



The KEY

... TO OPEN WIDER
THE DOOR OF THE
CHURCH

A Newsletter of Newport United Methodist Church

May, 2018

Pastor's Page

Endings...

"I don't like endings," said Dr. Who, character in a long running TV series, and in that particular episode he ripped out the last page in the book he was reading so that the story wouldn't have to end. Well, that's one approach. It often fits our mood since endings can be so difficult, representing change in situations with which we were happy or comfortable.

It isn't hard to celebrate endings of situations, relationships, or eras that are bad. We are ready for the new and better. We move forward with happy anticipation. These endings we like; they bring relief and anticipation.

Endings for times that have been good are more complicated. Like Dr. Who, we may want to throw away the last page rather than face the reality that this aspect of good in our lives has to end. Other times that are good may be evolving into something else and the end is change but isn't nearly so painful. I, for one, was not sad at all when the last child was done with diapers (even though it represented the end of babyhood) or when we wrote our last college tuition check.

We need endings to make way for beginnings. Traditionally, the ceremony for the end of high school was called not graduation, but commencement - celebrating that the end was really a beginning. Evaluating and reviewing the past years of education complete with nostalgia and sadness was a process that helped make way for exciting new developments.

See next page!

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As I contemplate the end of my time of ministry at Newport UMC, I am aware of the sadness and loss part of endings as well as the need to evaluate and review so that new things can develop. Because you are a loving and accepting church, I am finding the idea of ending personally painful. I also wish that we had more time to work on some of the ministry we have been developing – what are the next steps for the garden, will the knitting group keep producing beautiful things for Head Start and others, can the study group grow? Most of all, I think of the new relationships we have made because of Red Rock. My life will never be the same and I hope yours won't either. At the same time, I have different family challenges than when I came, I also probably have a little less energy, and the needs for ministry here are different than my skills.

It is May - the month of graduation/commencement and thus a good time to think about endings - the good, the difficult, the confusing. It will help us be ready for what lies ahead.

...Beginnings.

Linda

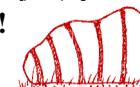


FLOCK WATCHER asks that you keep these people in your prayers:

Oneida's husband and their granddaughter who have been hospitalized; **Bobbie's daughter Deanna** who has been hospitalized; **Our church neighbor Bud** who fell while walking down the hill and broke his nose and cracked a vertebra– he will be in rehab for a while; for **the family of Art's brother-in-law Rufus** who passed away recently; friends from Hebron, IL UMC, **Bob and Deanna**: she has new cancer after fighting cancer for two years; **Catherine and Jim's friend Greg** whose cancer has returned. Two of **Doug's** brothers need our prayers: **Gary** for continued recovery from cancer surgery, and **Ted** for diagnosis and treatment of cancer; **people and families dealing with mental illness; victims of the school shootings in Kentucky, Texas, Maryland, and Florida, and the shooting in Antioch, TN; everyone** who faces **financial crisis** for various reasons.

We share our joys too: **Leanne, Timm, and the Be the Tool mission team** returned safely from Texas! **Jodi** returned to worship with us and brought **son Tommy and fiancée Nicole** who plan to have their wedding here! **(first here in years!)** **Donald** has decided to attend **Hamline** this fall!

If you have lifted someone up for prayer, please update us in the church office as their conditions change, as a concern or joy!



The **LEADERSHIP TEAM** meets on Monday, May n at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Martha Circle meets in the Fireside Room on Monday, **May n** at 9:30 a.m.

The Red Rockers will hold their luncheon on Thursday, May 17 at NOON at the North Pole Restaurant in Newport Center. If you are attending please contact Ruth Pommerening at 459-1970.

...Angel Closet has moved to Thursdays! The last regular opening was on January 4 but you can call the church office with individual needs in the meantime. We will do our best to take care of families needing school supplies. Consult the list of supplies furnished by the school and grade your child will be attending. Church office phone: 459 2747.

%%%%%%%%%

March, 2018 Financial Report

FUND BALANCES REPORT

The March 31, 2018 checkbook balance was **\$3,351.34.**

MONTHLY BUDGET ENVELOPE GIVING

March envelope and loose plate giving was **\$3,079.00.**

TOTAL INCOME FOR REPORT PERIOD

March income from all sources was **\$6,811.00.**

TOTAL EXPENSES FOR REPORT PERIOD

March expenses were **\$15,522.13.**

SUMMARY

Income in relation to expenses for March, 2018 was -\$8,711.13.

The new piano has been paid for and installed. The reviews on it are very good. The expense was paid from the checkbook, resulting in a large expense in March.

Please mention any projects you feel need doing or any concerns you have about repairs to Mike in written form. He will pass them on to the appropriate person.

Everyone is encouraged to maintain good stewardship.

Any suggestions for improving this financial report will be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

John Brenneman

Leanne's Be the Tool Experience in Texas

Timm and I spent April 7-April 15 traveling to the Houston area, working, and traveling back to blizzardy Minnesota. Timm was on job site #1. Their tasks included chiseling thin-set off the cement floor (which took all week), painting, hanging doors and other assorted tasks. I was on job site #2. We scraped wallpaper, painted, tiled a small bathroom floor, prepared the bathroom walls, and began installing a wood floor. Both sites needed general clean-up as well.

What made this trip different was that there were 8 Americorps young adults that we were asked to teach our skills. They worked side by side with us on Thursday and Friday. We taught them to hang doors, paint, and lay wood floor. As we taught one, we made sure they passed on the skill to another. They will be in Houston for 13 weeks, and we are proud to have given them a start.

Leanne

Newport UMC gets wise with waste

On Friday, May 4 at 9:30 a.m. we are having a little party with a unique purpose. After a program presented by representatives of WasteWise, an initiative sponsored by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, we'll have refreshments; and then, as with all parties, it will be time to clean up. In doing so, we will learn new ways to separate our waste, ways that are better for the environment and that save everyone money.

Familiar wastebaskets and trash cans will be replaced with color-coded bins marked for trash, organics, and recyclables. While we have already been practicing recycling here at Newport, the new system allows us to divert food waste from the trash into commercial composting.

Less trash means less paid in tipping fees by waste haulers, and the savings are passed on when we have a smaller dumpster, or less frequent pickups. We will transition to compostable plasticware as our supplies of the regular stuff run out. These products are more expensive but we hope the expense doesn't completely offset the lower sanitation bill.

Please bear with us as we teach and learn new ways of dealing with the things we throw away. Soon these ways will become second nature and we will all benefit.

Mike

MAY 2018



Birthdays

- 4- Linda Gesling
- 9- Molly Lundquist
- 17- Eldon Woods
- 21- Sue Bay
- 25- Ron McCauley
- 27- Sandi Brown



MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>NEWPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1596 ELEVENTH AVENUE (AT GLEN ROAD) NEWPORT, MINNESOTA 55055-1649 JESUS CHRIST, HEAD; THE CONGREGATION, MINISTERS; REV. LINDA GESLING, PASTOR</p>		1	2	3	4	5
			6:30 pm Voice Choir S 7:30 pm Handbell Choir S		9:30 am-WasteWise training open to all users of our building	1:30 pm United Church of God
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6th Sunday in Eastertide 9:30 am Worship Service	9:30am Martha Circle -FR 6:30 pm Leadership		6:30 pm Voice Choir S 7:30 pm Handbell Choir S			1:30 pm United Church of God
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Ascension Sunday Mother's Day 9:30 am Worship Service	6:00-8:00 pm KNITTING GROUP @ CG Library 2nd meeting to be announced-		6:30 pm Voice Choir S 7:30 pm Handbell Choir S			1:30 pm United Church of God
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
PENTECOST SUNDAY Heritage Sunday 9:30 am Worship Service	2:00 pm <i>Key</i> articles due		6:30 pm Voice Choir S 7:30 pm Handbell Choir FH			1:30 pm United Church of God
27	28	29	30	31		
TRINITY SUNDAY 9:30 am Worship Service	 MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed		Think about and volunteer for special worship music for Anthem time!		Room Use Designations C – Classroom FH – Fellowship Hall FR – Fireside Room N – Nursery S – Sanctuary	

Volunteers needed!

Part of my job description as secretary is to respond to security system calls at any time. I do need to go out of town occasionally, and it would be good for someone to be available to cover this duty when I'm not around. You can volunteer on a 'when asked' basis or over a certain time period. Any commitment you can offer would be greatly appreciated-talk to me about it! *Mike Nelson*

UMC love Offering

...for missions will be taken on each Sunday through May to be presented to the Conference by May 31.

65% will go to Puerto Rico Hurricane Recovery trips;

20% to Park Avenue (Minneapolis) UMC's Freedom Schools;

and 15% to NUMAS Haus, a shelter in New Ulm for homeless single mothers and their children.

See the bulletin board in the narthex for further details.

Designate all or part of your NUMC contribution to 'Love' in the memo.

Locally Grown Theatre

For the 4th consecutive year, one of the most portable theatre troupes we know

performs in our Fellowship Hall. This year Locally Grown presents *You Can't Take It With You* on Thursday through Saturday, May 10, 11 and 12 at 7:00 pm and Sunday, May 13 at 2:00 pm. Online you can check with locallygrowntheatre.org on how to purchase tickets in advance.

Did you notice the abundance of open space in this month's *Key*? Don't let it happen again! Submit articles, notices, recipes...we almost never need to abridge anything.

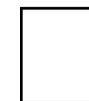
Email articles to newportumc@gmail.com; hand them over to Mike on paper; slip them under the office door...add to the fascination of every issue of the *Key*!

-a Retreat in the City-

Founded 1861 — *Celebrating 156 Years of Ministry*

Newport United Methodist Church
1596 Eleventh Avenue *(at Glen Road)*
Newport, MN 55055-1649

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



The Key is a monthly publication of Newport United Methodist Church, 1596 Eleventh Avenue, Newport, Minnesota. News items to run the following month are due in the Church Office by the 3rd Monday of the current month.



*A warm welcome
awaits you . . .*

EACH SUNDAY:

Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School is available during worship. Adult Study follows at 10:45.

WEDNESDAYS:

Voice Choir at 6:30 p.m. - Handbell Choir At 7:30 p.m.



Voice and Handbell Choirs
Adult Bible Study
United Methodist Women
Martha Circle
Fellowship Dinner Groups
Pastoral Care
Pastor: Rev. Linda J. Gesling
Cell Phone: 651-226-2738
Church Telephone: (651) 459-2747
Fax: (651) 769-1216
Church e-mail: newportumc@gmail.com
Web address: www.newportumc.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Newport United Methodist Church is people of God dedicated to following the teaching of Jesus because we want to set an example so that we and others can grow in our faith.