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September 2020  
**CHRIST**  
METHODIST CHURCH  
**UNITED**  
Grace, In The City

**THE NEW**

**SPIRIT**

**RALLY**  
**SUNDAY**  
**(Really!)**

**September 13**

WORSHIP DIRECTORY:

8AM BELOVED (CHAPEL)

9AM TRADITIONS (SANCTUARY)

11AM ARISE! (ECC)

[www.facebook.com/cumethodist](https://www.facebook.com/cumethodist)

[www.twitter.com/cumethodist](https://www.twitter.com/cumethodist)

11:30am Sunday Radio Broadcast on  
KOLM (1520 AM)

[www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

"Christ United Methodist Church Rochester MN"

# Pastor's Pen

WITH ELIZABETH MACAULAY, LEAD PASTOR



Blessings to you in this season of new beginnings and limbo.

September is a month so full of promise and energy. A new school year offers opportunity to create connections and meaning. It is so good to come together after months of summer vacations and trips and family reunions and oh, that's right: It's not like that this year.

And yet.

We have a chance to create connections and meaning here at church. We have always had that opportunity and this year, more than any other, it feels particularly crucial to engage in bringing our faith to life.

We're in for a long stretch of adapting to pandemic-shaped living.

We won't gather for Rally Sunday in the ways we are used to doing. The commons area won't be jammed with tables and popcorn and zinging kids and coffee conversations. We are unable to gather in that way this year.

But we will gather and connect.

Please join us for a Rally (Really!) Sunday on September the 13th. We will offer video worship at 9:00 AM. We will always offer video worship at 9:00 AM. For the video worship we ask that you submit pictures of your first day of school - and yes, it can be a shot of your children and youth and teachers in sweat pants at the kitchen table. We want to celebrate our children and youth and teachers and support them as they commence learning. Please get photos to Oliver Books ([Oliver@cumethodist.com](mailto:Oliver@cumethodist.com)) by September 4th. We'll share them via video worship on the 13th.

At 10:00 AM on the 13th we will have parking lot worship in our east lot. PLEASE COME! We will share communion, celebrate being church together, and then adjourn to a Trunk or Treat method of sharing ministry opportunities in the west lot. Various ministry initiatives will have information shared in the trunks of ministry area leader's cars. You can walk by - socially distanced and masked! - and pick up information and ideas for how to get connected.

There will be doughnuts. And popcorn. Need I say more?

We need each other. We need our connection through Jesus to be held to our hearts to sustain us in these days.

We will share an all-church read that reminds us of our need to live and lead change on purpose.

The book is called "Another Way".

It is written by three authors: Stephen Lewis, Dori Grinenko Baker, and Matthew Wesley Williams. Here is what Franciscan priest Richard Rohr (we read his book together last year) has to say about this book:



"Here you will find a way of reengaging the Way of Jesus and exploring what that means, both at a personal and organizational level. Perhaps most importantly it grounds this exploration in voices and experiences of Black folk, addressing a long-standing gap in the literature on leadership, vocation, and the future of the Christian faith."

Another Way opens to us a process by which we can engage theologically - individually and as a community - with the challenges of this time.

As followers of Jesus we have so much work to do. The resistance of evil and naming of systems of oppression call for awakened and grounded discipleship.

I believe that "Another Way" can help us do the work to which we are called: "To resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms we find them." (United Methodist membership vow).

I invite you to join a small group to digest this book. It is an eight week learning opportunity. **There are details in this issue of the Spirit to help you find the right group for you. (Page 4)**

All groups will meet via Zoom. Sermons will be centered around the concepts and soul-stretch of the book.

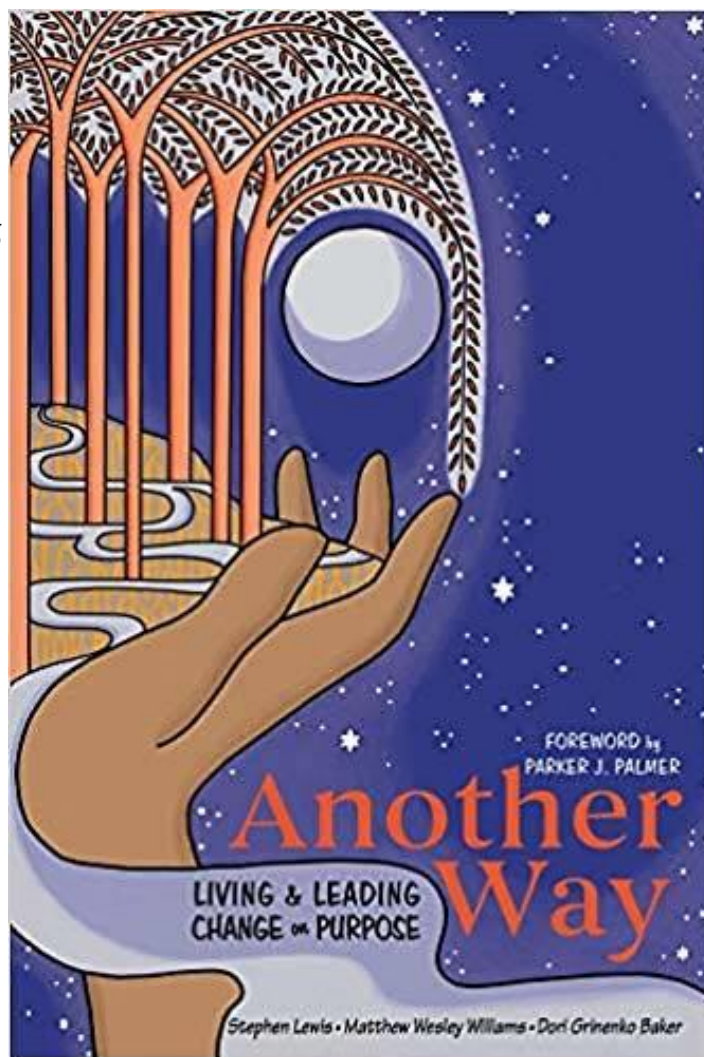
To round September off we will gather in the parking lot on Sunday morning the 27th to honor those who have been members of Christ UMC for fifty years and more. Their names are listed in this issue of the Spirit. (Page 9) Please join us at 10:00 AM on the 27th to celebrate the constancy of discipleship that makes this church strong.

You see? It is a time of new beginnings grounded in day-to-day commitment to the Way of Jesus.

I am so glad that we are together the Body of Christ.

*Pastor Elizabeth*

Pastor Elizabeth





Rally Sunday will take place in the west parking lot following drive-in worship on September 13<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity to see the variety of ministry opportunities coming up this fall from Sunday school and mission trips to music groups for all ages and classes for adults.

There will be games, snacks and fellowship!



Children's Sunday School and Music will start remotely Wednesday, September 16th.

In the quest for safety and spiritual development for our children, we will be offering a Sunday School/Music Hour. On Wednesday nights, from 5 pm to 6 pm we will offer an exciting combined Sunday School and Music class. Don't worry, your children do not need to attend the entire hour! Preschool to grade 2 will meet from 5:00 - 5:30 and grade 3-5 will meet from 5:30 - 6:00. As always, at any part (or all of the hour) we would love to meet with all our friends. Curriculum packets and CDs will be available on Rally Sunday or by mail.

We patiently wait to be all together laughing and singing and will immediately return to the building as soon as safely possible!

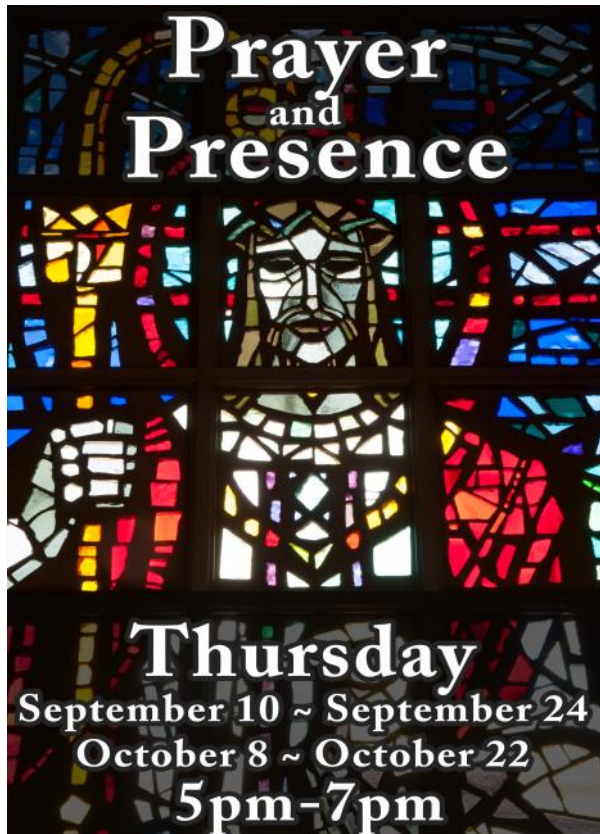
### Upcoming Parking Lot Worship Dates

- September 13 (Rally Sunday and Communion)
- September 27 (Honoring 50 year members)
- October 11 (Communion)
- October 25 (Trunk or Treat)



You are invited for Prayer and Presence in an open house format Your church will be open and your sanctuary will hold you and your prayers. Masks are mandatory in the building. Social distancing will be practiced. 5-7pm

September 10 ~ September 24 ~ October 8 ~ October 22



**Meeting Christ Coffee on Zoom**  
 Join us on Zoom for a time of fellowship with the Pastors and staff of Christ UMC  
 September 20th at 11:00 AM



Meeting Christ Coffee is an opportunity for people who are new to the CUMC community to gather with clergy and staff to learn more about who we are as a church while the church gets to know them. It's the next step toward membership and getting involved.



**Children's Ministry**

Hello youth, families and church community,

**&**

**Youth Ministry**

In spite of a very unusual summer, the school year is finally here!

Growing up, I was always excited to see the return of school, activities and see my friends after the summer break. There were new books to read and new projects to tackle. Fresh art supplies and new people to meet. I loved school and all of the possibilities it offered.

This year is no different although so many of those activities are modified to protect our health and our communities. Even in a pandemic, church still goes on, so we will continue to offer a variety of activities for youth. Instead, they will be offered online and outside for the foreseeable future.

We will continue to adapt to our circumstances and respond to the needs of our youth, families and public health. We will continue to endure all kinds of changes, but I am still excited for a new school year with all of you.

~ Grace Glover

### Confirmation

We will be holding Confirmation online using the Disciple curriculum. 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to join us as we learn about the Bible and what it means to be a United Methodist. We will meet on Zoom on Wednesday nights at 6pm and parents are welcome to join us for the first Wednesday of the month. Email [grace@cumethodist.com](mailto:grace@cumethodist.com) if you are not already enrolled in the class and wish to be.



**Send in your back to school photos to be featured in worship on Rally Sunday!**

**Send to Oliver by September 4th.  
oliver@cumethodist.com**

### Enneagram

Retired Psychologist, Bobbi Nichols, and Grace Glover will be hosting a group for high school and college students to learn about themselves through the enneagram. The enneagram 9 part system of understanding yourself and your relationship to others. It's especially helpful when thinking about how we interact in groups whether it's at home, at school or at work. We will meet at 8:30pm on Zoom on Wednesday evenings September 16, 23 and 30. Email [grace@cumethodist.com](mailto:grace@cumethodist.com) to sign up!

### Pride Book Club

Middle schoolers will be reading *George* by Alex Gino. It's a book about a girl named Melissa who struggles to show herself to the rest of the world because the rest of the world knows her as a boy named George. We'll meet on Tuesdays at 7pm on Zoom starting September 15. Email [grace@cumethodist.com](mailto:grace@cumethodist.com) to sign up.

### Volunteer opportunity for youth

Rally Sunday will be happening in the West parking lot on September 13<sup>th</sup> after drive-in worship. We will need youth to help us facilitate the safe distribution of flyers and class materials for the upcoming program year as members of our congregation go "shopping" for their church activities for the fall. You will have the opportunity to work with a ministry group at the church while they recruit volunteers and participants for the upcoming year and you may even find a group that interests you! Let Grace know if you can help!

### Children's Ministry - You're Invited!

We will be offering Zoom Sunday School for Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade. More information will be provided on what day of the week and time it will be offered. Our new curriculum, Celebrate Wonder, is all about honoring the spiritual life of children. It embraces and celebrates all children and all the ways in which they are spiritual children of God. It is centered around Bible stories and encourages children to explore faith through Wonder Questions. These questions invite children into conversation, which help develop deeper connections to the Bible and to faith. I am very excited to begin this journey with the families and children!

~ Jody Peterson



will lead us from Genesis to Revelation (that's the first and last books of the Bible). There is a participant manual you can purchase to further enrich understanding. This curriculum call participants to read scripture and come to understand why the stories were told in the past and what they have to do with our present lives. **Please sign up for this class by emailing [jenny@cumethodist.com](mailto:jenny@cumethodist.com) so that we can get you the materials. Participant guides are \$15.** All classes will be taught on Zoom, so no matter where you are you can join in. We have a phone in link possible too, if your preference is to be off camera.

**Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83112920885?pwd=dVB6WHpjN1VuRGttOQVadFdwWUxjdz09>

**Meeting ID:** 831 1292 0885 ~ **Passcode:** 094846 ~ **Phone In Number:** 1-312-626-6799

## Connect Groups

### Gardening Ministry

**Host:** Mary Schmidt ~ **Place:** CUMC Grounds

**Time:** Thursdays, 8 – 10 am, September 10, October 8, November 12

Saturdays, 9 – 11 am, September 12, October 10, November 14

As fall approaches, we will be weeding, planting, transplanting and cleaning up flower beds. Contact Mary at [oronocombs@yahoo.com](mailto:oronocombs@yahoo.com) if you are interested in helping to care for CUMC's piece of the Earth.

### Knit One Pray, Too

**Host:** Marjie Blaisdell ~ **Place:** Knitting at home at this time on WebEx ~ **Time:** Wednesday 10am – 12noon

Contact Marjie at [mblaisdell@gmail.com](mailto:mblaisdell@gmail.com) to receive a link to the WebEx meeting. The group is knitting prayer shawls and scarves and hats for winter.

### Men's Coffee Group

**Host:** Dick Estry ~ **Place:** On Zoom ~ **Time:** Thursdays at 8:00 am

Whether you are a long-time member, new to CUMC or looking for a fellowship group, you are invited to join for coffee and conversation. To receive a Zoom invite just email Dick Estry at [rk.stry@gamil.com](mailto:rk.stry@gamil.com).

## Ongoing Faith Formation Groups

*While the church is closed these groups are staying connected!*

10:00 am – Monday – Women's Book Discussion Group/Cook Park weather permitting or 3pm on Zoom.

1:00 pm – Tuesday – Covenant Discipleship Group/Zoom

8:30 am – Thursday – Covenant Discipleship Group/Zoom

4:00 pm – Thursday – Women's Group/Zoom

10:00 am – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday – Women and the Sacred/Zoom

## Congregational Read

This is a book selected by clergy that everyone is invited to read and discuss via Zoom. A selection of days and times will be offered by several hosts. You can register for your preferred group on line at <https://www.cumethodist.com/connect-groups>. This book will be the focus of the fall sermon series.

### *Another Way: Living and Leading Change on Purpose*

Stephen Lewis- Matthew Wesley Williams-Dori Grinenko Baker

Are you ready for change? In this book you will encounter a set of four practices that help individuals and communities lead lasting change for good, rooted in the deep places where the soul resides.

"Another Way shows us how to move forward into an uncertain future, able to respond to challenges with heart and mind and the dynamism necessary to thrive together." Barbara A. Holmes, President Emerita, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities

**Watch the Wednesday Connections/Fresh Spirit email and the New Spirit newsletters for updates on offerings as they become available! Also check out [cumethodist.com/get-involved/connect-groups](http://cumethodist.com/get-involved/connect-groups) for a complete listing and registration information.**





Almost 2 years ago Thrive opened its doors. CUMC's very own Madeleine Paopao-Skillern was one of the very first children to attend Thrive! Madeleine spent her days in our preschool classroom and brought her beautiful smile with her every day! We could always count on Madeleine to add joy to our classroom and be a great helper to her

teachers! In July, Madeleine went to kindergarten. While we knew the day was coming, we were all a bit sad to see one of our "originals" go off to kindergarten. Longfellow is getting a great kindergartner and we know Madeleine will do amazing things at her new school! Madeleine and her parents Mike and Michelle will always be part of the Thrive family! We are proud to have been a part of Madeleine's preschool years and know that her and her parents, Mike and Michelle, will always be a part of the Thrive family!

The one of her holding the paper is from her first day in October 2018 and the other one is from her last day in July 2020



## Take Note!

Are you interested in creating joyful noise for our online worship each week?

Contact our Director of Music, Kalle Akkerman at [kalle@cumethodist.com](mailto:kalle@cumethodist.com) for opportunities!

Adult Ensembles (choir and bells) will be meeting, rehearsing, and recording on an intermittent basis.

Children and Youth Ensembles (choirs and bells) will not be meeting this year.





**Volunteer Spotlight!****Sunday School**

Sunday school will be taking place on Zoom, but we still need to staff it. Sunday school teachers will facilitate stories, activities and conversation around weekly Bible passages. Email [jody@cumethodist.com](mailto:jody@cumethodist.com) to sign up.

**Youth**

We need adult volunteers and chaperones for our upcoming youth groups. Roles include co-facilitators on Zoom for our various groups and service opportunities for youth volunteer projects. Email [grace@cumethodist.com](mailto:grace@cumethodist.com) to learn more.

**Sikati Family**

The Yangya-Sikati family is seeking support as they learn public transportation and improve their English. They need people to meet them at their apartment and ride the bus with them while they learn the bus routes and how to operate for daily use. Email [betsy.whitfield@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.whitfield@gmail.com) to volunteer.

**Safe Sanctuary**

All volunteers working with children, youth or other vulnerable populations must take Safe Sanctuary training annually. It is a short training provided by church staff that advises on our policies and practices of keeping our church a safe environment. Safe Sanctuary training will be held September 20<sup>th</sup> and September 22<sup>nd</sup>.



# SIDEWALK SALE

**Saturday, August 29th 9am-12pm**

**Wednesday, September 2nd 4pm-7pm**

**No rain dates**

**It's our "last of summer" sale! We will be selling our final summer clothing and taking donations for fall and winter only during these times.**

## Garden Ministry

Stay Tuned for BIG Garden Projects in September. In the meantime, here is what we're up to!

CUMC's Garden Ministry has scheduled the following work days for the rest of the 2020 gardening season (weather dependent). We look forward to you joining us with your masks and in a spirit of social distancing to weed, plant & transplant, and perform Fall cleanup to prepare for Winter. Feel free to join us for whatever time you can spare. If you have another time that works better for you, let us know.



On September 12, we will be transplanting the native perennials from behind the garage to along the new wall by the Wesley house. Please bring garden forks, spades or shovels along with your work gloves. Look forward to seeing you there!

Every Thursday through September, 8:30 – 10:30 am - TBD in October & November

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of month, 9 am – September 12, October 10, November 14 (wishful thinking!)



## News from UMW



Here we are still in the COVID situation! Our UMW fall activities would be planned and organized and ready to go. Not this year!

There will be NO rummage sale on September 18th. We will NOT be calling you to order nuts for baking and gifting. We will NOT be selling Christmas cookie trays and plates. We will NOT have a Tea in January.

All of our activities that bring us together to socialize, make new friends and see old friends will not occur.

Hopefully, in 2021 we will be able to be together, reminisce, with smiles on our faces and say

“we made it”.

~ Deedee Odell



## UMW Quilters:

Sometimes sad things bring about good things. This happened when Linda Curtis passed away, she had a large collection of fabric which Terry, her husband, gave to the UMW Quilters, who make quilts for charity. Two different times the quilters were able to share them with the Saturday Noon Meal guests, the last time was February of this year, just before the pandemic.

When the quilters could no longer meet at the church, Pat Feeser began making large and medium size masks with Linda's fabric. We have been very fortunate to receive fabric from several other sources also. We will still need fabric for quilting when the masks are no longer needed. If you have cotton or cotton polyester fabric you no longer need, please call Pat Feeser at 507-322-6162 or email [plfeeser@att.net](mailto:plfeeser@att.net).

Masks have been distributed to family/neighbors/ friends, a school, Thrift on Fifth and any other people who need them. The majority of the masks go to the Cancer section at Mayo Clinic. A nurse from Mayo picks up 80 super-size sandwich bags holding 2 masks (1 to wear - 1 to wash) about every two weeks.

~ Pat Feeser



Each year, we gather to honor members of our church who have been with us for 50 years or more. In 2020, that includes 175 individuals.

50 year members will be honored on September 27<sup>th</sup> during video worship and at drive-in worship. There is VIP parking for our new 50 year members and Deedee O'dell will give us a picture of what life was like at CUMC in 1970.

Stay tuned for further updates.

### New 50 Year Members:

<i>Betty Christiansen</i>	<i>Linda Peterson</i>	<i>David Stutz</i>	<i>David Martin</i>
<i>Dorothy Gores</i>	<i>Marcia Pretzer</i>	<i>Scott McCallum</i>	<i>Jan Martin</i>
<i>Lee Gerads</i>	<i>Angelyn Seaquist</i>	<i>Pat Hrabe</i>	<i>Audrey Nelson</i>
<i>Patti Meyer</i>			

### 50 Year Members

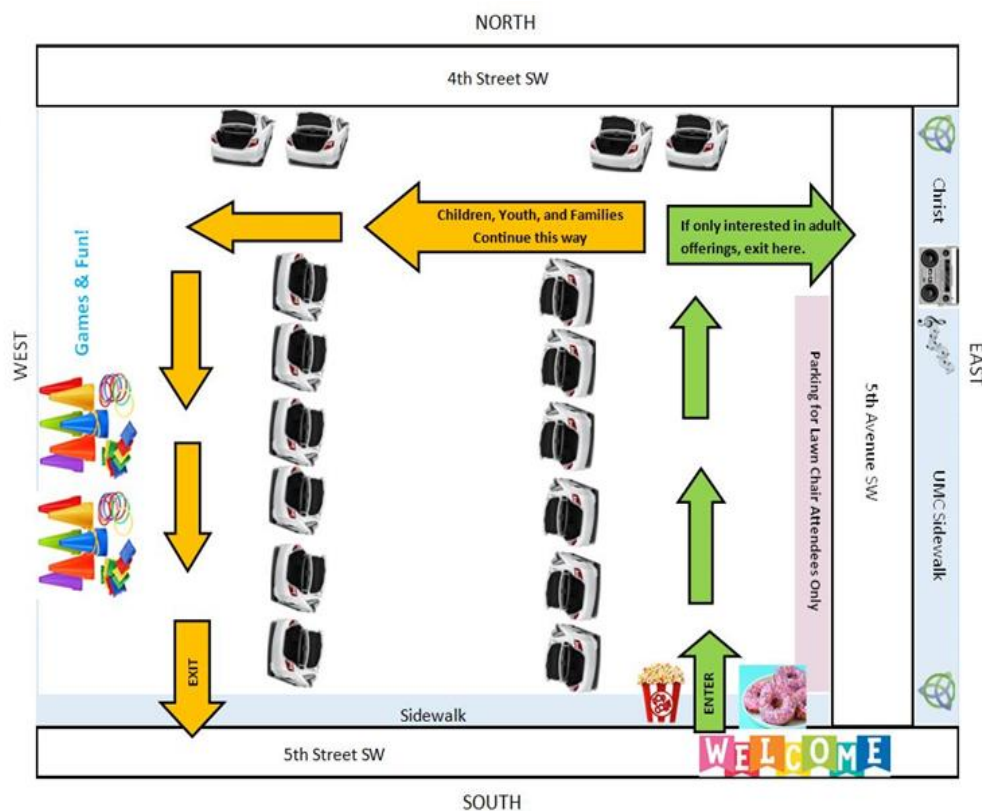
<i>David Alexander</i>	<i>Kerwin Engelbart</i>	<i>Charmaine Hepper</i>	<i>Robert Latcham</i>	<i>Edward Rosenow</i>
<i>Albert Asfahl</i>	<i>Betty Engen</i>	<i>Norman Hepper</i>	<i>Alice Laudon</i>	<i>Patricia Rossi</i>
<i>Marilyn Asfahl</i>	<i>Harlan Engen</i>	<i>Marilyn Hetman</i>	<i>Curtis Laudon</i>	<i>Melva Schmidt</i>
<i>George Bailey</i>	<i>Sandra Erickson</i>	<i>Carolyn Heyne</i>	<i>Robert Lee</i>	<i>Gwen Scilley</i>
<i>Lloyd Baker</i>	<i>Hollis Feeser</i>	<i>George Heyne</i>	<i>Linda Limpert</i>	<i>Larry Scilley</i>
<i>Mary Baker</i>	<i>Pat Feeser</i>	<i>Audrey Higgins</i>	<i>Martha Link</i>	<i>Joyce Sharp</i>
<i>Wailana Barker</i>	<i>Mary Fitzgerald</i>	<i>Garbisch</i>	<i>Leone Looft</i>	<i>Allene Shipman</i>
<i>Elaine Bauman</i>	<i>Norma Footh</i>	<i>Herbert Hoffman</i>	<i>Will Mahler</i>	<i>Carol Smith</i>
<i>Ken Bauman</i>	<i>Darlene Frederickson</i>	<i>JoAnn Hoffman</i>	<i>George Malkasian</i>	<i>Adele Spavin</i>
<i>Richard Bhend</i>	<i>Jeanette Frutiger</i>	<i>Sandra Hokanson</i>	<i>Mary Malkasian</i>	<i>Martha Stiller</i>
<i>Sharon Bhend</i>	<i>Richard Frutiger</i>	<i>Patricia Horlocker</i>	<i>Dick McCallum</i>	<i>Aleda Suchomel</i>
<i>Jerry Blaisdell</i>	<i>Richard Frutiger</i>	<i>Marilyn Houdek</i>	<i>Donis McCallum</i>	<i>Harleth Swanson</i>
<i>Marjie Blaisdell</i>	<i>LuWana Gerads</i>	<i>Betty Houser</i>	<i>Goldie Michael</i>	<i>Mary Tompkins</i>
<i>Elmer Block</i>	<i>Joyce Gibbs</i>	<i>Mary Humke</i>	<i>Peggy Milbrandt</i>	<i>Joan Torrance</i>
<i>JoAnn Block</i>	<i>Beverly Gill</i>	<i>Amy Humphrey</i>	<i>John Mitchell</i>	<i>Dee Tweed</i>
<i>Irene Blohm</i>	<i>John Grabau</i>	<i>Richard Humphrey</i>	<i>Linda Moon</i>	<i>Denny Tweed</i>
<i>Dennis Bowe</i>	<i>Judy Grabau</i>	<i>Danna Ihrke</i>	<i>Mary Morman</i>	<i>Mabel Walbruch</i>
<i>Sharon Bowe</i>	<i>Marilyn Groteboer</i>	<i>David Ihrke</i>	<i>Billie Needham</i>	<i>Linda Ward</i>
<i>Janis Brown</i>	<i>Merl Groteboer</i>	<i>Janice Iverson</i>	<i>Sandra Nelson</i>	<i>Nancy Wheeler</i>
<i>Joan Brown</i>	<i>Janet Hagen</i>	<i>John Iverson</i>	<i>Joan Newkirk</i>	<i>Aileen Williams</i>
<i>Marianne Buss</i>	<i>Karen Hamand</i>	<i>Karen Jensen</i>	<i>Raleigh Obenchain</i>	<i>Beverly Wood</i>
<i>Esther Carolin</i>	<i>Larry Hamand</i>	<i>Trudy Jewell</i>	<i>Daniel Owen</i>	<i>Lloyd Wood</i>
<i>Robert Carolin</i>	<i>Cheryl Hamm</i>	<i>Helen Johnson</i>	<i>Jo Owen</i>	<i>Carolyn Woodle</i>
<i>Carolyn Chaapel</i>	<i>Daniel Hamm</i>	<i>Janet Johnson</i>	<i>Kathy Palmer</i>	<i>Doug Wright</i>
<i>Delma Clarey</i>	<i>Roger D Harwick</i>	<i>Larry Johnson</i>	<i>David Perkins</i>	<i>Lori Wright</i>
<i>Dorothy Cooper</i>	<i>Gordon Heath</i>	<i>Dennis Jones</i>	<i>Marlys Perkins</i>	<i>Ron Yaggy</i>
<i>Terry Curtis</i>	<i>Phyllis Heath</i>	<i>Sharon Jones</i>	<i>Mary Petersson</i>	<i>Helen Zimmerman</i>
<i>Allan DeBoer</i>	<i>Roger Heil</i>	<i>Lucille Kimball</i>	<i>Judy Plank</i>	
<i>Ann DeBoer</i>	<i>Lyman Hein</i>	<i>Steve Kiss</i>	<i>Jerry Posthumus</i>	
<i>Evonne DeVinny</i>	<i>Mary Hein</i>	<i>Belva Kothenbeutel</i>	<i>Ardith Ramaker</i>	
<i>David Dripps</i>	<i>Doris Heins</i>	<i>Kathy Krob</i>	<i>Burton Ramaker</i>	
<i>Susan Dripps</i>	<i>David Helland</i>	<i>Larry Krob</i>	<i>Mary Jo Reich</i>	
<i>Jayne Easley</i>	<i>Sandra Helland</i>	<i>Lillian Kruger</i>	<i>Charles Richter</i>	
<i>Doris Engelhart</i>	<i>Steven Henke</i>	<i>Marilyn Latcham</i>	<i>Connie Rosenow</i>	



## Rally Sunday September 13, 2020 REALLY!

It's a real thing! We'll do it trunk style after parking lot worship, a la "Trunk or Treat" We'll be Practicing social distancing, and recommended safety guidelines, so please wear a mask, or we can provide one.

It might be an unpredictable time, but we can still be church together! Games, fun, fellowship, and (as is tradition) DONUTS! Don't miss it!



### Saturday Noon Meals Update

The Saturday Noon Meals program has continued to serve meals each Saturday during the pandemic. We delivered hot individual boxed meals to the Mayo Civic Center through August 1, 2020 and have since been delivering meals to the Salvation Army for the Saturday noon meal. The Salvation Army is currently partnering with the City of Rochester and The Landing to host a day program for the homeless and those in need.

Since March the Saturday Noon Meals program has served over 1,200 meals to the Rochester community day program! We are currently serving 50 hot boxed meals each Saturday and plan to continue to support the community day program through the pandemic. We have expanded our volunteer base slightly to allow Stew and Carol Swanson and Phil and Kathy Lombardo to take a few weekends away.

Our community partners continue their generosity with food resources and include People's Food Co-op, Thrive, Channel One, and Haven Valley Farm. We are beginning to partner with local gardeners and farmers to accept fresh produce that is currently in abundance. Please contact Stew Swanson and Kathy Lombardo if you have donations of fresh produce – they are greatly appreciated and make our meals so much better!

We would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to CUMC members and volunteers for your long-standing support of the SNMs program.

We look forward to seeing you in-person in the future.

Your SNMs Leadership Team – Stew and Carol Swanson and Phil and Kathy Lombardo

**If you have a pastoral emergency**, please call the church office and ask for the pastor on call. Let us know this is an urgent need. If you need a pastor after hours or on weekends, please call the church office and listen to the message on the machine for the phone number of the pastor on call. Then call them directly. Remember that we do not know you are in the hospital unless you contact us. Thank you.



## Memorials Committee:

It's been difficult not being in the church building, seeing smiling faces, greeting one another and catching up. It's also hard to see things around the building that might make a difference to us regulars, as well as to our many guests.

The Memorials and Living Gifts Committee meets quarterly to fund those items that make an impact on the life of the church. We track and acknowledge all gifts and follow up to make sure funding is put to good use. Gifts can be designated, of course, but many times gifts are left undesignated.

Our ministry team decides on the use of undesignated funds to make exciting things happen around the building, things that might not fit in the yearly budget. Recent undesignated gifts have been used for signs for Thrift on Fifth, a better popcorn popper, new food carts for the kitchen and new chairs for the Commons.

We would like to encourage you to make a gift to Christ United Methodist in honor or in memory of a person or to celebrate a special event such as a birthday or anniversary. We are currently in need of additional gifts to further the ministry of CUMC. We also would be happy to have additional members to serve with us. Contact us through the church office.

Stay safe and pray.

~ Suzi Mueller, chair



## The CUMC Tree of Life: Living, Celebrating, & Remembering With You

*Welcome New Intentional Disciples!*



**James Lentz** ~ Romans 5:1 - Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a man of faith, James has been with the United Methodist Church since his childhood in Iowa and the Twin Cities. Through his adulthood James has had the opportunity to travel and experience the diverse cultures of the world as part of the United States Marine Corp, and later in the Civil Service of the Federal Government. Today, James returns to the church of his Father here in Rochester, where his mother still resides.

This month, Dick & Deedee Odell are celebrating their 50th Anniversary! May God continue to bless your marriage. Enjoy your celebration on September 5th and throughout this Golden Year.

Courtesy of Jennifer Odell Cadwell



*In Memoriam*

**Gale R. Hill**

December 25, 1925 ~ August 24, 2020

## Mission Social Justice

GENERAL ELECTION IS NOVEMBER 3rd

### To Register

- Online: <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/>
- In Person: Olmsted County Elections 2122 Campus Dr. SE, Suite 300
- At the polls on election day with photo ID and proof of current address
- You may also change your address at the polls if you are registered in a different precinct.



### To Vote:

**In Person on election day at your voting location** (to find your polling place go to <https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/> or call 328-7650

- You may register onsite
- You may drive up and do curbside voting
- No ID is needed if you are preregistered
- Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. If you are in line by 8 p.m. you will be allowed to vote.

### By Mail

- You may request a ballot by calling Olmsted County Elections at 507-328-7650 or going to <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-by-mail/>
- You may mail your Ballots beginning Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>
- You MUST make sure your ballot arrives on time to be counted. Please plan to mail it by October 20<sup>th</sup>  
Or
- You may drop your completed ballot at 2122 Campus Dr. SE, # 300

### In Person early

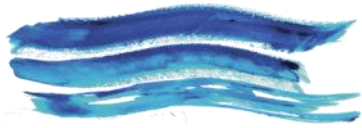
- Absentee Voting takes place September 18 - November 2, 2020 at 2122 Campus Dr. SE, #300.
- Early direct voting will be available Oct. 27- Nov. 2 at 2122 Campus Dr. SE, # 300 and at least 2 other pop up locations, TBD

*What will be on the ballot? In addition to the President, One US Senate Seat, and the House of Representatives we will also be electing State Senators, State Representatives, 3 School board seats, a City Council president and in some areas a county commissioner and city council members as well as other offices. There will also be a referendum item to increase property taxes to fund park improvements in Rochester.*

~ Kathryn Gardner



## *Three Rivers Restorative Justice* Program Needs Volunteers For Its First Year of Operation



Respect · Accountability · Healing

In recent months, the ways in which US justice systems use punishment and violence has once again come to the forefront of our national awareness. In addition to inequitable treatment of people of color, our justice systems inflict unconscionable suffering on those accused of crimes as well as their families. At the same time, those who are harmed by crime

all too often report feeling traumatized by the ways our justice systems fail to meet their needs.

On an average day in Rochester and surrounding Olmsted County 18 people report being a victim of property or violent crimes. That's 6,600 people who file an official report of being violated and victimized every year. At the same time, a 2017 survey revealed that less than one third of all people who suffer criminal harm in MN choose to report it. That means, seventy percent of the people in MN who are victims of crime choose not to report it to the police.

In Southeast MN there are two options for those who have been harmed by crime:

- The traditional justice system
- Do not report the crime

Most people who are harmed by crime choose option two.

However, a third option is emerging for those who suffer criminal harm in Rochester and Olmsted, Dodge and Fillmore Counties. **Three Rivers Restorative Justice (TRRJ)**, a new program based in Rochester, is collaborating with several justice system agencies to fill a need for Victim Offender Dialogue. Research has found that policies aiming to improve victim satisfaction must provide real means for victims to participate and feel heard in order to be effective.



Restorative Justice (RJ) believes that the community, those harmed and those who caused harm often have the ability to find creative options that can produce transformative resolutions. Instead of focusing on who is guilty and how to punish them, RJ focuses on who was harmed, what are their needs and who has the obligation to restore what was damaged by the harm.

TRRJ is a grass roots organization, formed by concerned citizens who want to offer victims of crime the opportunity to be heard, to have their questions answered, to have a voice in resolution and restitution, to regain trust, and to feel safer in their communities. At the same time, offenders are offered the chance to learn and to take responsibility to make things right.

TRRJ, in collaboration with the DFO Juvenile Justice Committee, is starting a pilot program in late 2020 and early 2021 that will seek to address the revolving door of jails and prisons. Instead of relying on punitive measures, which are ineffective at changing the heart or offering the skills needed, TRRJ relies on heartfelt, respectful, dialogues with those harmed and/or community members. Then a mutually agreed upon plan is developed that holds the person who caused harm accountable and offers all involved support and healing in ways punishment cannot. When restorative justice is thoroughly explained to crime victims, 80% of them choose it over the traditional justice system.

TRRJ is currently in need of volunteers who are willing to attend training for restorative justice facilitators. The total cost of the training will be \$75.00. It will be offered primarily online.

### **Training Schedule for Restorative Justice Facilitation**

September 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> - from 5:30 to 8:30 **Via Zoom**

October 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> - (Role plays, each participant will participate on one day only) **Via Zoom**

November 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> - (Role plays, each participant will participate on one day only) **In Person at CUMC**

For more information, see <https://www.trrj.org/>  
email at [ThreeRiversRJ@gmail.com](mailto:ThreeRiversRJ@gmail.com)

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