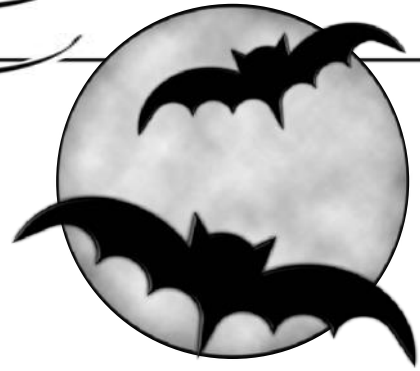


Jarrett's Jottings



Dear Friends,

I love the fall season. I enjoy seeing the autumn colors burst into view, as well as the change from hot and humid to much cooler temperatures. In many ways, fall is a season of change for Creation. This change is good, as it allows Creation to maintain its balance and to prepare for a new season of growth that will come quickly. Just as our natural environment is undergoing some change, there are changes that are, and will be, happening in the life of the church that are important for you to know about. I know change, especially within the church is not often looked upon favorably—it can cause a bit of anxiety, challenge our comfort, and ask us to adjust to something “new”. Be that as it may, I am convinced that these changes are for the best, and have the power to prepare for us a wonderful season of growth.

The biggest change that will be seen will center around a renewed vision for the ministry of our church. I wonder...do you know what the vision for our church is? Do you think the church even HAS a vision? If I'm honest with you, and with myself—I'm not sure that we've been operating out of any sort of vision or with much purpose beyond worship on Sunday and doing what we've always done. I'm guilty of not leading with or toward any vision. Just as I bear the responsibility for not doing this in the past, I also bear the responsibility to change (there's that dirty word!). You might remember that several months back I wrote about the assembling of a team that would help discern and articulate a fresh vision for our church. That hasn't happened because of an “Ah-ha” moment that I've had. I realized, thanks to the wisdom of a pastor whom I greatly respect, that as pastor, it was MY job to cast and steward a vision for where the church is going; to pass it off to others is to abdicate part of my responsibility. Thanks to that wisdom, and the question of one of our congregation that asked me directly what my vision is for the church, I have a vision for our church—an answer for how we live out our mission of connecting to Jesus—and it goes like this: *First UMC will be a vibrant community of faith that is committed to worshipping God, intentionally growing as disciples of Jesus Christ, and compassionately serving our community and our world.* I believe this best expresses what the church is about AND helps to provide focus and clarity as we seek to be the church God has called us to be. I promise...this is not the last you will be hearing about this vision. We will be talking and sharing about it constantly. This is what will

drive how I provide leadership to the church. Everything we do will be based on living into this vision. Will you do me a favor? Will you join me in praying over and around this vision? Will you pray for me that I might have grace and wisdom in leadership and that God might continuously show us how we might live into this vision? Thank you!

In order to help facilitate living into this vision, another change that we will be undergoing is a change in how decisions are made and things “get done”—both from an administrative and ministry standpoint. For as long as anyone can remember, local United Methodist Churches have been structured with an inordinate amount of committees. Some of you have served on many, if not all, of those committees—THANK YOU for all you have given to the church. Our current reality, though, makes it difficult to justify continuing to do things the way they've always been done. There are some things that have to go through as many as three committees in order to be put into place. There is a more efficient way. Beginning in January, our leadership and decision-making will be led by four ministry teams—each charged with a specific area of focus. Those four teams, and their areas of focus are as follows*:

- **Administrative**—will take care of the day-to-day operations; will be responsible for all tasks currently assigned to Trustees, Finance, and PPRC.
- **Nurture and Hospitality**—will be charged with leading us in caring for and connecting us to one another.
- **Outreach and Mission**—will be responsible for helping lead the church in connecting those currently outside the church with Jesus Christ.
- **Worship and Discipleship**—will be responsible for helping us to connect personally with Jesus.

*These areas of focus are very broad as of this writing; our current church council will be working diligently over the next couple of months to articulate a clear focus for each ministry team.

So...how are these teams going to be put together and get off the ground? Great question! I am a firm believer that God has given each of us passions and abilities to serve the church. Rather than a few people sitting in a room and calling a list of people to ask them to sit on a committee, these ministry teams (with the exception of Administration) will be formed through self-nomination—in other words, you will have the opportunity to indicate your passion your desire to serve. That will take place in the near future. Be on

Continue on 4th page...

The Mustard Seed

October

Ministry Team:

Pastor ~ Jarrett Wells

Office Manager ~

Maria Hymes

Pianist/Organist ~

Jill Roegge

Choral Director ~

Tim Bartholomew

Financial Secretary ~

Lynne O'Hara

Treasurer ~

Susan Treadway

Youth Director ~

Andrea Wells

Custodian ~

Tonya White

Sunday Services:

Worship Service ~

9:00 a.m.

Sunday School ~

10:30 a.m.

Phone ~ 217-323-1257

E-mail ~

beardsumc@sbcglobal.net

Website ~

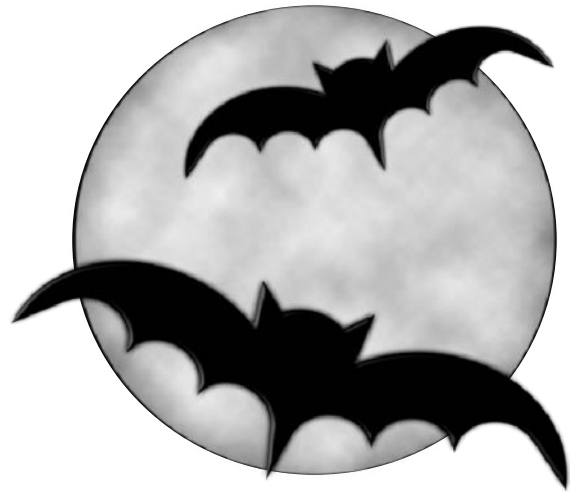
beardstownfumc.com

"Like" us on Facebook ~

Beardstown First UMC

Birthdays

- 1 Greg Cordell
- 2 Megan Swan
- 3 Jacob Janssen
- 4 Jody Cowen
- 6 Owen O'Hara
- 10 Sheena Kight Garlich
- 12 Lois White
Bob Walters
Bryan Cagle
Julie Taylor
William Spears
Chase Vermillion
- 14 Barb Walton
Randi Huey
- 15 Scott Vermillion
Jason Wells
- 16 Jared Rohn
Amber McClenning
Gwen Thomas
Sue Bonansinga
- 17 Tiffany Taylor
Brittany Chrzanowski
- 18 Connie Starkey
- 20 Clayton Coleman
- 22 Karen Lerch
Chad Taylor
- 23 Morgan Davidsmeier Hankal
- 24 Matt Logsdon
- 25 Larry Kight
- 26 Wilbur Morrow
- 29 John Elam
Bill Trone
- 30 Nancy Dalpiaz



Anniversaries

- 2 Tom & Vicky Taylor
Scott & Jennifer Schaeffer
- 3 Wilbur & Ann Morrow
- 4 Paul & Amy Davidsmeyer
- 5 Bill & Tonya White
Bill & Jill Trone
- 6 Bill & Patsy Barnhart
Jerry & Donna Rohn
Eric & Lorie Chrzanowski
- 11 Michael & Jamie Park
- 13 Chris & Brittney Taylor
- 21 Roy & Danah Hurst
- 24 Sergio & Peggy Ruiz
- 27 John & Mita Elam

Liturgist

- 6 Lynne O'Hara
- 13 Jerry Rohn
- 20 Mitzi McClenning
- 27 Andrea Wells

Greeters

- 6 Randi Kirchner & Kathleen Quigley
- 13 Randi Kirchner & Peg Burgett
- 20 Beverly Hauschlidt & Amy Sommers
- 27 Randi Kirchner & Peg Burgett

Communion

- OCTOBER:** Fawn Rohn
Servers: Michael, Heather & Brayden Booth
- NOVEMBER:** Gary & Carol Jeffers
Servers: Dick & Karen Robinson
Jody Cowen



Christian Love In Action

Currently C.L.I.A. is in need of: **Canned Vegetables and Canned Fruit**. You can bring your donated items to the church or directly there. Hours are: Tuesdays from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Thank you for donations. If you would like to contribute but don't have time / remember to shop, you can give money to Lynne O'Hara and she will pick up the items.

Local Missions

The Local Missions met in July and voted to donate \$500 to each of the following: *4:12 Youth Group, Beardstown Student Council—Jr. High, and Stan Korse-meyer Foundation*. Local Missions will meet again on October 6th. Those scheduled are: *Jean Olson, Paula Kloker Jim & Marilyn Ritter, Dennis & Cyndie Hack*.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- **Local Missions:** Sunday, October 6th at 10:30 a.m.
- **Board of Trustees:** Sunday, October 13th at 11:30 a.m.
- **Church Council:** Sunday, October 20th at 11:30 a.m.

Cass County Food Pantry

The Cass County Food Pantry is another place that helps Cass County residents in need of food. To help with their mission, they are asking churches for donations for the month of **OCTOBER: Stuffing Mix, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Canned Pumpkin, Evaporated Milk, Cranberry Sauce**.

They are always in need of: **Peanut Butter, Jelly, Macaroni & Cheese, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Cereal, or Non-Perishable Food Items**. They have a walk in cooler or freezer to hold perishable items, and are able to take fresh produce items.

Pregnancy Resource Center

Below is what this year's ornament from Dough Delights looks like. This is the Pregnancy Resource Center's annual fund raiser, with the cost of \$15. If you are interested in placing an order please call the church office 323-1257. The bot-

tom has the family name and each penguins has individual names on their hats. You can have up to 12 names. Orders and money need to be placed by October 20th.



Everyone is invited to join us again this year for Trunk or Treat on October 31st, in the church parking lot. What is a "Trunk or Treat"? It's simply handing out treats to trick-or-treaters from the trunk of your car! More than that, though, it is a place where children, especially young children, can enjoy the Halloween tradition in a safe and controlled environment. The event will run from 4:00—6:00 p.m. that evening. So....grab your goodies (store bought!!), don your best Halloween costume, and maybe even decorate your trunk, and join us. It promises to be a great evening! See Pastor Jarrett or Andrea Wells if you have any questions

Ham Loaf Luncheon

It is time for our annual Autumn Ham Loaves Luncheon. Please join the UMW on Sunday, October 13th at 11:00 a.m. We will have ham loaves, au gratin potatoes, green beans and desserts. There will be a free will offering for the meal. Left over ham loaves will be sold. We will be needing helpers and food donations, there will be a sign up sheet on the table by the Annex at the church. We will have a work day on Saturday, October 12th at 10:30 a.m. If you have any questions please contact the office (323-1257) or Julie Looker.

Nut Orders

Thank you to everyone who sold nuts this year. Please turn in your order forms and money by Sunday, October 6th. When they come in, we will need help sorting them. More details to come on that. Will plan to have them here before Thanksgiving. Thank you.

Charge Conference

This year our charge conference will be in Mt. Sterling United Methodist Church at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 6th. This is open to everyone who wishes to attend.

Operation Shoebox

Yes, it is to early to think about Christmas, however, to get the gifts out in time we need to start thinking about Operation Christmas Child. I will have the brochures which include the labels on the table by the Annex. This will give you helpful tips, and information for the boxes. They will need to be at the church by November 17th. Thank you.

Church Council Minutes

The administrative Council met on Sunday, September 22nd, 2019, at 11:30 a.m. Those present were: Pastor Jarrett Wells, Ron Blakeman, Susan Treadway, Lynne O'Hara, Julie Looker, John Chambers, Georgeanne Osmer, Andrea Wells and Brittney Taylor.

Pastor Jarrett opened with prayer. Lynne O'Hara gave the devotions with a reading "Talking to God". Lynne O'Hara will have devotions for the next meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were approved with a correction on the date of last months meeting on a motion by Lynne O'Hara, seconded by John Chambers.

- **Trustees:** There are some tiles down in Wesley Hall due to a plaster problem. Herter will take care of that when he fixes the roof over the kitchen. Ron will find an electrician to correct the outlets in the kitchen.
- **Old Business:** Andrea Wells is meeting with 4th St. Lutheran re: youth group restructuring. The study lab continues to have a problem attracting students. Brittney suggested revisiting it at the end of the semester.
- **New Business:** Pastor Parish will meet with employees this week to go over job descriptions. The endowment committee made some changes to diversify the hold-

ings. Elections for officers for the UMW was held and Bree McClenning will be the incoming President. The budget for 2020 was presented so it can go to Charge Conference. Pastor spoke regarding a vision for the church. On a motion by Georgeanne Osmer, seconded by Julie Looker, we will continue with a team approach and work with that over the coming months to get implemented.

- **Disbursements from New Life Trust:**

- ◆ \$29,921.79 ~ 4th Quarter Distribution from New Life Trust
- ◆ \$10,000.00 ~ UM General Fund to repay Memorial Fund
- ◆ \$3,668.00 ~ Illinois Great Rivers Conference—2 months Claims
- ◆ \$4,808.00 ~ Scranton Plumbing and Heating
- ◆ **Local Missions:**
 - * \$500.00 ~ Jr. High Student Council
 - * \$500.00 ~ Stan Korsmeyer Scholarship Fund
 - * \$500.00 ~ 4:12 Youth Group

As all have been approved by the Trustees, on a motion by Julie Looker, they were accepted. The next meeting will be on October 20th at 11:30 a.m. Pastor Wells closed with prayers.

Respectfully Submitted, Susan Treadway

Continued from Jarrett's Jottings page...

the lookout for it. In the meantime, while you're praying over our vision, will you pray about where God might be calling you to serve? I know it's risky, and it's new, and there's LOTS of uncertainty; but when we step out in faith, God provides all we need!

The final thing I want to share with you is the POTENTIAL of change involving our Sunday morning service. As many of you know, we are in the process (as of this writing) of having a brand-new audio/visual system installed. With this system will come capabilities and possibilities that did not exist with our previous system. One of the best capabilities we will have will be the online streaming of our entire worship service. To do this might involve us making a few modifications to the way things are done. Along these lines, absolutely nothing is set in stone on being changed; but the potential exists. Those decisions will be made as we go along, and as we become more familiar with all the capabilities we will have. Any changes that are made will be communicated in advance, to allow for as much preparation as possible.

I am fully aware that what has been shared in this space can be overwhelming. Even the mere thought of change can cause a certain amount of anxiety. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me. In closing, let me say that I am over-the-moon excited. I am excited at the possibilities of what could be; I am excited about all that God can do through this congregation. I am excited to be on the journey of following Jesus with each of you. I can't wait to see all that God has in store for us!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jarrett

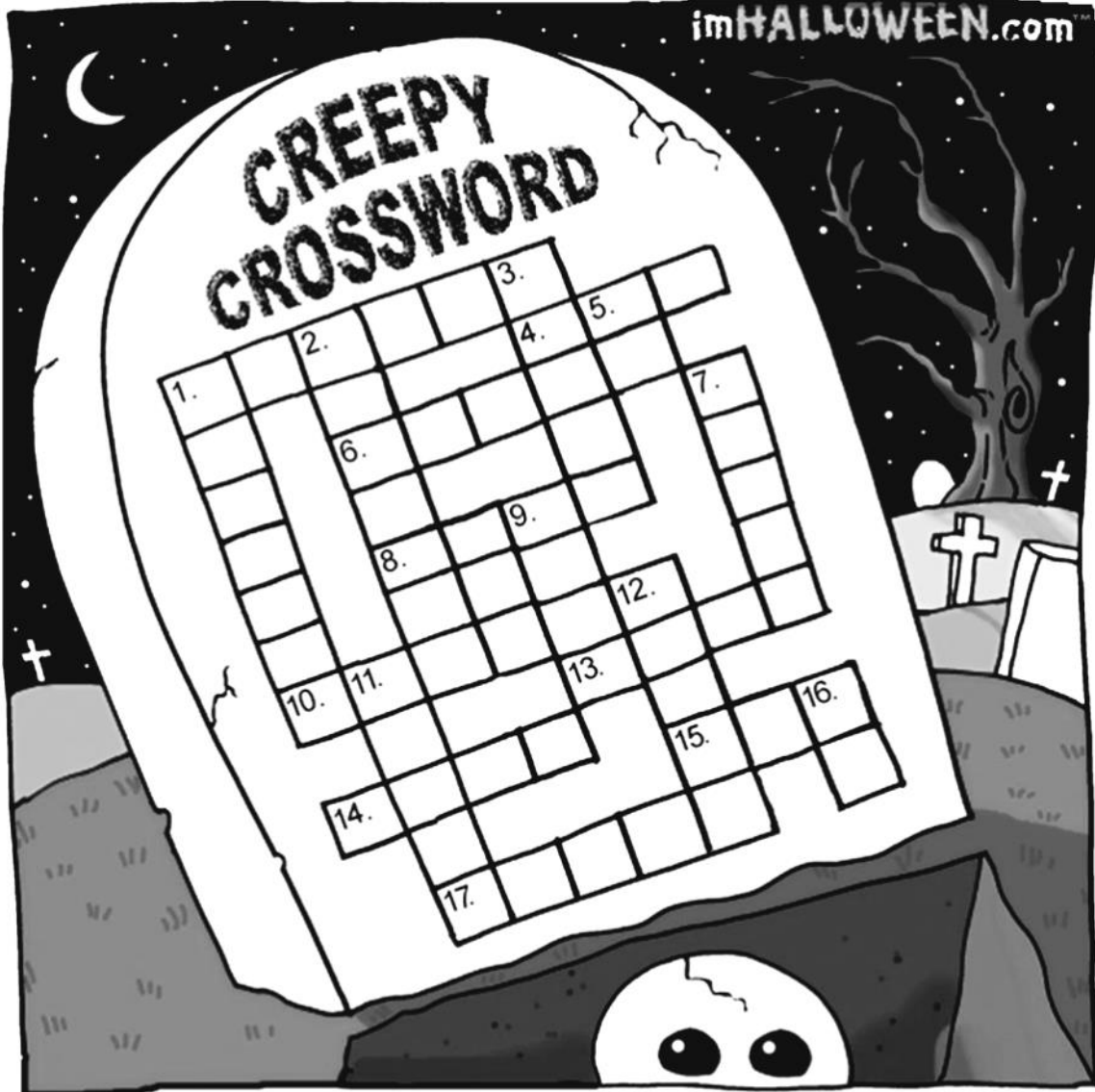
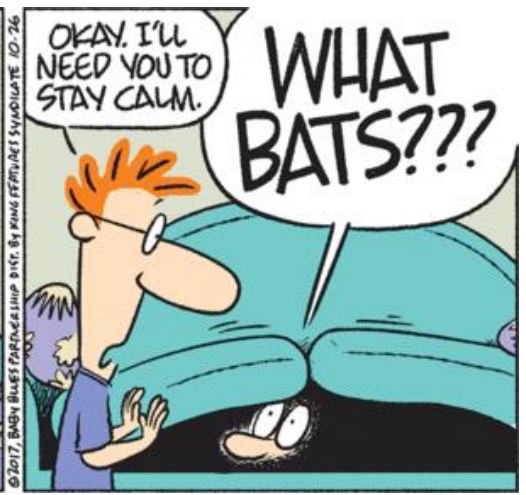
thank
thank
you!

October is Pastor Appreciation month! Don't forget to thank Pastor Jarrett for all he does!

Shop With Christ

We had our annual Shop with Christ event at Walmart last month. We served hot dogs and water to those waiting in line before going in. We gave out around 200 gift cards. Thank you to everyone who helped out in anyway.





ACROSS

1. They say boo.
4. furry mammal
6. trick-or-_____
8. Every _____ loves Halloween.
10. When you get scared, you might _____.
13. A witch might have a _____ on her nose.
14. I _____ who you are in that costume.
15. Halloween is a fun time for every _____.
17. You might hear screams and _____ on Halloween.

DOWN

1. You collect these on Halloween night.
2. Halloween month
3. Some people dress up to be _____.
5. You can buy your costume _____ the store.
7. You dress up on Halloween _____.
9. Halloween pictures are fun to _____.
11. You eat this on Halloween.
12. You wear these on your face on Halloween.
16. Trick-or-treating is fun to _____.

Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the Lord your God, for He has given you the autumn rains because He is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and

spring rains, as before.

—Joel 2:23



Bearstown First United Methodist Church
415 S. State St.
Bearstown, IL 62618
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