

BLOOMER AND NEW AUBURN UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

UNITED IN MINISTRY SINCE 1958



Bloomer UMC
Est. 1898

**1700 Main St
Bloomer, WI 54724
715-568-1971
www.bloomerumc.com**

New Auburn UMC
Est. 1883

**129 N Central St
New Auburn, WI 54757
715-237-2933 or 715-568-1971
www.bloomerumc.com**



Mission Statement

To share the Good News of Jesus Christ, through our worship, our education, and our role in our community and the world.

Mission Statement

To spread the good news of Jesus Christ and the message of God's grace.

Pastor's Note

Dear friends,

I can hardly believe it – we just finished our beautiful Advent "Tour Through the Gospel Homes," and here we are already at the threshold of Lent. It seems like just yesterday we were gathering in those homes, sharing stories and warmth, preparing our hearts for the arrival of the Christ child. What a gift that season was! And now, a new season is upon us.

And speaking of new seasons, this month marks one year since I began serving alongside the Bloomer and New Auburn church families, and now almost four years at Faith in Ladysmith. What a year it has been! Thank you to Bloomer and New Auburn for welcoming me, and thank you ALL for merging together, teaching me and each other, and journeying through these seasons of faith and life together.

We have exciting things happening at all the churches, and I am looking forward to growing together. We are partnering with Pastor Paul, and 12 young people from Holcombe, Bloomer, and Faith are going through confirmation classes together. Thank you to our prayer warriors who are praying individually for one of the students. I ask that you all add these young people to your prayers as they confirm their faith.

Lent is almost here, and I'm excited to invite you into a journey we're calling "Drink from the Fountain of Grace." Throughout Scripture and in our lives today, God sustains us in the most basic of human ways – physically, with food and drink, and spiritually, with nourishment for our souls. This Lent, as we remember what it means to be human in all its messiness and beauty, we'll find refreshment from God's fountain of grace.

We'll explore different cups that appear throughout Scripture – the Cup of Fasting, the Broken Cup, the Cup of Living Water, and others. Each week, these images will serve as touchpoints for asking the deep questions: What does our brokenness say about us? What does discipleship actually look like? What does it mean to seek justice in a thirsty world?

From the Cup You Choose to the Cup of Compassion, from the Overflowing Cup to the Cup of the New Covenant, we'll journey together through these forty days. And it all culminates in the most exciting celebration of all – Easter morning, when we discover that Jesus is risen for us and we have new life in him! We'll drink from the Cup that Never Runs Dry.

I hope you'll join us as we walk this Lenten path together, drawing deeply from the fountain of God's grace.

With hope and love,
Pastor Mary

Charge Celebrations and Missions and Ministries

New Auburn Birthdays

04	Adam North
10	Holly Hyke
10	John Clements
18	Austin Moos
18	Eric North

Bloomer Birthdays

04	Rita Stearns
14	Nelda Thomas
24	Mary Johnson



Terra-Cycle Collection Items

The following items are collected to be recycled or repurposed by businesses in the Madison area or by Terra Cycle in California.

A box labeled Terra-Cycle will be at the entrances of both church (New Auburn and Bloomer) to drop any items from the list that you have saved from the landfill. The boxes will be checked periodically and emptied accordingly. The items collected will be sent to First United Methodist Church, Madison, Wisconsin.

Start collecting items today. Every little bit helps. What I do is place a paper grocery bag by the washer and dryer to be filled with wanted items. Then when ready, I take the bag to church, empty the items in the designated box and start over again.

Any questions, please ask. Chris
24x7gig@gmail.com

Styrofoam meat trays

Plastic bread clips

Dental Items – tooth brushes, tooth paste tubes, floss containers, electric tooth brush heads

Eye glasses and eye glass containers

Deodorant Containers

Pumps and Triggers

Socks – mismatched or holey

Cancelled Stamps – NO FLAGS or CHRISTMAS

Glue Sticks

Expired Gift Cards

Tape dispensers

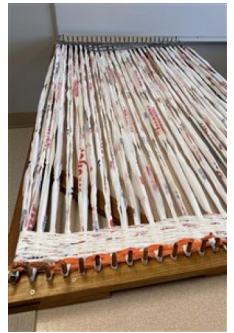
Writing Instruments – pens, pencils, markers, crayons

Pill Bottles - remove labels from prescription bottles

Weaving Sleeping Mats

Every Tuesday in February, a group of women gather to weave sleeping mats for the homeless and cut PLARN from old plastic grocery bags. We meet in the Music Room in the basement in the Bloomer UMC at 10:15am to 11:45am.

If it is your new year's resolution to make a positive difference in someone's life, consider coming to weave sleeping mats on a Tuesday morning. A dry, protective mat to sleep on in outdoor conditions will definitely bring a positive difference in their life. These mats are sent throughout the United States and the world. Be the hands and feet of Christ without even leaving the comfort of your own community.



Bloburn

In February Bloburn will be at Bloomer UMC, except on Ash Wednesday. We will be heading up to New Auburn for the Ash Wednesday service.

This month we'll help weave the PLARN mats and play a little dartball. If you would like to help weave in the evening you are welcome or if you would like to play some dartball come and join us on February 11th.

PACK Event – Planned Act of Christian Kindness

A PACK Event is being planned for Friday, February 13. The plan is to give out a small gift with message that shares Jesus' LOVE.

Check for more details on the Sunday church bulletin.

Community Table Save the Date

Our churches have the opportunity to serve at the Community Table in Eau Claire on Thursday, April 23, from 9am—2pm. Save the date on your calendar and watch for the sign-up sheet at church.

Missions and Ministries

New Auburn UM Women of Faith



NA UMC Basement 1:00 Thursday Feb 5th, Women Of Faith Upper Room Devotional Bible Study.. All are invited to enjoy coffee & great discussion.

Ongoing Prayer Ministry


Please lift up our homebound friends in prayer.

**Bloomer and New Auburn friends:
Verona Donahue, Louise Hacker, Gordy Chapman...**



Bloomer On Going Missions

Keep on collecting your...

...**Aluminum cans**...SAVE your ALUMINUM CANS...we will not collect them thru the winter...but please SAVE them and we will get them in the spring!

...**Pop tabs**...They will be given to Ronald McDonald House Charities to help raise money so the people that need to stay there are able to do it without worrying about how to pay for where they will stay when their child is in the hospital.



...**Box Tops**...The box tops go to help the area schools. Remember to enter them into the Box Tops website.

If you have any questions about these missions please feel free to contact Maryann Gumness or Juanita Fransway.

Caps and Personal Hygiene

Do you have any brand new personal hygiene products or hats that you have knit that you would like to donate to various organizations? Talk to Juanita Fransway and she can help you get them to people in need. You can find her Sunday mornings at Bloomer UMC.



New Auburn Loose Change for February



New Auburn – Personal Hygiene Items for New Auburn High School Students. The coins collected in the bucket in February will be sent to the New Auburn HS to purchase items for their Personal Hygiene Closet, where students can come to get needed items for their personal health. To take this coin collection to the next step, I will have a labeled box available for members to purchase items on their own to give to fill a box that would be given to the high school along with the coins collected during the month of February. My thought is that many times, I am out shopping and I see a good deal on personal hygiene items and think I wish I had someone or some organization to buy these items for. So if this has happened to you, this is your opportunity.

So, if you are out shopping and see good deals on items like deodorant, shampoo, hair conditioner, body wash or bar soap, body lotion, tooth paste and tooth paste, and tampons and pads for the young gals, buy them and bring them to the church's donation box.

Our young people want to fit in and being clean and smelling good are important for a healthy body and a confident self-consciousness. I ask you to think back, way back to your own high school memories and then be generous with your giving so no one feels left out or picked on for the lack of personal hygiene care items.

BISHOP'S CONVOCATION OF LAITY 2026

"Practicing Hope"

9am – 2pm, Saturday, March 7, 2026

Watch Party at Holcombe UMC

Register at <https://wisconsin-reg.brapp.com/LaityConvo2026>

Or simply go to the Conference website, wisconsinumc.org and click on the news and events calendar March 7, click on event, click to register.



Lent

Lenten Series



Throughout Scripture and today, God sustains God's people in the most basic of human ways – physically, with food and drink, and spiritually – with food and drink for our souls. This Lent, as we remember what it means to be human, we find refreshment from God's fountain of grace. The different images of cups shown in Scripture will serve as a touchpoint for exploring aspects of our relationship with God. What does our brokenness say about us? What does discipleship look like? What does it mean to seek justice? This exploration culminates in the most exciting celebration of all – that Jesus is risen for us and we have new life in him!

Ash Wednesday: The Cup of Fasting | Isaiah 58:1-12

Ash Wednesday is a moment for us to reflect on Jesus' suffering. We partner in his suffering so that we may better see the experience of those who suffer daily and work with them for lasting justice.

Week 1: The Broken Cup | 2 Corinthians 4:5-11

When things break, God can and will bring purpose and beauty out of the brokenness.

Week 2: The Cup of Living Water | John 4:7-29, 39

God affirms all we've been through and invites us into healthy relationship, wholeness, and sharing living water with others.

Week 3: The Cup You Choose | Psalm 16

Every day we have the opportunity to choose to follow Jesus.

Week 4: The Cup of Discipleship | Matthew 20:20-28

Being followers of Jesus involves giving our whole selves to build a community of mutual blessing.

Week 5: The Cup of Compassion | Matthew 25: 34-40

For Jesus, compassion and justice are intertwined and inseparable.

Lent Schedule

February 18: Ash Wednesday: The Cup of Fasting
- Isaiah 58:1-12

New Auburn: Service at 6:30 pm. No soup supper

February 25: Week 1: The Broken Cup -
2 Corinthians 4:5-11

Bloomer: 6 pm: Soup/ 6:30 pm Service with Pr. Mary

March 4: Week 2: The Cup of Living Water
- John 4:7-29, 39

New Auburn: 6 pm Soup/ 6:30 pm Service with Lay leader Ilene

March 11: Week 3: The Cup You Choose
- Psalm 16

Bloomer: 6 pm Soup/ 6:30 pm Service with Lay leader Maryann

March 18: Week 4: The Cup of Discipleship
- Matthew 20:20-28

New Auburn: 6 pm Soup/ 6:30 pm Service with Pr. Mary

March 25: Nathaniel Lutheran- Blue Hills Chorale, 7 pm- refreshments to follow
(All are welcome)

March 30: Monday morning devotional and continental breakfast, Bruce Federated 8:30 am

March 31: Tuesday morning devotional and continental breakfast, Faith-Ladysmith 8:30 am

April 1: Wednesday morning devotional and continental breakfast, Weyerhaeuser UMC 8:30 am
(All are welcome for these morning devos)

April 2: Maundy Thursday Agape Meal: The Cup of the New Covenant

- Matthew 26:20-29,
Ladysmith: Faith, 5:30 pm (all are welcome)

April 3: Good Friday

Bloomer Community Service, location and time TBA

Ladysmith Ecumenical Service: Nathaniel Lutheran, 5 pm

April 5: Easter Sunday: The Cup that Never Runs Dry

- John 20:1-18

"For God so loved ^{the} world,
that he gave his only Son,
^{that whoever} believes in him
should not perish
but have eternal life."

John 3:16