

CIRCLE TIMES

May 2025

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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**UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH
WELCOMES REV. DAVID HARVEY
AS OUR INTERIM PASTOR.**

Rev. David S. Harvey and his wife, Gayle



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.

HAROLD AND HOPE

“Harold and the Purple Crayon” is considered by many to be a classic children’s story. First published in 1955, it tells the story of Harold and his night time adventures. It begins with the line, “One evening after thinking it over for some time, Harold decides to go for a walk in the moonlight.” Those familiar with the story know that a “walk” for Harold involves drawing with his purple crayon a grand journey that finally leads him back...Well, I’ll let you discover-or remember– the ending.

It is a wonderful story that brings to mind the power of imagination and how it helps us to see in new ways. It is also a story that has a significant parallel with the life of faith. For some of us this is hard to comprehend, because within the Christian church imagination can be a troubling concept. We want talk about the surety of faith and the truth of God’s love and presence in the person of Jesus and in God’s Spirit and Word. This is a good and right response, yet we would do well to remember that our imagination is a God-given gift that can play a vital part in our lives of faith.

Imagination can be an important tool in reading scripture, especially the stories and parables that Jesus told. By using our imagination and placing ourselves within those stories, we open ourselves to new ways of hearing Jesus’ words and discovering new truths.

Imagination is also important when we consider what it means to have hope. When scripture calls us to be a people of hope, “to seize the hope set before us” (Hebrews 6:18), we sometimes struggle with what that means for us in our daily life since we often treat hope exclusively as an end-of-life concern. Let’s go back to Harold.

The joy of Harold’s story is that he saw a new world that led him beyond the terrors of the night to a place of wonder. I am not saying that Christian hope is a calling to imagine something grand using our own imaginary crayons. The hope that we’re called to seize is a hope in a God who works through darkness and despair to bring love, grace and justice to our lives and to our world. To have this hope requires us to see beyond the brokenness we face and to see the promise of God’s presence in our lives. This is part of what it means to be a people of great hope.

Hope recognizes the difficulties that we and others face but we see that these difficulties do not have the final say because our hope is in the one whom even death could not contain. To hope is to take a stand to trust in God’s promises, to imagine as Harold did and see the possibilities of God’s presence in our lives. May God’s hope rest in you and empower you to see and imagine a future filled with wonder of God’s love and grace for you and for our world.

This article was published in the Lake County Chronicle on November 28th 2014 and is authored by Rev. Paul Scaringi for a newspaper section titled “On Faith”.

*Harold and the
Purple Crayon*



UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

April 8, 2025 6:00 pm

ATTENDEES: Mike Osmundson, Lynn Anderson, Jean Williams, Dedie Moore, Jim Martineau, Shirley Whiteford, Terry Eggum, Amy Wasson, Jeff Miller, and Ruth Eggum.

Council Chair Terry Eggum called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and opened in prayer.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

M/M/S by Dedie Moore/Shirley Whiteford to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2025 Council meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURERS'S REPORT: M/M/S by Ruth Eggum/Jim Martineau to approve the March treasurer's report for audit. Motion carried.

Checking Account: \$45,452.91	Memorial Fund: \$32,174.34	
Ministry Fund: \$53,887.32	House of Love: \$1,117.55	Benevolent Fund:
\$618.43	Checking SS: \$3,806.64	YTD Food Shelf: \$ 100.00
YTD Income: \$19,003.19		
YTD Expense: <u>(\$15,588.40)</u>		
Total YTD: \$3,414.79		

DIACONATE REPORT: Chair Dedie Moore reported that Jim Martineau has been added to the Memorial Committee. There will be a joint service at the Baptism River Community Church on Palm Sunday at 6 p.m. Maundy Thursday service (4/17) will be held at UP at 7 p.m. and the Good Friday service (4/18) will be held at Sychar, also at 7 p.m. There will be a brunch after the Easter service on 4/20. Church members will need to help with home and hospital visitations as Pastor Dave Harvey will not be doing them. There will be a welcome cake during fellowship time for Pastor Dave and Gayle, possible on the first Sunday in May. Dedie will get in touch with the Fellowship Committee and Pastor Dave to see if that date works. Dedie will get in touch with Peg Osmundson about adding Jean Williams, Paula Holden and Amy Wasson (and Jeff Miller) to the prayer chain.

TRUSTEE REPORT: Chair Mike Osmundson reported that highway clean-up will be May 17-31. There will be a work day on May 17th. Amy Wasson will get Pastor Dave's contact information to Mike O.

CHRISTIAN ED REPORT: Chair Jean Williams reported that the new children's ministry will begin April 30th from 5:30-7 p.m. Pastor Dave is considering a summer Wednesday night Bible study for adults. Plans are being made for a summer VBS program.

PASTOR TRANSITION UPDATE: Amy Wasson reported that Pastor Dave Harvey has been hired part-time (20 hour work week) and will begin work April 27. (See attached agreement.) M/M/S by Dedie Moore/Jim Martineau to accept the written agreement for the hiring of Pastor Dave Harvey. Motion carried. M/M/S by Jeff Miller/Jean Williams to include an additional \$100/month to his salary to cover lodging when he stays in town after attending Council meetings. Motion carried. Amy Wasson will check with Pastor Dave to see if he would prefer to stay at a motel or in parishioner's homes.

EMERGENCY FUND COMMITTEE: Ruth Eggum reported that the Committee (Dedie Moore, Jim Martineau, Nancy Christenson and Ruth Eggum) have suggested re-naming the Emergency Fund the Benevolent Fund. (See attached recommendations.) M/M/S by Lynn Anderson/Dedie Moore to accept the committee's recommendations. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Terry Eggum reported that he has two people helping him with sound on Sunday mornings, but is still seeking more help. We are still in need of a Chair-Elect for 2026.

Continued from page 3

NEW BUSINESS: Dedie Moore reported that the Split Rock shelter has been reserved for our annual Father's Day (June 17) service and picnic.

M/M/S by Ruth Eggum/Jean Williams to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. Motion carried. Chair Terry Eggum closed in prayer.

The next Council meeting will be May 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ruth Eggum, Council Secretary



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. It's 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.

Mark Juanes reported that House of Love received our \$4,000. donation for Post's tuition. They are very thankful for our generosity.

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 May 4

Scripture: Psalm 23:1-4

Prayer: Lead me this day, Good Shepherd, through my dark valleys to the still waters where I may abide with you and be a place of refreshment for others. Amen.

The week of May 11

Scripture: I Peter 2:4-6

Prayer: As Jesus is the cornerstone of all that is, I ask, Gracious Lord, for you to strengthen me to be a living stone in the kingdom you are building. Amen.

The week of May 18

Scripture: John 14:18-20

Prayer: On this day, dear Father, help me to see you in my life and to know by your love and grace that you have swept me up into your life. Amen.

The week of May 25

Scripture: Acts 1:6-8

Prayer: I confess, Eternal Lord, that I think life would be better if I knew, or could plan, what is to come. Forgive me and empower me to trust in you. Amen.



Parish Nurse Notes

Dedie Moore Retired R.N.

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30

May is Mental Health Month. What better time than spring (yes, someday) to focus on our emotional and mental well-being? The days are getting longer, and despite the snow, I see daffodils that have been covered and uncovered by snow and still they persist.

As Pastor Taintor has been sharing with us, it is important and appropriate to share all our emotions with God. God wants to be in relationship with us. What kind of relationship only shows a smiley face and a long list of requests? God knows we get angry. Great love can arouse great anger when people are hurt. It is important not to stay stuck in anger. It is good to examine the source of anger. Is it narcissistic, only to justify ourselves, or make ourselves feel vindicated? God can handle the anger, and chastise us when we are in the wrong. God can also lead us in productive ways to address the wrongs.

Jesus promises to walk with us in our anger and pain as well in our joy. He prepares us that our walk in the world will be filled with tribulation in John 16. But we are not ever alone.

I thought these suggestions for churches were valuable for emotional health:

A church **INCREASES** stress when it:

- expects over-volunteerism
- avoids undercurrents of conflict
- asks for money repeatedly
- loses sight of relationships--more important than problems
- promotes perfectionism and legalism
- schedules too many meetings

A church **DECREASES** stress when it:

- provides healthy social contact
- helps people deepen their spiritual lives
- arranges positive educational and social programs
- offers prayer and meditation as avenues of stress relief
- provides faith framework for understanding difficult life events
- promotes altruism. (from Church Health Reader, Fall 2017)

I would also add, to emphasize the importance of trust and obey when we say we believe, not that any of us do this perfectly, but we all need to remember we are not in control. Just remembering that decreases stress.

Our church is in a time of transition, which is a great opportunity to remember what is most essential. Love God and love our neighbors which is a full-time job.

UPDATE FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

We're happy to share that Pastor Dave Harvey was officially voted in as our Interim Pastor at the April Council meeting. The Search Committee finalized the agreement earlier this month, and we're grateful to welcome Pastor Dave as he walks with us during this important season of transition.

The committee also discussed ways to support Pastor Dave during his monthly visits, including local housing options if needed. We're thankful for his willingness to serve and excited to have him with us.

Paula Poaletti Holden, Chair, Amy Wasson, Secretary, Lynn Anderson, Maggie King, Jim Martineau, Dedie Moore and Jean Williams

My name is Dave Harvey and I grew up in Rochester, New York. My spouse, Gayle, grew up in Minneapolis, Mn. We met at the college we both attended in the Chicago area. After we married, we lived in the Twin Cities area for the first 17 years, the Brainerd Lakes Area for the next 14 years and finally Grand Marais for the last 17 years. We have three grown children and ten grandchildren. Our daughters, their husbands and children live near the Twin Cities and our son, his wife and their children live in southwestern Oregon.

Out of college I worked in marketing mostly for the Bell System until 1987 when I entered seminary. I graduated with an M.Div. degree from Bethel Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1991. I have served as a Chaplain at the University of Minnesota Hospital and pastored two churches, the most recent being Grand Marais Evangelical Free Church for almost 16 years. Between pastoring the two churches I worked in sales again for eight years. I love working around the house, clearing several miles of woodland paths near our house, and cutting, splitting and stacking firewood for our heat. I also like to ride motorcycle, especially on backwoods gravel and Forest Service roads.

In our early years, Gayle focused on raising our children. Later, when I returned to school, she did daycare out of our house, then taught art at Calvin Christian School. She also illustrated dozens of books for Incentive Publications, designed to aid elementary school teachers. While we ministered at Grand Marais, Gayle served for many years as the Deacon of Christian Education. She is also an avid knitter and a woodcarver extraordinaire in Scandinavian flat plane carving.



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, Serine Ege, Agnes Gilson, Ruth Koepke, Carol Bakken, Allison Oja, Carol Harrison of our congregation as they deal with health-related changes and recoveries. Please note: Ray Burge is now a resident of the Vet's Home in Silver Bay.
All the caregivers.

May Birthdays

Marion Burge	1
Terry Hron	3
Allison Oja	7
Irene Johnson	9
Paul Kolojeski	9
Patsy Betzler	15
Dan Clark	22
Betsy Myers	25
David Gustafson	26
Mary Aijala	27
Dale Pederson	28
Maggie King	31



May Anniversaries

Ed and Cindy Maki 3

Wednesday Morning Bible Study 9:30 am

Please join our discussion.
Rev. Dave Harvey will lead a study that is based on a book titled Love Walked Among Us
By Paul E. Miller
Everyone is welcome.

PLEASE NOTE:

UPC is hosting a children's ministry on Wednesdays 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. beginning on May 7th. This is for children Pre-K through 6th grade. Contact the church office for details.

PLEASE NOTE:

Pastor Harvey will have office hours on Wednesdays 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.
If you need pastoral care you may call him at: 218-370-8324 or email at pastordaveharvey@gmail.com



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.

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.

MAY

2025

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Sunday Worship 10:30 am Communion	5	6	7 WMBS 9:30 am Children's Ministry 5:30pm	8	9	10
11 Sunday Worship 10:30 am Mother's Day	12 GLAD 6:30 pm	13 Boards 5:00 pm Council 6:00 pm	14 WMBS 9:30 am Prayer Shawl 2:00 pm Children's Ministry 5:30pm	15	16	17
18 Sunday Worship 10:30 am	19	20 NSMHG meets 6:00 pm	21 WMBS 9:30 am Children's Ministry 5:30pm	22	23	24
25 Sunday Worship 10:30 am 0	26 GLAD 6:30 pm	27	28 WMBS 9:30 am Prayer Shawl 2:00 pm Children's Ministry 5:30pm	29	30	31

Lynn in office Wed & Thurs 1:30 -4:00 pm
Pastor Harvey in office Wed. 9 :00 am-5:00 pm

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