



# THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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October 2017

*Serving since 1859!*

Wisconsin Rapids, WI

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## Just Joshin'

Church is for the people who aren't there yet. I've heard or read this many times over the years by different speakers or authors. This is a call to, or a reminder for, the church and what it's supposed to be about. A form of this saying is also the tag line many churches use. This is a part of their sense of purpose so it drives them in their ministry.

Church is for the people who aren't there yet. What do you think about it?

In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus gives us his mission for the church, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." This is an active reaching out and not a waiting for them to come. This is making those who aren't in church yet (who don't have a relationship with God through Jesus) a priority.

"Church is for the people who aren't there yet" is a statement that I like to run through my head when thinking about what the church can do differently in order to make it easier and more comfortable for those we may invite or for those who decide to be our guest. Like many of you, I grew up in the church and am used to how the traditional church operates.

This is what I know and this is what is comfortable. However, this usually doesn't meet the needs of those who may not be with us yet.

There are several things that we can change and do to be ready for guests, but there are a only couple of minor changes I'll be making right now to help us toward this end. We may not have a lot of guests at this point, but I want to be ready for them. I want to try and be proactive rather than reactive.

The changes that will be coming will be to our worship time and its order. At the end of October we will be changing how we do joys and concerns and tweaking how we do announcements.

As we make these changes, let us remember that most guests today will not have grown up in the church. If you have ever talked with someone who was thinking about going to church, just going inside can be a daunting task. It's a foreign place for many. So, with these changes we're trying to help people feel more uncomfortable.

At the same time, I don't want to take away these areas where we can be of support for one another. We'll still do them, but it will look different.

The joys and concerns time along with the greeting time (which I stopped a number of months ago)

are two areas where guests can feel very uncomfortable. With joys and concerns, this can tend to make guests feel like an outsider. Also, this time give the impression that prayer is mainly about asking God for healing and celebrating birthdays, and that the pastor is the one who prays for this. It's been a rare occasion over the last year plus to see somebody write down the prayer requests that are given at the beginning of worship (there are a couple people who do). We should all be joining in prayer for one another as a sign of our faith in God and support of one another.

The joys and concerns time, along with the greeting time, can drag on and take away from the focus of worship.

We can greet folks before or after worship. There is time enough for both and it will seem more genuine than being forced to talk with another.

In order for all of us to be in prayer for one another, we'll be going to a prayer list that will be printed in the bulletin. This way we can all be actively praying for one another throughout the week. If there's a prayer request, have it in to the office to be printed in the bulletin for that Sunday. If something happens between the printing of the bulletin and Sunday, I'll update people about it during prayer time. We'll also have cards in the pews (I'll talk about these in worship a couple weeks before we roll them out) that will be replacing our pew pads and will have a spot for prayer requests (among other things) — either for everybody to see, or for just the pastor to see.

The announcements won't be too different, but I will be going by the 75% rule. An announcement made during worship must pertain to at least 75% of the congregation, otherwise the communication can take place either in the bulletin announcements or via email/phone. It doesn't happen too much to us, but announcements are a way that can take our focus off the reason we've gathered — worship.

There will be some adjustments and getting used to new ways. I hope that this will help us be a more comfortable place for guests, and will help us be able to focus more on worship along with being more active in praying for one another throughout the week.

Blessings,

Pastor Josh



### Bethesda:

The store is full of fall/winter clothing and an abundance of fall decorations and some costumes. During October we will have a 50% off sale on all purple bar code tags including non-clothing items. We are preparing our Christmas Shop again across the hall from our main store. That store will open on Saturday, October 21. New furniture and mattresses are also available at a low price. At this time, we still do not know if we have a different location after the mall closes December 31. We will let you know as soon as a place has been found.

## Advice from a pumpkin



Be well-rounded.  
Get plenty of sunshine.  
Give thanks for life's bounty.  
Have a thick skin.  
Keep growing.  
Be outstanding in your field.  
Think big!  
—Ilan Shamir

# United Methodist Women



By the calendar its officially fall but the weather still feels like summer. We should enjoy it while we can! September we had our regular meeting with the executive director of United Way giving us very interesting facts and figures as to who it helps and how it helps. October 19-20 is the Wisconsin Annual Conference gathering in Waukesha. For those that are interested please see the information regarding the meeting. For those interested in going we can carpool.

Please reserve November 12<sup>th</sup> on your calendars! This will be our regular meeting held after coffee fellowship with the program being the World Thank Offering & Program. Jean will be the presenter and always gives us information and always who benefits from the offering.

For ANYONE who feels blessed and has a lot to be thankful for, there are Thank offering boxes (I gave them out during children's story) in the back of the sanctuary or ask Tami if you are there during normal office hours. The box takes both coins and paper money J. The monies collected really does make a big impact on those that receive it.

During the message Sunday, I talked about national and international missions projects. I totally missed the missions we have state wide and what we do locally. Two

of our state missions are Northcott Neighborhood House in Milwaukee and Harbor House in Superior. Both are awesome programs and help more people than we can imagine. I also missed a simple way to help missions. For those who go to Kwik Trip, the 5 cent bottle caps on milk, water and orange juice or the bagged milk and orange juice has a stamped 5 cents on the bag can be turned in and the monies there go to missions.

If you ever have any questions, please feel free to ask me and if I don't know the answer (sometimes I don't) I will find the answer out for you.

Everyone is welcome to join us. If you currently aren't a member you can come to our November meeting and check us out!!!

Feel free to join the UMW reading program. The books are listed on the website and brochures will be available to look thru. Previous years books are also available in the library to read. You won't be disappointed!!



## MEN'S GROUP

**All men are invited  
Oct. 4, 2017 at 8:00  
am**



**Meet  
for  
Breakfast**

"Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons."

—Jim Bishop





Mission Needs

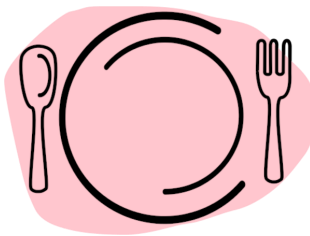


### Noisy Collection

**Sunday, October 8th  
for Jennifer and UNICEF  
(United Nations  
International Children's Emergency  
Fund)**

**Special Sunday Offering  
October 1, 2017 for World  
Communion an envelope will  
be in the bulletin that day.**

**Help! We need your help! Thursday  
October 12th we will be serving The  
Neighborhood Table. Our volunteer  
list needs to be turned in to TNT  
Monday, October  
9th. The sign up for  
volunteers is at the  
church office.**



### **SWEPS**

**Collection for  
Essentials will take  
place Sunday,  
October 15th.**



**Sunday, October 15th  
Jeans Homemade  
Caramels will be for sale.  
They are being sold to  
help support UNICEF**



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

## October

**1 - Scott Skinner  
3 - Rhett Reinicke  
4 - Carol Davis  
4 - Tyler Andreasen  
5 - Evelyn Lampman  
7 - Cooper Schulz  
12 - Art Duerkop  
14 - Taylor Reinicke  
15 - George Neumann  
15 - Holly Skinner  
21 - Phyllis Ritchie  
22 - Sandy Saeger  
22 - Nancy Olson  
23 - Bradley Bartram  
27 - John Steele  
29 - Kathy Duerkop  
29 - Wendy Baierl  
31 - Don Saeger  
31 - Jim Seegert**

*Happy  
Anniversary*

**7 - Don & Fay Whitley  
20 - Bob & Carol Liska  
22 - Dan & Tina Bartram  
27 - Rick & Ellen Cook  
28 - Mike & Lynn Swanson**

**If we have omitted your birthday or anniversary  
or have it listed on the wrong date, please let us  
know so we can make the necessary corrections  
to our records.**



# Prayer Calendar October

- 1—James & Cherri Correll
- 2—Tyler Cowan
- 3—Carol Davis
- 4—Helen Dillingham
- 5—Kevin, Karlene & Kasey Dillingham
- 6—Mike & Julie Dresen
- 7—Brenda Dudley
- 8—Robert & Vivian Dudley
- 9—Art & Kathy Duerkop
- 10—Tom & Cindy Erickson
- 11—Brent & Ginnie Fletcher
- 12—Faith Frank
- 13—Judy Gitchel
- 14—David Goetsch
- 15—Lester Gukenberger
- 16—Zelda Guzman
- 17—Gwen Gygi
- 18—Myrna Hagen
- 19—Mary Jo Hane
- 20—Keith & Janet Hansen
- 21—Norman & Auril Harding
- 22—Gordon Harmon
- 23—Glen & Aida Harper
- 24—Eric Henke
- 25—Marlene Henke
- 26—Ethel Hetzel
- 27—Hi Young & Im Hong
- 28—Delores Hudak
- 29—Kevin, Tami, Riley & Owen Huiras
- 30—Bob, Pam & Danielle Ironside
- 31—Hubert & Betty Johnson

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**Have a prayer request? Call the prayer chain:**

**Daytime:** (9:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.)

Lynn Swanson — **715-423-4407**

**Evenings:** (6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.)

Kathy Duerkop — **715-421-3396**



For encouragement,  
call the prayer phone:  
**715-423-1323**

# Prayer Coordinator

*Psalm 104:33-34*

*I will sing to the Lord all my life> I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the Lord.*

Do we rejoice in the Lord daily? Do praises ring in our hearts as we begin each day that God gives us? I know this is not always easy - praising God on those days when we are facing troubles or our hearts are breaking with grief or pain. But I have learned that when I come to him in these difficult days, he blesses me with an awareness of his presence. Fear and pain can either drive us to the Lord or away from him. If we bring ourselves into his arms, his love will give us strength and peace and , yes, even joy in the midst of our problems.

Each day e have is a gift from God. Let us always be aware of this precious gift. How it affects us and how we use it is up to us. So, let us remember to sing praises to God each morning. It brings me joy and helps me feel his presence as I praise him and thank him. God loves to hear your voice raised in praise.

*Let us pray: Lord God help us to remember what a gift each day of life is. Let us always be thankful for this life you have given us and rejoice in each day. We do love you Lord Jesus and we ask this in your name. AMEN*



### **October 3**

10:00 am - Bible Study  
5:00 pm - Bells  
6:00 pm - Bible Study

### **October 4**

8:00 am - Men's Breakfast  
10:30 am - Disciplines  
5:00 pm - Choir

### **October 5**

7:00 pm - Future Team Meeting

### **October 9**

5:00 pm - Trustees

### **October 10**

10:00 am - Bible Study  
10 - 12:00 pm - RCC Board Meeting  
5:00 pm - Bells  
6:00 pm - Bible Study

### **October 11**

10:30 am - Disciplines  
5:00 pm - Choir Practice

### **October 12**

**4:30 pm - TNT Our Church is the Sponsor**

### **October 16**

6:00 pm - Finance  
6:30 pm - Council

### **October 17**

10:00 am - Bible Study  
5:00 pm - Bells  
6:00 pm - Bible Study

### **October 18**

10:30 am - Disciplines  
5:00 pm Choir Practice

### **October 24**

10:00 am - Bible Study  
5:00 pm - Bells  
6:00 pm - Bible Study

### **October 25**

10:30 am - Disciplines  
5:00 pm - Choir Practice

### **October 31 - Happy Halloween**

10:00 am - Bible Study  
5:00 pm - Bells  
6:00 pm - Bible Study

#### **Church Office Hours**

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m. and closed on Fridays.

#### **Pastor Joshua's Office Hours**

Monday through Thursday  
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

#### **E-mail Addresses**

Church Office: [umc@wctc.net](mailto:umc@wctc.net)  
Pastor Joshua: [Joshua.peggram3@gmail.com](mailto:Joshua.peggram3@gmail.com)

#### **Church Office Phone**

715-423-8860

#### **Pastor Joshua's Phone No.**

Cell: 920-896-3976

#### **Sunday Services**

9:00 a.m. — UMC Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. — Coffee Fellowship

#### **The Neighborhood Table**

The last two Tuesdays of the month: 4:30 p.m.  
Every Thursday: 4:30 p.m.

#### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Meets each day of the week as follows:  
Monday 11:00 a.m.  
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday 7:00 p.m.

#### **Nar-Anon**

Every Thursday: 6:30 p.m.

#### **Wisdom Seekers**

Every Thursday: 9:30 a.m.

#### **Gamblers Anonymous**

Every Thursday: 7:00 p.m.