



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

*A Welcoming
Congregation*

Parish Paper

June 2012

Vol. 40, 6



*Congratulations
Graduate!*

**Graduate, Abby Tourtellott, will be recognized during our
Worship Service on Sunday, June 3 at 11:00 a.m.
Join us for a reception in the Fellowship Hall
beginning at 9:45 a.m.**

Abby will be graduating from high school June 3, 2012. Never one to sit still for long, she has been involved in many activities in and out of school. Along with taking several college level courses over the past 3 years, she plays flute and piccolo in band (recently winning the John Phillips Sousa Award for Band) and sings in Concert Choir and Show Choir. She has been a cheerleader for football and basketball and plays third base for the varsity softball team. She has also been involved in Knowledge Bowl and is a member of HOSA (Health Occupations Students Association). Outside of school she participates in dance (just finished 15 years and her final recital this year), has been a Girl Scout for 12 years, and has been an active member in church singing in choir and as a member of the youth group that assists in many activities throughout the year. She works at Oak Terrace Nursing Home as an activities aide and is a lifeguard/WSI at the Gaylord Area Aquatic Center and Sibley East Schools. This coming fall she will be attending the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth where she will be majoring in nursing and continuing her love of music as she has been selected after auditioning as a member of their Concert Band.



**You are invited you to
Abby's Graduation Party
Saturday, June 2, 2012 ~ From 1-5 p.m.
Gaylord United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall.
Come help us celebrate Abby's big day!**

June Ushers: Chuck Klimmek, Pauline Marlinski

June Greeters: Dick and Gail Estenson

6-3, 6-10

Agnes Schue, Beth Wilson

6-17, 6-24

June Acolyte: Jaci Tourtellott

Fellowship Hour:

June 3 Bacalaureate Sunday/Deacons

June 10open

June 17open

June 24open

† † † † †

In our prayers this past month: Our class of 2012 graduates, Lorraine Mueller, Cal Schrupp and others who have been ill or are home bound.

Pray for: Alex Thoele, Mark Thoele, May and Raymond Ysasaga, Tom Bartz (son-in-law to Sandy Wentzloff), Lee Dzubella (nephew to Pauline Marlinski), Daniel Britt and others serving in the military.

Our son Brit entered the U.S. Army on May 1, 2012. He is in the middle of basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he will be stationed for the next 2-3 months. If you want to send Brit a letter or card of encouragement, please use the following address:

SPC Keithahn, Richard B
A CO 2nd BN 54th INF REGT
2nd Platoon, RN #240
8775 ALBANESE DR
FT Benning, GA 31905

Thanks for keeping Brit in your prayers, as well as the other men and women who serve and protect us through their work in the U.S. Armed Forces. During this Memorial Weekend, please remember all those serving...and also their families...with your prayers, thoughts, and well wishes. Thanks, Phil and Sue Keithahn

Thank you for your prayers. My nephew, Jacob Krumwiede, has returned home after being in Iraq and Kuwait. Sandy Pomplun.

A **special thank** you to all our music leaders, choir and accompanists. Choir will resume again in September.

Thank you to all of the Sunday School teachers for your leadership and dedication this past Sunday School year. Thank you also to the Confirmation Mentors for your dedication to the Confirmation program.

CC&O collected 40 children's *Birthday Bags* for the Sibley County Food Shelf. Cake mix, frosting, decorations and a card were included in the bag. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this project a big success!! Board of Congregational Care and Outreach.

CONGRATULATIONS and Blessings to our UCC Class of 2012 graduate, Abby Tourtellott, who is journeying on to a new chapter in her life.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO Kati Klimmek Miller and Jesse Miller on their May 25th wedding.

News and Notes:

- ◆ Pastor Hank will be gone for Annual Meeting and time off June 8—12. Emergency pastoral needs should be directed to Deacons Aggie Schue or Dale Johnson.
- ◆ Special thanks to Shirley Meidl for leading Worship on Sunday, June 10.
- ◆ Church Secretary, Cindy Johnson, will be on vacation May 28 - June 2. She will be back in the office on June 6. Please get any time sensitive materials for the bulletin or next newsletter to her as soon as possible.
- ◆ Worship continues to be at 11:00 a.m. June, July, & August. Communion will be June 3 and July 1 and August 5.

Outdoor Worship

Plan on attending our "Shared Ministry"

Outdoor Worship Service with

New Ulm UCC on

Sunday, May 27 beginning at 10:00 a.m.

at Bernadotte Lutheran Church.

We will have a Potluck Lunch following the service with games & activities for everyone. Please bring a dish to pass and your own utensils and eating ware. Bring a lawn chair if you want. In case of inclement weather we will hold our service in the Bernadotte Sanctuary.



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 - Alex, Dylan and Ethan - Congratulations and blessings! Thanks to their Mentors: Fran Armstrong, Gail Estenson and Sue Keithahn for their guidance and care.

PENTECOST Sunday and Memorial Day weekend are both on Sunday, May 27th this year. The Holy Spirit that transcends the diversity of language and culture in the faith community is also the Holy Spirit which transcends the realms of earth and heaven, with “friends on earth and friends above.” In the Spirit of Pentecost, Gaylord UCC has a unique opportunity to continue in that celebration of diversity with our 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 2012.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING is the weekend of June 8-10. The Spirit is alive and well in the yearly gathering of our 100 plus UCC churches in the state. It is the 50th Anniversary of the Conference this year with its unique history and its vision of a unique future. John Robinson, our Pilgrim forebear said, “there is yet more light and truth to break forth from God’s Holy Word.”

GOD IS STILL SPEAKING as we explore gleanings from Mendota Heights UCC and their transformations in ministry. Thanks to Rev. Connie McCallister for sharing with us. Our Church Council is seeking everyone’s views on how we might reach out to the community as well as continue to enrich and expand our Sunday Worship.

UCC and all MAINLINE CHURCHES need to continue to place our top priorities on outreach and ministry to children, youth and families. Because 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 can grow strong in the ways of Jesus. I hope our priorities are evident in terms of our personal support and our material support.

HAPPY FATHER’S DAY on June 17!

SPECIAL THANKS to the Evans family for their wonderful musical program on May 20th. There was a great community turnout and also many donations for the free-will offering going to “Beyond the Yellow Ribbon” program. Thanks to CC&O for sponsoring this event and all of our UCC folks who helped.

Memorial Day Prayer

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. –Book of Common Prayers

Blessings, Hank

“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”

Pastor Hank will be attending the MN Conference Annual Meeting and having time away June 9 – June 12. If you are in need of emergency pastoral care please contact Deacons Aggie Schue or Dale Johnson.

His usual office hours or time of visiting are Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Thursdays from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1- 4:30 p.m. and Friday afternoons as needed. If you need to reach him call the church office 237-2595 or New Ulm UCC at 507-354-4242 or his cell 507-217-9848.

June President's Notes

May council meeting was held on Wednesday the 9th.
The following items were discussed.

- ◆ Phil updated the council on church finances.
- ◆ 7th street house update – We have signed the purchase agreement and are hoping to close on or before May 31st. I will get you more information after closing.
- ◆ We are working with Century Link to finalize an agreement for phone and internet service. Century Link was less expensive and didn't require a three year commitment like Mediacom.
- ◆ Council members have been reviewing and prioritizing the memorial list that was compiled over the last year. We are in the process of developing a plan on purchasing the priorities. TV and cart are the number one priority and we hope to purchase in the next couple of months. We will hold a special council meeting to discuss how to proceed with many items on the list.
- ◆ We discussed how to follow up on Pastor Connie's visit. It was decided we will have a brainstorming session before church at 9:00 a.m. on May 20th. Everyone is welcome!
- ◆ We continue to gather information on options for a web site. We hope to have more information for the June meeting. Our goal is to develop a web site first and then to create a Facebook page.
- ◆ CC & O is sponsoring Evan's Family concert at 2:00 on May 20th.
- ◆ MN Conference Annual meeting is June 8th – 10th. If you are interested in attending see Hank or myself.
- ◆ There is a meeting of area churches at Trinity Lutheran Church on Thursday 5/10. I plan on attending this meeting and reporting to council at the June meeting.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. Mark Pauly, Council President

Update: Closing on the 7th street is complete effective May 23. Thanks to Bill Cowell for all your assistance.

Summer News for

"Children & Families" at UCC

- ◆ "Scripture & Skits Sunday" Date TBD (young actors contact Pastor Hank ASAP) (A couple of other adult volunteers needed)
- ◆ During the summer you are encouraged to use a family faith-based approach suggested by "Faith=Inkubators."

Gather one to five specified times a week (i.e., before bed time) for a brief family faith time (5-10 min) using these 5 steps: 1) share your highs and lows of the day; 2) read a verse of scripture from Sunday's preaching or your own choosing; 3) talk about how the highs and lows of the day relate to the scripture (is God actually saying something to you?); 4) pray for one another's highs and lows; and 5) bless one another before turning out the lights on the day. There is greater consensus than ever that the Spiritual/Faith formation of kids has to include times at home, as well as at church.

- ◆ Please check UCC mailings and e-mail for upcoming dates/times of special Sundays and events. - Pastor Hank

Dad . . .

I said, "I can't."

You said, "Try again."

I said, "It's too hard."

You said, "Don't give up."

I said, "What if I fall?"

You said, "I'll be there to catch you."

. . . And you always are.

Update from the Mission Board

A grateful thanks to all who contributed food for the food shelf. Eight pounds of food was taken to the Sibley County Food Shelf this month.

The From The Heart Offering of \$75 was collected for Strengthen The Church fund. Thanks to all who contributed!

The From the Heart Offering, collected on June 10, will go towards the scholarships for our young adult members. We ask that you be generous in your donation to assist our UCC students in furthering their education.

We want to encourage students attending post secondary education to apply for scholarships. Scholarship applications are available on the table in the narthex. Remember the applications are due in the secretary's office by July 15.



Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship

Our next meeting will be on Monday, June 11
at 12:00 p.m. Come join us.



"Ice Cream News"

Our annual Pie and Ice Cream Social
will be held on
Friday, August 10, from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
We will be serving Sloppy Joes!!

Look for the signup sheet on the table in the Fellowship Hall and sign up to bring a donation of pies, cakes, desserts. Workers are also needed to set up, serve and clean up.

Please consider helping in some way.



Pilgrim Point Camp

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

**"Get to the Point - A Place to Meet Jesus"
"Weekend Intergenerational Camp"**

We are looking at a camping weekend with New Ulm UCC again this summer. Dates we are looking at are: July 13-15, August 17-19 or August 24-26. Check out the signup sheet on the table in the Fellowship Hall ASAP so we can reserve a weekend of fun!!

Middle School Service Days:

Middle School Camp: July 22-27, 2012

Senior High Camp: July 29- August 4, 2012

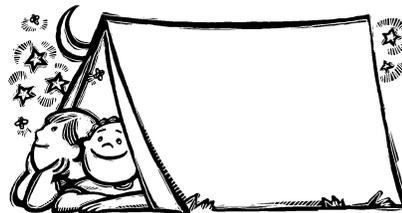
Bring your church friends with you for a week or weekend to experience Pilgrim Point!

Family Camp: August 5-10, 2012 sponsored by Mayflower UCC and St. Anthony Park UCC, and is open to EVERYONE!

Sign up today!

The sheet is on the table in the Fellowship Hall

Scholarship money is available to help with your registration.



Don't forget God

Robert Brault said, "A vacation trip is one-third pleasure, fondly remembered, and two-thirds aggravation, entirely forgotten."

Much of the hassle involved with "getting away" comes from packing. What do we need? How can we save space? Where are the items we haven't used since the last vacation?

Inevitably, we forget something — sunscreen, umbrella, diapers. Vacationers miss these items almost immediately and quickly replace them. Do we also often "forget" the Bible at home? Do we leave our prayer and worship routines behind? Do we take a vacation from our faith?

We may not notice those missing "items" as quickly, but they're crucial nonetheless. God never schedules a "getaway" from us. This summer, take a vacation with God, not from God.



Are we there yet?

This age-old refrain of young travelers is followed by a second question: "How much longer?" How similar those queries are to the psalmist's oft-repeated cry, "How long, O LORD, how long?" (Psalm 6:3b, NIV).

Patience is an uncommon virtue these days. We're anxious to get where we're going or to get what we want. But think how much we miss while wishing we were elsewhere! In our rush to reach a destination, we fail to grasp lessons that can be learned only along the way. What blessings might you be overlooking in the here-and-now and the right-where-you-are?

—Kari Myers

My Church

My church is composed of people like me.

We make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am.

Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them.

It will do great work, if I work.

It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver.

It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I bring them.

My church will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with those things.

Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my church to be!



Letters to Pastor

Dear Pastor, I know God loves everybody but He never met my sister. Yours sincerely, Steven, Age 8.

Dear Pastor, My father should be a minister. Every day he gives us a sermon about something.

Robert, Age 11.

Dear Pastor, I'm sorry I can't leave more money in the plate, but my father didn't give me a raise in my allowance. Could you have a sermon about a raise in my allowance? Love, Anne, Age 10.

Dear Pastor, I think a lot more people would come to your church if you moved it to Disneyland.

Laura, Age 9.

Dear Pastor, Please say a prayer for our Little League team. We need God's help or a new pitcher.

Thank you. Alex, Age 10.

Dear Pastor, My father says I should learn the Ten Commandments. But I don't think I want to because we have enough rules already in my house.

Joshua, Age 10.

Dear Pastor, I liked your sermon on Sunday. Especially when it was finished. Robbie, Age 11.

The United Church of Christ
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Return service requested



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This newsletter is a monthly publication of the

Gaylord United Church of Christ

Coffee-Fellowship Hour 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m.

Communion is the 1st Sunday of the month

Pastor - Rev. Hank Campbell

Council President - Mark Pauly

Church Secretary - Cindy Johnson

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 Sneltsjes
18..... Tim Solomonson
19..... Cheryl Messner
23..... Lynette Ott
28 Jason Meyer
29 Sue Keithahn
30..... Ethan Pomplun