



# THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 2019

Serving since 1859!

Wisconsin Rapids, WI

## Just Joshin'

The beginning of 1st Thessalonians, one of Paul's earliest letters, talks about the beginning of a church and the power source that flowed through it and made it strong. However, like any group, there were struggles and challenges. Both 1st and 2nd Thessalonians were written to real people facing the real problem of living in a world that wasn't too friendly toward Christians. The beginning of this letter, and the background of this letter, can be a reminder about what we're supposed to be about as a church.

In 1 Thessalonians 1:2-5 Paul says,

*"We always thank God for all of you and pray for you constantly. As we ray to our God and Father about you, we think of your faithful work, your loving deeds, and the enduring hope you have because of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*"We know, dear brothers and sisters, that God loves you and has chosen you to be his own people. For when we brought you the Good News, it was not only with words but also with power, for the Holy Spirit gave you full assurance that what we said was true. And you know of our concern for you from the way we lived when we were with you."*

This is a typical beginning for a letter from Paul. But, as we get into verses 4 and 5 at the end, there are some very interesting aspects to the beginning of this church.

Sure, the Thessalonians were told about the Good News, but it wasn't Paul just telling them how they

needed to be living. Paul's words carried the power of the Holy Spirit. Paul's words were Spirit driven and it was the Holy Spirit that let these folks know that Paul wasn't trying to scam them in anyway. This wasn't a fly-by-night operation. There was something lasting to this Good News ... something everlasting.

Not only this, but it also appears as if Paul was living what he was preaching according to the final sentence. If you have Good News to preach, then you'd better be living by the Good News. And, I believe that this is so important for today!

In our society, where there is apathy and mistrust for the church, we had better make sure that we're living the Good News before we're telling others about it and how it can change their lives. A part of all this is realizing that we don't have anything to do with this, but it is through the power of the Holy Spirit by the grace of God that we're able to change.

Is the power of the Holy Spirit leading the charge at Wisconsin Rapids UMC? Are we living out the Good News in our lives in such a way that people take notice? For us, this is a way to keep the Easter celebration going all year around. The resurrection of our Lord and Savior isn't great for just one weekend a year, but for our whole lives. May we be encouraged by Paul and the Thessalonian church, and trust more and more in God's presence through the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Blessings,  
Pastor Josh

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Meets each day of the week as follows:

Monday's 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday's 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday's 7:00 p.m.

Thursday's 7:00 p.m.

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### **E-mail Addresses**

Church Office: umc@wctc.net

Pastor Joshua: joshuapeggram3@gmail.com

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### **Sunday Services**

9:00 am - UMC Worship Service

10:00 am - Coffee Fellowship

10:00 am - Youth Group/Sunday School

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### **The Neighborhood Table**

The last two Tuesdays of the month: 4:30 p.m.

Every Thursday: 4:30 p.m.

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### **Nar-Anon**

Every Thursday: 6:30 p.m.

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**The men of the Wisconsin Rapids United Methodist church cordially invite our women of all ages to attend an evening of fellowship, dining and entertainment of Friday, May 17, 2019! The celebration begins at 5:00 pm with dinner being served at 5:30 pm. Reservations are necessary!!! Sign up sheets are at each entrance to church or call the office at 715-423-8860.**

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## **MEN'S GROUP**

**Come for Breakfast on  
Wednesday,  
May 1, 2019  
8:00 a.m.**

**All are Welcome!**



## **United Methodist Women**

Spring greetings! Hopefully Spring is here to stay! United Methodist Women are busy this time of the year. We have various things to plug into. April 28<sup>th</sup> we had our meeting with our guest speaker. When we invite guest speakers everyone is invited to attend – men and women. These timely subjects are of interest to everyone.

May 4<sup>th</sup> is our district Spring Retreat and the theme is "Listening for God and Our Response". See me if you are interested in attending. The special collection for the Retreat is for the District Mission Pledge. June 10<sup>th</sup> is our Annual Potluck. This year it will be at the church at 5:30. Kim Marshall will present a program on Blue Birds. Kim is planning on a display before dinner and a program after.

Mission U is fast approaching. It is being held at the Hotel Mead on July 22-25 and the overview day is July 26<sup>th</sup>. Please consider attending. If you haven't ever attended there are scholarships available for first time ladies. This is a perfect opportunity – where you don't have housing costs and can sleep in your own bed while going to an awesome event.

Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> an evening program to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of UMW will be at our church. It will be a combination of fun and singing and a social time.

Please join us in attending these events. We have summer off locally, and Mission U in July. Our next meeting after our picnic will be on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Mark the dates down for fun, fellowship and interesting programs!

Spring blessings,  
Cindy

# Mission Notes

**Noisy Collection  
May 12, 2019 for  
Melisa and Boys and Girls Club  
of Wisconsin Rapids**



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Special Sunday Offering for Native American Ministries is Sunday, May 5. An envelope with more information and for your convenience will be found in the bulletin that Sunday.

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Pantry Collection for SWEPS is Sunday, May 19. Food, essentials, and cash are always welcomed and appreciated.



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*The 2019 Wisconsin Annual Conference is June 14-17 in Green Bay. As a part of that event, we will again collect money in the month of May for the Midwest Distribution Center in Illinois; its many services include disaster relief (like the famous Flood Buckets). (Money helps the most since the Center can purchase goods in bulk, stretching our dollars, and we don't need to pay for transporting the material to the Center.)*

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May

**12-Betty Johnson  
13-Vic Moon  
14-Pastor Josh  
19-Ellen Cook  
19-Helen Jungwirth  
21-Kenna Shaw  
25-Auril Harding  
26-Darwin Lamb  
27-Rick Cook  
28-Steven Andrews  
29-Diane Sloat  
30-Bill Carpenter  
30-Annette Spaulding  
30-Matt Steele**

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*Happy Anniversary*

**02-Michael & Ruth Topp  
02-Bob & Sandy Calverly  
13-Pat & Cheryl Lauby  
23-Marty & Terry Nolet**

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**If we have omitted your birthday or anniversary or have it listed on the wrong date, please let us know so we can make the necessary corrections to our records. Thank you.**

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**Wisdom Seekers**  
Every Thursday: 9:30 a.m.

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**Weight Watchers**  
Every Tuesday 7:00 am  
Every Wednesday 10:00 am, 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm  
Every Saturday 8:30 am

# Prayer Calendar

## May

- 1 - Kathie Sparkes
- 2 - Annette & Bill Spaulding
- 3 - Greg, Karla & Taisa Staven
- 4 - Molly Staven & Kaden Hicks
- 5 - John & Judy Steele
- 6 - Colleen Stevenson
- 7 - Mike & Lynn Swanson
- 8 - Diane Swiggum
- 9 - Michael & Ruth Topp
- 10 - Cindy Tyjeski
- 11 - Tom & Sara Tyne
- 12 - Frances Waite
- 13 - Fay Whitley
- 14 - Scott & Deb Whitney
- 15 - Bruce, Jenny, Jaylee, Kaylee, Tristan & Alexandria Williams
- 16 - Jan Winn
- 17 - Audrey Wittenberg
- 18 - Mark, Rhonda & David Wittenberg
- 19 - Bob & Marcia Wright
- 20 - Jamie Wright
- 21 - Bill & Pauline Anderson
- 22 - Steven & Susan Andrews
- 23 - Elizabeth Anhalt
- 24 - Jeff & Cathy Anhalt
- 25 - Paula Baeurle
- 26 - Wendy Baierl
- 27 - Ed, Jamie & Abigail Barker
- 28 - Cassandra Bartram, Ryan & Wyatt Coates
- 29 - Dan & Tina Bartram
- 30 - Joan Brenner
- 31 - Wayne & Wendy Boettcher

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**Have a prayer request? Call the prayer chain:**

**Daytime:** (9:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.)

Lynn Swanson — **715-423-4407**

**Evenings:** (6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.)

Kathy Duerkop — **715-421-3396**



For encouragement,  
call the prayer phone:  
**715-423-1323**

# Prayer Coordinator

*1 Thessalonians 5:17*

*“Pray without ceasing.”*

How do we pray? How often do you pray? Do you just come to God in times of urgency, or are you in continual conversation with him? Many of us have a quiet time with God each day. This is important to keep the lines open, but what about the rest of the day? When you need something as ordinary as a parking space, do you ask God to help you find one? When you misplace something, do you ask God to help you locate it? Or do you think God is too big and too busy to bother about a small thing? Do you discuss your daily decisions with Him? I pray you do for God is waiting to hear from us. He wants to be a part of our whole life. He loves all of us more than we will ever know. He is waiting to help you in even the smallest of things. Remember!! Pray without ceasing!

*Let us pray: Lord God, help us to realize you want to be a part of everything in our lives. Help me keep open the lines of communication between us. I know you are waiting to hear from me.*

*In Christ's Name, AMEN*



### **May 1**

8:00 am - Men's Breakfast  
10:30 am - Disciplines  
5:00 pm - Choir

### **May 2**

2:00 pm - COH Bible Study  
4:30 pm - TNT  
6:00 pm - COH

### **May 3**

9 - 11:00 am - COH

### **May 4**

3 - 10:00 pm - NA Event

### **May 5**

2:00 pm Riley Huiras Eagle Ceremony

### **May 7**

10:00 am - Bible Study  
5:00 pm - Bells  
6:00 pm - Bible Study

### **May 8**

10:30 am - Disciplines  
5:00 pm - Choir

### **May 9**

2:00 pm - COH Bible Study  
4:30 pm - TNT  
6:00 pm - COH

### **May 13**

4:30 pm - Trustees

### **May 14**

5:00 pm Bells

### **May 15**

10:30 am - Disciplines  
5:00 pm - Choir

### **May 16**

2:00 pm - COH Bible Study  
4:30 pm - TNT  
6:00 pm - COH

### **May 18**

1:00 - 3:00 pm Baby Shower

### **May 20**

6:00 pm - Finance Meeting  
6:30 pm - Council Meeting

### **May 21**

4:30 pm - TNT  
5:00 pm - Bells

### **May 22**

10:30 am - Disciplines  
5:00 pm - Choir

### **May 23**

2:00 pm - COH Bible Study  
4:30 pm - TNT  
6:00 pm - COH

### **May 27**

**HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

### **May 28**

4:30 pm - TNT  
5:00 pm - Bells

### **May 29**

10:30 am - Disciplines  
5:00 pm - Choir

### **May 30**

2:00 pm - COH Bible Study  
4:30 pm - TNT  
6:00 pm - COH

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#### **Church Office Hours**

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m. and closed on Fridays.

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#### **Pastor Joshua's Office Hours**

Monday through Thursday  
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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#### **Church Office Phone**

715-423-8860

#### **Pastor Joshua's Phone No.**

Cell: 920-896-3976