

The Current Of The River Of Life



Are you ready for this summer's Vacation Bible School (VBS) at the River of Life United Methodist Church? We can't wait to share the fun and adventure! Our 3 day Mini-VBS will be "rolling" into church, August 1st, 2nd, and 3rd from 5:15-8:00 p.m. A light meal will be served each evening, followed by lessons, games, crafts and singing!

Cokesbury's Food Truck Party VBS invites children in grades 4K thru 5th grade, to get on a roll with God for the summer's biggest party and a real food truck on Wednesday!

Our VBS invites children to pray as Jesus teaches us in Matthew 6:11; "Give us this day our daily bread." These words serve as a reminder that everything we have comes from God – and that it's by turning to God in prayer that all of our daily needs are met.

At the center of the Food Truck VBS is a special food truck called "On a Roll." Here, Kids (or "Chefs") will learn from the food truck's Top Chef, along with DJ Skillet

(an adorable cupcake puppet), about the Daily Specials (Daily Learnings), that teach us to turn to God to meet our needs.



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

OFFICE

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Beloit, WI
608.362.8866
Fax 608.362.0554

CLINTON CAMPUS

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Clinton, WI
608.676.4646

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pastorbrenda@rolumcwi.com
Tom Alverson, Lay Minister 608-362-8866
talverson@rolumcwi.com
Retired Pastor Keith Putney 608-774-3162

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bmoore@rolumcwi.com

MUSIC STAFF

Lois Ulvin Director of Music
David Newman Pianist/Organist
Marge Johnson Pianist



Prayer
Shawl
Ministry

Please contact the office if you or a friend would like a prayer shawl. We have many shawls to share.

LAY LEADERSHIP 2022

Lay Leaders

Tom Alverson

Ad Council Chairperson

Shellie Olson

Armed Intruder Chairperson

Barb Kuska

Annual Conference Lay Members

Bob Scheets Carol Scheets

Board of Trustees Chairperson

Kathy Rodgers

Decorating Committee Chairperson

Tracy Maxwell

Finance Chairperson

Jesse Calkins

Hospitality Chairperson

Diane Gemignani

Memorials and Wills Chairperson

Marietta Axmear

Missions Committee Co-Chairpersons

Diane Gemignani & Ellen Butchart

Youth Ministry Team Chairperson

Karen Parssinen

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chairperson

TBD

Stewardship Team Chairperson

Tom Alverson

Tech Team Chairperson

Derek Bergh

United Women of Faith President

Pat Sands

**Not ready to come back to in person worship yet?
Or out of town for the weekend?**

Be sure to participate in worship on our church website
or on Facebook. You can watch two services each week!

Our condolences to the Family and Friends of...

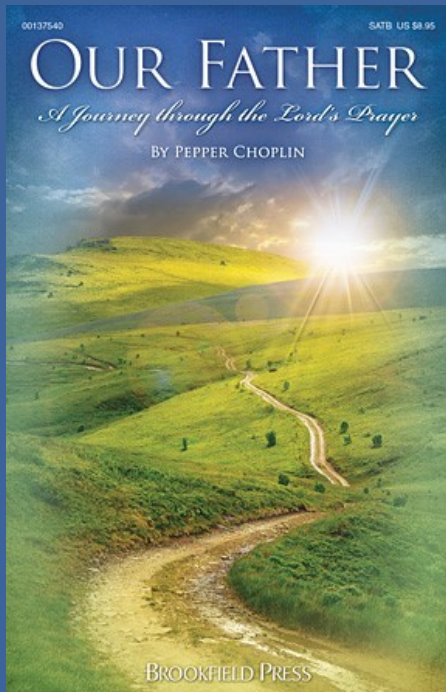
Evelyn Smesrud
Joann Medernach
David Brandenburg

Pastor Brenda will be at Annual Conference and then on vacation from June 6th – 19th.

Tom will be available for pastoral care emergencies.

People we have prayed for.....

Amy	Marlene
Daniel & Max	Nan
Jeanne	Pastor Eduardo
Kerri	Teresa
Kim	Thomas
Kristen	Wally
Marjorie	



A Summer Cantata !!

It's not too late to join the choir in singing "Our Father: A Journey Through The Lord's Prayer." The books are in, rehearsal CD's are in, and the rehearsal schedule will be out soon. Let Lois know ASAP that you want to sing in the summer cantata! And invite a friend - or teen or adult child or sibling or neighbor - to sing with you! It is always a wonderful experience!

The Cantata will be performed Sunday morning August 7th at the River of Life Beloit Campus during our regular worship service, and at another time to be announced.

From the Pastor's Desk



I'm looking out my window at my lilac bushes. They still have nice flowers on them, but they were not what I was expecting.

We went to a nursery last spring to order several lilac bushes. I specifically said that I wanted purple lilacs. Since we ordered two trees and the lilacs, we paid for the nursery to come and plant them. After they left, I noticed that the tag had a picture of a pink flower on it. I looked closer. We had gotten four Miss Canada lilac bushes. Miss Canada lilacs are pink. My lilacs are pink, not purple!

Now, I like pink as much as any girly-girl. But I often like purple better, and I wanted purple lilacs. These lilac bushes were supposed to outlive my time in this house. They were supposed to grow big and beautiful. And they were supposed to be purple. Instead, when it finally comes time for me to move out of this house, I will have beautiful, large, pink lilac bushes.

It may seem silly for me to spend so much time on my disappointment in the color of my lilac bushes, but aren't we like that? Don't we spend way too much time disappointed in the little, inconsequential things? And disappointment, even in inconsequential things, leads to complaining, like I seem to have done here.

The Old Testament is full of the Israelites' complaining. In the New Testament, Paul wrote a lot about how we should not complain. Jesus said you are the salt of the earth. Jesus said you are the light to the world. Jesus didn't say as long as we don't complain we are salt and light. He said that we are. That means Jesus expects us to spend our time loving God and loving people. Jesus expects that we will not waste our time complaining about inconsequential things. Being salt and light are too important for us to do anything else.

On Pentecost Sunday we talked about asking God to set us on fire with the Holy Spirit. We talked about some ways our congregation is already set to really BE the church and make a tremendous difference in the lives of others. We talked about some ways the congregation is already set to be such a strong force that people can't help but be drawn to Jesus through it. We talked about how we could up our game in loving people into taking their next step with Jesus.

My pink lilacs are actually very pretty. There are probably bright sides to the little inconsequential things you complain about too. May we see the beauty in all things, and then move forward in being all that God has intended us to be.

I'll see you in church, where we spur each other on as salt and light,

Love, Pastor Brenda

Financial Corner

Month of:
May 2022

Current month :

Operating Income	\$	15,923.78	Operating Expense	\$	21,563.24
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Year to date: 2022

Operating Income	\$	139,212.47	Operating Expense	\$	121,432.15
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Designated giving year to date:

Apportionments:	\$	4,495.50
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Gods Fund Balance:	\$	1,516.20
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Bags of Hope Balance:	\$	6,395.08
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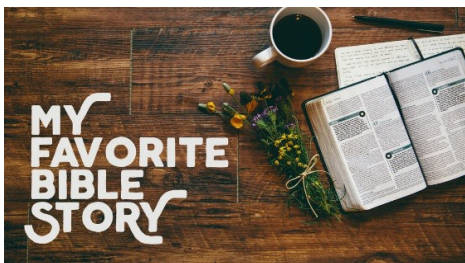
Blankets of Warmth Balance:	\$	1,410.76
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We raised \$631.55 for
Conference in Gathering

Thank you everyone!!!!

Favorites of Summer!

Favorite Bible Stories! Favorite Hymns!



During the last four weekends of summer, we will be having a "Favorites of Summer" worship series. We will sing your favorite hymns/songs and hear your favorite Bible stories. To prepare for this, each Sunday during June you will "vote" for your favorites by writing them on your Connect Card. If you are

here all 4 Sundays of June, either write the same ones down each week to get more "votes," or write down different ones. The top "vote-getters" will be the ones chosen. The Saturday night, Beloit 9:30 and Clinton services will each focus on their attendees' highest "vote-getters," so you may want to attend more than one service each week in August!

Seven people without internet currently have the bulletin and sermon mailed to them each week. Call the church office if you would like them mailed to you as well.



It's Vacation Bible School Time

Wait! I've heard that many of you have been checking your calendar wondering what you were going to do with all of your extra spare time this summer! Well I have an exciting idea for you! Vacation Bible School is one of the church's best outreach opportunities. Children and adults from our church, neighborhood and community, experience God's love in a fun filled way and take with them memories that last forever. Years after a VBS at Christ Church, I had 2 children telling me about standing on opposite sides of a street and singing VBS songs to each other! What a memory! Here's where you come in....all of you.....

For a memorable VBS we need volunteers in so many areas. Food and dessert donations and help with preparation, serving and cleaning up, registration trackers and helpers, technology "experts", creators and decorators, music leaders, center leaders-(lessons, recreation, craft or science.) During the three days we will need a photographer and other "during VBS" helpers. There are assignments that anyone can do --- large or small. Maybe you can only help at the closing night event, or just during the first night "chaos", we would love your help. Many adults find that they enjoy the VBS event just as much as the children do but in a different way. The VBS mission project is a fun time and we could use someone to prepare it for children. Publicity is a high priority and if you are someone who has connections and can get "the news" out there.....we need you. Our church neighborhood is just waiting to hear the news and we have a sign that needs some TLC!

We need prayer warriors that continue to pray for our VBS, that children and adults might know the Lord for the first time or in a new way for their lives. When you decide how you are going to help, fill out the form on the attached page and drop it in the collection plate at church. You may also contact Nan Bolar (nbolar@aol.com) or Karen Parssinen (teacherma@frontier.com).

THANK YOU for all that you do!

Karen and Nan

I am excited to offer help for VBS!

I can help in the following area(s):

Decorating ideas and help _____

Food _____

During VBS help _____

Registration _____

Music _____

Center Leader _____

Publicity _____

Photographer _____

Mission Project _____

Prayer warrior _____

Closing night event helper _____

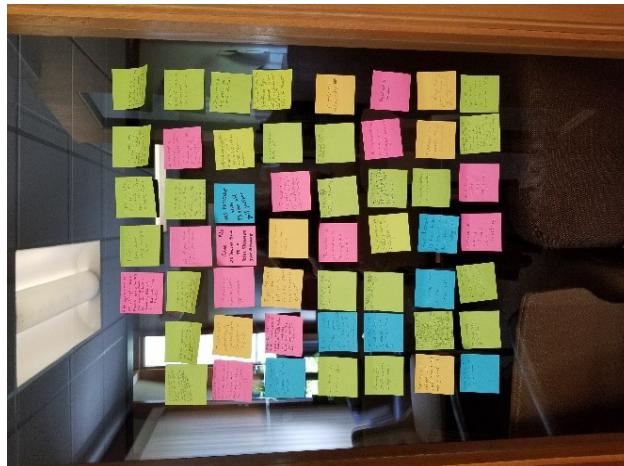
Here is how I can help _____

Name _____ Contact Information _____

We Are Different!

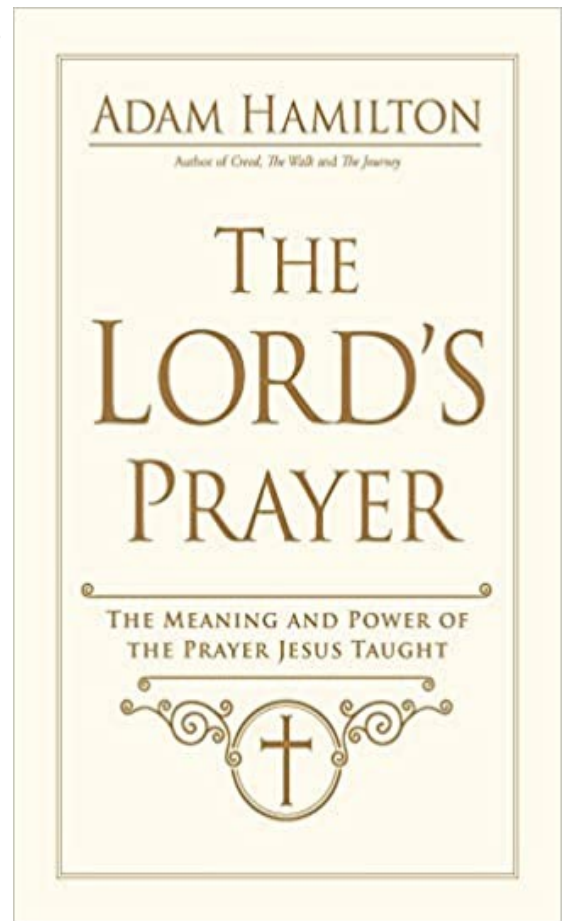
Congregation members were encouraged to write on sticky notes why they are different because they are followers of Jesus and put them on the sanctuary window. People wrote things like:

- * I gave grace to drivers who weren't making safe driving decisions
- * I find joy in each day
- * I am more intentionally present with the people in my life.
- * I give extra big tips to food service workers and hotel room service and cleaning
- * I filled the gas tank of a lady's car
- * I planted special flowers for butterflies to keep them from becoming extinct
- * I pray for people on the prayer chain



Our summer worship series will be based on The Lord's Prayer. People were very moved last summer by our 23rd Psalm series, and this series looks to be just as inspiring. Be sure to attend worship each Sunday or watch online as we spend 6 weeks going deeper into each phrase of The Lord's Prayer

- June 25 & 26** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name
- July 2 & 3** Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven
- July 9 & 10** Give us this day our daily bread
- July 16 & 17** And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us
- July 23 & 24** And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil
- July 30 & 31** For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever
- August 7** "Our Father" Cantata (Beloit 9:30am service)



Greetings from Beverly Osborne.....



I'm doing well. I hope you are doing well too. I'm without a car right now. I hope to see you soon. My daughter is getting better. Keep us in your prayer. Say hi to all the Methodist Women. I miss you all so, so much. Love sister in Christ Beverly

You have a very special place in my heart.
PHILIPPIANS 1:3 NLT

No special reason... just thinking of you with a smile and thought I'd let you know.

Beverly



**We believe
love in action
can change
the world.**

Local UWF College Scholarships

Are you interested in applying for a River of Life UWF scholarship? Any member of our church just entering college this fall or in college but has never received a UWF scholarship is eligible to apply. So do it now!!! Send the following information to Pat Sands, 2657 Kadlec Dr. Beloit, WI 53511, by July 1st.

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 UWF 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. We would prefer if you could be present at the worship service to accept your scholarship. If you are unable to attend let Pat Sands know who your designated person will be to accept the scholarship on your behalf.

Laugh A Little

Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy.
Psalm 126:2a

Q. How do we know Peter was a rich fisherman?

A. By his net income.

Q. Who was the smartest man in the Bible?

A. Abraham. He knew a Lot.

Q. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?

A. Because Noah was standing on the deck.



<https://margaretfeinberg.com/23-of-the-best-bible-jokes-riddles/>

Social Justice/Social Action and UWF

Social Justice/Social Action has always been an important part of the UMW, now named UWF. Each month we have been looking at why UWF engage in Social Action. We have looked at the Foundations of campaigns as UMW, Our Biblical Foundations, Our Methodist Heritage and this month Get Involved in Campaigns.

This month's information was taken from the UMW website. <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/whyunitedmethodistwomenengageinsocialaction.pdf> Since the name change this old website is no longer available and the new website does not contain this exact information. Assuming that these reasons have not changed, the information from the old website will be reprinted here. The new website for United Women in Faith is <https://uwfaith.org>. The Social Action news seems to be located on their new blog. <https://uwfaith.org/news/blog/> If you are reading this online, links should be active with the exception of the old UMW website as noted above.

United Methodist Women's (UWF) national campaigns are a way for us to work together on shared goals across lines of difference and geographic distance. When we all come together and lift our voices to address a specific shared concern, we are far more likely to win measurable change for our communities. Prayerfully consider how God is calling you to join one of United Women in Faith's campaigns.

This concludes the series of why UWF engage in social action.

June Circle Meetings

June 15 Martha Circle Lunch 9:30 Bessie's Diner Rock Co Airport
Mary Circle 11:30 a.m. Bessie's Diner, Rock Co Airport

UWF CALENDAR

August 11,12	Rummage and Bake Sale
September 21	Martha Circle 9:30 a.m. Mary Circle 1:00 p.m.
September 28	Unit Meeting 9:30 a.m. Program/Speaker: Susan Correll Title: The Children of Africa
November 16	Martha Circle 9:30 a.m. Mary Circle 1:00 p.m.
December 3	Cookie Walk
December 21	Martha Circle Lunch 11:30 a.m. Mary Circle Lunch 11:30 a.m.

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES FOR UWF



Celebrate Juneteenth Day on June 18
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Activities and food for all ages
Jones Pavilion
Riverside Drive

Juneteenth Day, June 19, is now a Federal Holiday.

There will be no mail delivery June 20 (sign on post office door)

Juneteenth Day celebrates the day in which slaves in Texas were actually freed. Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, but many in Texas were held in slavery for over two more years. On June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger announced in Galveston, TX that both the Civil War and slavery were ended. Thus this date has become a symbolic date representing African American freedom. The complete report may be found at the Congressional Research Service, <https://crsreportscongress.gov> R44865

-Carol Connors, Communications Coordinator



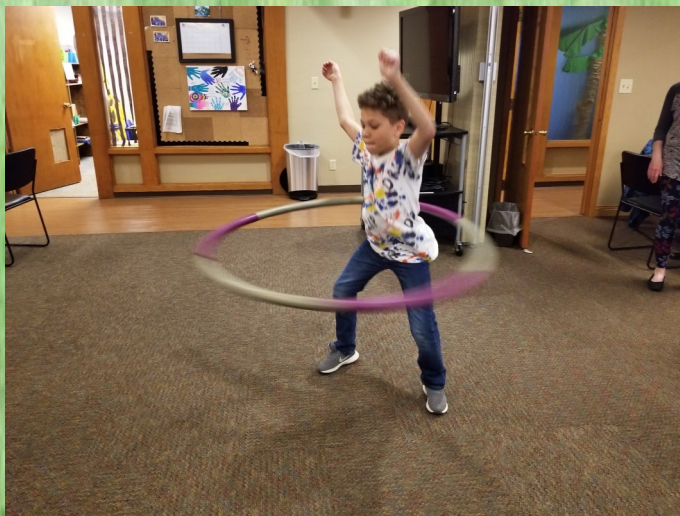
*Thanks to everyone
from Nancy Toubl
for your prayers
and concerns for
Taylor's recent loss.*

Mission Trip Update from Lora Cawkins:

McGuire Maxwell and Kellyse Lutzow will be going on a Mission Trip to Louisiana with Boscobel United Methodist Church. June 25th to July 3rd. Neither Bruce nor I will be going with them. This will be the truest challenge of the kids following Christ's example.



LAST DAY OF TUTORING FUN



LAST DAY OF TUTORING FUN



LAST DAY OF TUTORING FUN



Happy Birthday

July 1

Phyllis Dooley
Shana Listenbee

July 2

Ellen Butchart
Wanda Dixon
Margaret Hansen

July 3

Barbara Sheffield

July 4

Marlene Sturdevant
Andrew Wadle

July 5

Nell Adams
Marge Johnson

July 7

Shellie Olson

July 8

Tyler Caple
Marjorie Gray
Lynn Whalen

July 14

Marlene Bachim

July 16

Robin Vieth-Austin
Vicki Boschma
Liz Rosenthal
Zacary Woody

July 17

Ehron Bishop
Betty Hannum
Savanna Henthorn

July 18

Patty Listenbee

July 24

Michael Collins
Tessa Collins

July 25

Aubrey Maxwell

July 26

Emile Hartje
Reid Parssinen

July 27

Christina Bergh
Gretchen Dixon

July 30

Tim Crawford

Happy Anniversary

July 3

Clem & Mary Jane Kellicut
Diana & Craig Merwin

July 6

Maci & Tevin Gamble

July 11

Dave & Kelly Clark

July 23

Brian & Tracy Maxwell

July 30

Dennis & Sandy Hays

Knit & Crochet With A Mission Group

Our next meeting is June 29 at 1:00 pm in the Office Workroom. We welcome all knitters and crocheters, no matter what skill level, and anyone wishing to learn. If you have any questions call Sandy Ovist: 608-362-6583. Please join us!!



LOOSE COINS

FOR THE REST OF JUNE.... Loose Coins will go to **Rock Valley Community Programs (RVCP)**. RVCP is a 115-bed residential facility that focuses on two at-risk populations in the Rock County area: homeless military veterans and offenders transitioning from the correctional system. Located at the former Caravilla site between Beloit and Janesville, RVCP offers housing, addiction and mental health treatment, and a range of supportive counseling to help clients successfully transition to independent living. RVCP also offers outpatient care to anyone needing assistance with addiction and/or mental health treatment. In cooperation with many other local agencies, RVCP works to restore people to full and independent lives.

FOR JULY

JULY Loose Coin offerings will be divided between the two food pantries, **Caritas** and the **Clinton Food Pantry**. Our Beloit-area United Methodist churches have a strong history of supporting local food pantries.

Caritas (serving the greater Beloit area) was started nearly 50 years ago by five local congregations, including the former First UMC downtown. Today, Caritas is a community-supported nonprofit serving 700-800 families per month with a food pantry and diaper bank -- and our church has faithfully supported it through volunteerism and donations.

In Clinton, where the Food Pantry is located next door to our Clinton campus, the Clinton church offers a free pancake breakfast coinciding with the food pantry pickup day every month. Why free? Tom Alverson says, "When someone walks in, I don't know their situation. I don't know when they had their last meal."

With food and housing costs higher than ever right now, food insecurity is also on the rise. Caritas reports that they are serving 75 more families per month than last year, and yet food donations are down by 40,000 pounds this year compared to last. Director Max Dodson says the best way to help is to donate money. Food pantries can buy three to five times more food than you could buy in a grocery store with the same money. Please be generous with your Loose Coins!

-- Ellen Butchart

Thank you! During our toiletries drive in May for the Conference InGathering, we collected enough items to assemble 18 Personal Dignity Kits (a \$270 value) for Midwest Mission, along with \$631.55 in Loose Coins. Thank you to those who brought complete kits and to those who donated items so that we could assemble more kits!



Donations needed:

**Diaper Cream
Size 6 Diapers**



Don't Take a Summer Vacation from God



Sunshine, beaches, lakes, family, road trips, sports, no school, and no church? Summer is a great time to be with family. But, did you know summer months is also a very challenging time for many church members and the church itself?

#1 – Take a vacation from church!

Every summer people get out of the habit of attending church. It usually starts with “legitimate reasons” around family, work, or play. But, after awhile a thought enters the mind, “I don’t need church to have a relationship with God.” Obviously, we can walk with God outside of church, but we’re stretching this idea to benefit our self-centered interest as well. I’ve never seen a spiritually mature Christian who is not committed to their local church. During the summer months, when you are in town, attend your local church! When you’re out of town, watch their videos, church emails, etc. You will enjoy life more when you stay connected to the biblical community God has put in your life. There is no substitute for corporate worship, serving others on weekends, and encouraging others in person, who are walking by faith. Your presence at church encourages others! Incidentally, when you are out of town, go to church! It’s great opportunity to see God move in other churches! Maybe God has a word for you!

#2 – Take a vacation from giving!

Every summer there are people that stop honoring God with their finances. Usually the logic is, “I’ll pick it up again after summer ends.” So, they use their tithe or offering, that typically goes to God, and give it to beaches, road trips, lakes, or summer toys in their life. Sometimes there is a thought that, “I’ll catch up later.” Both thoughts are not realistic. Rarely, does someone come to church in September with a check for missed tithes in June, July, and August. It just doesn’t happen. Something practical you can do is set up automatic giving through your church E-giving program. This will ensure your giving stays strong during the summer, and you don’t take a break from honoring God with your finances. After all, who do you think has blessed you to the point that you can enjoy the good things of life? By the way, expenses do not change in the summer months in most churches! Enjoy your vacation. Honor your God.

#3 – Take a vacation from reading your bible!

Every summer trip involves a new routine. We are routine oriented people. When we’re out of our routine, it’s very easy to get out of good habits, like reading your bible and doing your daily devotions. Be intentional about spending time with God, even on your vacation! You will discover you will actually be more enjoyable to others, and you will have much more patience for others too! Most of all, maybe God has a word to share with you during that summer break! Some of my greatest moments with God happened while I was reading my bible on my vacation. When you open your bible, spend time with Jesus Christ. Don’t rush through scripture or prayer. Learn to talk to have conversation with the one who loves you.

Take time to reflect on your church’s vision statement; Loving people into taking their next step with Jesus.

Blessings,

Thomas C. Alverson
Stewardship Chairperson

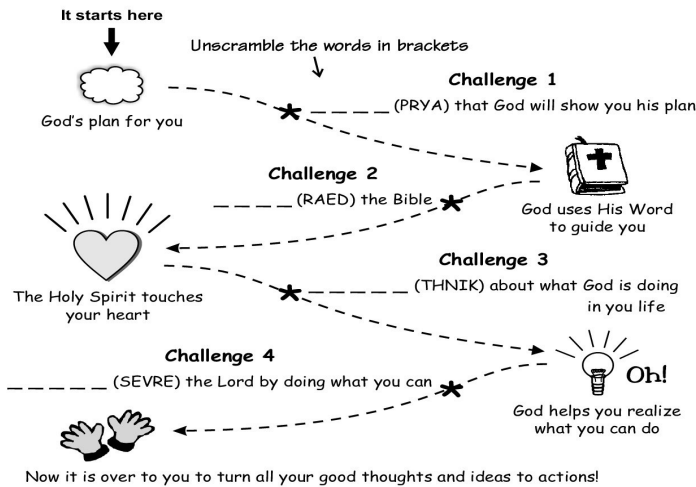
God's plan for me

God has a very special plan for you. He has given you the ability to do certain things well. These abilities are your talents. What's more, when you ask Jesus to live in you and control your life, the Holy Spirit gives you a spiritual gift as well. A spiritual gift is something God puts in your heart that helps you to serve and bless others in a special way.

* What are you good at doing and what do you enjoy doing?

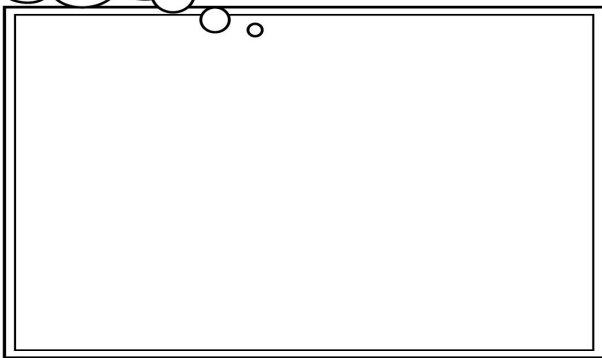
* What do you do for others that makes you feel useful?

If you want to find out more about God's will (plan) for your life, follow the challenges below.



Think of others

Luke 10:30-37



Draw a picture of something kind you are doing for someone

Find the words below in the square and draw a line around them. It helps if you shade in the boxes that have an 'X' or a 'Z'.

- SERVE
- CARE
- AID
- LOVE
- GIVE
- SHARE
- HELP

X	Z	X	S	H	A	R	E
C	A	R	E	X	I	X	Z
Z	X	X	R	Z	D	Z	X
X	Z	X	V	X	Z	X	X
Z	X	H	E	L	P	X	Z
X	Z	X	X	O	X	Z	X
X	X	G	I	V	E	X	X
Z	X	Z	X	E	X	Z	X

God has made you exactly the way He wants you to be so that He can use you in a special way. Read how God used these children:

Samuel - 1 Samuel 3:1-19

The servant girl - 2 Kings 5:1-14

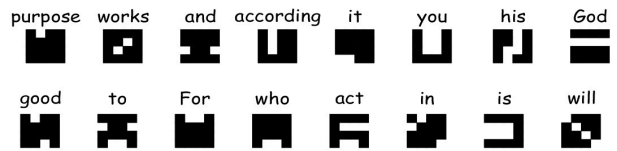
David - 1 Samuel 16:11-12
1 Samuel 17:34-50

The boy with the lunch - John 6:5-13

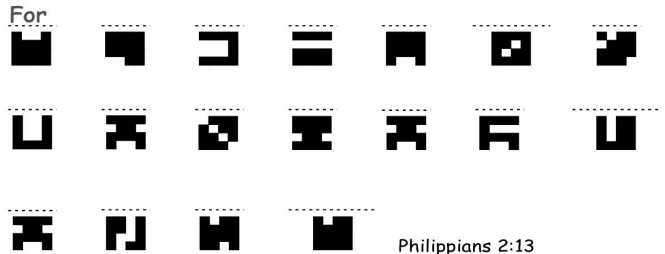
Does God have the same plan for everyone? Yes / No
Can God use children to help others? Yes / No



Each of these patterns have a special place and purpose - just as you have.



Match each pattern below with the identical one above and write the word that goes with it on the dotted line.



Caring FIRST AID

When something goes wrong in a friend's life you may be able to help.



Draw a line from the hurt to the action plaster that would help your friend feel better.

Hurt

Discouraged

Sad

Lonely

In need

Plaster

helpfulness

friendship

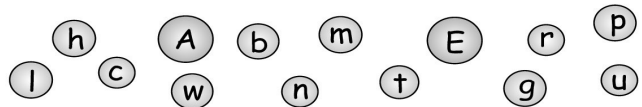
comfort

encouragement



Luke 10:33

Can you get the scattered letters back in the right place to complete the verse? Cross out the letters as you use them.



__lways __e hu__ble a__d __entle.
__atiently put __p __ith ea_h o__her
and __ove eac__ othe__. __phesians 4:2

EVENTS



Sunday
9:30 am Beloit
10:00 am Clinton

Monday
12:30 pm Card Club (FH)

Tuesday
10:00 am Men's Coffee Hour (FH)
1:00 pm Staff Meeting (O)

Wednesday
10:30 am Bible Study (Zoom)
6:30 pm Bible Study (FH)

Thursday
4:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday
7:30 am Bible Study (Zoom)
5:30 pm Saturday Worship

Calendar

(also posted on the Web & Facebook)

- June 15 9:30 am Martha Circle @ Bessie's Diner
11:30 am Mary Circle @ Bessie's Diner
- June 21 6:30 pm Finance (FH)
- June 22 1:00 pm Armed Intruder (FH)
- June 23 11:00 am Missions (FH)
- June 25 Youth Mission Trip to Louisiana
- June 26 11:00 am Clinton Potluck
- June 27 6:00 pm Trustees (FH)
- June 29 1:00 pm Knitting & Crochet With A Mission (O)
- July 4 Holiday—Office Closed
- July 5 6:00 pm Youth Ministry Team (Zoom)
- July 6 1:00 pm UWF Executive Board Meeting (FH)

SAVE THE DATE

- VBS - August 1,2,3
- UWF Rummage/Bake Sale - August 11 & 12
- Adult Mission Trip - May 2023

Issue deadline: July 8th
The next newsletter will be available July 17th



For we live by faith, not by sight.
2 Corinthians 5:7

