

# Racine UMC Newsletter

401 East Main Street, Racine, MN 55967

## November 2025

### **The Extra Chair**

By Kathy Hawkins

The Thanksgiving menu has received a lot of thought  
And the carts of groceries have finally been bought

Paper napkins and matching paper plates  
Will help make cleanup go at a speedy rate

The turkey in the oven at oh-so-early in the morning  
Mashed potatoes spattered all over without warning

The stuffing, sweet potatoes, and corn on the side  
Fill all the opens spots on the plate the rest did not  
hide

Pumpkin pie with whipped cream on top for dessert  
There is no way you can eat it without getting some  
on your shirt

The places were set for those who were to attend  
From family far and near as well as some great friends

As I look at all the faces sitting around the long table  
From the squealy little ones to those not so able

An extra chair was added to include a special guest  
For anyone who may not be so greatly blessed

We never know if that person who walks down the  
street  
With ragged clothes and no shoes on their feet

Will be the one we have been waiting for from above  
Who wraps arms around us in unconditional love

During this Thanksgiving season I pray you will find  
The heart of the blessings is in loving and being kind



OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

***Worship on Sundays:  
In Sanctuary at 8:30am***

***&***

***FM Radio 89.7***

***@8:30am***

**Pastoral Support Team**

Pastor Bridget Sheely

Email: [bridget@countrywidecarriers.com](mailto:bridget@countrywidecarriers.com)

Pastors cell # 507-438-1352

Pastor Jon Marburger

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***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 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the  
preceding month by  
emailing your information*

*to: Racine UMC [rscumc@hmtel.com](mailto:rscumc@hmtel.com)) Or by  
bringing your information to Norma during  
office hours (Thursdays, 5-7) 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.*

# Calendar of Events

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

## November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 
<b>2</b> 8:30 am Worship 	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Food Shelf 6-8 pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 8:30 am Worship 	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Ad Council 6:30pm 	<b>12</b> Confirmation 6:30pm Zoom Meeting	<b>13</b> WORLD  KINDNESS DAY Food Shelf 6-8 pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 8:30 am Worship 	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Church Conference @ United Church of Grand Meadow 7pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Food Shelf 6-8 pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:30 am Worship 	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service @ Zion UMC, Sargeant 6:30pm	<b>27</b> Happy Thanksgiving Day 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:30 am Worship 						

# November Worship Schedule



**November 2, 2025**

**Pastor Bridget Leading**

All Saints Day is one of those moments where we celebrate and remember those who have made the journey or who have taken the next step. We remember them because they are still a part of us, shaping us, mentoring us – maybe not in a direct way, but in a real way.

**On this day we will honor our sister in Christ Bonnie Hotopp**



**November 9, 2025**

**Pastor Bridget Leading**

What are you distracted by? That's a question underlying our scripture today. What is it that draws your attention away from your call to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world? It is true that the Christian life is marked by joy and surrounded by wonder. Yet, like the disciples in today's text, we can be distracted by what we see around us and lose sight of our reason for being, to live a life of proclamation and invitation.



**November 16, 2025**

**Pastor Jon Leading**

What does it mean to think and act like a Christian? The key is to have a Kingdom Mindset – a way of thinking that recognizes God's hand on your life. When we pattern our lives from the verses we will read in Philippians today, we encounter the peace of God and the God of peace. So let us gather with Thanksgiving in our hearts, joy in our minds and peace in our soul this day as we unite in our call to worship.



**November 23, 2025.**

**Pastor Jon Leading**

This week marks the end of the Christian year. Next Sunday will be the first Sunday of Advent, and it will begin another journey with the church through the life and witness of Jesus the Christ, our Lord and Savior. So, today we end with a statement of allegiance to the one who reigns over us. Sometimes called Christ the King Sunday or Reign of Christ Sunday. Either way, we declare our ultimate allegiance not to a nation, not to an ideal or dream, but to a person.



**November 30, 2025**

**Pastor Bridget Leading**

**Advent Liturgy Reading  
Exodus 3:1-14**

# November Prairieland Parish Events

## Annual Charge Conference

Our District Superintendent, Michelle Hargrave, will be leading A Cluster Charge Conference on:

Date: Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>

Location: United Church of Grand Meadow

Time: 7:00pm

Together we will enjoy worship, fellowship, and sharing  
Several churches in our area will be attending which will give us all opportunity to connect with each other.



## Prairieland Parish wide Worship Service Opportunity



Hosted by: Zion UMC, Sargeant, MN

Date: 26<sup>th</sup>

Time: 6:30pm

1 Timothy 4:4-5

*“For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.”*

All are invited to come and give thanks to the One whom has blessed us in so many ways!



Advent Begins on Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>

Each week readers from the congregation will start with a liturgy of advent

**Prairieland Parish**  
**Is joining Together for a 4-week book study titled:**  
**“A Child is Born” by Amy-Jill Levine**

**Each week we will watch a 10-minute Video followed by a time of connectional open forum and discussion.**

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We will meet in-person Tuesday’s @ 2 pm  
@ United Church of Grand Meadow  
December 2nd, December 9th, December 16th, December 23rd

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**Zoom Study Opportunity**  
**to be led by Bishop Lanette Plambeck**

In this study, United Methodists across the Dakotas and Minnesota will gather via zoom on Monday Evenings with Bishop Lanette

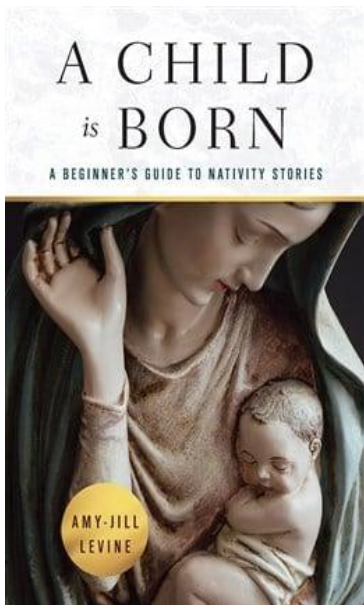
**Weekly discussions will be held via Zoom on Monday evenings,  
Dec 1st-Dec. 22nd, 7-8:15 p.m.**

**Mark your calendars for this is a great opportunity to join with our Bishop and others!**

The Zoom link will be provided @ [minnesotaumc.org](http://minnesotaumc.org) as the first discussion date draws near

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You may go on-line to purchase your own book or reserve a book with Pastor Jon or Bridget for \$14.00



Discover the fascinating connections between ancient birth stories and the Nativity of Jesus in this captivating four-week Advent study.

The study delves into the narratives of Isaac and Ishmael, Moses, and Samuel to reveal how they foreshadow and enrich the timeless Christmas story in the final chapter.

Author Amy-Jill Levine brings her expert knowledge of Scripture and careful consideration of the Christian story to show readers how Scripture's earlier birth stories anticipate the story of Jesus's birth and how the birth resonates and gives new meaning to those earlier stories.

**The thanksgiving holiday is often accompanied by just that- thanksgiving! Certainly, it is a time set aside for football, family, and full stomachs, but there is a particular focus on gratitude for the things that we have. So, what does the Bible say about being thankful? Here are a few Scriptures for you to meditate on this thanksgiving as you praise God for all He is and all that He has done.**

“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.”- **Psalm 100**

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”- **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.”- **Colossians 4:2**

“Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or fully declare his praise?”- **Psalm 106:1-2**

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Cry out, “Save us, God our Savior; gather us and deliver us from the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name, and glory in your praise.” Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.”- **1 Chronicles 16:34-36**

“I will praise God’s name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving. This will please the Lord more than an ox, more than a bull with its horns and hooves.”- **Psalm 69:30-31**

“The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.”- **Psalm 28:7**

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.”- **James 1:17**

“The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”- **1 Corinthians 15:56-57**

“I will give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness; I will sing the praises of the name of the Lord Most High.”- **Psalm 7:17**

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”- **Philippians 4:4-6**

“Sacrifice thank offerings to God, fulfill your vows to the Most High,”- **Psalm 50:14**

“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”- **Colossians 2:6-7**

“Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.”- **1 Chronicles 16:8**

“But thanks be to God who always leads us as captives in Christ’s triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere.”- **2 Corinthians 2:14**

“For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.”- **1 Timothy 4:4-5**

# THANKSGIVING DINNER

BEANS  
BREAD  
BUFFET  
CAKE  
CELERY  
CIDER  
COOKIES  
CORN  
CRANBERRIES  
DELICIOUS  
DINNER  
DRINKS  
FAMILY  
FRIENDS  
GRAVY  
HAM  
HARVEST  
HOST  
ICE CREAM  
PASTA  
PEAS  
PIE  
POTATOES  
PUMPKIN  
RIBS  
ROLL  
SALAD  
SOUP  
SPINACH  
SQUASH  
STUFFING  
TABLE  
TURKEY  
TURNIPS  
VEGETABLES  
YAMS

## WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

D	O	F	D	E	L	B	A	T	L	H	O	S	T	G
A	G	S	C	E	F	A	M	I	L	Y	E	E	G	J
E	S	H	A	M	L	C	N	F	O	I	S	R	K	P
R	P	V	K	T	I	I	R	R	R	I	A	B	B	U
B	I	I	E	D	S	I	C	R	O	V	L	U	Y	M
I	N	C	E	G	E	A	E	I	Y	C	A	F	R	P
C	A	R	O	N	E	B	P	O	O	J	D	F	E	K
E	C	B	D	O	N	T	G	O	H	U	I	E	L	I
C	H	S	E	A	K	N	A	L	T	S	S	T	E	N
R	H	M	R	A	I	I	D	B	S	A	A	D	C	P
E	S	C	R	F	N	S	E	I	L	K	T	U	P	E
A	P	P	F	P	S	S	M	S	N	E	N	O	Q	A
M	T	U	R	N	I	P	S	A	B	N	S	I	E	S
J	T	O	P	T	U	R	K	E	Y	I	E	Q	R	S
S	G	S	A	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	R	R	S	D

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.  
Find and circle each word.





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

**November** 2025

RACINE  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH  
**Prairieland Parish**

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Racine, MN 55967  
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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

Church Website  
<https://www.umcracinemn.org>