

# GOSPEL NEWS

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

*June & July 2018*



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Summer Joint Worship 9:00 am at St. Charles United Methodist Church

## Shalom

We live together in a very connected world, a global society. This is quite different from the world of our grandparents and some of our parents. News, spin on the news, and false stories are available instantly. We are affected by and aware of not only what happens in our own families, in our neighborhoods and in our work places, but by events in parts of our country and the world we may never visit. This connectedness has expanded our horizons, introduced us to peoples and cultures of which we were unaware and has inspired our imaginations. It has also broken our hearts at times.

This summer we begin something new together, as we share worship through the summer months. Beginning on June 10, we are creating time and space following worship to pray and seek together where God might be calling us to respond. (see article later in newsletter).

You are also invited to study together a book, "Emotionally Healthy Spirituality" (see article), a chance to grow in your awareness of your spirituality and our connection to others

But right now I want to lift up a very positive part of our global connectedness. How many of you watched the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle? When have you ever heard a sermon talked about like Bishop Michael Curry's? It made headlines around the world! I was excited to see a sermon making the news and especially this one – it was true to the Gospel, through and through. His quote from Dr. Martin Luther King is one the world needs to hear over and over – "We must discover the power of love, the redemptive power of love, and when we do that we will make of this old world a new world. For love, love is the only way." We heard Bishop Curry quote 1 John, "Beloved, let us love one another because love is of God and those who love are born of God and know God. Those who do not know love do not know God. For God is love"

We witnessed pomp and circumstance, old traditions blended with new, a bride who was radiant and a groom who was overcome with love and joy. And we heard the truth of the Gospel. Not what we have been hearing so much of in our country – the teachings of Jesus ignored and tossed aside in favor of elitism, power, white supremacy, marginalizing and further subjugation of the poor, saber rattling talk of war, and gun violence. The teachings of Jesus and the modeling he did for us were of love, inclusion and compassion for all. This sermon took us back to the basics of faith in Jesus and caught the world's attention by doing so. It is within attitudes, orientations and actions of love that the power to change the world lies. Not in fear, not in judgment, not in 'me first', but only in love. That is the real power to change the world!

As we marveled at the wedding, we heard a powerful message. One we needed to hear. One the world desperately needed to hear. A word of hope when we return to the basics

*Pastor Heather*

## From the Pulpit

### Seasons of the Spirit



#### June 3 – Second Sunday of Pentecost

Focus Text: Samuel 3:1–10, (11–20) – *“Listening, Speaking, Acting”*

Additional Texts: Psalm 139:1-3,13-18; 2 Corinthians 4:5-12; Mark 2:23-3:6

- ✿ This week: Reflect on times when you have felt called to do ministry.  
What have you been called to do?

#### June 10 – Third Sunday after Pentecost

Focus Text: 1 Samuel 8:4–11, (12–15), 16–20, (11:14–15) – *“Choices and Consequences”*

Psalm 138; 2 Corinthians; Mark 3:20-35

- ✿ This week, consider ways and times you look to God’s leading.

#### June 17 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Text week: 1 Samuel 15:34—16:13 – *“God’s Role for Me”*

Psalm 20; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; Mark 4:26-34

- ✿ This week, try to look beyond appearances and into people’s hearts.

#### June 24 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Focus Text: 1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4–11, 19–23), 32–49 – *“Agents of God”*

Psalm 9:9-20; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

- ✿ This week: Imagine ways you will use the gifts of God to diffuse a difficult situation.

#### July 1 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 5:21–43 – *“Brushing Up against Grace”*

2 Samuel 1:1,17-27; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15

- ✿ This week: reflect on a time when you have felt discouraged in something you wanted to do in response to God’s call. How did you carry on, or how could you carry on?  
Write about it in your journal.

#### July 8 – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Focus Text: Mark 6:1–13 – *“Brush Away the Dust”*

2 Samuel 5:1-5,9-10; Psalm 48; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

- ✿ This week, consider to what God might be calling you. Who might encourage you in that?  
Make contact with that person.

#### July 15 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Focus Text: Ephesians 1:3–14 – *“Who Does God Say We Are?”*

Additional texts: 2 Samuel 6:1-5,12b-19; Psalm 24; Mark 6:14-29

- ✿ This week, ponder the questions: How do you understand yourself to be “saved”?  
When do you feel like you are in close relationship with God? Write about it in your journal.

#### July 22 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Focus text: Ephesians 2:11–22 – *“Household of God”*

Additional Texts: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a; Psalm 89:20-27; Mark 6:30-34,53-56

- ✿ This week, think of a time when you were bothered by the details of obedience and felt freed by focusing instead on God’s call to love one another. Write about it in your journal.

#### July 29 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Focus text: John 6:1–21 – *“Into the Land of Faith”*

Additional texts: 2 Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14; Ephesians 3:14-21

- ✿ This week, reflect on a time when you felt scared, abandoned, or alone.  
How did you feel the presence of God with you?  
Create prayer/poem/psalm that tells of this experience.



## 2018 Annual Conference Preview –

Discover Joy: Live Deeply!

By: Christa Meland & Cindy Gregorson

We have been given an amazing gift to be alive, to experience this incredible world, to love and be loved, and to wake up every day able to make a lasting contribution. But how often do we find ourselves going through the motions—rushing to work, or to drop the kids off at their sports events, or home to make dinner and do laundry, only to fall into bed exhausted, having missed the opportunity to experience and appreciate the beauty around us? Or maybe you are in a different stage of life in which you wake up with the day looming before you, with no work to give yourself to, no people to sit at a table with—one lonely day leading into another, and life feels empty and hollow.

Do you hunger for a life that is deep and rich and meaningful? A life in which you taste and see the goodness of each day, have a deep sense of belonging, and know who you are uniquely called and gifted to be?

Jesus came to give us abundant life. Drawing on John 15:1-17, the theme of this year's annual conference session is "Discover Joy: Live Deeply!" We will focus on the pathway to a deep, well-lived life, which comes as we abide in Jesus. As we gather in St. Cloud from May 29-June 1, we will connect to our collective story of how God has named and claimed us, and explore how we have found life in Jesus. We will look at the practices that sustain us and give depth to our spiritual lives—those that allow us to discover the joy that comes when we invest ourselves in growing in our love of God and neighbor. We will celebrate the multitude of ways that we are sent into the world to live fully and offer the goodness we have discovered in living in the way of Jesus.

The three-day conference session is a time for Minnesota United Methodists to worship and enjoy fellowship, learn from teaching sessions, seek God's guidance as we make decisions about ministry direction, determine budgets, ordain and commission clergy, and receive the bishop's clergy appointments. Again this year, those who can't attend in person are invited to watch the key sessions—including the bishop's episcopal address and the teaching sessions—online via live streaming.

Here's a look at just a few of the new and exciting things planned for the 2018 Annual Conference:



**Guest speaker, Rev. Olu Brown:** In January 2007, Brown peered through the windows of Brown Middle School Auditorium and saw the perfect beginning of his vision for a multicultural gathering of people who would be committed to sharing the love of Christ with the world. A short time later, he started Impact Church, and within months, Impact launched a second worship experience. By 2008, Impact welcomed 1,000 worshipers each week. In 2016, Impact Church was the 56th-fastest growing church in America. Brown will lead two teaching sessions—one in which he shares his own faith story and another in which he talks about staying connected to God and bearing fruit.

• **Festival with Carrie Newcomer and exploring art as spiritual practice:** On Wednesday night, May 30, singer-songwriter Carrie Newcomer will give a concert for conference attendees and the St. Cloud community. In her newest album, "The Beautiful Not Yet," Newcomer invites listeners to "pause the perpetual motion" of their lives" and live more present and more engaged, even in the face of division, uncertainty, or heartbreak. In addition to sharing her music, she'll also talk about her own spiritual practices. The festival will also feature a variety of opportunities for participants to explore art as spiritual practices—including photography, body movement, weaving, and/or other art forms.

• **Conversation and talks on a way forward:** On Thursday, May 31, we'll come together to talk about finding a way forward for The United Methodist Church. The [Commission on a Way Forward](#) is a 32-member group of United Methodists from around the world that's been working to address the denomination's differences regarding human sexuality. The commission's recommendations are expected to be released a short time before annual conference, and so a portion of time will be devoted to learning about them and exploring how we can stay in our faith, and share God's love with others in the decades yet to come.

- connected to each other and God in the midst of our various perspectives on this topic. TED-style talks delivered by Minnesota United Methodists will return to this year's annual conference and will be related to unity and finding a way forward.
- **Celebrating 50 years:** April 23, 1968 was the birthday of The United Methodist Church. So this year, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the formation of our denomination. While we are gathered, we will explore what we've accomplished together over the past five decades and how to continue to stay connected to each other, grow deeper in our faith, and share God's love with others in the decades yet to come.
- **Celebration of Life in Ministry:** This year's Celebration of Life in Ministry worship service will move to Friday afternoon, June 1, and provide a meaningful and inspirational end to our time together. This service is a time to remember friends and colleagues who have died over the past year, honor retiring clergy, and celebrate newly licensed local pastors and those being commissioned and ordained.

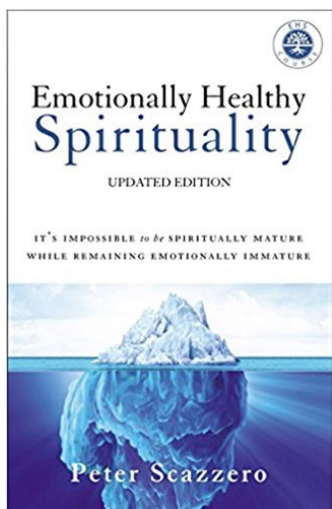


- **Love Offering:** This year's Love Offering for Missions will be collected on Wednesday, May 30. The recipients of this year's offering are: Puerto Rico hurricane recovery trips (65 percent), Park Avenue UMC Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools Program (20 percent), and NUMAS Haus (15 percent). By early March, materials to promote the Love Offering will be mailed to all churches.

### Praying and Listening Together



There is much on the news today that overwhelms us, including the prevalence of violence. We are especially affected emotionally and spiritually when that violence affects children, youth and families. The message we hear over and over again is that thoughts and prayers are not enough. Yet we know that when we pray together, God will speak to us in a way that leads to effective action and response. Prayer then becomes a beginning of action.



Our Study will begin on June 13, and continue on Wednesdays evenings.

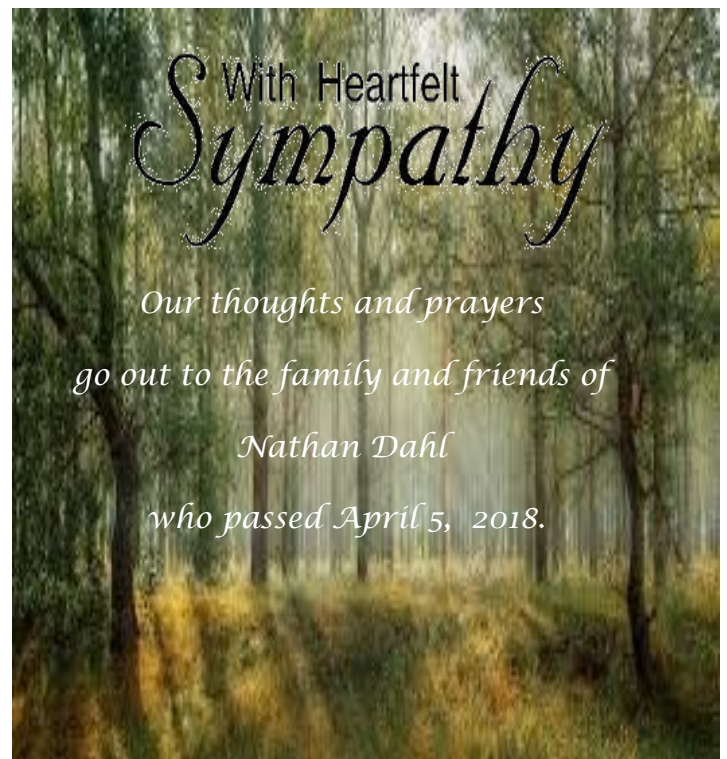
The book is available as an electronic book through Amazon and Barnes and Noble

Please contact Pastor Heather if you would like a book ordered.

Our prayers and sympathy go to the family and friends of Dale Kieffer

Thank you for the gifts given in his honor.

Marlene Ploetz  
Darrell and Vicki Koehler  
David and Linda Laechel  
Ron and Dianna Pulley  
Matt and Amanda Andring  
Rick and Marcie Dabelstein  
Mickey Badker



# With Heartfelt Sympathy

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of*  
*Nathan Dahl*  
*who passed April 5, 2018.*



*The UMW had a wonderful May Breakfast on May 12, 2018.*

*Thank you to everyone who came to share this time with us.*

*Special thanks to all who donated and Jon & Shane*

*Arnold, Lee Carlson,*

*Gary Klason, and Allan Fagan who served so that the ladies could be guests.*



*Please Remember these People in Your Prayers*



Vicki Marquart, Julie Gettler,  
Wade Messerschmidt

*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).*



Now that we use cell phones and e-mail so much, it is more difficult to contact one another.

We are working on a church directory with people from both churches in it. If you **do not** want your name and numbers in the directory, please contact Dianna at (scdumcs@hbc.com.).

If you have a picture that we could include you can e-mail it or give me a copy that I can copy and possibly crop. Snapshots will work fine

.Thank you.



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

## God's Amazing Creation



June 15—16

At Faith Lutheran Church

Enrollment forms are in the narthex  
Call Marcie 507-251-6554 if you need more information



Our churches will be serving Food for Families on July 12, 2018 , 3:30 - 6:00 pm.

Volunteers needed to:

Pick up food in Rochester 2:30-4:00

Unload food at City Hall 3:30-4:30

Distribute food and clean up 4:30-6:00

To volunteer contact Dianna Pulley. (scdumcs@hbc.com)



The SCUMC will coordinate and host "Lunches for Children" on July 24- 26 & 31, August 1-2 and August 7-9.

This is a ministry of the St Charles Area Ministerial

You can help by donating money for milk, bread, fruits and vegies.

- You can also help prepare and serve on July 24 and August 9.

To help with this mission, contact

Sue Stefanich (651-366-7170) or

Dianna Pulley.(scdumcs@hbc.com)

## Celebrate

Independence Day at Dover Park

July 3rd

5:30-7:30 pm

A Picnic Lunch of Brats, Hot Dogs, and Hamburgers will be served by the Dover Community Church



Contact Jennifer Mitchell for details at

[jennifermitchell@edinarealty.com](mailto:jennifermitchell@edinarealty.com)



Visit us on Facebook

St. Charles United Methodist Church  
Administrative Board Meeting  
May 9, 2018



Members Present: Teri and Jon Arnold, Sue Stefanich, Dianna Pulley, Allan Fagan, Pastor Heather  
After Devotions and prayer by Pastor Heather, the meeting was called to order by Chairperson All Fagan.  
The minutes of the April 11, 2018 Ad. Council meeting were approved.

Worship:

- Beginning June 3, 2018, Sunday worship will be joint at St. Charles at 9:00 am.
- It was suggested that one Sunday each month be a "special Sunday".
  - \* June could have a Homecoming Sunday for all past and present confirmand and faith partners.
  - \* Cowboy church could be in July or August. Jon or Teri will check with the Arnold-Bradley Band.
  - \* The third Sunday is open for ideas.
  - \* This will be referred to the joint worship committee to plan.

Summer Lunches:

- Sue and Dianna are planning.
- Dates are July 24, 25, 26, 31, August 1,2,7,8,9.
- It is suggested that each church give \$50 to help with expenses.
- Business and personal donations will also be needed and appreciated.
- Sue and Dianna will contact the churches to schedule helpers for each day.

Camper support:

- Two children from St. Charles want to go to a Methodist camp this summer. Jon motioned that each child be given \$50 to help with expenses. Motion passed.

Finance:

- Jon motioned that \$250 be given to the Love offering. Motion passed.

Trustees:

- Troy has called businesses to prepare bids for the boiler. Now we wait for the bids.
  - \* When the bids come in, the trustees will review them and give a recommendation to the Ad. Council.
  - \* Then a letter will go out to the congregation explaining the progress thus far and scheduling an after worship meeting on a Sunday for clarification and questions.
  - \* Replacement will proceed.
- Headstart windows:
  - \* Jon has priced replacing the casement windows in the Headstart room.
  - \* Estimated cost will be \$2200.
  - \* This is tabled for the time being.
- Jon purchased a vacuum (\$107) to use upstairs. The shop vac to be used for outside door entries.
- Jon purchased and installed a portable air conditioner (\$319) to be used in the Pastor's office.

Meeting was adjourned,

Respectfully submitted,

Dianna Pulley



A major replacement is needed at the St. Charles church.

- The boiler needs to be replaced with a new, energy efficient, safe unit. This is a costly repair.
- The trustees have sought bids and are reviewing those received.
- They will recommend action to the Administrative Board.
- A letter will go out soon to all congregation members with more details and will include a time for any questions following worship at a future date
- Replacement will commence this summer.

# Birthdays and Anniversaries

## June

1	Brenda Olsgard	Dover
2	David Kvam	St. Charles
	Robert & Sandy Ihrke	Dover
5	Rob Ihrke Jr.	Dover
7	Anna Lee Ferden	St. Charles
8	Ron & Dianna Pulley	St. Charles
	Josh Kahn	Dover
	Erin Torres	St. Charles
	Beverly Johnson	St. Charles
	Kyliee Ryan	St. Charles
10	Marlan & Janet Ellsworth	St. Charles
11	Brenda Button	Dover
12	Gabriel Bussell	St. Charles
	Bill Harps Jr.	Dover
13	Kris Putzier	Dover
14	Kaylee Butson	St. Charles
15	Doug & Karin Ferden	St. Charles
	Trevor Anderson	St. Charles
16	Grace Boelter	Dover
17	Joey Sexton	St. Charles
	Barb Traxler	St. Charles
	Kenzi Snitker	St. Charles
	Willis Van Norman	St. Charles
19	Keith & Kay Phelps	St. Charles
20	Norman Doty	St. Charles
22	Grace Harvey	Dover
	Jayden Snitker	St. Charles
23	Troy & Kendra Henry	St. Charles
24	Jenell Pearson	St. Charles
	Connor Biers	Dover
	Cooper Fay	Dover
25	Gary & Betty Pedersen	Dover
26	Ken & Marion Decker	St. Charles
	Norma Stephens	St. Charles
	Dominic Gleason	Dover
27	Jared Butson	St. Charles
28	Allan & Debbie Fagan	St. Charles
	Deb Reetz	St. Charles
29	Elle Karlen	St. Charles
30	Mark & Nancy Arnold	St. Charles

## July

1	Jaydon Torres	St. Charles
2	Maynard Millard	Dover
	Clair Ihrke	Dover
3	Jean Messerschmidt	Dover
6	Aaron Fjerstad	Dover
7	Gary Klason	St. Charles
8	Orvin & Janell Dahl	Dover
	Britt & Tonia Fix	Dover
9	Marlan Ellsworth	St. Charles
	Jared & Jill Butson	St. Charles
	Jeffrey Sabatke	St. Charles
	Zachery Magnuson	Dover
13	Don Behrens	St. Charles
	Kiyanna Olson	St. Charles
14	Cheryle Ihrke	Dover
15	Janet Ellsworth	St. Charles
16	Tasia Hart Islam	Dover
	Mark Roubinek & Susan Stefanich	St. Charles
17	Keith Keller	St. Charles
	Sarah Sexton	St. Charles
21	Nancy Arnold	St. Charles
	Riley Hammel	Dover
22	Shane Arnold	St. Charles
24	Betty Pedersen	Dover
	Shaun Ryan	St. Charles
25	Rev Heather E. Klason	St. Charles
27	William Harvey	Dover
	Alice Fern Henry	St. Charles
29	Alli Jo Doty	St. Charles
30	Justin Sexton	St. Charles
31	Roger Traxler	St. Charles
	Nate & Johanna Carlson	St. Charles







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 St. Charles and Dover  
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# June 2018

					1	2
<p>3          9:00 am Joint Worship at St. Charles UMC          10:00 am SCUMC Ad. Board Mtg.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6          1:00 pm UMW  </p>	<p>7          No Assisted Living Worship Service</p>	8	9
<p>10          9:00 am Joint Worship at St. Charles UMC          10:30 am Prayer mtg.</p>	<p>11          Articles for October          Newsletter due in office  </p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13            Book Study          7:00 pm SC Ad. Board</p>	<p>14          10:00 am Assisted Living Worship</p>	<p>15            Vacation Bible School at Faith</p>	<p>16          Vacation Bible School at Lutheran</p>
<p>17          Confirmation Reunion          9:00 am Joint Worship at St. Charles UMC          10:30 am Prayer mtg.</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20          Book Study  </p>	<p>21            10:00 am Assisted Living Worship</p>	22	23
<p>24          9:00 am Joint Worship at St. Charles UMC          10:30 am Prayer mtg.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27          Book Study  </p>	<p>28          10:00 am Assisted Living Worship</p>	29	30



Minnesota Annual Conference  
of the United Methodist Church

The United Methodist Church  
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# July 2018



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9:00 am Joint Worship at St. Charles UMC 10:30 am Prayer mtg.		5:30 pm Independence Celebration At Dover	Book Study	No Assisted Living Worship Service		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:00 am Joint Worship at St. Charles UMC 10:30 am Prayer mtg.			11:2:00 pm UMW birthday Party at Golden Living 7:00 pm SCUMC AD. Board Book Study	10:00 am Assisted Living Worship 3:30 pm Food for Families		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:00 am Joint Worship at St. Charles UMC 10:30 am Prayer mtg.	Newsletter articles due in office 		Book Study	10:00 am Assisted Living Worship Service 		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:00 am Joint Worship at St. Charles UMC		Lunches for Children 	Book Study	10:00 am Assisted Living Worship Service 		
29	30	31				
9:00 am Joint Worship at St. Charles UMC		Lunches for Children				

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June & July 2018*



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Website: <http://www.scdmethodist.com>

## June & July Worship Schedule

June 3—August 26	9:00 am Joint Sunday Worship at St. Charles UMC
June 17,	9:00 am Confirmation Reunion at St. Charles UMC
August 12	9:00 am Cowboy Church at St. Charles UMC

## June 17 – 9:00 AM – Joint Worship Service at the St. Charles Church



Confirmation  
Reunion

All who have been confirmed at either Dover or St. Charles Churches,  
as well as their families and faith partners are welcome

We will sing together, share stories and celebrate – cake will be served!

Don't worry about anything  
instead  
**PRAY** about everything  
tell God what you need  
& thank Him  
for all He has done  
Philippians 4:6