



# CIRCLE TIMES

**October 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.*

Lynn Anderson, Church Secretary  
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## **FAREWELL**



**Rev. Paul and Eileen Scaringi**  
**Served U P Church from 8/29/2008 to 9/22/2024**



**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.**

### **A Note to “Circle Times” Readers:**

By the time you read this, September will be winding down. In this season of change, we were given the notice that Pastor Paul's and Eileen's last Sunday service would be September 22<sup>nd</sup>. It's safe to say that folks were stunned by the news, even though we all know that pastors do not typically stay in one church for 16 years as Paul has served. After their last Sunday service, our church presented a beautiful metallic print of a sunrise over Split Rock Lighthouse, as well as a copy of the audio recordings of his Sunday sermons, a lovely wooden box of memory cards from our congregation and a cribbage board in the shape of Lake Superior. Best of all, Paul and Eileen were given our best wishes for a fulfilling pastorship at First Baptist Church of Greater Des Moines. We presented a card that speaks to the mystery of God's calling to all of us.

I would like to share with you a poem that I wrote awhile ago. It reminded me of the mystery of life's journey. I also I have reprinted the message and photo in a card that accompanied Sunday's presentation.

Peace, Lynn Anderson

### **Destination Unknown**

I imagine boarding a train  
holding a pass that's free.  
I look at the ticket, but  
there's no destination to see.

I find my seat in a car  
that is set upon its track.  
I look out the window,  
but I don't look back.

Puzzled by this strange trip,  
that seems to go nowhere,  
I see a conductor and ask,  
“Who paid my fare?”

“A fine question to ponder,”  
said the man with an odd hat.  
“You see, there is a Mighty Engineer  
who runs all of this and all of that.”

“If you wonder where you are headed,  
ask the Engineer's Son who paid the price.  
He loves you and knows what you can do.  
It is for you, he made his great sacrifice.”

So, I look at my ticket and humbly reflect:  
this is life's journey that I have begun.  
There are truths to learn and love to give  
before my ticket's punched and my trip is done.

Lynn Maria Anderson  
February 8, 2023

Dear Paul and Eileen,

Our journeys through life do seem like train rides on which we board, transfer, and disembark only to board another train that's on a different track. God's calling is a mysterious thing. It is something that can't be easily ignored. Our selfish instincts want you both to be with us forever. However, God has given U P Church a calling, also. We are to continue our journey, holding our tickets with trust in our hearts. With faith, we are to accept the changes and opportunities that will grace our days ahead.

As we let you go out of our arms, you will be received by others with open arms. We are sure that your new congregation will discover your beautiful spirit of love that you both give so generously. The world needs all of us to be unafraid to accept God's calling to love with fully opened hearts. You both are humble servants who obey our Lord's commands to serve others. Your example has spiritually enriched the lives of the people of our church and many others, as well. May your new journey of devotion be a joyful one for you go with God's blessing, as well as our blessings.

Love,  
Your brothers and sisters in Christ



# UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

September 10, 2024 6:00 pm

ATTENDEES: Mike Osmundson, Peg Osmundson, Ed Maki, Jim Martineau, David Moore, Dedie Moore, Lynn Anderson, Phil Christman, Shirley Whiteford, Greg Christenson, Nancy Christenson, Hansa ?, 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: Letter from Lake County Sex Trafficking Task Force;  
Boards and Council meetings time change.

Greg and Nancy Christenson and Hansa ? gave the Council an update on what is happening with the North Shore Mental Health Group. This included their Statement of Purpose, and a description and update on the developing Clubhouse for the Silver Bay area which will be meeting at the church. According to Mike O. this will need to include a lease agreement with the group.

M/M/S by Philip Christman/Terry Eggum to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURERS'S REPORT: M/M/S by Ruth Eggum/Ed Maki to approve the Treasurer's reports for July, 2024 and August, 2024 for audit. Motion carried.

Checking Account: \$26,351.62	Memorial Fund: \$27,355.89	
Ministry Fund: \$66,063.73	House of Love: \$13,526.70	AmazonSmile:
\$464.14	Checking SS: \$3,580.79	YTD Food Shelf: \$ 804.00

YTD Income: \$66,192.13  
YTD Expense: (\$73,113.05)  
YTD Net: (\$6,920.92)

DIACONATE REPORT: Ruth Eggum reported that Paul Taintor will be pulpit supply for the first 3 Sundays after Pastor Paul leaves. The Gideons will be here October 27, but Terry Eggum will be gone, so someone will have to count the offering collected for the Gideons.

TRUSTEE REPORT: Mike Osmundson reported that he will be moving some church file cabinets out of his house to the church. The Duluth Brass Company is shutting down business October 1. Mike O. will speak to them about obtaining the patterns we need for our memorial board and ask them about another foundry that can do the work for us. JAWS was able to repair Lynn's office computer when it quit working. Steve Van House will do our concrete work this fall. The new lectern microphone has been ordered. The Credit Union is requiring a new signatory list, including Angie Goutermont, but everyone will need to re-sign. Mike O. will let us know when people need to go to the Credit Union.

CHRISTIAN ED REPORT: No report.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Allison Oja may be moving to rehab this week. Jean Williams and the Burges are recovering from Covid. Archer Goutermont broke his arm at this week's football game and Ryder Ernest is at Children's Hospital in the Cities from injuries sustained at the same game. Our second Community Lunch is this Friday, September 13. The August 11 offering for Post from House of Love, with an additional \$500. from the HoL fund, will cover Post's nursing tuition for this year. An additional \$5000 has been sent to the House of Love for current projects. The money left in the House of Love account can be used to support Fai, our grade school student, and also provide a start for Post's next year's tuition. Pastor will close his church e-mail account on 9/30. Lynn Anderson will have his new e-mail address for Des Moines. Pastor reported that the plan is to relocate to Des Moines on October 15.

OLD BUSINESS: Dedie Moore reported that CLP has enough Tabitha Ministry supplies right now. She will check with the Silver Bay library to see what they need. Chair Terry Eggum reported that he has sent letters to the five denominations requesting suggestions for pulpit supply and also names for an Intentional Interim Pastor. After all five denominations have responded, Terry will set up a Zoom meeting for the Board of Advisors. Terry also passed out copies of UPC Constitution excerpts regarding finding a new pastor.

NEW BUSINESS: M/M/S by Ruth Eggum/Peg Osmundson to send \$100 to the Lake County Sex Trafficking Task Force. Motion carried. Ruth Eggum will talk to Becky Goutemont about making a cake for the farewell potluck for Scaringi's on September 22. There was a discussion on making a time change for the Boards and Council meetings to earlier times during the day, rather than 5 and 6 pm. This matter was tabled until the October meeting. There was also discussion about a budget and ideas for a farewell gift for the Scaringi's.

The next Council meeting will be October 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

M/M/S by Ruth Eggum/Peg Osmundson to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm. Motion carried. Chair Terry Eggum closed in prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ruth Eggum, Council Secretary

## **TRANSITION UPDATE**

**9/16/2024**

Currently, we are waiting for affiliated denominations to submit their representatives to UPC for the purpose of convening a Board of Advisors. We have also asked them to provide potential pulpit supply lists to help us in the coming months.

Hopefully, the Board of Advisors will assist the Church Council in selecting the denomination for our next pastor as well naming the "Intentional Interim Pastor" going forward. The intentional interim pastor could be with us for up to a year, performing normal pastoral duties, but also providing guidance in our full-time pastor selection process. Church members may remember Rev. Anne Swallow Gillis who served us as intentional interim pastor prior to Paul Scaringi's selection.

The Board of Advisors will also be involved in establishing a Pastoral Search Committee, who will be elected by our congregation. All church members interested in serving on this committee are encouraged to make themselves known.

Terry Eggum  
Church Council Chair

## ***Taking 5***

Below you will find the Taking 5 scripture and prayers for this month. You are encouraged 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.

Note: the origin of these Taking 5 scripture readings are from Rev. Paul Scaringi who has given us permission to reprint them.

### **The week of October 6<sup>nd</sup>**

Scripture: Lamentations 3:22-24

Prayer: Faithful God, I praise you for your faithfulness. I ask that you would renew me by your steadfast love so I may find my hope in you. Amen.

### **The week of October 13<sup>th</sup>**

Scripture: Psalm 66:1-4

Prayer: Lord of joy, fill me with your Spirit so I may join with the world around me and make a joyful noise to you this day. Amen.

### **The week of October 20<sup>th</sup>**

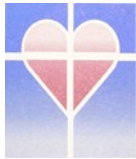
Scripture: Psalm 121:1-3

Prayer: Gracious God, direct my eyes so I may look to you and trust in you for my deliverance this day. Amen.

### **The week of October 27<sup>rd</sup>**

Scripture: II Timothy 4:6-8

Prayer: I pray for your strength, steadfast Lord, to run the race you set before me, through your grace may I keep the faith. Amen.



**Parish Nurse Notes**

**Dedie Moore Retired R.N.**

***"Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered,***

***"O Lord God, you know.***

**Ezekiel 37:3**

October 12-20 is Bone and Joint Health Action Week. I am sure this quote from Ezekiel is pretty familiar. All things are possible with God, and the bones did need sinews, flesh and skin to live. Our bodies are meant to move, and especially weight bearing exercise is needed for bones.

The recent AARP magazine had a good article about "Stand Up Against the Sitting Disease".

Sitting for much of a day diminishes your brain, impacts your longevity, and damages your fitness and mobility. I was encouraged that even a few minutes several times a day can add up to the 30 minutes of activity that is recommended. I know many people log their steps. A team at the University of Texas found that 8000 steps a day helped fat metabolism. Even adding 1000 steps to a sedentary lifestyle can lower your risk of having heart disease by 15 percent.

Six sneaky ways to move included: Taking an exercise snack, just a short break during a commercial or for any break. Get up and move around. Move your body when you are sitting, stretch, move your legs and arms. Develop a habit of moving around before starting a new sedentary activity. Go walking with friends instead of sitting somewhere. Walk a little further when you can, park a little further away. Walk to talk with someone instead of texting, if possible.

This was summarized from AARP, the Magazine, August/September 2024 issue, P.22.

The Bone Builders group at North Shore Area Partners meets Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30am and is free. It is a very fun group and helps you move in healthy safe ways. And we know that all is possible with God.

GLAD meets the second and fourth Mondays on Zoom at 6:30pm. North Shore Mental Health Group meets the third Tuesday at 6pm at UP and on Zoom. Contact me at [dediedavid@yahoo.com](mailto:dediedavid@yahoo.com), or [nsmentalhealth@gmail.com](mailto:nsmentalhealth@gmail.com) for more information.



# A Fine Farewell to Pastor Paul and Eileen

## September 22, 2024





# A Fine Farewell to Pastor Paul and Eileen

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## 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.*

### *Sa Wat Dii from Thailand!*

Why tiny hearts you ask? As you probably noticed, smiling is generally not the norm for pictures in Thailand, people want to convey that they are serious. And yet, when someone suggests we take a picture with "tiny hearts" (thumb and forefinger held together like a tiny heart) people smile, it is the same with peace signs. Why is that? For one, it is fun, but when we take a picture of the kids or staff, they want to convey that they are serious, that they are taking things seriously, that they are thoughtful. However, with the tiny hearts the focus is not on the subject, the focus is the viewer of the picture and the message being conveyed to the viewer is that "we love you." That is what I hope you receive from the update about the summer, that it is not just an update about what God is doing in Thailand, it is that you are loved and appreciated by everyone here.

One of the kids activities this summer was to go to a local river where they can use an inner tube and play in the water to escape the heat.

### *How are things at the House of Love?*

Things have been busy at the House of Love over the past few months. **The house mother's have been doing such a great job of caring for the kids who are living at the House of Love.** They have Bible study twice a week, enjoy games and activities in the evenings after homework is finished, and the kids are actively involved in participating in church functions on weekends. The house mother's have also enjoyed taking them on day trips to places like local festivals, waterfalls, hiking, special restaurants, and they also plan life-skills training activities like cooking, buying things at the market, yardwork, hygiene, taking care of their clothes, and even earning and saving their money. One of the boys worked hard to earn extra money and saved up to buy his own bicycle!

Photos not available

The House of Blessing teachers showing how much they love and appreciate you.

One of the activities of our Family of Love program is to have "Family Fun Days" where the parents and the kids simply spend time having fun together on different activities. What a gorgeous day at the park and fun was had by all.



# 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,, Mike and Peg Osmundson, David Gustafson, Rebecca Snook, Phil Christman, Serine Ege, Deanne Reiten, Agnes Gilson, Jean Wagner, Ruth Koepke, Carol Bakken, Mary Jo Taintor and Allison Oja of our congregation as they deal with health-related changes and recoveries. All the caregivers.

## **October Birthdays**

Nancy Christenson	3
Karen Bzdok	4
Terry Eggum	7
Ben Goutermont	8
Ernie Kelley	10
Helen Stronach	16
Karen Borg	31



## **October Anniversaries**

No Anniversaries

### **Please Note:**

In the next few months, the UPC Council will be convening a Pastoral Search Committee. Five committee members will be elected by the congregation. Anyone interested in assisting in this capacity should contact Terry Eggum (218-226-3538) or Lynn Anderson (218-226-3973).

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are looking for people who are willing to serve as scripture readers, ushers and those willing to lead in the Prayers of Intercession. Also, if you are interested in learning to operate the sound system, please let us know. If you can help in any of these capacities, please contact Terry Eggum at 226-3538 or Lynn Anderson at 226-3973 (church phone).

### **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.

### **Wednesday Morning Bible Study 9:30 am**

Please join our Bible study and discussion of the Upper Room message for the day, as well as the Lectionary texts . On October 16th our Fall study will be "Everywhere is Jerusalem" a DVD and book presentation.



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.

October2024

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 WMBS 9:30 am	3	4	5
6 Sunday Worship 10:30 am  Communion	7	8 Boards 5:00 pm Council 6:00 pm	9 WMBS 9:30 am Prayer Shawl 2:00 pm	10	11	12
13 Sunday Worship 10:30 am	14 GLAD 6:30 pm	15 NSMHG 6:00 pm	16 WMBS 9:30 am	17	18	19
20 Sunday Worship 10:30 am	21	22	23 WMBS 9:30 am Prayer Shawl 2:00 pm	24	25	26
27 Sunday Worship 10:30 am  _____	28  GLAD 6:30 pm	29	30 WMBS 9:30 am	31	Lynn in office Wed & Thurs 1:30 -4:00 pm	

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