

“Whoever tells the story defines the culture”

Minnesotan Dr. David Walsh is a national educator and media authority. As I listened to his “story” and research years ago, I began to realize how audiences are defined by story. Ultimately, any adventure or story told, televised or read carries power. Stories share a history, a point of view and characters who carry roles of who and what is esteemed and why. “Whoever tells the story defines the culture.”

Jesus stood on mounds, echoed across meadows and walked clay roads delivering stories. In fact, one-third of His teachings are parables. The American Bible Institute reports, “In Jewish, Greek or Roman society, storytelling ran the gamut of human activities from education (where the stories of Homer’s Iliad were copied, memorized and recited), to philosophy (where stories of the philosopher formed a basic part of the teaching), to politics, religion, travel and entertainment.” People memorized stories, mulling them a long while. Do you have any stories like that meandering inside you? I wonder what made people listen? Most certainly the ancient culture brimmed with to-dos which barely sustained a mere living and nevertheless, they listened to a story — and so do we.

Jesus was once asked why He spoke in parables. He replied “so the kingdom of heaven might be given...” Centuries later we tilt our heads to listen longer, to discover a resemblance of a more heaven-like world. What might happen if Jesus carried a more dominant point of view in the stories we listen to and tell? Historians believe a portion of why Jesus carved out parables was to elicit divergent points of view, to invite and allure in a broader crowd (especially folks who knew they didn’t need a teacher) and because humans retain a story. Parables grab us because as soon as we assume we understand the themes of the story, there is more to imagine. Parables have a simple yet complex pattern. For instance, is the Seed and Sower describing how to become “fertile ground” or is it about our Creator who abundantly and recklessly sows

seed our way even when we overlook growing? Or maybe The Sower is about how we might continue to earnestly sow and lean toward others who stand in rockier places?

The Lost Coin, The Lost Sheep and The Woman Baking with Leaven question our capacity to not only notice what is small, but to ponder value. The Good Samaritan asks us to see the poverty around us. It asks us to examine if we hold our lives open to serving and suddenly tugs at this opening to be more wide and inclusive.

We might assume we have leaped over mountains in terms of communicating with one another when we recount the diversity between iPhones and computers and the slow simmer of time and place Jesus lived in. However, a story is ageless and in our present time, research bears out we can be changed by stories. Princeton neuroscientist, Uri Hasson has learned that when we listen, our brains are actually wired to couple with one another. Magnetic resonance images picture similar brain patterns as we each relate to the same story experience. When your neocortex lights for a story, mine does too. When your insula activates, mine does too. Stories help us simultaneously experience joy, devotion, pain and ambition. Line by spoken line, our waves actually sync up with one another. Stories can escort us to not merely be “moved, but to be move together” or as Uri Hassan describes “to be greater than all of our parts.”

In summation, Jesus, the storyteller not only has the most patient of voices, He carves out an eternal invitation within the lines of a parable. The greatest thing about these stories is that you, and your Creator, Abba are central to every single story. A parable is an invitation almost as great as a lap to be immersed in. Tell a story, turn a page and write a fresh sentence in a new day. You are wired to be a part of a whole, touching this world for good. Whoever tells the story defines the culture. — 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, [ljjacot@q.com](mailto:ljjacot@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](mailto: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		
<b>Bill Eaves</b> , Senior Pastor starting June 25 <a href="mailto:bill.eaves@wblumc.org">bill.eaves@wblumc.org</a> , 763-355-7825 mobile	<b>Joan Hartman</b> , Director of Children & Family Ministries	<b>Patricia Kytola</b> , Director of Operations
<b>Brooke Heerwald Steiner</b> , Associate Pastor	<b>Amy McGrew</b> , Director of Youth Ministries	<b>Lauri Hopple</b> , Administrative Assistant
<b>John McBride</b> , Associate Pastor	<b>Peteria Cochran Routt</b> , Director of Traditional Music	<b>Lori Hughes</b> , Website & Social Media
	<b>John Koziol, Jr.</b> Director of Music	<b>Tom Leiser</b> , Treasurer
	<b>Matthew Goinz</b> , Chancel Choir Director	<b>Harry Jones</b> , Financial Secretary
		<b>Ron Houde</b> , Housekeeper



10am Worship Sunday, June 11, 2017

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

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

“Three things in human life are important.  
The first is to be kind.  
The second is to be kind.  
The third is to be kind. ”  
~ Henry James

PRELUDE “Jesu, Jesus, Fill Us With Your Love” Anne K. Organ

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

+OPENING WORDS (responsively)  
Jesus said, “Follow me.”  
**We don’t always know what that means.**  
We are on a journey of discovery.  
**We are here because we want to be God’s people;**  
we are here because we are broken and want to be whole again;  
**we are here to celebrate our lives, and God’s presence in this life.**  
Let us worship God with great thanksgiving.

+OPENING HYMN “Hymn of Promise” No. 707

UNISON PRAYER  
**Gracious God, you know our wounds, our troubles, and our needs even before we know them ourselves. As the Samaritan showed compassion to the wounded man, you offer mercy to us. As you fill our lives with grace and mercy, may we do the same to your creation. Give us the courage to share the light of your love in a dark world. Remind us to choose love over fear when given the choice. Orientate our love towards our enemies and turn them into our neighbors. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After the message, children and youth through 8th 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

Luke 10:25-37

Reader: Jan Morey

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.” But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

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

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

Pastor Brooke Heerwald Steiner

+HYMN

“Jesu, Jesu”  
Stanzas 1-4

No. 432

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

Chancel Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+CLOSING HYMN

“Let All Things Now Living”

No. 2008

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING SENIORS!

**Madison Bjostad**, White Bear Lake Area High School  
Attending Hamline University,  
majoring in economics

**Jacob Dalhoff**, White Bear Lake Area High School  
Attending the University of Minnesota,  
majoring in chemical engineering

**Clarissa Grilley**, Mahtomedi High School  
Attending Montana State University in Bozeman  
to study environmental science

**Beret Caroline Holslin**, Mahtomedi High School  
Attending Bemidji State University to study  
business and accounting

**Joe Moore**, Mahtomedi High School  
Attending the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire

**Joseph Pereira**, White Bear Lake Area High School  
Attending the University of MN-Duluth

**Sarah Elise Smith**, Mahtomedi High School  
Attending Loyola University Chicago for biochemistry

**Carson Tembrock**, Centennial High School  
Attending Bemidji State University  
for aquatics biology

**Ally Wilson**, Mahtomedi High School  
Attending the College of Saint Benedict



WEEKLY CALENDAR

- Sunday, June 11**  
10am—Worship/nursery; Sunday school  
11am—Coffee/tea, doughnuts, fellowship  
11am—Individual prayer, prayer room
- Monday, June 12**  
10am—Hang Loose Women’s Al-Anon, room 206  
6pm—UMW Sarah Circle picnic, offsite (see insert)
- Tuesday, June 13**  
6pm—YogaDevotion class, Fellowship Hall  
6:30-7:30pm—Trustees meeting, room 107  
7-8:30pm—Finance committee, room 200
- Wednesday, June 14**  
9:45-11:45am—UMW Dorcas Circle, room 200
- Thursday, June 15**  
7:10am—Men’s Breakfast Group, library  
10am—Pages of Wisdom, room 107  
7-8:30pm—BeFriender’s picnic, offsite
- Friday, June 16**  
5pm—Peter O Gorman recital
- Saturday, June 17**  
7:30am—Men’s Prayer Group, room 107  
10am—Women’s Breakfast group, room 200  
11am-12:30pm—Manitou Days pizza & garage sale  
2pm—Peter O Gorman recital
- Sunday, June 18**  
10am—Worship/nursery; Sunday school  
11am—Coffee/tea, doughnuts, fellowship  
11am—Individual prayer, prayer room

Welcome to

WHITE BEAR LAKE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Visit [wblumc.org](http://wblumc.org) for weekly sermon podcasts, the church calendar and programming details.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

<b>Sunday:</b>	9am to 12pm
<b>Monday:</b>	9am to 3pm
<b>Tuesday:</b>	9am to 3pm
<b>Wednesday:</b>	9am to 3pm
<b>Thursday:</b>	9am to 3pm
<b>Friday:</b>	9am to 12pm
<b>Saturday:</b>	CLOSED

**SUNDAY BULLETIN**

Please email information to [office@wblumc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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**

The June issue of LifeSource is on the welcome table in the narthex. Please pick one up!

The next issue will publish in September. If you’re on a team that plans to hold a church event September through November, we want to help you get the word out. Photos from annual events would be very helpful! Please email information and photos to Lauri at [office@wblumc.org](mailto:office@wblumc.org). **Deadline: Aug. 28.**

SPECIAL SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL!

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



PRECIOUS WATER TAKEAWAYS

From the recent presentation by Kevin Lee, staff attorney for the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy we learned:

- 1. Most environmental problems happen after a mine closes, which leaves no incentive for the mine to pay the cost and why it’s essential that agreements with mining companies require that money is set aside to cover possible damages. Some companies try to avoid this by declaring bankruptcy.
- 2. There are mining companies that are committed to the community. They often have these characteristics: use union labor, provide funding for schools in case of a bust, and are transparent about water quality data. Foreign-owned companies tend to be less committed to the community.

Women’s Casual Golf Group

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



**June 14:** Gross National, 2201 St. Anthony Blvd. (I-35W and Hwy 36 area); 612-230-6524. \$19/no senior discount for 9 holes. For the tee time, email Mary Cripe at [suzary006@comcast.net](mailto:suzary006@comcast.net) by Sunday evening or call Carol Effertz, 651-429-6023.

Thank you

**From WBLUMC member Susan Wahlin:** “Thank you to my church family for your caring thoughts and prayers following my recent surgery.”

Altar flowers

This week’s altar flowers are provided by Audrey Nelson and family in loving memory of Ron Nelson.

We have several openings coming up for altar flowers! If you’re interested, stop by the bulletin board outside the office to put your name on the calendar. *Please also fill out the yellow form (below the calendar) and leave it with the office!*

IT’S BACK!

Sightlines Prayer Project 2017

Ever picture the face of someone you care for? Ever want to do something significant with your summer? Ever want to keep someone in your sight? Sightlines is an opportunity to offer a prayer for someone’s wholeness to the compassionate power of God’s goodness. No specifics or questions about what or why. Just pray in your way.

**Who:** Teens, youth and adults, all welcome!  
**When:** Beginning in July  
**How:** Sign up at the welcome table. Leave your phone/email so we can let you know for whom you’ll pray.  
**Questions:** Julie Jacot [ljjacot@q.com](mailto:ljjacot@q.com)/651-777-3728  
Dave Hegdahl [shegdahl2@comcast.net](mailto:shegdahl2@comcast.net)/612-481-5224

*Pray in word, thought and breath  
Pray in the work of the hand, lament or love  
Pray into the blue or dark skies,  
in whispers floating across water,  
Pray in a melody  
Pray your own prayer, your own way.  
Prayer has infinite forms.*

Plan your summer by pledging to offer a daily prayer for one person!



MANITOU DAYS 2017:

Pizza volunteers needed ...

The Bread Oven Ministry thanks all of the wonderful volunteers who help make the Community Bread Oven a success! We need your help again for the Manitou Days pizza giveaway event on **Saturday, June 17**. Sign up in the narthex or email [Breadoven@wblumc.org](mailto:Breadoven@wblumc.org).

**Note:** Baking With a Purpose will take a break until October, but stay tuned for our summer events!)

... and church garage sale

In conjunction with the Manitou Days pizza giveaway, we’ll be selling church items like white boards, old chairs, a sofa, children’s toys and more. **Both events will be 11am-12:30pm Saturday, June 17.**

St. Paul Saints game

See the St. Paul Saints take on the Sioux Falls Canaries at CHS Field in downtown St. Paul at 5pm **Sunday, Aug. 13**. Families, friends, singles, couples — all are welcome! Tickets are \$15 for adults (18+) and \$10 for children (2-17). Kids under 2 are free. Online payment preferred at [wblumc.org/events/event](http://wblumc.org/events/event) registration. Payments are due by **July 10**. Contact Jeremy Steiner,

Yoga class by YogaDevotion

The summer yoga session will be **June 13-July 25**, every Tuesday 6-7pm in Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$48 for 6 weeks. (No classes on July 4 or in August.) If you would like to join this class or want more information, contact Carolyn at 651-779-0311 or [tersay@msn.com](mailto:tersay@msn.com).

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

June food shelf requests

Almost everyone wants to eat healthier, and the neighbors who rely on the food shelf are no different. In June, we’re collecting whole-grain pasta and brown rice 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. Thank you for your generosity!

Meet your Muslim neighbors

During Ramadan, the Minnesota Council of Churches and the Muslim American Society will host a series of Taking Heart Open Houses throughout the metro area. Nearby, the Al-Salam Mosque in Maplewood will welcome its non-Muslim neighbors for encounter and learning, capped off by a traditional Iftar or fast-breaking meal. The event will begin at 7:30pm on **Tuesday, June 13**, at the mosque, 1460 Skillman Ave. E. Register online at [mnchurches.org](http://mnchurches.org) or contact Taking Heart organizer Rev. Cynthia Bronson Sweigert, [revcbs11@gmail.com](mailto:revcbs11@gmail.com).

Prosperity Summit at Century College

Poverty is resolvable, but this will require a deeper understanding of it and its impact on human beings. Join us for a prosperity summit at Century College on **Thursday, June 15**, 6-8:30pm. We’ll discuss a shared understanding of poverty and its effects, shared language for addressing poverty, and strategies for overcoming barriers. Learn how you can make a difference in the life of a student by becoming part of the Opportunity Community in partnership with Century college. Contact: [Michele.Jersak@century.edu](mailto:Michele.Jersak@century.edu) or Linda Anderson with the church’s Faith In Action team.