

River of Life UMC invites you to

TRUNK OR TREAT



October 23, 2024

5:30 -6:30 pm

Free Dinner, Games, & Treats!

2345 Prairie Ave, Beloit, WI

608.362.8866

The Current of The River of Life

2345 Prairie Ave, Beloit, WI

October 2024

Vol. 41 Issue #10

River of Life United Methodist Church

Loving People Into Taking Their Next Step With Jesus

Worship Location - 2345 Prairie Ave, Beloit, WI 53511
Office Location - 2375 Prairie Ave, Beloit, WI 53511

STAFF

Brenda Whitford 608-482-0021	Pastor pastorbrenda@rolumcwi.com
Kelly Lutzow 608-362-8866	Office Manager Kelly.Lutzow@rolumcwi.com
Lois Ulvin	Director of Music
David Newman	Pianist
Derek Bergh	IT-Production Manager
Keith Putney 608-774-3162	Teaching Pastor

LAY LEADERSHIP 2024

Ad Council Chairperson
Shellie Olson

Annual Conference Lay Members
Bob Scheets & Carol Scheets

Armed Intruder Chairperson
Barb Kuska

Board of Trustees Chairperson
Kathy Rodgers

Decorating Committee Chairperson
Tracy Maxwell

Finance Chairperson
Jesse Calkins

Hospitality Chairperson
Diane Gemignani

Lay Leader
Pat Sands

Memorials and Wills Chairperson
Marietta Axmear

Missions Committee Co-Chairpersons
Diane Gemignani & Ellen Butchart

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chairperson
Kelly Clark

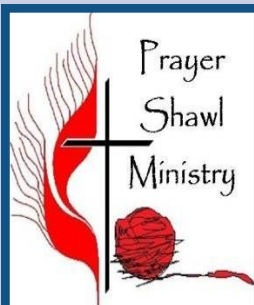
Stewardship Team Chairperson
Pastor Brenda

Tech Team Chairperson
Derek Bergh

Youth Ministry Team Chairperson
Karen Parssinen

**Not ready to come back to in person worship yet?
Or out of town for the weekend?**

The Beloit Service is on the website, on Facebook, and also on our YouTube channel.



Please contact the office if you or a friend would like a prayer shawl. We have many shawls to share.

Office Hours will be changing to Monday-Thursday 9:00—2:00

From the Pastor's Desk...



MCCI UPDATE

Missional Church Consultation Initiative

In the September pastor training, the MCCI pastors learned about the difference between trainability and coachability. For our purposes, trainability is the ability to learn new ideas and new skills. Coachability is the ability to put those new ideas and new skills into practice, and adapt as needed. It's not only the pastor and leaders who need to be coachable. In order for us to be all that

God has created us to be, we need to be coachable as a congregation.

One of the thoughts that gets in the way of being coachable is thinking that we can't. It's called scarcity thinking. We think there isn't enough time or enough money or enough people to help. We say, "we never did it that way before," or "we tried that and it didn't work."

Instead, our first coaching lesson is teaching us the word, "yet." There isn't enough time or money or people yet. We've never done it that way yet. We don't know how to do that yet. We haven't heard from God what is to be our next step yet.

As we continue to pray our Breakthrough Prayer, let's embrace that word "yet."

I'll see you in church, where we anticipate God to work mightily through us,
Love, Pastor Brenda

How can you participate in MCCI?

- It is not too late to join our MCCI Implementation Team. We currently have only women on the team, so it would be helpful to have a few men. It would be helpful to have older and younger people, longer and shorter length members on this team. Connect with Pastor Brenda if you would like to be on this exciting team.
- Everyone needs to participate in our day with our consultants in 6-8 months.
- Pray our Breakthrough Prayer every day.

LOOSE COINS



October Loose Coins will go to Caritas, the community resource center founded 50 years ago by several Beloit churches, including ours. Caritas offers the largest food pantry in the stateline area, a diaper pantry, and a community garden.

Our Caritas representative, Pat Sands, reports that the needs are greater than ever. Caritas serves over 700 families per month, providing healthy food offerings, like fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and a variety of protein sources. Families can access the food pantry and the diaper pantry twice a month.

Please be generous with your Loose Coins contributions. Drop your change in the offering plate each week, and if you can, include a check or bills marked for Loose Coins.

January: \$336.86
Family Promise

February: \$470.88
Vacation Bible School

March: \$225.38
Beloit Meals on Wheels

April: \$393.39
Caritas Community Resource Center

May: \$477.60
In Gathering

June: \$538.99
Rock Valley Community Programs

July: \$262.68
God's Fund & Blankets of Warmth

August: \$602.47
DEFY Domestic Violence

All Saint's Day



On Sunday, November 3rd, we will be remembering loved ones who have passed from this life to eternal life since last All Saints' Day. We will read their names aloud, a bell will be rung, and a candle will be lit. If you have someone you would like remembered, please submit their name to the office so that your loved one will be included.

Please cut out this Breakthrough Prayer Card and keep for your reference. People we prayed for this month will be conveniently listed on the back of the card once cut out.

Holy Spirit, release your resurrection power. Break through our complacency, bringing miracles of new hopes, new dreams, and new possibilities for our church and in our own lives. Empower us with boldness to follow where you lead us, beyond all that we could ask or imagine.

**DYNAMITE
PRAYER**

WATR

Join us for Wednesdays at the River dinner beginning October 9 at 5:30

October 9	Lasagna
October 16	Taco Bar
October 23	Hot Dogs/Chili Dogs
October 30	Pulled Pork

Fresh Flowers for the Sanctuary



Would you like to provide flowers for worship? You may bring in flowers for no reason, or there can be a sentence

in the bulletin that states the special occasion for which the flowers are being provided.

Look for the flower sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

People we are praying for



† Ace	† Joanne	† Lyfe
† Ann	† John	† Matt
† Austin	† Kerri	† Nancy
† Charley	† Kristen	† Ron
† Doug	† Leonard	† Rose
† Doug	† Linda	† Sam
† Ellen	† Lora	
† Jim	† Louise	



Knit & Crochet With A Mission

October 30th at 1:00 in the
Office Workroom

All knitters & crocheters
are invited!
Questions?

Call Sandy Ovist at 608-362-6583



Circle Calendar

All women are invited to become a member of a Circle. We encourage you to come and enjoy fellowship with the ROLUMC women's community. Here are the meeting times, dates and contact persons. Please join us for a time of joy, learning, and service.

Martha Circle will meet October 16 at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall

Mary Circle will meet October 16 at 1:00 pm. Barb Kuska is Hosting

Martha Circle: 3rd Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.
For details contact: Carol Braukhoff
608-299-8738

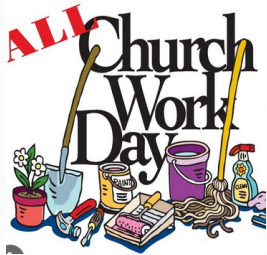
Mary Circle: 3rd Wednesday, 1:00
For details contact: Jacque Patch
608-362-7729

EYEGLOSS COLLECTION

Do you have a drawer or box where you have been keeping your old prescription and reader glasses? Were you waiting for an opportunity to dispose of them for a good purpose? Well, we have "rolled out the barrel" to collect those unused glasses for a great cause. Please bring your old glasses to church and place in the barrel in the coat room. They will be donated to the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center for processing. The glasses will be sorted and if determined to be of service, will be placed in an inventory for distribution to optical centers all over the world. This is another way we can make a difference in the lives of others and make room in our drawers!

Thank you,

The Mission Committee



Fall Work Day For River of Life

October 26

Begins at 9:00 AM

Saturday, October 26 at 9:00 is the Fall Work Day for River of Life. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

We will be cutting down and removing landscaping debris for winter and doing some cleaning and organizing. Groups and committees may have their own clean-up goals for the day, too.

Please bring work gloves, clippers, trimmers, and a rake if you have them.

Even if you can only drop by and say hi, your support would be welcome.

We hope to see you on Saturday, October 26 at 9:00.

LASAGNA LOVE



Feed families, spread kindness, strengthen communities.

Lasagna Love is a global nonprofit and grassroots movement that aims to positively impact communities by connecting neighbors with neighbors through homemade meal delivery.

You can visit this website to request a free meal made by a local volunteer.

<http://lasagnalove.org>

You can visit the same website to become a volunteer with the organization!

Contact Kelly Lutzow with any questions or reach out to the organization directly.



Office Angels

Thank you to my current office angels: Ellen Butchart, Marlene Erickson, Mary Alice Harris, Kathy Rodgers, & Pat Sands.

I will be reaching out in the middle of October for help to stuff 9 month statements.

Stuffing envelopes and bulletins is so much more fun when people are here to help! If you'd like to join in on the fun of office "work", please let me know and I will add you to the email/call list when I have another job with which I could use some help.

Kelly.lutzow@rolumcwi.com

608.362.8866

Hospitality Fellowship

Our fellowship time helps our congregation get to know each other, gives our visitors a chance to relax and get a feel for our congregation, and lets us take time to visit with members who may be struggling right now. Thank you to all the people who signed up to bring snacks this past August and September.

Sarah Parsons

Diane Gemignani

Carol Allen

Joanne Johnson

Tish Polzin

Cindy Fenger

Pat Sands

Marlene Sturdevant

Karen Parssinen

And thank you to Louise Junig who stops in the kitchen to help dry dishes.

There are lots of opportunities to sign up to bring snacks this fall. The Sign-up clipboard is either on the counter by the recycle bin or at the end of the snack table. When you sign up, it helps to pair up with someone. Or you can sign your name, and soon someone else will sign up to join you. You don't have to completely fill the table with food. Keep it simple. We will gladly eat and enjoy whatever you bring!

Thank you for considering this!



Donations for the Adult Mission Trip



Every year, we encourage people to sign up for the adult mission trip. We always tell them,

"Please do NOT let the cost of the trip keep you from signing up! There is money available in a fund specifically to help people with the cost of participating in the adult mission trip."

Every year, we have one or two people who are helped by that fund. This financial assistance fund could use some replenishing. If you would like to contribute to this fund to allow others to participate in the mission trip, please make out a check to ROL-UMC with Adult Mission Trip in the memo. This check can go into the offering, but please let Diane Gemignani know that it's a donation. (Otherwise, she will actually sign you up to go on the trip!)

You can contact Diane by phone: 608-290-5274 or dianegem23@gmail.com

Thank you for your generosity!

Firm

Focus



**Core Strength
&
Balance**

Friendly

Tuesday & Thursday 9:00—10:00 am

A low-impact exercise class has begun in our Fellowship Hall. Focus is on improving balance through core strengthening. Class is on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00-10:00. Individuals dress in comfortable clothing, bring their own weights, and water.



REMEMBER TO "LIKE US"

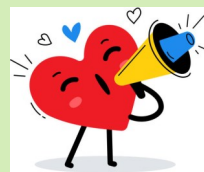
Our Facebook pages are active and there you'll find current postings on upcoming events, activities, church happenings, and lots more.

OUR FACEBOOK LINK

The River of Life United Methodist Church.

www.facebook.com/theriveroflifeumc

Don't forget to "Like" us to stay up-to-date.



Please remember to fill out your Connect Cards with your most current information so that we can verify your information is accurate in our computer systems.

These phone numbers are used for our Voice Shot software which is used to notify members of upcoming meetings and church service cancellations.

Sleeping Mat Work Days

Thank you to all the volunteers who have worked on the sleeping mats, to everyone who brought in plastic bags, and to everyone who cut bags at home. We just finished our 7th mat!

Weaving dates for October (at 9:30) are:

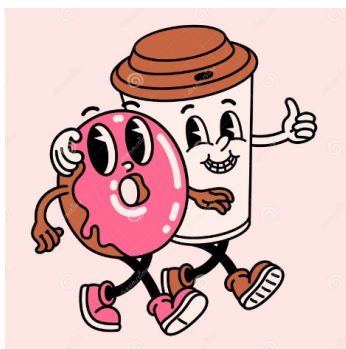
- † Friday, October 4
- † Wednesday, October 9
- † Friday, October 18
- † Wednesday, October 23
- † Friday, November 1



There are a lot of times when our building is open for other gatherings. If you have worked on the sleeping mats at our church, you can come any of those times and work on the mat.

If you are interested in working on the sleeping mats, just show up! All ages and all abilities are welcome. We will show you what to do.

We enjoy great fellowship as we reach out to the needy in our community



Cookie Walk

Soon it will be time for the cookies to be off and running again. It may seem early to be thinking about Christmas, however, there is only one more newsletter before this event, therefore I thought it was best to get the word out. Please think about how you may be involved in this fundraiser. We need contributions of baked goods, candy, craft items, and people to set up, work the event, and clean up.

The sale date is December 7, 2024, 9:00 AM, until sold out. Proceeds from the sale will be deposited in the "Women's Ministry" account to be distributed locally.

Watch for more details in the November *Current* and the bulletins. If you have questions, please contact Pat Sands, 608-921-6755.



**Adult Mission Trip to
Midwest Mission
Chatham, Illinois
March 2025**

Join our team volunteering at the Midwest Mission near Springfield, Illinois! We will have a Long Adult Mission Trip (Mar. 23 – 28) and a Short Adult Mission Trip (Mar. 26 – 28). In addition to the cost of the trip, we will have three dinners at economical area restaurants.

The cost of the Long Adult Mission Trip is between \$260 to \$385 depending on whether you share a dorm room or not.

The cost of the Short Adult Mission Trip is between \$125 to \$175 depending on whether you share a dorm room or not.

Please do NOT let the cost of the trip keep you from signing up! There is money available in a fund specifically to help people with the cost of participating in the adult mission trip. Please let Diane Gemignani know if you are interested in the assistance.

If you have any questions, contact Diane Gemignani (608-290-5274 or dianegem23@gmail.com). If you would like to sign up for the trip, fill out the slip below, include the non-refundable \$50 deposit, and mail it to: Diane Gemignani, 1005 Milwaukee Rd., Beloit, WI 53511.

*****Deposit is due by Jan. 15*****

I am interested in joining the Adult Mission Trip to Midwest Mission.

Please circle the type of mission trip you would like:

Long trip (March 23 – 28)

Short trip (March 26 – 28)

(I understand the \$50 deposit is non-refundable, but it is transferable if someone else can take my place.)

Name

Email

Address

Home phone

Cell phone



Join us for October Hobby Club October 13, 2024

Guest speaker this month is Pat Sands!

We are encouraging ANYONE with a hobby to come join us and share your hobby with us!

- † Journaling
- † Music
- † Crafting
- † Baking
- † Quilting
- † Any other ideas?

Please join us on October 13 at 1:00 pm and see how much fun we have! Snacks are provided!

You can also sign up to be a guest speaker/presenter!
Hope to see you there!

2375 Prairie Ave, Beloit, WI 53511
Kelly.lutzow@yahoo.com



A huge **THANK YOU** to all of the presenters for our Hobby Club!!

- † Carol Connors presented on Zentangles and that was super fun to learn about!
- † Kelly Clark taught us how to make an infinity envelope to add to our journals or scrap books. There were so many pockets!
- † Pat Sands presented on Junk Journaling and taught us how to turn our recyclables into new books or crafts!

Please consider joining us and sharing your hobby! I am looking for guest speakers from December moving forward.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets from 10:30-11:30 am via Zoom. **Contact Pastor Brenda for the Zoom link.**

This group is studying the book of *Psalms*.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Evening Bible Study meets at 6:00 pm in person, in the couch area of the Fellowship Hall.

Contact Pastor Brenda if you would like to participate.

SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Saturday Morning Bible study meets on Zoom at 7:30 am. Bob Parssinen leads the group using videos from *The Bible Project*.

Contact Bob or Pastor Brenda for the Zoom link.



Tutoring Begins Wednesday, October 9th

**Make a difference in children's lives!
Wednesdays after school!**



I would LOVE to be a tutor!



I would LOVE to provide snacks!

Contact Karen Parssinen today!

Rally Day

Thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed our festivities on Rally Sunday!
Thank you to everyone who donated treats to our popular Cookie/Cake Walk!

Photo Credit: Ellen Butchart



September Calendar

October 1	4:00 PM	Hospitality Meeting
October 1	6:00 PM	Youth Ministry Team
October 4	9:30 AM	Sleeping Mat Work Day
October 6		World Communion Sunday
October 8	11:00 AM	Missions Committee - Middle School Room
October 9	9:30 AM	Sleeping Mat Work Day
October 9	3:30 PM	Tutoring Begins!
October 9	5:30 PM	WATR Dinner Resumes!
October 15	6:30 PM	Finance Meeting
October 16	9:00 AM	Martha Circle
October 16	1:00 PM	Mary Circle - Barb Kuska Hosting
October 18	9:30 AM	Sleeping Mat Work Day
October 21	6:30 PM	Stewardship Meeting
October 23	9:30 AM	Sleeping Mat Work Day
October 23	5:30 PM	Trunk or Treat
October 26	9:00 AM	Church Work Day
October 28	5:30 PM	Trustees Meeting
October 30	1:00 PM	Knitting With A Mission
November 1	9:30 AM	Sleeping Mat Work Day
November 5	6:00 PM	Youth Ministry Team

Sunday

9:30 am Sunday Worship
 11:00 am "The Chosen" Movie Series
 w/ Bob Parssinen

Monday

12:30 pm Card Club (FH)

Tuesday

9:00 am Exercise Group
 10:00 am Men's Coffee Hour (FH)
 1:00 pm Staff Meeting (O)

Wednesday

10:30 am Adult Bible Study (Zoom)
 3:30 pm Tutoring
 5:30 pm WATR Dinner
 6:15 pm Adult Bible Study (FH)

Thursday

9:00 am Exercise Group
 4:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday

—

Saturday

7:30 am Bible Study (Zoom)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October 2

Mark Smith

October 4

Ellie Maxwell

October 5

Sam Keller

October 6

Dave Lynch

October 9

Carol Braukhoff

October 10

Sarah Pint

October 13

Mary Wadle

October 16

David Lynch

October 25

Will Polluck

Geri Green

October 26

LeRoy Dearth

October 23

Jeneane Kiser

Dolly Sonneson

October 24

Karen Truckey

October 27

Anita Markley

October 28

Emersyn Weiser

October 29

Carol Connors

October 31

Grayce Crandall

November 3

Bruce Holcomb

November 8

Darlene Breden

November 10

Diane Buckler

November 12

Jesse Calkins

November 13

Lora Dodson

November 18

Tevin Gamble

November 19

Doug Henthorn

November 23

Mary Alice Harris

Khalil Lutzow

November 24

Marietta Axmear

Tom Michels

November 27

Erik Ovist

November 28

Courtney Woody

November 30

Ron Schraeder

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

October 03

David & Cindy Lynch

October 06

David & Cindy Ferger

October 11

Sean & Carolyn Lynch

October 14

Jeff & Lynn Caple

October 15

Fran & Jacque Patch

David & Mary Robinette

Steve & Carol Martin

October 16

Marvin & Emma Miller

October 22

LeRoy & Kathy Dearth

October 24

Jesse & Sandy Calkins

October 29

James & Glenda Churchill

Issue deadline:

October 28

The next newsletter
will be available on

November 3

