



*News From*  
***The Center***



Dear Friends in Christ,

On Sunday, May 5th, at 10:00 a.m. RC-UMC will be celebrating the completion of our unification with a special dedication service followed by a time of food and fellowship. This event is open to everyone and we are very excited to welcome both old friends and new faces to this happy occasion.

Reaching this historic milestone is the culmination of a long and challenging journey, and we have much to celebrate and be thankful for. We have come through this transformational process together and have been rewarded with renewed faith and enthusiasm, as well as discovering some new strengths and capabilities. And now that we have come to this point, it is time to begin looking toward the future.

As United Methodists, we believe that “the mission of the church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” At the same time, we also recognize that every congregation is unique, and that this broadly-stated mission can take many different forms depending on the gifts and personalities that are present. Our job now is to prayerfully and carefully discern God’s vision for this new congregation and to clearly state what God is calling RC-UMC to be and do as we go forward. What is our unique mission and purpose in our community and in the world at large?

This discernment process may take some time, but even in this early stage there are some things we already know for certain. We know that RC-UMC is a welcoming community of faith responding to God’s call in our lives. We know that we want to support and encourage each other to live the Gospel in our everyday lives, and we know that we want to serve our neighbors in need by reaching out in kindness and compassion.

We still have more work to do but this feels like a good place to start. Please keep this discernment process in your prayers and if you feel called to join in this conversation, please know you are invited to share what is on your mind and in your heart.

Yours in the Spirit,

*Pastor Rachel*

## Pentecost Sunday – May 26, 2024

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### Prepare to be Empowered

Contrary to common perception, Jesus' disciples weren't frightened and hiding during the 10 days between Ascension and Pentecost. Instead, they were actively preparing for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. They "all joined together constantly in prayer" (Acts 1:14, NIV) and took steps to replace Judas.

After that inward focus, the disciples were ready to boldly burst forth on Pentecost, empowered and "enabled" (Acts 2:4) by the Spirit. They proclaimed Christ's death and resurrection, leading 3,000 people to faith that day, now known as the church's birthday.

"A great wave of faith and love swept through this newborn community," writes Suzanne de Dietrich in Free Men. "These Christians could not keep silent. Their joyful liberty had broken down all the walls behind which people would like to keep them; no prison could silence them."



### Bible Quiz

What two rivers that we still know today are named in the Creation account in Genesis 2?

- |            |           |              |
|------------|-----------|--------------|
| A. Nile    | C. Jordan | E. Ganges    |
| B. Yangtze | D. Tigris | F. Euphrates |

Answer: D & F (See Genesis 2:10-14.)

## Sunday School News

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Barb Shannon  
Education Chair  
647-6522

The Sunday School classes have decided this year to use their Lenten offering to support the Heifer Project. Our goal is to raise \$30.00 to purchase a pair of chickens, ducks or bees to be sent to a third world country. We have just about reached it.

We painted sun catcher crosses and sent them in Easter cards to members of our congregation unable to be with us on Easter Sunday. Our church family is important to us and we wanted to remember them on that special day.

The teen class has finished "**3:16 The Numbers of Hope**" by Max Lucado. They remember the key words - He loves, He gave. We believe, We live, and have committed the verse to memory. (Ask them to recite it to you.)

May is a busy month as we work on the in-gathering kits, remember our Mother's, and honor our graduates.

Please note: Sunday, May 19, 2024, will be our last class till fall.

Yours in Christ,  
Barb Shannon

# Mission Focus and Special Sundays 2024

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## Peace With Justice Sunday May 26, 2024

### From Despair to Hope

Today our world is facing crises on an unprecedented scale: war, genocide, poverty, hunger, disease, and global warming. Saddened by the state of the world, overwhelmed by the scope of these problems, and anxious about the future, we believe God calls us and equips us to respond.

Harsh economic conditions have made it impossible for the world's poor to break the ongoing cycle of despair and exploitation. The disparity between rich and poor has grown. Global financial improvement has not affected many of those living on the margins of society.

Ongoing wars and intractable conflicts and political strife and repressive conditions have led to the disregard for international law and the breakdown of international cooperation. Human rights continue to be violated and disregarded. These and related changes taking place in our global community diminish our hope for potential future reductions in military expenditures. Global military spending, totaling \$1.75 trillion in 2013 (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute Yearbook), drains resources of money and talent that might be used for meeting urgent social needs, long-term sustainable social and human development, and protecting God's creation.



We have realized that we live in a broken world. We are challenged by acts of intolerance and aggression, by acts of racism and xenophobia, by acts of classism, sexism, ageism, and gender discrimination. God's beautiful universe and all that was good in creation are in danger of extinction by unsafe and unsound environmental practices. HIV/AIDS continues to escalate to pandemic proportions. Malaria and tuberculosis remain urgent concerns, even as new and deadly viruses like Ebola ravage communities around the world.

We must renew our call for a social transformation, for the quest to open the doors of opportunity for all, to distribute resources more equitably, and to provide better care for persons in need.

**Please give generously on Peace with Justice Sunday  
Advance #1035.  
Your gift makes a world of difference.**



*By asking you to support Richland Center UMC Missions' Projects, we also ask that you first consider your support of the general fund, which is what keeps our church doors open. Then please prayerfully consider your support of this month's Mission Focus. Thank you.*



## Golden Cross Sunday – May 19, 2024

**Golden Cross Sunday (May 19th)** is a special Sunday Mission project authorized by the Wisconsin Conference Health and Welfare Ministries. Golden Cross began in 1908 with the commitment of Methodists in Dallas, Texas to provide the first health care to persons who could not afford it. They began to receive offerings for the expenses of the poor patients at Methodist Hospital in that city. By 1930, the concept was officially adopted throughout the predecessor denominations of the United Methodist Church. Today, Golden Cross is a ministry that reaches out in love to the laity in our Annual Conference who are experiencing financial difficulty due to excessive medical expenses. Through Golden Cross, United Methodist care for members of our local churches in time of emotional stress and financial need. The distinctive and particularly useful flexibility makes Golden Cross useful as social and economic conditions change. United Methodists are able to respond to emergency needs.

Annual conferences now use the funds in a variety of ways:

1. Emergency medical assistance for individuals.
2. Support for church-related health institutions.
3. Support for after school care for children.
4. Purchase of equipment for youth ministry.
5. Scholarships for students pursuing health related careers.
6. Support of a residence for alcohol rehabilitation.
7. Advocacy education program for emerging critical health concerns.



Each long term health care ministry receives 50% of the offering received from our district (Schmitt Woodland Hills). The remainder is distributed to the Conference for their various programs.

<b><u>MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS FOR 2024</u></b> <i>Special Sundays in Italics</i>	
<b>MAY</b>	<i>Golden Cross Sunday</i> <i>This offering helps support</i> <i>Schmitt Woodland</i> <i>May 19<sup>th</sup> 1070</i> <i>Peace With Justice Sunday</i> <i>May 26<sup>th</sup> 1035</i>
June	ICE CREAM SOCIAL – JUNE 19, 2024 (Church Camp Fund)
July	FOOD PANTRY
August	MEMORIAL MINISTRY WISH LIST

<b><u>MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS FOR 2024</u></b> <i>Special Sundays in Italics</i>	
August	MEMORIAL MINISTRY WISH LIST
September	PASSAGES
October	HARVEST AUCTION: to fulfill our covenant with David Makobo, Senegal, Africa (TBD) <i>World Communion Sunday</i> <i>October 6<sup>TH</sup> 1045</i>
November	VETERANS PROJECT ( project TBD) <i>UM Student Day</i> <i>November 24<sup>th</sup> #1055</i>
December	SALVATION ARMY

## Ingathering 2024 – Mission Project

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### Items for the Kid Include the following items Please make sure all items are new



- 1 hand towel – no kitchen towels
  - 1 washcloth – no dishcloths
  - 1 toothbrush – no multipacks
  - 1 bar soap – 3 to 4 oz
  - 1 shampoo -12 to 19 oz
  - 1 deodorant – 2 to 3 oz (stick, roll-on or pump)
  - 1 lotion – 8 to 10 oz
  - 1 1-gallon resealable plastic bag – furnished by Richland Center UMC.
- \$3.00 for toothpaste, carrying bag and shipping.
- Please add your heartfelt prayers to each kit.**

Personal Dignity Kits are in great demand due to natural disasters and conflicts throughout the world. Everyday more people are being displaced and flee with only the clothes on their backs, and perhaps a small sack of their personal belongings. The items given in a Personal Dignity Kit are basic necessities for personal hygiene, which is so important for maintaining health and preventing the spread of disease.

There are gallon zippered plastic bags (a list of the needed items is inside each bag) available for you to pick up on the round table in the back of the church. The filled bags need to be returned by **Sunday, May 12,** so we can be sure to get them to Annual Conference. If you prefer to give a monetary donation, please make a memo on your check that says "Ingathering 2024."

The cost to complete a Personal Dignity Kit is about \$13.00. We thank you for your support of this important mission. we can be the hands and feet of Jesus - sharing his love with the people of this world by giving of our abundant resources. THANK YOU!"



**Makes perfect  
gifts and supports  
Missions Ministry!  
Please see Nancy  
McCauley**



## Memorial Ministry Corner

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### May Memorial Ministry Corner



In Memory of Frances R. Cooper  
November 18, 1932 – March 19, 2024

Fran was a dedicated Richland Center UMC (Trinity) Member Since April 08, 1962.

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Pratt Funeral & Cremation* Website:

<https://tinyurl.com/4unxn546>

Services will be Private.

Cards of Condolence May be Sent to Fran's Daughter and Son-in-Law at the Following:

**Dave & Carolyn Hardy**

541 Hill Street

Baraboo, WI 53913

**"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."**

**(Matthew 5:4)**

## Church Membership Notes

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### Church Membership Notes



Richland Center United Methodist Church (RCUMC) has received the following thank you note:

**Happy Easter!** Thank you so much for letting my family celebrate in the church my mother & father (Lillian & Willis Cooper) so cherished. I am so thankful and so grateful for your generosity - - **Jeanne (Cooper) & Reed Horton**

**Note:** The family & friends of Carolyn J. Freeman, Larry & Sherry Quamme, & Reed & Jeanne (Cooper) Horton use our Schmitt Fellowship Hall for their large Easter Sunday family dinner & reunion.



***Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Carolyn J. Freeman!***

**May 04, 2024**

**Carolyn has been a long-time Richland Center UMC friend.**

**Cards of Congratulations May be Sent to Carolyn at the Following**

**Schmitt Woodland Hills Retirement Community**

**Attn: Carolyn J. Freeman**

**1400 West Seminary Street**

**Apartment No. 308**

**Richland Center, WI 53581-2036**

"May this birthday mark the beginning of a year filled with good health, happiness, and abundant grace. May your heart be light and your steps guided by love. On your special day, we pray that God showers you with His choicest blessings. May you always walk in His light and never lose your way."

**- Anonymous Author**

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### **Richland Center United Methodist Church (RCUMC) Membership List Announcement**

During our Monday, April 08, 2024, "Special" Church Conference, the RCUMC Membership Team posted its current 113-person Professing Member (PM) list of members for the unified Richland Center United Methodist Church. Now, the request comes to all members to review this list (**posted on the East entrance hallway bulletin board**) for the following two reasons:

1. Check to make sure your name appears.
2. Check other names of people whom you may know that should be added to (or taken off) the list.

SO, what if either of the above options does not agree with your thinking? Here's what to do by contacting the RCUMC Office (Joan Wheeler) at 608.647.3202 (or) **trinityumc@mwt.net** to inquire about your membership status concern.

1. You believe your name should appear, and it doesn't; contact Joan Wheeler.
2. You know of someone on the list that should be added/removed; contact that person to **THEN** contact Joan Wheeler to be removed.

If this is all too confusing, contact RCUMC Membership Secretary Paul Murphey (608.647.6439) or (**pmurphey@mwt.net**). If you are unable to check the bulletin board listing, simply contact Joan Wheeler to check your membership status.

Our RCUMC Membership Team goal is to keep an accurate record, as we can, with Professing Members (PMs) because we are assigned conference apportionment payments based on our reported PMs. In addition, it helps our office, for USPS mailings & costs, when we maintain an accurate member record.

**- - Thank You, Paul Murphey, RCUMC Membership Secretary**

# Camping Fun 2024

## Grandparent and Grandchild Camp

**Pine Lake: June 21-23**

A special time away that allows for memories to be made as grandparents and grandkids share and grow in faith together. Spend quality time with your grandchild doing all the activities that camp has to offer.

## Games/Sports/Adventure - Pine Lake

**Grades 4-9: June 23-28**

Our NEW game/sports/adventure camp! Throughout the week campers will spend time playing camp games, competing in different sports, and adventuring through the activities that make camp great! If you have an active camper, they can expect lots of new games and ways to be active all week!

**Visit [WIUMCamps.org](http://WIUMCamps.org)  
For more information**



**Lake Lucerne**

W6460 County Road YY  
Neshkoro, WI 54988  
920.293.4488

## Create – Pine Lake

**Grades 2-4: June 9-12**

**Grades 4-9: June 9-14**

Let's make some fantastic works of art! Using a variety of mediums and methods, campers will create pieces that are uniquely theirs! The week is a little bit messy and a lot of fun as we tackle projects individually and as a group to make something spectacular!

## Spectrum Family Camp

**Pine Lake: June 7-9**

A weekend camp specifically designed for families with someone they love on the autism spectrum. Enjoy collective group activities, time as families, and some special time apart as you enjoy a weekend with others on this shared life journey.

## Cycle Camp – Lake Lucerne

**Grades 6-12: June 23-26**

Experience God by biking into almost 500 acres of trails. Learn the basics of bike maintenance, biking safety, road riding, trail riding, and biking in groups, while developing your faith in new and exciting ways! Enjoy all other camp activities, like Bible studies, campfires, high ropes, swimming and canoeing, and so much more. Bring your own helmet and bike if possible; Lake Lucerne has a limited supply available.



**Pine Lake**

W8301 County Road M  
Westfield, WI 53964  
608.296.2720





## The Image of Mother

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4 years of age – My Mommy can do anything!  
8 years of age – My Mom knows a lot! A whole lot!  
12 years of age – My Mother doesn't really know quite everything.  
14 years of age – Naturally, Mother doesn't know that either.  
16 years of age – Mother? She's hopelessly old-fashioned.  
18 years of age – That old woman? She's way out of date!  
25 years of age – Well, she might know a little bit about it!  
35 years of age – Before we decide, let's get Mom's opinion.  
45 years of age – Wonder what Mom would have thought about it?  
65 years of age – Wish I could talk it over with Mom.



The beauty of a woman is not in the clothes she wears, the figure that she carries, or the way she combs her hair.

The beauty of a woman must be seen from in her eyes, because that is the doorway to her heart, the place where love resides.

## Thank You So Much

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**Dear Barb and Sunday school:**

Thank you for all the cards you have sent to me. Birthday, Christmas, Valentines Day and more!!!  
As usual, I have not been at all good about thanking you all for them!  
They are so good to get always; and, I do so appreciate them!  
So, thanks again and do keep those cards a comin'!!!

Have a happy Easter;  
Fill your heart with song,  
Delight in spring time's beauty,  
and God bless you all day long!!!

Best Blessings to All of You Forever!  
Laurie Stevens-Vance



**Dear Friends at Richland Center UMC,**

I would like to thank all of the people who helped me out while I was having difficulty walking after my fall. I really appreciated all of the assistance from people who helped me by taking me to appointments, did my shopping for groceries, and did some jobs around the house.

Also thank-you for making the church walker available and bringing it to my car so I could safely get inside the church. It made life much easier for both Gene, with his difficulties, and for me. It was greatly appreciated by both of us.

God bless all of you.

Sincerely,  
Shirley and Gene Wanless

## Celebrations and More



### May Birthdays

Chris Storer	5/1	Millie Koehn	5/17
Betty Boeing	5/3	Gabriel Tjossem	5/17
Jill Sommer	5/3	Gavin Tjossem	5/17
Carolyn Freeman	5/4	Hadlee Jo Wilmot	5/18
Barb Shannon	5/4	Dave Foley	5/20
Eiko Subera	5/12	Al Marshall	5/23
Chris Shannon	5/14	Peg Moser (102)	5/26
Nicholas Hodge	5/16	Katherine Hall	5/27
Mandy Brewer	5/17	Gregg Gochenaur	5/29

### May Anniversaires

Leonard & Connie Frye	5/16
Gregg & Deanna Gochenaur	5/18
Tim & Michelle Woodman	5/23

### Special dates

- National Day of Prayer, May 2
- Ascension Day, May 9
- Mother's Day, May 12
- Armed Forces Day, May 18
- Pentecost, May 19
- Victoria Day (Canada), May 20
- Trinity Sunday, May 26
- Memorial Day, May 27




### Baccalaureate Honorees

Richland Center UMC is proud to announce three of our graduating high school seniors will be part of the Baccalaureate program on Sunday, May 19th.

Congratulations to Katherine Hall as she will be the Introducer for Teige Perkins, speaker. Clara Shannon will also be a speaker.

It's a honor to be asked to be part of Baccalaureate. Please make sure to congratulate these young adults for stepping up to help out. Also, please pray for all our graduating seniors this year as they will soon embark on a new career move.


Richland Center UMC is very proud of all of our high school seniors!



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**JUNE ICE CREAM SOCIAL:**

**Supports Youth Activities Fund**



Richland Center UMC is looking forward to another fantastic ice cream social to take place on **Wednesday, June 19<sup>st</sup> from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** in Schmitt Hall, Richland Center UMC. The ice cream social is a fundraiser for the youth activities fund, which assists those from Richland Center UMC who may plan to attend church camps, church trips, and other church activities planned for the year.

Sign up sheets for workers and pies will be out by the middle of May. Please watch for them in the Narthex





# MAY MINISTRY ROSTER



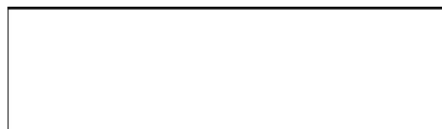
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>"In times of stress, the best thing we can do for each other is to listen with our ears and our hearts and to be assured that our questions are just as important as our answers."  <i>-Fred Rogers</i></p>			<b>1</b> Dance class: 4:00 p.m.	<b>2</b> Seeker's Bible study: 10:00 a.m. Library Memorial Ministry: 1:30 p.m. - Library	<b>3</b> The office is closed	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday school 10:15 a.m.	<b>6</b> PEO 5:00 p.m. Library	<b>7</b> Women's Bible study: 10:00 a.m. Choir 6:00 p.m.	<b>8</b> Dance class: 4:00 p.m.	<b>9</b> Seeker's Bible study: 10:00 a.m. Library	<b>10</b> The office is closed	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Mother's Day Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday school 10:15 a.m.	<b>13</b> Trustees Mtg: 4:00 p.m. Library	<b>14</b> Women's Bible study: 10:00 a.m. Mission's Mtg: 4:30 p.m. Choir: 6:00 p.m.	<b>15</b> Thrift Shop Workers: 1:00 p.m. Dance class: 4:00 p.m.	<b>16</b> Seeker's Bible study: 10:00 a.m. Library	<b>17</b> The office is closed	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Golden Cross Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday school 10:15 a.m. RCHS Baccalaureate 7:30 p.m.	<b>20</b> Ad Council Mtg: 4:00 p.m. Library	<b>21</b> Women's Bible study: 10:00 a.m. Choir: 6:00 p.m.	<b>22</b> Newsletter deadline: Noon Dance class: 4:00 p.m.	<b>23</b> Seeker's Bible study: 10:00 a.m. Library	<b>24</b> The office is closed	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Peace with Justice Worship 10:00 a.m.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Women's Bible study: 10:00 a.m. Choir: 6:00 p.m.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Seeker's Bible study: 10:00 a.m. Library	<b>31</b> The office is closed	



Richland Center United Methodist Church  
400 East Seminary Street  
Richland Center, WI 53581



A Community of Faith



## Richland Center United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Pastor's Cell Phone: 608-373-4027  
Pastor's email: rkolson123@gmail.com

Richland Center Church Office  
Hours: Monday through Thursday  
12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

RC UMC Office: (608) 647-3203  
RC UMC email: trinityumc@mwt.net  
Website: [www.umchurchrc.org](http://www.umchurchrc.org)

Administrative Assistant: Joan Wheeler  
Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Monica Eernisse  
Custodian: Bill Twining



**Pentecost Sunday**  
**May 19, 2024**

