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CHRIST
METHODIST CHURCH
UNITED
Grace, In The City

THE NEW SPIRIT

MARCH 2018
Edition

Mundy Thursday
March 29 7pm Sanctuary
Communion service of connection

Good Friday
March 30
12 pm Ecumenical Service @ Calvary
Episcopal Church
7pm Sanctuary Service

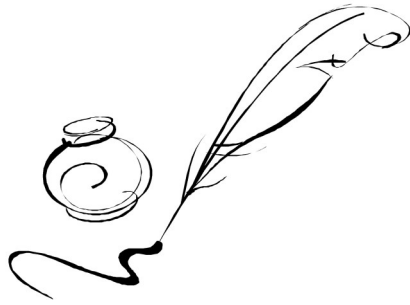
Celebrate Creation Party
March 31 10am-12pm
Intergenerational celebration of new life

Easter Sunday
9 and 11 am
April 1

Holy
WEEK

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

Sometimes transformation is invisible. Subtle shifts move within organizations or souls. Without fanfare or overt signs, changes are underway.

The transformation going on here at church is not invisible.

Soon and very soon we will begin creating an excellent Child Care and Family Resource Center on the first floor of our building. We will be transforming a space that has represented some grief (what about all of those children who filled those Sunday school rooms back in the day? What has become of us?) into a space that represents new life.

Plans have been underway for two years for the walls (and asbestos!) to come down and for new life to be born in our building. Those charged with and willing to lend hours upon hours of planning and dreaming and praying time have done amazing work. The response of the Body of Christ here has been amazing. We are the people of Jesus the Christ who are willing to take our abundance and offer it in ways transformational.

So. Our entrances and exits through the lower level will be compromised during this time of construction. Please be patient with the process. Those needing accessible entrance to the church are asked to use the west entrance.

Christ UMC is making a profound shift in our ministry focus.

For many years, churches assumed that if they were attractational enough - had excellent choirs and children's programs and classes - people would engage and find relationship with each other and the Holy.

What vital faith communities are finding is this: People want to engage in ministry in meaningful ways. There is within the human soul a desire to serve and do rather than simply consume. For churches, that means that outreach in the community is crucial; not only for engaging people, but because Jesus teaches us that to live in his way we must be about the work of loving our neighbors as ourselves. Ministry is about engaging with what is and working for what can be.

We will run into bumps throughout the process of getting THRIVE! up and operating. There will be hard decisions to make and frustrations to deal with. Surprises are always part of embarking upon new life.

My deep conviction is that the way we encounter and deal with challenges is as important as the end "product" of our ministry. Trusting that God is in this, trusting that each and all have done their utmost to prognosticate and plan, trusting that God's promises of abundance are not mere platitudes but real, we move into transformation.

Take a deep breath, beloveds in Christ.

Transformation and resurrection are real.

Pastor Elizabeth



**CUMC welcomes new
Intentional Disciples of Christ:
Deborah Jenson, Mike Skillern
Glenn Eichhorn and Loren and
Joan Lundstrom**



Deborah moved to Rochester to be closer to her children and grandchildren after her husband passed away and retiring. Deborah helps care for her grandchildren whom you all have probably met. Deborah felt very welcomed to CUMC on Sunday mornings and everyone was so helpful and kind; the friendliness was a great attraction to become a member here. Deborah is excited to get involved with UMW and Ruth Circle. She is also wanting to help out with some of the programs. Deborah enjoys sewing, crafting, reading and feels her Christian life and church are most important to her.

Mike came to Rochester from Colorado with his family to find a thriving, welcoming and essential community to set down roots. His wife, Michelle, began work at Mayo Clinic and Mike began his real estate business with RE/MAX. Mike enjoys reading, theatre, yoga, and music (choir). New beginnings and a bright future ahead, Mike hopes to make significant connection with community members and give back to their new home.

Glenn is a returning member to CUMC and looks forward to being home.



Loren and Joan were married at the Calvary Episcopal church in Rochester. They became members of Bethany United Methodist Church November 2, 1986 until it was closed Easter Sunday, 2016. Their membership was transferred to Evangel United Methodist. They have visited various churches in Rochester, but have chosen Christ United Methodist to be their church home. Joan and Loren are each enjoying retirement.

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

Thank you and happy writing!



Thrift on Fifth continues to THRIVE! TOF is springing forward as winter items are removed and spring items are hung. The last day for winter clothing is March 21. Spring items will be sorted and hung on March 22! THINK SPRING and come check out the new arrivals ... and remember Thrift on Fifth is now open the first Sunday of each month from 10-11 a.m. ALL monies collected at TOF go directly to support THRIVE! scholarships!

You Are Invited
All are Welcome.

- What:** Fellowship Coffee
- When:** 2nd Wednesday of **EVERY** Month
- Time:** 8:30 A.M.
- Where:** "Charlies"



THRIVE! CONSTRUCTION has begun in the lower level of CUMC. From **NOW** until at least **LABOR DAY**, the exterior **Chapel Door** entrance may **ONLY** be used to go to the Chapel. All other areas of the lower level are inaccessible from the exterior Chapel door entrance.

Our beautiful table in the Commons has been lovingly refurbished by our very own Jerry Blaisdell.

God Bless you Jerry!

It is beautiful!



Would you like to help DEMO the downstairs? Jerry Blaisdell is coordinating a group of volunteers to help with this project. If destruction is your thing—you'll want to be part of this activity. Watch for more details, or contact Jerry at 507-289-4933

This Happened.



This happened.

Lent 2018 @ Christ United Methodist Church

=====
suffering/outrage/healing/hard
news/joy/devastation/resurrection

Lent 2018 at Christ United Methodist Church

SIGN UP for our electronic Lenten Devotional! Pastors Elizabeth and Katy are creating a collage of reflections that will land in your inbox every day during Lent.

If you are not subscribed: send an email to email@cumethodist.com to get added to our list!

If you don't follow us on Facebook, go to: www.facebook.com/cumethodist and click on "Like".



405 Gallery Exhibition Schedule

- March/April= Eric Anderson with a variety of media work
• May/July= District Superintendent, Cynthia Williams' watercolor work
• August/September= Cassandra Buck's dye work on canvas with embroidery
• October/November=
• Gary Hicks' photography work



United Methodist Women's Spring Rummage Sale April 19-21

It will soon be Spring and time for spring cleaning! You may bring your no-longer needed, gently used items to the church on Thursday, April 19 for the Spring Rummage Sale which will be held Friday and Saturday, April 20-21.

The set up date is April 19 and we can use additional help that day from 8-5 with setting up and/or cleaning up on Saturday. Please do not donate TVs, baby/child car seats, microwaves, or exercise equipment. The proceeds from this sale help meet the MW pledge to missions.

Join Us For Brunch

FAMILIES WITH KIDDOS BRUNCH!

HOST: CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 507-289-4019

WHEN: SATURDAY, MARCH 10 FROM 9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM

WHERE: CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 400 5TH AVENUE SOUTHWEST ROCHESTER, MN 55902



SATURDAY, MARCH 17th

• 6:30pm-8:00pm • Open to 6th-12th Grade •

Hosted at Stewartville United Methodist Church

Interested in being part of the youth band? Contact Amanda Schmeichel (music@homesteadumc.org)
Other questions? Contact Catie Levenick (youthSUMC@gmail.com)

Young Families brunch invitation: sign up by contacting katy@cumethodist.com or clicking on this evite link! <http://evite.me/C73gfAzpyZ>



Rend collective the **GOOD NEWS** tour

high school day of SURPRISE
Twin Cities adventures
APRIL 21

ADVENTURE LEAVES 11 AM
CONCERT 7 PM

fun, food, service, fellowship ending in the
rend collective concert

Limited space: RSVP ASAP! 20\$

save the date
june 25-29
summer kids camp
Pre-k--5th grade

TRE NEW

THE GREEN VBS™

Grow in Faith. Have Fun. Change the World.



Mission to Guatemala



On February 10th, we celebrated the 3rd anniversary of our arrival in Guatemala as long-term mission volunteers. Our time here has been filled with joys and sorrows, successes and failures, accomplishments and tasks yet to be completed. Sounds like life, doesn't it? Through it all we have been blessed and surrounded by God's presence! As the primary driver for volunteers, I drive the 15 miles from the town where we live to the clinic as well as making occasional trips to Guatemala City. Sounds simple, right? Driving here is full of challenges and dangerous situations. I try to start each trip praying that God will grant me three things:

To get all of us to our destination safely, to keep all those around us safe, and to help me make good decisions as we go. God is with us through every kilometer and to date, those prayers have been answered. This allows us to serve each day alongside the Guatemalans at Salud y Paz who provide healthcare and education to the Mayans in these poor rural communities.

We are now preparing to welcome Nikki Rae Gensmer as Christ Church's sixth long term volunteer to serve with Project Salud y Paz. **Thank you** to Christ Church and to all those who continue to support us through your prayers, your contributions and your continued presence in our lives. We have now begun year four of our answer to God's call to serve here.

John Lage, Jr.
United Methodist Mission Volunteer
Project Salud Y Paz

Be transformed.

Do you have an interest in traveling with us in Mission to Guatemala? This is a wonderful opportunity for individuals of all skill levels to make a difference in the lives of others.

We need medical and dental professionals, as well as YOU!

Anyone with a heart for serving others is welcome.

Save the Date January 4-13 2019

Want more information?

Email Katy@cumethodist.com

UMW Update

The United Methodist Women and Chairwoman Wailana Barker, were pleased to honor Brenda Fyles with the United Methodist Women's Special Mission Recognition on UMW Sunday, February 4.

The UMW honors Brenda for her steady and committed work at CUMC, in UMW, and the Rochester community. Brenda is a member of the Sunday Circle. Here, she is active with Project Legacy, an opportunity program for youth of color in Rochester, the shoe drive, and ringing bells for Salvation Army through UMW.



Musically, at CUMC, Brenda has nurtured young children through the Little Angels choir, for 15 + years, introducing children to working together as a group and teaching them to use their voices in praising God. Brenda maintains a commitment to, and Involvement with the Chancel Choir, blessing us with her talent each Sunday.

ASP mission work has been a passion of Brenda's for the last five years. She has handled the administrative lead position and that of participant on the trip, personally helping to make homes warmer, safer and dryer in the Appalachian communities.

In the Rochester community, Brenda lends her musical expertise in daycare centers, providing early childhood music groups; she uses her creative talents working at a quilt store and teaching quilting classes; and at Mayo Clinic, she works assists in training physicians and other medical staff through playing various roles in teaching videos and live enactments.

The Sunday Circle is indeed blessed to have Brenda Fyles as one of our circle members. We hope you will join us in celebrating her loving and giving spirit with your thanks for all she freely gives to each of us through her many talents.



MARCH 18 IS MUFFIN MANIA

UMW Sunday Circle will host this event. Enjoy a variety of size and types of muffins available to purchase from 8:30—noon. All monies raised are donated to **PROJECT LEGACY**, supporting youth ages 17-24 who are refugees, homeless, formerly gang-involved or recently incarcerated.

Souper Supper a Success

Thank you for joining us on United Methodist Women Sunday and our first annual Souper Soup and Fixings. It was a wonderful morning to learn that Marjie Blaisdell had worn a hazmat suit in mission, Elaine Bauman was a nutty lady and Brenda Fyles received our Mission Recognition, And many of you joined us for soup and fellowship in Wesley Hall. It was hard to pick the favorite soup or favorite bar. Thank you to Mae Belle Erickson, Pat Feeser, Elene Pattinson and Gwen Scilley for making the soups. We look forward to making this an annual event!

- **MCI Group:**

We invite persons living with mild cognitive impairment (MCI) or early dementia and their support partner to join this confidential information and support group. We meet the third Wednesday of the month in the Family Room from 10-11am. The Family Room is on the main floor of CUMC just to the left of the main office. Pastor Nancy serves as facilitator. Please contact her to learn more about it.

The group plans to travel to St. Paul for the Meeting of the Minds Dementia Conference on

- **Memorial Requests:**

The Memorials and Living Gifts Committee invites requests for use of undesignated memorials and living gifts to further the mission and ministry of Christ UMC. Forms for the requests are found in the office. They need to be returned to the office by March 1st.

- **Congregational Care Seminar:**

The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood Conference is offering the Congregational Care Seminar on April 19-21. Pastor Nancy is inviting those who may be interested in attending to contact her as soon as possible. This is a marvelous event for learning about their caring ministries and for strengthening our congregational care. For more info on the seminar see COR.org.

Updates with Pastor Nancy, *Minister for Congregational Care*



(\$15 includes lunch)
please **register** by March 14th to
email@cumethodist.com
or 289 4019

March 17th
9:30am-2pm

HOLY LISTENING II! Essentials for Caring Ministries

Are you a good listener? Want to use your talents?
Are you already a caring visitor? Want to be one?

We're hosting another Congregational Care Seminar for current hospital, bereaved, life crisis, etc. visitors and those interested in being visitors!

Event Includes:

- Training in the art of compassionate listening: a transformative practice
- Guidance in starting/developing visitation ministries in the local church
- Extending United Methodist theology to inform our emphasis upon compassion
- Providing an introduction to Hospice
- Developing and preserving good personal boundaries
- Worshiping and blessing together in a community with a common goal



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400 Fifth Avenue SW, Rochester, MN 55902
Creating committed Christ-followers for the transformation of the world.

Faith → Life: *Learn from Christ's Teachings*

Third Sunday Forum

March 18, 2018 10:15 – 11:15 AM Hamline

What's Happening with Thrive!?

Tanya Goretzki, THRIVE! Executive Director

The bids are in, and THRIVE! Family Resource Center is moving forward! This outreach ministry of CUMC is excited to provide childcare and family support in the heart of Rochester.

When will construction begin? Who will we contract with for this project? What will the lower level look like when the renovations are completed? How can I become involved with THRIVE!? What makes THRIVE! unique? Why are we offering this ministry? Answers to these questions and more will be provided on March 18th. **Mark your calendar** to attend this important update event

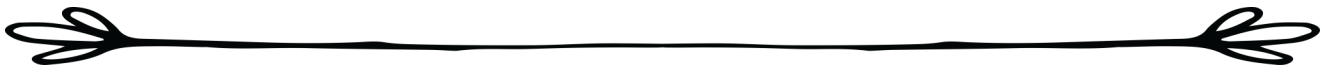


Saving Jesus

Wednesdays (through March 28th), 6:00 – 7:15 pm in the Education Conference

"We're having a culture war and Jesus happens to be one of the weapons tossed about by both sides." -- Amy-Jill Levine

It's not too late to join with others in this Lenten Series. Pastor Elizabeth Macaulay is leading us in rediscovering Jesus for the 21st century. Through video, group exploration and discussion participants will discern the relevance of Jesus for today. Come for CU Wednesday dinner and stay for the soul food.



We would love to give you a warm welcome

Do you know someone who may be interested in learning more about the church and how to connect with others? We offer monthly "Meeting Christ Church" coffees at which our pastors will meet with people and introduce them to CUMC and the United Methodist denomination. Join us the 2nd Sunday of each month in the Fireside room following the 9:00 service. Childcare is available upon request! Direct your friends to contact the church office at 289-4019 or send an email to email@cumethodist.com

UMCOR SUNDAY March 11, 2018

When you think about the [United Methodist Committee on Relief](#) (UMCOR), you may not immediately think of education.

While UMCOR is not involved in the daily teaching of children, the relief agency is strengthening education around the world in many different ways. Your gifts on [UMCOR Sunday](#) enable UMCOR to construct classrooms, school latrines, and provisions to collect and store fresh water in Haiti, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, among other places. That is because UMCOR goes to people in crisis and helps them in the ways that meet the community's needs.

UMCOR contributes classroom and sports equipment, desks and other school furnishings, often in partnership with other international or government humanitarian organizations.

UMCOR also has developed programs to help educate girls in places where families are reluctant to send girls to co-ed schools. This work involves retention initiatives and engagement programs that teach the community the importance of education. These are just a few examples of UMCOR's impact around the world. We celebrate UMCOR Sunday every year. When we celebrate and give during this Special Sunday, we support efforts like this. UMCOR Sunday, celebrated on **March 11** this year, covers the operating costs of UMCOR. We help continue efforts like this outreach when we give on this Special Sunday.



The CUMC Book Of Life

Donald Frederickson
March 12, 1937 – January
26, 2018



Joan Hernlem
March 7, 1931 – February 4.



Carolyn Richards
September 1, 1929 –
February 2, 2018



Gerald Needham
August 4, 1917 – February
17, 2018



IN THE SHADOW OF GROWTH:

**AN EVENING WITH
WITH HEIDI WELSCH
NEW OLMSTED
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Hosted by In the City for
Good

**March 8
6:30 to 8 pm**

All are Welcome!
Christ United
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Rochester

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Fax: 507-289-3648
E-mail: email@cumethodist.com

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celebration of creation!

at Christ UMC 400 5th ave SW
animals March 31
games 10 am-noon
snacks