

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God

There is a dimness that has seemed to settle into culture if you've bumped into the popular talk on the street. In contrast, this writing is not at all about dimness, but instead it's concerned with our culture living brightly. How absolutely perfect to imagine Light when we have been given the longest days and tilt our heads toward inked skies to catch soaring fireworks. Perhaps this tune will turn our thoughts.

*Here am I, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?*

If you've been around the church, you most likely sing out "Here I Am" like some sort of grace-breathed mantra. A young Dan Schutte living in Berkeley felt this grace infused too when he was asked to write a song to be presented at an ordination scheduled in 3 days as a favor. Dan was sniffing with a giant case of the flu and the tight timeline, but wanted to be a friend. That is where a simple prayer enters the song's history. Dan asked God to be used similarly to the Samuel narrative and the call of the Lord in Isaiah 6. Dan delivered "Here I Am," stopping along the way to adjust the score and a song, and a little more light crept into the horizons which separate day and night. A prayer — a friend to another friend — and bits of self.

I'm not sure of where you are, who your neighbors are and what light you are hoping to bear, but our Creator's has assured that we are born to bear and to be children of Light. Biblically, here are 440 inferences to light.

Every day light-bearing is described within the pages of Christianity for the Rest of Us by Dianna Butler Bass as she writes about her research with vibrant neighborhood churches that are transformative. Yes, transformative people living brightly. This may seem outlandish to our over stimulated media mindset, but there are neighborhoods, businesses, churches and pure human souls in ten thousand places that are brilliantly demonstrating their inspired faith. These "living epistles" are most certainly sometimes unaware or even the opposite, quite timid of light bearing. They, like us are not always confidently living any sort of perfected life, but it is significant to say; they recognize their human uncertainty and temporary hesitancy does not shadow neighboring. They offer an "open space where change can take place (Nouwan)."

In Butler's words, "a community is where we witness to not just God and to the Bible abstractly. It is the whole emphasis to experience God. To take pilgrims to the edge of the gap where, unexpectedly believers glimpse God and that vision can empower--as it did for Moses when he saw God's back--acts of faith. Head, hearts, hands. Connected and integrated."

Gaps exist and separate us, but what might happen if a gap was an open space to experience God? What would happen if we shed some light to visualize this ample holy ground? Being neighborly is more than a folksy approach to living; it is a prayer for the Sacred to move us and to move God right into the midst of the neighborhood. Hamline professor and cancer survivor Deanna Thompson speaks about her family's new found "neighbors." Deanna had a host of people who somehow arrived into her "neighborhood" and made a "mark on her soul." She experienced loss, a spinal fracture, stage IV cancer; needless to say, light was pretty hard to set her eye on. The mystery is Deanna describes this time as fractured and yet, neighboring on the universal body of Christ stunning her and mysteriously embodying Christ. Her diverse neighborhood with their traditions "embraced, blessed and honored her" from Minnesota to California and from India to Sri Lanka.

I read of Deanna, watch the neighbor outside my window trudge winter through spring and all over again holding the hand of a friend who is growing too weary to manage the walk alone. In yet another "neighborhood," I see an embrace between two who stood far, far apart and I see Light of world. Earlier I spoke of dimness being the talk on the street — however, this is the real talk! "Here I am Lord, It is I. Who will bear my light to them?" — 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

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John McBride, Associate Pastor

Joan Hartman, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Amy McGrew, Interim Director of Youth Ministries

Peteria Cochran Routt, Director of Traditional Music

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



10am Worship Sunday, July 2, 2017

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE; PLEASE SEE USHERS

• PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

Hymn sing!

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

"Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life." ~ Berthold Auerbach

PRELUDE

"In the Garden"

No. 314

"...she turned and she saw Jesus standing there." ~ John 20:14

"Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

No. 344

WELCOME

John Koziol, Director of Music

CALL TO WORSHIP

"Sing of the Lord's Goodness"

Ernest Sands

Matthew Goinz, solo

+OPENING WORDS (responsively)

O God, our God, how majestic is the world you created.

When we look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars--we give you thanks.

You have created us as well, with awe and beauty and complexity--we give you thanks.

O God, our God, how majestic is the world you created, and all the living things within it.

You gave us life filled with love and blessings aplenty.

We sing our praises to you for all the works of wonder around us.



HYMNS & STORIES

Hymn story, Susan Jones

“Be Thou My Vision”

No. 451

(Congregation is invited to stand when the hymn title is in bold.)

Hymn story, Matthew Goinz

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

No. 133

“The Eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms...” ~ Deuteronomy 33:27

“America the Beautiful”

No. 696

UNISON PRAYER

You have broken into our lives, O God, creating the world anew today. You have breathed new life into our sleeping souls and have put a song in our hearts. So we come today to offer you our thanks and praise. Pour down the blessings of your spirit upon each one here this morning, that we may sense your nearness once more. This we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

HYMNS & STORIES

Hymn story, Sharon Jaslow

“Brightly Beams our Father’s Mercy”

Verse 1

Brightly beams our Father’s mercy

From his lighthouse evermore,

But to us He gives the keeping

Of the lights along the shore.

Chorus

Let the lower lights be burning!

Send a gleam across the wave!

Some poor fainting, struggling seaman

You may rescue, you may save.

“How Great Thou Art” v. 1 & 2

No. 77

Hymn story, Lori Hughes & Ronda Nelson

“I’ll Fly Away”

No. 2282

“Here I am, Lord” v. 1 & 3

No. 593

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 150

Reader: Susan Jones

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!
Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!
Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!
Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

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.

HYMNS & STORIES

“The Old Rugged Cross” v. 1 & 4

No. 504

“Lord of the Dance”

No. 261

Hymn story, Nancy Willson

“This is My Song” v. 1 & 2

No. 437

MORNING PRAYER

Sharon Jaslow, prayer team

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.

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

“Canticle of the Sun”

Matthew Goinz, solo

Marty Haugen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sharon Jaslow

HYMNS & STORIES

Hymn story, Matthew Goinz

“For the Beauty of the Earth” v. 1, 2, 4 & 6

No.92

“Therefore You are great, O Lord God. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.” ~ 2 Samuel 7:22

“Jesus Loves Me”

No. 191

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

No.2158

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

“God Bless America”

Matthew Goinz, solo

Irving Berlin

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week’s flowers are provided by Irene and Julia Bakke as a thank-you to Lisa and Cheryl for their work with the Children’s Choir.

Sunday, July 2

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

Monday, July 3

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

Tuesday, July 4

CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY

Wednesday, July 5

9am-3pm—Office open
No scheduled activities.

Thursday, July 6

7:10am—Men's Breakfast Group, library
10am—Pages of Wisdom, room 107

Friday, July 7

9am-noon—Office open
No scheduled activities.

Saturday, July 8

7:30am—Men's Prayer Group, room 107
9:30am-3:30pm—Sewing for Mission,
Fellowship Hall
10am—Women's Breakfast group, room 200

Sunday, July 9

10am—Worship/nursery; Sunday school resumes
11am—Coffee/tea, doughnuts, fellowship
11am—Individual prayer, prayer room

Monday, July 10

10am—Hang Loose Women's Al-Anon, room 206
7pm—Worship Committee meeting, library

Tuesday, July 11

2-3:30pm—Tuesdays at 2, room 200
6pm—YogaDevotion, Fellowship Hall
6:30pm—Trustees meeting, room 107
7-8:30pm—Finance Committee meeting, room 200
7-9pm—Staff-Parish Relations Committee, room 206

Wednesday, July 12

9:45-11:45am—UMW Dorcas Circle, room 200
5-8pm—Summer Pizza Night, patio

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 part of a group or ministry 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 deadline will be Tuesday, Aug. 22.**

NEW JULY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

July 9, 16, 23 and 30

No children's Sunday school today due to the holiday weekend. Nursery is available for ages 0-3.
Thank you for keeping your older children with you in worship.



July Children's Series
Building Faith
Brick by Brick
Sundays at 10:00 am
Friends welcome!

STARTING TODAY! 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 and be sure to leave your contact information. Or contact Julie Jacot ljjacot@q.com/651-777-3728 or Dave Hegdahl shegdahl2@comcast.net/612-481-5224

Committee changes and leadership report

Two new chairs began their terms on July 1: Mike Faust is the new chair of the Board of Directors and Heather Broneak is the new chair of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee. For a full list of committees and their leadership, please pick up a 2017-18 Lay Leadership Report on the welcome table in the narthex. And our thanks to all who volunteer their time, energy and expertise to keep this church community strong!

Extra furniture sale items!

Freewill donations accepted: After the recent remodeling of the church offices the following items have become available: Sofa, Love Seat, Kitchen Table, Folding Chairs, Doll Beds, and Child's Kitchen Playset, Bulletin Boards, White Boards and much more. If you like a good bargain or are in need of slightly used items we have a deal for you. See Director of Operations, Patricia Kytola, Monday through Thursday 9am to 3pm to make arrangements to move these items to a new home. Items not sold by July 30 will be donated to a local charity. Questions? Call the office, 651-429-9026.

Coming soon! Summer pizza nights

Meet us at the wood-fired oven 5:30-7:30pm Wednesday **July 12 (correct date!)** and **Aug. 16** for pizza, music, friends, family and community. Bring a chair/blanket and enjoy a great summer night! Freewill offering.



Women's Golf Group

Any women interested in golfing are invited to join us every Wednesday afternoon at local courses. **July 5:** Gem Lake Executive, 4039 Scheuneman Road, White Bear Lake; 651-429-8715. For tee time, email Mary Cripe by Sunday evening at suzary006@comcast.net or call Carol Effertz, 651-429-6023.



God's closet reminder

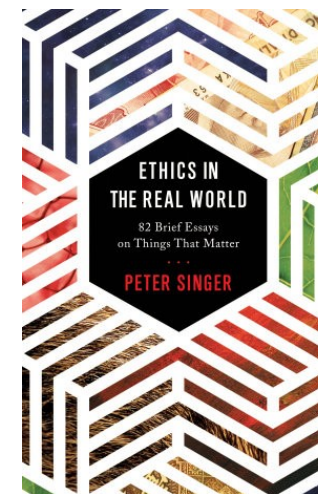
We welcome your donations, but remember that if you bring used clothes for God's closet, please bring only spring and summer clothes. You can bring used, clean clothes and put them in the boxes in the closet across from the office. Also, you can pick up a sheet provided by God's Closet to be used for taxes when donating the clothes.

STARTS NEXT WEEK!

Tuesdays at 2:

"Ethics in the Real World"

Join us to read and discuss "Ethics in the Real World" by Peter Singer. Singer has been referred to as the world's most influential philosopher as well as one of its most controversial. In this book, he tackles big issues like climate change, poverty, animals, the sale of kidneys, and whether we should outlaw smoking. A collection of 82 topical essays will certainly give us something to talk about! Contact Pastor Brooke with questions or sign up at wblumc.org/events/event-registration. Meet 2-3:30pm Tuesdays, **July 11, 18 and 25** in Room 200. A supply of books is available in the office for \$18.



July donations to White Bear food shelf

As you know, many of our neighbors rely on the food shelf for personal care items such as toilet paper. But as you can see in the photo below, the food shelf is nearing the end of its supply!



So for the month of July, we shall answer the plea for TP! Please place your donations of toilet paper and other personal care items (soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, razors, etc.) in the bins in the

God's Closet reminder

We welcome your donations, but remember that if you bring used clothes now for God's Closet, please bring only spring and summer clothes. You can bring used, clean clothes and put them in the boxes in the closet across from the office. You can pick up a sheet provided by God's Closet to be used for taxes when donating the clothes.



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Deadline to sign up is July 10!

See the St. Paul Saints take on the Sioux Falls Canaries at CHS Field in downtown St. Paul at 5pm on **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-registration. Payments are due by **July 10**. Contact Jeremy Steiner, jeremy@steinermn.com.

The welcome of a flower: Our refreshed urns

The flowers in our south welcome pots have been renewed by Roger and Judy Cheatham. They welcome us as we enter as a memorial of the gift of growth within this sacred place.