

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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

NOVEMBER 2018

Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity

One of Jesus’ great teaching parables involves a sower who cast seed along the ground. The sower hoped the seeds would sprout, grow, and bear good fruit. Some seeds did just that, producing a great harvest. But others, Jesus said, fell among thorns and, though they began to grow, these good plants were quickly choked out. Jesus said the thorns were “the cares of the world and the lure of wealth” (Matthew 13:22).

In a culture where having “enough” seems to have become a never-ending pursuit, Jesus’ parable remains incredibly relevant. Many of us are chasing the American dream in ways that lead to stress, anxiety, and fear—thorns that can rob us of the ability to enjoy the abundant lives of purpose that God intended for us.

All of us have struggled with these issues at one time or another. They are important issues that we cannot ignore. This is why, over the next 5 weeks, our worship emphasis will be based on Adam Hamilton's book, *Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity*. *During this time we will explore what the Bible teaches us about financial management. We'll hear expert advice and stories about what others have learned by working through financial challenges. Each week we will provide you with some practical tools you can use to assess your financial situation and develop a financial plan with a biblical foundation.*

At the conclusion of the series, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year. We will consecrate our commitments during worship on Sunday, December 2. It is my hope that you will also have some new tools and resources to help you and your family find more financial stability and security.

I hope you will join us in the coming weeks as we look at how we can manage our financial resources and truly experience simplicity, generosity, and joy.

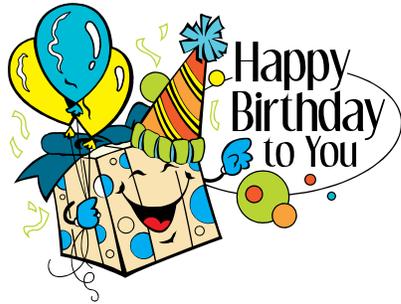
May You Experience God's Richest Blessings,

Pastor Kathy

Upcoming "Enough" Sermon Series Dates

- November 4: Message: “When Dreams Become Nightmares”
- November 11: Message: “Wisdom and Finance”
- November 18: Pastor Rich Rubietta will lead worship with music and scripture
- November 25: Message: “Cultivating Contentment”
- December 2: Message: "Defined by Generosity". Consecration Sunday
- December 9: Celebration Sunday





- NOV 1 Judy Hansen
Joan Zenz
- NOV 4 Larry Whaley
- NOV 5 Barry Gjersest
Jill Kaphengst
Erica Olson
- NOV 6 Gene Maurer
- NOV 8 Markus Sherman
- NOV 9 Carrie Farnsworth
- NOV 10 Grant Allen
- NOV 12 Beth Amborn
David Hoffman
- NOV 15 Jessie Goldsmith
Linda McCullough
- NOV 17 Ryan Dobson
Tia Maurer
- NOV 18 Dana Rave
Sarah Wiersma
- NOV 19 Heather Gartner
- NOV 20 Dan Jelinek
- NOV 21 Michael Rave
- NOV 28 Pat Brauner
Erika Goldsmith
Connie Nobsbisch
Karen Pennekamp
- NOV 29 Jackie Shankey



- NOV 1 Dave & Ann Smetana
- NOV 3 John & Shirlye Nimmo
- NOV 4 Lee & Kim Amborn
- NOV 6 Bob & Kathy Lind
- NOV 8 Roy & Dorothy Hefty
- NOV 11 Rich & Suzanne Goldsmith
- NOV 28 Joe & Margery Collins



Thanksgiving Service

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service
Wednesday evening, November 21
6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary



Our Annual Charge Conference will be held on Sunday evening, December 2, at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All members of the church are encouraged to come to this important annual meeting of the church. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Tsuker Yang, will be here to conduct the meeting.

REMINDER:
YOUR UMC CHURCH
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 -- Sacred Spaces: Encounters with God and Neighbor

I was once asked why United Methodist Women meet in Circles; the second question was whether we always sat in a circle. While those questions were tongue in cheek, they have stayed with me because I did not have a good answer at the time. You know how you can always think of a better answer much after the conversation. I want to share some of my "circle" thoughts with you.

As long as I can remember, women's groups have been called Circles. My mother and grandmother belonged to Circles. Not every UMW member is also a Circle member. Joining a Circle is a conscious choice – one meaning greater involvement, deeper study and closer relationships. While we may not always sit in a circle, we do always act as a circle.

A circle is never ending, and everyone in the circle is an equal. Members of a Circle provide support to each other. All rejoice together; all mourn together; all pray together. Circle members do not face life's challenges alone. All in the Circle are valued and respected. Is this the year for you to become part of a Circle?

Put these dates on your calendar:

- Nov. 5 Circle Meetings Watch the bulletin for info.
- Dec. 3 General Meeting at the church at 6:00 PM
- Dec. 8 Annual Cookie Walk, 10:30 AM

Many thanks to Lyn Gates for helping the Circle of Faith assemble personal gift bags for new mothers who are seen by the County Visiting Nurses. Each bag contained shampoo, tooth paste and tooth brush along with some treats: nail polish, lotion, and chocolate to name a few items in the very full bags.



Pastor Rich Rubietta to Join Us in Worship



On Sunday, Nov. 18, Pastor Rich Rubietta from Park Ridge, Illinois will lead a special musical worship service. Pastor Rubietta is a songwriter and worship consultant who will lead worship with up-beat versions of familiar Hymns and original material.

A graduate of Northwestern University with a degree in Music and an Illinois Arts Council *ArtsTour* artist, Rubietta has been offering new styles to traditional Church Hymns and songs.

Rich is married to Jane Rubietta and the couple have three children together. Jane is the author of popular devotional books like best-seller *Quiet Places, Finding Your Dream, Worry Less – Live More* and is in demand as an international, cross-denominational speaker.

Rich was with us in worship over ten years ago. Because the worship experience was well received we have invited him to return on Sunday, Nov. 18. You will want to make a note of the date because you won't want to miss this worship experience.





The financial report for the first three quarters of 2018 is as follows:

Income:

Pledges	\$ 167,677.93
Non-Pledged Giving	\$ 23,446.56
Other Income	\$ 8,671.22
Total	\$ 199,795.71

Expenses

Apportionments	\$ 3,550.00
Pastoral Support	\$ 85,733.31
Program Staff	\$ 65,857.24
Programming	\$ 6,158.41
Operations	\$ 32,288.58
Total	\$ 193,587.54

Our budget deficit still remains at over \$10,000.00 for the year. The spending gap would be even larger, however we have only made one full payment and two partial payments towards our connectional giving.

Through the end of October, only six days of our electricity have been paid for in the “Keep the Lights On” fundraiser. Please check the calendars on the table in the Gathering Area and select a day or two to help the church with the cost of electricity. Many more days are available through the end of December.

The Finance Committee as always would like to thank those who have and are continuing to give generously to the church and its mission.

Wayne Bue
Finance Committee Chairperson



SO MANY BLESSINGS



Our Church Family Night menu for the month of November:

November 7

- Tater Tot Hotdish
- Lettuce Salad
- Rolls
- Desserts
- Beverages

November 14

- Baked Potato Bar
- Lettuce Salad
- Desserts
- Beverages

November 21

- THANKSGIVING EVE
- NO DINNER

November 28

- Grilled Ham & Cheese Sandwiches
- Tomato Soup
- Desserts
- Beverages

Every week there will be hot dogs and peanut butter/jelly available. Plan to join us on Wednesday evenings. Everyone Welcome!!

Offering Envelopes



In January 2019 we will discontinue the offering envelope mailing program. Those who receive envelopes in the mail will continue to receive them through December this year. For those who like to use envelopes for their contributions to the church, there will be boxes of offering envelopes for 2019 available in the Gathering Area. Offering envelope numbers are no longer necessary, as all contributions are recorded by name. If you know your envelope number and wish to continue to use it, you may write it on your envelopes. As long as you use your name when making contributions to the church they will be recorded correctly. If you have any questions, contact Jill or Theresa in the church office.

BULLETINS

- OCT 7 In honor of Gertrude Bue’s 90th birthday on October sponsored by her family.
- OCT 14 In memory of Gary & Pam Dolsey sponsored by Karen Dolsey.

RADIO BROADCASTS

- OCT 28 Sponsored by the United Methodist Women.

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 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 and Jill will pass the information to our Caring Meal Crew.



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, November 9

6:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall of the church

The movie, *Ferdinand*, a bull with a very big heart and his adventures will be shown.

Free admittance.

Popcorn and beverages will be available.

Feel free to wear your pajamas and bring a blanket and pillow. **All children must be accompanied by an adult.** Invite a friend or two!



Theme Baskets

A number of Christmas-themed baskets will be on display in the Gathering Area from December 2 to December

16. Bids may be made any time up until the start of worship (9:00 a.m.) on Sunday, December 16. What a great opportunity for you to get a special Christmas gift! Winners will be announced during the announcements during the worship service on December 16. This is a fundraiser for the General Fund.

2nd ANNUAL ADVENT EXTRAVAGANZA

Sunday, December 2

10:00-11:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall



All ages are invited to join in the fun!

We will be making Christmas cards and doing other Christmas crafts.

Breakfast snacks and beverages will be served. What a great way to begin the Advent Season!!!



Thank You!

Donna Overlien would like to thank the following BRF friends who went to Baraboo in July to help her celebrate her 90th birthday: Virginia Berger, Ed & Vione Brauner, Lyle & Ruth Hart, Elaine Know, Mary Loveland, Karen Pennekamp, Leota Simonson, and Marlene Taylor. A delicious lunch was enjoyed and a good time was had by all.



Our church has been blessed with new families with children. Our Sunday School program is growing!!!! Currently there are 55 children registered for Sunday School with an average attendance of 30 to 35 children. **After much discussion with the Worship Committee, Chair of Education, and Children's Ministry Coordinator, a decision was made to change the time of Sunday School to 9:05 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. beginning Sunday, November 4.** By lengthening the time this will enable us to add an additional rotation to the program.

The Rotation Model Sunday School has been going well! The children have enjoyed music, playing games, and edible projects as they learned about RESPECT. The Rotation Model for November and December is "Money and Time." This rotation will teach the children about **stewardship**, how to use time, talents, and money as a follower of Jesus. The children will learn that **stewardship** means being a good manager of all God has given us. The classes will also be learning about Advent and what it means to give, not just receive.

The church was filled with families, energy, and smiles for the first Family Sunday. The children honored Pastor Kathy with a song, "Strong and Courageous" and made her a handprint cross with a poem for Pastor Appreciation Month. Pre-K and 4th graders received their Bibles. I have heard from parents that they are reading the story suggestions I gave them. Such a blessing from God to see all of the families in Worship! The next **Family Sunday is November 18**. All Sunday School children will sing at the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service. **Families and children are encouraged to attend this special Sunday and remain in church for the full service.** What a great opportunity to involve our younger youth in worship!

It seems early to begin practicing for the Sunday School Christmas Program, but it is only 6 weeks away, CRAZY! **Our Christmas Program, "Manger Tales", will be held Sunday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m.** We will be practicing for the program every Sunday including the day of the program. Sunday School attendance is very important at this time. All students ages 3 years to 7th grade will be a part of the program. If your child is unable to participate, please let me know as soon as possible as I will be assigning roles.

The Young Families Committee will be hosting a **FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT** that will be held **Friday, November 9, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall at the church. The movie, *Ferdinand*, a bull with a very big heart and his adventures will be shown. Free admittance, popcorn and beverages will be available. Feel free to wear your pajamas and bring a blanket and pillow. **All children must be accompanied by an adult.** Invite a friend or two!

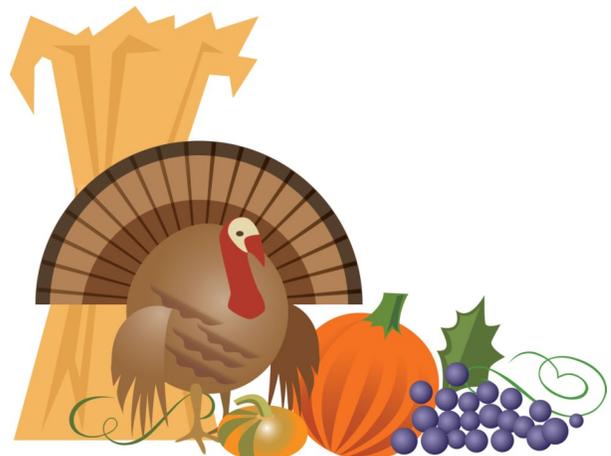
MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, FOR AN ADVENT EXTRAVAGANZA!!!! This event will be held in the Fellowship Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. **Sunday School will be ending at 10:00 a.m. so we can begin the event after Worship.** (You will have plenty of time to get home for the Packers!) Everyone is invited. Breakfast snacks and beverages will be served. Watch for more info in the upcoming bulletins and announcements! What better way to begin the Advent Season!?!?!?

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.

Please continue bringing in your ink cartridges and old cell phones. There are boxes in the front entryway, by the Church Office, and by the Youth Rooms for the ink cartridges and cell phones.

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

NOV 3	Xavier Olson
NOV 5	Julia Smetana
NOV 7	Amelia Crocker
NOV 8	Sam Lund
NOV 10	Ella Hatleli
NOV 22	Ella Goldsmith
	Madyson Schultz
NOV 23	Daniel Goldsmith





YOUTH GROUP NEWS ...



UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

November 7	Youth - Fun, Faith, Fellowship
November 14	Youth - Bible Study
November 21	NO YOUTH - Families please attend Thanksgiving Eve Service 6:30 pm
November 28	Youth - Bible Study

Thank you to everyone who baked, served, helped clean up and all who came to support the youth at our Apple Dessert fundraiser. It was a successful day that helped us raise funds toward our Youth 2019 trip to Kansas City.

We are currently selling "That's My Pan" as a fundraiser as well. These make great gifts for someone (or yourself). They have expanded their product line and each item can be personalized. Watch for us to be set up in the Gathering Area in November to make a purchase.

Near future youth fundraisers:

- * Homemade Christmas Cards
- * Pancake Breakfast
- * Pasties



PRAYER FAMILIES FOR NOVEMBER

NOV 7	Ken & LuAnne Schoolcraft Mary Van Gorden Leyah & Brody Staszak Loretta Charneski
NOV 14	Mike & LuAnn Gaede Sonny & Marcia Hagen Pam Hoffman & Jacob Sidie Mike & Leanne Kappen
NOV 21	Dennis Melichar Richard, Mary & Jacob Onstad Mildred Schoolcraft Alan & Paula Voskuil
NOV 28	Dan & Virginia Berger Eric & Cindy Chrisinger Don & Charlene Galston Jeff & Barb Hagenbrock



Van Etta Library

New books in the VanEtta Library

These new books just arrived, have been processed, and are ready to be checked out. Many of them are on the wire easels on the fiction and nonfiction shelves so that you can easily find them.

1. The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell by Robert Dugoni (fiction)
2. Say Goodbye For Now by Catherine Ryan Hyde (fiction)
3. When I Found You by Catherine Ryan Hyde (fiction)
4. Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng (fiction)
5. Educated: A Memoir by Tara Westover (fiction)
6. Send Down the Rain by Charles Martin (fiction)
7. All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr (fiction)
8. Knowing Scripture by R.C. Sproul (nonfiction)
9. The Water is Wide by Pat Conroy (fiction)
10. Knowing God by J.I. Packer (nonfiction)
11. The Forgotten Road by Richard Paul Evans (fiction) 2nd in the Broken Road series

Enjoy these new wonderful titles! A big thank you for supporting our church library through your giving.

Rhoda Gulso



Mark your calendars!



The annual **United Methodist Women Cookie Walk**
will be held on:

Saturday, December 8, 2018

in the Gathering Area of the United Methodist Church in Black River Falls.

Doors will open at 10:30 a.m.

Come and fill your container for \$6.00 per pound.

Cookies, candies and specialty breads will be available!

The church Youth Group will also hold a

Soup and Sandwich Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall

beginning at 10:30 a.m. also.

(free-will offering for lunch)

BRF UMC Calendar of Events—November 2018



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1

5:30 p.m.—Women's Retreat Meeting
6:00 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice
7:00 p.m.—UMC Choir Practice

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

8:30 a.m.—UM Men's Group Meeting

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service
9:05 a.m.—Sunday School
10:15 a.m.—Worship Committee Meeting

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Pastor Kathy Day Off
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
1:30 p.m.—Circle of Hope Meeting

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group
10:00 a.m.—Book Club
4:30-6:00 p.m.—Church Family Night Meal
5:15 p.m.—Confirmation
5:30 p.m.—Companions in Christ Study
6:00 p.m.—Youth Group

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9

6:00 p.m.—Family Movie Night

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Pastor Kathy Day Off
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group
4:30-6:00 p.m.—Church Family Night Meal
5:15 p.m.—Confirmation
5:30 p.m.—Companions in Christ Study
6:00 p.m.—Youth Group

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

5:00 p.m.—Spirit! Practice
7:00 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:00 a.m.—Special Worship Service
with Rev. Rich Rubietta
FAMILY SUNDAY
COMMUNION SUNDAY

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Pastor Kathy Day Off
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group
NO Church Family Night Meal
NO Confirmation
NO Companions in Christ Study
NO Youth Group
6:30 p.m.—Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 & 23

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
FOR THANKSGIVING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Pastor Kathy Day Off
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group
4:30-6:00 p.m.—Church Family Night Meal
5:15 p.m.—Confirmation
5:30 p.m.—Companions in Christ Study
6:00 p.m.—Youth Group

