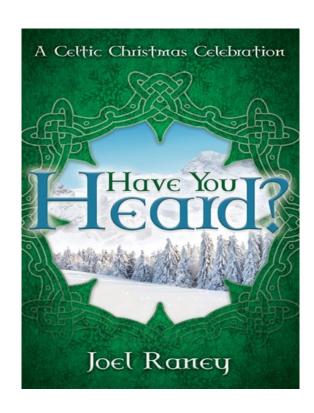
# The Current of The River of Life

The Congregations of First Congregational Church and

## River of Life United Methodist Church

join together in presenting a Christmas Musical Celebration



Saturday, December 14 7:00 pm



Sunday, December 15 10:00 am

# First Congregational Church 801 Bushnell

A free will offering will be taken with the proceeds being shared by the music ministries of First Congregational Church and River of Life United Methodist Church

Nov/Dec 2019

www.rolumcwi.com

Vol. 16 |ssue 11

# 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

#### **LAY LEADERSHIP 2019**

Chairperson Shellie Olson

Lay Leaders

Ken Byerley, Tracy Maxwell, Shellie Olson

Ad Council Chairperson

Shellie Olson

**Annual Conference Lay Members** 

Bob Scheets Carol Scheets

**Board of Trustees Chairperson** 

John Butchart

**Building Committee Chairperson** 

**Brian Maxwell** 

**Decorating Committee Chairperson** 

Tracy Maxwell

**Finance Chairperson** 

**Homeless & Human Trafficking Chairperson** 

**Beverly Osborne** 

**Hospitality Chairperson** 

Diane Gemionani

**Memorials and Wills Chairperson** 

Marietta Axmear

Missions & Outreach Co-Chairpersons

Diane Gemignani & Ellen Butchart

**Nominations Chairperson** 

Pastor Dave Carlson

**Nurture and Discipleship Chairperson** 

Karen Parssinen

**Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chairpersons** 

Julie Hartje & Ann Williams

**Stewardship Team Chairperson** 

Tom Alverson

**Tech Team Chairperson** 

**Aaron Weber** 

**United Methodist Women Chairperson** 

Marlene Erickson

#### **CLERGY STAFF**

David Carlson, Pastor 608.362.8866

dcarlson@rolumcwi.com

Retired Pastor Keith Putney 608-774-3162

Missionary in Kitwe, Zambia Paul Webster

pwebster@wisconsinumc.org

#### **CHURCH OFFICE**

608.362.8866

Christina Bergh Office Manager

cbergh@rolumcwi.com

Tom Alverson Worship Leader

talverson@rolumcwi.com

Receptionist **Bonnie Moore** 

bmoore@rolumcwi.com

#### **MUSIC STAFF**

Lois Ulvin Director of Music Judith Paddock Organist Marge Johnson **Pianist** 

# We Gather Together...

Sunday

9:30 am Worship (Beloit)

10:00 am Worship (Clinton)

Monday

10:00 am Adult Bible Study (Clinton)

5:30 pm WATR (Dinner & Classes)

Saturday

5:30 pm Service (Beloit)





If you miss the 9:30 am
Worship Service, watch
online every Sunday @
www.rolumcwi.com
Wander on our web.....



#### **NURSERY SERVICE AVAILABLE**

We recently added Beth Cudney to our Nursery Staff, and we welcome children up to age 4 for Sunday service and WATR on Wednesday night. We are looking for an Assistant Volunteer, and in the future, may expand the age limit.

# 2020 Upper Room Disciplines Devotional

\$11.00 Regular/Large Print
Order deadline:
December 15th
Call the Office 608-362-8866
to reserve your copy.



SPECIAL SUNDAY
OFFERING COMING SOON

December 1st
United Methodist Student Day

December 29th
Apportionment
January 19th
Human Relations Day





Saturday, December 7th 9:00 am until sold out. \$7.00 per pound 2345 Prairie Ave, Beloit

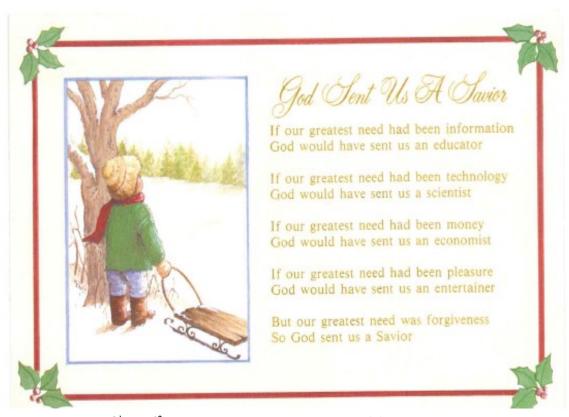


This year's Christmas Cantata will b presented on Saturday, December 14th at 7:00 pm and on Sunday, December 15th at 10 am at First Congregational Church, 801 Bushnell in Beloit.

"Have You Heard?" is a new cantata written by Joel Raney. Described as a Celtic Christmas Celebration this work presents familiar Christmas carols as well as familiar Christmas texts set to beloved Irish and Welsh folk songs. Listen for a particularly captivating example of this in the words of "O Holy Night" set to the timeless tune, "Londonderry Air."

"Have You Heard" is in part supported by memorial funds given by the family of Frederick G. Klett Jr. Fred was always a staunch supporter of our cantatas and the choir is honored by this generous gift.

-Lois Ulvin



This Christmas may you see and know anew Just how great His love is toward you! -Pastor Keith



# Christmas Traditions

Are there holiday experiences that you always look forward to doing? Are there customs from your families that are never forgotten and you would love to share with others?

**It's those special things**. On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, you are invited to share those special traditions, customs, and moments that make the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ such a joyous time.

Those customs could be traditions of food, decorations, music, clothing, songs, or whatever is personal to you and your family. **All are welcome** to participate on our "Christmas Traditions" Sunday.

Join us Sunday, **December 22**<sup>nd</sup>, **at 10:30**, **right after church**. There will still be a hospitality food table that will consist of tasty snacks with some holiday treats included. There will also be tables set up around fellowship hall with the traditions of those who would like to share. We will have your area set up and be available to help you set up your traditions **before** Church begins.

ALL are invited to share and/or stay to enjoy the traditions. If you would like to share, please let a member of the Nurture and Discipleship Committee know so that we will be able to get you the kind of tools you might need (table, electricity etc.). There will also be a sign up sheet available in fellowship hall.

Our hope and prayer is that this is a time for our congregation and our guests to gather, share and enjoy each other's special traditions. Please plan to stay and enjoy!

Nurture and Discipleship-Karen Parssinen



The Family of Marvelene Winchester would like to thank the following people for their support and generous donations of gifts and time for Marv's celebration of life: Pastor Dave, Kathy Clark, Pat and Roger Sands, Dolly Sonneson, the luncheon helpers, the knitters who provided the lovely shawls, and anyone else who contributed to her celebration that we may not have named here. We feel blessed and filled with gratitude.

Thank you so much, Brian and Jody Winchester







# **2020 MISSION YOUTH NEWS**

For next year Sidekick Missions is introducing a young adult mission trip to:

#### Puerto Rico July 18-26, 2020.

The cost of this event is \$1000 per person.
This includes \$540.40 airfare,
\$365.00 lodging/food and
\$94.60 van rental.
\$250.00 is needed by January 10th to reserve the spot.

We have three of our young adults going along with two of our old adults. Maddie Cawkins, Clay Ward, Lora and Bruce Cawkins and possibly Claire Parsons. With the three young adults in college, raising money is very difficult. Should you feel persuaded to help send our River of Life representatives on this mission trip please send a check for any amount to the church office with a note in the memo for Puerto Rico Mission Trip.

# For our Youth Mission Trip - We will be going to Ft. Wayne, Indiana, June 21-27, 2020. The cost of the event is \$500 per person.

The youth include Shelby Ward, Maguire Maxwell and Zekaeus Lutzow. And this time we have Steve and Robin Austin along with Lora and Bruce Cawkins.

We have two large fundraisers for our youth going on this trip.

The first one is Rite Bite Butter Braids!

We will be selling these from now until December 8th with
the arrival date of December 18th. Just in time for Christmas
breakfast.

Each braid is \$14.00 with \$5.00 going to the participant.

These need to be prepaid and delivery is free.





The second is Racine Kringles. We will be selling this in March/April just in time for Easter. We will have further details when we get closer to a day.

# Thank You for Your Support!!!!

# **Youth Fun Page**



The birth of Jesus 0 Ε JOSEPH MARY DREAM

Word List:	
MESSIAH	
DAVID	
BETHLEHEM	
KINGS	
FURIOUS	
BAPTISE	
HISTORY	
ABRAHAM	

MISSION

JERUSALEM TREASURES CHRIST SAVIOR

FRANKINCENSE

IMMANUEL HEROD EGYPT NAZARETH TEACHER SHEPHERD CARPENTER

ANGELS

CONSUMMATE PROPHET HEREMIAH WARNING CHRISTIAN MANGER ASTRONOMY PROPHECY

#### **Birth Of Jesus**

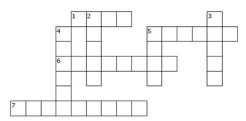
Crossword

#### The Birth of Jesus

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7 (KJV)

Puzzle is based on Luke 2:1-20





#### **ACROSS**

- 1. An infant or very young child
- 5. The place where Mary laid the baby Jesus
- 6. A person who takes care of
- 7. The city where Jesus was born

- 2. Heavenly being that told the shepherds about Jesus' birth
- 3. The savior of the world
- 4. The earthly father of Jesus
- 5. The mother of Jesus

JOSEPH	ANGEL	BETHLEHEM	BABY	٦
MARY	SHEPHERD	JESUS	MANGER	

### Fingerprint Holly Craft

Add a little touch to your gift tags this Christmas! You can make a single holly or continue making holly in a circle to form a wreath.



#### Materials:

- red finger paint green finger paint
- old margarine container lid for a pallet paper or card stock.

#### Instructions:

- Squeeze a bit of red finger paint onto a margarine container lid.
- Squeeze a bit of green finger paint onto the lid, spaced away from the red paint (or use a second lid).
- stamp the pad of your index finger into the green paint.
- Use your finger to make 2 holly leaves at angles to each other.
- stamp the tip of your pinkie finger into the green paint.
- Use your pinkie finger to stamp a red berry beside where the holly leaves are closest.
- fingerprint holly

http://www.dltk-holidays.com/xmas/mfingerprint-holly.htm

http://www.joyfulmeditations.org/resources/kids/bible-activity-sheets

# Mission News and Ministry Opportunities

# LOOSE



October: We collected \$375.24 for Family Promise.

November: We are collecting for Salvation Army Red

Kettle and December: God's Fund. Total donations will

be posted in the January 2020 issue

of The Current.





### DIAPER BANK

- \* Feminine Personal Hygiene Products
  - \* Shampoo
  - \* Deoderant

Please donate Children's Picture Books for Caritas Little Free Library



# ONGOING NEEDS FOR PROJECT 16:49

Shoes, Socks, Underwear, Lightweight Sweatshirts, Non perishable Snack Foods, Hygiene Items

# KNITTING WITH A MISSION GROUP

We will NOT meet in November or December. Our next meeting is January 29th at 1:00 pm in the Office Workroom.

There is a need for Prayer Shawls.

If you have any knitting questions call Sandy Ovist: 608-362-6583.

We welcome all knitters, no matter what skill level, and anyone wishing to learn. Please join us!!



Hannah @ Robin House (608-314-4199) would like a Tutor for a senior girl who is taking AP BIO. She needs help with walking through questions and breaking it down. A lot of information is in the question so she needs help understanding and problem solving. It is not necessary to be a person who has a Biology background to help her. Tutoring would be once or twice a week, at Robin house.

-Mary Alice Harris





### Adult Mission Trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center Chatham, Illinois

May 27 - 29, 2020

Join our team as we serve at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center! We will leave Beloit the morning of Wednesday, May 27, and carpool to Springfield, IL. We will work on Thursday and Friday, and return to Beloit on Friday evening, May 29. You have a choice of staying on site at the Midwest Mission dormitory or staying at a nearby motel.

If you are staying in the dorm, the cost of the trip is \$120. If you are staying at the Baymont Inn, the cost of the trip is \$75 plus the cost of your room at the motel. You will also be purchasing one lunch and 3 dinners at area restaurants. The Baymont Inn (217-529-6655) has a block of rooms under the name of "Midwest Mission May" for \$65.99 per room per night. You are welcome to arrange to share a room with another person on the trip.

Payment Schedule is:

\$20 deposit\* due when you sign up \$50 payment\* due Sun., Mar. 15 the balance\* due Sun. May 17

If you have any questions, please contact Diane Gemignani (608-290-5274 or <a href="mailto:dianegem23@gmail.com">dianegem23@gmail.com</a>). If you would like to sign up for the trip, please fill out the slip below, include the non-refundable \$20 deposit, and mail it to Diane Gemignani, 1005 Milwaukee Rd., Beloit, WI 53511.

The deadline to ensure a spot on the trip is March 27, 2020.				
, 0	It Mission Trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center on the \$20 deposit is non-refundable, but it is transferable.)			
Name	email			
address				
Home phone	Cell phone			
* Please make checks out to ROL-	UMC with "Adult Mission Trip" in the memo.			

#### GRACE

I was at the grocery store this morning and heard a loud crash and something shattering.

Being nosy, I walked towards the sound and saw some people whispering and looking back to the end of the next aisle.

When I walked down that aisle, I saw an older lady had hit a shelf containing dishes with her cart and many had fallen to the ground and broke. She was kneeling on the floor embarrassed, frantically picking up the shattered pieces, while her husband was peeling off the bar code from each broken dish saying "Now we will have to pay for all this."

I felt so bad for her, and everyone was just standing there staring at her!! I went and knelt beside her and told her not to worry and started helping her pick up the broken pieces.

After about a minute, the store manager came and knelt beside us and said "Leave it, we will clean this up. Let's get your information so you can go to the hospital and have that cut on your hand looked at."

The lady totally embarrassed said, "I need to pay for all this first." The Manager smiled, helped her to her feet and said, "No ma'am, we have insurance for this, you do not have to pay anything!"

For you who have read this so far, I would like you to give me a minute. Wherever you are, close your eyes, and imagine God doing the same for you!

Collect the pieces of your broken heart from all the blows life has thrown at you. God will heal all your wounds, and I assure you that Your sins and mistakes will be forgiven.

You see, we all have the same insurance, and it's called Grace. When you accept that Almighty as your Lord and Savior and ask for forgiveness, the Manager of the universe, GOD, will say to you "Everything has already been paid for, now go on your way, all is forgiven!"

-e-mail received & submitted by Mary Alice Harris













#### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

**Ubuntu**, a word you don't hear in everyday conversation. It is an Nguni Bantu term meaning "I am human because you are human."

Like many other UMW groups we asked ourselves what we could do to be of service in keeping the spirit of Ubuntu. We wanted to serve those organizations that are consistent with our pledge to serve women, youth and children in our community.

After careful consideration we decided to focus on the Beloit Domestic Violence Center. Recognizing that women in a crisis situation need more than just their basic needs met, we decided to provide gift bags that included items for pampering. Some of the items included were lotion, powder, pens and notepads, flameless candles, and chocolate.

Mindy Chitwood of The Beloit Domestic Violence Center attended our unit meeting in September and we presented the bags to her for distribution.

Looking ahead to 2020 we have what we believe to be a win-win project. We will be making mats for the homeless to sleep on, out of plastic bags. This helps insulate them from the ground and it uses over 800 bags for each mat, which means they are not going into the landfill. Please start saving your plastic bags. They need to be the type that you get at the grocery store etc., with the two handles on them. We can't use other miscellaneous plastic bags. There will be a receptacle in the coat room soon for you to deposit your bags and more information will be forthcoming in the new year.

Pat Sands, Education & Interpretation Coordinator



Wednesday, December 18th at 11:30 am at a restaurant



Wednesday, December 18th at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall



Tuesday, December 3rd at Domenico's Pizza, 547 E. Grand Avenue

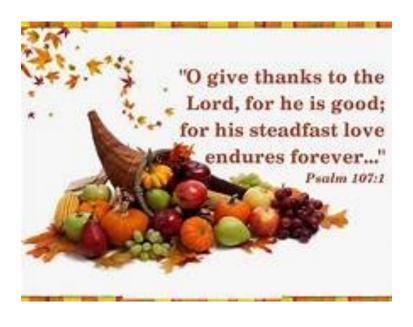
#### Dear United Methodist Women.

I would like to personally thank you for the generous scholarship I was awarded on Sunday, September 22. I apologize for not being able to attend service, and accept the award on my own behalf, but I was occupied with my studies here at Carroll University. As most of you know I am in the nursing program, which takes up the majority of my time. I have been studying, and learning lots of new material in all of my classes. I also spend a lot of my time in the library, and my dorm room expanding my understanding on the newly learned topics. Nursing is definitely going to be a hard major to conquer, but in the end I know it will be worth all the hard work. The scholarship I received will be going toward the global medical brigade I will be attending over winter break. Nineteen students along with doctors, dentists, physical therapists, and other facility will be heading to Panama from January 3rd to the 11th. We will be helping perform simple medical procedures, such as check ups, dental cleanings, and helping with pharmaceutical care to those who can't afford it. Another aspect of the trip I am looking forward to is the opportunity to help teach children simple



hygiene procedures. This will include teaching them how to brush their teeth, floss their teeth, and how to wash their hands. Overall, I am very excited that I signed up for the trip, and can't wait to see what opportunities arise. I want to thank you again for the scholarship.

Sincerely, Aubrey Maxwell





# Saturday, December 7th

It's hard to believe that Christmas is soon upon us. What a glorious season it is as we reflect upon the birth of the Christ Child.

UMW and its supporters are gearing up for our third and final fundraiser of the year. We pray for a successful fundraiser, which will mean more proceeds for missions locally, nationally and globally.

Members of the congregation and those in our community look forward to the variety of cookies baked by UMW members and supporters each year. Our Cookie Walk is the major source for Christmas cookies for many during this holiday season.

If you are one of those who does not like to bake your monetary contributions to the cookie walk will be appreciated. In that way we can provide funds for some of the bakers to purchase ingredients or put toward the proceeds of the Cookie Walk.

As always these fundraisers require volunteers. We need volunteers to bake and bring in their baked goods between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Friday December 6<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed to tray the cookies the day before, cashier, weigh the cookies and keep the trays full the day of the Cookie Walk. Please contact Marlene Erickson if you are able to volunteer.

There are COOKIE WALK PLEDGE FORMS at the welcome center. As you leave the Sanctuary please pick one up and make your pledge to bake cookies, bars or candy OR to contribute specialty items OR money. Place your completed pledge card in the box provided at the welcome center.

The Cookie Walk is scheduled for **DECEMBER 7 from 9:00 a.m. until we are sold out.** If there are cookies left we will box and sell them on the Sunday following. The price of cookies will remain at \$7 per pound on Saturday and \$6 per pound on Sunday. Thank you for your support.

From UMW to all of you, have a **BLESSED HOLIDAY.** 

-Marlene Erickson





### **RoL UMW COOKIE WALK PLEDGE DECEMBER, 2019**

<ul> <li>( ) I will make 6 Dozen or more Christmas cookies, bars or candy.</li> <li>( ) I will contribute money instead of baking cookies.</li> <li>( ) I will contribute specialty items to be sold separately. Please let Marlene Ericksoknow what they are so we will have room and prices you feel we should charge for the</li> </ul>	

Please bring cookies, candy, bars or specialty items to be sold on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> between 9a.m. and 2p.m. This form may be placed in the box marked "Cookie Walk" located in fellowship hall. If you have any questions please call me. Thank you for your continued support of UMW fundraisers. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

God Bless You!!!

\*\*\*\*\*



December 1 Peggy Buckler Delores Hahn December 2

Jeff Caple December 3

**Bob Holcomb** December 6

Madeline Cawkins

December 10

Britta Hartje

**December 12** Louise Junia

**December 13** Marilyn Busjahn **December 15** 

**Destiny Knutsen December 16** 

Sandra Hays Lee Kuska

**December 17** 

Ralph Irvin

Karen Parssinen

December 19

Zekaeus Lutzow-

**Fuller** 

December 21 Pam Dodge

December 25

Roger Brendenmuehl

December 27

**Bob Lang** 

December 28

Tishauna Polzin December 30

Barbara Putney

**December 31** 

Barbara Kicmol

Angela Phillippi



#### December 1

Steve & Susie Haas

December 15

Tim & Jean Crawford

December 16

Paul & Gretchen Dixon

December 18

Dennis & Vicki Boschma

December 23

**Bruce & Lora Cawkins** 

December 31

Scott & Kathy Weiser

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



\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

## WEEKLY EVENTS & MEETINGS

#### Monday

10 am Adult Bible Study @ Clinton 1:00 pm Card Club ((FH)

#### **Tuesday**

10:00 am Men's Coffee Hour @ Milwaukee Road McDonald's 1:00 pm 500 Card Club (Sr High Room)

#### Wednesday

4:00 pm Tutoring (FH) Begins October 9th 5:30 pm WATR ((FH) Dinner & Classes)

#### Thursday

4:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

#### Saturday

5:30 pm Service (FH)

#### Sunday

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

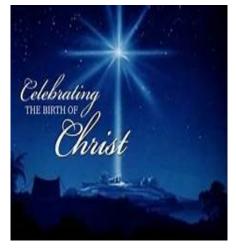
OUTSIDE GROUPS
Alcoholics Anonymous Thursday 7:00 pm (Mid. School Room)

### January Issue

deadline:

January 17th The next issue of the Current will be

> available January 26th



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	Ĺ <sub>Ļ</sub>	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				

### Weekly Events are posted on the Web, Facebook, and in the Bulletin:

- Nov 25 6:00 pm Trustees (Office Workroom)
- Nov 26 6:30 pm Ad Council (FH)
- Nov 27 NO KNITTING THIS MONTH
- Nov 28 Happy Thanksgiving!
- 6:30 pm Liturgist/Lay Speakers Meeting (FH) Dec 2
- 11:30 am Dorcas Circle @ Domenico's Pizza Dec 3 6:00 pm Nurture & Discipleship (FH)
- 9:00 am UMW Set up for Cookie Walk Dec 6 4:00 pm Set up Clinton Food Stand 6:00 pm Clinton Christmas Parade begins
- Dec 7 9:00 am UMW Cookie Walk (FH)
- Dec 8 Deadline to order Butter Braids—Youth Fund raiser Deadline to contribute to Clinton Food Drive Baskets
- Dec 12 11:00 am Lunch Bunch @ Salvadore's
- Dec 14 7:00 pm Christmas Cantata @ First Congregational
- Dec 15 10:00 am Christmas Cantata @ First Congregational, there is NO 9:30 Worship Service today
- Dec 16 6:30 pm Stewardship (FH)
- Dec 18 9:30 am Martha Circle (FH)
  - 11:30 am Mary Circle out to lunch
- Dec 22 10:30 am Christmas Traditions (FH) 11:00 Clinton Potluck
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve:
  - 5:00 pm Beloit Family Service w/Communion
  - 7:00 pm Clinton Service w/Communion
  - 9:00 pm Beloit Christmas Eve Service
- Dec 25 & Jan 1 NO Tutoring/WATR