



MILACA UNITED METHODIST



July 2017 Newsletter

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



Vacation Bible School 2017



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

August 2017 From Pastor Joyce:

I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone again for your support recently. It has been a challenging few months for my family and your prayers and care have meant so much to us. Beginning back in March with Peter's heart problems that led to 2 separate procedures to place 3 stents in his heart. Then my Mom, Jean had a stroke on April 1st and worked very hard to recover for more than a month, but passed away in her sleep on May 9th and although she was 91 it was hard to have her go. We then traveled to North Carolina for her funeral. We said goodbye to our cat, Fluffy of 16 years on May 16th and that was very hard as well. June was a whirlwind month filled with birthdays, a 4 day vacation trip to Cincinnati, Annual Conference and Vacation Bible School.



And then on July 19th my brother-in-law, Robert, was in a small plane crash and was seriously injured. He woke up this Saturday July 29th and was writing questions down and seemingly very aware of what was happening with no cognitive problems. It truly is a miracle story that he wasn't killed or paralyzed.

As Pastors we are used to giving pastoral care and not so used to receiving it. I want to tell you that knowing you were praying for me and my family, that you sent beautiful flowers for my Mom's service, and have kept us in your thoughts means more than you can know. I felt myself surrounded by your prayers and upheld by your love and concern.

This is what the family of God is all about – sharing with each other the joyful and challenging things in our lives and letting others celebrate with us or offer care for us. But it's hard to admit we need help and care, but who better than your church family to turn to in times of spiritual or physical crisis.

In Matthew 25 Jesus tells a story about how we are to care for one another: 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Serving others can be easy and rewarding, but letting others serve us is not always comfortable and I'm reminded of the words to Hymn 2222 The Servant Song:

Brother, sister, let me serve you,

Let me be as Christ to you;

Pray that I will have the grace

To let you be my servant too.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you as your pastor and for returning that care by serving me and my family.

Blessings and See You in Church!

Pastor Joyce <><



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

August 6th Communion, Chamber Band

August 13th Choir

August 20th Dayna & Barb – piano duets

August 27th Worship at park, Choir & R.C.

"Blessing of the Animals"

Cookout & Potluck

WORSHIP IN THE PARK SUNDAY AUGUST 27th COOKOUT & POTLUCK



Join us at the Lions Shelter picnic area for a wonderful outdoor service which will include a blessing of the animals and music by our musicians. Service is the regular time at 9:30 and following worship we will gather around the picnic tables for food and fellowship. All animals are welcome to the park and the service. Pastor Joyce will share a blessing over your pet. A lunch of Hot dogs and brats will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

If you can't or don't want to make anything, but want to contribute to the day you can help pay for the cookout items, just write "outdoor worship" on your check or envelope.

PASTOR JOYCE'S SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Her schedule is subject to change due to appointments and evening activities, so these hours are just a guideline of when she hopes to be in the office. Please call ahead to be sure she's at church and available to you.

Mondays – work from home, 763-742-4241 cell

Tuesdays – 9:30 – 4:30

Wednesdays – 9:30 – 4:30 (at scripture study from 10 -1)

Thursdays – 9:30 – 4:30

Friday – day off

Sunday mornings

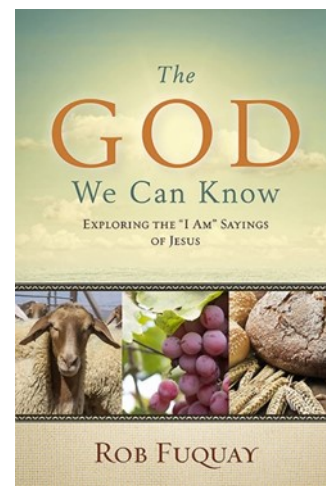


Upcoming Small Group Study:

"The God We Can Know:

Exploring the *I AM* sayings of Jesus" by Rev. Rob Fuquay

The God We Can Know is a 7 week study designed for the entire congregation to explore the "I am" sayings of Jesus found in the Gospel of John. This series will help you find and form an answer to the most essential question in the Christian faith, "Who do you say I am?"



One by one, Jesus's statements grab our imagination, reveal more about his identity and purpose, and connect us to the God of Moses, who spoke the first "I am." These significant, yet ordinary images (bread, light, shepherd, vine, and more) give us insightful ways to experience Jesus and point us to a God who wants to be known.

The DVD, filmed on location in the Holy Land, allows you to travel with Rob Fuquay and actually see the places where Jesus stood while disclosing his true identity, and in what context he spoke each "I Am."

This is a meaningful, transforming study for the whole church – look for a signup sheet on Pastor Joyce's door. There will be 2 options for classes, the same session will be held on Tuesday nights at 6:30 and Thursday mornings at 10:30. You only need to attend one of the sessions each week.

This study will begin the week of September 11th.

Weekly themes include:

- Introduction to "I am" – Knowing God
- I am the Bread of Life – Knowing God's Satisfaction
- I am the Light of the World – Knowing God's Guidance
- I am the Good Shepherd – Knowing God's Care
- I am the True Vine – Knowing God's Power
- I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life – Knowing God's Way
- I am the Resurrection and the Life – Knowing God's Possibilities



August

Here it is the first of August and where did the summer go. Fall is right around the corner and back to school ads are everywhere. County Fairs are also starting.

Tuesday, July 11th was our monthly brunch for the Women's Connection, Christian Women. We served 62 ladies a breakfast sandwich, cheesy potatoes and a cup of cherries. They were so pleased we had the piano tuned and it sounds great now. It was worth every dollar we paid for. They meet again on Tuesday, August 15th at 9:30am.

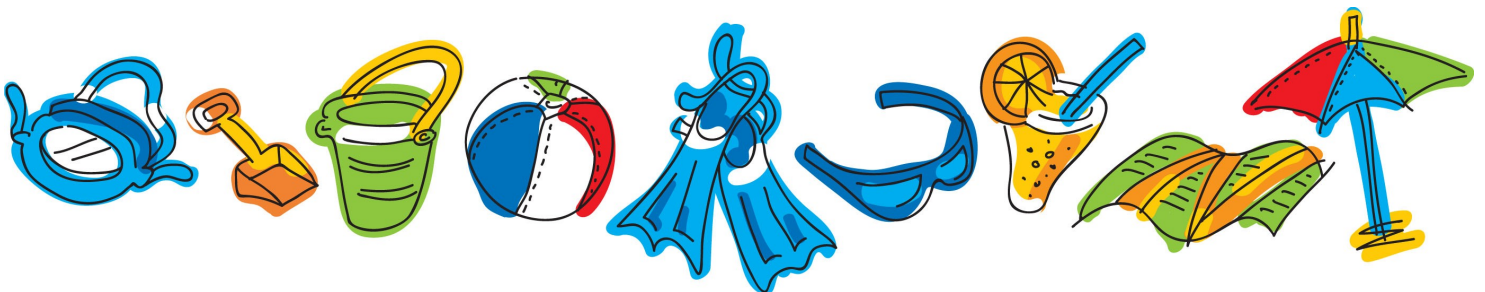
We had four ladies attend Mission U at Kelly Inn in St Cloud last weekend, the 14–16th of July. They were Peggy Crooms, Sue Olson, Tillie Bergstrom and Hailey Stobb. We will be hearing about their trip at our next meeting in September.

At the end of August the Salad Luncheon Committee will be getting together to get the plans started and get the letters ready to send to other churches the first part of September. The date is Wednesday, October 4th, 11:00 to 1:30pm.

Our next UMW meeting is September 21st, our Kick Off fall meeting.

Until next month—see you in church.

Audrey Bowe, UMW President



August Calendar Items:

6th – Communion

Chamber Band

8th – Christian Women

13th – Choir

20th – Barb & Dayna - Piano Duets

Newsletter Items Due

26th – Stobb Wedding

27th – Worship at Park

Choir & R.C.

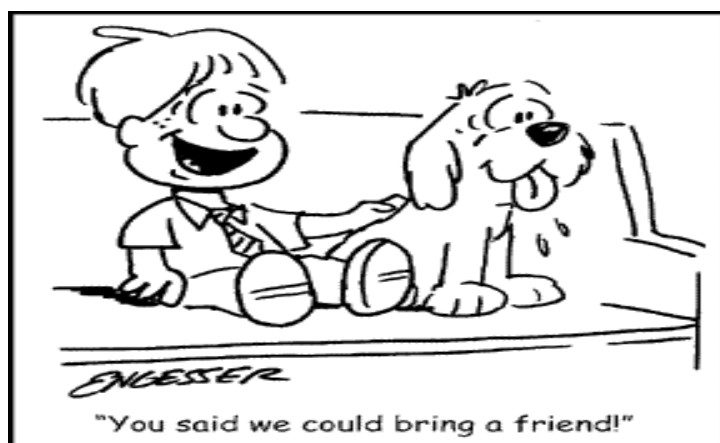
“Blessing of the Animals”

Cookout & Potluck

Change Shaker Sunday



Blessings of the Animals - Sunday, August 27th



Birthdays:

5– Dale Gilbert

8– Darlene Bekius

8– Marlene Kunst

12– Oliver Barnes

25– Jamie Hoffman

31– Jean Dahlstrom

31– Dick Stewart

Anniversaries:

1– Calvin & Mary Alley

2– John & Dayna Hillcrest

21– Paul & Gayle Ash

High Rise Meal

Thursday, August 20th

Seating at 11:15am

Dinner served at 11:30am

Cost \$4.00

Menu:

Chili dog on a bun,

potato salad,

fresh fruit salad,

puppy chow mix.