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THE.

CHRIST
UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

NOVEMBER

2017

EDITION

NEW.

TRANSFORM



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

“If not us, who? If not now, when?”

Like many powerful quotes, this quote above has been picked up by politicians and visionaries through the years.

The core power of the question was actually first uttered 2,000 years ago by a Jewish Rabbi by the name of Hillel.

Christ UMC has joined the chorus of those who ask the question: *God, what do you want to do through me?* If not us, who? If not now, when?

The TRANSFORM campaign is inviting us all to prayer and reflection. Why does Christ UMC exist? We are blessed by so much in the way of shared story. A few days ago I ushered a Minneapolis friend into the Sanctuary. She wanted to know: Who made this happen? How could something built in the late fifties be so grand and yet soft and inviting? Who had the vision for such lovely space? What is it like to lead worship in such beautiful space?

I told your story. I shared my sense of the courage and vision it took to move from a cherished place in order to create a new cherished place. Artists and visionaries and ladies who served lunches and leaders and Christ-followers of many kinds came together to build this church on the foundation of the hearts that had gone before.

So it is today.

I am very sure that sixty years from now someone will be asking the pastor serving in 2077 how it is Christ UMC became a haven for families. People will want to know what it took to move the church to use the whole building for ministry. What they will hear is the TRANSFORM story. Built upon the witness of the past, the members of Christ United Methodist Church worked with God to offer shelter to any community's most precious and vulnerable treasure: children and the families who seek to raise them into wholeness.

I am a woman in the grandmother stage of life (please inform my children this is so!) I did not raise my children alone. I had a community of people to love my children and lead them into the shine of their futures. That was thirty years ago. I had a husband and an education and so much privilege and thank God, I had a church that loved my babies as their own.

I don't know how parents without support from community make it through the day.

What I do know is that Jesus calls us to come alongside those who are weary and heavy-laden and offer shelter and welcome. Investing in the well-being of children and families is investing in the future.

If not us, who? If not now, when indeed.

Friends, this has been a years-in-the-making vision. This vision squares with the DNA of this congregation. Built upon that foundation, many hearts and minds have entered into the question of how it is this church is called to witness to the living Christ in this place and time.

We have our answer. We are called to be agents of transformation in the way of Jesus in order that children, families, and our whole community may thrive.

Thank you for the power of your witness – past, present, and future. Let us be grounded in the past as we grow the future.

And join me in curiosity about who that pastor in 2077 will be. What story will she/he/they tell?

Blessings –



Pastor Elizabeth

Mark Your Calendars for Some TRANSFORM!

- **November 12th is Celebration of Commitment Sunday!**

During all three worship services we will offer our pledges for support of the Program Year Budget for 2018 and the TRANSFORM Capital Campaign pledge to be given over three years (2018 – 2020).

From 10am– 12:30pm that morning, we will be offering a chocolate fountain, delectable treats, AND a birthday cake will be shared by the family of the Rev. Bob Dunn. Bob is celebrating 90 years of grace filled life.

Keep praying: *God, what do you want to do through me?*

Keep believing: God is stirring life in and through our church.



- **December 10th is Announcement/Potluck Feast Sunday!**

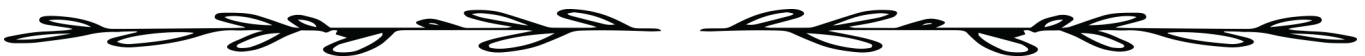
On December 10th we will celebrate Announcement Sunday. We'll announce the results of the TRANSFORM Campaign and then share the most holy of holy feasts: an all-church potluck!

Pot luck feasts will follow each service: 8, 9, and 11am. We'll do the potluck based on the first letter of your last name— A through H please bring salad or fruit, I-P please bring a main dish, Q-Z please bring desert.

You won't want to miss this chance to give thanks together!

TRANSFORM Celebration Team: Marjie and Jerry Blaisdell, Audrey Schuetz and Michael Ayres

For information on TRANSFORM, frequently asked questions, or to make your own question/comment, go to: www.cumethodist.com/transform



The Season of Advent is Soon Upon Us: *Hush.*



Advent is a time of deep breath in the midst of consumer chaos.

For four weeks leading up to the birth of hope at Christmas, we are asked to prepare our hearts.

What does it mean to make room for the advent of Jesus?

Please join Pastor Elizabeth for a series of Wednesday night classes, "Hush." November 29th, December 6th and December 13th at 6:30pm in the Education Conference Center (ECC).

We will together explore what it means to live a kind of hush in the midst of tumult.

Call for Leadership Board Members

In January of 2015, Christ UMC began a new day. Based on our Missional Church Consultation Initiative prescription #1, we adopted a more nimble leadership structure.

The Leadership Board of Christ UMC was created through a process of application, interview and commissioning. We have nine individuals who have served this church with distinction. Together we have crafted Guiding Principles and we are crafting policies and procedures to lead us forward in healthy ways.

Anything that does not change stagnates, so it is time to consider who might be next called into service on the Leadership Board. A number of our current members are ready to step down, creating opportunity for others to apply for the vacant seats.

Those who serve on the Leadership Board need to be living their membership vows: Leaders are individuals who support their church through regular worship attendance, financial giving, prayers, presence, service and witness. Leaders also must be supportive of the five prescriptions cited in our MCCI report, since that document is grounding our forward momentum as a church. (See it at: www.cumethodist.com/booklets-and-reports)

The Nominations Committee of the church will assess the applications and conduct the interviews for the open positions, with new Leadership Board members being commissioned in January of 2018.

I ask you to pray about your sense of God's call at this time. **The Leadership Board meets on the first and third Thursday of the month, from 5:30 – 7pm.** We spend time in prayer and spiritual reflection as well as the crucial issue of governance for this movement outpost called church.

I encourage you to consult with any of our current Leadership Board members to discuss their experience. This is an exciting time in the life of our congregation. The work done by the Leadership Board is a reflection of the Spirit moving through our congregation.

Consider being part of that movement! Applications are available at the front desk, in the office and online. Interviews will take place in late November.

May God nudge you gently.



It Takes a Personal Village:

Building Strong Community & Youth Who Will Change Our World

When: November 19th. Forum from 10:15-11am. Lunch at noon. Session from 12:30-2:30pm. **Cost:** \$10 (for lunch, Derek is generously donating his time!)

Register by: Contact Katy@cumethodist.com.

Do you want to live in a strong community? A strong community is one where youth are empowered and grow strong and full of "grit". A strong community is one where the aging don't feel alone, where they are adopted into groups of young adults, with new grandchildren to dote upon when theirs live across the country. This is the kind of intergenerational community that we seek to create, and a great place to start is through Christ UMC's "It Takes a Personal Village" event.



We are excited to introduce Derek Peterson, Founder and CEO of ICAR-US, Institute for Community and Adolescent Resiliency, Unifying Solutions. ICAR-US offers education, materials, and support to individuals (adults and youth), schools, agencies, communities, and statewide organizations in their youth development related work.

THIS IS FOR THE WHOLE VILLAGE! This is for pretty much everyone including children, youth, parents, grandparents, mentors, people who were at one time a teenager...Anyone! Growing a strong community village will not happen without each of YOU!

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!



Gallery 405

On Sunday, October 22nd, photographer Bill Schmidt gave an artist talk about his eye-catching pieces, displayed in Gallery 405 during the month of October. Thanks for your talent and talk, Bill!

What's next for Gallery 405? **We'll be open for Christmas card art submissions!** Starting on November 1st, you'll be able to pick up a submission sheet at the church office or at C U Wednesdays. Artists and colorers of all ages can



work on what they think would be an awesome cover for a Christmas card. **Complete your card art and turn it in to the church office by December 7th.** Card art will be displayed in the gallery and also printed and used for the Christmas cards that staff send out this year. Restrictions? Only that you use the sheet provided and put your Christmas heart and spirit into it! Contact Nikki@cumethodist.com with any questions. The Gallery 405 crew can't wait to see what you come up with!



Thrift on Fifth (www.cumethodist.com/thrift-on-fifth)



Thrift on Fifth is open for donations any time the church is open! There is a donation box where you can leave your clean, gently-used clothing items, located inside of the 5th Avenue entrance. **Store hours are as follows:** Wednesdays, 4-7pm and Saturdays, 9am-noon. We SO appreciate your support, donations, shopping and help!

Our first Saturday was a success. We had a steady stream of customers; some scraping together their change for a cap. There were lots of happy customers marveling at being able to afford warm jackets and pretty dresses and sweaters. It's good we were able to get things arranged by size - several people commented on how nice it was to

shop at our store, and I think that's part of it (along with the fabulous decor). Others said how nice it is to have something like this in their neighborhood. We had a number of people traveling on foot. Carrie and her daughter managed to hang all the new donations (thank you both!), so our racks are still full. It is, indeed, exhausting, but VERY satisfying. Thanks to everyone for your many and varied contributions. It feels good to be a part of this.



~Pam Lund, Thrift on Fifth committee member and volunteer



Special Mission Recognition for United Methodist Women

UMW recognizes church members who have dedicated time and effort to service in United Methodist Women and the church. Nomination forms are available November 1st in the church office and are due January 15th. If you have questions, contact Wailana Barker at 289 7773.



Next Meeting of Hope for Houston: November 12th, 1pm
 There is still room on this trip! Sign up by contacting Katy@cumethodist.com!

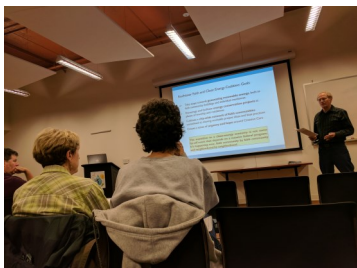


Sunday Family Dinners: Young Adults this fall

Join us as we launch a new version of Young Adult Bible study! We will meet at 7pm Sunday nights from October 8th until November 19th. We will eat a meal and talk through chapters of Rob Bell's "What is the Bible?" **HOMEWORK IS OPTIONAL, NOT REQUIRED!** Just show up any week, or all weeks, to check in about life and pray with one another. Katy will send out weekly "cliff notes" and we will have talking points ready for drop-ins. To get on Katy's Young Adult email list, email her at katy@cumethodist.com



Hopeful Earth at Interfaith Power and Light



Hopeful Earth member and advocate, Tom Williamson, spoke at the MNIPL Environmental Interfaith Coalition kick off. There were about 30 people in attendance. Hopeful Earth is doing big and important things in YOUR community. They will continue to help form a coalition across Rochester, focusing on caring for our environment.

Next meeting: November 8th at 7PM, location TBD
(email :tomwilliamson75@gmail.com for location updates.)

Useful to Consider:

The transition to a clean energy economy is not some far-off event that depends on a massive federal program. It's happening now, faith community by faith community and neighborhood by neighborhood!

What is MNIPL - Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light?

MNIPL is an interfaith community co-creating a just and sustainable world. At MNIPL we work to **build the interfaith climate movement** in Minnesota by empowering faith communities across the state to take action that is authentic, effective, and energizing in their context. We do this in two ways: **leadership development programs** and **action opportunities** that provide tangible ways to make an impact. For complete information, check out the website: <https://mnipl.org/who-we-are/building-a-movement>

What is the Rochester Faith and Solar Coalition?

At the EarthFest Expo, during Earth Week, in April 2017, Tom Williamson (at the CUMC **Hopeful Earth** booth) and Dan Nemes (the Church of St. John the Evangelist) decided to do something about Creation Care. They decided to work to create an interfaith group that would reduce energy consumption and install solar panels on buildings, leading to the following objectives:

- Take steps towards **generating renewable energy**, both at faith community buildings and individual residences
- Encourage and facilitate **energy conservation projects** at places of worship and residences
- Cultivate a **city-wide network of faith communities** committed to sharing workable project ideas and practices
- Create a sense of **urgency and hope** around **Creation Care**

Please join in the efforts to care for creation through CUMC Hopeful Earth, Rochester Faith and Solar Coalition, and MNIPL. It's an exciting time to be involved!

Need a Name Tag??

If you need a church name tag, please let the office know by calling 289-4019 or sending an email to the Office Manager, Gwen Ravenhorst: Gwen@cumethodist.com Thank you!



Holy, Holy, Holy

In 2013, our family traveled to Guatemala so our son, John Edmund, could be exposed to the country and the culture for the first time, as he was too young to accompany us on the CUMC mission trips. One of the memorable things for me on that trip was participating in the morning devotions at the Project Salud y Paz Clinic. Devotions were in Spanish so I didn't get too much out of the words, but the experience always felt so right. This public ritual, with the patients literally waiting to see the doctor in the next room within hearing distance (as shown in the photo), occurred while the entire staff listened to a local Methodist pastor, Pastor Sebastian, lead us in hymns, give a short message, and end with a heartfelt prayer. Due to a breakdown in relations between Project Salud y Paz and the Guatemalan Methodist church, those devotions stopped in early 2016. Jan and I continued to greet Pastor Sebastian enthusiastically whenever we saw him.

I'm pleased to say our new Executive Director, Kristen Rinaldi, has placed a high priority on restoring the relationship with the Guatemalan Methodist Church and she is having success in these efforts. As a result, weekly devotions with Pastor Sebastian have begun again!

There had been 25 small Spanish hymnals in the clinic previously but they had been misplaced as things were moved around during the almost two years in which they weren't being used. Jan and I tried to find them, more for use by our short and long-term volunteers, as most of the Guatemalan Christians know all the hymns by heart. We were unsuccessful but Pastor Sebastian kept asking about them.

Last week, I returned only 9 of them to him after finding them on a bottom shelf in the patient pharmacy. This small and gentle man gave me a huge hug and he smiled the biggest smile you ever saw.

We used them again for the first time yesterday and the hymn he chose was Holy, Holy, Holy. The devotions were indeed Holy. May you feel and recognize God moving in your life today and always!



~Jan, John Edmund and John Lage, Jr. (full-time missionaries in Guatemala)

11am social hour | 12pm meal
every Saturday | Wesley Hall (lower level)

saturday noon meals

Christ United Methodist Church
400 5th Avenue SW, Rochester, MN



Youth Serving at Saturday Noon Meals

Youth are serving at Saturday Noon Meals this month-
November 18, 2017!

Show up at 9:15am. We'll be done by 1pm.
Bring your friends! RSVP by November 15th to
Katy@cumethodist.com!



Notes from Your Congregational Care Pastor, Nancy Wheeler Handlon:

- **On November 5th, we will celebrate All Saints Day.** It is a day to remember and celebrate the communion of the saints. We will name aloud the members and friends of Christ Church who have died in the last year.

At the 9am service, we will have some additional ways of honoring the saints. As the names are read, a rose will be placed in a vase on the altar and a bell will toll. We will also have candles available for persons to light.

Family members of those who have died have received an invitation to come to worship with us. As a community of faith, we have the opportunity to reach out to families in their season of mourning. In these ways, we honor the lives of those who have gone on before us!

- **Christ United Methodist Church is one of six faith communities featured in a September article published by the Pew Charitable Trusts.** The research article by Jennifer Hollis is entitled “How Faith Communities Facilitate Conversations around End of Life Concerns.” Read the article at: www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/issue-briefs/2017/09/how-faith-communities-facilitate-conversations-around-end-of-life-concerns. Pat Hrabe, Kathy Estry and Pastor Nancy were interviewed by phone. We answered questions about the advance care planning education we have done here at Christ UMC. In the introduction, Ms. Hollis states that the interviews with participants show the benefits of training and engagement in advance care planning. It also states that faith communities work with the medical community to provide this important education.

The six diverse faith communities were “selected because they offer a number of instructive stories about ways in which people of faith are already engaged in conversations about serious health care.”

We are honored to have been chosen. We are especially grateful to Pat and Kathy as well as Ann Loth and others who have been involved in this important topic of Advance Care Planning!



THE EVENT: NAMED AND CLAIMED

Please pray for our 19 youth and 3 adults headed up to Cragun’s Resort in Brainerd, MN for a retreat weekend with hundreds of youth from around the conference!!!

Those attending are:

Dan Lindenfeld, Josh Lindenfeld, Jack Knauer, Andy Ott, Jaden Wysocki, Shaun Wysocki, Alex Peterson, Jocelyn Gunter, Elizabeth Gunter, Claire Ruter, Tate Goretzki, Mason Goretzki, Jacob Hanson, Aaron Cannon, Ashleigh Cannon, Hayden Binniker, Ethan Binniker, Rhys Van Ert, Logan Ackerman, Katy Lee, Laurie Ackerman, and Julia Katzenberger





What's Up With ASP This Month?

- Fall Helping Hands (leaf raking party): November 5th, 1-4pm
- Lefse making: November 11th, 7pm
- Interested in being a leader? Email Katy@cumethodist.com for some info on being a leader
- The trip this year is July 7-16th, 2018, for students who have finished 9-12th grade. Cost: \$300
- More information and forms can be found at: www.cumethodist.com/missions

Are You a Secret Shower Singer?

Do you join along with the radio as you drive? We knew it! And we have a place for you!

Come sing in the Chancel Choir. We need all voice parts, but are especially looking for sopranos and altos. Reading music is helpful but not required. Requirements: just have a pleasant voice and a desire to sing! We rehearse Wednesdays from 7-8:15pm. Come try us out!



Used Toy Drive for Christmas Anonymous

Christ Church plays a very important role in the mission of Christmas Anonymous as we host this event every year the second Saturday of December and this year we would like to increase our role by holding a used toy drive.

The week of November 26th we will be collecting "gently" used toys so that they can be distributed on store day, December 9th.

Look around your home and collect all the "gently " used toys that are no longer being used by your family and bring them to church so that other children and families can enjoy them.

~Kathy Davis

Mission and Justice

Our next Mission and Justice meeting is November 7th, 6-7:30pm. We will be talking about the Interfaith Thanksgiving service, social justice in the holiday season, and youth service opportunities. Bring your own ideas!



The CUMC Book of Life

LIVING, CELEBRATING & REMEMBERING WITH YOU

Baptisms:

(October 15th, 2017)

Kyle David Lawson

Born July 3, 2017

Parents: David and Jennifer Lawson

Sponsors: Edna Engle, Erica Engle, Del and Kathy Lawson

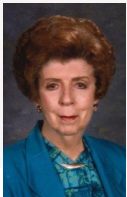
Calvin Sean Kirkham

Born June 14, 2017

Parents: Kylian and Christina Kirkham

Sponsors: Lucas and Lauren Kirkham, Joshua and Ranell Strommen

Deaths:



Roberta "Bobbie" Bailey

September 13, 1928 – October 11, 2017



Kenneth Berge

February 9, 1926 – September 24, 2017



Jane Elizabeth Clark

June 6, 1923 – October 1, 2017

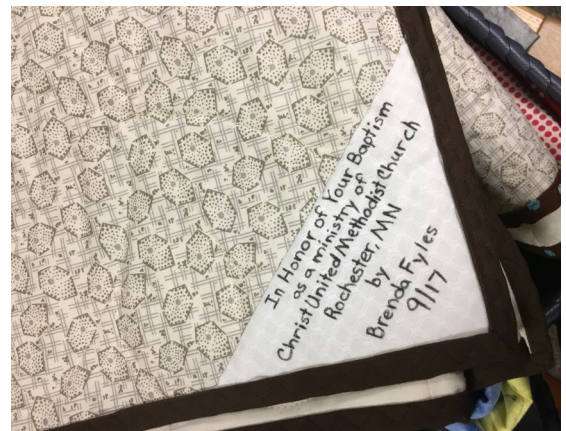
Celebrations:

JoAnne Kinzer and Wesley Tower as they celebrated covenanted love on October 20, 2017.

Special Thank You's:

We have some talented and generous quilters at Christ United Methodist Church!

Thanks to: Marjie Blaisdell, Katie Buck, MaeBelle Erickson, Brenda Fyles, Pam Geerdes, Sue Knutson, Judy Plank, and Karen Williamson! They piece and quilt crib size quilts. One is given to each of the babies on their baptism days.





Children and youth are all welcome to practice and prepare

Christmas Pageant
Sunday, December 17
9 and 11 am

Sundays 10:15 in Wesley Hall
November 5-December 10

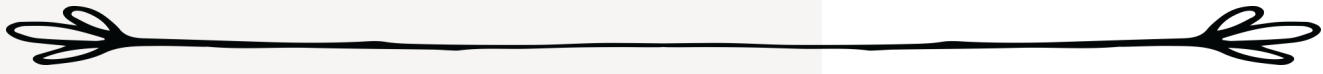


Holly, Jolly, Trolley!
December 20 | 5:30-7:30pm
 Family-style dinner, crafts and trolley ride to carol in the community!
 All are welcome!
 Christ United Methodist Church
 400 5th Avenue SW, Rochester, MN



CUMC
WEDNESDAYS
 EAT | MAKE MUSIC | LEARN | CREATE
 5:30-7PM
 CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 WWW.CUMETHODIST.COM

Some holiday and weekly events to put on your November calendar!



Christ United Methodist Church is Online!

Christ United Methodist Church is SUPER DUPER online. Did you know that you can "Like" us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and watch our weekly Sunday services on YouTube?! (see the graphic below)

CUMC has WONDERFUL volunteers who record the 9am worship service every week. Go to www.youtube.com and search "Christ United Methodist Church Rochester MN" and subscribe to our YouTube channel. We also stream the 11am service live and post it to our Facebook page. Know someone who is out of town, sick, or homebound? They need to know about this!



- Visit our website homepage!
www.cumethodist.com
- Like us on Facebook!
facebook.com/cumethodist
- Follow us on Twitter!
twitter.com/cumethodist
- Watch services online! Go to youtube.com and type "Christ United Methodist Church Rochester MN" into the search bar!

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Methodist Church
400 5th Avenue SW

Interfaith
Thanksgiving
Eve Service

we give thanks together.

NOVEMBER 21 | 7 PM