



VOYAGEUR JUNE 2019

Dear Church Family,

As most of you know, our church has begun to have conversations about becoming a reconciling church. Briefly, the Reconciling movement is about full inclusion for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and other sexual minority peoples. The controversy within our denomination has focused on same gender weddings and a ban in the discipline on "self-avowed practicing homosexuals" from serving as clergy.

I've had several opportunities to share with you and our larger community my thoughts and Biblically supported beliefs in full inclusion. I am aware that both sides of this issue connect their beliefs and ideas to scripture-- so it does involve making choices about how one interprets and weighs contradictions.

This is an important time for prayer and discernment in our life together. Whether your church family chooses to become reconciling is a choice made by the church family, not by the pastor. At the same time, I am open to any and all conversation as you prayerfully participate in this process.


This is also the month that the Minnesota Conference of the United Methodist Church has its annual meeting. Jan Grimm, Larry Young, and Sue Young are lay delegates to conference this year. After the Special General Conference of 2019, this meeting will be an important and prayerful time for Minnesota Methodists to discern our identity as we minister in changing community contexts. I am asking for your prayers for this meeting. The future of the United Methodist denomination is unknown and uncertain at best. What is known and certain is God's love through Jesus Christ. God's love will outlive any denomination or church. I'm trusting God to be at work in you as we continue to strive to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. I pray that challenges we are now facing will not distract us from living the life to which we are all called.

Blessings,

Pastor Rob

June

2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----------|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | 1 9:30 Yoga |
| 2 Confirmation Sunday 10:30 Worship | 3 | 4 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 5:30 Ruby Tuesday Singers Rehearsal | 5 9:45 Service at Havenwood 10:45 Service at Neilsen Place 5:00 Community Table | 6 5:00 Community Table 6:15 Lotus Zen Meditation | 7 | 8 9:30 Yoga |
| 9 10:30 Worship | 10 | 11 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 5:30 Ruby Tuesday Singers Rehearsal 6:30 Trustees Mtg | 12 5:00 Community Table | 13 4:00 SPCR 5:00 Community Table 6:15 Lotus Zen Meditation | 14 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE | 15 9:30 Yoga 10:00 Prayer Shawl |
| 16 10:30 Worship | 17 | 18 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 5:30 Ruby Tuesday Singers Rehearsal | 19 5:00 Community Table | 20 1:30 Finance Mtg 5:00 Community Table 6:15 Lotus Zen Meditation | 21 | 22 9:30 Yoga |
| 23 10:30 Worship | 24 | 25 2-3:30 Evergreen Mtg 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 5:30 Ruby Tuesday Singers Rehearsal 5:30 Council Mtg | 26 5:00 Community Table | 27 2-5 Stamping Group 5:00 Community Table 6:15 Lotus Zen Meditation | 28 | 29 9:30 Yoga 1:00 Memorial Service |
| 30 10:30 Worship | | | |  | | |

JUNE MEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Please celebrate and pray for these people on their birthday and anniversary.

BIRTHDAYS

06 Marshall Johnston, Carol Rieke, Kathy Magsam
07 Sandra Kranz, David swenson
08 Riley Finnegan, Marjorie LeClaire
10 Arle Hagberg
11 Mateo Porro
12 Sue Young, Rod Pickett
13 Nicholas Jessen
14 Carol Nielsen, Lowell Pommerening
17 Merlyn Wesloh
18 Robert Wagner
21 LeRoy Morris
22 Michael Dewitt
25 Tiffany Seibel
30 Pam Jorstad, Dave Larkin

ANNIVERSARY

04 Glenn & Michelle Seibel
12 Dave & Angie Dahlberg
15 Allen & Dawn Cullifer
16 Rick & Margene Parkos
20 Rick & Erin Morehouse
21 Tony & Carla Nicholson
21 Maury & Lorna Sullivan
22 Kay & Norma Schuver
23 Jack & Sharon Israelson
24 Peter & Janice Moberg
29 Tom & Judy Dvorak



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

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE..

... at *Neilson Place*: Jean Slinkman, Marian Blehm, Nelle May
... at *Trillium*: Dick Slinkman, Lois Statton, Judy Comstock,
... at *Windsong*: Wag Collins, Bert Clark, Karren Clark, Dotty Naramore
...at *Baker Park*: Kathleen Magsam
... at *Havenwood Care Center*: Patty Boyer, Mary Conner, Grace Daniels,
Vern Ditty, Betty Howard
... at *Goldpine*: Laura Hays, Dorothy Sathre, Ruby Hausauer, Dorothy Baxter,
Marjory Beck
... at *Tanbark Assisted Living in Lexington, KY*: Margaret Skinner
...in *Brandon, SD* Doris Pierce



BEMIDJI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Church Office hours:
9:00am ~ 2:00pm
Monday ~ Friday

Office Phone: 218-751-3503
Pastor Rob Phone: 218-766-8744

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 April Newsletter are due in the office no later than **9:00am on Friday, June 14, 2019**. Any announcements you wish to have in the Sunday bulletin must be called in, emailed, or delivered to the office by **9:00am on Thursdays**.



THANK YOU!

Email Addresses: Church Office, Tammy: umcbji@paulbunyan.net
Pastor Rob: revrmkopp@gmail.com
Mailing Address: PO Box 607, Bemidji, MN 56619
Street Address: 924 Beltrami Avenue NW, Bemidji MN 56601

Worship Team Volunteers for June 2019

Dave & Alice Larkin
Ken & Deanna Nichols
Mike & Tessa Richardson
Jeff & Charlene Anderson



Ushers
Greeters
Reader
Coffee Servers



Volunteers are needed to provide special music for the summer worship services.
Please consider sharing your talent. Sign-up sheet is outside the church office.



The Bemidji Methodist Women (BMW) have presented Special Mission Recognition awards annually since 1957. Initially, an award was given to one woman a year. Men were considered eligible in 1983 and multiple awards per year were sometimes given after 1984.

The BMW sends a financial gift for the mission of the church to the Women's Division, Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church, in the name of each honoree. Those selected are presented with Special Mission Recognition Award pins and certificates. Their photographs are included with those previous awards recipients and are on display in the church lounge.

Award recipients are selected on the basis of their continuing service to the community and BUMC by a selection committee composed of previous award recipients.

The Bemidji Methodist Women meet the 3rd Wednesday of the 9 month school year. We begin with refreshments at 9:15 in the lounge. Following refreshments, our speaker takes the stage. We have had speakers from our congregation and community that have shared valued information about a particular topic. All women are invited to attend as well as the guys if you find the subject interesting. We have a devotion and a business meeting before wrapping up the morning.

Part of our Mission is to help fund various organizations in our church and community. Our members pledge any amount to be used for that purpose. Our only fund raiser to add to that is the sale of the Georgia nuts in the holiday season.

This year we gave \$200 Emma Norton, \$150 BUMC Youth, \$200 to be used for Flowers, \$400 Food Shelf, \$250 Northern Pines, \$200 Northwood Care Givers, \$200 Chaplain Wings, \$200 Northwood Battered Women's Shelter, \$200 Evergreen Youth Shelter, \$200 Northwood Pregnancy Care Center, \$200 Churches United, \$100 Welcome Table.

2019 Recipients for the Special Mission Recognition Awards are



Jeff Anderson

Jeff Anderson is a true son of Chicago, having been born on it's south side and raised there until his family moved to the suburbs when he was 11 years old.

At an early age he discovered chemistry and a life long love was born. Jeff chose Illinois State University in Normal, IL where he received a BS with Honors in Chemistry and met the love of his life. (Not necessarily in that order). He chose to further his education at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus over Texas A&M in no small part "Because the fishing is better in Minnesota". After earning his Ph.D. in Biochemistry in 1980 he accepted a position with the E.I. DuPont de Nemours company in Wilmington, DE as a research chemist in their Agricultural Products Division. He spent his last years at DuPont as the Manager of Human Safety Assessment in the Crop protection Division, retiring in 2013 after 32 1/2 years.

Jeff & Charlene married in 1977 and welcomed their son, Patrick, in 1981 and daughter, Lydia, in 1984.

According to his son, besides being "absolutely the most brilliant biochemist I've ever seen", Jeff has always had many interest: fishing, archery, hunting, camping, music, reading...the list is endless. According to his daughter, "he is a learner, always seeking more knowledge. He is proof you can start a career as a professional musician and learn a new language post-retirement!"

Volunteering has played a big part of Jeff's life. He has given countless hours to Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, United Way and the Mt. Pleasant High School Marching Band, Go Green Knights! He has been actively involved in the churches he attends. If you're ever in Wilmington, drive past Silverside Church and take a peek at their solar array. He was a major force behind that being built.

Jeff & Charlene moved to the Bemidji area after his retirement in 2013. They built a home on Stump Lake and are avid outdoors people enjoying many sports. They became active members of BUMC. Jeff has served on both the SPRC and Trustee committees. He also teaches the Adult Sunday School class. Hearing him play his accordion on a Sunday morning is a real treat for our congregation. Jeff is a real asset to our church.

His children said it best: "It's safe to say my Dad has a positive impact on anyone lucky enough to meet him. He makes me want to be a better person". "An example of a man and a father I don't think I'll ever live up to though I keep trying".

Gerald (Jerry) Pickett

In 1968 Gerald (Jerry) Pickett transferred his membership from the Albert Lee church to the Bemidji United Methodist Church under the auspices of the Reverend Lyle Christianson. Jerry was a very service minded individual and became involved in numerous church and community functions. Jerry and Margo had three children Kevin, Mark, and Brenda who all were introduced to church activities. Jerry & Margo divorced, but both continued to be members of the Bemidji Methodist church. Jerry continued to be actively involved helping with Meals on Wheels, ushering, greeting and taking his turn being a money counter. He and Bunny helped with our church suppers working on the waiters and clean up committees.

Initially, Jerry worked at the Olson Schwartz funeral home for over ten years. He became co-owner of a car wash and later entered into the Real Estate business. Currently retired he continues to stay active and involved in community affairs.

He continues to fish, hunt (deer & small game), golf and curl. Several fishing and hunting trips are planned each year with longtime friends. Although he doesn't brag about his curing accomplishments, his senior curling team won both the **2019 Minnesota State** and the **National Senior Curling Championships**. Also he successfully helped organize three former National Curling events.

Jerry works with the high school mentoring program. Once a month he meets with his student to visit and work on a project or planned activity. They work together for a three year period. This is viewed as a highly successful program.

Membership in organizations remains important to Jerry for he attends and participates in rotary, and the Elks Club while actively participating in the Shriners organization. He was Jaycee President for a term and co-chair of the Water Carnival two times. He was later awarded a Life Time Jaycee membership. He was influential in helping to start the Bemidji Ducks Unlimited program, which continues to influence breeding grounds and hunting standards.

Jerry's friendly manner is noted as he greets individuals and makes them feel welcome. He truly reflects his Christian Faith in his daily dealings and practices. Jerry is deserving of this recognition and award.

Diane Morris

Diane is a true lover of nature and sits in the front pew in church. A life long resident of the Bemidji area, Diane went to grade school in Guthrie, on to high school in Bemidji and then Bemidji State. She worked with the State Parks before getting hired at BSU in the Lab dept. Eventually she became the full time Lab Supervisor in the Biology and Chemistry dept. and remained there until her retirement in 2017. A colleague said she was the "glue" that held the dept. together. A kind and gentle person, a true gem! For years she ran the regional Science Fair.

Diane married LeRoy Morris on December 21, 1974 at the Bemidji United Methodist Church (BUMC). She became a part of this church when the Guthrie UMC closed. Over the years she has been active in the church ministry serving on committees and doing whatever task she was asked. Her most recent and valued contribution is to the HCI committee. She attends the Bemidji Methodist women's group and is also a member of the Faith and Fellowship.

LeRoy and Diane reside on her parents farm and live in the house her Dad built in 1952. Being a nature lover she finds interest in anything biological, animals of all kinds, plants and even fungi. Her hobbies include those things as well as quilting, stamping and scrapbooking. Diane and LeRoy are members of the Bemidji Antique Car club participating and enjoying their many activities.

Diane is a worthy recipient of the Special Mission Recognition Award!

June District Health News

The “father” of modern medicine, Hippocrates, said that “all disease starts in the gut”. We are just recently discovering how right he really was. “The Microbiome”, the bacteria, fungi, viruses, that live in our gut and in fact in all parts of our body, far outnumber the human cells in our bodies. Scientists the world over are discovering the many bodily functions that these little creatures perform so that we can exist—producing vitamins, enzymes, fatty acids, and so much more. They affect our moods, our personalities and chronic diseases that we are dealing with. They make a huge impact on whether we are healthy or not.

The cures for chronic conditions/diseases seem to lie with these little microbes. There is a symbiotic relationship that exists between them and us which our way of life is disrupting resulting in diseases that include diabetes, obesity, heart disease, autoimmunity, Alzheimer’s, cancers, etc. These microbes are as unique as we are because they are affected by our genetics, our food, our environment and our movement (exercise). If we feed them what they need to live, they will keep us healthy. If we expose them to numerous toxins such as heavy metals, glyphosate, pesticides and antibiotics through our environment or our foods and medical treatments (processed foods, sugars, non-organic fruits and vegetables laden with toxins), we will develop dis-eases over time.

We have a new generation of young people in this country and in other countries, that are saying “ENOUGH” to the herbicides, pesticides, bactericides (antibiotics) in our fruits, vegetables and food animals. They are demanding organic, non-GMO (genetically modified organisms) foods that are nutrient dense and healthy to feed children. The incidence of chronic disease was around 4% of the population in the 1960’s and today 46% of our children have a chronic disease; including Type I Diabetes, celiac disease, gluten sensitivity, food allergies, eczema, psoriasis, Rheumatoid Arthritis and many other autoimmune diseases. Our genes are altered by our lifestyles, our attitudes, our stresses, our diet, lack of exercise, pollution of food, water, air and more that we are discovering every day.

We used to think until just recently, that genetics was a blueprint of what we were going to be... but now we know through research, that is not so. We all have genetic potential to develop a large variety of diseases or conditions but those genes are altered by our lives and how we choose to live them. Scientists are finding out just how complex the body ecosystem really is. The Master gave us all the tools to live productive lives and to heal our ills. We have strayed far from that as we have failed to Believe. Jesus asked us to make the choice to follow Him...love one another, forgive one another, be kind to one another and in turn do the take care of ourselves. We are getting closer to understanding what he really meant, through research. We don’t have all the puzzle pieces yet but are discovering new things daily. God is revealing them slowly. We are seeking and he promises that we will find if we persist and BELIEVE.

Judy Lightowler, MS, RN, CLM PN

North Star District Parish Nurse

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**2019-UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

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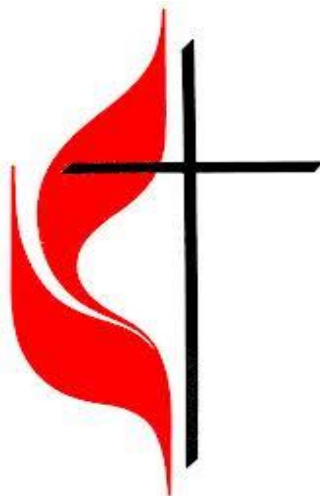
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open hearts
open minds
open doors



The People of the United Methodist Church

Church Staff

Reverend Rob Kopp
Pastor

Tammy Freye
Secretary/Bookkeeper

Linda Wagner
Chancel Choir Director

Grace Pastoor
Volunteer & Events Coord.