

CIRCLE TIMES

June 2024

United Protestant Church Newsletter

Silver Bay, Minnesota

The United Protestant Church Mission Statement

We are an open-minded Christian fellowship. We seek to follow the Word of God and to pass God's love on to others as we actively welcome them into our church family.

Rev. Paul Scaringi, Ph.D.

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Lynn Anderson, Church Secretary

Terry Eggum, Church Council Chair

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[www.facebook.com @upchurchsilverbay](https://www.facebook.com/upchurchsilverbay)

TEXTS AND TITLES

June 2 – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Title: *Clay Jars*

June 23 – 5th Sunday after Pentecost

1st Reading: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

2nd Reading: Mark 4:35-41

Title: *Dead Calm*

June 9 – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

1st Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

2nd Reading: 1 Samuel 8:1-20

Title: *Who Will Fight Your Battles?*

June 30 – 6th Sunday after Pentecost

1st Reading: Lamentations 3:22-33

2nd Reading: Mark 5:21-43

Title: *Commotion & Grace*

June 16 – 4th Sunday after Pentecost

1st Reading: Mark 4:26-34

2nd Reading: 1 Samuel 15:34 - 16:13

Title: *A New Direction*



We chose the name "Circle Times" for our first U.P. newsletter 62 years ago.

It was a way of reminding ourselves that we are a united group of several denominations.

This is a much needed witness in our world filled with diversities.



From the Pastor

Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt,
and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand
and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God
commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.- Exodus 5:15

The lead track of Dinah Washington's 1959 album *What a Difference a Day Makes* was *I Remember You*. The album was well received and this song echoes through my mind as I work on this article, not only because I appreciate Washington as a jazz singer but also because it illustrates how far-reaching the topic of 'remembering' goes. From jazz to education (a key component of learning is the ability to remember) to society (we just celebrated Memorial Day) to politics and, especially, to our faith – to remember is a key component of the lives we've been gifted and foundational to our Christian faith.

In the Old Testament, God consistently calls Israel to remember for several reasons. One reason is to remember what they are to do so they may live within the presence of God, which means there are commands to follow. Another reason to remember is to recall those times where they have messed up. These are moments to be recalled as a means to help prevent them being repeated (although that didn't always work for Israel or the Church). It is important to note that both of those reasons are founded upon what is the ultimate remembrance – remembering God's steadfast love, faithfulness, and power.

Time and time again, the people are called to remember that it is the Lord who delivered them and made a covenant with them. This remembrance was to give them hope and direction for their lives. It is not only in the Old Testament we find this call to remember. In Matthew's Gospel we find Jesus' final words (what we often call The Great Commission) in the 28th chapter. After Jesus tells his disciples (and by extension, us) what they are to do as his followers, he says, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

While remembering in our larger society is oriented toward not forgetting what has already occurred, the call to remember in scripture has a much broader horizon. To faithfully remember is to not only recall the past but to recall God's presence in our past and how the Lord has blessed and sustained us through our days. This type of remembrance seeks to avoid nostalgia – a type of remembering where everything in the past was always better. We are called to look back and recall all that we can, not just the happy times, for the Holy Spirit moves through all aspects of our lives. To remember, then, is a call that leads us to continue to trust in God's love for us, a trust that is meant to nurture and sustain a great hope for the future.

As we enter into our summer months, a time when we look forward to warmer days and outdoor activities, let us do so and remember all that God has done for us and within us to bring us to this time. In that remembering let us be a people of hope for all that the Lord will do for us and for a world in need of God's steadfast love.

Blessings,
Paul

UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

May 14, 2024 6:00 pm

ATTENDEES: Mike Osmundson, Jim Martineau, Jean Williams, Agnes Gilson, Allison Oja, Shirley Whiteford, Brenda Larson, Terry Eggum, Ruth Eggum, Pastor Paul and Eileen Scaringi (Zoom). Council Chair Terry Eggum called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Pastor Paul opened in prayer.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

M/M/S by Ruth Eggum/Jean Williams to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURERS'S REPORT: M/M/S by Agnes Gilson/Shirley Whiteford to approve the April Treasurer's report for audit. Motion carried.

Checking Account: \$30,775.99	Memorial Fund: \$26,793.87	
Ministry Fund: \$66,041.58	House of Love: \$8,338.54	AmazonSmile:
\$463.98	Checking SS: \$3,467.29	YTD Food Shelf: \$ 434.00
YTD Income: \$31,465.16		
YTD Expense: <u>(\$33,005.48)</u>		
YTD Net: <u>(\$1,540.32)</u>		

DIACONATE REPORT: Ruth Eggum reported the new sound system has arrived and will be installed this week. The annual Split Rock service and picnic will be June 16.

TRUSTEE REPORT: Mike Osmundson reported that we will have a Work Day on May 18 from 10-2 which will include window cleaning and other projects. We will also be doing the highway clean-up on Saturday. Steve Van House will be putting in the new sidewalk at the end of May. Mark Ness will be taking care of mowing the grass for us this summer.

CHRISTIAN ED REPORT: Brenda Larson reported that they have purchased 7 Bibles for the Sunday School kids which will be given to them on June 2 or 9. No decision has been made on purchasing a white board for Sunday School. The lock-in game night for the youth on April 19 went well. There will be no VBS this summer, but they are considering a cookout/picnic for the church before the kids go back to school, possibly Labor Day weekend.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor reported that Philip Christman has been moved from the hospital to Ecumen Lakeshore for rehab. Jean Wagner is home from the hospital and Mike O. continues with his oral chemo. We will have our annual Split Rock service and picnic on June 16. A meeting was held today (May 14) to review and critique the April 19 Community Meal. Tentatively, the next meal will be held on September 13. There will be a Bay Days (July 12—14) ecumenical service July 14. Pastor John from the Beaver Bay Community Church is talking to the Bay Days Committee to let them know a tent is needed for that service.

OLD BUSINESS: The Health Ministry Team has taken over the Tabitha Ministry, but we had no report. We are willing to offer our church as a meeting place for the Boy Scouts, but we are not interested in becoming a sponsor or charter organization. With a vote of 23 (10:30 a.m.) to 20 (9:30 a.m.), the Sunday morning worship service will continue meeting at 10:30 a.m. The new soundboard will be installed on Friday, May 17. Mike O. mentioned that he also purchased a two-year warranty on the machine. Von Borg has donated a Samsung computer for recording the services.

NEW BUSINESS: M/M/S by Terry Eggum/Jean Williams to renew our contract to continue the Highway Clean-up. Motion carried. The Council decided that we will not have a June Council meeting, but will resume meeting on July 9, 2024.

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The next Council meeting will be July 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

M/M/S by Ruth Eggum/Terry Eggum to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm. Motion carried. Pastor Paul closed in prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ruth Eggum, Council Secretary

May Council meeting minutes will be approved in the July 9th meeting.

Taking 5



Below you will find the Taking 5 scripture and prayers for this month. I encourage you to take 5 minutes each day to read the scripture closely, pray the prayer attentively, and spend the remaining time in prayerful silence, seeking out God's presence and prompting in that time. Thank you for being part of this important discipline for our church and for you.

Peace,
Paul

The week of June 2nd

Scripture: 1 Samuel 8:7-9

Prayer: I confess, Holy God, there are days when I reject you and your ways. Forgive me and help me to trust in your presence and grace this day. Amen.

The week of June 9th

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:1-7

Prayer: I pray, dear Lord, for eyes to see as you see and for ears to hear your Spirit's prompting each day as you abide with me. Amen.

The week of June 16th

Scripture: Mark 4:37-39

Prayer: Ruler of wind and sea, when my life is being tossed about I sometimes lose sight of you. Have mercy, still my soul, and help me to trust in you. Amen.

The week of June 23rd

Scripture: Psalm 30:10-12

Prayer: Gracious Lord, you are my true help in time of need. Illumine my life so I may be clothed in your joy this day and see the way you walk with me. Amen.

The week of June 30th

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:8-10

Prayer: Gentle Shepherd, lead me through my weakness so I may know your transforming power in those areas of my life that I hide from you and others. Amen.

House of Love update

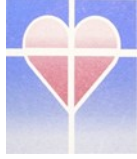
The House of Love (HoL) is our partnered mission. It is a Christian orphanage in Chiang Mai, Thailand that is a home for women and children affected by HIV/AIDS. Its mission is to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of each resident. Mark and Alise Juanes are American Baptist missionaries working with the local administrators and staff to further this ministry.

Last weekend the College Care team held another life skills training about positive parenting. We hope to prepare them to know and understand how to love, take care of, guide, and discipline their future kids if they choose to have any. We had great discussions about parenting including the difference between punishment and discipline, which is a difficult concept here, but I think they understood. We also enjoyed mookatat (grill and soup) together after the teaching.

Photo not available

PRAYER SHAWL WILL NOT MEET THIS SUMMER

Beginning June 12 and throughout the summer months, Prayer Shawl will not be meeting. We plan on resuming in September. This does not mean that the ministry is suspended. We will continue to distribute shawls and lap robes as the need arises. If you would like an item given to someone, please let Pastor Paul know, or call the church office at 226-3973. Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry may also be contacted: Ruth Eggum, Agnes Gilson, Dedie Moore and Brenda Larson. We pray you have a wonderful summer!!



Parish Nurse Notes

Debie Moore Retired R.N.

The Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, FOR OUR LASTING GOOD, so as to keep us alive.

Deuteronomy 6:24

While we may not think we need to observe every statute in the Torah, it is so important to remember that these were given to us by God FOR OUR LASTING GOOD. I do not know of any (which does not mean it is not there) of the directives that would cause us harm. The fact that there is such detail about daily life shows how God cares about all of our lives.

We were talking in Bible Study about our group identity as Christians, and I hope part of that is that we care for our bodies as God loves us. I have been reading slowly the first chapter of Philippians and I was struck by this line:

“By my speaking with all boldness (about Christ), Christ will be exalted now as always IN MY BODY”. I need to remember the positive reasons to follow good healthy practices, not just because I should, but because I care about this body and life I have been gifted. Focusing on the positive reasons helps us to change habits. When we just focus on the “shouldn’ts”, it becomes so tempting to rebel. Or maybe that is just me. I do have a rebellious spirit.

Well, this last week has been glorious weather, and we are heading into an abundant and busy summer. In celebrating our God, our church family, and caring for each other and ourselves, our health will also flourish. Remember to take time to relax, it will never get all done anyways. Smell the flowers and smile at our neighbors.

North Shore Mental Health Group meets the third Tuesday at 6pm in the hospitality room at UP and on Zoom. GLAD meets the second and fourth Mondays at 6:30pm on Zoom, and we may start meeting in person and Zoom both. Check out the North Shore Mental Health Group page on Facebook and email nsmentalhealth.com for more information.

The mental health crisis line is 988 nationwide, and the best local number is 844-772-4724. The second number more quickly connects you with Lake County resources. Pass these numbers on.

Happy Father's Day!



What's up now with U.P. folks!!!

Keep these folks in your thoughts and prayers:

Ellen and Karsten Hogenson, Phyllis Pearrow, Ray Burge, Kay Colby, Irene Johnson, Mary Aijala, Mary Carroll, Chuckie Knudson, Mike and Peg Osmundson, David Gustafson, Rebecca Snook, Phil Christman, Serine Ege, Deanne Reiten, Agnes Gilson, Jean Wagner, Ruth Koepke, Carol Bakken, Jim Martineau, Mary Jo Taintor and Allison Oja of our congregation as they deal with health-related changes and recoveries.
All the caregivers.

June Birthdays

Jim Martineau	1
Nancy Viola	3
Greg Christenson	5
Phyllis Pearrow	12
Kathy Thompson	17
Dawn Connor	22
Sandy Wakefield	23
Beth Smuk	23



June Anniversaries

Karsten and Ellen Hogenson	7
Bruce and Kris Small	10
Jim and Brenda Larson	14
Terry and Kathy Thompson	14
Ray and Marion Burge	16
Phil and Becky Goutermont	18
Larry Longmore & Lynn Anderson	24

ANNUAL SERVICE AT SPLIT ROCK

Join us for our annual outdoor service at Split Rock Trail Center on Sunday June 16th at 10:30 am.

We'll enjoy a picnic lunch following the service. If you can, bring a side dish or dessert to share.

If you do not have a state park sticker be sure to tell the Park Ranger that you are with the UP church for a discounted parking rate of \$3.00.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
 On June 8th we will be collecting our annual One Great Hour of Sharing world mission offering. Please consider prayerfully consider how to participate in this year's offering.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study 9:30 am

Join us as we explore the book:
The Other Half of Church.
 All are welcome.

Check out our website:

<https://www.unitedprotestant.org>.
 You can download the latest newsletter and sermon as well as keep up to date with what is happening here at UPC.



For those who would like to support the UPC ministry electronically, please scan this code to access our website's online giving page: Note: There is a fee associated with using this application.

June

2024

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>Pastor Paul will be in the office on Tuesday and Wednesdays . He will be in his home office on Thursdays and Fridays.</p> <p>Lynn in office Wed & Thurs 1:30 -4:00 pm</p>					1
2 Sun. School 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Communion	3	4	5 WMBS 9:30 am	6	7	8
Sunday Worship 10:30 am One Great Hour Of Sharing	10 GLAD 6:30 pm	11 No Boards or Council Meetings	12 WMBS 9:30 am	13	14	15
16 Sunday Worship 10:30 am SPLIT ROCK	17	18 NSMHG 6:00 pm	19 WMBS 9:30 am	20	21	22
23 Sunday Worship 10:30 am <hr/> 30 Sunday Worship 10:30 am	24 GLAD 6:30 pm	25	26 WMBS 9:30 am	27	28	29

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