



VOYAGEUR

MAY 2014

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Hospitality, or “outreach”, is more than a committee. It is a function of who we are as God’s people! When we show hospitality, it is about showing God’s love to everyone, extending love in the manner of Jesus to all who walk through our doors. Bishop Robert Schnase (from *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, Abingdon Press, 2007) says this:

“Christian hospitality refers to the active desire to invite, welcome, receive, and care for those who are strangers so that they find a spiritual home and discover for themselves the unending richness of life in Christ. It describes a genuine love for others who are not yet a part of the faith community; an outward focus, a reaching out to those not yet known, a love that motivates church members to openness and adaptability, willingness to change behaviors in order to accommodate the needs and receive the talents of newcomers.”

“Beyond intention, hospitality practices the gracious love of Christ, respects the dignity of others, and expresses God’s invitation to others, not our own. Radical [hospitality] means drastically different from the ordinary practice, outside the normal, and so it provokes practices that exceed expectations, that go the second mile, that take welcoming the stranger to the max. It means people offering the absolute utmost of themselves, their creativity, their abilities, and their energy to offer the gracious invitation and reception of Christ to others.”

That word – “radical”—can sound daunting, unless we remember God’s radical love for us. Actually, offering God’s invitation to others can start in some very simple ways:

Seeing your pew as your mission field, so that you are aware of who’s there and who’s not.

Which of your neighbors is missing? It means noticing the new person (or someone sitting alone) and committing yourself to welcome them beyond a simple “hello”. Who are they? What brought them here? What are they seeking in a faith community?

Giving your worship bulletin to someone during the week instead of tossing it into the recycling bin. The scripture and prayers might be helpful to someone else on his or her journey!

Understanding that the task of sharing the Christian faith isn’t just the job of the pastor or Outreach Committee. Everything that goes on in our church and with our church’s name on it should be about sharing the love of God with others and growing in the love of God ourselves! As a baptized part of the church, ministry is your calling and your gift. Share who you are and what you are grateful for. Most of all, don’t be afraid – ask, and God will give you guidance and courage.

We are God’s people, blessed to be a blessing!

Pastor Hay

ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMINDERS, COMMUNITY EVENTS, DATES, ETC.

SUNDAY MORNING

WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 / SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45

**Back to Regular Church Office Hours
9:00am—3:00pm Mon—Fri**

Phone: 218-751-3503

**FOR AFTER HOURS
AND EMERGENCIES:**

Rev. Gay Albers—766-7352

If you wish for a pastoral home visit or hospital visit, or know someone who needs or desires a visit, please call the church office.

JUST A REMINDER....

Articles for the June 2014 newsletter are due in the office no later than 8:00am on Tuesday, May 27, 2014.

Any announcements you wish to have in the Sunday bulletin must be called in, emailed, or delivered to the office by noon on Thursdays.

THANK YOU!



**OFFICE HOURS FOR PASTORAL AVAILABILITY: Tuesdays 1:00—3:00pm,
Wednesdays 10:00am—noon, or by appointment.
Pastor Gay's day off is Monday, Krista's days off are Wednesday & Friday.**

Email Addresses: Church Office, Charity: umcbji@paulbunyan.net
Pastor Gay: galbers@paulbunyan.net
Krista Coyle: kcoyle@paulbunyan.net

Mailing Address: PO Box 607, Bemidji, MN 56619

Street Address: 924 Beltrami Avenue, Bemidji MN 56601

Worship Service Volunteers May 2014

If you cannot fulfill your Sunday of volunteering please find a replacement and let the church office (751-3503) know who your replacement is.

USHERS

Coordinator: Michelle Crow

GREETERS

May 4: *Dick and Jean Slinkman*

May 4: *Marion Janikowski and Michelle Crow*

May 11:

May 11: *Ruth Larson and Char Saley*

May 18:

May 18: *Marion Janikowski and Michelle Crow*

May 25: *Victor Mosser and Sandra Kranz*

May 25: *Bev Bryant and Skip Larson*

COMMUNION STEWARDS: *George and Pam Stowe*

READERS: *Coordinator Becky Lueben*

COFFEE SERVERS: *Coordinator Skippy Larson*

May 4: *Judy Dvorak*

May 4: *choir*

May 11: *Carson Danielson*

May 11: *choir*

May 18: *Ben Stowe*

May 18: *choir*

May 25:

May 25: *choir*

Bemidji UMC Trustees Update

Thanks to everyone who has given so generously to our Capital Campaign!



- The church elevator has been repaired and brought up to code.
- Our church now has a medical defibrillator and oxygen tank for medical emergencies.
- A memorial window will be placed in the narthex in the next few months, funded through memorial gifts to the church.
- We are on track for some large building repairs – furnace replacements, roof, etc.— in the near future.

Again, thank you for your tremendous support as a congregation in keeping our building in shape so that we can better serve our neighbors and engage in God’s ministry here!

MAY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Youth Caramel Rolls 4:00 YAEC Meeting 4:00 Confirmation	28 4:30 UMMHC	29 11:00 Staff Mtg Noon and 5:30 Yoga 1:00 VBS Meeting 5:30 AA	30 10:00 ROMEOs at Sanford Health 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Re- hearsal	1 5:00 Soup Kitchen 5:00 Lotus Zen Meditation 5:00 Stamping Group	2 7:30 Square Dance	3 9:30 Yoga Memorial Service for Marie Schleuger 5:30 Square Dance
4 COMMUNION SUNDAY FOOD SHELF SUNDAY 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Youth Caramel Rolls 4:00 Confirmation	5 4:30 UMMHC	6 Noon and 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 6:00 Faith and Fellowship 6:30 Trustees Meeting	7 10:00 ROMEOs at Sanford Health 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Re- hearsal	8 5:00 Soup Kitchen 5:00 Lotus Zen Meditation 5:30 SPRC Meeting	9	10 9:30 Yoga 10:00 Prayer Shawl Meet- ing 5:30 Adult Game Night
←—————Pastor Gay gone on Continuing Education—————→						
11 MOTHER'S DAY 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Service Guest Speaker: Elder Larry Stillday 10:45 Sunday School	12 4:30 UMMHC 6:00 RFL Team Capt Meeting 7:15 RFL Committee Meeting	13 1:00 Staff Mtg Noon and 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA	14 9:15 BMW Meet- ing 10:00 ROMEOs at Sanford Health 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Re- hearsal	15 5:00 Soup Kitchen 5:00 Lotus Zen Meditation 7:00 Soup Kitchen Board Meeting	16	17 9:30 Yoga Youth Clean- up day
18 LOVE OFFERING 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School 2:00 Square Dance 4:00 Confirmation	19 4:30 UMMHC	20 Noon and 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 5:30 Finance Meeting	21 10:00 ROMEOs at Sanford Health 6:30 Youth Group NO Choir Rehears- al	22 5:00 Soup Kitchen 5:00 Lotus Zen Meditation	23	24 9:30 Yoga
25 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Service	26 OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY	27 Noon and 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	28 10:00 ROMEOs at Sanford Health 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Re- hearsal	29 5:00 Soup Kitchen 5:00 Lotus Zen Meditation 5:00 Stamping Group	30	31 9:30 Yoga
MINNESOTA UMC ANNUAL CONFERENCE						

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Please celebrate and pray for these people on their birthday.

MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

3 Donald Hays
Barbara Walters

4 Lorna Sullivan
Larry Young

5 Marie Kastella

6 Kurt Kastella

9 Alec Hess

10 Hope Sander

12 Thomas D'Albani
Terry Nelson

14 Richard Parkos

16 Glenn Seibel

17 Emerée Conner

18 Stephanie Jones
Del Lyren

19 Keston Lee

21 William Knudson
Joel Roberts

22 Kendall Dahlberg
Ervin Jacobson
Jean Leaf

24 Verona
Haluptzok
Charlie Jessen

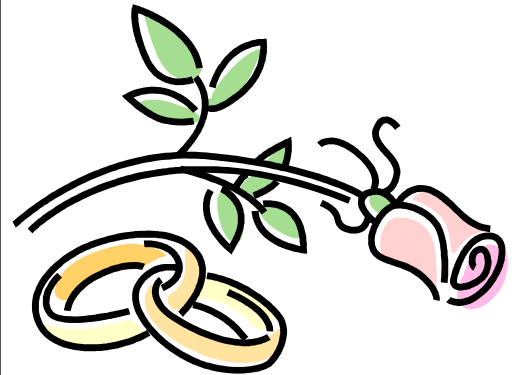
25 Margaret Skinner

26 Doris Pierce

28 Stacie Parkos

29 Darren Kimble
Sherry Noska

31 Riley Howe



May 5
Bill and Ruth Weis

May 19
Terry and Patricia DeChaine

May 26
Mike and Tricia Jessen



If your birthday or anniversary or the birthday or anniversary of a parishioner is missed here, please call Charity at the office so it will be included in the Sunday bulletin and future Voyagers.



May 2014

Youth & Family News

We Want Your JUNK for Holy Heaps!



Youth Group is hosting Holy Heaps again this year in the BUMC Parking lot during in mid-July. With your help, it will be our best fundraiser of the year! If you have ANY extra "stuff," please consider donating it to Youth Group! We will sell it during the Holy Heaps sale. Another way to participate is to rent a booth space to sell your own goods at the sale - booth rental is \$20, but we do all the advertising and provide

tables and water to all booth-renting BUMC participants. Also, come and shop at the sale, and pick up a delicious home-made Youth Group caramel roll to snack on while you browse through all the potential treasures. You may donate items for Youth Group to sell ANY TIME between June 1 and the sale. The sale date will by announced soon. Contact Krista with any questions. And thanks for supporting our Youth!

Looking for Books...

Book ideas are starting to blossom around BUMC like spring flowers! If you have new or gently used books that you are willing to share with others, we have a couple BUMC book projects in mind for the upcoming months... Please let Charity know you're bringing some by, and leave them in the church library. We will put them to good use, and share our project plans as they get more organized and come to fruition in the coming months. Thanks for sharing your books!



TAKE NOTE:

May 11

Mother's Day Brunch
****Canceled****

May 17

Youth and Family
Ditch Cleanup Day
with First Lutheran
1pm—FLC parking lot

May 18

Graduate Sunday &
SS Celebration

Last Day of
Confirmation until
September



Sunday School Celebration & Summer Plans

The Sunday School year is coming to an end! The last day of SS will be May 18. On that day, we will celebrate our SS teachers and High School Graduates during worship and celebrate all our other students during SS. We will not be having a Summer SS - but we have a nursery/play area in the Lounge for families who want to bring kids of any age out for a break from church. Thanks to some basic technology, parents using the Lounge space will still be able to hear the worship service. SS will resume on Rally Day, which is scheduled for Sunday, September 7. Happy Summer!



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dakotas-Minnesota Area

Resident Bishop
Bruce R. Ough
bishop@dalmtmca.org

Administrative Assistant
Sheilah F. Kyburz
sheilah.kyburz@dalmtmca.org

February, 2014

Dear members and friends of Minnesota United Methodist Churches:

May God's grace and peace be multiplied to you.

Several years ago, a cabinet colleague gave me a T-shirt with the following saying printed on the front: "We've never done it that way before." I have heard this phrase referred to as the seven last words of the Church. On the back of my new T-shirt were the first seven words of the Church: "Ponder anew what the Almighty can do."

I believe in miracles because, like many of you, I have witnessed what God's grace, so abundantly, so freely, so extravagantly given, can do. I am an optimist, not by nature, but by faith and experience. I live and give out of a theology of abundance because I know that, in Christ, all things are possible.

God is working through Minnesota United Methodists to perform life-saving, life-transforming miracles. We have saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of children through our successful Imagine No Malaria campaign (more than \$2.3 million raised to date). We improved the lives of tens of hundreds through last year's successful Cleaning Bucket Challenge (resulting in 719 full buckets, 136 empty buckets, and \$57,977). Our annual Love Offering for Missions has touched and healed countless lives.

Now, God is calling us to another miracle offering. God is calling us to "ponder anew what the Almighty can do." God is calling us to continue to save the children—the most vulnerable of God's beloved community.

Our 2014 Love Offering for Missions will have two components—a cash offering with a goal of at least \$120,000 and a feed-the-hungry component with a goal of 1 million meals.

This God-sized dream is in keeping with our 2014 annual conference theme: **Unleashing Fearless, Spirit-Led Churches**. Jesus commanded us to feed the hungry and provide the thirsty something to drink. Imagine 350-plus fearless, Spirit-led United Methodist congregations combining efforts in response to Jesus' kingdom imperative to heal a broken world.

Million Meals Marathon/Feed My Starving Children. This portion of our Love Offering will be gathered over the next few months, with the culmination of packing our millionth meal at the 2014 annual conference session, May 28-30. We are partnering with Feed My Starving Children

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February, 2014

to conduct meal-packing events in three permanent and three mobile locations across the conference and at the site of the annual conference session in St. Cloud. Please go to the Million Meals Marathon page on the Minnesota Conference website to learn how and where your church can participate. (www.minnesotaumc.org/our-ministries/million-meals-marathon/)

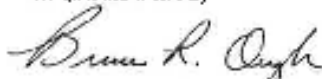
We are partnering with Feed My Starving Children because it is an Advance Special of The United Methodist Church and because it has developed a reliable infrastructure and process for delivering life-saving meals to people who need them most all over the world. When natural disasters strike, when drought devastates a fragile landscape, when war disrupts and displaces populations, Feed My Starving Children helps sustain lives. Meals have been distributed—mostly to children and their families—in nearly 70 countries through missionary partnerships at orphanages, schools, clinics, refugee camps, and malnourishment centers. Eighty percent of our cash Love Offering gifts will be used to help pay for the 1 million meals we will be packaging.

Project AgGrad. Ten percent of our cash Love Offering gifts will be distributed to Project AgGrad. This unique project, begun in 1986, provides scholarship assistance to graduate students from developing countries to study agriculture at the University of Minnesota. Each student agrees to return to his or her home country to become a leader in implementing sustainable agricultural practices designed to increase food production. This is one more way that Minnesota United Methodists feed the starving children of the world.

Volunteers in Mission scholarships. Ten percent of the cash Love Offering will provide scholarship assistance for first-time Volunteers in Mission. Most of the Volunteers in Mission teams from Minnesota are engaged in hands-on projects that build the infrastructure to ensure that our nutritional, medical, and educational programs in developing countries become sustainable and locally run. We are committed to increasing the number of first time volunteers who can travel and work in places where we are providing life-saving and life-transforming programs for the world's children.

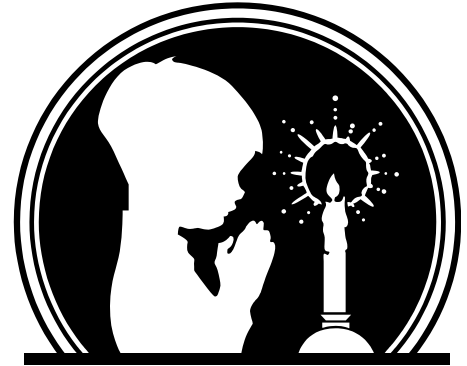
I urge you to let God's unlimited imagination take hold of you and your church as we "ponder anew what the Almighty can do" through Minnesota United Methodism. God is always seeking a faithful and fruitful people through whom God's miraculous grace can be made incarnate. May God unleash us as fearless, Spirit-led churches to multiply our loaves and fish to provide 1 million meals to the hungry children—God's children. Thank you for your sacrificial and extravagant generosity.

In Christ's love,

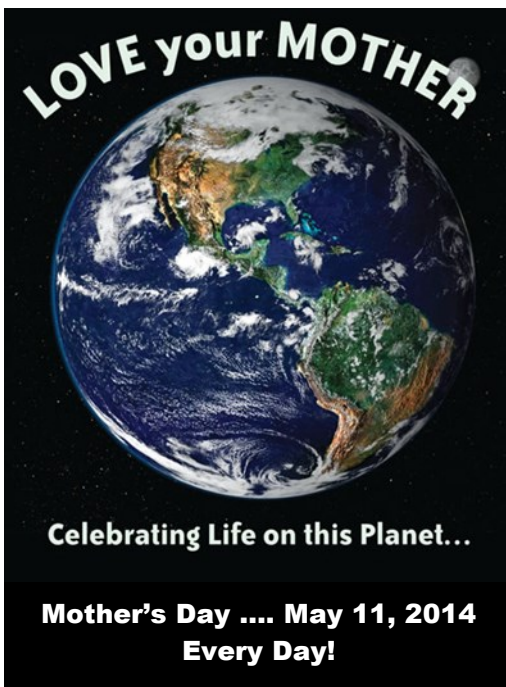

Bruce R. Ough, Resident Bishop

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE . . .

... at **Sanford Hospital**: Doug Pederson
... at **Neilson Place**: Henrietta Britton, Trudy Ditty
... at **Trillium**: Nelle May, Marjory Beck
... at **Windsong**: Margaret Skinner, Bill Britton, Jean Leaf, Verona Haluptzok, Wag and Alice Collins, Eunice Flynn, Marian Blehm, Lucille Kinnard, Dick and Jean Slinkman
... at **Birch Haven**: Lois Statton, Doris Pierce
... at **Havenwood Care Center**: Patty Boyer, Ruth Blackburn, Mary Conner, Grace Daniels
... at **Cedar Cottage**: Tillie Orear
... at **Goldpine #4**: Laura Hays, Dorothy Sathre, Harold Fruetel, Joyce Daniels
... at **Eagle's View Foster Home**: Robert Ray
... at **Meadowlands**: Neil Bryant
... in nursing care in **Staples**: Betty Roline (Marcia's mother in law)
... recovering at **home**: Kathleen Magsam
... undergoing cancer treatment: Chris Shomenta, Kelly Fuhrman, Eric Roberts, Mary Hoody, Todd Longazo, Sharon Vick (wife of our custodian David)
... in need of special prayers: William Hurt, Penny Jo Haupt and her grandson Nicholas, Judy Magness's mother
... on hospice: Aline Hudson
... preparing to deploy to Krygystan: Sarina Trego



Please remember baby Kazzlynn Lee and the family in your prayers as they monitor her health. Remember Lo Sorensen in your prayers as she mourns the death of her sister, Margaret.



"We are taught that we originated from the Earth and that the Earth is the Great Mother of all. She provides us with everything we need to survive in this life." –Elder Larry Stillday

On Mother's Day, Elder Larry Stillday will be our guest speaker in worship!

Mr. Stillday is an elder, spiritual advisor, teacher, and community leader from Red Lake. He and his wife, Violet, graciously accepted an invitation to speak to us about our relationship with the earth and the spiritual connections at the heart of stewardship of creation.

As United Methodists committed to "faith that seeks understanding", we welcome the Stilldays and the earth wisdom of our Ojibwe brothers and sisters. Come and celebrate God's good gifts of mothers and our planet!

BEMIDJI UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

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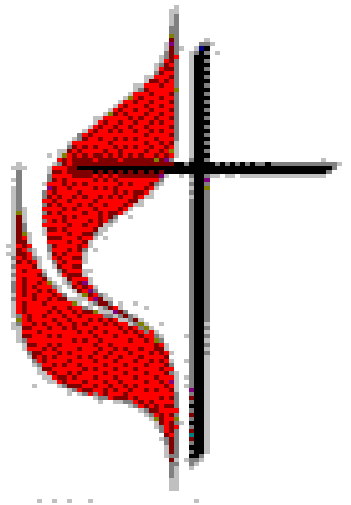
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Return Service Requested

MAY 2014 VOYAGEUR
Published Monthly

open hearts
open minds
open doors



The people of the United Methodist Church

Church Staff

Gay Albers
Pastor

Krista Coyle
Ministries Coordinator

Charity Yoder-Smith
Secretary/Bookkeeper

Dave Vick
Custodian

Patty Smith
Housekeeping

Cynthia White
Organist

Linda Wagner
Chancel Choir Director

Virginia Youngdahl
Parish Nurse