Northern Voice Newsletter Summer (May-June-July 2024)

Horizons

Easter bursts upon us, blossoming with new life all around in this new season in our lives and in the life of the church. During Lent we pray, "May Spring come to us; be in us; and recreate new life in us!" Now our hearts overflow in the joy of the Resurrection.

Our Eastertide theme "Resurrection Stories" was, for me, partially inspired by the old hymn "In the Garden." The text by C. Austin Miles, 19c. pharmacist turned hymn-writer, celebrates the joy of resurrection shared with the Risen Christ. Of the garden and the presence of the Risen Lord, we can sing of "the joy we share as we tarry there."

The joy we share with our Christ extends far beyond our own hearts to the life of the community of faith, to all with whom we share this joy. In this Eastertide season, we will share together in the welcoming of new members, welcome back those we have missed, we will gather to change lives by packing Home Care Kits for the MMDC on behalf of UMCOR, we will come together for a women's retreat, a women's luncheon, men's breakfasts, and we will drive for Meals on Wheels, serve others in our community through countless ways, and we will join together for a long-anticipated hymn sing. We will hear testimonies of lives changed by both our General Conference and our Annual Conferences. We will rejoice in the love we share with one another in this community of faith!

A Celtic prayer puts it this way: "May we grow with the greening earth, grow from the ground of glory, grow in grateful wonder of You, Great Giver of this new day." On May 4th, we also come together to spruce up our building and grounds during our annual Spring Clean-up. Numbers 3:36-37 says, "These two clans were responsible for the care of the frames supporting the Tabernacle, the crossbars, the pillars, the bases, and all the equipment related to their use. They were also responsible for the posts of the courtyard and all their bases, pegs, and ropes."

I love the book of Numbers in the Old Testament. Bet you don't hear that every day! The idea that God loves us so individually, so intimately, that God instructed that every person be counted, every tribe's responsibility and place in the camp and on the march be chronicled, this is incredible to me. Imagine how important the person who pounded in the pegs must have felt knowing that it was God who ordained that the job be given to one special person in one specific tribe. Oh, how God cares for us!!

If you look around after church on Sunday mornings you will likely see folks gathering up fellowship pads, replacing hymnals, gathering up their folders of music and carrying them back to the choir room, greeting newcomers, counting offering, cleaning up after fellowship. If you happen to come during the week, you may see people making flower arrangements, hanging banners and photos, creating blankets and quilts, you will see all kinds of people hard at work making preparations for special Sundays, groups of people gathered to manage the "behind the scenes" and plan for the future of our church. These acts and so much more are acts of worship. God's special people are still caring for the places where we serve God.

Colossians 3:23 reminds us to "Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people." Because you are. You are working for the Lord. Everything we do can be an act of worship when we dedicate our work to God.

Together may we grow into this new season in the life of Hubbard United Methodist Church. May the joy we share together fill our hearts with love and gratitude. May the unrealized potential of new life all around, expand our horizons and spring forth in our dreams. The Great Giver of this new day is with us and among us and always going on ahead of us into a future with hope and a new song to sing.

Thanks be to God!

Pastor Lauren

Congratulations Pastor Lauren on earning your Master of Divinity



Springtime Jesus By Joy Cowley

You, Springtime Jesus, just as I'd settled down for winter, you broke into my heart and danced your love right across it in a mad excess of giving.

Just as I'd got comfortable with bare branches and unfeeling, just as my world was neatly black and white, there you were, kicking up flowers all over the place.

Springtime Jesus, I tried to find a way to tell you that there were places Where you could or could not dance.

I wanted to guide you on my paths and have you sign the visitors' book: but you laughed right through my words and sang to me your melting song, causing sap to fire the branches, causing the flames of buds to flicker into green bonfires, causing a windquake of blossom, causing burstings, searings, breakings, causing growth-pain, causing life.

Springtime Jesus,

the fullness of life can be frightening and I'm lacking in courage. It isn't easy to live with a heart that's wide open to invasion.

Teach me, Jesus, how to move with you, step for step, in your love dance. Touch my fears with your melting song. Gift me with your laughter, and, in the mystery of your Springtime, show me the truth of the blossoming Cross





Anyone is welcome to join us, no experience needed!

Wednesday rehearsals at 7pm: May 1, 15 & 29; June 12; July 3, 17 & 31

Sundays we sing with rehearsal at 8am: May 5 & 19; June 2 & 16; July 7 & 21



Let us be a praying church! Remember those on our Weekly Prayer Guide in your daily prayers.

Please have all joys and prayer requests into the church office by <u>Friday morning - 9:00 am</u>. You may also fill out a "Prayer Request" form, found on the back of the sanctuary pews, and place in the offertory collection or leave in the church office. If desired, we will add your request to the prayer chain and the weekly prayer guide.

Please notify the office if/when you would like your name removed from the prayer list.



Scripture Readers

Please consider volunteering for this important part of our Sunday Worship. Sign up sheet is available by the nametags or call Diane Thoelke at

218-255-5557

We Need You!

Please consider volunteering. We are always looking for Ushers and Greeters and Tech people whatever gifts you have or are willing to learn!

Thank you to all of our many faithful volunteers!

Fellowship VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Hebrews 10:25

Let us not give up on meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage each other....

Fellowship is important, for encouraging each other, for sharing our joys and sorrows, for getting to know our church family a little better. HUMC is very grateful for all who have served the treats for Sunday morning fellowship.

Thank You! We appreciate you.

If anyone would like to serve, there is a sign up sheet under the nametags. If you have questions, please see Janelle.

M	issi	on Of	ffering

JANUARY Mission Giving	2-8-24
MISSION COMMITTEE Century Schools Total Mission Committee	\$ 300.00 \$ 300.00
DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING Pastor's Discretionary	
TOTAL MISSION GIVING	\$ 300.00

FEBRUARY Mission Giving	3-6-24
MISSION COMMITTEE	
Total Mission Committee	\$ 0.00
DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING UMCOR Pastor's Discretionary	\$ 500.00 \$ 726.12
TOTAL MISSION GIVING	\$1,226.12

MARCH Mission Giving	4-7-24
MISSION COMMITTEE Hubbard County Food Shelf Total Mission Committee	\$1,000.00 \$1,000.00
DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING Hubbard County Food Shelf Pastor's Discretionary	\$2,330.01 \$830.00
TOTAL MISSION GIVING	\$4,160.01



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!

Hubbard MOW Dates:

May 20 - 24 June 24 - 28 July 29 - Aug 2



AMOS Health and Hope

2024 is off to a busy start at AMOS as the organization continues with multiple activities in health and mission partnerships.

AMOS Mission Teams – Highlights from 2 of the trips I attended. McGregor Team to La Pimienta, Chinandega.

The La Pimienta community was built after Hurricane Mitch in 1998. This team whose skill and generosity provided sustainable energy through a solar panel installation in the community clinic. Lights are on for the first time in La Pimienta, praise God!

AMOS is distributing home water filters, prioritizing pregnant women and children under five years of age. Other activities included cabinetry and benches for the community clinic giving patients somewhere to sit while waiting for care, a first-aid training to members of the community health committee and VBS for children with a focus on clean water and hygiene.

St. John's Episcopal Church from Jackson, Wyoming to San Jose de la Mula, Matagalpa. Team members came with health, education and business backgrounds to participate in a community health fair to promote health and wellbeing in this remote, mountainous, historical community of Nicaragua. The fair included services to monitor the weight and height of children under 5 years of age, provide vitamins and nutritional counseling for pregnant women and new mothers, talks on oral health with schoolchildren, and information sharing with women's groups to overcome the stigma associated with menstruation and deliver <u>Days for Girls</u> kits. Children were delighted with VBS in the afternoons with plenty of crafts and coloring. Thirty-eight water filters were installed.

∼Belinda Forbes

Please Consider Giving to the Pastor Discretionary Fund Today! The needs are great!



The theme of the 2024 Annual Conference is

"Jesus. Redeemer."

Hubbard UMC, along with the other Minnesota UMC Churches, is gathering donations throughout the month of May, to go toward our Minnesota Annual Conference Love offering for mission. This year's Love Offering will help our neighbors—in Minnesota and around the world—heal from trauma and find safety.

Love Offering breakdown

- 30% will go to a new trauma care center in Ukraine.
- 30% will go to immigration legal support in partnership with Volunteer Lawyer Network.
- 30% will go to special programming aimed at reducing trauma at Emma Norton Services' new Restoring Waters facility.
- 10% each year goes to Volunteers in Mission scholarships, which support first-time mission trip participants.

The offering will be traveling, along with our delegates, John Kisser, Marion Hansen, and Pastor Lauren, to Annual Conference on May 29-30 to be included in a special celebration of mission giving. To learn more, go to

www.minnesotaumc.org/loveoffering.

Thank you for your generosity!



Tee off time is coming . . .

We are looking forward to our golf outings. Watch for more information on our first outing in the Friday announcements.

We hope to be teeing off in May. More information to come!





It's Time for the Hubbard Bike Group!

Dust off your bike, fill the tires and join us on Mondays and Fridays beginning Friday, May 3. We will bike into the fall. The schedule will be sent out via email. If you are not on the list, email jjmckinnon11@gmail.com or call the church office at 218-732-0224





HUMC Spring Clean-Up

Saturday - May 4 starting at 9:00

Everyone is Welcome!

There are tasks to be done inside and out! Indoor tasks include windows, floors, and everything in between.

Outdoor jobs include cleaning up the yard or parking lot, spraying or digging dandelions



Spring Cleaning Day

Northern Pines Camp Saturday - May 18 9:00 - 5:00 Donuts, juice and coffee on arrival. Northern Pines will provide lunch -RSVP to 218-732-4713



Join us after worship on Sunday, May 26 as we pack Home Care Kits for MMDC.

BIRTHDAYS

<u>May</u>

Terry Kimball	1
Denny Boulden	7
Noel Fedje	7
Rob Hallstrom	9
Steve Christenson	11
Jim Cook	12
Betty Davis	13
Gail Hamilton	16
MaryAnn Kjenaas	21
Jim Wheeler	22
Nancy Knowles	24
Ed Bolton	24
Tack Tacker	24
Emily Kjenaas	25
Daniel Sanson	25
Rose Christenson	25
Rod Nordberg	26
Marcus Knowles	27
Mark Larsen	27
Marilyn Wilson	27
John Strom	28
Betty Porter	29
Bridgett Cook	29
Julv	

<u>July</u>

<u>oury</u>	
Meghan Johnson	3
Stu Hamilton	6
Sally Wizik Wills	6
Linda Larson	7
Dale Captain	8
Merrie Ellen Bergeth	9
Bill Skelton	14
Bob Wills	14
Terry Seter	15
Lois Captain	17
Glynn Davis	17
Sandee Edelman-Karl	20
Pat Peterson	20
Jan Pieper	20
Ken Stellmacher	23
Alice Strom	25
Pat Beaumont	26
Diane Balk	29
Evelyn Davis	29
Marie Nordberg	30
Bonnie Williams	31

<u>June</u>

Julie	
Nancy Jordheim	1
Avaunne Hed	8
Judy Fedje	9
Sue Kuhn	10
Liz Merrick	13
Mary Hutchins	13
Laura Spolum	14
Neal Aronson	15
Steve Hill	17
Janell Saunders	21
Jean Aronson	24
Alan Fietek	24
Diane Thoelke	25
Jim Pieper	27
Kaylyn Anderson	27
Jeff Lund	28

ANNIVERSARIES

<u>May</u>

Jeff & Linda Lund	3
Dick & Jane Boehmer	20
Steve & Betsy Hill	20
Jim & Nadine Wheeler	20

<u>June</u>

Arnie & Sue Kuhn	2
Bob & Sue Heggen	10
Doug & Avaunne Hed	11
Bob & Andrea Otto	11
Don & Diane Balk	13
Roger & Maggie Jorgenson	15
Noel & Judy Fedje	23
Bob & Sally Wizik Wills	26
Stu & Gail Hamilton	26

<u>July</u>

Bob & Betsy Roman	10
Ken & Renee Manlove	11
Dave & Diane Thoelke	12
Ken Stellmacher &	
Mary Claire Hansen	13



All are welcome!

United Women in Faith will be hosting a

Parking Lot Sale

August 15, 2024 from 8am-2pm.

Please save the date and consider items you might want to set aside for the sale. One or more people will be offering Crafts for sale that day also. If you would like to participate or have items to contribute, see Marion Hansen, or call 218-539-0954 or email <u>marionha@wcta.net</u> for more information.



April 23 - May 3, 2024 2024 Women's Retreat June 5, 2024 8:30 - 4:00

Navigating Life's Journey

Rest. Renew. Recharge.

We will use texts of Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 and Charlie Mackesy's book The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse as a lens. We will journey together and uncover insights and unexplored aspects of our spiritual paths past, present, and future. Together we will learn how to partner with God and with one another to navigate the many seasons of life.

Registration deadline is May 22. Cost is \$25.00



Care And Comfort



Threads of Love

You are Invited: Blessing of Quilts & Spring Luncheon

The Threads of Love Quilters invites you to join them in the annual "Blessing of the Quilts," set for Sunday, June 9, during worship service.

"We delight in using our time and talents to create these beautiful items that are given away to bless others," said Mary Takle, this year's quilting coordinator.

On Tuesday, June 11, all the women of HUMC are invited to join the quilters for their annual spring luncheon, to be held in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 11:30 am. Several fun projects are in the works, which will add to this time of faith and fellowship. Please watch for RSVP information.

Following lunch, the hand-made quilts and fleece blankets, including a number of whimsical scrap quilts, will be sorted for distribution to local organizations, including two elementary schools, Hubbard County Social Services and the Pregnancy Resource Center. Throughout this past year the group has given quilts and blankets to members of the congregation and beyond, many of whom have experienced illness, hospitalization, emotional stress, or challenging life situations. In addition, the quilters have made and given several baby blankets, always a delight.

This year, in addition to quilting on Tuesdays, the quilters have enjoyed a number of "Quilters' Coffee Hops" to nearby quilt shops, including visits to Pequot Lakes, Perham, and Brainerd. Plans are underway to continue this tradition next year. Several women have expressed an interest in quilting during the summer months—the dates to be determined. For those interested in sewing at home, a number of kits have been put together, with fabric and easy directions.

"We are a group of women who gather together to create quilts and fleece blankets for those in need of care and comfort, and in doing so find ourselves richly blessed by the fellowship." Mary Takle, Threads of Love Quilters Coordinator

Upcoming Sermon Series

<u>Resurrection Stories</u> continues through May 19

> <u>Roots</u> May 26 - June 23

> > Hymn Sing June 30

<u>The "Be-Attitudes"</u> July 7 - 28





Northern Voice- Newsletter Deadline

The Northern Voice newsletter is published quarterly. Our next Northern Voice will be **FALL 2024**, for the months of August, September and October. The article submission deadline is **July 15th**. Thank you!!



Camperships Needed

Camp Minnesota is committed to allowing anyone who wants to attend camp to do so, and that no camper will be turned away because they can't afford to pay. Currently, we at HUMC are seeking to provide scholarship funds, or camperships", to campers who need them most, based on individual and family needs. Our hope is that HUMC can help support camp costs associated with our HUMC family interested in attending, or volunteering, at camp can do so. If you would like to donate, please make your check to Hubbard UMC and write "Camperships" in the Memo Line.

> Thank you for your support!



Welcome Back!

Stop in and say "hi!" to Sandee Edelman-Karl our new Administrative Assistant. She would love to meet and visit with you!

Mother's Day Enjoy Mother's Day

Sunday, May 12!