

Church Council sets Benchmarks for In-Person Worship to Begin -Update-

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services shows the positivity rate for both Wisconsin and St. Croix County having dipped below 5% for a couple weeks now. This means that at the March 16 Church Council meeting we will discuss when we might begin a safe in-person worship option in addition to continuing to offer online, print and phone options for worship. Please see below for the original announcement from last month.

With the promising news of vaccines for COVID-19, there is hope for a return to an in-person worship option on the horizon. And yet there is still reason to be cautious in order to follow the first of John Wesley's General Rules "Do No Harm," with a more contagious strain of the virus showing up in more places.

Your Church Council met on January 19, 2021, and decided on some benchmarks to guide when we can begin offering a safe in-person worship option. Based on recommendations from the Wisconsin Council of Churches and ecumenical partners, they decided on a two-fold benchmark. We will look to begin an in-person worship option when we reach a local vaccination rate of 50% and/or when we reach a 5% positivity rate in Wisconsin and in St. Croix County.

Your Worship Design Team has already drafted a plan for a safe in-person worship option, following public health recommendations for gatherings during the pandemic. These guidelines would still be in effect when we first gather, and will be phased out as we reach higher levels of vaccination and immunity.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you would like to talk about it or have questions.

Even when we begin offering an in-person worship option, we will still offer online worship, a printed sermon option, and our "Sermon by Phone" option. Be safe, be well, and know that God is always with us!

Peace,

Pastor Jeremy





When You Pray, Please Remember

Mary Barney, Don Breid
St. Croix Health Center

Dorothy Bishop
c/o Boutwells Landing, #317
13575 58th St. N, Oak Park Heights, MN 55082

Dana Craig
The Deerfield

Donna Holmes, Dan Olson, May Ross
Home

Shirley Storrer
American Heritage Care Center
Hammond

Janet Andrea
c/o Kirk Andrea
911 Southview Drive, Hastings, MN 55033
651-480-2157

Joyce Cremeans
has moved back into her home in New Richmond



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.



Don't forget to set
your clocks ahead 1 hour
Sunday, March 14

- WORSHIP AT NEW RICHMOND UMC -

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 2020. 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!

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.

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 contact Jill Thomas at jillthomas@nwcomm.net or 715-246-2878, or Pastor Jeremy at 651-783-2433 or pastorjdeaner@gmail.com.



Ruth Egerer's

YOUTUBE PLAYLIST FOR LENT 2021

Last year, several months into the pandemic, I felt a desire to find solace not only for myself, but for others. For many of us, music and the arts can provide this. This Lent there is an offering below of artistic pieces that not only can honor our Lenten journey, but can bring us peace of heart, as sense of God's enduring care, and even joy.

The selections chosen include a variety of white, African American and Hispanic artists. You may choose to view one each Wed. in Lent between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week (beg. 2/24) in the order given, or in any order. Invite the Spirit to show you what it has for you to see, hear, and know. I've included running times. The last one might best be experienced on the Wed. before Holy Week. TO ACCESS: Go to YouTube and type in complete titles along with performers. Questions: call Ruth at 715-246-4883.

1. "Create in Me" sung by The Acapella Company, male chorus (time: 3:15)
---originally recorded by John Michael Talbot and Terry Talbot, Christian composers/artists.

2. "Adoro Te Devote" (Catholic, in Latin) sung by The Acapella Group (time: 6:32)
Sung at the Benediction of the blessed Sacrament in the crypt of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, Australia. Of the 7 verses in this hymn, here are v. 3 & v. 4, translated: "On the cross only the divinity was hidden, But here (in the sacrament) the humanity is also hidden. Yet believing and confessing both, I ask for what the penitent thief asked (Jesus, remember me...). I do not see wounds as Thomas did, But I confess that You are my God. Make me believe much more in You, Hope in you, and love you."

3. Taize music (France): (Look for flowing orange draping on the song image/graphic.)
 - a. "Bless the Lord My Soul" (time: 4:26) In The Faith We Sing. The lyric is: "Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's holy name. Bless the Lord my soul who leads me into life."
 - b. "Nada Te Turbe" (time: 4:45) In the Faith We Sing. The lyric is: "Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. Those who seek God shall never go wanting. God alone fills us."

4. "Glory to the Lamb" by Geoffry Golden: Praise Dance, dance by "Prophetic Vessels in Motion." (time: 7:52) While the lyric remains the same, the dance movements continue to express praise in different ways. Perhaps this might be an encouragement to praise our Savior in all the ways we can.

5. "The Crucifixion of Jesus" by Fernando Ortega (time: 48:29) The composer/arranger suggests this work can be used as a personal meditation. CONTENTS: Song: Blessed Be Our God; Reading: Say to the Daughter of Zion; Song: Prepare the Way, O Zion; Reading: Money Changers; Song: House of Prayer; Reading: Last Supper; Song: In My Father's Kingdom; Reading: Peter's Denial; Song: Stay with Me Here; Song: Your Will Be Done; Song: O Great Love, O Love Beyond All Measure; Reading: Excerpt from Holy Living; Song: Ah, Holy Jesus, How Have You Offended?; Song: My Song Is Love Unknown; Reading: Crucifixion; Psalm 22; Song: Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted.

March Birthdays

2 Chase Balcerek	9 Michele Riedel	21 Bob Hanson
3 Don Karastes Jill Turnipseed	John Vlasak	22 Jan Reichert
4 Marlene Hanson Scott Schmidt	10 Steve Campbell Dan Richter	28 Sue Newby
5 Erin Johnston	12 Jenna Green Jo Hughes	30 David Komula Jeff McIntyre
7 Kirstin Mehls Mania Moore	16 Loren Barnes	31 Catie Bartels
8 Sharon Vlasak Tom Wenstad Peter Westmoreland	17 Pat Zeiler	
	19 Karen Langer Bev O'Connell	



Happy Birthday

Anniversaries

- 4 Lynn & Mary Troftgruben
- 6 Reuben & Laura Lemunyete
- 15 Gerrit & Pat Van Dyk
- 29 Dan & Katie Shipman

The Trustee Committee did not meet in February, but here are a few items that were done during the month:

-New metal railings were installed on the stairs that lead up to the office and stairs that lead up to the narthex. They look great and match the new railings that go down to fellowship hall.

-The soffit in fellowship hall has been repaired following a leak.

-We received a water leak detector from Church Mutual Insurance. Our custodian, John, will look at putting it in place.

Parking lot items:

Energy Audit on hold due to COVID-19, church building use policy, pew repair/replacement, bird nests in bell tower, bell in tower polishing, clothesline at FH, AED training?, exterior lighting working as expected??

Their next meeting will be Tuesday, March 16 at 6:00pm. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact one of our Trustees-

Terry Bartels, Jack Thomas, Pegi Fleming, Sharon Vlasak, Mark Mayry and Bill Komula

**TRUSTEE'S
CORNER**





Weekly Wednesday Open Zoom gathering is open to everyone!

***Resumes March 31**

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.



HOLY WEEK

Sunday, March 28 - Palm Sunday
 Thursday, April 1 - Holy Thursday
 Friday, April 2 - Good Friday
 Sunday, April 4 - Easter Sunday

NEW RICHMOND UMC 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

January 2021

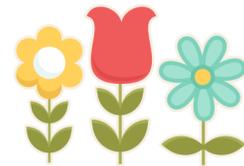


General Budget

Income	11,030
Expenses	<u>18,870</u>
	- 7,840

(Amount in 2020 was +1,230)

**Contributions toward
Church Maintenance/Repairs:**
\$695

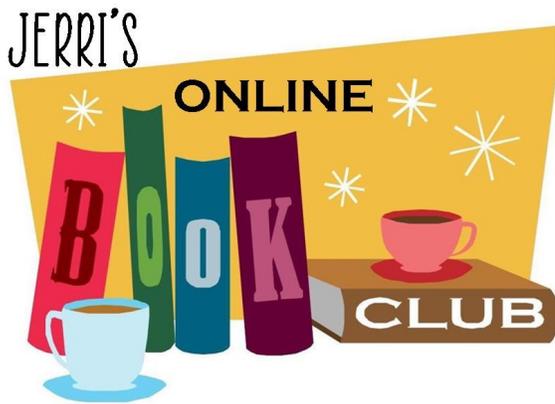


NR UMC Electronic Giving

Electronic Giving is a safe and easy way to contribute to the church. All you need to do is fill out a form that I have in the office, and I'll take care of the rest. You can adjust it at any time and there is no cost at all to you. If you're interested, please give me a call, 246-2464.

-Kristi Rogers, Secretary





*In Memory of Book Club organizer,
Jerri Rang.*

Share the best book you read during the month and write a brief summary, including the author and your name and email it to me and they'll be submitted to our monthly newsletter. Please feel free to invite friends and family! -Pat Allegar, Adult Ministry Leader

Summaries from February 2021

If You Lived Here You'd Be Home By Now by Christopher Ingraham. Submitted by Chuck Rang

In the Dog Days of summer, 2015, a young Washington Post journalist who wrote articles about data penned an article that included the judgment that the ugliest county in the United States was in northwest Minnesota. After being swamped with argumentative but friendly emails, he flew out to North Dakota and drove to Red Lake Falls, Minnesota. Within a year he, his wife and their twin toddlers had left the Washington, DC, metro and moved to a city of 1,400 people. The book is the explanation of why they are still there. My sister gave me this book for Christmas and promised I would appreciate it. She was right, and Jerri would have loved it too.

The Choice by Dr. Edith Eger. Submitted by Kay Brooks

I thought that I would never want to read another book about the Nazi concentration camps, but this one really captured my interest. Not only does the author manage to take the reader to that time, but keeps you engaged in cheering her on. After her release, she continues to fight unforeseen problems, but overcomes them to become a renowned psychologist, helping numerous people dealing with the after affects of trauma.

The Light between Us by Andrew Fukuda. Submitted by Kay Peterson

I loved and I will reread it again sometime. It is about the Japanese Americans who were rounded up and put in interment camps during ww2 It is a novel ,but the author did a lot of research. The main characters are a Japanese boy from the interment camp and a Jewish girl who lives in Paris, and they are pen pals from elementary school through the war and write to each other about their experiences. The Japanese boy joins the army and fights in Europe and looks up his pen pal after the war is over.It is a page turner.

The Lost and Found Bookshop by Susan Wiggs. Submitted by Pat Allegar

A young woman inherited a vintage bookshop from her mother. Her childhood was enriched by the book themes shared by her mother. In the joy of sharing these themes with her customers it enriched their lives too.

The New Climate War: The Fight to Take Back Our Planet by Michael E. Mann. Submitted by Ruth Egerer

This book is one of the most current on this topic. In a chronology of historical events, policies and human actors, Mann gives a brief picture of our journey and describes our present status, drawing parallels with the COVID pandemic. In his last paragraph he summarizes a necessary plan of action: "personal behavioral change, incentivized by appropriate government policies, intergovernmental agreements, and technological innovation... It is not any one of these things, but all of them working together." An important read for today.

When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir by Cullors Khan, Patrisse, Asha Bandele.

Submitted by Jo Leir

I believed I understand black lives as I worked in inner city schools, taught at the local jail in VA but this book opened my eyes. It is current day and written by the three women who started the Black Lives Matter movement. I learned so much from reading this book. Very relevant to today's issues.

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.



Family Fresh Receipts

Thank you to all of the people who have collected, sorted, folded, counted, bundled, and delivered Direct you Dollar receipts from Family Fresh!



Spartan/Nash (Family Fresh) has generously issued checks for \$1000 every time we reached the 150,000 points goal 6 times, and we are well on our way to #7!!! We team up with Five Loaves Food Shelf and combine our receipts. Once we collect \$150,000 in receipts and receive \$1,000 from Family Fresh, we split it 50/50 with Five Loaves.

Summer church camp scholarships were the original focus of our church effort, but during the pandemic the camps were not held, so we donated our \$500 to Five Loaves to help meet their needs. We are happy to tell you the camps are planning to open this year, so we will continue our efforts as long as available.

WHERE TO BRING YOUR RECEIPTS-

There are collection baskets for receipts at Five Loaves Food Shelf, Two Fish Thrift Store, and at the exit door at Family Fresh. You are also welcome to leave them in the mailbox at church under the carport or bring them into church when Kristi is in the office. Thank you all again!

-Pat Allegar and Dale & Pegi Fleming



Thank you to everyone who generously donated non-perishable food and pantry items and money toward our "Souper Bowl of Caring" event in February that helps support our local Five Loaves Food Shelf! A final report of all donations will be posted in the April FLAME newsletter.



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"



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 it's 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

715-246-2464

Email: unitedmc@frontiernet.net

Website: www.newrichmondwiumc.org

March 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 12:00 "Stories of Faith in Action" Lenten series on our YouTube channel 6:00 Confirmation	4	5	6
7 9:00 Worship and Children's Message available on YouTube.com	8	9	10 12:00 "Stories of Faith in Action" Lenten series on our YouTube channel	11	12	13
14 9:00 Worship and Children's Message available on YouTube.com	15	16 5:00 Finance Comm. 6:00 Trustees 7:00 Church Council	17 12:00 "Stories of Faith in Action" Lenten series on our YouTube channel 	18	19	20
21 9:00 Worship and Children's Message available on YouTube.com	22	23	24 12:00 "Stories of Faith in Action" Lenten series on our YouTube channel	25	26	27
28 9:00 Worship and Children's Message available on YouTube.com 	29	30	31 10:30 Zoom Gathering	April 1 	2 	3



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)

Website: www.newrichmondwumc.org

E-mail: unitedmc@frontier.net

Phone/Fax: 715-246-2464

New Richmond, WI 54017-1805

Direct mail to: P.O. Box 277

209 E. 2nd St.



NEW RICHMOND
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
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New Richmond
WI 54017