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Ridin' Into Summer

Circuit Rider Summer:

A Methodist Revival



THE.

CHRIST UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

NEW.

RIDIN' INTO SUMMER
PARTY | JUNE 4
10AM TO 1PM

WELCOMING PARTY |
JULY 2
9AM

VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL | JUNE 26 TO JUNE 30
9AM TO NOON

CHURCH PICNIC
AUGUST 13
NOON



JULY

2017

EDITION

SPIRIT.

WORSHIP DIRECTORY:
8AM BELOVED (CHAPEL)
9AM TRADITIONS (SANCTUARY)
11AM ARISE! (ECC)

www.facebook.com/cumethodist
www.twitter.com/cumethodist
11:30am Sunday Radio Broadcast on KOLM
(1520 AM)
www.youtube.com "Christ United Methodist
Church Rochester MN"



Pastor's Pen

WITH ELIZABETH MACAULAY, LEAD PASTOR

“I pray you ARE savoring.”

I am not sure how June became July, but here it is. Saddle up!

By the time you get this newsletter VBS will have touched the lives of nearly 100 people. The Appalachian Service Project crew (all 50 some of them!) will be on their way to ministry, and one third of precious summer will have been savored.

I pray you ARE savoring.

Even as the earth is bringing forth food, the groundwork for powerful discipleship is being undertaken here at church.

We're excited about rolling out this formula for living as followers of Jesus:

Worship + 2 + Tithe.

Let me unpack that.

Worship is our communal opportunity to gather to practice gratitude and seek sustenance for the living of our days. Living as followers of Jesus, we commit to gathering for worship weekly. I know, we can practice reverence for God on lakes and golf courses. Worship is different. Worship gives us a chance to pay attention to our hearts and our longings. When we come together to commune with God and one another, our very bodies change and our lives are transformed.

The “plus 2” means that we commit to two things:

One, we commit to being in a small group. Once a week we come together with others to learn, grow, and deepen. The meetings last one hour. The space will be held by trained disciples. The schedule will work for you.

Two, we commit to being engaged in (at least) one act of service on behalf of the church. Maybe we teach Sunday School or sing in the choir or answer phones or serve at Saturday Noon Meals. Surely we can do more than one thing, but we commit to witnessing to our discipleship in at least one way that supports the lives of others.

And the tithe? We commit to giving a percentage of our income to the shared ministry of our church. Together we can do so much. Your financial support buys Sunday School curriculum and gas for the bus. Your giving supports your staff and educates people in Africa. We know there are many places you could give and do give. We believe that your church touches lives in a way that is priceless and lasting.

So, think about how you will live Worship + 2 + Tithe.

And, pray this question:

God, what do you want to do through me?

We are readying for the vision-clarifying gift of a capital campaign. This campaign will be soaked in prayer.

God, what do you want to do through me?

From what I can see, God is doing a mighty work here.

Children laugh, elders are celebrated, and meaning is made. We live and love through the power of Christ Jesus.

Come to church this summer. We're just getting started in this circuit riding way of discipleship.

Pastor Elizabeth

We know you're all busy this summer but that doesn't mean we don't want to feel like we're ridin' right beside ya! Our theme this summer is "Circuit Rider Summer". Circuit riders were important to our Methodist tradition, traveling by horse to spread the word. Track your travelings with the map in the Commons and send us photos of your families and friends with your horses (also located on the board in the Commons to pick up at any time!) Email your photos and stories to email@cumethodist.com! Get along, little doggies!

Ridin' Into Summer

**Circuit Rider Summer:
A Methodist Revival**



Check it out!

Clergy, staff, and members are already taking their CIRCUIT RIDER duties seriously!

(listed left to right) Diane Ilstrup, Rev. Elizabeth Macaulay, Ken Bauman, Rev. Nancy Wheeler Handlon, Rev. Katy Lee, and Gary Lueck enjoy their time at the **MN Annual Conference** with the horse that they colored together!

THRIVE! Update: Approval!

We will move forward with the creation of THRIVE!: A Child Care and Family Resource Center as a downtown missional outreach and will support an \$800,000 capital campaign to make improvements to our ministry plant to support THRIVE!, Sanctuary improvements and replacement of 8 window units.

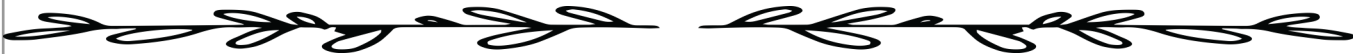


Members voted at a church conference (May 31st), using identified ballot and completed ballots were collected by Leadership Board members. Two Leadership Board members counted the ballots in the presence of CUMC members. District Superintendent, Rev. Cynthia Williams announced the ballot tally: Yes: 110, No: 18, Abstained: 6, Total: 134, Approved by 86%. Praise be! The stats are glaring, and we're happy to transform according to the need! The following stats were collected from: www.themedcitybeat.com/news-blog/2016/fact-sheet-rochesters-child-care-shortage

- According to a study, which was commissioned by Families First of Minnesota and United Way of Olmsted County, Olmsted County is short 1,855 child care slots of the expected need.
- The **shortage of providers could pose economic challenges** in a community that expects rapid growth in coming years. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that in 2014, **74 percent of Minnesota households with children under age 6 had all parents in the workforce**, the third highest percentage in the country.
- When families are able to find a child care provider, the costs can often be prohibitive. **Minnesota has some of the least-affordable child care options in the nation**, according to a 2014 study by nonprofit advocate Child Care Aware.

Vacation Bible School

Maker Fun Factory, our 2017 VBS, was a blast this year!!! Kids learned they are created by God and built for a purpose through an amazing adventure that helped them begin to deepen their faith. We had over 50 children with more than 40 volunteers who made it happen! Because of our combined efforts, children were able to see, touch, sing, and taste God’s love. As they moved from station to station, children grew into a deeper understanding of God and Jesus. **Thank you** to all who planned and participated in this year’s biggest program event yet!



Pray for our Appalachia Service Project 2017 Teams!



The following teams are traveling to Knott County, KY from July 1st until July 10th. Help see them off on July 1st at 6:30am in the east parking lot!

- Team 1:** Craig Nichols, Kari Nichols, Sam Jones, Claire Creedon, Paige Anglin, Emerald Mayer, Sophie Butterfass
- Team 2:** Jon Fjelsted, Cherie Jensen, Kurt Kennel, Olivia Ott, Allie Ruter, Abby Lindenfeld, Connor Brown, Logan Shapiro
- Team 3:** Erik Lundquist, Sue Lundquist, Tim Boyce, Peter Lundquist, Brock Sykes, Sophia Iezzi, Megan Engelken
- Team 4:** Katy Lee, Alan Stepanek, Kyra Nichols, Sydney Frank, Nathaniel Gunter, Lauren Wood, Emma Firstbrook
- Team 5:** Cindy Fjelsted, David Lucas, Eryn Fjelsted, Emma Duff, Braeden Cox, Weston Fyles, Parker Schultz
- Team 6:** Brenda Fyles, Royce Ruter, Jacob Hansen, Nolan Stepanek, Simon Kennel, Shea Hansen, Anna Thompson
- Team 7:** Curt Naylor, Dan Zimmer, Cullen Zimmer, Aidan Zimmer, Annika Zimmer, Daria Koon, Laurel Naylor
- Team 8:** Mark Clark, Darlene Lucas, Lucas Iezzi, Christian Koski, Bergen Koski, Jocelyn Stepanek, Elena Schultz



HELLO to new Music Director and Organist, David Friddle

We’re happy to announce that the search for a Music Director and Organist is over!



This is an exciting time for me. I just accepted the position of Director of Music at Christ United Methodist Church in Rochester, MN. I’ll be starting there in July and am looking forward to the next stage of my life!

The overarching goal of my life has been the pursuit and assimilation of knowledge. Since I taught myself to play a little portable organ at age five I’ve never stopped feeding my imagination and seeking out opportunities that allowed me to further my intellectual pursuits and artistic objectives. I’m thrilled to be in music full time. It is, always has been—and always will be—my life.

~David Friddle (from www.davidfriddle.com)

July 13: summer fun day



hot and sunny? we'll head at 10 am to ZUMBRO RIVER RAZE for some river tubing!
Bad weather, or want "after workday" fun?
7 pm at the honkers!



Community In Motion

Christ United Methodist Church and the Diversity Council invite you to join in the first annual **Community in Motion** celebration. This family-friendly event is intended for us to share diverse music, food, and critical conversation. All faith organizations from throughout Rochester are welcome. The facilitated discussion will focus on developing concrete action plans around themes identified in previous community conversations.

The next meeting of the Mission & Social Justice Committee is July 31st at 6pm to talk about this Community in Motion event, the "back to school" service project for our Folwell and Riverside kids, and whatever else YOU bring to the table!



What's Next at the Arts on Fifth Gallery? Remodel and Sue Kosharek

Get ready for our next Ao5 (Arts on Fifth) Gallery exhibition, featuring painter, Sue Kosharek. *My paintings reflect my reconnection with the Divine Feminine energy. They have evolved as a vessel for personal and collective healing and spiritual growth. I share these images to feed the imagination, reminding us of the great mysteries of life, and to feel the presence of possibility and the unknown. Let us Feed the spirit and soul with unconditional love, wisdom, unity, hope, courage and compassion.* Sounds amazing, right? It will be.

During the next month or so, we'll be revamping our Ao5 hallway to look better than ever! Directly following the updates, we'll get Sue's beautiful paintings up for display. Keep your eye out!



Boundary Waters Camping Area Trip!

BWCA: This is our 2nd year going on the Boundary Waters trip, with middle and high school students. We are grateful to all of our leaders. Pray for us as we head up to Kowakan, the amazing UMC camp in the Northwoods of Ely, and as we experience God's creation up at the BWCA July 23-27! You can join us previous to the trip for **Flapjack Fundraiser Sunday, July 16th from 10-11:30am** where you can eat and support our adventure!



Flapjack Fundraiser

July 16 10-11:30

On **ASP** Sunday come eat and support our youth Boundary Waters Trip! All are welcome!

Have an article for the *New Spirit*? Please submit it to nikki@cumethodist.com by the **3rd Wednesday of the month**. Late articles may be very tiny or **invisible**.

Thank you and happy writing!



STRIKEPOINT
Handbell Concert

Saturday, July 22
7:00 pm

Christ United Methodist Church
400 5th Ave. SW • Rochester

Suggested donation \$15

Strikepoint is an internationally acclaimed handbell ensemble from First UMC in Duluth. You won't believe your ears and eyes. They are amazing!

From the Ashes Recap

Rochester really showed up for the pre-screening of *From the Ashes*, co hosted by Rochester Sierra Club!!! Thanks to: our adult education leaders Aileen Williams and Kathy Estry for the planning, to Rick Morris for Sierra Club representation, to Mary Schmidt for providing beverages and popcorn, and to the members of our Hopeful Earth Group here at CUMC. There was great interest and energy in the room.

It's safe to say that the advance screening of the new documentary produced by Radical Media, in partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies, was a HUGE success. The timing of this pre-screening is ironic because a group of 50 some people is leaving from CUMC to work with the Appalachia Service Project in the month of July; a place heavily discussed in the film. Did you miss this event? The National Geographic global broadcast of this film premiered on June 25th. Tell your friends to check it out!

The movie "From the Ashes" was well-attended and flawlessly presented (thanks Nikki) last night. As I was watching it, I thought that the movie would be useful background for people going on ASP. I think the movie is going to be shown on PBS on 6/25. Aileen Williams and Kathy Estry were warm and helpful coordinators. Mary Schmidt sacrificially "took one for the team", and bathed herself in popcorn smell, as she popped and scooped the popcorn. Tom Williamson acknowledged that our Pastors were at Annual Conference, and then Laity continued on! (And the custodians cleaned up the popcorn, yet again.) A success in many ways, I say.



~Connie Williams, Leadership Board member

Summer Play Dates

Christ United Methodist Church

Bring your children to Christ United Methodist Church for our summer play dates! We will either be on the church's playground, labyrinth, or inside our gymnasium! We'll coordinate the games and activities-- all you have to do is show up!

Begins June 13th
Tuesdays, 9am-11am

Contact: alisha@cumethodist.com
400 5th Ave. SW Rochester MN
507 289 4019



GET READY FOR AN UPDATE!

The dates are set – all we need is **you** to help make our new CUMC directory perfect.



WE NEED YOU

to make our new family directory complete

WHEN:

July 25-28 (Tuesday – Friday) 1:00 pm– 8:00 pm

July 29 (Saturday) 9:00 am – 1:30 pm

September 21 (Thursday) 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm

September 22 (Friday) 9:00 am – 1:30 pm

September 26 – September 29 (Tuesday – Friday) 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm

September 30 (Saturday) 9:00 am – 1:30 pm

SCHEDULING: Schedule your appointment online or sign up to help on photo days at: www.cumethodist.com/new-membership-directory-2017 or utilize paper sign ups at CUMC between select services in July and August.

WHO: All CUMC members and regular attendees are welcome to participate.

EXTRAS: When you come for your photo session and bring a food item you'll receive \$5.00 off any Lifetouch photography order placed.

WHAT YOU RECEIVE: 1 complimentary professional 8 X 10 photo, 1 spiral bound directory complete with photos, names, addresses and contact information; access to the online directory application. The ability to make new friends by knowing who your fellow parishioners are. Activity pages will be included so you can see the wonderful opportunities available. The ability to schedule "generational" photo sessions (schedule 1 session per family – all members show up for session 1).

WANNA HELP? Please help spread the word to your CUMC friends and family so we may make this directory a wonderful tool for all to use. THANK YOU in advance for your willingness to help.

ROCHESTER MINNESOTA

PRIDEFEST



'20th Annual Pridefest
July 21 to 23, 2017

Pride Fest! July 23rd

CUMC will once again have a booth at Pride Fest. This year it will be at a new venue: Soldiers Field. We would love to have people of all ages sign up to work for an hour at a time. The booth is open from 11am to 4 pm. If you would like to help, please contact Lori Wright at dwright256@charter.net or by phone at 288-1454.

Our 11am service on Sunday, July 23rd, will be held at Pride Fest instead of on site in the ECC! Please help us spread the word! We hope to see you all there!

InBetweeners Corn & Steak Feed

July 30th at 4:30pm at the Odell home (call the church office at 289 4019 or email@cumethodist for directions.) InBetweeners is a social group at CUMC for those over 50 years of age. If you are not currently on the "list," call Deedee Odell at 281-2755. Menu: appetizers, green salad, fresh fruit, steak/ mushroom, corn and icecream sundaes, iced tea, lemonade, water and coffee. Cost is \$12 per person. Please bring your plate and silverware. All are welcome. ~Deedee and Dick Odell, hosts





The CUMC *Book of Life*

LIVING, CELEBRATING & REMEMBERING WITH YOU

John Varona- Spotlight Volunteer for June!



John Varona is currently our interim organist and has sung in the choir. John lives in Rochester, Minnesota, but did you know that he grew up in Hawaii?

John is the CEO and owner of www.midwesthomestaging.com. He also performs major organ concerts four times per year, mostly out of town and abroad. When not working or volunteering, John likes to garden, downhill and cross-country ski, and run on the trails. (We also know he is a really awesome baker!)

John enjoys the people of Christ UMC the most and said that the office staff has been great to work with. He said the people in the congregation have been so upbeat. He likes a variety of styles of music and the congregation has been so supportive, even when he chooses something that might not be their preference.

John first decided to volunteer at CUMC because he loves to sing. He started singing with the choir. Sometimes there was a need for someone to play the organ to accompany the choir, so he would help. John was honored to be asked to fill in as an interim organist for a few months when the need arose. John really enjoys playing the Sanctuary organ. He said the organ's best trait is its versatility. It was built from some of the best pipes of several different historic organs. There have also been electronic improvements that bring it up to date for more modern audiences. Volunteering makes John feel honored to play on Sunday mornings, yet humbled to use his gifts to God's service. Playing the organ is rewarding to him, but he also feels the weight of doing the best he can at all times. Fortunately, he has felt the support of everyone in the church.

John's love of CUMC is the mix of people and the way they get along. There are people with conflicting interests, preferences, ideologies, and political leanings who talk to each other, listen to one another, love each other, get along and support each other. It is a great Christian community.

John would love to see more organ concerts at CUMC. He thinks our organ has the capacity to reach many different audiences. Historically, we have served the classics very well. He thinks we can also reach younger audiences with music of the 21st century on the 'King of Instruments'. John says there is so much music between these two bookends, and we can do it all!

Not many people know this, but John can speak four languages – French, Dutch, Tagalog and Spanish. He also plays the accordion!

We will be holding a ceremony in the Commons to formally thank John for his musical talents and time on Sunday, July 9th in between the 9 and 11am services.

THANK YOU greatly to John Varona for filling a big position at CUMC the past few months. We are so appreciative of your volunteerism and sharing your skills with us.

(Submitted by *Spotlight Volunteer Interview Team*: Nikki Gensmer and Gwen Ravenhorst)

Meeting Christ Church Organizer

Do you like to meet new people? Are you passionate about Christ UMC? If you answer yes, then we have a great proffer opportunity for you! Meeting Christ Church is a 2nd Sunday of the month luncheon that allows people getting acquainted with our church a time to meet with the pastors and leadership members to ask questions, receive information about the church, groups and your faith journey. After this luncheon, our guests have the wonderful opportunity to join Christ UMC on the 4th Sunday of any future month. The organizer is someone who calls on guests and invites them to the luncheons and follows up after the luncheon. It could be by phone, email or postcard – the way that best suits the guest. The time commitment each month is around 4 hours. Please contact Gwen, Office Manager, at 289-4019 or gwen@cumethodist.com if this position interests you or you want to learn more!

Greetings to our dear friends and family!

*We will be in the US for a visit and will arrive in Rochester on **July 12th** after nearly a year of being away. This past year has seen many changes come to our country, to our world, and in our personal lives. Yet, in the midst of it all, our family is keenly aware of God's presence and guidance in our lives. We live in the midst of extreme poverty, yet the people here firmly believe God will and does provide for them. We share that belief in good times and bad.*



For us, some changes in the past year have been very good. Our son, John Edmund, has found a school that suits him. He has expressed a desire to finish high school here in Guatemala and, after much prayer, we have decided to do our best to accommodate this request. We also learned that Project Salud y Paz will have a new executive director and we are praying that she will lead us in new directions that will help us to better serve our neighbors in this primarily Mayan area.



We invite you to join us in a Forum on Sunday, July 23rd at 10:10am, where we will share how God's call in our lives have changed us through the last 2½ years.

We eagerly look forward to spending time with you and telling you of our adventures of serving God in this distant land. We will share more about Project Salud y Paz and how it continues to evolve to best serve the people of Guatemala. We will talk about people who work shoulder to shoulder with us, that live in conditions rarely found in the US since the 1800's. You will hear us thank God for the opportunities he has given us to answer his call to serve. You will hear us ask you for your constant prayers and for you to consider providing additional financial support as we have used nearly all of our non-retirement reserves during our time here. We truly look forward to your many bright smiles and warm hugs as we are grateful for the privilege to greet you once again. We will return to Guatemala on August 18th. We look forward to seeing you very soon!!

~Jan, John Edmund and John Lage, Jr.

Women and the Sacred

Are you interested in sharing good conversation, prayer, and books? Women and the Sacred meets on the second and fourth Fridays in the Fireside Lounge from 10– 11:30am. We began a new book in June. Barbara Brown Taylor's [An Altar in the World](#) is a lyrical call to being present to God in all places. Please consider joining us. Just drop in! We will be discussing Chapters 6-8 on July 14th. Money back guarantee you will love the company of women and the Spirit! This group is led by Pastor Elizabeth.



Celebrating 50 Years

Save the Date for the 50 Year Member Luncheon

On Thursday, July 20, 2017, we will honor members of CUMC Class of 1967 for 50 consecutive years or more. Members of the Class of 1967 will soon receive a congratulatory letter from Christ Church, as well as specifics of this event! The luncheon and a musical program will be held at the church. All past 50 Year Member Classes will be invited as well. Mark your calendars and watch for your invitation. We would like to receive your RSVP no later than July 14th.

This luncheon is a very special opportunity in the life of CUMC to THANK all 50 Year Members for their many contributions to the life of Christ United Methodist Church and the Rochester Community.

The Caring Ministry Team, pastors and staff look forward to honoring the Class of 1967!

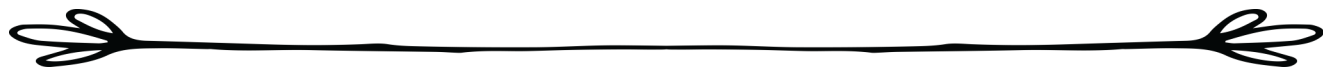


Summer Baptism Class

Are you interested in a baptism for yourself or a little one or know someone who may be? Save the date for our Summer Baptism Class: **August 5th at 9am!**



If you would like to inquire now, go to: www.cumethodist.com/baptism and fill out the Baptism Inquiry Form!



Fellowship Breakfast



Once a month— on the second Wednesday at 8:30am— a group of 12-14 friends from Christ United Methodist Church gather for fellowship and breakfast at Charlie's Pub and Eatery at Hilcrest. If you would like to join us for fun, food, and fellowship, come out to Charlie's on July 12th at 8:30am, or any second Wednesday of the month. All are welcome! Questions? Call Jan Iverson 512-2532 or Jan Bolton 269-4304.

Our Sunday Scripture and Themes for July:

7/2/17	Romans 6: 12-23	Matthew 10: 40-42	Grace
7/9/17	Romans 7: 15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Sin & Evil
7/16/17			Means of Grace
7/23/17	Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24		Hell, no!
7/30/17	Romans 8:26-39		Saved!



JULY 9 | 3PM
River Valley District Fun Day

Join with other United Methodists in the River Valley District for an afternoon of fun and fellowship at Oxbow Park in Byron! Bring food to share, dishes, utensils & chairs.

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PRESENTS
MOANA
JULY 26
DOORS OPEN 6:30PM
MOVIE BEGINS 7:00PM

Bring your friends and family to chow down popcorn while watching Disney's Moana
Next movie will be August 20

Save the Date:
Jan 28-Feb 3, 2018

Save the Date for a Church Picnic!
Sunday, August 13th, 12-2pm

CHURCH
Picnic

NOLA "YAM" service trip 2018
January 28-February 3
Informational meeting July 12, 7 pm
All are welcome (18+)!

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RIDIN' INTO SUMMER

Circuit Rider Summer: A Methodist Revival

The world is our map and playground. Rochester is the Wild West. This summer we're lending our pastures and exploring history! Grab your horse and saddle up! (Your paper cut out horse, that is. And bring it with you if you mosey on out of town!)

Christ United Methodist Church is ridin' into a summer-long celebration.

SPRING INTO SUMMER PARTY | JUNE 4
 10AM TO 1PM

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL | JUNE 26 TO JUNE 30
 9AM TO NOON

WELCOMING PARTY |
 JULY 9
 9AM

CHURCH PICNIC |
 AUGUST 13
 NOON

OTHER EVENTS :

- * Summer Play Dates- starts June 13, Tuesdays, 9-11am
- * Family Movie Nights- June 14, July 26 at 6:30pm * Strikepoint Handbell Concert- July 22nd at 7pm
- * Hapjack/Celebrate Youth Sunday- July 16th
- * *Fidest Service (Soldier's Field)- July 23rd at 11am

Sunday Worship: Barn (Chapel) Barn (Sanctuary) Team (ECC)
 400 5th Avenue SW | www.cumethodist.com | 507 289 4019