

Pastor's Ponderings...

Sanctuary

"The news about Jesus spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed." (Luke 5:15-16)

As I write this article, I'm camping and sitting outside looking at the beautiful Lake Belle Taine in Nevis, MN. My sanctuary. My peaceful place. My home away from home. My safe place away from the chaos of the world. My family camps here every summer for a week at the end of July and we have been doing that for over 15 years. But this year, I just had to come back again. I wanted more of that peaceful feeling. I wanted more time away from the chaos of the world.

I wonder if Jesus felt that way when he would go away and find a quiet place to rest? Or when his disciples got on his nerves? If Jesus needed to escape, retreat, and have a break from his day to day stuff, we certainly do too!

What do you do for a break? Turn off the TV, stop watching the news, get off social media, go for a walk, curl up with a good book, sit in the garden; something that will give you a break from your worries, from your day to day routine, from the pressures of work and things that have to be done.

Jesus always came back from his retreats. He didn't stay there. He didn't check out from life. He knew he needed his friends. He knew hurting people needed his healing touch. Same for us, my friends. Covid isn't going away anytime soon. Racial tensions are high and black and brown people are still being wrongfully hurt. Our country is more divided and polarized than ever before as we head into an election. Schools are struggling with how to teach. Parents need to work, but now need to find child care. The list goes on! Our community needs loving, kind, compassionate people to care and be engaged. Our community needs Hillside church to be the LAMP we say are. We need each other.

(Continued on next page)



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October Livewire deadline is Wednesday, September 23rd

(cont. from page one)

Retreat when you need to. Take care of your soul. Always come back. Stay engaged in life and in your community. Love your neighbor. As John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement said, "Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can."

Peace, Cynthia

Tuesday Zoom Meetings with Your Pastor

Tuesday 10am ZOOM meetings with Pastor Cynthia are a time to visit with one another, hear church updates, and share a Scripture and prayer. Come anytime, come once, or come every week. An open and flexible opportunity for connection. See you Tuesday morning at 10am. Here is the link and meeting number:

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7867461473

Meeting ID: 786 746 1473

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,7867461473# US (Chicago)

Harbor House Crisis Shelters in Superior, WI is a ministry of Faith UMC and its mission is to provide hospitable shelter, transitional living and services for homeless women and families. They are in need of a few items; Size 4 and 5 diapers, pillows, and cleaning supplies. If you would like to donate items please bring them to church or directly to Harbor House. Thank you!

WEDNESDAY DRIVE IN WORSHIP: BLESSING OF THE PETS

COPPERTOP PARKING LOT

We will have our monthly outdoor Worship service on Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30 pm in the Coppertop church parking lot. This time will be extra special with a blessing of the pets! You can bring you pet with you and the pastors will come to your cars and bless your precious critters. You can also come if you don't have a pet. There will be music, prayer, scripture, and a short meditation. And of course games and prizes to win... all without leaving your car!



Love Offering

Each year, churches in the Minnesota Annual Conference take a **Love Offering** for missions in conjunction with the Annual Conference Session. The theme of the <u>2020 Annual Conference session</u>—taking place virtually on Aug. 29—is "Be the Light—Live Hope!" The Love Offering provides the opportunity to be light and hope for those crying out for love, compassion, justice, and grace in their lives.

The funds from this year's offering will go to 4 projects: Simpson Housing Services (40 %), Emma Norton Services (40 %), Joyce Uptown Foodshelf (10 %), and the Committee on Native American Ministry Diaper Drive (10 %). These projects are doing great work, right here in MN.

If you would like to make a donation to the Love Offering, you can send a check to church with "Love Offering" in the memo line. This is one of those opportunities, where all the UMC churches in MN are working together to make a huge impact. We are the body of Christ!

First United Methodist Church invites you to view a great movie "Harriet" on September 25th at 9:15 pm in the FUMC parking lot. Stay in the safety of your car, tune your radio to 99.7 FM, bring some popcorn, and enjoy a movie

Hillside UMC,

Thank you for your contribution of \$528.00 to CHUM Backpack Drive! this gift, along with hundreds of others, has helped us meet our goal for this year, and every child in our community who needs school supplies will receive a brand new backpack!



Your support means so much to us in times like these. Our essential services continue, and the health and safety of our clients, staff and volunteers is our top priority. Together we will continue to advocate for a just and compassionate community and work to make a dent in homelessness and food insecurity in Duluth with strength and unity.

CHUM is proud to be a diverse community that celebrates together, welcomes all comers, stand is solidarity with out neighbors, demonstrates generosity, practices fellowship, and spreads love in the world, thank you for being part of that community.

Sincerely,

Lee Stuart Executive Director.

Thank you for your continued congregational donations. Your contribution of \$208 means so much to us and we are proud to join you in supporting our diverse community.

Microwaves needed for the shelter

The shelter is in need of new or gently used microwaves for guests. If you have one to donate please call 218-720-6521 to schedule a drop off at our offices. Thank you,

CHUM Contact Information:
Administration 218-720-6521
CHUM Center 218-726-0153
Food Shelf 218-727-2391

chum@chumduluth.org, www.chumduluth.org

Loaves and Fishes

In August the meal we were able to provide for the Dorothy Day House was a Mexican Hot Dish. We bought hamburger, macaroni. black beans, corn, salsa and taco chips. They made the hotdish. We also sent lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers and dressing for a green salad, watermelon and green grapes for fresh fruit, and two cakes for dessert. They really appreciate fresh fruit and vegetables and all the food that we send each month. Thanks to all who make this possible.

Blessings from Carolyn Dahl

Please remember to keep the homeless and the hungry in your prayers. Thank you for the cash donations so we can continue to do the mission project.



Many Thanks to All of You who Give Your Time, Your Spirit and Your Resources:

- To the women who provided a meal to Loaves & Fishes in August.
- Everyone who has donated to Chum's food shelf through HUMC the last few months
- To all those who quietly give to our church and community.



Men's Fellowship and Bible Study

Hillside is starting a men's fellowship & Bible study group! We have several men interested in this and will start this fall. Time, place, frequency, will all be determined by those interested in joining. Please email or call Pastor Cynthia if you are interested in this group.

September Sunday Worship

We will continue to hold joint online worship services with First UMC. The link can be found below, also on Hillside's Face-book page, and Pastor Cynthia sends an email out on Saturday with the link included. Watch the service as it goes live online at 10am Sunday mornings, or go back and watch whenever you have time.

September 6 – **Rev. Jesse Bale, Chaplain at the Federal Prison Camp will be** preaching. We will share holy communion during this service.

September 13 – **Rev. Jeanine Alexander** will be introducing our sermon series on "Christ in Crisis" and preaching on "Who is my Neighbor?"

September 20 – **Pastor Cynthia** preaching on what is means to be created in God's Image.

September 27 – Rev. Jeanine Alexander preaching on 'What is truth?"

YouTube Link to find the Sunday online worship services:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA47ISATrUsyV7xJ8b4cWww

<u>Hillside Parking Lot Sunday Mornings Church – 10 am</u>

Don't have internet? Don't have a computer or tablet? Can't participate in our online church services? We are going to do an experiment in September and open up our Hillside parking lot for anyone who would like to listen to the church service on their radio and see other Hillsiders. You HAVE to come to the parking lot for the radio frequency to work. But you can just stay in your car the whole time and Pastor Cynthia will be there to offer prayers, communion and blessings for anyone who would like it. We will try this all the Sundays of September and decide if we want to continue.

HILLSIDE BUILDING HOURS

Our church building is closed, except for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-2pm, when our secretary Kathleen is working in the office. If you need anything please call the church office and leave a message and we will get back to you. If you stop by the building for any reason, please wear a mask when you are inside. This is now mandated by Governor Walz, and it is also our church policy. Thank you for respecting this. If you need a mask, please let the church know.

If you have an emergency please call Pastor Cynthia on her cell at 218-260-3114. If you cannot reach her, please contact Carole Hawkinson 218-345-6874 or Carolyn Dahl 218-727-6342. They usually know how to find your pastor!

Hello my fellow Hillsiders;

Thank you, thank you to everyone who is sending in their financial giving to the church. It makes a big difference and we are grateful for your generosity. We understand that some of you may be experiencing financial hardship due to the pandemic. Please let us know if you are struggling to pay bills and buy needed supplies. We are family, and we are in this together. Give what you can, help where you can, and also ask for help when you need it.

Blessings to all of you, and be well.

Julie Manisto, Your Finance Chair

2020 Annual Conference

The Minnesota Annual Conference was held virtually on August 29th. Pastor Cynthia and your lay leader, LeRoy Britton attended and voted on the legislation. We will have a report for you in the October Newsletter.

Do you ever wonder how things get done around church when the building has to be closed during COVID 19??

- ⇒ The flowers in the front of the building are watered by Ron Mattson.
- ⇒ Grocery shopping for the monthly meal for Loaves and Fishes is done by Linda Tomasek, after the meal is planned by Carolyn Dahl. The folks at Loaves & Fishes are currently preparing the meal themselves.
- ⇒ The lawn mower has been repaired by Russ Lindgren.
- ⇒ The lawn is mowed weekly by our custodial staff and also has been mowed by Wayne Wilmot.
- ⇒ Wiring for our new sign outside the building was enclosed in conduit by Jim Leland.
- ⇒ An emergency contact number in the elevator was removed by Wayne Wilmot.
- ⇒ The outlet plate behind the altar was replaced with a wooden one by Jim Leland.
- ⇒ The church has a "walk-thru" done every week by Russ Lindgren or Wayne Wilmot.
- ⇒ The boiler was leaking & was repaired by Rick Carlson.
- ⇒ The damaged railing in front of the church was removed by Scott Patullo.
- ⇒ Because of excessive water running down our driveway the City has been contacted by Wayne Wilmot who noticed the water was bypassing the catch basin.
- ⇒ An extension of the roof drain outside of the church office has had an extension added by Jon Hawkinson.
- ⇒ A new hand rail has been installed along the front sidewalk by A.W. Kuettel

arranged for by Scott Patullo.

⇒ The weeds in the parking lot and along the driveway have been pulled or sprayed by Wayne Wilmot.

Other things have happened around our building and we don't mean to slight anyone. If this has happened please know that you are appreciated greatly.

THANKS TO ALL THESE FOLKS FOR KEEPING HILLSIDE CHURCH IN GOOD SHAPE!!



Racial Justice Action Committee (RJAC)

How are we as individuals and as a congregation responding to racism in our society? We have started a team to look at ways we can bring justice to people of color. How can we stand in solidarity and do no harm and make our city safe for all? These are the things we will explore. All are welcome! RJAC is open to anyone at Hillside, other UMC churches, and the community. Please email or call Pastor Cynthia if you are interested.



Happy September Birthday to Hillside Friends!

8 Barb Kent

15 Susan Nelson

19 Dee Johnson

20 Nicholas Giuliani

23 Wayne Wilmot

23 David Mavec

24 Don Harriss

29 Rev. Jan Barker



If you don't see your name here, please call the church office so we can add you to the list. 727-4257



Please Keep Us in Your Thoughts & Prayers

Joyce Benson, Chris Christensen, Marge Dahl, Derry Gilberg, Barb Kent, Clareen Suomala, along with our men & women in military service and their families. We especially pray for everyone's physical and mental health during this pandemic.

FINANCIAL GIVING FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

AMOUNT NEEDED PER MONTH

August 4th	giving	\$ 1,755.00
August 11th	giving	\$ 745.00
August 17th	giving	\$ 1,212.00
August 25th	giving	\$ 1,110.00

\$ 4,822.00

\$7,701.00

Balance -\$2,879.00

ZOOM Virtual Administrative Council Meeting Minutes August 11, 2020

<u>Online Attendance</u>: Carolyn Dahl, Diane Boris, Jim Leland, Carole Hawkinson, Sandra Wilmot, Pastor Cynthia

Carolyn gave the opening devotion titled, "Have a Good Day." Then she gave the opening prayer.

<u>Secretary's Minutes:</u> The minutes of the secretary's minutes for July were reviewed. Susan Nienaber's last name was spelled incorrectly. A motion was made by Carole and second by Jim that the minutes be approved with that one change. Motion approved.

<u>Treasurer & Financial Report</u>: Jim gave us the report as of the end of July. All the money in the CARES loan has been used and we have been told it has been forgiven and no money will have to be paid back. We were hoping to receive enough money to supply 24 backpacks and we received enough for 29 backpacks. We met our goal. The bank balance is about \$39,000. The balance for Loaves and Fishes is \$287.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Cynthia and LeRoy Britton are registered for conference. LeRoy attended the laity meeting online on Saturday. Pastor Cynthia has heard good comments about the online worship with First UMC. Barb Carlson and Amanda Pederson recorded the scripture reading for this Sunday's service. Pastor Cynthia will give the sermon this Sunday. Copper Top plans to do online Sunday Services until the end of the year. We are welcome to join them unless we want to-do something different. The phone tree is still in place. Carole, Carolyn and Pastor Cynthia call our members each week. A weekly email update is sent each Saturday. Pastor Cynthia's vacation went well. There have been only two people attending the Tuesday morning zoom meetings. On Wednesday August 19th there will be a drive-in worship in the Copper Top parking lot. Tim McLaughlin wants to meet with the men of Hillside and have a bible study. Pastor Cynthia will call all the men to see who would be interested.

SPRC: Our janitor, Clay, goes to Lake Superior College. We don't know if the school will be open this fall. If it is, he will not be getting many hours because we are not meeting at the church. Pastor Cynthia's kids will still do the janitoring if Clay doesn't come back or want the job.

<u>Trustees:</u> The construction on Adirondack Street is washing a lot of debris into our driveway when it rains. Metro Sales who we lease our copier from has a newer machine they would like us to use. It won't cost us any more. The laptop at church is slow and we will see if it can be made faster. Someone has offered to buy weed killer for the lawn if someone will volunteer to spray the weeds.

<u>Mission:</u> Loaves and Fishes picked up the food for a meal on Monday August 10th.

<u>Other:</u> We are wondering if the church could be open for any gatherings. Funerals are hard to control how many people come. The subject of joining NAACP was brought up. We don't know how much it will cost to become a member. No action was taken at this time.

The next meeting is September 8th at 7PM via zoom. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Boris Admin Council Secretary