



The First Word

November, 2015

First United Methodist Church, Racine

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Chairperson

Chuck Bragg
Trustee Chairperson

Judith Schulz
Church Historian

Sue Mills
Parish Visitor

Nancy Cook
Organist

Jeanne Whiteside
Media Coordinator

Denise Ferguson
Family, Education & Nurture Coordinator

Rick Reinhard
Custodian

THE ONE and ONLY OPTION: GET INVOLVED!

Since the day of creation, God has generously offered the human creature what we know as “Freewill” that sets us apart from robots. I’ve heard lots people talk about their admirations for this wonderful gift. However, the one thing most of those who capitalized on this wonderful and intrinsic gift from our Creator rarely talk about is the accompanying gift of responsibility associated with the exercise of our gift of “Freewill.” It at times may not be explicit enough, yet that doesn’t nullify the implicit truth that guides every individual in the exercise of their “Freewill”, accepting the obligation to be responsible for whatever the outcome might be.

This truth equally applies to the day in our lives when we were at the crossroads of decision making to either accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior or not to! Fortunately, you and I made the One and Only life-saving choice that would give real meaning and direction to our lives. Jesus said, “***The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.***” (John 10:10). What a brilliant decision! Remember, we had choices: to either reject or receive Jesus Christ! But we CHOSE JESUS CHRIST over the other options. Great!

Now, whether we know it or not, by Choosing Jesus Christ over the other options is a personal decision that determines which directions one life takes as of that moment. One may argue that someone else made the decision for him /her while still an infant through baptism. Here I respond, that being baptized in and of itself does not make anyone a believer in / disciple of Jesus Christ. Baptism, as important a Sacrament it is, is a symbol of the outward expression of inward cleansing and spiritual grace. It is a sign of our adoption and incorporation into the family of God through Jesus Christ. So, whether the decision was made by oneself or someone else does not excuse us from living out in daily lives the acceptable principles and marks of all true Christ’s disciples. Jesus gave One and Only Option to all believers and disciples as well as would be ones: **Obedience** to his commands! Jesus sets clear perimeters by which our obedience would be measured: One must take up his/her cross and follow (Luke 14:26-27); demonstrate love of God and neighbors.(John 13; 34-35). In order words, it’s all about Getting involved! We were called both to live and lead active and vibrant life of Christian discipleship.

There are several ministries, missions, and spiritual formation opportunities available in an ongoing basis here at Church. All of these are open to all persons and free. However,

if none of these groups serve and meet your particular needs, you may suggest one, or we can even help you

begin one yourself.

We also have all kinds of ministry and mission initiatives currently going on. We've identified and challenged ourselves to be SEEDERS. As SEEDERS, our ministry and mission focus for the next five years would be threefold areas: 1. Outreach, 2. Worship and 3. Nurture; acronym: "OWN!" We're prayerfully asking everyone, to Get involved by OWNING these ministry and mission endeavors! Remember, Getting involved is Jesus'

One and Only Option given to all his true disciples for the transformation of lives in His name.

May you and your family be blessed throughout this fall in Jesus' name.

Pastor Jakes

WORSHIP THEMES & SCRIPTURE

We have just completed a seven sermon series on the Apostle Paul's "Whole Armor of God" recorded in Ephesians 6:10-18. Over the next several Sundays, you are invited to focus with me on another series of sermons around one of Jesus' powerful teachings known as the "Beatitudes." The Beatitudes" as a part of Jesus' "Sermon on the mount", have gone through various interpretations and understandings over the years. They are proverb-like sayings packed with deeper spiritual teachings and meanings for the believers' journeys of faith and service in daily life. Welcome, and let's get started:

11/01/2015 - Pentecost 23rd / All Saints Sunday
Holy Communion

Psalm 24:1ff; Revelation 3: 14-21
Matthew 5: 1-3

Theme: "Blessed are the poor in Spirit...."

11/8/2015 - Pentecost – 24th Sunday

Psalm 127:1ff.; Isaiah 6: 1-9

Hebrews 9: 11-15; Matthew 5: 4

Theme: "Blessed are those who mourn"

11/15/2015 - Pentecost – 25th Sunday

Psalm 37: 1ff; Isaiah 57:12-15

Hebrews 10: 4; Matthew 5: 5

Theme: "Blessed are the Meek....."

11/22/2015 - Pentecost-Last Sunday

Psalm 22: 25-31; Isaiah 41:17-20

Matthew 5: 6

Theme: "Blessed are those who Thirst and hunger for righteousness...."

11/29/2015 Advent – 1st Sunday

Psalm 103.; Malachi 3:1-6; Matthew 5: 7

Theme: "Blessed are the Merciful...."

ADVENT BEGINS NOVEMBER 29TH

We will need families and groups of individuals to sign for Advent Candle lighting each Sunday. They will light a candle for that Sunday following the announcements. Contact the church office with your offer to help.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

1. A Sunday of Promise: Advent 1st Sunday
November 29, 2015

Scripture lesson: Isaiah 9:1b-2, 6

Hymn #196 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"
verse 1

Unison reading: We light this candle as a symbol of the Christ child through whom God's Promised redemption would be fulfilled for the salvation of all of human.

Leader: _____

2. A Sunday of Patience: Advent 2nd Sunday
December 6, 2015

Scripture lesson: Isaiah 11:10-12

Hymn #196 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"
verse 2

Unison reading: We light this candle as symbol of the Christ child for whom sinful humanity awaits patiently for deliverance and restoration of a broken relationship with their Creator.

Leader: _____

3. A Sunday of Pardon – Advent 3rd Sunday
December 13, 2015

Scripture lesson: Isaiah 12:1-6

Hymn # 204 "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

Unison reading: We light this candle as symbol of the Christ Child through in whose wings humanity

finds genuine forgiveness, reconciliation and comfort.

Leader: _____

4. A Sunday of Presence: Advent 4th Sunday
December 20, 2015

Scripture lesson: Isaiah 57:18-19

Hymn #211 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" verse 1

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN
NOVEMBER**

- 1 – Peggy Nejedly
- 3 – Christopher Larson
- 4 – Carole Randecker
- 14 – Mary K. Tsuchiya
- 15 – June White
- 18 – John Kara
- 19 – Alexandra Feest
Cassie Meredith
- 21 – Kathy Harsh
- 27 – Bonnie Hollis
- 28 – Dorothy Bent
Scott Toutant

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY IN
NOVEMBER**

- 1 – Chris & Peggy Larson
Jose & Tamara Burgos
- 2 – Andrew & Angela Ganaway

**ALTAR FLOWERS IN
NOVEMBER**

- 1 – Deb & Stan Johnson
- Remaining dates open

**THE 2016 ALTAR FLOWER
CALENDAR HAS BEEN**

POSTED in the north foyer.

Feel free to select a date to provide the altar flowers for our worship celebrations. You will be contacted regarding wording in the bulletin as the date approaches.

CONGRATULATIONS to Loretta Voker on the birth of a daughter, Laurena, on October 21, 2015. May God bless mother, big brothers, and baby (and of course grandma Esther

Unison reading: We light this candle as a symbol of the Christ child whose presence brings grace, healing, peace and joy to the hearts of all human beings throughout the world community.

Leader: _____

November 2015 newsletter, First United Methodist, Racine, Wisconsin

and grandpa Jakes!!).

CONGRATULATIONS to Brittany Feest and Dean Piliouras who were married on October 17, 2015.

USHER SCHEDULE

Nov. 1

Sandi McQuade
Dave Johnson
Roger & Betty Oakley

Nov. 8

Jeff Fernholz
Chuck & Jane Bragg

Nov. 15

Chuck & Jean Harmon
Dave Johnson
Paul Nejedly

Nov., 22

Jeff Fernholz
August Grulich
Ricky Castro

Nov. 29

Chuck & Jane Bragg
Dave Johnson

If you are unable to be a greeter/usher on your assigned day, please contact someone from the usher list to substitute for you. Thanks.

FOOD BANK ITEM for November will be cake mixes. Bring your donation to church any time and place it in the crate near the entry doors. Thank you for your support of our food pantries. (See related article

below)

Food Pantry Request

Thanks to Jean Harmon for her years of service at the food pantry at Trinity Methodist. Jean has been great at getting all of the noodle and pancake products assembled and packed, but now has decided to relax and follow other pursuits. Therefore, another church volunteer is needed for the First United Methodist food pantry team. We meet the 3rd Thursday of each month from 1:30-3:30 at Trinity Methodist. We serve 18-20 clients. Jobs include greeting our guests, checking ID's at a table or packing groceries in the back room. You should be able to stand for the time we are open and lift a bag of groceries. We have a great group of people who work at the pantry. Feel welcome to come check out the process or volunteer at the pantry; your help would be much appreciated.

Patti Walker – 456-4054

**ANNUAL CHURCH
CONFERENCE – SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 15TH – 6:00 PM**

Our Annual Church Conference will be held on Sunday, November 15th at 6:00 pm. Rev. George Kafer will lead the meeting. As a member of First Church, whether you serve on the Administrative Board or

not, you are invited to attend this Church Conference. All are welcome as we reflect on our accomplishments of the past year and look forward to new goals for 2016.

LOOSE CHANGE

OFFERING for November is

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY



TOGETHER, WE EDUCATE STUDENTS SO THEY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD.

United Methodist Student Day is November 27, 2016

Across the country, the people of The United Methodist Church are serving the people God loves in Jesus' name. We're doing it at home, but so often we'd like to do more.

- We want to serve those in other places who are suffering.
- We want to offer spiritual words of hope and life.
- And we want to be well-equipped to do both!

But the reality for most of us is that our responsibilities—home, family, work—don't allow us to engage with every need we'd like to meet. Right now there are UMC young people—who might not have had the resources to attend a school of their choice, or, for some, any school at all—who've been sent by you into the world God loves because of your giving to United Methodist Student Day. When you give generously you are support these students as they prepare for a life that unites faith with knowledge.

designated to assist the Mission Team to Liberia in January. Simply place your loose change – or more – in the small brown envelopes found in the pew rack or on the sanctuary tables and place it in the offering plate. There are 5 members of the congregation taking part in this

Mission trip – prayers and donations are greatly appreciated.

November 2015 newsletter, First United Methodist, Racine, Wisconsin

What no one person or congregation can do alone, we're doing together.

Nurturing Christian Leaders Like Ricky Blue

The son of two addicted parents, Ricky Blue had grown up without much hope for a future. But when Ricky's church family—Louisiana's Luling UMC—raised \$4000 for Ricky to begin college, hope was born. Then, the Gift of Hope Scholarship, made possible only by your generous giving to United Methodist Student Day, allowed Ricky to continue. Today Ricky is a certified candidate for ministry in the Illinois-Great Rivers Annual Conference. What no one person can do, we're doing together.

Together We're Raising Up Gifted Christian Leaders

When you support United Methodist Student Day, you make it possible for more students like Ricky to serve the world God loves. So although you can't meet every need you'd like to, your giving allows members of Christ's body, people like Ricky, to do it in Jesus' name.

Will you give to United Methodist Student Day?

FFRANC BREAKFAST NOVEMBER 1

You are invited to be a part of our FFRANC (Fellowship of Families, Relatives, Acquaintances, Neighbors, and Co-workers) breakfast on **Sunday, November 1** at 9:00 am. We look forward to many fun activities in the church this Holiday season starting off with the breakfast!

FFRANC Sunday offers opportunities for all members of our congregation and their invitees to gather on the **first Sunday** of each month for a time of fellowship and to celebrate the blessings of special days in their lives over delicious breakfast. Those special days may include birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, newly wedded, first job, etc. We note that you have a special event happening in your life in November.

November's FFRANC event will be sponsored by the people who were recognized as having special

events in October. Thereafter, on the **first Sunday** of each subsequent month, people whose special days were celebrated in the preceding month, along with the entire congregation, will provide the breakfast for those celebrating in the current month. The FFRANC Breakfast has been a resounding success. Let's keep it going!

Again, we would like to encourage everyone to invite someone and be present at each celebration, even if you aren't able to bring a dish! We prayerfully look forward to a joyful celebration with you at each FFRANC **Sunday**, all in the name of Jesus Christ, the one in whom our joy is made complete!

Sincerely,

The Team on Hospitality

November 2015 newsletter, First United Methodist, Racine, Wisconsin

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Each Sunday

Coffee time with God Study	9:00 am
Choir Rehearsal	9:00 am
Morning Worship	10:00 am
Sunday School for Children	10:15 am
Fellowship Time	11:15 am
Faith & Fellowship Forum	11:15 am
Casa de Dios Worship	5:00 pm

Each Monday

Casa de Dios Bible Study	6:30 pm
Keith Griffin Choir Rehearsal	6:00-8:00 pm

Each Wednesday

Kiwanis Club Luncheon	Noon
Praise Team Rehearsal	5:30 pm
Christmas Cantata Choir Rehearsal	6:00 pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm

Each Thursday (except the 26th)

Faith To Life Bible Study	6:00 pm
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Each Saturday

Sack Lunch Program	Noon
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Sunday, November 1

FFRANC Breakfast	9:00 am
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Monday, November 2

PEO Cheese Ball making	9:00 am
Crafting Conversations	6:00 pm

Wednesday, November 4

Youth Group meeting here	6:00 pm
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Saturday, November 14

Controlling Community Violence	9:00 am
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Sunday, November 15

Charge Conference	6:00 pm
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Wednesday, November 18

Youth Group meeting here	6:00 pm
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Friday, November 20

Parkside "Queer Thanksgiving" pot luck	5:00 pm
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Monday, November 23

PEO meeting	noon
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Friday, November 27

OFFICE CLOSED

CHOIR CHRISTMAS CANTATA – Can't commit to singing every Sunday? Here is your chance to take part in the Christmas Cantata which will be performed on Sunday, December 20 at the 10:00 am worship service. Rehearsals for the Christmas Cantata will begin on Wednesday, November 4th at 6:00 pm. Come and share your gift of song as we prepare for the Christmas season.

FIRST ALIVE WEDNESDAY

The second Wednesday of the month is First Alive Wednesday! We feature a potluck dinner starting at 5pm. The event, hosted by the Hospitality Team, is open to everyone. This is fellowship, fun, and good conversation. This month we will be continuing with the video series "Earn, Save, Give: Wesley's Simple Rules for Money" by James A. Harnish. We will be viewing and discussing the second two installments in November. Hope to see you there and don't forget to bring your favorite dish to pass!

"CATCH THE JOY"

"The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." Ps 126:3

"Catch the Joy" is the theme for our annual stewardship campaign which begins November 1st. Each family will be receiving the initial packet which includes your "estimate of giving" card for 2016. It is our hope that you will prayerfully and joyfully consider your giving level for the year and return the card in the envelope provided. Our goal is to have this campaign completed prior to the beginning of the Advent season (November 29th) so we can all focus on the greatest gift of all – God's gift of his only son!

Remember – "Freely you have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8) and do so with Joy in your heart!

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745 Main Street, Racine, WI
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First United Methodist CHURCH HISTORY ~THEN & NOW~

Racine, Wisconsin Judith D. Schulz, Church Historian
Editing assistance from Carol Michael Feest & Judy Johnson Madsen

We have 2 small cards like this. One is from the Milo Griffith collection, on display in the Michael History Exhibit Cases, and the other was recently discovered in the Bible from the

1870 cornerstone box!

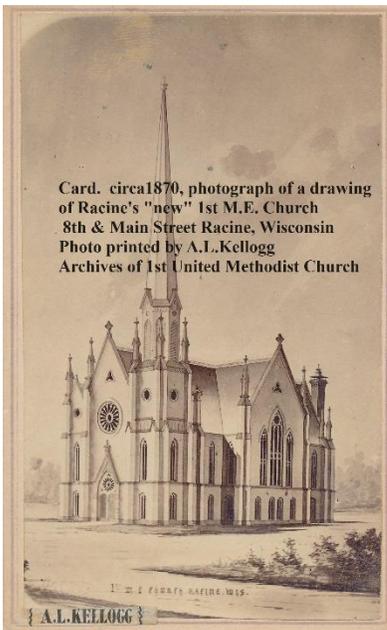
WILD GOOSE CHASE WAS JUST A DETOUR

~ In August of this year, when Andy & Judy Johnson Madsen and I were examining the items found in the 1870 cornerstone box, a little card fell out of the 1860 Bible of John and Samantha Lees. I was surprised. This item was not discovered last

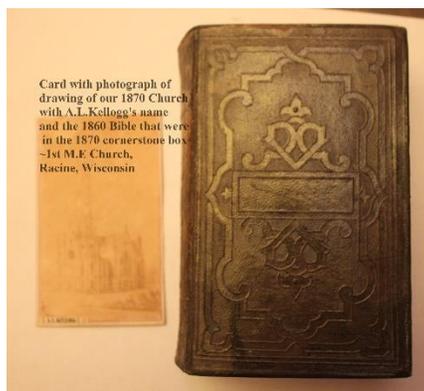
year (March 2014) when the box was opened! It was a

card/photograph of a drawing of the 1870 church.

~ I was also quite surprised, because I had seen one just like it before. I



Card, circa 1870, photograph of a drawing of Racine's "new" 1st M.E. Church 8th & Main Street Racine, Wisconsin Photo printed by A.L. Kellogg Archives of 1st United Methodist Church



Card with photograph of drawing of our 1870 Church with A.L. Kellogg's name and the 1860 Bible that were in the 1870 cornerstone box -1st M.E. Church, Racine, Wisconsin

November 2015 newsletter, First United Methodist, Racine, Wisconsin

checked the other card like this on display. The cards are identical, with the **SAME, exact name** on each one: "A.L. Kellogg"

The name was professional printed on the lower left hand corner of these pocket size cards.

I had a (wrong) theory before that it was the name of one of our pastors and this may have been like a business card, but we never had a pastor by the name of Kellogg! I then hunted for days on the internet for an A.L. Austin, and found Austin L. Kellogg who founded the first congregation of Methodists in 1835 in Pike (now Kenosha

A few years later he helped his brothers to build the Methodist church building in Kellogg's Corners, just south of Racine. He had founded a Methodist congregation, helped build a Methodist church and had zeal & devotion.

It made sense that this name could be Austin's. It seemed even more likely that he could be connected to our church because his brother-in-law was our pastor in 1845. I could almost picture him coming to help actually work on the construction of our Pearl Street church. (don't know for sure...) He was a blacksmith and had helped in the building of the Kellogg's Corners church structure. Click here for more <http://www.somers.org/?q=node/39#.Vi8JT7erSUK>

The problem was that our 1st building was built 25 years before our 1870 church was built. Would he have still been around here at that later time? Census showed him living in Clinton Iowa in 1870. He died in 1871, so couldn't rule it out. **? Maybe** he was a donor to the 1870 building?? **Maybe** Rev. & Mrs. Field wanted to honor him with his name on this card (25 years later)?? **Maybe** he left money to our church?? But there were TWO cards just the same, both with his name. We have found no other cards yet.

The 25 year difference between when his sister & Rev. Fields were with us, and the building of the 1870 church bothered me. I hunted & hunted for a connection. I then came across an "Anson L. Kellogg" in Racine & pursued his story.

MYSTERY SOLVED! Anson was a photographer! That is why his name was on the photograph, as photo studios do. More research should prove his occupation. **The 1868-1869 Racine City**

Directory

Kelley James, propr. Lake house, ws. Chatham, cor. 6th & 7th
Kelly James H. (Murray, Slausen & Co.), r. Wisconsin, cor. 8th
Kelley Michael, lab. r. es. St. Clair, bet. Hamilton and Hubbard
Kellogg Anson L. (Kellogg & Case), r. ws. Pearl, bet. 7th and 8th
Kellogg & Case (Anson L. Kellogg and C. C. Case), photographers
3 6th
1868-69 Racine City Directory
Anson L. Kellogg
Research 1st Methodist Church, Racine WI
Kelly Edward, lab. r. es. Center, bet. 1st and 2nd
Kelly Michael J. lake captain, r. es. Villa, bet. 9th and 10th

So obvious now. But I am glad I did not figure that out right away, or I might not have learned about Austin's vital role in the beginning of the Kenosha First United Methodist Church (documented on their website), or that his sister was married to one of our pastors, or...that one of our pastors had served Kellogg's Corners Methodists first. This was a detour to the right conclusion.

So this is a roundabout correction for the statement in the Oct 2015 newsletter about Austin L. Kellogg.

November 2015 History pages by Judith D. Schulz

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Page 2 Nov 2015

Can you guess the connection our congregation has to the first building built as a Methodist Church in Wisconsin at Kellogg's Corners?

Ask: WHO was the Reverend when this church in Kellogg's Corners in 1840? (Area is now called Somers Township in Kenosha County, just south of Mt. Pleasant). It is often referred to as the first "frame" Methodist Church building in the state of Wisconsin, though Wisconsin wasn't a state until 1848. It was actually the Wisconsin Territory at that time.



*Methodist Church built at Kelloggs Corners 1837-1840.
Somers services discontinued in 1910.*

Ask: WHO was the Reverend when we built our first Racine church building between 5th & 6th St. on the West side of Pearl Street (now College Av)? Our First M.E. Church was even called the Pearl Street Church by many at the time:



OLD FIRST M. E. CHURCH IN RACINE

WHO? The same person! *Reverend Julius Field.* He served at Kellogg's Corners circa 1840 and later served our congregation Aug. 1845 –Aug.1846!

And here is ANOTHER CONNECTION! the Kellogg brothers' sister Minerva Susannah Kellogg, was the wife of Rev. Field! So she and Rev. Fields were members of both the Kellogg's Corners Church and later our church!

QUICK! OLD STUFF...

??? **CLARENCE DARROW?** Which of our past ministers was part of the 1925 Scopes "Monkey Trial?" with lawyers Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan? On day 7 of the trial Hay reads a lengthy statement by Dr. Herbert Edgar Murkett for the defense. Murkett (1870-1958) was our pastor Sept. 1926-Sept.1927, just after he was part of this trial. (*Did you know this?*) He served in our current church building and preached from the very pulpit we use today. "What Dr. H. E. Murkett Would Say" is on p.229 of the transcript: Click here <http://darrow.law.umn.edu/documents/Scopes%206th%20&%207th%20days.pdf>

??? **Have you heard of KNIGHT STREET?** There isn't one in Racine, but there is "Albert Street" which is thought to be named for Albert G. Knight, one of our church founders and a pioneer of Racine. He founded what is now the Knight Barry Title Company, as well. Research from September 6, 1929 *The Racine Review* magazine in their periodic column "*Glimpses into the Naming of Racine Streets.*"

??? **Did you know there are 41 Revolutionary Veterans** buried in Wisconsin? Belmont Kellogg is one of them, buried in Sylvania Cemetery, in Yorkville (Racine County) near I-94. He is

the *father-in law of our pastor Rev. Julius Field!* There is a grave stone and *also a Wisconsin Historical Marker at the cemetery for him.* Helmont died in 1848, so it is possible he may have visited his daughter Minerva & son-in-law at our church on Pearl Street. --Click for more info about him: <http://wisconsinhistoricalmarkers.blogspot.com/2013/05/revolutionary-war-veteran-helmont.html> You can visit the Cemetery: GPS coordinates -- N42.68165°; W087.95383°

??? **J.O.Y.Auxiliary is?** The bulletin said “they will meet on Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. G.W.Naidl, 2307 N. St. Clair St. All young married women of the church are invited.” Bulletin is between circa 1935 & 1940. Another item listed; Home Devotional

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

745 Main Street

Racine, WI 53403-1211

Meetings at Andrew Johnson’s home and Julius Johnson’s home with addresses. Judy Johnson Madsen was able to determine the bulletin’s approx. date based on the addresses of her family then.

Look in the exhibit cases: We have a red hymnal in the Johnson Exhibit cases that had J.O.Y. marked inside the cover. Carol remembers her mother had been a member of this group. *Do you know others or more about this group?*

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The Mission of First United Methodist Church

- **To provide a place for people to experience God and find inspiration for daily living.**
- **To welcome all people as valued members of the**

community.

- **To encourage growth in faith and service on their spiritual journeys.**
- **To work for social justice.**
- **And to invite all to experience eternal life through Jesus Christ.**