

Last Spring I got the opportunity to attend the United Methodist Women's General Assembly. Theme worship theme of the week centered on the scripture passages that speak about Mary, the mother of Jesus. Through simple but powerful dramatic performances, the familiar stories of the angel's visit to Mary, the story of Mary and Elizabeth, and the other stories took on new meaning. As I experienced these presentations I knew I wanted to share them with you, my congregation as our theme for Advent. Fortunately, they were videotaped and available for us.

During worship this month, as a part of our Advent experience, we will be able to share in the UMW Assembly worship experiences through these videos. We will see that Mary was a BOLD woman.

Mary was a bold woman. She said, "Yes!" to God knowing that her reputation would be put on the line.  
Mary was a bold woman. She said, "Yes!" to God without knowing exactly where that 'yes' would lead her.  
Mary was a bold woman. She said, "Yes!" to God willing to be a part of God's salvation work in the universe.

As Protestants, we don't often focus on the story of Mary in the scriptures. We shy away from the Mary story because we don't want to seem too enamored with her. She was only another woman in a long line of women who did the work of God in the world. Not someone we should pray to or venerate.

Yet, the interweaving of the story of Mary with the birth and life and death of Jesus is a powerful story to remind us that we, as human beings, capable and called to be part of God's story when we are bold enough to say, "Yes!"

A woman, from a poor village;  
A woman, unmarried;  
A woman, vulnerable;  
A woman, willing...

For this, Jesus came: To lift up the poor, to give identity to the nameless, to give honor to the dishonored, to give the lowly purpose

I am, we are Mary. Whom Jesus came to save from a life of meaninglessness and vulnerability.

I am, we are Mary. Named as Child of God.

I am, we are Mary. No longer vulnerable. Able to be bold followers of Jesus the Christ.

I am, we are Mary. Let us hear her story this year and rejoice in God our Savior who has come as God with us.

Grace and Peace, *Pastor Debra*

### **Light A Candle Offering**

Our end of the year Light A Candle offering will be collected to help with the Missional Operating Expenses of the church. Each candle lit represents a \$25 gift. You may give in honor or memory of a loved one, if you so choose. Envelopes are available in this newsletter and in the narthex. Please give Boldly.

## Living the Season in Advent and Christmas at Home

### December 2—First Sunday of Advent

Luke 1: 26-38 *“Six months later, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a young woman named Mary; Rejoice, highly favored one! God is with you! Blessed are you among women!” Mary was deeply troubled by these words and wondered what the angel’s greeting meant.”*

**Something to think about:** When have you heard a sacred voice calling to you? As you start a new day, look in the mirror and say aloud, ‘The Lord is with you.’ As you move through your day, see the faces of sisters and brothers who will walk with you as you ponder the power that God is calling you to claim this day.

**Prayer:** *Holy God, help me to be still and listen to your voice. Open my ears to hear the stories of my sisters and brothers, open my eyes to the reality of the hurting world that surrounds me and open my heart to the thanksgiving of this day. Amen*

### December 9—Second Sunday of Advent

Luke 1:39-55 *“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior”*

**Something to think about:** What does it mean to act boldly in response to God’s call? Does the call God brings into your life require sacrifice? Loving in ways you can’t imagine? How does Mary’s story resonate with your story?

**Prayer:** *Holy God, make my soul open to your words. Make my spirit able to rejoice in You my Savior. May I boldly dream with Mary and You of what this child Jesus will continue to do and be and make of this world. Amen*

### December 16—3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Luke 2:1-7 *“While they were there, the time came for her delivery”*

**Something to think about:** What do you think Mary thought as she held the child who would be her Savior? What was it like for her to welcome shepherds who seemed to know as much about this baby as she did?

**Prayer:** *Holy God, open our eyes to see your power in even the smallest of things. Help us to claim your power in even the smallest of actions. Help us to love as the mother of Jesus was willing to love. Amen.*

### December 23—4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Luke 2:1-20 *“But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart”*

**Something to think about:** Do you think Mary had a sense of what she would be called upon to do as the mother of Jesus while she pondered “these words?” Did she know that the one she was nursing would one day change water into wine?

**Prayer:** *Holy God, slow us down today. In this busy season, slow us down. Help us to learn to ponder, to consider all that we see as signs of Your presence in this world. Amen*

### December 30—1<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Christmas

Psalm 148

**Something to think about:** How does the world – indeed, the universe – respond to the good news of the birth of Jesus the Christ? All things – land, and trees, and all manner of creatures – proclaim their praise to God. Where do you see creation praising God?

**Prayer:** *Thank you God, that in your own creation we can see praise. In this new year help us to be people who praise you in all we do. Amen*

# Working with God in the World and Community

Steve Strickler, Food Shelf  
Coordinator  
[chatfieldfoodshelf@gmail.com](mailto:chatfieldfoodshelf@gmail.com)

Denise Pagel, Weekend  
Backpack Coordinator:  
denpag@q.com

The Chatfield Community Food Shelf served 28 households in September which amounted to 73 people. We distributed 1109 pounds of food. Thanks to all those who support the food shelf.

Steve Strickler  
Coordinator

For the Good of Chatfield,  
Steve Strickler, Food Shelf Coordinator

## Food Donation List

Cereal  
Pasta and sauce  
Pancake Mix  
Hamburger, Tuna Helper  
Canned soup  
Canned meat  
Canned fruit  
Canned vegetables  
Peanut Butter  
Canned tuna  
Macaroni & cheese

**Food Shelf Open**  
**Tuesdays 6-7:30 pm**  
**Fridays 9-10:30am**

Donations can be brought to Chatfield United Methodist Church,  
124 Winona Street SE, 8am-8pm

## CHATFIELD COMMUNITY FOOD SHELF MISSION STATEMENT

Chatfield Community Food Shelf exists to provide food supplies in a manner that preserves the dignity and respect of families and individuals who are residents of Chatfield and the Chatfield rural community. Chatfield Community Food Shelf serves individuals and families regardless of their race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, sexual orientation, physical appearance, disability status, age, pregnancy or any group membership.

## Delicious & Nutritious Noon Meals



The Meals on Wheels Program provides hot, nutritious meals paired with a friendly visit and safety check for any persons 60 years of age or better (& spouse) who are confined to their home and unable to prepare a balanced meal.

**Gift Certificates Available!**

**For more information call:**

**507-864-8228**

**“You need meals-  
We’ve got wheels.  
You state where –  
We’ll be there.”**

For a number of years, the youth of Chatfield United Methodist Church have served as the crossing guards for the Downtown Trick or Treat event from 3-5 pm on Halloween evening.

The student's job is to keep the children and their family safe as they cross the busy HWY 52 and side streets during 'rush hour'.

Their other 'job' is to enjoy the admiration of the little ones who see a group of older youths interested in their safety; in other words, being good role models.

We are proud of our young people and their involvement in the community.

This year the following youth participated:

Abbi Gillespie  
Kyra Throckmorton  
Sydney Ellis  
Carly Fitzgerald  
Jack Martinka  
Peyton Ellis  
Ellie Collette  
Olivia Hare  
Bri (friend of Kyra's)  
Aleisha Hanson (not pictured)



As you look at the photos above of our youth, aren't you proud! Don't you feel a sense of wonder and thanksgiving for their joy and willingness to be a part of this church community?

Don't you want to see the ministry of Chatfield United Methodist Church thrive for their sakes and the sakes of all the other children who are a part of our church?

Each month, as a church, we respond with faith and hope that we will show God's light into the world. Each month, we pay the bills so that these ministries can continue to thrive and touch the hearts and needs of our young people and our neighbors. Doing church together requires regular giving and regular offerings of time talents and MONEY.

Each time someone gives to the work of Chatfield UMC, they are assuring that the ministry of Chatfield UMC will continue. Each time YOU give to the work of Chatfield UMC, YOU are being a part of what makes this church what it is, place where young people thrive in their discipleship in Jesus Christ.

Please walk with these youth and everyone at Chatfield UMC by being a continuing and regular financial contributor. Please help us thrive.

# Books and Beverages

Tuesday Evening  
7:00 PM @ JAC'S  
2018-2019

This year we will be reading and discussing novels, memoirs, journals, even a cook book!  
Books and Beverages is open to everyone. Read, Enjoy, Discuss, Grow  
Books are available at the public library through interlibrary loan, Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

## January 29

*Saints for All Occasions* by J. Courtney Sullivan

Saints for All Occasions explores the fascinating, funny, and sometimes achingly sad ways a secret at the heart of one family both breaks them and binds them together.

## February 26

*Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman

Meet Eleanor Oliphant: She struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she's thinking. Nothing is missing in her carefully timetabled life of avoiding social interactions, where weekends are punctuated by frozen pizza, vodka, and phone chats with Mummy.

## May TBD

*H is for Hawk* by Helen Macdonald

When naturalist and falconer Helen Macdonald lost her beloved father, she "thought her world was ending. In *H is for Hawk*, you will meet Mabel, not your typical bloodthirsty specimen, as she is trained to hunt like the goshawks of yore. It is this brash, slightly mad undertaking that wrenches Macdonald free from despair, and brings her to a place where she can begin again.

# Giving Opportunities

## Building Loan Payment Due December

The mortgage is almost paid off! Be a part of seeing a debt free building by designating your gift to the building loan payment.

## Roaster Insert Pans

Do you have a rectangle shaped roaster pan or roaster pan insert that is not being used? You may donate them to the church for use during Western Days and other food events.

## Medical Equipment

The Medical Equipment Loan closet is used constantly. Please bring your gently used equipment to the church. Others will be grateful.

## Noisy Offering

Pocket change is collected on the first Sunday of every month by the children. This collection supports missions.

## A Season Of Giving

During December we will participate in the Chatfield Christmas Project and Gifts to Maple Leaf Services in Preston. Chatfield Christmas project: Gifts due December 5<sup>th</sup>. Maple Leaf Services gifts due: December 16<sup>th</sup>. Lists of gifts available in the Narthex.

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## Networking

You may reach Pastor in three ways:

- Call the Church-867-3529
- Call her cell phone at 507-923-1097
- E-mail her at: revdeb54@gmail.com

The Pastor is always available for home visitations, counseling and hospital visits when notified or requested. Please keep her informed of your needs as she is there to respond.

If you change your address or phone number please let the office know. Also, if there are corrections or additions to the directory call, email, or leave a note in the office with the new information. Phone numbers are helpful!

Contact the secretary:  
webmaster@chatfieldumc.org

December Birthdays	
1	Brenda Hanson
4	Amy Grover
6	Sandy Wright
8	Kathy Hanson
12	Amy Zincke
14	Edward Amundson Roy Lange Donald Simpson
15	Christopher Dornack Dwayne Kamnetz Dolly Zincke
16	Candice Hare Aleksie Erickson
21	Carol Adams
23	Michelle Folken
24	Zayden Wright
25	Lee Kester
26	Alexandra Hanson
28	Bill Seamens
29	Holly Martinka Jacob Gillespie Angela Reinke
31	Roger Woltz

### Chatfield UMC has a new office assistant!

My name is Tyler Grundman and I live in from Preston. I grew up in Harmony and graduated from Fillmore Central in 2002. In addition to helping out the church, I also have been running my own computer repair business named Armor Computers out of Preston for 6 years.

I will be helping create the weekly bulletins, monthly newsletters, email, answering phones and other related tasks. This means that if you find any typos or errors, you know who to blame!

If you wish to meet me, I typically am in-office at 10am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lastly, if you do stop by, don't be surprised if you happen to run in to my best buddy in the whole world, Rocko the Doggo. He looks like a small black lab with a curly tail, hangs out with me in the office and he loooves people!



Chatfield United Methodist Women  
 Faith+Hope+Love in Action  
 Over 75 Years

**UMW Officers for 2019**

President:	Pam Nelson
President:	Denise Pagel
Secretary:	Donna Amundson
Treasurer:	Kathy Lange

**UMW**

Next General Meeting: January  
 January 2nd -- 10 am  
 Gathering at JAC's

**GREETING CARDS**

are available in the fellowship hall. Each box sells for \$5.00. The sale of these cards supports future mission trips.

**Recycle your used greeting cards**

Maple Leaf Services, which works with adults with disabilities, can use all of your used greeting cards; all kinds. The cards are remade and sold in their store.

There is a container in the Narthex to put the used cards in, and Juanita will deliver the cards to Preston.

***Christmas Activities***

**UMW Christmas Tea and Bazaar**  
**December 4 11-1**  
**\$8 for a chicken salad lunch**

**Caroling at the Care Center**

*December 16*

Hearty Coffee Hour with Caroling  
 Following Worship

**Salvation Army Bell Ringing**

*Saturday December 22*

Morning and Evening shifts will be available  
 A sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex

**Confirmation Christmas Party**

December 5

6:30

Singing, Dancing, Quizzing, Eating, Gifting,  
 Laughing

A night to celebrate the gift of being that came  
 because Jesus came.

# Ubuntu journey connects United Methodist Women

By E Julu Swen

July 9, 2018 | DIECKE, Guinea (UMNS)



Members of United Methodist Women of **Liberia** crossed into the southeastern town of Diecke in **Guinea** to implement one of their annual Ubuntu Missionary Journeys.

According to Muriel V. Nelson, president of United Methodist Women of Liberia, the four-day journey was intended to revive the relationship between the Diecke United Methodist Women and their Liberian counterparts.

“We are here to reawaken their spirit of ministry to the community and its people,” she said, adding that engaging the community in productive ventures was the best way for

United Methodist Women to make disciples for Jesus Christ.

Ubuntu Journeys are short-term mission service opportunities in which women of faith come together to address social issues and discover new ways of working together and growing spiritually.

“United Methodist Women just don’t go to church and pray, they work with people in communities to help them with real life-threatening issues,” she said.

Asked what role Ubuntu played in this trip, Nelson said the United Methodist Women participated in cleaning up the community, including work at a United Methodist school and hospital, and providing items such as clothes to children and their parents.

She said United Methodist Women are interested in touching the lives of the people of Diecke Town as they have done in the past when The United Methodist Church was established there.

As part of the Ubuntu Missionary Journey, the United Methodist Women from both countries were trained in how to get involved in the daily activities of the church and community, including efforts to combat gender-based violence. Nelson led a discussion on “Breaking the Circle of Silence” and urged participants to speak out so that their rights are not violated by male counterparts in their church and community.

To read more United Methodist news, subscribe to the free Daily or Weekly Digests @ [newsdesk@umcom.org](mailto:newsdesk@umcom.org).



# **Parish Health**

Questions?

Ask Beverly Simpson  
[simpbev@gmail.com](mailto:simpbev@gmail.com)  
507-867-0064

## **The Gathering Place for Seniors**

Chatfield United Methodist Church, 124 Winona St. SE, Chatfield, MN 55923

### **Medical Equipment Loan Closet**

Walkers, Crutches, Canes, Wheelchairs, Bath Benches, Toilet Risers & Surrounds, Lift Chair, Bed Rails available for loan. Free for as long as you need the equipment.

8 A.M.-8 P.M., M - F. Call Beverly Simpson @ 507-867-0064 to ask about availability of equipment.

### **Senior Support Group**

Second Friday of each month 9 A.M - 10 A.M.

1102 Liberty Street N.W.

at Chosen Valley Independent Living Dining Room

(Participants discuss issues related to growing older, healthy living, and caregiving)

Please join us for coffee and conversation!

Beverly Simpson, Facilitator

### **Living After Cancer Support Group**

Second Tuesday of each month 11 A.M. - 12 P.M.

124 Winona St. SE, Chatfield, MN 55923

at Chatfield United Methodist Church *Gathering Place*

(Participants share current health issues while surviving cancer)

Please join us for coffee and conversation!

Beverly Simpson, Facilitator

## **Age Well At Home - Fillmore County**

Active Aging Programs - Questions? Call Tina Kerns @ 251-0520 tkerns@ccsomm.org

### **SAIL (Staying Active & Independent for Life)**

Strengthen your bones, improve your balance, and have more energy.

This FREE activity program to prevent osteoporosis is led by Active Aging Programs Volunteers

9 A.M. Mondays & Wednesdays

St. Mary's Catholic Church Fellowship Hall, 405 Twiford St. SW Co-

Leaders: Mary Bailey & Beverly Simpson

### **Seasoned Seniors Potluck**

(for anyone 62 and older) at the Thurber Building Senior Room 11:30 A.M.,

4th Friday each month

Program following meal (Main course provided)

## Prayer

**Prayers requested for the following individuals:** Gaylon Amy, Phyllis Amy, Thelma Barker, Mabel Beach, Braxton Bernard, Myron Bernard, Joanne Finley, Marian Gartner, Janice Haug, Pat Hill, Betty Johnson, Bev Jorde, Kari Kremer, Ginny Kremer, Kathie Priebe, Alta Reese, Marge Scott, Kael Simpson, Bill Thomas, Phyllis Waadevig, Dolly Zincke.

## WORSHIP SERVICE HELPERS

### USHERS

Andy & Josh Waadevig / Carly Fitzgerald & Kyra Throckmorton

### READERS

December 2	Carly Fitzgerald
December 9	Teresa Narveson
December 16	Youth
December 23	Sheila Erickson
December 30	Steve Strickler

If you can't read on your date;  
please call someone else on the list.

### COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

**The Mission Committee**  
is responsible for December Coffee Fellowship.  
Members are: Juanita Haare, Lowell Stephas, and Jeanne Ferguson.

### ACOLYTES

December 4	Peyton & Carly
December 11	Ellie & Olivia
December 18	Aleisha & Sydney
December 25	Kyra & Carly

### ALTAR GUILD

December 4	Team 1
December 11	Team 2
December 18	Team 3
December 25	Team 4

# December 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Sunday School Christmas Program Practice <hr/> Maple Leaf Xmas Gift Collection Starts	3	4 11am-1pm UMWC Christmas Tea & Bazaar	5 Confirmation Christmas Party 6:30pm	6	7	8
9 Sunday School Christmas Program Practice	10 Meals on Wheels	11 Meals on Wheels	12 Meals on Wheels <hr/> After School Program Practice 3pm	13 Meals on Wheels	14 Meals on Wheels	15
16 Sunday School Christmas Program <hr/> Maple Leaf Xmas Gift Collection Ends <hr/> Caroling at the Care Center	17	18	19	20	21	22 Salvation Army Bell Ringing 11am-1pm 4pm-8pm
23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Every week:  
 SAIL Monday & Wednesdays 9:00am St Mary's  
 Catholic Church  
 Quilt Craft and Conversation—Wednesdays 8-10am  
 Food Shelf Tuesday 6-7:30pm, Friday 9-10:30am  
 Sunday worship 9:30 am

**Gluten and alcohol free Communion is  
 celebrated at 9:30am  
 on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month. This is an  
 open table. All are welcome.**



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Chatfield, MN 55923

*Address Service Requested*

Chatfield  
United Methodist  
Church

124 Winona St SE  
Chatfield, MN 55923

Church Phone:

(507) 867-3529

Secretary E-Mail:

[webmaster@chatfieldumc.org](mailto:webmaster@chatfieldumc.org)

Children E-Mail:

[lange.jennifer@mayo.edu](mailto:lange.jennifer@mayo.edu)

HON Director:

[director@honseniorpartners.org](mailto:director@honseniorpartners.org)

Pastor's E-Mail:

[chatfieldpastor@gmail.com](mailto:chatfieldpastor@gmail.com)

[www.chatfieldumc.org](http://www.chatfieldumc.org)

Christmas Eve  
Dec 24

Birthday Party for  
Jesus/Family Christmas  
Service 4:30 PM

Traditional Candlelight  
Service 7:30 PM

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 am  
Worship

9:30 am  
Sunday School

10:30 am  
Coffee Fellowship

Gluten Free Communion on the  
first Sunday open to all

Chatfield United Methodist Church

**We are a community of faith open to everyone.**

**We seek to live as disciples of Christ and share God's  
love in word and deed.**