

MAY 2015 NEWSLETTER

Milaca United Methodist Church



The people of The United Methodist Church

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Rev. Joyce Slostad



Milaca United Methodist
310 3rd Ave NW
Milaca, MN 56353
320-982-6325
milacaumc@gmail.com

FROM THE PASTOR

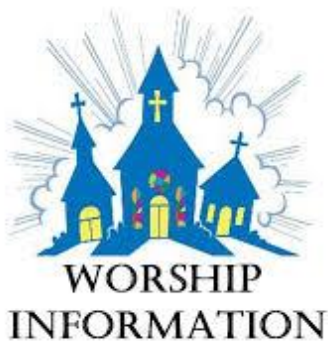
We have had some beautifully warm days and it seemed like spring was already here. But then the reality of Minnesota weather set in and since then we've had a variety of warm, cold, wet, dry, windy and still days.

But the promise of spring and the guarantee of Easter resurrection are always with us. It can seem that the season will never change from cold and dead looking to warm and full of life, but it does happen, although sometimes ever so slowly.

As I walked around the church yesterday I could see that our flowering trees out front have buds on them. The daffodils out front are bursting with blooms and a truly incredible sight to behold. For me it is a visible reminder that even though it seems like things will never happen, they eventually do and the reward is worth the wait.

God's Blessings and see you in church!

Pastor Joyce <><



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR MAY

- 3rd – Communion
- 10th – Mother's Day, and Love Offering for Annual Conference.
- 17th – Graduation Sunday, and Love Offering for Annual Conference
- 24th – Memorial Day Sunday
- 31st – Choir Special Music, and Shaker Sunday

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & PRAYER BREAKFAST

May 7th 7-8 am at First Baptist Church. Cost \$6. Tickets available at 1st National Bank of Milaca, Evangelical Free church, Teals Market, & Pease Christian Reformed Church.





MUMC Plant, Bake, Book & Craft Sale May 9th starting at 8 am

House plants, seedlings, veggies, perennials, flowers etc., gardening supplies: (garden tools, pots, planters, seeds, decorations etc.), gardening books, popular books, baked goods & crafts. **Please bring your items to the church on either Thursday May 7th or Friday May 8th. Thank you!!**

CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES

On Sunday May 17th as part of our worship service we will celebrate our graduating High School seniors: Taylor Ash and Laura Stobb are the youth we are aware of (please call the church office if we missed anyone). There will be a reception in their honor following worship. Please let us know of any other graduates from: college, technical, business, or graduate schools. If you are graduating from any school or know of someone, please contact the church office at 982-6325 or let Pastor Joyce know.



REMINDER OF OUR GIVING TO THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

For the past few months our giving is not meeting the expense needs of the church. Just as you do, the church has bills to pay, salaries to disburse and ongoing expenses for ministries and programs that are more easily handled when everyone is up to date with their offering. Thank you for your giving – The Finance Committee.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE FOR MAY

May 6 – 5:30 supper, 6:00 Garret plans our event
May 13 – 5:30 supper 6:00 upcoming missions
May 20 – 5:30 supper 6:00 fun activity for all
(this will be our last meeting for the season)





High Chairs & Booster Seats Needed

Our Java & Jesus meal & worship has multiple babies & toddlers and we only have 1 high chair at church.



Do you have an extra high chair or booster seat around your house or know of one that someone might want to

donate? We could sure use them to make our littlest guests more comfortable.

Keys, Keys, Who Has a Key??????

The Trustees would appreciate the return of church keys that are not being used or if you have one from when you were the Chair of a committee, but are no longer it



would be best to return it. We currently don't have extra keys, but realize there are many keys out there. So to save the church the time and finances to make more keys please consider returning yours to the office. Many thanks.



SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS & UPC CODES

In case you didn't know the UMW is asking everyone to save their Teals receipts and the UPC codes from any Our Family products. These are turned in for rebates and the money has been used for mission work as well as helping to pay for things around the church. Place your receipts and codes in the labeled box on the counter in the gathering space – that's all you have to do. We have earned more than \$1800 dollars through this program!

2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION

Minnesota Annual Conference meets every year to worship and enjoy fellowship; receive reports, adopt goals and programs; determine budgets; take stands on key issues; ordain clergy; and receive the bishop's appointments of ordained ministers.

The 161st session of the Minnesota Annual Conference, scheduled for May 27-29, 2015 at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud.



Milaca UMC will be represented by Pastor Joyce, Jere Day who is our lay representative to Annual Conference, and Peggy Crooms who will be attending as a lay equalization member. At Conference we will:

- Connect and worship with other Minnesota United Methodists
- Learn from Rev. Jorge Acevedo from Grace Church in Southwest Florida and Rev. Anita Phillips, executive director of the United Methodist Church's Native American Comprehensive Plan
- Attend a "50 Ways to Love Your Neighbor" mission fair full of ideas and inspiration
- Celebrate how we as a conference are healing a broken world and discern where God is leading us next
- Make your voice heard as we consider legislation and make key decisions about next steps in our journey

LOVE OFFERING FOR 2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION – COLLECTED IN OUR CHURCH MAY 10 & 17

Donations to the 2014 Love Offering totaled \$121,000. Feed My Starving Children received 80 percent of that total, Project Ag-Grad received 10 percent, and Volunteers in Mission scholarships received 10 percent.

The Love Offering for Missions is collected within Minnesota United Methodist churches and delivered to the Annual Conference Session held May 27-29. It benefits international, national, and Minnesota missions. The conference Missions Promotion Team determines the annual recipients. The funds from this year's Love Offering will go to three projects that will help us answer God's call to heal a broken world. Here's a look at the 2015 Love Offering recipients:



Grace Children's Center in Vietnam

*Recipient of 60 percent of 2015 Love Offering

The United Methodist Church has strong and growing presence in Vietnam—and the Minnesota Conference recently formed a partnership with United Methodist leaders there. Many Vietnamese children come from broken homes and are in need of permanent or temporary care. The Love Offering will help expand

Grace Children's Center in Ho Chi Minh City, which is currently providing education and daycare for about 20 of these children. The center now has a teacher who volunteers her time to educate first- and second-graders; the center's children also learn to grow fruit, raise chickens and ducks, and make hats—all of which are sold to help support the center. The Love Offering would pay off a \$10,000 loan for the building, provide a salary for the first-and second-grade teacher, and hire several more staff members: a third- and fourth-grade teacher, a health care worker, a cook, and a Korean language tutor (Vietnam is home to many Korean immigrants). Funds also will be used for sewing machines that children can use to learn to sew hats and other clothing. Our support will enable the center to make a difference in the lives of more children.

Church-School Partnership Grants

*Recipient of 30 percent of 2015 Love Offering

God calls us to be in ministry with children, and every United Methodist church in Minnesota is urged to develop a long-term partnership with a school in its community. The conference's Mission Promotion Team is launching a grant program that will provide funding to individual congregations to help them develop such partnerships. There are children in all Minnesota communities who lack food, school supplies, winter clothes, books, and/or positive role models. After assessing needs that exist in their communities, churches can apply for funding to help them form an ongoing relationship with a school. There are many possibilities for partnerships. A few of them include supplying backpacks, clothing, or weekend meals; tutoring or mentoring students; opening up the church to school gatherings; offering parenting, ESL, or literacy classes; and praying for teachers and students.



Volunteers in Mission Scholarships

*Recipient of 10 percent of 2015 Love Offering

Mission trips change the lives of participants by giving them an opportunity to grow in their faith and gain a new perspective of the world. Through the United Methodist Church's Volunteers in Mission program, teams spend up to two weeks working on mission projects either domestically or abroad. Most teams from Minnesota are engaged in hands-on projects that build infrastructure to ensure that nutritional, medical, and educational programs in developing countries become sustainable and locally run. Team members pay their own way, and the Love Offering will help underwrite the cost for first-time participants.

WALLEY DINNER / 2015

Well another fish fry has come and gone this spring and as usual the food was the big hit! Because the fall and winter fishing season was not good, we didn't get as much fresh caught fish donated this year so we relied on purchased fish this year making our costs higher. But we found another



supplier and saved about \$4 per pound thanks to Pastor Joyce. I want to thank all those who donated and prepared food items for the dinner; Dale Gilbert (for oil and supplies for salads, cookers, etc.), Mary Fuller for cheesecakes, and Jeanette Hanenberg for her expertise and supplies.

Right now we have grossed \$2109 from ticket sales making our proceeds the highest ever! The Silent Auction items have not all been taken care of at this time so we will report more fully in the bulletin or next month the final report. When all the bills for ads and fish are paid we will update profits and projects for the proceeds the Men's Group / church programs that will be funded. I also want to thank all the people who donated items for the silent auction.

Thanks especially to these groups:

Kitchen staff: John Day, John DeMares, Ryan Quinn, Dale Gilbert family (sisters: Cindy and Cathy), Arnie Pearson, Jeanette Hanenburg.

Waiters/ hostess: Pastor Joyce Slostad, Myla Tolmie, Bruce Cochran, Frank Crooms, Phil Anderson, John Hillcrest, Matt and Peter Slostad, Jim and Adrian Coughlin, Brad Barnes, Jeff Stobb.

Ads, auction: Tresa Neis, Terry Wade, tickets: Jim Fladmoe, signs: John Day

Decorations: Myla Tolmie, Nancy Rockwood, Jere Day.

Clean up crew: Frank Crooms (dishwasher extraordinaire) Ron & Audrey Bowe, John Day, Johnna Schwindt, Linda Day, and everybody else listed above!

It was a great team effort and you know what? Everyone HAD FUN DOING IT! Thanks mostly for the friendships that were nurtured and rekindled!

I know I will forget someone to thank for all this as well, so please excuse me if I did. Hallelujah! God is so good to us!

Jere Day & Men's Group



Another month has passed and time for the newsletter again.

We started April with a meeting of the High Tea committee and got all the plans made as to who was making the various items for it. It is April 29th 3-5 pm and should be a fun afternoon. Hopefully we will have a good turnout. A free will offering is collected for local

charities. The preparations are all in place for a successful event. We will let you know numbers and dollars in next month's report.

Tuesday April 14th we served 62 ladies at Christian Women brunch. It was a new recipe with Johnsonville sausage, eggs, cheese, and peppers. They also received a clementine and coffee cake. This is our 13th year serving the Christian Women and they hope we will be able to continue for years to come. The more ladies that come the more we can give to the church utilities and missions.

Saturday April 25th was the Big Waters District meeting at Princeton UMC. 8 ladies from our church attended: Peggy Crooms (District Officer), Joyce Stobb, Carolyn Ingle, Betty Anderson, Sue Olson, Mary Alley, and Audrey Bowe. We received 2 certificates, one for being a 5-Star Unit and one for being a Mission Today Unit. They will be on display in the UMW case. Our program was on the 150 year legacy fund. For the next 4 years UMW will be pledging and giving toward this fund as the United Methodist Women organization turns 150 years old in 2019. There will be more information about this in the coming months and we'll discuss it at our June meeting.

We will be honoring our graduates on Sunday May 17th during the morning worship and we'll serve cake, punch and coffee following the service.

There is a Spiritual Growth Retreat May 15 – 16 at Koronis Ministries in Paynesville. Peggy Crooms will be attending this.

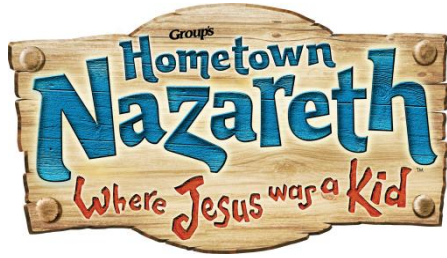
Audrey Bowe, UMW President



Sunday May 24th 7 pm & 8:30 pm on PBS 2

Joe Montegna and Gary Sinise co-host the 28th broadcast of this night of remembrance honoring the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform, their families at home and all those who have given their lives for our country. The concert airs live from the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol before an audience of hundreds of thousands, millions at home, and to our

troops around the world via American Forces Network.



Vacation Bible School June 8 – 12, 1-5 pm

In just a few short months, our church will be filled with the aromas, sights, and sounds of kids participating in fun discovery activities at a special Holy Land Adventure—in Nazareth! Kids will worship God with songs and prayer, create unique craft projects, and discover God's powerful love

in exciting and memorable ways. They will experience what it was like to live in a town where many people didn't believe that Jesus was really God's Son!

Below are some great ways you can help make this program a success. Will you please check out the following list...then pray about where God might use you? Together, we can step back in time—and bring Jesus' hometown Nazareth to life at Milaca UMC.

Hometown Nazareth Supply Donation List:

4 yds Cotton fabric in one of these colors: purple, red, green, yellow, blue or orange.

4 whisk brooms

2 each blanket or sheets

6 pillows

4 beach balls

4 rolled up socks

4 - 6 old Rugs

2 plastic wading pools

50 nerf balls

Water balloons

Fruit (grapes, melon, bananas, etc)

Paper towels

10 broomsticks

10 plastic palm branches

4 ropes

Sports finger sponge

Old wash cloths for cleaning

2 tarps

Old bath towels

4 oz paper cups

Grape juice (bottled or frozen)

There will be a list posted in the gathering area. If you can donate any of these items, please indicate by signing by which one you are able to donate.

Volunteer Opportunities at Hometown Nazareth VBS:

To have the best adventure possible, we need lots of volunteers who can share time, energy, and love with the kids who attend. Below are some great ways you can help make this program a success. Will you please check out the following list...then pray about where God might use you? Together, we can step back in time—and bring Jesus' hometown Nazareth to life at Milaca UMC..

Shopkeepers: In the Marketplace Shops, you'll guide Tribes in making unique, hands-on craft projects. Take care of animals in the Barnyard. Or be a food shop proprietor and send the smells of figs, dates, and warm flatbread wafting throughout the Marketplace! In your role as a merchant, you'll listen to kids and

adults talk about Jesus, God's Son.

Tribe Leaders: An easy-to-follow leader manual and Hometown Huddle Teaching Kit help you lead a Tribe of approximately 10 people. You'll share in meaningful traditions and rituals—and build relationships!

Together you and your Tribe will experience...

- Celebration worship
- Hometown Huddle (small group time)
- Marketplace shops (crafts, food, and a special mission project)
- visits with Mary
- Fun & Games
- outreach
- storytelling
- ...and lots of celebrating!

Other Positions: Still don't see something that interests you? We're also looking for a...

- Registration Team,
- Decorating Team,

Whatever your gifts, interest, and time commitment...we have a place for you! We believe that God will use this incredible program to reach many children with the message of his love.

So please prayerfully consider your role in bringing Nazareth to life!

Whatever your gifts, interest, and time commitment...we have a place for you! We believe that God will use this incredible program to reach many children with the message of his love. So please prayerfully consider your role in bringing Nazareth to life!

Thank you for your always generous support to our children and youth at MUMC.

Feel free to contact me by e-mail, phone, or in person if you have any questions.

Myla Tolmie: mylatolmie@rocketmail.com or 651-955-3877



May Calendar Items:



- 3 – **Communion Sunday**
- 3 – Jail Ministry 1 pm
- 4 – Grace Sarah Circle Meeting 1 pm
- 6 – Quilting Group 1-4 pm
- 6 – Youth Group – meal 5:30, activity 6 pm
- 7 – National Day of Prayer Breakfast 7-8 am @ First Baptist
- 7 – Bring your items for church Plant, Bake, Book & Craft Sale
- 8 – Bring your items for church Plant, Bake, Book & Craft Sale
- 9 – **Church Plant, Bake, Book & Craft Sale** 8am-3pm in parking lot
- 10 – **Mother's Day Sunday**, Java & Jesus 6 pm – meal and worship
- 11 – Youth Group Parents Meeting 7 pm
- 12 – Christian Women 9:30 am
- 12 – Pastor leads worship service at Elim Home 6:30
- 13 – Quilting Group 1-4 pm
- 13 – Youth Group – meal 5:30, mission club 6 pm
- 13 – Men's Group 7 pm
- 14 – Church Council 6:30 pm
- 15 & 16 – Spiritual Growth Retreat UMW at Koronis
- 17 – **Graduation Sunday**, cake reception following worship
- 20 – Quilting group 1-4 pm
- 20 – Youth Group – meal 5:30, class 6 pm – **Last Wednesday session**
- 21 – High Rise Meal 11:30 am
- 21 – Mary Martha Circle 1 pm
- 24 – **Pentecost Sunday – wear red**, Memorial Sunday
- 27 – 29 161st Annual Conference Session in St Cloud
- 27 – Quilting Group 1-4 pm
- 27 – Men's Group 7 pm
- 31 – **Choir Music Sunday**, Change Shaker Sunday

*Happy
Anniversary*

- 2 – Jim and Stacy Coughlin
- 16 – Rick & Lynne Olson
- 21 – Dick & Judy Stewart
- 30 – Dale & Sharon Gilbert



- 10 – Taylor Ash
- 23 – Cindy Haugen
- 23 – Jessica Hall
- 26 – Larry Moe
- 30 – Jean Clift