

# GOSPEL NEWS

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

**May 2018**



Pastor: Rev. Heather E. Klason

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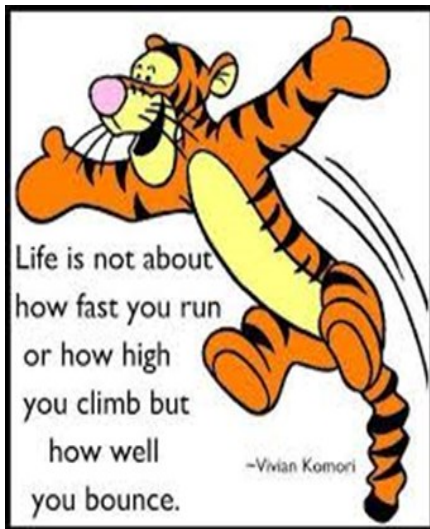
Worship Times: 8:30 am St. Charles & 10 am Dover Community Church

Shalom,

As I prepare this for the newsletter, I am on the required writing/reflection retreat. I thought you might be interested in seeing just a piece of what this reflection and writing time will be focused on:

*Marjorie Thompson, in her book Soul Feast, offers these steps for creating a personal rule of life:*

1. *Take a faith-based inventory of your life as it stands. Consider your primary relationships, your commitments and responsibilities, as they need to be a part of your rule.*
2. *Prayerfully discern what will help you grow toward a deeper communion with God, others and your true self. Consider your spiritual gifts, values, personality traits and preferences, what gives you energy and life.*
3. *Make realistic choices about the disciplines you can actually commit to given the season and circumstances of your life. Consider the rhythm and prompt for these disciplines. For example, praying upon waking daily, or a day apart once a quarter.*
4. *Stretch and Balance. If you are an extrovert, would solitude be a stretch practice for you? For what you are naturally drawn to, how do you balance it with other claims on your life?*
5. *Keep yourself accountable. Write your rule down where you will see it, and share it with one other person who you would invite to hold you accountable by checking in with you on your rule.*



*Some questions to reflect on as you work on your rule:*

- *What am I deeply attracted to or repelled by, and why?*
- *What brings me life?*
- *What opens me to grace?*
- *What draws me close to God?*
- *Which disciplines speak to me?*
- *Where do I feel God calling me to balance or stretch my spirit?*
- *What practices best fit my circumstances or season of life?*

So, what if you began to reflect on these questions? What might your responses tell you about your relationship with God, yourself and others?

We have been in such a season of loss in both of our church families and in our local communities, so many grief journeys compounded one upon another. We become so fatigued, so emotionally drained. Being aware of what soothes and renews us is important; being aware of and accepting of our own feelings and emotions is helpful; being assured in our relationship with God is essential.

One direction I am heading is offering a Bible study on "Emotionally Healthy Spirituality" by Peter Scazzero. It will guide us toward a way of healing and growing spiritually and in our relationship with God as we deal from pain from the past, and past and current losses. It will invite us to develop our own rule of life as we deal faithfully with the living of life. More about that after my return.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers, supportive conversations, and for the many texts and phone calls that expressed love and concern for me as we together have grieved the many deaths and celebrated the gifts of their lives. It does take an emotional toll and the support was appreciated.

In Love,

*Pastor Heather*

**Seasons of the Spirit Worship - May, 2018**



**May 6 - 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Focus Text:** John 15:9-17 - "Loving Friends"

These are the words of Jesus to his followers. So simple, and yet not always so easy.

**Additional Texts:** Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6

**This week:** Write, blog, draw, Tweet, or post images on your Facebook page about what love means to you.

**May 13 - Ascension Day**

**Focus Text:** Acts 1:15-17,21-26 - "Love Leads the Way"

How do you make decisions? In this story, the followers of Jesus pray and roll the dice as a way of discerning who will be added to the eleven apostles.

**Additional Texts:** Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

**This week:** Reflect on what combination of head, heart, and gut do you employ in making your own decisions. How do you invite God into the process?

**May 20 - Pentecost Sunday**

**Focus Text:** Acts 2:1-21 - "Alive in Love"

**Additional Texts:** Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

**This week:** Celebrate Pentecost by doing something that inspires you, that fills you with Spirit.

**May 27 -Trinity Sunday**

**Focus Text:** Isaiah 6:1-8- "Take Notice"

**Additional Texts:** Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17

We can encounter God in many ways; each time we do that, the meeting can be very different. God's love for us is constant, but different times and moods cause us to connect with God differently from time to time. Each time we do that, God calls to us, evoking a response.

**This week,** Recall some of the ways you have encountered God. How has God called you to respond in those times? Write about it in your journal.

*Our sympathy and prayers go to those who have lost loved ones during this year.*

***Jan Behrens***

Jon and Teri Arnold  
Rick and Marcie Dabelstein  
Dianna Pulley  
David and Cheryl Hinckley  
Carol Mueske  
Mark Roubinek and Sue Stefanich  
Friends and Family

*In  
Loving  
Memory  
of*

***David Bishop***

Lee and Peggy Carlson  
Myra McKay  
Rick and Marcie Dabelstein  
Dianna Pulley  
Friends and family

*Thank you for gifts that were given to the church in their honor.*

# Congratulations Graduates

We will honor these graduates on  
Sunday May 13, 2018

Anna Ferden  
Grace Harvey  
Spencer Ihrke  
Jill Butson



# Confirmation News

Confirmation Classes Meet on  
Wednesdays, 6:30-7:03 PM

May 2 - Rob Bell "Love Wins"

May 9 - "Love Wins", cont.  
(Planning of June Confirmation/Family Event)

May 16 - Completing "Love Wins"

May 20 - -- Methodism and the World



We will be giving "learning buckets" to the Headstart children in May.

They will be full of pencils, paper, books, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, flashcards, balls, and other things to keep the children active and learning all summer.

You can help by bringing fruit cups, applesauce cups and granola bars for healthy snacks.

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

God's  
Amazing  
Creation

June 15-16

At Faith  
Lutheran



Be ready to volunteer again for the  
Dover 4th of July celebration.

Call Marcie to sign up or/and to  
volunteer to help  
507-251-6554

# Easter Egg Hunt

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Dover Easter Egg Hunt. The children (and helpers) had a great time.





## St. Charles United Methodist Church

824 Church Avenue

St. Charles, MN

Saturday, May 12, 2018

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

We will celebrate and remember the events of the past year.



### State parks of Minnesota

Doug Olman will take us on a journey to the state parks of Minnesota.

As he shares stories and experiences of his travels., we will meet many of the people that Doug has met on his quest to photograph all the state parks . Come and enjoy the day with us.

### Breakfast Menu:

- Egg Bake
- Cinnamon Rolls
- Fruit,
- Coffee and Milk

Tickets: \$7.



## St. Charles Senior Center

### Good Meals

By SEMCAC and Meals on Wheels



Monday—Friday

\$4 suggested donation each meal.

(Please call the day before at 12:00 to reserve meal )

(932-4072)

### Check it out

There is always something happening.

Fun, games,



music, cards exercises, Friends, laughs, conversations.



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\$10 Annual Membership

(Easter and Thanksgiving meals are free with membership.)

For more information, call Norma at 932-4072 between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm.

Joint St. Charles / Dover UMC Administrative Council Meeting

April 11, 2018

Members Present: Allan Fagan, Sue Stefanich, Geri Ihrke, Betty Pedersen, Steve Harvey, Jennifer Mitchell, Dianna Pulley, and Pastor Heather

After prayers by Pastor Heather, the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Allan Fagan.

The minutes of the February 4, 2018 Joint Council meeting were approved.

• Church Safety

- Be sure that lights are off, all doors are locked, etc. when the last person leaves each time the church is used.
- Active shooter training will be offered in the Fall. We need to be prepared.

• Joint worship

- Joint summer worship 2018 will be in St. Charles at 9:00 am.
- Special Sunday ideas are: (other ideas are welcome)
  - Cowboy church
  - June Confirmation Homecoming
  - Singspiration

• Music for worship

- Volunteers are needed for each Sunday at each church. Please sign up on the clipboard.

• Graduates and third graders for special recognition Sundays.

- No third graders
- Graduates are: Anna Ferden, Spencer Ihrke, Grace Harvey, and Jill Butson

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

St. Charles UMC Administrative Council Meeting

April 11, 2018

Members Present: Allan Fagan, Sue Stefanich, Dianna Pulley, Pastor Heather

Minutes of the April 14 meeting were approved.

Trustees:

• Headstart may need more secure entrances.

Policy at this time is that two doors need to be unlocked to give parents access to their children.  
Sue will visit with Mark Roubinek about what steps need to be taken.

• The vacuum is broken.

Mark bought a shop vac to use in the time being.

• Recycling

Sue will put the recycling containers out to be emptied during the pastor's absence..

• Boiler

The boiler needs replaced.

Pastor Heather will draft a letter to the trustees outlining the steps to begin this process.

- Get bids
- Send a letter to all members
- Have an all church meeting for questions and recommendations.
- Proceed with plan.

Meeting was adjourned.

# May Birthdays and Anniversaries



2	David & Marie Kvam	St. Charles	29	Vicki Marquart	Dover
4	Darrell Koehler	Dover		Deanna Schwoboda	St. Charles
5	Cathy Voss	St. Charles	31	Evelyn Biers	Dover
	Dennis Reetz	St. Charles		Fiona Hart	Dover
6	Rory Ellsworth	St. Charles		Irene Van Norman	St. Charles
7	Teri Arnold	St. Charles			
	Shirley Johnson	St. Charles			
8	Jennifer Mitchell	Dover			
	Andrew Boelter	Dover			
9	Mary Tostenson	St. Charles			
10	Peggy Carlson	St. Charles			
	Carol Mueske	St. Charles			
	Kassie Putzier	Dover			
11	Lou Ann Tollefson	St. Charles			
	Chris & Jennifer Mitchell	Dover			
12	Dale & Sue Bedtka	Dover			
14	Sharon Kranz	St. Charles			
	Joe & Brooke Boelter	Dover			
17	Norm & Tamara Doty	St. Charles			
	Jose' Pearson	St. Charles			
	Emma Rose Glover	Dover			
	Jay & Brenda Button	Dover			
	Chad & Amber Myers	Dover			
18	Lauri Sabatke	St. Charles			
	Earl & Cathy Voss	St. Charles			
19	Tate Pearson	St. Charles			
20	Carol Stennes	St. Charles			
	Eva Disbrow	St. Charles			
22	Lincoln Henry	Dover			
23	Cathy Evans	St. Charles			
25	Sarah Biers	Dover			
27	Alan Bedtka	Dover			
	Jill Magnuson	Dover			
28	Darrell & Vicki Koehler	Dover			
	Mackenzie Doty	St. Charles			
	Adilyn Karlen	St. Charles			

## *Please Remember these People in Your Prayers*



Vicki Marquart  
Roy Holst  
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.*

## **2018 Love Offering for Missions**

Your offering will go to these worthy missions.

Puerto Rico Hurricane Recovery Trips  
Buys construction supplies

Park Avenue UMC Children's Defense  
Fund Freedom Schools Program

Funds will cover reading  
curriculum materials

NUMAS Haus

Provides transitional rent assistance to  
homeless single women and their children  
in Brown County after their stay at this  
emergency shelter.



The United Methodist Church  
 St. Charles and Dover  
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# May 2018

	1	 1:00 pm UMW 6:30 pm Confirmation	3 No Assisted Living Worship Service	4	5 9:00 am UMW May Breakfast 
6 8:30 am Worship at SUMC 10:00 am Worship at DCC 10:15 am SS at DCC	7 8	9  6:30 pm Confirmation 7:30 pm SCU MC Ad. Board	10 No Assisted Living Worship  <b>Leadership Academy</b>	11	12
13 Mothering Sunday  8:30 am Worship at SUMC 10:00 am Worship at DCC 10:15 am SS at DCC	14 15 Bishops Gathering for all Clergy	16 9:00 am Ministerial 6:30 pm Confirmation	17 10:00 am Assisted Living Worship	18 Articles for Newsletter due in office 	19
20 8:30 am Worship at SUMC 10:00 am Worship at DCC 10:15 am SS at DCC 6:30 pm Confirmation	21 22	23	24 10:00 am Assisted Living Worship 	25	26
27 8:30 am Worship at SUMC 10:00 am Worship at DCC 10:15 am SS at DCC	28 29	30	31 <b>Minnesota 2018 annual conference</b>		

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## May Worship Schedule

May 6	8:30 am	Sunday Worship at St. Charles UMC
	10:00 am	Sunday Worship at Dover CC
	10:15 am	Sunday School at Dover CC
May 13	8:30 am	Sunday Worship at St. Charles UMC
	10:00 am	Sunday Worship at Dover CC
	10:15 am	Sunday School at Dover CC
May 20	8:30 am	Sunday Worship at St. Charles UMC
	10:00 am	Sunday Worship at Dover CC
	10:15 am	Sunday School at Dover CC
May 27	8:30 am	Sunday Worship at St. Charles UMC
	10:00 am	Sunday Worship at Dover CC
	10:15 am	Sunday School at Dover CC



**I am a Christian.**

Not because I believe I'm perfect,  
but because I know how imperfect  
I am without Christ.

 CRESSC@B.com