



The KEY

... TO OPEN WIDER
THE DOOR OF THE
CHURCH

A Newsletter of Newport United Methodist Church

September, 2018

Pastor Steve's Page

How do you pray?

What are the prayers that you carry? Or the prayers that have carried you? The ones you call on to help you, lead you, guide you, and remind you of who you are and whose you are?

What are those prayers? Please share them with me, so that they might bless me and someone else in need.

Some of the first conversations I had with Rev. Cynthia Williams, our District Superintendent come to mind. She talked about how all Methodist churches need pastoral leaders to help guide their churches to be spiritually grounded and nourished in prayer to be fully ready for what God has in store for them.

Something in me stirred. I couldn't agree more.

This is one of my favorites, and it's called Christ's Claim and My Response. I've also seen it referred to as the Snowflake Prayer, as many snowflakes together make for much snow!

Christ's Claim: I am your Lord, Jesus Christ. I was the agent of my Father in creating you. I died on the cross and rose from the dead for you. Therefore, you do not belong to yourself. You belong to me. Will you give yourself to me for today?

My Response: O Lord Christ, In obedience to your claim on me, I surrender myself to you anew today, all that I am, all that I have, to be wholly and unconditionally yours for your using of me. Take me away from myself and my preoccupation with myself. Use me up as you will, when you will, where you will, with whom you will. Amen. *(Charles Whiston)*

(See next page!)

Christ's Claim and My Response calls on me to commit and recommit to follow Christ in the little and large ways of life. Over the years this has been a real gem for me and a constant reminder. I say it quietly or pray it silently. If you have a gem to share, send it to me at pastorstevepannkuk@gmail.com

In peace,

Pastor Steve

αποσταλος

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

Art who fell and is facing care decisions; **Doug's brother Ted** who is ending aggressive treatment for cancer; **Karen** who is recovering at home following a stroke; **Sharon** for healing from pain; the family of **Nancy's cousin Sandra** on her passing; **Gale and Marilyn's son-in-law Mike** who is on the list for a kidney transplant; **Sherry W.** who is having chemo; **Bob and Sue's friend Janet** who has cancer; **people and families dealing with mental illness; people displaced by new wildfires in California; everyone who is and will be affected by this summer's river flooding; everyone** who faces **financial crisis** for various reasons.

We share our joys too: Judy is safely back from visiting family. **Jill's patient Charles** has been very ill but is doing much better. **Garel** is recovering well and has been back to church! **Chris' sister Sharon** has moved out of transitional care. *If you have lifted someone up for prayer, please update us in the church office as their conditions change, as a concern or joy!*

GETTING TO KNOW YOU....PASTOR STEVE PANNKUK

Steve was adopted and grew up in Waterloo, Iowa. His mom was a church secretary and Dad worked for John Deere. He has one brother who recently moved to the Twin Cities area. Steve attended church Camp EWALU, first as a camper from age 10 to being a counselor during his years in high school. While in high school Steve ran cross country and was on the track team.

After graduation from high school Steve took time to work at some very interesting jobs. He worked at a ski resort in Keystone, Colorado and was a first mate on a deep sea fishing boat while delivering the boat from the Bahamas to Florida. He was also a back packing guide in South Dakota, Montana and Colorado in his college years. These experiences, along with his camp counseling, taught him a lot about working with groups and had much to do with his call to ministry. *(to Page 4!)*

The LEADERSHIP TEAM meets on **TUESDAY, September 4** at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Martha Circle will meet on Monday, September 10 at 9:30 a.m.

The **Red Rockers** will hold their luncheon on **Thursday, September 20 at NOON** at the North Pole Restaurant in Newport Center. If you are attending please contact Ruth Pommerening at **459-1970**.

...Angel Closet served 14 children on August 16! Next month we'll brief you on how many were served on August 30 at Head Start's parent day. You can call the church office with individual needs at other times. 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**.

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July, 2018 Financial Report

FUND BALANCES REPORT

The July 31, 2018 checkbook balance was **\$8,355.31**.

MONTHLY BUDGET ENVELOPE GIVING

July envelope and loose plate giving was **\$5,172.00**.

TOTAL INCOME FOR REPORT PERIOD

July income from all sources was **\$9,069.25**.

TOTAL EXPENSES FOR REPORT PERIOD

July expenses were **\$7,623.59**.

SUMMARY

Income in relation to expenses for July, 2018 was +\$1,446.36.

We finally had a surplus in July due to lower than normal expenses. There will be large expenses in August, especially the quarterly insurance payment.

Everyone is encouraged to maintain good stewardship.

Any suggestions for improving this financial report will be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

John Brenneman

Hopeful Earth Keepers Minnesota

Rally for Creation Care: Witness for a Sustaining, Wondrous Planet Earth

October 13, 2018 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Christ UMC, 400 5th Ave SW, Rochester, MN 55902

**Join us as we *learn, share, and activate* our ecumenical Christian faith!
With God's inspiration and guidance, we can become an enduring and effective witness for sustainable life on Earth.**

Workshops and special guest Dr. Tim Eberhart, professor of Theology at Garrett Evangelical Seminary

Register at: <https://www.minnesotaumc.org/eventdetail/11409540>

(more Getting to Know You!) Steve attended the University of Iowa, graduating in 1993 with a Bachelors Degree in Leisure Studies with an emphasis on therapeutic recreation and with a minor in sociology. Next came seminary at Luther Seminary in St. Paul with ordination in 1998. Now "Pastor Steve", he served a church in Newton, Iowa for 6 years, and one in Cedar Rapids as a Family Life Pastor for 6 more years. Next came 5 years in Spokane, Washington also as a Family Life Pastor which means working with children, youth and families. While there he founded a group called GIFT (Generations In Faith Together). He was a transitional pastor at a large Lutheran church in Rogers, Minnesota for a short while, and before coming to Newport United Methodist, Steve served as a transitional pastor at Community Presbyterian Church in Rochester.

Steve met Alicia at a camp for back packing guides. She was in the Peace Corps while Steve was in seminary spending part of his training in Zimbabwe, so they did a lot of letter writing during their courtship! Alicia is a PA (physician'a assistant) and has a PhD degree in epidemiology. She is the Director of the PA program at Augsburg College. They and their family moved to the Twin City area three years ago and live in Roseville on Lake Owasso. Steve and Alicia have three sons, Zach, Sam and Josh. Wally, a large white German Shepard is also an important family member.

Pastor Steve's lifetime of activity in the church, his attendance for so many years at church camp, and his involvement as a teen in the youth group have all had a huge influence in his calling to Christian ministry. His job experiences, seminary training, and church service in the years since have brought to Newport United Methodist Church an energetic and enthusiastic pastor. We welcome Pastor Steve and look forward to accomplishing great things together with the help of God. Amen!

Marilyn Campbell

apostalos-those who are sent

SEPTEMBER 2018



Birthdays

- 5– Shirley Hall
- 13– Jamie Hartzell
- 14– Trey Bailey
- Kristi Rhode
- 18– Alex Heiderscheid
- 24– Karen Schottmuller



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 <i>15th Sun after Pentecost</i> 9:30 am Worship Service	3 LABOR DAY Office Closed	4 6:30pm Leadership Team-FR	5 Voice Choir 6:30pm S	6	7	1 1:30 pm United Church of God 8 1:30 pm United Church of God
9 <i>16th Sun after Pentecost</i> 9:30 am Worship Service	10 9:30 am Martha Circle 6:00-8:00 pm KNITTING GROUP @ CG Library	11	12 Voice Choir 6:30 pm S Handbells 7:30pm FH	13	14	15 1:30 pm United Church of God
16 <i>17th Sun after Pentecost</i> 9:30 am Worship Service	17	18	19 Voice Choir 6:30 pm S Handbells 7:30pm FH	20 Noon RED ROCKERS EVENT North Pole Restaurant in Newport	21	22 1:30 pm United Church of God
23 <i>18th Sun after Pentecost</i> 9:30 am Worship Service	24 2:00 pm <i>Key</i> articles due 6:00-8:00 pm KNITTING GROUP @ CG Library	25	26 Voice Choir 6:30 pm S Handbells 7:30pm FH	27 Angel Closet Get and give school supplies! 5 to 7 pm	28	29 United Church of God Will be away this week.
30 <i>19th Sun after Pentecost</i> 9:30 am Worship Service	 Room Use Designations C – Classroom FH – Fellowship Hall FR – Fireside Room N – Nursery S – Sanctuary		NEWPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1596 ELEVENTH AVENUE (AT GLEN ROAD) NEWPORT, MINNESOTA 55055-1649 JESUS CHRIST, HEAD; THE CONGREGATION, MINISTERS; REV. STEVE PANNKUK, PASTOR			

Did you know that...

a number of events are planned by the Minnesota Annual Conference in September?

Read on!

Koronis Tabernacle Groundbreaking: Sept. 3, 2 p.m., Koronis Ministries, Paynesville. This Labor Day, join Bishop Ough in the groundbreaking celebration of the Tabernacle as we build anew on cherished traditions. Reception to follow. Bring your shovel and help break ground!

ConneXion Retreat: Sept. 7-8, Christ UMC, Rochester. This retreat for laity is about listening to God, yourself, and the needs of the world. Connect your passions and your calling, and find your spot to contribute. This retreat will qualify you as a certified lay servant. Register by Aug. 30.

Conversations on a Way Forward: Various dates and locations, Sept. 24-Oct. 31. This fall, Bishop Ough will host a second series of 15 gatherings to continue the Conversations on a Way Forward as the denomination prepares for the special session of General Conference in 2019.

Retired Clergy and Spouse Luncheon: Sept. 28., 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Walker Methodist Health Center, Minneapolis. Retired clergy and diaconal ministers from the conference, their spouses, widows/widowers of clergy, and retired clergy from other conferences are invited for fellowship and lunch.

Mission Summit: Sept. 29, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Oakwood UMC, New Ulm. Meet conference-sponsored missionaries. Learn about the NUMAS Haus, church-school partnerships, disaster response, and more. Every church attending will receive \$50 to start a new outreach ministry.



Who are these guys?

They were attending a Red Rock Camp meeting in 1913.

If you can be of any help contact the church office! Photo courtesy of Sharon Sawyer.

**-a Retreat in the City-**

Founded 1861 — Celebrating 157 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 . . .*



Voice and Handbell Choirs
Adult Bible Study
United Methodist Women
Martha Circle
Fellowship Dinner Groups
Pastoral Care
Pastor: Rev. Steve Pannkuk
Cell Phone: (952) 999-6252
Church Telephone: (651) 459-2747
Fax: (651) 769-1216
Church e-mail: newportumc@gmail.com
Web address: www.newportumc.org

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.

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.