

The Current Of The River of Life



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

CLERGY STAFF

Brenda Whitford, Pastor 608-482-0021
pastorbrenda@rolumcwi.com
Tom Alverson, Lay Minister 608-362-8866
talverson@rolumcwi.com
Retired Pastor Keith Putney 608-774-3162

CHURCH OFFICE

608.362.8866

Christina Bergh Bookkeeper
cbergh@rolumcwi.com
Bonnie Moore Secretary/Receptionist
bmoore@rolumcwi.com

MUSIC STAFF

Lois Ulvin Director of Music
Marianne Petersen Organist/Pianist
Marge Johnson Pianist



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

LAY LEADERSHIP 2021

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 & Outreach Co-Chairpersons

Diane Gemignani & Ellen Butchart

Youth Ministry Team Chairperson

Karen Parssinen

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chairperson

Marlene Erickson

Stewardship Team Chairperson

Tom Alverson

Covid Task Force Chairperson

Pastor Brenda Whitford

Tech Team Chairperson

Derek Bergh

United Methodist Women Chairperson

Marlene Erickson

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...
Ralph Irvine



All Saint's Day

On Sunday, November 7th, we will be remembering loved ones who have passed from this life to eternal life since last All Saints' Day. We will read their names aloud and a bell will be rung. If you have someone you would like remembered, please submit their name to the office so that your loved one will be included.

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.

The River of Life website and Beloit Facebook page now have the Beloit service and the Clinton Facebook page has the Clinton service, so you can watch two services each week!

From the Pastor's Desk



I recently went on a fabulous retreat at Pine Lake Camp. I went for some soul work, to get my spirit renewed by the God who is so very present at camp. It was everything I needed. I am trying to decide if I will invite some of you to come with me the next time it is offered, or if I will create our own retreat so more of us can go.

There were many wonderful experiences, but the one that is strong on my heart today is not one I expected would have such an impact on me: the night hike.

One would expect a night hike to be a hike with flashlights. It wasn't. It was a walk through the woods, in the dark! In silence! The stars were just beginning to come out as we adjusted our eyes. Nick, the Site Director, encouraged us to hold hands with a partner for stability. As we walked into the woods on an access road, I could barely see the people in front of me. When it was time to turn down a trail (wide enough for two people side-by-side), the couple in front of us waited to show us the turn in, so we waited for the next couple to show them the turn in. When we began walking again, we couldn't see anybody in front of us anymore! So we just started walking!

Slowly, one step at a time, we made our way forward. We couldn't see it, but it just felt like we were on the path. We could kind-of see trees and bushes to our sides. After what seemed like a very long time, all of the sudden we could very vaguely see Nick and he let us know we had made it to the worship site.

In the dark, Nick talked about the cones and rods in our eyes and how they work in night vision. He told us that our bodies have muscle memory, and since we had already been to that worship site twice, our bodies kind-of knew how to get there. Nick told us to use flashlights on our way back, and we were amazed to realize that the path curved! We had followed a curvy path in the dark!

This experience left me in awe: in awe of the God who created our amazing bodies that can kind-of see in the dark and can sense where we are; in awe of the God who created creatures that make wonderful night sounds; in awe of the God who created the planets and stars and galaxies that are very bright when it is very dark. In awe that this immense God that is beyond description loves me and loves you.

I hope you regularly take time away so that you can let God renew and restore your soul. I hope you can regularly take time to experience the wonders of our God. Maybe you will come with me on retreat next time, so that we can experience our remarkable God together.

I'll see you in church, where we help one another know our awesomely amazing God!

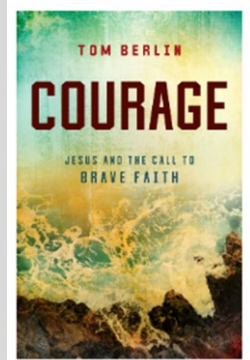
Love, Pastor Brenda



We can expect some beautiful flowers next spring thanks to Wes Brill! Watch for daffodils and resurrection lilies in the raised bed near the office. Thanks, Wes, for all of the little things you do in the church yard!

**Book Study, Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
Beginning October 20th in person.**

Covid. Politics. Divisiveness. So many things have us weary. Where do we find the courage to live authentically as a follower of Jesus Christ? We look to the courage of Jesus! Join Pastor Brenda for a 6-week study of courage. We will study the courage of Jesus, and discuss how the Holy Spirit can fill us with that same courage. Participants may purchase their own copy of *Courage* by Tom Berlin, or request a copy from Pastor Brenda for \$16. (Scholarships are always available.) Be sure to come to the WATR meal at 5:30 pm before our study.



Financial Corner

Month of:
September 2021

Current month :

Operating Income \$ 28,237.48

Operating Expense \$ 24,856.24

Year to date: 2021

Operating Income \$ 281,563.30

Operating Expense \$ 250,078.69

Designated giving year to date:

Apportionments: \$ 6,763.00
 Gods Fund Balance: \$ 1,245.90
 Bags of Hope Balance: \$ 4,043.70
 Blankets of Warmth Balance: \$ 1,144.02

Thank you to those that donated to missions!!!

We received \$392.44 for Meals on Wheels!!

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

TRUNK OR TREAT

HALLOWEEN PARTY

River of Life UMC
2345 Prairie Ave. Beloit, WI
Phone: (608) 362-8866

Wednesday,
October 27th, 2021
5:30 to 6:30 pm



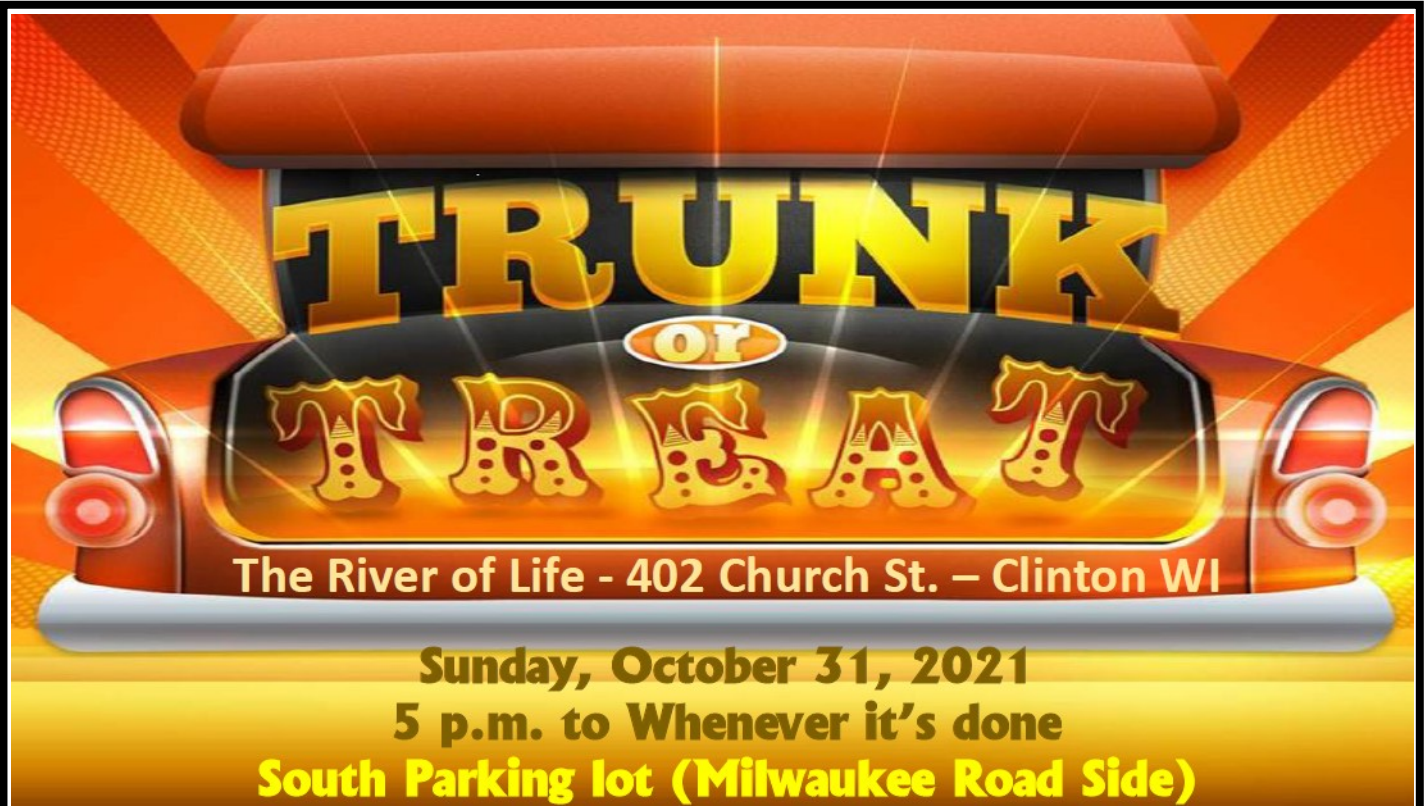
Dinner available with safe environment. rain or shine. WWW.SNOOPY.COM

We will need folks who would like to decorate their cars (at least 15) in the ROL parking lot and folks to donate bags of candy.

This has been a wonderful community outreach with participation. We estimate at least 50 to 100 kids.

Thank you in advance and we look forward to seeing your decorated cars.

Please contact Lora Cawkins with questions - 608-314-5086. A basket will be placed in the Coat Room for your donations.



Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce
Fall-O-Ween

Sunday, October 31st, 2021 • 3pm - 7pm
Village of Clinton



Trick or Treat Stop • Craft Activity • Food Stand • Games



Stewardship 2022 Campaign Sunday, October 17, 2022

On Sunday, October 17, 2021 we will begin our annual stewardship focus. It will culminate in four weeks as we commit to our estimate of giving for 2022 and celebrate with a brunch.

This still remains to be a difficult time for the Church in the United States and around the world. Over the past nineteen months, we have been dealing with the COVID-19 Pandemic. Church leaders and staff have to continue to re-adjust and re-think how we are doing church and keep the members informed and active with their church.

Usually during our stewardship focus we talk about our relationship with money, because our relationship with our finances affects our relationship with God.

This year's Stewardship Team has come up with a creative idea for the 2022 stewardship campaign. It is called Generous. This campaign focuses on several thoughts and ideas of how you can make a difference to help our church maintain alive and still fulfil the needs of Spiritual growth in the years to come and long after we have passed. This holds true for each of us today. If our past members hadn't given to the church in their way, we wouldn't be here today. Even today, many folks have contributed to new ways in making their legacy for tomorrow through generous Stewardship gifts.

Thank you again for your commitment. Thank you for the continued legacy you are building through your generous giving. May God greatly bless your generous heart!

In Christ,
Your 2022 Stewardship Committee

Thomas C. Alverson – Chairperson,
Members: Pastor Brenda Whitford, Jesse Calkins, Irma Davis, Tom Hamlett, and Shellie Olson

Aldrich Intermediate School is seeking volunteers to help with their Holiday Bazaar. The Holiday Bazaar is like a rummage sale of donated items but everything is free for the Aldrich families and community. Students often pick out items to be gift wrapped and given to their family for Christmas. Volunteers are needed on Friday, December 10th at 4:30-6:00pm to help with set up and on Saturday, December 11th from 8am to noon to help with the event and clean-up. Please see Karen Parssinen if you are interested.

-Carolyn Lynch



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



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



November 3

Bruce Holcomb

November 8

Darlene Breden

November 9

Nan Bolar

November 11

Karen Knutsen

November 12

Jesse Calkins

November 15

Lora Dodson

November 18

Brian Lutzow

November 19

Doug Henthorn

November 21

Sam Paddock

November 22

Glenda Bottger

November 23

Mary Alice Harris

Khalil Lutzow

November 24

Mariette Axmear

Tom Michels

November 27

Erik Ovist

November 28

Courtney Woody

November 30

Ron Schrader

Happy Anniversary

November 30

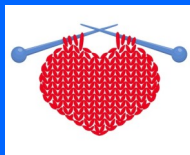
Harry & Eleanor Burnside

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



Knit & Crochet With A Mission Group

Our next meeting is October 27th 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!!



SOUP w/pull tabs
(but NOT tomato)

Issue deadline:

November 12

The next newsletter is November/December combined, and will be available November 21



United Methodist Women

Faith—Hope—Love in Action

Watch Where You Walk and be sure that..

You are walking towards the UMW Cookie Walk to be held on December 4. One of the reasons that you need to watch where you are walking is that we hope that you will be carrying a big box of cookies for the Cookie Walk. Seriously, we need lots of baked goods to make the walk successful.

But that's not all we need. We need volunteers to tray the cookies on December 3. Then on December 4 we

need volunteers to weigh the cookies, to cash out the cookies and keep the trays full. Please call Marlene Erickson if you are able to volunteer; otherwise get those cookbooks out and start making a baking schedule. We know that we can count on all UMW to make this fund raiser a success.



UMW Calendar

October 20 Martha Circle Meeting 9 :30 a.m. Fellowship Hall
October 20 Mary Circle Meeting 1:00 Home of Susan Kiser
December 4 Cookie Walk

Are You A Radio Person?

Obviously, a radio person is someone who likes to listen to the radio, but more than that, a radio person uses the TV as a radio and only looks up when some conversation really catches her ear!!!

Now there are AM radio stations, FM radio stations, SHORT WAVE radio stations, SCANNER radio stations and on and on. Today one can have radio on demand, except it is called a POD CAST. Pod casts come in all areas of communication. You can listen to a Pod Cast on your phone, a tablet, a computer, or on a TV with a streaming device.

UMW are right in the middle of modern technology. Jennifer R. Farmer hosts a pod cast called **Faith Talks** each month. You can attend the original taping of these pod casts or listen to them anytime on one of your devices. These monthly conversations explore themes and resources that allow us to put faith, hope and love into action.

Go to <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks> and choose a topic. Happy Listening.



A Cookie is a Cookie and a Pledge is a pledge.

How about Making a Cookie Pledge?

Please use the form below to let us know how many cookies you are able to contribute to the Cookie Walk.

ROL UMW COOKIE WALK PLEDGE DECEMBER, 2021

NAME _____ PH. # _____

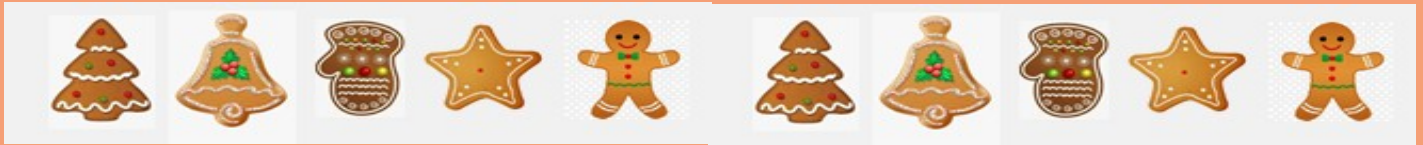
- () I will make 6 Dozen or more Christmas cookies, bars or candy.
- () I will contribute money instead of baking cookies.
- () I will contribute specialty items to be sold separately. Please let Marlene Erickson know what they are so we will have room and prices you feel we should charge for them.

Please bring cookies, candy, bars or specialty items to be sold on Friday, December 3rd between 9am and 2pm. This form may be placed in the box marked "Cookie Walk" located in fellowship hall. If you have any questions please call 608-362-0830.

Thank you for your continued support of UMW fundraisers.

Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

God Bless You!!!



Coming to a Library Near You!

That library is in the church fellowship hall, and that's because it is our own UMW library. Here are several new books which have been ordered and will soon be placed in the library. Be sure you not only take a look, but also check one out.

My Savior is the Masses: Dancing along the Path to Justice. Joy Prim

#Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women. Edited by Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale

A Living Gospel: Reading God's Stories in Holy Lives. Richard Ellsberg

For Such a Time as This: Hope and Forgiveness After the Charleston Massacre. Rev. Sharon Risher

The JOurneY Between Us: My Faith Walk: Overcoming Grief to Finding JOY in the JOurneY. Lisa Mcgraph

Pray Without Ceasing

Many folk use odd moments to pray. A lady in Arizona prays whenever she hears sirens. She prays for the EMTs answering the calls, the person/persons needing help and the attending medical team. First United Methodist of Yuma, Arizona is located across the street from a fire station. If the sirens sound during a service, the pastor stops and prays for all people involved. What are the odd moments you use for prayer?

Mail Box Blessings

Retired missionary Diane Abbott is our birthday person for October. Diane and her husband Mark have served as missionaries in Spain. She currently lives in Florida and is active in the Community-DeBary United Methodist Church.

Diane's birthday is October 30. Cards may be sent to:

Diane Abbott
2932 Wild Pepper Avenue
Deltona, Florida 32725
mark_diane_abbott@yahoo.com



What Do UMW Do?



Well, they help people, that's what they do.
They supply things for the poor and needy.
They support missionaries around the world to teach of Jesus our Savior.
They provide scholarships for ROLUMC young people.
They advocate for social justice for all.
They do their part to protect our earth.
Where do they get the money to help people?

They give offerings from their own funds.

They hold a rummage sale once a year.

They have a bake sale with the rummage sale.

They sponsor a cookie walk each December.

Speaking of the cookie walk, it's time to start planning and pledging!

-Carol Connors, Communications Coordinator



Wow! Thank you for the quick response to the need for clothes for the Afghan refugees! We were able to completely stuff a van full of donations! Donations were delivered to Asbury UMC in Janesville. Midwest Mission Distribution Center supplied a semi to pick up donations at all the pickup sites and deliver them to Ft. McCoy. Thank you for acting so swiftly and generously!

-Diane Gemignani

Photo of front hallway with our donations at Asbury UMC



Loose Coins

Family Promise of Greater Beloit

--

Loose coins for October go to **Family Promise of Greater Beloit**. Family Promise is an emergency shelter program for homeless families. ---Partnering with church congregations makes it possible for them to host 3-4 families at a time, 365 days a year. Congregations provide space in their buildings for one week at a time, offering food, hospitality, and a temporary home for families going through a difficult time.

Family Promise has a day center at 655 Bluff St., where families go during the day to shower, receive case management, and look for housing and jobs. It is affiliated with a national network of 200+ Family Promise agencies, based on a model of providing extensive support services while existing congregational resources provide nightly housing and food at a fraction of the cost of permanent shelters.

The mission is to go beyond shelter to provide a better future for families in crisis. Congregational support is essential to fulfill the mission of Family Promise. Some churches provide the physical space to shelter families, some congregations provide additional food and volunteers, and some provide financial support to sustain the day center and its staff and programming. The need is great. Please give generously.

For November, Loose Coins offerings will go to the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign.

-- Ellen Butchart

**Adult Mission Team
Midwest Mission Distribution Center
Pawnee, Illinois**

September 15 - 17, 2021

-- Flood buckets to go to hurricane-damaged areas

(We packed 380 of them, and we prayed over them before shipment.)

-- UMCOR Hygiene kits to go to similar disaster areas

(A shipment just like we were packing was ready to go to the Afghan refugees at Ft. McCoy.)

-- Others did wood-working, sorting items for kits, and tracing sewing patterns.





Photos provided by Ellen Butchart



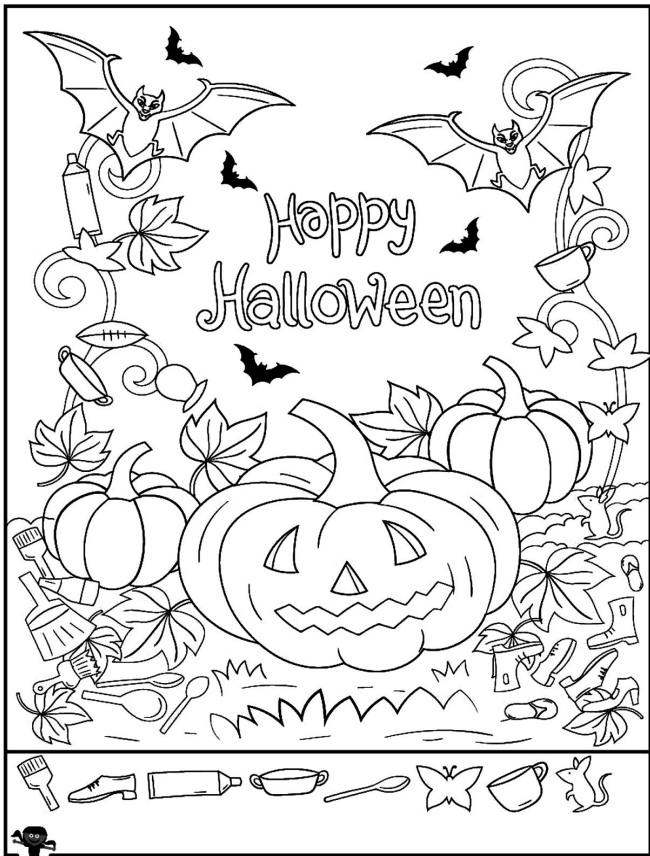
The next month in worship will include our Generous stewardship series, as well as All Saint's Day and Thanksgiving. Join us Saturdays at 5:30pm at the Beloit Campus, Sundays at 9:30am at the Beloit Campus, or Sundays at 10:30am at the Clinton Campus.

- Oct 10 – That's Not in the Bible: Love Conquers All, 1 Peter 4:8-11
- Oct 17 – Beloit Campus: Our first Generous sermon is also our last That's Not In The Bible: Money is the Root of All Evil, 1 Timothy 6:6-10
Clinton Campus – Generous: Legacy Treasures, 1 Timothy 6:17-19
- Oct 24 – Beloit Campus: Generous: Legacy Treasures, 1 Timothy 6:17-19 with Pastor Keith
Clinton Campus: Generous: That's Not In The Bible: Money is the Root of All Evil, 1 Timothy 6:6-10 with Pastor Brenda
- October 31 – Generous: Everything Belongs To God Anyways, Psalm 24:1
- November 7 – All Saint's Day Sermon
- November 14 – Consecration Sunday! Generous: More and More! 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
- November 21 – Thanksgiving Sermon

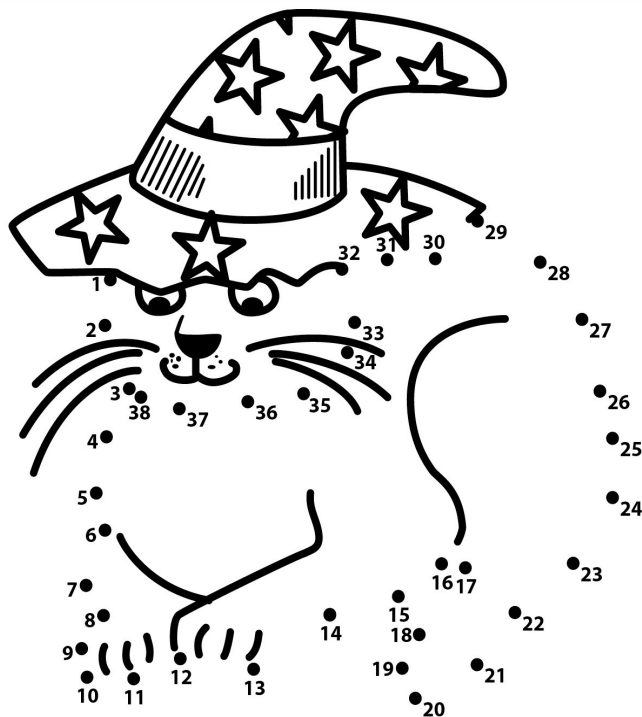
WATR

Wednesdays at the River

- ◆ **Tutoring** begins October 13th. Tutoring will take place the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 3:30pm. If you would love to be considered to impact a student as a tutor, contact Karen Parssinen.
- ◆ **Dinner** begins October 13th and will served every Wednesday at 5:30pm. A donation of \$5 is encouraged but not necessary.
- ◆ The **Adult Book Study *Courage*** begins October 20th at 6:30pm. Contact Pastor Brenda if you would like to participate.
- ◆ **Youth Groups** are temporarily on hold. Contact Karen Parssinen or Pastor Brenda if you would like to be considered for leadership for one of our youth groups.



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Happy Halloween

PAPER STRIP PUMPKIN CRAFT

Turn construction paper and a toilet paper roll into a fantastic homemade decoration for fall.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Orange & Green construction paper
- Scissors
- Toilet paper roll
- Scotch tape

HOW TO MAKE YOUR PAPER STRIP PUMPKIN CRAFT:

1. Cut the toilet paper roll in half. Cut a strip of orange construction paper that will wrap around the toilet paper roll completely and tape the paper into place.
2. Cut the orange construction paper vertically into 1 in. strips You will need 8 to 10 strips.
3. Work with one end of the toilet paper roll at a time. Tape one end of the orange construction paper to the inside of one end of the tp roll. Repeat with the remaining strips of paper until you have the makings of a flower look.
4. Now you need to tape the other end of each strip into the other end of the tp roll. Do this just as you did before.
5. Once you have all of the orange strips of paper taped into place, cut a leaf out of green paper and tape it into the hole to complete your pumpkin.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	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

Sunday
9:30 am Beloit 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 WATR & Adult Bible Study

Thursday
4:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

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



Above all, love each other deeply,
because love covers over a
multitude of sins.
1 Peter 4:8

Calendar of Events

(also posted on the Web & Facebook)

- October 13 3:30 pm Tutoring Begins (2nd & 4th weeks)
5:30 pm WATR & Adult Bible Study (weekly)
- October 18 6:30 pm Stewardship (FH)
- October 19 11:00 am Missions (FH)
3:00 pm SPPRC (FH)
6:30 pm Finance (Zoom)
- October 20 9:30 am Martha Circle (FH)
1:00 pm Mary Circle @ Sue Kiser's,
107 Red Barn Lane, Rockton
- October 25 6:00 pm Trustees (FH)
- October 27 1:00 pm Knitting With A Mission (Office)
5:30 pm Trunk or Treat @ Beloit Campus
- October 31 4:00 pm Trunk or Treat @ Clinton Campus

LOOKING AHEAD:

- All Saint's Day: Sunday, November 7
- Cookie Walk: Saturday, December 4
- Cantata: Saturday & Sunday December 4 & 5
- Charge Conference: Tuesday, December 7