amazing Encounters with Jesus
 Sunday July 28th-Wednesday July 31st
 5:30 p.m.-8:15 p.m.

Student Name _____ Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address _____
(street address, city, state, and zip)

Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____

Cell _____ E-Mail _____

Birthdate: _____ Last grade completed in school _____

Medical Information: *(Medical or other information we need to know. Please include any food allergies)*

Emergency Contacts: Other than listed above)

Does your child attend Sunday School? If so where? _____

If your child is visiting our church, who is he/she a guest of? _____

May we have permission to photograph your child? ___yes___no



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July 1

Phyllis Dooley
Shana Listenbee

July 2

Ellen Butchart
Wanda Dixon
Margaret Hansen
Alexis Stinson

July 3

Barbara Sheffield

July 4

Hanna Jones
Marlene Sturdevant
Andrew Wadle

July 5

Adams, Nell
Marge Johnson
Steven Martin

July 6

Kathy Cornford

July 7

Shellie Olson

July 8

Tyler Caple
Marjorie Gray

July 9

Connor Polzin

July 11

Joni King

July 12

Steve Martin

July 14

Marlene Bachim

July 16

Robin Vieth-Austin
Vicki Boschma
Ken Byerley
Liz Rosenthal
Zacary Woody

July 17

Ehron Bishop
Betty Hannum
Savanna Henthorn

July 18

Patty Listenbee

July 20

Brayden Polzin

July 22

Lynda Moon

July 25

Aubrey Maxwell

July 26

Emily Hartje
Reid Parssinen

July 27

Christina Bergh
Gretchen Dixon

July 30

Tim Crawford

July 31

Alex Wilson

Happy Anniversary

July 1

Bill & Ada Watson

July 3

Clem & Mary Jane Kellicut
Diana & Craig Merwin

July 11

Dave & Kelly Clark

July 12

Ken & Marvelene Winchester

July 23

Brian & Tracy Maxwell

July 30

Dennis & Sandy Hays



GOD'S LOVE



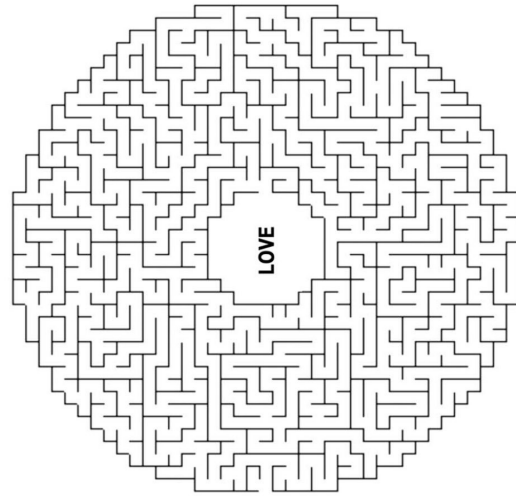
"But God loves us deeply. He is full of mercy. So he gave us new life because of what Christ has done. He gave us life even when we were dead in sin. God's grace has saved you" (Ephesians 2:4-5 NIV).

Word Find

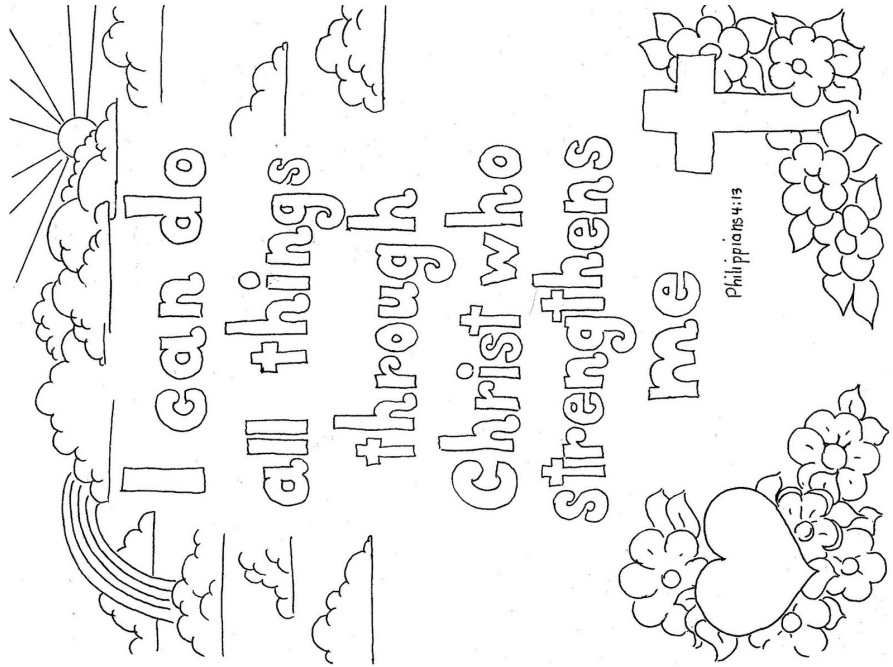
- CANDY
- FEBRUARY
- FLOWER
- HEART
- LOVE
- PINK
- RED
- SPECIAL

L O V E
 A D C N Y D N N A C H K Y A L L V X
 I C E Y S A K K D Y E
 F E I H F H A K K Y E
 E N I T N E A E H Q U
 D D H T R A E K N I P
 D O V D W D V L G
 Q A E N I W L G
 O V C X Y J E S
 O O V R L F L O W E R
 V C

Find your way to
 the love Jesus
 has ready to give us!



Start here →





ARK ENCOUNTER BUS TOUR

Our congregation has an opportunity to join members of Central Christian Church on a wonderful and exciting tour. The tour runs from October 13-17, 2019. The itinerary follows:

October 13 Bus leaves at 1pm

October 14 Visit Ark Encounter 10 am-6 pm

October 15 Visit Creation Museum 10 am-6 pm

October 16 Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad/Freedom Center Museum 10 am-11:30 am; Lunch; Visit Cathedral Basilica Covington, Ky; and River Boat Dinner Cruise. This will be a busy day.

October 17 Depart for home.

Trip Cost: \$511 per person double occupancy; \$721 per person single occupancy.

If you choose double occupancy name the person you want to room with if you have a preference. Cost of the tour includes hotel with breakfast, Motor Coach Bus, all tickets, dinner on the cruise and Tour shirt. Extras at your cost includes hotel taxes and tip for the driver, approximately \$10 per person. Lunch and dinner will be on your own EXCEPT for the dinner cruise. Cost to rent a scooter at the Ark and Creation Museum is \$35 per day. Contact Randy Kiger Central Christian phone number: 608.362.7663, ext. 33 if you want her to make arrangements for the rental. Pay for the tour at the time you make your reservations to ensure your reservation is confirmed, first come first served. Presently there are 18 seats left.

You can make your reservations on line or by phone. <https://centralwired.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/179070> or call Randy Kiger at 608.362.7663, ext. 33. You can check to see if they allow payment by credit card or write out a check.

The ark is gigantic and based on the dimensions in the Bible. Let's be in fellowship with each other on a wonderful Christian tour. Make your reservations NOW.



LOCAL UMW COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Are you interested in applying for a River of Life UMW scholarship? Any member of our church just entering college this fall or in college but has never received a UMW scholarship is eligible to apply. Do so now!!! Send the following information to Marlene Erickson, 2425 Fieldstone Lane, Beloit, Wi. 53511:

GPA – Honors – Awards - Certifications
School Attending
Selected Major
Volunteer Experience
Activities involved in – school and church
Why you should be considered for a scholarship

The UMW Board will meet and make a decision as to how many scholarships we will provide, who the recipient(s) will be and the dollar amount of the scholarship. The recipients will receive a check for their scholarship during UMW Sunday Worship Services in September. We would prefer if you could be present at the worship service to accept your scholarship. If you are unable to attend let Marlene Erickson know who your designated person will be to accept the scholarship on your behalf.



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

UMW UNIT MEETING AND PROGRAM

July 10, 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

FAMILIES FIGHTING ADDICTION

Mom, Tracy Burtis lost her son Cody Burtis, 30 years old, to a heroin overdose after battling addiction for years. Tracy will be with us to share her experiences. She will also share how addiction impacts the families of addicts. All of us have heard on T.V. or read in newspapers about the opioid epidemic and Beloit has not been spared the spread of this terrible epidemic. Tracy is president of "Families Fighting Addiction" and started the organization after the loss of her son. Her purpose is to educate families and to share the resources available to them. The support group provides monthly educational session on different topics such as co-dependency and other issues related to addiction. The group's website is www.familiesfightingaddiction.org.

Please join us. Snacks and beverages will be served.

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE WAS SENT TO PASTOR CARLSON VIA E-MAIL
FROM FORREST R. WELLS ON SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019:

Sunday Greetings from Kaliningrad, Russia!

I traveled with Bishop Jung and four others to participate in and lead teaching seminars for the Northwest Russian Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. I return to Wisconsin Tuesday night. (Please note, I have personally paid the entire cost of my trip; no conference or district resources are being used by me at all)! We are now headed to worship and I am thinking of all of you as you lead and participate in worship this June 4th.

Of course the reality after General Conference 2019 is that there has been a strong backlash of anger toward the East European, African and some Asian conferences for their lack of support for the One Church Plan and subsequent voting to support the Traditional Plan. The response has included blaming these areas for the outcome of GC 2019, severing of relationship with them and withholding promised mission funds by some USA annual conferences and individuals.

Last year Wisconsin Annual Conference, through Bishop Jung and a delegation largely from the South West District, sought to reestablish a relationship with the Russian church. Wisconsin congregations, clergy and laity were instrumental in partnering with Russia from the early 1990's to establish a United Methodist presence in Russia and Belarus, including the building of church buildings. Wisconsin was among the first to partner in bringing the Good News of Christ in the Methodist tradition to the people of Russia.

Question for reflection, "Did Jesus teach us to be in mission and relationship with only those whom we love or with whom we agree?"

(con't)

How does one advocate for justice and inclusion while not harming or excluding the other? Human nature cries out that such dichotomy is not possible. Jesus shows us otherwise. Jesus reached out to the "accepted enemies" of the day: the narrow minded religious elite like Nicodemus, the soldiers and centurions of Roman occupiers, the "apostate" Samaritans; even the feared and excluded lepers were embraced by Jesus. Jesus continually broke social, political and religious norms as he embraced the hurts and hopes of people known as "sinners, tax collectors and outcasts." "Love your enemies" was the Jesus approach.

Interestingly Jesus embraced the previously unembraceable in a way that also did not bring harm to those who tried to enforce the current social/religious standards. Of course he overturned the table of the money changers in the temple and that didn't make them happy! Jesus admonished Pharisees for their hypocrisy, but he didn't stop engaging with them. And when a group wanted to stone the woman caught in adultery, Jesus intervened in such a way that caused the attackers to reflect on their actions and their own lives; Jesus did not argue with nor rebuke the attackers with outrage in a way we might think to be stronger and more direct.

The United Methodist Church is in the midst of a season of turmoil and change! Significant numbers of clergy and laity fully welcome the LGBTQI+ community into the life and leadership in the UMC. Passionate discussion is taking place that will result in change either within the UMC or will bring multiple expressions of Methodism. No one knows what General Conference 2020 will bring. Many are angry with the outcome of GC 2019. Others support the traditional plan while asserting their welcome of LGBTQ participation, without the ability to exercise clergy leadership or affirm same sex or non gender marriage (which feels like no welcome at all). People of every perspective assert passionate faith in Jesus Christ. At the same time people ascribe negative connotations and motivations to those with a perspective different than their own. The temptation is to break relationship with those whom we passionately disagree or even to attack and bring harm to them, in response to the harm that we have experienced or felt.

The apostle Paul parted ways with Peter when Peter balked on fully including Gentiles in the church without restriction (Galatians 2:11-14). But, they had their disagreement face to face and separated in a way that did not harm the other. Later they reunited in the mission of Christ.

I hope that we in Wisconsin can stay connected and in relationship with each other. I pray we will stay connected with the world-wide mission of Jesus Christ that is ours together, whether in Wisconsin or in the four corners of the world. Withdrawal of funding (apportionments and offerings) or breaking connection with those whom we disagree brings harm. Russia and Africa experiences such actions as a form of new colonialism. The Jesus way of resistance and transformation is demonstrated through his teaching, preaching, actively welcoming those who were previously outcast and continual engagement with those who sought to silence him and his message. As we know, even the cross did not silence Jesus' message of grace.

The Russian UMC church is in its infancy, less than 30 years old. I celebrate the transformation of life that is being brought through the Russian UMC. We have many stories to tell of the way God is working. May we continue our prayers and support of them and all our mission partners in Wisconsin and around the world knowing that God is not finished with them yet, or us!

Blessings in Christ, Forrest Wells, District Superintendent

P.S. Watch for another email early next week that will have information on post annual conference discussion and other opportunities. I am glad to be in ministry with all of you even in such a time as this!



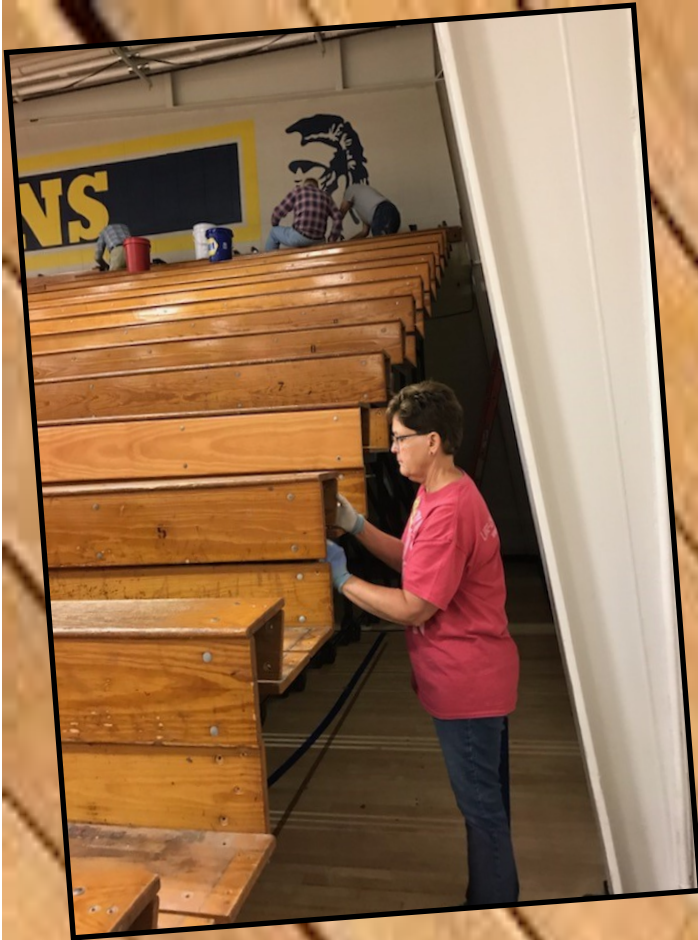
Thank you to all the people who helped with the bleacher disassembly at Turner High School! The bleachers were extremely well-made and a beast to take apart! Wes Brill estimates that there were 10,000 bolts holding the bleachers together!

We worked hard for two days. Halfway through our second day, the professionals from Hayden Construction arrived to take apart the metal structure. They saved the wood for Midwest Mission Distribution Center. MMDC will have at least two truck-loads of wood from this project.

Thank you to Mary Alice Harris for connecting the Turner School District with MMDC. Thank you to our volunteers: Paul Dubler, Wes Brill, Dale and Diane Gemignani, Mary Alice Harris, Robin Vieth-Austin, and Bruce Cawkins. We also had help from Milton UMC, Whitewater UMC, a couple from southern Illinois, a couple from Sheboygan Falls, a man from Brillion, and two ladies from Ft. Atkinson, WI, and Downers Grove, IL. We enjoyed great fellowship and a strenuous workout!

-Diane Gemignani





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

6:00 pm Bible Study (FH)

Saturday

5:30 pm Service (FH)

OUTSIDE GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous
Thursday 7:00 pm (Mid. SchoolRoom)

Newsletter deadline

July 12

The next issue of the Current will be available July 21

2019 JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	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	31	1	2	3

Weekly Events are posted on the Web, Facebook, and in the Bulletin:

- June 24 10:00 am Adult Bible Study @ Clinton (last one until fall)
6:00 pm Trustees (Office Workroom)
- June 25 5:00 pm SPPRC (O)
- June 26 1:00 pm Knitting With A Mission (Office Workroom)
- June 27 11:00 am Lunch Bunch @ Salvador's
- June 30 Deadline for Scholarship Forms
Confirmation Sunday at Beloit
- July 1 6:30 pm Liturgist/Lay Speakers (FH)
- July 2 6:00 pm Nurture & Discipleship (FH)
- July 3 9:30 am UMW Board Meeting (FH)
- July 4 HAPPY 4th of July!
- July 9 1:00 pm Memorial Committee (O)
- July 10 9:30 am UMW Unit Meeting—All are invited

SAVE THE DATE.....

- Summer Supper @ Clinton: July 22
- Youth Movie Trip: July 26
- VBS: July 28—31
- Rally Day: September 8
- UMW Sunday: September 22
- Rededication Beloit: September 29

4TH OF JULY
INDEPENDENCE DAY
Stars & Stripes
LET FREEDOM RING
AMERICA
sweet land of liberty
RED ★ WHITE ★ BLUE
PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN
GOD BLESS THE USA