

A monthly publication of the Chatfield United Methodist Church

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

I grew up in a church that emphasized foreign mission work. Sunday evenings were often given over to people, usually a couple with at least 4 children, who came through town on 'furlough' to raise money for their mission work in far off lands. I loved those evenings. I loved seeing their slides of strange and wonderful places. I loved hearing their stories of how the words of the Gospel changed people's lives. I even loved the cheesy last slide that was always a beautiful sunset or sunrise. I dreamt of being a missionary someday. It was funny, I never dreamed of being a missionary's wife, as my church would want me to be. I always dreamt of being the one teaching a gathering of foreign looking men and women about God and Jesus and new life. I guess this is why I always look at my places of ministries as 'mission fields'; places to tell the story of God's love and work as publicly as possible, in as many ways as possible.

There is a hymn we don't sing very often for good reasons, but was a very important part of my childhood: the title is, "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" the lyrics begin:

We've a story to tell to the nations,  
that shall turn their hearts to the right,  
a story of truth and mercy,  
a story of peace and light

I shudder a bit at the lyrics because they are very condescending and promote a sense that the singer has the right to impose on someone else what is 'truth'. But then my own vision of being a missionary was often pretty condescending.

Yet, there are the stories that do change the world and bring light to truth and mercy and peace. These are the stories of God's work in the world. And we should want to share those stories with others.

During the month of May we will be hearing the stories of people from the bible: Ananias, Tabitha, Peter, Lydia, Paul and Silas. They are all powerful stories of transformation in the midst of everyday life. Ananias simply meets a new person and helps to change the world. Tabitha and Lydia are women who serve their community and learn there is a greater purpose in service than they ever thought possible. Peter, Paul and Silas all learn that their preconceived notions of who is and is not a part of God's family were wrong. These stories are personal and ordinary stories not unlike our own stories. They were told in the new churches springing up all over the Middle East, then in churches throughout the world. They began personally, spread locally, and then became global. What stories do you know that began personally, spread locally, and became global?

As we hear these stories read in worship, think about your own story. Your own personal and ordinary story that contains within it the quiet but miraculous work of God. What stories can we tell about our own lives that might encourage someone to think more deeply about what is truth and right? We all have a story to tell...maybe not to the nations. But to someone who needs to hear it. Don't be shy, tell others about how God has changed your life. No matter how insignificant it might seem, every change is a miracle of God's making. Don't be shy. It isn't bragging, because it isn't about you, it is about God.

Hope and Peace, Pastor Debra



**Your Lent Offering Dollars at Work!**

**The new church website is LIVE!!**

**WWW.CHATFIELDUMC.ORG**

### **AND WE FUNDED A COMPUTER FOR SIERRA LEONE**

We were able to provide the funds to purchase a computer for the Rick Ormsby School in Baiwalla Sierra Leone!

One computer doesn't sound like much. It doesn't sound like it will change the world.

**BUT!**

One computer will change one school in a remote place in Sierra Leone.

One computer will change the teaching potential of the teachers in the remote school in Sierra Leone.

One computer will encourage teachers in the Rick Ormsby School in Sierra Leone.

One computer will help children in a remote place in Sierra Leone learn about the world outside their village.

One computer might encourage one of those children to seek a new way of being, a new way of thinking, a new way of imaging her future.

One computer might actually change the world.

And we a part of changing the world.

## **City Wide Garage Sale Food Stand**

May 3 & 4: 10-2

Sandwiches, Beverages, Snacks

All proceeds go to future Missions Projects at Chatfield UMC

There is room for your garage sale. Let Pastor Debra know if you would like a space.

Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 Dr. Joan Griffin from the Mayo Medical School will speak at the Chatfield Library on The Invisible Side of Health Care. She will speak on how family caregiving affects patient and caregiver health. Both of these speakers are free and open to anybody. No sign up required.



**May 3 & 4**

**10-2**

**Come enjoy lunch or snacks during the garage sales at the Mission Team food stand!**

Garage sales at the church , too!

## Living the Seasons at Home

### May 5, 2019 – Acts 9:1–6, (7–20)

*Saul stayed with the believers in Damascus for a few days, and soon began proclaiming in the synagogues that Jesus was the Only Begotten of God.*

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

This week, we meet one of the great leaders of the early Church. Saul experiences a dramatic encounter with the risen Christ while journeying to Damascus and is radically transformed. But this is also a story of the call of Ananias, which is also a story of transformation. Talk/think about who acted like Ananias – eye opener and Spirit giver – in your life. Who has helped you to grow as a Christian? Consider sending them a note of appreciation.

**Prayer** *Spirit of Christ, we meet you in ways and places that are familiar as well as in ways and places that are surprising and unexpected. Help to discern your voice, trust your call, and move with others along your way. Amen.*

### May 12, 2019 – Acts 9:36–43

*Now in Joppa there was a disciple, a woman named Tabitha*

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

Tabitha made clothing and, more than that, showed caring compassion in her work. Caring, compassionate, holy work is shown by words and actions that wipe away tears, restore life, and testify to God's love.

Talk about what you might do to respond to those in need. Can you think of someone who would appreciate a visit, some free babysitting, or homemade goodies?

**Prayer** *Caring God, we are thankful for all the ways you care for us. Help us to show care to others. Amen.*

### May 19, 2019 – Acts 11:1–18

*I realized then that God was giving them the same gift that had been given to us when we came to believe in our Savior Jesus Christ. And who am I to stand in God's way?"*

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

The Spirit empowers the community of Christ to move in new ways. Peter has been stirred by a vision of God's people and all Creation and acts on it. The good news of God's love, expressed in the life of Jesus, and the Spirit's presence are for all people. Where the Spirit leads, the church is called to follow in love. Peter comes to realize that everyone is to be included in the community of God's people. How can you be so welcoming?

**Prayer** *God of our dreams, we are thankful for our community of faith and for the ways you help us imagine a new way with you. Amen.*

### May 26 – Acts 16:9–15

*We sat down and preached to the women who had come to the gathering. One of them was named Lydia*

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

Currents of God's Spirit carry us in directions we may not have gone. Lydia and her household are welcomed into community through baptism. Lydia practices hospitality in return. She urges Paul to stay in her home and, from her gracious hospitality and their theological conversations, a new church is born.

Write a letter to a woman in your church (or another woman) who has influenced you or take her a gift or invite her for a meal.

**Prayer** *Welcoming God, we are thankful for Lydia, Paul, and all who show us how to welcome others in your name. Amen.*

## Bernard Scholarship Recipient

This year the Bernard Scholarship has been awarded to BrookLynn Johnson in honor of her graduation from Chatfield High School in 2019. During high school, some of the things that she has participated in are dance, Rube Goldberg, Student Service Club, SADD, MHS, track, and BIONIC. She was the Dance Team Captain, President of SADD, Vice President of MHS, Vice President of Student Senate, and student leader of BIONIC.

BrookLynn plans on attending the University of Wisconsin—La Crosse. She plans on getting my bachelor's degree there, and after that possibly attending graduate school. I am going in undecided, but I hope to find a job that works with children and social work. Brooklynn believes that hard work beats talent and knows that as long as she tries her hardest she will succeed. She writes: "My greatest challenge will be believing in myself, but I will continue to work on that and overcome it with each challenge that I take on."

It has been such a pleasure and joy to watch BrookLynn grow in her commitment to serving others and push herself to do things she never thought she could do. We are so proud of her and are honored to award her the Bernard Scholarship. She will receive the \$250 scholarship on registration for her fall quarter of her second year in college.

Eva Bernard established this scholarship to honor and encourage High School Graduates from Chatfield in memory of her husband Leonard.



## TO MARS AND BEYOND—VBS

How far can Jesus take us?

Community VBS

June 3-6<sup>th</sup>, Monday through Thursday

Four Mornings of Out of This World Adventure, Bible Learning, Fun and Games

Gathering at 8:30 AM at Chatfield Lutheran Church

For all children through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Preschoolers who are potty-trained are welcome.

Chatfield UMC and Chatfield Lutheran—co sponsors

We are holding a Living Well with Chronic Conditions Class from May 2<sup>nd</sup> to June 6<sup>th</sup> from 9-11am at the Chatfield Methodist Church. This class helps participants manage chronic conditions such as arthritis, high blood pressure, depression and more. To sign up call Tina at 507-251-0520

# Scanning for Dollars

Have you noticed the funny little graphic in the newsletter and bulletins? The one that looks like this:



If you have a smart phone, you can scan that little graphic and be directed to a page on our website where you can give a gift using your credit or debit card. It is one of the new ways of giving that has been set up for our church. You can give directly on the website or to the church Facebook page. We are not, yet, planning on having a giving kiosk in the narthex or a person standing outside the doors of worship with a payment device for swiping.

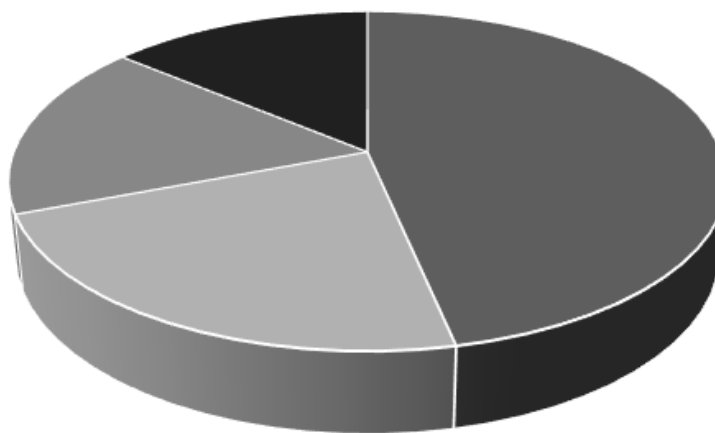
But we are trying to find all the ways we can to capture the good-hearted people who want to give to the ministry of this church but no longer carry checkbooks or remember to bring their offerings on Sunday morning.

If you don't have a smart phone, you can simply visit [chatfieldumc.org/donations](http://chatfieldumc.org/donations) to donate as well!

Below are the 2018 operating expenses for keeping the church open and functioning:

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Building & Grounds Maintenance | \$17,180.55 |
| Utilities                      | \$8,298.90  |
| Administration                 | \$6,203.10  |
| Insurance                      | \$5,139.51  |
| Total                          | \$22,320.06 |

Expenses



- Building & Grounds Maintenance
- Utilities
- Administration
- Insurance

# Working with God in the World and Community

Steve Strickler, Food Shelf  
Coordinator  
chatfieldfoodshelf@gmail.com

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

We have received a grant for marketing the Food Shelf. Look for new ads and notices around town. And if you know of a family who use a little help with their budget, suggest the food shelf. It might be just the boost their family needs to 'make ends meet.'

***Here are the numbers for March for the food shelf. We served 22 households which included 29 children, 28 adults and 10 seniors. A total of 1074 pounds of food were distributed.***

## Food Donation List

Cereal  
Pasta and sauce  
Pancake Mix  
Hamburger Helper  
TunaHelper  
Canned soup  
Canned meat  
Canned fruit  
Canned vegetables  
Peanut Butter  
Canned tuna

**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."**

***Here are the numbers for March for the food shelf. We served 22 households which included 29 children, 28 adults and 10 seniors. A total of 1074 pounds of food were distributed.***

# 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.

# 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.

## Ad Council Meeting May 21 7:00 PM

We will ask the question together: “What are the core values for which we would sacrifice our unity?”



Let people know they are welcome in our space

Lawn signs are available in the church office or the narthex after worship.

We received a grant to promote the work of our church. Let's get the word out.

*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

## 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: [chatifiedpastor@gmail.com](mailto:chatifiedpastor@gmail.com)

Mailing Address is:

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

Web Site: [www.chatfieldumc.org](http://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](mailto:webmaster@chatfieldumc.org)

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

## Food Stand for City Wide Garage Sales

**May 3-4<sup>th</sup> Friday and Saturday**

If you would like to have a garage sale at the church, let Pastor Debra know so we can reserve a space

Please consider helping with the food stand. The money raised helps with the mission projects of the church.

Sign-up sheets are available in the narthex.

| May Birthdays |                              |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| 1             | Roy Erickson                 |
| 4             | Abel Irish                   |
| 5             | Sara Ellis<br>Maele Wright   |
| 7             | Kaylee Maker                 |
| 10            | Phillip Bratcher             |
| 12            | Jack Dornack<br>Amy Vreeman  |
| 14            | Bob Haug                     |
| 17            | Cynthia Wright               |
| 18            | Crystal Ristau               |
| 19            | Lillian Lewis                |
| 22            | Paula Ferrier                |
| 23            | William Collett              |
| 26            | John Wendt                   |
| 28            | Teresa Narveson              |
| 29            | Jeremiah Halloran            |
| 30            | Janet Maker<br>Makynli Ostby |







Chatfield United Methodist Women

Faith+Hope+Love in Action

Over 75 Years

### UMW Officers for 2019

Co-President: Pam Nelson 867-3086

Co-President: Denise Pagel 273-3188

Secretary: Donna Amundson 867-3788

Treasurer: Kathy Lange 867-3590

Christian Social Involvement / "Sunshine": Marlene Hisey 867-3457

Nominating Committee: Doris Narveson 867-4462 Juanita Haare 202-0000

## **UMW**

**10am – May 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Hostess: Joyce Irish**

**Lesson: Pam Nelson**

The UMW purchased 4 ortho anti-fatigue mats for in the kitchen at a cost of \$475. We are accepting monetary donations to help defray the cost if you'd like to contribute.



### **UMW – SALAD LUNCHEON & PLANT SALE**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 8**

**11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

***Large assortment of salads,  
garlic bread, bars & beverages***

**Adults - \$7.00      Under 5 – Free**

***EVERYONE WELCOME***



### **May 8th UMW Salad Luncheon:**

All UMC Women, please consider donating a salad for this event (cheese & crackers, pickles & olives, carrots & dip, cottage cheese, grapes are options as well.) Proceeds support our local mission giving and pledge to our national organization.

# **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](mailto: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)



Thank you to the young leaders who came to the Chatfield Commercial Club Easter Egg Event. They did a wonderful job helping the little ones enjoy a great day of being part of the community.

Owen Collett, Sydney Ellis, Treyton Lanning, Peyton Ellis, Ellie Collett, Kaylee, and Kyra Throckmorton







Father Son Banquet attendees heard the story of the national award winning Rube Goldberg team from Chatfield High School. Seeing God's creative Spirit in our young people!

## WORSHIP SERVICE HELPERS

### 2019 COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

|           |                                     |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| January   | Trustees Committee                  |
| February  | 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                  |

### MAY USHERS

Mike & Bev Simpson,  
Scott Ferguson, Peyton Ellis

### ALTAR GUILD

### MAY WORSHIP READERS

|        |                 |
|--------|-----------------|
| May 5  | Amy Grover      |
| May 12 | Mike Simpson    |
| May 19 | Sydney Ellis    |
| May 26 | Roberta Copeman |

|        |        |
|--------|--------|
| May 3  | Team 1 |
| May 10 | Team 2 |
| May 17 | Team 3 |
| May 24 | Team 4 |

### COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

**Health Cabinet and Memorial Committee**  
is responsible for May Coffee Fellowship.  
Members are: Bev Simpson, Marlene Hisey,  
Pam Nelson

## May 2019

| Sunday   | Monday         | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday                               |
|--|----------------|---|---|---|--|--|
|  |                |   | 1<br>8am Quilts & Crafts<br>9am SAIL<br>10am UMW<br>12pm Ministerial                            | 2<br>9am Chronic Conditions<br>Class<br>6pm Aerobics                                      | 3<br>City Wide Garage Sales<br>Starts<br>9am Food Shelf Open | 4<br>City Wide Garage Sale<br>Last Day |
| 5<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter –<br>White or Gold<br>9am Worship<br>11am Worship<br>Committee   | 6<br>9am SAIL  | 7<br>6pm Food Shelf Open                                  | 8<br>Salad Luncheon<br>Plant & Bake Sale<br>8am Quilts & Craft<br>9am SAIL<br>1:30pm CC Worship | 9<br>9am Chronic Conditions<br>Class<br>6pm Aerobics                                      | 10<br>9am Food Shelf Open<br>9am Sr Support Group            | 11                                     |
| 12<br>4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter –<br>White or Gold<br>9:30am Sunday School<br>9:30am Worship  | 13<br>9am SAIL | 14<br>11am Cancer Support<br>Group<br>6pm Food Shelf Open | 15<br>8am Quilts & Craft<br>9am SAIL  | 16<br>9am Chronic Conditions<br>Class<br>6pm Aerobics                                     | 17<br>9am Food Shelf Open                                    | 18                                     |
| 19<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – White or Gold<br>Last Day of Sunday School<br>(Party!)<br>9:30am Sunday School<br>9:30am Worship<br>10-4:5 Missions Committee | 20<br>9am SAIL | 21<br>6pm Food Shelf Open<br>7pm Ad Council               | 22<br>8am Quilts & Craft<br>9am SAIL  | 23<br>9am Chronic Conditions<br>Class<br>6pm Aerobics                                     | 24<br>9am Food Shelf Open                                    | 25                                     |
| 26<br>6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter –<br>White or Gold<br>9:30am Sunday School<br>9:30am Worship  | 27<br>9am SAIL | 28<br>6pm Food Shelf Open                                 | 29<br>8am Quilts & Craft<br>9am SAIL  | 30<br>Ascension Day – White<br>or Gold<br>9am Chronic Conditions<br>Class<br>6pm Aerobics | 31<br>9am Food Shelf Open                                    |  |





124 Winona St SE  
Chatfield, MN 55923

*Address Service Requested*

Non-Profit  
Org.  
US Postage  
Paid  
Chatfield, MN  
Permit #6

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)

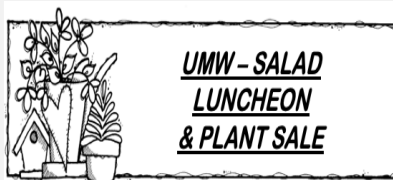
Children E-Mail:

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

Pastor's E-Mail:

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

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



**WEDNESDAY, MAY 8**

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

*Large assortment of salads,  
garlic bread, bars & beverages*

Adults - \$7.00    Under 5 - Free

**EVERYONE WELCOME**



**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.**