

MILACA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER



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From the Pastor

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, Most High;

Psalm 92:1

November is the month of Thanksgiving and even though we all experience tough things in our lives, we also have much for which we can be thankful. Having an "attitude of gratitude" does not come naturally to most of us – we have to cultivate it and be intentional about it. Don't you find yourself drawn to folks who are positive and say things which lift you up rather than keep you down or worse yet, put you down? Let's work together to change that in ourselves, because in all honesty we cannot change others, only ourselves. So I encourage you to take a moment at the end of each day and name 3 things for which you are thankful. It might be something as basic as, "I woke up this morning" to the more complex, "I had a meaningful spiritual experience today".

Thanks be to God, who gives us this victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

1 Corinthians 15:57

Those we remembered on All Saints Sunday, Nov 1st

Bob Bunger
Lorraine Johnson
Louis Smith
Nellie Palmquist
Dorothy Cooper
Cliff Erickson



Sunday November 8th we will recognize our Veterans

There will be a time in the service for our members who are Veterans to stand and be recognized for their service and for you to lift up the names of those who have served or are currently serving.



Wed. November 11 @ Milaca HS

1 pm in the HS main gymnasium.

Guest Speaker: Jon Matthews

Music provided by the HS Concert Choir and Symphonic Band. This is a free concert open to the public. Veterans are especially invited to attend.



REMEMBER TO PLEDGE

The Finance Committee thanks those who have already turned in their pledges. Be sure you turn in your pledge card – either by mail or place it in the offering plate.

This is an estimate of your giving which can be changed (up or down) as one's circumstances change. Your pledge enables the church to make a responsible ministry budget for the coming year.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE – NOV 25 AT 7 PM



Evangelical Free Church

All in the community are invited to attend. Pastors from many of the churches in town take part. Pastor Steve West, the new minister at Lighthouse Fellowship will be our preacher this year. There will be refreshments served after the service.



MAKE PLANS FOR THE COOKIE WALK – SATURDAY DECEMBER 5TH

Start searching your cookbooks for those yummy recipes of cookies, candies, breads and other goodies. Set aside some jars of jelly, jam, preserves, salsa, and pickles to share. Check your closets, attics & basements for new or gently used items for our treasures room. Also, if you are a crafter we will gladly accept any of your projects. Reminder there is an absolutely beautiful quilt that will be raffled. Be sure to invite your friends to meet you at the Milaca United Methodist Church for a day of Christmas cheer and shopping. Coffee, cinnamon or caramel rolls are available in the morning and a sandwich luncheon will also be served.



JAVA AND JESUS – Casual worship experience & free meal
Sunday November 8th
6:00 meal
6:30 worship time – lots of guitar music



This service is intended for those who don't have a church home and have a need for spiritual and physical nourishment. The service is led by Dayna Hillcrest, Jere Day and Pastor Joyce. Meals provided by the Outreach Committee and members of the congregation.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR A JAVA & JESUS MEAL?

A donation of \$50 will help provide a nourishing meal for those that come to us for a helping of food and faith. You can place your donation of any amount in the offering plate with "Java & Jesus meal" in the memo. Your donation can remain anonymous or be acknowledged whichever is your choice.



WEEKLY YOUTH GROUP – 1st 2nd & 3rd WEDNESDAYS 6th – 12th
Feel free to come up to church right after school and have a snack, do your homework, socialize with friends or just hang out with one another and Pastor Joyce. Supper will be at 5:30 and youth group activities or Confirmation will follow from 6-7 pm



Operation Community Connect Update

The 10th Annual Operation Community Connect event at the Milaca High School Oct. 15 hosted steady crowds of visitors who came for the different resources available. The annual giveaway aims to help anyone in need and is organized by the county through the support of many local churches, people and businesses, as well other organizations. Hundreds visited the event and greatly appreciated all the giveaways that the churches provided. Thank you for your donations of soap.

Winter Coat Drive Giveaway

With your help and donations of coats we were able to provide winter wear for more than 20 people last month. After a time of trying on various styles and colors, all present who needed a coat received one or the promise to get one in the right size and color. Thank you to church members who provided coats, to those that gave money for the purchase of coats, to Jeanette Hanenberg, Dale Gilbert, and our youth for providing a hearty spaghetti dinner for our guests that evening.



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 an incredible amount of money for the church and missions through this program!

Food Shelf Item for November: Canned Vegetables



Another month has gone by and the holiday season is fast approaching. I'm not looking forward to winter at all.

There were four ladies who went to Alexandria for the Fall Annual Gathering on Sat Oct. 3rd. It was a very good day and the weather was nice. The new slate of officers was installed for the coming year. The guest speakers were

Tonya Brownlow from Emma Norton Services and Jennifer Nelson, statewide organizer for the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition.

Tonya talked about her role as the leader of Emma Norton and that they deal with many mental health issues with the homeless in Ramsey County. She said that the support of The United Methodist Churches and their donations are responsible for Emma Norton Services ability to remain open. She was very pleased with the car full of paper products, personal hygiene items, etc. that were donated. We are all very generous.

Jennifer Nelson spoke on her work with the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC). She has worked for the League of Women Voters, the MN Department of Human Rights, and the Office of the MN Secretary of State. She has largely focused on matters of social policy and community engagement. Her presentation was on how to be a faithful citizen and expressing your views to the legislature. I left a pamphlet on the table in the gathering space so you can check it out. Peggy Crooms has one also.

It was a very spiritual and uplifting day. Next year's Annual Gathering will be at St Cloud 1st Regional UMC on Oct 8, 2016.

On Tuesday Oct 13th we served a smaller group of ladies for Christian Women. They enjoyed biscuits and sausage gravy, fresh fruit and cheesy potatoes. That is what we always serve them in October and it is one of their favorite meals. Joyce Stobb left her collection of scarecrows up as centerpieces and they really liked that. She has a bunch of them and they are very cute.

The circles met this month and our next UMW meeting is Thursday November 19th at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be electing officers for 2016. Our guest speaker will be Sheryl Kjos from Circles of Hope. She will be telling us about the services they provide for their guests. We provide a meal for them once a year usually on the first Thursday in February. Anyone who would like to hear her and learn more about Circles of Hope please feel free to attend. We have the speaker give their presentation then conduct our meeting.

We will also be going over our committees and updating them, reviewing the Salad Luncheon and hearing what the proceeds were.

Our December gathering will be a Christmas Lunch at Jeanette's on Dec. 10th at Noon. Pastor Joyce will be giving the program, a reading of "A Child's Christmas in Wales" and we don't usually have a meeting. Look forward to seeing you there.

Hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving with your families.

Audrey Bowe



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| 3 rd | 6:30 Rebel Jesus Study | 17 th | 6:30 SPRC meeting |
| 4 th | 5:30 Youth meal | 18 th | 5:30 Youth meal |
| | 6 - 7 Youth Classes | | 6 - 7 Youth classes |
| | 7:00 Disciple II | | 6:30 Finance meeting |
| 5 th | 8:30 Ministerial | | 7:00 Disciple II |
| | 10:30 Rebel Jesus Study | 19 th | 11:00 High Rise meal |
| | 12:00 Clergy lunch at Elim | | 1:00 UMW meeting |
| 8 th | Veterans Sunday | 24 th | 6:15 Pastor leads worship
at Elim Home |
| | Church council agenda items due | 25 th | No Youth |
| | 6:00 Java & Jesus, meal & worship | | No Disciple |
| 10 th | Christian Women | | 7:00 Community |
| | 6:30 Rebel Jesus Study | | Thanksgiving Eve Service |
| 11 th | 5:30 Youth meal | | @ Evangelical Free Church |
| | 6 - 7 Youth mission project | 29 th | 9:30 1 st Sunday in Advent |
| | 7:00 Disciple II | | Change Shaker |
| 12 th | 6:30 Church Council meeting | | Bob & Marilyn – special music |
| 15 th | 9:30 am Choirs sings for worship | | |



High Rise Meal November 19, 11:15 am

Mushroom & onion pork chop, oven roasted potatoes, green bean casserole, mixed fruit, and dinner roll.

- 1 – Suzie Quinn
- 3 – Melissa Gubrud
- 5 – Mary Patten
- 11 – Corky Webb
Bruce Cochran
- 13 – Hannah Hoffman
- 20 – James Bungert
- 22 – Chet Bergstrom
- 23 – Ralph Koecher
- 24 – Betty Anderson
Nicole Alley
- 26 – Peter Slostad