



# INTO THE FOLD

September 2019

visit our website at [www.umcrp.org](http://www.umcrp.org)

## Ponderings by Pastor JoEllyn....

September is here, the busyness of summer will be celebrated on Labor Day, the last official warm weather hurrah. Be mindful of our community during this month of change and newness.

I am sharing a writing provided by Lexa Campbell, Spiritual Growth Coordinator, United Methodist Women of the Indiana Conference. I found this informative and I know you will, too. Enjoy!



### THE PARABLE OF THE PENCIL

The Pencil Maker took the pencil aside, just before putting it into the box. "There are 5 things you need to know" he told the pencil,

"before I send you out into the world. Always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best pencil you can be.

One: You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in someone's hand.

Two: You will experience painful sharpening from time to time, but you need it to become a better pencil.

Three: You will be able to correct any mistakes you might make.

Four: The most important part of you will always be what's inside.

Five: On every surface you are used on, you must leave your mark. No matter the condition, you must continue to write.

The pencil understood and promised to remember, and went into the box with purpose in its heart.

Now, replace the pencil with you. Always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best person you can be.

One: You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in God's hand and allow other human beings to access you for the many gifts you possess.

Two: You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, by going through various problems in life, but you'll need it to become a stronger person.

Three: You will be able to correct any mistakes you might make.

Four: The most important part of you will always be what's on the inside.

Five: On every surface you walk through, you must leave your mark. No matter the situation, you must continue to do your duties.

Allow this parable on the pencil to encourage you to know that you are a special person and only you can fulfill the purpose which you were born to accomplish.

Never allow yourself to get discouraged and think that your life is insignificant and cannot make a change.

Praying You Through,

**Pastor JoEllyn**

### **Bette's Pen:**

September begins the 1<sup>st</sup> of the Fall Feasts .. Sept 29, sundown to sundown Tues Oct 1, is Feast of Trumpets or Rosh Hashanah; the Jewish New Year. It is a time of inner renewal and divine atonement. Why should that matter to us as Christians you may ask? I asked a Baptist minister once shouldn't we commemorate the feasts, and he said "That is for the Jewish People!" I was kind of surprised at that answer. Wasn't Jesus, Jewish? He is our Lord & Savior". We, Gentiles, have been grafted in and are regarded as His children. In Leviticus 23 God declared

certain times “His Holy Days”. It seems we should recognize these Feasts or convocations (also referred to as “set-apart gathering”). Jesus, fulfilled the first four feasts we celebrate in the spring. Jesus being the perfect sacrifice, made the required burnt offering sacrifices found in Leviticus no longer necessary... The fall feasts are yet to be fulfilled. In Colossians 2:16-17 these festivals and celebrations were referred to as shadow of events to come through Jesus.

Rosh Hashanah / Trumpets — points to the Rapture when the Messiah will appear in the heavens as a Bridegroom coming for His bride, the Church. The Rapture is always associated in Scripture with... the blowing of a loud trumpet! (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:52)..<http://www.pray4zion.org/TheLast3FallFeastsOfTheLord2019.html>  
In my home group gathering, that meets weekly, we remember these fall feasts & celebrate them. Why you may ask? In Hebrew the word for convocation, “migra” spoken as “Mik-raw” means rehearsal.. What does rehearsal mean, but an act of practicing in preparation for an event.<http://www.messianicjews.com.au/articles/details/8/Holy-Convocation-What-does-the-Bible-say-about-Convocation>

And we all know Jesus is Coming Again, someday...

So we want to be ready....

We, as Christians aren't required to commemorate these festivals but understanding these feasts is important as we one day may very well have to do these things we have been practicing..

The next two feasts come right after Trumpets, Yom Kippur / Day of Atonement: (sundown to sundown) 08th - 09th October, 2019

which is the holiest day of all, and Festival of Sukkot/  
Tabernacles: (sundown to sundown) October 13th - 20th, 2019

Have a Safe & Restful Labor Day...

Blessings & Peace be yours, *Bette*

### **Outreach – Potluck Dinner Party**

In replacement of the Progressive Dinner Party this year the Missions and Outreach Committee is planning four Outreach – Potluck Dinner Parties. August through November we will be hosting a potluck dinner at the church. The potluck will occur the third Sunday of each month at 5pm CST. Each month we will announce a different theme for the food to bring. The second date planned will be Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. A save the date reminder will be sent home in the church bulletin. We will have salads as our theme for the month of September. We invite everyone to come to the dinner and we ask that you invite a friend **outside** of our church to attend as well. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **EVENTS & MEETINGS 2019**

**Labor Day** - Monday Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>

Office closed

**Council/Board Meeting**

Tues Sept. 10 , 6:30 p.m. (CT)

**September UMW Meeting**

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. (CT)

Road Trip to Barbara Parker's Country Home for brunch.

Meet at 9:15 a.m (CT)

to carpool from Church...

Pastor JoEllyn will pick up those in LaPorte. Check with her on time. Please let Pastor or Bette know if going, so we know who is going so you don't get left behind..

**Progressive Potluck Dinner**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month through November, If you missed the 1<sup>st</sup> Potluck you missed out on good food & fun  
**Next Potluck**, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>, 5 p.m (ct)  
Salads, Hope to see you then...  
Bring your favorite salad to share

Bette out of office  
**Monday Sept 16 – Wed Sept 18**  
**Worship Mtg. Tues Sept 17 6:30 p.m**  
**Best Years** Wed Sept 18  
Blacksmith Shoppe Noon  
**Another “Fun” Euchre Night**

planned by UMW  
Sat. Sept 21 5 – 9 p.m  
Cards \$10 per person.....  
Get tickets from Pastor JoEllyn or Bette at office or any UMW member.  
Cash Prizes

1<sup>st</sup> - \$25 – 2<sup>nd</sup> \$15 – 3<sup>rd</sup> \$10

Taco's & snacks are included in card price .....

**Taco Bar served 5 – 6 pm.**

**.Cards begin at 6..**

A great time of fellowship, fun, cards, laughter, chat..

**FEED THE HUNGRY 5K WALK/RUN & 8 MILE RUN.....**

Our food pantry is again hosting a walk/run to raise funds. So, moms, dads, grandmas, grandpas, sisters, brothers, kids & grandkids, come join the fun, all the while enjoying the great outdoors, getting some exercise & supporting a great cause.

Sat Sept 21 @

St John Kanty Catholic Church – 7012 N 600 E. Rolling Prairie, In  
**On-site Registration 6:45 am CST**

8-Mile Run 7:30 am CST

5k Run 8:00 am CST

5k Walk 8:30 am CST

**CHICKEN NOODLE DINNER**

Saturday Oct 26 4-7 p.m (ct)

Adults \$8 (\$9 at door)

Children \$4 (6-12) 5 & under free



**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Study for September is "Listening for God through "James" Lectio Divina, Latin for *divine reading*, is a series of Bible studies that calls Christians to slow down, read Scripture, meditate on it, and prayerfully respond as they "listen to God" through His Word.

During Jesus' public ministry, younger brother James seems to have been a doubter (John 7:5). Yet the resurrected Christ appeared especially to this brother, and James was among the believers as they gather in the upper room in Acts 2. So, at some point, James became a true spiritual brother of his earthly brother.

The content in the book of James is focused on the practical, day-to-day living out of the example of Jesus, in word and in deed. One key theme is that the little sins we consider more acceptable (like gossip, jealousy, favoritism, and hoarding wealth) are as ugly in God's eyes as the biggies.

Its instructions have everything to do with how true believers - then and now - live as Christ-followers in the real world.

Please come & join us. class meets at 10:30 right after fellowship hour.

**CHILDRENS CHURCH:**

Loving God, Loving Neighbor, is the study for children starting Sunday Sept 1. They'll discover what the Bible has to teach us about being a person of faith in communities where not everyone acts or thinks the same way. The kids will hear & see, Bible stories that teach us how to be true to our faith, while sharing God's love with people who might be different from us..

September topics: We Are One 1 Corinthians 12: 12 - 31, Communities Accept John 4: 1-42, Welcoming

Others Mark 10: 46-52, Communities Forgive Luke 19: 1 - 10



**FROM JULY:**

The July meeting of Best Years met at the Blacksmith Shoppe hosted by Shirley & Wayne Kirkham with 26 in attendance. Iva said grace. So much lively conversation ensued that it took Rose's teacher voice to quiet it down to hear announcements. August Birthdays are Karen Rison, 8/4, Ann Riedstra, 8/7, Lester Chadwick 8/9, Susan Knowlton, 8/10, Connie Galloway, & Joann Nickerson, 8/30. Anniversaries, Dave & Bette Schaefer 8/29,.

Myrna gave an update on Pam. Happy Birthday was sung to Evelin Hamilton, as it was today. Wayne gave us a "train" ride ticket for drawing of attendance gifs of a drink glass with a snack & fruit drink packet inside & Best Years Logo printed outside the cup. Winners were: Sharon Campos, Lester Chadwick, Linda & Steve Everingham, Gail Dailey, Debbie Harris, Joe Knowlton & Iva. Others present were: Ann Riedstra, Terry & Joann Nickerson, Susan Knowlton,, Mike Harris, Bob Russell, Ben & Karen Rison, Art & Rose Lenig, Connie Galloway, Jim Williamson, Deanie Ebanks, Herb Scofield & bob Swanson. Terry & Joann will host the August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting...

**The Aug meeting** of Best Years met at the Blacksmith Shoppe. Hosted by Terry & Joann Nickerson. There were 29 present. Iva said grace & welcomed Karen Fitzgerald. September Birthdays are Helen Bennitt 9/3 & Herb Scofield 9/27. Joe & Susan Knowlton celebrate their anniversary 9/7.

JoAnn presented everyone with a gift of a miniature cupcake & a bottle of dish detergent covered by a knitted dress cover.

Others present were Art & Rose Lenig, Lester & JoEllyn Chadwick, Ben & Karen Rison, Joe & Susan Knowlton, Steve & Linda Everingham, Ann Riedstra, Sharon Campos, Mary Kessler, Connie Reynolds, Connie Galloway, Wayne & Shirley Kirkham, Myrna Everill, Pam Dixon, Evelin Hamilton, Mike & Deb Harris & Bette Schaefer.. The September 18th meeting will be hosted by Connie Reynolds & Linda Everingham.



- 01 David & Jennifer McSurley
- 14 Brian & Julie Phillips
- 15 Chance & Lynsey Daley
- 18 Robert & Chris Adams



- 01 Gabrielle Chadwick
- 01 Roy Gropp
- 02 Jordan Cuadrado
- 03 Steven Wasielewski
- 04 Gretchen Krivak
- 06 Troy Porter
- 08 Matthew Martin
- 13 Carol Schuck-Dillon
- 13 Helen Bennitt
- 14 Lyndsey Koch
- 15 Kaitlyn Lullenberg
- 15 Andrew Davis
- 15 Luke Lenig
- 16 Jeannee Nordin
- 16 Aaron Lullenberg
- 17 Brennan Syverson
- 17 Tim Black
- 19 James Dare
- 21 Mike Baird
- 24 Stephanie Williamson
- 26 Barbara K. Davis
- 27 Herbert Scofield
- 27 Ann Gropp

28 James Chadwick  
28 Melissa Kolanowski



If you have a need or you know someone that needs prayers, Call Pastor JoEllyn and she will relay to the next person to activate the Prayer Chain. Pastor JoEllyn's Cell phone # for After Hours Emergency & Prayer Chain Request  
**(219)-363-5061**



**September**  
**FOOD PANTRY Requests**  
Always Need plastic bags

Peanut Butter, Jelly,  
Canned Green Beans, Any Box Cereal  
**PANTRY UPDATE**

**DOLLAR FOR DOGS**

The August 31 Dollar for Dogs was a success because of you..  
Thank you to those who made & donated baked goods or volunteered to work this Fundraising Event...

**5 K RUN, WALK SEPTEMBER 21**

This event is held at St. John Kanty Church on 600E. The run or walk is around Saugany Lake. Participation entry sheets will be available at the church or on the web site. Pam Pask is in charge of this event. More information will be available but keep the date on your calendar.

Copy & paste the link below for more details & online registration..

<https://www.active.com/rolling-prairie-in/running/distance-running-races/feed-the-hungry-5k-walk-run-and-8-mile-run-2019?fbclid=IwAR2R06kubxfTpy57w3zfCYGU4TE30ddMLqzxZZk8KmfUfGblxdhwa-WqGo>

**TRIVIA, SILENT AUCTION AND SUPPER**

**OCTOBER 12, 2019 3PM - 7PM**

Instead of the Port-a-Pit, this event is replacing it. It will be held at the RP United Methodist church.



By Penny Derucki

On August 13, our Vice-President Bette Schaefer, opened our meeting and led us in prayer: Heavenly Father, Thank-You for the food before us, and the hands that prepared it, the friends that you have set beside us, the love we have between us and most of all for YOUR presence among us. We enjoyed fresh fruit, zucchini bread and egg and sausage breakfast bakes provided by our hostess Bette Schaefer. We received a donation from the Wasielewski family for the funeral dinner that was prepared for them and this thank-you card : "To the special Ladies and gentlemen of RPUMC, I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for all the work you put in to make my husband's memorial the special life celebration that it was. The luncheon dinner was delicious and I'll be forever grateful for the time spent and memories shared during that meal. Thank you all so much - God Bless you.." With much love, Laken & the boys.....  
Our Program today given by Connie Galloway, talks about something that we all might have heard at one time or another, "if there is a God, why do bad things happen to good people?" God created this world to be perfect, and He created it with no evil, no death, and no sickness. The most important thing about God and how he created us though is that he created us to have free will. Adam

and Eve were the creation of God's very hands. They knew exactly where they came from, yet they questioned Him. There was one rule he asked them to follow. "Do not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil or you will surely die" Eve looked at the fruit and saw it was pleasing to the eye and then she began to make up her own truth, "Surely we will not die." And then she ate and Adam ate and the relationship between God and man was changed forever, as sin and death began to reign because God loved us enough to let us choose if we wanted to live by His standards or live our lives the way we want to. Someone has wisely said, "There are no unanswered prayers; some are answered, "Yes", some "No", and the rest "Not yet." The story, *The Lost Kitten*, that Connie shared with us was an answered prayer. Jeff and his Mom had searched the neighborhood, put ads in the newspaper and on the radio. His mom thought she had done everything, she knew how to do, except *pray...* *She had forgotten to pray about the lost kitten. She was a new Christian, and not yet used to letting god help me with life's problems.* The kitten was found, an amazing answer to prayer and the sequence of events that had brought it about. A story about making prayer our *first resource* rather than our *last resort*. Taken from *A Women's guide to Spiritual Power through Scriptural Prayer*.  
From our Prayer Calendar, the **Mission Focus** for today takes us to Israel/Palestine. YWCA. Young Women Advocates for Peace-equipping 25 young women to be peace leaders, advocates, and justice workers to increase women's participation in the peace process. Mark your calendars-Euchre night & Taco Bar Saturday, September 21,

2019, 5pm-9pm at the church. Cost to play is \$10.00, includes TACO BAR & snacks-cash prizes

We will travel to Barbara Parker's home for our September 14 (Saturday) meeting. We will meet at 9:15 am at the church.

### From July Meeting:

On July 16, 2019, the United Methodist Women came together in friendship and fellowship. Our President, Barbara Parker, welcomed everyone. We read together our Purpose and enjoyed biscuits and gravy and fresh fruit provided by our hostess for today, Barbara Parker. Pastor JoEllyn introduced our guest speaker for today, Fern Eddy Schultz, La Porte County Historian. Her Program for today, introduced us to **HELEN JONALINE WILK**. The Wilk Family members were always very active in the First Methodist Church in La Porte. Helen went as a missionary to the Philippines in 1925. You can read, "The Rest of the Story" in this newsletter. It is interesting that the *Mission Witness* for today from our *Prayer Calendar*, comes from Larry Schmitz, Global Missionary from Missouri serving in Atlanta. He writes-Missionaries are attentive and attending, tuned in and responding to the world's needs. We are listening ears, shoulders of support and hiking partners on the trail of life. We are not the solution. We are God's tools for a crying world.

One of my favorite songs is *Here I Am, Lord*, pg. 593 in our hymnal. *Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.* When we come together in prayer, holding hands of sisters, we ask God to lead us. We pray for your guidance, not only on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month

or only on Sunday but today and each and every day. Help us to continue to be listening ears and shoulders of support.

Mark your calendars for our **EUCHRE NIGHT & TACO BAR** – Saturday, September 21, 2019, 5pm-9pm (cst) at the church.

I found this article that Fern Eddy Schultz had written for the La Porte Herald-Argus on May 9, 2019. Early in the history of La Porte County, there were those attempting to promote the name of Kankakee for the village of Rolling Prairie. In fact, it was reported that one individual persisted in calling the village Kankakee until 1858 when he finally accepted the name of Rolling Prairie. There was, in fact, a location named Kankakee in the county although it was not widely publicized so its history has not been a well-known fact. There was a railroad whistle-stop in what is Johnson Township called Kankakee. It was a railroad stop located on Ind. 104, serviced by



the Lake Erie & Western (LE&W) line. This line had a local name of **Leave Early & Walk** as it had the reputation of traveling quite slow. Our next meeting will be August 13, 2019 at 9:30am at the church. Bette Schaefer will be our Hostess and Connie Galloway will give our Program. We invite you come join us in the **Circle of Sister's in Christ**. I promise you, this time spent together praying, caring and sharing, listening and learning, leaning-will make a difference in your day!

Come join us.... We'll be saving you a seat...



Thank You received from the Wozniak Family.. "To the whole congregation of our wonderful neighbor, the Church, My

family wants to thank you for the loving thoughts and for including us as your neighbors in faith... Thank you again, Dennis, Mary, and Terry Wozniak, Family of James...

Tom Wheatbrook for getting the big limb, that fell from tree during a storm, hauled away. Harold Carlson, for edging the sidewalk & other outside work...



Bruce Wordinger, for cleaning out the gutters at the parsonage..

Joe Pask for replacing bulbs on the outside of Church.

Sue Flagg for getting the wax up from the sanctuary carpet...

Marilyn Livinghouse for memorial garden upkeep.



Dan Hartwick for lending your tallness, in helping me with the Sign...

Bill Dare (Cancer),

Warren Harris (Health Issues, Mike/Deb Harris brother), Tammie Bealor (skin cancer, Art Schuck friend & caregiver) Carrie Chadwick (foot surgery, Pastor JoEllyn daughter) Jeff & Bobette Elkins (Recovering at home), Perry Oberholtzer (hip surgery, friend Pastor JoEllyn) Cheryl Clark (pneumonia,) Gigi Hunter, (Cancer, Cheryl's daughter & friends Pastor JoEllyn) Daniel Wesoloski (motorcycle accident Shawna @BSS stepson), Samuel (compartment syndrome, relative of family, Linda & Steve Everingham) Shawn Miller (home to recover, Chris Adams grandson-in-law) Mike McClelland (doing much better, Karen Rison brother) Jim Poole (Alzheimers &

lungs, brother Karen Fitzgerald & Steve Poole) Abigail Smith (21 yr old granddaughter Susan & Joe Knowlton, suffered a stroke) Dave Schaefer (knee pain), Virginia Bradford (recovering Back surgery), Diane Stienbarger (back surgery, Sue Flagg sister), Bob Lenters (Cancer & Heart, Ann Riedstra brother,) Brenda Crass (depression, daughter Kathy Crass), Joe & Susan Knowlton (health issues), Brad Nimitz (health issue, Sherry & Paul Iwaszewski son-in-law) Lloyd Knowlton (cancer, Joe/Susan Knowlton's brother) Joe Spence (health issues brother in law Joe Knowlton) Mike Harris (Chemo) Pam Dixon, Bette Elkins (Chemo,) Debbie Baughman (recovering back surgery, sister Bobette/Jeff Elkins) William Budig (cancer, friend Mason Phillips),

Continue to lift up those in our church family that are struggling with various health concerns who wish to not be named. Please keep their UNSPOKEN REQUESTS lifted in prayer, as God knows who each of them are and what it is they need. Give them strength Oh Lord, to deal with whatever their struggle... Let them feel your arms embracing them with your warm, wonderful, love.. Bless them with your Peace. Thank You, God....

If you want someone to remain on or add please fill out new request card or call Pastor JoEllyn or Bette 219-778-2910

Lord, Enlighten what's dark in me, Strengthen what's weak in me, Mend what's broken in me, Bind what's bruised in me, Heal what's sick in me and lastly Revive whatever Peace and Love has died in me....

Garrett Obenchain US Air Force Reserves Son of Jeremy & Stephanie Grandson Art & Rose Lenig

Jacob Adams US Army- States grandson Chris Adams  
Craig Carlson, (pilot) US Air Force son Harold & Carrie Carlson  
Matthew Chadwick US Army - son Lester & JoEllyn Chadwick

Michael Showalter Marines, grandson Wayne & Shirley Kirkham  
Matthew Rompca Air Force nephew Shirley & Wayne Kirkham



Katelyn Williamson  
U S Marines  
Daughter of Al and granddaughter of Jim Williamson  
If you have someone serving and would

like on our prayer list please let Bette know...

Please lift all those serving our country, who are struggling, for whatever the reason; being alone, illness, divorce, loss of job, loss of loved ones, going through the firsts after death of loved one. Give thanks for everything.... Hear our Prayers, Oh Lord!

Thank you to those who have given to the Kings Club to support the missions of our church.



No Kings Club this month...



No Health letter this month

One thing I love about God is He will bring you out of situations you got yourself into, and won't hold it against you



## YEE-HAW Vacation Bible School

Was an amazing success.. It was so much fun... 21 kids galloped around the RPUMC Frontier kicking up their heels and learning about how "God Gives Good Gifts" "YEE-HAW".. Every time you heard the phrase "God Gives Good Gifts" you were to yell "YEE-HAW" and "YEE-HAW" was heard a gazillion times over the two days...

The children registered first with Miss Karen Fitzgerald, & Miss Bobette Elkins, to get their YEE-HAW name badges, & gang affiliation. Each was given a Cowboy hat & neck scarf.

VBS started & ended the day in the Music Hall (Sanctuary) with everyone. Pastor Jo



was the Music Crew Leader.



Joy to the World,  
All That I Am,  
Silent Night,  
Thankful, To God  
Be the Glory  
were practiced  
with signs of the  
words of the  
songs, that was  
presented at a  
special Sunday Worship Service..

There were 3 assigned groups,  
Saddle Up, Giddy UP & Go, & Round  
UP Gang. Each group would be  
escorted to a station either Bible  
Adventures, Inside Crafts, or Outside  
Games, by a Crew Leader, until each  
group went to each station  
for the day..

We had a Chuck Wagon, where our  
Grub Crew, provided a delicious  
spread of Grub for the two days.. The  
menu included Hot Dogs (Mon) Ham  
Sliders (Tues),  
fruit,  
raw  
veggies  
& dip,  
chips,  
and



fruit,  
raw  
veggies  
& dip,  
chips,  
and

they  
could  
get a  
drink  
from  
the  
old watering hole. And of course a  
sweet treat of a Chocolate Covered  
Potato Chip Cowboy Hat, Straw Bales  
(rice crispy squares), Hay stacks  
(Chinese  
noodles  
mixed in  
melted  
butterscotch  
chips)



For the Crew Leaders they were  
offered wonderful salads..

There was a bit of disruption the first  
day! Everyone received a gold coin  
to pay for their grub when registering  
and Sheriff Scott & his deputies



Aiden &  
Brandon had  
an eagle eye  
peeled to  
watch for  
anyone not  
putting in the  
gold coin to  
pay for the

grub. However, Pastor Jo, was set up,  
and unaware that she needed to pay  
for her grub. She was not given a coin



and when Sheriff Scott saw she  
didn't drop a gold coin in the jar



him & his deputies hauled her off to  
the..

RPUMC **YEE-HAW** Jail... Needless  
to say she was quite shocked, and



asked  
what she  
did to be  
arrested,  
but when  
told of  
her



offense, she confessed that indeed  
she did  
not pay  
for her  
lunch

and went without resistance. The  
children followed her out to the Jail,  
and they came to her rescue & paid  
her bail, by yelling in their loudest  
voices...

"God Gives Good Gifts".."YEE-HAW"  
Convincing Sheriff Scott to release  
her. Another shocking arrest was



made again on  
Tuesday, by Sheriff  
Scott & his  
deputies, Alana &  
Sophia. Miss  
Gretchen, was

escorted to  
the "YEE-  
HAW JAIL",  
for not  
showing up  
for VBS the  
first day,



Monday, much to the distress of her



son Grant.  
His sister,  
Grace, did  
her best  
to console  
the  
distraught  
Grant at

seeing his mom getting arrested. The  
children once again shouted

**"God Gives Good Gifts" "YEE-HAW"**  
to secure her release.. Which made



Grant, a  
very  
happy  
cowboy...  
YEE-HAW  
Gang

leaders escorted the kids around to  
the various stations;  
Bible Stories with Miss Sue. The first  
day was about the birth of Jesus . She  
told of how our world is filled with  
such good things. She then passed  
around warm, wonderful smelling  
chocolate chip cookies, and gave  
each kid a soft cuddly blanket. She  
told them Jesus left the comfort &  
glory of heaven to be born a baby.

But not a baby born in a comfy palace with soft blankets, a soft bed & warm delicious smelling cookie but a baby born to be wrapped in rough cloth, & laid on a bed of scratchy straw in a smelly stable.. To



emphasize, she had them give back the soft

blankets, & had them touch the scratchy straw, & because there were no McDonald's around or ways to keep food fresh, when Jesus was born, she also took the cookies away & gave them a plate of yucky bananas. "EWWWW" The second day they learned about betrayal and how

Jesus was betrayed by a friend. He went to the garden, knowing that was the very place he would be betrayed, to pray to his Father. Jesus knew after the betrayal he would be arrested, he'd be treated horribly, and nailed to a cross.. Jesus' family & friends could only watch it happen, unable to stop it. They were so sad & upset. Just like we get sometimes.

But Jesus' going to the cross, even though He knew what His fate was going to be, was one of those "God Gives Good Gifts" (YEE-HAW),



moments.. The Children were given a stone, which are usually hard & dirty, like sin.

What if you had to carry around a bunch of stones, representing every wrong thing you did? mean thoughts, disobey your parents, not so nice to brother, sister, friends. It would be unbearable.. But Jesus made a way for us to be forgiven. At

the foot of the cross, Give those stones (sins) to Jesus.

**"God Gives Good Gifts" (YEE-HAW)**

The children made sand necklaces, using plastic boots & hearts on



Monday and on Tuesday, a horse puppet out of

paper plates. The children were very



creative when making the puppets. Some had 3 eyes, or eyes where eyes



really shouldn't be, one ear, an upside down mouth, or floppy ears..

The kids ran off energy with



the outside games ...

Each team had a bucket filled with pom-poms. The children were to take the pom-poms from their bucket and put them in the others bucket, the goal being to empty their buckets.

The buckets, however, never ran out of pom-poms, just like **"God's Good Gifts (YEE-HAW)"** never run out..

The Cowboys & Cowgirls had to cross a river with raging rapids, without being tagged by a River Rapid. If they did get tagged they had to stand still until one of there team mates could



rescue them, otherwise they would be stranded in the river waiting a rescue. We all get stranded once in a while, and it is such a relief when rescue comes. Sometimes the biggest rescues are the kind only God could provide. The greatest rescue being that of His only Son, Jesus..

**"God Gives Good Gifts (YEE-HAW)"**

We had a splashy water game challenge. 3 Cowboys



against 6 Cowgirls. The girls had small cups; the boys had a small bucket. The goal was to see which team could fill their bucket first.. The boys won first. Girls said not fair they



had bigger water movers. So did another round, but this time the boys had same size cups as girls, but since more girls, boys got 2 cups.. Still the boys won. Both teams had



advantages & disadvantages. One team had more on team, while the other had bigger water movers. Both were



given ways to move the water.. When we compare gifts God places in our lives to gifts God places in others, we can sometimes focus on what we don't have instead of what we do have.

What good things do you have in your lives? Friends, a loving Family, loyal pets, and a God who loves you.



At the end of two days the kids were given goodie backpack bags and those soft, cuddly blankets...



So remember when you hear "God Gives Good Gifts" yell YEE-HAW!!



The Children had their picture taken in the YEE-HAW Jail..



Which appeared great fun to them

**Big**  **to:**

Scott Thieme for constructing the Jail and for being Sheriff, Bruce Wordinger for



the fence to keep those rascally, cardboard animals corralled.. Thank you to all the ladies who gave the extra horse-power during "YEE-HAW" Vacation Bible School & made it a wonderful two days of fun for all ... Karen Fitzgerald for planning the YEE-



HAW VBS & the Cowboy Hats & Scarfs &

backpacks of goodies. Bobette Elkins for the scarfs. Karen, Maryann Montgomery & Alisa for being the Craft Leaders. Pastor



JoEllyn for

lending her amazing voice in leading the Music and for coming up with the different positions & signs used for the songs. Jackie Wheatbrook & Linda Everingham for serving the delicious grub you brought & prepared.



Penny Melton for being extra Grub

server. Roseann Woolverton for the delicious & creative sweet treats, Bobette, Karen Rison, Lauri Ray, & Sue Syverson for filling in wherever was needed.. Sue Flagg for the soft, cuddly



blankets, & for being VBS Bible Story Teller.

Courtney Masek for donation of sand for the boots & hearts.....



Cheryl Lenig & Gretchen Krivak, for leading the outside



games & explaining what the outcomes of the games meant, and their helpers Jackson, who also assisted in taking videos & pictures, & Olivia..



Deb Harris, Rose Lenig & Pam Dixon for leading the children to their next VBS



Adventure for the two days and being grub monitors during lunch. Mike Harris for supplying the watering hole so the kids, both young & old could get cold drinks to quench their



thirsts...And of course to all the kids who came, Grace, Grant, Maddie, Alana, Kayla, Sophia, Gregory, Owen, Ellie, Johanna, MacKenzie, Brianna, Violet, Elizabeth, Olivia, Aiden, Brandon, Piper, Gunner, Eliza, Allison, and kept us older kids feeling young again...and helping us appreciate, naptime...

It was great fun to be part of this VBS.. Hearing the laughter, seeing the smiles.. It was a fantabulously fun experience. Bring on Next Year, We are ready!!!

More Pictures of Vacation Bible School can be found on the Church Website [www.umcrp.org](http://www.umcrp.org)

.. Video of Pastor & Gretchen being arrested can be seen on Rolling Prairie United Methodist Church Facebook page.. I am working on getting the video's taken during VBS on website...



Thank you to all who donated in any way, helping with set-up, tear down. A special Thank You to New Carlisle UMC for banner, animals & help.

One last thought.... Pastor JoEllyn & myself have now been in our respective positions here at RPUMC, for 2 years now.. Over these last 2 years it has been a learning curve for both of us..In my humble opinion, we make a great team & complement each other's strong suits. We run on the same time, a bit late.. We both love to sing, She sings wonderfully, me not at all... I keep hoping that some of her voice rubs off on me but so far no such luck, but there's always next year.. I believe we are very blessed to have JoEllyn as our Pastor. She is a warm, caring, loving, woman who loves God, and through her messages, shows us who He is to us. Our Father, who loves us always, Our Savior, who gave His life so we would have life, Our Anchor & Strong Tower, during the storms of life, which at times feel like they are about to pull us under. Ready or not, Here we come year 3 hope you are ready for us...



God Gives Good Gifts.. Come on! You know What is next!

Happy Labor Day!