

CIRCUIT



WRITER

Pastor Jess De Los Santos

October 2025

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Pastor's Corner

“God’s Love and Faithfulness”



“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in Him.” (Lamentations 3:22-24 ESV)

Lamentations 3:22-24 focuses on God's steadfast love and unfailing mercies, which are new every morning, providing a constant source of hope and faithfulness even in times of profound suffering, lament, and disaster. It's an anchor in difficult times, urging believers (including you and me) to trust God's unchanging nature, find daily renewal in His presence, and remember that He remains our portion and inheritance.

This passage is not just a theological statement but a call to faith. It invites us to trust in God's character, even when our circumstances are bleak. It encourages us to look beyond our suffering and to anchor our hope in the eternal nature of God. It is a call to trust in God's faithfulness and to rely on His mercy each day. It encourages believers to approach life with gratitude, focusing on the assurance that God's love is unchanging and His mercy is sufficient.

Steadfast Love: Despite suffering and pain, God's love, faithfulness, and mercy are not finite and inexhaustible. The Hebrew word “hesed” (steadfast love) describes God's unwavering covenant love, a loyal and persistent commitment to His people that leads to actions for others' benefit. It's the reason why people (believers) are not consumed by tragedy.

God's Unfailing Mercies: God's mercies are abundant and continually renewed, like the daily sunrise, bringing fresh hope and resources for each new day. This emphasizes the continuous and dependable nature of His compassion and grace, a daily provision for those in need.

God's Great Faithfulness: The passage exclaims the greatness of God's faithfulness, a truth that endures even when people face the consequences of their actions.

Our Hope in God: The passage concludes with a personal declaration of hope. In a world that many changes, God's unchanging faithfulness is our true and eternal security. True hope is not based on circumstances but on the unchanging nature of God Himself, who remains faithful and our portion no matter what happens. Yes, by recognizing God as our “portion,” we can affirm our complete reliance on God and our confident expectation on Him.

The famous and favorite hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" is a powerful declaration of God's unwavering faithfulness and constant presence, emphasizing His unchanging nature and steadfast love, even in the midst of life's challenges. You can sing it. . .

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.
Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hast provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Siblings in Christ, as you consider God's great and unconditional love, is He sufficient for all the trials, sorrows, struggles, and sins that you are experiencing today? Our God never changes. His love that was enough yesterday will be enough to sustain us today, and even tomorrow. Indeed, God's love and faithfulness endure forever! Hallelujah!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>RL Liturgists</u> Oct. 5: Larry Neve Oct. 12: Pam Forrester Oct. 19: Lisa Mink Oct. 26: Mary Mattson		<u>RL Greeter</u> Oct. 5: Nancy Zabel Oct.12: Helen Anonich Oct. 19: Pat Moin Oct. 26: Maggie Maust		1 1pm UWF Meeting	2	3 2025 Walk to End Alzheimer's
<u>Fellowship Hosts: Pam Petry and Joyce Foster</u>				Pastor at Continued Ed Conference		
5 <i>Holy Communion</i> <i>World Communion Sunday</i> 9am RL Adult SS 9am Canton SS	6 4pm Confirmation Class	7 3:30 Worship Meeting	8 10am Missions 1pm Star Circle	9 10am Bible Study	10 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	11 4:30-7pm Canton Spaghetti Dinner
12	13 1:30 Brentwood 4pm Confirmation Class	14 7pm Finance	15 3:30 Nominations 5:30 Serving Benjamin House	16 10am Bible Study 10:30 Prayer Shawl	17 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	18
19 9am RL Adult SS 9am Canton SS	20 4pm Confirmation Class 4pm Newsletter Deadline 5:30 pm SPRC	21 1pm Game Day! 3:30 Invitation & Member Care	22 2pm Church Council	23 10am Bible Study	24 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	25
26	27 1pm Card Making Workshop 4pm Confirmation Class	28 9am Newsletter Folders	29 8:30 Men's Breakfast 1pm Woodstone Worship	30 10am Bible Study	31 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 11:30 Lunch Bunch @ Cameron House	Nov. 1 Taste of Filipino Culture

Canton Service is at 9:00 am– Sunday School also at 9:00 am on September 7th and 14th
 Rice Lake's Adult Sunday School is at 9:00 am, Coffee Fellowship at 10:00 am, and Service is at 10:30 am.

Invitation and Member Care

What's Happening in October?

- We will do **birthday cake on October 12th** to celebrate the people with October birthdays after the Rice lake service.
- 3rd Tuesday of the month (Oct. 21st) 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!
- Monday, October 27th at 1:00 pm we will hold a **card making workshop**. Bring your own supplies or use ours.
- October 31st at 11:30 am we will have **Lunch Bunch** at the Cameron House in /Cameron. Please call the office by 3pm the Thursday before to let Stephanie know if you are coming. Hope to see you there!



2-Larry Kilcoyne Jr.
2-Collin Wille
2-Zeik Zegarowicz
7-Don Cherry
8- Mike Plenty
11-Cheryl Hedgecock
12- Art Duerkop
15-Barbara Burdick
15-Breanna Kraczek
16- Dennis Mattson
17-Miley Turgeson
19-Joseph Haines
21-Mason Pautsch
21-Nancy Zabel
23-Helen Anonich
27-Bob Buss
28-Caroline Frye
29- Kathy Duerkop
30-Connie Kilcoyne
30-Ron Parker
31-Jeanne Kemmitz

The Beauty of Stewardship



Stewardship has to do with how we manage our time, talent, resources — basically our entire lives. It's a beautiful concept when properly understood. Here are the basics of good stewardship:

God is the source of all creation, including our lives. God is the primary owner of all that exists.

We are blessed by being given the task of managing well all that we have influence over: our lives, our abilities, our minds and bodies, our time, our part of the earth, our finances, our children, our church buildings, our automobiles, etc.

Although we can make decisions regarding each of the above, ultimately we are responsible to God. Sooner or later, we must give an account of our management of God's creation and of God's gifts.

When we properly use the talents, resources and property that God allows us to manage, we find great joy. Think of planting a garden which soon overflows with colorful flowers, wonderful vegetables and flavorful herbs, etc. God gave us the plot of ground, God gave us the seed, God gave us the wisdom and strength to bring forth such beauty, such good things to see or eat, or smell. Yet we did the work, with God's help, to make it a reality. Like Adam we tilled it and kept it. But God gave the increase. God's provisions and our labor brought the garden to its fulfillment.

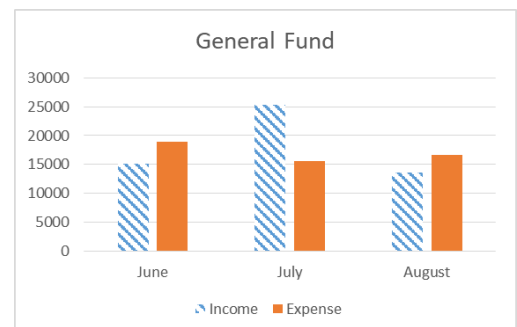
Good stewardship enables us to do something positive and wonderful with the money God has allowed us to have. What feels better than knowing one has managed money well? Our bank account, our check-book and our portfolio tell the story. When money is handled well, we have enough for ourselves and are still able to give to God's work.

That is the beauty of stewardship.



2- Tricia & Jerald Smith
6- Justin & Sarah Knauer
14- Rod & Kari Thome
16- Russ & Janelle Johnson
23- Denny & Mary Mattson
27- Brian & Michele West

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



Canton UMC



Birthdays

10– Quintin Castillo

22- Stephanie Davis

Please call the office (715-234-3919) if we are missing any of your important dates.

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.

Church

With Thanksgiving approaching, it would be wonderful if we could fill our shopping cart with food and household goods to be delivered to the Cameron Food Pantry in early November. Checks are always accepted also.

The Trustees Committee is looking for help with cleaning and preparing the church for the Advent season. A sign up sheet will be posted.

UWF

We will be furnishing the evening meal at Benjamin House on Oct. 15th. If you are able to help, please call Michele @ 458-4294 soon.

The UWF will be having our annual Spaghetti Dinner on Oct. 11 from 4:30 to 7:00 pm in the church basement. Carry out will also be available with pick up at the door. The menu includes spaghetti, tossed salad, garlic bread, bars & beverage for \$10.00 per person, \$4 for children 5-7 years old, and under 5 is free. The proceeds will go to Missions.



Sunday School

The Sunday School is still collecting aluminum cans for the Heifer project. They will be collecting gifts for "Toys For Tots" in November and early December.

From the Worship Committee

Liturgist Volunteers Needed!

We're looking for anyone interested in leading parts of our Sunday service. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested, please have them get in touch with Barbara Burdick – she'll find a Sunday that works perfectly.

Share Your Musical Talents!

We had such a wonderful time with Donna Larson's music in July! If you (or anyone you know!) plays an instrument or sings and would like to share their talent with the congregation, let us know – we'd love to hear from you!



Lite a Candle for All Saints Sunday, Nov. 2nd at both churches.

On this special day, we remember those who faithfully served God and have entered into their eternal home. Each church will remember friends and family who have passed. Since grief is not a year-long event, we will set aside time to remember those close to your heart. Please fill out All Saint's form and **return to office by Oct. 28th** so that we can include them in our bulletin and time of worship.



Please reserve a candle in memory of:

Relationship: _____

Date of Death: _____

Given by: _____

Church & Society

As United Methodists, "We decry the widening gap between the rich and the poor and the concentration of wealth in the hands of ever smaller percentages of the global population. We lament that too many of the world's people lack the basic resources necessary for survival and pledge ourselves to work toward the eradication of the roots and effects of poverty." (The United Methodist Social Principles, The Economic Community, Economic Challenges, B. Poverty and Income Inequality)

The appropriations bill for defense includes increases in funding for dangerous nuclear weapons and provides further funding for the still undefined and extremely expensive "Golden Dome" missile defense system.

Similarly, \$19.3 billion has been proposed for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) - \$959.7 million above the FY 2025 enacted levels.

While funding for defense and border protection expands, non-defense spending for programs like healthcare for veterans, aid to low-income school districts, and critical research are at risk for being drastically cut. The House Appropriations Committee has proposed a 2026 funding level for non-defense programs that is \$37 billion below the current 2025 level.

Act now to let your congressional leaders know that grace must continue to be prioritized over greed throughout the federal budgeting process.

<https://www.umcjustice.org/what-you-can-do/take-action-2025>

The Church and Society Committee has decided to enter a team in the Barron County Walk to End Alzheimer's event on Oct. 4th at the UW-EAU-Claire Barron Campus in Rice Lake.

We know most of us wouldn't walk for miles but we won't have to, we can walk what we are able to and that would be helpful. A few of us have already expressed interest in doing what we can. So plan to join us for The Walk at 10am on Oct. 4th at the Barron Campus: 1800 College Dr. Rice lake.

Registration starts at 8:30am followed by a kick off presentation before the walking begins. We all know the terrible impact of Alzheimer's in the lives of so many families. If we can help in some way, let's go for it.



WHAT IS WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY?

World Communion Sunday celebrates the unity and diversity of the universal Christian community. As we gather around the Lord's table, we recognize our unity in Christ, joining with others worldwide in Holy Communion. Embracing this commitment, United Methodists are dedicated to nurturing diverse leadership within the church by allocating funds for scholarships and leadership training for under-represented students.

Contributions fund scholarships for U.S. and international students, as well as grants for global inclusion, diversity, equity, and access training. Last year, over \$360,000 was raised to advance these educational initiatives:

Fifty percent of the funds collected go toward scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students of color pursuing ordained ministry. To learn more about how to apply or donate to the World Communion Scholarships, please email scholars@umcmmission.org.

Thirty-five percent of the funds collected provide grants to support training for worldwide inclusion, diversity, equity, and access. The In-Service Training Grants support the recruitment, training, and retention of people of color in leadership roles across all levels of church ministry. Learn more about In-Service Training Grants [here](#).

Fifteen percent of the funds collected support leadership development among partner churches and communities in Africa, Asia/Pacific, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and communities of color in the U.S. For information on applying or to learn more, please email scholars@umcmmission.org.

One of the beautiful things about The United Methodist Church is that, together, we can accomplish far more than we could on our own. Together, we invest in a more inclusive, globally representative church leadership.



Confirmation Class begins October 6th from 4-5:30 pm at Rice Lake UMC

WEEKLY READINGS



SERENDIPITY BIBLE STUDY 5

PAIN & SUFFERING:

Where Is God When It Hurts?

1. HARSH REALITIES- Job 1:1-22
2. WHEN WILL IT END?- Job 2:1-10
3. HARD QUESTIONS- John 9:1-34
4. FINDING GOD- 1 Kings 19:1-18
5. COMFORTED BY OTHERS- Mark 2:1-12
6. THINGS CAN CHANGE- Job 42:7-17

THURSDAYS AT 10 AM
Starts October 9, 2025

October 5

Holy Communion

Lamentations 1:1-6

Psalm 137

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

October 12

Birthday Cake

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Psalm 66:1-12

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

October 19

Jeremiah 31:27-34

Psalm 119:97-104

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Luke 18:1-8

October 26

Joel 2:23-32

Psalm 65

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

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 (5)

Circle the correct answer, cut the page, then drop this in the pink box in the narthex.

NAME: _____ SCORE: _____

1. Who was Rhoda?

Mistress Servant girl Dyer of materials Seller of purple cloth

2. In the beginning, what was the Earth like?

Covered in vegetation Green Hot Formless and empty

3. For how many days did the waters prevail on the earth during the great flood?

40 100 140 150

4. What are the names of the sons of Saul?

Jonathan, Eliab and Joab Eleazar, Zeruiah and Elzabad
Jonathan, Abinadab and Malchi-shua Jahaziel, Jonathan and Azaziah

5. Which nation was described as "hasty and bitter" according to the book of Habakkuk?

Chaldeans Israel Syria Ethiopia

6. For how long did Israel eat manna?

3 months 1 year 9 years and 6 months 40 years

7. Which Judge would not go into battle without a woman going with him?

Gideon Jephthah Samuel Barak

8. Which book says "there is nothing new under the sun"?

Proverbs Isaiah Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon

9. What did God leave to guard Eden after he exiled Adam and Eve?

Thorns Angels Demons Cherubim with a flaming sword

10. What did Elisha put into the poisoned pot that made it edible?

Salt Water Herbs Flour



Cards for sale in the narthex. Many to choose from. Only \$1 per card.



United Women in Faith

This time in history is a challenge and it tests our resiliency. The recent events are calamitous (my word of the month), we have been here before. The horrors and destruction of World War II resulted in millions and millions of deaths. I have recollections of the chaos and violence in the 1960s. The COVID epidemic certainly brought changes to our routines and rituals, along with many deaths. We have had to cope and problem solve.

I trust that we will have resilience once again. As the autumn leaves fall, we know the tress will bud in the spring. As we continue on our Faith Journey, we will grow and develop. We have UWF to connect with and remind us there is something bigger than ourselves.

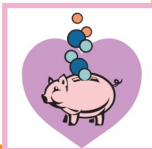
Kathy Wagenbach, President

UWF Meeting, Wednesday, October 1 @ 1 p.m.



World Thank Offering Suggestion for October:

Drop in coins for
'old school' items
you still use.



Bake-Craft-Plant-White Elephant Sale

November 15, 9 to noon.

Sale is open to the public and
some unsold items may be out for
purchase on Sunday morning.

We will be setting up Friday the
14th at 1-3.

What's Your Story?

As the days grow shorter and chillier, leaves turn yellow, orange, and red, pumpkins show up everywhere, and your church finance committee's thoughts turn to budgets and stewardship.



Stewardship is a year-round task – caring for the good gifts that God has given us. These gifts include the beautiful natural world, our loved ones, our money and material goods, our time and talents, and our church. At this time of year, we ask you to consider how you will respond to these gifts from God by pledging your support to First United Methodist Church for 2026.

Those of you who heard Rev. Carolyn Saunders speak a few weeks ago enjoyed her stories of how this church made a difference in her life when she was a young teacher and as she was called to ordained ministry. Each of us has a story of how First UMC has touched us and our loved ones. Over the next few weeks, we'll hear stories from members of our congregation about how their lives have been impacted by this church. As you listen to them, consider your own story – whether it's about support and comfort offered during difficult times, the sharing of laughter in the kitchen, or the camaraderie of mission trips and projects. Maybe your story is about feeling the presence of God during worship, or deepening your faith through Sunday School or a Bible study, or sharing the story of Jesus with a young person.

We hope that you will consider jotting down a few words about why you are grateful for our church and why you choose to support it with your prayers, presence, gifts, and service. Note cards for this purpose will be available in the narthex, where they will be displayed with your responses, which can remain anonymous.

On November 16, we ask that you turn in a pledge card with an estimate of giving for 2026. As you prayerfully choose how much to pledge, consider all the gifts you have received from God and all the ways that God has touched your life through this church. We may be a smaller, older congregation, but we can still do amazing things with the help of God. Through your generosity, we can make new stories and new connections for people in our congregation, our community, and the world.

Thank you for all you have given and done to help First UMC share God's love.

The First UMC Finance Committee



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

Address Service Requested



October 2025 The Circuit Writer

NON-PROFIT ORGAN.
U.S. POSTAGE
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RICE LAKE, WI
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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

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 am

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: Oct. 5th & 19th 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.”

You-tube— you can find the latest Sunday services on our You-tube page: First UMC of Rice Lake Media. Facebook is deleting the videos after 30 days so I am moving them to Youtube weekly.

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.

