

# THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

“Serve, Teach, and Love As We Grow In Faith”

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JUNE-JULY 2021

*“Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.” – Matthew 4:20*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ at BRF,

Peace be with you. I pray all of you are doing well in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. Because so many of us have been vaccinated, we can now worship God in person and all together in our beautiful sanctuary. This makes me so very glad. However, as the Center for Disease Control and Prevention reminds us, it is still possible to contract Coronavirus so we need to use care.



After I moved to BRF, I bought two plots at the community garden to plant some vegetables, because I can't plant any vegetables or seeds by our place. My wife, Esther, loves growing vegetables. When Esther and I saw our plots at the community garden, they were so weedy it would have been hard to plant seeds and seedlings. Our plots were not used last year. After Jim and Carol Hornby tilled the land two times and uprooted weeds with efforts, Esther and I were able to plant seeds and seedlings in the well-turned soil. I appreciate it.

I realized that the soil must be soft and not have any weeds in order for the seeds and seedlings to be planted and grow. As Jesus taught people about the secrets of the kingdom of God in the parable of the sower, the seed sown on good soil produced crops, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times. Other seeds that had fallen along the path, or on rocky places, or among thorns were unfruitful, as a farmer would have expected.

As children of God, we come to church to listen to God's word. It is true that not all believers can be fruitful in terms of faith in God. Only those, like seed sown on good soil, who hear the word and accept it, produce a crop--some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown. What is required of us to be productive? I believe the most important element is the condition of the soil to be sown, that is, our heart. If our spirit is too weak and tempted by Satan, if our mind is not solid and alert, if our heart has a lot of worries about this life, or the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things, we cannot bear the fruits of the Holy Spirit and grow spiritually.

Let us take a moment and think of whether our heart and mind and spirit are good and soft enough to listen to and accept God's word and consequently, produce the fruits of the Spirit.

As I recall, tilling was very hard because the soil was hardened. That is why Jim came twice to till our garden. In the same manner, it is hard to renew and refresh our heart and spirit when our heart is stubborn and unfaithful. But it is necessary to be fruitful. Otherwise, we cannot bear the abundance. What keeps us most from bearing the fruits of the Spirit? I would like to share with you these Bible verses so that you could prepare for the fruitfulness.

Ephesians 4:31-32 says, *“Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”*

Let us look into ourselves first before we come to God. I pray for all of you to live abundant lives and bear amazing fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Love,

Pastor Rev. Inwha Shon





JUNE 1	Jean Anderson
JUNE 5	Lauren Perry
JUNE 6	Barb Hagenbrock
JUNE 7	Janet Krohn
JUNE 9	Deb Ward
JUNE 10	Abigail Hill
	Sharon Melichar
JUNE 11	Abbi Goldsmith
JUNE 13	Nancy Hindes
JUNE 15	Vangie Stender
JUNE 16	Vivian Simons
JUNE 18	David McCullough
JUNE 19	Mike Gaede
	Sherry Olson
JUNE 22	Jim Holt
	Pat Moe
JUNE 23	Wayne Bue
JUNE 25	Randy Bjerke
	Marsha Harmer
	A. Jay Holder
JUNE 26	Josh Farnsworth
	Marlene Taylor
JUNE 28	Linda Atkinson
	Justin Dougherty
	Peter Hoffman
JUNE 29	Jack Bailey
JUNE 30	Rich Goldsmith



JULY 2	Michael Dobson
	Mark Jarrett
	Faith Leisgang
JULY 3	Gil Homstad
	LuAnne Schoolcraft
JULY 6	Leroy Wiersma
JULY 9	Kristie Gomer
JULY 12	Donna Overlien
JULY 13	Carol Jarrett
	Mike Kappen
JULY 15	Dan Brauner
JULY 16	Wade Christianson
	Joe Collins
JULY 19	Luane Meyer
JULY 21	David Dettinger
	Chris Odeen
	John Piotrowski
JULY 22	Rose Moldenhauer
	Terrie Stevens
JULY 23	Gene Atkinson
	Chuck Buswell
JULY 24	Rita Casper
JULY 25	Beth Bue
JULY 26	Patty Iverson
JULY 27	David Casper
JULY 28	Kim Amborn
	Sue Gaede
	Sonny Hagen
JULY 29	Diane Moe
	Jamie Pennekamp
JULY 31	Barry Goldsmith
	Emily Stewart

## **YOUR UMC NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ONLINE OR BY EMAIL**

You can view your newsletter on our website at [brfumc.org](http://brfumc.org), or we will email it to you each month.

Please help us reduce our mailing costs by giving us your current email address. Your help is appreciated!

## **PLEASE NOTE . . .**

**This newsletter is for the months of June and July. Your next newsletter will come to you in August.**





To UMW Members and Friends,

UMW provides a wide variety of resources for members and those supporting UMW programs and projects. Resources are accessible online as well as books, magazines, curriculum guides, youth-focused study materials, mission studies in Korean and Spanish languages, and mission maps identifying UMW projects internationally are just a few of the support materials available.

Consider checking out *Faith Talks* podcasts which are monthly conversations with UMW exploring themes and resources that empower us to put faith, hope and love into action. Themes in the past months have included Living, Learning and Loving During the Pandemic, Prevent Gun Violence, Attacks on Asian American/Pacific Islander communities, Soul Care, Black History Month and more.

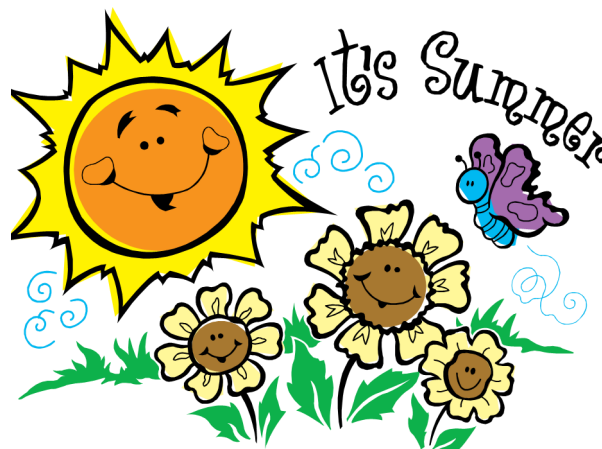
Podcasts are open to anyone who would like to listen to recordings and can be found by going to <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks>. Speakers on the podcast include members from UMW on the national level and individuals representing communities across the country with expertise and experience in the themes. To our local unit members, the officers are working on several ideas that can hopefully welcome our membership back together in the fall. We are looking at in-person and online options that may be available for our members, near and far. Stay tuned as we put these ideas into action.

Luane Meyer

**If you know of someone who is in the hospital or who is working through medical issues at home, please call the church office so that the Pastor is aware of the need and can respond accordingly.**

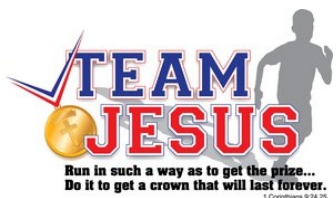
## JUNE & JULY ANNIVERSARIES

JUNE 1	Ed & Vione Brauner
JUNE 4	Dan & Mary Jelinek
JUNE 5	Dave & Marilyn Hoffman
JUNE 7	Darrell & Cathy Armbruster
JUNE 8	John & Theresa Paul
JUNE 11	Steve & Patty Harelson
JUNE 13	Larry & Karen Pennekamp
JUNE 14	Todd & Lyn Gates
JUNE 17	Gene & Janet Krohn
	David & Linda McCullough
JUNE 18	Dave & Sherry Olson
JUNE 19	Peter & Jone Hoffman
JUNE 21	Tim & Mary McCann
JUNE 22	Mike & Dana Rave
JUNE 23	Jeremy & Jana Nandory
JUNE 24	Bob & Clarice Rush
JUNE 29	Gene & Mary Maurer
JULY 9	Dick & Vonnie Greene
JULY 11	Dan & Jocelyn Brauner
	Wade & Candy Christianson
	Rich & Jill Prochaska
JULY 13	Tom & Lois Epps
JULY 17	Randy & Pam Bjerke
JULY 22	Jim & Carol Hornby
JULY 27	Pat & Judy Brauner
JULY 28	Dave & Gail Jelinek





BRF UMC Vacation Bible School, VBS Olympics, TEAM JESUS, will be held August 2-5, 5:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.



There will be a meal offered from 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. Children must be accompanied by an adult family member during the meal. VBS will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary every evening. REGISTRATION FORMS are available online at [www.brfumc.org](http://www.brfumc.org) or in the Gathering Area at the church. Please note registration deadline.

Many fun crafts are planned for the week, monetary donations are greatly appreciated to purchase needed VBS supplies. Food items are also needed for the evening meals. If you are willing to donate an item or two, contact Beth Bue via email, [snoballbue.65@gmail.com](mailto:snoballbue.65@gmail.com) or cell/text, 715-896-0823.

**RECYCLING:** Thank you to everyone who has brought in ink cartridges and cell phones for recycling. This fundraiser is used to purchase Vacation Bible School supplies. Please continue bringing in your ink cartridges and old cell phones. There are boxes in the front entryway and by the Church Office for the ink cartridges and cell phones.

Like our Facebook page Black River Falls Sunday School to see photos of our activities. You can also go to the church's website, [www.brfumc.org](http://www.brfumc.org) for photos and other information.



## SUMMER YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

JUNE 6	Rylan Kapfer
	Abigayle Rave
JUNE 12	Tobias Christianson
JUNE 14	Mallory Finch
JUNE 19	Aaron Dawley
JUNE 23	Kenzie Olson
JUNE 28	Adaline Goldsmith
JULY 1	Jhett Hale
JULY 13	Briar Peterson
JULY 15	Ryan Casper



JUNE 25 - Adult Movie Night

JULY 14 - Church Movie Night

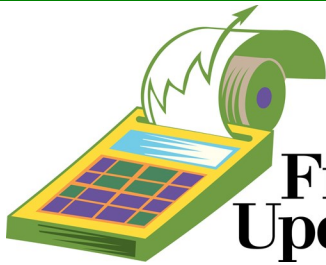
AUGUST 11 - Church Movie Night

Mark your calendars for these fun activities that are planned for this summer. More information and details about the movies to be shown will be available in your bulletins soon.









## Finance Update

Through April 30, 2021

### INCOME:

Budgeted: \$ 98,884.50  
Amount Received: \$124,344.05

### EXPENSES:

Budgeted: \$ 99,967.89  
Amount Paid: \$ 84,333.76

### 2021 APPORTIONMENTS:

Amount Due: \$14,010.48  
Amount Paid: \$ 0.00

Many thanks to everyone for their continued faithful giving to the church. Your contributions are very important to your church and appreciated so much!

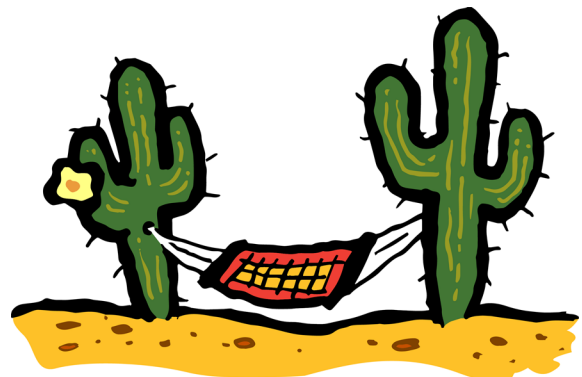
## PRAYER FAMILIES FOR JUNE & JULY

June 6	Marsha Harmer Gil Homstad Bob & Sally Laubach Chelsey, Tide & Everett Gile
June 13	Joan Onstad Tom & Kaylee Peterson Marlene Taylor Jim, Emma & Ethan Bible
June 20	Madelyn & Gustavo Calderon Jim & Georgia Earl Krystle & Channing Goldsmith, Avery & Esme Brooks
June 27	Ruth Hart Jim & Carol Hornby Rich & Judy Lee Dennis Melichar Donna Overlien
July 4	Louis Shaw Bob Uhrig Randy & Pam Bjerke Breanne Caponigro, Dreydon & DraMayne Sanders
July 11	Tom & Lois Epps Rich, Suzanne & Ella Goldsmith Roy & Dorothy Hefty Allan Hostrawser
July 18	Karma & Kameron Leffingwell Sharon Melichar Jerry & Lynn Overman Judy Sheppard
July 25	Mary Van Gorden Ashley Blazek Family Dave, Rita & Ryan Casper Peter & Sharon Ernst



If you have an announcement or other information that you would like to have posted on the church's Facebook page or the church's website, please forward that information to the Church Office and we will get the information to our website and Facebook coordinator for publication.

Also, please let the church know about any changes to your contact information, such as a new address, change in your telephone number or cell phone number, or new email address.



## BRF UMC Calendar of Events June-July 2021

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group

### SUNDAY, JUNE 6

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service - Confirmation

### TUESDAY, JUNE 8

5:30 p.m.—Board of Trustees Meeting

5:30 p.m.—Finance Committee Meeting

6:00 p.m.—Ad Council Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group

### SUNDAY, JUNE 13

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group

### SUNDAY, JUNE 20

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service

Summer Youth Group Event

### TUESDAY, JUNE 22

5:30 p.m.—Worship Committee Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group

5:00 p.m.—Spirit! Rehearsal

### FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Adult Movie Night (TBA)

### SUNDAY, JUNE 27

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service

10:30 a.m.—Mission Outreach Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group

### SUNDAY, JULY 4

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group

### SUNDAY, JULY 11

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group

5:00-8:00 p.m.—Church Movie Night

### SUNDAY, JULY 18

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group

Summer Youth Group Event

### SUNDAY, JULY 25

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group

## *What Happened on This Day in the History of Christianity?*



### The Christian Atheist

June 1

He was about 30 when, walking along the shore, he listened to the liquid thunder of sea and surf. Solomon's words in Ecclesiastes 1:2 described his mood—*Nothing makes sense! Everything is nonsense. I have seen it all—nothing makes sense!* He had pursued every philosophy, and none of them made sense to him. He had studied the Stoics but wasn't satisfied. Aristotelianism didn't fulfill him, nor Pythagoreanism. He found Platonism empty of power. But by the ocean that day he met an old man who gave him a message of profound simplicity: Jesus Christ is Lord. Justin's life was never again the same.

Justin came from Palestine, born soon after the death of the apostle John. His wealthy, pagan parents had given him a splendid education, and Justin proved brilliant. But though his mind was filled with philosophy, nothing filled his heart. That is, not until he met the old man by the sea sharing the gospel.

Justin immediately began telling everyone that Christ can satisfy both mind and heart. He presented his case for Christianity clearly, defending the gospel so effectively that he is known as one of the church's first and finest apologists (defenders of the faith). He became a teacher in Ephesus, then moved to Rome and opened a Christian school. He wrote books advancing the Christian message, three of which still survive including a remarkable dialogue with a Jew in Ephesus named Trypho, a survivor of the Bar Kochba War. Justin skillfully explained the reasons Trypho should consider Christianity as a sound and reasonable faith.

In the mid-160s while teaching in Rome, he debated a cynic named Crescentius who held that virtue alone was the goal of life. Justin won the contest so decisively that Crescentius, enraged, apparently reported Justin to the Roman prefect and brought him before the court on charges of atheism—that is, of not believing in the gods of Rome. Justin and several others were condemned, flogged, and beheaded. He has since been known as Justin Martyr, and his life is remembered every year by the church in both East and West on his feast day, June 1.

Everything you were taught can be put into a few words: Respect and obey God! This is what life is all about. God will judge everything we do, Even what is done in secret, whether good or bad.

- Ecclesiastes 12:13,14

Morgan, Robert J., *On This Day*