

Worship to Remain Online

The activity level of COVID-19 cases is still Very High according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and shows a positivity rate of 9.2% near the end of December. Your Church Council and I will continue to monitor the pandemic, and in order to keep people safe, to follow our Bishop's urging, and to continue to follow the first of John Wesley's General Rules "Do No Harm," we will continue to worship online for the time being. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to talk about it or have questions.

We will continue to offer a printed sermon option, as well as our new "Sermon by Phone" option, which is a great way to connect with worship if you don't have a computer or the internet. Be safe, be well, and know that God is always with us!

Peace,

Pastor Jeremy

Pastor Jeremy and Heather Boorman, our Family Ministry Coordinator, continue to share their Sunday sermons and children's messages on our church's YouTube channel, available each Sunday morning at 9am.

To find us online, go to www.YouTube.com and search "New Richmond United Methodist Church" and our channel will appear in the results. It will show you every service/video that's been uploaded since we began doing this in March. Not only can you watch these sermons on your mobile device, but most smart TV's with internet have access to YouTube. This link is also shared on our Facebook page and in our weekly all-church emails. Please make sure to SUBSCRIBE to our channel and it will let you know when new videos are posted.



Listen to our worship services over the phone!

We're excited to now offer our worship services over the phone! From the comforts of your home, you can listen to the audio from our weekly worship service by calling **1-715-203-0212** from any phone.

You will be able to listen to everything, from Pastor Jeremy's sermons, to special readings from other church members, to hymns and other music. We are very excited about this!

Each Saturday evening/Sunday morning, the new Sunday service will be added and will remain available until the following week's is uploaded. Since we can only have one recorded service on the phone service at a time, once the new one is added, the previous week's is erased. Please contact Kristi in the office, 715-246-2464, if you have any questions.



When You Pray, Please Remember

Sympathy to the families of these church members we lost during December:

*Harold Bishop, December 10
Marlene Bartels, December 11
Joyce Kryder, December 25*

Mary Barney, Don Breid
St. Croix Health Center

Dorothy Bishop
is living at an assisted living facility
in Forest Lake, MN

Linda Anderson, Dana Craig
The Deerfield

Donna Holmes, Dan Olson, May Ross
Home

Shirley Storrer
American Heritage Care Center
Hammond

Janet Andrea
911 Southview Dr, Hastings, MN 55033

Would you like a Phone Call?

If you would like to hear from Pastor Jeremy during this time of quarantine, please feel free to call or email him at: 1-651-783-2433 or pastorjdeaner@gmail.com

Hospitalizations

If you go into the hospital please let us know at church, especially if you would like to hear from Pastor Jeremy or Maybelle Hall. The hospitals cannot tell us if you are there, so the only way that we know is if you call or email us at: 715-246-2464 or unitedmc@frontiernet.net Pastor Jeremy's cell # is 1-651-783-2433.



Prayer List

If you or a loved one would like to be placed on our Prayer List, please call the church office. Please pray for those on the prayer list in each Sunday bulletin, weekly email and monthly newsletter.



Church Membership

If you would like to join the church, please talk with Pastor Jeremy.

Stay in touch with our church online

Website: www.newrichmondwiumc.org

Facebook Page: [Facebook.com/newrichmondwiumc](https://www.facebook.com/newrichmondwiumc)

YOUTUBE: Simply search for
"New Richmond United Methodist Church"



Community Christmas Day Dinner Report

Covid, a snow storm, and 300+ meals to prepare...

The month of December was busy, planning for our 26th Annual Community Christmas Day Dinner. We knew it would have to look a lot different this year due to Covid, but we were up for the challenge. A big thanks to ALL of the volunteers who helped make it all possible and to Nancy Karastes, Gwen Hop and Chris Libbey for their leadership! Not being able to have our traditional sit-down meal here at church, we offered home delivery and curbside pick-up this year. This meant there were menu changes to make, LOTS of packing boxes to find and more volunteers needed than usual. Nancy led the kitchen crew in preparing ham, potatoes and veggies and Gwen led the delivery crew and "runners". In addition to these tasks, both ladies collected boxes, ran from store to store for supplies and spent many hours preparing and planning! We typically have about 90 meals to deliver and 100 people eat here at the church, for a total of about 200 meals. This year, we had 215 meals to deliver and 100+ meals for curbside pick-up for 315+ meals total! Within that number, we served over 110 different households!



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3 Jack Hop Gabby Tesar	12 Nathan Devereux 15 Lynn Troftgruben	27 Tom Eller Tama Schmidt
4 Bob Peterschick	17 Connie Hehling	Barb Vander Wyst
7 Nancy Willson	19 Karen Greaton-Gillespie	28 Deb Geving
8 Ryan Eller	Savanna Van Dyk	31 Teri Olds
9 Carter Balcerek Mary Hanson	21 Marilyn Peterson	
11 Dana Craig James Leavens	23 Pearl Christensen	
	25 Sarah Ketcham Char Mayry	

Anniversaries
January 15 Duane & Ruth Spoo



LOVE BASKETS UPDATE

We want to thank everyone for their contributions of gifts, hats, mittens and scarves and money donations for the Love Baskets project this year. Given the strangeness of this year, we didn't know what to expect and we feel blessed to be able to help families out during the holidays!

*Nancy Refsnider & Barb Vander Wyst
Outreach Committee Chairs*



Important News from the Nominations Committee

If you are a member of a committee or board of the church, especially Church Council, Finance, Nominations, Staff Parish Relations, Trustees, or some other term-bound position, the Nominations Committee would like to ask all leaders, in these extraordinary times, to stay in your position for another year. This means if you were scheduled to come off this year, you would stay one more year. If you were scheduled to end your term in 2022 you would end your term in 2023.

If you have questions, or definitely need to make a change, please let Pastor Jeremy and your Committee's chairperson know. Otherwise, we will assume that you are willing to do this, and thank you in these difficult times for doing so!

Weekly Wednesday open Zoom gathering is open to everyone!



Pastor Jeremy is going to continue the open Zoom time "gathering" for anyone who wants to join in for conversation. It will be Wednesday mornings at 10:30am and will be an hour long. From now on, it will begin with "Morning Prayer" from the United Methodist Hymnal, a way for us to worship together in real time, including time for prayer, scripture, and song. Open Zoom means you are welcome to come and go as you please. Look for the invitation link in the NR UMC Weekly News email that Kristi sends out on Tuesdays.

Opportunities to Help in Worship

You may have seen that we are trying to include more people in creating the online worship experiences little by little. If you would be interested in video recording yourself reading scripture, offering a story about how God is working in your life, playing music, or some other worshipful activity, please let Jill Thomas or Pastor Jeremy know.



Thank you to everyone who helped with the Christmas Program, Christmas Eve Worship Service and Christmas Carol Sing on December 27th!

2021 Calendars for sale!

Be sure to get yours while they last! They are \$8 each (payable to NR UMC). These calendars aren't just beautiful, but they're made out of thicker paper, so they're nice to write on and last all year long! They make GREAT gifts too! If you are interested, please contact Kristi in the church office at 715-246-2464 or unitedmc@frontiernet.net



Happy New Year!
From Your Church Staff

Pastor

Adult Ministry Leader

Church & Financial Secretary

Custodian

Family Ministry Leader

Music Director

Organist

Jeremy Deaner

Pat Allegar

Kristi Rogers

John Vlasak

Heather Boorman

Jill Thomas

Mary Jensen



The church office will be closed December 31 & January 1 for New Year's and also on January 18 for Martin Luther King Jr Day.

The Faith House has been the main focus of the Trustees for December. If you don't know about the Faith House, it's the big white house next to the church, on the other side of the alley. The church has owned the house for many years and we have been in partnership with The Salvation Army/ Grace Place for 20+ years. The back end of the house was actually the first Salvation Army office for our area! They now use it as transitional housing for up to 3 people at a time and the typical stay for someone is 6-9 months as they look for more permanent housing and get back on their feet.

TRUSTEE'S CORNER

Many volunteer hours were spent in December on various projects at the house, like hauling out old furniture/"stuff" from the house for disposal, installing new fixtures and close-to-new appliances, and overseeing projects like painting, cleaning and electrical work. New carpet will be installed mid-January and Grace Place will have new tenants in place soon after.



A BIG Thank You to the following people for their hard work:

Troy & Julie Elmer

Steve Hornickle

Bill Komula

Mark, Jenny & Tyler Larson

Mark & David Mayry

Dan, Katie & Rhiannon Shipman

Jack & Diane Thomas

John & Sharon Vlasak

Thank You!

Steve Hornickle has served as Chair and Co-Chair of Trustees for the past 3 years and has decided to take a step back and try to enjoy retirement a little. We want to thank you Steve for your leadership, hard work and many, many hours spent at church these past 3 years!



Family Fresh Receipts



Thank you SO much for your continued support of our collection of Family Fresh register receipts. We are in our 6th round of collecting and we currently have over \$100,000 in receipts so far! We team up with Five Loaves Food Shelf and our receipts get added together. Once we collect \$150,000 in receipts, we receive \$1,000 from Family Fresh, that we split 50/50 with Five Loaves.

Dale & Pegi Fleming continue to count the receipts, and we thank them for that!

There are collection baskets for receipts at Five Loaves, Two Fish Thrift, and at the exit at Family Fresh. You're also welcome to leave them in the mailbox at church under the carport or bring them in when Kristi is in the office. Thanks!!! -Pat Allegar

Jerri's Virtual Book Club



Since the passing of church member and Book Club organizer, Jerri Rang, I have been trying to create a book club that will help us connect and share ideas through this difficult time. Although this has been a United Methodist Church activity in the past, we would like to welcome all interested readers. The idea is to name the best book you read during the month, and write a brief summary, including the author and your name and email it to me. I will compile the submissions from each month and share them with book club participants and our congregation. You are encouraged, but not required to participate monthly. Please feel free to invite friends and family! -Pat Allegar, Adult Ministry Leader (allegarpat@hotmail.com)

Submissions from December 2020

Reader: Julie Eickhoff

A Man Called Ove is a 2012 novel by Fredrik Backman. I fell in love with the little old cranky man who seems to irritate everyone he meets! His back story, how he views the world and how he learns to react to his surroundings, make for a heartwarming tale that kept me turning pages. He loves structure and hates almost any new way of doing things. He has no problem speaking his mind! In a most unlikely turn of events, we learn that he may not be what we think. I think there is a little "Ove" in all of us! I thought the character development in this book was amazing and highly recommend it! On a side note, there is a film and a stage version of A Man Called Ove. I have not seen either, but hope

Readers: Kay Brooks and Pat Allegar

Title: Wolf Hollow

Author: Lauren Wolk

Wolf Hollow is a young adult novel about a girl living in 1943 in rural Pennsylvania. A new girl arrives at her overcrowded school and shows her love of bullying others. When the girl disappears, blame is placed upon a drifter who is suffering the effects of military service. Annabelle befriends the drifter and takes it upon herself to prove him innocent.

Reader: Bill Knutson

Title: Uncommon Ground: Living Faithfully in a World of Difference

Authors: Tim Keller and John Inazu

This book shares multiple personal stories that answer the questions below:

How can Christians today interact with those around them in a way that shows respect to those whose beliefs are radically different but that also remain faithful to the Gospel

Reader: Ruth Egerer

Title: The Great Partnership

Author: Rabbi Jonathan Sachs

As we hear so much about science relative to COVID, the author steps back and takes a look at the big picture as to how science and religion relate to each other, how we need both, how they are not incompatible, and yet how they are very different from one another. He draws into his discussion: religious thought, politics, philosophy, culture, social relationships, morality, and more as he seeks to give a balanced view of both science and religion. Ultimately, he affirms the utter importance of faith, as we live in the world.

Spotlight on Stewardship



We are calling this year's stewardship focus *Give the Future*. We don't know what the future looks like, but we know that as a church we want to help create a healthy, just, peaceful world, and we want the church to be a place where we can learn to help make that happen, whether we can gather yet or not. In order to continue to change lives in this way, your gifts are more important than ever. Thank you for your gifts and for giving of your selves as we *Give the Future* together!

GIVING OPTIONS

To continue to support the church's mission and ministry during this time, we have a few options for you. Please contact Kristi Rogers in the church office with ANY questions.



1. Online Giving on our Website-

We have added a NEW online giving option to our website called "GIVE+" by Vanco Payment Solutions. We've used Vanco for over 10 years as a convenient way for our members and friends to give to the church electronically on an on-going basis. It is safe, simple, and offered at no cost to you. Now, with GIVE+, you can donate to the church using your checking or savings account at any time. To access GIVE+, you just click on our church's link that can be found on our website: www.newrichmondwiumc.org, click the link on the home page, then go through the steps. You can choose a one-time gift or reoccurring gifts. You only need to create a sign-in account if you plan to set-up reoccurring payments.

2. U.S. Mail- Our mailing address is: P.O. BOX 277, New Richmond, WI 54017

3. Electronic Giving-

If you would like to sign-up for our regular reoccurring electronic giving program with Vanco, please contact Kristi and she'll send you a form. You can make changes at any time by contacting her.

IRA AND STOCK GIFTS

There are significant tax benefits for giving to the church directly from your IRA or other retirement account. Also, if you have stock and would like to make a gift to the church from it, our United Methodist Foundation can process those gifts without any fees. Please contact Kristi if you are interested in giving to the church in either of these ways.

SCRIP CARDS ARE ALWAYS THE RIGHT FIT!



With the help of over 750 stores/brands, it turns our everyday shopping into earnings for our church. Not only can you use Scrip cards for your personal every day purchases, but they also make great gifts! Many of the cards are re-loadable too, like Kwik Trip!

Don't have a computer or want to shop online? Contact Kristi in the church office (715-246-2464) or our Organist, Mary Jensen (715-222-0586) and they can place your order for you! It's super easy and not additional cost to you.

Every store/brand gives a rebate percentage- normally between 2% and 16%, and they often run specials for even more! The rebate amount comes directly to our church when a card is purchased at its face value. For instance, if you order a \$100 card and the rebate on it is 4%, the church receives \$4 and you still receive the card for its face value of \$100. It's a Win-Win! It's easy, it's rewarding, and it fits perfectly into your busy lifestyle.

Instant Access to eGift Cards

In addition to physical gift cards, ShopWithScrip offers ScripNow® eGift cards for over 400 brands. eGift cards are perfect for last-minute or unplanned purchases, like dining out or a quick trip to the mall. You have access to the scrip you need whenever you need it. Place your eGift card order on ShopWithScrip.com or on MyScripWallet.com on your mobile device. When you pay for your eGift cards with online payments (credit card or a linked bank account), you'll receive the eGift cards immediately. All of your eGift cards are housed in your wallet on ShopWithScrip and on your phone in MyScripWallet. You can print eGift cards and present them like a physical gift card in the store or redeem them from MyScripWallet. Redeem them online by entering the card number and PIN when you're checking out. You can also send a ScripNow eGift. It's easy to customize the eGift with a personal note, and send it to anyone, anywhere, with an email address. Our eGift card selection is growing all the time. See the complete list of available eGift card brands by clicking on the [Shop](#) link at the top of the page, and selecting the ScripNow card type on the left, or viewing the eGift Card card type on MyScripWallet.

1. To order online, go to: www.shopwithscrip.com

Set up an account with: New Richmond United Methodist Church

User Name: nrumc19

Family Access #: 1E4EF7AB64749

When setting up your account, you will add a bank account or debit/credit card for your purchases. From there, you can then order:

* **e-Cards**, they will email you your card, you print it off and bring to the store to shop;

* **Download** cards into your Scrip App on your smartphone;

* **Physical plastic gift cards** that will be mailed to you (there is a charge for this).





New Richmond United Methodist Church

Our Mission is: *Building bridges to discipleship by connecting, growing, and serving.*

Our Vision is: *Compassionate, God-centered community serving all people.*



(Address Service Requested)

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