

COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2018

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September Serving Unit

Barb Miller, Chairperson
Blaine and Kathy Johnson
Judy Snipstad
Martha Snipstad
Bev and Arlie Johnson
Muriel Nichols
Joan Cota
Shirley and John Rusnacko
Fred Carter
Duane and Mary Budde

PASTOR LINDA'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Our kick-off for the fall season is exciting and just days away! The opportunities for a new season mean a chance to expand our music a little with some new ideas, etc. I attended a preaching in series conference this summer, and hope to have more series or thematic preaching through this year, too. What does that mean? It means choosing a topic, praying about it, researching it and preaching it. We quite often do the Revised Common Lectionary, which rolls through 3-year cycles and gives a pastor the direction scripturally. This will create new ways to build unique spiritual formation experiences for our community.

We give you the chance to recommit or join God's team on Rally Day – officially our Kick-Off Sunday, September 9! The kids can register for new programming for the upcoming year and our elementary kids will get a surprise, too! The service will finish with a lunch to follow, celebrating our new year.

Join us this fall. Recommit to Community and the exciting future we are heading toward!

Peace,

Pastor Linda

pastorlinda@communitymethodistchurch.org

CORE LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATES

Our Core Leadership Team met on August 2, with thirteen members in attendance. We elected the following to serve leading in specific areas: Les Johnson, Chair; Kristine Rodriguez, Secretary; Bruce Olson, Trustee lead; Jim Reinholdson, Finance lead; Bill Schneider, Staff Parish lead. There is a small group working on mission statements. Memorial monies discussed/ approved for some changes in the children's ministry areas. Monies approved for some things needing to happen in the trustees/building areas of the church, too. Estimates are being collected for some potential changes in the building. Calendaring for upcoming months was also done. We discussed the recommendations from the consultation that were voted on during the Ad Board meeting in May. We are excited about the efficiency in this new way of leadership. We know that this is a learning process and we will do our best to communicate to the congregation decisions being made. Each member was given a folder with information about healthy communication and leadership, guidelines, as well as finance information.

RALLY DAY FALL KICK OFF SUNDAY! JOIN GOD'S TEAM!

September 9, 2018

- ⇒ Kids registration begins at 9:30 am.
- ⇒ Announcements begin at 9:55 and worship begins at 10am.
- ⇒ Wear your favorite team colors or jersey – local, college or professional teams welcome.
- ⇒ Lunch after worship in the social hall!



Karen Schreiner	9/01
Nancy Sandgren	9/01
Ivan Rodriguez	9/03
Caleb Lexvold	9/05
Keith Felland	9/06
Megan Trench	9/08
Vera Snapko	9/09
Linda Domarus	9/14
Dale Mapes	9/15
Linda McCollough	9/16
Ronald Guderian	9/19
Gary Good	9/22
Diane Weldon	9/29
Karen Schneider	9/29



Join us in packing meals. Our next packing date is

Saturday, September 29th, 2018

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

at 401-93rd Ave NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Thanks again!

Watch for dates to sign up and volunteer.

Please contact Dick Meixner at (763)-788-2329 to sign up, or if you have any questions about this experience.

PRAYERS FOR SEPTEMBER

1. Pray for our staff and pastor as they lead us into a new season.
2. Pray for our congregation to be welcoming and open to visitors.
3. Pray for discernment for our Core Leadership Team in guiding new ways and new uses of our church.
4. Pray for our team working on new mission and vision statements.
5. Pray for us to grow in terms of numbers of worshipping, growing in stewardship, growing in our financial commitments and fulfilling them for our future.
6. Pray for our congregation for the shifts and changes being made that we live in willing hearts and openness to try new ideas.
7. Pray for our Rummage Sale, the volunteers, donations, and buyers. May this be a way for people to experience our church family and want to be a part of it!
8. Pray for our confirmation kids as they wrap up their year of growing more in their faith.

We would like to thank those who helped deliver Meals on Wheels the week of August 6th-10th. Thank you to the following:



Anita Thompson, Anita's friend Sahron Lepianka, Fred Carter, Edison Konold, Bert & Naomi Jones, Anna & Rena Lexvold, Anna's granddaughter Sophia, Alice Mettler, Jim Reinholdson, Barb Miller, Rod & Sylvia Bruns.

Your help is much appreciated!

Our next delivery dates will be October 8th-12th. Mark those dates on your calendar and we'll be in touch.

Rod Bruns & Sylvia Bruns

SEPTEMBER NOTES:

- ◆ We will put out a new directory this fall. We want to be sure all the addresses and phone numbers are accurate. If you have had a change, please contact the office, don't assume they know it.
- ◆ We also will be printing nametags again, for those that want a permanent nametag each week as a way of "welcoming" others that may visit us. We want to extend welcome to visitors and those that may not yet know your name.
- ◆ We will honor those that have served in leading roles in our church for several years (some for decades) on **September 23** during worship. Please consider a "thank-you" to them. Virgil, Dick and Fayette.
- ◆ We will be developing a "service leaders" guide in our newsletter in October. Please watch for it, it will list the volunteers for each week at the church. We are widening the circle for volunteers on Sunday morning, and fulfilling our recommendations from our consultation.
- ◆ We are going to be changing our chancel décor for the change of seasons.
- ◆ We have communion scheduled for **September 5** at **7pm** this month, join us if you are able.
- ◆ We kick-off using our screen and power-point capacity in September. We are excited for potential opportunities in adding a visual component to worship.
- ◆ We have a list hanging in the hall on the bulletin board of suggestions for improvements and updates to the building by our congregation. The Core Leadership Team will look at those ideas, too, as decisions are made moving our church forward.
- ◆ This fall we will begin to only send the "birthday" post-cards to kids. We will continue publishing the list of birthdays in the newsletter.
- ◆ We have a wonderful Rummage Sale coming up **September 14-15**. Volunteers needed and appreciated!
- ◆ Our confirmation service is on **Sunday, September 30**. We will celebrate with four fantastic youth, what a great gift for our congregation!

RUMMAGE SALE REMINDER!

The Fall Rummage Sale is coming up fast! The rummage sale will be held Friday, September 14th from 9-5 and Saturday, September 15th from 9-1.

We are in dire need for things to sell. Please talk to friends and relatives and let them know that we would gladly accept items they no longer want. We can pick them up if necessary.

Please bring your items to the church. We will have someone at church from 9-2 on Saturday, Sept. 8th. Please deliver items directly to the stage if possible. Otherwise, place them in the room under the church office.

We also want to have a large bake sale this year, so please bring your goodies in for our Bake Sale.

Help will be needed for the all the work involved to make this another success! Sign up sheets will be available before and after church on August 26th and September 2nd.

SOUND SYSTEM UPDATE

“Can you hear me now?” We used our Capital Funds and purchased an audio/video system with improvements and new additions. We sought a list of needs last fall, we asked and received four bids and estimates for fulfilling those needs. We then, took two of the bids and gave an apples-to-apples list of items to each vendor, and in the end we contracted with EMI to install our new system.

We have a screen. We will use it in our worship services to enhance visual senses during worship. It will also be available for special services, too, where photos are essential in today’s church world (funerals, confirmation, baptisms, All-Saints day, etc.). The sound system has the capacity to use ipods, as well as android devices and compact discs, so we can move away from the old microphone in front of a boom box as special music.

They added a subwoofer to complete the audio range for sound, and two more speakers like our current Bose speakers. We have a new hearing device, too, for those that need hearing assistance. However, it is common with more speakers and the equalization use of the system that some people may not need the hearing devices. And we have two loops to work with those having hearing devices with special capacity. We added a couple more microphone jacks, so as we hope to eventually have a band or special music it will all jive together even more! If you have questions regarding the system, or the sound quality, please let us know.

We, the committee, feel confident this will carry our congregation forward into the next couple of decades. We are grateful for the money to have been available in the Capital Fund account, and the remainder of John Staibus memorial funds went to this system, too. Thank you!



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Welcome to fall of '18. This will be an interesting year for all of us. Besides the regular meetings and plans, we will be hosting the TC District winter meeting on February 2.

October 3 is the first UMW meeting at noon at the church. Eve circle meets October 25 at Barb Miller's new residence (1011 41st Ave NE, #212). Plan to come.

RECYCLING & COMPOSTING IN THE KITCHEN

You may have noticed we are using new hot cups for coffee during Social Hour after church on Sundays.

These cups are not only recyclable, but they are COMPOSTIBLE.

This means that they need to be placed in the Organic Recycling bin. We will have someone stationed near the bins for a while to help you place your items, not only cups, but napkins paper, etc., in the correct bins. Obviously, these cups are more expensive than the old Styrofoam cups. They cost about 10 cents apiece so a little extra in the 'kitty' will be appreciated. This is CUMC's effort to help preserve a livable planet for future generations.

STILL GOING STRONG AT 111 YEARS OLD

As many of you know, we now have a celebrity in our congregation. Yes, EVELYN KLEINE is 111 years old and now the “Oldest Person in Minnesota”. She is the Aunt and Great Aunt to the Bixler/Anderson family. Evelyn has been a member of our congregation for many years. Even when she was 99, she still drove herself to Sunday morning worship. She has fond memories of her time at CUMC. She remembers many of you, and always welcomes a visit to chat. I want to give a special shout out to Dick Mixner, Donna Staubus and Sandy Langner, who have continued to keep in touch with Evelyn through visits and greeting cards. It is very much appreciated by Evelyn and our family.

Evelyn grew up in Columbia Heights, so there are many CH connections. In 1915, Evelyn “Holm” moved to CH with her parents and 4 siblings, attending local schools and learning a lifelong skill as a dress-maker and seamstress. At 16, Evelyn learned to drive her family’s Model T Ford, shifting gears up Reservoir Blvd., with her Dad at her side. She continued to driving until 99, when she says her car gave out before she did. Evelyn and her 3 sisters were all married in their family home at 3722 Van Buren Street. Also, Evelyn attended one of the first movies ever shown at the Heights Theater when it opened in 1926.

Evelyn Kleine lived in Chippewa Falls, Pittsburgh and Florida. Six years after the death of her second husband, Evelyn returned to her roots in CH in 1977, where she stayed until moving to St. Anthony Nursing Home in 2011, at the age of 104. Evelyn attributes her long life to “clean living and lots of vitamins. I never drank or smoked and stayed out of trouble.” She didn’t take medication until nearly 100 and even today only takes water pills to keep her blood pressure in check.



Last year, on her 110th birthday, Evelyn achieved the status of “Super-Centenarian”. This year, as the oldest person in Minnesota, it was also her “Double Golden” birthday (111 on the 11th) and that was the theme of her birthday party at Chandler Place in St. Anthony. Both years, the nursing home very generously hosted a party in her honor. She appeared on local TV stations (WCCO 4, Channel 5, FOX 9, KARE 11 & MPR) and in many newspapers. You can always check out these stories on the websites of these stations and local newspapers.

Evelyn remains active at St. Anthony Health Center, playing Bingo, Canasta and occasionally lets Joanie beat her at a game of Cribbage. She has a great sense of humor and continues to be an inspiration to everyone she meets. Congratulations and Happy 111th Birthday, Evelyn!!

Joanie Anderson, Evelyn’s Great Niece

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2018

National Night Out was a big success again. We had about 125 people participate. The weather was prefect. The World Beat Connection brought 3 great female vocalists and a conch shell that was played by the trombone/trumpet player. She is one talented lady!

The food was exceptional. Pulled pork (cooked by Lennis, provided by Loaves and Fishes), chips from Old Dutch, popcorn from Bill and Karen Schneider, Dilly Bars from the DQ, and pop and water were on the menu.

The Police and Fire Department and the Mayor came with trucks and their equipment. They shared information about policing and crime in our community. One item of note-they requested we use 911 for both emergency calls and non-emergency calls. This allows the calls to be tracked and routed to the correct areas.

Cate Vermeland led a great art project. Using vegetables and fabric paint, folks were able to decorate dish towels. Some of us who did not have time to participate in this are hoping it will be repeated after church some time. Watch for it!

Lennis Bentrud, a certified water steward, had a

table where folks take a survey and receive a Good Neighbor Guide. There were also fun activities for kids to do.

Andy Bixler had his wrestling belts on display and took pictures of folks with the belts.

If you were not there, you missed a great evening. No one wanted it to end!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped plan the event, donated to the event and worked the event!

I know I will miss some folks in the acknowledgment, for that I apologize.

- ⇒ **Planning:** Lennis, Dick, Barb, Carol, Cate, Mary, Gary
- ⇒ **Set up:** Fred, Bert, Naomi, Les, Jan, Randy, Bob, Lemar, Cate, Lennis, Joanie, Christine
- ⇒ **Food purchase and prep :** Lennis, Carol, Rondine, Dick, Bill, Mary
- ⇒ **Servers:** Carol, Bill, Beglad, Kim, Cheryl, and several others I lost track of
- ⇒ **Activities:** Lennis, Cate, Andy, Barb
- ⇒ **Clean up:** Everyone!

-Mary Tholkes

SOME EXCITING NEWS!!!

In order to make our space more useful and family friendly we are changing what used to be called the "Nursery" into a "Family Room". It will now be a space where, if needed, anyone with an infant or small children (not in Sunday school) can sit and listen to the service in a more child friendly environment. We are getting some new furniture and toys and sprucing it up a bit. We will no longer have volunteers staffing the room.

Please stop by and see it on Rally Day! It may not be complete but we'd love for you to stop by and see what has been done.

Karen Schneider and Brenda McCoy

FRESHENING UP ROOMS!

You may have noticed the smell of freshening by paint! YES, we painted the children's Sunday School room and the family room. It gives a burst of color and looks wonderful. Check the rooms out.



THE SHERIDAN STORY UPDATE

2018-2019

What It Is:

The Sheridan Story is an organization that facilitates a partnership between community organizations such as churches and schools and donors to give food to kids who may not have enough to eat over the weekends.

The church sponsors a school, which encompasses investing in the relationship with the school while distributing food directly to the children. In 2018 CUMC provided tutors to Valley View as well as donating money to equip all the classrooms with 'quite space' equipment. We are looking forward to partnering in new ways in the new school year.

The Sheridan Story provides the logistical, sourcing and organizational expertise necessary to provide a weekend food supply to families in need.

How Is CUMC Participating?

CUMC is working with the St Timothy's Lutheran church distribute the food in Valley View Elementary School for the 2018-2019 school year. We will be providing a donation of \$2,136 for the program which was raised last year through the Camarata Brass event. Last year about 40 kids in 1st and 2nd grades received meals each week. The number of kids served was limited by the amount of money contributed by sponsors of the school. This year we expect that number to go up substantially as The Sheridan Story is now committed to proving food to all kids in need in each school they support.

We also helped with the Back to School event in August to help the parents to sign up for the program.

What Can I Do To Help?

If you would like to donate to help feed the kids, you can make your donation through the church by making your checks payable to the church and put Sheridan Story in the memo field.

Because the program will be expanding, we will need more volunteers to put the food in the backpacks. We alternate weeks with St Tim's. It only takes about an hour. It is a simple process: Folks work in pairs. You have a list of names, locker numbers, and backpack descriptions and you go down the hall and put the food in the appropriate back packs.

Background checks are required before being admitted to the school so if you want to volunteer, please submit the background check form to the school and let me know that you are interested in being a volunteer. (Background check forms are available in a file folder outside the door of the church office.) I will pair new volunteers with experienced ones, so everyone feels comfortable doing it. If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your support of this vital mission effort.

— *Mary Tholkes*

The words "thank you" are written in a black, elegant cursive script.

Alex Fournier designed and built the new recycling units in the Wesley room and the Social Hall as part of his Eagle Scout project.

The words "Thank you" are written in a large, black, cursive script, with "Thank" on the top line and "you" on the bottom line.The words "Thank You!" are written in a blue cursive script, with a blue wavy line underneath.

A special "Thank You" to all the loving Community UMC members. You sent get well messages, cards, and prayers as I recovered from surgery. That meant so much to me! The healing continues, as does my love for each of you. Thank you for your encouragement.

Sharon Ruhnke

A big thank you to all the musicians who contributed to our summer music! You are a great addition to our worship.

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Phone 763-788-9009

<http://www.communitymethodistchurch.org>

Pastor Linda McCollough

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- September 5** UMW Executive Meeting, 11 a.m.
Communion Service, 7 p.m.
Choir Starts, every Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
- September 6** Builders Club Meeting, 7:30 a.m.
Core Leadership, 6:30 p.m.
- September 9** Rally Sunday: God's Team
- September 10** Chair Yoga, every Monday, 2:30 p.m.
5:30 Community Dinner
- September 12** Confirmation at Faith UMC, 6:15-7:30 p.m.
- September 14-15** Rummage Sale
- September 19** Adult Bible Study, 9:45 a.m.
Pot Luck Dinner, 5 p.m.
Adult Study, 6:15 p.m.
Confirmation at Faith UMC, 6:15-7:30 p.m.
- September 20** Newsletter Deadline for October
Bell Choir Practice begins, every Thursday, 5:30 p.m.
- September 24** 5:30 Community Dinner
- September 26** Confirmation at Community UMC, 6:15-7:30 p.m.
- September 29** Feed My Starving Children,
- September 30** Confirmation Sunday!