

# MILACA UNITED METHODIST

May 2016 Newsletter

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



**Reverend  
Joyce Slostad**



Milaca United Methodist  
310 3rd Ave NW  
Milaca, MN 56353  
320-982-6325  
[milacaumc@gmail.com](mailto:milacaumc@gmail.com)



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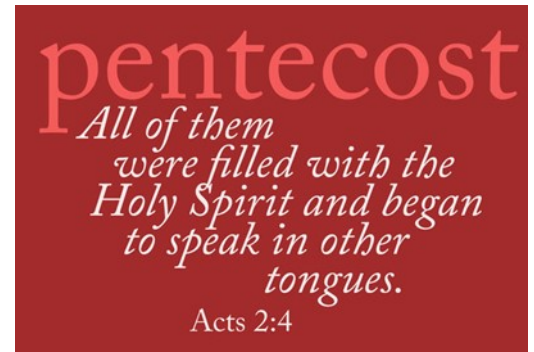
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- Sunday Service 9:30 am
- Coffee & Fellowship  
Following Service
- Bible Studies
- Youth Group
- Sunday School
- Vacation Bible School
- UMW
- Much, much, more!



From the Pastor – May 2016

On May 15, 2016 Christians across the world will celebrate Pentecost. It is not as well-known or as popular as Christmas and Easter, though it commemorates a defining moment in Christian history. In many ways, Pentecost is the birthday of the church.



For Christians, Pentecost is a holiday on which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. Before the events of the first Pentecost, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called “the church.” Thus, from an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started. This is also true from a spiritual perspective, since the Spirit brings the church into existence and enlivens it. Thus Pentecost is the church's birthday.

On the day of Pentecost, seven weeks after the resurrection of Jesus, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon those followers of Jesus who had gathered together in Jerusalem. What happened on the first Pentecost continues to happen to Christians throughout the world today, though usually not in such a dramatic fashion. We rarely get a heavenly wind and tongues of fire anymore. Nevertheless, God pours out the Spirit upon all who put their faith in Jesus Christ and become his disciples (see Romans 8:1-11).

**Personal Implications:** Pentecost presents us with an opportunity to consider how we are living each day. Are we relying on the power of God's Spirit? Are we an open channel for the Spirit's gifts? Are we attentive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit? Is the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control) growing in our lives? Most Christians I know, including me, live in the presence and power of the Spirit, but only to an extent. We are limited by our fear, our sin, our low expectations, not to mention our tendency to be distracted from God's work in us. Pentecost offers a chance to confess our failure to live by the Spirit and to ask the Lord to fill us afresh with his power.

Blessings and See You In Church,

Pastor Joyce <><

## Sunday Worship Events For May – Mark Your Calendar:



### May 1st

Communion Sunday and the conclusion of the sermon series Facing Issues That Divide - Building Bridges & Tearing Down Walls: "Christianity and Healthcare".

### May 8<sup>th</sup>

Confirmation Sunday – please be with us in worship as

**Garret Hall** and **Elizabeth Slostad** take the vows of confirmation and are received into the membership here at Milaca UMC. It is also Mother's Day and the SS children will have a gift to share.



### May 15<sup>th</sup>

Pentecost Sunday – please wear red (if you can) to represent the flame of the Holy Spirit at work in your life and in our church. Pentecost marks the birth of the church.

### May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Graduation Sunday – the following youth: **Junina Hillcrest, Lydia Larson, Kimmie Seppala, and Matt Slostad** are graduating this year and we will honor them in worship and with a reception following church.



### May 29<sup>th</sup>

Memorial Sunday – we will remember those who have served in our military, those who gave their lives in the military, and any person whom we have loved and have left this life for life eternal with the Lord. Please feel free to bring a picture of your loved one(s) and place them along the communion rail.



## General Conference

The United Methodist Church's top legislative body will meet at the Oregon Convention Center, the largest convention center in the Pacific Northwest, on **May 10-20, 2016**.

General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church which meets once every four years. The conference can revise church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for church-wide programs.

I encourage you to pray for the workings at General Conference that they may be God led, Holy Spirit inspired, and conducted with the love of Christ. Pray also for our attenders from Minnesota Annual Conference, clergy delegates: Rev. David Bard & Rev. Judy Zabel; and for our lay delegates: Faye Christianson and Sara Ann Swenson. Pastor Woojae Im is a reserve clergy delegate.

Here is a prayer from Bishop Bruce Ough:

**Almighty and gracious God, as General Conference happens in Portland, have mercy on your church, troubled and divided. Pour out your heavenly blessings; redeem, restore and remold your church until we are made new, that we may be one in Christ for the sake of the world. Instill within delegates humble hearts and discerning minds that hunger and thirst for your righteousness and justice, and your vision for our future. Through the decisions and spirit of General Conference, renew in the whole church a passionate longing for the coming of your kingdom, and unite us in one mission: to reach and make new disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world. Amen.**

If you are interested in following General Conference there will be a live stream. Go to [GC2016.UMC.org](http://GC2016.UMC.org) for all the information you may need.





**Wednesday May 4<sup>th</sup>,**

**3:00 – 5:00 pm**

Tell your friends Milaca UMC is the place to be for a delicious tea. A tempting and tasty variety of sweet and savory treats will be served. A freewill offering will be received to benefit local charitable groups. Sponsored by the United Methodist Women.



## **Youth Group In May**

May 4<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 supper, 6:00 Class

May 11<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 supper 6:00 Missions

May 18<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 supper, 6:00 class

We are working on a date for a lock-in event in May – look for info via e-mail.

## **United Methodist Camping Brochures**

They are on the table in the gathering space. Find out about the many opportunities of camping for various interests for all ages and even families! Employment for those 18+ is also available through our camping program visit the web site [www.campminnesota.org](http://www.campminnesota.org) and click on summer employment if you're interested.





## Vacation Bible School:

**June 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 4 pm.**

Please let Pastor Joyce know how you would like to help with this year's VBS program.

### How Can I Help?

Prayer Partner

Lifeguard Group Leader

Snacks

Crafts

Drama

Decorating

Singing

Games

### What Can I Donate or Loan to VBS?

Beach towels

Beach toys

Beach chairs

Beach wear

Surf boards

Kick boards

Beach themed anything

Money

**Participant training: Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 am**



## Fish Fry 2016

Well another fish fry has come and gone this spring Fish Fry 2016 and as usual the food was the big hit! Because the fishing season was not good we didn't get as much fresh caught fish this year so we relied on purchased fish this year making our costs higher. The split into two serving times was a success as we were able move more people in and out efficiently and serve more guests. As a result we sold out of rice pilaf, Korean salad, and bread sticks. We had only enough fish left for a baggie and 9 baked potatoes - what planning huh?

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.) Dale Gilbert and Bruce Cochran for cheesecakes, Jeanette Hannenberg for her expertise and supplies. Right now we have grossed \$1689 from ticket sales and \$184 in craft sales making our proceeds slightly lower than last year. However we got some cash donations that went straight into the Fish Fry account, so 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 will be funded. This is about the same as 2014 proceeds, and we will look at how we can do better for next year at our next meeting.

I want to thank all the people who donated items for the craft sale.

I want to thank all of you that bought tickets and ate, donated money and bought extra tickets, bought the craft sale items and cleaned up afterwards, as well as the cooks, preparers, breaders, tickets, prepared plates, salads, donated items, it was a team effort!

Thanks to these Groups:

Kitchen Staff: Jim Fladmoe, John Demaires, Ryan Quinn, Dale Gilbert family (sisters Cindy and Cathy), Arnie Pearson, Jeanette Hanenburg, Don Tolmie, Paul Ash, John Day, Phil Anderson.

Waiters: Bruce Cochran, Matt and Peter Slostad, Terry Wade, Joel, Mike, Cal alley, Jeff Stobb, Hostesses: Joyce Slostad & Nancy Rockwood,

Ads, Tresa Nece, Laurel Fladmoe, John Day(signs)

Decorations, Myla Tolmie, Nancy Rockwood, Frank Crooms, Jere & Linda Day,

Clean up Crew; Rick Olson (dishwasher extraordinaire) Ron Bowe, John Day, Terry Wade Jim Fladmoe 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 and the fellowship and spirit shared through the planning and prepping!

If I forgot anyone I apologize for my memory.

President Men's Group,

Jere Day



Another month has come and gone—seems I just did an article for the newsletter.

We served another large group of ladies for Christian Women on Tuesday, April 12th. There were about 60 ladies again this month and so good to see that many coming. We give 10% of the proceeds to the church each month for utilities and 10% goes to missions. It is work but very enjoyable and a spiritual blessing to be able to do it for them. They meet next month on the 10th of May.

The Circles met again this month and UMW meets June 16th at Sue Olson's home for our pot luck picnic at 12:00 noon.

Saturday, April 23rd was the Big Waters Spring Gathering in Monticello. There were 5 of us that attended and it was fun and a good fellowship day. The keynote speaker was David Nichols on LGBTQ—Marriage and the United Methodist Church: Context for Deliberation. This was to prepare the people on the General Conference to get more information about the Bible and Book of Discipline about the topic. LGBTQ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (source the Free Dictionary.) The Breakfast Sessions were divided into 4 groups and each one was about the church and the Bible, Human Sexuality, Marriage and Same Sex Couples. After lunch we were in 4 groups for deliberation and it will be discusses and voted at General Conference in May in St Louis, MO. I have a copy of the Context for Deliberation available and so does Peggy Crooms if anyone would like to read it. We received 2 certificates—one for Mission Unit and 5 Star Unit.

The plans are all made for the High Tea May 4th at 3-5:00pm. Betty Anderson is our official tea maker and does an excellent job. She tries to keep up with the demand. Delores Quam is the pourer. Thank you both for doing it every year.

I would like to take this time to thank everyone for your prayers, kind words and support for the loss of my sister Susie. Thank you and God Bless all of you.

Until next month—See you in church.

Happy Mother's Day

President United Methodist Women.

Audrey Bowe



## May Calendar Items:

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Jail Ministry 1:00pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Grace Sarah Circle 1:00pm  
4<sup>th</sup> – Ministerial Meeting 8:30am  
    High Tea 3:00-5:00pm  
    Youth Supper 5:30pm Youth Class 6:00pm  
8<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation Sunday  
    Slostad Party 12:00 noon  
    Java & Jesus 6:00pm  
10<sup>th</sup> – Christian Women 1:00pm  
12<sup>th</sup> – Church Council 6:30pm  
15<sup>th</sup> – Pentecost Sunday, please wear red  
18<sup>th</sup> – Youth Supper 5:30pm Mission Club 6:00pm  
19<sup>th</sup> – High Rise Meal 11:30am  
    Mary Martha Circle 1:00pm  
22<sup>nd</sup> – Graduation Sunday  
    Newsletter Items Due  
29<sup>th</sup> – Change Shaker Sunday  
30<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day

## National Day of Prayer



Thursday, May 5th

Breakfast 7:00am at Milaca Alliance Church

Tickets \$5.00



High Rise Meal, Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am

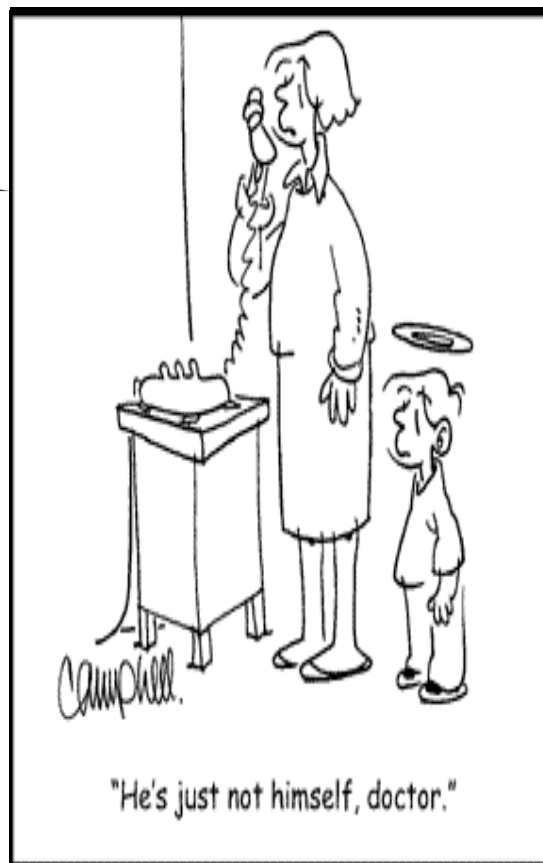
(be there by 11:15) \$4.00.

240 2nd Ave SW, Milaca

Menu: Special of the Day



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



## *Anniversaries:*

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