

“He made his dwelling among us.”

~ John 1:14

Most of us don’t really notice dirt, and if we do, the coarse, black grains appear to be just plain dirt. But it’s more. We do recognize the difference of how a change of landscape can alter our life experience. Many of us are alerted by the creak and crunch of winter below our boots, and if there was a possibility, we may have booked a flight to warmer, greener pastures. The surroundings we have landed in and made our way grow us in a sense and perhaps even root us. However, dirt is not just dirt. *Terroir* means “taste of the earth.” *Terroir* is sometimes described as that taste of “somewhereness” that you get from a specific geographical place. The climate, nutrients and land change the flavor of everything from a grape to a Honeycrisp apple. For example, if a Honeycrisp — originally developed at the University of Minnesota is grown — in Washington state, the fruit tastes distinctly different from the same apple grown in Minnesota. It has a “somewhereness” of where the apple was grown.

This gives us pause to consider our own *terroir* or “somewhereness” — our roots and places we plant ourselves. The distinction or contrast from an apple or a grape in our very own terroir is that God makes a sacred dwelling no matter where we are planted and has a view of our potential.

Some of us might desire a fresh landscape and some of us hope to never leave the places we’re rooted. That is precisely where we find many “bible sorts.” Jonah did not have any desire to travel to Nineveh, Jacob sought a new land far from family, Naaman did not want to bath in that water even to be healed, Peter sank as he attempted to walk on water, and Moses found himself quite distant from a palace herding and hiding amongst the sheep. These were people on the move, living their life stories and experiencing a “somewhereness.” It may be as Robert Frost wrote in 1916: “The way leads on to the way...I shall be telling this with a sigh somewhere ages and ages hence...I took a road less traveled and it has made all the difference.”

One way Sacred nurturance as well as challenge of “somewhereness” can come is within people or community. We

jostle, are pruned and bloom with others. Sometimes we happen to meet someone who seems interested in more than their self-interested, savvy conversation and we sense freedom. Our souls are fueled. Jan Johnson, spiritual director and author, writes: “I now see community as a school for love ... A welcoming, Christ-based love that aims higher and nudges us to reach out to others instead of focusing on what makes us feel good. When we enter a room, we ask God whom might we love, enjoy and perhaps serve.” This intention erases what Bonhoeffer referred to as “listening with half an ear.” It is a kinder space between us with “God filtering between you and me”, a distance that is patient with our flaws and gifts and we catch a view of what God is like.

Possibly, there is an image of this filter of open, receptive listening as we imagine Jesus and Matthew and see cause for Matthew to recall, “All are welcome in Christ.” It was Matthew, earlier known as Levi the tax collector, who day in and day out sifted coins from others until Jesus invited him to come. Jesus was aiming at what was really within Matthew with a Christ-kind of love. Pastor Evan Garner explains, “We see in these verses that Jesus was keeping company with tax collectors and sinners and that this choice got under the skin of the religious elites.” Jesus is bridging a holy space between human faces regardless of status, relationship or perfection.

From the roots of Genesis and all human storytelling, the ancient Hebrew definition of man (*adamah*) means of the ground. An understanding of an old word can sometimes help us begin to comprehend the original, hopeful “somewhereness” of God dwelling near. We learn the Bible and our lives are not filled with perfect people, but rather imperfect people who are malleable like soil to allow the plateaus and valleys of the land to bring shape to their inward souls. The Sacred is partnering with us to nurture the small flickering humanness we might not see straining to be expressed. 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 contact Julie Jacot at 651-777-3728 or ljjacot@q.com. **The Email Prayer Chain** accepts requests by contacting a pastor or leader Ronda Nelson, rondalauva2@msn.com.



White Bear Lake
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

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White Bear Lake
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NOURISHING THE HUNGERS OF LIFE

I am Worship ~ Sunday, February 10, 2019

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE; PLEASE SEE USHERS

• PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

WORDS FOR REFLECTION

“What a wonderful mystery this is! Our greatest fulfillment lies in giving ourselves to others ... Our humanity comes to its fullest bloom in giving. We become beautiful people when we give whatever we can give: a smile, a handshake, a kiss, an embrace, a word of love, a present, a part of our life ... all of our life.”

~ Henri J. M. Nouwen

PRELUDE

“Carillon and Bell Jubilee”

Alleluia Ringers

arr. Margaret Tucker

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

“We Shall Overcome”

Chancel Choir

Traditional arr. Tesfa Wondemagegnehu

+OPENING WORDS (responsively)

God’s word became flesh,
and revealed good news for all humankind.

God’s word lives among us,
So we may know God’s glory, full of grace and truth.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, has come into the world,
And shines a light of love and hope for all to see.

May God’s word and light become flesh in us and through us,
**that we may become beacons of truth and compassion,
enlightening all creation with God’s love, truth and justice.**

+OPENING HYMN

“Come Thou Almighty King”

No. 61

UNISON PRAYER

Gracious, loving and incarnate God, because you have revealed yourself in the person of Jesus, We encounter the face of the Divine in every person we meet; the friend who betrayed, the family gathered for a meal, the struggling single mother, the man on death row, the clerk in the store, the teenager on the corner, even those we call our enemy. Fill all creation with your word, so that by proclaiming your promises to all nations and singing your hope to all peoples, we may become your incarnate presence on earth. Amen.

ANTHEM	“Ubi Caritas” Chancel Choir	by Ola Gjeilo
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur. Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen.	Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart. Let it be so.	

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After this message, children and youth through 12th grade are invited to leave for Sunday School.

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	John 1:1-14	Reader: Ginger Davis
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.		
There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.		

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

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	A Vocabulary of Faith: Incarnation	Pastor John McBride
+HYMN	“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”	No. 184

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	“Gaudete!” (Rejoice!) Alleluia Ringers	arr. Michael Glasgow
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

+CLOSING HYMN	“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve” 1 & 4	No. 2241
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+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE	“Präludium in C”	J.S. Bach
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WELCOME

The pink rose on the altar is to commemorate the birth of Colbie Shaun Warren, born on Jan. 3, 2019, to Mark and Kimberly Warren. Welcome Colbie!

Valentine Bake Sale & Summer Camp!

Stop by the tables in the main hallway next **Sunday, Feb. 10**, from 10am-noon and pick up some baked goodies, all to support our Children & Youth fundraiser for summer camp.

In the middle of winter, isn't it nice to dream about Good Earth Village sleep-away camp? We'll return to Spring Valley, Minn., **July 28-Aug. 2** for grades 2-8 (completed). Two-night stay is also available.

Get more information at two meetings — 6:30pm **Wednesday, Feb. 13**, at 6pm, and **Sunday, Feb. 24**, at 10:15am — or on the Children's page at wblumc.org. You can also email joan.hartman@wblumc.org.

Sunday, Feb. 10: Valentine Bake Sale today!

9-10am—Worship; Sunday School & nursery
10-10:45am—Coffee, tea, and treats in Fellowship Hall; prayer room is open

10:45-11:30am—Worship; Children's Church & nursery

Monday, Feb. 11

10-11am—Hang Loose Women's Al-Anon, room 206

1-3pm—UMW Sarah Circle meeting, room 200

Tuesday, Feb. 12

12-2pm—Ministry Leaders, room 200

6pm—YogaDevotion, Fellowship Hall

6pm—Worship Committee, library

7-830pm—Finance Committee meeting, room 200

7-9pm—Staff-Parish Relations Committee, room 206

Wednesday, Feb. 13

9:45am-noon—UMW Dorcas Circle, room 200

6-7:15pm—Alleluia Ringers, sanctuary

6-6:30pm—Camp information meeting, room 200

6:30pm—Children's Activities & Youth Mentor night

7:30-9pm—Chancel Choir rehearsal, music room

Thursday, Feb. 14

7:10am—Men's Breakfast Group, library

9am-3pm—The Gathering, room 200/Fellowship Hall

10am—Pages of Wisdom AA, room 107

1-3pm—Book club (outside group), library

Saturday, Feb. 16

7:30am—Men's Prayer Group, room 107

8:30am-1pm—UMW Sewing for Mission, room 200

10am—WBL Sat. Morning Women's Group, 107/206

Sunday, Feb. 17

9-10am—Worship; Sunday School & nursery

10-10:45am—Coffee, tea, and treats in Fellowship Hall; prayer room is open

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 McBride, Associate Pastor
Missie Aberle, Next Generation Minister

Lori McBride, Missions & Faith Development Minister

Joan Hartman, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Peteria Cochran Routt, Director of Traditional Music

John Koziol, Jr. Director of Music
Gerald Gurss, Chancel Choir Director

Patricia Kytola, Director of Operations

Lauri Hopple, Administrative Assistant

Lori Hughes, Website & Social Media

Carol Houghtby, Treasurer

Carolyn Keith, Financial Secretary
Ron Houde, Housekeeper

A Vocabulary of Faith

Words are the building blocks of our thoughts. In our spiritual lives, there are some special words that help us to build a faith, talk about it, and live it.

This series will explore the words that make up the Vocabulary of Faith.

Today — A Vocabulary of Faith: Incarnation
February 17 — A Vocabulary of Faith: Community

February 24 — A Vocabulary of Faith: Vocation

March 3 — A Vocabulary of Faith: Benediction

*Fat Sunday
with a Dixieland band at both services*



Ash Wednesday Service | March 6

5:30pm light supper

6:30pm worship

Adult Faith classes

Do What You Have the Power to Do

We'll explore six gospel stories about women who did what they had the power to do, remembering and respecting their stories and what these women might say to us today.

When: 10:30am Thursdays on March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, 18

Co-Leaders: Tammey Busch & Rev. Jan Morey, retired pastor

From Bethany to the Sea of Tiberias

Follow the final week of Jesus' life, his death, and his resurrection, according to the Gospel of John. The only book required is a Bible. Study materials will be provided.

When: 6:30-8pm Mondays
March 11, 18, 25, April 8, 15

Leader: Pastor John McBride

"Yearnings" discussion group

An ongoing group for people who are yearning for a deeper understanding of faith for the time in which we live.

When: 6:30-8pm, second and fourth Mondays starting March 11.

Leader: Rev. Jim Roe, retired pastor

Look for sign-up sheets in the church narthex. Contact Lori McBride, minister of missions and faith development, with questions at lori.mcbride@wblumc.org

Sarah Circle book study

Sarah Circle will continue its study of *Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God*. Anyone who's interested is welcome to help us finish our discussion on John Wesley's theology and the Methodist practices for happiness at 1pm **Monday, Feb. 11**, in room 200.

Invitation from Dorcas Circle

Have you wondered which women have had significant roles in our Christian faith? Throughout history, countless women have left their mark on those around them and the wider church. Dorcas Circle will learn about them on **Wednesday, Feb. 13**. Join us at 9:45am for learning and fellowship. Please bring a donation for the White Bear Lake Food Shelf to support our mission project of the month. Contact Barb Hinz, 651-777-0465.



Last chance to sign up for Como tour

Take in the beauty of the flowers and plants and go behind the scenes to see how garden staff keep Marjorie McNeely Conservatory lush and green all year long. Join us 12:30pm on **Sunday, Feb. 17**; cost is \$15 per person. **Sign up today** in the church narthex. For more information email Lori McBride, lori.mcbride@wblumc.org.

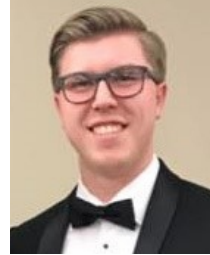
Lydia Project purple scarves

If you're making a scarf for the United Methodist General Conference, please turn it in by **Sunday, March 31**. There is a box in the storage closet by the office labeled Lydia Project where scarves can be placed. Please include your name. Contact Julie Rindelaub with questions at 651-343-4725.

Choral Scholars Spotlight

Tyler Berg, tenor

Tyler Berg is an aspiring music educator from Fargo who recently graduated from North Dakota State University. While at NDSU, Berg studied voice under Robert Jones, professor of voice and opera, and conducting under Jo Ann Miller, University Distinguished Professor. He was a four-year member of Concert Choir and the tenor section leader for two years. He was a featured soloist in the choral department's annual production of Handel's "Messiah," and was a member of the NDSU Madrigal Singers, NDSU Statesmen and BisonArts Singers. Berg had roles in "L'Enfant et les Sortilèges" and "The Marriage of Figaro," and most recently appeared as Cain/Japheth in NDSU's production of "Children of Eden."



February book club

This month's book is *Honolulu* by Allen Brennert, the story of a young "picture bride" who journeys to Hawai'i in 1914 in search of a better life. Instead of the affluent young husband and chance at an education she'd been promised, she's married off to a poor, embittered laborer who takes his frustrations out on his new wife. Renaming herself Jin, she makes her own way in a strange land, finding both opportunity and prejudice. With the help of three of her fellow picture brides, Jin prospers along with her adopted city, now growing from a small territorial capital into a great multicultural city. But paradise has its dark side, whether it's the daily struggle for survival in Honolulu's tenements, or a crime that will become the most infamous in the islands' history. Meeting will be **Monday, Feb. 28**, 7-8:15pm in the church library.

A Way Forward conversation at WBLUMC

Would you like a chance to have conversation about the Way Forward and the decision of the upcoming UM General Conference on issues related to same-sex marriage and LGBTQ clergy? Join us for two Listening Times with the pastors. The first, will be on **Sunday, Feb. 17**, at 10:10 am. The second, to be held after the General Conference session (Feb. 23-26 in St. Louis), will be on **Sunday, March 3**, at 10:10 am. Regardless of the outcome, the United Methodist Church will continue to worship, serve, and reach out to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. These times for conversation give us an opportunity to look to the future together.

Pastoral letter from the bishops

Bishop David A. Bard, President of the North Central College of Bishops, shares a pastoral letter regarding the special called session of the General Conference in St. Louis on Feb. 23-26.

Dear Friends in Christ in the North Central Jurisdiction,

We, the bishops of the North Central Jurisdiction, greet you in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit. Together we all stand on the edge of the special called session of General Conference in St. Louis in February. We are grateful that you have been praying with us in the months and days leading up to this significant gathering of the people called United Methodist, and we remain grateful for your continuing prayers.

During the past months we each have written and shared about this General Conference and the work of the Commission on a Way Forward. We have traveled throughout our areas teaching and listening, responding to your questions, sharing information and perspectives, and standing with you in this time of uncertainty.

As we approach this General Conference we invite you to trust that God's Spirit will be at work. The God of Jesus Christ is a God at work "making all things new" (Revelation 21:5), and often in surprising ways. "The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit" (John 3:8). Pray that fresh winds of God's Spirit will be at work and trust that God will answer this prayer.

Know that whatever decisions the General Confer-

ence makes, the ministry to which we are called in our churches, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, will continue. The day after General Conference there will still be hungry people needing food, those mired in poverty needing help, addicted people needing freedom, frayed relationships needing mending, broken lives needing healing, lost lives needing saving, injustices needing to be righted, and this work of God in Jesus Christ will still call to each of us and to our churches. If the decisions of General Conference lead to changing structures for engaging this ministry we commit ourselves to working with you to make grace-filled responses.

Finally, know that the entire Council of Bishops takes seriously the demands of presiding at General Conference. Bishops have undergone additional preparation so that we are better equipped to preside with the grace and acumen needed to help the General Conference do its work well.

As we approach General Conference we find ourselves in Epiphany, a season rooted in the story of magi who follow a star to find Jesus and when they do "they were overwhelmed with joy" (Matthew 2:10). May we each continue to see light that draws us closer to Jesus, and fills us with joy, so that we might share this joy with the world.

Grace and Peace,

Bishop David Alan Bard, President of the North Central Jurisdiction College of Bishops