

Uttering a prayer can make an ocean of difference

The months of May and June are filled with celebrations of significant people who have flowed into our days. Just ponder how they stand alone: Memorial Day, a wedding, the day we begin a job, confirmation, graduation and days we honor parents. In addition, there are not-so-simple transformations of living wholly. Today we celebrate Memorial Day.

These are buoyant markers in a lifetime. These dates bob and surface with people and places that have made and continue to create a world “of a difference.” Like grains of sand and waves of water they come and go to splash and swell from one month to the other, from one year into the next delicately dripping into the whole of us.

A prayer flows like this too, keeping no boundaries. Madeleine L’Engle fondly recollects a short poem her grandmother recited to her as a girl. It reminds me of some of the parables Jesus told. The Lost Coin, the Mustard Seed and the Lost Sheep ask us to consider why one is notable and one has the capacity to loom larger. L’Engle writes, in her book *And It Was Good*:

“We live in a complex world which has become too complex to unravel; there is nothing we can do...we little people ... But I believe that the Kingdom is built on the little things each of us do.

“Little drops of water, little grains of sand
Make a mighty ocean And the pleasant land.”

She continues that a single drop can’t make even a puddle, but together, with all our little drops and God’s planning, we can make not only a mighty ocean, but a mighty difference.

“Alone, there’s not much we can do, but when Peter healed ... it was made very clear it was not by his own power, but by the power of the Christ, the creating Word, that the healing was accomplished. This power is available to us...Creation continues lavishly and we are a part of it ...”

Madeline L’Engle urges us to recall “one single utterance” from a soul marking what we hope for tumbling and trickling toward an ocean named hope can make a difference. In his parables, Jesus asks us to muddle together to nurture seeds, tend sheep and believe in one act of kindness or one act of perseverance.

Utter hope today in your unique way. The power of the Holy will begin to gather our hopes together in puddles, lakes and maybe even oceans.

Incidentally, our church will begin the Sightlines Prayer Project on July 1 — one way to pray, remember others and keep a float. Join us! (*See the Sightline Sign-up on the narthex welcome table.*) — J.Jacot

Prayer at WBLUMC: One of the ways our church helps to nourish and support the hungers of life is through prayer. If you have a special need or celebration that could use extra care, we invite you to partake in one of these prayer avenues. If your spirit has the need to support others through prayer, we invite you to join in one of the teams.

The Prayer Team: If you would like to request a prayer of this team, please write it on a prayer request card, or contact Julie Jacot at 651-777-3728, ljacot@q.com. **The Email Prayer Chain** accepts email requests via a call or email to a pastor or the email prayer chain lead, Ronda Nelson, at rondalauva2@msn.com. **The Phone Prayer Chain** is organized through the UMW. Call Eva Shipley if you would like to request a prayer at 651-429-3570.

STAFF

David Doppenberg, Interim Senior Pastor,
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Brooke Heerwald Steiner, Associate Pastor

John McBride, Associate Pastor

Joan Hartman, Director of Children
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Amy McGrew, Director of Youth Ministries

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John Koziol, Jr. Director of Music

Matthew Goinz, Chancel Choir Director

Patricia Kytola, Director of Operations

Lauri Hopple, Administrative Assistant

Lori Hughes, Website & Social Media

Tom Leiser, Treasurer

Harry Jones, Financial Secretary

Ron Houde, Housekeeper



10am Worship Sunday, May 28, 2017 Memorial Day weekend

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE; PLEASE SEE USHERS

• PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

“To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you.” ~ Lewis B. Smedes

PRELUDE

Patriotic music

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

+OPENING WORDS (responsively)

On this day of memory we gather to sing and to pray,
we remember the past and look to the future.

On this day when the guns once fell silent,
we come before you God, seeking Your peace.

On this day of hope in the face of terror,
we come before you God, praying with all our hearts:

God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come.

Help us to find the path that leads to the Peaceable Kingdom.

Open our eyes and the eyes of the nations

to find a different path through the disagreements of life in this world.

In this time of story, song, and prayer,

may we be recommitted to being people of peace, true peace.

May we catch a vision of how the world could live together.

And so we echo the old prayers,
Make us channels of your peace.

Let there be Peace on Earth and let it begin with us! Amen

+OPENING HYMN

“God of the Ages”
Stanzas 1,2 & 4

No.698



White Bear Lake
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

1851 BIRCH STREET, WBL, MN 55110 | 651-429-9026 | WBLUMC.ORG

UNISON PRAYER

God of holiness, you do not want us to be ignorant of your hope for us, so you speak to us in parables, so we might pay careful attention to your words; filling us with a spirit of generosity and grace so that we may share with the forgiveness of Jesus Christ. Amen

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After the message, children can return to sit with their families for the rest of the service. Sunday school will resume June 4.

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

The Unforgiving Servant: Matthew 18:21-35

Reader: Rick Flynn

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

"But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

"Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Leader: For the word of God in Scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us.

All: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Forgiveness is Always Relational

Pastor David Doppenberg

+HYMN

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

No.140

CONNECTION CARDS

Please take time now to fill out your green connection cards. After the prayer of dedication, place them in the offering plates.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"

Words, John Newton
Refrain, Chris Thomlin and Louis Giglio
Music, Traditional American Melody

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+CLOSING HYMN

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Stanzas 1 & 3

No. 519

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

Arr. by Janet Linker
NATIONAL ANTHEM
Thesaurus Musicus, London 1744

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are provided this week by Dr. Don and Verna Sonsalla in memory of the service members who have given their lives for our freedoms and to honor all past and present military men and women.

IN MEMORIAM

The white rose on the altar is in memory of long-time WBLUMC member Agnes Danielson, who died on Thursday, May 18. Her family will have a private interment on June 9.

Sunday, May 28: One summer service begins

10am—Worship/nursery; no Sunday school
11am—Coffee/tea, doughnuts, fellowship
11am—Individual prayer, prayer room

Monday, May 29

OFFICE CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

10am—Hang Loose Women’s Al-Anon, room 206

Tuesday, May 30

10:30am-noon—Staff meeting
6pm—Yogadevotion class, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 31

No scheduled activities

Thursday, June 1

7:10am—Men’s Breakfast Group, library
10am—Pages of Wisdom, room 107
11:30am-1pm—Up All Night? meeting, room 200
6:30-8:30pm—Youth Ministry Transition Task Force,
room 200

Friday, June 2

No scheduled activities

Saturday, June 3

7:30am—Men’s Prayer Group, room 107
10am—Women’s Breakfast group, room 200
Noon-1pm—Baking With A Purpose, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, June 4

10am—Worship/nursery; no Sunday school
11am—Coffee/tea, doughnuts, fellowship
11am—Individual prayer, prayer room

Parking at WBLUMC on Saturday, June 3

Please note that we’re helping out our neighbor, Grace Community Lutheran Church, by opening our parking lot to them as their Magnuson School sponsors a Color Run on Saturday, June 3. The event is scheduled from 8am-noon.

Welcome to

WHITE BEAR LAKE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Visit wblumc.org for weekly sermon podcasts, the church calendar and programming details.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Sunday: 9am to 12pm
Monday: 9am to 3pm
Tuesday: 9am to 3pm
Wednesday: 9am to 3pm
Thursday: 9am to 3pm
Friday: 9am to 12pm
Saturday: **CLOSED**

SUNDAY BULLETIN

Please email information to office@wblumc.org by **noon on Tuesdays**. Most events require a two-week lead time, but the earlier you get us the information, the more time we have to get the word out.

WEEKLY E-BLAST

To receive our weekly email update, call 651-429-9026 or email office@wblumc.org. Please submit church-related events or announcements by **3pm Wednesdays**. All e-blast and bulletin information is subject to staff approval.

LIFESOURCE

If you’re on a team that plans to hold a church event this June through September, we want to help you get the word out. Photos from repeating events would also be great! Please email information and photos to Lauri at office@wblumc.org. **The next issue will be available by June 9.**

Memorial Day

May 29, 2017 Celebrate Honor Remember



The meaningful welcome of a flower

The welcome urns outside the east entrance of the church are planted in honor and gratitude for all veterans and their families. Notice the brilliance of red, signifying courage; the purity of white; and the deep purple, representing valor.

“In the aftermath, we are because they were.” — R.J. Heller

These welcome pots are sponsored by Dr. Don and Verna Sonsalla.

Women's Casual Golf Group

Any women interested in golfing are invited to join us every Wednesday afternoon at various local courses.



May 31: Applewood Hills, 11840 60th St. N, Stillwater; 651-439-7276. \$15/\$14 seniors. To get the exact tee time, let Mary Cripe know by Sunday evening that you want to join us! suzary006@comcast.net; alternate contact is Carol Effertz, 651-429-6023.

Understanding the Refugee Experience

A few facts learned from our recent event sponsored by the Up All Night? group:

1. Church groups are needed for support during the case management time and follow up.
2. About 10 church members are needed to help one refugee family.
3. Bicycles are much appreciated by refugee families to help with transportation to jobs and school.

Next Up All Night? Committee meetings: 11:30am Thursday, June 1, and 6:30pm Wednesday, June 7, both in room 200.

Garden plots still available!

The growing season has begun, but you still have time to start planting. Stop by the office or call Larry or Denise Kerr at 651-484-6092 to get your Garden Agreement and Application. Plots are still only \$20 each.

Summer Sunday School starts June 4!

Children's Ministries June Special Sundays at 10:00 am



4th - Amazing Invertebrates



11th - Reptiles & Amphibians



18th- Bruce the Bug Guy



25th- U of M Raptor Center



June Baking with a Purpose

June selections are country whole wheat with raisins and French bread. Sign up in the narthex or online at wblumc.org/events/event registration by **Thursday, June 1**. Pick up noon-1pm Saturday, June 3, or after worship on Sunday, June 4. June proceeds will benefit our own Bread Ministry. **Volunteers also needed!** Sign up in the narthex or contact Bob Knutson or Glenn Oliphant if you can help on June 3.

You can make a difference



WBL food shelf sorters needed

Recently the U.S. Postal Service delivered more than 7 tons of food to the food shelf as part of its Stamp Out Hunger drive. Much of it still needs to be checked, sorted, boxed and shelved before we can distribute it to hungry neighbors. Interested? Contact Lee Bailey-Seiler at 651-407-5311 or lee@whitebearfoodshelf.org

Food shelf requests gluten-free donations

If you or a loved one has food sensitivities, then you know how challenging it can be to find appropriate foods. Now imagine how much more difficult that might be if you or your loved one were relying on food aid. **For the rest of May**, we're requesting gluten-free items for donation to the White Bear Area Emergency Food Shelf. You may leave your donations in the collection bin in the Fellowship Hall, and a volunteer with the food shelf will deliver them at the end of the month.

Help for Somalia

Somalia is on the brink of famine, and Feed My Starving Children wants you to help do something about it. The Twin Cities community is packing 6 million urgently needed meals, and FMSC still has 23,000 volunteer spots to fill on **June 2-5** at St. Paul RiverCentre. FMSC is partnering with Metro Transit to provide rides to and from the event! For more information or to register, go online to www.fmsc.org.



Saying goodbye to Pastor David

Interim Senior Pastor David Doppenberg's last Sunday with our congregation will be June 4. Cake, coffee, pastries and lemonade will be served in Fellowship Hall after the 10am service. You are all invited to come to express thanks and best wishes to David as he leaves to serve the Elk River UMC.

**BE PART OF THE ORGAN PROJECT
WITH YOUR SUPPORT!**

The funds for the organ will all come from this special appeal, not from our operating budget or building fund. The goal is to raise \$90,000.

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into His presence with singing.
Psalms 100:1-2*

I/We will give a gift to the Organ Fund as follows:

“TRUMPET” Level: \$5000 _____ “FLUTE” Level: \$500 _____

“PRINCIPAL” Level: \$1000 _____ “CELESTE” Level: \$100 _____

Other amount: _____

Gift in honor/memory of: (optional) _____

Name: _____

Phone or e-mail: _____

*As with all special appeals, this donation would be above your current gift
to the church’s General Fund and Building Fund.*

Thank you for your contribution!

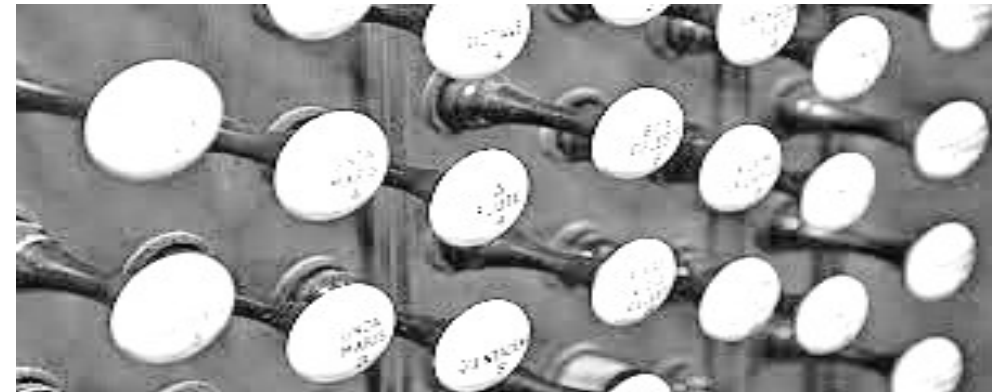
Please return pledge forms or payments directly to the church office by **June 20, 2017**.
Be sure to mark payments to “Organ Fund” in the memo line of your check.



White Bear Lake

**UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

Nourishing the Hungers of Life



**NEW SANCTUARY
ORGAN
PROPOSAL**

OUR CURRENT SANCTUARY ORGAN IS GOING TOES-UP!

We've had our current electronic organ for more than 25 years. Even at the time of purchase, it was a used instrument.

The organ builder, Baldwin, is no longer in the organ business. Parts for repairs are unavailable and service can be difficult to obtain. Its electronic components are obsolete.

The organ has frequently stopped working over the past couple of years. You might not know because our organist, Peteria, is skilled in covering it up! But... **OUR CHURCH NEEDS A NEW ORGAN URGENTLY.**

WHAT'S BEING DONE?

An Organ Committee (Curt Keller, chair; Gloria Anderson, Joy Ballou, Mike Ferris, Karen Flynn, Peteria Cochran-Routt) has been working hard since December to re-search organ options for our church.

Digital organs, pipe organs, and combination-style organs (digital organs with interfaced pipes) have all been studied. An organ is a major addition to the sanctuary so impacts to the sanctuary layout and structure have also been considered.

DO WE NEED A NEW ORGAN?

Yes! We are fortunate to have a fine piano, but nothing beats the organ's ability to support congregational singing and add a special dimension to worship.

Those celebrating life events (weddings, baptisms, funerals) frequently desire organ music as part of their service.

In addition, special musical events, concerts, and community events in our sanctuary regularly call on the organ.

NEW ORGAN PROPOSAL

The Organ Committee proposes that we immediately replace our existing organ with a current model digital organ. Cost: \$90,000. *As of May 25, 2017, we have received donations or pledges totaling \$45,000.*



BENEFITS

- State-of-the-art digital organ
- New speakers, with optimized placing in the sanctuary for best sound
- Organ console will be moved from back of the chancel to the side, for improved visibility and hearing for the organist.

WHAT ABOUT PIPES?

We know that some members of the congregation have hoped for a true pipe organ.

- We researched pipe organs and found that their costs ran from \$300,000 to \$1 million. We believed this was more than our congregation could support.
- True pipes can be interfaced to a digital organ. The Organ Committee is exploring this option and will provide more information at a later time.

Share your thoughts with us!