

And awe came upon everyone Acts 2:43

We can be awed by the signs of life near us. The sparrow’s song, the healing we did not expect, the confirmation of new faith and the passing of someone who lived largely summon us to try out new lenses upon our ordinary eyes. These experiences call us to find our own focus and see a vision of ourselves and others as new creations. It is staggering to realize that we might have been near to someone and have actually rubbed shoulders not with our do-good holiness, but their holiness. We only have to pause a second to imagine how Jesus grew into this larger light by becoming more memorably unlike His world. Jesus, prophetically praised pearls, sought lost stuff and planted seeds into the lives of ordinary eyes like mine and your’s. Once again capture the unpolished, unedited, real Jesus, stooping to anoint farmers into disciples, scouring ragged toes and imparting stories of a God who recklessly sows seeds over any soil. It is Jesus who told that timeless parable of The Sower, claiming things still grow — things like people. Like a dandelion’s feathery silk seeds move randomly in new tufts of diverse pattern, new creation blows our life open. Anointments are like this.

The prophetic voice of Father Boyle of Los Angeles, author of G-DOG and the Homeboys and other titles and whose work inspired Homeboy Industries, reminds us of renewal. Homeboy Industries is an inner-city gang intervention or a group of industries including cafés, silk screening, a retail store, a catering service, counseling, GED classes and more for people at their beginnings. Boyle’s books, public speaking and living remind us of how we might begin to capture the earth seeded in new hopeful patterns. Boyle states in an interview with Krista Tippett of On Being: “Well lately, I’ve been reading the Acts of the Apostles really carefully. And if you start to read it and think it’s kind of a quaint snapshot of the earliest Christian community, that’s one thing. But what if you were to read it as a measure of the health of any community? So you see how they love one another, need nothing ... But my favorite one is — it leapt off the page to me. It says, ‘And awe came upon everyone,’ so that the measure of our

compassion lies not in our service of those on the margins, but in our willingness to see ourselves in kinship. And so that means the decided movement towards awe, and giant steps away from judgment. So how can we seek a compassion that can stand in awe at what people have to carry, rather than stand in judgment at how they carry it? I think that’s sort of the key here...”

Father Boyle recalls how God began to call him to this wider community: “I can remember walking in the projects late at night, long ago, and there was this kid, Mario, sitting by himself, 16 years old, just sitting on his little stoop in front of the crummy old projects. So I see him, and I greet him: ‘Hey, how you doing?’ And I sit down next to him, and he goes, “‘t’s funny that you should show up right now.’ And I say, ‘Why?’ ‘Well, I was just sitting here praying, and I said, “God, show me a sign that you’re as great as I think you are.” And then you showed up.’

“Well, I just think — I remember how moved I was by that. And it’s how you enter into the vastness and the spacious place that God holds. But it came by way of knowing that the day won’t ever come when I am as holy as the people I’m called to serve; that the day won’t ever come when I have more courage, or am more noble or am closer to God, than this 16-year-old ... sitting alone on his porch.”

We may not start an inner-city ministry; however, it’s likely that the God of spacious vastness and open space will let a spattering of Acts 2 awe come upon us. We may sense the blowing of God or not; no matter, God is still there surrounding this place and you cultivating a way for growth. It’s significant to note that small budding starts are still growth. You may be in a place of loss, absorbing slim slices of warm light or as prolific as those familiar saffron dandelions. Whispered into the holy pages of life; seeds are being anointed and seeds will grow: “I will plant them so they can grow...They will be my people and I will their God. This is because they will return to me with their whole hearts.” *Jer. 24:6-7*

— 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.

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



White Bear Lake
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

1851 BIRCH STREET, WBL, MN 55110 | 651-429-9026 | WBLUMC.ORG

White Bear Lake UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NOURISHING THE HUNGERS OF LIFE

9am Worship ~ Sunday, May 20, 2018

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE; PLEASE SEE USHERS

♦ PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

Pentecost, Confirmation Sunday & Baby Recognition

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

“You must first have community, one that you share joy with as well as suffering.”

~ Bushra Rehman, South Asian writer

PRELUDE

“Pentecost Fire”

Kyle Schartz and Peteria Cochran Routt

CALL TO WORSHIP

“Fill the World With Love”

Leslie Bricusse

WELCOME

†OPENING WORDS (responsively)

The journey of faith is a journey through life.

We are pilgrims, travelers, making our way.

**For each generation, in each place and time,
and for each seeker who travels this way the road seems different.**

Today we celebrate this generation of faith.

We hold our hands out to them and beckon them to join us on the journey.

As they walk beside us, we may tell them our stories,

but we may not tell them the way.

We can tell them of our questions,

but the answers must come from within their own hearts.

Let us all make a place for them and let them know that the family of Christ is their family too,
as we all worship God together.

†OPENING HYMN

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty!”

No. 139

1, 2, 3 & 5

BABY RECOGNITION

Cheryl Larsen, UMW President

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(In unison)*
We are not alone; we live in God’s world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.
We are called to be the church: to celebrate God’s presence,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

ANTHEM
“Love Will Keep Us Together”
Alleluia Ringers and Band
Charles Peery

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
After the children’s message, children and youth will stay with their families for worship. Sunday school will resume on June 3.

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
Jeremiah 1:4-10
Reader: Sheila Bennett
The Lord’s word came to me:
“Before I created you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I set you apart;
I made you a prophet to the nations.”
“Ah, Lord God,” I said, “I don’t know how to speak because I’m only a child.”
The Lord responded, “Don’t say, ‘I’m only a child.’ Where I send you, you must go; what I tell you, you must say.

“Don’t be afraid of them, because I’m with you to rescue you,” declares the Lord.
Then the Lord stretched out his hand, touched my mouth, and said to me, “I’m putting my words in your mouth. This very day I appoint you over nations and empires, to dig up and pull down, to destroy and demolish, to build and plant.”

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: God Only Has Us
Pastor Brooke Heerwald Steiner

SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION *(See insert)*
Nicholas Arthur Fosse
Isaac Hartman**
Emma Routt
Joelle M. Tembrock**
***Indicates completion of all requirements for two years of confirmation.*

†HYMN
“Here I Am, Lord”
No. 593

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
“Laudation”
Alleluia Ringers
Arnold Sherman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

†HYMN
“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

†BENEDICTION

Today’s altar arrangement is provided by Emma Routt, in celebration of this year’s class of confirmands and in honor of their mentors.

In memoriam: The white rose on the altar is in memory of Fred Schostag, husband of WBLUMC member Brenda Schostag. Fred died on May 11, and his service was May 15 with private interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Summer worship starts May 27: one service at 10am!

“Bread” Talks

Feed the body, feed the mind. Light supper and a short presentation by guest speakers on important current topics on Wednesday, June 20, and Wednesday, July 25, 6:30-7:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Stay tuned for specific speakers and topics! This is intended to be a community event where all are invited and welcome, so help us spread the word. Free-will offering. Contact Lori McBride at lorijomcbride@gmail.com.

Bikes - Burgers - Beverages

Ride the Gateway Trail and enjoy food at Roma’s afterward. All welcome to ride on Tuesday, June 5, and Tuesday, June 12. We’ll start at 6pm from Mahtomedi Ball Field parking lot. Organized by Dawn Kittleson, Dave Bennett and John McBride. RSVP needed! Sign up in the narthex or email mcbride.johnr@gmail.com .

Sunday, May 20

9-10am—Worship; nursery open
10am—Coffee, tea and treats, Fellowship Hall
Individual prayer, prayer room
10:45-11:30am—Contemporary worship; nursery open

Monday, May 21

10am—Hang Loose Women’s Al-Anon, room 206
7-8:30pm—Hearts & Hands knitting group, room 200
7-8:15pm—Book club, library

Tuesday, May 22

6pm—Yoga class, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 23

9am-1pm—PEO women’s group, room 200
5:30-6:30pm—Bell cleaning, sanctuary

Thursday, May 24

7:10am—Men’s Breakfast Group, library
9am-3pm—The Gathering, room 200
10am—Pages of Wisdom AA, room 107
10-11:30am—Memory loss support group, library

Saturday, May 26

7:30am—Men’s Prayer Group, room 200
10am—WBL Sat. Morning Women’s Group, room 107

Sunday, May 27

10-11am—Summer worship begins; nursery open
11am—Coffee, tea and treats, Fellowship Hall
Individual prayer, prayer room

Monday, May 28: OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

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

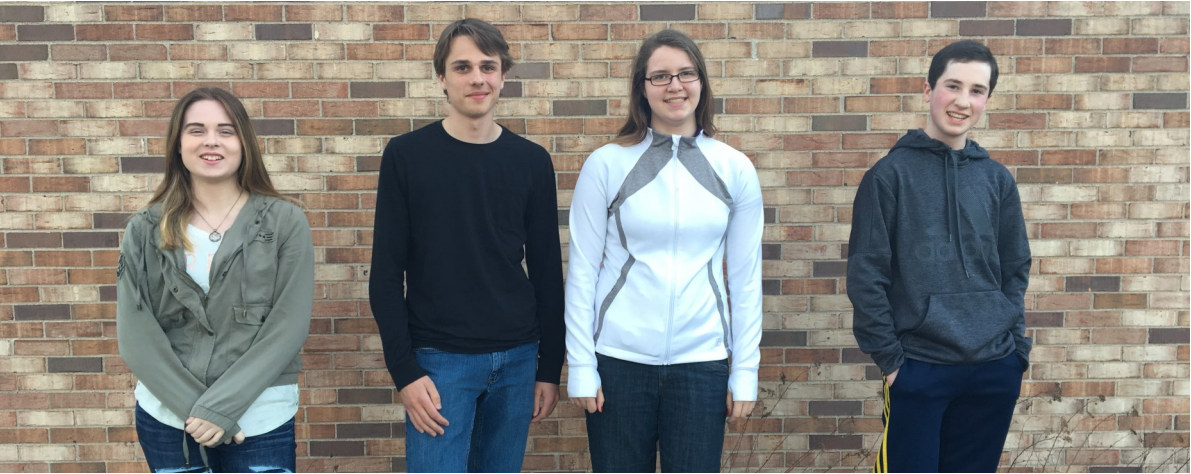
Have a church-related event you’d like to appear in the Sunday bulletin or the weekly e-blast? Please email all pertinent information, including contact information, to office@wblumc.org no later than **1pm Tuesday** for the bulletin and **1pm Wednesday** for the e-blast. All information is subject to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

| | |
|--|---|
| Bill Eaves , Senior Pastor bill.eaves@wblumc.org, 763-355-7825 mobile | John Koziol, Jr. Director of Music |
| Brooke Heerwald Steiner , Associate Pastor | Matthew Goinz , Chancel Choir Director |
| John McBride , Associate Pastor | Patricia Kytola , Director of Operations |
| Joan Hartman , Director of Children & Family Ministries | Lauri Hopple , Administrative Assistant |
| Linnea Uhler , Director of Youth Ministries | Lori Hughes , Website & Social Media |
| Peteria Cochran Routt , Director of Traditional Music | Carol Houghtby , Treasurer |
| | Harry Jones , Financial Secretary |
| | Ron Houde , Housekeeper |



RITUAL OF CONFIRMATION

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

Sisters and brothers in Christ, through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ’s holy church and made new through water and the spirit. This is God’s freely given gift to us. Through confirmation, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing in our lives, and affirm our commitment to the way of Jesus in our world.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Do you believe in a good and gracious God, who calls us into life-giving relationships with God and with one another? **I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus the Christ, who reveals God’s love to us? Do you seek to follow in his path of unconditional love and truth? **I do.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, moving within each part of God’s creation, that pulls us closer to harmony and peace? **I do.**

Do you accept the call God has given you to choose love, to seek grace, to fight for justice, and to live with compassion? **I do.**

Will you be true to yourself and to God as you live out your faith? **I will.**

LAYING ON OF HANDS

The Holy Spirit work within you, that having been born through water and the spirit, you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. Amen.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONFIRMANDS

Let us welcome these young people as fellow travelers along Christ’s way. Let us rejoice with them their affirmation of faith and commitment to living a faithful life as a student of Jesus the Christ.

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

We celebrate this new generation of faith. With joy we honor your unique presence and radiant gifts. We welcome you along this journey of faith and look forward to traveling with you. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF CROSSES

BLESSING OF THE CONFIRMANDS

Kids & youth update

Children's and youth Sunday School will be on break May 20 and 27. Summer Sunday programming for children and youth will begin on June 3. Students 4 years to 3rd grade (completed) will go to the theater for our new Children's Church. Youth grades 4-9 will meet for Faith on Fire, focusing on faith formation through interactive lessons. High school programs will be on break until the fall. But there's more! Grades 4-12 are invited to hang around after church for games with Linnea until 12pm. For more info or to volunteer with youth, email linnea.uhler@wblumc.org.

Last book club of the year

Join us at 7pm on **Monday, May 21**, to discuss *Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal* by Christopher Moore. Have a great summer!

Community garden sign-ups

You still have time to get a garden plot — or two — so you can grow your own veggies. Contact Larry or Denise Kerr at 651-484-6092 or email denisekerr19@gmail.com to get your 2018 Garden Agreement and Application. Plots for new gardeners will be assigned by May 20 and are still only \$20. Water keys will be available in the office next week.

Got firewood?

The Bread Ovens are getting low on oak firewood. If you have extra firewood or know of a source who might be willing to donate some, please email Glenn Oliphant at golipha@gmail.com. Thank you!



Update on the family we're sponsoring

Here's a picture we have permission to print in church publications of the seven-member Karenni family whom we are sponsoring. Our emphasis is moving from supplying the family with basic needs to helping integrate them in the community. We will keep you informed about ways to help. Thanks so much for everyone's generous assistance! For information on how to help, please contact Barb Hinz at 651-777-0465 or barbhinz@juno.com.

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

Women's golf group starts soon

Women of all ages interested in a social round of golf are invited to join for the 2018 season. We play on Wednesday afternoons at a different course each week. Weekly tee times are based on how many can play that week. If you can, stay afterward for a beverage and 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.

Saying goodbye

Join us to thank Pastor Brooke Heerwald Steiner for all she has brought to WBLUMC in her time here and to wish her well as she becomes pastor of Excelsior UMC.

Gift for Brooke & family

If you would like to contribute toward a gift from the congregation, please send a check or place a check in the offering plates with "Brooke's Gift" in the memo line. You may also contribute online at wblumc.org/giving — click the Online Giving button at the bottom of the page and select the fund "Brooke's Gift." Please make your contribution by **Wednesday, May 30**, since we'll give this to Brooke and her family on June 3, her last Sunday with WBLUMC.

Pizza party on June 3

After Brooke's last sermon here on **Sunday, June 3**, we'll send her off in true WBLUMC style with fresh-baked pizza, fruit and family fun. All are welcome to celebrate Brooke's time with us! Join us after worship at 11am in Fellowship Hall. **Sign up in the narthex to help the bread team!**

Summer worship starts May 27: one service at 10am!

Summer sermon series

Provocative Stories of Jesus: June 10-July 29

Jesus told stories to make a point, to draw pictures in the minds and hearts of his listeners, and to provoke a response. As with all good stories, the stories (or parables) of Jesus are rich with meaning. Through the centuries we have often reduced them to platitudes or simple moral lessons. Beginning on June 10, we will look at these stories through the eyes of those who heard them first, the mostly Jewish crowds who were attracted to Jesus and his teaching. We will discover that these provocative stories of Jesus can still surprise us, shake us up, indict us, and be open to multiple interpretations that prompt us to see the world in new ways.

June 10 — Provocative Stories of Jesus: Lost

June 17 — Provocative Stories of Jesus: Good Samaritan

June 24 — Provocative Stories of Jesus: Yeast

July 1 — Provocative Stories of Jesus: The Widow and the Judge

July 8 — Provocative Stories of Jesus: Mustard Seed

July 15 — Provocative Stories of Jesus: The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

July 22 — Provocative Stories of Jesus: The Rich Man and Lazarus

July 29 — Provocative Stories of Jesus: Pearl of Great Price