



# *New Glimpses*

Volume 18 Issue 5

May 2026



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

May is a great month with so much to do. Hope springs eternal with warmth and flowers and the coming Summer. From the Kentucky Derby to Mother's Day, to graduation ceremonies, to Memorial Day, there is a lot in the month of May to keep us busy. I personally love the Kentucky Derby with all its pageantry, horse racing, and my favorite derby pie. It cries out to a time gone by.

As we seamlessly slip into May, graduation season invites us to remember these most meaningful family moments. They are major road markers that should not be forgotten. It is the recognition of the work done and the promise of the future ahead.

As we remember our own graduation, let us, more importantly, remember our baptism. Just like any graduation we attend, every time we bear witness to a baptism the Holy Spirit breathes new life into a family and the congregation. This Easter season, let us all remember our baptism. Yes, you might have been at an age that predates memory, but we remember your baptism every time we pray and ask forgiveness and mold our hearts to the Lord. John Calvin writes, "We ought to consider that at whatever time we are baptized, we are washed and purified once for the whole of life. Wherefore, as often as we fall, we must recall the remembrance of our baptism, thus

fortify our minds, as to feel certain and secure of the remission of sins." Let us all be disciples to each other and remind each other our baptism by praying for each other.

Remembering our baptism leads us into prayer and celebration of the good news of Easter. We are now Easter people called to live with the truth that resurrection is real and present. We look at the example set by the first people of the church. The faith and work of Mary, Peter, Paul, Phillip, James and all the earliest disciples are the valedictorians at graduation, pointing us all to the ultimate truth and the beginning of our faith as we know it today. There were no grand cathedrals, denominations, institutions, international programs, or budgets. It was just prayer, faith in Christ, and the Holy Spirit that carried them forward into the unknown. Isn't that all you need?

I invite all of you to remember your baptism this month of May. Invite someone to our church and share with them the good news of the forgiving water of baptism that brings us all into one faith. We are blessed to be in a beautiful worship community that just might reflect the one the earliest saints of our faith worked to build. Thanks to all the people who attended and worked on all the Lent and Easter celebrations. Let us take this commit and move it forward through the Easter season and upcoming Summer.

**See you out there.  
Blessings,  
E.J.**



## **Mission of the Month**



An organization UCB members are glad to support is The Natural Land Institute (NLI). The NLI is a member

supported, nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving land and natural diversity for future generations. Since 1958, NLI has protected, managed, and restored 19,000 acres throughout Illinois and southern Wisconsin. These include prairies, forests, wetlands, and river corridors. The Natural Land Institute helps residents of northern Illinois conserve the land they cherish, protect land and water resources, wildlife habitat, and our way of life. We are one of the oldest private conservation groups in the Midwest.

Among the NLI preserves are Burr Oak Valley Nature Preserve  
Carl & Myrna Nygren Wetland  
Lost Flora Fen  
Oxbow Springs  
Pecatonica Ridge Preserve  
W & G Keefer Nature Reserve

For more information or to donate please see: [www.naturalland.org](http://www.naturalland.org)

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## **From the Desk of Pastor Carol**

*"Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."*

**Psalm ~ 46:10**

I used to be a news junkie. Nowadays I shudder to read the national and world news. As a person of faith, it is hard to fathom how much chaos and catastrophes go on each day. Yet scripture reminds us that God will be exalted over all the earth! We do not know the day, but that promise stated repeatedly throughout the Bible.

At our recent Trivia Night, "Let it Be" was the answer to "What was the title of the Beatles last studio album?" That song, written mostly by Paul McCartney, was inspired by a dream of his late mother saying, "It will be alright, just let it be."

We, as people of faith, can be inspired by scripture to be still and know God's presence through Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We can keep our faith strong with worship and prayer. Not with inaction, but with faithful action. Let us keep showing our faith by caring for others, within our neighborhoods and well beyond.

*Shalom.*

*Pastor Carol Taylor*

**Spiritual Refreshment**  
**Returning to the Wellspring of God**

*Min. Michelle Bullock*

Spiritual refreshment is not a luxury for the believer—it is a lifeline. In a world that drains our attention, burdens our hearts, and distracts our souls, God continually invites us to return to Him, the source of living water. Jesus said, “Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst” (**John 4:14**). Spiritual renewal is the experience of drinking deeply from that promise.

Many believers walk through life spiritually thirsty without realizing it. The signs are subtle:

- A fading joy in prayer
- A sense of distance from God
- Emotional heaviness that lingers
- Feeling spiritually “stuck” or numb

These are signals. They reveal a soul in need of God’s renewing touch.

Spiritual refreshment is not simply feeling better. It is being restored by God Himself. It is the Holy Spirit breathing life back into weary places. It is the Father drawing you close again. It is Christ reminding you that His yoke is easy and His burden is light.

It is the fulfillment of Psalm 23:3: “*He restores my soul.*” Spiritual refreshment is not something you earn—it is something you receive. Let us be, “*As the deer longs for streams of water, so I long for you, O God.*”  
**Ps. 42:1 (NLT)**



**Celebrating Mother’s Day** is ultimately about honoring the quiet, consistent, and often invisible work that shapes families and communities. It’s a day that pauses the rush of everyday life and turns

our attention toward the people who have nurtured us—whether they are biological mothers, adoptive mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, or mother-figures who stepped in with love and guidance.

Mother’s Day isn’t just about gifts or brunch reservations. At its core, it is a recognition of care: the emotional labor, the sacrifices, the late nights, the encouragement, and the resilience that mothers bring into the world. It is a moment to acknowledge that this kind of care is powerful, formative, and worthy of gratitude.

For many, celebrating Mother’s Day also means reflecting on the complexity of motherhood. Not every relationship is simple, and not every story is joyful. Yet the day still offers space to appreciate the people who have shown compassion, protection, or mentorship in ways that helped us grow.

In the end, Mother’s Day is a reminder to express what we often assume goes without saying: **thank you, I see you, and your love has makes a difference.**



Our semi-annual Trivia Night was a great success. Thank you, Savvas

Mourtzis for this fun evening! Categories ranged from TV Show Theme Songs to Famous Epitaphs.

Congratulations to the winning team, Mark Spreitzer, Philip Gorman, and Martin & Carol Taylor.



### 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.

*Stay tuned for our new Hymnal release in May.*

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## COMMUNITY ALERT

Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it!"  
Genesis 28:16

### VISION:

A movement of churches awakening to God's call, forming life-giving friendships and partnerships, and growing in love for their home communities

### GOALS:

- Enjoy life-giving relationships that extend beyond Sunday and the physical church building
- Experience God by placing God-questions at the center of the conversation
- Know and love your place and its people
- Discover and embrace your unique identity and call

### AWAKEN PARTNERS:



Funding from Lilly Endowment, Inc.



### WHAT:

Nine month journey where participating churches will:

- Engage their neighborhoods
- Embrace Christian practices
- Build community
- Connect with other churches
- Clarify values and calling
- Strengthen leadership
- Understand trends in their community

### COMMITMENT:

**Commitment for Pastors**

is approximately 5-7 hours per month:

- Initial 9-month commitment with an option to extend
- Monthly pastors' learning community meetings beginning late summer
- Monthly congregational team meetings each month from September to May
- Alumni engagement opportunities available

**Commitment for Congregational Team Members**

is approximately 3-5 hours per month:

- Initial 9-month commitment with an option to extend
- Monthly congregational team meetings each month from September to May

### CONGREGATIONAL TEAMS:

- Pastors will form their Congregational Teams with 4-6 congregation members
- Ideal team members should represent a cross-section of the congregation and be willing to prioritize participation and show signs of interest in engaging with neighbors

### STEPPING OUT CURRICULUM:

Over 9 months participants will work toward:

- Becoming a people of relationship rather than outcomes
- Listening without agenda
- Attending to stories of people in the neighborhood
- Discerning what the Spirit might be saying to us

*In the second year, participants will conduct experiments in their neighborhoods.*

I now regularly feel that the Holy Spirit lives inside of me.

I am more aware of being with and doing with others instead of simply doing for others.

I am more motivated to take risks in service of connection for Christ.

I have a deeper understanding about the impact slowing down can have on my life.

I am more willing and more confident in talking to strangers.

I am more in tune with the nudges of the Holy Spirit both in life and while Dwelling in the Word.

[WiChurches.org/Awaken](http://WiChurches.org/Awaken) • Follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/AwakenWisconsin](https://facebook.com/AwakenWisconsin)

**227TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HEALING NOT HARM:  
A WALK TO END GUN VIOLENCE**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2026  
9:30-11:30 START AT PERE MARQUETTE PARK**

*Gun violence remains a public health crisis in the United States and is the leading cause of death among children and teens. In 2025 alone there were 408 mass shootings, 233 of which were at schools, and gun deaths by suicide account for over 58% of total gun deaths annually. According to a report by the Commonwealth Fund, U.S. states have a higher firearm mortality rate than most other countries and those rates are on par with countries experiencing active conflict.*

**IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE THIS WAY.**

Working together we can enact lasting change. The GA Action event, **Healing Not Harm: A Walk to End Gun Violence** takes us one step farther on the path to change.

More than a march. The Walk to End Gun Violence includes 3 stops and multiple opportunities to learn and engage. Join us to:

- witness to PC(USA) efforts toward policy change,
- listen to stories from those impacted by gun violence,
- learn from churches working to make a change in their community,
- see a live demonstration from a Guns to Gardens blacksmith and
- hear more on this initiative from the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship,
- gather around Milwaukee City Hall (a seat of power) to pray for systemic change,
- pick up resources and ideas you can take back to your congregations and communities.

If we envision a future centered on the promises of God where the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations, then Healing Not Harm: A Walk to End Gun Violence helps us take faithful steps toward that future.

**Upcoming Events**

**MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND  
A NIGHT OF DIVINE COMEDY**

**MCCLINTON NEAL**      **DEXTER SMILES**

INTRODUCING  
**THE BISHOPS OF COMEDY**

TICKETS ARE \$30 IN ADVANCE \$40 AT THE DOOR

**MAY 9TH**  
Doors open @ 6 pm  
Show Starts @ 7:30

MC: EMMETT CRAIG CANNON  
OPENING MUSIC PERFORMED BY:  
J RUTHIE CARROLL & WORTHY GOSPEL SINGERS

Contact Virgil Grimes @ 608-449-6437 for tickets in advance or for any questions or to order tickets you can email: [bishopsofcomedynewlife@gmail.com](mailto:bishopsofcomedynewlife@gmail.com)

New Life Ministries  
1400 Harvey Street Beloit  
Purchase on-line tickets @ [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

**Upcoming Events**

...  
**UNITED CHURCH OF БЕЛОИТ  
ANNUAL  
CONGREGATION  
MEETING**

SERVICE AND MEETING SCHEDULE

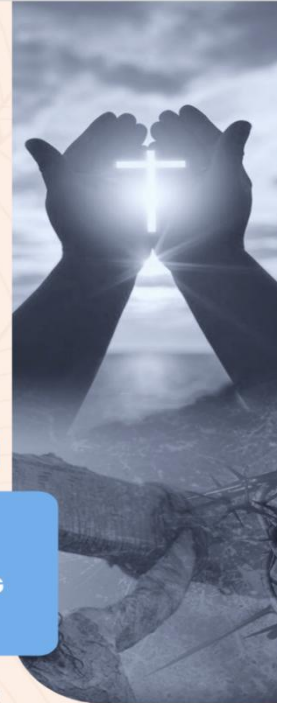
We invite our church family and members to 2026 annual meeting. Your presence and voice is valued to guide the church into 2026.

**SUNDAY MAY 17th**

**SERVICE @ 10:00AM**

**CONGREGATION MEETING  
FOLLOWING SERVICE @  
11:15AM**

[unitedchurchbeloit.org](https://unitedchurchbeloit.org) ...



First Tuesday of Every Month  
@1130AM  
**Lunch Time Chapel**

All are welcome for  
prayer, Scripture, and  
communion.

**United Church of Beloit  
657 Bluff St**



PINE RIDGE INDIAN RESERVATION, SD MISSION WORK TRIP INVITATION

July 11-18, 2026

With great joy and purpose, I'm writing to you to join us on our upcoming mission work trip. In partnership with Reservation Outreach, we depart on July 11 and return on July 18. We will be staying on the reservation at the Makasan PCUSA Church Community Center. In addition to cultural immersion, our focus will be on various work projects, serving community meals at Red Shirt village, donation distribution for Red Shirt village, and visiting Wounded Knee and the surrounding area.

**PINE RIDGE INDIAN  
RESERVATION, SD  
MISSION WORK  
TRIP INVITATION  
July 11-18, 2026**

Reservation Outreach is a volunteer-led nonprofit organization and ministry partner of Southminster Presbyterian Church, that is focused on eliminating hunger and providing support to the families of Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, SD through outreach projects with respect and admiration of the culture.

If you are interested, if you have questions, please contact:

Brian Falk @ phone #414-870-8838 / [falkbj73@gmail.com](mailto:falkbj73@gmail.com)



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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.

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! :)

## May 2026 Sermon Schedule

May 3rd

John 14:1-14 - I don't think Jesus don't that way

May 10th

Acts 17:22-31 - What Could Have Been

May 17th

Pastor Carol Preaching

May 24th

Acts 1:1-11 - Sky Gazing Beyond the Horizon

May 31

Acts 2:1-21 - Where will you be in 50 days?

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





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Katherine Brubaker	May 3
Brittany Hooker	May 4
Katharine Hulburt	May 8
ReyAnn Harris	May 11
Lois Hebb	May 12
Liz Johnson	May 14
Savvas Mourtzis	May 14
Joey Eley	May 24
Nicole Richards	May 24
Evan Rusmisl	May 25
Mat Showers	May 25
Margaret Downing	May 29

## 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.



We have a new website!

Check us out online at:

**Unitedchurchbeloit.org**

Can't make it to church Sunday?

Follow us on Facebook and YouTube.



Al and Cheryl Bach	May 3
Roger and Terri Lang	May 30

SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE





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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

