

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

"Serve, Teach, and Love As We Grow In Faith"

OCTOBER 2020

"For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing." – 2 Corinthians 2:15

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ at BRF,

Grace and peace be with you. I pray for all of you to be well amid the long difficult times. Nobody knows when this pandemic will end. Lately, as I take I-94 to go to church, what I see now is quite different from that of last month. Nature seems to not care about us- whose mind and hearts are struggling with COVID-19.



As you surely notice, it is autumn season and leaves fall on the ground all over town. We can't miss the beauty of fall colors which are the mixture of red, orange, yellow, and purple. I have always wondered how these autumn leaves change their colors. I have searched and figured out that this splendor of the fall is the result of chemical processes that take place in the tree as the seasons change from summer to winter.

According to an article of science I have read recently, during the spring and summer the leaves make food from sunlight and water so that the tree can grow. This food-making process takes place in the leaf in numerous cells containing 'chlorophyll,' which gives the leaf its green color. But in the fall, because of changes in the length of daylight and changes in temperature, the leaves stop their food-making process. The chlorophyll breaks down, the green color disappears, and the yellow to orange colors become visible.

At the same time other chemical changes may occur, which form additional colors through the development of red anthocyanin pigments. Some mixtures give rise to the reddish and purplish fall colors of trees such as dogwoods and sumacs, while others give the sugar maple its brilliant orange. The autumn foliage of some trees show only yellow colors. Others, like many oaks, display mostly browns. All these colors are due to the mixing of varying amounts of the chlorophyll residue and other pigments in the leaf during the fall season.

This changing colors of leaves remind me of the relationship with God. As we feed on God's Word and pray for God every day, we grow and get closer to God. And we can flavor the splendor of Jesus Christ through our lives to others as the leaves show green color. But if we lack God's Word and prayer, we gradually get further from God and lose its splendor and fall down. Although our outer lives may be gorgeous and prosperous, our inner lives could be dead or lukewarm.

We see the autumn leaves and its beauty, but it is not alive - it is dead. The leaves no longer grow and attach to the tree. It falls down and disappears. Just as the tree needs sunlight and water for its growth, so we need the light and water of our life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us dwell in Him.

Peace,

Rev. Inwha Shon
Pastor





OCT 2	Marin Stowe
OCT 4	Nancy Burchard
OCT 5	Gertrude Bue
	Jone Hoffman
OCT 6	Michelle Kapfer
OCT 7	Rich Lee
	Larry Nemec
OCT 8	Lorraine Leffingwell
OCT 9	Marlene Meyer
OCT 11	Todd Gates
OCT 13	Ruth Buswell
	Jim Harmer
OCT 17	Jim Earl
	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
	Kaylee Peterson
OCT 30	Garret Gjerseeth
OCT 31	Darrin Boehm
	Esther Shon



OCT 4	Mark & Amy Hoffman
	Tyler & April Schoolcraft
OCT 6	Grant & Geri Allen
OCT 9	Dave & Rita Casper
OCT 15	Barry & Karolyn Gjerseeth
OCT 16	Dan & Virginia Berger
OCT 20	Dave & Kae Dettinger
OCT 28	Jason & Kristin Breining
	Leroy & Sarah Wiersma
OCT 30	Pastor Inwha & Esther Shon



We will continue to have our Live Worship Service in the Sanctuary every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. We follow safe social distancing guidelines. Masks are required to be worn.

Sunday School begins at 9:15 a.m. Children are encouraged to attend worship with their parents. Following the Children's Message they will be dismissed to go to Sunday School.

For those who are unable to join us at our live worship service, we will continue to have Facebook Live and the radio broadcast on WWIS Radio 99.7 FM each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

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



To UMW Members and Friends,

Welcome to Fall! Although we are still in the midst of taking precautions against the pandemic, we have been able to open up some of our activities for fall. We had 15 members attend our fall picnic and we were happy to have Pastor Inwha and Esther join us. Following our delicious “brown bag suppers”, the program focused on the reality of COVID in our world but that we have the strength to meet the challenge and “create new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as the people have been healed.”



The September/October 2020 *response* featured articles on UMW groups around the world supporting their communities during the months of quarantines, lockdowns, and social distancing. UMW members have been active making face coverings in states and in countries around the world, making soap in the Republic of the Congo, opening a Community Kitchen in India while maintaining social distancing, and attending a virtual fundraiser Mother's Day Tea Party in Texas. UMW national mission institutions in Nome, Alaska; the Hattie B. Cooper Community Center in Roxbury, Massachusetts; Red Bird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky, along with many other agencies, continued to provide services and support to families, women and children in many states over the past several months. UMW putting faith, hope, and love into action

So what is coming up for UMW events?

October 17 – 2020 Wisconsin Conference UMW Virtual Annual Gathering

The theme of the conference is “Walking in the Light, United for Justice.” The conference is scheduled for Saturday, October 17, from 9am-Noon. A link to the conference will be posted at www.wisconsinumw.org I hope many of you have the opportunity to participate from the comfort of your home.

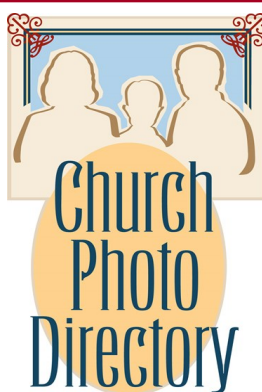
October 25 – UMW Sunday at which time we will recognize those who are recipients of our Special Mission Recognition. Special Mission Recognition is a part of our annual United Methodist Women Sunday. Members from our congregation selected to be recognized have volunteered their time and talents and demonstrated their faith through their work towards missions and projects within our church and in the greater Jackson County community.

At this time we have not made a decision on if or how the Cookie Walk will be held this year. We are considering different options on how we could offer a safe environment for customers and workers. We will keep you informed as we move forward.



Please let us know . . .

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



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Lifetouch Photography Company has been forced to shut down for several months in an attempt to keep their employees safe. Because of this shutdown, they are way behind on filling the orders of churches, like ours, who had photographs taken just before the pandemic.

Thank you so much to everyone for being patient. We will let you know as soon as the directories are received and when you can pick them up.





Erica Olson and Dominick Gentry
September 5, 2020

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sept. 27

In memory of Iris Holder, whose birthday was September 28, given by her family.



SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE FUND

In Memory Of:

Dan McKeeth from Chuck & Ruth Buswell
Loretta and Richard Charneski from their family.
Larry Gaede from Carla Drecktrah Nielsen

In Honor Of:

Marilyn McKeeth from Chuck & Ruth Buswell.

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.



Finance Update

January 1, 2020-August 31, 2020

General Fund:

Budgeted Income: \$200,765.50

Budgeted Expenses: \$192,803.22

Actual Income: \$158,890.50

Actual Expenses: \$136,111.77

All expenses are paid in full to date.
Four payments have been made to the Conference for apportionments to date.

Many thanks to everyone for their continued financial support

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!





**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.**

The first two Sundays of Sunday School have gone well. We are following safety guidelines closely. In September, Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st grade started learning about the book of Genesis and the Creation story. They will continue those two themes into October.

The 2nd -5th grade classes are using a curriculum, Bible Sleuth. The students will be learning techniques on how to find a book in the Bible, names of the books in the Bible, and the list goes on. When a student completes all of the curriculum sheets they will receive an award and prize.

All classes will also be doing Fall activities, learning to always "Be-leave" in Jesus and ways to "Fall" in love with Jesus.

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, for photos and other information.

Just a reminder! Sunday School will begin at 9:15 a.m. (after the Children's Message in worship) and end at 10:00 a.m. (Children are encouraged to attend worship with their families at 9:00 a.m. They will be dismissed to go to Sunday School following the Children's Message). All teachers and children will meet in the Gathering Area to go to their assigned classrooms.

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 21	Mason Jessen
OCT 23	James McCullough
OCT 24	Wesley McCullough
OCT 29	Brody Staszak

COLDTOBER COLLECTION

With colder weather just around the corner, Terrie Stevens is organizing a collection of needed items for homeless people.



Donations for the Homeless

Items being collected are: new or gently used socks, mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and jackets. Donations may be put in the orange container in the Gathering Area.

Questions? Contact Terrie Stevens
at 715-257-0097.



Donate Gloves & Scarves



The first few weeks of Youth Group have gone well. Our meetings will continue as long as school continues to meet in person. If school would move to all virtual learning, we will transition to Google hangouts for our virtual meeting. Let's continue our prayers that it will not come to this, but our plan is in place as a back-up plan.

We are excited and thankful that Pastor Inwha has joined us each week and is getting to know the youth.



Our October Meetings are:

October 7: 6-7 p.m.
 October 14: 6-7 p.m.
 October 21: 6-7 p.m.
 October 28: 6-7 p.m.

All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to join. If you have not received information about our youth group and would like to learn more, please contact me at: Suzanne Goldsmith 715-896-0224 or suziegoldsmith@hotmail.com.

Like us on Facebook, Black River Falls UMC Youth Group. Updated youth information is also available on the church website at www.brfumc.org.



PRAYER FAMILIES FOR OCTOBER

OCT 4	Pat & Judy Brauner Elroy & Jann Dahl Todd & Lyn Gates Marsha Harmer
OCT 11	Gil Homstad Lance, Jennifer & Faith Leisgang, Sam Rogstad Jennifer Meyer Larry, Karen, Joel & Jamie Pennekamp
OCT 18	Dave, Ann, Sophia & Lia Smetana Lovey Dambach Dorothy Gearing Ruth Hart
OCT 25	Jim & Carol Hornby Marlene Meyer Leyah & Brody Staszak Janet Gilbertson

A DAY JUST FOR YOU

Dear Women of Faith,

You are invited to share in the **Beloved Women's Online Conference**, a one-day event to be held on **Saturday, October 10, from 8:30a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall** of the church. Social distancing will be observed and masks will be worn as people are comfortable and desire. Lunch and beverages will be provided.

The day will be filled with speakers, worship, fellowship and more. The mission is to replenish the women who do so much for their families and communities so they can continue to build better futures for themselves and those they love and serve.

If you wish to participate in the conference, **RSVP by calling or texting Katrina McGillivray at 812-657-1290**. If you are not comfortable in a shared environment, you may register online at **Beloved Women Conference 2020** to participate privately.





Saturday, October 17
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
N. 4th St. Driveway
Drive Thru

Menu: 1/4 Grilled Chicken, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, & Roll

Cost: \$10.00 (Pay when you come for pick-up)

Pre-Order by calling 715-284-4114 (help give us an idea of how much chicken to order)

Proceeds will go toward extra expenses for the new sound/video equipment set-up and the General Fund Budget.



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.



After much prayer and discussion, our Trunk or Treat Committee has decided to **CANCEL** our annual **Trunk or Treat Event** that has been held in our back parking lot for the last three years. This decision was made following recommendations from the Wisconsin Department of Health regarding the Covid19 pandemic. We are disappointed to have to cancel this fun event! However, we want to do our part in keeping all the area trick-or-treaters safe.

Please stay tuned for information and details about our Trunk or Treat Event that will be held in October 2021!!!

BRF UMC Calendar of Events October 2020

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service
9:15 a.m.—Sunday School
10:15 a.m.—PreConfirmation
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

5:00 p.m.—Confirmation
5:00 p.m.—Spirit! Practice
6:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Group

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.—Women's Conference

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service
9:15 a.m.—Sunday School
10:15 a.m.—PreConfirmation

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

5:00- p.m.—Spirit! Practice
5:00 p.m.—Confirmation
6:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Group

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.—Drive Thru Chicken Q

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service
9:15 a.m.—Sunday School
10:15 a.m.—PreConfirmation

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

7:30 p.m.—Mission Outreach Zoom Meeting

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

5:00 p.m.—Confirmation
5:00 p.m.—Spirit! Practice
6:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Group

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

9:00 a.m.—Worship Service (UMW Sunday)
9:15 a.m.—Sunday School
10:15 a.m.—PreConfirmation

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

5:00 p.m.—Confirmation
5:00 p.m.—Spirit! Practice
6:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Group



What Happened On This Day in the History of Christianity?

The Fifteenth Point - October 1

Unity is essential among Christians, but unity does not mean uniformity; and one of the most remarkable patterns in church history is that God uses his church and blesses his children even when they disagree. History's first missionary team, Paul and Barnabas, argued over John Mark. Wesley and Whitefield were at odds over various points of theology. And the Reformers themselves, strong-willed men, crossed swords over, among other things, the nature of the Lord's Supper.

The Swiss Reformers, led by Ulrich Zwingli, insisted that the Lord's Supper was a memorial service, while the German Reformers, led by Martin Luther, insisted that Christ is actually present in the consecrated bread and wine.

The conflict was so sharp that a local political leader invited the men to his castle in Marburg on October 1, 1529. In the banquet hall a long table, covered with a velvet runner, sat in the middle of the room. Before the proceedings began, Luther reportedly took a piece of chalk and, on the cloth in front of him, wrote the words, "This is my body."

The debate raged for three days. Zwingli insisted that the verb "is" in the phrase "This is my body" should be interpreted as "represents." Luther said, "Where in the Bible does the verb 'is' ever mean 'represent'?" Zwingli showed him several places. But Luther wouldn't budge. At the end of the three-day conference, the delegates had agreed on 14 of 15 areas of former confusion.

But on the fifteenth—the Lord's Supper—they failed to reach agreement, and the Reformers were unable to join the German and Swiss factions. As a result, Zwingli lost the support of the German princes. The five Catholic Cantons of Switzerland sent an army against him, and he died in the Battle of Kappel. But nothing could stop the Reformers' fire, and despite the failure of the Marburg meetings, the doctrine of justification by grace through faith spread across the continent.

During the meal Jesus took some bread in his hands. He blessed the bread and broke it. Then he gave it to his disciples and said, "Take this. It is my body." Jesus picked up the cup of wine and gave thanks to God. He gave it to his disciples, and they all drank some. Then he said, "This is my blood, which is poured out for many people...."
- Mark 14:22-24

On This Day
by Robert J. Morgan

