



# *New Glimpses*

Volume 18 Issue 4

April 2026



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## ***A Word from Pastor Jamieson***

It was a long cold winter, wasn't it? Take heart, Spring has finally sprung. After a dreary winter, we are excited for the warm air to melt away the chill in our bones. Never is one more excited to tend the garden, mow the lawn, and freshen up our humble abodes than the first of April. It is a time of new beginnings and fresh starts. Wait, didn't we just talk about new beginnings and fresh starts on January 1st? It's almost like an April Fool's joke. Perhaps, though, there is no better way to start Spring than with April Fool's Day.

The origin of April Fool's Day is unknown, but that doesn't stop us telling different stories about it. One article I read detailed the origins of this very popular, but strange day that is seemingly at odds with Lent and Easter. It argued April Fool's Day began in the late 1500's into the early 1600's when the old Julian calendar changed into the new Gregorian calendar. This change affected how time was measured and understood. Essentially, Pope Gregory added 10 days to the year to get the calendar on track. It also moved the new year to January 1 from March 20th. This was revolutionary, affecting the way everyday people in Europe perceived time.

Before the Gregorian Calendar much of Europe connected the New Year with Spring and Easter at the end of March. The new calendar changed the new year celebration to January 1. Because there was no email, news of this change was slow, and many people just kept going with the new

year with Spring and Easter. People in larger cities who celebrated the new year in January began calling those in the more remote villages "April Fools". An additional part of this story is about a group who rode into a remote village in France on April 1st, and the people were celebrating the new year and they were called fools.

Though we all might relate to being confused on what day it is from time to time; let us make no mistake that on that glorious morning, the Lord our Christ rose out of the tomb. It is no folly that Christ died for us, and we are not fools to know that Christ walked out of the tomb for us, too.

This truth doesn't mean you can't play a prank on somebody on April 1st, for what is a prank but performing an act towards somebody that is completely unexpected. It could be said Jesus pranked everybody by rolling the stone away in front of the tomb bringing us new life. So, on a day when your family and friends might be expecting a toy snake in their soup, maybe prank them with an act reflecting the good news of new life and love through Christ's acts. Better keep it up not just for a day but maybe for the whole month. That would be truly unexpected. But the toy snake in the lunch box would be fun, too,

See you out there,

E. J.



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## Mission of the Month

### Family Services of Southern Wisconsin Building Resilience, Enhancing Lives

Our mission is to restore and enhance lives in our community through advocacy, education, counseling, and case management. We serve the full continuum of care, from prevention and crisis response to long-term healing and growth. Our programs include residential services, community outreach, and ongoing support tailored to those facing systemic barriers, including youth, LGBTQ+ individuals, the Hispanic community, and survivors of trafficking. At every step, we center dignity, resilience, and connection—so families can thrive across generations.

**for more information or to donate:**  
<https://familyservices1.org/>



Kelsey Hood-Christenson  
President & CEO of Family Services  
Thank you for your visit on 3/22.

## From the Desk of Pastor Carol

### Psalm 100 (New International Version)

*A psalm. For giving grateful praise.*

*1 Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.*

*2 Worship the LORD with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.*

*3 Know that the LORD is God.*

*It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.*

*4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise;*

*give thanks to him and praise his name.*

*5 For the LORD is good and his love endures  
forever; his faithfulness continues through all  
generations.*

Each day brings something for which we can say thank you to God. I believe that the more often we remember to say thank you for blessings, the more we recognize how blessed we are. And in so doing, we grow closer to God. When we focus on our blessings, we learn to see things as God sees them. And we learn to find God's presence in those around us, in ourselves, and in the world. Having an Attitude of Gratitude, is training yourself to find God. This is a goal: To find God every day, everywhere, in others, and within ourselves. This awareness of the presence of God in everything and especially within ourselves, is what the Pilgrims knew so well. This awareness is recognizing that you are a gift! That each of us is a gift—and that all we have is a gift—a gift given out of love, out of the greatest love of all, the love of God, given through Jesus Christ.

*Shalom.*

*Pastor Carol Taylor*

## Caretakers of the Garden Min. Michelle Bullock

This theme emphasizes that environmental stewardship is an act of worship and a sacred responsibility to care for God's creation.

“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;”

Psalms 24:1 NIV

Have you ever looked at the earth as your personal garden? Yet, in a sense, it is.

In the book of Genesis 1:26-30, our Heavenly Father, the creator of the universe, gave mankind dominion over everything in the earth, to steward or to attend to.

As followers of Christ, we believe that every flower, bird, and stream is a gift from God. Earth Day is more than just a secular holiday; it is an opportunity for us to reflect on our role as 'guardians of His divine

creations'. This month let's commit to small changes—like reducing waste or spending more time outdoors appreciating God's handiwork—as an expression of our gratitude and love for the Creator.



Nothing better than hanging out with Scoopie!



Move over Beatles; there is a new Fab Four in town.



Congrats to Janet Hahn, our Award-Winning Chef (3 years in a row)! The Chili/Soup/Stew Cook off was a big success, with a good variety of tasty entries. Thank you to everyone who participated!



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## Adult Mission Trip Opportunity

**JUNE 14-18:** Mission Trip with Hosanna Industries in Johnstown, PA. Groups from Ozaukee Congregational Church (OCC) and FCC Wauwatosa are going together and anyone from any other church is welcome to participate. Attached is the information put out by OCC. Please feel to contact Jeff Larson ([jeff@occhurch.org](mailto:jeff@occhurch.org)) at OCC or Tonia Wallner ([tonia@firstchurchtosa.org](mailto:tonia@firstchurchtosa.org)) at FCC to learn more or to sign up.

## New Cub Scout Pack

Cub Scout Pack 301 at Hackett School is a new Scout unit in Beloit and just starting its second year. UCB has graciously agreed to 'Charter' or sponsor the Pack. They are currently meeting at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and that will continue. Rhonda Beck agreed to be the Pack's Charter Organizational Representative. Rhonda has done a super job in this role with the previous Pack UCB Chartered until that Cub Pack folded into Pack 621 at Sun Valley Presbyterian Church. Keep an eye on the flower bed next to the parking lot. Pack 301 is adopting the planting and care as one of their service projects.



Parker LaMendola	April 6
Joyce Berg	April 7
Jeff Johnson	April 10
Nancy Gustafson	April 13
Kayla Beasley	April 14
Patricia Brabazon	April 14
Theo Mourtzis	April 14
Richard Hulburt	April 15
Danny Waugh	April 16
Mary Zimmerman	April 19
Carol Counts	April 22
Joan Braddock	April 22
Roy Hahn	April 22



Jeff and Liz Johnson	April 20
Bennie and Betty Harder	April 27



**Upcoming Events**

All are welcome! Come as you are.

**Holy Week Schedule** 

**Wednesday of Holy Week · 1 April**  
12:00pm Bible Study @ UCB

**Maundy Thursday · 2 April**  
11:00am Bible Study  
12:00pm Prayer and Lunch  
5:30pm Soup Supper @ Sun Valley  
7:00 pm Worship @ Sun Valley Pres

**Good Friday · 3 April**  
12:00pm Good Friday Service  
Host Church: Bethel A.M.E. Church  
1314 Athletic Ave., Beloit  
Preacher: Pastor Carol Taylor, United Church of Beloit

**Resurrection Sunday · 05 April**  
10:00am Sunday Worship

**TRIVIA NIGHT**



**APRIL 18TH, SAT AT 6PM**  
**DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM**

**HOSTED BY Savvas Mourtzis**

**UNITED CHURCH OF BELOIT**

<b>GOODWILL DONATION PER PERSON</b>	<b>657 BLUFF ST BELOIT, WI</b>
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**SIGN UP YOUR TEAM ON THE INFO BOARD**

**TEASE YOUR BRAIN & WIN!**

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**Upcoming Events**

**April Sermon Schedule**

**April 5<sup>th</sup> - Resurrection Sunday - John 20:1-18  
The First and Last Gardener**

**April 12<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Carol Preaching**

**April 19<sup>th</sup> - Luke 24:13-35 – Bless this Broken Road**

**April 26<sup>th</sup> - John 10:1-10 – A Shepherd Job Opening**

United Church of Beloit

# Run & Ruck Club

**Wednesdays at 12 Noon**

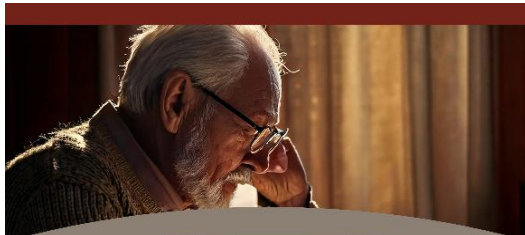
Weekly group runs or walks along Beloit community trails.

Meet at United Church of Beloit parking lot.

Scan QR code to join WhatsApp group for updates.



**Upcoming Events**



Learning Together in Faith

**United Church  
of Beloit**


Second Thursday of the Month @ 8AM

**Men's Bible  
Study Group &  
Breakfast**

Womens Circle will be 5:30pm,  
Wed, April 22, at Barb Hopper's.

First Tuesday of Every Month  
@1130AM

**Lunch Time Chapel**



**All are welcome for  
prayer, Scripture, and  
communion.**

**United Church of Beloit  
657 Bluff St**

**Upcoming Events**

The Wisconsin Congregational Association proudly presents



- WHO?** Students completing **grades 3-12** in the spring of 2026
- WHAT?** A super-**fun** week of building **faith** and **friendships**
- WHEN?** Sunday, **July 12**, 3 PM – Saturday, **July 18**, noon
- WHERE?** Mt. Morris Camp & Retreat Center (near Wautoma, WI)
- WHY?** Many kids call it **"the best week of the whole summer!"**
- HOW?** Registration details are on the following pages. Read on! :)

**Annual Membership Update**

Please scan QR code to update your contact information. Our goal is to get a 100% response rate!

United Church Beloit Info Update





**Stewardship and Finance**



Our Treasures & Trash Team are working hard and finding lots of gently used items! We have a "flea market" of various things available downstairs. Donations gladly accepted. The flea market will be open Sundays after church for the next several weeks.



SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE



Please give online to support UCB.

*Stay tuned for our new hymnal release in May. Thanks to all who donated!*

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**United Church of Beloit Online**

United Church of Beloit has a new website! Check it out at:

**Unitedchurchbeloit.org**



Can't make it to church Sunday? Watch the live stream on YouTube.



Follow us on Facebook for the latest info about the events at United Church of Beloit.



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## **United Church of Beloit**

657 Bluff Street  
Beloit, WI 53511  
Tel: (608) 362-6857  
E-mail: [ucboffice@unitedchurchbeloit.org](mailto:ucboffice@unitedchurchbeloit.org)

**Office Hours:**  
Tuesday – Friday  
9:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.

**Member Organizations**  
National Association of  
Congregational Christian Churches

Wisconsin Congregational  
Association

Presbytery of Milwaukee (PCUSA)

**In need of pastoral care?**

**Pastor E.J. Prevoznak**

**Cell: (707) 714-7039**

**Pastor Carol Taylor Cell:**

**(608) 201-1114**

**Pastor Carol Taylor Home:**

**(608) 365-4131**

**Ministers**  
Each member  
of Christ's Church

**Lead Pastor**  
E.J. Prevoznak

**Licensed Lay Pastor**  
Pastor Carol Taylor

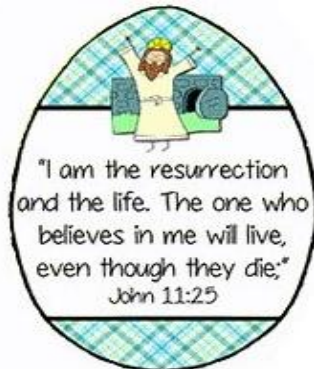
**Moderator**  
Jim Coutts

**Church Treasurer**  
Gary Kovanda

**Financial Secretary**  
Valerie Fjalstad

**Church Secretary**  
Michelle Bullock

**Custodian**  
Tasos Mourtzis



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