



Darlington and Fayette United Methodist Churches May 2023



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INGATHERING

Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church

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**United
Women
in Faith**

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LECTIONARY



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The New Normal



I hear it often when I visit churches: “When are things going to get back to normal?” People long for the old, familiar, normal routine. They may be thinking of four years ago before the pandemic, fourteen years ago when the bell choir rang every Sunday, or forty years ago when church was the center of family and community life.

The good ol’ days have a powerful allure. We look back through rose-tinted glasses. People always have. The Israelites following Moses longed for the good ol’ days in Egypt. The exiles returning from Babylon found the second Temple disappointing compared the good ol’ days of the Kingdom. I imagine even some of the disciples after the resurrection pined for the good ol’ days when they’d been buddies palling with Jesus on a three-year ministry road trip.

But honestly... the good ol’ days weren’t all that great. Whether four or forty years ago, church was often stagnant, and folks were just going through the motions. Not much was changing in our hearts or in the world. Normal might have been comfortable, but it was also blasé – and people wanted no part of it.

We won’t see God by looking backwards. We serve a Lord who is always ahead of us – the God who led the Israelites in a column of fire and smoke, the resurrected Christ who left a forwarding address for bewildered disciples loitering by an empty tomb (Mark 16:7).

The early Church didn’t have time for nostalgia. They rarely pined for the good ol’ days. They were too busy chasing the Spirit to the ends of the earth. The witness of the Acts of the Apostles is of an eager and active church, always moving forward.

The disciples had a new normal, a daily routine, a “discipline” in Eugene Peterson’s words – worshiping together, breaking bread together, sharing meals, rejoicing and celebrating. I can well imagine them chanting with gusto: “God is good!”

All the time! All the time! God is good! (in Aramaic or Greek, of course.)

What’s normal? An exuberant and joyful Palm Sunday with bunny, choir, kids, and Scout troops both boy and girl at Green Bay: Bethany UMC.

The book of Acts gives us these joyful glimpses right alongside stories of persecution, murder, injustice, ostracism, jail, and shipwreck. The new normal as the Church was born was difficult and dangerous... and yet the disciples rejoiced and celebrated every day.

Our new normal today isn’t easy either. We’re longing for folks who wandered during the pandemic to return. We’re divided politically and theologically. We’re struggling for relevance in a world of Sunday soccer games and endless digital entertainment. Why go to church when the internet offers an easy answer for every question?

And yet... Jesus is still going before us. People still need people. We still gather to worship and break bread. We are still finding new ways to connect and new ways to share Good News.

Don’t look backwards. Look forwards. The new normal is churches escaping the walls and boxes we once put ourselves in. The new normal is congregations discovering the blessings of diversity. The new normal is going and meeting families and folks where they are at.

God leads us forward in an ever-changing world. May our joy and exuberance as we praise and serve God in our communities and in our churches become the new normal, attractive to all those who look for hope! And then, perhaps, God will add to our numbers.

Prayer: Lord, we are privileged to follow you ever forward. Each new day is an opportunity to seek and see your blessings, and to share our joy with others. May praise be our normal state of being, such that all who see us might whisper, “I want what they’ve got!” – Amen

By M. Park Hunter

Extra Giving from Offering Envelopes during the Month of March

- In Memory of Sally Gorgas given by Roger Gorgas.
- In Memory of Ramona & Rita Flescher given by Valda Ostby
- In Memory of Ramona Flescher given by Owen & Ruth Thompson.
- In Memory of Ray Walter given by Valda Ostby.
- In Memory of Gertie & Clifford Pratt given by Jill Pratt.
- In Memory of Ray Walter given by Roger Volkening.
- In Honor of Joan Teasdale given by Robert Paulson.



Add your loved ones or friends to this list by filling out your offering envelope and designating an **extra** amount to be given in Memory or in Honor of someone to celebrate a Birthday or Anniversary. It's a great way to acknowledge those special people in your life. Amounts will never be listed!

A look at the Darlington numbers for March

| | | |
|------------|---|------------------|
| Income | | \$ 10,410.14 |
| Expenses | - | <u>12,270.30</u> |
| Difference | | -1,860.16 |

2023 Apportionment Total - \$26, 669

Paid YTD - 1,610

Balance Left for 2023- \$25,059

Percentage paid - 6.05%

Guest Preachers

Below is the list of preachers that will fill in for Pastor InSun while she is on her vacation.

May 7 Pastor Angie Utter-Both

Darlington Community Food Pantry

**Open Tuesdays and Thursdays,
10 am to 3 pm**

The Local Food Pantry is taking donations. If you feel called to donate to them, please put your non perishable food items in the box located in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your support.



**Second Harvest
Mobile Food Pantry
will be Friday
May 5 at the
First Baptist Church
in Darlington. Please
“pop” your trunk.**

Annual Conference Ingathering

The Wisconsin Conference Disaster Response Team and Mission Motivation Committee has been working with Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC). We will be collecting supplies until June 1. Please have your items to the church or Pastor InSun by then.

Items Needed:

Personal Dignity Kit

- Bath Hand Towel - No kitchen towels
- 1 Bath Washcloth - No dishcloths
- 1 Adult Toothbrush - No multipacks
- 1 Bar Soap - 3-4 oz 1 Shampoo - 15-18 oz
- 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz - stick, roll on, or pump
- 1 1-gal Re-sealable Plastic Bag

Home Care Kit

- 2 Liquid Household Cleaners 16-40 oz
- 2 Dish Soap 16-34oz
- 2 Liquid Laundry Detergents 32-64oz
- 1 Scrub Brush- With or without handles
- 1 5 gal Round Bucket with re-sealable lid

To provide a kit without shopping or sewing, bring a monetary donation to Annual Conference or send to: Wisconsin Conference of The UMC 750 Windsor Street, Suite 104 Sun Prairie, WI 53590 Please write check to: Wisconsin Conference add “Ingathering Home Care Kit” to memo line.



Graduation Sunday

We have many students that will be Graduating this year. **We will hold Graduation Sunday on Sunday May 21.** Please join us. Thank you for supporting our students as they venture into the "real world". The WIF will be hosting a **graduation breakfast** that morning for the seniors and their parents at 9 a.m.



On Sunday, May 21, we will celebrate the Graduation of the High School students during worship. We give thanks for James Ackley, Riggs Black, Landon Blaser, Summer Cohen, Madyson King, Cannon Lancaster, Ashlynn Norgard, and Ava Smith, ! Let's celebrate!

James Ackley

Son of Bill & Jamie Smith and Rick Ackley. James plans to attend Southwest Technical College, Fennimore, Wisconsin to pursue a degree in Agricultural Business. James's has great memories of church which include attending Pine Lake Church Camp.



Riggs Black

Son of Amber Richardson and Scott Black. Rigg's plans to go into the Workforce after school, he also hopes to have his own beef cow herd and drive Semi. In the meantime he is working at Ritchie's Implement for experience. Rigg's has great memories of church which include going to Sunday School growing up.

Landon Blaser

Son of TJ & Mandi Nyffenegger & Josh & Katie Blaser. Landon plans to attend Southwest Technical College in Fennimore, Wisconsin, to pursue a Ag Power. Landon has great memories of church which include going through confirmation and being part of redoing the Youth Group/ Sunday School rooms upstairs. The confirmation students got to take down the wall themselves, with the help of Dick Allendorf.



**Summer Cohen**

Daughter of Kurt & Becky Cohen . Summer plans to attend UW-Platteville to pursue a degree in Music Education. Summer has many great memories of church which include all the late night confirmation talks and snacks.

Madyson King

Daughter of Jason & Tammy King. Madyson plans to attend UW-Whitewater to pursue a degree in Psychology. Madyson has many great memories of church which include when Pastor Larry would hide baby Jesus from the nativity, and during children's time of the Christmas Eve service we would look for it.

**Cannon Lancaster**

Son of Aaron & Denise Lancaster. Cannon plans to attend UW-Platteville, he is undecided as to what he wants to go to school for. Cannon has many great memories of church which include going to the overnight confirmation retreat.

Ashlynn Norgard

Daughter of Ken & Rebecca Norgard. Ashlynn plans to attend college but the school is undecided, to pursue a degree in Animal Science as a Major with Emphasis in Ag Business and Reproduction. Ashlynn has many great memories of church which include being a part of the community service projects such as serving at the Thanksgiving meal, serving at the Food Pantry, and shopping for families in need at Christmas.

**Ava Smith**

Daughter of Steve & Val Smith. Ava plans to attend Southwest Technical College to pursue a degree in Early Childhood. Ava has many great memories of church which include working at the church suppers and going to camp.

A Chicken or an Eagle?

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds,

so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:2)

Once upon a time, a man found the egg of an eagle. It had been abandoned for some reason by its mother, but as it was still warm, the man took it and put it in the nest of one of his backyard chickens along with the other eggs that were there being brooded upon.

After a period of time, the eaglet was hatched, and along with the other chicks from his nest began to go about the backyard doing what the other chicks did. He scratched the earth for worms and insects. He looked for the corn that the man would throw into the yard. He clucked and cackled as best as he could, and as he grew, he would, like other chickens, thrash his wings and fly a few feet in the air.

Years passed in this way, and the eagle grew very old. One day he saw a magnificent bird far above him in the cloudless sky. It glided majestically among the powerful wind currents, soaring and swooping, scarcely beating its long golden wings.

The old eagle looked at it in awe and asked, “What is that?”

“That is the eagle, the king of birds,” said one of his neighbors. “He belongs to the sky and to the high places. We belong to the earth, we are chickens.”

The old eagle knew this was true, and so it was he lived and died as a chicken, for that is what he believed he was.

Very often, in life, our perspective determines our reality. By experiencing the transforming power of God’s love and grace, we can see the world, the ministry of the church and our individual lives in a unique way. Instead of being held down by “what ifs,” fears of failure, or the challenges the task at hand, we can soar as a people sustained and lifted by the same grace that transformed us.

It is my prayer that you will be able to discover how God is calling you to live out the love of Christ in this world. It is my prayer that you will have the courage to live into that call with your entire being, trusting God’s grace to sustain you through even the most difficult times. It is through following God’s call that we can soar like the eagles we were created to be.

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation





United
Women
in Faith

WE'RE BACK! A worldwide pandemic may have slowed all of us down, but the United Methodist Women, with the new operating name, UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH/UWF is regrouping. Please join us Thursday, May 25th at Noon, in Jeffrey Hall for a short meeting. The 2023 Officers are: Nancy Fisker, Chair; Vicki Pratt, Vice-Chair; Mary Paisley, Treasurer; Steph Hanewall, Secretary; Ad Hoc Officer, Cathy Havens; Social Director, Shirley McConnell.

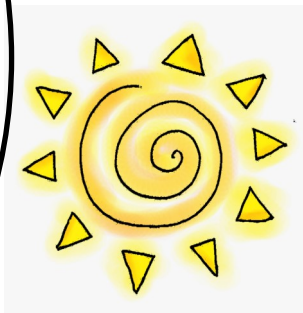
REMINDERS – The *SCRIPT Program* is a great fund raiser for our Church. You can place an order with Sheila Kelly at kellysheila87@gmail.com or 608-482-1141. Thank you Sheila for your hard work directing this important fund raising program!



WELCOME
NEW
MEMBERS

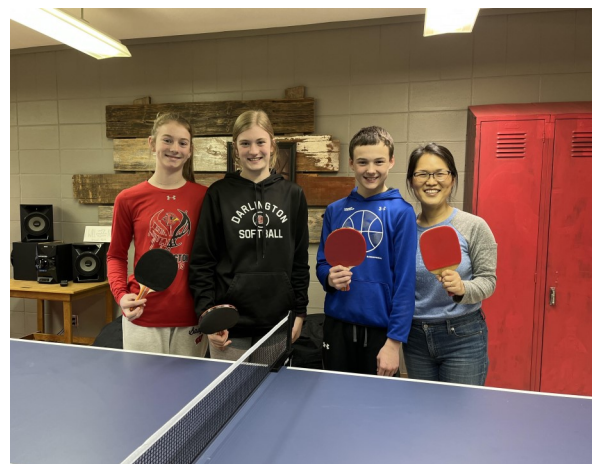
New Members in April

*Ken Norgard Rebecca Norgard
Ashlynn Norgard*



Wisconsin Annual Conference
2023

June 9 - 12, 2023



Save the Date!**Fayette Strawberry Social**

Our Annual Fayette Strawberry Social is penciled in our the calendar for **Wednesday, June 14**. Serving begins at 4:30 pm. The meal menu includes sandwiches, potato salad and more with Strawberries and Ice Cream for dessert. All items are individually priced and available ala cart.

With our Sympathy

We mourn with our community
the loss of Ray Walter

His Wife

Jane Walter

15011 Oak Grove Ln

Darlington, WI 53530



LET
faith
NOT
Fear
♦ Be Your
Compass

Each month I will post the months list. If you would like the whole years, let me know and I will get it to you. Or you can get it on the website.

OLD TESTAMENT BIBLE READING PLAN SCHEDULE – MAY 2023

(Era of the Kings – Battling Against Pagan Nations in Promised Land)

| <u>End of Week (Saturday)</u> | <u>Chapter Completed</u> | <u>Check-off</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| May 6- (21 chapters) | II Kings 2 | _____ |
| May 13 – (14 chapters) | II Kings 16 | _____ |
| May 20 – (21 chapters) | I Chronicles 12 | _____ |
| May 27 – (14 chapters) | I Chronicles 26 | _____ |

(Progress Milestone: 364 chapters read – 39.2% of the Old Testament)

NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE READING PLAN SCHEDULE – MAY 2023

(Schedule-Read one chapter **each weekday** to complete the New Testament in one year.)

| <u>End of Week (Saturday)</u> | <u>Chapter Completed</u> | <u>Check-off</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| May 6 | Acts 1 | _____ |
| May 13 | Acts 6 | _____ |
| May 20 | Acts 11 | _____ |
| May 27 | Acts 16 | _____ |

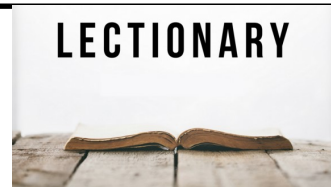
(Progress Milestone: 105 chapters read – 40.4% of the New Testament)

Darlington & Fayette United Methodist Churches

DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN FOR MAY 2023

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>SCRIPTURE</u> | <u>TOPIC</u> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| ___ 5/01/23 | Psalms 31:1-16 | God – Our Refuge and Rock |
| ___ 5/02/23 | Acts 7:54-60 | The Stoning of Stephen |
| ___ 5/03/23 | Isaiah 28:16-17 | The Lord – Our Cornerstone |
| ___ 5/04/23 | I Peter 2:1-10 | Living Stone – Chosen People |
| ___ 5/05/23 | Hebrews 10:19-23 | Jesus – The Way to the Father |
| ___ 5/06/23 | John 14:1-7 | Jesus – The Way to the Father |
| ___ 5/07/23 | John 14:8-14 | Jesus – One With the Father |
| ___ 5/08/23 | John 1:1-4 | Jesus – From the Beginning |
| ___ 5/09/23 | II Corinthians 4:1-6 | Jesus Christ – the Image of God |
| ___ 5/10/23 | Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 | Stand in Awe of God |
| ___ 5/11/23 | Psalms 66 | God – Prayer - Love |
| ___ 5/12/23 | Acts 17:22-31 | Apostle Paul Preaches – “An Unknown God” |
| ___ 5/13/23 | I Peter 3:13-22 | Suffering for Doing Good |
| ___ 5/14/23 | John 14:15-21 | Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit |
| (Mother's Day) | | |
| ___ 5/15/23 | Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35 | The Lord Will Provide (“Jehovah-Jireh”) |
| ___ 5/16/23 | I Peter 4:12-14 | Suffering for Being a Christian |
| ___ 5/17/23 | I Peter 5:6-11 | Humility – Anxiety - Faith |
| ___ 5/18/23 | Mark 16:15-20 | Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven |
| (Ascension Day) | | |
| ___ 5/19/23 | Acts 1:6-14 | Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven |
| ___ 5/20/23 | Luke 24:44-53 | Ascension of Jesus Into Heaven |
| ___ 5/21/23 | John 17:1-11 | Jesus Prays for Himself and His Disciples |
| (Ascension Sunday) | | |
| ___ 5/22/23 | Numbers 11:24-30 | The Lord's Spirit Upon Elders |
| ___ 5/23/23 | Psalms 104:24-35 | The Lord – the Creator |
| ___ 5/24/23 | John 20:19-23 | Jesus Appears to His Disciples |
| ___ 5/25/23 | Romans 12:1-8 | Gifts of the Holy Spirit |
| ___ 5/26/23 | I Corinthians 12:1-13 | Gifts of the Holy Spirit |
| ___ 5/27/23 | Acts 2:1-21 | The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost |
| ___ 5/28/23 | John 7:37-39 | Living Water – Holy Spirit |
| (Day of Pentecost) | | |
| ___ 5/29/23 | Ephesians 1:13-14 | Sealed by the Holy Spirit |
| ___ 5/30/23 | Psalms 8 | The Works and Majesty of God |
| ___ 5/31/23 | Job 38:1-12 | God's Power As Creator |





May Lectionary
May 7
5th Sunday of Easter
 Acts 7:55-60
 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
 1 Peter 2:2-10
 John 14:1-14

May 14
6th Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day
 Acts 17:22-31
 Psalm 66:8-20
 1 Peter 3:13-22
 John 14:15-21

May 21
7th Sunday of Easter
Heritage Sunday
 Acts 1:6-14
 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11
 John 17:1-11

May 28
Pentecost
 Acts 2:1-21
 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
 John 7:37-39





May 1 Kathleen Mathias
 May 1 Judy Whalen
 May 1 Cameron Schwoob
 May 1 Monica Wiegel
 May 1 Audrey Gould
 May 3 Lisa Carpenter
 May 3 Margie Stephenson
 May 4 Robert M. Gould
 May 4 Ethan Hendrickson
 May 4 Tyler Smith
 May 5 Anne Gratz
 May 5 Donna Douglas
 May 5 Belle Watters

May 6 Steph Hanewall
 May 8 Fritz Hanewall
 May 9 Andrew Fitzsimons
 May 9 Jerry Paisley
 May 11 Kurt Cohen
 May 11 Mary Paisley
 May 12 Rick Loken
 May 14 Dave Calvert
 May 15 Kyle Calvert
 May 15 Kori Hemming
 May 16 Heather Fitzsimons
 May 16 Tanner Havens
 May 16 Dixie Davis
 May 17 Lexie Zee
 May 17 Olivia Schulte
 May 17 Kari Boatman
 May 18 Penelope Bailey

May 19 Hayden Hardyman
 May 19 Tom Osterday
 May 19 Becky Upmann
 May 20 Madyson King
 May 20 Cedric Flesher
 May 20 Lori Allendorf
 May 21 Jeremy Gould
 May 21 Cheryl Chiaverotti
 May 25 Jason King
 May 26 Mandi Nyffenegger
 May 26 Laura Smith
 May 27 Dianne Evans
 Mar 27 Carter Andrews
 Mar 27 Lydia Andrews
 May 28 Kent Mieke
 May 28 Sadie Goebel
 May 29 John Steiner
 May 30 Kalee Crist

May 7 May Ushers
 Cathy Paulson
 Beaver Paulson
 Landon Blaser
 James Ackley
 May 14 Cheryl Chiaverotti
 Todd Chiaverotti
 Riggs Black
 Dawson Douglas
 May 21 Nick Zuberbuhler
 Jason Hendrickson
 Zoie Zuberbuhler
 Ava Hendrickson
 May 28 Ken Norgard
 Rebecca Norgard
 Ashlynn Norgard
 Lylah Norgard



Thank you for serving! If you can not make it on your day, please find someone to replace you. If no one is able, please notify another member on the team. Thank you!



May 2 Kevin & Deb Quinn
 May 9 Tom & Laurie Mathias
 May 10 Mark & Ashley Gossens
 May 11 Tommy & Julie Davis
 May 14 George & Mary Gould
 May 14 Michael & Rose Gould
 May 17 Ray & Jean VanMatre
 May 19 Jerry & Judy Lindsay
 May 19 Alex & Trisha Douglas
 May 21 Al & Barb Nemec
 May 23 Dave & Cathy Calvert
 May 24 Jeff & Karri McCarthy
 May 28 Mike & Tammy Reichling
 May 31 Dick & Lori Allendorf

May Acolytes

May 7 Ryder Fitzsimons
 May 14 Anyka Johnson
 Paige Douglas
 May 21 Pierce Thompson
 Evan Komprood
 May 28 Raynie Norgard
 Maicy Norgard

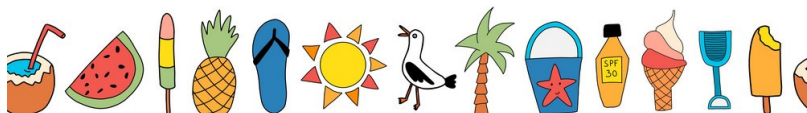
May Liturgists

May 7 D- Joan Thompson
 F- Pam Gould
 May 14 D- Kent Mieke
 F- Dennis Wirth
 May 21 D- Kent Mieke
 F- Lance Lansing
 May 28 D- Joan Thompson
 F- Ron Ingwell

Sneak peak at June 4
 Liturgist: D- Judy Whalen
 F- Pam Gould

Ushers: Beaver Paulson
 Cathy Paulson
 Landon Blaser
 James Ackley

Acolytes: Ryder Fitzsimons
 Zeek Zuberbuhler



May 2023



| | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

1 2 3 4 5 6

7 Communion

9:00 Worship in Fayette
10:30 Worship in Darlington

8

9

10

6:00 Religious Ed

11

12

Pastor InSun's
Day Off

13

14

9:00 Worship in Fayette
9:00 Choir Practice
10:30 Worship in Darlington & Baptism
w/Choir

15

16

17

10:00 Senior Awards Day @
School

18

19

Pastor InSun's
Day Off

20



21 Graduation Sunday

8:00 Worship in Fayette
9:00 Senior Breakfast
10:30 Worship in Darlington

22

23

24

25

26

Pastor InSun's
Day Off

27

28 Summer Time Change Starts

8:00 Worship in Fayette w/Baptism
9:30 Worship in Darlington

30

31

29 Church Office Closed

