

Your aspirations are ...

“Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.” Colossians 3:12

We begin to dream a little bolder as the earth emerges to green, but some of us emerge all year long. That is how it was for Abraham, our 16th president. Abraham Lincoln, who was given his deep roots and education from a family who had little, surprisingly became synonymous with character. Abraham who was described as frumpy most of the time became a revered leader. Honest Abe is quoted, “I remember my mother’s prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life.” It was this hope, this dream, this prayer that hung around like a suit of bold confidence long after his Mom. Seemingly prayers have the audacious ability to give someone a dream — and not only this; the Creator has the potential to slowly unroll a prayer like a bold, red royal carpet long after our days together.

In a quite different decade where cars whiz on free-ways and computers and phones share our acknowledgments, prayers continue to have the potential to usher the same faithfulness in and for one another. That is how it was for Esmeralda who emerged to fullness by holding others up in a prayer behind the scenes.

Esmeralda or Ezzy for short, made her home amongst the neighborhood and had a door that was wide open. Oh surely she closed it, but figuratively, Ezzy was open to all shades and sizes of people. Her long brown arms seemed to encircle every kid near, even if they were 45 or 82. She made you feel like it was your birthday or perhaps better said, like when time had not pushed you down a peg. There was food for people who were really hungry and some of it was sandwiches piled high with

loads of turkey, but most of the “food” Ezzy served had to do with a whole different kind of hunger. Then, she served lavish helpings of quiet, mixed with “Ohs,” “I sees” and “hmms.” Ezzy heard straight from her heart. Yep, quiet was what enveloped around you and that comfortable, silent, holy space said it all because you knew somehow she knew God. We might call Ezzy a supermom, although officially she was a mother to none. Nevertheless, Ezzy was a mother to most anyone who needed one every day. I guess sometimes official simply does not have a place in real life.

Perhaps you know a parent, a friend, a neighbor or a super dad or mom like this? If you do, you know that the wisdom of their gift is stillness which somehow offers your soul ample time and trust to try on a few things until it is you who is revealed. Profound sages of humanity understand aspirations are possibilities waiting like seasons which have not been lived and like suits of clothing that have not been grown into.

I often think these sorts of people who let still small voices be heard are exquisite, rare gifts. They remind us of Jesus. Jesus, the God-man, who lingered at tables with outdated sorts, invited bands of frumpy amateurs to lead and touched folks on the fringe. Jesus, who lives with us in our worst mistakes and on our most celebratory moments — it is this Jesus, that is still most interested in touching a heart, clinging like Lincoln’s mom’s prayer and Ezzy, the supermom — one dream at time. It’s official; it is this Spirit that clings to us, adorning us in patience, meekness, kindness and humility.

A grateful thanks for touching hearts all of you official and unofficial chosen ones.

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 ljacot@q.com.

The Email Prayer Chain accepts requests by contacting a pastor or leader Ronda Nelson, rondalauva2@msn.com.

The Phone Prayer Chain is organized through the UMW. If you would like to request a prayer, call Eva Shipley at 651-429-3570.



9am Worship ~ Communion Sunday, May 6, 2018

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE: PLEASE SEE USHERS

• PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.”

~ Harriet Tubman

“When you arise in the morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive — to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to love.”

~ Marcus Aurelius

PRELUDE

“Shepherd Me, O God”
Paul Gutmann, soloist

Marty Haugen

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT

“Christ is our Cornerstone”
Chancel Choir

David Throne
(b. 1950)

†OPENING WORDS (responsively)

God our Creator is the source of love at our beginning and the love that sustains us without end.

God is in our midst and within each of us.

In this Easter season of springtime, we celebrate that the powers of despair and destruction do not have the final word;

**that new life can still break out; that love is stronger than death;
and that nothing can stop the life, hope, and determination of people of faith.**

†OPENING HYMN

“Come and Find the Quiet Center”

No. 2128

UNISON PRAYER

God, you spoke and the universe was created. You uttered a word and all was put into its place. Speak again, Mighty One. Speak light into our darkness. Speak order into our chaos. Bring us up from the depths. Anoint us with your Spirit. Break into our lives and remind us that we are your children, beloved and cherished. Amen.

ANTHEM "Homeward Bound" arr. Jay Althouse

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After the children's 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 Matthew 6:5-13 Reader: Cecile Cozad

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

"Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one."

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 Dream Catchers: Hearing God's Voice Pastor Bill Eaves

After the message, high school students are invited to leave for first pick of refreshments and meet in the High School Program Room to unpack today's sermon.

+HYMN "You are Mine" No. 2218
1,2 & 4

CONNECTION CARDS *Please take time now to fill out your green connection cards. After the prayer of dedication, you can place them in the offering plates as they are passed to you.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING "Hymne" (Vangelis) arr. by Lori Line

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

On a night of both celebration and betrayal, Jesus took the bread from the table, blessed it and broke it; reminding them that it is in the breaking that we become whole, and in losing our lives that we find them.

As the scattered grain becomes one in the loaf:

when we eat this bread, we become one with each other.

He also took the cup, remembering with them the life-giving breath even now pounding a rhythm through our veins, the breath of life from whence we come.

As the grapes find life in the vine:

when we drink this cup, we become at one with the source of life itself.

Come, holy Spirit, come.

Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.

that our eyes might be open, and that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst and in one another.

Come, holy Spirit, come.

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 "Come, Share the Lord" Bryan J. Leech
Carrie Sinclair, soloist

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

Creating God, we give thanks for this feast of life.

We are fed by your love and strengthened by your presence.

We are sent forth into this world to live your way and share your joy.

Now let us feed the hungry as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, and love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE "An Irish Blessing" Lori Line

Altar flowers: Today's floral arrangement is provided by WBLUMC's United Methodist Women, to recognize the 149th year of United Methodist Women's Legacy.

Now is the time! Seeking flower garden volunteers

The flower gardens and landscaping surrounding our church are maintained by volunteers, many of whom have been involved for several years. We need more people to help keep them beautiful! Responsibilities include weeding and maintaining one of our plots throughout the spring/summer season. To join, please contact Linda Anderson at ljranderson@comcast.net or 651-777-3435.

Sunday, May 6

9-10am—Worship and nursery
9-11:30am—Kids' Church Symbol Bingo, room 200
10am—Coffee, tea and treats, Fellowship Hall
Individual prayer, prayer room
10:10am—Cherub Choir rehearsal, room 205
10:45-11:30am—Contemporary worship; nursery open

Monday, May 7

10am—Hang Loose Women's Al-Anon, room 206
3-5pm—UMW Board meeting, room 200
3:30-5pm—Bell Trio rehearsal, sanctuary
7-8:30pm—UMW spring program, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 8

12-2pm—Ministry leaders meeting, room 200
6pm—Yoga class, Fellowship Hall
6:30pm—Trustees meeting, room 107
7-9pm—Staff-Parish Relations Committee, room 206

Wednesday, May 9

9:45-11:45am—UMW Dorcas Circle, room 200
5:30-7pm—Music banquet, Fellowship Hall
7-8:30pm—Lux Aeterna rehearsal
8:30-9pm—Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, May 10

7:10am—Men's Breakfast Group, library
9am-3pm—The Gathering, room 200
10am—Pages of Wisdom AA, room 107
1-3pm—Book Club (outside group), library

Saturday, May 12

7:30am—Men's Prayer Group, room 200
10am—WBL Sat. Morning Women's Group, room 107
1-3:30pm—Chancel Choir rehearsal, sanctuary

Sunday, May 13

9-10am—Worship and nursery
9-11:30am—Last Sunday school/Gaga ball, room 200
10am—Coffee, tea and treats, Fellowship Hall
Individual prayer, prayer room
10:45-11:30am—Contemporary worship; nursery open

Welcome to

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-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 **1pm 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.

STAFF

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Brooke Heerwald Steiner,
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Joan Hartman, Director of
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Linnea Uhler, Director of Youth
Ministries

Peteria Cochran Rountt, Director
of Traditional Music

John Koziol, Jr. Director of Music
Matthew Goinz, Chancel Choir
Director

Patricia Kytola, Director of
Operations

Lauri Hoppole, Administrative
Assistant

Lori Hughes, Website & Social
Media

Carol Houghtby, Treasurer

Harry Jones, Financial Secretary

Ron Houde, Housekeeper



Dream Catchers

Join us at 9am and 10:45am worship
for our spring sermon series!

God has a dream for all of us and for the world we live in.

Connecting with God through faith offers us a way to live in hope and confidence, to transform the pain and sorrow we all face, and to catch the dream that God has for us. Join us as we look at how we can work with God to create the world that God dreams of.

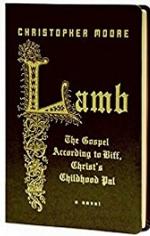
Today: Hearing God's Voice

May 13: In the Fullness of Time

May 20: God Only Has Us

May book club

May's book will be *Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal* by Christopher Moore. Meeting will be **Monday, May 21** — a week early because of the Memorial Day holiday.



UMW spring program

Ruth Wiertzema, the former Director of Connectional Ministries for the Red Bird Missionary Conference, will share stories about her experiences on **Monday, May 7**, at 7pm in Fellowship Hall. She will also talk about motivation for being engaged in mission as a church and as individuals.

The Red Bird Missionary Conference is one of three UMC missionary conferences in the United States and the most comprehensive. It is in ministry with and serves Appalachian families living in the coal region of southeastern Kentucky. Its goal is to minister to the whole person by addressing spiritual, physical, educational and economic needs.

Food donations for the White Bear Area Emergency Food Shelf are appreciated.

Dessert will be served, all are welcome!



Welcome to our refugee family

Last Friday the church welcomed a refugee family from Burma, also known as Myanmar. This Karenni family consists of a mother, father and five children between the ages of 9 and 16. (*Because of confidentiality we cannot publish the family names.*) The parents fled their country in 1996. All the children were born in the Ban Mai Nai Soi refugee camp in Thailand. The Up All Night group prepared their apartment and will provide transportation for many appointments.



Thank you for all your assistance with shopping, donating, transporting, apartment-cleaning and arranging. Current family needs are for sheets (single and full) and pillow cases. To donate items for the family, please contact Barb Hinz at 651-777-0465 or barbhinz@juno.com. Donations brought to the church may be placed in the bins in Fellowship Hall.

For more background, Google the name of the camp and/or the article *Refugees from Burma* by Barron, Okell, *et al.*

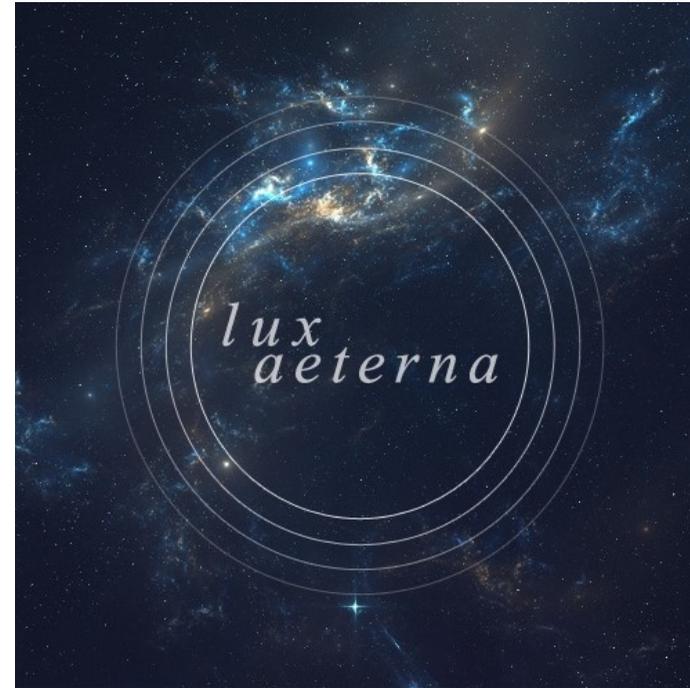
An Introduction to the Protect MN organization

The Up All Night social justice action group invites you to join us at 6:30pm **Tuesday, May 15**, for a presentation by the Rev. Nancy Bence, Executive Director of Protect Minnesota. You'll hear about:

- How to balance our Constitutional rights of gun ownership and of health and safety;
- The role of faith in addressing gun violence;
- Understanding the challenges to enacting laws that promote gun safety and help prevent gun violence;
- What Protect Minnesota is doing to advocate for gun safety and to end gun violence.

All are welcome! Please spread the word and invite your neighbors and friends to join us in the sanctuary. You can read more about the organization online at protectmn.org.

"Lux Aeterna" Choral Presentation



Join us for 9am worship **next Sunday, May 13**, for choral composer Morten Lauridsen's "Lux Aeterna" — a five-movement work for chorus and organ organized around Latin texts that contemplate the idea of light. The Chancel Choir and Choral Scholars will be accompanied by Peteria Cochran Routt on organ. This is a free community event — please bring a guest!

Community garden sign-ups

It's that time of year again, even if it seems late. Contact Larry or Denise Kerr at 651-484-6092 or email denisekerr19@gmail.com to get your 2018 Garden Agreement and Application, or stop by the office. We're working on getting the form and payment online, too! Plots are still \$20.

Adopt-a-Pot

With spring finally here, the large welcome urns outside our doorways are available to be sponsored. You may choose to honor a person, a group or a heartfelt memorial for individual pots or all of them. Place donations in the offering basket or give to the church office; be sure to designate Adopt-a-Pot in the memo line of your check. Also, please fill out the form on the bulletin board near the office.

~ BeFriendsers Ministry

Women's golf group starts soon

Women of all ages interested in a social round of golf are invited to join this group for the 2018 season. We'll play holes of golf on Wednesday afternoons at a different course each week. We set up a schedule of courses for the summer and you indicate when you can play. Weekly tee times are based on how many women indicate their desire to play that week. After golfing those who can stay go into the club house for a beverage and for conversation.

Our first outing will be **May 23 at Gem Lake**. Let us know if you would like to play so we can add you to the e-mail list and send you the schedule. The primary contact for this group is Mary Cripe at suzary006@comcast.net; alternate contact is Carol Effertz 651-429-6023.