

CIRCUIT



WRITER

Pastor Jess De Los Santos

July 2025

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Pastor's Corner

"An Attitude of Gratitude"



"Be joyful always, pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 GNT)

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 is one of my favorite passages in the Bible. For me, it is a good reminder and encouragement to all believers because it is a call to live a joyful life rooted in faith, prayer, and gratitude, even amidst difficult situations. This passage encourages all believers (including you and me) to maintain a spirit of joy, prayer, and gratitude, regardless of our circumstances.

My family and I are so grateful to God because after 8 years, He allowed us to have a one-month vacation to the Philippines. When we booked our plane tickets, we were so excited and overwhelmed with joy. We started to pray for this vacation that God would bless, guide, and protect us, especially in the immigration and our long travels from Rice Lake, Wisconsin, to Pangasinan, Philippines (Vice Versa). Our vacation was great and wonderful with God's abundant blessings. We enjoyed the fellowship, food, and all events. I shared God's Word to 5 congregations, my home church, and 4 were my past appointments. I was thrilled and inspired because they warmly welcomed us with happy faces. Praise God, we returned here safe and sound. By God's amazing grace, all went well. Indeed, God is good all the time. Hallelujah!

Be joyful always: This refers to maintaining a joyful attitude, not necessarily a feeling of happiness, but a constant state of contentment and trust in God's plan.

Pray at all times: This emphasizes the importance of constant communication with God, seeking His guidance and strength in all situations. Always remember, prayer is significant.

Be thankful in all circumstances: This highlights the need to be grateful for good and challenging times, recognizing God's presence and provision in everything. To our lives, cultivate a thankful heart by intentionally focusing on blessings and expressing gratitude to God, even in challenging situations. This involves shifting our perspective from focusing on what's lacking to appreciating what we have and remembering God's love, goodness, and faithfulness.

How we love to hear words of appreciation! If you've ever felt taken for granted, you understand the importance of expressing gratitude to those around you. Whether it's the mom who hopes to hear, "Thanks for the great dinner, Mom!" Or a hardworking Dad who wonders if his diligence is noticed. Everyone needs to hear that he or she is appreciated.

The encouragement that comes from the expression of appreciation nurtures our souls. This attitude of gratitude is so important that the Lord Jesus told a special parable just to emphasize it. Remember the ten lepers in Luke 17? Luke mentioned, *"When one of them saw that he was healed, he came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself to the ground at Jesus' feet and thanked Him"* (Luke 17:14b-16a). Ten were healed, but only one returned to say thank you. The one who came back to Jesus Christ to express his gratitude is the one Jesus commends as exemplary.

We are delighted and grateful to God for the fruitful result of our mission for the youth in the Philippines through our twin sons, Jeim and Jehiel. For this reason, we would like to express our sincerest thanks and appreciation to all the mission's donors: Rice Lake UMC, Canton UMC, Filipino/Thai Pastors, and families.

Beloved in Christ, as you look around, you will see people in your life who have gone out of their way to invest in you, to provide for you, or to be a blessing to you. Take a moment to thank them with a joyful heart and pray for them. **God bless everyone!**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
RL Liturgists August 3: Mary Mattson August 10: Candy Bandli August 17: Larry Neve August 24: Paul Toft August 31: Nancy Zabel		RL Greeter August 3: Carolyn Kaupanger August 10: Helen Anonich August 17: Mary Lyn Cherry August 24: Shirley Toft August 31: Barbara Burdick		Fellowship Hosts: Helen Anonich & TBD 	1 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	2
3 1pm Golf Tournament	4	5	6 10am UWF Executive Mtg	7	8 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	9
10 After RL service –Mary Mattson's Recognition Potluck	11 Office Closed 1:30 Brentwood 5pm SPRC	12  I will sing of the Lord's great love forever. PSALM 89:1		14 10am Serenity Bible Study	15 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	16 Summer Days @ Canton Park
17 9:00 am Canton Outdoor Service After RL service - Birthday Cake	18 1pm Card Making Workshop 4pm Newsletter Deadline	19 1pm Game Day!! 2pm Trustees	20 5:30 Serving Benjamin House	21 10am Serenity Bible Study	22 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 11:30 Lunch Bunch @ Norske	23
24 31 LOUD Offering 1:30 Dove	25 Sept. 1st Labor Day Office Closed	26 9am Newsletter Folders	27 8:30 Men's Breakfast 1pm Woodstone Worship	28 Office Closed 10am Serenity Bible Study	29 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	30

Canton Service is at 9:00 am– Sunday School will resume September 7th
 No Adult Sunday School in August for RL, Coffee Fellowship at 10:00 am, and Service is at 10:30 am.

Invitation and Member Care

What's Happening in August?

- Due to the potluck on the August 10– we will do **birthday cake on August 17th** to celebrate August's birthdays after the Rice lake service.
- Monday, August 18th at 1:00 pm we will hold another **card making workshop**. Bring your own supplies or use ours. Thank you to Nancy Kahl for holding this and supplying the supplies!
- 3rd Tuesday of the month (Aug. 19th) is **Game Day** from 1-3pm. Bring your game or play one of ours. If you don't like playing games– feel free to join us just for the fellowship and laughter!
- August 22nd at 11:30 am we will have **Lunch Bunch** at Norske Nook. Please call the office by 3pm the Thursday before to let Stephanie know if you are coming. Hope to see you there!
- Thank you Kathy Duerkop for your help typing up the cookbook! It didn't make it to the Farmer's Market but hopefully it will be done soon.



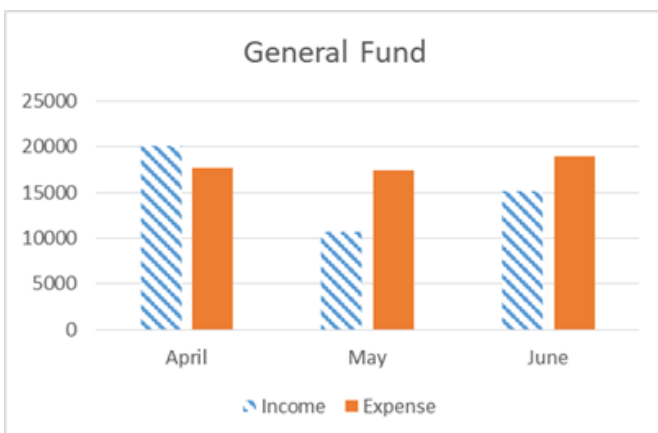
Cards for sale in the narthex. Many to choose from. Only \$2 per card. Proceeds go to the General Fund.



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Don't forget there are sheets outside the office door for purchasing bulletins or donating to the altar flowers in honor or memory of someone.

The Benjamin House schedule is also on that table. Canton is doing August and October so we still need volunteers for September, November, and December. A big thank you to everyone who has participated in serving Benjamin House whether its providing food or serving the food, it is all appreciated.



No Adult Sunday School in August

The Adult Sunday School class will take a break for the month of August and resume on Sunday, September 7.

See you there!



2-James Campbell
3-Darlene Johncheck
5-Ron Turgeson
7-Ed Forrester
8-Clarissa Clingenpeel
8-Becki George
8-Michelle Kilcoyne
8-James Wallin
8-Morgan West
9-Trenton Kohel
11-William Aune
12-Ryder Rettenmund
14-Harold Quaderer
15-Ginny Swanson
16-Dianne Barkley
16-Donna Cook
17-Charleigh Manley
24-Margie Haines
24-Kaylie Krazcek
29-Chris Buergi
30- Darlene Plenty



1-Mike & Heather Madison
12- Rebecca & Jim Wallin
15-Brian & Kyra Larson
29-Larry & Michelle Kilcoyne

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed then please call the office 715-234-3919 to update your info. Thanks!



Canton UMC



Birthdays

6– David Stokes
10– Cadence Gifford
15– Brooklyn MacDonald
27– Kim Stoeberl

Anniversaries

1– Cole & Hailey Halvorson
14– Jim & Bonnie Pannier
25– Stephanie & Sedgie Davis

Please call the office if we are missing any important dates. Thanks!

Canton Liturgists

1st Sunday: De Los Santos
2nd Sunday: Arlene Ciulla
3rd Sunday: Halvorsons
4th Sunday: Kristie Kringle

If you're interested in being a liturgist, please let Kristie know.



Bi-Weekly Sunday School resumes on Sunday, September 7, with following September date of Sunday the 21st. October dates will be posted, or call Michele or Arlene. If you do not have a church directory, ask at church, or call the church office at 715-234-3919 for Stephanie.



Congratulations to Cole Halvorson & Hailey Gilgenbach on their August 1st marriage. Their ceremony took place in an outdoor clearing surrounded by Pine trees, near Pepin, Wisconsin.



Canton's 4H Members

4H members pledge their hands to better service. We have 2 4H members who did well at the County Fair. Brooklyn MacDonald took 1st Blue with her calf. Adelyn's calf decided to take the day off and was very stubborn about it. She got 2nd place with a red ribbon. Adelyn did receive Grand Champion on her Diamond Art Project, which is an amazing time consuming picture, completed with tiny pieces of various colors. Similar to Micro Mosaics.

4H Clubs often pick up trash from ditches along highways, as one of their "Better Service" duties. It can carry into adulthood too. The girl's mother Sarah can be seen working the pancake flipp'in section of the county's annual June, Dairy Breakfast, on the first Saturday every June. She works first shift, so you need to be there early to see her. Disabled and Elderly can contact clubs about help with yard work and such too. Sunday School kids do similar chores.

Beautiful Feet

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:15, NIV). Such beauty has nothing to do with the feet being clean, newly pedicured, elegantly clad. They may be the dusty feet of aid workers bringing food to drought-stricken areas, or the muddy shoes of those rushing disaster relief to flood zones. They may be the swollen feet of a dedicated nurse after a 12-hour hospital shift, or the tired feet of a parent pacing with a baby at 3 a.m.

In the upper room before Jesus' arrest, he declared his disciples' dirty feet beautiful by touching and washing them lovingly, preparing them to go out yet again with his good news for all. And on the cross, Jesus' own feet — nail-pierced — were beautiful.

After Pope Francis died on Easter Monday 2025, many mourners who paid their respects noticed his shoes. Instead of new, well-polished "dress shoes," the scuffed items clearly had walked countless steps. They were the sturdy boots of a worker, a pilgrim, a travel companion on the road of life, the journey of faith. They were the shoes — the feet — of a disciple of Christ willing to go wherever needed to bring the good news of God's love. How beautiful! —Heidi Hyland Mann (churctart.com)

Church & Society



Mission: PHYSiC

This is an update on Mission Philippines Youth Supplies in Class, also known as Mission: PHYSiC. Because of your generous donations, we were able to buy one hundred and fifty custom designed drawstring bags, with each bag containing one notebook, two highlighters, one pack of scratch paper, one “Jesus Loves You” pen, one Gospels book, and one faith journal. Fellowship events occurred in two locations: Anda Central UMC and Baruan UMC. Youth groups that attended Anda Central’s event are Sablig, Anda Central, Macaleeng, Macandocandong, Awag, and Tori-Tori. Youth groups that attended Baruan’s event are Baruan UMC’s and Gayusan High School. In each event, each youth group had a chance to present their talents through praise and worship to the Lord. In one instance, me, Jehiel, and our maternal cousins played a rendition of “Goodness of God.” After the display of talents, a video was shown about the four spiritual laws through a sand art presentation. Afterwards, Pastor Jess invited youth to the altar to commit their lives to Jesus. It was such a faithful experience seeing most of the youth come up to the altar. Finally, we distributed the supplies to each and every one of the students who came. Thank you very much for your donations, Rice Lake First United Methodist Church, Canton United Methodist Church, and Filipino and Thai pastors and families!

-Jeim Joash De Los Santos

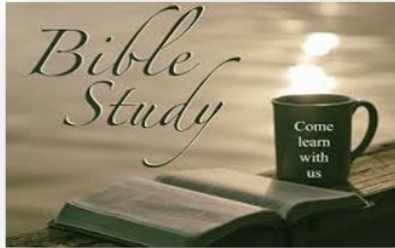
SERENDIPITY BIBLE STUDY 4

WHOL-I-NESS

With Myself, Others, and God

6 Sessions

THURSDAYS AT 10 AM
Starts August 14



1. SPIRITUAL LIFE- Matthew 13:1-23
2. PHYSICAL LIFE- Daniel 1:1-21
3. VOCATIONAL LIFE- Matthew 25:14-30
4. EMOTIONAL LIFE- 1 Kings 19:1-18
5. RELATIONAL LIFE- Numbers 12:1-16
6. VOCATIONAL LIFE- Numbers 22:1-35



WEEKLY READINGS



August 3

Holy Communion

Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

August 10

Potluck

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

August 17

Birthday Cake

Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

August 24

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:6
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

August 31

Jeremiah 2:4-13
Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

Did you know you can find the weekly scriptures on our website calendar? Just click whatever Sunday you want to look at and it will list the scriptures, click on the scripture and it will take you to the reading.



BIBLE QUIZ 2025 (4) Children of Israel

Circle your answer then drop it in the pink box in the narthex.

NAME: _____ SCORE: _____

1. Who is the father of the nation of Israel?
Noah Abraham Jacob Moses
2. The prophet Zechariah calls the nation of Israel: The Apple of God's Eye /
The Land of Many Sands / The Center of Idolatry / The Forgotten Nation
3. What was the total number of the children of Israel that went down to
Egypt? 1000 70 53 560
4. How long were the children of Israel in Egypt?
150 years 40 years 215 years 666 years
5. How were the children of Israel guided in their forty years of wandering in
the wilderness? By a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night /
By the voice of God / By Moses / By Aaron's rod
6. How long did the children of Israel journey in the wilderness of Shur be-
fore they found water? 5 days 15 days 3 days 7 days
7. Upon what mountain was Israel cursed for disobedience?
Mount Moriah Mount Zion Mount Carmel Mount Ebal
8. By whom were the children of Israel carried captive into Assyria?
Nebuchadnezzar Tiglath-Pileser Darius Ahaz
9. How long were the children of Israel in captivity?
70 years 49 years 59 years 100 years
10. What does God promise He will do to nations who bless Israel?
bless them curse them save them give them a new heart





United Women in Faith

'We make plans and God laughs'

A friend text me that phrase and I thought it was a good point to ponder as I work on carrying my faith forward. I like to make lists and plans and schedules. Sometimes in my head but more often I need to write them down on paper, just so I remember where I put that piece of paper! I feel comfort in knowing what's ahead. When things don't go as expected, I can get frustrated or even angry. If that happens, I'm trying to step back and consider that I am not in control. It requires faith to accept that God has plans and they are better. I have let God take control, up to a point. And sometimes it is easy to do while other times 'letting go and letting God' is the last thing I want. I have learned that this journey with God takes time and practice. He directs our steps if we allow it. God sees the bigger picture.

Kathy Wagenbach

Proverbs 3:5 *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."*

World Thank Offering Suggestion for August:

Add a coin every time you see beautiful art, in any and all forms.

Equipping Women for Generations to Come

March 23, 2025 was United Women in Faith's Day of Giving, an annual event that both celebrates the day of our founding and raises gifts to the permanently invested Legacy Endowment Fund. Over \$553,828 was raised this year in gifts and pledges.



All-Church Potluck

August 10th- Our District Superintendent Peace Kim and conference Lay Leader Ben Branson will present Mary Mattson a ***Certificate of Approval as a Certified Lay Minister***. This is something Mary has worked towards for years and unfortunately missed being recognized at the WI Annual Conference due to being hospitalized.

There will be a potluck dinner after the worship service on August 10.

If you run into Mary make sure to congratulate her for all her hard work and to thank her for filling in while Pastor Jess was on vacation.

HELPFUL UWF LINKS

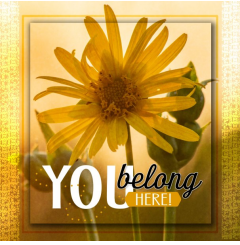
- Get news, resources, and more here: <https://uwfaith.org>
- Hear the latest podcasts and webinars: <https://uwfaith.org/resources/podcasts/>
- Mission Resource Center: www.umwmissionresources.org



**First United Methodist Church
Canton United Methodist Church
1221 Wesley Drive, Rice Lake, WI 54868**

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August 2025 The Circuit Writer

First United Methodist Church

1221 Wesley Dr., Rice Lake, WI 54868
Phone: (715) 234-3919
Email: office@ricelakeumc.org
Website: www.RiceLakeUMC.org

Worship Service: 10:30 am

No Adult Sunday School: in August

All our worship services can be heard on your phone by dialing 1(855)788-3919 or watch us on Facebook.

Canton United Methodist Church

2408 15 3/8 Ave., Rice Lake, WI 54868
Office: 1221 Wesley Dr., Rice Lake, WI
Phone: (715) 234-3919
Email: office@ricelakeumc.org

Worship Service: 9:00 am

Sunday School: resumes Sept. 7th at 9:00 am

Pastor: Rev. Jess De Los Santos

Email: pastorjess@ricelakeumc.org

Cell: 1-757-761-2735

Office Hours: Tues.-Thurs. 9:30am-12:30pm & by appt

Office Manager: Stephanie Byrnes-Hampton

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 am-4:00 pm



Facebook— search for First United Methodist Church of Rice Lake, make sure to “Like” us and Facebook should notify you when we go “Live.”

Over-the-Phone— Call 1-855-788-3919 and sign up for it to call you automatically any time we go “live” by pressing 1 when it asks you to, or you can call or email the church office to manually add you to the list that is called automatically, OR you can just call in every week. If you call before the service “goes live” you will hear some of last week’s service but it will switch over automatically to the new service. Just hang on the line.

