



MILACA UNITED METHODIST



May, 2019 Newsletter

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



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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!



May 2019 From the Pastor

Statistics say that 20.7 billion dollars will be spent on moms in honor of the U.S. holiday that falls on the second Sunday in May: Mother's Day. All that cash and commercialism goes against everything the women who originated the idea wanted. Did you know a Methodist mother and daughter team worked to create a day to honor a mother's love and to emphasize how important a mother's role is in building a peaceful world?

In the late 1860s, before there was an official Mother's Day holiday in the U.S., a Methodist mom, Ann Jarvis, organized "Mothers' Friendship Day," at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.

Women came together with their sisters in their locations to respond to the needs that they could see. For Ann, she was in a coal mining part of what is now West Virginia. And she could see the needs of women and children. And she could see the effect of the economy of her day on the people that she cared for most directly.

She started mothers clubs. And she talked to them about hydration for fevered babies, about sanitation and nutrition. And then the Civil War came along and they put a field hospital right outside of town.

She was convinced that mothers, women, but especially mothers, had to work for peace because they could see the ravages of war in their husbands and in their sons, in a way that was so focused and so clear that their voices would be powerful. And that's what's at the genesis of the current Mother's Day.

Ann Jarvis died in 1905, before an official holiday was in place. But her daughter Anna (who was never a mother herself) stayed true to the purpose of the celebration. She envisioned Mother's Day as a time to write a personal letter to your mother, a time to send her an inexpensive carnation (a flower in which the petals hold tight like a mother's love) and a time to visit or attend church together. She later became an outspoken critic when the special day turned too commercial.

She was really aggravated at people that turned that observation into a commercial outlet. So she had a lot to say to Hallmark. She had a lot to say to the Salvation Army that started selling carnations. When she made carnations the symbol of Mother's Day they sold for pennies. But the price soon went up to \$1.50, \$2.00 apiece because people found they could make money off of it. And her comments about Hallmark are just wonderful. She said, 'How lazy can you be to buy somebody else's sentiments for your mother? One day out of the year sit down and tell your mother what you really think of her.' And she was just furious. I like that kind of spunk. She would have been a really interesting person to know. And I like this story because the history of the church isn't a history of ministers. It's the people that make up the church. And I think they're such a wonderful example of that. And besides making us think about our mothers is always a good thing to do.

Blessings and See You in Church!

Pastor Joyce

2019 VBS June 24th – 28th 1-4 pm



Explore Where God's Power Can
Take You!

Two Training Sessions: Sunday May 19
Sunday June 2

Volunteers need to attend both sessions please.

Be a part of a week that is filled with fun, Bible learning, recreation, crafts, science, snacks and so much more. Please let Pastor Joyce know if you'd like to be a part of this short-term, ministry outreach, team!

One small step for your kids...one giant leap for God's Kingdom!

Blast off with the first VBS to land on Mars! Cokesbury's *To Mars and Beyond* will help kids discover the wonders of God's universe. They'll become Voyagers on a journey through space, exploring where God's power can take them. Beginning in your Assembly area—an outpost on Mars—they'll lift off to distant planets on special missions to collect power sources. Along the way, they'll learn how God walked with heroes of the Bible, and that God is always with them, too. Add to the adventure with out-of-this-world fun, learning, and timeless Bible stories that inspire kids to give glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine!

The theme verse (Vector Verse) is "Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us." —Ephesians 3:20, CEB

Sessions include:

- Session 1 - **Go Beyond with Faith!** Daniel Trusts God in the Lions' Den (Daniel 6)
- Session 2 - **Go Beyond with Boldness!** Queen Ester Takes a Stand (Esther 4-9)
- Session 3 - **Go Beyond with Kindness!** The Good Samaritan Helps a Fellow Traveler (Luke 10:25-37)
- Session 4 - **Go Beyond with Thankfulness!** Jesus Heals 10 Lepers (Luke 17:11-19)
- Session 5 - **Go Beyond with Hope!** Jesus Comforts Friends on the Way to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35)



May Worship Schedule

May 5th – Communion

May 12th – Mother's Day Sunday

6 pm Java and Jesus Meal & Worship

May 19th – Heritage Sunday

May 26th – Memorial, & Change Shaker Sunday



Red Brick Learning Schedule for May

May 8th – End of Year Celebration – Our final session

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 and click on summer employment if you're interested.





2019 Love Offering for Missions

Milaca UMC will be receiving your love offering all the Sundays in May. Please mark your envelope or check with “Love Offering” so it can be directed accordingly.

The 2019 Annual Conference session—taking place June 18 - June 20 in St. Cloud—is themed “Dare to Reach, Love Boldly,” and funds from this year’s Love Offering will go to three projects:

Lao Samphan Methodist Church (60 percent), Volunteer Lawyers Network (20 percent), and Volunteers in Mission Scholarships (20 percent). The second part of the Love Offering involves giving to God names of acquaintances who do not know Christ, for whom we are committed to “dare to reach” through our prayers and our witness of compassion, love, and hope.

Lao Samphan Methodist Church

The United Methodist Church’s presence in Laos is growing through the Lao Samphan Methodist Church (“Samphan” means “united”). Rev. Daniel Yang, a Minnesota elder now serving as a United Methodist missionary in Laos, oversees new church development, training and equipping leaders, and pastoral support. Yang and other leaders are working to establish a Methodist presence in 17 provinces in Laos, develop committed church members and leaders, build relationships with national and local government, and build a resource training center and dormitory. They’re also creating programs to support the socio-economic development of both church members and communities in Laos, one of the poorest countries in the world. Love Offering funds will be used to further these efforts.

Volunteer Lawyers Network

Established in 1966, Volunteer Lawyers Network helps thousands of people each year by providing civil legal services to people living in poverty. It connects immigrants, single parents, the working poor, prior offenders, the LGBTQ community, and others with top lawyers in the state, who donate their time to support equal access to justice. All services are provided at no cost to clients, 7,300 of whom were served in fiscal year 2018. Love Offering funds will go toward the Immigrant Legal Services program, through which volunteer lawyers and staff partner with community organizations—including Northfield UMC—to provide culturally competent services to immigrant and refugee neighbors.

Volunteers in Mission Scholarships

Mission trips change the lives of participants by giving them an opportunity to grow in 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 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 helps to offset the cost for first-time participants.

UMW

April has been a very busy month for us. We started out with a meeting for the High Tea on Thursday, April 4th at the ELim Home with Jeanette. We got all the items for the tea decided on and who was making the different foods.

On Friday, April 5th we served Mary Smith's funeral. We planned for 125 people and served scalloped potatoes, ham sandwiches, pickles, egg salad sandwiches and buns. Our sympathy to the family.

Tuesday, April 9th was our monthly Christian Women's Connection. There were 42 ladies that attended. We served them Blueberry French Toast, sausage, and hash brown patties. Everyone enjoyed the meal. Their next meeting will be May 14th.

April 18th was our UMW meeting with 11 ladies present. We planned our food for the Big Waters District Spring Gathering being held here on April 26th and 27th. We asked Laurie Gahm to be our guest speaker on Guatemala. We also asked for baby receiving blankets and coloring books and crayons for Laurie to take with her for her next trip. We planned the evening meal and coffee for Friday afternoon. Also, muffins Saturday morning with Emma Norton, and our lunch Saturday noon. There was a pretty good turn out with about 50 ladies attending. The weather cooperated for all the ladies that had to travel.

We are getting ready for the High Tea that will be Thursday, May 2nd from 3 to 5 p.m.

There were also two ladies that had funerals at other churches because ours was busy. Lynea Bemis' was at Trinity Lutheran on Friday, April 26th. Neva Hoffman's was at the free Church because ours was too small to hold her family. Hers was at 12 p.m. on Saturday, April 27th. Our sympathy to both families.

Our next UMW meeting will be on Thursday, May 16th at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Happy spring. Hopefully it is here to stay.

God's blessings



May Calendar Items:

- 5 9:15 Worship – Communion
- 8 3:00 Red Brick Learning & Youth Group – final session
- 12 9:15 Worship – Mother's Day Sunday
6:00 Java and Jesus
- 16 1:00 United Methodist Women Meeting
- 19 9:15 Worship – Heritage Sunday
- 23 1-4 Milaca Food Pantry Training Session
- 26 9:15 Worship – Memorial Sunday



Birthdays:

8—Arne Pearson

10– Taylor Ash

23– Cindy Haugen

23– Jessica Hall

26– Larry Moe



Anniversaries:

16– Rick & Lynne Olson

21– Dick & Judy Stewart

30– Dale & Sharon Gilbert