

The Current of The River of Life



Mini Vacation Bible School

August 16, 17, and 18

5:15-8:00 PM

July 18, 2021

www.rolumcwi.com

Vol. 18 Issue 18

United Methodist Church in Beloit and Clinton

Loving People Into Taking Their Next Step With Jesus

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Shellie Olson

Armed Intruder Chairperson

Barb Kuska

Annual Conference Lay Members

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Director of Music

Marge Johnson

Pianist



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

Six 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.

Our condolences to the Family and Friends of...

**Willard & Eleanor Burnside's Sister, Wilma
Al Wilson's Son, Kent
Richard Moon**



Pastoral Care

It's been over a year since we were able to have the pastor visit. If you would like Pastor Brenda to make a home or facility visit, please let the office know so it can be scheduled.

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.

From the Pastor



As I write this, I am sitting on my patio watching the cottonless cottonwood trees around my yard. My house was one of the first houses built in this section of the Eagle's Ridge subdivision, where they continue to put up new homes, and the original owners didn't know where the lot lines were. They planted a whole bunch of trees – that ended up on the neighbors' properties! When the cottonwood leaves blow in the wind, they make a magnificent sound. I am watching them, and listening, and feeling like this is a holy time.

I have a medium sized fountain on my patio. It stopped working this morning, so my husband Dan removed the pump, cleaned it out, and put it back in. Watching the water fall and hearing the sound of that water feels like a holy time.

We have milkweed in our yard that smells amazing. Holy smells.

I think we should have a fire in our fire pit tonight. Watching the flames and smelling the smoke (and eating s'mores!) feels like a holy time.

It's cloudy out, but that makes the day feel restful. It sprinkled a little: we need the rain. If it cleared up, the sun would share its warmth and the stars would twinkle and shine. It all feels so holy.

King David wrote in Psalm 19:

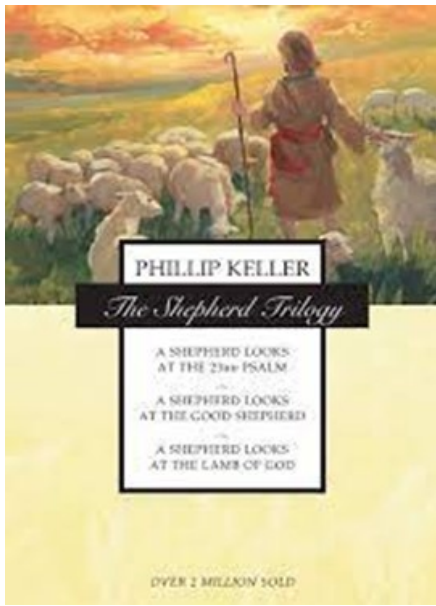
*The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.*

I hope you are enjoying your summer of holy moments. I hope you are taking time to stop to watch and listen for all of the ways that natural things around you are praising God. I hope it all brings you closer to God in your own personal time of praise and thanksgiving.

I am so grateful for the seasons. God didn't need to create the world this way, but he did. Enjoy the holy times of summer. In a couple of months, we will be able to experience the holy times of autumn, as we continue to join all nature in praising God. For now, I pray for you holy moments.

I'll see you in church, where join all creation in praise,

Love, Pastor Brenda



Shepherd Bible and Book Study

There will be two Bible/book studies that will coincide with the next summer worship series. We will be exploring sheep and shepherds in the Bible, including the 23rd Psalm and the Good Shepherd. Both of our Wednesday Bible studies will be studying *The Shepherd Trilogy* which includes *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23*.

Both studies are meeting by Zoom, and are open to new participants, Wednesday mornings at 10:30am or Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm beginning July 28th. Contact Pastor Brenda if you would like the Zoom link or if you would like her to order you a book.

Financial Corner

Month of:
June 2021

Current month :

Operating Income \$ 15,999.15

Operating Expense \$ 23,955.74

Year to date: 2021

Operating Income \$ 213,763.93

Operating Expense \$ 174,063.82

Designated giving year to date:

Apportionments: \$ 4,363.75

Gods Fund Balance: \$ 1,345.90

Bags of Hope Balance: \$ 3,973.20

Blankets of Warmth Balance: \$ 897.19

Thank you to those that donated to missions!!!

We received \$173.29 for Midwest Mission
Distribution Center!!

**We are excited to announce that people
can now donate to the River of Life United
Methodist Church online!**



One Nation Under God

This past July 4, 2021, I gave a message to the Clinton Campus on One Nation Under God. Even today as I sit and write this article to you, I still have that gleam of excitement right now as I did on that Sunday.

Thirteen colonies came to the new world to start a new life. A new life that they all felt the calling of God to send them to the new land. When I was writing the message, there were things that I came across that I didn't even know had happen to these great people. Did you know that Christopher Columbus had erected a cross with a prayer? Did you know that The Pilgrims who arrived in America also believed that they were called by God to form a Christian Nation in this New World? Winthrop the Puritan leader in 1649 saw the establishment of the Puritan community in New England as a permanent settlement in the New World as a part of God's great plan. He was convinced that they the Puritans were God's chosen people called by Him to help form a "Nation under God." He felt they were in his own words "God's candlesticks." Moore adds this concluding thought about the Pilgrims, "These Pilgrims were a mere handful of Light-bearers, on the edge of a vast and dark continent. But the Light of Jesus Christ was penetrating further into the heart of America. William Bradford would write with remarkable discernment, As one small candle may light a thousand, so the light kindled here has shown unto many, yea in some sort to our whole nation...We have noted these things so that you might see their worth and not negligently lose what your fathers have obtained with so much hardship."

A lot of my referencing came from the book, *One Nation Under God* written by James P. Moore. What a great nation we have become. Can you look upon yourself as a "candlestick" with your pledge you give weekly, monthly or yearly? How one candlestick can light up a life in need; one small candle may light a thousand, so the light kindled here has shown unto many. Isn't it wonderful what a modest gift can do for the ministry of a church even after we have died! Isn't it wonderful how one gift can affect lives for years! Isn't it wonderful that one gift is a much larger action than the original giver could have ever known?

How are you giving to the church with your time, talents, and treasures? What ripple affect will it have now and in the future?

Blessings,
Thomas C. Alverson
Stewardship Chairperson

Mission News

Loose Coins

July Loose Coins offerings will go to **Project 16:49**, a non-profit organization serving Rock County's unaccompanied homeless teens. The name stands for 16 hours and 49 minutes, the time between school ending one day and beginning the next. The program supports these kids in two primary ways: securing stable housing, either with host families or in supervised group living; and providing case management to help them set and achieve goals to finish school and gain the skills for productive living. This is such a worthy place for our giving!

To give to the Loose Coins offering, drop your change in the offering basket as you exit in-person worship. To contribute paper money, put it in an envelope marked "Loose Coins" or write a check with "Loose Coins" in the memo line. Include your name and offering-envelope number to record it in your church giving record.

Next month's Loose Coins will go to the Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center, now known as Defy Domestic Abuse Beloit.

MMDC

An update on Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC): A shipment valued at nearly \$260,000 was recently sent to Honduras, one of the most vulnerable countries in Latin America due to the high crime rate and volatile government. The shipment included sewing machines, cloth masks, hospital supplies and equipment, student kits, and layette kits.

The adult mission trip to MMDC is Sept. 15-17. Don't forget the deadline to sign up is July 16 (reservations after that date only if there is room at MMDC).

Knit & Crochet With A Mission Group

Our next meeting is July 28th 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!!



**Adult Mission Trip to
Midwest Mission Distribution Center
Chatham, Illinois
Sept. 15 – 17, 2021**

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 leave Beloit the morning of Wed., Sept. 15, and carpool to Springfield, IL. We will work on Thurs. and Fri., and return to Beloit on Friday evening, Sept. 17.

If you stay in the dormitory, the cost of the trip is \$180 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 and the cost of the previous meals. The Baymont will have a block of rooms under the name of "Midwest Mission Distribution Center" for approximately \$80 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. Sept. 5

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 \$50 deposit, and mail it to Diane Gemignani, 1005 Milwaukee Rd., Beloit, WI 53511.

The deadline to sign up is July 16, 2021. – We can add people after this date only if there is room at MMDC.

I am interested in joining the Adult Mission Trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center on Sept. 15 – 17, 2021. (I understand the \$50 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.



Mini 3-Day VBS
August 16, 17, and 18
5:30-8:00 pm

Are you ready to get SMORE of Jesus in your life? If you love the outdoors and the camping scene...OR if you just love to sit in your backyard and enjoy the view...we are looking for you! As we begin to plan, please remember that your hidden talents/passions are a gift from GOD and so important to the success of our community outreach activities.

Your contributions no matter what, make reaching children and families so much fun. Things like art work and decorations, food ideas and prep, help at VBS, teachers and group leaders, music leaders, all important components of our VBS. YOUyep...each one of you...have something to share and give.

I can be reached at 608-365-5738 with any questions OR your "I definitely want to help" reply! I have missed you all and can't wait to work with you again.

NOTE: If you have any "stuff" that might help our decorations, let us know!!!!!!

-Nan Bolar



Delores Hahn
22452 CR 287
Nathrop CO 81236

Peggy Lund
Fair Oaks Rehab & Heal Care Center
1515 Blackhawk Blvd.
South Beloit IL 61080

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



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

July



UMW Annual Rummage Sale Schedule

- August 11 12:00-4:00 Accept and sort sale items
Pick up tables at the Clinton Campus
Set up the tables at the Beloit Campus
- August 12 7:00-12:00 Accept and sort sales items
- August 12 12:00-5:00 Sale Hours
Robin Austin will serve as the lead person on this day.
- August 13 9:00-4:00 Sale Hours
Marlene Erickson will serve as the lead person on this day.
- August 13 4:00- Pack unsold items for Goodwill,
Pack unsold books for the library
Return tables to Clinton Campus
- August 14 8:00 People to load and deliver leftovers to Goodwill and the Library.
We need help for the August Rummage Sale!
We need donations for the August Rummage Sale!
Contact Marlene Erickson at 362.0830 or merickson1@charter.net to offer your time and talents.

Oh, Oh!

- Only 23 days left to **collect** all those things you have decided you can live without.
- Only 23 days left to **pack up** all those things you have decided you can live without.
- Only 23 days left before you can **deliver** all those things you have decided you can live without to the United Methodist Women's rummage sale!
- Hurry, hurry hurry; we need your donations!

UMW Activity Calendar for the Future

- August 11,12,13 Rummage Sale
- September Circles resume meetings
- September 22 Unit Meeting
Social Justice
Speaker: Amiee J. Leavy, Janesville YWCA
- September 26 UMW Sunday
Speaker: Heidi Careaga, member UMW Board of Directors
- December 4 Cookie Walk

Message from Marlene Erickson:

UMW Circles: All three circles will continue to remain with their same name and at their regular time and day for meeting. Sorry for the concerns some members had.

How can UMW *Rejoice*Pray*Give*?

I Thessalonians 5:16-18 tells us to: **Rejoice** always, **pray** without ceasing, **give thanks** in all circumstances; ...but how do we **pray** without ceasing when we lead such busy lives? Can we really pray non-stop?



Kelly Sands-Clark prays when she has to wait at a traffic light. Instead of being impatient, she sends up a prayer regarding whatever is on her heart at the moment. Carol Connors sends up a prayer for neighbor children and grandchildren when her watch app tells her to breathe.

Are there little time spaces in your life when you could pray without ceasing? It would be wonderful if you would share them with us.

Mailbox Birthday Blessings

Joy Eva Bohol, missionary to the Philippines, is the birthday selection from the UMW Prayer Calendar for July. Her birthday is **July 29**.

While Joy Eva Bohol is a missionary to the Philippines, she is currently stationed in Switzerland where she works with the youth movement through the World Council of Churches.

Ms. Bohol's full name is Joyful Evangelist. With such a long name, it is easy to see why she has shortened it to Joy Eva! However, say "Joyful Evangelist Bohol" a few times aloud and soon you will see the beautiful rhythm in her name. Her mother is in the clergy, and one can only try to imagine what dreams she had for her baby daughter. When at home in the Philippines, Joy Eva is a member of the Labangon First UMC of Cebu City.



This month it is easiest to send Missionary Bohol a birthday card or birthday letter by e-mail. Surely many, many of you could do that. I will only take a bit of your time, but far less than making a trip to the USPS to mail something to Switzerland.

Send birthday cards and letters to:

jbolol@uncmission.org

Birthday July 29

Sources for free christian e-cards:

-Carol Connors, Communications Coordinator

We're back to worship!
Here are a few pictures of some of the ways we have been together!

Some are gathering before Sunday worship for coffee, donuts and conversation



We've been having fun with Children's Messages



The choir is live!!



The Saturday Night Worship group is enjoying being outside with Bob



**Our back to worship game and ice cream party was a great time with great prizes!
Thanks to the Youth Ministry Team for planning it!**



4th of July Activities

Several people independently came up with the idea that we should host a 4th of July Neighborhood Party to help us form relationships with our neighbors, so we can love them into taking their next step with Jesus. Thanks to our great planning team: Kelly Clark, Pat Sands, Karen Parssinen, and Ellen Butchart. Thanks to all who donated funds, donated water and other items, shopped, baked cookies, served food, played games with the children, and had meaningful conversations with the neighbors. It was a wonderful evening! Here are a few pictures of the evening



A great gathering!



Fun with glow sticks



Fun with bubbles



Teens played a frisbee game



While the children played Drip, Drip, Drench!



Everybody made new friends





August 1

Elizabeth Wadle

August 3

Bill Rodgers
Tim Rosenthal

August 4

Glenda Churchill

August 7

Marlene Brandenburg
Brice Henthorn
Gary Meier
Deanna Parish

August 8

Lynn Whalen

August 10

Clara Welch

August 13

Chad Dixon

August 17

Rebecca Folyer
Kourtney Smith

August 19

Tina Henthorn

August 21

Bernie Holcomb

August 24

Duncan Woody

August 25

Nathan Pozzani

August 29

Cole Henthorn

August 7
Bob & Carol Scheets

August 9
Ron & Jean Schrader

August 12
Doug & Diane Mitchell
Mark & Kathy Smith

August 14
Dave & Marlene Brandenburg

August 17
Sam & Judy Paddock

August 20
Laverne & Sandra Hays

August 23
Roger & Pat Sands

August 29
Keith & Barbara Putney

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



River of Life UMC masks are still available!

Sport your very own River of Life UMC mask, available just in time for in sanctuary worship! They are blue with the River of Life Logo and church name. They are made from two-ply 100% polyester with an inner non-woven interfacing. They have adjustable ear loops. Masks will be sold at cost for \$11.00 and are available while supplies last.



SOUP w/pull tabs
(but NOT tomato)

DIAPER CREAM

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

Calendar



August 2021



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	31				



Calendar of Events

(also posted on the Web & Facebook)

- July 19 6:30 pm Stewardship (FH)
- July 20 4:00 pm Hospitality (FH)
6:30 pm Finance (O)
- July 21 1:00 pm Memorial (O)
- July 26 6:00 pm Trustees (FH)
- July 28 1:00 pm Knitting/Crocheting (O)

SAVE THE DATE.....

August 12-13 UMW Rummage/Bake Sale
Mission Fundraiser

Sunday

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

Monday

1:00 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 (Zoom)
with Pastor Brenda

Saturday

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

Issue deadline:

August 6th

The next issue of the
Current will be available

August 15th

