Upper St. Croix Parish United Methodist Church Grantsburg, St. Croix Falls, Atlas P.O. Box 128 Grantsburg, WI 54840



Inside this issue:

Stewardship Message	2
Letter from Pastor Jenny	3
Central News	5
Atlas News	7
St. Croix Falls News	9
Message from Bishop Jung	10
Church Happenings in Photos	11
Activity Fun Page	13
Miscellaneous	14
Polk County Food Shelf Info.	15
Burnette County Food Shelf Info	16



A STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Helping God's Kingdom Come About November 2021

Sometimes a great quote sticks with you, rings true, and really makes you look at something in a new way. Stores like Hobby Lobby seem to have based a large part of their business models on the fact that we love having great quotes hanging in our homes. As we approach Thanksgiving, I hope you find these giving quotes inspiring.

"Make all you can, save all you can, give all you can." ~John Wesley

"He who obtains has little. He who scatters has much." ~Lao-Tzu

"No person was ever honored for what he received. He was honored for what he gave." ~Calvin Coolidge

"It is possible to give without loving, but it is impossible to love without giving." ~Richard Braunstein

"You can't have a perfect day without doing something for someone who'll never be able to repay you." ~John Wooden

"You can have everything in life that you want if you will just help enough other people get what they want" ~Zig Ziglar

"Remember this - you can't serve God and Money, but you can serve God with money." ~Selwyn Hughes

"I judge all things only by the price they shall gain in eternity." ~John Wesley

"It is more blessed to given than receive." ~Jesus, Acts 20:35

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Visit the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at www.wumf.org or Facebook/wumf.org Or call 1-888-903-9863

UNITED METHODIST MESSENGER

THE UPPER ST. CROIX PARISH 715-463-2624 Parish Office (in Grantsburg) 715-483-9494 St. Croix Falls Church Church Email: centralumc2016@gmail.com, Pastor Jenny Lee: JENNLEE1732@GMAIL.COM Website: www.upperstcroixparish.org Facebook: Upper St. Croix Parish United Methodist Churches November 2021



Pastor Jenny Lee, Ph.D.

Take a Moment to Pause!

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

A few days ago, I was in the office. As usual, I called some people, wrote cards, and prayed for our parishioners touching on each pew in the sanctuary. After I was done with my prayers in the sanctuary, I walked down the hallway. I saw brilliant sunshine coming in through the stained glass. I looked outside through the window. Bright sunlight is illuminating on the colorful leaves of fall. I was attracted by it and went out of the office and started walking on the street enjoying the soft wind, sunshine and the beautiful leaves. "Wow!" suddenly, I praised it unknowingly, "Wow, so beautiful!" I walked through the town and, along with the lake, enjoyed the beautiful weather. Suddenly, three words came to my mind, "joy, gratitude, and prayer." Perhaps, "joy and gratitude" come with "prayer." Without prayer, we may not know about true joy and gratitude.

The Apostle Paul often used "prayer and thanksgiving" together in his letter: "Pray without ceasing and give thanks in all circumstances." (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18): "Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving." (Colossians 4:2): "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." (Philippians 3:6).

In fact, we pray when we face difficulties, like when we have urgent issues, stoping by the emergency room or the pharmacy in order to get an immediate solution. So, praying without ceasing or giving thanks in all circumstances sounds like the story of saints. However, if we can find joy in everyday life, we can give thanks also. And then, with gratitude, we may pray every moment we breathe. It is like a prayer walk, which is praying every moment we are walking.

FROM THE PASTOR CONTINUED...

I want to share how a prayer walk works. I have shared it with a prayer group in St. Croix Falls. It is an easy way we can practice praying. A prayer walk is pretty simple, bringing together two wonderful things, "walking and praying" and enjoying the beautiful weather and maple leaves. I know some of you enjoy taking a walk with someone or walking alone in the morning or evening. A prayer walk is just being intentional about both exercising and your prayer time so that you can cover your community in prayer. As you pass by, while you are taking a walk, you may pray for those who are living in the place you are passing, whether you know them well or not. For many, a prayer walk is as simple as grabbing the leash and taking your dogs for a walk, or putting the kiddos in a stroller and praying for each family living in the house you pass, or government/county/town buildings to lift up our leaders. How you implement a prayer walk and what it looks like is really up to you. The most im-

portant part is that you are praying.

It is the season of thanksgiving. Let us pause from our busy daily lives and think of how often we give thanks to our family, our teachers, parents, leaders, and our Lord. Looking at beautiful maple leaves, let us give thanks to God and everyone around you. Walking on the street with a pet, let us pray for them with gratitude and joy. Blessings!



Pastor Jenny

Amazon Smile—Support us when you shop anytime!

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the Upper St. Croix Parish.

The money we receive will be used to support our parish's next generation. Thank you to those who are using the link below when shopping through Amazon. Please feel free to share this link with anyone you know who shops through Amazon. You receive the same products at the same price yet you can make a big difference in supporting our youth!

Copy and past the address below (or click on the link if you're seeing it electronically) into your browser and then bookmark the page for future use. Once you log into your account you can bookmark that and it will save your information if you make that selection! Thank you for your support!

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7429002



GRANTSBURG: CENTRAL NEWS





Central UMC is holding church services at 8:30 am on Sundays. We are looking for volunteers to help out at each service. Sign up sheets are available at the church. We appreciate your willingness to help out!

Most all of us are vaccinated, but we respect everyone whether masks are on or off. As we are still living with the Coronavirus we are encouraging people to avoid hugging or shaking hands with each other.

We welcome everyone to join us for Coffee Fellowship after service each Sunday. Please be safe.





Linda Harmon Nov. 4
Marivel Harmon Nov. 7
Janelle Zastrow Nov. 13
Pastor Jenny Lee Nov. 17
Haven Rrhbein Nov.23
Bob Branstad Nov. 23
Blake Reid Nov. 29

Thanksgiving is not a day it's a lifestyle.

A GLANCE AT CENTRAL'S OFFERING INCOME THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2021



Funds	September 2021		Year-to-Date 2021	
General Funds Gifts	\$	2,365.00	\$	32,890.00
Loose Offering	\$	55.00	\$	301.00
Upper Room	\$	-	\$	10.00
Rummage Sale	\$	-	\$	506.50
Easter Offering	\$	-	\$	90.00
Pie & Ice Cream Social	\$	32.90	\$	422.90
Total General Funds	\$	2,452.90	\$	34,220.40
Missions	\$	-	\$	215.00
Specials	\$	-	\$	285.00
Memorials	\$	-	\$	20.00
Other	\$	-	\$	-
All Funds	\$	2,452.90	\$	34,740.40

GRANTSBURG: MISSIONS & MEETINGS & MISC.



Admin Meeting November 16th 6:30 pm Central UMC

BE A "BACK-PACK BACKER"!

REMEMBER ... Every Sunday Is MAC 'N CHEESE SUNDAY!

SEPTEMBER MISSION UPDATE ...

In September we collected change for Moola for Milk. Total collected for the milk vouchers for the Salvation Army Back-pack program was \$32.82. Thank you for your support!

NOVEMBER MISSION OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Boxes and information are available in the sanctuary for those who want to start putting a box together for Operation Christmas Child.

Last day for drop off at church is the morning of November 21,2021.



the *power* of a simple *gift*



Several of our members took part in UMW and Laity Service on Sunday, October 17.

Terry Giles presented the RedDRESS Project.

Our regular meeting was held the following Wed., October 20.

We completed filling 13 shoe boxes for the Shoebox Mission.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 17th at the church at 1:00 pm. All are welcome! We will be finalizing the plans for the Heritage Boutique to be held on Saturday, November 27.

If you have questions call Mary at 715-791-8010.





UM Men's Meeting November 13th 8:00 am at Central UMC

The United Methodist Men will meet the 2nd Saturday of every month at 8:00 am. No masks are required.





In-person (indoor) worship services Sundays at 9:45 am.

We will be needing volunteers so please check the sign up sheets if you are able to help. Thank you!





LOAVES & FISHES NEEDS **OUR ONGOING SUPPORT**

You are invited to bring food for the Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry in Luck . As we are not currently holding indoor services, please drop your food shelf donations off in person at the food shelf.



November **Collection:**

HOLIDAY FOODS (canned yams, stuffing, cranberry sauce, instant potatoes)

HELLO, NOVEMBER!



\$ 1410.00

Offerings:

October Other Total

\$ Unavailable \$1410.00 as of 10/24/21

Thank you for your faithful financial support of the ministry of Atlas church!

\$3278.84 - Needed per Month to cover expenses. \$1868.84 shortage .

Cheryl Olson Nov. 2

Margie Mattson Nov. 3

Mike Steffen Nov. 4

Pastor Jenny Lee Nov. 17

Olivia Brock Nov. 24

Tanner Gaffey Nov. 30





PLANET GREEN

INK JET RECYCLING

Do you have used ink jet cartridges or old cell phones? Every one that

you donate to the church provides extra money to fund Atlas Church's Ministry and outreach. Thank you for your continued support of this program!



Missions

Church News

Important Upcoming Dates

November 2-3 ~ ICD training via Zoom November 14 ~ OCC boxes due November 28 ~ First Sunday of Advent United Methodist Student Day December 7-8 ~ ICD training via Zoom







NOVEMBER MISSION Operation Christmas Child

Boxes and gift giving information is available at Atlas for Operation Christmas Child donations.



The deadline to drop off a shoebox at Atlas is November 14th.

If you have any questions please see Pastor Jenny Lee.

Thank you!

LOAVES & FISHES FOOD PANTRY Monthly Report ~ September 2021

Households Served36Adults60Children1Total People61USDA Food Received1191#Groceries Purchased161#

Luck School District 22 Unity School District 14 Other 0 New Families: Unity 1 Luck 0 Other 0 NON-USDA (Donations) 377# Volunteer Hours 49 1/2



Items Needed: Peanut butter, tuna fish, canned vegetables, juice.



ST. CROIX FALLS NEWS



HELPING HANDS

Volunteers for the month of November

Liturgist Money Counter Usher Fellowship

Flowers

Communion

Kathy Gionis Peter Gionis Karen Sciacca 3rd Sunday of the month-Admin Council Kathy Gionis Karen Sciacca

In-person services will be held Sunday's at 11:15 am. We hope to see you there!

We will still also hold ZOOM Video services at 8:30 am every Sunday. Check out our website and Facebook page for details. We hope you can join us! Thank you!

NOVEMBER MISSION

The Sailor Hat Offering for November will go to by Gift Cards for Food for families in need for Thanksgiving.



Thank you for your support!



Pastor Jenny Lee 11/17 Marjorie Broker 11/26

REMEMBER THE FOOD SHELF

On Communion Sundays, you are invited to bring in donations for the SCF Food Pantry... just be sure your food items have not expired.



COMMUNION SUNDAY: 11/7/21



St. Croix Falls Admin Council Meeting

November 18th 4:00 pm via Zoom



October is National Clergy Appreciation Month

Siblings in Christ,



We know that God was in Christ, reconciling the world, and that relationship is the essence of transformation. We are changed by offering gifts in ways that serve each other. I am grateful for the gifted laity who lead and serve, and the dance of shared mission we discover when we deploy gifts in relationship with communities.

I write to thank you, clergy. Local Pastors, Deacons, Elders, and to you who may be spiritual leaders not yet with clergy credentials—but on the journey—thank you for your ministry!

God creates by speaking a new reality into being. God said, 'let there be light,' and there was light. Clergy, our words articulate God's newness in creation. We reset blessing in creation when we pronounce a benediction and say, 'may the Lord bless you and keep you.' We re-establish God's newness when we say, 'in the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven.' We pronounce something irrevocable when you, say, 'I baptize you...' These are not just words, but language that paints God's possibilities over the worn-through grain of the world. The church is a language community establishing God's relentless solidarity and interdependent good in a world that asserts self-interest as the way of the world. October is clergy appreciation month. I hope, Siblings in Christ, you will join me in offering signs of genuine appreciation and thanksgiving to clergy.

I want you to know that clergy are paying the price of a politicized pandemic. They are exposing themselves to the harm of those who refuse to mask for their neighbor. They are trying to raise the level of maturity in Christian community so that Christ would be made known in our witness. They proclaim the Oneness of Christ in a world where powerful forces seek to divide us.

According to the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, nationally, young elders, those age 35 or younger, declined again in 2021 to 721--lower than the previous low of 852. There is a decline of young deacons since 2019 by 23%. 38% of Wisconsin clergy appointed to churches have been in their appointment three years or less—and they are trying to build pastoral relationships across a pandemic and via electronic means of communication.

Our clergy recruitment is international, bringing highly educated and gifted candidates from around the planet to serve and supply congregations in Wisconsin, and we know cross-cultural and cross-racial appointments clearly express the oneness of Christ. That said, they require deep commitment from both laity and clergy for us to make world-transforming disciples of Jesus. Every pastor and every congregation have a cultural heritage. Where deep sharing takes place the governance of God's Spirit is made known. Thank you for choosing to make Christ known.

Ministry has always been hard enough to require both lay and clergy to rely on God and disorienting enough for us to take God's hand whenever it comes. I offer ten concrete ways to show appreciation for your clergy person.

- 1. Pray for your clergy persons. Deeply, earnestly, and honestly pray for their ministry.
- 2. Advocate for an increase in compensation and work to improve your congregation's financial stewardship.
- 3. Serve. Teach. Organize. Your service leads by example and blesses the body.
- 4. Hold accountable gossip and complaining that does not address people directly.
- 5. Visit someone who is grieving or sick or shut-in on behalf of the community of faith.
- 6. Speak well of your pastor in the church and community.
- 7. Reflect back to your clergy something specific that you appreciated about her or his ministry.
- 8. Attend classes that your clergy person offers. Support them with your presence.
- 9. Help others in your congregation respect the clergyperson's Sabbath day.
- 10. Make sure your clergy person takes regular times of vacation and gets away for continuing education.

Siblings, what you pay attention to grows. Pay attention to stewardship or mission or service—and they grow. Pay attention to the office of pastor or deacon and its value and impact will only increase—as will the people in that office. Thank you, each of you, for your ministry.

Know that I am praying for you. In the hope that Christ offers us, Bishop Hee-Soo Jung







New members, 9-26-2021, (Stan Chute and Donna Norman, Shasa Chute, Grantsburg)



SPRC meeting at Parsonage, 10-1-2021 (from left, Jim Andrews, Colleen Adams-Schween, Sue Olson, LuAnne Martell, Karen Sciacca, Barb Loomis, Kathy Gionis)



UMM meeting (G), 10-9-2021 (Don Anderson, Art Bistram, Charles Wright, and Pastor Jenny Lee)



Bible Presentation G), 10-10-2021

(From left, Adalyn Snyder, Leland Snyder, Blake Reid, Willow Erickson, and Pastor Jenny Lee)



Laity Sunday (G), 10-17-2021 Above



Reunion of Confirmation class 2020 at Parsonage, 10-20-2021, (Toni Koons, Renee Tooze, Cole Steffen and Jamie Steffen)



UMW Working on Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes (G), 10-20-2021 (From left, Paulie Kratchmer, Linda Hokanson, Barb Loomis, Mary McNally, and Judy Lien (Back))



Go Fish for Kids (G), 10-20-2021, (From left, Adalyn Snyder, Willow Erickson, Haven Rehbein, Barb Loomis, Blake Reid, and Briella Reid (Back photo))



The 2021 Charge Conference at Grantsburg, 10-25-2021.









Visitation, 10-6-2021, (Pam Cruther, Grantsburg)

Visitation, 10-8-2021, (Sue Ott, Atlas)

Visitation, 10-22-2021, (Lee and Peggy Frederickson (Atlas) and Pastor Jenny Lee)





Visitation, 9-24-2021, (Tom Fedje, Grantsburg)



Visitation, 10-8-2021, (Dorothy Miller, Atlas)



Visitation (SCF), 8-26-2021 (From left, Karen Sciacca, Steve and LeAnn Sylvester and Pastor Jenny)



NOVEMBER FUN PAGE





MISCELLANEOUS

MINISTRY TABLETS AVAILABLE

Just a reminder we have ministry tablets available for all churches to use for their members, please let Pastor Jenny know if you would like to use one.

Our experiences are that users really appreciate them, they are able to hear and see other members during the service. -Karen Sciacca

ZOOM VIDEO WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am Sunday's

There will be a parish-wide ZOOM video service at 8:30 am every Sunday until further notice. The worship materials will be mailed out to those without email, emailed out to everyone in the parish we have email addresses for and posted on our website. The sermon and ZOOM login information will also be sent with the service material and posted on our website. The video of the worship service will be posted on the parish Facebook page after the service.

Prayer Group & Craft Group Updates

As you may know, the prayer group continues gathering every Sunday in St. Croix Falls after the Sunday service. We will continue to do so for a while, if you want to join us we welcome you.

The Craft Group gatherings were delayed due to COVID 19 and we have-



n't started meeting in person yet. But, we'd like our crafters to consider starting with "Prayer Shawls." Even though we cannot gather together right now, we may start making "prayer shawls" individually and donating them or you can make it for your loved ones who need prayers and care.

Here is a photo of the "Payer shawls" in Grantsburg. Grantsburg's UMW (Women's group) agreed that we can extend this project to our parish's Craft Group. If you have any ideas regarding the prayer shawl project and Craft Group's future projects, let us know in order to go forth together.

Thank you very much for your commitment and passion for ministry! Blessings to you all. Pastor Jenny

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

Sunday, November 28th Special Offering Envelopes will be available at church to support this ministry.



A Churchwide Special Sunday Of The United Methodist Church

Your Gift . . .

United Methodist Student Day

Today Prepares Students To Continue The Rich Methodist. Tradition of Changing The World Through A Life Of Holiness And Service For Christ.

Polk County Food Shelves

Amery

Amery Food Shelf—230 Deronda Street, Amery Food Shelf is located in the old Amery Regional Medical Center Building. Call (715) 268- 5999 before 12:00 noon on Wednesday. Leave name and number on voice mail. Open Thursday 2-6 pm. Area of service: Amery school district only

The Congregational Church—201 Harriman Ave. North, Amery Food distribution: 9-10:30 am every 2nd Saturday of the month . Registration is 7 am to 9:30 am. **715-268-7390 Special note:** No economic restrictions; however, a \$20.00 donation is asked to help cover the cost of the truck.

Ruby's Pantry –www.amery.ucc.org or office.ameryucc@gmail.com Area of service: County wide

Dresser

People Loving People --- 103 E. Main Street, Dresser Monday and Saturday 11 am – 1 pm Wednesday 2 pm – 5 pm Phone: 715-501-4657

Frederic

Family Pathways Food Shelf—1100 Wisconsin Ave South, Frederic Phone **715-327-4425** Open Tuesday 9 am—6 pm, Thursday 9 am—6 pm, Saturday 9 am—12pm **For best service please call for appointment.**

Luck

Loaves and Fishes Interfaith Food Pantry—300 North 1st Street, Luck Pantry is located in the back of the DBS Hall Open Tuesday & Thursday 11 am—1 pm Phone (715) 472-2003 Area of service: Luck & Unity School Districts

Osceola

The Open Cupboard Food Shelf—402 2nd Avenue, Osceola Call for appointment: **715-294-4357** Open Monday-Friday 8 am – 5 pm (The Open Cupboard also has used furniture & clothing) Area of service: Osceola & Dresser school district

St. Croix Falls

St Croix Falls Food Shelf—809 Pine Street, St Croix Falls Phone: 715-520-2397

Open Monday 9 am—11 am Wednesday 3 pm—6 pm Friday 9 am – 10 am Area of service: SCF school district, Dresser elementary, Centuria, Cushing & portions of Balsam Lake & Taylors Falls

Family Pathways Food Shelf—2000 US Hwy 8, St Croix Falls Phone: 715-483-2920

Open Monday 9–5 pm, Tuesday 9-5 pm, Wednesday 12 pm– 6 pm, Thursday 9-5 pm, Friday 9–5 pm, & Saturday 9-Noon









Burnett County Emergency Food Shelves and Distributions

Grantsburg Area Food Shelf No cost

Serving residents of the Grantsburg School District Open Thursday 9:30am-11:30am; **EMERGENCIES ONLY** on Tuesday 9:30am-11:30am Allowed to come 2 times a month Located between the Library and the Village Hall Office, 320 South Brad St., Grantsburg, WI

Indianhead Community Action Agency- "Connections" No cost

Serving all Burnett County residents Open 10am-3pm Monday, Tuesday & Friday Located in Webster next to the Holiday Gas Station (715) 866-8151

Ruby`s Food Shelf- Siren No cost

Serving residents of the Siren & Webster School Districts Open 10:00am-2pm Monday & Friday 10:00am-4pm Wednesday Closed Thursday

**You`re asked to be there at least 30 minutes before close Located at 24534 State Hwy 35/70 (Ruby`s Secondhand) (715)349-RUBY (7829)

Ruby`s Monthly Food Distributions Bring own boxes or baskets Donation: \$20 For dates, times, and locations (no location restrictions at this time), visit <u>http://www.rubyspantry.org/distribution/distschedule.htm</u>

Second Harvest Food Distribution No cost

First and Third Thursday of every month Starts at 11:00am until food is gone Located at Connections in Webster (next to the Holiday Gas Station) This distribution is offered to anyone in need of food; please help get the word out

St. Croix Chippewa Commodities Distribution

24663 Angeline Ave., Webster II 349-2195, Becky Reynolds Food distribution: Monday to Thursday 7:30am-4:30pm (Native American Income Eligible Only)

Closed first week of each month for inventory. Can only receive one time per month. A variety of items are available each month and may include canned meats; juice; canned foods; dry goods; frozen meats; cheese; rice and pasta; fresh produce.





"If you love me, feed my sheep." John 21:15-19





Calendar of the Upper St. Croix Parish

SUN	SUN MON TUES		WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Pastor Jenny's Office Hours Grantsburg-Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9 am - 5 pm St. Croix Falls-Thurs, 11am - 4 pm	Colleen's Office Hours (<i>Times are approximate</i>) Remotely: Tuesday's 8:00 am-4:00 pm Friday's 8:00 am-12:00 pm		Check us out on the web at upperstcroixparish.org or on Facebook!			
	1	2 ICD Training for Pastor Jenny		4 9 am -10 am, District Clergy Meeting	5	6
2 Daylight Savings Communion Sunday 3:30 Worship (G) 3:30 Zoom Worship Service 9:45 Worship (A) L1:15 Worship (SCF)	8	9 7:00-8:30 pm Provisional Elder Mentoring	10 6:30 pm Confirmaiton Class Orientation	11 Veterans Day VETERANS DAY 20 We don't know them ALL. but we owe them ALL.	12	13 8:00 UMM Meeting (G)



2021

Calendar of the Upper St. Croix Parish

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
14 Veterans Sunday 8:30 Worship (G) 8:30 Zoom Worship Service 9:45 Worship (A) 11:15 Worship (SCF)	15	16 1:30 pm AD Council in Person (A) 6:30 Ad Council Meeting (G)	17 1:00 UMW Meeting (G)	18 9:00 am District Clergy Meeting via Zoom 4:00 St. Croix Falls Ad Council Meeting (Zoom)	19	20
21 Thanksgiving Sunday 8:30 Worship (G) 8:30 Zoom Worship Service 9:45 Worship (A) 11:15 Worship (SCF)	22	23 10:00 am Deadline to submit Newsletter and Calendar information	24	25 Thanksgiving Day Happy Julie Thanksgiving	26	27 9:00 am-2:00 pm Heritage Christmas Boutique
28 First Sunday of Advent 8:30 Worship (G) 8:30 Zoom Worship Service 9:45 Worship (A) 11:15 Worship (SCF)	29	30		B	e Tha for (Cas	nkful ähe on!