United Church of Beloit

New Glimpses

Volume 18 Issue 11

November 2026

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A Word from Pastor Jamieson

A Thanksgiving tradition I do every year is run in a Turkey Trot race. If you never heard of a Turkey Trot, it is a road running race on Thanksgiving morning. The distance varies from 1 mile to 5K to 10K. Of course, the natural question after hearing this is why anyone would want to wake up early on Thanksgiving morning and go on a run, let alone a race that goes on for miles. It's probably cold. Did I mention you have to pay an entry fee, too? No thank you. Thanksgiving is supposed to be a day off. It's busy enough as it is. Many people would never imagine waking up early on Thanksgiving morning and run 3-6 miles just for fun. Most people would be thankful not to participate, but there is something in spirit of the event that draws people of all abilities. You can find a Turkey Trot in communities across the country with hundreds if not thousands of runners.

Thanksgiving as we know and celebrate it today was born from the smallest embers of hope during the deadliest year in American history. During much of the 19th century, religious leaders will implore whoever the president at the time was to mark specific days for feasting or fasting. In January 1861, before the Civil War began, a fasting day for prayer was called for to stop the impending war. Though war came anyway, prayer was needed to get the country through these destructive years. 1863 bore witness to the death of the most Americans in war, unmatched even today. But President Abraham Lincoln believed in the hope that the war was turning and would soon be over. After Union victories at Vicksburg, Mississippi and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Lincoln rallied the nation to a National Day of Thanksgiving to be celebrated on the last Thursday of November.
Despite tragedy and war raging throughout the nation, a scene almost unimaginable today, people found the strength and courage to endure through it all and be thankful.

Running a couple of miles is nothing like persevering through war, nowhere close to it, but most of us don't have to go too far to find suffering in our lives. The Bible challenges us by asking how can we be truly grateful for the blessings we have if we

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Pastor Jamieson Cont.

don't recognize hardships of ourselves or others? Paul writes in Romans 5:3-4 that we should have glory in our sufferings because they ultimately produce hope.

Perhaps all the Turkey Trot runners are connecting to a deeper truth of gratitude that can be lost in the busyness that is Thanksgiving. The Bible tells us in many various passages the need to endure in faith, because the journey of life is not easy. The writer of Hebrews implores us to "run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus." (Hebrews 12:1-2) We are running this race of life, but we are not racing each other but racing towards Jesus who has run the race for us in perfect faith.
See you all at the starting line and save me some homemade apple pie.

See you out there,
Pastor E.J.

From the Desk of Pastor Carol

"Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens…" The familiar song, "My Favorite Things" is from "The Sound of Music". In the movie Julie Andrews sings to the children, "When the dog bites, when the bee stings, when I'm feeling sad, I simply remember my favorite things, and then I don't feel so bad." The song is quite catchy (I bet you are humming it now!) And that is good advice. Remembering one's favorite things is the first step in the art of practicing gratitude. To recall what we have that is good and then to give thanks for that blessing is to have an attitude of gratitude. Giving Thanks, each day, for life, for family and friends, for all our blessings is a powerful tool for our daily living and especially for our faith walk. Giving Thanks is our theme for November and beyond. I hope you will join me in mindfully giving thanks each day for your blessings and sharing your gratitude.

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all your wonderful deeds.
Psalm 9:1

Shalom,
Pastor Carol Taylor

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A Grateful Heart in Every Season

Min. Michelle Bullock

Gratitude is more than a feeling we experience when life is going well. Scripture invites us to give thanks in every season—not because every circumstance is easy, but because God remains faithful through them all.

Over a lifetime, we gather many reasons to give thanks: family and friends, meaningful work, worship and fellowship, the beauty of creation, and the kindness of neighbors. We also know that life holds sorrow, change, and uncertainty. Christian gratitude does not ask us to ignore those hardships. Instead, it helps us remember that we do not face them alone. God's presence accompanies us, and the church is called to be a community of prayer, comfort, and care.

The apostle Paul writes, "Give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). This is not a command to be thankful *for* every difficulty. It is an invitation to seek God's presence and grace even in difficult times. Sometimes gratitude is a joyful song; sometimes it is a quiet prayer, a familiar hymn, or the comfort of someone sitting beside us.

As a congregation, we have received and shared many blessings. We give thanks for those who have taught faith, served the church, welcomed newcomers, cared for neighbors, and kept the work of ministry alive through changing times. Their faithfulness is part of the story God continues to write among us. And each of us, whatever our age or ability, can still offer a word of encouragement, a listening ear, a prayer, or a helping hand.

Gratitude naturally leads to generosity. When we recognize that our lives are gifts from God, we are moved to share our time, talents, compassion, and resources. Our acts of service may seem small, but offered in love, they become signs of God's abundant care. May we give thanks not only with our words, but with lives shaped by kindness, patience, and hope. In every season, may we remember the promise of Lamentations 3:22–23: God's mercies are new every morning. And may our grateful hearts help others recognize that goodness, too.

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MISSION OF THE MONTH

Myrna Wright

Deacons Outreach wishes to keep the congregation informed about organizations to which we make contributions. This month we are highlighting Nutrition and Health Associates(WIC).

NHA is a private, not for profit, maternal and child nutrition and health organization, dedicated to promoting good nutrition and health choices, by offering educational programs, community resources and nutrition consultant services in the communities they serve

FOOD ITEMS NEEDED:

- Individual cups of fruit
- Individual cups of pudding
- Individual cups of applesauce
- Individual bags, boxes, or bowls of cereal
- Microwavable macaroni & cheese bowls
- Microwavable Chef Boyardee pasta bowls

HYGIENE ITEMS NEEDED:

- Toilet paper
- Shampoo
- Bar soap
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes

November Sermon Line Up

November 1st - Protest and Trouble
Matthew 23:1-12

November 8th - The Gospel of Wealth (Andrew Carnegie)
Luke 12:13-21

November 15th - Pastor Carol Preaching

Nov 22nd - The Once and Future King
Matthew 25:31-46
Christ the King

Nov 29th - Turn the Radio On
Mark 13:24-37
Advent 1

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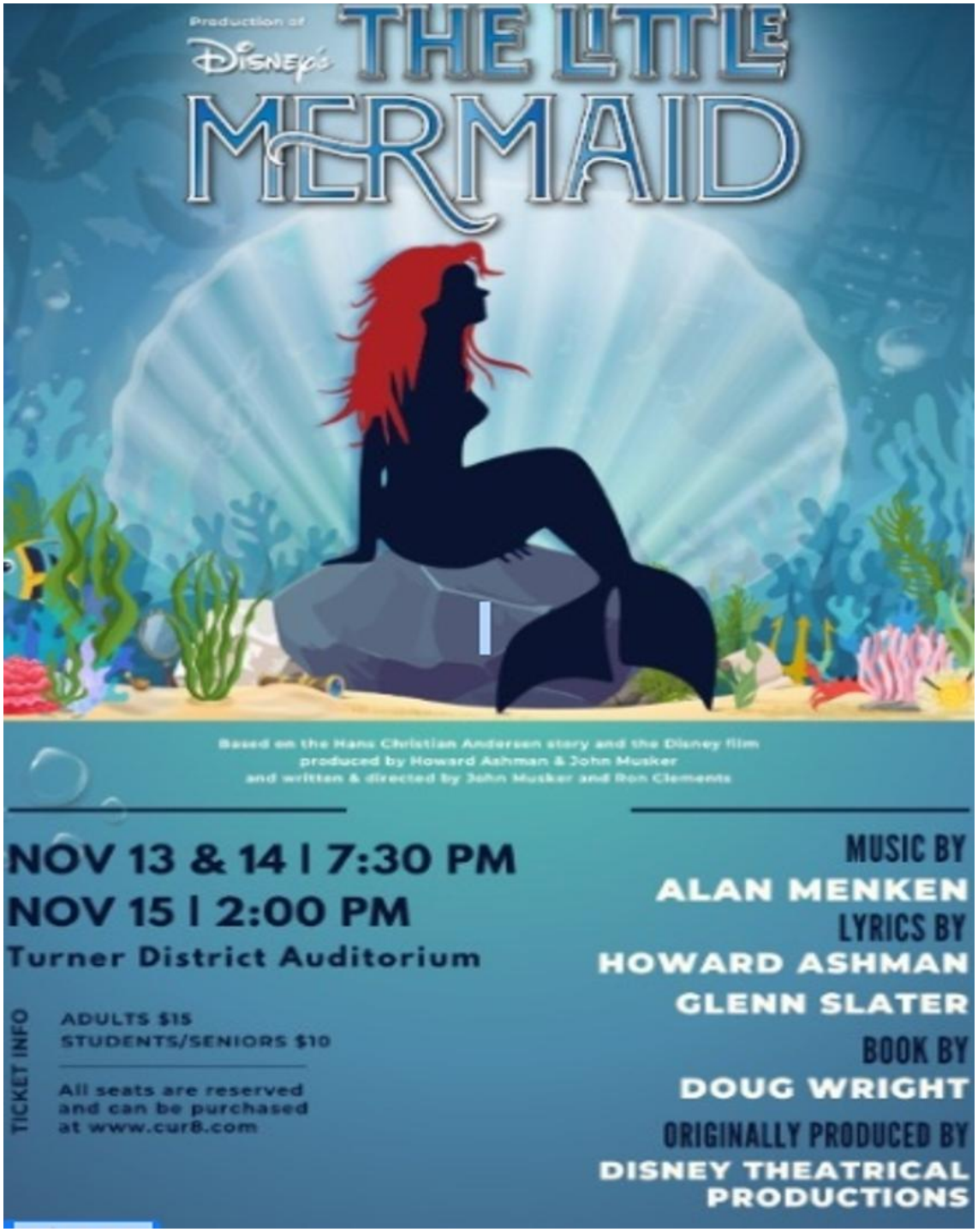
COMMUNITY OUTING



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November 1st, 2026

Dear Members and Friends of United Church of Beloit,

Our Stewardship theme for 2027 is ***Giving Thanks: Eucharistic Stewardship.*** This means celebrating all the things for which we are thankful, which are many and various.

Stewardship Sunday is Sunday, November 8th, 2026. We're asking for your help in the coming year . We hope that you will attend the 10:00 a.m. worship service and make your financial commitment as an act of worship in the church sanctuary. A 2027 Estimate of Giving Card is included in this mailing. Please prayerfully consider how to respond to God's calling of Stewardship. Please fill out the card out and bring with you to our Stewardship Sunday worship service. There will be blank cards available if needed.

As true stewards of the Body of Christ, we understand the power of our Stewardship to bring our energy into the Church. It is a way of life that acknowledges our responsibility before God. Our spirit is always being sanctified in the light of Christ, which makes an active participant in the life of the Church. United Church of Beloit encourages all members and friends to become practicing stewards. Each year, stewards are called to carefully review his or her personal circumstances and make a commitment of time, talent, and treasure to support the church and ministries.

If you cannot attend, we hope you will mail in your Estimate of Giving Card the following week or bring it the following Sunday. Estimates of Giving Cards are incredibly helpful to the F&F Board as we prepare the 2027 budget and to the Deacons Outreach Board as they consider the missions our church can support in the next year.

A lunch celebration will be held after the worship service. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway by the stairs or let us know that you will be present by calling the church office anytime Tuesday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at 608-362-6857. You can also email us at ucboffice@unitedchurchbeloit.org. We hope to see you on Sunday, November 8th.

Yours in Christ,

Jim Coutts
Chair, UCB Finance and Facilities Board

"Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us an offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:2

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Stewardship Sunday 2026

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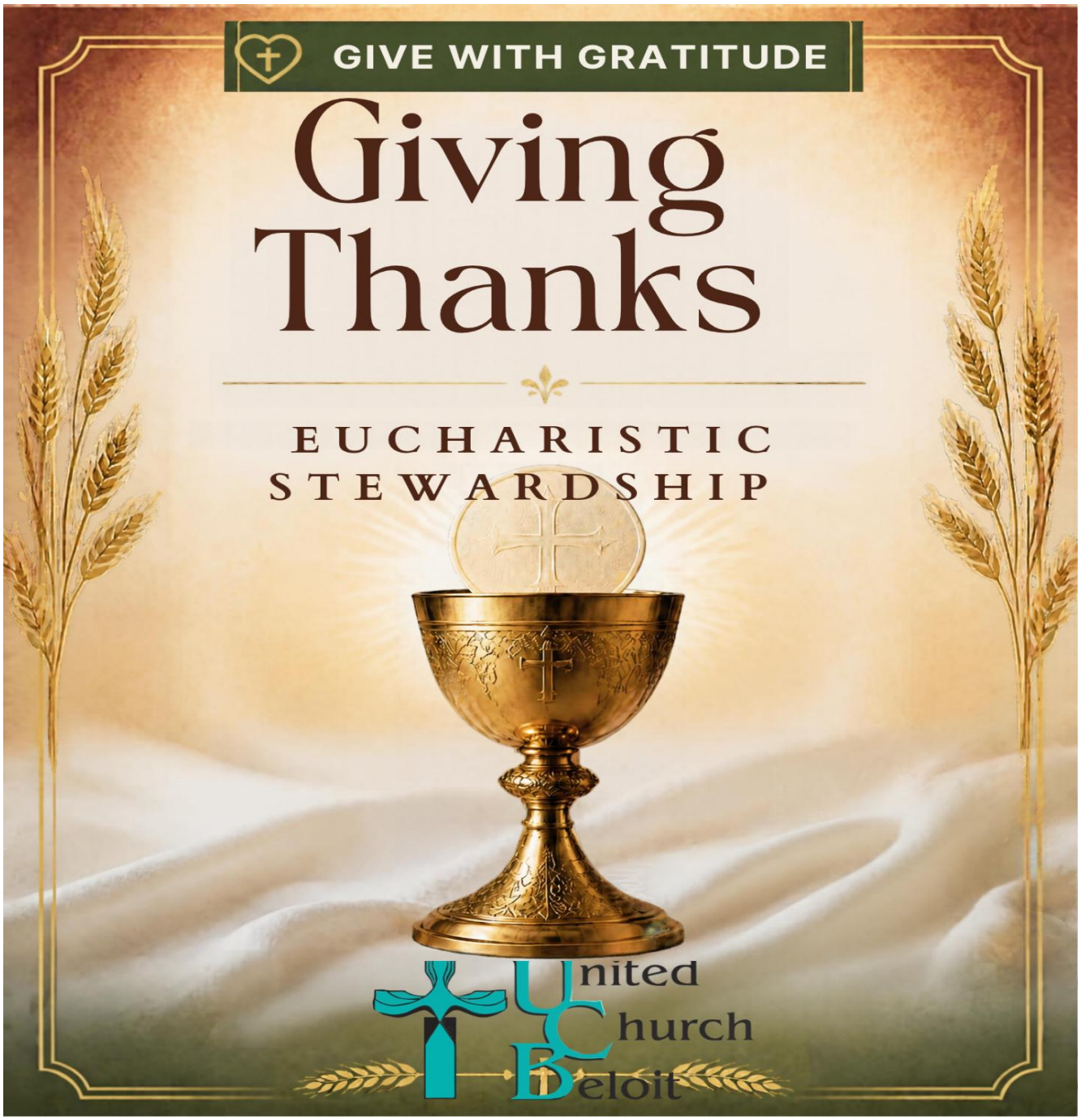
Stewardship Sunday 2026



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Holiday Event

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Holiday Event

Please register @ www.unitedchurchbeloit.org

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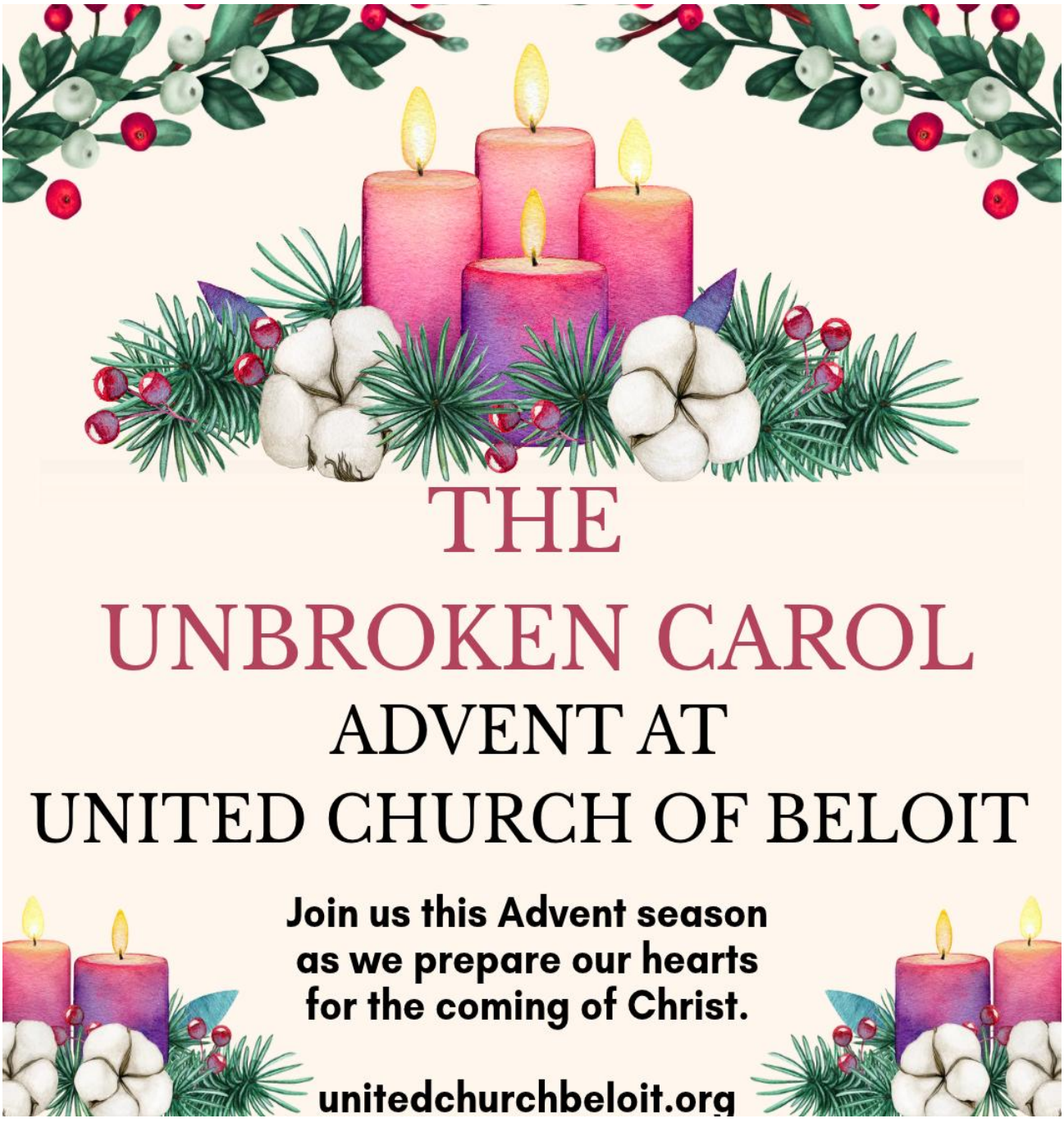
Worship Experience



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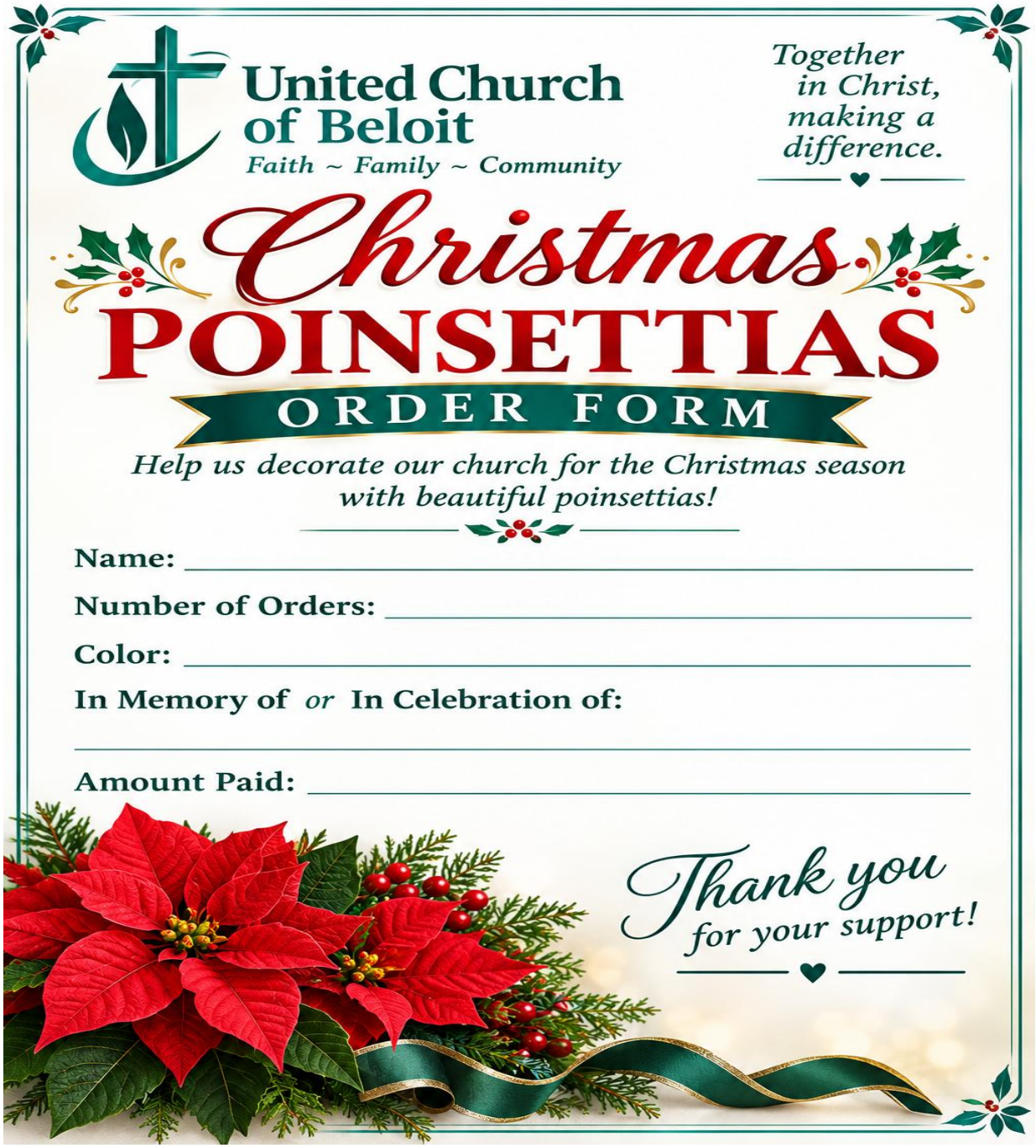
HOLIDAY EVENT

Deadline To Order: Nov. 20th



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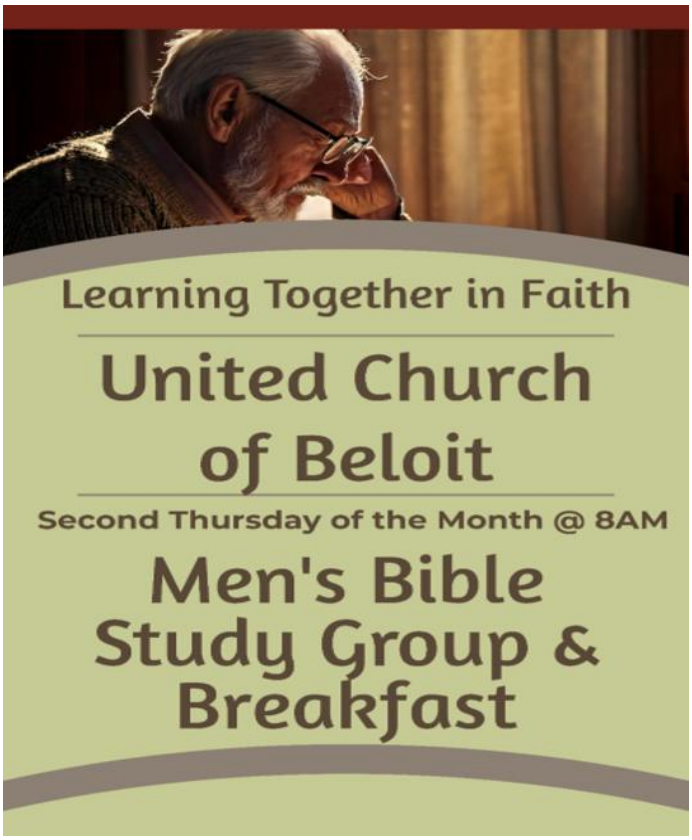
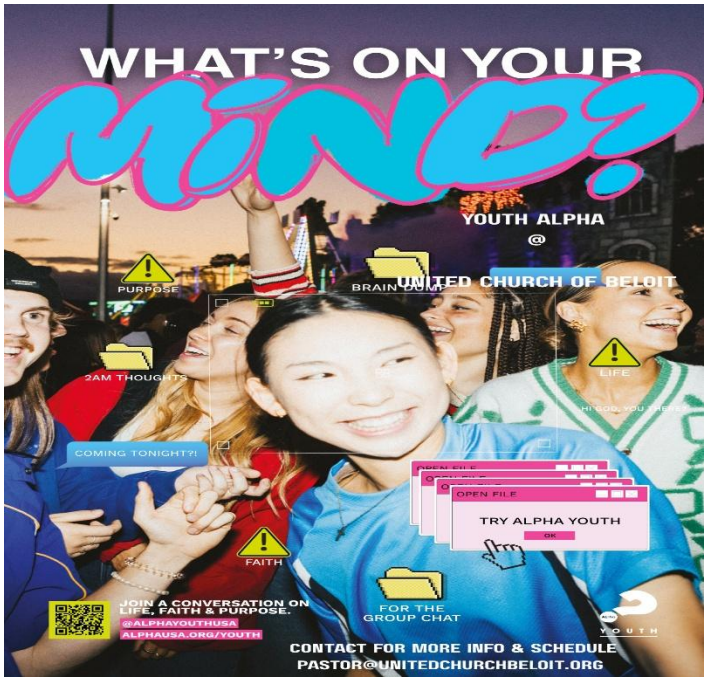
MONTHLY EVENTS





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Celebrations & Accolades

Richard & Katherine Hulburt

November 8

Dean & Mary Zimmerman

November 28

Terry Fields	11/2
Eleni Mourtzis	11/8
Barb Hopper	11/15
Andrew MacNees	11/16
Anne Beasley	11/18
Cheryl Bach	11/19
Teri Lang	11/19
Donna Manning	11/29

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SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE

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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.

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

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United Church of Beloit
657 Bluff Street
Beloit, WI 53511
Tel: (608) 362-6857
E-mail: 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