

# PLATTEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Learn God ~ Love God ~ Share God ~ Serve God*



I The other day I had the blessing of listening to “Science Friday” on National Public Radio. Host Ira Flatow was interviewing Christopher Emdin, a science education professor at Columbia University. Dr. Emdin was concerned at the lack of interest in science in New York City teens. He

began thinking about the students’ culture and how their culture engaged them. How could he use the culture to engage the students in science? He came up with the ingenious idea of teaching physics lessons in rap!

Dr. Emdin partnered with a hip hop artist to see if teens would learn more with their lessons spoken in rap. They did! Students were engaged, learned significantly more, and were able to create their own rap songs based on scientific principles.

As I was listening to this radio show, I was thinking about the church. On Sunday mornings we are not in competition with other churches. We are in competition with the world. The world is way more exciting than the church. But the church has Jesus. So how do we meet people in their culture to introduce them to Jesus? Like it or not, that means we need to change things.

Should we have worship with rap music? No, of course not. If our church was in an inner city community, then maybe, but we are not, so no. We need to pay attention to our community. What kind of music do people listen to? What kind of activities are children, teens, college students, younger, middle and older adults doing outside of church? What are people doing in the world that we could use to help people come to Jesus? We can’t teach Sunday School or lead Youth Group the way we did even 20 years ago. Are there programs we need to add or take away to better be in ministry? How do we do mission in our culture today? Even worship should not be off the table. Traditional worship will need to stay mostly the same, but how should our Contemporary service change to better meet the needs of people who need Jesus? That is, actually, the purpose of Contemporary worship.

You have heard me say over and over again that Jesus’ command to us – yes, command – is to make disciples. Jesus did it in the context of his culture. Paul did it in the context of whatever cultures he encountered (see Acts 17:22-31 to see how Paul ingeniously did it in Athens). We also need to do whatever it takes to reach people for Jesus.

I’ll see you in church, where we love God and love people enough to do whatever it takes to bring them to Jesus!



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*Love  
Pastor  
Sunda*

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School was a blast this year! We hope you enjoyed the pictures from last month's newsletter. We had a total of 69 children with varying ages between 3 year-olds and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. As we have done in the past, the children went around to different stations and learned about the bible story, had science experiments, enjoyed crafts, and got to use up the remainder of their energy during music time and recreation. This year as our mission, we fundraised for "Imagine No Malaria," which is the United Methodist version of "Nothing but Nets." This mission helps raise money to provide nets for children's beds in places where mosquitos that are infected with Malaria live. As a group we raised over \$500, which meant that over 50 children would now be safe from Malaria-affected mosquitos while they slept. We had a great group of helpers this year, and everything went beautifully together. The set and supplies that we used around the church was borrowed from Fennimore UMC, where it was created and built. On Friday, we had our own little fun fair, which was a wonderful time, and then shared what the children learned throughout the week. Thank you for all your support and help throughout the preparation, and the week. We are so excited for next year.



## Friday Night Fun Fair

For more pictures from the week, please visit:

[plattevilleumc.shutterfly.com](http://plattevilleumc.shutterfly.com)

Password: pumc1065

Just a friendly reminder of the weekly announcement and newsletter deadlines.

***Weekly Announcements***

Wednesday by noon

***Newsletters***

3rd Friday of the month



Check out our new website at  
[www.plattevilleumc.org](http://www.plattevilleumc.org)

Thank you Gary Lindahl for your time and dedication to getting the new site designed and launched!!

The newsletter can be viewed and printed from our new website. If you would like an electronic copy sent or view the newsletter on the website, please let Jennifer know and you will be taken off the mailing list. Thank you!

Just a friendly reminder that if you need to meet with Pastor Brenda, please call the office to make an appointment with Jennifer.

Also, if you or a family member are in the hospital or ill, and would like to be put on the prayer chain, please call Jennifer to let her know. If you would like a visit from Pastor Brenda, please let us know.

**Office Hours**

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.; Monday-Friday

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Ellen Carnahan

[ellen.carnahan@yahoo.com](mailto:ellen.carnahan@yahoo.com)



The summer is almost to the end but that does not mean Merge is slowing down! This summer we have had incredible

amounts of fun but more importantly we have seen an amazing amount of spiritual growth this summer! Students are understanding what it means to be disciples of Christ and are learning what it looks like to follow him in their lives. They are growing to know the love Jesus has for them and wanting others to know that love as well.

Merge also has welcomed in new students this summer. So many that we have started a 4th and 5th grade addition to Merge called Merge 45. Merge 45 meets from 4-6 on Wednesday sharing meals, games, and drum circle (starting in September) with students 6-12th. The 6th through 12th students meet 5-7:30.

I am excited to announce that Amy Pohle is going to lead our drum circle. I am so excited to have Amy join the Merge team and am excited to see the creativity and energy she brings to the drum circle!

In September we will continue to meet regularly on Wednesday nights. You can get more details and the schedule of Merge on our website on the Merge Grow page

# Mindy's



# Corner

The beginning of the school year is here! This means we are getting ready to welcome the students back. We will have a church wide brunch on September 1st. Serving will begin at 9:30 am.

We are also welcoming back the students with welcome back bags and two more Sunday lunches; Sept 9 after Worship Under the tent and the Garden Bounty Potluck will be on Sept 15.

In order to do campus ministry well in the church I need the whole congregation to welcome these students. Come meet them, say hi and get to know these students. Find out their interests, where they are from, what they are studying, if they are excited to be here, or if they are missing home. I love college students and have a lot of fun getting to know tons of them every year. Come join the fun and make a few new friends! Help make them feel at home in our church family.

It is such a blessing for us to live in a college town and be able to be God's hands and feet to these students this year!



Fall is time when the next year's habits are formed so this year why not develop the habit of being in a small group? I have heard so many stories about how small groups have changed lives in the church for the better! You read about some of them last month, now what are you waiting for? You will not regret

being in a small group, in fact the time you spend there just may become your favorite time of the week. So why not make some time in your crammed schedule and invest in yourself. Your children, husband, wife, friends will all thank you for it as they notice the difference in you!

This fall we have small groups being offered on Marriage, Grace, and Living Healthy Lifestyles. Do you have another topic that interests you but is not offered? Talk to me as there are so many resources out there, I bet we can find one that you and others will love!

**Mindy Freiburger**

**608-778-4607 or freiburgerm@gmail.com**



- 3 Ben Hasker
- 4 Christine Griffiths
- 5 Curtis Bradley
- 10 Allison Woodworth
- 11 Robert Winkers
- 11 Deb Dunbar
- 11 Blake Noel
- 12 Dale Griffith
- 12 Connie Stephens
- 13 Jody Vargo
- 13 Amber Vrielinck
- 13 Alyssa Gehrke
- 14 Laura Grossman
- 14 Gena Byrnes
- 15 Helen Ingersoll
- 16 Melvin Ingersoll
- 19 Lou Felderman
- 21 Dan Fairchild
- 21 Jesse Rewey
- 23 Mark Adrian
- 23 Michelle Hromadka
- 24 Cecile Hoffman
- 24 Becky Peters
- 27 Mattea Scanlan
- 28 Lynn Goninen
- 28 Ben Grossman
- 29 Gwen Moore
- 29 Sadie Schwartz
- 29 Jillian Fiedler
- 30 Caleb Green
- 30 Matthew Bailie

## *Anniversaries*

- 2 Ron & Mary June Rewey
- 3 Roger & Judy Stephens
- 11 Jason & Jennifer Fiedler
- 14 Jason & Tracy Weigel
- 15 Ken & Patricia Noel
- 19 Jeff & Renee Baker
- 21 Rich & Jeanne Bonin
- 27 George & Linda Curry



*just thought*  
*YOU should*  
**KNOW**

Many, many "Thanks" for all the cards, phone calls, prayers and Pastor Brenda's visit following my surgery. ~ Virginia Riter



Haydne Fitzgerald Weittenhiller as baptized on Sunday, August 11th. Hayden is the son of Jason and Liz Weittenhiller.

***Confirmation details are still being worked out. If you would like more information when it becomes available, please let Jennifer know so we can make sure you receive it.***

HOSPITALITY

As you might have noticed there have been some improvements going on with our Church! We hope you have been pleasantly surprised thus far.

The Hospitality team is growing and we are praying for people to be moved to join us in sharing Christ. As churches across the nation are shrinking we want to be proactive and be the "Hands of Christ" to make this parish GROW!

We pray that some of you will answer the call to be part of the hospitality team. Greeters and Ushers are so important. They are the open arms for our church family and to all who need a welcoming smile or handshake. We want people to feel a part of something...something incredible...The Lord's Loving Family.

We wish to have people who truly want to be a part of this movement and share their love for Christ with others. We have asked a few people to join our growing team, and would welcome anyone who feels this is a place where they could Learn God, Love God, Share God and Serve God with others. We will be contacting the current Greeters and Ushers to make sure they are all on board as well.

Please Contact Tom Lindahl at 348-6628 or Amy Pohle at 608-330-2534 if the Lord is calling you to join this team.

Remember, that you cannot run from God, he will keep calling....answer his call or you too could be swallowed by a BIG FISH.

Love and Peace,  
PUMC Hospitality Team

*“Again, mercy is literally love in action.”*  
— [Nelson Searcy](#), *The Greatness Principle: Finding Significance and Joy by Serving Others*



Mark your calendars for Barely Seniors. Barely Seniors will meet, as in previous years, on the second Thursday of each month -Sept through May in the Fellowship Hall with the potluck at noon.



Hearts and Hands is a group that meets on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm in the Wesley room. They knit, crochet, cross stitch, and work on many other crafty projects. If you have a project you would like to work on or just want to visit, come join Hearts and Hands.

**The Sept 12 program will be:**

Larry Bierke, Platteville City Manager this has been the initial Fall program for several years with updates on city projects and other developments

**The Oct 10 program will be:**

Carol Sue Butts and Ray Meiklejohn will be sharing their experience of travel to Cuba earlier this year.

**UMW NEWS**

Just as students and teachers are getting ready to go to school, so we UMW need to be getting ready to start the Fall activities for our organization. Please put these dates on your calendar to help you remember them in your busy schedule:

**Tuesday, September 3rd**, UMW General Meeting, at 1:30 in the Wesley Room.

Program: Carol Lange      Hostess: Dee Gray

**Thursday, September 19th**, Coffee Fellowship time at 9:00Am at Country Kitchen

It is time to make yearly reports to the district, so be prepared to help provide info about book readings, and other projects, including a new budget for next year.

**Saturday, September 14th**, District Celebration at Reedsburg UMC

Give special thought to going , and learn more about the work from the district officers, a caring and dedicated group of women. Also, you get to meet some of them and make friends with some very "neat" ladies.



**Sunday, September 8th**

10:30 am

Legion Field

Redeemer will be playing!

We hope you can join us!!

**Holiday Bazaar**

December 7 is this year's date for the UMW Christmas Bazaar. As we enter jam making season, consider making an extra jar or two for the Christmas Bazaar. Preserves are always a hit at the bazaar. Not a jam maker? Perhaps you can knit, embroider, crochet or woodwork an item for the bazaar while you are sitting outside in this wonderful weather. And remember to keep an eye out for those "treasures" you might find in an attic or closet that would look great on our re-sale table.

**Going Green In 2013**

**Dairy Days Planning**

We have been working on programs and events for this fall. Some great ideas have been discussed. One that we are working on is Dairy Days. Redeemer will be playing at Worship under the tent on Sunday.

Our plan is to be in the parade on Saturday. We will be creating a float with the decorations from Vacation Bible School.

What we need is someone to head up the organization of getting people to walk in the parade, having something to hand out to the kids. Please let Jennifer know if you are interested in helping with this.

If your child would like to walk in the parade or be on our float, please let us know. We will send out information when the time gets closer.

**Usher Schedule**

8:30 a.m. Doug & Kathy Martin  
 11:00 a.m. David Oudyn

***The hospitality team is hard at work building and training our greeters and ushers. Please watch your email and mailbox for the September greeter schedule.***

**Readers Schedule**

September 1	8:30 a.m.	Elizabeth Whitford
	11:00 a.m.	Sue Dykstra
September 8	8:30 a.m.	Elizabeth Duewer
	10:30 a.m.	Nancy Mair
		Worship Under the Tent
September 15	8:30 a.m.	Ellen Carnahan
	11:00 a.m.	Tom Scanlan
September 22	8:30 a.m.	Sara Koeller
	11:00 a.m.	Mindy Freiburger
September 29	8:30 a.m.	Deb Putnam
	11:00 a.m.	Dawn Drake

***Fall Sermon series begins September 15***

Our Fall Kick-off sermon series will be based on children’s favorite Bible stories. The Sunday School children have been asked their favorite Bible stories, and Pastor Brenda is creating child and family focused worship for the first 4 weeks “back to church.” Be sure to come to worship each week as we unveil our favorite stories!

How do we make disciples of Jesus Christ at Platteville United Methodist Church? L<sup>2</sup>S<sup>2</sup>! We provide environments where people Learn God, Love God, Share God, and Serve God!

***September Worship***

***September 1<sup>st</sup>***

Grace in the UMC  
 Ephesians 2:1-10  
 Communion Both Services  
 8:30 Special Music TBD  
 11:00 Blind Faith

***September 8<sup>th</sup>***

Grace: Pass It On  
 Luke 19:1-10  
 8:30 Ben Schmidtke at PUMC  
 10:30 Redeemer  
 At the tent at Dairy Days

***September 15<sup>th</sup>***

Children’s Favorite Bible Stories  
 8:30 Mallow Ringers  
 11:00 Blind Faith

***September 22<sup>nd</sup>***

Children’s Favorite Bible Stories  
 8:30 TBD  
 11:00 Blind Faith

***September 29<sup>th</sup>***

Children’s Favorite Bible Stories  
 8:30 TBD  
 11:00 Blind Faith



# SEPTEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Welcome Back College Students Church-Wide Brunch 9:30 am	2 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	3 UMMW 1:30 pm	4 Hearts & Hands 1:00 pm Merge 45 4:00 pm Merge 5:00 pm Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm <i>Worship Committee 6:00 pm</i>	5 Small Group 1:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm <i>Trustees 7:00 pm</i>	6	7 Dairy Days Parade 9:30 am
8 Worship 8:30am Worship Under the Tent 10:30 am Legion Park	9 Breakfast Prayer Group 6:45 am @ Country Kit. Blood Drive 11:30 am Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm	10 Dance Elite 3:00 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm <i>Mission Committee 5:00 pm</i> <i>Finance Committee 7:00 pm</i>	11 Bible Study 7:00 am Hearts & Hands 1:00 pm Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm Merge 45 4:00 pm Merge 5:00 pm	12 Barely Seniors 12:00 pm Small Group 1:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm	13	14
15 Worship 8:30am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00am <b>Bounty Potluck 12:30 pm</b>	16 Breakfast Prayer Group 6:45 am @ Country Kit. Immunizations 5:00 pm Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm	17 Dance Elite 3:00 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm	18 Bible Study 7:00 am Hearts & Hands 1:00 pm Merge 45 4:00 pm Merge 5:00 pm Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm <i>SPRC 7:00 pm</i>	19 Small Group 1:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm	20 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	21
22 Worship 8:30am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00am	23 Breakfast Prayer Group 6:45 am @ Country Kit. Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm	24 <i>Nurture 2:00 pm</i> Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Dance Elite 3:00 pm	25 Bible Study 7:00 am Hearts & Hands 1:00 pm Merge 45 4:00 pm Merge 5:00 pm Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm	26 Newsletter Assembled 12:00 pm Small Group 1:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm	27	28
29 Worship 8:30am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00am	30 Breakfast Prayer Group 6:45 am @ Country Kit. Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm					

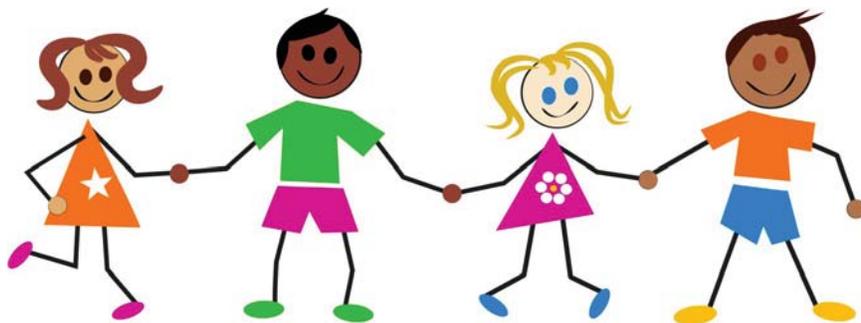


## **Back To (Sunday) School !**

### **Mark Your Calendar: September 15!**

Our Sunday School programs for children, youth and adults will resume on Sunday, **September 15**. Classes are held between services, from 9:45 – 10:45. Sunday morning offers choices for all ages and many different interests. For our young students, we offer classes for 3 year olds through high school. During that time, adults can choose from many different activities, including Bible Study in the church library, a small group book discussion, choir practice, and fellowship time in the Wesley Room.

Classes are not limited to just our Church family. Invite your friends, neighbors or relatives who are not Church members to come with you. Take this opportunity to grow in your faith and knowledge.



***SPONSOR SUNDAY WORSHIP***

***BULLETIN COVERS***

The Worship Committee is offering the Congregation an opportunity to sponsor the special Sunday worship bulletin covers in full-color throughout the year. Consider contributing a memorial or in honor of special people or events in your life. The cost is \$10.00 per service.

***ALTAR FLOWERS***

Thank you to all who have generously sponsored weekly Altar Flowers, Easter flowers, and Christmas poinsettias this past year. Your contributions have enhanced the worship experience for everyone who attends Platteville United Methodist Church.

If you would like to sign up to sponsor flowers or bulletins, please sign up in the folder in the lobby or contact Jennifer in the church office.

Coffee Hours are a time of fellowship and are held immediately after each Sunday morning service. Our members, friends, and visitors are heartily welcomed to join us for a snack and a cup of delicious coffee or juice!

Coffee Hour is a wonderful opportunity to catch up on news with friends and acquaintances that we do not get a chance to talk to during the week. Visitors are especially encouraged to mingle during Coffee Hour. You are certain to feel at home and may even make a new friend or two.

If you would like to volunteer to host a coffee hour (it's easier than you think, and so appreciated) please sign up in the folder in the lobby or contact Jennifer in the church office.

**Bounty Garden Pot Luck**

Sunday, September 15th, 2013  
After 11:00 Service

Bring one of your favorite garden dishes, or bring a dish or beverage to share. A sign up sheet will be passed around during services September 8th and it will be set outside of the office after that for those who miss service on Sunday but would like to sign up.



**Charitable Giving Seminar**

Tuesday, October 1  
10:00am or 7:00pm

Our church will be hosting a presentation of current ideas for generous gifting to our church. We will discuss planned giving, and look especially close at the current IRS rule that allows up to a \$100,000 tax-free IRA distribution for charitable gifts for people over the age of 70 ½. This rule is to be phased out on December 31, so now is the time to take advantage of it. Featured presenters are from the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation, part of the nationwide United Methodist Foundations which together manage nearly \$3 billion for churches and their members. There is no charge, and refreshments will be served. Attend one or both presentations. If you have questions about whether or not this could be helpful for you, please contact Mark Thacher at 330-1160. Call Jennifer at 348-9508 for reservations.



PLATTEVILLE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

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If you would no longer like to receive this newsletter, please contact the church office to take your name off the mailing list. Thank you!

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Return Service Requested

# WELCOME BACK

## Church-wide Brunch

Sunday, September 1

Welcome Back College Students

## Bounty Garden Pot Luck

Sunday, September 15th, 2013

After 11:00 Service

Bring your favorite dish and share fellowship with your church family

## *Fall Kick-Off*

**Sunday, September 15th**

8:30 am Traditional Worship

9:45 am First Day of Sunday School

11:00 am Contemporary Worship

12:30 pm Garden Bounty Potluck