



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

*A Welcoming
Congregation*

Parish Paper

May 2013

Vol. 41, 5



Singing Friends Chorus Spring Concert

Sunday, May 5 - 2:00 p.m. at Gaylord UCC.

The Singing Friends Chorus, a Central Minnesota Choral Ensemble, will present its 2013 Spring Concert at Gaylord United Church of Christ.

Cost: A free-will offering will be taken during the concert.

The group sings a wide range of musical compositions, including Broadway musicals, classical choral music, spirituals, folk songs, patriotic numbers, and popular tunes from all different eras.

Refreshments will be served after the concert.

Hope you can join us.



Reminder:
*Change in
Worship
Time!*

**Beginning
Sunday, May 5**

**WORSHIP time in Gaylord
begins at 9:00 a.m.
FELLOWSHIP HOUR and
SUNDAY SCHOOL at 10:00 a.m.**

Ushers: Jeff and Deb Meyer
Jason Meyer

Greeters: Eunice Gasow and Liz Kuphal
5-5, 5-12
Gloria Sinell and Helen Van Brunt
5-19, 5-22, 5-26

Acolyte: Jason Meyer

Fellowship Hour:
May 5open
May 12open
May 19 Board of Christian Education
May 26open
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Lectionary Readings for the Month of May

May 5, 2013: Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 16:9-15; Ps 67; John 5:1-9. UCC Theme:
Disciples Together.

May 12, 2013: Festival of the Christian Home
Acts 16:164-34; Ps 97; John 17:20-26. UCC Theme:
Breaking Chains.

May 19, 2013: Pentecost Sunday
Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-35; John 14:8-17. UCC
Theme: Gathered and Scattered.

May 26, 2013: First Sunday after Pentecost
Prov 8:1-4, 33-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-
15. UCC Theme: Wisdom Calls.

Remembered in prayer last month:
Jean Feehan, Albert Meyer and the victims of the
Boston tragedy.

Also pray for: Brit Keithahn, Alex Thoele, Mark
Thoele, May and Raymond Ysasaga, Sam von Wald
(Stacy Pauly's nephew) and others in the military.

Our congratulations and prayers are with Karen and
Jim Peterson on the premature birth of a great
granddaughter born to Christy and Jeremy Pinson.
The baby was born at 30 weeks weighing 1 lb 14 oz and
will be at United Hospital in St. Paul for some time.
Prayers are also welcomed for their son-in-law Jeremy
who is currently stationed in Afghanistan

**The last day of Sunday School will be
Sunday, May 19.**

**We will have a special Teacher/Student
recognition during our 9:00 a.m. Service.
All teachers and students are invited to
attend. Board of Christian Education will be
serving coffee hour following the service.**

Annual Meeting of the MN Conference UCC

Delegates are needed to attend the MN UCC Annual
Conference Meeting at College of St. Ben's in St.
Joseph, MN, June 7-9, 2013. Expenses can be covered
for any/all of the meeting. Child care/activities
available. If interested contact Pastor Hank or Pauline
Marlinski.

Upcoming at UCC:

- The month of May** has a number of special days which
we observe in both the secular and sacred realms.
- **May is Mental Health Month.** Handouts are available
on the table in the Fellowship Hall.
 - **Rural Life Sunday** will be celebrated on Sunday,
May 5, during our 9 a.m. Worship Service.
 - **Plan on attending the Special Friends Chorus
Concert. May 5 at 2:00 p.m. at UCC.**
 - **Tree planting at Armstrong Farm. Saturday, May
11 at 4:00 p.m. Hot dog roast to follow.**
 - **Mother's Day (also Festival of the Christian Home)
will be observed on May 12. We will also celebrate
our UCC choir and musicians.** Rev. Penny
Entringer will lead worship this Sunday.
 - **Pentecost is May 19 and will be "Children's
Sunday" and last day of Sunday School** as we
celebrate our youth and Sunday School teachers who
are a vital part of our church ministry! We will also
wrap up our Mission 4/1 Earth initiative.

Cindy Johnson, Church Secretary, will be on
vacation from May 27- 31.

**Time sensitive materials, including Newsletter
articles, should be into the Church Office by
May 15. Thank You.**

PASTOR'S CONTINUING EDUCATION

"Mediation Skills"... Come let us reason together... (Isaiah 1:18)

I appreciated my recent Continuing Education in Mediation Skills Training for conflict resolution. The process I learned was defined more specifically as “interest-based negotiation” in which the conflicted parties become negotiators for their own outcome with the goal of a mutually agreeable solution that is “fair to all parties and efficient for the community.” The mediator does not provide the solutions or outcomes, but rather helps facilitate the process by gathering information, and then helping to frame the key issues, underlying interests, and creative outcome options which are generated by the parties. The key to mediation is the willingness of the parties to participate in the process, which may take a few sessions before agreeing on a formal settlement.

The training consisted of identifying conflict types, cultural factors, mediation strategies, methods of communication and then role playing in a variety of cases with the help of trained mediators. A successful mediation will likely not result in the parties “getting everything they want,” but hopefully a formal settlement whereby the parties’ key “interests/needs” are satisfactorily (and often creatively) resolved. Some of the basic mediation methods are usable in settings from family to work place to community-based organizations. Participants in the group included folk from social service, business, education, legal and religious backgrounds.

May is Mental Health Month and has provided an opportunity to raise awareness about mental health issues for more than 50 years. According to Mental Health Ministries: “The magnitude of mental illness in this country is staggering. According to the Surgeon General, one in every five Americans experiences a mental disorder in any given year and half of all Americans have such disorders at some time in their lives. These illnesses of the brain affect all of us, regardless of age, gender, economic status or ethnicity. Mental illness affects the mind, body and the spirit. It is a real, common and treatable illness. Mental illnesses are far more common than cancer, diabetes, heart disease or arthritis. Our faith communities can be an important part of the recovery process through education, support and by helping individuals and families feel part of a caring community. Many organizations, including NAMI, engage in efforts to promote Mental Health Month.”

“National Day of Prayer” will be Thursday, May 2. We join with other faith communities and religions around the nation on this designated day of praying for the United States of America. In 1952, Congress established this annual day of prayer on the first Thursday in May. **This year’s theme, “Pray for America” is based on Matthew 12:21 which reminds us that “In His name the nations will put their hope.” Houses of Worship are invited to designate a time over the noon hour for folks to come and go for quiet prayer. UCC will do so from 12:00 -1:00 on May 2.**

THANKS TO EVERYONE – faithful and joyful servants – who assisted in our Lenten, Holy Week and Easter Worship Services and events!

Blessings, Pastor Hank

The MN Conference UCC will honor The Rev. Dr. Karen Smith-Sellers who is retiring in June as Conference Minister. Thanks and well wishes for Karen’s ministry can be sent to the Conference Office:

Minnesota Conference UCC 122 W. Franklin Avenue #323 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

Godspeed and Blessings to Rev. Tim Berg, United Campus Ministry Chaplin, in his retirement! Tim has played an important role as “pastor” to many students over the years. A special reception for Tim will be held Thursday, May 2, 2:00 p.m in the CSU South Ballroom at MSU.

Pastor Hank will be away May 9 - 14. Emergency Pastoral concerns should be directed to Deacons Harriet Troidahl or Dale Johnson.

MAY PRESIDENT'S NOTES

An energized Church Council! With our new starting time of 5:00 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, we had plenty of discussion at the April meeting regarding a variety of topics. We'll continue at this new time, so if you'd like to attend any of these early Council meetings, feel free to drop by with your take-out dinner and join us!

Thank you to Pastor Hank and everyone involved with providing a meaningful Holy Week and Easter experience. As a former Catholic, the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday were especially poignant for me.

The Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Conference of the United Church of Christ will be held June 7-9 at the College of St. Benedict. I will be attending as a voting delegate, and am looking for another person to join me as a second delegate. Please check-out www.uccmn.org/annualmeeting for more information. May 5th is the early registration deadline, when we can get a discount on fees. In addition, please look at the proposed resolutions the delegates will be voting on. On the Annual Meeting site, click on "view all site material" on the left side. Open the "2013 Resolution/ByLaws/Comp. Guidelines" PDF to view. If you have strong feelings on anything you see there, please communicate with me or Pastor Hank.

Council has approved researching the purchase of a new church office computer. A new computer will greatly improve the productivity of not only our church secretary, but also the council treasurer.

The Shared Ministry Committee gained two new members last month. This group meets with New Ulm UCC members to continue to evaluate our joint ministry. Chip Wolverton and Sandy Pomplun agreed to serve, along with continuing members Mark Pauly and Pauline Marlinski. This committee also functions as a Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (PPRC). If you have any concerns or input, please feel free to contact any of the members listed.

Council discussed holding some type of planning sessions to help the council as well as all the boards and committees look to the future and determine what are the "big rocks" we want to concentrate on and how to be proactive in our approach to the mission of the Gaylord UCC. It's easy to get caught up in the steady, week to week activities we always do, looking out only as far as the next month. How can we look more to the future and continue our quest for growing and transforming our congregation and our community?

Church Council will be meeting at
5:00 p.m. on May 8th

Pauline Marlinski, Council President

Wider Church News:

- "National Day of Prayer" Thursday, May 2.

We join with other faith communities and religions around the nation on this designated day for praying for the United States of America. In 1952, Congress established this annual day of prayer on the first Thursday in May. Churches are invited to designate a time over the noon hour for folks to come and go for quiet prayer. **UCC will do so from 11:30 -12:30**

- MSU United Campus Ministry (UCM), Mankato, announces the retirement of Campus Chaplain Rev. Tim Berg and the closing of United Campus Ministry. A reception honoring Tim will be held on Thursday, May 2 at 2:00 p.m. in the Mankato State CSU South Ballroom. United Campus Ministry thanks everyone for their faithful support of this ministry over these last 20 years and invites you to join us as we celebrate its accomplishments and grieve its loss.

From the Board of United Campus Ministry.

- Hospice Volunteer Training Sponsored by Mayo Clinic Health System—May 8 & 9 from 9am to 3pm at the Gaylord Library.

If you are looking for a rewarding volunteer experience please join us on May 8 & 9. Men and women are invited to join our volunteer program for training that would assist you in being part of caring for the terminally ill and their families in our community. For more information or an application call 507-385-6364.

Update from the Mission Board

A sincere thank you to all who donated \$132 to the From the Heart Offering which went to One Great Hour of Sharing. Your generosity will aid disaster areas in United States and abroad.

Our total Lenten offering was \$821 which will help provide scholarships for our local church members to further their education beyond high school. We appreciate your contributions throughout the Lenten season. **We want to encourage students attending post secondary education to apply for scholarships. Applications are available on the table in the Fellowship Hall and should be given to any Mission Board member or turned into the secretary's office by July 17.**



On March 29, the Sibley County Food Shelf gave us a receipt for \$1353.18. This money was from our March 3 Food Shelf Fundraiser and Souper Bowl of Caring offering. This is a great effort from the entire congregation and a great contribution!

This last month we took 36 lbs of food to the Food Shelf. Thank you to those who have been donating and filling up our grocery cart. The need for food items and donations of money serve the people in our county and the demand increases.

Our next From The Heart Offering will be May 12 which will go to Strengthen The Church. Through the Strengthen The Church offering we are growing UCC's future by supporting our ministry of extravagant welcome by: Funding new church starts and invigorating existing congregations, nurturing lay and pastoral leadership and building youth and young adult ministries.

"Mission 4/1 Earth" EDUCATION EVENT at New Ulm DNR OFFICE, Monday May 6, 3:30-4:00 p.m. As part of our education plan for Mission 4/1 Earth Gaylord and New Ulm UCC is invited to tour the New Ulm DNR building on Monday May 6. We will be looking at the use of solar panels and other green energy resources to power the building.



Women's Spring Outing

All the women of the church are invited to come on our Spring Outing on Thursday, May 16. We will carpool from church at 9:30 a.m. We plan to visit Drummers in Mankato then have lunch at Whiskey River about 12:30 p.m. and then visit the St. Peter Food Coop. If you can't get away for the day join us for lunch at 12:30.

*Come join us for a day of fun, food
and fellowship!*

Updates from the Board of Education

* Thank you to all who participated in the Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast. A special thanks to Sue Keithahn for heading up the service; it is much appreciated. Also thanks to Mike and Jan Walsh, Harriet Troidahl and Michelle Exsted for the use of their griddles and utensils for the breakfast. After a little maneuvering the pancakes were a success. We on the Board of Ed thank you for your support.

* Thanks to Liz Reishus who led a special Children's Sermon for Mission 4/1 Earth about the Integrity of Creation. There are some ongoing plans for our youth and congregation to do our part including ditch cleaning and tree planting (if the snow ever decides to leave and it gets dry enough to accomplish these).

* Last day of Sunday School is planned for May 19th. There will be a short ceremony during church and Board of Education will be serving coffee and goodies after church so be sure to join us.

* Stay tuned for upcoming summer activities including Pilgrim Point summer camp, Vacation Bible School, Eggstravaganza and other possible plans. We will keep you updated.

Denise Tourtellott, Board of Christian Education

THANK YOU TO THE CHOIR



Most Sundays I sit in church and marvel at the music we enjoy from our choir. How blessed we are to have dedicated members willing to share their God given talents for singing. When I close my eyes during the anthem, it feels and sounds as though we have a choir of at least twenty. The quality and volume of the anthems must certainly be divinely inspired when I consider the reality of a full choir of ten. I recall one or two recent anthems which were sung by three members, praising God and sounding like a choir of angels.

I'm thankful to be a member here at Gaylord United Church of Christ where music is very important. Thank you, Sandy, Stacy and Sue for your dedication and beautiful accompaniment on Sundays. Thank you Denise, Phil and Dick, Pauline, Beth, Barb, Shannon, Stacy, Candy and Sue for your beautiful voices. And thank you, Sue, for taking over as choir director and doing such a terrific job! I think Arlen would be pleased and proud!

We have so much to be grateful for here at Gaylord United Church of Christ. Our musicians and choir are at the top of the list!

THANKS TO EACH OF YOU

from a grateful congregation member.

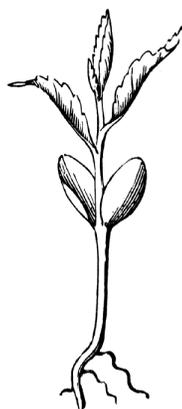
"Mission 4/1 Earth"

Intergenerational Tree Planting Event.

On Saturday, May 11, we will carpool to the Howard and Fran Armstrong farm to plant some saplings as part of our ongoing Mission 4/1 Earth initiative. We will leave church at 3:45 p.m. and plan on arriving at the farm about 4:00. When we are done planting we will have a bonfire and hot dog roast.

See the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you to the Armstrongs!!



“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. The weekend we are looking at is August 30 - Sept. 1.

Signup on the sheet on the table in the Fellowship Hall ASAP and join us for a weekend of fun!!

Middle School Camp:

~ NOW INCLUDING

5th GRADE GRADUATES! ~

July 21-26, 2013. *Cost is \$315/person until May 1, then \$340/person. Middle School Camp is for youth currently in 5th-8th grade.*

Senior High Camp

July 28-August 3. *Cost is \$340/person until May 1, then \$365/person. Senior High Camp is for youth currently in 9th-12th grade.*

Mark your calendar for these scheduled Camps and Retreats at Pilgrim Point Camp:

- ◆ **Spring Middle School CYE 2013 | May 3-5**
“God is Still Speaking, Part II” with Keynoter, Hans Peterson.
- ◆ **July Family Camp - July 14-19**
- ◆ **August Family Camp - August 4-9**
- ◆ **Eco Justice Training - August 11 - 14**
- ◆ **Women’s Retreat - September 20—22**
- ◆ **Fall Middle School CYE October 4 - 6**
- ◆ **Fall High School CYE October 18 - 20**

Scholarship money is available to help pay for camp. Check out the signup sheets and information on table in the Fellowship Hall.

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



United Church of Christ
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Pastor—hankcampbellucc@newulmtel.net
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.
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Sept. - May
Communion is the 1st Sunday of the month
Pastor - Rev. Hank Campbell
Council President - Pauline Marlinski
Church Secretary - Cindy Johnson

May Birthdays

07.....Russ Messner
08.....Dick Estenson
08.....Sandra Pomplun
09.....Paul Wagenius
10.....Kathleen Thies
11.....Chip Wolverton
12.....Paula Troidahl
15.....Jaci Tourtellott
20.....Brian Wagenius
28.....Denise Tourtellott