



Dear Church Family,

Last month I shared with you the story of how the Greenwood fire threatened the cabin which has been in Michelle's family since the 1930's. I'm glad to share news that our cabin survived the fire. We are grateful for the community of firefighter and forest service people who worked diligently to protect it. This was a team effort. Not every cabin in the area could be saved, and the forest we return to will be different. Thank you for your concern and your prayers.

While it is dear to us, our family cabin is replaceable property. Like the first Bemidji Methodist Church building which was destroyed by fire-- any of the "stuff" of our lives is replaceable. I imagine the time immediately after the building was lost was a difficult one. But the most important part of the church's identity remained. As disciples of Jesus Christ, your church predecessors remained faithful. Our experience of being a church family is the fruit of their faithfulness.

Like other churches in our world, we live in an uncertain time. The Pandemic has limited our ability to meet in person. I hoped we would be able to safely gather for Rally Sunday last month, yet we had to delay this time indefinitely. Many of you continue to worship online, and some of you have been attending worship in person while masking and physical distancing. I am grateful for how you have pulled together.

You are the most precious resource of the church. Together we serve the congregation, and together we serve a world in need. I pray regularly for the Holy Spirit to be with us as we strive to be the church for today. I also pray that one day a church community which identifies us as their historical family will look back with gratitude for how we continued to be the church in a difficult time. God be with you!

Pastor Rob

BEMIDJI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

10:00 AM – 2:00PM (T,W,Th)

Office Phone: 218-751-3503

Pastor Rob Cell: 218-766-8744

Email Addresses: Church Office umcbji@paulbunyan.net

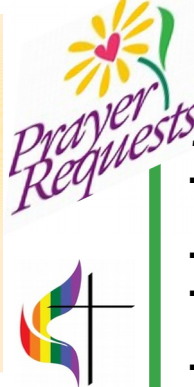
Pastor Rob: revrmkopp@gmail.com

Mailing Address: PO Box 607, Bemidji, MN 56619

Street Address: 924 Beltrami Ave. NW Bemidji, MN 56601

Happy Anniversary

October 11th- Randy Burg and Carol Nielson
October 11th- Darren and Denielle Kimble
October 12th- Romaine and Darlene Wilson
October 16th- Ken and Deanna Nichols



October Birthdays

Oct. 03- Charles Parson
Oct. 05- Erin Morehouse
Oct. 07- Selina Gilbertson
Oct. 07- Kristi Norland
Oct. 10- Elizabeth Bellefy
Oct. 11- Tony Nicholson
Oct. 12- Al Clark
Oct. 13- Judy Swearingen
Oct. 17- John Murray
Oct. 18- Dwayne Burghart
Oct. 18- John Nicholson
Oct. 24- Nancy Manley
Oct. 28- Trish Nelson
Oct. 29- Piper Newago
Oct. 30- Deanna Nichols



JUST A REMINDER....

Articles for the November Newsletter are due in to the office no later than **2:00pm on Friday, October 15, 2021.**

You may text, email or call the office.

Pastor Rob is in the office Wednesdays and any other weekdays by appointment.

PRAYERS

...at Neilson Place: Jean Slinkman

...at Trillium: Judy Comstock

...at Windsong: Wag Collins, Bert Clark, Evan Hazard and Dotty Naramore

...at home with her daughter, Kathleen Magsam

...at Havenwood Care Center: Patty Boyer, Mary Conner

...at Goldpine: Laura Hays, Ruby Hausauer, Helen LeClaire Robert Frazey, and Lois Jessen

...at Birch Haven Village: Betty Brooks

...For Jill Carlson, mother of Cheyenne Stowe, who is at home recovering.

...For the mother of Angie Dahlberg who suffered a fall and is recovering

...For Verna Lofberg who had a bad bicycle accident and is recovering from surgery

...Beverly Leet has been released from Fargo Rehab, to join Don in the Twin Cities at their daughter's home. To send a card:

Don and Beverly Leet

C/O Heather Johnson

14196 Vale Court

Eden Prairie, MN 55346

... Please contact Jan Grimm to add a name to the Prayer Chain. Her phone number is:
H- (218) 444-0209 C- (218) 821-7816



Offerings and Misc. Received for September 2021



General Offering.... September 07, 2021 \$3,747.00
September 22, 2021 \$5,869.00

On-line Giving for September..... \$1,524.10

BUMC



Trustees update.

Just a quick note to update everyone in the congregation about some of the things happening with the building this summer regarding upkeep and maintenance. We as trustees are tasked with the job of keeping the building and grounds maintained and presentable to our members and regular attendees as well as the public. Everyone is invited to our Sunday services that want to attend. When a visitor attends our church, we want to make them feel comfortable and have a worship experience that may make them want to become a member. We also have functions that the public attends who are members of other churches in the area. We have user groups that use our building on a regular basis. We want everyone to have a positive experience in our Church.

Along with the routine cleaning and maintenance, we are working on three major repairs and upgrades to the building.

The first project is almost completed as of this writing. We added baseboard heat in Fellowship Hall. When we remodeled the Sanctuary and replaced the heating and cooling system, it changed how Fellowship Hall was heated, and left that area of the basement without any means to warm it up.

The second project is replacing the skylight in the Upper Room. The life expectancy for that type of skylight is 10 years against cracking or leaking. We have gotten about 20 years of use although it should have been replaced last summer. It had cracked and been repaired about 2 years ago. This summer with the extreme heat the repair did not hold, and more small cracks have appeared. The skylight has been ordered and we are hoping to get it installed before winter.

The third project is replacing all the shingles on the building except the south side of the sanctuary, which were replaced a few years ago because of hail damage. We will get through one more winter, but the plan is to replace the end-of-life shingles next spring before we start having leaks. While there have been some minor repairs done, it is time to replace them. With the busy summer construction season, it has been very hard to get any contractor interested in doing more work. We have gotten an estimated cost for replacing the shingles so funding can be identified.

As you all know building repairs on a large building are expensive and these are no exception. The total to do all three projects will be about \$35,000.00 when completed. We have some Building Renovation funds available, but not nearly enough to pay for all of it.

If you are thinking about an end of year donation, please remember UMC. Make donations payable to the United Methodist Church and either put a note with it requesting it be applied to the Building Renovation Fund or simply write that in the memo line on the check.

Trustee Committee.

The leaves are changing and so is the office! Hello from Karen and Deborah. Due to health issues, Karen will not be the office admin. any longer. Deborah has stepped into that role and Karen will be doing Financials only and working from home 5 hours a week, and 5 hours in the office on Wednesdays. After October's Voyageur, please contact Deborah with any information you need to add to the monthly newsletter. Deborah will also be taking over the Sunday bulletin. You can reach either of us at: umcbji@paulbunyan.net or Deborah's personal email, bumccordinator@gmail.com. Please bare with us as we make this transition. To stay within budgeted payroll, the office hours needed to change.



OFFICE CLOSED MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS!
OFFICE OPEN TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY
FROM 10AM - 2PM!

Have you looked for our hidden picture? Once you find what we've hidden in the Newsletter, call the church office at 218-751-3503. Leave the day and the time you're calling. Also, tell us where you found it. The item you will be looking for this month is a Pencil, as seen below. We have a wonderful prize waiting for you! ↓ One winner per year, per household!
Good Luck!



Thanks to all the food shelf volunteers-you know who you are! It's a worthy mission. For those who would like to donate, the cart is in the lounge or money can be sent directly to the food shelf. I can pick stuff up if you call me at: (218) 760-1876. Call me as well if you would like to volunteer. Stay healthy, happy and give to whatever charity you believe in cheerfully! A lot of worthy causes are out there.
Nancy Manley

Autumn is upon us, and it's time to restock the pantry, getting ready for the chocolate season of Halloween and Christmas, and the coffee season, which is all year long, right?

Our church Fair Trade Committee continues with the mission of offering our members an opportunity to buy Fair Trade products.....coffee, chocolate, olive oil, and support farmers by buying through Equal Exchange, a certified Fair Trade supplier. We support Fair Trade as a church community, with a "buying club" model of delivery. This means that BUMC members can buy coffee (6 bags-10-12oz) or chocolate (12 bars) by the case. If this seems a little too much for your budget or pantry space, you could arrange to split a case with a fellow church member, or friend.

Go online: <https://equalexchange.coop/> and browse their catalog and pricing. To order, please call or email: Terry Thomas, 218-444-9580, gerrym@paulbunyan.net, and I will place the order and make arrangements for delivery. **My next order will be October 4th.**

If you miss this date, don't fear. Give me a call or send an email. I take requests at any time, and combine requests to

qualify for free shipping. I hope you will continue to

choose Fair Trade items when you consider your grocery needs, and we, as the BUMC Fair Trade Committee, have appreciated your commitment to this project for these many years. Thank you!

Terry Thomas, Chair, Fair Trade Committee





**BUMC ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR
DEBORAH DAVIS WITH HER SHELTER DOG
IGGY!**

There was this preacher who was an avid golfer. Every chance he could get, he could be found on the golf course swinging away. It was an obsession. One Sunday was a picture perfect day for golfing. The sun was shining, no clouds in the sky, and the temperature was just right. The preacher was in a quandary as to what to do. Play golf or give the Sunday service.

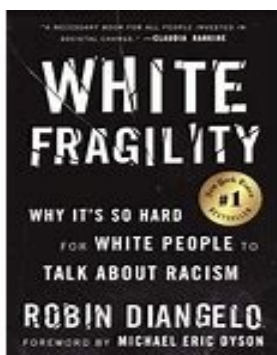
Shortly, the urge to play golf overcame him. He called an assistant, told him he was sick and asked the assistant to take care of the Sunday church service for him. He packed the car up and drove three hours to a golf course where no one would recognize him. Happily, he began to play the course.

An angel up above was watching the preacher and was quite perturbed. She went to God and said, "Look at the preacher. He should be punished for what he is doing." God nodded in agreement.

The preacher teed up on the first hole. He swung at the ball and hit a perfect drive, straight as an arrow, four-hundred yards right to the green, where it gently rolled into the cup (as they say in basketball, "nothing but net"). A picture perfect hole-in-one. He was amazed and excited.

The angel was a little shocked. He turned to God and said, "Begging Your pardon, but I thought you were going to punish him."

God smiled. "I did. Just think about it... who's he gonna tell?"



Why is it so hard for white people to talk about racism? Find out by joining the book study "White Fragility" with Pastor Rob Kopp, Jeff Anderson, and Jane Killgore. It started Sunday, September 26, 2021, at 9am. Books are provided from a grant. Please come even if you haven't started reading yet. Pick up a book in the office or see Deborah.

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October 2021 VOYAGEUR
Published Monthly
October- Happy Fall Y'all

LEAVES ARE TURNING!



Congratulations to Loren Lofberg and Kathy Strycker for finding the hidden pencil in last months Voyageur. We hid it in the picture of the school bus. ☺ Loren and Kathy win a special prize from Deborah's office of fun!



Bemidji Methodist Women will meet on October 20, 2021 at 9:15am.

BMW

HOSTESS: Ginger Tibbetts and Diane Morris
DEVOTIONS: Verna Lofberg
PROGRAM: Speaker Martin Graefe
Language Education at Concordia Language Village

Brunch served at 9:15am with Fellowship.
Invite a guest. Everyone is welcome!

open hearts
open minds
open doors



The People of the United Methodist Church

Church Staff

Reverend Rob Kopp~ Pastor
revrmkopp@gmail.com

Deborah Davis
BUMC Administrative Coordinator
umcbji@paulbunyan.net or
bumccoordinator@gmail.com

Karen Thompson "Bubbles"
Financials
umcbji@paulbunyan.net

Leisa Bragg
Accompanist

Jane Killgore
Community Table Coordinator

Maria's Cleaning
Custodial

OCTOBER 2021

United Methodist Church

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10am-2pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Happy Fall 					1 OFFICE CLOSED 7-10:30pm- SQUARE DANCERS	2
3 7am- YouTube and Facebook Service 9am- WHITE FRAGILITY 10:30am- In Person Worship	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5 10am-Tai Ji Quan	6 10:45 Neilsen Service 2:30- Goldpine Service 1:00- Staff Meeting 5:00- Community Table	7 10am-Tai Ji Quan 5:00- Community Table	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9
10 7am- YouTube and Facebook Service 9am- WHITE FRAGILITY 10:30am- In Person Worship	11 OFFICE CLOSED	12 10am-Tai Ji Quan 6:30pm- Trustees Meeting	13 1:00- Staff Meeting 5:00- Community Table	14 10am-Tai Ji Quan 4:30pm- SPRC Meeting 5:00- Community Table	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16
17 7am- YouTube and Facebook Service 9am- WHITE FRAGILITY 10:30am- In Person Worship 1:30pm-5pm SQUARE DANCERS	18 OFFICE CLOSED	19 10am-Tai Ji Quan	20 9:15am- BMW 1:00- Staff Meeting 5:00- Community Table	21 10am-Tai Ji Quan 1:30pm- Finance Meeting 5:00pm- Community Table 6:15PM- Girl Scouts	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23
24 7am- YouTube and Facebook Service 9am- WHITE FRAGILITY 10:30am- In Person Worship	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 10am-Tai Ji Quan	27 1:00- Staff Meeting 5:00- Community Table	28 10am-Tai Ji Quan 5:00- Community Table 6:00pm- Church Council	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30
31 7am- YouTube and Facebook Service 9am- WHITE FRAGILITY 10:30am- In Person Worship HAPPY HALLOWEEN 						