

August 23rd 2026

I want to start by thanking everyone who shared their testimonies on Sunday. It is always a blessing to hear how our ministries are affecting people's everyday lives. I also want to congratulate Nikky Stuart and Sabra Davis on completing their lay servant training. We pray for guidance as they continue on their chosen paths to strengthen the ministries they have been called too. I also ask that you all join me in praying this week for our students, teachers and staff as they return to school this week and encourage you to come support our Rams on Friday night.

I'm back in the pulpit this Sunday and this week I'm going to share with you all one of my biggest struggles in the past year: letting someone serve me. Just like Peter when Jesus washes the disciples' feet often times when someone bends down to serve us our first reaction is discomfort and even denial. Is this a truly Christian response or our own pride speaking? Is letting others serve us a way we can serve? I think you can probably guess my answers to these questions but if you want to hear more about these ideas or you just want someone to talk with over coffee and doughnuts, I invite you to join us this Sunday morning.

Sunday Morning Connection

Sunday, August 23rd, 2026 Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

SCRIPTURE: John 13:3 -17

SERMON: I Won't Make You Wash Someone's Feet Today

Hymns: How Firm a Foundation #529
And Can It Be that I Should Gain #363
Pass It On #572

Our Sunday worship will be at 10:30 am in the sanctuary at Port Byron First UMC or online

[Home | Port Byron First Methodist Church](#)

Announcements:

Sunday August 23

THIS WEEK

- Wednesday 26th Youth Leader Planning Meeting
Thursday 27th United Women of Faith Meeting 1:30

COMING UP

- Sunday, August 30th – 5th Sunday Meal Hosted by UWF

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Monday August 31 Listening Tour 10 am
Tuesday September 1st Trustees 7 pm
Wednesday September 2nd Return of GROW 6:30- 8:30
Friday September 4th 5th Quarter following Rams' Football home game

Consecration Sunday is coming up on Sunday the 13th of September we will be getting rsvp cards out to you all please respond so we know how many to plan for at lunch after the service. But, please even more be in prayer in the coming weeks to see what God is putting on your hearts where is God calling you to bless others with your time, talent and treasure

Donate Items for the Upper Rock Island County Food Pantry located at Messiah Lutheran Church. Items most needed now include condiments (ketchup, mayo & ranch), toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner, body wash, dish soap and laundry detergent, green beans, mac & cheese, and pancake mix. If shopping from your pantry, please check expiration/use-by dates.

Items for Mission Welcome Kits: The Mission Committee is preparing ongoing Welcome Kits for new residents at Whispering Hills. The following items are needed: shampoo, body soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dish soap, small laundry detergent, cleaning wipes, small all-purpose cleaner, single-roll paper towels, and a 4-pack of toilet paper. Thank you for your donations and support of this local mission!

Church related questions, concerns or pastoral care needs? Contact:

Pastor Krey Leesman: 309-226-3327

Pastor Becky Butterfield: 309-292-2287

Lay Leader: Nikki Stuart: 309-738-8099

Church Council Chair: Melissa Hogren 309-230-8400

If you would like to schedule an event at the church, contact email portbyronfirstumc@gmail.com and someone will provide you with the building agreement, policies, and forms to book the date on the church calendar.