

Church Update Weekly Newsletter
BOWMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Bowman, ND 58623
April 24, 2021

Message from Pastor Ray

Remembering

I hope this doesn't bother you too much as I kind of look back over this past school year from a pastor's perspective.

One of the most important things, I believe a pastor can do with his parish, is being supportive to the children and youth in the church. We love being able to go to the football, basketball, volleyball, track, baseball, rodeo, etc. events in support of our kids!

Last year was kind of a bust when most all of the sports events were cancelled during the second semester of school last year...but this year has been somewhat different especially since moving into 2021.

It is truly amazing to see the smiles on our children and youth's faces when they see Brenda and myself attending these events. To be quite honest, if I can say this...I kind of swell up with pride (not the bad kind) that these athletes are part of my parish. I sit up taller and pay more attention when one of our kids are doing something for the Bowman County Bulldogs (Just had to throw that in there)!

I remember the first time Brenda and I went to a Little League game in one of our pastorates. The parents couldn't believe we really came, and I thought it kind of odd that they would think that??? (The reason was we were the first pastoral family to attend a game with their children playing.

Now I am not saying that is bad because there have been many times when we *(continued on next page)*

Upcoming Events

- May 2
10:00 am Worship Service
9:00 am Adult Sunday School
Preschool Sunday School during morning worship service
- May 5
2:00 pm Religious Release at Park
6:30 pm Confirmation @ NDP
7:00 pm Ladies/Girls Tea Party
7:00 pm Youth Group

Contact Information

Church Office: 701-523-5492
Pastor Ray: 701-440-9730/
email: pastoray11@gmail.com
Brenda: 701-440-0024/email:
pastorswife8893@gmail.com
Michael: 701-264-9835 (cell)/email:
michaeljmarsh@yahoo.com
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Thought we would be able to attend and then something in the church happened and we couldn't go. Don't get me wrong I am not trying to make excuses, but those things do happen. When we say we are coming we try to hold to that and come!!!

Over this past year we have been able to attend some games thanks to parent's having extra tickets when only a certain number of people could attend and asking us if we wanted to come!!! We did not turn down those tickets but showed up and rooted for our team (Bowman County Bulldogs) and our youth.

To be honest, it didn't really matter to us if they won or not...we just wanted to watch them and we wanted them to know we cared about them in a way that was outside the walls of the church!

We have what is called Religious Release here in Bowman. It is a time when children from churches actually go their church and are taught about the Bible. It is kind of cool that school districts continue to follow this program.

Our first year here we did not do Religious Release as we were trying to get acclimated to a new parish and all the ins and outs of learning new people, new ideas, etc.

We will be finishing our second-year next week. Brenda and I look forward to seeing the kids from 2-3 pm on Wednesday afternoons. We love seeing how they have grown over the school year and to have these eleven kids coming in and learning about Jesus is just totally awesome.

Let me share this with you...we only had nine children until five weeks ago when a good friend and pastor asked if his son and another boy from their church could come! I said absolutely yes...and in a short time they have just fit right in with the other children.

Listen, we have children from many different churches attending with us on Wednesdays and it is so special to have them with us!

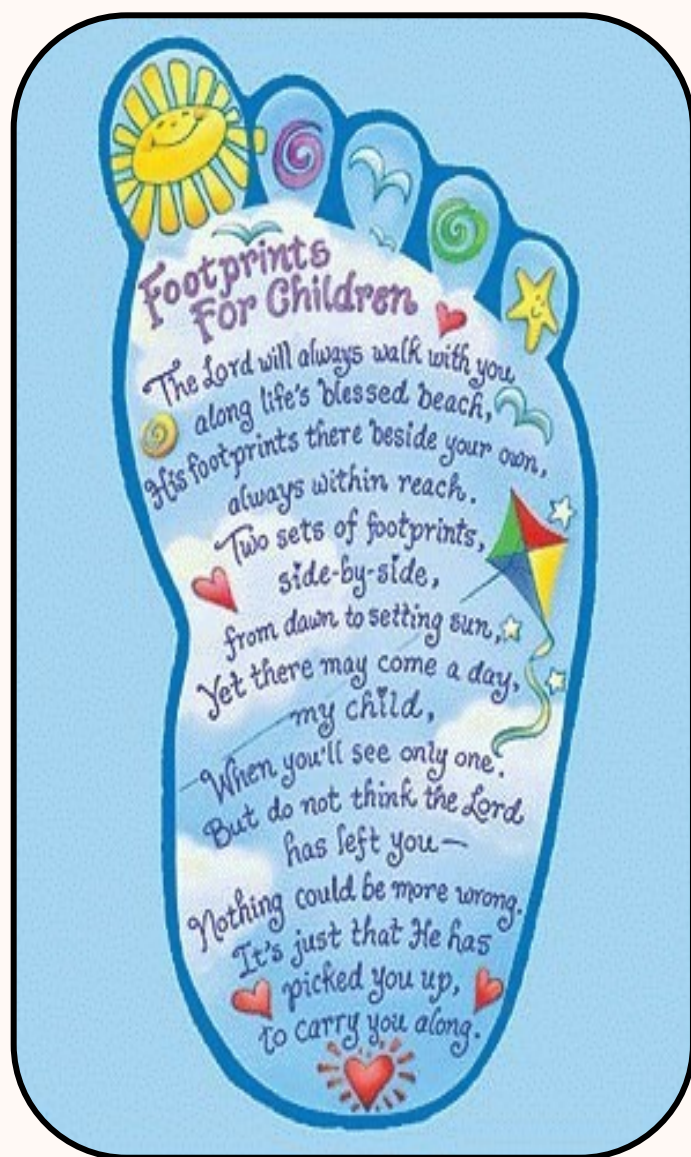
In our world today as you well know we need to remember how important family is and not only between parents and children but also our church family. The family is being torn apart and Brenda and I feel if we can help your family in a small way like Religious Release then we are all in!!

I am grateful to our Bowman County School System that allows churches the opportunity to share the gospel with any child that wants to come!

Next Wednesday we will have our last Religious Release for this school year, and we plan on taking the kids down to the City Park for some time of fun and probably a snack or two. But the most important thing we re going to do for them, besides prayer, is to hand each of these kids a brand-new Bible.

It is our way of saying thank you to them for being part of what we think will be something they won't forget as they get older! Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." (NIV)

Our hope and prayer is that God will continue to use us as conduits for His Kingdom as we reach out to our children!



NURSING HOME OUTREACH

We have a number of people who are currently in an assisted living facility. With the social distancing practices currently in effect, Pastor Ray and Brenda are not able to visit with them. Therefore, it would be nice if we as the church family would send cards, letters or make phone calls to these individuals to let them know that they have not been forgotten. I have included the names and addresses of each individual that I am aware of that is currently in one of the assisted living facilities from our church. If I have left anyone out, please let me know. Thank you for taking the time to reach out to these individuals.

Martha Brown
c/o Western Care Center
1104 Highway 12
Hettinger ND 58639

Sherman Oakland
c/o Superior Care Villa
101 2nd Street SW
Baker MT 59313

Eunice Ruggles
c/o Southwest Health Care Services
802 2nd Street NW
Bowman ND 58623

SENIORS/SHUT-INS OUTREACH

The following list is for those seniors within our congregation that are unable to get out. Please send cards, letters or make a phone call to these individuals to let them know that you are praying and thinking about them as Pastor Ray and Brenda are unable at this time to visit them. Thank you for taking the time to reach out to each of these individuals.

Gary & Sonia Campbell
PO Box 85
Bowman ND 58623-0085

Mary Jacobi
206 10th Avenue NW, Apt C2
Bowman ND 58623

Gail Hughes
PO Box 775
Bowman ND 58623-0075

Dawn Lutes
PO Box 233
Bowman ND 58623

Julie Brown
509 1st Street NW
Bowman ND 58623

Sharon Harmon
307 2nd Avenue N
Scranton ND 58653

Joyce Wilburn
805 3rd Street NW
Bowman ND 58623

Evelyn McKitrick
101 7th Avenue NW
Bowman ND 58623

Nancy Sheets
919 20th Avenue SW
Valley City ND 58072

Rod & Dorinda Diede
107 9th Avenue NW
Bowman ND 58623

Carol Ziebarth
11110 Ralph Road
Ralph, SD 57650

Silver Ziebarth
c/o Superior Care Villa
101 2nd Street SW
Baker MT 59313

HOSPITAL - Please send lots of cards of encouragement

Rob Lewton - Cancer

Address:

Rob & Rita Lewton, c/o KOA
5232 65th Ave SE, #9
Rochester MN 55904



Attendance Numbers

<u>Date</u>	<u>Online</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>	<u>Total</u>
April 4	120	91	211
April 11	141	40	181
April 18	243	37	280
April 25	138	35	173
Total Combined for April			845
Total Physical Attendance for April			203
Total online attendance for April			642
Sunday School 15	Total for April		58

TITHES
and
OFFERINGS
giving boldly

Thank You for Your Generosity!!

General Fund	\$ 662.00
Memorials (<i>Undesignated</i>)	\$ 750.00
Memorials Offering (<i>Designated</i>)	\$ 100.00 (<i>sound system</i>)
ACH (<i>Collected on 4/18/2021</i>)	\$1,500.00
Lenten	\$ 200.00
Missions (<i>Undesignated</i>)	\$- - - - -
El Min (<i>Interest Check</i>)	\$- - - - -
Weekly Total	\$ 1712.00
April Total	\$18,667.00
Total Raised for Sound System	\$14,845.00

Prayer Request



Laureen Stuber– Unspoken requests

Farmers/Ranchers during this drought - pray for rain!!

PTL!!! For the money raised for the sound system that came from outside our church!!!!

Kim Diede - Urgent prayer still needed - fluid is still being drained from her brain but her eyesight is beginning to return gradually

Larry Haas (Kim Diede's father) fell and broke his leg, also has heart disease - Pray for Healing

Quin Diede - Kim's husband as he cares for his children, Kim and Larry Haas while still working

Pray for rain so the farmers and ranchers are able to survive this drought

Rod/Dorinda Diede as they travel to Colorado to help care for Kim Diede

Rod Diede's requesting prayer for his support group friends as there have been 3 suicides in the Bison/Hettinger area

PTL! We have raised \$14,745 for the new sound system to date!

Lane Dingfelder is doing well after his colon surgery - continue to pray for his continued healing

The crisis at the US border

Christopher Sherwood - pray for his continued safety and that his appointment with pain management doctor will result in pain medications as he is in a lot of pain –healing

Rob Lewton - (Update) Rob has been placed on the bone marrow list - pray that a donor will be found soon—Fluid in lungs is under control with medication, is having chemo every other

day as an out-patient. Still has nausea and headaches and bloodwork every other day as well. Pray for Rob that his cancer will either be healed or goes into remission as well as Rita

and his brother who are rendering care for Rob in a camper while going through chemo -

pray for healing - please send cards of encouragement (see address on Shut-in list)

Silver Ziebarth - in nursing home - pray his health will improve/for the staff that are caring for him

Carol Ziebarth - pray for her as she has returned to her home in Scranton

Carol Vail - Cancer of the Bile Duct - pray for God's healing, strength and comfort

Governor Doug Burgum - Wisdom to do what is best for North Dakota

Penny Benner—Pancreatic Cancer—healing

Rod Diede—Cancer-healing

Sherman Oakland—PTL is doing much better since moving to Baker Assisted Living

Nadine Ueno - Cancer - pray for God's healing touch to rest upon her

Eric Stevenson - Salvation (Pastor Ray/Brenda's oldest son)

Martha Brown – in nursing home, desires to be able to have visitors (send cards or call)

Karen Paulson's son's father - Cancer

Julie Brown - Heart problems - pray for healing

Janet Haugen, Gail Hughes' cousin, better but still needs assistance - home

Chris Steffen, Rita Lewton's son, pain is improving but still having pain at surgical site

Health Care Workers and their families during the COVID-19 exposure

Prayer for the upcoming process of separation from UMC

Dorinda Diede - Pray for strength as she provides care for Rod

Dawn Lutes – Brain Cancer (PO Box 233, Bowman ND 58623)

Eunice Ruggles – Doing very well (see Nursing Home page for address)

Bowman UMC Growth – Spiritual/Physical/Financial

Those who are in need of salvation

Riots - Protection for cities/businesses/innocent people/police

Police/potential elimination of all police departments, protection from harm

President Biden - for wisdom and a spirit of unity

Our country under President Biden/Democratic Congress and protection against cancel culture

The world during this COVID-19 crisis



May	5/02	Emma Welch
	5/04	Abby Smyle
	5/09	Nola Horvey
	5/12	Dylan Marmon
	5/16	Cheryl Pavlish
		Tom Powell
		Lily Ruggles
	5/17	Susan May
	5/19	Gavin Getz
	5/24	Teran Doerr
	5/26	Jess Getz
	5/30	Lynne Reinhiller
		Brenda Sherwood

Anniversaries

May	5/12	Chad/Ali Miller
	5/26	Rob/Rita Lewton
	5/27	Don/Judy Sparks
		Randy/Holly Seifert
	5/28	Pastor Ray/Brenda



Psalm 143

1 O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy; in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief. 2 Do not bring your servant into judgment, for no one living is righteous before you.

3 The enemy pursues me, he crushes me to the ground; he makes me dwell in darkness like those long dead. 4 So my spirit grows faint within me; my heart within me is dismayed.

5 I remember the days of long ago; I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done. 6 I spread out my hands to you; my soul thirst for you like a parched land. *Selah*

7 Answer me quickly, O LORD; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me or I will be like those who go down to the pit. 8 Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. 9 Rescue me from my enemies, O LORD, for I hide myself in you. 10 Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

11 For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life; in your righteousness, bring me out of trouble. 12 In your unfailing love, silence my enemies; destroy all my foes, for I am your servant.

Psalm 144

1 Praise be to the LORD my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle. 2 He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield, in whom I take refuge, who subdues peoples under me.

3 O LORD, what is man that you care for him, the son of man that you think of him? 4 Man is like a breath; his days are like a fleeting shadow.

5 Part your heavens, O LORD, and come down; touch the mountains, so that they smoke. 6 Send forth lightning and scatter the enemies; shoot your arrows and rout them. 7 Reach down your hand from on high; deliver me and rescue me from the mighty waters, from the hands of foreigners

8 whose mouths are full of lies, whose right hands are deceitful.

9 I will sing a new song to you, O God; on the ten-stringed lyre I will make music to you, 10 to the One who gives victory to kings, who delivers his servant David from the deadly sword.

11 Deliver me and rescue me from the hands of foreigners whose mouths are full of lies, whose right hands are deceitful.

12 Then our sons in their youth will be like well-nurtured plants, and our daughters will be like pillars carved to adorn a palace. 13 Our barns will be filled with every kind of provision. Our sheep will increase by thousands, by tens of thousands in our fields; 14 our oxen will draw heavy loads. There will be no breaching of walls, no going into captivity, no cry of distress in our streets.

15 Blessed are the people of whom this is true; blessed are the people whose God is the LORD.

When I say, "I AM A CHRISTIAN"

Carol Wimmer (1988)

When I say I am a Christian, I'm not shouting I've been saved; I'm whispering I feel lost sometimes, That's why I chose this way.

When I say I am a Christian, I don't speak with human pride; I'm confessing that I stumble needing God to be my guide.

When I say I am a Christian, I'm not trying to be strong; I'm professing that I'm weak and pray for strength to carry on.

When I say I am a Christian; I'm not bragging of success, I'm admitting that I've failed and cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say I am a Christian, I don't think I know it all; I submit to so confusion, asking humbly to be taught.

When I say I am a Christian, I'm not claiming to be perfect; My flaws are all too visible but God believes I'm worth it.

When I say I am a Christian, I still feel the sting of pain; I have my share of heartache that's why I seek God's name.

When I say I am a Christian, I do not wish to judge; I have no authority, I only know I'm loved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Sunday, May 2**
10:00 am Worship Service
9:00 am Adult Sunday School
Preschool Sunday School during morning worship service
Coffee, water, cookies and bars in the fellowship hall immediate after morning worship
Music - Pastor Ray/Brenda Sherwood
- **Wednesday, May 5 @ 7:00 pm**
Attention all Ladies! We're gonna have a Surprise Par-Tea! All ladies of the UMC welcome! Come join us on this date here at the church. It'll be fun!
Confirmation Party at Next Door Pizza at 6:00 pm
Religious Release Party at City Park
- **Thursday, May 6 @ 12:00 Noon**
National Day of Prayer at City Hall - Meet at the Flag Pole
- **Sunday, May 9 Mother's Day**
Invite every mother you know to come to this special service
- **Sunday, May 16 Confirmation Sunday**
- **Wednesday, May 26 Last Day of School**
- **Sunday, May 30 High School Graduation**
- **Sunday, June 6 - Graduation Sunday**

- **May Music Schedule**
Sunday, May 9 - Holly Seifert
Sunday, May 16 - Holly Seifert
Sunday, May 23 - Lane/Anne Dingfelder
Sunday, May 30 - Pastor Ray/Brenda
- **Sunday, June 6 Graduation Sunday**

