

I am still learning
~ Michelangelo at age 87

Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given to thee by prophecy ... Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy work may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto thy doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee. 1 Timothy 4:14-16

Talent is the most agile athlete, the completed formula, the masterpiece, the race won, or the professionalized finale. Yet, gifts come planted in a broader range with less perfection in the living out of them. A giver opens their time, soul and personhood to the Sacred generosity owned inside them and expresses a talent. Talents that are not always the masterpiece, but rather, are given parcel by parcel along your journey rather than a finale of ambition or what might be perceived as finished. Finales do happen and we love to applaud, but perhaps talent giving can be a vessel of subtle movements toward God, the greatest of givers. Conceivably, the Colossians possess some wisdom on giving, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for people.” Simply, walking is a way of moving too. Recently our community used the phrase “Fearless generosity” and conceivably, this phrase might be fitted toward how we visualize and offer talents. The broader United Methodist Church conveyed through its website last fall, “Generosity is a matter of action, intentions, and heart. One way to describe it is the grateful outpouring of gifts to others, out of our love for God. Outpouring is a terrific description, since the priceless treasure of the gospel (and all the gifts of covenant, relationship, and life that go with it) comes from God and is meant to be poured out, through our living, upon others.” With this in our mind, we might consider the intentional, generous walk of Jesus. For Jesus there are so many moments of giving, it might blur our minds to recall them all. The rough landscapes walked to heal, feed and give humanity a taste of compassion are quite endless.

Most pivotal though is Jesus’ walk to Jerusalem. Yes, there were masses cheering, yes, there were palms waving and swaying their approval and yes, there was one Holy man assuredly set on a path toward suffering. In this success driven, prosperity-wins culture is there a time to see a different landscape of giving? Embedded in this fearless generosity we see the uneven geography wherein we can immerse our eyes in the integrity of Jesus. This giving takes note of when a women’s gift of a coin is more than an ample offering, a meager manger is hospitality and a meal fulfills hungers. Might we see the bounty when a child’s short stemmed bouquet blooms of beauty, when the day not life changing, is sustaining and when we are sheltered, enough and loved? This fearless generosity allows for a kinder continuum of our ability to parcel out our best at any age and any time. Soul-learning and prayer offerings can feel slow and perpetual to our earthly spirits. It is the slow work of change. This is one of the purest, most honest prayers. Occasionally, we would prefer the quick-fix transformation of our landscape. Most especially for the places that are hard and rocky. When we lend a prayer we would like a revolution rather than the slow, simmer evolution that is embedded in change. Oh, how a grounded spirit wants to wander. Great prayers and change can take time to ponder. Offering a prayer again in an erodible, pliable form allows our prayer and us to take shape. This prayer is the simmering, persistent, evolving prayer lent to God because, we trust God to be who God is. Amen.

~ J. Jacot

Prayer at WBLUMC: One way our church helps 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 from this team, please write it on a prayer request card or email Dave Hegdahl at shegdahld2@comcast.net. **The Email Prayer Chain** accepts requests by contacting a pastor or leader Ronda Nelson, rondalauva2@msn.com.



White Bear Lake
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NOURISHING THE HUNGERS OF LIFE

White Bear Lake United Methodist Church is committed to being a congregation of Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors. We believe all people are of sacred worth and dignity as part of God's creation and as demonstrated by the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. As God's love extends to all, we welcome everyone without exception, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, family structure, socio-economic or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, faith history or life experience. We recognize that we are all different, and those differences make us a stronger community of faith as we worship together to grow in our relationship with God and one another. Welcome!

I am Worship ~ Communion Sunday, April 7, 2019

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE; PLEASE SEE USHERS | ♦ PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

WORDS FOR REFLECTION

“Failure should be our teacher, not our undertaker. Failure is delay, not defeat. It is a temporary detour, not a dead end. Failure is something we can avoid only by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing.”
~ Denis Waitley

“Failure is so important. We speak about success all the time. It is the ability to resist failure or use failure that often leads to greater success. I've met people who don't want to try for fear of failing.”
~ J.K. Rowling

PRELUDE Prelude on “The Call” arr. by Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP “When I Rise Up” J. David Moore

♦OPENING WORDS (responsively)
God says: I will hear the cries of the oppressed.
Let us hear them too, and act to help those who suffer.
God says: I will judge with fairness.

Let us not judge others with our pre-formed ideas.
Jesus says: Happy are those who work for peace.
Let us do all we can to be channels of peace, in our families, communities and world.
Jesus says: Peace is what I leave you.

Let us accept the peace that Jesus offers, and work to enable it to spread.
May God’s forgiveness be your freedom and God’s wisdom be your guide. **Amen.**

♦OPENING HYMN “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”
1-3 & 5

UNISON PRAYER

Gather us in, O God, from every age and outlook. Gather us in from every circumstance and walk of life. Let us find your Spirit among us: in the exploration of your Word, in the sharing of bread and cup, in the offering of friendship and service, and in the openness of thankful hearts and outstretched hands. May we together leave behind the security of self-interest in pursuit of justice, truth and peace. Amen.

ANTHEM

“Domine, Domine, ad adjuvandum me” by Gilbert Martini
(Lord God Assist Me Now)
Chancel Choir Choral Scholars; Karen Flynn and Peteria Cochran Routt, piano

Translation: O Lord, make speed to save me: O Lord, make haste to help me.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end, Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After the children’s message, children and youth through 8th grade are invited to leave for Sunday school.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Sherry Jordon, Les & Liz Edinger, Samantha Miller
(photos and information will be available soon)

Brothers and sisters, I commend to your love and care these persons whom we this day receive into the membership of this congregation. Will you walk alongside these new members as companions in the journey of faith; and will you by example and prayer help them in loving God and neighbor? **We will.**

Then do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope and perfect them in love.

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our vows to uphold this church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

MORNING PRAYER

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

Matthew 25:14-30 Reader: Curt Keller

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, “Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.”

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, “Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your mas-ter.” Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, “Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.”

But his master replied, “You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my re-turn I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

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

Seven Deadly Fears: Fear of Failure Pastor Bill Eaves

+HYMN

“How Firm a Foundation” No. 529
1-All, 2-Women, 3-Men, 4-A capella, 5-all

CONNECTION CARDS

Please take time now to fill out your green connection cards to help us track attendance. After the prayer of dedication, you may place them in the offering plates as they are passed to you.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING

“Flight Song” Kim André Arnesen

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH p.13

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

We will receive communion by intinction — dipping the bread into the cup so as to take them together. Individual and gluten-free servings are available at the table. We serve communion at an open table — you are welcome to participate as you choose.

COMMUNION MUSIC

“Abide with Me” Music by William Monk
Arr. by Jay Rouse

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

“Fairest Lord Jesus” Arr. Jay Rouse

Sign up soon for men’s intro yoga classes

If you’d like to feel better in your body, find some peace, connect with your spiritual nature — even improve your golf game! — but have always hesitated because you’re not flexible and don’t know what to expect, now’s your chance. Yogadevotion will offer three entry-level classes for men to explore the benefits of yoga on **Thursdays, April 25-May 9**, 6-7pm at WBLUMC. Cost is \$25. To register or get more information, email Cindy Senarighi at cindy@yogadevotion.com.

Sunday, April 7

- 9-10am—Worship; Sunday School & nursery
- 10-10:45am—Coffee, tea, and treats in Fellowship Hall
- 10:10am—Children’s & Cherub choirs rehearsal
- 10:45-11:30am—Worship; Children’s Church & nursery

Monday, April 8

- 10-11am—Hang Loose Women’s Al-Anon, room 206
- 1-3pm—Sarah Circle meeting, room 200
- 6:30-8pm—From Bethany to the Sea of Tiberias, room 200
- 6:30-8pm—Yearnings discussion group, library

Tuesday, April 9

- 6pm—YogaDevotion, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30-7pm—Trustees meeting, office
- 7-8:30pm—Finance Committee, room 200
- 7-9pm—Staff-Parish Relations Committee, room 206

Wednesday, April 10

- 9:45am-noon—Dorcas Circle meeting, room 200
- 6-7:15pm—Alleluia Ringers, sanctuary
- 6:15-7pm—Communion Milestone class
- 6:30-7:30pm—Children’s & Youth activities
- 7:30-9pm—Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, April 11

- 7:10am—Men’s Breakfast Group, library
- 9am-3pm—The Gathering, room 200/Fellowship Hall
- 10am—Pages of Wisdom AA, room 107
- 10:30am—Lenten devotion group, room 206
- 1-3pm—Book club (outside group), library

Friday, April 12

No scheduled activities; office closed

Saturday, April 13

- 7:30am—Men’s Prayer Group, room 107
- 10am—WBL Sat. Morning Women’s Group, room 200
- 10am-2pm—Music rehearsal, sanctuary

Sunday, April 14: Palm Sunday

- 8am-noon—Pancake Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 9-10am—Worship; Sunday School & nursery
- 10-10:45am—Coffee, tea, and treats in Fellowship Hall
- 10:45-11:30am—Worship; Children’s Church & nursery

WHITE BEAR LAKE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is to provide nourishment
for the hungers of life.

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Sunday	9am to 12pm
Monday-Thursday	9am to 3pm
Friday and Saturday	CLOSED

SUNDAY BULLETIN/WEEKLY E-BLAST

Have a church-related event you’d like to appear in the Sunday bulletin or the weekly e-blast? Please email all pertinent information, including contact information, to office@wblumc.org no later than **1pm Tuesday** for the bulletin and **10am Wednesday** for the e-blast.

All information is subject to staff approval. Thank you!

To receive the weekly email update — sent every Thursday — call the office at 651-429-9026, email your request to office@wblumc.org or indicate it on a connection card.

Visit wblumc.org for sermon podcasts, PDFs of the 9am bulletins, the church calendar and programming info.

WBLUMC STAFF

Bill Eaves , Senior Pastor bill.eaves@wblumc.org , 763-355-7825 mobile	John Koziol, Jr. Director of Music
John McBride , Associate Pastor	Gerald Gurss , Chancel Choir Director
Missie Aberle , Next Generation Minister	Patricia Kytola , Director of Operations
Lori McBride , Missions & Faith Development Minister	Lauri Hopple , Administrative Assistant
Joan Hartman , Director of Children & Family Ministries	Lori Hughes , Website & Social Media
Peteria Cochran Routt , Director of Traditional Music	Carol Houghtby , Treasurer
	Carolyn Keith , Financial Secretary
	Ron Houde , Housekeeper

April 14 Palm Sunday Special Events

special music from

GOODSPELL

and

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR



APRIL 14: PALM SUNDAY

Pancake Breakfast 8am-noon; \$8/person or \$20/family
to benefit Operation Connection Ministries

9am worship with Chancel & Children’s choirs

10:45am worship with music from *Godspell* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*

APRIL 18: MAUNDY THURSDAY

5:30pm community supper

6:30pm worship

APRIL 19: GOOD FRIDAY

6:30pm service of candlelight and reflection —
portions of this service will be performed in American Sign Language

APRIL 21: EASTER SUNDAY

The Fear of Death and the Invitation to Life

8:30am & 9:45am traditional celebration
with brass, handbells and Chancel Choir

11am contemporary worship celebrated in many musical traditions

God loves **all** people. So do we.

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."
1 Corinthians 13:13

Outreach task force needs you

The Board of Directors is seeking volunteers to serve on a task force that will focus on outreach to the LGBTQ+ community. The goals are:

- To connect with those who have been hurt by the message of exclusion coming from our recent General Conference
- To communicate that we are truly a welcoming, inclusive congregation of people who believe that God Loves All People
- To organize opportunities for mutual connection and understanding.

If you're interested in serving or want more information, please email Sheila Bennett at sheila.bennett2@comcast.net.

Join us for a tea party

Anyone who enjoys tea and hats please join Sarah Circle for a tea party with Dorcas Circle, with the theme "The Good Woman Project" honoring unsung women in our lives. If you wish, share how this person influenced your life. Hats are encouraged! If you don't have one, some will be available, compliments of Susan Torgerson. Join us **Monday, April 8**, at 1pm in room 200. Bring paper or personal care products for Emma Norton Services.

Looking for help with grief?

The BeFriender Ministry sends *Journeying Through Grief* materials, a series of four pamphlets, throughout the year after the death of a family member. If you'd like to receive these materials or know of someone who might, please call Roberta Schmidt at 651-653-0067 or Barb Hinz at 651-777-0465.

In your own words

"This is not the love of Jesus Christ as I have learned and try to follow ... Now is not a time for me to remain silent. As much as I cannot stand getting involved in church politics, this goes way beyond that ... because my soul cries out in pain over this vote."

~ Kurt Johnson
WBLUMC congregant

Hearts & Hands invites you!

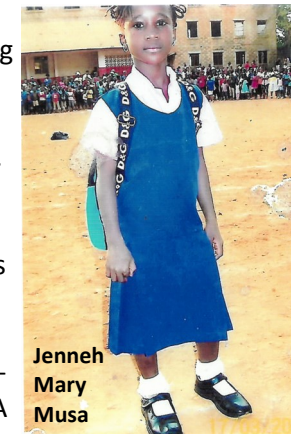
Do you want to learn how to knit or crochet? Hearts and Hands invites anyone, any age or gender, who'd like to learn to come to our meeting on **Monday, April 15**, 7-8:30pm in the church library. Please contact Barb Hinz at 651-777-0465 or barbhinz@juno.com so we can be prepared with yarn and needles and/or hooks for you. We look forward to sharing our hobby!

All-church conference

All congregation members are invited to an all-church conference to elect congregational leadership on **Sunday, May 5**, at 10:10am in room 200.

Pancakes help educate children!

When you join us for UMW's Pancake Breakfast on Palm Sunday, you'll be helping to fulfill the mission to focus on children, building the current and future kingdom Jesus referred to in real and tangible ways. Founded by Lake Harriet UMC member Larry Shelton, Operation Connection is a scholarship Program for children in schools in West Africa. WBLUMC's UMW has been sponsoring Sierra Leone student Jenneh Mary Musa for two years through this ministry. Jenneh Mary is 13 and in 8th grade. A portion of the proceeds from our upcoming breakfast will make it possible for Jenneh to continue in school for the 2019 school year. We hope you'll join us! **When: 8am-noon April 14. Cost: \$8/person or \$20/family.**

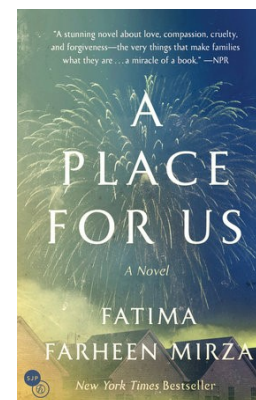


Summer camp update

TODAY is the last day to register for Good Earth Village Camp and receive a FREE T-shirt. Early bird discount of 10 percent goes through May 5. Siblings receive a discount of 15 percent. So far, six kids have registered for camp, and we'd love for your student to join the fun! Contact Joan if you have any questions.

Communion milestone

Communion Milestone for all 4th- and 5th-graders and their significant adult will be **Wednesday, April 10**, at 6:20pm. Learn more about this sacrament, your church, and enjoy a light dinner. Please RSVP to Joan by **today**.



April book club

April's selection is *A Place for Us* by Fatima Mirza. Everyone is welcome to discuss it on **Monday, April 22**, at 7pm in the church library. Here's a synopsis: As an Indian wedding gathers a family together, parents Rafiq and Layla must reckon with the choices their children have made. There is Hadia, their headstrong eldest daughter, whose marriage is a match of love and not tradition. Huda, the middle child, determined to follow in her sister's footsteps. And lastly, their estranged son, Amar, who returns to the family fold for the first time in three years. What secrets and betrayals have caused this close-knit family to fracture? Can Amar find his way back to the people who know and love him best?

Community expo *today*

As part of our outreach goal, WBLUMC volunteers will be handing out pizza cutters and information about our church **11am-3pm today** at the Northeast Metro Expo at White Bear Lake South High School, 3551 McKnight Road. It's a FREE family-friendly event with entertainment, food, a health & wellness showcase — and a "Sweet Caroline" singalong at 2pm!



Spring really *is* almost here

Now that the snow is mostly gone, the "adopt-a-flower-garden" group is recruiting new members. Join us in tending one of the beds that surround and beautify our church. For information or to join, please contact Linda Anderson at 651-777-3435 or ljranderson@comcast.net.