

## **Words of Life**

This month, I will be taking some time to plan for the upcoming fall and winter season. I am so grateful to have this time to turn aside, to spend some alone time “in the wilderness” and to listen for the sound of God’s still speaking voice. And I can do this because, despite a lot of change that has been happening around us, I know that this church is in good hands. We have an amazing staff, incredible lay leadership, a staff-parish relations committee hard at work filling staff openings, and above all, a congregation that loves God, loves God’s people, and loves this church. And what I have most, is a faith that God is at work, loving and leading all of us together, into the future.

Jeff and I will be celebrating 2 anniversaries this month as well! August 15<sup>th</sup> marks our two-year anniversary of moving here to Park Rapids. Who knew what we were walking into! What a blessing it has been! And August 28<sup>th</sup> will be our Fifth wedding anniversary! I hope to be able to spend time celebrating our remarkable life together and looking forward to many more years!

I hope you too have found time, or will this summer, to turn aside, enjoy time with family, or take some alone time and listen to those around you.

On August 8<sup>th</sup>, we will begin a new sermon series called, “Words of Life,” based on Adam Hamilton’s book “Words of Life – Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today.”

Nearly everyone has heard of the Ten Commandments, the list of “thou-shalt-nots” found in the Bible. We will attempt to bring modern eyes to the most famous set of rules in history, considering the commandments in their historical context, unpacking the meaning of each commandment, how Jesus reinterpreted them, and how Jews and Christians have understood them over the millennia.

Words of life that set safe boundaries and create order out of chaos, help communities live peacefully and protect us – often from ourselves. Every “thou-shalt-not” was intended to point to a life-giving “thou shalt.” These ancient words were given by a loving God who longs to protect us from harm while pointing toward a deeply meaningful and joyful life.

I hope you join us this fall as we read the Ten Commandments through the eyes of Jesus.

In Christ,

*Pastor Lauren*

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- *for those needing healing and comfort*
- *for members in assisted living and homebound*

- *our military:* Derek Barnum, grandson of Pat Beaumont; John Johnson - deployed in the Middle East; Wyatt Hallstrom, grandson of Hank & Dolly Hallstrom; Jess Swanson, grandson of Jackie Swanson
- *our missionaries:* Africa - Emily Dwyer, Deb & Rich Ried; Hungary - Richard & Martha Millhouse & family; Nicaragua - Belinda Forbes-Gutiérrez;

*If you would like to have a prayer request printed in the bulletin or newsletter, please inform the office. **Remember, due to patient privacy, please get the permission from the person needing prayers to have their name printed.***



## June 2021 Mission Giving

### DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING

|                                    |                        |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Hubbard County Food Shelf          | \$200.00               |
| UMCOR                              | <u>\$500.00</u>        |
| <b>Total for Designated Giving</b> | <b><u>\$700.00</u></b> |

### MISSION COMMITTEE GIVING

|                                                                         |                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| UMCOR KITS                                                              | <u>\$315.15</u>        |
| NOTE: \$1163 was given during June.<br>Only \$315.15 was spent in June. |                        |
| <b>Total for Mission Committee Giving</b>                               | <b><u>\$315.15</u></b> |

**Total Missions Giving** **\$1,015.15**

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## Youth Leadership Team Gathering

All who have a heart for the Youth of our community and are curious what a Youth Leadership Team might look like in the Fall, please join Pastor Lauren on Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in the Fellowship Hall to share ideas and Imagine together what could be for the youngest among us!

# Be Still My Soul

There was once a man who lost everything. He was a farmer and lost all of his livestock. He had many children, and he lost them as well. He even lost what good health he had left. He lost everything. In spite of all these losses, in spite of all these hardships, this man had the most unique, faith-filled response I've ever heard. He said, "The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." This man, Job, did lose a lot. At the same time, though, Job rested his life in the hands of God trusting God to carry him through it all.

I doubt most of us would respond the same way Job did. Maybe we would, maybe at certain times we could, but I have to admit, it may be challenging for us to say "blessed be the name of the Lord" when we are facing serious challenges. That may not be our natural response, but it could be. In the face of loss, disease, and death, what comfort will we find in fury, or anger, or pain? Wouldn't it be much better to rest ourselves in the hands of God?

What Job went through always strikes me. Few of us will ever suffer such complete losses like Job did, although some of us will face similar situations. The question for us though is this, "How will you react when those times do come?" We could allow our grief in this world to swallow us alive, sapping our love for others, sucking out our will to live, crumbling our desires to even enjoy life. Thanks to Christ, though, the opposite could occur. Instead of folding inward upon ourselves and our grief, we could fall back into the arms of our loving God; the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and the Redeemer of all creation.

There is a particular hymn in our hymnal entitled "Be Still, My Soul" which does an excellent job guiding us into those loving arms of our God. When faced with loss, with physical pain and with death, the hymnist says this:

*Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side.  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
Leave to your God to order and provide;*



*In every change God faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul; your best, your heavenly friend  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

~UMH #534 vs. 1

Friends, pains in this life will come. That is an unfortunate promise. The question, though, is this, "Where will you go when those pains come?" Thanks be to God we have a loving Savior in Jesus Christ who invites us to come to him.

*Pastor Lauren*

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## **UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MINNESOTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2021**

Every year United Methodist gather from all over Minnesota for an annual conference. This year it was a hybrid session mostly zoom sessions with one day of in person sessions at various locations in the state. Hubbard was one of these sites. The voting members are the clergy and an elected member of the laity from each church.

There were several wonderful speakers. Rev Rachel Billups and Bishop David Bard were exceptionally good speakers. The most important message was how to be peacemakers.

By a vote of 313 to 28 Annual conference members voted to adopt a resolution that all congregations in the Minnesota Annual Conference join in the work of dismantling racism, opposing white supremacy and advocating for racial justice.

There were sessions honoring those who had passed away during the past year and an ordination and commissioning of new clergy.

More information is available at [www.minnesotaumc.org](http://www.minnesotaumc.org)



# Hubbard Women's News

- ◆ The UMW's next meeting will be Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 1:00pm

The UMW PARKING LOT SALE will be held Thursday, August 12 from 8:00am to 2:00. We are needing HELP! HELP! HELP! to make this a success for our LOCAL missions work. We need at least 10 - 12 (or more) people to sell items. All proceeds will go to UMW to allocate at a later meeting for LOCAL mission work. The UMW has been supporting 15-20 local organizations.

Due to Covid-19 and not having the Pig Roast for 2 years now, we are around \$8,000 short to pass on to missions giving. Because of this, we will be no longer be supporting these missionaries: *Emily Dwyer* - she is now retired due to health problems and is living with her sister in Menahga; *Colin and Dee Murphy* - both have retired due to health issues. We have also discontinued support of the *AIDS Baby Hospital in Kenya* through World Corps Mission. However, we will continue to support the Millhouse's and Emma Norton.

## EMMA NORTON HOUSING NEWS

In December the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency allocated \$18 million in funding for the new Emma Norton Residence in the Highland Bridge development. "This project will create 60 homes for women and children and office space for Emma Norton Service." said Tonya Brownlow, the organization's executive director. "The great thing is, it will allow us to expand from 50 to 60 units and it will be their own apartment, versus what we have now, which is shared rooms."

We are seeking donations of mini space heaters, as well as warm comforters and blankets for new families moving in at Emma's Place!

To coordinate a donation drop off, please email our Advancement Associate, Victoria at [VVirasy@emmanorton.org](mailto:VVirasy@emmanorton.org), or you can ship donations to Emma Norton Residence at 670 Roberts St N, St. Paul, MN 55101.



# UMW Parking Lot (Yard) Sale at the Hubbard United Methodist Church

Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup>  
8:00am – 2:00pm

Everything  
is Priced  
to Go!

## YOU WILL FIND:

- \*Household Items
- \*Gently Used Furniture
- \*Baby Items
- \*Office Items
- \*Garage Items / Tools
- \*Miscellaneous Treasures

No Checks / Cash Only



Sponsored by the Hubbard UMW  
All Proceeds go towards  
LOCAL MISSIONS



# Care And Comfort



## A Soldier and His Quilt

*"A quilt will warm your body and comfort your soul."*

Pastor Lauren shared a story with the congregation recently; a story that bears repeating because it exemplifies why the Threads of Love Quilters continue to make quilts of all sizes and colors for people of all ages wherever they may be!

Here is how Pastor Lauren tells the story:

*I was making a pastoral visit to a local woman and while at her home, her landlord stopped by. I introduced myself, saying I was the pastor at Hubbard United Methodist Church. "You are the pastor at Hubbard," he repeated, astonished, and again I said yes.*

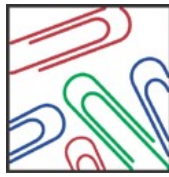
*"In 2012, I was stationed in Kuwait," explained the landlord.*

*"One day I got an unexpected package in the mail. In the box was a quilt from the Hubbard United Methodist Church. You can't imagine how much I appreciated that quilt – most people don't know that it can get cold at night in Kuwait. I still have that quilt and I love it!"*

Since 2007, women from HUMC have been making quilts to warm those in need of caring and comfort. They have been mailed overseas to women and men in the military, to those in nursing homes or to those returning home from the hospital. They have been delivered to local schools and organizations that care for those in need.

*May you be free from cares and woes,  
When under this quilt you seek repose.*

Quilting will resume Tuesday, September 14, at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. The group traditionally breaks for a "bring your own" lunch at noon, with time allowed for discussion and devotions. You do not need to be a sewer or knitter to join; there are plenty of tasks for everyone.



# FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

## **Church Office Hours**

At this time, the church office hours continue to be from 8:30am - 1:00pm on Tuesday through Friday.

Please remember that the deadline for submitting information for the next month's newsletter is the **18th of the Month.** The next issue will be for **September** so all information needs to be in by **August 18th!**



## ***Newsletter Deadline***



Volunteers from Hubbard United Methodist Church deliver Meals on Wheels to Park Rapids residents once every 5 weeks. This month, delivery will take place **August 9-13.** If you are interested in becoming a delivery person for this rewarding activity, please contact Steve Hill at 218-252-8895. "Thank You" to our many dedicated volunteers.



## **Make a Difference in Your Life and the Lives of Others!**

Hubbard UMC has a Telephone Prayer Chain and an Email Prayer Chain. You can pray any time, anywhere, in your own way. Joining our prayers together can really make a difference in many lives.

If you have questions or are interested in the email prayer chain contact: Deb Haagenson at [debhaagenson@catholichealth.net](mailto:debhaagenson@catholichealth.net) and for the phone prayer chain call Gail Manlove at 218-366-5458.



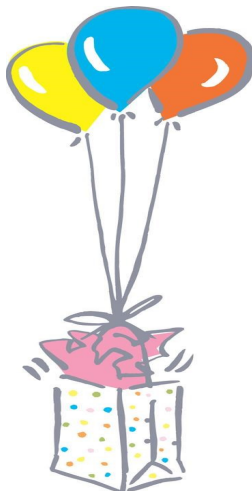
If we missed your name on this list, please call the office so it can be corrected. Also, please let us know if you are celebrating a special birthday or anniversary and would like this included in our newsletter. We wish all of those celebrating in **Birthdays** Best Wishes!

### August Birthdays

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Susan Kalm        | 2  |
| Emma Taggart      | 3  |
| Bruce Bolton      | 7  |
| Amy Lundstrom     | 7  |
| Lou Schultz       | 8  |
| Bret DeGeer       | 9  |
| Cherilyn Sinner   | 11 |
| LeRoy Martinson   | 12 |
| Ruth Bakken       | 13 |
| Gail Manlove      | 14 |
| Carolyn Bixby     | 15 |
| Don Haagenson     | 15 |
| Nancy Vogt        | 16 |
| Marvel Haynes     | 19 |
| Wren Bolton       | 19 |
| Dolly Hallstrom   | 20 |
| Paul Seaton       | 20 |
| Dennis Greenawalt | 21 |
| Anne Carter       | 24 |
| Jean Aronson      | 24 |
| Jeanne Bergren    | 25 |
| Karl Groth        | 27 |
| John Kisser       | 27 |
| Jade Selander     | 30 |
| Nick Holzer       | 31 |

### September Birthdays

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Rita Carew        | 1  |
| Becca Dooley      | 1  |
| Mary Barrett      | 7  |
| MaJeana Hallstrom | 7  |
| Jacob Taggart     | 10 |
| Doug Hed          | 14 |
| Betsy Hill        | 15 |
| Bill Sinner       | 15 |
| Jane Boehmer      | 16 |
| Kay Larson        | 16 |
| Julie Smith       | 16 |
| Margi Taggart     | 22 |
| Jan Landess       | 23 |
| Bobbie Zigmant    | 25 |
| Jim Gordon        | 26 |
| Linda Lund        | 28 |



### August Anniversaries

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Jack & Joy Derr           | 1  |
| Bill & Bobbi Zigmant      | 5  |
| Karl & Boo Groth          | 5  |
| Gary & Mary Barrett       | 7  |
| Dale & Lois Captain       | 7  |
| Jim & Pat Tanner          | 7  |
| Melvin & Tonya Bolton     | 13 |
| Tom & Sue Harmon          | 13 |
| Jim & Pat Gordon          | 15 |
| Mark & Betty Larsen       | 17 |
| Rod & Marie Nordberg      | 20 |
| Dennis & Eileen Bolton    | 21 |
| Rob & MaJeana Hallstrom   | 23 |
| Jeff & Lauren Hauger      | 28 |
| Richard & Kaylyn Anderson | 31 |
| Tim & Brenda Schwartz     | 31 |

### September Anniversaries

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Donald & Janell Saunders   | 5  |
| Richard & Sharilyn Perrine | 14 |
| LeRoy & Nancy Martinson    | 17 |
| Dennis & Terry Greenawalt  | 21 |
| Aaron & Juliann Kjenaas    | 23 |
| Jim & Jill Eisele          | 27 |
| Glynn & Pam Davis          | 29 |



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

*We are very excited to return to our "normal" pre-covid worship service!*

In order to get back on track and extend our famous hospitality, we find that we are in need of more volunteers. We are asking for additional ushers, greeters, scripture readers, fellowship coordinators and communion servers. Please consider serving our church in any of these ways. Whether you can help one Sunday a month or one Sunday a year we appreciate your willingness to serve our church family in this way.

**Sign-Up sheets are in the gathering area or call Sue or Brenda in the office at 218-732-0224 for details.**

# Mission Opportunity

Greeting's Church! On August 8<sup>th</sup>, members of our Mission team will be guiding us through a mission project during fellowship hour after church. Over the past year and a half, there have been countless churches that have gone through total devastation, by natural disasters, accidental fires, and pandemic.

Our team has chosen 3 churches around the country that we feel could use a bit of encouragement. Below are their brief stories. We hope you join us as we gather together to create cards of encouragement and hope to send to these churches as they discern what comes next...

## **"Discouraged but not in despair"**

On Sunday, July 11th, a fire consumed the Vidalia United Methodist Church in Vidalia, Louisiana. The fire resulted in a complete loss of the building that dates back to 1958.

Rev. Dr. Steve McDonald was set to preach just his second sermon at Vidalia, as his new appointment was just beginning.

"This was not how I envisioned my ministry here to begin," said McDonald. "But I am doing fine, and the people here are doing fine. The building is gone, and with it, a lot of treasured memories. The congregation will continue, and we may even see this as an opportunity God gives us to start again."

Several of the church members who remained upbeat, despite the destruction of the building said, "Guess what? God is still here!" On Monday, July 12th, the Vidalia United Methodist Church voted unanimously to begin the process of exploring a rebuild of the church. Rev. McDonald says there is a remarkable feeling of resolve amidst the congregation. He says the congregation continued to ask, 'how can we move forward?'

"It reminds me of Paul's word to the Corinthians when he speaks of being discouraged but not in despair," said McDonald. "We are discouraged, but we are not in despair because God is still God, and we are still His people. We look forward to discerning what's next and cooperating with what God lays out in store for what's to come."





### Searching for a new home...

On June 25, 2021, A large fire that is still being investigated has destroyed the building where New Hope UMC in De Pere, Wisconsin was located.

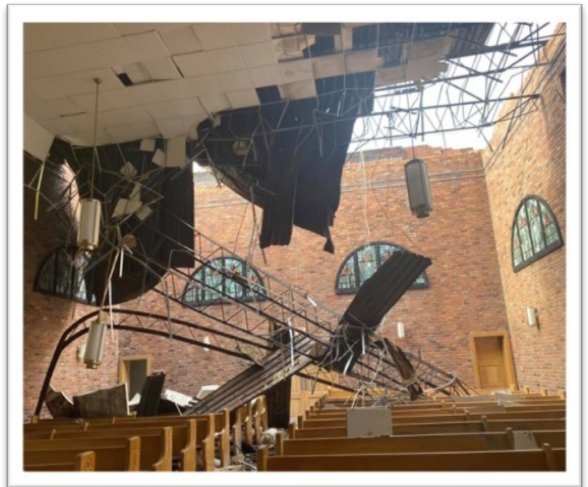
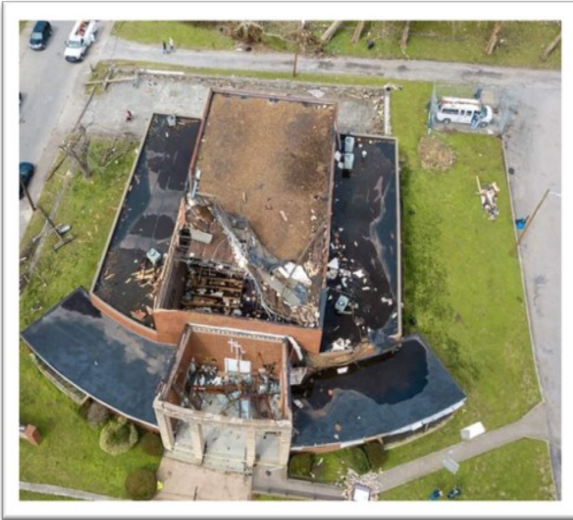
The building is a total loss and they have lost all property that was in the building. Bethany UMC in Green Bay has graciously opened their doors to New Hope so that they may continue to hold worship. Pastor Rick Haberland continues to remind the congregation that the church is more than a building and remains optimistic and full of hope about the plans God has in store for New Hope UMC as they look for a new site to rebuild their church.



Continued on page 14...

## Church vows to rebuild...

St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church in North Nashville, is the Mother Church of African Methodism in the denomination's 13th Episcopal District, comprised of Tennessee and Kentucky. The March 3, 2020, category F3 tornado that blew through parts of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, resulting in 24 fatalities, rendered St. John's iconic edifice, a total loss. And in the 16 months since, the pandemic took the lives of several friends and relatives of parishioners. The St. John AME family has many reasons to grieve....



**HUBBARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**AD COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**July 8, 2021**

**Members present are shown in bold:** Richard Anderson, Tom Carew, Joy Derr, Deb Haagenson, Rob Hallstrom, Sue Harmon, Tom Harmon, Jeff Hauger, Marvel Haynes, John Kisser, Arnie Kuhn, Betty Larsen, Noel Moore, Peg Novak, Cherilyn Sinner, Margi Taggert, Joanne Torfin, Carol Wall and Pastor Lauren.

**Call to Order:** The meeting to order by John Kisser

**Devotions:** Pastor Lauren led a devotion on Psalms 87 – Cleansing, Healing Waters

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes were accepted as presented.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Lauren's upcoming sermon series will be on having hard conversations.

**Finance Report:**

We had Operating Income for June of \$12,626.01 and Operating Expenses for June of \$28,027.52. This gives us a net operating loss for June of \$15401.51. Our year to date Operating Income is \$192,476.42 with year to date Operating Expenses of \$185,863.86, leaving us Net Operating Income of \$7,612.86. We have applied for forgiveness of our PPP Loan. This transaction will actually increase our operating income by about \$30,000.

Richard Anderson reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter giving statements have been sent out.

Joann Torfin reported that offering has been down, but 75% of the pledges have been paid.

**On-Going Business:**

COVID-19 – Hubbard County positivity rate has dropped below 5%, therefore we will not require masks and social distancing and there will be coffee fellowship. We will review it each week.

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Job Openings-

Sue Kuhn will job share with Brenda.

There has been no response to the ads for the Multi-Gen Coordinator position.

Technology -Jeff Hauger reported that some of the new tech equipment is on back order.

Jeff asked that we consider portable sound equipment and Tele-conference equipment. Perhaps include it in the budget.

**New Business:**

SPRC has been getting bids for cleaning the church. They recommend that we consider a proposal from ServiceMaster. A motion was made by Joy Derr and Seconded by Carol Wall to pass this recommendation to the Trustees. The motion passed.

**Upcoming Events** - Tony DeBlois Concert -  
September 21 at 6 PM

UMW Parking Lot Fund Raiser –  
August 12 8:00 to 2:00

**Next Meeting:** August 12, 2021 – 3:00PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Marvel Haynes, Secretary



## Living with the Pandemic: Minnesota and Hubbard County COVID-19 Activity

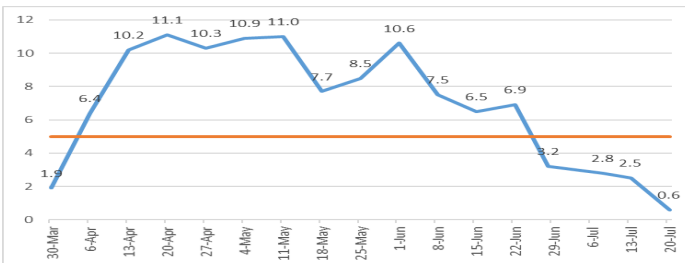
- Minnesota has had more than 610,000 COVID cases and more than 7600 deaths. Statewide, new COVID cases and hospitalizations

have been increasing since mid-July.

- Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Commissioner, Jan Malcom, noted on 7/26 that 3 out of 4 new COVID cases in Minnesota are due to the delta variant. The delta variant is more contagious and is resulting in more severe disease. Commissioner Malcom also noted that vaccine breakthrough cases in Minnesota are rare. To date, 99.9% of fully vaccinated Minnesotans have not contracted the COVID virus. Unvaccinated individuals account for the majority of new COVID cases, hospitalizations and deaths.
- Hubbard County COVID case volumes in July declined from the previous month.

| New COVID cases         | Hubbard County |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| <b>April</b>            | 184            |
| <b>May</b>              | 119            |
| <b>June</b>             | 28             |
| <b>July (thru 7/27)</b> | 12             |

- The 14-day test positivity rate for Hubbard County is 0.6% for the period ending 7/20/21.



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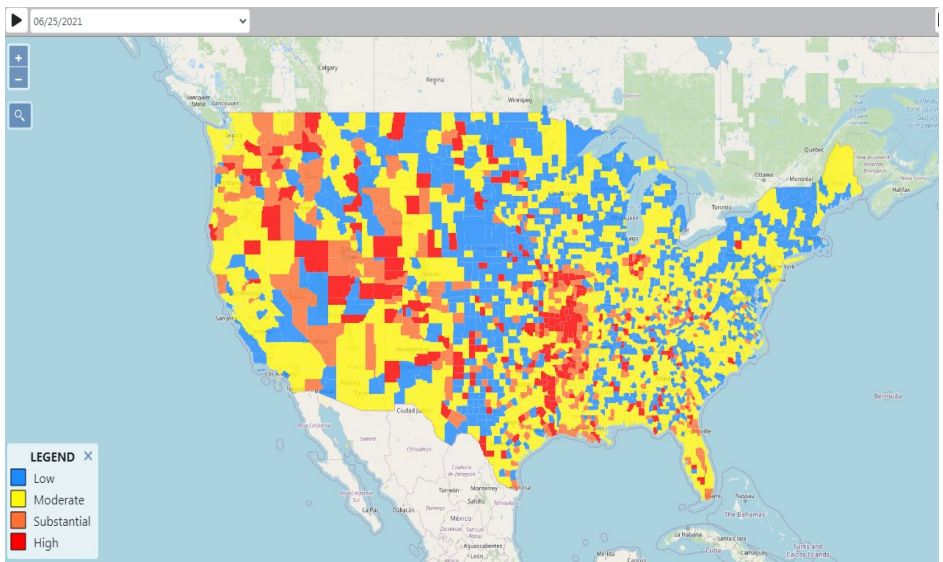
- Vaccination rates through 7/22/21 for Minnesotans and Hubbard County residents are as follows:

|                         | Minnesota | Hubbard County* |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| <b>16+</b>              | 68%       | 58%             |
| <b>65+</b>              | 91%       | 84%             |
| <b>Total Population</b> | 56%       | 48%             |

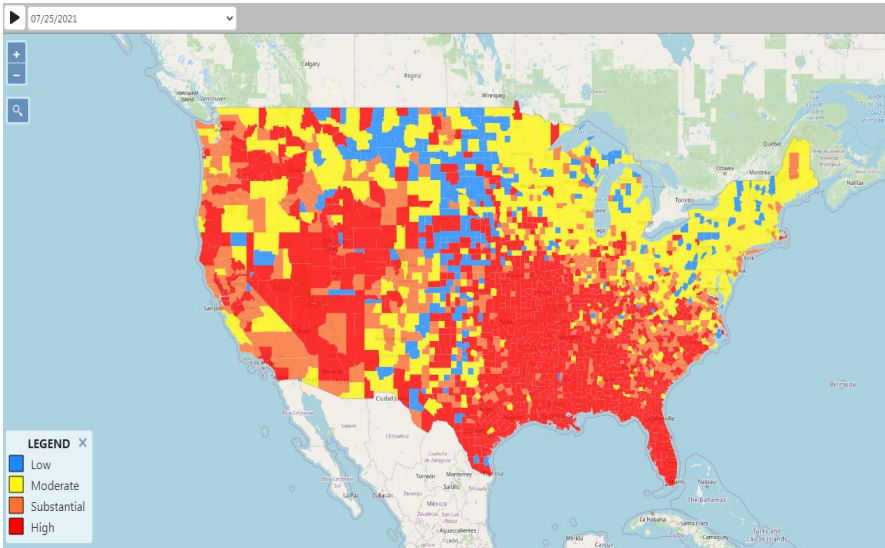
- \* Vaccination rates were updated to correct county resident assignments. Hubbard County saw an increased vaccination rate due to residents that had previously been attributed to neighboring counties.

Hubbard County continues to lag statewide vaccination rates.

The United States has seen an uptick in COVID cases and hospitalizations over the last month. Community transmission maps from 6/25 to 7/25/21 show a significant increase in the level of COVID transmission.







The pandemic is not over. To protect yourself and others from COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often.
- If you are not fully vaccinated, wear a mask in indoor public places.
- Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces. Stay at least 6 feet from other people not from your household.
- Get vaccinated.

Deb Haagenon  
HUMC Parish Nurse

Sources for the above information plus additional resources include:

<https://data.cms.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-Nursing-Home-Data-Test-Positivity-Rates/q5r5-gjyu>

<https://mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/data/index.jsp>

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/situation.html#map1>

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#>



# No kidding

Whatever our age, God calls us to model holy living for others.



*Directions: Match the animal young with its parent. Then write the letter answers in order below to complete 1 Timothy 4:12, NIV.*



- |                 |                   |            |              |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. ___ bear     | 9. ___ monkey     | A. fry     | I. hatchling |
| 2. ___ frog     | 10. ___ platypus  | B. fawn    | K. foal      |
| 3. ___ owl      | 11. ___ alligator | C. gosling | L. owlet     |
| 4. ___ horse    | 12. ___ giraffe   | D. cub     | M. puggle    |
| 5. ___ kangaroo | 13. ___ goose     | E. kid     | N. joey      |
| 6. ___ deer     | 14. ___ swan      | F. cygnet  | O. polliwog  |
| 7. ___ goat     | 15. ___ dog       | G. infant  | P. puppy     |
| 8. ___ fish     |                   | H. calf    |              |

“1 on’t let any 2 ne 3 oo 4 down o 5 you 6 ecaus 7  
 you 8 re youn 9, but set an exa 10 ple for the bel 11 evers  
 in spec 12, in 13 onduct, in love, in 14 aith and in 15 urity.”

1 TIMOTHY 4:12, NIV