

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](mailto:fennimoreumc@tds.net)

## “What Am I Leaving Behind?”

I was having one of those nights where I could not sleep because I had so many thoughts going through my head. Read for a little bit but that didn't help so I got up and turned the television on and there was a movie I had never seen, “The Accountant.” It had already started but I watched it and it was an intriguing plot which I will not share because I do not want to spoil it if you have not seen the movie. Anyway, at the end of the movie was a song that I had never heard, but after hearing it I could not get the lyrics out of my head. The song was called “To Leave Something Behind” sung by Sean Rowe. I googled it and found the lyrics and also stumbled across this meditation by Jake Owensby, a Louisiana Bishop in the Episcopal Church:

Oh wisdom is lost in the trees somewhere  
You're not going to find it in some mental gray hair  
It's locked up from those who hurry ahead  
And it's time to leave something behind  
I was just trying to leave something behind

“This hook from Sean Rowe's song “To Leave Something Behind” has lodged itself in my heart and in my theological imagination. These words crystallize a yearning that shapes my life, at least on my best days. Wanting to leave something behind contrasts sharply with wanting to make a name for myself. I'm not interested in slapping my name on buildings or hats or t-shirts. Creating a stir with my tweets and making headlines do not inspire me. Leaving something behind isn't about me. On the contrary, it's about devoting myself to something larger than myself. A common good. A world that will nurture and sustain others, including and especially those who come after me.

Leaving something behind doesn't mean making a better place for myself in the world. It means making the world a better place for everybody. Jesus says that the Kingdom is like a mustard seed or like yeast. A tiny mustard seed can yield a tree. A pinch of yeast can turn a heap of flour into a loaf. To wind up with a tree somebody has to plant the seed. There won't be a loaf if someone doesn't prepare the dough. Somebody has not only to dream about what might be but must also commit themselves to it.

The Kingdom, in other words, is like a pearl of great price. Someone found it in a field and sold everything to buy that field. That person was all in. Utterly committed. Now here's the thing about the value of a pearl. There is no guarantee that others will value it as much as you do. Like any investment, it's a risk.

The seed, the yeast, and the pearl teach us a lesson about possibilities. Not inevitabilities. Things may not turn out the way we want. But Jesus tells us to plant. To knead. To invest. Devoting ourselves to the Kingdom—trying to leave something behind—isn't the same thing as betting on a sure thing. It's an act of trust. Trying to leave something behind is also an exercise in letting go of control. I'm not a bread baker. But I do know this much: at a certain point you have to leave the dough alone. If you mess with it, you'll ruin it. Devoting ourselves to the Kingdom has nothing to do with sitting on our hands and waiting for God to do all the work.

Jesus teaches us to do the good that we can do and to trust that God is working through other vessels in ways that we probably will not perceive. I dream that people will inhabit a world where every person's work provides a life filled with dignity. I dream that the elderly and the handicapped will have the support and care that every human being richly deserves. I dream of a world where quality healthcare is available to everyone. I dream of a world where we value people more than profits and social rank and possessions. We don't live in that world right now. But it's the world I want to leave behind.”

*Pastor Bud*

## Fennimore UMW News:

November has arrived and so did the snow . . . .  
earlier than we expected (or even wanted some  
would say)!

November is a month of Thankfulness.  
*We have so much to be thankful for!*

God's Unfailing Love ...  
Our Family ...  
Our Friends ...  
Our Church and Church Family ...  
Our Freedom ...  
We Could Go On and On....

Why not start each day this month with a prayer  
of thankfulness? Here is one I found ...

***Dear God, please remind me to start and end  
each day in prayer and thankfulness to you. May  
I never take for granted all the blessings you  
provide in my life. Amen***

### *Reminders!*

**Creation Day:** 9 AM on the THIRD Tuesday of  
each month at the Church. Many hands make a  
quick job of tying covers for our missions!

**Annual Pot Luck Dinner:** 6PM Wednesday  
December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Church. ALL are welcome!  
Bring a dish to pass. Ham will be provided. We will  
have a brief meeting and assemble the cheer  
plates.

Check out the Wisconsin UMW Website for all the  
latest news: <http://www.wisconsinumw.org/> **OR**  
the National Website [https://  
www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org)



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Thank you to everyone who came out to  
make Halloween Hoopla a success! The  
weather was BEAUTIFUL and the turnout was  
even better! We had roughly 10 trunks  
decorated along with cookie decorating,  
rock painting, food and other games. We  
couldn't have asked for a better day.

We are now shifting focus to Operation  
Christmas Child. Donations can be dropped  
off at church anytime. Our Sunday School  
students will be packing boxes on Sunday,  
November 10<sup>th</sup>. Monetary donations are also  
accepted to help cover shipping costs.

*Christmas is right around the corner!*

Our kids will soon be preparing for our  
annual **Christmas Program**, to be held  
on **Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at the  
10:30 AM service**. Parents, please watch for  
emails on this in the next couple of weeks!

## Major Improvement Fund (Fennimore)

Over the past year we have had to use the  
Major Improvement Fund for numerous  
maintenance needs, such as the garage,  
parsonage water heater and air conditioner  
and furnace(s) at the church. Because of this,  
the fund has been depleted. The Major  
Improvement Fund is not a budget line item  
and these funds come from donations. If you  
would like to give to the Major Improvement  
Fund, in addition to your regular offering, it  
would be greatly appreciated. In your Giving  
Envelope, you can designate the amount you  
would like to give to the Major Improvement  
Fund. Thank You and God Bless!

Pastor Bud and the Trustee Team

# Who's Serving in Fennimore in November?

## Ushers

Date:	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
11/3/2019	Bobbi Jo Pink Family	Kim Cathman
11/10/2019	Fotzler Family	Sue Hentschel Connie Neal
11/17/2019		
11/24/2019	Bobbi Jo Pink Family	Linda S. Karen R.

## Greeter (Sanctuary)

Date:	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
11/3/2019	Curt and Kathi Freymiller	Kim Cathman
11/10/2019	Bob and Maggie Miller	Sue Hentschel Connie Neal
11/17/2019	Joe and Donna G.	
11/24/2019	Holly Straka, Jude and Tommy	Linda S. Karen R.

## Liturgist

Date:	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
11/3/2019	Brady Pink	Kim Cathman
11/10/2019	Mark Burkum	Connie Neal
11/17/2019	Carmen Burkum	Lori Budzinski
11/24/2019	Linda O'Kane	Linda S.

### November Food Pantry Needs:

Green Beans  
Mixed Vegetables  
Tuna  
Canned Fruit  
Toilet Paper  
Shampoo

# November 2019 Mission



## UMCOR

Global Ministries | The United Methodist Church

## UMCOR

### United Methodist Committee on Relief

*About:* As the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Committee on Relief assists United Methodists and churches to become involved globally in direct ministry to persons in need. UMCOR works with vulnerable communities to strengthen self-sufficiency and encourage partnerships. UMCOR responds to US and international disasters, addresses diseases of poverty, ministers to refugees and immigrants, provides clean water and actively works to reduce hunger.

*The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) enters into a disaster at the request of the resident bishop or church partner. The request may be for financial or material resources, technical assistance or volunteers.*

*For more information, please visit:*

[www.umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org)



*Remember our Friends at:*

**Orchard Manor**  
Doris Schneider

**Lancaster Care Center**  
Jeannette Schneiderwind

**Divine Rehab and Nursing**  
Nip Leffler, Dave Lindow, Gerry McReynolds,  
Dennis Freymiller

**Sunset Fields**  
Donna Blackburn and Paul Rector

# "THE ASSOCIATE'S CORNER"

PASTOR YANG

## Our Mysterious Awesome God

Sometimes I'm not sure what God wants of me. Sometimes I sit there dazed and confused as I pray to God for guidance and direction. It's not the best time of my life in those situations but when I remember all the times God has helped me in the past it give me strength that God continues to guide me towards better then things even though I may not see the full picture at the time.

In the age of knowing all thing and everything in a split second whether through the internet, television, or even radio – we're not use to waiting for answers or not knowing where we or other things are going. We find it uncomfortable and not very assuring even if we've been there before and it's been fine. I think Christianity has also gone through this trap. We want answers now and we want them straight from the source. We want them straight from God. Unfortunately that's not how the world is and we have to realize that God works on God's time and not ours. This lack of knowing what God wants us to do or where God is in our lives can be confusing. It may even cause us to question if we have enough faith or if we're doing the right things. I mean, if I was doing the right things I wouldn't feel so lost, right?

In the Old Testament there were many times throughout Jewish history where God seemed to have left them but in reality God was listening to their prayers waiting for the perfect place, time, or person to lead God's people back in the right direction or the right place. God does the same thing today.

It wasn't until later that Jews started to appreciate the mysteries of God. We can see this in the way God is described usually not as a singular form but in many forms be it a burning bush, the wind, or a whisper in the air. God can

my mysterious in this way but the fact that God is always with us, listening to us, and leading us towards better things is never lost.

Often times the reason why God is mysterious to us is because we expect God to act or do things in a way you or any other human would. God is beyond any human wisdom or knowledge. To make things even shorter – God is beyond any human. WAY BEYOND. To say one person can know everything about God and understand God fully is to mean a person is nearly a god or is God themselves. Either of these would be wrong. Instead of trying to tie down God or put God into a box or fish bowl in which we can observe and try to understand each move maybe it's better if we allow God to be mysterious.

A mysterious God reminds us that God is beyond ourselves and tells us just exactly who God is. It also reminds us that God's wisdom and knowledge is beyond our own understanding and that's fine. Having such a vast and great God is not a bad thing but is exactly who God is. To me that is the God I want to worship that is the God that not made only me but all things around. That is the God whose love is so great that he makes it rain on the believer and non-believer. May God's grace keep us whole and humble. Amen.



## Well, that's a wrap for "Fifth Quarter 2019"!

We held three Fifth Quarters at our church during the football season after each of the home games. They were well attended, usually around 50-60 kids showed up each night to eat some good food, hang with friends and play some games or just enjoy the warmth of bonfire.

Thank You Pastor Yang for heading this up this year. Thank you for all the volunteers who helped cook pizzas, chaperone, bring wood, build the bonfires, and hang out with the teens. Thank you to all the people that donated Pizzas, Gatorade, Water, Snacks, Bars, Cookies, and Firewood. We appreciate you all and couldn't have done this without you!

Christine Klais