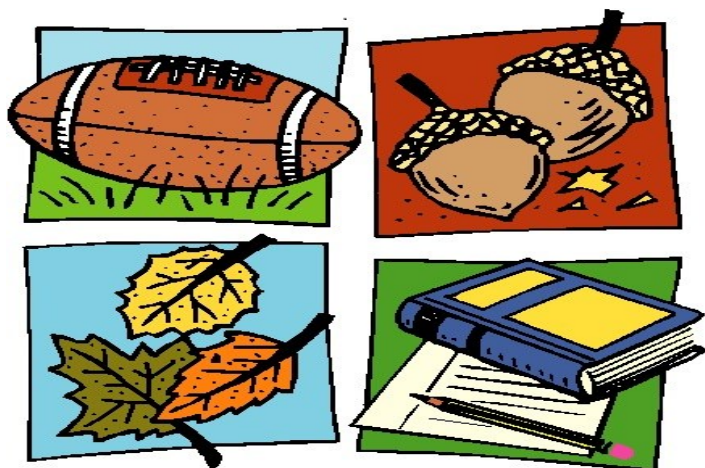


*Black River Falls*  
*United Methodist Church*  
100 North Fourth Street  
Black River Falls, Wisconsin  
54615



# September

**INWHA SHON, PASTOR**  
Worship Service: 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. (September - May)  
Office Hours: 7:30a.m. - 3:30p.m.  
Tuesday-Friday  
Telephone: 715-284-4114  
Website: [brfumc.org](http://brfumc.org)  
"Like" us on Facebook: Black River Falls United Methodist Church

**THE BLACK RIVER**  
**FALLS**  
**UNITED**  
**METHODIST**  
**CHURCH**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
*"Serve, Teach, and Love  
as We Grow in Faith"*

**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**NEWSLETTER, September 2021**  
**"Serve, Teach, and Love As We Grow In Faith"**



*"I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me." - Philippians 3:12*

Grace and peace be with all in Black River Falls communities:

I hope everyone has had a wonderful and joyful summer. It's hard to believe summer is almost gone. It seems as if we have experienced two summers, though. On one hand, with the lifting of the restrictions for Covid-19, many people went on vacation, to camps and other summer activities. On the other hand, consequently, a lot of people tested positive for Covid-19 because of their exposure to and contact with unvaccinated people and/or the Delta Variant. All of us should be careful not to be exposed to the coronavirus at work, home, or at the church.

I  
t is interesting that the 2020 Olympics was held this year in Japan, despite severe opposition due to Covid-19. After many twists and turns, the Olympics finished. I believe most athletes were rewarded for their long preparation and efforts with prizes. Unfortunately, only a few athletes were rewarded with coveted Gold, Silver or Bronze medals, along with applause that will be long remembered. I applaud all the athletes for their commitment and endeavors, no matter what their achievement.

As you know, the goal of the Olympic Movement is to build a peaceful and better world by educating youth through participation in sports, practiced without discrimination of any kind. The Olympic spirit, requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity, and fair play.

By the way, the apostle Paul compares our spiritual journey to a marathon. Philippians 3:13-14: *"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."*

Our spiritual journey is a long-term marathon, not a sprint. A sprint is something that we can accomplish in a short term. But Paul said, he presses himself on toward the goal to win the prize. As you can imagine, most Olympians pressed themselves on toward their goal to win a medal. If they were there for any other reason, their efforts would have been in vain. They had their goal, which is the prize or the medal. Without that goal, they wouldn't have needed to work hard to accomplish their dream.

What is our goal in our spiritual life? It's God's calling for us to move heavenward in Christ Jesus. In other words, we are created to become like Jesus. Let us ask ourselves if we are ready to progress and finish the race, achieving our goal and finally receiving the prize that God has prepared for us in heaven.

I encourage all of you to press yourself on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called you heavenward to receive in Christ Jesus. God is watching over us. We all are created to please God. May God bless you to dream a big dream and to make it come true. Amen.

Pastor Rev. Inwha Shon

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SEPT 2	Jaida Decorah
SEPT 4	Leyah Staszak
SEPT 5	Bonnie Burnham
	Candy Christianson
	Jann Dahl
SEPT 6	Tom Epps
SEPT 9	Tyler Bue
SEPT 11	David Gjerseth
	Tyler Woods
SEPT 12	Pam Bjerke
SEPT 13	Orville Amborn
SEPT 15	Lois Epps
	Cathy Whaley
SEPT 17	Maria Lee
SEPT 18	Rod McGillivray
SEPT 23	Breanna Amborn
SEPT 24	Anne Boehm
SEPT 26	Cheryl Dolsey
	Dennis Farnsworth
	Bill Perry
SEPT 28	Georgia Earl
SEPT 29	Jill Prochaska
	Jim Talley



SEPT 5	Don & Charlene Galston
SEPT 7	Larry & Sharon Nemec
SEPT 8	Harley & Kathie Boehm
SEPT 15	Darrin & Anne Boehm
SEPT 20	Tyler & Michelle Kapfer
SEPT 21	Lance & Jennifer Leisgang
	Larry & Cathy Whaley
SEPT 23	Orv & Beth Amborn
SEPT 27	Ken & LuAnne Schoolcraft
SEPT 30	Jim & Jill Kaphengst
	Derek & Marcie Peterson

### YOUTH BIRTHDAYS:

SEPT 2	Ember Kapfer
	Ian Phillips
SEPT 3	Mackenzie Dougherty
SEPT 6	Tucker Peterson
SEPT 12	Maddison Jessen
SEPT 21	Channing Goldsmith
	Owen Zenz
SEPT 23	Brayden Olson
SEPT 28	Henry McCullough
SEPT 30	Erika Phillips

### 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 method of giving to your church!



## **DISCOVERING OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

Class 101: Discovering Our Church Family is the first of Black River Falls United Methodist Church's foundational classes. You were designed to be a part of a church family, and that's exactly what BRF UMC is intended to be—your family.

A healthy family has common beliefs, purposes, and commitment. That's why we want to share with you what we believe and where we're going.

Session 1: Our Purpose

Session 2: Our Strategy;

Session 3: Our BRF UMC 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. See you there

## **Cold Weather Items**

Believe it or not, it is time to think about cold weather. If you would like to help the homeless in St Paul as I am still collecting fleece. Each blanket needs 2 pieces 1 1/2 to 2 yds each.. Watch for fleece blanket making dates coming in October. Contact me if you have any cold weather items that you are willing to donate now. "Coldtober" will be held again in October. Also Christmas stockings new or gently used and are needed for Christmas outreach. Any ideas to reach our local homeless would be appreciated. Contact me with any questions at 715-257-0097 or [prayermatters517@gmail.com](mailto:prayermatters517@gmail.com)





### WHAT IS OUR *DARING FAITH* CAMPAIGN ALL ABOUT?

#### **It's Time to Build Spiritual Maturity**

During 10 weeks in September thru November, you'll be offered many opportunities designed to strengthen your faith, deepen your love, and build your character. We have a 6 weeks Devotional Guide for you to use.

*"Just as you excel in everything else -in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in earnestness, and in love, see that you also excel in the grace of giving." 6 Corinthians <sup>2</sup>:<sup>1</sup>*

#### **It's Time to Build Our New Daring Faith**

On Commitment Weekend, November 21, 2021, we'll attempt to raise the funds to build our "Daring Faith" through a giving commitment offering.

*"The company of the prophets said to Elisha, "Look, the place where we meet with you is too small for us!" 2 Kings 6:1*

#### **It's Time to Build Relationships in our Church Family**

We've designed a program for half our church family to make a personal visit to the other half of our church family. Warmly welcome your visitor when they arrive!

*"Encourage one another and build each other up..." 1 Thessalonians 5:11 "...they fellow-shipped from house to house..." Acts 4:46*

#### **It's Time to Build a Spirit of Thanksgiving!**

One night of the third week in November, we're planning to hold a free Thanksgiving Banquet for all who attend Black River Falls UMC.

*"Celebrate the Harvest Festival...by bringing a freewill offering in proportion to the blessing God has given you. Be joyful in the Lord's presence with your family..." Deuteronomy 16:10 -11 (GNT)*

***It's going to be the greatest 40 days in the history of our church!***

**FINANCIAL REPORT - For the Seven Months ended July 31, 2021**

	<b><u>YTD Balance</u></b>	<b><u>Annual Budget</u></b>	<b><u>% of Budget</u></b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
Weekly Offerings	\$ 175,864.10	\$ 275,700.00	63.8%
Special Offerings	\$ 112.27	\$ 7,000.00	1.6%
Other Income	\$ <u>3,115.58</u>	\$ <u>16,950.00</u>	<u>18.4%</u>
Total	\$ 179,091.95	\$ 299,650.00	59.8%
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>			
Apportionments	\$ 7,076.00	\$ 44,700.00	15.8%
Programming	\$ 4,563.73	\$ 6,600.00	69.1%
Pastoral Support	\$ 64,338.89	\$ 92,100.00	69.9%
Program Staff	\$ 43,817.64	\$ 93,266.00	47.0%
Operations	\$ <u>29,486.67</u>	\$ <u>51,100.00</u>	<u>57.7%</u>
Total	\$ <u>149,282.93</u>	\$ <u>287,766.00</u>	51.9%
Difference	\$ <u>29,809.02</u>	\$ <u>11,884.00</u>	

A Note from the Finance Chair:

Well we have made it through the summer and we were all hopeful that the fall would bring with it a renewed time to enjoy our church family together. With the looming Cove situation still holding on we once again find the need to reach out to all of our members and remind them if at all possible please keep sending in your contributions to the office if you are not able to attend church in person.

We do want to reassure everyone that we are staying current with all expenses and the usual income drop over the summer did not happen as we thought it might. We are looking forward to getting a Stewardship drive started here in the next month to see where we need to be for 2022 year. It is hard to believe that it is just around the corner.

Wayne Bue

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees oversees the care of church property. This committee is in charge of all physical aspects of the church. If you care how the church looks, this is the committee for you.. The UMC of BRF is always in need of willing committee members. Here is a prayer I was given a few years ago that I feel expresses how we should look at serving our church.

Thank you. Jim Bible, Board of Trustees Chairperson.

***God, I give you my mind, I give you my eyes, I give you my mouth.  
May I speak what you want me to say.***

***May I hear only your truth today and have the wisdom to reject that which is  
not true.***

***Here are my hands. May they be used to build your kingdom.***

***Here are my feet, God. Lead me to where you want me to go.***

***Help me to do what you want me to do.***

***Here I am, God. Send Me! Amen***



## CADET CLUB

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Cadet Club, (Youth group grades 3-5), will not start in September 2021 as planned.

Please watch the newsletter and church bulletin for information regarding when it will restart.

Thank you, and God Bless  
Terrie , Ann and Beth.



## PRAYER FAMILIES FOR SEPTEMBER

SEPT 5	Basil & A.J. Holder Rich & Judy Lee Dennis Melichar
SEPT 12	Joan Zenz Sylvia, Rachel & Amelia Crocker
SEPT 19	Don & Charlene Galston Jim Harmer Jim Holt
SEPT 26	Sharon Melichar Marge Paulin LeRoy & Fran Simonson Ann Zillmer

To Friends and Members of UMW,

Fall is upon us and UMW is ready to gather friends and members together for several upcoming events with a focus on fellowship, devotions and community. UMW extends an invitation to all women and young women 6-12<sup>th</sup> grades in the church to join us for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual fall picnic which will be Monday, September 13. We will meet at 5:30pm at the large shelter at the Lunda Community Park. If you need transportation, give me a call at 715-284-9839. Bring a "supper of your choice" and beverage and join in this special evening gathering.

After our meal, we will join in devotions on Soul-Care, an opportunity to hear how we can experience a deeper understanding of how the spirit resides within us. Following devotions, we will settle into a program on Self-Care with Laura Lindow.

We have made the decision to place the Cookie Walk on hold for 2021. This will give us the opportunity to plan additional events so watch for details in the church and UMW newsletters on upcoming fundraisers beginning in October to support our mission donations and also on gatherings where we will work on projects to be donated to local family serving agencies and organizations. We are also working on making our monthly circle programs available on-line for those who might find that this option will allow them the opportunity to participate. We look forward to welcoming many of you to these events.

UMW looks forward to sharing fellowship with all of you. Blessings to each of you.

Luane Meyer



We will begin our Fall regular Wednesday night meetings on September 8th. To start, we will be meeting from 5:30-6:45pm. This group is open to all youth in grades 6th-12th grades. Please note that the time could change after the pre-con and confirmation classes set their times, as we want to provide all confirmands the opportunity to attend their classes and youth group.

We will have an open house downstairs in the youth group rooms on Sunday, September 12th. Please come down and check out our youth rooms and fill out some necessary paperwork.

Parents are welcome to join us during youth group on Wednesday, September 15th. We will be making Prayer Beads that we will use in youth group throughout the year. Parents will have the opportunity to make Prayer Beads to take home.

At this time, masks are optional to wear while at the church. As we all know, this can change day to day and even hour to hour. Please look for Covid-19 updates on our Facebook page prior to our weekly meetings.

The Circle of Grace will begin meeting in September. A letter was sent home to all girls in grades 6th-12th. If you have not received an invite letter and would like more information about this group, please contact Suzanne Goldsmith 715-896-0224 or Lyn Gates 715-896-2597. Circle of Grace is an extension of the United Methodist Women, and together we are Faith, Hope and Love in Action.

Our 2021 reading recognition is fast approaching. If you have done at qualifying United Methodist Program reading, please fill out a report form (available on the bookcase) and return to Suzanne by September 4th. Thank you.

**September 8 Welcome/Prayer Beads**  
**September 15 Making Prayer Beads. Parents welcome**  
**September 22 Fruits of the Spirit**  
**September 29 Fruits of the Spirit**

Like our Facebook page Black River Falls UMC Youth Group  
Church website BRFUMC.org  
Contact info: Suzanne Goldsmith (call/text) 715-896-0224  
suziegoldsmith@hotmail.com

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**Your UMC Church Newsletter is available ONLINE at our website [brfumc.org](http://brfumc.org) - or we can email it to you if we have your current email address. Only a limited number of newsletters are being sent in the mail to those who do not have email. Please call Dan in the Church Office for more information. (715)-284-4114**

**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 the information will be passed to our Caring Meal Crew.**

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

#### **Find a Verse and Put Your Name in It September 2**

Educating missionary children is exciting and exacting. On one hand, few people are more fortunate than missionary kids. They grow up as internationals with the world their home. They roam across Europe or explore Africa as easily as other children go around the block. On the other hand, many mission settings do not offer adequate schooling or needed interaction with other youth.

Ruth Bell Graham vividly remembers September 2, 1933. She was 13. Her father, a missionary surgeon in China, and her mother were sending her to boarding school in what is now Pyongyang, North Korea. For Ruth it was a brutal parting, and she earnestly prayed she would die before morning. But dawn came, her prayers unanswered. She gripped her bags and trudged toward the riverfront. She was leaving all that was loved and familiar: her parents, her Chinese friends, the missionaries, her home, her memories. The Nagasaki Maru carried her down the Whangpoo River into the Yangtze River and on to the East China Sea.

A week later waves of homesickness pounded her like a churning surf. Ruth kept busy by day, but evenings were harder, and she would bury her head in her pillow and cry herself to sleep, night after night, week after week. Eventually she fell ill, and while in the infirmary, she read through the Psalms, finding comfort in Psalm 27:10—*Even if my father and mother should desert me, you will take care of me.*

Still, the hurt and fear and doubt persisted. Finally, she went to her sister Rosa, also enrolled in Pyongyang. “I don’t know what to tell you to do,” Rosa replied matter-of-factly. “Unless you take some verse and put your own name in it. See if that helps.” Ruth picked up her Bible and turned to a favorite chapter, Isaiah 53, and put her name in it: “He was wounded and crushed because of Ruth’s sins; by taking Ruth’s punishment, he made Ruth completely well.”

Her heart leaped, and the healing began. Has anyone believed us or seen the mighty power Of the Lord in action? Like a young plant or a root that sprouts in dry ground, The servant grew up obeying the Lord. By taking our punishment, he made us completely well. Isaiah 53:1,2a,5b Morgan, Robert J., *On This Day*.





At a recent mission outreach committee meeting we decided to start our Knit for Kids campaign on Sept 1, 2021 and will conclude in April of next year. For you happy knitters and crocheters if you choose, yarn and patterns are available in the gathering area in the bench as well as in the Wesley room. You may use your own patterns if you choose. So, ready- set- go!! As always there is a need for donations of yarn. Plain worsted is preferred but all will be gladly accepted.

With the summer months and now the increase of Covid 19 it is problematic to get together to do sewing for our Patricia project. The committee also discussed sewing projects like making quilts for the beds in the Sleep in Heavenly Peace project and pillow case dresses to send with Marcia Hagen on an upcoming mission trip. Kits could be assembled so that these projects might be completed at home. If you have any interest in helping with kits or working on a project at home please contact me, Charlene Galston at 715 284 9544.