



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF STILLWATER
MAY WORSHIP 2007**

*And he shall be as the light of the morning when the sun riseth,
even a morning without clouds;
As the tender grass springeth out of the earth
by clear shining after rain.*

II Samuel 23:4

Your Easter

What does it mean to say “Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life”? One thing it might mean is that we can discover things about our life as we learn about his life.

When we see his crucifixion, we discover something about our own suffering and our own grief. Maybe we discover that suffering and grief are real and terrifying and anguishing, but they are not the final word.

As he bears the sin of the world, we discover something about the effect of sin in our life and the way sin burdens us and corrodes the Spirit’s life in us. Maybe we come to see that sin is destructive, but that it is not the final word.

When we sit with his death, maybe we discover that death is real, but it is not the final word.

When we praise his resurrection, maybe we discover that eternal life is a real and powerful promise for our own life and we can lean on that promise day by day.

Praise be to God. His resurrection is for us. Easter is our Easter.

From the Pastor – Continued

Sunnyside Early Morning

Worship to begin –

“Summer” does not mean “vacation from worship.” In fact, at our church you have more than one option for worship this summer.

Our 8:00 a.m. worship begins at Sunnyside Marina on June 3 and continues through August 26. The service is an informal, slimmed-down version of our 9:30 a.m. service. Come dressed for a day on the river. We will sing, pray and start the day off right. See you there.

Directions: The entrance to the Marina is along Highway 95 just south of downtown Stillwater. Worship is in the party room of the Sunnyside condos, just up from the docks.

We are so fortunate to have Kris Huntley working with our youth. Kris was hired to bring leadership and support to our ministry with youth from grades 7-12. Anyone who loves students and wants to be a part of our ministry with them can contact Kris at (651)430-2537.

~ Pastor Mark

NOTE: There will be a Jacob’s Ladder – meditation and music service Sunday, May 20 at 6:30 p.m. Mark your calendars and do not miss this great time of worship!

ADULT NEWS

50+/50-

A dose of nostalgia, soup and salad lunch, and super great flea market hunting is in store for Wednesday, May 9 for the 50+/50- folks and their guests.

We will leave the church at 9:30 a.m. for an hour tour of the Heritage Farm Museum and park in New Richmond. We will tour a few buildings including the general store, old church and old house at 10:00 a.m. Then we will step across the street to Suzanna’s Restaurant for a soup/salad buffet or order from the menu. Followed by the big old barn’s well-organized, ongoing flea market and peruse all the fabulously inexpensive treasures we all need!

The tour is \$5.00 to be paid on the day of the tour. Buffet soup/salad lunch is \$8.00 or whatever you have ordered – pay the wait staff. If you ride in the church van, or carpool, please give drivers \$2.00 for gas money. Sign up at church with Jeanette Nelson or call (651)439-7490 after May 1 so we will know how many to expect.

In the Wider Community

Community Bible School

The theme of this year’s Community Bible School is “Great Bible Reef: Dive Deep Into God’s Word”. This year, Community Bible School will be held at the Ascension Church in Stillwater, June 11-15 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Parkinson’s Walk

Walt & Kay Flesner will once again be participating in the Parkinson’s Walk, Saturday, May 5 at St. Louis Park. If you want to give to this Walk, give cash to Walt or Kay, or give them a check made out to: “Parkinson’s Association of Minnesota”. All support is most welcome.

Camp Kingswood

Open House and Silent Auction

You are invited to help Camp Kingswood celebrate 60 years of ministry. Our celebration will include an open house and the commissioning of our new construction with special guest Bishop Sally Dyck. Staff and board members will be giving camp tours, or you are invited to investigate the grounds on your own. To continue our celebration, we are also hosting our first ever silent auction, with great items for you to bid on. After the commissioning we will be serving a delicious meal for you to enjoy. Meal RSVP and free will offering are appreciated.

Sunday, May 20, 2007

3:00-6:00 p.m. – Silent Auction

3:00-4:00 p.m. – Open House

4:30 p.m. – Commissioning with
Special Guest Bishop Sally Dyck

5:00 p.m. – Supper

6:00 p.m. – Auction Winners announced

Silent Auction items include:

Week-long cabin stay in Winter Park, CO
Split and delivered firewood
Twin Cities Hotel stay
Olive Garden gift card
Wood, bead and fiber crafts
Wild Mountain Super Pass
Themed gift baskets
Gopher Basketball tickets
Massages from The Human Body Shop,
Calm Waters, and Log Cabin Massage
Guided Chain of Lakes canoe trip with
Reverend Gretchen Fogo
Day of Guided Rock Climbing with Paul
Harcey

We are extending a special invitation to Stillwater UMC. If enough people would like to attend, the van will be available. Please sign up in the narthex.

Paul Harcey, Director
(952)472-3586
CampKingswood@frontiernet.net

LIFE IN OUR CHURCH

Baptism . . .

We welcome into our church family through Baptism, Freya Catherine Haugen. Freya is the daughter of Jason and Bridget Haugen, and the sister of Cleo and Josie. Freya was born November 5, 2006, in Stillwater.

Sympathy . . .

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family of Walter Flesner, whose stepfather passed away on April 14.

Thank You . . .

I want to thank our Kids' Club planning group: Patsy Bellman, Phyllis Green and Karen Robey. We had good turnouts for our monthly activities and the children and parents enjoyed the fun. Thanks to all of you for bringing kids and grandkids.

~ *Pastor Mark*

Church Friends,

Thank you for the beautiful lily that was brought to me on Easter Sunday. It was very much appreciated. God bless you all.

~ *Mildred Sawyer*

Word has also been received from Wallace and Jvanne Hoelscher thanking the church for the beautiful azalea they received from the church at Easter.

Thank you! The church nursery is sporting a fresh, new coat of paint. Thanks to the volunteers that helped with the project: Leslie Agard, Patsy & Becca Bellman, Cynthia Frederick, Phyllis Green, Pastor Horst and Alice Schoenecker.

It is the Education Committee's hope that this happy color "lemon meringue" will help make the nursery a welcoming place for the young families who use our nursery.

~ *Susan Niethammer*

Education Committee Chair

OFFICE NOTES

Summer Office Hours

The church office summer hours will change on Tuesday, May 29 until Tuesday, September 4. The summer hours are Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

June Newsletter

The June newsletter will be mailed on **Wednesday, May 23**. In order to ensure that your articles are included, please submit them to the church office by **12:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 17**.

Post-High School Graduates

If someone in your family is graduating from a post-high school institution this spring, please contact the church office (651)439-1880 with their name, degree and institution. Thank you.

WOMEN'S NEWS

UMW May Meeting

Please join your friends for a morning of program and fellowship on Thursday, May 17 at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

Elisabeth Horst will present the program "Weaving the Personal Threads of Life." This is the second of the "Weaving" series. Elisabeth will share some of her personal journey as well as talking about her passion of weaving. She will have a spinning wheel and some of her woven products at the meeting. The Ada and Ruth Circles will be serving refreshments.

Ruth Circle

The Ruth Circle will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 3 in the fellowship hall. Lucille Jahns and Joy Schilling will be the hostesses.

Winners' Circle

The Winners' Circle will meet on Thursday, May 10 at 10:00 a.m. Kathy Jones is the hostess (1390 Paris Trail N., West Lakeland). If you need directions, call Kathy at (651)337-0285.

New Beginnings Circle

The New Beginnings Circle will meet at the home of Pat Grogan on Monday, May 21. Meet at the church at 12:30 p.m. to carpool. Bev Walmar will have the program.

Ada Circle

The Ada Circle will meet on Thursday, May 24 at 1:15 p.m.

Knives for Sale

The New Beginnings Circle members have an ongoing sale of sharp kitchen knives to benefit mission projects. Call (651)439-7490 to purchase.

MEN'S NEWS

UMM Meeting

The UMM will meet on Tuesday, May 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All men of the congregation are welcome.

Spring Clean-Up

The Trustees would appreciate your help with our annual spring clean-up of the church and grounds on Saturday, May 5 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Remember, many hands make light work.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH NEWS

Congratulations to our students who will be confirming their faith on Sunday, May 6, 2007 –

Katelynn Brown

Brianna Hirt

Drew Keller

Travis Larson

Madeline Leines

Jake Martell

Blake Peterson

Confirmation families are invited for breakfast and pictures on Sunday, May 6 at 8:00 a.m. Breakfast will be followed by Worship, Communion and Confirmation service at 9:30 a.m., and a reception in their honor in the fellowship hall at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School News

The kindergarten through sixth grade classes have just begun their final unit of the year. They will be hearing the stories of Mary, Martha and Lazarus; and learning about what it was like in Bible Times. The preschool class will hear a story about Lidia and learn about sharing, giving, love and loving one another.

NOTE: The final day of Sunday School for this school year will be on May 20.

Camping News

May 15 is the deadline for the *Early Bird Special*. You must register and pay the camp fee by that date to take advantage of the \$10.00 discounted price listed in the camp brochure. A few of the camps are starting to fill, so it is definitely time to make your

decisions for the summer. Check out the camping bulletin board across from the upstairs men's restroom. You will see who is already registered for camp.

On April 15, Paul Harcey, the director of Camp Kingswood, was our guest speaker. At that service, the congregation was given the opportunity to give a gift to support the Special Camping Campaign underway by our Minnesota Annual Conference. If you were not here and would like to make a gift to this vital ministry, you can find an envelope inside the camping brochure. The money can be donated to the camp of your choice, or if undesignated, it will be divided between the six United Methodist campsites.

Babanka Orphanage Farm Project

Thank you to everyone who supported the Babanka Orphanage Farm Project. The animals, animal shares, cookies, games and banks brought in a total of \$619.52. In addition, the Sunday School offering of \$1,561.44 that has been collected for Heifer Project International is being sent in and earmarked to go towards Babanka Farm Project.

YOUTH INFORMATION

Come join us for the car wash and refreshment stand this Saturday, April 28 between 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. The money raised will go to the A.S.P. mission.

Wednesday afternoon youth group will meet three more times this year. May 9, May 23 and June 6.

Set Friday, June 15 aside for a junior and senior high lock-in to kick-off summer.

Summer Stretch is coming . . . What is summer stretch? It is a joint ministry with the other local churches where junior high students along with senior high leaders come together on Wednesdays, July 25 through August 22 to serve and have fun. The cost is about \$100 which includes a day at Valleyfair and all other activity expenses. Registration forms will be out soon.

Graduating seniors will be recognized in church on Sunday, June 10. Stillwater seniors are invited the Baccalaureate service at the SAHS auditorium on Wednesday, May 30 at 7:00 p.m.

Dear 1st UMC congregation,

I am writing to tell you a little bit about my hopes and dreams for our youth ministry. I was hired in March and I am so grateful to be among you. I have spent the past seven weeks getting

to know many of the families here, both students and adults. My experience here has been that the people of our church are very giving, they love to eat and laugh, all people are valued here, and you are especially excited to be learning from Pastor Mark.

Youth ministry is an interesting phenomenon. One reason I am attracted to youth ministry is because it is ever-changing and always looking for new ways to help young people come alive in their faith. I have noticed, as have the other youth workers I network with, that many of the old ways of doing youth ministry no longer work. The biggest change recently is that students are gathering in smaller groups rather than large groups. For many of us that means we have to let go of that old picture of youth group. What has not changed, is the love God has for each person or the fact that so many of us experience God through Christian community. So, I continue to believe that developing relationships is still one of the keys to growing a youth ministry program.

So with that said, this is what I would love to see for our young people. I see a place that is open to all students, a place where it is safe to both explore and grow in your faith in Jesus, a place where each is valued for the unique ways they were created, a place where the love shared with one another is so profound that others are naturally drawn to it, a place where you can learn who you are, a place where you can practice serving God through serving others, a place where you can laugh until your stomach hurts or cry until your tears run dry.

So if you: Want to hear more about how we are going to get there, or if this sounds like a vision God is calling you toward, please contact me at (651)430-2537 or krismhuntley@yahoo.com. Both students and adults who love students are welcome.

In Christ,
Kris Huntley