

Northern Voice Newsletter

Winter (November, December, January 2022-23)

A Season of Hope

*“For in hope we were saved.
Now hope that is seen is not hope.
For who hopes for what is seen?
But if we hope for what we do not see,
we wait for it with patience.”
~Romans 8: 24-25*

Dear Hubbard Church Family,

You have no doubt noticed the increasing darkness. I go to bed early in the dark, and I wake up in the dark. And in fact, As I write this, it is snowing for the first time this season. The hours of light are getting shorter and shorter, and I find myself grateful for lingering twilight.

How ironic that the most hopeful season of the church year begins as the darkness increases. In the weeks to come, we light candles on the Advent wreath, and it's not a moment too soon. These lights of hope stand against the growing darkness. And every week, as we add the flame of another candle, the light will increase and shine brighter even as the darkness comes sooner and lasts longer.

In this season of Hope, and as this year of Hope 2022 comes to its end, I share with you some things that I do see that give me hope:

1. Our congregation continues to find new creative ways to do ministry.

As I read and re-read the minutes from the various committees I am so impressed and encouraged by your continued efforts. Sure, some things have paused. Yes, some priorities have been re-evaluated and energies placed in new directions. And, we have also begun new ministries! This is all good as we continue to be church together and church for the sake of the world. I am grateful to the Spirit that is at work among and through us as the work of Christ continues.

2. We have wonderful leadership!

In the past year, we have welcomed several new members and attenders and they bring with them new energy, perspective, and ideas. And our more seasoned members and attenders have provided much needed stability and the blessing of trusted relationships that keep our church in motion and helps reduce anxiety.

3. We have renewed joy in being together again...safely.

As pandemic restrictions have eased, We are able to worship and have fellowship together. And if and when the time arises, I do not mind wearing a mask if it means we can sing together and gather in the same space. I love hearing the voices of others raised in song and prayer. It has felt like salve on a wound to share the peace, sing alto to someone's soprano, and hear combined voices pray the Lord's prayer together in the rhythm and cadence of voices in unison. While I truly believe that some sense of community can be achieved and appreciated through Zoom, YouTube, and Facebook live, the joy and value of the community gathered in person is also true and real.

4. Our United Methodist Conference is connected through Faith Formation Groups, Training opportunities, Leadership Seminars, Pastoral Check-Ins, and various other Zoom meetings.

While I have missed being able to travel to my various conference meetings, in many ways we are more connected as a conference than we have ever been. Pastors from all of the 5 districts can gather in virtual classrooms and discussion groups. We are church together in a whole new way, gathering to discuss and wrestle with conversations about issues of race, justice, scriptural interpretation, and to consider and plan various ministry efforts.

5. God is at work!

In all our efforts, in all our re-evaluations, in all the changes and future uncertainty, the Spirit of the living Christ is gathering, inspiring, supporting, and guiding. We are discovering again what it means to be church, what the purpose of the Body of Christ is in this world, and who we are in mission

together. I see a new hunger for deeper spirituality and for meaningful connectedness to God and each other. I see ministry efforts taking on a life of their own. I see details and pieces falling together. I see a willingness to experiment, to try new things, to jump even when the landing is unclear.

There is much to be hopeful for because of what we can see even as we continue to hope for that which is still becoming. As Thanksgiving comes and goes, As Advent candles are lit, as the glow from the manger bed grows brighter, as we strain to hear the songs of angels, remember that you are not alone. In hopeful anticipation of Christmas and a blessed New Year, I believe it is not too soon to share the following verse from "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" that speaks anew to our present circumstances:

*And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing;
Oh, rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing!*

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Lauren



For Everything There is a Season

Help Wanted: Digital Campus Technicians

Help Wanted:
Digital Campus Innovators!
Are you curious about our
Digital Campus? Wondering
how you can get involved?
You don't have to be a
technical wizard to be a part
of our "Hub!"



There is a place for you play!
Contact Pastor Lauren or
Marion Hansen if you want to
learn more.



Volunteers Needed for Set-Up: (Also Ushers & Greeters!)

We are looking for volunteers, either to help with set-up and take-down of funerals, and other group functions held at HUMC or any unscheduled cleaning as needed as well as ushers and greeters. If you are willing to help in either of these areas:

Please sign up on the **Volunteers Needed** sign-up sheets near the Nametag area and/or call the office.

Thank you

Upcoming Sermon Series

Advent 2022 – 11/27/22 – 1/1/23



“Reflecting the Sacred”

The Christmas season is a time when the juxtaposition of the sacred and secular feels sometimes blatantly opposed, and sometimes quite blurred. The word “sacred” points to something dedicated as “holy” and “set apart.” This year, you are invited to a spiritual journey of seeing ALL things pregnant with the Holy. What could our experience of the Advent and Christmas season be like if we lived it imagining that everything is reflecting the sacred?

January & February 2023



“Christianity and World Religions”

We work alongside, go to school with, and live next door to people of other religions, yet most of us understand little about their faith. In this series we explore where there is common ground between Christianity and four other world religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, and Islam, as well as where they differ from one another.



JULY Mission Giving 8-5-22

MISSION COMMITTEE

Total Mission Committee \$0.00

DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| UMCOR-UKRAINE | \$10,502.00 |
| Pastor's Discretionary | \$750.00 |
| TOTAL MISSION GIVING | \$11,252.00 |

AUGUST Mission Giving 9-9-22

MISSION COMMITTEE

Total Mission Committee \$0.00

DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| UMCOR-UKRAINE | \$1.00 |
| Pastor's Discretionary | \$1675.26 |
| Well-Spring | \$10.00 |
| TOTAL MISSION GIVING | \$1686.26 |

SEPTEMBER Mission Giving 10-6-22

MISSION COMMITTEE

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| UMCOR - Dignity Kits | \$491.25 |
| Student Headphones | \$268.44 |
| Total Mission Committee | \$759.69 |

DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Pastor's Discretionary | \$1800.00 |
| Well-Spring | \$125.00 |
| TOTAL MISSION GIVING | \$2648.69 |

Volunteers from HUMC deliver **Meals on Wheels** to Park Rapids residents once every 5 weeks. If you are interested in becoming a delivery person for this rewarding activity, please contact Arnie Kuhn at 701-730-3667. *"Thank You"* to our many dedicated volunteers.



Midwest Mission:

is one of eight cooperating depots in the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Supply Network. Midwest Mission distributes UMCOR supplies in response to disasters within the United States. Midwest Mission will be in Park Rapids Nov. 14 to pick up any UMCOR kits or equipment that we are ready to donate.

YOU CAN STILL HELP!

There are a number of individual items that you may donate for disaster relief- these include:

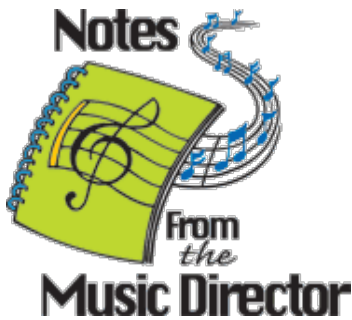
New or gently used rakes, shovels, brooms*

Non-electric tools (trowels, saws, trimmers, etc.)*

Blankets*

Electric sewing machines in good condition*

***Bring these items to church before
Nov. 13th.**



Choir

I hope everyone enjoyed Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego that the choir sang on Oct. 16! I could tell they were having fun! I sure did!

We have our busy seasons - Thanksgiving and Advent - upon us.

Looking forward, here is our schedule for anyone wishing to sing with us! :

Upcoming rehearsal dates Wednesdays at 7pm at church:
11/2, 11/16, 11/30, 12/14, 12/17 (Sat at 10am), 12/21

Sundays we sing with rehearsal at 8am: 11/6, 11/20, 12/4, 12/18 (mini-choir concert), 12/22 (for Blue Christmas anthem, we will combine with Riverside), 12/24 (Christmas Eve).

We will not have rehearsal or singing these dates: 12/25, 12/28, 1/1.

I have not picked out Advent or Christmas music, yet. Worship Committee meets this week and I will have a better idea of Pastor Lauren's scripture readings and sermons to begin choosing music.

Jennie

Daylight Savings
Time Ends
Sunday, November 6
Turn Your Clocks Back!



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 and for the phone prayer chain call Gail Manlove at 218-366-5458.

- *Pray for healing and comfort for those in need. (Please refer to the weekly prayer guide for details)*
- *for members in assisted living and those who are home bound.*
- *for our military:* Derek Barnum, grandson of Pat Beaumont; John Johnson - deployed in the Middle East; Jess Swanson, grandson of Jackie Swanson
- *for our missionaries:* Africa - 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.***



DEVOTE YOURSELVES TO
Prayer.
C O L O S S I A N S 4 : 2



United
Women
in Faith

We are currently participating in the World Thank Offering that supports United Methodist Church global mission efforts. Jar banks are available in the Welcome area of the church for those that desire to participate. Directions are on the tag attached to the bank.

Our next activity will be the gathering of unused Christmas cards with envelopes. A box will be available in the Welcome area for collection. If you can provide a postage stamp on the envelope, please add that to your donation. These cards are provided to the Hubbard County Jail so that inmates can connect with their families via a Christmas card. About 2-300 cards have been needed each year to meet the need.

All are welcome to join our monthly meetings the first Wednesday of the month in the Wesley room at 1pm. If you have any questions, contact President Marion Hansen.



Check out the **HUMC Bulletin Board**
for news and the calendar,
Especially our new feature called
"Member Spotlight."

Let's shine a light on all the noteworthy activities of
our members and attenders!



Northern Voice Newsletter Deadline

The Northern Voice newsletter is now published quarterly. The deadline for submitting articles is the 15th of the month, so mark your calendar: the Spring 2023 Issue deadline is January 15th. Thank you!!



Through Facebook, we connect with people via our live-streamed services, postings to our Facebook page and our Group pages. For Advent, a four part study will be offered. This study is available to all people. Watch for more information on our page in November. If you have not already “Friended” the Hubbard UMC Facebook page, consider doing so now and invite your family and friends to join you.

Hubbard’s web page, You tube presence and Facebook page all help link people to the Hubbard church and it’s ministries. It provides opportunity for our “snow birds” to stay in touch while they are away as well as people in our local communities and across the USA to connect with us. We have also connected with people in Canada, Ireland and the UK.

Our Digital Campus team of Pastor Lauren, Jeff Hauger, Kaylyn Anderson and Jennie Anderson with myself as Coordinator would love to hear from you regarding how your campus experience can be improved. Marion Hansen, marionha@wcta.net

BIRTHDAYS!

November

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Doug Rathbun | 1 |
| Arnie Kuhn | 2 |
| Angie Hutchins | 4 |
| Pam Davis | 7 |
| Ron Taggart | 7 |
| Randy Wimmer | 9 |
| Denise Kisser | 10 |
| Liz Stevens | 13 |
| Aaron Kjenaas | 13 |
| Carol Wall | 13 |
| Neil Jordheim | 16 |
| Dennis Bolton | 19 |
| Travis Bolton | 23 |
| Betty Larsen | 26 |
| Bob Stevens | 26 |
| Christie Rasmussen | 28 |

January

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Bob Boyd | 4 |
| Nash Selander | 4 |
| Mary Sue Skelton | 8 |
| Melvin Bolton | 11 |
| Cheryl Steinborn | 14 |
| Lauren Hauger | 15 |
| Carolyn Carter | 16 |
| Martha Tacker | 16 |
| Betty Barrett | 18 |
| Janet McMillen | 19 |
| Jennie Anderson | 20 |
| Janet Munson | 21 |
| John Davis | 22 |
| Don Balk | 23 |
| Edna Underwood | 24 |
| Lily Friedl | 27 |
| Robyn Wimmer | 30 |

December

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Marshall Howe | 2 |
| Shirley Brunsdale | 10 |
| Arlene Valentin | 12 |
| Brad Laabs | 15 |
| Tom Moore | 16 |
| Dean Jacobson | 18 |
| Locky Horst | 19 |
| Maxine Rathbun | 20 |
| Nancy Martinson | 20 |
| Gayle Laine | 21 |
| Carl Wall | 21 |
| Noel Moore | 25 |
| Janet Gray | 27 |
| Sharilyn Perrine | 27 |
| Jim Eisele | 28 |
| Dave Thoeke | 31 |

ANNIVERSARIES

November Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Janet McMillen | 8 |
| & Marshall Howe | 9 |
| Bob & Liz Stevens | 13 |
| John & Denise Kisser | 23 |
| Nancy Seaberg | 25 |
| & Bonnie Williams | 25 |
| Bill & Cherylyn Sinner | 25 |

December Anniversaries

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| Ron & Margi Taggart | 3 |
| Neil & Nancy Jordheim | 18 |
| Dick & Jackie Lundstrom | 20 |
| Steve & Rose Christenson | 26 |
| Bob & Barb Boyd | 27 |
| John & Alice Strom | 28 |
| Steve & Cheryl Steinborn | 28 |

January Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Bill & MarySue Skelton | 14 |
| Jim & Nancy Vogt | 31 |



PARISH NURSE NOTES

Influenza Season and Bivalent COVID Booster Vaccine

It's Time for Flu Shots

Influenza or “flu” season in the United States typically begins in October and runs through March.

The Center for Disease Control and Preventions (CDC) recommends 3 actions to prevent flu:

- Get a flu vaccine
- Practice everyday preventive actions
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover cough and sneezes
- Wash your hands often
- Stay home if you are sick
- Take antiviral medication to treat flu if your provider prescribes them.

There are several benefits of getting a flu vaccination. Flu vaccines can keep you from getting sick with flu. Flu vaccinations have been shown to reduce severity of illness in people who get vaccinated but still get sick. Flu vaccination can reduce the risk of flu-associated hospitalization. Getting vaccinated protects you and the people around you. It is recommended to get a flu vaccine by the end of October but getting vaccinated anytime during the flu season can help protect you.

Bivalent COVID Booster Vaccine

A new bivalent COVID booster vaccine is available for anyone age 5 and older. This booster is formulated to better protect against the most recently circulating COVID-19 variants that are more transmissible and immune-evading. The bivalent booster is a single dose given at least 2 months after completion of your primary vaccination series, or 2 months after any previous booster. Bivalent boosters are available at Hubbard County Public Health and at local retail pharmacies. Being up to date by getting the bivalent COVID booster is considered one of your best defenses against serious illness from COVID-19.

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

| | Transmission Level (Healthcare Settings) (10/20/22) | Community Level (Public Settings) (10/20/22) | Population % Completed Primary Vaccine Series (10/20/22) | Population % Up to Date with Boosters (10/20/22) |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Minnesota | SUB-STANTIAL | | 68% | 10% |
| Hubbard County | HIGH | LOW | 56% | 8% |

Deb Haagenon
HUMC Parish Nurse

Sources for the above information plus additional resources include:

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

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

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/index.html>

LET US GIVE THANKS

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service
Nov. 23, 7:00 PM at HUMC

Pastor Steve from Calvary will Preach

**Stay for
Pie!**



*We will hold a pie social after the
service, so stay and enjoy fellowship,
and of course, PIE!*

**Pies Are Needed for the
Thanksgiving Pie Social:
We are asking for 20 pies
Sign-up sheet is in the Welcome Area**

Please give your name, type of pie and how many you are willing to donate.

Thank you all!!

Gratitude Galore

If you've ever kept a gratitude journal, you know they're fairly easy to fill. Edward King, an English bishop known for working with the poor, may not have had a fancy journal. But these words evoke such a list: "I will thank God ... for the glory of the thunder, for the mystery of music, the singing of birds and the laughter of children. ... for the awe of the sunset, the beauty of flowers, the smile of friendship and the look of love ... for the leaves on the trees in spring and autumn, for the witness of the leafless trees through the winter, teaching us that death is sleep and not destruction, for the sweetness of flowers and the scent of hay. Truly, oh Lord, the earth is full of thy riches!"

King concludes: "And yet how much more I will thank and praise God for the strength of my body enabling me to work, for the refreshment of sleep, for my daily bread, for the days of painless health, for the gift of my mind and the gift of my conscience, for his loving guidance of my mind ever since it first began to think, and of my heart ever since it first began to love."





Advent & Christmas 2022

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| November 27th | First Sunday of Advent |
| December 4th | Second Sunday of Advent |
| December 11th | Third Sunday of Advent |
| December 18th | Fourth Sunday of Advent |

December 22nd **Blue Christmas 7:00 PM**
Service of Remembrance and Hope

December 24th **Christmas Eve 4:00 PM**

December 25th **Christmas Day 9:00 AM**

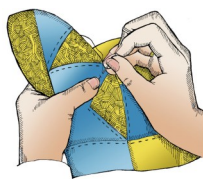
*Please check the Bulletin and Friday
Announcements for details as these dates get closer!*





Care And Comfort

Faith, Fun & Fellowship



Threads of Love

"Beautiful things come together one stitch at a time."

The Threads of Love Quilters have resumed a normal schedule this fall, meeting every Tuesday from 9:30 am to 3 pm. in the Fellowship Hall, offering members of the congregation an opportunity to serve those in need while providing a time of "faith, fun and fellowship."

If you have time, peek into the back storage room to see the mounds of colorful fleece waiting to be transformed into warm blankets! Everyone is welcome to come on any given Tuesday to help cut and tie the fabric into warm blankets that will then be distributed to our area schools.

Also, if you are interested in learning the art of quilting, please feel free to visit or join the quilters.

The group breaks for lunch (BYO) and devotions at noon, led by Sue Harmon, quilting coordinator.

*Pictured below is the Quilter's Luncheon (10/23)-
Members of the community where invited to join our quilters and hear
about the ministry!*

