

Sumner Center UMC Newsletter



OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

October 2023

Seasons of Life By Kathy Hawkins

The seasons of time go sailing through the years
From tiny babes to grown adults leaving us looking in the
mirror

The first day of pre-school has come with much
trepidation

Allowing parents practice in the skills of negotiation

Hiding behind the legs of nervous mom and dad
A toddler leaving behind the only life they ever had

As the child grows in stature and in questioning mind
The walls of elementary school fills their time

Learning to read, write, and solve problems in math
Nights of doing flashcards instead of splashing in the bath

Middle school sneaks up in an intimidating way
Switching teachers for classes and finding the locker at
the end of the day

Physical education classes that cause all to sweat when
we run with speed

Learning the rules and moves of the games we chose to
soon succeed

High school comes with a drivers license and activities
galore

While family watches from the bleachers, auditorium, and
behind the stage door

Sports, band, choir, drama, clubs, and leagues we partake
Means sharing a car and giving the daily schedule a shake

On to college, vocational school, or a job to give us
direction

Our friends from school days we remember with great
affection

No matter the path our life takes or intersections that
come along

The seasons of life for each of us is different and helps
make us strong

The gears continue to turn as our age grows with each
dawn

Cherish those times and friends you made from days
bygone

As the wheels on the bus continue to go round and round
Keep reaching for the stars as there are limitless bounds

Sunday Worship: In Sanctuary at 11:00am & Sumner Center UMC Facebook Page

Visit our Church Website at:
<http://www.sumnercenter.com>

**Donations may be sent to our mailing
address:**

**25378 151st Ave
Spring Valley, Mn 55975**

Pastoral Support Team

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Grace and Peace in the name of Jesus Christ:




*If you have items you would like to be
published in the newsletter, please contact
Pastor Bridget, by the 3rd Thursday of the
preceding month by emailing your
information*

*to(bridget@countrywidecarriers.com) Or by bringing your
information to Worship on Sunday mornings)*

Calendar of Events

(Subject to change and/or be added to as the need arises)

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 11 am Worship  Food Shelf donation day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 11 am Worship Children's Storytime with Kathy Hawkins 10:30 am	9 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day	10	11	12 Wykoff Clothing drive drop off at Wykoff Commons 3-7pm	13 Wykoff Clothing drive drop off at Wykoff Commons 1-7pm	14
15 11 am Worship World Communion offering collection day	16	17	18	19	20	21 Wykoff Clothing Drive Open 10-1:30 pm
22 11 am Worship	23	24	25	26	27	28 Wykoff Clothing Drive Open 10-1:30 pm
29 11 am Worship	30	31 		Friends and family of all ages are invited to stop by the Racine UMC on Halloween night from 6-8pm for community woodfire oven pizza and Ice Cream. Plus some fun activities for the kids!		

September Worship Schedule

World Communion Sunday

October 1, 2023

Pastor Bridget Leading



How do we deal with conflict? Well, we can go down the all too familiar route of quarreling and testing which are common human experiences and we in the church certainly do not claim freedom from that. Or we can find our way to common ground through the love for others that we have been taught. The parable today from Matthew asks us to pay attention to whether our words match our deeds. Do we live out the faith that we profess? Do we approach even those with whom we disagree with grace and love?

19th Sunday of Pentecost

October 8, 2023

Pastor Jon Leading

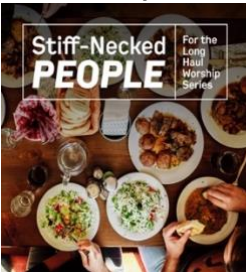


How do we view the commandments? We honor them; we treasure them; we wish there was more obedience to them in the world out there. But do we see them as descriptive of our lives? Rather than seeing them as normative to everyone, what if we decided to see them as something we chose to be the guide for our lives? And what if we wanted to move from beyond the letter of this law into the spirit, what might that look like?

20th Sunday of Pentecost

October 15, 2023

Pastor Jon Leading



Stiff-necked is one of those descriptions that we don't use nearly enough. Our focus this week might seem harsh. It might also lead us to point fingers at those out there or over there who are stiff-necked. Rarely do we realize that we are the ones in need of a neck massage. To be honest we are some of those who make light of the invitation at times; we are those who attend but don't bring our wedding garment, don't enter into the spirit of the call to discipleship. We are often halfhearted at best. So, today let our worship be our opportunity to reengage, to recommit to the journey of discipleship.

21st Sunday of Pentecost

October 22, 2023

Guest Speaker



We are a pilgrim people; we have a destination in mind as we move forward in our journey of faith. It may seem at times that we are just wandering aimlessly, doing our best to stay clean in an increasingly messy world. But the deeper truth is that we are heading somewhere. We are on a quest toward the kingdom of God. Sometimes we call it a kin-dom as a reminder that this is a corporate journey; it is a community vision. But whatever we call it, it is the vision that Jesus shared again and again with images both powerful and subtle.

22nd Sunday of Pentecost

October 29, 2023

Guest Speaker



Today We continue to envision what it would be like to live in the kin-dom of God as a community of faith. But this week, we focus on the doing. It is important for us to understand that loving God and loving neighbor is not about cultivating attitudes or about generating feelings or emotions.



October EVENTS

Tuesday, October 31st

Racine UMC will host their annual
Spooktacular Community Halloween Event
Stop in and enjoy-Woodfire Oven Pizza
Ice Cream
Fun activities for all the little goblins
6-8pm



Wykoff Community Clothing Drive



Wykoff United Methodist Church

CLOTHING DRIVE and GIVEAWAY

at

WYKOFF COMMONS

(Former School Building, 201 W. Bartlett Street)

Saturday, Oct. 21 & Saturday, Oct. 28

10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

and

Wednesday, Oct. 25

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

CLOTHING COLLECTION DATES AND TIMES

Thursday, Oct. 12 - 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 13 - 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Drop off at Wykoff Commons

Or Clothing pickup available

Call 507-346-1056

BROWNSDALE UMC

ANNUAL CHICKEN BISQUIT DINNER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28TH

4:30 -7PM



Upcoming Conference Opportunities

ConneXion Retreat on MNsource: Self-paced, online. Are you a lay person looking for support in naming and claiming your call? The ConneXion Retreat experience is now available on MNsource for those who haven't attended an in-person retreat. Website: www.mnsource.org

Orientation to Interim Ministry: Sept. 28, 10-11 a.m., online. This is for any clergy curious about, or called to, this unique form of ministry. Experienced interim pastors will share about interim ministry training, discuss lessons learned, and answer your questions.

Writing and Leading Prayers for Worship: Oct. 10, 17, and 24, 7-8 p.m., first two sessions online, last optional session at Richfield UMC, Minneapolis. Laity, learn how to write and lead prayers for your church and brush up on public speaking skills in this workshop led by Rev. Nate Melcher. Website: www.minnesotaumc.org

Lay Speaker Certification Series: Nov. 3, 10, and 17, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., online. Have you attended a ConneXion Retreat and feel ready to take the next step in your ministry? Begin this certification process so you can preach and provide pulpit supply beyond your local church. Website:

Walk to Emmaus: Men's Walk, Oct. 26-29; Women's Walk, Nov. 2-5; Lakeview Methodist Healthcare Center, Fairmont. Experience Christian spiritual renewal and formation. Meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers.

"Gray Area Thinking®" Inclusivity Training: Nov. 5, 6-8 p.m., St. Francis UMC. Attend this free diversity and inclusion training by Ellie Krug. Learn about building a just and inclusive world and fostering positive change.

If you are interested in any of the above opportunities, you may contact your Pastor or the Laurie Huston of the district office at: msgs-mnumc-2107@brtapp.com



Minnesota
Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church



HALLOWEEN



C F B R N H C T I W F E I B M O Z Z C S
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WORD LIST

BAT
 BLACK
 BOO
 BROOMSTICK
 CANDY
 CAT
 CAULDRON
 CHOCOLATE

COSTUME
 CREEPY
 DOORBELL
 FRIGHT
 GHOST
 GRAVEYARD
 HALLOWEEN
 HAUNTED

JACK O LANTERN
 MONSTER
 OCTOBER
 PUMPKIN
 SCARY
 SKELETON
 SPIDER

SPOOKY
 TOMBSTONE
 TREAT
 TRICK
 VAMPIRE
 WITCH
 ZOMBIE