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June Serving Unit

Naomi Jones
 Kelly and Kay McKee
 Arlene Peterson
 Mike and Angela Forga
 Joannie Anderson
 Randy Rennaker
 Joan Bixler
 Faythe Anderson
 Jessica Perez
 Kathy Davis

Pastor Linda's Letter

Friends,

As our summer season is kicking off, I am excited about the series we will finish in June and what we will design for this summer. Creating new ministry and worship opportunities with Dan, our new music director, and staff to guide us through this summer season spiritually and grow us more in love with God and others.

Our 9 innings, Practices and Habits, is a series based on two things that we need in our congregation. The common emotional bent in our culture is being critical, cynical and contrast/compare things of the past with the present. It doesn't help us spiritually or emotionally to create space for new opportunities and ministries when we are wrapped up in the c's. We are using the book, "Grateful" by Diana Butler Bass, to guide us toward hopes of shifting the "C" words toward living into spirits of gratitude, gratefulness and grant our souls a fresh opportunity to create space for healthier thoughts by practices and habits.

The other choice was suggested because of the role of revitalization for our church. Congregations that are seeing success of growth spiritually and numerically are using the five practices techniques from Bishop Robert Schnase. My prayer is that we embrace and embody the practices personally and as a congregation. Radical hospitality. Passionate worship. Intentional faith development. Risk-taking mission and service. Extravagant generosity. If all cylinders of those practices aren't firing together in unity, we won't find our revitalization working for us. May God guide each of us to our personal responsibilities and participation toward the future of this church! If you miss a week of worship, I encourage you to listen online to see what you have missed. Got questions? Ask me.

Peace,
Pastor Linda

pastorlinda@communitymethodistchurch.org

Save the Dates!

- ◆ **Sunday, June 2**, Daniel Ritter, our new music director joins us. There will be root beer floats following the service. See Dan's bio on page 6!
- ◆ **Sunday, June 9**, we celebrate Sharon's ministry at this church and all her gifts as she retires. See article on page 6.
- ◆ **Sunday, June 23**, CUMC Charge Conference following worship. See article page 6.

Mission:

To bring people into Christian Community, in order to grow in God's love, as demonstrated by Christ, for the transformation of the world.

Vision:

We are a welcoming, diverse Christian Community, reflective of our neighborhood, actively working to serve our community through our demonstration of God's love. We want to Reach others through God's love, Grow in faith with God's love, and Send people out with God's love.

What's That Ringing????

It's the CUMC handbell choir!!!! I want to thank the dedicated group of ringers that meet Thursday evenings and ring in church once a month. Not only are they learning often very difficult music, but they are getting a work out. Many come to practice cold and chilly, and by the end of the first song they are practicing, many are taking off their sweatshirts. Good thing they layer their clothes.

I also want to thank two ringers who are retiring this year, Elaine Hill and Wilma Berg. What great talent they have and will be truly missed.

We are always ready for any new ringers --- let me know if you are interested.

Karen Schneider



Bruce Fielden	6/02
Edna Rumpsa	6/03
Shirley Rusnacko	6/06
Joan Cota	6/17
Donna Staubus	6/20
Marilyn Meixner	6/22
Blessing Kasongoma	6/26
Ione Weber	6/29
Rod Bruns	6/29
Wilma Berg	6/30

Summer Chair Yoga Schedule

June: 7, 28 (no yoga June 14, 21)

July: 5, 12 (no yoga July 19, 26)

August: 2, 9, 23, 30 (no yoga August 16)

Breakthrough Prayer for Our Church

*Good and Generous God,
Your grace and love are an outpouring for me;
I give thanks for all that you have given me and
our church. O God, we thank you for the
presence of our congregation in this
community for 112 years. We are blessed to
bless others through our works, service, and
ministries through your guidance. God, we pray
fervently for the hope and future of our
congregation, ministries, leaders, and purposes.
Pour out the Holy Spirit upon us. Help us to be
bold in our witness, invitation, hospitality,
generosity, and creativity. Bless us with new
adventures, leaders, visitors and members!
Enlarge our territories. Breakthrough the
comfort and complacency zones with bold faith.
Help us to grow more in love with you, God, and
our neighbors. Guide us to take risks in your
name and for Your Kingdom. Amen.*



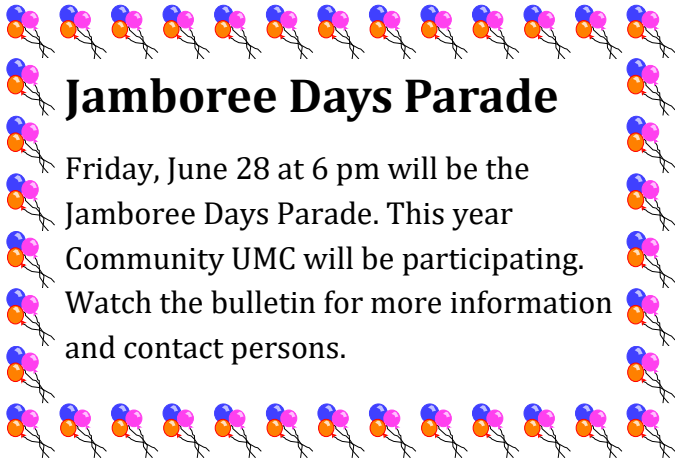
Coaching Corner:

We are still working to put together a prayer team for our revitalization. We have been awaiting volunteers to join Naomi and me. We will now be asking people to join us. Pastor Linda has been working on visibility and conversations in the community with intentionality. Our next steps after putting together the prayer team are choosing leaders to help with the next stages of the developing opportunities and church growth coaching.

Things we need to work on to build a culture toward revitalization for all congregation:

1. Encouraging and holding each other accountable to move from personal preferences toward outreach with others, not charity and service for others
2. Know our story and why we are in this community
3. Know who we are – remember your story matters (God's Story, Our Story)
4. Invite. Invite. Invite. Invite. Invite. Share. Share. Share.
5. We are willing to change! We aren't asking people to come and assimilate to our ways and our doing things our ways (the trap: don't say this is the way we've always done things here)
6. People may look different, dress different, want coffee, wear caps/hats – it is okay! Welcome others into our space.
7. There will be a cultural shift if we are successful in our attempts to revitalize – leave room for new, let your personal preferences be released for new opportunities.
8. Building bridges and on-ramps for people to come here and get involved in our community

Pastor Linda



Jamboree Days Parade

Friday, June 28 at 6 pm will be the Jamboree Days Parade. This year Community UMC will be participating. Watch the bulletin for more information and contact persons.



Our next delivery dates will be June 17th—21st. Mark those dates down, and we'll be in touch.

Thanks again for your hard work!

Rod Bruns & Sylvia Bruns



Community Meals Served!

May 13	76 served
May 27	Memorial Day -no meal served



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

I have resigned as the leader of our Women's Society but I have found a great replacement. Mary Tholkes will lead us forward in the coming years. I have enjoyed working with the women of CUMC as they were always willing to step up when needed and help us make our pledge to mission both here and nationally. Now I will step up and be one of the ranks. Can't say I'll miss writing agendas or trying to make my computer skills (and old computer) keep up to new ways but I suppose I will miss that too.

Anna Lexvold



Our next work day will be:

Saturday, July 20th from 11:30 AM—1:30 PM
at 401-93rd Ave NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Watch for sign-up dates.

Dick Meixner

Thank You—Plant & Rummage Sale!

A heartfelt thank you from the leaders of the plant and rummage sale. We made a great team. We had over 56 people putting in their time and effort to make this sale produce as well as it did. I say over 56 because I'm not sure I saw all who worked and packed up on Saturday. A special thank you goes to the bakers who made more goodies for the bakery that almost sold out on the first day. And to Rod Bruns and son who came with truck and trailer to get all the left overs out. Anita added her van to the line up to keep the flow moving. And I can't leave out Les and Jan who worked up to three weeks before the sale and then showed up to give a hand where needed during the sale. They did have to take Saturday afternoon off to learn more about team work by watching the Twins. I have to say thank you again to all who answered our call for help.



Camp Minnesota offers Bring a Friend Discount!

Several opportunities for all ages available at: www.campminnesota.org/campsessions

For each new camper* you or your child bring to camp, your event fee will be reduced by \$25**. New campers will have a great time at camp, you'll save some money, and everybody wins! This is our way of thanking you for helping us make camp even better! Simply mark the Bring-a-Friend Discount portion of your registration page/online form, or contact our office at 855-622-1973. Make sure to give us your friend's name!

Register today at: www.campminnesota.org/campsessions

Camperships are available!!

* New campers are defined as those who have not been to any UM Camping event in the past three years.

** Discounts cannot exceed the cost of your event registration fee.

Thank You—Heifer Project!

I want to thank our entire congregation for contributing to our goats. We are thrilled to announce we will be purchasing 14 goats through Heifer International. The piggy banks and dollars weekly as well as purchasing our Christmas ornaments and Chili fundraiser all helped us exceed our goal. What a great and generous church family we have!!!!



Thank You—Sunday School!

On Sunday, May 19 we said thank you to our Sunday School teachers and helpers. We have a great program and a dedicated group of teachers and helpers. We are giving our children a foundation of a Christian Education and offering adult education to those that continue their faith journey.

Elementary - Brenda McCoy, Cate Vermeland

Ir and Sr. High - Martha Snipstad, Naomi Jones

Adult Ed - Les Johnson, Anita Thompson

Helpers - Tamra LeBlanc, Dana Wigert, Joanie Anderson, Kari Trench, Jim Reinholdson, Katherine Brown

Annual Conference

The Minnesota Annual Conference is scheduled for **June 18-20** in St. Cloud. Naomi Jones is the Lay Member to the Annual Conference for our congregation. The speaker this year is Mark Teasdale, speaking to “our changing landscape.”

Charge Conference

We will have a CUMC Charge Conference on **June 23 at 10:45**. We will worship and at the conclusion of worship we will vote on new leadership, have reports, vote to support Nancy Ellis as a Licensed Local Pastor, and potentially other legislation to be determined. Rev. Dennis Alexander will preside over the conference meeting. Please attend worship and stay for the meeting.

Key Policy

Our new doors are installed. The old doors were damaged beyond repair from the break-in we experienced in January. There is a new key to the building entrances. We have reduced the number of keys that were out in the community by 2/3. If you have an old key, please turn it in or throw it away. If you have an event or activity where you need a key, we will have a check-out system in the office where you can get a key for the day of your event and then return it to the office. If you have rummage to drop off or other reasons to be in the building during non-office hours, we have a list of key holders in the office. Call us and we can arrange someone to let you into the building. No changes were made to the interior doors at this time. Pray for the safety of our church.

Meet our new Music Director!

Dan Ritter comes to CUMC after 17 years with Parkway UCC in North Minneapolis. Parkway UCC will be closing its doors and consolidating with Robbinsdale UCC. Dan looks forward to playing on the wonderful pipe organ and piano at CUMC, and working with the choir. Based on the people he’s met so far, he feels it will be a warm and welcoming community of people to work with.

Dan has worked with many other groups musically. He directs and accompanies The Pistachios—a women’s choir; and directs and accompanies the Männerchor—a German male chorus. He also accompanies the American Swedish Institute Male Chorus, and has been on three tours to Sweden with them. This summer he will work on a theatrical production of Cole Porter’s Anything Goes. When he’s not working as a musician, he drives school bus in the St. Paul school district.

Retirement Celebration for Sharon Ruhnke June 9

Sharon Ruhnke has been the accompanist and organist for Community UMC for more than five years. We all are grateful for her skills, talent, and dedication to this congregation and her craft. She has been a constant of practicing at church, we can find her there often 7 days a week! She is an active member of our staff team. On June 9, during worship, she will play her last time as a staff member. We will celebrate, honor and thank her for her years in ministry. Then, we will have cake following the worship service during fellowship hour. Please feel free to thank her with cards or words of appreciation. May God bless her retirement!

Core Leadership Team updates:

Notes from discussed items:

- ◆ Further discussion is being made on the apportionments and they are going in an escrow account at this time. It may be determined that we pay a portion of them or that we pay the full amount in December. At this time, it is a way of expressing resistance for the GC 2019 decision.
- ◆ A team has been formed toward this congregation becoming a Reconciling Congregation. Individual conversations are scheduled throughout the month of May for team members to talk to active members participating in church. There will be more education coming for the congregation.
- ◆ Love Grant by the Annual Conference: a motion to buy a rainbow colors welcome sign for the church, vote passed. The love grant is to be used on damage control on the results of the GC 2019 decision. We are awaiting participation determination with our other cluster churches (Faith UMC and NE UMC) in putting ads in local papers informing of inclusion in our churches.
- ◆ Blessed Ramadan sign: a motion made to put it out again, the vote passed to put out our sign for unity in our community and supporting our siblings in their faith journeys.
- ◆ We are working on getting a bid for the new church t-shirts. People will purchase them. Brenda and Les are working on t-shirts.
- ◆ A vote was taken to support Minnesota Methodists, one of the movements in response to the GC 2019 vote.
- ◆ Our financial team will be meeting on May 23 to discuss what the next steps should be related to our finances. We are also planning on some 1-1 or small group meetings to discuss the state of financial status of our congregation. A meeting took place with District Superintendent Dan Johnson related to our finances and a plan discussed about doing an additional stewardship campaign. A plan is being made for communicating details to the budget of operating expenses v the pledges and the shortfall we will experience in 2019 and beyond. Please watch your mail and for upcoming conversations.
- ◆ Update on trustee items: doors are to be installed, plates over the outside door locks, weather stripping on the red doors. Replaced copper piping on the boiler, which was needed to pass inspection. Security cameras were installed and awaiting electric hardwiring of the cameras. Rental agreement with Elevate Church has been signed with an increase in rent for 2019.
- ◆ Les reported on the Crestview Annual Meeting and discussed our affiliation with them.

The next meeting is June 6.

The Lay Leader Corner

by Les Johnson

Last month I piggy-backed on Pastor Linda's baseball theme to talk about roles in the church and how we meet the needs of our missions and other activities. I also talked about the "utility" player who is called on to fill a variety of positions depending on the need.

This month I want to use that analogy to talk about "position" players. A baseball team is fortunate to have good utility players, but they also need some very specific skills; starting and relieving pitchers, catchers, a 'Byron Buxton like' outfielder, a homerun hitting designated hitter. In the church we need some of those position players also – people who have specific skill sets that prepare them to use those valuable talents for specific purposes. As an example, I look no further than across the dining room table at my wife Jan. She had a successful 40-year career in accounting and finance management and brings those unique talents and insights to the job of Treasurer for our church.

As we move forward with revitalization efforts for our church there are other specific positions that need to be filled. One of these could be a great match for some of you. I hope you

prayerfully consider it. A couple of examples. Pastor Linda's work with consultant Cathy Townley has led to identifying the need for a prayer team within the church. Naomi Jones has stepped up to lead that group, but she could use people to join that effort. Paul talks about the gift of prayer and its importance to the church. Is that an opportunity for you? (If so, contact Naomi and join the team!) Another example is again part of revitalization. We are working with a couple of outside resources to revamp our "branding". That includes things like colors, logos, signage and website. If you happen to have graphic arts or web skills, this would be a great opportunity to be part of that team. For right now, I guess I'm leading that effort, but I would love to have some others on the team with stronger skills in those areas.

In the near future we'll be talking about some of the other opportunities to help with the revitalization of Community UMC. We're looking forward with a vision for growing the church and becoming even more relevant in our community. Please consider how you can contribute to this great goal.

P.S. Thank you to the great team that pulled off a solid win with the Rummage and Plant Sale!!

What's happening in the big church?

There are many different groups popping up around the state and country related to the "what's next" in response to the special General Conference 2019 (GC 2019). We want to follow our baptismal vows and not participate in harm and oppression.

- Minnesota hosted **Our Movement Forward**, over 300 people participated at Lake Harriet UMC.
- **UMC Next** was held in Kansas City with 600 people from 54 Annual Conferences.
- **Minnesota Methodists** are continuing to work locally on helping people vision what may be next for us.

If you don't have access to the internet where a lot of these groups disseminate information and would like to keep up on it, please contact Martha or Pastor Linda. We can print some of the things for you to stay in tune with things happening around us. Otherwise watch the Facebook page for more information following meetings and activities.

June 2019

June 2019							July 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
30													

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 26	27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1
2 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship 12:00pm Elevate	3 Office Closed 4:30pm Women's Meal at Culver's (Culver's)	4 10:00am NE Seniors Meeting (Asbury Room)	5 9:45am Adult Bible Study	6 6:30pm Core Leadership Meeting	7 Office Closed 11:00am Chair Yoga	8
9 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship 11:15am Blood 12:00pm	10 Office Closed 5:30pm Community Dinner	11	12 9:45am Adult Bible Study 7:00pm UM Twins Game (Target Field, 1)	13	14 Office Closed	15
16 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship 12:00pm Elevate	17 Office Closed	18 Annual Conference Minnesota UMC	19 Annual Conference Minnesota 9:45am Adult Bible Study	20 Meals on Wheels Delivery Newsletter Deadline 10:00am River Rats	21 Office Closed	22
23 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship 12:00pm Elevate	24 Office Closed 5:30pm Community Dinner	25	26 9:45am Adult Bible Study	27 7:00pm Eve Circle	28 Jamboree Days Office Closed 11:00am Chair Yoga 6:00pm Jamboree	29
30 Jamboree Days 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship 12:00pm	Martha's Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:30 AM — 4:30 PM					

Community United Methodist Church

950 Gould Avenue Northeast

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Phone 763-788-9009

<http://www.communitymethodistchurch.org>

Pastor Linda McCollough

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

June Events

June 3 (Mon)	4:30 pm Women's Meal at Culvers
June 5 (Wed)	9:45 am Adult Bible Study (repeats on Wednesdays)
June 6 (Thurs)	6:30 pm Core Leadership Team
June 7 (Fri)	11:00 am Chair Yoga
June 10 (Mon)	5:30 pm Community Meal
June 17-21	Meals on Wheels Delivery
June 18-20	Minnesota Annual Conference
June 20 (Thurs)	<i>Newsletter Articles due for June</i>
June 24 (Mon)	5:30 pm Community Meal
June 27 (Thurs)	5:30 pm Community Meal
June 28 (Fri)	11:00 am Chair Yoga
	6:00 pm Jamboree Days Parade