

GOSPEL NEWS

*The Newsletter for the St. Charles United Methodist and
Dover Community Churches*

December 2019



Pastor: Pastor Cyndy Spear

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Greetings in the name of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

I am writing this a couple of days before Thanksgiving. I hope and pray that each of you is blessed with wonderful fellowship with family and friends, abundant food to share together, and feel God's loving care. As well as safe travels for all who are traveling.

And for Brad and I there is much to be thankful for. It has been 5 months now since becoming your pastor and moving into the parsonage. Yes, there are still some unpacked boxes but for the most part we are settled into the house and are very comfortable. It feels like home – we feel like we are home!

After such a relatively short time and moving into a new home as well as a new community, I wouldn't have expected to have that warm 'at home' feeling already. And that brings me to you – everyone in the St. Charles & Dover congregations. We are very thankful for you, each and everyone of you! You have welcomed us, cared for us, friended us and made us feel loved. And, this is why we feel very much at home. Thank you.



Our second book study has started. The book is "*The Journey, Walking the Road to Bethlehem*" by Adam Hamilton. This book study will finish up just before Christmas. We will take a little break then and start our next book study in late January or early February.

If there is a book or author you would like to suggest for a book study, please let me know. If Sunday afternoon is not a time during the week you can make for a book study and you would like to join us, let me know what day and time would work in your schedule. I am considering offering 2 days/times for book studies going forward since I realize all of our schedules and commitments vary greatly.



Advent starts this coming Sunday, December 1st with our Hanging of the Greens service and the Children's Christmas Program will be the service on December 15th.

As we prepare our homes, churches, and ourselves for Christmas and celebrating the coming of the Christ Child, I encourage everyone to adopt this challenge: read the Gospel of Luke during Advent. There are 24 chapters in the Gospel of Luke. Beginning on December 1st read one chapter each day – the chapter number corresponding to the date. Chapter 1 on December 1st, chapter 18 on December 18th, and finishing up with chapter 24 on Christmas Eve, December 24th.

Grace, love and peace,

Pastor Cyndy



From the Pulpit – December 2019 Advent

December 1st – Hanging of the Greens Celebration Service

Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope

Isaiah 2:1-5 † Psalm 122 (UMH 845)

† Romans 13:11-14 † Matthew 24:36-44

December 8th – Not All Actions Are Created Equal Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace

Isaiah 11:1-10 † Psalm 72 † Romans 15:4-13

† Matthew 3:1-12

December 15th – That's Okay, I'll Wait Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy

Isaiah 35:1-10 † Luke 1:46b-55 † James 5:7-10

† Matthew 11:2-11

December 22nd – Don't Drop the Baby Lighting the Advent Candle of Love

Isaiah 7:10-16 † Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 † Romans 1:1-7

† Matthew 1:18-25

December 24th – The Gift of Fragility Lighting the Christ Advent Candle

Isaiah 9:2-7 † Psalm 96 (UMH 815) † Titus 2:11-14

† Luke 2:1-20

Confirmation

December 4

"The Quadrilateral"

December 11

"Grace"

December 18

"Perfection"

December 21

Christmas Party and Caroling

Confirmation classes are at 6:30 pm at SCUMC

Christmas Party will be at 2:00 pm.

St. Charles United Methodist Church Administrative Council Meeting

November 13, 2019

Members Present: Jon and Teri Arnold, Troy Henry, Lee Carlson, Dianna Pulley, Al Fagan, Clayton Wiskow, and Pastor Cyndy

After prayer by Pastor Cyndy, the meeting was called to order by chairperson Al Fagan.

Finance:

Teri and Clayton are working together to make their accounting processes match.

They distributed reports. Preliminary totals are:

Income for October 2019 - \$7,261.25 January 1, 2019 – October 31, 2019 - \$81,093.57

Expenses for January 1, 2019 thru Oct. 31, 2019 - \$68,715.39

Trustees:

The parsonage garage was painted by Jon, Mark and Shane Arnold. Thank you so much.

The front posts have been stained.

Mortaring between bricks on the church has been done.

New additional keys have been made for Heartland.

Dave Peterson has completed the wiring update. Thank you so much.

Jon is exploring ways to insulate the window openings. It was motioned to approve \$210 to buy Plexiglas and install it inside the church windows. The motion passed.

UMW:

Dianna reported that the Fall Event went well with at least 21 ladies directed involved and several generous men.

UMW will meet Wed. November 20 at 1:00 pm.

Worship:

The worship committee met November 6, 2019.

Pastor Cyndy is writing the service for Hanging of the Greens on December 1, 2019.

The Children's Christmas program will be December 15, 2019. Marcie is chairperson.

Jon is exploring and comparing audio visual systems. It was motioned and passed that Jon use up to \$1,000 to purchase an audio visual system.

Pastor's report:

The worship committee met with Pastor Cyndy November 3, 2019.

Pastor Cyndy will schedule caroling for Christmas.

"The Journey" will be the next book study to go from Nov. 24, thru Dec. 22, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm.

Pastor communicated with the board her views about confirmation.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be a joint meeting on December 18, 2019 after confirmation (7:30 pm) at SCUMC.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianna Pulley



The SCUMC is planning to enhance our worship experience with audio visuals.

We are exploring and comparing the equipment we will need.

We anticipate that cost will be around \$1,000.

If you would like to contribute to this special equipment, please give and mark your check "AV".

Thank you for your support.



UMW Ladies' Party

for ALL Ladies of St. Charles &
Dover United Methodist Churches

December 13, 2019

6:00 pm

Potluck

St. Charles Fellowship Hall
Please bring a gift to exchange
Come and enjoy the fun!

Come to the Children's Christmas Programs

December 15, 2019

St. Charles UMC

9:00 am

Dover Community Church

10:15 am

children's
program



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St. Charles UMC Christmas Program Practice

Rehearsals will be during Sunday School December 1 and 8.

Dress rehearsal will be December 13 after school.

A children's pizza party will follow the December 13 rehearsal.

(If you want to be in the program but were not at the first rehearsal, please call or text Marcie at 251-6554.)





Many families are wishing for a Merry Christmas.
They need our support.
The giving Tree will help make Christmas blessed for others.
This is how it works:

1. Take a tag from the tree.
If the tag is for a child, it will have the child's age and size and wish items.
The tag may be for gasoline or groceries for a family.
2. Purchase the items suggested on the tag.
3. Bring your gifts (unwrapped) back to the tree before December 15.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2019, 5:30 pm

St. Charles United Methodist Church



Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped with the Fall Event in St. Charles. We had at least 21 ladies directly involved and a few very generous men. We made \$737.00 to help others via our mission donations.



Joint Christmas Caroling

December 21, 2019, 3:00 pm



*Join the confirmation
class for caroling to our
shut ins.*

Starting at St. Charles UMC

Donations of goodies will be greatly appreciated!



December Birthdays and Anniversaries



2	Marilyn Christie	St. Charles
4	David & Cheryl Hinckley	St. Charles
	Dakota Smith	St. Charles
5	Paul Evenson	St. Charles
11	Liza Reetz	St. Charles
12	Richard Kvam	St. Charles
14	Joan Hoff	St. Charles
15	Geri Ihrke	Dover
	Kileigh Schultz-Hansen	St. Charles
17	Spencer Ihrke	Dover
18	Ken Decker	St. Charles
	Donald Millard	Dover
23	Leo Hart	Dover
29	Rick & Kathy Lane	St. Charles
30	Karen Henry	Dover
	Kasey Schweitzer	St. Charles
	Kaleb Schweitzer	St. Charles
	Eva Anderson	St. Charles

*Please Remember these People
in Your Prayers*



Vicki Marquart
Julie Gettler
Don Behrens

If you know of anyone in the hospital or in need of prayers, visits, or who would like communion brought to them, please contact Pastor Heather (320-290-7460).



Rev. Jack Hadorff

Nov. 15, 2019 at age 78

*Cards of condolence can be sent to
Jeanine DeGriselles, 209 5th Ave. N,
Hopkins, MN 55343.*

*Memorials are preferred to the music
department of [Good Samaritan](#)
[UMC](#) in Edina.*



December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Hanging of Greens 9:00 am SC Worship 10:15 am Dover Worship 10:30 am Sunday Schoo at DCC 3:00 pm The Journey book study	2	3	4  6:30 pm Confirmation	5 No Assisted Living Worship	6	7
8 9:00 am SC Worship 10:15 am Dover Worship 10:30 am Sunday Schoo at DCC 3:00 pm The Journey book study	9	10	11 6:30 pm Confirmation	12  10:00 am Assisted Living Worship	13	14
15 Children's Christmas Programs 9:00 am St. Charles UMC 10:15 am Dover CC 3:00 am The Journey book study	16	17	18 9:00 am Ministerial 6:30 pm Confirmation 7:30 pm Joint Ad Council a SCUMC	19 10:00 am Assisted Living Worship	20	21 Confirmation cookie baking 2:00, Caroling for all. 3:00. Pizza Party 5:00
22 9:00 am SC Worship 10:15 am Dover Worship 10:30 am Sunday School at DCC 3:00 pm The Journey book study	23	24  5:30 pm Joint Christmas Eve Worship at St. Charles UMC	25 	26	27	28
29 9:00 am SC Worship 10:15 am Dover Worship 10:30 am Sunday School at DCC	30	31	The United Methodist Church St. Charles and Dover Pastor: Pastor Cyndy Spear Church phone: 507-932-4966		Pastor's cell phone: 952-374-9391 E-mail: scdumcs@hbcj.com Website: www.scdmethodist.com	

Special Christmas Events at Our Churches

December 15 Children's Christmas Programs at both Churches

December 21 Confirmation Christmas Party

December 21 Caroling for Confirmation and all

December 24 Joint Christmas Eve Service 5:30 pm at SCUMC

United Methodist Church
St. Charles & Dover
824 Church Ave.
St. Charles, MN 55972