



LET OUR LIVES BE FULL  
OF BOTH  
**Thanks  
&  
Giving**

**The Current of The River of Life**

November 2023

2345 Prairie Ave, Beloit, WI

Vol. 40 Issue 11

# River of Life United Methodist Church

*Loving People Into Taking Their Next Step With Jesus*

Worship Location - 2345 Prairie Ave, Beloit, WI 53511

Office Location - 2375 Prairie Ave, Beloit, WI 53511

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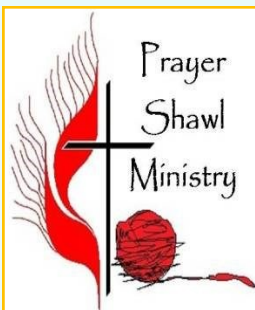
**Pianist**

**IT-Production Manager**

**Teaching Pastor**

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

The Beloit Service is on the website, on Facebook, and also on our YouTube channel.



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

## LAY LEADERSHIP 2023

**Lay Leader**

*Open*

**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**

Kelly Clark

**Stewardship Team Chairperson**

*Open*

**Tech Team Chairperson**

Derek Bergh

**United Women of Faith President**

Pat Sands

# From the Pastor's Desk



Many churches have their annual stewardship campaigns in the fall. River of Life is no exception. With our Clinton Campus closing and Tom Alverson, our Stewardship Team Chair, leaving River of Life to go lead at Darien UMC (see page 21), I have been spending more time than usual on this year's campaign, and I am excited!

Stewardship is about how we take care of all God has given to us, recognizing that everything comes from God. We talk about our relationship with money. We talk about the difference we make in our church and in the community. You are encouraged each year to fill out an Estimate of Giving Card, a pledge, and to increase that pledge every year.

This year, I am excited about our stewardship campaign for two reasons. First, I am excited that we are building a Duplo<sup>®</sup> Lego<sup>®</sup> tower as a visual reminder of the difference we make as a family of faith. We have purchased 450 Duplo<sup>®</sup> bricks, and 60 Lego<sup>®</sup> people. I am hoping that people will go all out in building our Kingdom Tower and decorating the people, and that we will need to purchase more!

I am also excited, because this year we are focusing more on God. If that sounds strange to read, it feels more so to write.

As I said in the second paragraph above, we usually focus on OUR stewardship of money, and OUR relationship with money, and the difference WE make by OUR giving. This year our campaign is titled **GOD AT WORK**. It is not titled US at work. This year we will increase our focus on **GOD** in our stewardship. This year we will focus on how we are partnering with **GOD** to build the Kingdom of God. This year we are going to specifically emphasize how **GOD** is at work in what is being done at River of Life United Methodist Church.

I am hoping that the fun aspect of our stewardship campaign helps us to think more deeply about the privilege and honor that God gives us to work with him and for him. I look forward to us building this journey together.

I'll see you in church, where we work at God's work,

Love, Pastor Brenda

Our Yearly Charge Conference will be Tuesday, November 21st at 6:30 pm.

We will be voting on the 2024 budget, among other things. All River of Life members are eligible to vote.

## Second Annual Harvest Dinner!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

November 26 is Consecration Sunday. Please join us for our Second Annual Harvest Dinner.

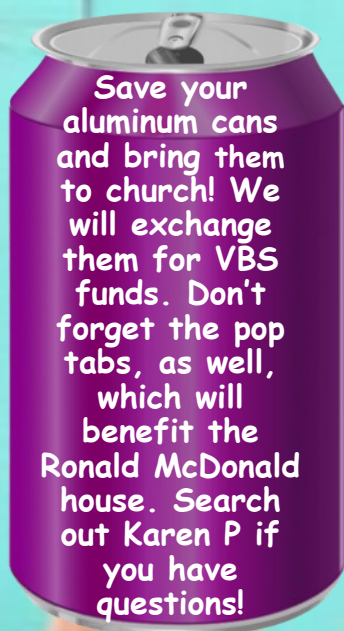
Details to follow!



Braxton Goodwin, son of Matt and Morgan Goodwin, was baptized on November 29<sup>th</sup>. They are pictured here with sponsors Jeffrey Watson and Nicole Lincoln and a special cousin. The recording of Braxton's baptism is available to watch on our Facebook page and on our YouTube channel, and is accessible through our website.

Welcome to the church family!

Upcoming baptism - On November 12<sup>th</sup> Callen Lynch, son of Sean and Carolyn Lynch



### Knit & Crochet With A Mission Group



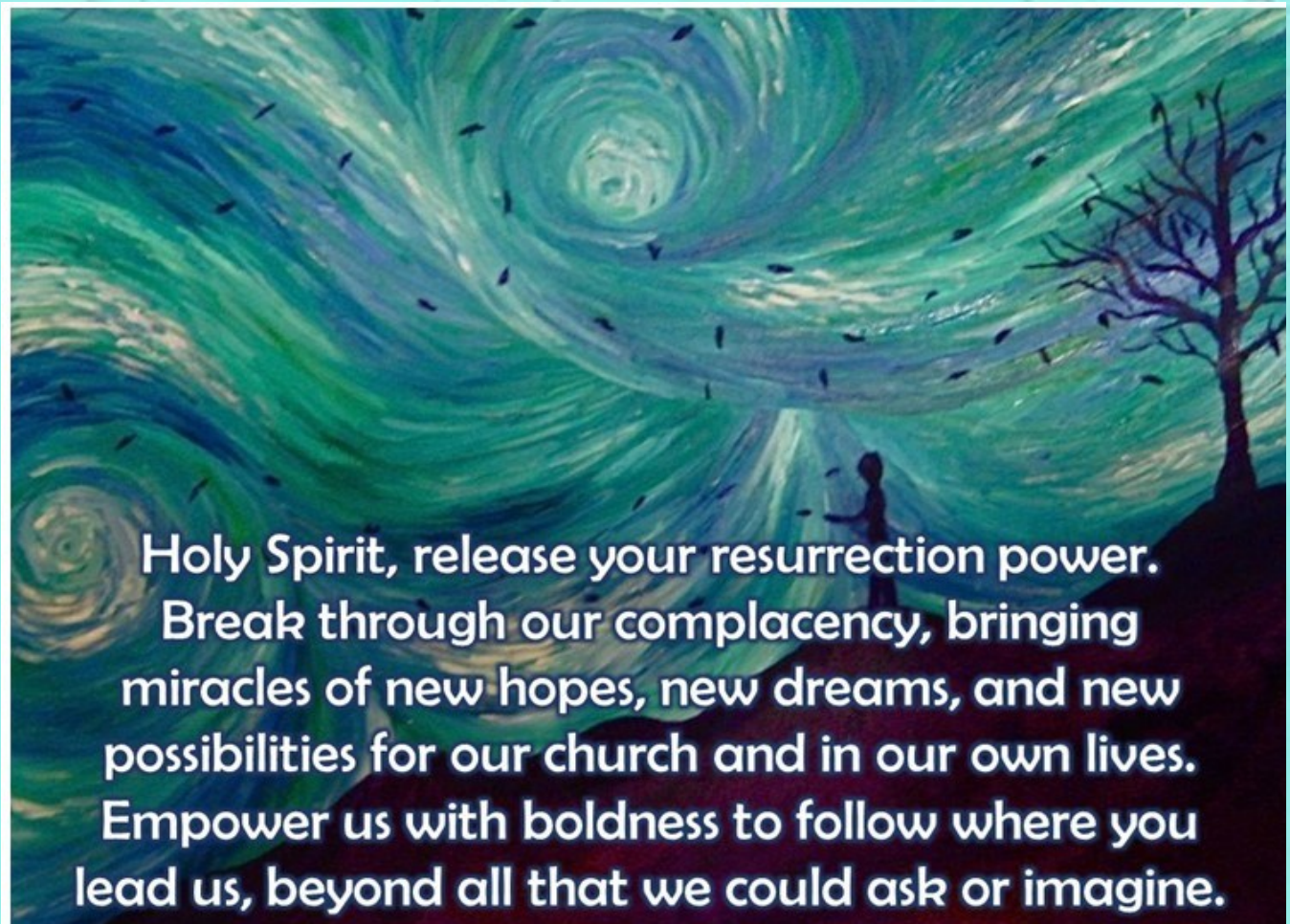
November 29 at 1:00 - Office Workroom

All knitters & crocheters are invited! Questions?

Call Sandy Ovist at 608-362-6583



*Please cut out this Breakthrough Prayer Card and keep for your reference. People we prayed for this month will be conveniently listed on the back of the card once cut out.*



Holy Spirit, release your resurrection power.  
Break through our complacency, bringing miracles of new hopes, new dreams, and new possibilities for our church and in our own lives. Empower us with boldness to follow where you lead us, beyond all that we could ask or imagine.

### November Sermons



Our November sermons will align with our fall stewardship campaign: **GOD AT WORK**. We will talk about how God is busy building his Kingdom of love and how we are partnering with God in it. We will be using Duplo® Legos® as a visual reminder as we talk about how God is building his Kingdom through us. Be sure to worship every Sunday in person, or watch online if you can't make it in person. If you are only able to worship online, call or email Kelly or Pastor Brenda to add names or places to bricks for our Kingdom Tower.

- |        |                              |
|--------|------------------------------|
| Nov 5  | God at Work: Building Up     |
| Nov 12 | God at Work: Reaching Out    |
| Nov 19 | God at Work: Giving for Good |
| Nov 26 | God at Work: Pitching In     |

## People we are praying for



- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| † Ace          | † Linda         |
| † Amber        | † Lynn          |
| † Austin       | † Marge         |
| † Bob          | † Marlene       |
| † Chuck        | † Matt          |
| † Daniel & Max | † Mike          |
| † Darla        | † Rose          |
| † David        | † Skip          |
| † Doug         | † Steve         |
| † Kerri        | † Tish          |
| † Kyleigh      | † Wally & JoAnn |
| † Leon         |                 |

Our condolences to the  
Family and Friends of...

- † May Opperman
- † Arvilla Wentworth



### ***Fresh Flowers for the Sanctuary***

In the month of November, there are three Sundays where people are donating flowers for worship. Would you like to provide flowers for worship? You may bring in flowers for no reason, or there can be a sentence in the bulletin that states the special occasion for which the flowers are being provided. Look for the flower sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

What an fabulous morning! Thanks to the SPPRC for planning the day! Thanks to Carolyn Lynch for the children's message with the sunflowers and the children's hugs! Thanks for the paintings from Elsie Lynch and the Sunday School class! Thanks to Marlene Erickson and Pat and Roger Sands for the beautiful flower arrangements! Thanks to Kelly Clark for the cakes! Thanks to Cathy Clark and the Rockford Olive Garden for the amazingly delicious lunch! Thanks to all of you, for the beautiful notes in the cards, and the well-wishes (and the chocolate!). Those notes mean so much to me! It was a wonderful morning to share together. It is a joy to serve you! It is a blessing to love you!

~Love, Pastor Brenda





**Adult Mission Trip to  
Midwest Mission Distribution Center  
Chatham, Illinois  
April 3 - 5, 2024**

Join our team volunteering at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center! You can choose to stay on-site at the dormitory or stay 7 miles away at the Comfort Inn and Suites in Springfield, IL. We leave Beloit the morning of Wednesday, April 3, and carpool to Springfield, IL. We will work on Thursday and Friday, and return to Beloit on Friday evening, Apr. 5.

If you stay in the dormitory, the cost of the trip is \$160 plus the cost of one lunch and three dinners at area restaurants. If you choose to stay at the motel, the cost of the trip is \$75 plus the cost your room at the Comfort Inn and the cost of the previous meals. The Comfort Inn room will be approximately \$115 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 by February 1, 2024\*

Balance due by March 31, 2004\*

If you have any questions, contact Diane Gemignani (608-290-5274 or [dianegem23@gmail.com](mailto: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 Feb. 1, 2024.** – We can add people after this date only if there is room at MMDC.

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*I am interested in joining the Adult Mission Trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center on April 3 - 5, 2024. (I understand the \$50 deposit is non-refundable, but it is transferable if someone else can take my place.)*

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Name

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E-mail

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Address

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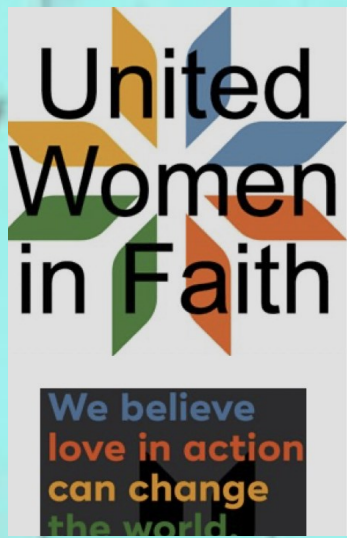
Home Phone

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Cell Phone

\* Please make checks out to ROL-UMC with "Adult Mission Trip" in the memo.





# November December 2023

In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.  
—I Thessalonians 5:18



## Circle Calendar

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.

**November 15 Martha Circle 9:30 a.m.**

For details contact: Carol Braukhoff 608-299-8738

**November 15 Mary Circle 1:00 p.m.**

For details contact: Jacque Patch 608-362-7729

**December 13 Martha Circle Luncheon Time/VenueTBD**

**December 13 Mary Circle Luncheon Time/VenueTBD**



## United Women in Faith Last Call

The ROLUWF will become inactive January 1, 2024. However, we will continue to be an active woman's group in our church and community; we will just not be associated with the national UWF.

Part of the transition to inactive status requires that every woman be given the opportunity to remain an individual member of UWF by joining a district or online unit through the National Membership option. This is all done online.

Here are the links for the National Membership option.

<https://uwfaith.org/get-involved/become-a-member/>



## 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 2, 2023

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PH. # \_\_\_\_\_

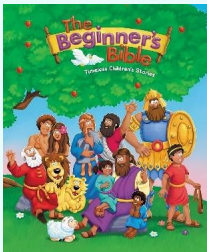
- ( ) I will make 6 Dozen or more Christmas cookies, bars or candy.
- ( ) I will contribute money instead of baking cookies.
- ( ) I will contribute specialty items to be sold separately. Please let Pat Sands know what they are so we will have room and prices you feel we should charge for them.



Please bring cookies, candy, bars or specialty items to be sold on Friday, December 1st 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!**

### Children's Bibles



Bible Sunday was postponed until November 12<sup>th</sup>. These Bibles are being given to all children 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and younger. This is a special day for us to share how much this congregation loves!

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

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

## History of Hymns: "Children of the Heavenly Father"

By David Bjorlin

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/content-library/tags/the-united-methodist-hymnal>

by Caroline "Lina" V. Sandell-Berg,  
trans. Ernst W. Olson;

**The United Methodist Hymnal, #141**

Among certain people groups or denominations, there are occasions that demand a particular hymn. Indeed, not to sing that song would be considered at best a serious oversight and at worse an offense. On Reformation Sunday, Lutherans will sing "A Mighty Fortress"; during Black History Month many African American congregations must sing "Lift Every Voice and Sing." It's as certain as "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" being the first selection in the upcoming Methodist hymnal. For Swedes and many churches of Scandinavian descent, a baptism or funeral would be incomplete without singing the beloved "Children of the Heavenly Father" ("Tryggarre kan ingen vara") by Lina Sandell.



*Lina Sandell-Berg*

Karolina "Lina" Sandell was born on October 3, 1832 in Fröeryd, a small town in the Småland province of Sweden. Her father was a Lutheran pastor sympathetic to the growing pietist movement and raised Lina in a faith that emphasized the grace and warmth of God. At the same time, she received an excellent liberal arts education from her father and brother-in-law, learning to read and write in Swedish, Norwegian, French, German, and English. Throughout her life, she wrote over 2000 hymn texts and poems (earning her the title the "Fanny Crosby of Sweden") and worked as an editor at the Evangelical National Foundation, a mission organization within the Lutheran Church of Sweden.

With such a prolific career, it is surprising to discover that her most popular hymn - "Children of the Heavenly Father" - was written quite early in her life, perhaps as young as seventeen! As J. Irving Erickson notes in his companion to the Covenant Hymnal (1973):

"An old tradition in Frädebyd...relates that she wrote 'Tryggare kan ingen vara' while seated on the branch of a large ash tree that stood in the parsonage yard. From that spot on warm summer evenings she could listen to the content twitter of the birds as they hid in their nests among the green leaves, and from there she could watch the stars as they began to appear. Her impressions fortified the biblical concepts of the security of God's children."

And it is the "security of God's children" that serves as the central theme around which this text is built. The bosom of the "heavenly Father" serves as a "refuge" where children are nourished and protected from evil by the "mighty arms" of God. The last two stanzas build on this theme of protection by boldly confessing that nothing can separate children from their God (Rom. 8:38-39), a God who will never forsake God's children (Deut. 31:6).

While it could be legitimately claimed that such sentiments seem to make light of suffering and evil, it can also be argued that the many tragic events in Sandell's life served to burn away the dross of sentimentality. In addition to the severe illnesses she suffered throughout her life, by the age of 28 she had lost her sister to tuberculosis, her father to drowning (which she helplessly witnessed on a boat in in Lake Vättern), and finally her mother to a prolonged illness.

Even her marriage to businessman Carl Oscar Berg was marred by grief, as she endured the collapse of her husband's business and the birth of a stillborn baby girl, their only child. In light of such suffering, what remains in the ashes is a song that serves as a bold confession of faith similar to the cry of Job that she paraphrases in the final stanza: "The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord" (1:21).

The text as found in The United Methodist Hymnal comprises four stanzas (excluding the fifth that begins, "Praise the Lord in joyful numbers") translated by Ernst W. Olson. It was first published in the 1925 The Hymnal...Augustana Synod and, from there, spread beyond its Scandinavian roots to be included in the hymnals of many different denominations (most recently in the 2014 CRC/RCA Lift Up Your Hearts!). Since its inception, it has been paired with the Swedish/German folk tune that is now named after the first line of this text: trygarre kan ingen vara.

Many congregations may now have trouble singing this text because of its gender exclusive God-language. And while a debate about God-language goes far beyond the scope of this article (and is a crucial conversation with no easy answers), I believe it is important to note that the text does not give in to facile gender stereotypes of God. Yes, Sandell portrays a God whose "mighty arm" protects and spares, but it also the God who gathers children safely into God's bosom, evoking the biblical image of the mother hen gathering chicks under her arms (Luke 13:34). It is an image Sandell revisits in another of her most popular texts, "Thy Holy Wings, Dear Savior," and even more pointedly in "Now I Will Sing of the Mother's Wings." Further, as Gracia Grindal notes in her study of Sandell (which was invaluable to the present article), she employs feminine imagery in other texts as well, even echoing the language of Julian of Norwich in describing Jesus as "Father, mother, home, and future." Placing the text within the broader context of Sandell's expansive language may help some congregations reappraise its potential.

When Sandell died in 1903 at the age of 71, thousands came to attend her burial in Stockholm. Like so many Swedish funerals before and after, the choir began to sing "Trygarre kan ingen vara." Spontaneously, the swelling congregation joined in to sing together of the God whose love is so great that "neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever."

### ABOUT THIS MONTH'S GUEST WRITER:

David Bjorlin, a minister of the Evangelical Covenant Church, is a doctoral student in Liturgical Studies at the Boston University School of Theology. He teaches worship courses at North Park Theological Seminary and is a pastor at Resurrection Covenant Church in Chicago. He recently co-authored *Incorporating Children in Worship: Mark of the Kingdom* with Michelle Clifton-Soderstrom.

This article is provided as a collaboration between Discipleship Ministries and The Hymn Society in the U.S. and Canada. For more information about The Hymn Society, visit [thehymnsociety.org](http://thehymnsociety.org)

**Children of the Heavenly Father**  
TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA

Carolina Sandell Berg, 1855 Traditional Swedish melody

1. Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther safe - ly  
 2. God his own doth tend and nour - ish, in his  
 3. Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the  
 4. Praise the Lord in joy - ful num - bers, your pro -  
 5. Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his

in his bo - som gath - er; nest - ling bird nor star in  
 bo - ly courts they flour - ish; from all e - vil things he  
 Lord his chil - dren sev - er; un - to them his grace he  
 tee - tor nev - er slum - bers; at the will of your de -  
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; his the lov - ing pur - pose

heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en, them in  
 spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them,  
 show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth,  
 fend - er ev - 'ry foe - man must sur - ren - der,  
 sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

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# Missions

## FOR NOVEMBER -- Project 16:49

Think back to your time in high school - whether those were "the best years of your life," or not so much. When you left the school building at the end of the day, what if you had had no home to go to, whether because of a toxic home situation that you were kicked out of (or chose to leave), or because your only parent or guardian was incarcerated? For these and other reasons, there are still hundreds of teens in Rock County who find themselves "homeless unaccompanied," usually floating from one friend's house to another for as long as they're allowed to stay.

Our November Loose Coins will be supporting **Project 16:49**, the nonprofit that gives these teens a home base of support. The name stands for 16 hours and 49 minutes, the time between one school day ending and the next one beginning. During the school day kids have shelter, a meal or two, and access to caring adults and the education that could secure their future - if they can navigate the waters to take advantage of it. In the absence of family support outside of the school day, Project 16:49 gives teens a support base, providing needed items for living and some housing, and helping them find a path to further education or employment. It helps them not only to survive, but to feel cared for and to set goals for a secure future. Please give generously of your loose coins to support the more than 300 homeless teens in Rock County.

## FOR DECEMBER - Salvation Army

Next month our Loose Coins will go to the **Salvation Army**. You may have noticed a smaller presence of the Red Kettle bell-ringers in the last couple of years. This is an opportunity to continue to support the mission of the Salvation Army, which seeks to serve the most needy in the name of Jesus Christ. They serve lunches to homeless and other people in need in Beloit, while counseling and other support services are provided through the Janesville facility.

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



# WATR

## Wednesdays at the River

- † **Tutoring** is up and running! 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** is served every Wednesday at 5:30 pm. A donation of \$5 is encouraged but not necessary.
- † The **Adult Bible Study** continues at 6:15 pm.

### WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets from 10:30-11:30 am via Zoom. We are currently studying the Bible Book of *Matthew*.  
**Contact Pastor Brenda for the Zoom link.**

### WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Evening Bible Study meets at 6:15 pm in person, in the couch area of the Fellowship Hall. We are doing an old-fashioned read and discuss model comparing John with the other three gospels.

**Contact Pastor Brenda if you would like to participate.**

### SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Saturday Morning Bible study meets on Zoom at 7:30 am. Bob Parssinen leads the group using videos from *The Bible Project*.

**Contact Bob or Pastor Brenda for the Zoom link.**



## Tutoring

**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!**

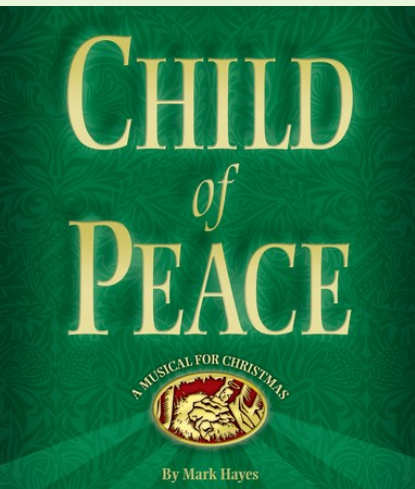
**Let Karen Parssinen know today!!**

Tutoring is a wonderful way that you can make an impact on children's lives. Sign up to be a tutor today!

Thank you so much to everyone who came out to help at our All Church Work Day! It was a great success thanks to everyone's hard work!







## Mark Your Calendar for the Christmas Cantata!

This Christmas season the Chancel Choir is celebrating its 10th anniversary with First Congregational Church! That's right, this is the 10th year that our two congregations will join together for a Christmas cantata in a Saturday community presentation and Sunday combined worship service at First Congregational Church.

The dates are  
**Saturday, Dec. 9 at 3 p.m., and**  
**Sunday, Dec. 10 at 10 a.m.**

Lois has chosen "Child of Peace," by Mark Hayes, a Wisconsin-born composer and favorite of the choir. It's a beautiful work, from the spirited "O Come O Come Emmanuel" of the beginning to the comforting message of peace and familiar carols of the ending. With the choir, orchestra, David Newman's piano, soloists and narrators, you will hear a message of expectation and hope.

We could all use a little peace and hope in this year of wars abroad and at home. The first time the choir presented this work, in 2009, it was in memoriam to Bob Lyman, a beloved choir member and area educator who had succumbed to cancer. The choir had lost two other longtime members in that same year, Roberta Story and Ruth Butchart. So there was a sense of grief and yearning for comfort in that cantata season. Lois invited community teachers and friends of Bob to join the cantata choir to honor him (which started a lasting tradition of guest singers). The culminating theme of God's abiding peace brought incredible comfort in that year as it is doing again in this year (and we think of Bob's wife, Linda Lyman, who is herself battling cancer.) It invites us to receive God's gift:

"Peace, abiding peace, this is My gift to you / Simply receive My peace / There's nothing that you must do."

Come and receive the gift of peace and joy this Advent season! Bring your family and friends, and let us prepare for the coming of the Child of Peace.



# Tutoring Treats

Tutoring Treats are off to a great start! Each Wednesday the students arrive to a welcoming "table of goodies." The nourishing and fun snacks you provide help start their transition from the school day to games, activities and one-on-one support on basic school subjects and learning skills.

If you want to contribute a snack of some kind once or more regularly, listed below are some ideas:

**Fruits:** easy finger fruits work best like bananas, grapes, apples, Cutie mandarin oranges, watermelon, fruit "kabobs" or other variations you want to create.

**Crunchy snacks:** popcorn of all flavors, small bags of chips of all kinds, Chex mixes

**Sweets:** cookies, bars, brownies, small tarts, pieces of cake, sweet loaf breads. None of the children have nut allergies so far.

**Veggies:** small carrots or carrot chips and dip (sweet peppers stay on the plate), cauliflower and broccoli will appeal to a few, small dill pickles, black olives etc.

**Specialty Items:** cheese and crackers, cheese sticks and meat sticks, summer sausage, sausage bites

**Drinks:** Capri Suns or Sunny D containers with straws are popular and affordable, small water bottles, (no pop, please)



If you want to bring something you think will be a new experience or a surprise and is not on the list, feel free to check with Sarah or Kathy. Fun, new treats are welcomed!

Thank you for your support in this important ministry. Not able to bake or buy items? Money will be a wonderful contribution. If a trip to the church is difficult early Wednesday afternoon, Sarah Parsons (608) 921-5953 or Kathy Allen (815) 978-8707 will gladly transport the goodies.

# Thanksgiving

WORD SEARCH



CHILDREN

HOLIDAY

PARENTS

DINNER

HOME

RELATIVES

FAMILY

JOYFUL

SEASON

GATHERING

MEMORIES

VISITING

GRATEFUL

OCCASION

THANKFUL



### 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 LINK

The River of Life United Methodist Church.  
[www.facebook.com/theriveroflifeumc](http://www.facebook.com/theriveroflifeumc)

Don't forget to "Like" us to stay up-to-date.

**Firm**

**Focus**

A line drawing of a person in a Tree Pose (Vrikshasana) with hands in a prayer position above their head.

## **Core Strength & Balance**

**Friendly**

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**Tuesday & Thursday 9:00—10:00 am**

A low-impact exercise class has begun in our Fellowship Hall. Focus is on improving balance through core strengthening. Class is on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00-10:00. Individuals dress in comfortable clothing, bring their own weights, and water.

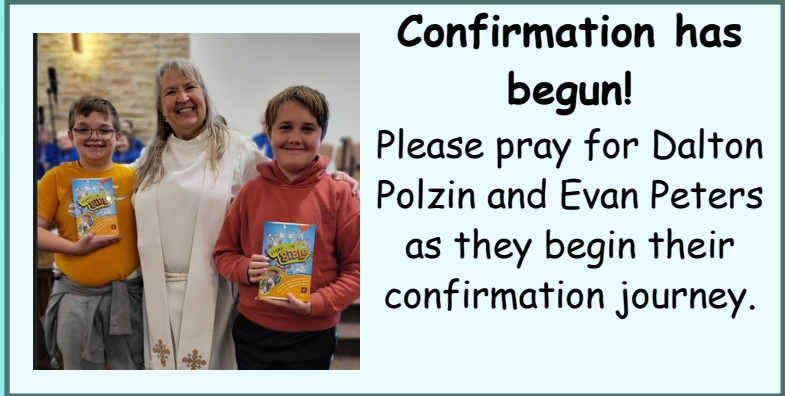


# **GOD AT WORK**

Watch your mail for your Stewardship Packet that contains the Program Letter, Estimate of Giving (Pledge) Card, Narrative Budget, and Step Chart.



Congratulations to Tom Alverson, who will be the new minister of the Darien United Methodist Church! Tom's experience at our former River of Life Clinton Campus has equipped him for his new chapter in ministry. Pray for him as he discerns whether God is calling him to remain a lay minister or become a licensed pastor. We are proud of you, Tom!



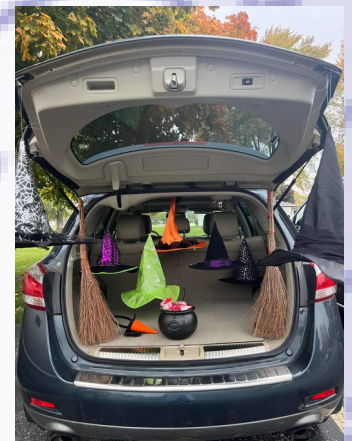
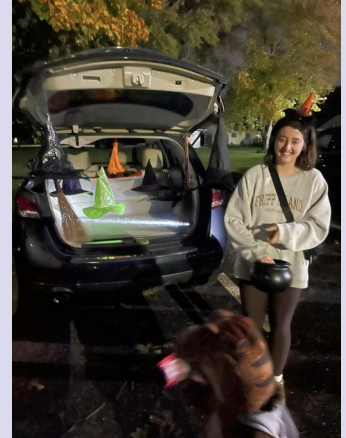
## **Confirmation has begun!**

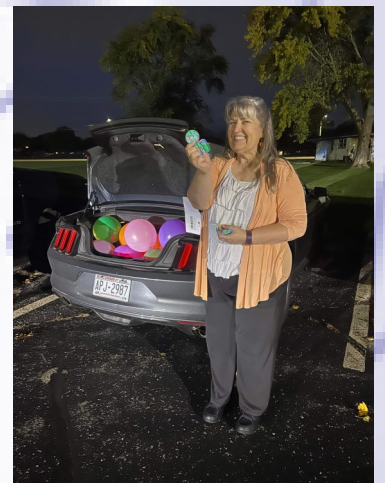
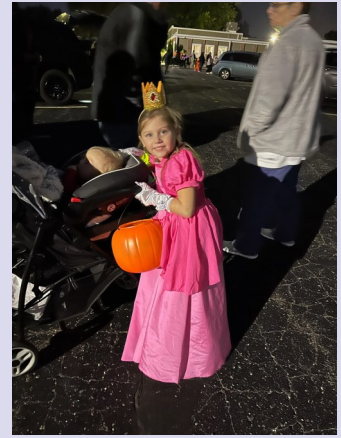
Please pray for Dalton Polzin and Evan Peters as they begin their confirmation journey.



# Trunk-or-Treat

What a great turn out for our Trunk-or-Treat event!  
Thank you to everyone involved in any way! We couldn't  
do it without you!





# Calendar

November 7	6:00 PM	Youth Ministry Meeting
November 11		Veterans Day
November 15	9:30 AM	Martha Circle
November 15	1:30 PM	Mary Circle
November 20	6:30 PM	Stewardship Meeting
November 21	6:30 PM	Charge Conference
November 26	10:30 AM	Harvest Dinner
November 26	<i>After Dinner</i>	Hanging of the Greens
November 27	5:30 PM	Trustees Meeting
November 28	6:30 PM	Finance Meeting
November 29	1:00 PM	Knitting With A Mission
December 5	6:00 PM	Youth Ministry Meeting
December 9	3:00 PM	Christmas Cantata at First Con
December 10	10:00 AM	Christmas Cantata at First Con
December 13	5:00 PM	Our Finest Gifts Talent Show
December 18	6:30 PM	Stewardship Meeting
December 19	6:30 PM	Finance Meeting
December 27	1:00 PM	Knitting With A Mission
January 2	6:00 PM	Youth Ministry Meeting

<b><u>Sunday</u></b>		<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>	
9:30 am	Beloit Worship	10:30 am	Adult Bible Study (Zoom)
11:00 am	"The Chosen" Movie Series w/ Bob Parssinen	3:00 pm	Tutoring (1:30 1st & 3rd Wed)
11:00 am	Confirmation	6:15 pm	Adult Bible Study (FH)
<b><u>Monday</u></b>		<b><u>Thursday</u></b>	
12:30 pm	Card Club (FH)	9:00 am	Exercise Group
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>		4:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am	Exercise Group	<b><u>Saturday</u></b>	
10:00 am	Men's Coffee Hour (FH)	7:30 am	Bible Study (Zoom)
1:00 pm	Staff Meeting (O)	5:30 pm	Saturday Worship



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## November 3

Bruce Holcomb

## November 8

Darlene Breden

## 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 23

Mary Alice Harris

Khalil Lutzow

## November 24

Mariette Axmear

Tom Michels

## November 27

Erik Ovist

## November 28

Courtney Woody

## November 30

Ron Schrader

## December 1

Peggy Buckler

Delores Hahn

## December 2

Jeff Caple

## December 4

A J Longman

Mikyah Longman

## December 6

Madeline Cawkins

## December 8

Sean Lynch

## December 10

Britta Hartje

## December 12

Louise Junig

Terry Wilson

## December 13

Marilyn Busjahn

## December 15

Destiny Knutsen

## December 16

Sandra Hays

Lee Kuska

Bonnie Moore

## December 17

Karen Parssinen

## December 19

Zekaeus Lutzow

## December 21

Pam Dodge

## December 24

Priscilla Pann

## December 25

Roger Brendenmuehl

## December 27

Bob Lang

## December 28

Tishauna Polzin

## December 29

Pastor Brenda

## December 30

Barbara Putney

## December 31

Carolyn Johnson

## January 2

Eleanor Burnside

Lora Cawkins

## January 4

Katie Ward

## January 12

Wilma Shultz

## January 15

Sandy Ovist

## January 18

Steve Haas

Eric Stoner

## January 20

Tru Longman

Shirley Sweet

## January 22

Marlene Erickson

Albert Kohls

Kellyse Lutzow

Doug Mitchell

Nadine Stoner

## January 25

Betty Kohls

## January 26

Elsie Lynch

## January 27

Don Parish

## January 28

Nancy Bryant

Mark Hammett

## January 30

Zachary Christiansen

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

### Issue deadline:

**January 1**

The next newsletter  
will be available on

**January 7**

## December 1

Steve & Susie Haas

## December 15

Tim & Jean Crawford

## December 18

Dennis & Vicki Boschma

## December 23

Bruce & Lora Cawkins

## December 31

Scott & Kathy Weiser

## January 16

Don & Deanna Parish

## January 23

Bill & Kathy Rodgers

I am thankful  
for...

