

# March 2019

A monthly publication of the Chatfield United Methodist Church www.chatfieldumc.org

As we enter the time of Lent we are once again thinking about all the ways we can be aware of God's work in our everyday life.

On the first Sunday of Lent we will acknowledge both our humanity and our unique call to be as humanely and humanly as possible, people of God. We will dip our fingers in the waters of baptism reminding ourselves that we are children of God and then receive ashes to remind ourselves that children of God are fragile beings, subject to temptation and sin and being led astray.

With this introduction to the realities of our lives, we will continue our journey through Lent thinking together about what it means to be a following of Jesus in a world the is permeated by media, technology, and global economies.

I believe that there is a spirituality in all things, even in our 21<sup>st</sup> century life that seems so full of non-spiritually minded distractions. And I think that one of the reasons we find ourselves so disassociated with the spiritually of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is because we have been led to believe it is all so evil.

Remember, when the church thought dancing was evil? Card playing? Working on Sunday? Remember the movie "Footloose"? That movie was based on actual events. Just as in the movie, the church I attended as a teenager and young adult, did not allow going to movies, dancing or playing regular cards. I will never forget sneaking into Dr. Zhivago with my best friend in high school. I could hardly enjoy the movie because I was afraid someone might find out I had attended it. While we now might think these attitudes are ridiculous, I think some of the attitudes we have about computers, media, and technology are the same as the attitudes some people had about dancing, cards and movies in the 60's. Each generation creates their own 'evil list'.

But we should have learned by now that naming benign things as evil does not help us grow as Christians. What helps us grow as Christians is learning how to see the beauty and spirituality of life that is possible when we think carefully about how we engage with culture.

A story that inspires these thoughts:

I was in a shop one day looking at lovely items from all around the world. My eyes were drawn to a little doll, dressed in African cloth, a beaded necklace adorning her neck, holding a bowl made from a

gourd embellished with small shells; I could tell someone put a lot of love and care in making this little wired dolly. I was immediately in love. But what really sold me on this dolly was the reason she had been so lovingly crafted.

Girls in Mali, Africa, one of the poorest countries in the WORLD, wanted to purchase computers for their school. GIRLS in Mali, Africa, a place where girls typically don't go to school past elementary school, if even that.

Girls in Mali, Africa crafted these dolls to raise money for computers so that their education could be comparable to other developed countries. Girls, in Mali, Africa who were more often than not, married off to men while they were in their teens, had the vision and drive to improve their lives! In ways most of us would never imagine.

THAT is what always, always inspires me. Anyone who has the imagination to see beyond what others see in possible.

These girls continue to inspire me.

Every time I look at my little dolly, because of course, I purchased her, I wonder, did they get their computers? What are they doing now? And, more importantly, how can I live in such a courageous way that defies other people's expectations of what I can do? May we all be courageous as we imagine ways we can partner with each other in doing the work of the gospel.

Grace and Hope, Pastor Debra

#### Living the Seasons at Home—March

#### March 3--Luke 9:28-36

While Peter was speaking, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and the disciples grew fearful as the others entered it. Then from the cloud came a voice which said, "This is my Own, my Chosen One. Listen to him!"

#### Something to think about, talk about or do

If only faith were like this every day! If only we could sit in the presence of Jesus and other great people of faith, and bask in the mystery and glory of God. But we're about to move into the Season of Lent, preparing for Easter. This is a time when we prepare for the very unexpected nature of God's greatness. We cannot stay on a mountain forever, but the mountain gives us the hope to go on. **Prayer:** God, give me eyes to see your glory and courage to take that glory into the highways and byways of my life.

#### March 10 -- Psalm 51: 1-17

O God, have mercy on me! Because of your love and your great compassion, wipe away my faults; wash me clean of my guilt; purify me of my sin. For I am aware of my faults, and have my sin constantly in mind.

#### Something to think about, talk about or do

As Lent begins, we remember that all we have comes from God. We recognize that although we have been created in wholeness and balance by God's grace and wisdom, that same wisdom created us with volition and choice, frailty and vulnerability. And because of these things, we do not live in perpetual bliss, but we live in the balance that includes failure, pain, injury, and the sins of separation from God, and from one another.

#### Something to think about, talk about or do

Light a candle and think about how God has blessed you. What stories about God and God's love will you remember and pass on? **Prayer:** As I begin to observe a holy Lent, make me aware of not only my sins, brokenness and shortcomings, but also the Grace, you my Savior, extend to me every moment of every day.

#### March 17 – Luke 13:31-35

"How often I have wanted to gather your people just as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings"

#### Something to think about, talk about or do

Why do you think an image of a mother hen came to Jesus when he was concerned for Jerusalem? What images of God could help you feel loved by God?

**Prayer**: Loving God, as we face all of our trials and tribulations, help us to remember that you long to gather us under the protection of your wings.

#### March 24--Isaiah 55:1-9

Why spend your money for what is not bread, your wages for what fails to satisfy?

#### Something to think about, talk about or do

Sometimes, we invest too much of our energy and money in things that don't last, like material objects. Sometimes, we worry we will be excluded from community because we don't have the money or the talents of others. But the prophet Isaiah has a message for the people: God loves all. The prophet encourages us to seek after God and God's ways above all. God gives something to all who seek – steadfast love.

**Prayer:** God, our loving and constant love, help us to rest in Your love so that we can know what is important in life. So that we can celebrate all that is good and worthwhile as a gift from You.

#### March 31— Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

"This person welcomes sinners and eats with them!"

#### Something to think about, talk about or do

This is a story about finding a home and knowing where we belong. We're all different. Some of us know where our home is all the time, others have to leave home to discover where they belong. This is also a story that often touches hidden sadnesses in our lives – for those of us who never left home in the first place, so never had a party in our honor; for those of us who wait for people we love to come home; for those who have returned home to no welcome; and for those who have been forced to leave home but never wanted to. God's love is like no human love – it is limitless, boundless, and weeps for all.

**Prayer:** Loving Parent God, thank you for always welcoming us home. Help us remember those whose homes are not stable and not as secure. Help us help others to find their way home.

#### **Special Sundays in Lent**

#### Worship at 9:30 AM

# Please join our Confirmations Students as they Confirm Their Faith in the Risen Christ



#### Wednesday March 20 6:30 PM

We will share our stories of our Faith Journey and the meaning of our Confirmation Candle

Refreshments will be served

#### Sunday March 24 9:30 AM

Confirmation Worship Service Cake Reception Following in the Fellowship Hall

Chatfield UMC 124 Winona Street SE

#### March 10 1st Lent

Remembering our Baptism & Imposition of Ashes This replaces the Ash Wednesday service so that all can participate in the beginning of Lent.

#### March 17--UMW Sunday

Celebrating our own unit of United Methodist Women and the 150-year Legacy of the UMW in the world

March 24—Confirmation Sunday Pack the Pews Sunday Bring bags of food or cash gifts for the Food Shelf

**March 31**--OC Presentation by Rev. Lyndy Zabel, Director of Community Engagement, learn about the work we are supporting through our Lent Offering.

April 14 Palms to Passion: Journey to the Cross Our traditional telling of the story of Jesus' last week of life. Palms from the University of MN Eco-palms Project: supporting sustainable palm production and small family farms in Central American countries

# Lenten Offering this year.

# Following Jesus in a Dot.Com World in Africa and Chatfield



There is a school in Baiwalla, Sierra Leon called the Rick Ormsby Secondary School, pictured above, which is supported by OC Ministries\* and led by a pastor from Minnesota, the Rev. Judith Banya. Judith returned to her home of Sierra Leon to help set up United Methodist ministries in churches and schools in a country recovering from civil war. Currently, she has to drive one hour to get internet

services. She is on the cusp of opening a secondary school building which will include internet and computer access for students and staff.

While we don't know what happened to the computer project in Mali (see the pastor's article), we have the opportunity to do something tangible for a school in Sierra Leon that is also visioning and imagining the possibilities of computers for their school so that girls and boys can be better prepared for the world. Our Lenten special offering this year will go to Computers for Baiwalla AND, because we too, are on the cusp of something new, the development of a new website for our church.

Please consider a gift to the Lenten Offering. To help students in Baiwalla join the 21<sup>st</sup> century as they make a difference in the world and to bring our presence on the web in a new way through a new website. \*OC Ministries is a Minnesota Advance Special which supports schools and clinics and other projects in Jamaica, Sierra Leon, and Liberia.

# How can we be Followers of Jesus in a Dot.Com World?

So often we look at our computers as a place of strive rather than a place of ministry. So often we feel overwhelmed with modern technology and fail to appreciate what a gift it can be.

As always, during Lent I want to encourage us to look at something ordinary and even necessary with new eyes, the eyes of spirituality and our discipleship as followers of Jesus.

How do we, as Christians, appreciate and manage the technology we live with. How do we, as Christians, live with our technology in such a way that we honor our Savior and bring glory to God.

Our weekly Lent gatherings will focus on ways we can be faithful in our use of technology.

#### Wednesdays@ 6:30 PM

## March 13 Movie & Discussion Night

#### Chocolat

A woman and her daughter open a chocolate shop in a small French village that shakes up the rigid morality of the community.

# Bring a small chocolate dessert to share

#### March 20 Confirmation Family and Friend Night

Sharing our Faith Journeys and Our Candles Ice Cream Sundaes for all

# March 27 Discussion

# Would You Be On Jesus' Friends List?

Bring a salad or dessert to share

## **April 3** Discussion

# Grace in an eBay World

Bring a salad or dessert to share

# **April 10** Panel Discussion

#### What Does Truth Have to Do with It?

Bring a salad or a dessert to share















Want to know what is going on in the weather or on the streets in Chatfield? Sign up for Citizen Alert Notifications on the Chatfield City Webpage. Look under the 'Street Operations News' on the right-hand side of the home page. Click on Winter Reminders.

# Working with God in the World and Community

Steve Strickler, Food Shelf Coordinator chatfieldfoodshelf@gmail.com

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

In January, the food shelf served 14 households and distributed 748 pounds of food. The numbers are less this month because we were closed on New Year's Day and then closed 2 other Tuesdays due to the weather. We truly appreciate your support in serving the community of Chatfield with this service.

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!** 

"You need meals-

We've got wheels.

You state where -

We'll be there."

For more information call:

507-864-8228

In 2018, the Chatfield Community Food Shelf served an average of 31 households per month. This includes 36 children per month, 46 adults and 12 seniors. The total amount of food distributed in 2018 was 17,822 pounds.



Chatfield Community Food Shelf distributes 2,000#'s of food every month to our neighbors

Fill the cart this month and we receive matching grant money from MNFOODSHARE.

Donations can be put in the grocery cart inside the lower level door from 8-8 every day @





Pack THE Pew Sunday, March 24

Bring bags of food or cash donations to the church

# **Empty Bowls Fundraiser**

An international grassroots movement to help end hunger sponsored by the Chatfield Student Service Club, Chatfield Community Food Shelf, Chatfield Lutheran, Chatfield United Methodist, and St. Matthew's Episcopal

Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> – 5-7pm, Chatfield High School Cafeteria 205 Union St NE, Chatfield

Please come, enjoy a bowl of soup, and receive a bowl decorated by our local youth. **Free will donation.** 

Proceeds to benefit Chatfield Community and Fillmore County Food Shelves.

# **Books and Beverages**

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

Books and Beverages will not meet during Lent. Please attend the Lent discussions groups as an alternative

#### 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**

#### **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.

#### **Greeting Cards**

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

#### **Lent Offering**

Computers for Baiwalla and CUMC Website, envelopes are available in the narthex and this newsletter.

# **Praying for One Another**

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, Phyllis Waadevig, Dolly Zincke.

Making connections:

You may reach Pastor Debra Collum in a number of ways:

- Call the Church-867-3529 (Please leave a message if no one is in)
- Call her cell phone-(507) 923.1097. (Again, you can leave a message if no one answers.)
- E-mail her at: chatifledpastor@gmail.com

Mailing Address is: Chatfield United Methodist Church 124 Winona St. SE Chatfield, MN 55923

Web Site: www.chatfieldumc.org

The Pastor is always available for home visitations and counseling whenever requested, as well as hospital visits when notified. Please keep her informed of your needs as she is here to respond. She does try to take Fridays off during the week.

Tyler Grundman, the administrative assistant and IT guru would like to know if you change your address or phone or any other additions or changes for the church records: call, email, or leave a note in the office with the new information. Phone numbers & EMAILS are helpful!

Contact Tyler in the church office: 867-3529 or webmaster@chatfieldumc.org

He is usually in the office on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm

## March 26 7:00 PM Charge Conference

For passing the budget, election of officers, receiving the membership report and other business as needed.

All are invited to attend with voice. These meetings are run by consensus so that all voices are honored and heard.

Longtime member and former school principal Bill Thomas passed away in January. He donated his body to Mayo's Anatomy Clinic. A memorial service will take place at the church on March 9 at 1 PM. Peace be to his memory.

For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread, a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead, and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:

by Shirley Erena Murray

Ma	arch Birthdays
1	Kayla Woltz
3	Zedrick Wright
5	Marlene Hisey Mallory Jefferis
6	Virginia Kremer
7	Diane Bacon-Bale
10	Chris Pagel
14	Kaylee Martin
15	Gaylon Amy
16	Lelaina Irish
17	Jeffrey Hare
19	Roberta Copeman
20	Gaby Judy
21	Kristina Fleming
22	Andrew Hare
23	Caleb Halloran
24	Brooke Bernard Flynn Dornack Tracy Hanson Mike Simpson Lowell Stephas
25	Emily Ferguson Kelli Gillespie
26	Jack Martinka William Wright
27	Daniel Folken Nathan Maker
31	Elise Schwanke



#### <u>UN</u>

#### **UMW Officers for 2019**

Chatfield United Methodist Women

Faith+Hope+Love in Action

Over 75 Years

President:
President:
Secretary:

Pam Nelson Denise Pagel Donna Amundson

Treasurer: Kathy Lange

#### **UMW**

# 10am - March 6th

#### Recycle your used greeting cards

Maple Leaf Services, which works with adults with disabilities, can use all of your used greeting cards; <u>all</u> 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.

## **UMW Sunday March 17 9:30 AM**

Celebrating Our Unit and the History of the UMW

Installation of Officers and

Affirmation of the UMW's work in the world

The UMW is celebrating 150 years of ministry around the world. The world will need the UMW around for another 150 years.

Give to the Legacy Fund to ensure future generations will continue to reap the rewards and benefits of the UMW

Ways to Give: unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund

Or give your gift to the UMW Treasurer, Kathy Lange who will forward it to the Legacy Fund



# Parish Health

Questions? Ask Beverly Simpson <a href="mailto:simpbev@gmail.com">simpbev@gmail.com</a> 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

## Fit and Strong

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)

# **WORSHIP SERVICE HELPERS**

# 2019 COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

January Trustees Committee
March SPRC Committee
March Worship Committee
April Missions Committee

May Health Cabinet & Memorial Committee

June No Coffee Fellowship
July No Coffee Fellowship
August No Coffee Fellowship
September Trustees Committee
October SPRC Committee
November Worship Committee
December Missions Committee

# **MARCH USHERS**

Mike & Bev Simpson, Scott Ferguson, Peyton Ellis

# **MARCH WORSHIP READERS**

March 3 Holly Martinka March 10 Roberta Copeman

March 17 UMW

March 24 Teresa Narveson March 31 Bill Wright

# **ALTAR GUILD**

March 5 Team 1
March 12 Team 2
March 19 Team 3
March 26 Team 4

# **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

# **The Worship Committee**

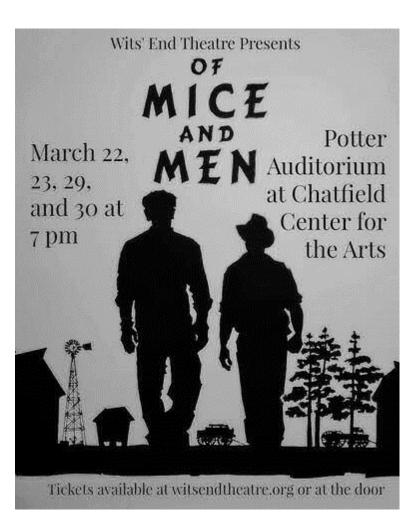
is responsible for March Coffee Fellowship. Members are: Bobbie Kehret, Sandy Bratcher, Kathy Kamnetz, Kathy Lange, Sheila Erickson, Steve Strickler

# **ACOLYTES**

March 3	Carly & Kyra
March 10	Ellie & Olivia
March 17	Aleisha & Sydney
March 24	Peyton & Carly
March 31	Kyra & Mason

Mar 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri 6018	Sat
54	25	26	27	28	World Day Of Prayer 9am - Food Shelf Open	2
Transfiguration Sunday 9:30am - Worship 11am - Memorial Team	9am - SAIL	6pm - Food Shelf Open	Ash Wednesday -  8 am - Quilts & Craft 9 am - SAIL 10 am - UMW General 12 pm - Ministerial	6pm - Aerobics	9am - Food Shelf Open 9am - Sr Support Group	60
Lent at Chaffield UMC	11	12	13	41	25	16
	9am - SAIL	11am - Living with 6pm - Food Shelf Open	8am - Quilts & Craft 9am - SAIL 1:30pm - Care Center 6:30pm - Movie	6pm - Aerobics	9am - Food Shelf Open	23
Lent at Chaffield UMC Second Sunday in Lent 9 UMW Sunday 5:30am - Sunday 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Mission	9am - SAIL 5pm - Empty Bowis	брт - Food Shelf Open	8am - Quilts & Craft 9am - SAIL 6:30pm - Confirmation	6pm - Aerobics	9am - Food Shelf Open	
Lent at Chatfield UMC	255 Meals on Wheels	26	27	28	59	30
	gam - SAIL	6pm - Food Shelf Open 7pm - Ad Council	8am - Quilts & Craft 9am - SAIL 6:30pm - Discussion -	6pm - Aerobics	9am - Food Sheif Open	α
Lent at Chatfield UMC Fourth Sunday in Lent - OC Presentation by 9:30am - Worship	-			4	n	P



#### CHATFIELD COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Of Mice and Men brings to mind many questions that we may have about the role we as a community have in supporting people with disabilities.

Let's have a conversation about it!

# BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

ALL AGES AND ABILITIES ARE INVITED TO BE A PART OF THIS
FACILITATED CONVERSATION

In collaboration with Arc Minnesota Southeast Region, Rochester Diversity Council, Chatfield Area Ministerial

APRIL 1
6-8 PM
CHATFIELD UMC
124 WINONA STREET



Pastor Debra is costuming the play and organizing the community conversation. Please come as you are able and support your community and Pastor Debra's community work.



124 Winona St SE Chatfield, MN 55923

**Address Service Requested** 

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# Chatfield United Methodist Church

124 Winona St SE Chatfield, MN 55923

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(507) 867-3529

Secretary E-Mail:

#### webmaster@chatfieldumc.org

Children E-Mail:

lange.jennifer@mayo.edu

**HON Director:** 

director@honseniorpartners.org

Pastor's E-Mail:

chatfieldpastor@gmail.com

www.chatfieldumc.org

# Mid Week Lent Activities 6:30 PM Wednesday

March 13 Movie & Discussion Night Chocolat

March 20 Confirmation Family and Friends

March 27 Discussion
Would You Be On Jesus' Friends
List?

April 3 Discussion
Grace in an eBay World

April 10 Panel Discussion
What Does Truth Have to Do
with It?

## **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.