

***THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH***

***NEWSLETTER, August 2021***

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

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Brothers and Sisters in Christ at BRF:

Peace be with you. As you might have noticed, this summer is unusually hot and since June een much there has not been much rainfall. While pleasant weather was normally expected for June in the past, the high temperature of over 90 degree was recorded for a few days in June and a good portion of July in most areas of Wisconsin. We experience climate change around the world. This phenomenon definitely affects both our human life and nature and animals as well. The world suffers wildfire, droughts and floods.

Since spring, Esther and I have been growing vegetables, like zucchini, cucumbers, green onions, and Perilla leaf, and so on. Since it hadn’t rained for a long time, Esther worried about the plants in the community garden. When we moved here, the plants appeared to be dry and dying. So we watered these plants. The next day we watered them again. We continued to water them every day. We are happy to see them grow and produce fruit. Esther and I would like to share the produce with anyone who would like some.

Watering plants to see them grow and produce fruit, reminds me of our spiritual life. We are created in the image of God and have a connection to God. God gave us both the Spirit and the body. Just as our physical body grows, so our spiritual life should grow with “soul food”. People are hungry and thirsty for something that could nurture their soul. However, nothing of this world can satisfy our soul. Only God can fill our spirit, because He breathed into the nostrils of the body of man the breath of life, and man became a living soul (Genesis 2:7).

Jesus says in John 4:13-14, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

Jesus Christ is the living water that takes away our thirst forever. Just as Esther and I water plants to help them grow, so God’s children should drink from Jesus every day in order to live abundantly. I encourage you to drink Jesus every day for your spiritual life. In other words, we need to read the Word of God every day for a healthy and productive life.

God bless you all. Amen.

 

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AUG 3 Paul Hoffman AUG 4 LeRoy & Fran Simonson

Ken Schoolcraft AUG 5 Chuck & Ruth Buswell

AUG 5 Robin Hoffman Gustavo & Madelyn Calderon

AUG 6 Roger Bue AUG 14 Dave & Luane Meyer

AUG 7 Rhoda Gulso AUG 16 Sonny & Marcia Hagen

AUG 8 Karen Dolsey AUG 18 Justin & Danielle Dougherty

AUG 9 John Nimmo Sr. AUG 20 Jack & Traci Bailey

Keisha Nimmo AUG 30 Jim & Roxie Hostrawser

AUG 11 Kathy Lind

AUG 12 Kae Dettinger **YOUTH BIRTHDAYS**

Jeff Dolsey AUG 12 Sophia Smetana

AUG 13 Denise Hanson AUG 25 Hunter Jessen

Larry Pennekamp AUG 26 Hunter Nimmo

AUG 14 Chuck Devendorf AUG 28 Kammeron Kapfer

  Ashley Huber

AUG 15 Andrea Hoffman **UPCOMING EVENTS**

AUG 17 Emma Bible AUG 13-14 Stewardship Retreat, Pine Lake

  Ethan Bible AUG 8th Community Christian Concert Kelly Boehm Mauston UMC, (Ball Brothers)

Rodney Zirk 2pm

AUG 18 Traci Bailey SEPT 9 UMW Fall Salad Buffet Lunch-

 Don Galson eon. Tomah First United

 Lyn Gates Methodist church 11am-1pm.

AUG 19 Collin Gartner

AUG 23 Judy Lee

 Jennifer Meyer  **OPPORTUNITIES**

AUG 26 Marilyn Hoffman Jackson County Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers

AUG 29 Mitchel Gjerseth are looking for volunteers.

AUG 30 Sylvia Crocker 715-284-7058 interfaith@jcivc

AUG 31 Geri Allen

**Your UMC Church Newsletter**

**is available ONLINE at our website**

***brfumc.org -* or we can email it to**

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**(715-284-4114)**



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**DISCOVERING OUT CHURCH FAMILY**

Beginning September 12, Pastor Inwha will be conducting a class on “Discovering Our Church Family.” This class will focus on our purpose, our strategy, our story and more. Learn of our history, our faith, our identity as Christians. Learn what it means to truly be Christ-Centered, Bible-Based, God-Glorified, Spirit-Led, Prayer-Powered, Mission–Minded, and doing God’s five purposes; Worship, Fellowship Discipleship, Service and Evangelism.

Join Pastor Inwha for this intriguing study. Call the church office to reserve a place now.

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**DARING FAITH CAMPAIGN**

Also beginning the week of September 12, Pastor Inwha will begin a Daring Faith Campaign.

Daring Faith is a 40-day church-wide campaign. It will encourage you to take a leap in your spiritual growth and financial giving. Ephesians 3:12 reads “***Because of our faith in Him, we dare to have boldness, courage and confidence in coming to God with freedom and without fear.”***

This small group session will last 6 weeks and will meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm.

Please call the church office to reserve your seat.

***“According to you faith will it be done to you.” Matthew 9:29***

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**FINANCIAL REPORT** - **End of Second Quarter 2021**

 **YTD Balance** **Annual Budget** **% of Budget**

**Income**

Weekly Offerings $ 159,960.00 275,700.00 58.0%

Special Offerings $ 112.27 7,000.00 1.6%

Other Income $ 2,703.30 16,950.00 5.9%

Total $ 162,775.57 299,650.00 54.3%

**Expenses**

Apportionments $ 7,076.00 44,700.00 15.8%

Programming $ 3,759.05 6,600.00 57.0%

Pastoral Support $ 55,147.62 92,100.00 59.9%

Program Staff $ 38,257.08 93,266.00 41.0%

Operations $ 25,626.71 51,100.00 50.2%

Total $ 129,866.46 287,766.00 45.1%

Difference $ 32,909.11 11,884.00

**A Note from Finance Committee Chairman, Wayne Bue . . .**

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who has continued to send their contributions to the church by mail, by dropping them off at the office, and also to those who give by using electronic transfer of funds. These contributions have been a great help in keeping us current on our expenses. We were able to receive a Groat Rural Ministry Grant from the Wisconsin Annual Conference which will aid in our endeavor to keep our sound system updated and replace carpeting and flooring. We have made two apportionment payments so far this year.

 **Cadet Club**

What is Cadet Club? Cadet Club is a NEW youth group being started for kids currently in grades 3-5. Terrie Stevens, Beth Bue, and myself (Ann Smetana) are starting this youth group in hopes for our younger youth to have somewhere to go and learn about Jesus and continue getting to know Him through faith, fun, friendship, and service to others. This Cadet Club will meet most Wednesdays throughout the school year from 6:15pm – 7:45pm in the basement of the church in the room next to the bathroom.

We will have ‘get to know you’ games, bible stories, small snacks, a short video, and some other activities throughout the night. This is not a replacement to Sunday School. This is different. We’d like you to go to both for we will be doing different things other than Sunday School. Cadet Club is an opportunity to get to know Jesus with Christian friends while building relationships in our faith together. Come experience your faith, fun, and friendship in action.

Please come to our VERY FIRST Cadet Club Wednesday, September 15, 2021 from 6:15pm-7:45pm and BRING A FRIEND! Any questions please contact us. We would love to answer your questions. Ann Smetana 715-896-1249; Beth Bue 715-896-0823; Terrie Stevens 715-257-0097.

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**RADIO BROADCASTS**

JUNE 27 In honor of Peter Hoffman whose birthday

 was on June 28, Sponsored by his wife

 Jone.

JULY 4 Sponsored by David Shon in honor of the

 4th of July Holiday. **SUNDAY SCHOOL FUND**

Anonymous

JULY 25 In memory of Jeannine Uhrig who passed

 Away 6 yeard ago on June 18, 2015

 Sponsored by Bob Uhrig **PRAYER GROUP FUND**

**In Memory Of:**

***Dorothy Gearing***.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Anonymous, and Terry Stevens.

**UNDESIGNATED FUND**

**In Memory Of**

***Dorothy Gearing***

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends

of the following members of our church family who

passed away recently: **Grants**

 ***Elaine Ott*** The Board of Trustees of the Wisconsin

 ***June 9, 2021***  Annual Conference has awarded the

 BRFUMC with a $15,000 Groat Rural Ministry

***Dorothy Gearing*** Grant. These monies will be used in part for

 ***June 14. 2021*** carpeting replacement, energy efficient lighting,

And sound and streaming issues.

***Lorraine Leffingwell***

 ***July 24, 2021* Fleece Blankets**

The Youth will be making Fleece Blankets

for the homeless on August 18th. Contact

 Suzanne Goldsmith with any questions at

715-896-0224 or Terrie Stevens at

715-2570097.

 We are also hoping to gather 100 Christmas

Stockings for the homeless in St. Paul. Any

old or new ones will be appreciated.

**Welcome to New Staff**

Welcome to **Heather Holcomb** who has been

selected to be the Financial Secretary of the church, taking over for Theresa Paul.

Welcome to **Kathleen Peterson** who is our

new organist and piano player//organist

**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.**

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**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 Dan will pass the information to our Caring Meal Crew.**

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 **PRAYER FAMILIES FOR AUGUST**

AUG 1 Kristie & Howard Gomer

 Jennifer and Abigail Hill

 Ashley Huber

 Jennifer & Lance Leisgang

**AUGUST 18TH**: August Summer Gathering for Samuel, Rogsatd & Faith

 6th-12th grades. Hang-out and make fleece blankets

 with Terri Stevens. (See Page 4.) AUG 8 Jennifer Meyer

**SEPTEMBER 8TH:** First night of weekly youth Marguerite Paulin

 group 5:30-6:30pm. Jim, Debra & Joshua Ward

**SEPTEMBER 12TH**: Open House for 6th grade Mitchel & Garret Gjeresth

 youth and their parents. Check out the program and

 get paperwork in youth rooms. Further information AUG 15 Richard Hiliker

 will be sent in the mail. Russ & Amy Hunter, Karsten

**SEPTEMBER (TBD):** Supper and outdoor movie & Zowie

night at the house of Rod and Katrina McGillvray. Marlene Meyer

Postcards will be mailed, Questions should be Todd & Lisa Perry, Jackson

addressed to: & Lauren

 Suzanne Goldsmith

 Youth Director 715-896-0224 AUG 22 Emily Ward

  Nancy Hinds

 Tammy Millis

 Patrick & Diane Moe

 AUG 29 Rose Moldenhauer

 Harley & Kathy Boehm

 Daniel & Jocelyn Brauner

 Edward & Vione Brauner

**Children’s Ministry**

**CARNIVAL EXTRAVAGANZA**

**COME ONE, COME ALL TO CARNIVAL EXTRAVAGANZA!**

Mark your calendars for the 1st day of Sunday School, September 12!!!! All children **3 years old to 7th grade** are invited to our Sunday School Program. Registration forms will be available to fill out while the children are playing games and having fun. Watch for more info via Facebook, email, and mail!

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.

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, by the Church Office, and by the Youth Rooms for the ink cartridges and cell phones

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**A note from the Treasurer:**

After serving this church as Treasurer for more than 25 years, Jill Prochaska has retired. Her experience and excellence in this office is well noted. And at times missed.

I thank you for your support, and most especially your patience in this interim learning period. If you experience any issues or problems concerning my office, please feel free to bring them to my attention as soon as possible so those issues may be resolved.

*Daniel Brauner, Treasurer*

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

**“An Arrow from Nowhere”**

August 2

William the Conqueror may have conquered England during the Norman Invasion of 1066, but he never conquered his own appetites. He was ruthless, harsh, wrathful—and always hungry. He grew so stout that his coffin proved too small for him, and on his death, attendants had trouble stuffing the corpse into place. It eventually burst open during the effort.

His son Rufus moved quickly to seize the throne. He inherited all his father’s vices and none of his virtues. He is remembered as one of history’s worst men. He was officially William II, but commonly called Rufus because of his red hair, or, as some say, his red face. He had reason to be red-faced. His cruelty was sadistic, and he derived perverse pleasure by watching animals tortured and innocent men subjected to screaming degrees of pain.

Rufus was incorrigible. Once while recovering from a severe illness he vowed never to become a good man. His sexual appetite was unquenchable. It was said he rose a worse man every morning and lay down a worse man every night.

Rufus passionately hated Christ, Christianity, and the clergy. His profane and blasphemous words continually shocked his contemporaries. He plundered churches, robbing them of their offerings and treasuries. He sold church positions to the highest bidder. He kept the Archbishop of Canterbury vacant before finally appointing good Anselm to the office. And he converted sacred cemeteries into royal parks to satisfy his thirst for hunting.

It was this last indiscretion that took his life. He had seized land for a hunter’s paradise called New Forest. On August 2, 1100, while hot on the chase, he was struck by a powerful arrow that flew from nowhere. He died quickly, and to no one’s sorrow. No church bells tolled, no prayers were said for him, no alms given in his memory, no monuments built to his name. His eternal damnation was taken for granted by England. His younger brother Henry reigned in his stead.

Send your sharp arrows through enemy hearts and make all nations fall at your feet. During the fighting a soldier shot an arrow without even aiming, and it hit Ahab where two pieces of his armor joined. Dogs licked Ahab’s blood off the ground, just as the Lord had warned. Psalm 45:5; 1 Kings 22:34a, 38b



**Black River Falls**

**United Methodist Church**

**100 North Fourth Street**

**Black River Falls, Wisconsin**

**54615**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**August, 2021**