



Christ United Methodist Church

## Blessing the Backpacks

August 29, 2021

**Prelude** *Rhosymedre* Ralph Vaughan Williams  
John Varona, Organ

**Words of Welcome & Grace** Rev. Kirkland Reynolds

**Hymn** *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

**Morning Prayer** Rev. Nancy Wheeler Handlon

**Children's Lesson & Backpack Blessings** Rev. Jenny Cannon  
Rev. Kirkland Reynolds  
Rev. Nancy Wheeler Handlon  
Jody Peterson

### Prayer of Blessing for the School Year

**One:** Steady and comforting God, (...). We pray for steady self-esteem and deepening resilience.

**All:** Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

**One:** We pray for our minds, (...) and settle our thought loops in peaceful places.

**All:** Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

**One:** We pray for our hands, (...) spin wheelchair tires and basketballs.

**All:** Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

**One:** We pray for our mouths, (...) when we're feeling anxious or afraid.

**All:** Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

**One:** We pray for our feet, (...) We know you are with us wherever our feet go or stay.

**All:** Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

**One:** We pray for our eyes, (...) the eyes of the Spirit within us.

**All:** Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

**One:** We pray for our ears, (...) the ears of the Spirit within us.

**All:** Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

**One:** We say a special prayer for parents (...) whether heading to preschool or driving to college.

**All:** Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

**One:** We also pray now for teachers, (...) and recognition of the sweet ways children are also teachers.

**All:** Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

**One:** We pray for health and wholeness, fun and growth, surprise and amazement, for this school year ahead, knowing you will hold us all the way through.

**All:** We thank you, God, and love you. Amen.

**Hearing the Word** James 1:17-27 Maddie Kennicut

### Call to Offering

**Musical Offering** *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* arr. Mark Hayes  
Vocal Solo, Kalle Akkerman

**Hearing the Word** Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Sophie Vanderheiden

**Message** "Food for Thought" Rev. Kirkland Reynolds

**Hymn** *O For A Heart to Praise My God*

### Benediction

**Postlude** *Sonata No. 2, Allegro Maestoso* Felix Mendelssohn  
John Varona, Organ

**Thank you for worshiping with us!**

**Please join us again.**

\*Indicates to stand as you are able.

(UMH) United Methodist Hymnal (the red book)

(FWS) Faith We Sing (the black book)

*Flowers on the altar and Radio Ministry sponsored this Sunday  
by David Greymont in memory of his wife Vicki*

### Ministry Updates:

- **Re-introducing! Rev. Amanda Larsen has (re)joined our staff as Interim Youth Coordinator.** Amanda served as an associate pastor at Christ from 2006-2011 focused on discipleship empowerment and crafting the 11:00 worship service. After Christ she served churches in Wykoff, Lanesboro and Red Wing. For the last few years she has been on family leave and offering interim ministry throughout the state. Katarina (14, at Mayo) and Shaun (9, at Folwell) have been involved at CUMC for about a year through youth and children's ministries.
- **The Annual Conference has returned to the "Yellow" phase. This means:**
  - **Masks are currently required in the building if you are vaccinated or unvaccinated.** Face masks are located at church building entrances. Hand sanitizer is available throughout our building
  - **Maintain physical distancing** of at least 6 feet
  - **There will be no congregational singing**
  - **Please fill out the contact tracing card** located in your bulletin and return them to the offering baskets.
- **Rally Sunday is happening - SEPTEMBER 12!** We will enjoy many outdoor festivities, games, ministry tables, and snacks. This marks the beginning of the new program year, **and the return of the 11am Arise Service!** We cannot wait for you to join us.

### Congregational Prayers:

- For students, teachers, and staff at the start of a new school year
- For those needing medical care
- For those who serve people with special needs
- For the people of Haiti and Afghanistan



Audio induction loop systems (T loops) are available. To use, please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

### STAFF DIRECTORY

Church Office: 507.289.4019

**Lead Pastor:** Rev. Jenny Cannon\* ext. 207  
**Executive Pastor:** Rev. Kirkland Reynolds\* ext. 209  
**Minister for Congregational Care:** Rev. Nancy Wheeler Handlon\* ext. 205  
**Director of Operations:** Jack Jefferson\* ext. 202  
**Director of Communications:** Oliver Books\* ext. 203  
**Building Manager:** Kent Nymann\* ext. 206  
**Interim Youth Coordinator:** Rev. Amanda Larsen\*  
**Children's Ministry Coordinator:** Jody Peterson\*  
**Custodian:** Julie Plunkett  
**Director of Music:** Kalle Akkerman\*  
**Adult Choir:** Rev. Beth Joyner\*  
**Arise! Music Director:** Oliver Books\*  
**Principal Organist:** John Varona\*  
**Handbell Ensemble Directors:** Paul Kingsbury (adults)\*  
& Kari Hanson (children)\*  
**Children's Choir Director:** Karla Sukov  
**Sunday Morning Tech:** Brent Sorgenfrie, Martin Gardner, Joel Ott  
\* has Christ UMC email address - Find us online: [www.cumethodist.com](http://www.cumethodist.com)  
**To email a pastor:** pastor(first name)@cumethodist.com  
**To email a staff member:** (first name)@cumethodist.com



### Sunday August 29, 2021

- 9:00am ~ Sanctuary Worship (Blessing Backpacks!)
- 10:00am ~ Contemporary Issues (Room 146)
- ~ Inquiring Spirits (Room 145)

### Monday August 30, 2021

- 11:15am ~ Monday Men's Discussion Group (Library)

### Tuesday August 31, 2021

- 1:00pm ~ Covenant Group (Zoom)
- 8:00pm ~ Pastoral Devotional (Church Facebook)

### Wednesday September 1, 2021

- 10:00am ~ Executive Committee Meeting (Mettam)
- ~ Online Knitting Group (WebEx)
- 6:00pm ~ Celebration Bells Rehearsal (Bell Room)
- ~ Three Rivers Restorative Justice Conference
- 8:00pm ~ Pastoral Devotional (Church Facebook)

### Thursday September 2, 2021

- 8:00am ~ Men's Coffee Group (Room 145)
- 8:30am ~ Gardening Team Work (Meet in East Lot)
- ~ Covenant Group (Zoom)
- 4:00pm ~ Women's Connect Group (Zoom)
- 7:00pm ~ Circle 4 Meeting (WebEx)
- 8:00pm ~ Pastoral Devotional (Church Facebook)

### Friday September 3, 2021

- 10:00am ~ Rochester Chamber Music Society Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Saturday September 4, 2021

- 7:30am ~ Saturday Noon Meals (Prep at CUMC, serve at the Landing)
- 6:00pm ~ Rochester Chamber Music Society Concert (Sanctuary)

### Sunday September 5, 2021

- 9:00am ~ Sanctuary Worship
- 10:00am ~ Contemporary Issues (Room 146)
- ~ Inquiring Spirits (Room 145)



#### Thrift on Fifth Sidewalk Sales will return!

**Time:** 9am-12pm, masks required  
**Saturday, September 11 & 18**

**Location:** West Entrance

Come shop outdoors and bring your lightly used spring & summer clothing for our donation bin!

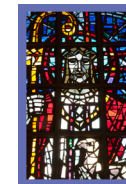
Give online: CCB, our church database lets you manage your giving and see your statements in real time at <https://cumethodist.ccbchurch.com>



If you would like to sponsor this ministry, please send an email to our Director of Operations, Jack Jefferson at [Jack@cumethodist.com](mailto:Jack@cumethodist.com). The 9AM service airs Sunday @11:30AM on KOLM radio. 1520 AM

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

- CU Wednesdays returns September 15! This fall we're meeting inside and outside We invite you to join us for CU Wednesdays: Inside Out. CU Wednesday Schedule:
  - 5:00pm - 5:30pm
  - Jubilee Bells - A handbell choir for first through fifth graders led by Kari Hanson
  - 5:30 - 6:00pm
  - Outdoor Activities and Snacks - prepackaged snacks will be provided. Children are invited to play, praise, and pray outdoors. Led by Jody Peterson, Kari Hanson, and Karla Webb
  - 6:00pm - 7:00pm
  - Confirmation - A journey of faith for 8th and 9th grade students led by Pastor Jenny and Pastor Kirkland
  - Club 6-7 - A faith and fellowship group for 6th and 7th graders led by Pastor Amanda
  - CU Stay and Play - a time for children and siblings of youth to play, hang out, and even catch up on homework. More information will be announced soon.
  - Celebration Bells - A handbell choir for adults and youth led by Paul Kingsbury
  - 7:00pm - 8:00 pm
  - Chancel Choir - A singing choir for adults and youth led by Rev. Beth Joyner
- Robert Ragoonanan Organ & Piano Recital - September 11, 2021 ~ 7pm Robert has found success as a conductor across the United States and Europe, conducting orchestras, choirs, new music groups, and wind ensembles.
- Beginning in September "The New Spirit" monthly newsletter will be focused on Digital distribution to cut down on our environmental footprint. If you would still like to receive a hard copy of the newsletter please call the church office 507-289-4019 or send an email to [oliver@cumethodist.com](mailto:oliver@cumethodist.com)



## Christ United Methodist Church

Creating committed Christ Followers  
for the transformation of the world.



**You are invited to**  
**RALLY SUNDAY**  
**10am • September 12**  
 Mark your calendars! We're kicking off this program year with a **BIG PARTY!**  
 Wear your clothes inside out!  
 Ministry areas will have info tables  
 Outdoor coffee and snacks  
 -AND-  
**The ARISE service returns**  
**at 11am in the Sanctuary!**

*With open hearts, open minds and open doors, we welcome people of all races, nationalities, theologies and abilities. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We offer a safe and compassionate place to reconcile faith, identity, hope, understanding and mutual respect.*

We welcome you and name the sacred power of the Wahpeton people on whose land we stand.