



*Keeping in
touch with the
heart of the
faith community
of
Gaylord
United
Church
of
Christ*

*A Welcoming
Congregation*

Parish Paper

June/July 2011

Vol. 39, 6/7

Congratulations Graduates!



**Two graduates from Gaylord UCC
will be recognized during our
Worship Service on Sunday,
June 5 at 9:00 a.m.**

Join us for a reception in the Fellowship Hall following worship for:

Riley Norman: Son of Renee and Mark Milczark, Gaylord, and Jerry and Wendy Norman of So. St. Paul. Riley has participated in track and cross country. He enjoys fishing, deer hunting and his motorcycle. Riley will be attending Viterbo University in LaCrosse, WI where he will study natural science and plans to participate in cross country.

Andrew Thies: Son of Kathleen and Kevin Thies. Andrew participated in student council, FFA, choir, National Honor Society, cross country, basketball, and track during his high school years. Currently he serves as the 4-H Federation president and will return as a 4-H camp counselor this summer. Andrew has also served on the Board of Deacons at church for several years. This fall Andrew will be attending college at SDSU in Brookings, SD with a major in pharmacy and hopes to do some hunting on weekends.



**Outdoor Worship and
Blessing of the Pets (All inclusive)
Sunday, July 17, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.
in the large Park Shelter.
Bring your own lawn chair.**

We invite friends and neighbors to come and join us for this unique Service in the Park as we give thanks for the special gifts that are shared through our pets. All are welcome - pets not required!!

The love we give to a pet, and receive from a pet, can draw us more deeply into the larger circle of life, into the wonder of our common relationship to our creator.

Light refreshments will be served after the service.

More information will follow.

June Ushers: Chuck Klimmek, Pauline Marlinski
Arlen Sneltsjes

June Greeters: Dick and Gail Estenson
6-5, 6-12
Agnes Schue, Beth Wilson
6-19, 6-26

June Acolyte: Jaci Tourtellott

July Ushers: Phil Keithahn, Dale Tourtellott
Abby Tourtellott

July Greeters: Candy and Don Swenson
7/3, 7/10
Karen and Jim Peterson
7/17, 7/24, 7/31

July Acolyte: Ethan Pomplun

Fellowship Hour:

June 5 Baccalaureate Sunday/Deacons
June 12 Liz Reishus and Ott girls
June 19 open
June 26 open
July 3 open
July 10 open
July 17 Worship in the Park
July 24 open
July 31 open

United Church of Christ

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This newsletter is a monthly publication of the

Gaylord United Church of Christ

Sunday Worship—9:00 a.m.

Coffee-Fellowship Hour 10:00 a.m.

Communion is the 1st Sunday of the month

Pastor - Rev. Hank Campbell

Council President - Gail Estenson

Church Secretary - Cindy Johnson

In our prayers this past month: Mark Thoele and those serving in the military; peace on earth.

Pray for those affected by severe spring storms, in North Minneapolis and throughout the mid-west. Continue to pray for those who have been ill or are home bound.

THANK YOU again to all of the Sunday School teachers for your leadership and dedication this past Sunday School year.

CONGRATULATIONS and Blessings to our UCC Class of 2011 graduates, Andrew Thies and Riley Norman, who are journeying on to a new chapter in their lives.

Thank you to the Deacons, Beth, Jane and the members of Gaylord UCC for the reception, gifts and cards for the Confirmation celebration. Jason, Deb and Jeff Meyer

Our Prayers and Best Wishes go to Rev. Don Britt as he conducts his final service on June 5 before retiring from the Ministry.



News and Notes:

- ◆ Pastor Hank will be gone for Annual Meeting and time off June 11—14. Emergency pastoral needs should be directed to Deacons Jim Peterson or Aggie Schue.
- ◆ Special Thanks to Rev. Guy Stone for leading Worship on Sunday, June 12.
- ◆ Church Secretary, Cindy Johnson, will be on vacation May 31—June 6. She will be back in the office on June 9. Please get any time sensitive materials for the bulletin or next newsletter to her as soon as possible.
- ◆ There will be a Memorial Service at Gaylord UCC for former member, Earl Nelson, on Saturday, June 18 at 10:30 a.m. with a light lunch following the service.
- ◆ Rev. Joe Clay here June 19th for clergy pulpit exchange.
- ◆ A new member Sunday is being planned for an upcoming Sunday. If you are interested in formal membership with the Gaylord United Church of Christ, please contact Pastor Hank.
- ◆ May Council minutes are on the bulletin board in the Education wing.
- ◆ Worship continues to be at 9:00 a.m. June, July, & August. Communion Sunday is June 5 and July 3.
- ◆ Two white table cloths are missing from the church kitchen. If you have borrowed them please return as soon as possible. Thanks.
- ◆ “Urban Immersion” Youth Mission trip to the cities is being planned for a weekend Fall 2011.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY was a special day in the life of our church as we welcomed 3 new young people into full membership of the faith community - Jason, Cole and Sam. We thank them for sharing their Faith Statements with us in this newsletter. It was one of those times when I really regretted not being able to stay afterwards to meet and celebrate with other family members or close friends during Fellowship Hour. But part of the gift of the Holy Spirit is that we are a part of the experience even when time or distance would separate us. Congratulations and blessings!!

PENTECOST (Speaking of the gift of the Holy Spirit) will be on Sunday, June 12th this year, which happens to fall on the weekend of our UCC Conference Annual Meeting. Again, even in my physical absence from Worship that day, I will be with you in the Spirit. Pentecost Sunday is the symbolic birthday of The Church, based on the unprecedented event in Jerusalem following the death of Jesus, when people from many nations came together to praise God in their own language but in one, unified Spirit. Gaylord UCC has a unique opportunity to continue in that celebration of diversity with our neighboring Hispanic brothers and sisters. I continue to value the openness and support of our church members as we explore some new initiatives of ministry in this area in 2011.

FESTIVAL OF THE CHRISTIAN HOME, MOTHERS AND FATHERS are recognized in the Church during the months of May and June. Because of Confirmation Sunday on May 8, and a Pulpit Exchange on June 19th, these observances are not getting much attention this year. But obviously the gift of family and the place of family in nurturing faith is essential to most of us. And if the place of nuclear family is not able to provide that nurture and love for a person, then the "faith family" shares that responsibility and gift all the more. Our church needs to continue to place one of our top priorities on outreach and ministry to children, youth and families. One good reason is they are the future of the church, but more importantly so the seeds of faith can be planted and nurtured and take root so that lives grow strong in the ways of Jesus. Every time the church celebrates the Sacrament of Baptism with a Child of God, we are all reaffirming

our promise of "love, support and care to the one who is baptized as he or she lives and grows in Christ." Are you able to help make this priority evident in terms of your personal and financial support?

THANKS to Arlen Sneltjes and the Choir for their gifts of worship music during our "program year." May their voices be renewed over the summer!

I hope that you and your special "critter," from the animal kingdom, can join us for our Worship in the Park and Blessing of the Pets on July 17th at 9:00 a.m. Invite a friend and their pet as well! "All God's critters got a place in the choir..."

Blessings, Pastor Hank

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Wanted: Media Technicians - Pastor Hank and Beth Wilson are looking for volunteers to help with Worship Services. Adults and youth are welcome. Computer knowledge is required. Contact Pastor or Beth if you are interested.

From the Humor File:

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?" The son replied, "I do know!" "Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?" "That's easy, Daddy"... the young boy replied excitedly. It stands for "Basic Information Before Leaving Earth."

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A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump. "Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

## JUNE & JULY PRESIDENT'S NOTES

This Parish Paper is your “two for one” special, as June and July information is included in one paper. That has its benefits and challenges, just as most things do. You might think it should make things easier and cut some paper and postage costs. But with two month’s worth of information, this will be a larger than usual edition resulting in a few extra pages. I’m used to scrambling at the last minute to get information to the office on time, but I’m not used to thinking very far ahead to what might be coming up in July. Fortunately, we have Cindy Johnson who efficiently keeps track of things and is a gem when it comes to helping me remember what I sometimes didn’t even know I had forgotten. THANK YOU CINDY!!!

Welcome Cole Bruhn, Jason Meyer and Sam Thies as full fledged, confirmed members of Gaylord United Church of Christ. Thank you for sharing your Faith Statements in this issue. Your church family will continue to love and support you in your faith journey as we celebrate your future joys and accomplishments. I know you are grateful for the support of your parents, mentors, Pastor Campbell and others who have helped make this milestone possible.

Another important person who helped the Confirmation students was Sue Keithahn. I want to take this opportunity to offer a sincere and well-deserved THANK YOU to Sue for the time and energy she has invested in Confirmation classes. Sue kept the Confirmation program running as volunteer leader in the absence of a called pastor. And since Confirmation had already begun when Pastor Campbell joined us, Sue continued as leader for Cole, Sam and Jason as first year students. Sue was instrumental in arranging for our Confirmation service trip to a homeless shelter in Minneapolis last year. She organized, directed, encouraged, and led the way as many of the mentors and students (both first and second year) helped prepare a delicious meal and transport the food. More than 100 homeless people were served and the students and mentors experienced their appreciation as they stopped to say thank-you. Your efforts and leadership skills are greatly appreciated, Sue. THANKS!!!

Congratulations to Andrew Thies and Riley Norman who will celebrate Baccalaureate Sunday with us and graduate on June 5<sup>th</sup>. We wish both young men the best as they embark on a new path to adulthood. You will be in our thoughts and prayers and we hope you’ll stay in touch.

The UCC 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be held at the College of St. Benedict campus June 10-12. The theme is “Faith in Action – I will show my faith by what I do. James 2:18.” Darrel Mosel and I will be attending as lay delegates.

Please read your Parish Paper carefully to remain informed on all the planned June and July events. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me and I will do my best to find answers.

May God’s blessings rain down on us and may His Son shine on us so our faith flourishes and grows. And let us all show our faith by what we do.

Next Council meeting—June 8 at 6:00 p.m.

Gail Estenson, Council Chair - 2011

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## Update from the Mission Board

Thank you for the Lenten Offerings, in the amount of \$272.50, collected March 30 and April 6 which goes toward the student scholarships.

The From the Heart Offering on May 15 for Strengthen the Church amounted to \$181.50. We also sent a check to the Conference for \$121 that will go to Disaster Relief in Japan. Thank you for your generous donations.

The June 12<sup>th</sup> From the Heart Offering will go to Salvation Army.

The July 10 From the Heart Offering will go to the Gaylord UCC Scholarship fund.

Reminder to UCC students, the scholarship applications will be out on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Students are encouraged to complete the application by July 17.



## Women's Fellowship

**Our next meeting will be on Monday, June 6 at 12:00 p.m. Come join us.**

### "Ice Cream News"

**Our annual Ice Cream Social will be held on Friday, August 12, from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. We will be serving Sloppy Joes!!**

A sign up sheet will be on the table in the Fellowship Hall for donations of pies, cakes, desserts, and workers. Please consider helping in some way.

## Women's Spring Outing

Women of Gaylord UCC are invited to enjoy an outing on Wednesday, June 8th. Plans are to visit the Fairy Garden Store and Gardens near Cologne, the Shady Acres Herb Farm and the Mustard Seed Nursery on Hwy 22. We plan to have lunch at "The Mill" in Norwood Young America. We will meet at church at 9:30 a.m. to car pool.

*Come join us for a fun spring event!!*



## Pilgrim Point Camp

**Pilgrim Point Camps and Retreats is a ministry of the MN Conference United Church of Christ located in Alexandria, MN.**

### Family & Youth opportunities still open!

#### "Weekend Intergenerational Camp"

Friday – Sunday, July 22 – 24, 2011

- ◆ Adults: \$50.00
- ◆ UCC Children & Youth are FREE

**We will have a planning meeting on Wednesday, June 1 at 6:00 p.m. to go over final details for those going.**

**Pizza and beverages will be provided.**

**There is still time to sign up!  
Scholarship money is available to pay your fee.**

### Conference Sponsored Camps and

#### Retreats Dates:

- ◆ Middle School Week: July 10 – 16, 2011
- ◆ Senior High Week: July 31 – August 6, 2011
- ◆ Young Adult Weekend: August 19-21, 2011
- ◆ Men's Retreat: September 9 – 11, 2011 NEW
- ◆ Women's Retreat: September 16 – 18, 2011
- ◆ Middle School Fall CYE (formerly known as confirmation retreat): October 7-9, 2011
- ◆ Senior High Fall CYE: October 21-23, 2011

#### Congregation Camps:

August 7-12 is **Family Camp Week**, sponsored by Mayflower UCC and St. Anthony Park UCC, and is open to EVERYONE! Visit [www.sapucc.org](http://www.sapucc.org) to see more information on this intergenerational camp! Wayzata Community Church Summer Camps are open to EVERYONE! Visit this link below to see more information on their children, youth and grandparent camps! ([www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org](http://www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org))



May we develop kinship with all living things. Allow us to reunite with all our relations, the animals.

Let us hear the call of the earth and the beckoning song of nature, and answer with our hearts.

Make us aware of our similarities, our sameness.

Help us recognize each unique thread of the cosmos, and so recognize our connection to each other.

Henceforth, may we remember to honor and cherish every living thing. "

The United Church of Christ  
 318 4th Street—P.O. Box 385  
 Gaylord, MN 55334  
 Return service requested



### June Birthdays

03.....Kelly Pinske Hickles  
 05..... Brandon Meyer  
 05..... Ginger Ott  
 05..... Tara Swenson  
 06..... Jodi Pfarr  
 07..... Meredith Johnson  
 10..... Pauline Marlinski  
 10 ..... Ron Max  
 10..... Barb Sneltjes  
 18..... Tim Solomonson  
 19..... Cheryl Messner  
 23..... Lynette Ott  
 28 ..... Jason Meyer  
 29 ..... Sue Keithahn  
 30..... Ethan Pomplun

### July Birthdays

07.....Marc Troidahl  
 11.....Jean Feehan  
 11..... Todd Pauly  
 12.....Renate Henriksen  
 16..... Karen Peterson  
 19.....Dick Carlson  
 19..... Jason Pinske  
 20..... Cole Bruhn