

# THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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

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OCTOBER 2018

## “Shaped by the Spirit”



*St. Francis of Assisi found his spiritual center among nature, the birds of the air and the lilies of the fields. St. Julian of Norwich experienced visions of Jesus through intentional solitude and private prayer.*

In past centuries, people sought God’s abiding presence through worship (often more than once a week), through seeking to live in simplicity, by choosing to live in spiritual communities like Taize’ or in monastic or Benedictine communities. All of these were tools employed to help people remain in God’s presence so that their lives might be “shaped by the Spirit.”

Those who desired to live their lives in God’s direction were *intentional* in their faith practices.

But we live in a very different world today. We are so busy, have so many commitments and responsibilities. We have places to go, people to see, things to do, which leaves little, if any time to focus on our spiritual needs. And whether we realize it or not, we do have spiritual needs. When we stay in touch and in tune with God, we find more peace of mind and heart in the midst of a restless world that seems less peace-filled each day. St. Augustine once said, “*God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you.*” If peace of mind and heart are what you long for, you may want to seek out the spiritual practice that will speak to your need to remain in God’s presence.

You may find spiritual energy in a small, intimate group like the *Companions in Christ* group. You may prefer going it alone, seeking a deeper relationship with the divine in quiet contemplative prayer, through meditation or prayerful walking. Regardless of how you seek to be shaped by the Spirit on a personal level, the need for prayer, worship, community, fellowship and spiritual growth is shared by all Christians.

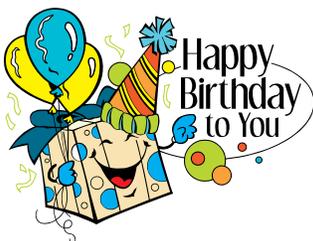
Whatever your spiritual practices, prayer is an essential tool if you are looking to deepen your relationship with God. Is there a correct format or formula for prayer? Absolutely not, just speak from your heart and God will hear you. Or listen to music that leads you into God’s presence. Or read a passage of Scripture and then spend 3-5 minutes contemplating what you read. Fasting is another method. Try fasting from electronics for 30 minutes to an hour. The point is, the form of prayer is personal, you need to discover what speaks to your spirit.

Why is it important that we form spiritual practices? Because spiritual practices have the power to nourish your soul, sustain you through life’s challenges, and keep you in an intimate relationship with God.

*May God Bless Us As We Continue the Journey,*

*Pastor Kathy*





- OCT 2 Marin Stowe
- OCT 3 Stacy Brown
- OCT 4 Nancy Burchard
- OCT 5 Gertrude Bue  
Jone Hoffman
- OCT 6 Michelle Kapfer
- OCT 7 Jake Ernst  
Rich Lee  
Larry Nemece
- OCT 8 Lorraine Leffingwell
- OCT 9 Marlene Meyer
- OCT 11 Todd Gates
- OCT 13 Ruth Buswell  
Jim Harmer  
Beth Pfaff
- OCT 17 Don Stender
- OCT 18 Janet Gilbertson
- OCT 20 Jaryd Bailey
- OCT 25 Gary Shankey
- OCT 26 Elaine Know  
Bob Lind  
Jackson Perry
- OCT 27 Amelia Hoffman  
Dennis Melichar
- OCT 30 Garret Gjersest
- OCT 31 Darrin Boehm



- OCT 4 Mark & Amy Hoffman  
Tyler & April Schoolcraft
- OCT 6 Grant & Geri Allen
- OCT 9 Dave & Rita Casper
- OCT 15 Barry & Karolyn Gjersest
- OCT 16 Dan & Virginia Berger
- OCT 20 Dave & Kae Dettinger
- OCT 28 Jason & Kristin Breining  
Leroy & Sarah Wiersma



**Good Neighbor Day is October 20**  
**Invest your time to meet your neighbor's need**

The Mission Outreach Committee invites you to participate in the church's annual Good Neighbor Day on Saturday morning, October 20. Participants are asked to meet at the church office parking lot at 8:00 a.m. where work and team assignments will be determined. Included in the morning's activities will be leaf raking, yard work, and window washing to help our area neighbors get ready for winter. Participants are asked to bring window cleaning supplies, rakes, leaf blowers, gloves, and a small step ladder. For more information, please call 715-896-0447.

**YOUR UMC CHURCH NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ONLINE ON OUR WEBSITE—[brfumc.org](http://brfumc.org)—OR WE CAN EMAIL IT TO YOU. CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR MORE DETAILS (715-284-4114).**



## United Methodist Women – Sacred Spaces: Encounters with God and Neighbor

The calendar says that fall has officially arrived, and today it feels as if that is true. These cool fall days bring renewed energy to complete the necessary end of summer and end of garden chores. Let's make use of the fall's renewed energy to add to our UMW participation.

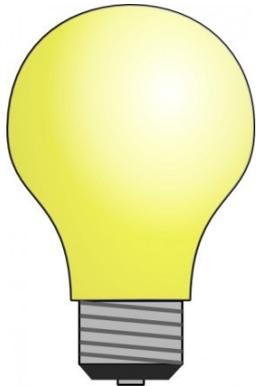
Thank you to our local members who have completed terms on the North Central District UMW Leadership Team. At the District UMW Annual Gathering on Sept. 15, Luane Meyer was recognized for her four years on the Leadership Team as Mission Coordinator for Social Action. Carol Hornby completed a four-year term as Secretary after four years as Secretary of Program Resources and a term on Nominations. Official recognition was delayed because Carol has accepted another term on Nominations. Carol Anderson completed a two-year term as President of the Leadership Team. Recognition was delayed because she has accepted a term on Nominations.

Also at the Annual Gathering Lyn Gates was installed for a two-year term as Secretary for the Leadership Team. Thank you, Lyn for sharing your time and continuing Black River Falls' representation on the team.

It is the season when our Nominations Committee will be looking for local leadership. When you are contacted, please give prayerful consideration to accepting more responsibility for UMW. The unit is only strong because of the contributions of many. Be a part of that strength.

### Dates to Remember:

- October 1: Circle of Hope at 1:30 PM at the church  
Circle of Faith at 5:30 PM at the Mocha Mouse, upstairs
- October 28: UMW Sunday



### Keep the "Lights On" in the Church Fundraiser

For a donation of \$40 per day you can help with the operating costs of the church and help "keep the lights on in the church". As we all know, money is tight, but we don't want programs to be discontinued because of a lack of funds. To help with the expenses of the day-to-day operations of the church, we are giving our friends and members a chance to help by underwriting the cost of electricity!.

#### Here's how it works:

1. Check the calendar on the table in the Gathering Area, pick a date (or dates) that are available, and write your name on it.
2. Write your check to "United Methodist Church" for \$40 x the number of days you chose.
3. Place your check in one of the envelopes provided.
4. Drop the envelope in the box on the table in the Gathering Area, put it in the offering plate, or mail it to the church.
5. Thank you for helping to keep the "lights on" and our programs going in the church!!

## RADIO BROADCASTS

SEPT 9

Sponsored by the United Methodist Women



Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Bernice Moldenhauer** who passed away on September 22, 2018.



**September 29, 2018**

**Trent Starcevich and Susan Voskuil**



### SUNDAY SCHOOL FUND

**In Memory Of:**

**Jayden Gjersest** from Jim & Lori Scharlau

### AVAILABLE: FOR A DONATION:

Metal office desk with center drawer and side drawers. In good condition. Can be seen in the church office. Contact Jill or Theresa for more information. 715-284-4114.



Our Church Family Night menu for the month of October. All are welcome to come and enjoy a meal with your church family!:

#### October 3

Macaroni & Cheese  
Raw Veggies/Dip  
Rolls  
Desserts  
Beverages

#### October 10

Hamburger Bar  
Baked Beans  
Chips  
Desserts  
Beverages

#### October 17

Spaghetti with Meat Sauce  
Garlic Toast  
Desserts  
Beverages

#### October 24

Baked Potato Bar  
Lettuce Salad  
Desserts  
Beverages

#### October 31

No Meal—Happy Halloween!!

Every week there will be hot dogs and peanut butter/jelly also available. A free-will offering of \$4.00 per person or a maximum of \$10.00 per family **if possible** will be taken to cover the cost of the food. You are invited to come whether you can pay or not. Don't let the cost stop you from coming.

Volunteers are needed for cleaning up the kitchen and Fellowship Hall each week, as well as for furnishing bars or cookies for dessert each week. Please be willing to take your turn to help continue this program.





**Matthew 19:14: But Jesus said, “Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children.**

Just a reminder! Sunday School will begin at 9:20 a.m. and end at 10:15 a.m. (Children are encouraged to attend church with their families at 9:00 a.m. They will be dismissed to go to Sunday School following the Children’s Message). **The Sunday School classrooms are unsupervised until 9:20 a.m. Please remain with your child until an adult arrives.**

The Carnival Extravaganza was so much fun! Seeing so many faces with smiles makes my heart so full. God IS GOOD! Thanks to everyone who helped in any way at the carnival. Events like these cannot happen without volunteers!

October is when the Rotation Model Sunday School will begin. This is a way to teach Bible Stories and concepts through child-friendly, creative, and interactive areas. The name of our rotation is JAM, Jesus and Me. The children will rotate to a different area each week: Creation Station (Art), Sunday’s Diner (Cooking), Godly Games (Games), and Hollywood (Stories/Music). They will focus on one story for 4 weeks. Our first rotation is “RESPECT.” Rotation Leaders do not rotate, but stay in one place, preparing one lesson (with some age-appropriate modifications) for the four week rotation. All children will begin in the Hollywood Room and be dismissed to their rotation. The Hollywood Room is located downstairs by the elevator.

**VOLUNTEERING: We are in need of volunteers. You can serve as a rotation leader, a helper, or a substitute. Contact Beth if you are willing to volunteer!**

**FAMILY SUNDAY:** The third Sunday of each month has been designated as Family Sunday. Our first Family Sunday is **October 21**. All Sunday School children will participate in the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service. Pre-K children and 4th graders will receive their Bibles. 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! Like our Facebook page Black River Falls Sunday School to see photos of our activities.

Check out the kiosk (located in the Gathering Area) and the church’s website, [www.brfumc.org](http://www.brfumc.org), for photos and other information.

### Mark Your Calendars:

- **Sunday, December 2** for an Advent Extravaganza!!!! This event is open to everyone and will be held in the Fellowship Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (You will have plenty of time to get home for the Packers game!) Watch for more info in the upcoming bulletins, newsletters, and announcements!
- **Sunday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m.** for the annual Christmas Program.

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

OCT 2	Avery Brooks
OCT 15	Kristian Hoffman
OCT 18	Matthew Becker
OCT 21	Megan Gartner
OCT 27	Kaylee Peterson
OCT 29	Brody Staszak





### UPOMING YOUTH WEDNESDAYS:

- October 3: Youth 6-7 p.m.  
 October 10: Youth 6-7 p.m.  
 October 17: Youth 6-7 p.m.  
 October 24: Youth 6-7 p.m.  
 October 31: Trunk or Treat in the church parking lot

### YOUTH 2019:

A group of youth and leaders will be traveling to Kansas City next July for a National Youth Gathering. We will be traveling by bus and staying in a hotel. While there, we will be in fellowship with other middle and high school UMC youth from around the United States.

We will be fundraising to help offset our cost of the trip. Our first fundraiser will be an **APPLE DESSERT SOCIAL** after worship on Sunday October 21. There will be a free-will offering.

Contact Suzanne Goldsmith 715-896-0224 with any questions.

## Food For More Challenge Is On

It's always good to help our neighbors in need, but the **best time** to help is **NOW!** This is the best time to help the 1 in 5 children or 1 in every 6 of our neighbors who struggle with hunger. Every dollar you donate to Friends Sharing Food between **September 20** and **November 1** will be matched by Feed My People Food Bank with one pound of free food. This is like doubling your donation!

Write your check to **Friends Sharing Food** and write "**Match Challenge**" on the memo line. Send your check to:

Friends Sharing Food  
 P.O. Box 344  
 Black River Falls, WI 54615

Your donation will help support all four local Friends Sharing Food programs: Friends' Food Shelf, Jackson County Food Pantry, Neighborhood Food Pantry, and Food for Kids.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of Friends Sharing Food!



## PRAYER FAMILIES FOR OCTOBER

OCT 7	Rhoda Gulso Jim & Andrea Hoffman David & Gail Jelinek Marilyn McKeeth
OCT 14	David & Sherry Olson Bob & Clarice Rush Bob Uhrig Jaryd Bailey
OCT 21	Verland, Selena & Cole Casper Larry & Sue Gaede Jackie Hagen Mark, Amy, Alex & Kristian Hoffman
OCT 28	Jim & Jill Kaphengst Chelsey Meinking Joan Onstad Bill & Clarice Salsbery



**Trunks are Needed for  
TRUNK OR TREAT  
Wednesday, October 31  
from 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
BRF United Methodist Church  
Parking Lot**

Trunk or Treat is a Halloween event where people gather and park their vehicle in a parking lot, open their trunks or backs of vehicles, decorate them and pass out treats from their trunks. This event provides a safe family environment for trick or treaters. Park and Decorate 3:00-4:30 p.m.; Trunk or Treat 5:00-7:00 p.m.; 7:15 p.m. exit the parking lot.

(For the safety of children no vehicles will be allowed to enter or exit the lot until the event is over.)

If you are interested in hosting a trunk, please contact Beth Bue at [snoballbue.65@gmail.com](mailto:snoballbue.65@gmail.com), 715-284-7494, or 715-896-0823. Please reserve your spot by Monday, October 22. If you're unable to host a trunk but would like to donate candy for this event, please bring it to the church and place it in the orange bin in the Gathering Area.

**FALL INTO THE HABIT OF BUYING WITH SCRIP**

Have you developed the habit of buying with Scrip? Do you understand what it is and how it works? Even though we've had the Scrip program for a number of years now, you may not have tried it out. And we'd like to invite you to do so and then perhaps "fall" into the habit of buying with Scrip. It's a great fundraiser for BRF United Methodist Church!



It doesn't cost you a cent to use Scrip. You pay by cash or check to purchase a Scrip (gift) card, for the business(es) of your choice from the Scrip table before or after worship. Then you simply use that gift card to pay for your purchases when you shop. The business gives us a discount when we purchase the gift cards. And that's where we get our profit ... from the business, not you. But you can help us earn those profits when you purchase and use the Scrip (gift) cards from BRF UMC. Make sense? If it doesn't, don't worry. Just stop in the office or at the Scrip table when you are here for worship on Sunday, and we can explain it to you a little better.

Give it a try! It's an awesome program, simple to use, and a great way to "give a little more" to your church without spending a penny of your own money.

We have Scrip cards in stock for Kwik Trip, Hansen's IGA, Perkins, Walmart/Sam's Club, area gas stations, lots of area restaurants, and more!



**Finance Update**

We have just completed our **KETCHUP** Month in September and I would like to thank everyone who gave donations to bring their pledges up-to-date. Also, special thanks to those who gave over and above their pledges to help us meet our budget for this year.

Through the end of September, your **KETCHUP** donations have totaled \$4,196.00!! It is NOT too late to give donations to help us **KETCHUP** on our budget. You can use the special envelopes that were in your bulletins or simply mark **KETCHUP** on your donation so we know where it goes. Your help is appreciated so much.

Wayne Bue  
Finance Committee Chair

*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 the Caring Meal Crew.

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.



**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

Our church is now 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.

To set up an account, use our unique charity link : <https://smile.amazon.com/ch39-1077829>, and you will automatically be asked if you want to support **Methodist 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!

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.



## APPLE DESSERT SOCIAL FUNDRAISER

Sunday, October 21  
10:15 a.m.  
in the Fellowship Hall

Come enjoy some delicious apple desserts with your coffee in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service. There will be a variety of goodies to choose from. A free-will offering will be taken.

Proceeds will go toward the YOUTH 2019 trip to Kansas City next summer for a National Youth Gathering.



## Chicken Barbecue

Sunday, October 7  
10:30 a.m.—Noon  
Fellowship Hall

Dine In or To Go

Menu: Grilled Chicken, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Roll, Dessert

1/2 Chicken Dinner—\$10.00

1/4 Chicken Dinner—\$8.00

Sponsored by the United Methodist Men's Group



## Van Etta Library

### BOOK REVIEW

The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell: a novel  
by Robert Dugoni

Sam Hill always saw the world through different eyes. Born with red pupils, he was called "Devil Boy" or Sam "Hell" by his classmates. "God's will" is what his mother called his ocular albinism. Her words were of little comfort, but Sam persevered, buoyed by his mother's devout faith, his father's practical wisdom, and his two other misfit friends.

Sam believed it was God who sent Ernie Cantwell, the only African American kid in his class, to be the friend he so desperately needed. And that it was God's idea for Mickie Kennedy to storm into Our Lady of Mercy like a tornado, uprooting every rule Sam had been taught about boys and girls.

Forty years later, Sam, a small-town eye doctor, is no longer sure anything is by design as he experiences tragedy that ends up taking him half way around the world.

Rhoda Gulso

#### **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!

#### **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE:**

Did you know that you can sponsor the Bulletins or the Radio Broadcast on a Sunday in memory or in honor of loved ones? The cost is:

- Bulletins—\$20.00 per Sunday
- Radio Broadcast—\$100.00 per Sunday

You can also provide Altar Flowers for a special Sunday. Please call Jill in the Church Office (715-284-4114) to schedule the Sunday of your choice.



# BRF UMC Calendar of Events—October 2018



## MONDAY, OCTOBER 1

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

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group  
4:30-6:00 p.m.—Church Family Night Meal  
5:15 p.m.—Confirmation  
5:30-7:00 p.m.—Companions in Christ Study  
6:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Group

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

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

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

8:30 a.m.—UM Men's Group Meeting

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service  
9:20 a.m.—Sunday School  
10:30-Noon—Chicken Q  
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

Pastor Kathy Day Off  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9

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

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

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  
5:30-7:00 p.m.—Companions in Christ Study  
6:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Group

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11

2:00 p.m.—Membership Monitoring Meeting  
6:00 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice  
7:00 p.m.—UMC Choir Practice

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service  
9:20 a.m.—Sunday School

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 15

Pastor Kathy Day Off  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group  
4:30-6:00 p.m.—Church Family Night Meal  
5:00-7:00 p.m.—Spirit! Practice  
5:15 p.m.—Confirmation  
5:30-7:00 p.m.—Companions in Christ Study  
6:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Group

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

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

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

8:00 a.m.—Good Neighbor Day

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service  
FAMILY SUNDAY  
COMMUNION  
10:15 a.m.—Apple Dessert Social Fundraiser

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 22

Pastor Kathy Day Off  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24

9:00 a.m.—Prayer Group  
4:30-6:00 p.m.—Church Family Night Meal  
5:15 p.m.—Confirmation  
5:30-7:00 p.m.—Companions in Christ Study  
6:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Group

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25

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

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

Confirmation Retreat

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service (UMW Sunday)  
9:20 a.m.—Sunday School

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 29

Pastor Kathy Day Off  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30

6:00 p.m.—Mission Outreach Meeting

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31

5:00-7:00 p.m.—Trunk or Treat in Parking Lot  
ALL ACTIVITIES CANCELLED



# OCTOBER