

Fennimore United
Methodist Church
Stitzer United Methodist Church
1450 Second Street
Fennimore, WI 53809

Rev. William “Bud” Budzinski, Pastor

Pastor Yang, Associate Pastor

Church Office: (608) 822-6797

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 AM—12:00 PM

Website: <http://www.fennimoreumc.org>

E-mail: fennimoreumc@tds.net

“Are We Following God’s Plan?”

In her book, *It's Not Supposed To Be This Way*, Lysa Terkeurst writes: *Genesis tells us that the human heart was created in the perfection of the garden of Eden. Can you imagine what the world looked like when God first created it? When He said it was all good. Very good. And it was all perfect.*

Perfection's symphony filled the atmosphere. Everything ebbed and flowed in complete harmony. It sang with the richest tones. And danced with ridiculous precision. There was nothing that didn't look right or feel right. It was beautiful and peaceful and fulfilling. There was perfect peace in relationships. Adam and Eve were so beautifully connected to each other, and they lived in the perfect presence of God. It was paradise where God would interact in direct relationship with Adam and Eve. There was perfect provision and perfect fulfillment of their purpose. There was no sadness or confusion or injustice. There was no disease or divorce or depression or death. There were no misaligned motives, no manipulations, no malicious intentions. It was everything you could ever dream up and then so much more than that. So the human heart was created in the context of the perfection of the garden of Eden. But we don't live there now.

Because Satan entered the picture. In the Garden of Eden, God said that Adam and Eve should not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. But then the serpent changes the words and then Eve got alone with her own thoughts and assumptions and it led her to doubt God. And take control to get what she wanted. What she thought was best. Genesis 3:6 says, “When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some...”

Then she ate it. And gave some to Adam, who was with her and who also saw that Eve didn't die when she touched it, so he ate some. And sin entered in. Perfection ended.

But here's the good news: even when we follow in Eve's footsteps, when we disobey God, when we try to take control and make assumptions and misunderstand God on every level, God still has a plan.

A few weeks ago, I was fishing at Beaver Creek (Miller Dam – I fished here with my Grandpa Starks a lot growing up and hadn't been there in years) and had not caught a thing in the first hour or so. All of a sudden, my bobber went down and my pole bent, and I knew I had something big. It fought and fought and finally got it close to shore and it was a.... bullhead, ugh! Plus, it had swallowed my hook. I laid it on the shore and walked to my truck (it was close) to get a pliers and as I came back, I noticed that the bullhead must have somehow wrapped itself up in some lakeweed. As I got closer the lakeweed started to move... it was not lakeweed but a snake! It had wrapped itself around the bullhead and the bullhead's tail was in the snake's mouth. What was I to do? My first reaction was to just cut the line and put a new hook on but then the bullhead would have the hook in its mouth. So, as I walked (very slowly) closer, the snake saw me and took off. Whew! I got the hook out, let the bullhead back in the lake, it swam away (and on its way it poked its head out and said “Thank you”). Ok, the last part isn't true, but I am sure the bullhead was thankful!

I believe this is a good comparison to life. In our everyday life, we face all kinds of disappointments and decisions and choices and we hopefully try to do the right thing. But then we let our guard down and Satan attacks and tries to wrap himself around us. However, when Satan sees that we are trusting in and turning to God, Satan flees knowing that he has no power over God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

We need to pray for the ability to follow God's plan. Show kindness rather than anger, love rather than hate, forgiveness rather than bitterness. Walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. Amen.

Pastor Bud

"THE ASSOCIATE'S CORNER"

PASTOR YANG

"Enjoying the Learning Process"

While shopping I observed an interaction between a young child and his mother. His mother was looking through her purse while the child sat in the shopping cart looking over his mother's shoulders into the purse. As the mother pulled out the change she needed the boy also reached his hand into the purse and pulled out a dollar bill.

The mother didn't seem to mind her son holding on to the dollar bill and zipped her purse with a quick "zip". Then it happened, the young boy started to cry and threw the dollar bill on the ground. The mother, somewhat embarrassed at the same time somewhat alarmed, looked at her son and asked her what was wrong. The boy collected himself and pointed towards the purse. The mother seemed to understand and opened up her purse and gave the boy what seemed to a quarter. The boy immediately stopped crying and he stared at his shiny new quarter as his mother picked the dollar from the ground.

Of course to anyone who understands economics knows that a dollar is worth more than a quarter. Heck, the reason why we call it a "quarter" is because that coin is only worth a quarter of a dollar bill. To the boy the worth was not in economics or understanding of money – the worth was in the way it shined in the light as he held it in his palm.

Often in our lives we want to teach others the value of certain things. Sometimes these lessons are learned easily while other times our directions are not taken seriously or how we wanted. By only focusing on the teaching part as adults we often times miss one of the most important parts of life –the joy in the process of learning. In a world which information and learning is expected in short cycles the art of enjoying something and the process of learning can be missed.

So what if a person doesn't learn something right away? What if a person does something different from the way that you do? What if that boy doesn't realize that economically the dollar bill is worth more than the quarter? There's still time to learn, right? As long as a job is getting done correctly, efficiently, and skillfully – does it matter if that person isn't doing it exactly as you would have? Isn't the enjoyment of the process of learning just as important as something being learned or done right away?

Sure, there will be jobs and circumstances where things have to be done in a certain way or learned more quickly than a person would like but that's when we have to judge when those times are and when those times are not.

For God ,the process of forgiveness, faith forming, loving others, and understanding God's heart was just as important as the lesson at the end of this process. Often times these processes never had a true ending but were endless lessons that helped us to continue to grow in our understanding of ourselves and the world around us including God's role in our lives. So don't be so quick to learn things right away and don't be so rash in teaching others. Sometimes it's better for us to enjoy the journey and at the same time learn rather than be rushed and later frustrated because of how unenjoyable the journey was for us.



WITH DEEPEST
Sympathy

We extend our *Deepest Christian Sympathy* to the families of:

Tubby Monroe

Nancy Krantz

Ruby Watchorn



United
Methodist
Women

**Fennimore
UMW News:**

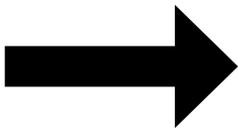
August 2019 Mission

*Depot Exchange Thrift Store and
Fennimore Food Pantry*

It's the lazy hazy days of summer and the heat is here to stay for a while. We hope you all are staying cool!

But Fall is just around the corner!

Are you hungry for Warm German Potato Salad or Traditional Potato Salad? Come and get BOTH at our Annual Fall Salad Luncheon!



Wednesday August 28th, 2019
11 AM to 1 PM
Tickets sold at the door ...
no advanced tickets needed.

Hope to see you all there!

Stay tuned, in September for ...
Coffee hours are back! Yummy
UMW **Sunday** on September 22nd
Quarterly Meeting on **Wednesday**,
September 25th at 6:30 PM

"Fairest of the months!
Ripe summer's queen
The hey-day of the year
With robes that gleam with sunny sheen
Sweet August doth appear."
- R. Combe Miller

August Food Pantry Needs:

Cream of Chicken Soup
Cream Style Corn
Mixed Vegetables
Canned Fruit,
Ramen Noodle
Toilet Paper

Since 2004, the Depot Exchange, a non-profit Thrift Store, has offered the Fennimore and surrounding communities, a wide variety of goods (clothing, housewares, furniture, etc.). Their motto is "Recycling Goodness".

The proceeds from the Thrift Store help supply the Fennimore Food Pantry, Various Community Projects, and Scholarships for FHS Students!



Thank you

Thank You for all of the prayers, cards and well wishes. I am now cancer free!

Janis Schaefer



I am a
CHILD
of God.

I know it. I live it. I love it.

Clea Alexandria Kewatt
Daughter of: Steven and
Brittany Kewatt

Baptized on: May 5, 2019

Garrett Owen Burkum

Daughter of Nate and
Cara Burkum

Baptized on: May 12, 2019

Deklyn Kay Carl

Daughter of Joe and RYANNE Carl
Baptized on: June 30, 2019

Aubrey Lynne Blindert

Daughter of Cody and Meghan Blindert
Baptized on: July 21, 2019