



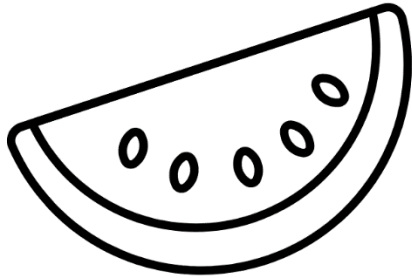
Fennimore
Stitzer
United
Methodist
Church

1450 Second Street
Fennimore, WI 53809

August 2024 Newsletter

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NEWSLETTER



Lead Lives Worthy of the Lord

“So that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God.” (Colossians 1:10) The saints in Colossae heard the good news through Epaphras, a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. He was one of several pastors and leaders who worked under the leadership of the Apostle Paul. It was through him that he got the information on how things were going inside the church in Colossae. Today I want to share with you what God called the Colossians to be as part of Christ's body...the church.

Verse 10 says that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord. We require elected officials to behave according to their investiture. Therefore, someone who is the President of the United States or any other government official, a police officer, or an ambassador of any country, is required to conduct his life according to the laws and protocols of the nation he or she is representing. We expect that anyone in a certain role will act accordingly with the moral and ethical values expected of that person.

Nowadays, moral standards in our society are declining rapidly and many people get away with unlawful activities that several years ago was impossible for people to get away with such behavior. There are legislators who are proposing laws that are impossible to believe that our society has changed so much that people could get away with those things. The same is true with

the Christian church and society. Today society is influencing the church instead of the church influencing society!

Christians are called to be disciples of Jesus Christ. A disciple is someone who emulates his teacher. So, we are living worthy of the Lord when we follow Him and when we follow His example. He preached the Word of the Lord. He loved and served the Jewish people, as well as non-Jewish people. He honored His Father God with all that He did and said. He did everything according to His Father God. Jesus honored His Father and the Holy Spirit by obeying God's will for Him. Therefore, Jesus was living worthy of the Lord God. He was doing the things God told him to do.

The words that follow say it all: “Fully pleasing him”. Are we fully pleasing the Lord God with all that we do, or we are pleasing ourselves. Colossians 3:17 says, “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Nothing brings us more satisfaction than when we please our Father God. From the time when I was 5 years old, my parents used to send me to buy things at the store.

My father instructed me to go and buy for him only good products. If I brought him oranges or bananas that were not good, he sent me back to the store to return the produce. I had the task to keep searching in other stores until I brought him what he liked. I learned to please my father by buying the things that he liked. In the same way, we need to learn from the Lord the things that he loves to see in us so we are able to please him in all circumstances.

As we please the Lord God, we bear fruit in every good work. The whole universe was created by God to produce good results. In our case, the Lord is calling that result “fruit.” God wants you to bear fruit in every good work. In the same way God has designed trees that bear good fruit. In the same way he has created us to produce “fruit” for Him. You produce this good fruit when you serve others in the name of God, when you preach the Word of the Lord, or when you teach the Bible in Sunday School classes.

You produce good fruit when you help prepare and serve lunch for a funeral, or when you donate financial resources to support the mission of the church. You produce good fruit when you preach the Word of the Lord to your neighbors or when you serve the church in any of the activities where the church needs your help. There are so many people who call themselves Christians but are not bearing the fruit God is expecting from all of them. If you don't know how to produce fruit for the kingdom of God, please come to my office and let us have a conversation about it.

Finally, Paul said, "...as you grow in the knowledge of God." It doesn't matter your age, social status, or college degree, all of us need to be involved in a Bible study, so we can be growing in the knowledge of God.

God gives us the whole body. One part of the body is the brain. The brain is divided into many different parts, but the two mayor parts are the right and left side of the brain. The right controls the left side of our body and the left side controls the right side of our body. The brain can be trained so we can accomplish whatever we want to accomplish in life. Paul spoke specifically about growing in the knowledge of God...training our brains. We can only accomplish the things that we have been designed for.

When we receive the training for developing our brain by doing the tasks that will help us grow in the knowledge of God we are striving to do that which we are designed for. A computer is not designed to do all the functions God has created us humans for. Since the beginning of creation all societies that exist in the world have believed in educating children and young people so they can carry on the values of that society. When we are trained in the ways of the Lord, we are capable of leading lives worthy of the Lord.

We are pleasing Him in all that we do so we can bear good fruit and grow in the knowledge and wisdom of God. May God grant us wisdom that we may use it wisely every day. If you would like to respond to this column and start serving in one of the areas of ministry of this congregation please do so. Perhaps you may

want to become the coordinator of Christian Education Program or teach a Bible class as part of our educational program, we welcome you. Please, let Chelsea know if you are interested in serving the Lord in this or in any other area of ministry.

Pastor Rey Diaz

FENNIMORE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

August 2024

Article by JoAnn Wiederholt

United Methodist Women provided the meal for Vacation Bible School on July 24th. Our annual Salad Luncheon is on August 7th, the salad luncheon is being held earlier this year due to the early start of school. Thank you for all of the support we receive for our luncheon! Many parishioners donate food, help with set up and serving and of course enjoy our luncheon. We are also planning our Fall Coffee Hours. Some of our members also continue to volunteer at The Depot Exchange. Our Creation Team is busy making blankets/covers that are offered for sale. Our next meeting will be August 28th at 6pm.

August is the last month of summer and the hottest month of the year. It's so hot in August that even my ice cream is sweating! August is a good time to celebrate a good harvest and a good summer! August zodiac signs are Leo and Virgo. Interestingly, more babies are born in August than any other month. August is the only month without a holiday! August is named after Augustus Caesar, grandnephew of Julius Caesar, the first Roman Emperor. The Earl of Sandwich invented the sandwich in August of 1762.

Since August is our Salad Luncheon month, I am sharing a salad recipe submitted by my grandmother, Mary Johnson, from the 1996 Cookbook:

Fruit Salad

- 1 lg. can pineapple chunks
- 1 C. pineapple juice
- 2 sm. cans mandarin oranges
- 3 bananas, sliced in 1" pieces
- 1 pkg vanilla pudding (not instant)
- ¼ c. maraschino cherries, halved

Drain fruits well. Prepare pudding according to directions, using the 1 C. pineapple juice. Pour over the fruit hot; refrigerate, then add bananas.

Scripture:

Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 7:12

So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Romans 12:5

So we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

The scriptures teach us that everyone is valuable in the eyes of God, and we are called to reflect this value in our interactions and relationships. Inclusion is not just a societal concept but a biblical mandate, encouraging us to build communities where all are transformed, welcomed, valued, and loved.

Care Facility Residents

Please keep our residents in your prayers!

Divine Rehabilitation and Nursing

Vicki Quincy
Sue Lewison

Orchard Manor

Christina Cathman
Bill Rotramel
Doris Schneider

Morningside Assisted Living

Marilyn Brodt

Park Place Senior Living

Geraldine Croft
Duane Furrer
Joann Schrader
Anna Grunder

Riverside Transitional Care (Lacrosse)

Donna Blackburn

Aspire Senior Living (Oshkosh)

Harriet Brun

What did Jonah's family say when he told them about what happened before reaching Nineveh?

"Hmm, sounds fishy."

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

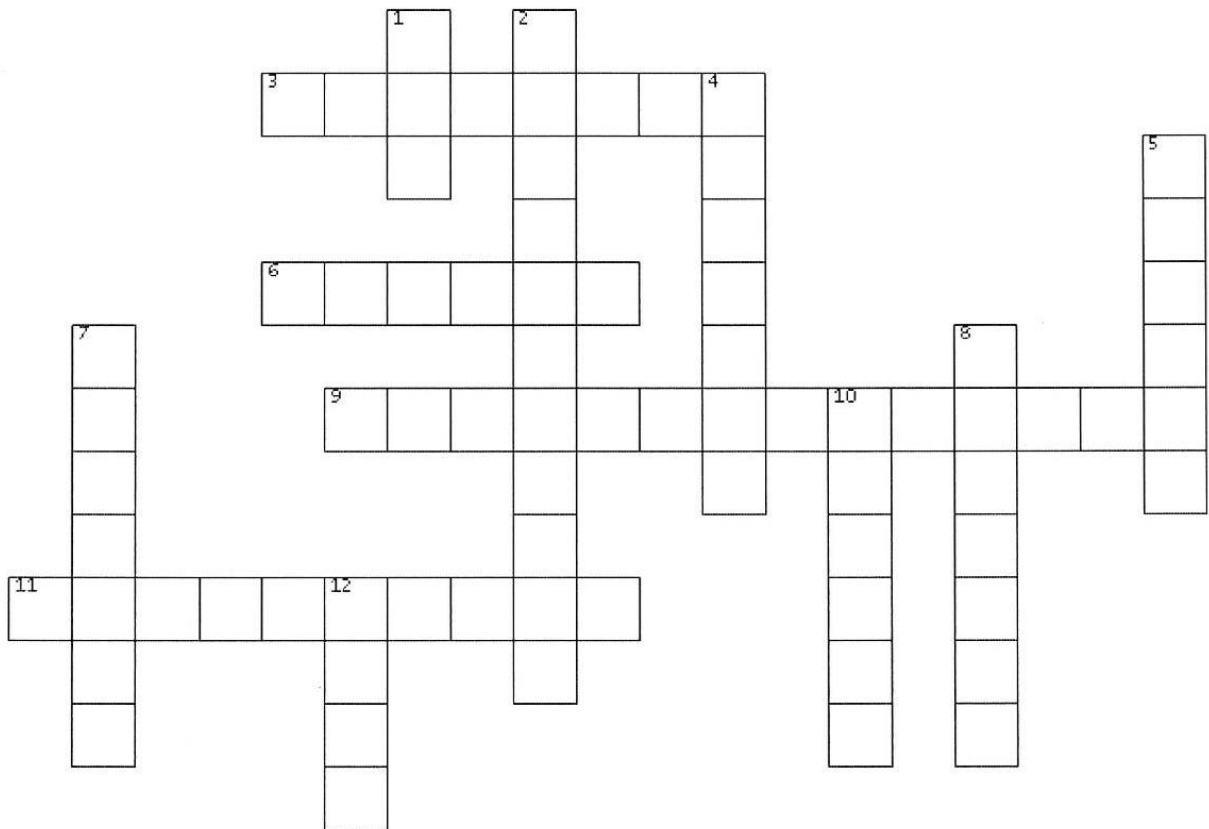
We had a GREAT time with our friends from St. Peter for "Twists and Turns" Vacation Bible School. We had 65 attendees and numerous Youth and Adult Volunteers. We learned that Jesus guides us through all the twists and turns of our lives! We also found out that even when we mess up, it's **never** "game over."



Thank You to **everyone** who helped in ANY capacity with VBS! If we helped introduce Christ into one child's life – it is all worth it!



A Repentance Crossword – NKJV



ACROSS

3. God's _____ leads one to repentance. (Rom. 2:4)
6. Joy is experienced here when a sinner repents. (Luke 15:7)
9. The prophet told Israel to turn away from these. (Ezek. 18:30)
11. Simon was told to repent of this. (Acts 8:22)

DOWN

1. He never has to repent. (Num. 23:19)
2. Some had not repented of this. (2 Cor. 12:21)
4. Jesus came to bring these people to repentance. (Matt. 9:13)
5. This happens to the person who does not repent. (Luke 13:3)
7. John preached the _____ of repentance. (Luke 3:3)
8. "Repent, for the _____ of God is at hand." (Matt. 3:2)
10. This leads one to repentance. (2 Cor. 7:9)
12. Job said he would repent in _____ and ashes. (Job 42:6)