

The Current Of The River Of Life



**Beloit: Wednesday October 26th
at 6:30 pm**

**Clinton: Monday, Halloween
at 4:00 pm**

October 16, 2022

www.rolumcwi.com

Vol. 39 Issue 32

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

CLINTON CAMPUS

402 Church Street
Clinton, WI
 608.676.4646

STAFF

Brenda Whitford, Pastor	608-482-0021
pastorbrenda@rolumcwi.com	
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talverson@rolumcwi.com	
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Lois Ulvin	Director of Music
David Newman	Pianist/Organist
Marge Johnson	Pianist
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cbergh@rolumcwi.com	
Bonnie Moore	Secretary/Receptionist
bmoore@rolumcwi.com	



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?**

The Beloit Service is on the website and both Beloit and Clinton are on Facebook



Our condolences to the Family and Friends of...

Mary Alice Harris in the loss of her Sister, Jeanne Advani
Zach Petersen in the loss of his Mother

People we have prayed for....



Annette	Maggie
Amy	Marjorie
Arlene	Marlene
Bethy	Mary
Chuck	Nan
Daniel & Max	Pastor Eduardo
Darla	Ron
David	Ryan
Jeff	Sandie
Kerri	Shania
Kristin	Wally

All Saint's Day

On Sunday, November 6th, 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.

The services and activities at River of Life United Methodist Church are videotaped, including adults and children.

Eight 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.

From the Pastor's Desk



October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Thank you so much for these beautiful flowers! They are sitting on the mantle of my fireplace. I can see them right now and they are magnificent. Thank you for the cards. I am grateful that you took the time to think of me.

Being a pastor is challenging. The job description is enormous. We are generalists with a wide variety of responsibilities, requiring a vast skill set. No pastor is good at everything. As pastors we know that we regularly let people down because we missed doing or saying something important. I am so grateful for the grace that you extend to me when I disappoint you.

When I first began experiencing God calling me into Ordained Ministry, I was being called to help people “get it.” I didn’t really know what that meant then, but over the past 20+ years in ministry, I have found that it is quite simple.

First, I want you to “get” that you are a precious child of God. God loves you more than you can ever comprehend. Focus on staying connected to that love that will not let you go. Then, because you are filled with God’s love, love God, love one another, love our neighborhood, make disciples, BE the church.

This may sound simple, but for many of us, “getting it” is challenging. For many of us, loving ourselves is difficult, so it’s hard to believe that God loves us. And then loving people who are different from us is tough. Helping you “get it” is my primary task.

I oversee staff, I oversee the administration of the church, I connect with committees, I preach, I teach, I encourage your gifts, and sometimes I have to either make tough decisions, or lead others to make them. I try to know what is going on in the lives of the people of the congregation, and I know that I do not visit people enough. I pray over all of this and all of you. It’s a considerable task.

What is most rewarding to me is seeing you filled with the love of God. It is rewarding to me to see you loving God, loving each other, loving the neighborhood, making disciples and BEing the church. It is rewarding to me to see you loving people into taking their next step with Jesus.

Thank you again for your flowers and cards. Now together we will flower into all God has created us to be!

I’ll see you in church, where we all grow deeper in “getting it,”

Love, Pastor Brenda

Fresh Flowers for the Sanctuary

Do you enjoy having fresh flowers in the sanctuary for worship? Would you like to provide flowers for worship? A number of people would like to see this ministry resume. You may bring in flowers for no reason, or there can be a sentence in the bulletin that states the special occasion flowers are being provided. Look for the flower sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall of the Beloit Campus and the back of the Clinton Campus sanctuary.



WATR

Wednesdays at the River

- **Tutoring** begins October 19th. It is from 4:00-5:30pm. If you would love to be considered to impact a student as a tutor, contact Karen Parssinen.
- **Dinner** begins October 19th and will be served every Wednesday at 5:30pm. A donation of \$5 is encouraged but not necessary.
- The **Adult Book Study** continues at 6:30pm.

Secretary Position Open

We are now accepting applications for our secretary position. This 30-hour position involves basic reception duties, as well as creating our bulletin, newsletter, and other important tasks. The job description and application will be available soon on our website

ROL VOICESHOT

Once in awhile, a Voiceshot is sent to the entire Congregation. Sometimes a cell phone blocks the incoming call, or the operator intercepts, and the notification is not received. It is helpful if we have your e-mail address on file so the unsuccessful Voiceshot message can be forwarded to your e-mail address. The call will come from the number 608-362-8867. If you put this number in your contacts, it will come up as River of Life instead of potential spam.

I can do
ALL THINGS
through
CHRIST
Who
STRENGTHENS
ME Phil 4:13



LOOSE COINS

FOR THE REST OF OCTOBER -- Family Promise of Greater Beloit

Both our Loose Coins for this month and our shower gifts will go to Family Promise. The all-church shower for their new facility and growing client base will be held after church on Oct. 16 in Beloit, when we will have representatives from Family Promise here to present a PowerPoint on the services they provide to homeless families. Thank you to all those who have filled the wagons in Fellowship Hall with toiletries and laundry items for families in need!

BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER -- Project 16:49

We heard an inspiring message from the executive director of 16:49 on Sept. 25 at the Beloit Campus. For the month of November we will be supporting the program that keeps homeless teens in school and provides services that help them not only to survive, but to set goals and plan for a secure future. In the absence of family support, 16:49 gives teens a home base of support, provides needed items for living and some housing, and helps them navigate the path to further education or employment. Please give generously of your loose coins to support the more than 300 homeless teens in Rock County.

HURRICANE RELIEF

So many causes to support! Following the recent devastating effects of Hurricane Ian in Florida and beyond, many of us would like to help in some way. **UMCOR** (United Methodist Committee on Relief) is always one of the first responders to disasters, with cleaning buckets, personal dignity kits, and other emergency support to help people who have lost nearly everything. **Midwest Mission** has become the main supplier of these emergency kits for UMCOR and sends shipments on behalf of UMCOR as well as in cooperation with other relief agencies. If you would like to help, you may write a check or put cash in an envelope marked for either of these Methodist organizations, or just write "Hurricane" on the check memo or envelope.

As always, we encourage you to be generous with your Loose Coins contributions. Drop your change in the offering plate each week, and please consider including a check or bills marked for any of the above causes. Thank you!

-- Ellen Butchart



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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

November 3

Bruce Holcomb

November 8

Darlene Breden

November 9

Nan Bolar

November 10

Diane Buckler

November 11

Karen Knutsen

November 12

Jesse Calkins

November 15

Lora Dodson

November 18

Tevin Gamble

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



November 30

Harry & Eleanor Burnside



because of you

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ at River of Life UMC,



Thank you for your generous donations of \$479.05. Each donation is a blessing God uses to bless you and others. Your donation will leave Midwest Mission and be a practical example of God's

love in the world to the "least of these". The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Mathew 25:40 (NIV)

Dear River of Life UMC Members,



Your donation of \$578.31, dated August 16, 2022 was timely. The late summer months are traditionally a challenge for receiving donations.

On a bright note, on June 27, we opened the pantry for walk through, and have kept the drive though as well.

Thank You for your support. In the midst of constant change, you help us be a stable place for many.

With appreciation,
Max P. Dodson

Find these words

W	A	B	O	W	L	C
E	G	H	O	S	T	D
B	B	E	B	E	R	Y
S	C	A	R	Y	I	D
F	A	G	T	E	C	N
I	T	B	L	A	K	A
H	C	T	I	W	J	C

GHOST EYES
TRICK OR TREAT
SCARY CAT
BOO WITCH
CANDY
OWL WEBS

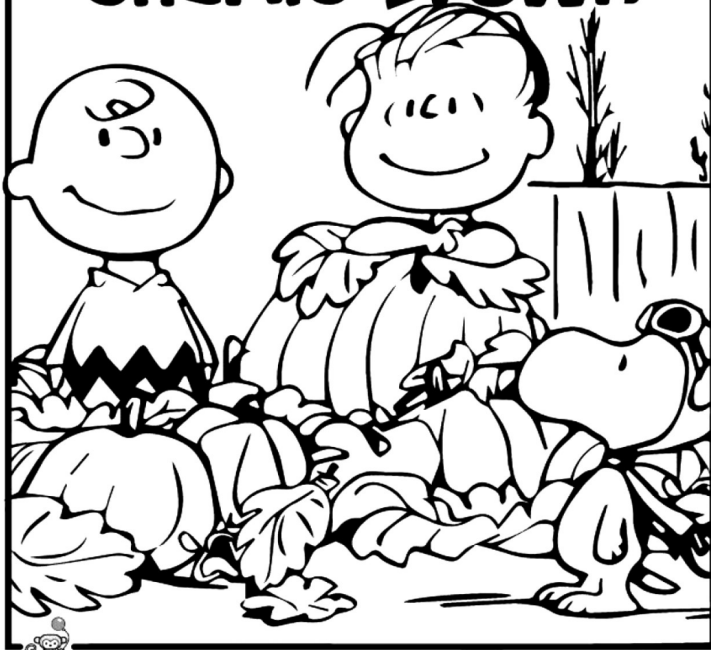
© melonheadz illustrating

As there are three colors in the candy corn I see,

there are three persons in the Holy Trinity.
God, our loving Father,
Jesus, the son, and
our helper, the Holy Spirit.

All three are God,
yet together they are
One.

It's The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown



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Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

The Gospel Pumpkin

Read this poem to your children and follow the instructions as you carve.

I am a Jack O'Lantern.
My light will shine so bright.
For I am a Christian pumpkin.
My symbols tell what's right.

The story starts at Christmas
my eyes are like the star
that shown on baby Jesus
and wise men saw from afar.

My nose is like the cross
on which our Savior died.
To set us free from sin
we need no longer hide.

My color, it is orange
just like the big bright sun
that rose on Easter day
along with God's own son.

My mouth is like a fish
the whole wide world to show
that Christians live in this house
and love their Savior so!

And so on Halloween
let's set our pumpkins out
and tell the trick-or-treaters
what God's love is all about!



Financial Corner

Month of:
September 2022

Current month :

Operating Income \$ 16,839.00

Operating Expense \$ 26,618.18

Year to date: 2022

Operating Income \$ 281,443.63

Operating Expense \$ 294,388.88

Designated giving year to date:

Apportionments: \$ 9,050.07

Gods Fund Balance: \$ 1,122.42

Bags of Hope Balance: \$ 3,618.80

Blankets of Warmth Balance: \$ 1,179.41

Thank you to those that donated to missions!!!

We received \$728.69 for Midwest Mission!!



Tutoring

It is not too late to sign up to make a difference in children's lives on Wednesdays after school!



I would LOVE to be a tutor!



I would LOVE to provide snacks!



I would LOVE to teach a life lesson!

Let Karen Parssinen know today!!



Knit & Crochet With A Mission Group
October 26th at 1:00 pm - Office Workroom

All knitters & crocheters are invited!

Questions?

Call Sandy Ovist at 608-362-6583



Hello October!

The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever. Isaiah 40:7

We believe
love in action
can change
the world.



Mark Those Calendars

October 19
October 19
December 3

Martha Circle 9:30 a.m. Church Fellowship Hall
Mary Circle 1:00 Home of Clara Welch
Cookie Walk 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon



Circle Time

All women are invited to become a member of a Circle. We encourage you to come and enjoy fellowship with the ROLUMC women's community. Here are the meeting times, dates and contact persons. Please join us for a time of joy, learning and service.

Martha Circle: 3rd Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.
For details contact: Carol Braukhoff 608-299-9738
Mary Circle: 3rd Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.
For details contact: Jacque Patch 608-362-7729



It's Never Too Early...

- It's never too early to get those cookbooks out and start looking for recipes for the ROLUWF's annual Cookie Walk. December 3 is the magic day when all those cookies are going to march right through Beloit to the ROLUMC where they will rest before marching on to the homes of the people who are waiting in line to buy them.



Mosaic of Faith We Are All Part Of God's Story

Theme for 2022-23 United Women in Faith

***October Theme: God is not neutral towards injustice.**

PROGRAM SUMMARY

In our gathering today, we renew our commitment to love and seek justice and call upon each other and our friends to support and keep each other accountable.

LITANY

Facilitator:

As United Women in Faith members, we will continue our work against the criminalization of communities of color and mass incarceration and advocate for just energy for all. We are called to put our faith and love into action in our local, national, and global communities. God's love has no boundaries, and our sisterhood is courageous. We bring to you these ministries and ask for your guidance.

ALL:

Loving God, we commit ourselves to be transformed by your Spirit and share your love with all your children and all of creation.

Facilitator:

Our God is a God of justice who stands with the marginalized.

ALL:

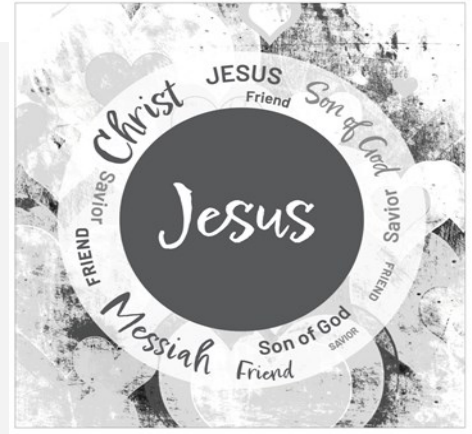
Give us thirst for your divine justice and fill our hearts and spirits with the fire of the Holy Spirit. Show us how to stand in solidarity with one another, especially the oppressed, the poor, and the marginalized. Show us how to put our faith into action. Amen.

Read Exodus 2:23–25 (NRSV)

After a long time, the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned under their slavery and cried out. Out of the slavery their cry for help rose up to God. God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God looked upon the Israelites, and God took notice of them.

God hears the call of those who suffer, even when we don't call to her. God's compassion and love for us is manifest in our darkest moments, intervening to free us from our suffering and oppressors. Thus, doing God's work on earth means actively fighting for liberation, dismantling systems of injustice, and interrupting indifference.

*All information taken directly from Program Resource booklet page 24, 25.



Watch Where You Walk and be sure that...



You are walking towards the UWF Cookie Walk to be held on December 3. 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 2. Then on December 3 we need volunteers to weigh the cookies, to cash out the cookies and keep the trays full. Please call 608-921-6755 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 UWF to make this fund raiser a success.



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 UWF COOKIE WALK PLEDGE DECEMBER, 2022

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 Pat Sands 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 2nd between 9am and 2pm. This form may be placed in the box marked "Cookie Walk" located in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, please call 608-921-6755.

Thank you for your continued support of UWF fundraisers.

Your hard work is greatly appreciated.



God Bless You!!!



CHURCH & SOCIETY

The United Methodist Church

Living **FAITH** Seeking **JUSTICE** Pursuing **PEACE**

If you missed the Justice Talk **The Rise of Christian Nationalism** on September 28, here is the YouTube link to this talk.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGpB8bEkaCQ>

The difference between Christianity, Christian Nationalism and patriotism is defined and explained in this UMC Justice Talk video.

Wikipedia defines Christian Nationalism:

Christian nationalism is [Christianity](#)-affiliated [religious nationalism](#).^[1] Christian nationalists primarily focus on internal politics, such as passing laws that reflect their view of Christianity and its role in political and social life. In countries with a [state Church](#), Christian nationalists, in seeking to preserve the status of a [Christian state](#), uphold an [antidisestablishmentarian](#) position.^{[2][3][4]} Christian nationalists support the presence of [Christian symbols](#) and statuary in the public square, as well as state patronage for the display of religion, such as [school prayer](#) and the exhibition of [nativity scenes](#) during [Christmastide](#) or the [Christian Cross](#) on [Good Friday](#).^{[5][6]} Christian nationalists draw support from the broader [Christian right](#).^[7]
— https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_nationalism



Justice Talks: The Rise of Christian Nationalism

Mary Circle will meet on October 19 at 1:00 p.m. Clara Welch will host at her home.

Martha Circle will meet Wednesday, Oct 19 , 9:30am at Beloit Campus Fellowship Hall. Ann Williams will be presenting the program.

A merry heart does good, like medicine....Proverbs 17:22

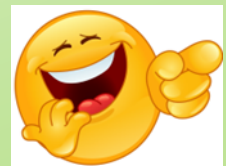
Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?...Because Noah was standing on the deck.

When was the first math homework problem mentioned in the Bible?...When God told Adam and Eve to go forth and multiply.

How do we know Peter was a rich fisherman?...By his net income.

Why did Noah have to punish and discipline the chickens on the Ark?...They were using fowl language.

Source: thinkaboutsuchthings.com



-Carol Connors, Communications Coordinator

A mom was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe.

So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor, Mrs. Goodnest, if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

Mrs. Goodnest said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed.

The next school day Mrs. Goodnest and her little girl, Marcy, set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor boy he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the boys walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she had seemed to do every day all week. Finally he said to Timmy, "Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?"

Timmy nonchalantly replied, "Yeah, I know who she is." The friend said, "Well, who is she?" "That's just Shirley Goodnest." Timmy replied, "and her daughter Marcy."

"Shirley Goodnest? Who in the heck is she and why is she following us?"

"Well," Timmy explained, "every night my mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life.' - so I guess I'll just have to get used to it!"

May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today and always.

-submitted by Mary Robinette

Would you like to help Beloit Meals On Wheels roll out their services?



Beloit Meals On Wheels is growing and they are in **GREAT NEED** of delivery volunteers.

If you would like to form a church delivery team, or you would like to volunteer as an individual, family, or group of friends—

PLEASE CALL: 608-362-3683

Using your vehicle, it takes from 1-1.5 hours only once a month to deliver the meals on your designated route. Training is provided.

Here are some of the benefits volunteers say they feel when delivering meals:

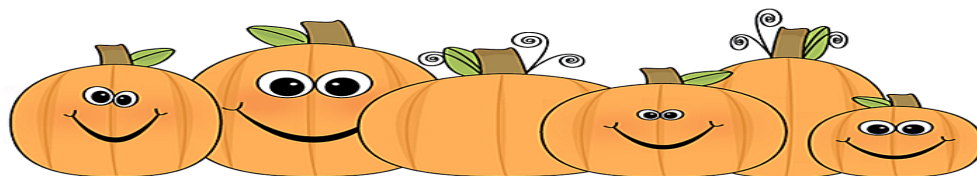
- Cultivates happiness
- Increases greater purpose/appreciation in life
- Sustains loved ones in the community
- Helps end senior hunger and isolation



New Address After Dec. 1, 2022
1534 Shore Drive, Beloit, WI 53511



Phone: 608-362-3683
Email: info@beloitmealsonwheels.org
Website: beloitmealsonwheels.org





Accomplish the Impossible

“God is looking for people through whom He can do the impossible – what a pity that we plan only the things we can do by ourselves.” - A.W. Tozer.

I recently ran across a story that highlights the power of partnership. In the latter part of the nineteenth century, when the Methodist church was holding its denominational convention, one leader stood up and shared his vision both for the church and society at large. He told the ministers and evangelists how he believed someday men would fly from place to place instead of merely traveling on horseback. But it was a concept too outlandish for many members of his audience to handle. One minister, Bishop Wright, stood up and angrily protested, “Heresy!” he shouted. “Flight is reserved for the angels!” He went on to elaborate that if God had intended for man to fly, God would have given him wings. Clearly the bishop was unable to envision what the speaker was predicting. When Bishop Wright finished his brief protest, he gathered up his two sons, Orville and Wilbur, and left the auditorium. That’s right. His sons were Orville and Wilbur Wright. And several years later, on December 17, 1903, those two sons did what their father called impossible. They made four flights that day. The first lasted only 12 seconds, but the fourth lasted 59 seconds and took them 852 feet. Soon the Wright brothers had built the first practical airplane, the Flyer III, and by 1908, the brothers had demonstrated an improved model in France that flew 60 miles in less than two hours. The brothers partnered together to accomplish the impossible – and in the process, they changed the world.

Article written by Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

We Continue to Stream Services Online

You can watch our Beloit Campus worship service on our website, just like before. We have switched to Facebook Live as our streaming platform. As long as it continues to work well, this switch will save us over \$1,000 per year. However, it has come to our attention that people are assuming that they can’t watch the service if they are not on Facebook. That is not the case. If you do not have a Facebook account, you can watch on our website, just like before. If you do have a Facebook account, you can choose to watch on the website or on Facebook through our Facebook page, whichever you prefer. The Clinton Campus worship service continues to stream on our Clinton Facebook page.



REMEMBER TO "LIKE US"



Our Facebook pages are active and there you'll find current postings on upcoming events, activities, church happenings, and lots more.

OUR FACEBOOK PAGES ARE:

The River of Life United Methodist Church, Clinton Campus,
and The River of Life United Methodist Church.
Remember to "Like" us to stay up-to-date.

May you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep God's love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Ephesians 3:18-19



EVENING

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

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 Adult Book Study (Zoom)
 4:00 pm Tutoring (FH)
 5:30 pm WATR Dinner
 6:30 pm Adult Book 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)

- Oct 17 6:30 pm Stewardship (FH)
- Oct 18 6:30 pm Finance (FH)
- Oct 19 9:30 am Martha Circle (FH)
 1:00 pm Mary Circle @ Clara Welch's home
 4:00 pm Tutoring (FH)
 5:30 pm WATR Dinner (FH)
 6:30 pm Adult Book Study (FH)
- Oct 23 10:00 am Worship & Communion @ Clinton
- Oct 24 6:00 pm Trustees (FH)
- Oct 25 4:00 pm Hospitality (FH)
- Oct 26 1:00 pm Knitting/Crochet with a Mission (O)
 6:30 pm Trunk or Treat (Beloit)
- Oct 31 4:00 pm Trunk or Treat (Clinton)

SAVE THE DATE....

- Dec 3 UWF Annual Cookie Walk
- Dec 10 & 11 Christmas Cantata



Issue deadline:
 November 11th
 The next newsletter is the
November/December issue.
 It will be available November 20th