

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

610 BONUS AVE
BELVIDERE, IL
61008



The Courier

AUGUST 2025



Belvidere First
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LOVIN' JESUS  LOVIN' YOU

August Newsletter

During the recent ASP trip, we sang “Take Me Home, Country Roads” during our Evening Gathering. Throughout that entire week, one word kept echoing in my heart—**home**. As I listened to both youth and adults singing together with one voice, I found myself deeply drawn to that single word: **home**.

The lyrics say: “Country roads, take me home to the place I belong, West Virginia, mountain mama, Take me home, country roads.”

Home is the place where we belong, the place we long to return to.

When I came back from the trip that Saturday, I returned to the house we had recently moved into, but strangely, it didn’t yet feel like home. Even with my beloved husband and two children there, something felt unfamiliar. Perhaps it was simply the newness of the place, but that feeling led me to a deeper question—what truly makes a home?

As I reflected, I realized that I have four homes:

The home I share with my family

The home I left behind in Korea

The home I build here with you, this community

And the heavenly home with the Lord, which I long for with all my heart

I want to share with you a Korean praise song I love, “Heavenly Hope,” which speaks of our eternal home with God:

Though my feet still walk the earth for now,
my soul already stands in heaven.
Where my Lord is—no more tears—there my hidden hope abides.
Faces I miss, names I cherish—I long for them.
Sometimes I ache to be there.
My Father’s wide embrace awaits me; there my treasure rests.
Till I reach that land, I will not stop this pilgrim walk.
Whatever trials may come, I will not fear;
for I walk this road with the Lord.

Though we live in many different “homes” here on earth, our ultimate longing is for our eternal home with God.

As we step into August—with the Boone County Fair, the start of a new school year, and all the busyness it brings—may we hold on to the spiritual practices that help us remember our true home in heaven. Let us continue to encourage one another as we walk this journey together.

See you at church, Pastor Jay

Check out these books from our church library in August!

For Kids: *The Story of Loaves and Fishes* by Grolier

For Women: *Why Do Good People Suffer* by Jackson

For Men: *From Despair to An Heir* By Tesch



Our prayer team is always ready to pray for you, or someone you know. If you have a prayer request, please contact Karen Frazer @ 815-985-7970, or contact the Church office at 815-544-3479.

Needed Item

If you have any:

Clear Single bud vases

10" tall

We need 14 total for the fall
Bazaar

Drop off at church the office or
contact Jeanette Gardner

Thank you

Active Military

Do you have a family member serving in the military?

Please contact Ruth Bower, and let us know so we can be encouraging and praying for them. Here is what we need:

- Name of active family member and their relation to you
- Branch of military
- Location serving
- Address to send correspondence



Hospitality Team

Proverbs 25: 21-22 "If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. ²² In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you."

Would you like to meet and greet visitors to our church? Then our Hospitality Team may be the place for you. Contact the church office at 815-544-3479 for more information, if you feel God nudging you towards this team.



Prayer

A = adoration

C =confession

T =Thanksgiving

S =Supplication



August 18-22

Sign up in gathering area or call the church office.



Thank you
to
everyone
who helped
with the
food distribution
on 7/23!



All men - current members & new attendees - are invited to our next UMM meeting on Sat. August 16, 830am in Perry Hall. Come for breakfast, fellowship, and a discussion on upcoming plans!



Ministry by, with and for women, supporting spiritual growth individually and in community, encouraging and recognizing the unique needs that come with life stages.

Adapted from www.resourceumc.org/en/topics/womens-ministry

Please join us for our August Women's Ministry Gathering, August 9th at 10am. We invite all Women to come and join us in fellowship, fun, prayers.

Please call any of the ministry team with questions, (Karen Frazer, Pam Rossmiller, Carla Walter, Linda Lennon or Cindy Poulter). We'll save you a seat.

August Greeter Schedule

August 3 Carol Rowe
August 10 Lucy Capitosti
August 17 The Bundschuhs
August 24 Terry & Anna Wandtke
August 31 The Beckmans

August Ushers

Craig Lawler
Jill Lawler
Jeanette Gardner

August Altar Flowers

August 3 Beth Bruha
August 10 Margaret Brown
August 17 (open)
August 24 Dan & Sue Holmes
August 31 Bloomingdales



CARE NOTES

Care Notes are small booklets offering strength, help and healing for a variety of topics that impact everyday lives at a very personal level. They are free to those who are hurting and in need of them.

Topics range from Overcoming Everyday Anxiety to dealing with Depression, Abuse, Grief, Financial Stress, Addictions, Dementia and Suicide. There are booklets for children, teens, and adults. Check out the **Care Notes** rack in the main hall just outside of the office.

Debbi Bloomingdale is a Notary. If you need something notarized, please call the church office. This service is free to church members and their families.





AUGUST 5-10 Come support our county fair!

If you signed up to work the gates or drive a cart, someone will be contacting you to remind you of your dates and times.

We can always use back-up people in case someone cannot work their shift. Please contact the church office or Beth Bruha to sign up.

Thank you!

Upcoming Event: Rally Sunday – August 24

Mark your calendars! Rally Sunday is coming on August 24 at 9:00 a.m. We invite all children and youth to bring their backpacks to worship that morning. During the service, our pastors will bless the children—and all students—as they step into a brand-new school year.

After worship, we'll have a fun and special Sunday School led by Pastor Jay—a great way to kick off the new season together!

We hope you and your family will join us for this joyful and meaningful start to the school year.

Visitation Team

It is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

—Philippians 2:13 (NIV)

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are to walk in love and to share that love with others. Pray for opportunities to be God's hand and feet, as well as his eyes and ears. If you are open to God's leading, he will entrust you with many opportunities for service. Especially, remember those folks who are less mobile and those struggling with difficult times.



If you have suggestions on how the Visitation Team can more effectively minister, please notify a team member or contact the church office at (815) 544-3479.

"Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day." Sally Koch

The Visitation Team: Mary Lou Poulter, Linda Clair, Rene Worden, Jan Harty, Karen McClenthen, and Janet Wheeler



Thank-you!
To everyone who attended
Or helped in any way!
VBS 2025 was a great time!





And another Year Of Great Decorations!



DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
words from the
word bank in the
grid. Look for them
in all directions
including backwards
and diagonally.

AMEN, ART, BREAD,
DAILY, DAY, DELIVER,
DONE, EARTH, EVER,
EVIL, FATHER,
FORGIVE, GIVE, GLORY,
HALLOWED, HEAVEN,
KINGDOM, LEAD, LORD,
NAME, POWER, PRAYER,
TEMPTATION, THINE,
THY, TRESPASSES, WILL



The Lord's Prayer

O	B	N	O	G	X	Y	X	H	K	P	Q	D	R	V	B	A	S	P
S	B	Z	V	P	J	K	N	T	I	N	R	J	A	D	B	Y	Q	W
P	Q	E	B	T	N	B	M	G	T	N	O	A	O	Y	P	D	F	G
D	E	V	E	R	P	E	Y	P	T	Y	E	C	Y	A	I	V	A	N
Z	A	A	P	A	O	T	V	H	I	Y	H	M	D	E	R	Q	G	V
O	P	I	E	V	W	W	C	A	Z	O	K	N	A	E	R	J	D	G
Y	I	Z	L	B	E	W	U	F	E	A	L	Q	G	D	A	E	R	B
O	H	N	E	Y	R	M	U	F	B	H	C	W	J	K	L	T	Q	A
I	J	T	V	F	J	N	J	M	E	A	R	T	H	I	L	L	I	W
W	D	J	I	R	D	E	W	O	L	L	A	H	V	O	D	W	Q	T
C	I	O	G	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	Q	E	C	D	U	W	T	R
T	Q	V	R	A	Z	D	B	O	Q	U	R	I	O	D	E	R	E	E
K	H	S	O	E	W	R	Q	P	Y	W	T	K	Y	A	N	W	A	S
V	L	D	F	B	G	O	U	S	K	R	N	T	V	E	I	E	K	P
E	Q	G	W	L	B	L	J	S	D	P	X	R	C	L	H	M	J	A
V	P	J	O	W	E	N	O	I	T	A	T	P	M	E	T	A	Q	S
I	B	R	N	O	X	J	G	N	B	S	V	S	X	D	O	N	E	S
G	Y	U	Z	N	K	K	C	F	A	T	H	E	R	D	F	N	T	E
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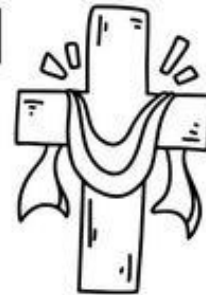
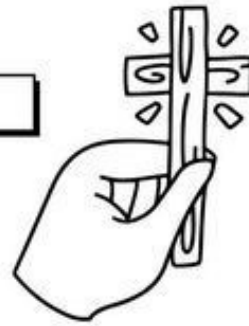
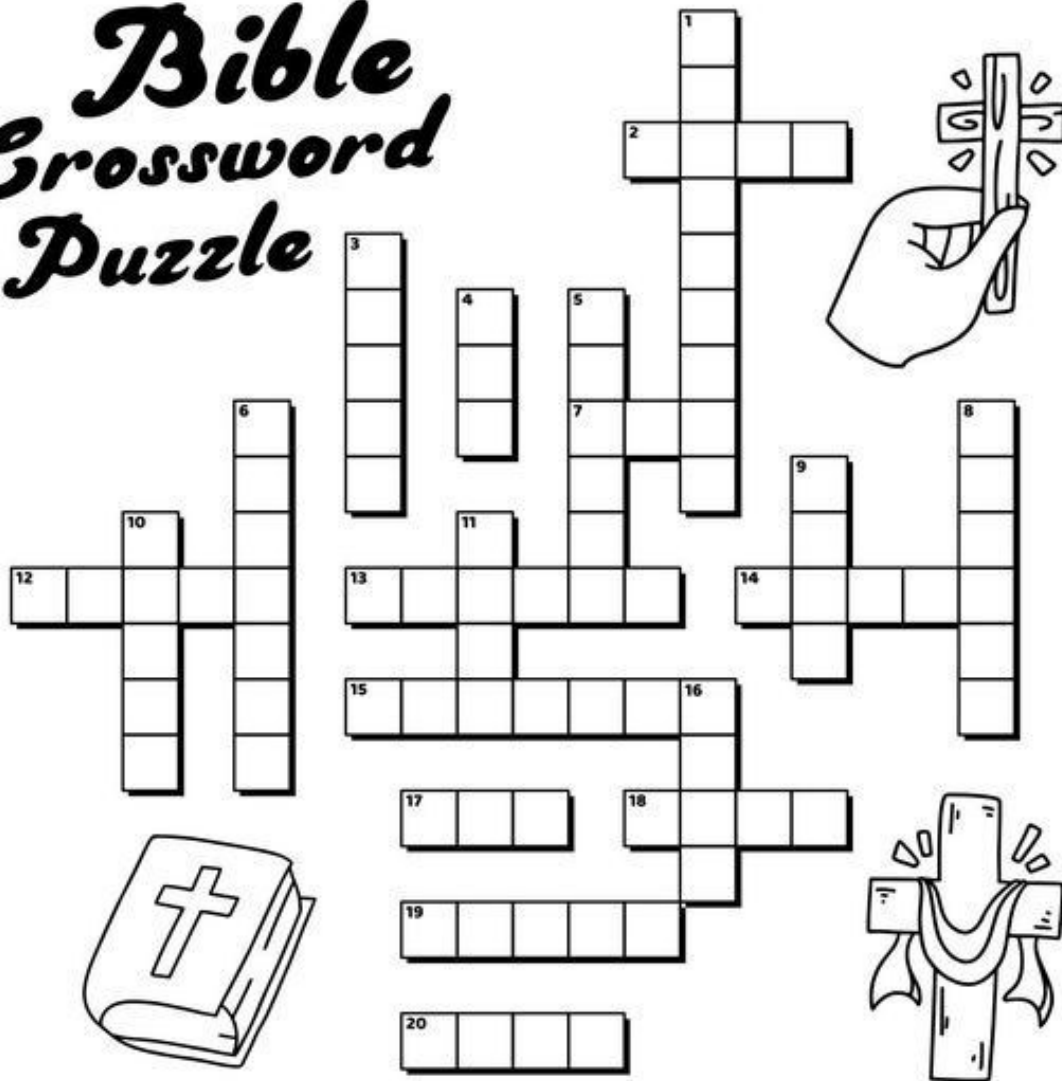
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Bible Crossword Puzzle



Across

2. This led the wise men to baby Jesus
7. The first woman
12. The queen of what country came to see Solomon
13. What is it called when we talk to God?
14. Who wrote the 23rd Psalm?
15. Wisest man in the world
17. God created the world in how many days?
18. Two ladies argued about this
19. Who parted the Red Sea?
20. What kind of bird did Noah send out of the ark to see if the land was dry?

Down

1. The town Jesus was born in
3. Long sharp weapon
4. Who created everything?
5. How many disciples did Jesus have?
6. Who was the first Jew?
8. What Solomon asked God for
9. The first man
10. Who is a descendant of Abraham and King David, and is the Savior of the world?
11. The first king of Israel who died in battle with his son, Jonathon
16. He built the ark

Word Bank

Solomon	Baby	Sword	Sheba	Adam	Eve	Wisdom
Star	Saul	Bethlehem	Moses	Abraham	Jesus	Noah
Dove	God	David	Twelve	Prayer	Six	



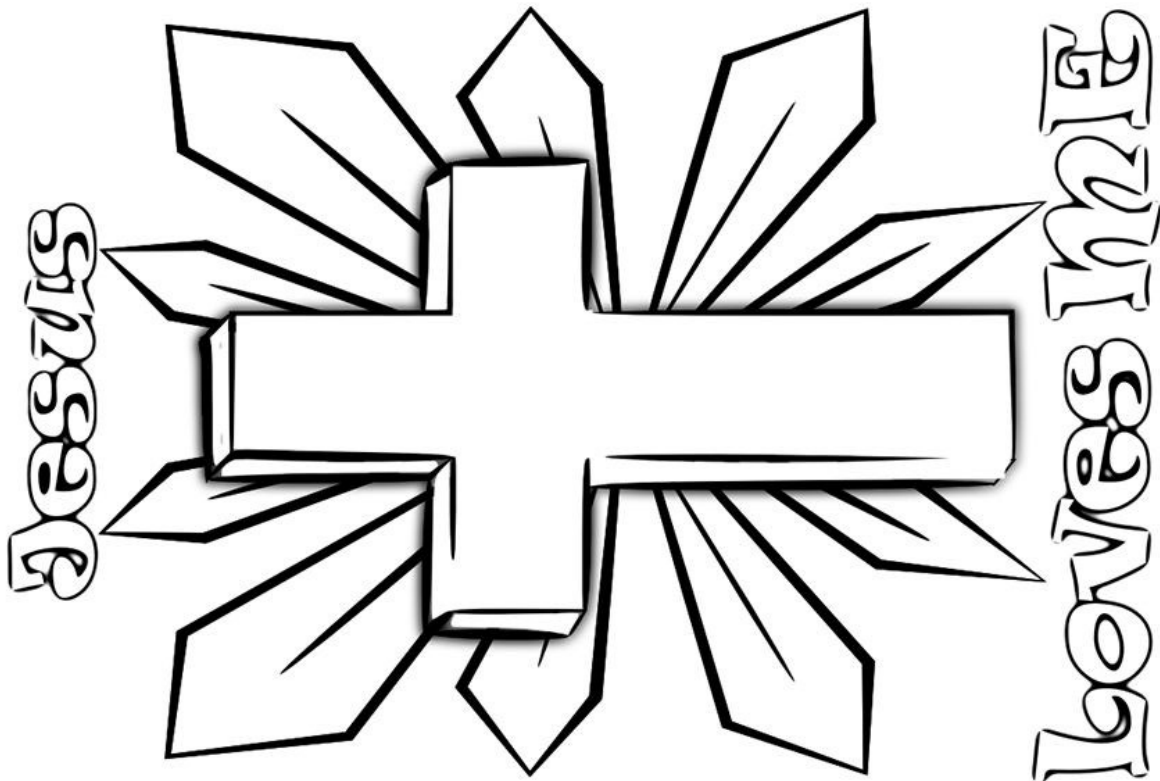
Generosity and Cheerful Giving

The New Testament emphasizes that giving should come from a place of cheerfulness, not compulsion. We are to give generously and joyfully, as God has given to us.

- **2 Corinthians 9:6-7:** *"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*
- **Acts 20:35:** *"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"*

Generosity flows from the heart and reflects the abundance of God's grace toward us.

<u>2025 Financial Information</u>				
	June	Year-to-Date		
Income	35,219.35	232,317.31	Annual Apportionment	61,764.00
Expenses	42,499.60	252,783.15	Apportionment paid to date	22,421.19
Net Income (Loss)	(7,280.25)	(20,465.84)		



C	P
O	A
L	G
O	E
R	
I	
N	
G	




August

	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalms	Proverbs
<input type="checkbox"/> 01	2 Chronicles 30:1-31:21	Romans 15:1-22	Psalms 25:1-15	Proverbs 20:13-15
<input type="checkbox"/> 02	2 Chronicles 32:1-33:13	Romans 15:23-16:9	Psalms 25:16-22	Proverbs 20:16-18
<input type="checkbox"/> 03	2 Chronicles 33:14-34:33	Romans 16:10-27	Psalms 26:1-12	Proverbs 20:19
<input type="checkbox"/> 04	2 Chronicles 35:1-36:23	1 Corinthians 1:1-17	Psalms 27:1-6	Proverbs 20:20-21
<input type="checkbox"/> 05	Ezra 1:1-2:70	1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5	Psalms 27:7-14	Proverbs 20:22-23
<input type="checkbox"/> 06	Ezra 3:1-4:23	1 Corinthians 2:6-3:4	Psalms 28:1-9	Proverbs 20:24-25
<input type="checkbox"/> 07	Ezra 4:24-6:22	1 Corinthians 3:5-23	Psalms 29:1-11	Proverbs 20:26-27
<input type="checkbox"/> 08	Ezra 7:1-8:20	1 Corinthians 4:1-21	Psalms 30:1-12	Proverbs 20:28-30
<input type="checkbox"/> 09	Ezra 8:21-9:15	1 Corinthians 5:1-13	Psalms 31:1-8	Proverbs 21:1-2
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Ezra 10:1-44	1 Corinthians 6:1-20	Psalms 31:9-18	Proverbs 21:3
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Nehemiah 1:1-3:14	1 Corinthians 7:1-24	Psalms 31:19-24	Proverbs 21:4
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Nehemiah 3:15-5:13	1 Corinthians 7:25-40	Psalms 32:1-11	Proverbs 21:5-7
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Nehemiah 5:14-7:73	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Psalms 33:1-11	Proverbs 21:8-10
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Nehemiah 7:73-9:21	1 Corinthians 9:1-18	Psalms 33:12-22	Proverbs 21:11-12
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	Nehemiah 9:22-10:39	1 Corinthians 9:19-10:13	Psalms 34:1-10	Proverbs 21:13
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Nehemiah 11:1-12:26	1 Corinthians 10:14-33	Psalms 34:11-22	Proverbs 21:14-16
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Nehemiah 12:27-13:31	1 Corinthians 11:1-16	Psalms 35:1-16	Proverbs 21:17-18
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Esther 1:1-3:15	1 Corinthians 11:17-34	Psalms 35:17-28	Proverbs 21:19-20
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Esther 4:1-7:10	1 Corinthians 12:1-26	Psalms 36:1-12	Proverbs 21:21-22
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Esther 8:1-10:3	1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13	Psalms 37:1-11	Proverbs 21:23-24
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Job 1:1-3:26	1 Corinthians 14:1-17	Psalms 37:12-29	Proverbs 21:25-26
<input type="checkbox"/> 22	Job 4:1-7:21	1 Corinthians 14:18-40	Psalms 37:30-40	Proverbs 21:27
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Job 8:1-11:20	1 Corinthians 15:1-28	Psalms 38:1-22	Proverbs 21:28-29
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Job 12:1-15:35	1 Corinthians 15:29-58	Psalms 39:1-13	Proverbs 21:30-31
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Job 16:1-19:29	1 Corinthians 16:1-24	Psalms 40:1-10	Proverbs 22:1
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Job 20:1-22:30	2 Corinthians 1:1-11	Psalms 40:11-17	Proverbs 22:2-4
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Job 23:1-27:23	2 Corinthians 1:12-2:11	Psalms 41:1-13	Proverbs 22:5-6
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Job 28:1-30:31	2 Corinthians 2:12-17	Psalms 42:1-11	Proverbs 22:7
<input type="checkbox"/> 29	Job 31:1-33:33	2 Corinthians 3:1-18	Psalms 43:1-5	Proverbs 22:8-9
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	Job 34:1-36:33	2 Corinthians 4:1-12	Psalms 44:1-8	Proverbs 22:10-12
<input type="checkbox"/> 31	Job 37:1-39:30	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:10	Psalms 44:9-26	Proverbs 22:13

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August 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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**First United Methodist
Church**
610 Bonus Ave
Belvidere, IL 61008
Pastor Jim Bell
Associate Pastor Jay Shin

Phone: 815-544-3479

E-mail: officeadmin@fumcbelvidere.com

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9-3

Friday 9-12

After hour emergencies--847-764-6563

Worship 9:00 AM

Sunday School 10:15 Sept--May

Find us on the web @ fumcbelvidere.org



Scan the QR with
your phone, or Ipad
to go directly to our
website.



If you would like us to
to pray for you, email the
church or scan the QR
code below.

