



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

*A Welcoming
Congregation*

Parish Paper

July 2012

Vol. 40, 7

"Storybook Gift" and "Hispanic Friendship" Sunday July 22 - 11:00 a.m.

We will be sharing a special young children's book in English and Spanish with a faith and values message to those kids and families as a special gift from UCC. Our Hispanic friends will be serving chicken and pork tamales at noon for lunch.

Come Join Us and Invite a friend!

A free will donation will be collected for the lunch. Sign up on the sheet in the fellowship Hall or call the church office if you will be attending the lunch.



Mark Your Calendars for VBS Day Camp

Who: Kids entering kindergarten - 6th grade

What: Day Camp led by Green Lake Bible Camp

Where: American Lutheran Church - 911 8th Street, Gaylord

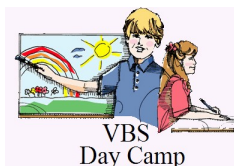
When: Sunday, July 22 through Thursday, July 26 - 9:00am - 2:00pm

Why: Day Camp is a spiritual growth experience and is a lot of fun!

Cost: \$55.00 – fee to be paid by the Board of Christian Education.

Complete a Registration Form, available on the table in the Fellowship Hall, and return by Sunday, July 15.

Questions: call American Lutheran Church at 237- 2428.



Ushers: Phil Keithahn, Dale Tourtellott
Jaci Tourtellott
Greeters: Candy and Don Swenson
7-1, 7-8
Karen and Jim Peterson
7-15, 7-22, 7-29
Acolyte: Alex Evers

Fellowship Hour:

July 1 Sylvia Turbett—Priscilla Circle
July 8 open
July 15 open
July 22 open
July 29 Liz Reishus

Lectionary Readings for the Month of July

July 1, 2012: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Sam 1:1, 17-27, Ps 130, 2 Cor 8:7-15, Mark 5:21-43.
UCC Theme: Healing Powers.

July 8, 2012: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Sam 5:1-5, 9-10, Ps 48, 2 Cor 12:2-10, Mark 6:1-13.
UCC Theme: Sent With Power.

July 15, 2012: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

2 Sam 6:1-5, 12b-19, Ps 24, Eph 1:3-14, Mark 6:14-29.
UCC Theme: God-Inspired Joy.

July 22, 2012: Eight Sunday after Pentecost

2 Sam 7:1-14a, Ps 89:20-37, Eph 2:11-22, Mark 6:30-34, 53-56.
UCC Theme: Wherever You Are.

July 29, 2012: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Sam 11:1-15, Ps 14, Eph 3:14-21, John 6:1-21.
UCC Theme: God's Abundant Presence.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Among those who were lifted up in prayer this past month: Pat Pinske, the students in the Class of 2012, those who attended the MN Conference Annual Meeting, Megan Meyer, all men, fathers and families and those who are homebound.

Pray for Brit Keithahn, 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 in the military.

We are thrilled that our son Brit can follow his dream of completing Basic Combat Training and then go to Airborne School, where he will be running and jumping for 30+ days. Then it's off to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he will enter Special Forces Training, with the goal of earning the chance to serve our country as a Green Beret. Thanks again to all those teachers, coaches, and mentors who have helped Brit develop his leadership skills. And please keep the men and women in the military, as well as their families, in your prayers."

Brit's mailing address through mid-August is:

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

He does not have access to email or his cell phone, so a letter or a card would help support Brit and his fellow soldiers. Phil Keithahn

Thank You

Dear UCC Friends, thank you from the Evans family (plus 2) for inviting us to sing in your church. It was a pleasure to share BLESSINGS with you and those in attendance. A special thank you to Beth, Gail and Cindy for your extra help. Sincerely, Kari Evans.

Evan's Family concert

On Sunday, May 20, church members and the community enjoyed the musical talents of Kari Evans and two of her children, Brian and Erin, as well as her parents, John & Mavis Siewert. They performed a variety of musical pieces and shared some of their family memories of singing in the car as they drove to visit family. The church was filled with laughter, tears, love and appreciation for Kari and her family. The two hour performance was a highlight, enjoyed by the near capacity crowd. We plan to have a copy of the video available at some time in the future.





U.S.—DAKOTA WAR 150th ANNIVERSARY

- Week of Aug. 20-26 Sibley County, as well as Brown County, will have special events to remember the U.S. - Dakota War 150th Anniversary.
- Sunday, August 26 area churches are invited to remember and acknowledge the tragic events of 150 years ago during our times of prayer in Sunday Worship.
- Sunday, September 30 the National UCC and Gaylord UCC will observe American Indian Ministry Sunday.
- September 21 – 23 is the Annual Wacipi Pow Wow at the Land of Memories Park in Mankato in honor of “The Dakota 38.”

MN CONFERENCE UCC - 2012 ANNUAL MEETING

We just celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the MN Conference UCC June 8-10 at the College of St. Benedict. I have appreciated that the locations of these annual meetings over the years have been done in an ecumenical spirit – from settings in UCC churches to college campuses of the Missouri Synod Lutheran (Concordia) and Roman Catholic churches (currently at St Benedicts), as well as secular St. Cloud State.

As usual there were an array of relevant workshops for church worship, mission, evangelism (welcome), stewardship and education. The President of the national UCC (from the home office in Cleveland), Rev. Geoffrey Black, also spoke to the gathering. UCC Theologian Clyde Steckel of Minnesota compiled a historical booklet on the past, along with a future look at challenges in the UCC and the whole church in the coming years. A copy of the booklet is on the Fellowship Hall table.

A resolution on “marriage equality” which was passed at the 2011 Annual Meeting, was re-affirmed at this year’s Annual Meeting. This timely resolution is consistent with the UCC’s historic witness and Christian understanding of love and justice.

We celebrated our Gaylord UCC witness as a MN Conference “**GREEN CHURCH!**”

BLESSINGS, HANK

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!

Summer Sunday’s – Worship time continues to be 11:00 a.m. with a time of Fellowship beginning at 9:45.

July

- July 1 “Independence Day” Observance
- July 8 “Stewardship’s New Life!” Sunday
- July 15 “Outdoor Worship in the Sanctuary!” Theme Sunday
- July 22 “Children’s Book” and “Hispanic Friendship” Sunday with tamale lunch to follow
- July 29 TBD

August

- Aug. 5 Worship with Rev. Guy Stone
- Aug.12 Ecumenical Worship in the Park - 10:00 am
- Aug.19 Worship with Rev. Penny Entringer
- Aug. 26 Worship with Pastor Hank

Pastor hank’s 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 13th Council Meeting

The following items were discussed.

Phil updated the council on finances. Phil will do a mid - year review of expenses and revenue for July council meeting.

Beth and Cindy 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.

We continue to gather information on options for a web site. We hope to have more information for the July meeting. Our goal is to develop a web site first and then to create a Facebook page.

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 how to purchase the priorities. We will hold a special council meeting on 6/27 to discuss how to proceed with many items on the list. We will look at comprising a committee to consider the sanctuary and how to implement audio/visual upgrades.

We discussed how to follow up on the brainstorming session we had on 5/20. The council will prioritize some of the items and then we will have another brainstorming session.

On May 10th I attended a meeting of area churches at Trinity Lutheran Church. Approximately forty people representing ten churches attended. Rev. Dr. Mark Yackel-Juleen, the facilitator, explained the process of exploring various options and benefits in considering an expanded shared ministry.

On May 23rd we closed on the sale of the 7th street house to Misty McColley. The sale price of the house was \$99,000. After related expenses we cleared \$93,000 and then paid off the loan with Pro Growth bank. We will have more information available at church if you are interested.

I would like to take this opportunity to say *Thank You* to Bill Cowell and Rachel Frauendienst for all of their help with this sale.

We discussed a request from a member to put wooden plaque type signs up in church. Trustees will look into it.

There is a small church revitalization training July 16th & 17th in Buffalo.

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



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

“Get to the Point - A Place to Meet Jesus”

Check out these camps:

Middle School Camp: July 22-27, 2012

Senior High Camp: July 29- August 4, 2012

Young Adult Retreat: July 27 - 29 An amazing opportunity to **connect** with old & new camp friends, **share** stories of your life journeys, and **re-awaken** your **faith** in this sacred space.

July Family Camp: July 15-20 is **hosted by Union Congregational UCC in St. Louis Park** and is open to EVERYONE!

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

Sign up today!

Scholarship money is available to help with your registration.



Thank you to all who contributed to the making of the 40 children's birthday bags for the Sibley County Food Shelf!! This amounted to 101 pounds of food. What a great response! CC&O

Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship had their spring outing on Wednesday, May 16 and enjoyed a wonderful day in Mankato at Drummers and then on to St. Peter. We had lunch at Whiskey River and did a little shopping at the St. Peter Co-op.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, July 9 at 12:00 p.m. Come join us.



"Ice Cream News"

Our annual 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, chips, pickles, ice cream, pies, cakes and desserts!!

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.

Help Needed!!

The trustees would like to do some landscape maintenance and improvements around the church this summer. If you are interested in helping out, let one of the trustees (Chuck, Kevin, Dick or Mike) know. Most likely the work will be done on Saturday mornings or afternoons.



Working Together

Join the Sanctuary Workgroup!

Church Council invites you to join the Sanctuary Workgroup. The purpose of the Workgroup is to look at ways in which our sanctuary can be updated to provide a more flexible and spiritual place for us to worship.

Kickoff meeting is July 18th at 7:00 p.m.
Contact the Church Office or Mark Pauly
if you are interested in helping.

Update from the Annual Meeting

Pastor Hank and I attended the Minnesota conference annual meeting June 8-10. Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Minnesota conference highlighted Friday evening. Reverend Clyde Steckel led the evening worship.

On Saturday, June 9, the Minnesota Conference Minister, Dr. Rev. Karen Smith Sellers, gave her report of the Conference. She was pleased to report that our Conference is financially sound. She discussed initiatives to deal with continuing decline in membership among our 135 churches in our Conference. Reverend Geoffrey Black, general Minister and President of the UCC, gave the keynote address. His talk was about the "God is Still Speaking" campaign led by the national United Church of Christ. He indicated the UCC had launched an advertising campaign promoting our UCC "Everyone is Welcome" theme. That has been very successful, especially the web based advertising.

During the business meeting on Saturday, resolutions were passed directing our Conference to support proposals to end poverty by our state and federal governments. There were 15 workshops to choose from on Saturday. I attended a workshop dealing with clergy compensation. The conference has sought the help of a consulting group to survey churches in the conference on how their ministers are compensated. Currently, most churches in the conference are below conference guidelines for compensating their minister.

The second workshop I attended was "Building a Vision." It was led by members of the Board of Directors of our Conference. It was a dialogue where participants were asked to envision a future for the Conference. The results of the workshop are on our Minnesota Conference UCC web site.

Gaylord UCC was recognized for three awards: 5 for 5 giving, top 10 in per capita giving to OCWM, and "Green Church" recognition.

An overview was given of the retreat on July 17, 2012 at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo, MN. The retreat is titled, "8 Ways Small Churches are Changing the World (and how yours can, too)." The retreat is open to clergy and lay. I plan to attend the retreat.

Submitted by Darrel Mosel

Update from the Mission Board

The Mission Board would like to thank everyone for your generous donations of \$98 to our From the Heart Offering for the Mission Board Scholarships.

Reminder: Any UCC students attending post secondary education can apply for scholarships. The applications are due in the Church office by July 15.

Our next From the Heart Offering on July 8 will be for the Salvation Army of Sibley County.

Your financial support will enable them to provide struggling families and individuals with clothing, food and other emergency services.



Garden Produce

During the spring, summer and into the fall, the Mission Board sponsors plants, fruits, vegetables, flowers, and various other items that you can purchase with a donation to the Mission Board. These donations are used by the Mission Board for their scholarships and various other Mission projects. A plastic container is conveniently located for your donation.

If you wish to donate some of your extra garden produce, plants, etc. have it ready and on the table in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings. Thank You.

Coffee Hour

During the summer months coffee hour is open to anyone that wants to serve coffee and treats and keep the proceeds for their group. We ask that you put up a sign that states what group is serving. Thanks.

Spiritual insomnia

Studies show that most Americans don't get adequate sleep. Whether an overcrowded schedule or insomnia is to blame, the short- and long-term effects are alarming. It's tough to maintain a healthy mind and body when you're sleep-deprived.

Likewise, we require sufficient, regular quiet time with God to stay spiritually healthy. Even Jesus needed time alone with God. Luke 5:16 says Jesus withdrew to deserted places to pray. Think how much more we need to listen for God's voice and learn from his Word!

Declaration of interdependence

Let it be declared, announced and hereby celebrated...

- That all people everywhere are dependent upon one another.
- That everyone needs everyone else for freedom, life, love and happiness.
- That all things in the natural order are dependent upon everything else.
- That our little planet and all the planets and stars in the solar systems are in a state of mutual dependence upon one another.
- That this universally shared dependence comes from God and is of God.
- And that each individual part of this relationship has its own part to play — its own destiny to fulfill in God's plan.

The water's fine?

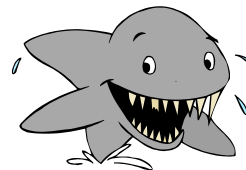
While a tourist vacationed on the Florida coast, his boat capsized. Although he could swim, his fear of alligators kept him clinging to the overturned craft and praying aloud. Spotting an old beachcomber on shore, the tourist shouted, "Are there any gators around here?"

"No," the man hollered. "They haven't been around for years!"

Relieved, the tourist began swimming leisurely toward the shore. About halfway there, he asked, "How'd you get rid of the gators?"

"We didn't do anything," the beachcomber replied.

"The sharks got 'em."



Make haste

"Life is short, and we have never too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are traveling the ... journey with us. O be swift to love, make haste to be kind!"

— Henri Frederic Amiel

Supperette Casserole

Priscilla Circle served this casserole to the Ruth Circle in September of 1997. Everyone enjoyed the dish then and asked for the recipe so we are printing it again! Enjoy.

Chicken Casserole

3 cups cooked chicken or turkey cubed
1 cup diced celery
3 cups cooked rice
1 onion chopped
1 tsp salt and 1/2 tsp pepper
2 Tbs lemon juice
1/2 cup mayonnaise
1/2 cup sour cream
2 cans cream of chicken soup undiluted
1 small can sliced water chestnuts

Topping

1/2 cup butter
1 1/2 cups cubed bread crumbs
1 cup slivered almonds—browned lightly in skillet.
Put all ingredients in 9x13 pan and bake at 350° for 1 hour.

If you are in need of an easy pie crust recipe check out the one printed below.

Never Fail Pie Crust

3 cups flour	1/2 tsp. salt
1 1/2 cups shortening	1 T vinegar
5 T cold water	1 egg, slightly beaten

Blend flour, salt and shortening with pastry blender.
Mix water, vinegar and egg; add to flour mixture.
Mix well. shape into 4 balls. Roll out immediately or wrap and freeze for later use.
Makes 4 (8 or 9") pastry rounds.

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



United Church of Christ
318 4th Street
P.O. Box 385
Gaylord, MN 55334-0385
507-237-2595 or 507-237-5846
Office—uccg@myclearwave.net

Pastor—uccgpstr@myclearwave.net

This newsletter is a monthly publication of the United Church of Christ, Gaylord. Articles and announcements are due the second Wednesday of the month.

Sunday Worship—11:00 a.m.

Coffee-Fellowship Hour 10:00 a.m.

Communion is the 1st Sunday of the month

Pastor, Rev. Hank Campbell

Council President, Mark Pauly

Secretary, Cindy Johnson

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