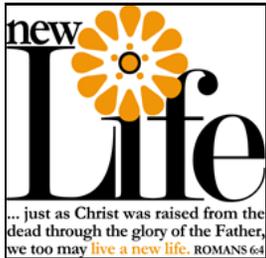


THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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

MAY 2019



“What Does It Mean to Be Easter People?”

Have you ever noticed that when you are planning a trip, vacation or special event, the weeks or even months before can seem to stretch on forever as you plan and prepare? And even when you are on the road to your destination it can seem as though you will never arrive (especially if you have children with you who cannot remain occupied for more than 5 minutes at a time.) On the other hand, once you get to your destination the hours and days seem to fly by and the next thing you know you are on your way back home to the same old routines and schedules, all the while wondering how the time passed so quickly and why it had to end. And, if you are like me, you no sooner arrive home than you begin planning your next vacation so that you don't have to think about the fact that the one you just returned from is in the history book of your life.

Now think about the Easter event. We spend 40 days preparing for Easter, the celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Those 40 days can seem to go on forever, partly because the stories of Jesus' life as he prepares for the cross are not always pleasant nor easy to hear, and partly because we do look forward to the celebration of Easter, that party atmosphere that prevails as we sing the victory songs, wear brightly colored clothing, visit with family and friends and eat ham, chocolate bunnies and jelly beans and, oh yes, the celebration of Jesus resurrection.

So what's the difference between the end of vacation and the end of Easter? Everything, because when we take to heart the message of Easter, that Jesus Christ is alive today, tomorrow and as long as we allow him to live in our hearts and through our lives, then we come to the realization that Easter is not the last day of a vacation nor the end of a spiritual journey but rather, Easter is a refreshing reminder of the new life we are offered in Jesus Christ. Easter reminds us that we can live in that place we have been looking forward to arriving at for the past 40 days. We can live in the joy of the resurrection and in the expectation of life in abundance.

How? By waking each day with an awareness of Jesus' presence, by looking for signs of Jesus Christ as you go about your day, and by inviting Jesus into every aspect of your life—family, friends, work, activities, etc. (Something to think about—if you are not inviting Jesus into a particular part of your life, is it possible that it is a part you could or should remove from your life?)

May you live every day in and with the promise of Christ's constant, abiding love and grace, and may you live your life giving attention to the fact that you are an Easter People.

Pastor Kathy

Many Thanks and Many Blessings

Thank you to those who volunteered to be disciples for the Maundy Thursday service—Howard Gomer, Jim Hoffman, Jim Kaphengst, Hunter Nimmo, Tyler Kapfer, John Lindabl, Rod McGillivray, Barry Gjerseth, John Paul, Dan Brauner, Chuck Buswell, Louis Shaw, and Lon Jury, and Ann Smetana, as Mary Magdalene. It was an exceptional depiction, partly because our disciples had a great team attitude.

Thank you to Roxie Hostrawser for the beautifully decorated sanctuary Easter Sunday.

Thank you Theresa and John Paul, and Lon Jury for preparing the sanctuary for the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services.





- MAY 1 Todd Perry
- MAY 2 Vione Brauner
Mark Hoffman
Emily Ward
- MAY 3 Bob Uhrig
- MAY 8 Mary McCann
- MAY 9 Ruth Hart
Rich Prochaska
- MAY 10 Margery Collins
Matthew Gates
- MAY 11 Becky Boehm
- MAY 12 Jim Hornby
- MAY 14 Chelsey Meinking
Clarice Rush
- MAY 15 Marcia Devendorf
- MAY 18 Virginia Berger
June Koehler
- MAY 19 LeRoy Simonson
- MAY 20 Lynn Overman
Marcie Peterson
- MAY 21 Susanne Hefty
- MAY 22 Dave Meyer
- MAY 23 Lovey Dambach
Marilyn McKeeth
- MAY 25 Suzanne Goldsmith
Josh Ward
- MAY 26 Dick Greene
Fran Simonson
- MAY 27 Mary O'Brien
Leah Olson
- MAY 28 Dick Moldenhauer
- MAY 29 Ann Zillmer
- MAY 31 Zachary Johnson

- MAY 1 Freddie & Donna Dolesy
- MAY 4 Mark & Carol Jarrett
- MAY 7 Wayne & Beth Bue
- MAY 9 Chuck & Marcia Devendorf
- MAY 10 Dave & Kim Gjerseth
- MAY 16 Jerry & Lynn Overman
- MAY 18 Gary & Rhonda Ammann
- MAY 29 Jeff & Barb Hagenbrock
- MAY 30 Pat & Diane Moe
- MAY 31 Todd & Lisa Perry



**We will
 continue to have
one worship service
 at 9:00 a.m.
 through
 the summer.
NO CHANGE IN OUR
WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**YOUR UMC NEWSLETTER
 IS AVAILABLE ONLINE.**

You can view it on our website at brfumc.org, or we can email it to you each month. Let us know if you would prefer this way of reading your monthly newsletter.



United Methodist Women – Sisterhood of Grace 2019 Celebrating 150 Years!

In April our UMW members held a “baby shower” for Interfaith’s Bear Essentials program which helps young mothers in need of basic baby items: diapers, wipes, onesies, sleepers, caps, jackets. We took many bags of baby goods to stock the Bear Essentials closet. If you are interested in continuing to contribute to this program, please call Carol Jarrett at Interfaith (284-7058) to check on their current needs.

We will continue working on our social action goal of impacting the health and welfare of mothers and children with a **May project for the Midwest Distribution Center (MDC) of UMCOR**. In 2018 the MDC sent out 2,138 layette kits. Each kit contains cloth diapers and one “fancy flannel” diaper. On May 9 Carol Hornby and Luane Meyer will guide us as **we make flannel diapers for the MDC layette kits**. We will meet at the church on Thursday, May 9 from 5–7 p.m. Bring a sack lunch and a beverage. There will be jobs to fit everyone’s skills – cutting, sewing, ironing, etc.

Plan now to attend our annual picnic on June 3 at 5:00 p.m. This year we will be at the Chamber of Commerce meeting room at the Water Street location. Sandwiches, beverages and tableware will be provided. Members are asked to bring a salad or dessert to share.

Dates to Remember:

May 6 Circle Meetings: Circle of Hope, 1:30 p.m. at the church; Circle of Faith, 5:30 p.m. at Mocha Mouse
June 3 Annual Picnic Social: Chamber of Commerce, Water Street, 5:00 p.m.



Are you enrolled in **Amazon Smile**, a program where Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible **smile.Amazon.com** purchases to charitable organizations of your choice.?

If not, here is how to set up your account. Use our unique charity link : <https://smile.amazon.com/ch39-1077829>, and you will automatically be asked if you want to support **Meth-
odist Church of Black River Falls Inc.** After that , all you have to do is use **smile.amazon.com** instead of the usual **amazon.com** when placing an order. Log into your account, and start shopping! It is that easy! Do your summer shopping and help your church at the same time!

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to call the church office and we would be glad to help you with setting up your account.



Church Camp

There’s still time to sign up for summer camp!!!! Summer Camps for all ages are provided at Pine Lake and Lake Lucerne. The power of camp is lifelong friendships, outdoor adventure, positive Christian role models, and meaningful conversations. The campers who attend camp share with us how their faith is strengthened and how they become closer to God. If you are interested in attending camp this summer, check out www.WIUMCamps.org or contact camp coordinators, Beth Bue at 715-284-7494 or Suzanne Goldsmith at 715-896-0224.



*Easter Flowers were given:***In Memory Of:**

- *Mary, Vicki, and Gladys Bailey* from Betty Dobson, Patty Iverson, & Joan Zenz
- *Our Parents* from Rich & Jill Prochaska
- *Kelsey Olson* from Dave, Sherry & Erica Olson
- *Virgil & Erma Bue and Gary Goldsmith and in honor of Judy Goldsmith* from Wayne & Beth Bue
- *William Hostrawser* from Jim, Roxie & Darlene Hostrawser and Janet Gaier.
- *Donna Smikrud* from Jim & Roxie Hostrawser
- *Gladys & Roy Rush and Ella & Archie Tranberg* from Bob & Clarice Rush
- *My Granddaughter, Alyssa Dawn Rave,* from Nancy Hindes
- *Lewis & Lucille Hagenbrock* from Jeff, Barb, Nathan & Nicholas Hagenbrock
- *Penny Elmore, Richard Carrier, & Jayden Gjersest* from the Gjersest Family
- *My Dad, Russ Cottrell, and Brother, Steven Cottrell,* from Pastor Kathy
- *Warren Loveland* from Mary Loveland & family
- *Our Grandparents* from Dave & Rita Casper
- *Our Parents* from Grant & Geri Allen
- *Kelsey Olson* from Grant & Geri Allen
- *Lyle Hart* from Jim & Carol Hornby
- *Bruce & Kathleen Van Gorden* from Mary Van Gorden
- *Joyce & Clarence Paul* from John & Theresa Paul
- *Elwin, Juanita, & Michael Buchholz* from John & Theresa Paul
- *Duane & Lavina Hoffman* from their family
- *Dr. Bob & Mary Krohn* from their family
- *Lester & Elaine Marquardt* from Virginia Berger

In Honor Of:

- *My Family Members* from Mona Baker
- *My Grandchildren* from Pastor Kathy
- *My Family* from Joan Zenz
- *My Confirmation Mentor, Rhonda Ammann,* from Mallory Finch

*Easter Flowers (cont.):***In Honor Of:**

- *Pastor Kathy* from the 2019 Confirmation Class
- *Beth Bue* from the 2019 Confirmation Class
- *Our Children and their Families* from Jim & Andrea Hoffman
- *Floyd & Marilou Peterson and Family* from Jim & Andrea Hoffman

Given By:

- John, Shirly, Keisha and Hunter Nimmo

RADIO BROADCASTS

APR 21

In memory of Allan Michael Boehm sponsored by a friend.

**2019 GRADUATES**

The graduating high school seniors of our congregation will be honored at the 9:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, June 9. This year's graduates are:

Emma Bible
Ethan Bible
Ryan Dobson
Zachary Johnson
Abby Ross
Marin Stowe

If there are any additions or corrections to this list, please notify Jill in the Church Office at once. Each graduate is asked to submit a picture and short paragraph explaining what they will be doing after graduation by Friday, May 31, so that we can prepare a display of the graduating seniors for the congregation on Sunday, June 9. Letters will be sent to all seniors soon with details of this special service.

FINANCIAL REPORT - End of First Quarter 2019

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD Balance</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<u>Income</u>				
Pledges	\$ 22,786.36	60,552.54	220,000.00	28%
Non-Pledged Giving	\$ 3,560.70	8,182.70	55,700.00	15%
Other Income	\$ 510.76	1,690.65	16,950.00	10%
Total	\$ 26,857.82	70,425.89	292,650.00	24%
<u>Expenses</u>				
Apportionments	\$ 0.00	4,158.00	47,568.00	9%
Programming	\$ 479.66	1,246.43	6,600.00	19%
Pastoral Support	\$ 9,500.79	28,417.49	116,644.00	24%
Program Staff	\$ 7,265.68	21,848.99	92,356.00	24%
Operations	\$ 6,034.72	12,232.97	51,100.00	24%
Total	\$ 23,280.85	67,903.88	314,268.00	22%

Thank you so much for your continued giving to support your church and its many ministries!



**RAINFOREST
ADVENTURES**

**BRF UMC Vacation Bible School
RAINFOREST ADVENTURES
August 5-8 - 5:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

There will be a meal offered from 5:15 p.m. 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 in the Gathering Area and on the church webpage at www.brfumc.org. Many fun activities are planned for the week.

Monetary donations are greatly appreciated to purchase needed VBS supplies. Items are also needed for the evening meal. If you are willing to donate an item or two, contact Beth Bue. Volunteers are needed to be a part of our VBS team. Contact Beth Bue by phone, 715-284-7494, cell/ text 715-896-0823, or email snoballbue.65@gmail.com if you are able to help.

Please Let Us Know ...

If you know of someone who is in the hospital or who is working through medical issues at home, please call the church office (715-284-4114) so that the Pastor is aware of the need and can respond accordingly.

If you know of an individual or family that is working through health issues, hospitalization, or some other crisis and could benefit from the gift of a meal, please call the church office (715-284-4114) and Jill will pass the information to the Caring Meal Crew.

Thank you for your help!





Sunday School

The new risers worked great on Easter Sunday! Thank you to everyone who supported the purchase of the risers! Also a thank you to everyone for participating in the "Allelu" song. . . So much fun and excitement!

Another year of Sunday School is coming to an end. The Rotation Curriculum continues to be a success, and we are looking forward to continuing with this curriculum in the 2019-2020 year.

Our Year-End Program will be held on Sunday, May 19. All Sunday School students will be participating in the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service. We will be practicing every Sunday up to May 19. Please make every effort to have your child attend Sunday School. After the program please join us in the Gathering Area for muffins, coffee, and juice hosted by the Education Committee and Sunday School Team.

A **BIG THANK YOU** to the Sunday School Team:

Creation Station: Barb Goldsmith, Ann Smetana, Ashley Jessen, Carrie Farnsworth, Rita Casper, Faith & Jennifer Leisgang, and Andrea Hoffman

God's Diner: Megan Finch, Barb Goldsmith, Joan Zenz, Faith & Jennifer Leisgang, Mark & Tia Maurer, and Anne Boehm

Godly Games: Mike Rave

Music Assistant: Penny Goldsmith

6th and 7th Grade Class:: Roxie Hostrawser

THANK YOU to the adults who were substitutes or helped throughout the year. This program could not exist without volunteers!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held August 5-8. A meal will be served from 5:15 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. with a VBS start time of 6:00 p.m. Registration forms are available in the Gathering Area and on our webpage, www.brfumc.org. We are in need of substitutes and helpers for VBS. Contact Beth Bue if you are able to help us out.

RECYCLING: Thank you to everyone who has helped us by bringing in their ink cartridges and cell phones for recycling. This fundraiser is used to purchase Vacation Bible School supplies. There are boxes in the front entryway, by the Church Office, and by the Youth Rooms 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 for photos and other information.

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

MAY 2	Isaac Hoffman William Hoffman
MAY 5	Karnelia Sroka
MAY 8	Kyle Hansen
MAY 15	Alexander Olson
MAY 25	Benjamin Breining Brett Dougherty

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.



UPCOMING YOUTH DATES:

May 1: Youth Group
 May 8: Youth Group
 May 15: Youth Group
 May 22: Youth Group
 May 29: Youth Group



Come and check out our last month of faith, fun and fellowship for this school year. We meet each night listed above from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and any 6th-12th graders are welcome. Feel free to bring a friend.

The Youth 2019 trip is coming soon. Each youth will be getting a detailed letter about the trip in the mail. Please let us know if you have any questions after you receive the letter.

The youth will meet once a month in the summer. Please check the newsletter and Facebook for updates on fun activities we have planned for this summer.

Suzanne Goldsmith
 715-896-0224
 Suziegoldsmith@hotmail.com
 Black River Falls UMC Youth Group Facebook

PRAYER FAMILIES FOR MAY

MAY 5	Rhoda Gulso Peter & Jone Hoffman Gene & Janet Krohn Marlene Meyer
May 12	Jerry & Lynn Overman Dave, Ann, Sophia & Julia Smetana Orville & Beth Amborn, Aaron Dawley Bonnie Burnham
May 19	Kay Finch Sonny & Marcia Hagen Don & Lori Holcomb Rich & Judy Lee
May 26	Marian Millis John & Theresa Paul Don & Vangie Stender Carol Anderson





Van Etta Library Book Review

You Don't Cry Out Loud
by Lily Isaacs

The Isaacs perform often at the Grand Ole Opry and in concerts and video series. The author of this book, Lily, is a founding member of the award-winning music group who have been sharing their faith for over 35 years. She is the daughter of Holocaust survivors who became estranged from her Jewish parents when she became a new Christian believer.

Throughout her music and that of her children, she shares her family's faith journey and her joy of a life with Jesus Christ. Surviving cancer, her message is one of God's constant love, comfort, and strength.

This book was donated to the VanEtta Library by Cheryl Nortman.

Rhoda Gulso, Librarian

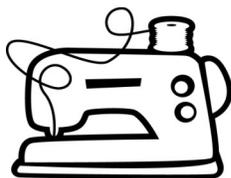


Diaper Sewing Event

The UMC Midwest Distribution Center is in dire need of diapers for their mission distribution. The diapers need to be made to a particular specification in order for them to be accepted by the center.

On May 9th the United Methodist Women are sponsoring a diaper sewing event from 5-7:30 in the Keefe Room and the Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in helping in the making of the diapers is welcome to come to this event. We would love to have you join us.

All fabric and patterns will be furnished. The pattern is very simple. If you wish to sew, please bring your own sewing machine. We will need people to cut out diapers, people to pin the pieces together, people to sew, people to turn the diapers right side out, and people to iron the diapers. Bring your own sack lunch for supper.



If you have any questions, call either Luane Meyer (715-284-9839) or Carol Hornby (715-284-9655).

E-GIVING - EASY AND CONVENIENT!

Electronic Giving (E-Giving) is a way for individual congregation members to direct gifts to the church with-out having to write out a check or fill out an envelope. In E-Giving money can be automatically transferred from your savings or checking account to the church's bank account.—and there is NO CHARGE for this service. A number of our members are already taking advantage of this easy way of giving contributions to the church..

If you would like to sign up for E-Giving, please call Jill in the Church Office. She will be glad to answer any questions you may have and help you fill out an easy authorization form. Now would be a great time to take advantage of this easy and convenient way of giving to your church!

BRF UMC Calendar of Events—May 2019



WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group
5:30 p.m.—Companions in Christ Study
5:15 p.m.—Youth Group

THURSDAY, MAY 2

6:00 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice
7:00 p.m.—UMC Choir Practice

SATURDAY, MAY 4

8:30 a.m.—UM Men's Group Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 5

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service (Confirmation)
9:05 a.m.—Sunday School

MONDAY, MAY 6

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Pastor Kathy Day Off
1:30 p.m.—Circle of Hope Meeting
5:30 p.m.—Circle of Faith/Mocha Mouse

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group
10:00 a.m.—Book Club
5:30 p.m.—Companions in Christ Study
6:00 p.m.—Youth Group

THURSDAY, MAY 9

5:00-7:30 p.m.—UMW Sewing Event
6:00 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice
7:00 p.m.—UMC Choir Practice

SUNDAY, MAY 12

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service
9:05 a.m.—Sunday School

MONDAY, MAY 13

Pastor Kathy Day Off
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, MAY 14

5:30 p.m.—Board of Trustees Meeting
5:30 p.m.—Finance Committee Meeting
6:15 p.m.—Administrative Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group
6:00 p.m.—Youth Group

THURSDAY, MAY 16

6:00 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice
7:00 p.m.—UMC Choir Practice

SUNDAY, MAY 19

9:00 a.m.—Sunday School Year-End Program

MONDAY, MAY 20

Pastor Kathy Day Off
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group
6:00 p.m.—Youth Group

THURSDAY, MAY 23

6:00 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice
7:00 p.m.—UMC Choir Practice

SUNDAY, MAY 26

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service

MONDAY, MAY 27

MEMORIAL DAY
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group
6:00 p.m.—Youth Group

THURSDAY, MAY 30

6:00 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice
7:00 p.m.—UMC Choir Practice

