

# MILACA UNITED METHODIST

February 2018 Newsletter

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



**Reverend  
Joyce Slostad**



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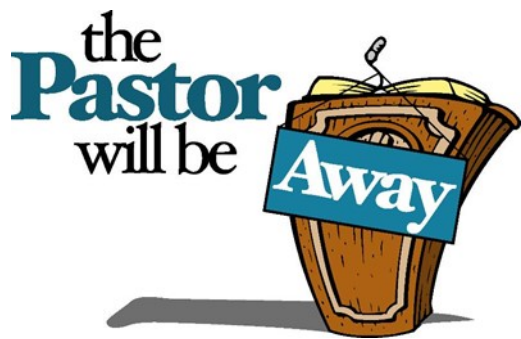


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- Sunday Service 10:00am
- Coffee & Fellowship Following Service
- Bible Studies
- Youth Group
- Sunday School
- Vacation Bible School
- UMW
- Much, much, more!



## Pastor Joyce Will Be On a Medical Leave

**Monday February 5 – end of April**

I have a letter from the insurance company approving my surgery, so if all goes according to plan I will be having total hip replacement on Tuesday February 6<sup>th</sup> and will be on a medical leave for 3 months.

Retired ministers Rev. Shirley Nelson, and Rev. Kevin Dunn will be handling pastoral care needs and preaching most Sundays. Our Lay Leader, Jere Day will share a message with you some Sundays and the UMW will host a service at the end of February.

The surgeon has told me to plan to take 3 months off due to healing time and the fact that the surgery is on my right hip which is also the leg you need to drive. He wants to be sure things are healed enough to ensure I can comfortably move my foot from the gas to the brake and back without discomfort or problems. I could come back earlier than 3 months, but that will be determined as I heal. Please make note of the information below:

### Pastoral Care Needs:

Feb 5 <sup>th</sup> – April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Pastor Shirley	218-750-0663 cell phone
April 2 <sup>nd</sup> – April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Kevin	320-492-3425 cell phone

### Preaching Schedule:

Feb. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Jere Day	
Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup>	At Zion Lutheran 10 am or 7 pm	Ash Wednesday
Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Shirley	
Feb. 25 <sup>th</sup>	UMW Sunday	
Mar. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Jere Day	No Communion
Mar. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Shirley	Communion Sunday
Mar. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Shirley	
Mar. 25 <sup>th</sup>	Jere Day	Palm/Passion Sunday
Mar. 29 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Shirley	Maundy Thursday – Communion
Mar. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Joint Service with Trinity & Zion	Good Friday at Trinity or Zion
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Pastor Shirley	Easter - Communion
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Kevin	
April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Kevin	
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Pastor Kevin	
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Kevin	
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Joyce	Communion

I ask you to pray for my family, a successful surgery, a quick healing process, for me to have patience with myself, the challenge of not doing ministry while I heal, and being away from all of you who mean so much to me.

Blessings, Pastor Joyce <><

### While Pastor Joyce is Gone

To make things easier there will be prayer request slips in a brown basket on the table in the Gathering Space for you to share your prayer needs with the person preaching that week.

Before worship please fill out a slip with your prayer need and be sure to check your preference for the request to be shared publicly in the service or if you wish the person to keep your prayer private.

After filling out the slip, place it in the prayer box found on the table and the person preaching will lift up the public requests and pray privately for those marked private.

You may always contact the **Prayer Chain** to lift up any prayer needs you have. Please call Sue Olson at 320-983-3497 and share with her your need and she will pass it along to the prayer chain – the members of the chain keep all requests private and only share with those on the prayer chain.

Also feel free to contact Pastor Shirley Nelson at 218-750-0663 with any prayer needs.



### Soup Luncheons



The theme this year is "Thy Will Be Done." Drawing from Christ's prayer in Gethsemane, "Thy will be done," these services reflect on the idea of seeking God's will in all aspects of our lives, especially during Lent, in terms of our identity, our dreams for the future, our worldview and our response to Christ the Crucified. Reflections will use the biblical figures of Abraham, Moses, David, Mary, Paul and Lydia as insightful reference points to our own lives. This will probably

be the last year for this program and the schedule for the lunches will be as follows:

2/21 @ Trinity Lutheran

2/28 @ St. Louis Catholic

3/7 @ Zion Lutheran

3/14 @ Milaca UMC

3/21 @ St. Mary's Catholic



## Hands On Mission Opportunity: Pack Meals at FMSC

**Saturday February 17<sup>th</sup> 11:30-1:30 pm**

at the Coon Rapids location

We have agreed to send 10 volunteers to work to pack meals for starving children around the world. Sign up on the sheet on the table in the Gathering Space.

### **What makes Feed My Starving Children different**

Five important elements contribute to FMSC's missional heart and call to feed God's kids:

**Our Christian Mission** - *We believe Jesus Christ has called us to feed the hungry and serve those in need. Jesus is the reason that Feed My Starving Children exists. We strive to follow his calling every day in all that we do.*

**Food is the Foundation** - *"Hunger is the world's biggest solvable problem." – World Food Programme. We believe that food is the foundation for all other progress. To a starving child, hope can only truly begin once a reliable source of nutritious food has been established. FMSC produces three special MannaPack™ meal formulas developed by food scientists to specifically stop malnutrition.*

**Food Distribution Partners** - *FMSC does not have its own staff distributing food around the world. We donate meals to an exceptional network of missions and humanitarian organizations.*

**Developing Sustainability** - *Food assistance is a vital component in the process of transitioning individuals, families and communities out of chronic hunger and poverty and into self-sufficiency.*

**Volunteerism** - *Volunteers enable us to do what we do, every day. We couldn't do this work without YOU. Volunteers pack all of our meals, and their donations pay for them. We don't receive free ingredients or government aid. It takes both packing and donating to feed kids!*





## Getting It Right as a Christian!

By Jere Day

What does it mean to be "Getting It Right as a Christian?" I think that as I look at how Java and Jesus has evolved, it is shown what it can mean to get it right. When the youth and leaders hand deliver fliers and invitations to provide free food to all who want it and need it in the neighborhood to come and share. When they show up to eat, listen to our simple songs and soft message about God- that is getting right!

Our journey with Java and Jesus started as an idea I picked up at Annual Conference in 2011- how to reach new people! Your neighbor in your community right outside your door- that's where to start! "Feed my lambs" Jesus said to Peter, and that's what we are trying to do- provide a good, healthy, free meal once a month. It is a warm feeling to experience new faces in the church. Some bring children and come more than once- some we only feed once, but hopefully our subtle message will soften their hearts and bring them closer to Jesus and God- or us- can't beat that! The warmth inside from seeing people come back again and smile with us, is what makes it all worthwhile!

We would like to encourage people to come eat or help welcome or set tables, or help with clean up after singing. Or you could be a warm friendly face and a good listener and help us sing a song and lift your voice in praise! It is then that we as Christians get it right in this church.

Our next meeting and meal is February 11, 2018 at 6:00PM. Come and See!



## **Methodist history:**

### **Controversy, Communion, & Welch's Grape Juice**

A UMC.org Feature by Joe Iovino

You are probably familiar with Welch's Grape Juice, but you may not know it has ties to the history of The United Methodist Church.

In the 1800s, churches faced a dilemma. To combat the epidemic of alcoholism, the temperance movement advocated total abstinence from all alcohol. In celebration of the Lord's Supper though, the church filled the communion chalice with wine.

Substituting grape juice seems an obvious solution. "For us today it is such common practice. We don't know any different," explains Adrienne Possenti, church historian at First United Methodist Church of Vineland, New Jersey.

In the 1800s, however, that was no easy task. Raw grape juice stored at room temperature (home refrigerators were not available until 1913) naturally ferments into wine. This caused a problem for congregations not wanting to use anything containing alcohol.

One solution was to squeeze grapes during the week and serve the juice before it fermented, but grapes were not readily available to every church.

"Lots of churches just didn't have communion when grapes were out of season," reports Roger Scull, also a church historian at First United Methodist Church of Vineland.

Some creative communion stewards chose to make their own unfermented sacramental wine. One recipe called for adding a pound of hand-squashed raisin pulp—dried grapes—to a quart of boiling water. Later in the process, the "winemaker" was to add an egg white. Doesn't that sound delicious?

Some churches substituted water for wine. Many in the temperance movement declared water the only proper drink. Jesus' miracle of turning water into wine at the wedding in Cana (John 2:1-12) seemed to give the practice a biblical justification.

Most churches, however, simply continued to use wine. Not only did it solve the storage problem, it resolved another issue. Many believed the biblical mandate called for the use of wine, and viewed the sacrament as an exception to temperance.

Others claimed the wine used at the Last Supper must have been unfermented—not a widely held understanding today—and insisted on receiving the same.

In 1864, the General Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church entered the conversation when they approved a report from the Temperance Committee that recommended "the pure juice of the grape be used in the celebration of the Lord's Supper."

Four years later, Dr. Thomas B. Welch became a communion steward at Vineland (New Jersey) Methodist Episcopal Church—now First United Methodist Church of Vineland—and vowed to provide his congregation with an unfermented sacramental wine.

"He was so staunch in advocating not having anything to do with alcohol," Possenti states, "it was reported that he didn't want to even place his hands on it."

Before moving to Vineland, Welch had served as a Wesleyan Methodist preacher. Throat problems that sometimes made it difficult for him to speak curtailed that ministry. In this newly established community, advertised as having a "healthful climate," he opened a dental practice.

Always interested in science, Welch wondered if Louis Pasteur's breakthrough techniques could be applied grape juice. He experimented to find a way to keep juice from fermenting.

In 1869, he perfected a juice pasteurization process in his kitchen and began selling "Dr. Welch's Unfermented Wine" to churches preferring an alcohol-free substitute for Communion. Unfortunately, the idea didn't take off. After four years, Welch gave up this side business.

Two years later, his son Charles convinced him to produce unfermented wine again. Charles offered free samples of the sacramental wine substitute to churches. He later published temperance magazines that advocated alcohol-free Communion. He also advertised the product with lines like, "If your druggist hasn't the kind that was used in Galilee containing not one particle of alcohol, write us for prices".

At about the same time, the temperance movement and their concern over using fermented wine for communion, was gaining momentum.

By 1876, members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) were refusing to receive the sacrament in churches using wine. The WCTU, organized in 1873, consisted largely of women from the Methodist Episcopal Church. Well-known Methodist Frances Willard served as their first secretary and second president.

Then, the 1880 General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church approved two changes to the Book of Discipline that may have been influenced by the work of the WCTU and the growing popularity of Welch's Grape Juice.

The first change provided an option. Churches were "to see that the Stewards provide unfermented wine for use in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper." Alcohol-free Communion was to be available in every church.

The second change, however, made it effectively mandatory, "Let none but the pure, unfermented juice of the grape be used in administering the Lord's Supper, if practicable."

"By the 1890s, annual conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church began including ads for Welch's grape juice in their published journals".

Charles Welch summed up his dad and his life's work in his will:

*Unfermented grape juice was born in 1869 out of a passion to serve God by helping His Church to give its communion "the fruit of the vine," instead of the "cup of devils."*

Today, Welch's is a multinational corporation offering a number of grape and other fruit products. It all started, however, with a communion steward in a Methodist Episcopal church who wanted a suitable, unfermented wine for Communion.



Another month is gone and soon we look for spring!!

We served 55 ladies on Tuesday, January 10th for the Women's Connection. They were served a breakfast casserole, muffins and fruit. They enjoyed it and as always, some want the recipe. We have also started offering take out if we have left overs. They really like that and it was their idea, because sometimes they have a lot more reservations than come. It also helps us with the cost.

Our January meeting was Monday, January 15th, Martin Luther King Jr Day, and our yearly prayer and self denial day. We have a special program and then our meeting. The yearly dates were set for the calendar.

We are serving Circle of Hope on Thursday, February 1st at Zion Lutheran at 6:00pm. They have grown to 75 to 80 people, so it is more food. We will be serving tater tot hot dish, salad and cupcakes.

The Women's Connection meets on February 13th and our Circles meet this month separately. Grace Sarah February 5th and Mary Martha February 15th. Sunday February 25th is UMW Sunday and we will meet during fellowship in the next couple of weeks in February to plan. Also, I will have a sign up sheet for serving coffee at Elim Home all the month of March. Will need two people from 1:45-3:00pm. They furnish the treat. We had a very small group of only 9 ladies at our meeting. Grace Sarah served a very delicious brunch,

Peggy brought a suggestion to sell BBQ sauce and honey butter at the Farmer's Market this fall. It will be decided at our March meeting if we want to or not.

Our sympathy goes out to the Gilbert family for the loss of Kathy. We served about 140 people. Thank you to all that worked and furnished bars.

I prepared a list of our calendar dates for Marie and she has wrote them on the calendar on the secretary's door.

Keep warm and see you in church.

UMW President

Audrey Bowe



# february

## February Calendar Items:

1<sup>st</sup> – Circle of Hope at Zion Church

5<sup>th</sup> – Grace Sarah Circle

Pastor Joyce Medical Leave thru April 30<sup>th</sup>

7<sup>th</sup> – Scripture Study at Trinity 10:30am

Red Brick Learning 3:00pm

10<sup>th</sup> – Girls of '73 Tea 11:00am-3:00pm

11<sup>th</sup> – Java & Jesus 6:00pm

13<sup>th</sup> – Christian Women

14<sup>th</sup> – Red Brick Learning 3:00pm

15<sup>th</sup> – Mary Martha

17<sup>th</sup> – Feed My Starving Children 11:30am-1:30pm

18<sup>th</sup> – Newsletter Items Due

21<sup>st</sup> – Scripture Study @ Trinity 10:30am

Red Brick Learning 3:00pm

25<sup>th</sup> – UMW Sunday

Change Shaker Sunday

Puzzle Challenge 1:00pm

28<sup>th</sup> – Scripture Study @ Trinity 10:30am

Red Brick Learning 3:00pm



February  
BIRTHDAYS



February  
ANNIVERSARIES

## *Birthdays:*

1- Donna Johnson

1- Bill Nelsen

8- Randy Walbridge

10- Judy Stewart

13- Pearl Jacobson

17-AJ Coughlin

20-Joyce Stobb

26- Deb Cochran

26- Vern Quam

## *Anniversaries:*

6- Jere & Linda Day

11-Bill & Penny Nelsen

19-Brad & Christi Barnes

28-Phil & Joyce Anderson



What's  
Cooking?

**High Rise Meal**

**February 15th**

**Seating 11:15-Served at 11:30, \$4.00.**

## **Menu:**

**Roast turkey, mashed potatoes &  
gravy, country trio vegetables,  
bread, stuffing,  
snickerdoodle cookie**