

*Black River Falls*  
*United Methodist Church*  
100 North Fourth Street  
Black River Falls, Wisconsin  
Return Service Requested

# 2022

H A P P Y   N E W   Y E A R

INWHA SHON, PASTOR

Worship Service: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. (September - May)

Office Hours: 7:45am. - 3:45pm.  
Tuesday-Friday

Telephone: 715-284-4114

Website: [brfumc.org](http://brfumc.org)

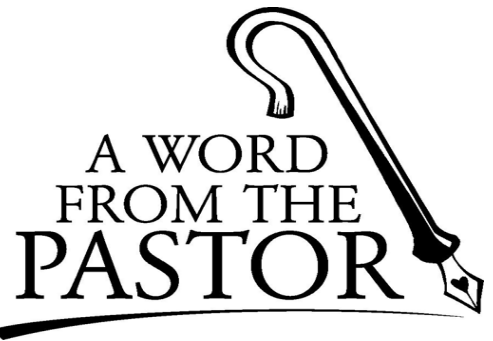
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THE BLACK RIVER  
FALLS  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH  
NEWSLETTER

*"Serve, Teach, and Love  
as We Grow in Faith"*

**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**NEWSLETTER, JANUARY 2022**  
**“Serve, Teach, and Love As We Grow In Faith”**

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at BRF, Happy New Year to dearly beloved people of God!

Another year has come to us. I hope that all of you had a wonderful Christmas Season with your family, even though the Covid pandemic is lasting longer than we expected.

I would like to thank God for giving this Christmas to us. As I have talked for a few weeks, Christmas is a time of celebration, salvation, and reconciliation. I do not doubt that all of you have enjoyed this best gift of God's love for us with your family and friends.

First of all, I, as a pastor of Black River Falls United Methodist Church, really appreciate that all of you have constantly prayed for and eagerly supported our church this past year in many areas in the midst of Covid pandemic and of transition. Without your commitments and love, we couldn't grow spiritually and stand firmly on the rock of faith, and do ministry for the Kingdom of God.

Of course, I don't deny that we experienced sadness and sufferings, but we also experienced good things, too. All these were under God's control, not our will. As Romans 8:28 says that *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose,"* we believe God's providence in our lives.

With the beginning of a new year, I want to ask all of you how your soul is now and also how you will make a journey toward renewal and eternity this year. What would you personally like to do for this goal? The apostle Paul said *"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day"* (2 Corinthians 4:16). We should be renewed by the life of the Holy Spirit. Are you experiencing spiritual renewal every day?

Our Christian life is not something that we can just glide through. Unlike our bodies that continue to mature on their own, time can't just promise our spiritual growth. To grow spiritually, we need to give our firm attention to our Christian growth. To have another successful year, I encourage all of you to hold on to Jesus Christ as the King of our own life and to set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Therefore, I invite you to read the Word of God every day and unceasingly pray in all occasions with gratitude and to joyfully worship God every Lord's Day altogether.

May the love and grace of the Lord fill all your life and family.

*Love,*

Pastor Rev. Inwha Shon





JAN 1	Elizabeth Lund
JAN 2	Jordan Hill
JAN 4	Renea Stoker
JAN 5	Ryan Nandory
JAN 6	James Kaphengst
	Mitchell Ammann
JAN 8	Krystle Goldsmith
	Abigail Ross
JAN 9	Timothy McCann
	Pamela Bue
JAN 10	Mary Van Gordon
	Norman Stoker
	Joel Pennekamp
JAN 11	Jennifer Liesgang
	Alexander Hoffman
JAN 16	Robert Nesbitt
	Mason Schultz
JAN 17	Jeffrey Hagenbrock
JAN 18	Dawn Arndt
JAN 19	James Hostrawser
JAN 20	Rhonda Ammann
JAN 21	Cooper Peterson
JAN 22	Allan Hostrawser
JAN 26	Megan Harelson
JAN 27	Sally Laubach
	Karsten Hunter
JAN 28	Jocelyn Brauner
JAN 30	Edward Nemec
	Dylan Hill
JAN 31	Greta Bible



### **YOUTH BIRTHDAYS**

JAN 2	Elizabeth Arndt
	Alice Christianson
JAN 3	Nolan Boehm
JAN 6	Ruth Ann Christianson
JAN 23	Olivia Caponigro



JAN 1	Jonas & Jessica Whitegull
JAN 19	Elroy & Jann Dahl



### ***PRAYER FAMILIES FOR JANUARY***

JAN 2	Geri Allen Kay Finch Robert & Selma Laubach Michael, Dana, Abigayle and Annaliese Rave
JAN 9	James, Debra and Joshua Ward Orville & Beth Amborn Megan & Mallory Finch Richard, Judy, Olivia & Maria Lee
JAN 16	Leslie & Linda Rhoades Emily & Harper Ward LeRoy & Kim Amborn Michael & :LuAnn Gaede
JAN 23	Lance, Jennifer, Faith Liesgang Samuel Rogstad Robert & Clarice Rush Lawrence & Catherine Whaley
JAN 30	Jessa Ammann Susan Gaede Robert & Kathy Lind William & Clarice Slasbery



The New Year is upon us. We are excited to see what 2022 brings to our youth group and church family.

One group that is fairly new and has exciting things planned for the upcoming year is the Circle of Grace. This new group is open to young women in 6th-12th grades. We meet on the third Monday of each month. A postcard reminder is sent. If you have not received information about this group, and would like to know more about it, please let Suzanne 715-896-0224 or Lyn Gates 715-896-2597 know and we will get you on the mailing list.

Another new addition we are trying to form is a group of musicians who would be interested in performing during Worship on Sundays. We will be talking more about this during youth group.

The Tech team at church is looking for youth to join them in helping with the computers/screens/Facebook during Worship on Sunday mornings. We will also be discussing this during youth group.

Youth Group regular meetings for January are as follows

January 5th NO YOUTH GROUP  
January 12th Youth group 6-7pm  
January 19th Youth group 6-7pm  
January 26th Youth group 6-7pm

We hope to see all the youth in 6th-12th grades on Wednesday nights starting of a fantastic year together.

If you have any questions, please call/text Suzanne 715-896-0224

Peace and Prayers  
Suzanne



**FINANCIAL REPORT - For the Eleven Months ended December 30, 2021**

	<b><u>YTD Balance</u></b>	<b><u>2021 YTD Budget</u></b>	<b><u>% of Budget</u></b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
Weekly Offerings	\$ 341,000.30	\$ 275,700.00	123.70%
Special Offerings	\$ 307.85	\$ 7,000.00	4.40%
Other Income	\$ 6,676.08	\$ 16,950.00	39.39%
Total	\$ 347,984.23	\$ 299,650.00	116.13%
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>			
Apportionments	\$ 21,228.00	\$ 42,456.00	50.00%
Programming	\$ 7,949.56	\$ 6,600.00	120.45%
Pastoral Support	\$ 113,348.04	\$ 114,295.00	99.17%
Program & Support Staff	\$ 71,000.26	\$ 78,800.00	90.10%
Operations	\$ 51,188.01	\$ 60,782.00	84.22%
Total	\$ 264,713.87	\$ 302,933.00	87.38%
Difference	\$ 83,270.36	\$ (3,283.00)	

2021 was an interesting year. Income year-to-date is \$347,984 while expenses year-to-date are \$264,714, leaving us a positive \$83,270. While income was over-budget by \$48,334. Expenses were under-budget by \$38,219. Both issues are due to several factors including positions on church staff which are not filled; programs which were scaled back at the church due to Covid-19 and continued giving by our members in excess of pledges. The church did pay \$21,228 in apportionments (6 months), for the year, which is 50% of the requested amount. This is better than the church has done in the recent past.

As of December 31, the church has received pledges for 2022 in the amount of \$193,737, which is 83.1% of total budgeted pledges of \$228,000. Of the total pledges for 2022, \$52,587 has been received in 2021.

We start the new year with great anticipation for further financial blessings. Please continue to pray for our church, it's Spiritual growth, financial success and new membership. God Bless



TO UMW Members and Friends:

For women to be active in ministry in the 1800's, they were involved in teaching and healing. Clementine Butler and Lois Parker, wives of Methodist missionaries in India, were the moving force in founding the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Isabella Thorburn and Dr. Clara Swain then became the first missionaries who opened a school and medical clinic in 1870. More women continued to respond to Jesus' call as they ventured into new neighborhoods, learning new languages, encountering new customs, speaking, working and traveling. It was a leap of faith.

Today, 150 plus years later, BRF UMW and fellow members around the world ask this question as we move into 2022,. ***"How can we be as creative and effective as our foremothers in leaving a strong women's mission organization and the means to provide for the needs of women, children, and youth long after we are gone?"***

This question and thoughts in this message come from our National UMW President, 'Ainise 'Isama'u in the January/February 2022 **response** magazine. It gives us all pause as we look at the needs, concerns, and yes, progress in care for families locally and around the world. May we, as the BRF unit, continue to do what we can to support women, children, and youth.

Wishing you all a blessed 2022,

Luane Meyer



When you are thinking of ideas for birthdays, or general gift giving, consider Scrip cards. Beside our most popular cards of Kwik Trip, Hansen's and Wal-Mart, we also carry Applebee's, Arby's, Olive Garden, Buffalo Wild Wings, Panera (Darden restaurants), and Texas Roadhouse. We also have Barnes & Noble, Kohl's, Target, Bath and Body, Culver's, Revolution, Starbucks and Amazon.com. This is just a few of what we have. There are many others that can be special ordered. If your gift recipients don't

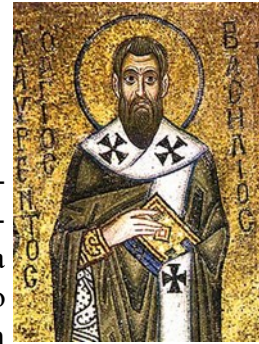
live near you we may have retailers in their area. For example, Meijer's, Albertson's, Cub Foods, Cheesecake Factory, Outback Steakhouse, Land's End, Best Buy, Bass Pro Shop, Cabela's, Home Depot, L.L. Bean. The list goes on and on. Stop at the desk at church on Sundays to see the full list or call me (Marcia) at 715-284-3346 and I will see if we can help.



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

### **Famous or Faithful?**

January 2



“Not many of you came from important families,” Paul told the Corinthians. Not many, perhaps, but some—like the one born three centuries after Christ in a wealthy Christian home in Caesarea of Cappadocia (Turkey). His parents named him Basil, meaning *Kingly*. They sent him to the finest schools in Constantinople and Athens, and Basil graduated with honors. He thought highly of himself and returned home dreaming of becoming great in public life. But his sister, who led him to faith in Christ, counseled humility. “It’s better to be faithful before God,” she insisted, “than famous before men.”

Basil craved a quiet life of study, prayer, and writing. He settled along the bank of the Iris River on the family estate, preaching to and helping the poor. But his stature was already so great that Emperor Julian the Apostate, though a fierce opponent of Christianity, tried to recruit him as advisor. Basil declined.

But he couldn’t refuse the appeal of his own bishop, Eusebius, who warned that the church faced both imperial attacks from without and dangerous heresy from within. Basil left his quiet retreat to spend the rest of his life in public ministry. He championed orthodoxy, preaching and writing brilliant messages on the nature of Jesus Christ and the composition of the Trinity.

In 370, Basil succeeded Eusebius and proved himself a gifted bishop who organized the ministries of the church. Using his own fortune, Basil founded a hospital, perhaps the first in Christian history, for the care of lepers. He was a kind man, often personally treating the diseased. Basil’s complex of churches, schools, hospitals, hostels, monasteries, and almshouses outside Caesarea became a town within itself called Basiliad. His rules for monks and monasteries are used to this day in the Greek church.

Worn out before his fiftieth year, Basil died on January 1, 379. News spread like wildfire the next day, and he was mourned deeply. He is remembered every **January 2**, which is designated in Western tradition as the Feast Day of St. Basil the Great.

Everyone should be humble toward everyone else. The Scriptures say, “*God opposes proud people, but he helps everyone who is humble.*” Be humble in the presence of God’s mighty power, and he will honor you when the time comes. 1 Peter 5:5,6.

Morgan, Robert J., *On This Day*

# JANUARY