



Newport United Methodist Church  
 1596 Eleventh Avenue  
 Newport, Minnesota 55055-1649  
 Jesus Christ, Head  
 The Congregation, Ministers  
 Rev. Linda J. Gesling, Pastor

(start of something



big.)

**-a Retreat in the City-**

*Newport United Methodist Church is a people of God  
 dedicated to following the teaching of Jesus  
 so that we and others can grow in our faith.*

## Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2017

9:30 a.m.

**Rev. Linda J. Gesling, Pastor**

**Gathering**

*We come together in the name of the Lord.*

Please record your attendance by signing the registration pad -  
 members, friends and visitors alike.

Prelude Judy Lieffring, Organist

Lighting of the Candles  
 Church Bell Toll

*Symbol of the Spirit's Presence*

Introit "Come, Come, Everybody Worship" Natalie Sleeth  
 No. 2271 Newport UMC Choir

**Announcements**

\*Call to Worship

L: From the mustard seed a great and mighty shrub emerges.

**P: Good things can come from something that seemed so insignificant!**

L: The spore of the yeast can leaven the whole loaf of bread.

**P: We can be those people who bring hope and peace to God's world.**

L: Come, let us praise the God of great and mighty wonders.

**P: Let our spirits soar in gratitude for the opportunities God gives us to serve. AMEN. (Nancy Townley)**

\*Hymn "When Morning Gilds the Skies"  
 No. 185

Greeting One Another

Prayer of Confession

**Lord, we like BIG things. We have focused on big cars, big houses, big bank accounts, big, big, big! And you must be disappointed in us when we forget that from even the smallest thing something mighty can happen. Today the scriptures remind us of the smallness of the mustard seed and the tiny grain of yeast. Each of these things grew into something that offered shelter, peace, and hope, which became the treasures of compassion. Take away our need for the BIG possessions. Open our hearts to receive your word of love and healing, and let our spirits be ready to grow for you. Forgive our stubborn resistance to your faithful presence. For all things will work for the good for those who love God and are called according to God's purpose. AMEN.**

Scripture Lesson **Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (NT pp.14-15)**

\*Hymn "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"  
 No. 402

Sermon "Playing with Parables" Pastor Linda  
 Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"  
 Invocation No. 2193

Offering Prayer

Prayer Requests  
 The Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

\*Hymn "Every Time I Feel the Spirit"  
 No. 404

**Sending Forth**

*The people are sent into ministry with the Lord's blessing.*

\*Circle of Benediction

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"  
 No. 557, verse 1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
 the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Extinguishing of the Candles  
*Taking the Light into the World*

Church Bell Toll

Postlude Judy Lieffring, Organist

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE  
 USHERS' TABLE.  
 CHILDREN'S BULLETINS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

*Upholding the Church with our...*

Today's ushers are volunteers to whom we are grateful!  
Last Sunday's ushers were John Brenneman, Sherry Elg,  
and Tracy Birttnen. Our acolyte was Donald Birttnen.

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If you would like to provide flowers in  
dedication to a loved one, or an occasion, contact the church  
office so that it can be noted in the bulletin.

*Looking Ahead . . .*

<b>Sunday, July 30</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<i>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</i> <b>Worship Service</b>
<b>Saturday, August 5</b>	<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>United Church of God</b> <b>Sabbath Service</b>
<b>Sunday, August 6</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<i>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</i> <b>Worship Service</b>

*Shawl We Knit...*

*...Mondays, August 14th and 28th in the Fireside Room.*

*Angel Closet*

*Open House on Wednesday, August 16 from 3 to 5:30 pm*

*Please note!*

*There are no Martha Circle or Leadership Team meetings  
scheduled for the month of August.*

*Leadership Team meeting is set for September 11 at  
6:30 pm.*

*Welcome to our Visitors ...*

We are delighted you have chosen to worship here today! May you experience a sincere welcome and a sense of God's love for you. We gather as a community of faith to share the good news of Jesus Christ. We encourage you to return many times and to bring others with you.

Nursery care for children under 3 years of age is available during the worship service. Holy Communion is offered the first Sunday of each month and is open for all to receive as a sacramental gift from God.

We provide individual pastoral care by request. You may call Pastor Linda for an appointment. If you would like to discuss baptism for yourself or a member of your family, arrangements can be made by contacting the pastor. Persons desiring to marry may speak with the pastor to schedule pre-marital counseling. We are willing to provide additional services as needed - simply call the church office (651/459-2747, at extension 1).

You are cordially invited to become an active participant of any of our program opportunities as noted in our weekly bulletin. Christian Education is available September through May for adults. If you enjoy music, you are welcome to join our voice and handbell choirs. We share in a growing ministry where volunteer opportunities are available, matching your skills to church and community needs.

If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter, *The Key*, or wish to make a comment/suggestion, please note such on the back of a prayer request card found in the pew pocket and place it on the offering plate. We hope that we may provide the sense of community and stimulation of character you have been searching for.

Newport United Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Linda Gesling	Pastor
Judy Lieffring	Director of Music
Mike Nelson	Handbell Choir Director, Administrative Asst.
John Brenneman	Treasurer
Catherine Klimek	Custodian

Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays  
*Voicemail is monitored outside office hours.*

Telephone number:651/459-2747 Website: www.newportumc.org  
Fax Number: 651/769-1216 Office e-mail: newportumc@gmail.com  
Pastor's email: ljgesling@gmail.com

**Prayers :** for the family of Bob's brother **Alan Bay** who passed away on the 22nd; for **Jill Cotton's** ex-husband **Daniel Pierce** who has been diagnosed with liver cancer; for the **family of Pat Seubert** who was married to **Sandy Heidenreich's** cousin in Pat's unexpected death; for the **family of Kendrick Jordan Jr.** who drowned in Carver Lake; for **Warren Duval's** family as Warren passed away three weeks ago; for Doug's brother **Gary Clouse** who has stomach cancer; for Leanne Clouse's cousin **Lisa Naasz** who has cancer; for **Doreen Peterson's** family on the death of Doreen's sister **Sue Krech**; for Bonnie Zappa's friend **Georgette Lopez** who is undergoing treatment for cancer and has many other issues; for Mike Nelson's friend **Greg Courteau** who has Stage 4 liver cancer and only a short time to live; for Tracy's neighbor **Barb Anderson** who has been diagnosed with congestive heart failure; for **Bruce Timm** who has been diagnosed with prostate cancer; for **Sandy Hartenstein** who has had a stent placed in her heart; for Christi Nelson's cousin **Kathy Fallgatter** who will be having open heart surgery; for **Lolita Johnson, Marilyn Meyers, Bobbie Woodward; Sharon Hanson; Chuck and Joanne Zutz, Joe Allwine, Scott Reger, Vicki Toepper, Karen Allen, Connie Gebur, Andrew Ladwig, Dave Swanlund, Lowell Pommerening, Sue Peterson...** We pray for **safety for all travelers; for good health for all of our congregation; for all those facing health care finance crises; for a peaceful solution in Korea; for immigrants coming and trying to come into the United States; for the victims of the attacks and fire in London; we pray for the police and first responders whose jobs are often difficult and dangerous; for safety for elected officials; and for the victims of storms throughout the country; for people and families dealing with mental illness; for victims of violence all around us; for children who have suffered abuse; for all families whose loved ones are missing.**

Pleaae keep **Tonnie Bailey and** in your prayers for continued recovery.

**Joys: Pastor Sue** from Newport Lutheran now shows no sign of cancer, and the Reynolds daughters' cousin **Stacey Rudd has a negative biopsy! Judy and Joe Lieffring** have **another** grandchild and so do **Pastor Linda and Steve!** Everyone is doing fine! **Thanks to God** for good outcomes!

*Perhaps you have asked us to uphold a loved one in our prayers. If so please give us an update as their conditions change, as a joy or a concern.*

**Presence:** Last week's Attendance at Worship = **29**  
**Gifts:** Last week's total Offering = **\$591**

**Service: Thanks to Karen Schottmuller for faithfully tending all the garden plots, and to John Brenneman for keeping the lawns mowed!**

There is a **sign-up sheet** on the **narthex bulletin board** for those who are **interested in serving as an usher, greeter, or acolyte.**