

Racine UMC Newsletter

401 East Main Street, Racine, MN 55967

November 2022



Pastors' notes...

Time to Give Thanks:

November is typically a time for reflection on thankfulness - recognizing the things, people, and aspects of life that we appreciate. Expressing gratitude is a proven way to lift your spirits, reduce stress and improve your overall health.

The holidays can be a stressful time but taking a step back to acknowledge the positives can really make a difference, not only to yourself but also to others. Your thanks could be the one ray of sunshine in someone else's day.

So, to celebrate the season and give thanks, I want to share some of the things for which I am thankful and after reading, I encourage you to spread the positive vibes by sharing your gratitude with your friends and family, on social media, in a hand-written note or however you decide. I am sure it'll make a difference!

Here are some of the things I am thankful for this Thanksgiving.

I am thankful... that we live in a country where I am free to Love God with all my heart, soul, and mind without persecution.

I am thankful... for the gift of having family in my life!

I am thankful... for the community of friends God has provided me. I have been truly blessed by His gracious guidance which has brought me into treasured relationships with so many kind people in Racine, Sumner Center and Wykoff.

Praise God from whom ALL blessings flow! When life begins to weigh me down may I always find my way back to Him with humility and thanksgiving and remember to acknowledge what beautiful gifts I have received! Faith - Family - Friends...

That's what life is truly about!
Give thanks with a grateful heart!!!

**Worship:
Sundays
In Sanctuary at 8:30am
&
Racine UMC Facebook Page
FM Radio 89.7 @8:30am
Sunday's**

**Pastor Bridget Sheely
Cell: 507-923-6247**

bridget@countrywidecarriers.com

**Racine UMC Office hours
Thursdays
5-7pm
Office Phone: 507-378-4801**

Grace and Peace in the name of Jesus Christ:

If you have items you would like to be published in the newsletter, please contact our church secretary, Norma Kenning, by the 3rd Thursday of the preceding month by emailing your information to: Racine UMC (rscumc@hmtel.com) Or by bringing your information to Norma during office hours (Thursdays, 5-7)



The light of God remains to shine bright in the community of Racine only by your generous giving heart! If you would like to donate a gift, you may send donations to the address above or deliver it in person during Sunday morning worship services.

Thank you for your dedication and love!

Calendar of Events

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

November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 SPRC Meeting with D.S Cynthia Williams 6-7pm Via zoom	2	3	4	5 
6 Worship 8:30 am 	7	8 Ad Council Meeting 6:30pm 	9	10	11 	12
13  Worship 8:30 am	14 District Charge Conference 6:30pm Via Zoom	15	16	17	18	19
20  Worship 8:30 am 	21	22	23  6:00pm @Wykoff UMC	24 	25	26
27  Worship 8:30 am 	28	29	30	"Because of Bethlehem" Advent Zoom Study begins (12/1/22@ 6:30pm)		

What is All Saints' Day?

All Saints' Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, the Feast of All Saints, the Feast of All Hallows, the Solemnity of All Saints, and Hallowmas, is a Christian solemnity celebrated in honor of all the saints of the church, whether they are known or unknown.

What Is Christ the King Sunday?

Christ the King Sunday is the very last Sunday on the calendar of the Christian year. Christ the King Sunday was instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI in response to the tragedy of World War 1 and the growth of secularism in the world. Still today—in the face of our chaotic, divided world that often seems ruled by the forces of darkness—Christ the King Sunday is meant to remind us that in the end, God does reign over all things. Christ the King Sunday says our task is to not only to trust in this truth, but to live the kind of lives through which the Holy Spirit of God can work to bring the full reign of Christ to fruition in all creation!

What Is Advent Season?

Advent Season is a very special time of year that sometimes gets lost in the bright lights of the Christmas season it precedes. The first day of Advent is the first day of a new Liturgical (or church) calendar and begins a four-week period of preparation in anticipation of the nativity of Jesus at Christmas. The Advent Season is all about reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world as it is today. It is a time for faith communities and families to remember, through prayer, reflections, special music, and good deeds what the true meaning of Jesus' birth is.

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

All Saints Sunday

November 6th



Maxine Vrieze

November 2, 1938 ~
August 30, 2022

Let us give honor to those who fought the good fight. For it is because of them that we may move forward as better people.

A Service for the Eve of Thanksgiving Ecumenical Worship at Wykoff United Methodist

6:00pm

November 23, 2022

As we unite in worship this evening, we extend a warm welcome to each one present. May we together experience the presence of God.

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We Gather to Prepare Our Hearts to Meet Our Lord



Blessing

Lord of bounty and blessing, we come to you this day in gratitude for all that we have been given. We are grateful for

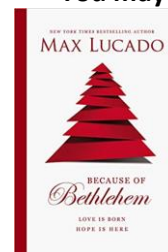
the blessings and for the opportunities to be of service to others in your Holy Name. Bless each of us, that we may become true blessings to others. For we ask all of these in the name of Jesus. Amen.

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*Advent Book Study -beginning on
Thursday, December 1st via zoom

Or

You may use this book as an independent study



For some, Christmas is a time of excitement, celebration, and family, while for others it is a time of loneliness, grief, and loss. No matter what this season holds for you, the promise of Christmas will bring you a lifetime of hope.

Christmas begins what Easter celebrates. The child in the cradle becomes the King on the cross. Because of Bethlehem, we have a Savior in heaven. These are the heart shaping promises of Christmas. Long after the guests have left, the carolers have gone home, and the lights have come down, these promises endure.

The manger is the message.

River Valley District Charge Conference

When: November 14, 2022, 6:30pm

D.S. Cynthia Williams will preside over a district conference via zoom. All clergy and laity are invited and welcome to attend.

Yearly forms that will be presented for approval will be:

2023 clergy compensation

2023 Nominations of officers

2023 Membership reports

Please plan on a time of virtual connecting, conducting Conference business, and a time of worship and teaching.

(Notify Pastor Bridget to receive the zoom link information if you are interested in attending)

As you curl up in a comfortable spot and look into the odd, wonderful story of Bethlehem, may you find enduring hope for all seasons of your life. Advent Devotional Guide included.



*Open Hearts.
Open minds.
Open doors.*

Sign up with Pastor Bridget today!

Grace and Peace to you and yours from Pastor Bridget,

“O come, let us sing for joy to the LORD, Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.” (Psalm 95:1-2)

What a beautiful invitation for all Christians!

It is one of my favorite verses of the Psalms because of its call for all God’s children to gather in celebration and praise.

I pray you have enjoyed the wonders of a beautiful summer. As we have entered into the fall season, I would like to take the opportunity to touch base with you and offer an open invitation to re-establish your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Racine, Wykoff, and Sumner Center United Methodist churches are three beautiful sanctuaries with a strong foundation in faith and commitment to our Lord and Savior. Unfortunately, like many churches, we have experienced a drastic decline in worship attendance and active participation. I am reaching out in hope that we may find ways to solve this very important question.

How can we, as a faith community, help to guide His beloved children back to worship?

In our current culture, time seems to be a precious commodity and our schedules tend to become overloaded with the daily “must do’s”. I completely understand how overwhelmed you may become as you are pulled in many different directions. I empathize with these struggles. This is why I am reaching out. In this newsletter there is listed the upcoming events for fall and the beginning of winter. This includes but is not limited to all the activities our churches will be involved in. As you see, we will be continuing many of our traditional events and worship experiences but we are also expanding into new and innovative ways to gather in worship as well. Here is a list of some of the upcoming events and worship services:

Sunday worship services offered: Racine UMC @ 8:30 am Wykoff UMC 9:45 am Sumner Center UMC @ 11:00 am
Children’s Church 8:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Story time with Jesus 10:30 am

November

Sumner Center to participate in the Fillmore County “Angel Tree” children’s mission

11/6 – All Saints Day.....Honoring those precious in heart that we have lost in the past

11/23 – Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve worship @ Wykoff UMC.....Uniting with our Brothers & Sisters in Christ both United Methodist & Lutheran

11/27-Advent Season Begins.....The New year begins by reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ’s birth

11/27-3 Church Advent Mission to begin.....All are invited to participate in this “Reverse Advent” mission. More details below

December

12/1 4-week advent book study begins.....” Because of Bethlehem” by Max Lucado

12/4 Communion Sunday & Bake Sale @ Sumner Center UMC (money to be donated to area Care Center’s for their monthly programs)

Christmas – “Celebration of His birth” services to be held:

Saturday - Christmas Eve

Wykoff – 4:00pm

Racine 5:30pm

Sumner Center 7:00pm

Sunday (12/25) there will be no in person worship.

Worship Services will be offered online only.

We will be starting the New Year by offering a once-a-month united worship experience.

Communion, Special Music, laity readings, fellowship with meal and a mission focus:

More information on this new

1st @ 10 am monthly worship





“Gathering at His Table Sunday”
The First Sunday of each month –
Worship @10 am”



Racine, Wykoff & Sumner Center UMC's are starting the new year off

with a new worship experience!

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN ARE WELCOME

Sunday, January 1, 2023
Racine, Wykoff and Sumner Center UMC's
Will consolidate all 3 worship services into one
Worship Service at Sumner Center UMC @10am

*This new once a month Worship consolidation opportunity
for all 3 congregations and neighborhood friends
will offer us a chance to join as one for a day of:
praise of His name
followed by a meal
and a monthly mission focus.*

The Monthly rotation for first quarter between each Church Sanctuary is as follows:

January 1st @ Sumner Center UMC @ 10am

February 5th @ Wykoff UMC @ 10am

March 5th @ Racine UMC @ 10 am

So, mark your calendars that on..... **Sunday January 1, 2023**

Worship service for Racine & Wykoff will be located at **Sumner Center UMC @ 10am!!**

A MEAL WILL FOLLOW WORSHIP

First quarter Mission focus will be to
Assemble kits for UMCOR

HYGIENE KIT INSTRUCTIONS (January mission focus)

MENSTRUAL HYGIENE KIT ("PERIOD PACK") INSTRUCTIONS (February mission focus)

CLEANING KIT INSTRUCTIONS (March mission focus)

A list of supplies will be sent out via future newsletters, social media and in person church handouts a few weeks prior to worship each month. So be on the lookout!!!!

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

**EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.**

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM

Collect these food items at home in a basket then each week or by Christmas Eve worship bring items to church and place them at the altar to be blessed before they are distributed to our area food shelves.

**This is a fantastic Advent mission that will help area food banks re-stock
Their shelves after the holiday depletion of items.**

The church leadership will determine where to distribute the bounty of gifts donated

Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving
pilgrim
mayflower
gratitude
yams
family
gobble

pilgrim
indian
november
thankful
grandma
mother
traditions

pumpkin
autumn
stuffing
Massachusetts
grandpa
father
fall

turkey
pie
rolls
Plymouth
uncle
brother
leftovers

dressing
cornucopia
cobbler
squash
aunt
sister
acorns

cranberries
feast
drumstick
wishbone
cousin
carve



Racine United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 127
Racine, MN 55967

**RACINE
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

401 E. Main St.
P.O. Box 127
Racine, MN 55967

Phone:
507-378-4801
E-Mail:
rscumc@hmtel.com

Our mission is
to make disciples
of Jesus Christ for
the transformation
of the world

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 am in person

Online

Radio 89.7 FM

Church Website

<https://www.umcracinemn.org>

2022

November