

November 2019

What in the world is GOPA for God?

At a recent Administrative Council meeting we spoke together about the importance of telling our stories of where we see God in the world. We talked together about the importance of telling positive stories about the witness of Chatfield United Methodist Church.

Sheila Erickson, our council chair, shared how she often will tell her children, when they are having a less than stellar day, to remember to GOPA. GOPA means **Gratitude, Optimism, Positivity and Appreciation**.

Around the table we agreed that this could be our theme for telling our stories about what it means to be a Christian in this world of ours. That, as a church community, we will commit to an attitude of **GOPA for God**.

As we move into a season of thanksgiving, it might be easy to have an attitude of GOPA, to feel thankful and blessed. But it will soon be winter and those thankful hearts will take some warming up. And maybe this autumn season hasn't been so 'blessed' for you. Maybe loss or sadness has dimmed the beauty of the autumn colors for your own heart.

We all will need, or do need, to be reminded that a season of thanksgiving, while appropriate no matter what our circumstances or attitudes; can be difficult. Yet, a life marked by GOPA is what Christians are called to be. Maybe not a hip-hip-hurray season of GOPA, but a gentle, quiet season that acknowledges that even in the darkness there is a glimmer of hope. It is so important in these days to tell the positive story of how God is with us in our community, our church, our lives. We can get so caught up in the negative that we forget to speak words of GOPA. Yet, we are called as Christians to 'give thanks in every circumstance', Philippians 4:9 (and this came from a guy who was in jail more often than not because of his witness for Christ).

We do not want to be "Polly annas" here at Chatfield UMC. We want to walk with each other in whatever season life brings to us. Yet, we also want to be a place, in the midst of a troubling world, that reminds those who come through our doors, "God is with us". For that really is the center of our GOPA, not our abundance or our blessings or our circumstances, but that God is with us, no matter what. And in that presence is GOPA.

This is why we are doing something 'different' in worship. We are encouraging people to tell the stories of how they have seen God in their lives during our Prayers of the Church. We hope we will all get in the habit of paying attention to those times when 'God is with us' happen. We hope that we will come to church on Sundays eager to share with each other those God moments. In our first days of this new practice we have heard about a wonderfully encouraging time with a few United Methodist Women in another community, glorious sunrises that had us singing, the joy of watching kids dig potatoes, others praying for us, special gifts of sharing, achievements and answered prayer... These stories of 'God with us' have enriched our prayers and our community.

As you come to worship, come waiting to hear stories of 'God with us'. Come, as you are led by Spirit, to share your own stories. Come, knowing that in this harsh world, you will hear good news! It may be the only place you do. And come ready to leave the worship space with a desire to have an attitude of **GOPA for God**.

Hope and Peace, Pastor Debra

Living the Seasons at Home Season of Thanksgiving

November 3 – *Changing Perspectives—Gratitude*

Read 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-14 *It's only right that we thank God unceasingly for you, sisters and brothers, because your faith grows more and more, and your love for each other increases*

Something to think about, talk about or do Who are the saints whose love has helped us to see the through the lens of gratitude? to thank God? to experience life with thanksgiving?

Prayer

Loving God, may we be people who learn to be grateful. May we be people who learn from others how to be grateful. May we be people who teach others how to be grateful.

November 10 – *Basking in God-Optimism*

Read Haggai 1 & Psalm 145:1–5, 17–21 *Yahweh, you are just in all your ways and loving toward all that you have created.*

Something to think about, talk about or do

Today's readings remind us that God is God of all nations, of all who seek the truth, and of all time. God is trustworthy, and our response is one of praise and thanksgiving and optimism

Prayer

We give thanks that no matter what happens in our lives we know that God is always with us. This makes us optimistic people. Amen.

November 17 – *A Vision of Promise—Positivity*

Read Isaiah 12 & Isaiah 65:17–25 *For the Holy One dwells among us in majesty!*

Something to think about, talk about or do

This week's readings look toward the future and assure us that, even in a confusing and challenging world, God continues to create a new heaven and new earth. Isaiah tells of God's dream, which is one of wholeness and harmony and joy. God is dreaming of something new. We need to trust and try to help God's dream into being – a place where all can dwell together in love.

Prayer *O God, we have been given a wonderful dream of love and peace for our world. May we work together to play our part in making this dream real. Amen.*

November 24 – *Thanksgiving Sunday—Appreciation*

Philippians 4:4-9 & John 6:25-35

Read Philippians 4:9 *"...giving thanks for all circumstances"*

Something to think about, talk about or do As we come to the end of the church year, we look back on all that Jesus and God and the Spirit has done for us. We say Thank You. Not just for crops and food, but for life itself. How have you learned to give thanks in all circumstances this year because of your relationship with Christ?

Prayer

Loving God, we give thanks for the life of Jesus who showed us what God is like and how to live in God's loving ways. May we grow to be more like Jesus in all we do. Amen.



Come, Decorate the Church for the Advent Season

November 27 beginning at 8 AM.

Come when you can, stay as long as you can.

Brunch will be served when the decorating is complete



Slice of Life: An Experience for Senior and Care Givers

Care givers and their loved ones, along with any senior adult members of the Chatfield community are invited to Slice of Life (Seniors and Loved Ones, Interactive, Chatfield, Experiences). A program that will explore something in Chatfield that can stimulate communication, imagination, story creating, and artistic expression.

Slice of Life is supported by a grant from the Round Up program of People's Coop. There is no fee for the participants.

Anyone who would like to attend these sessions is welcome. If you have questions you may call the Chatfield UMC at 507-867-3529 or email Pastor Debra Collum at chatfieldpastor@gmail.com

Slice of Life Schedule for 2019-2020

Thursday November 7	Joy of Flowers	Big Girl Stickers and Stems
Tuesday January 7	Experience the Coffee	Cabin Coffee
Tuesday February 4	Ring Out the Winter Blues	Chatfield Lutheran Church
Tuesday March 3	Colors as Emotions	Chatfield Center for the Arts
Tuesday April 7	Europe without a Passport	St. Mary's Catholic Church
Tuesday May 5	TBA	

Mortgage Payoff



You have almost done it! We have almost done it! The oldest church in Chatfield is almost free and clear of all debts!

We have one more payment of just over \$2000 due the beginning of December. And we want everyone to feel as if the OWN this building and all the ministry that happens through and beyond its doors.

We want to give everyone a chance to contribute to the fund that will pay off the mortgage and create an escrow account for future capital improvements at the church and the parsonage.

Once we own the buildings free and clear, it is our responsibility to keep them in good shape for all the ministry that happens through the doors of our buildings.

Please mark your special offering for the Mortgage and Escrow account.

And plan to be in church on January 5 as celebrate a new year without building debt.

Green Recycling Bin Gone

The company that owned the bin is out of business. We will no longer be receiving donated household or clothing items at the church. Please pass on the word.

Administrative Council/SPRC/Charge Conference

November 16 9:30 AM @ the Church Parsonage

For the setting of the Clergy Compensation Package and other church business

Anyone may attend this meeting, only members of the Ad Council and SPRC can make final decisions concerning clergy compensation.



Lawns to Legumes: Your Yard Can Bee the Change

Date and time:

Thursday, November 14, 6 p.m.-9 p.m.

Cascade Meadow Wetlands & Environmental Science Center, 2900 19th St NW, Rochester

your yard can bee the change

Minnesota is where Great Lakes meets Great Plains. We have more shoreline than California, more boats per capita than any other state, and at least 450 species of bees. But both water quality and bee populations are both threatened by the development of natural areas into buildings, parking lots, and lawns. Your yard can help protect our wildlife and our way of life.

By introducing native plants to your yard, you can provide precious habitat for our struggling pollinators while also reducing the amount of water that runs off your property and into your local body of water. Their beautiful blossoms share delicious, nutritious pollen and nectar with bees and butterflies, while their roots grow deep into the soil, channeling and filtering stormwater while also storing carbon and reaching water and nutrients.

In this introductory training on creating pollinator habitat in residential settings, presenters will cover basics of the Lawns to Legumes program, challenges associated with urban pollinator protection, tips for planning and creating pollinator habitat in your yard and more.

Four places have been reserved for this event for members of Chatfield UMC, please let Pastor Debra know if you are interested in taking one of these places.

Books and Beverages 2019-2020

Meeting @ JAC's 7:00 PM on Wednesdays

December 4th

The Garden of Lost and Found Harriet Evans

Nightingale House was the Horner family's beloved home - a gem of design created to inspire happiness - and it was here Ned painted The Garden of Lost and Found, capturing his children on a perfect day, playing in the rambling Eden he and Liddy made for them.

One magical moment. Before it all came tumbling down...

January 29th

Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography Harold Ivan Smith

Eleanor Roosevelt is remembered as a formidable first lady and tireless social activist. Often overlooked, however, is her deep and inclusive spirituality.

LENT BEGINS February 26 with Ash Wednesday. Books and Beverages resumes after Lent

April 22nd

Threading My Prayer Rug by Sabeeha Rehman

Beginning with a sweetly funny, moving account of her arranged marriage, the author undercuts stereotypes and offers the refreshing view of an American life through Muslim eyes.

May 20th

Save Me the Plums by Ruth Reichl

Complete with recipes, Save Me the Plums is a personal journey of a woman coming to terms with being in charge and making a mark, following a passion and holding on to her dreams—even when she ends up in a place she never expected to be.

Our Whole Lives; Caring Through Congregations

Christ United Methodist Church

November 22 • 6:30 - 8:00pm in our Sanctuary

This conference is aimed at caregivers. We will explore self-care as we move through life while helping others. Featuring nationally recognized Keynote Speaker Ben Wolfe, Former head of St Mary's Grief Center, Duluth, past President MN and US Association of Death Education and Support, Professor University of MN Duluth and School of Medicine.

All are welcome to join this free workshop.

End of Life, Live and Unscripted

2 Shows - Thursday, November 14th, 2019: 2pm or 7pm Rochester Civic Theatre

A Smart, funny way to talk and learn about something we'll all deal with eventually . . .

Two end of life care professionals share their insights and answer questions about what makes for the best endings. Then improv comedy troupe The Theater of Public Policy, brings the conversation to life through entirely unscripted comedy theater. What could possibly go wrong?

With Special On-Stage Guests to Answer Your Questions: Brenda Hartman, MSW, and Ann McIntosh, MD.

Sponsored by: Mayo Clinic Hospice and Palliative Care and The Rochester Civic Theatre

Tickets: Free to the public. General seating in our Main Theatre

A CENTURY OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

League of Women Voters Minnesota Traveling Exhibit

Chatfield Center for the Arts, 405 Main St. South, Chatfield, MN

October 30th - November 13

Monday - Saturday, 10 AM - 4 PM; Sundays, 1 PM - 4 PM; Saturday 6 PM - 7:30 PM

The exhibit celebrates the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote and features Minnesota's suffrage history, highlights the women who made voting rights happen, and gives recognition to the organization's mission. **EVERYONE WELCOME!**

"Legalize Equality" A film by the Heroica Foundation -- Created by Kamala Lopez

November 2 @ 1:00 PM @ Chatfield Center for the Arts

A strong legal and economic argument why passing the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is critical

The film is free and is sponsored by the Chatfield United Methodist Church and LWV Fillmore County

Working with God in the World and Community

Steve Strickler
Food Shelf Coordinator
chatfieldfoodshelf@gmail.com

Denise Pagel
Weekend Backpack & Library
Lunch Coordinator: denpag@q.com

Denise and her crew continue to prepare **Weekend Food Bags** for the children in our school district. These bags supply EACH child in a family that is enrolled, with one breakfast, one lunch, one snack and supplemental food to eliminate food anxiety during the weekend away from school food services. This is a quiet and important part of the mission of the Chatfield Community Food Shelf to ensure that we live in a hunger free community.

Donations to the weekend food program should be directed to the UMW.

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.



Noon Meals Available to senior adults through Meals on Wheels. Call 507-864-8228 to be enrolled.

Chatfield UMC is a Meals on Wheels Volunteer Driver location. If you would like to drive for MOWs contact Kathy Kamnetz: 763-355-4619

The food shelf served 32 households in September and distributed 1930 pounds of food.

**Chatfield UMC will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive on
November 20 1-7 PM**

Sign up by calling 1-800-733-2767 or online at RedCrossBlood.org and enter Chatfield MN to schedule an appointment



**American
Red Cross**

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

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

November Birthdays

1	Inge Jackson
3	Denise Pagel Bev Simpson
4	Chris Ostby
5	Judy Anderson
6	Jacob Halloran
7	Owen Collett
8	Chloe Grover
13	Chase Conrad Fitzgerald
14	Christine Kraemer
15	Ruth Wendt
24	Shelia Erickson
25	Melissa Woltz
26	Mimi Seamens
27	Layla Cornell
28	Rod Nelson
29	Phyllis Amy

New Way of Doing Church: Administrative/Trustee Approves a New Administrative Structure By Consensus.

After discussion it was agreed that Chatfield UMC will no longer have a separate Trustee Committee. The Administrative Council chair and Treasurer will now have the legal responsibilities for signing documents on behalf of the church. The entire Ad Council will take on the other responsibilities of the trustees as designated by the Book of Discipline including: have the supervision, oversight, and care of all real property owned by the local church, ensure that the church, its properties, and its personnel are properly protected against risks, determine outside usage of the church is consistent with the Social Principles and ecumenical policies of the UMC, annually review the condition of the parsonage with Pastor, and chair of SPRC, receive and administer all trusts, bequests, and invest such funds as fiscally and socially responsibly as possible, and ensure that the buildings meet accessibility standards.

Other tasks traditionally assigned to the Trustees will be overseen by the Ad Council; but will be done by those who have the particular talents, passion, skills and 'get 'er done' attitude that is needed to keep a church and parsonage running smoothly for ministry. Things like:

Lighting and Other Maintenance Tasks: Thank You Roy Erickson

Managing the Thermostats: Thank you, Dwaine Kamnetz

Plumbing: Thank You, Lowell Stephas

Lawn Mowing and Shoveling: Thank You, Steve Strickler

Window Washing: CREW LEADER NEEDED (you don't have to clean all the windows yourself, just need to coordinate a crew)

Grounds Keeping (no mowing just weeding and picking up): VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Setting Up And Tearing Down For Special Events: CREW LEADER NEEDED (someone willing to organize a crew)

This month we want to say a special **Thank You to:** Dave Narveson for fixing the lower level doors and bathroom doors. It is good to be able to open again.

Scott Ferguson for climbing to the top of the Bell Tower to secure the cross on top!



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 Meeting

November 6th

General Meeting: 10:00 am

Bring Thank Offering

Hostess: Sandy Wright

Save the Date: Christmas Tea & Bazaar December 3, 11:00 am-1:00 pm
Many hands needed!

CUMC Soup Supper & Silent Auction
benefiting Eagle's Cancer Telethon
Sat. Jan. 11, 2020 4:30 pm-7:00 pm
(1 Week Earlier Than Telethon This Year!)

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 to donate as well!



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.

Parish Health

Questions? Ask Beverly Simpson 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

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)

Our Whole Lives; Caring Through Congregations

Christ United Methodist Church

November 22 • 6:30 - 8:00pm in our Sanctuary

This conference is aimed at caregivers. We will explore self-care as we move through life while helping others. Featuring nationally recognized Keynote Speaker Ben Wolfe, Former head of St Mary's Grief Center, Duluth, past President MN and US Association of Death Education and Support, Professor University of MN Duluth and School of Medicine.

All are welcome to join this free workshop.

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

WORSHIP READERS

November 3	Mike Simpson
November 10	Bill Wright
November 17	Carly Fitzgerald
November 24	Steve Strickler

ALTAR GUILD

Thank you to the Altar Guild for so faithfully dressing the altar, your time is appreciated!

USHER LIST

January	Gary & Denise Pagel, John Amundson, Kyra Throckmorton
February	Lee & Staria Kester, Kent Gillespie, Sydney Ellis
March	Mike & Bev Simpson, Scott Ferguson, Peyton Ellis
April	Roy & Kathy Lange, Ellie Collett
May	Dwaine & Kathy Kamnetz, Olivia Hare
June	Bill Collett, Juanita Haare, Madison Collett
July	Roy Erickson, Kent Gillespie
August	Pam & Rod Nelson, Tom Ferrier
September	Myron & Sandy Maker, Aliesha Hanson
October	John & Holly Martinka
November	John & Ruth Wendt, Kyra Throckmorton
December	Tyler & Mary Beth Nelson, Olivia Hare

November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 All Saints Day – White	2 11am ERA Film at CCFA
3 Season of Thanksgiving 9:30am Worship 11am Memorial Team	4 9am SAIL	5 6pm Food Shelf Open	6 8am Quilts & Craft 9am SAIL 10am UMW General Meeting 12pm Ministerial	7 10:30am Slice of Life	8 9am Food Shelf Open 9am Senior Support Group	9
10 Season of Thanksgiving 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship	11 9am SAIL	12 6pm Food Shelf Open	13 8am Quilts & Craft 9am SAIL 1:30pm Care Center Worship with Communion	14 6pm Lawns to Legumes	15 9am Food Shelf Open	16 9:30am Charge Conference
17 Season of Thanksgiving 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:45am Mission Committee	18 9am SAIL	19 6pm Food Shelf Open	20 8am Quilts & Craft 9am SAIL 1pm Blood Drive	21	22 9am Food Shelf Open	23
24 Season of Thanksgiving 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship	25 9am SAIL	26 6pm Food Shelf Open	27 8am Advent Decorating 8am Quilts & Craft 9am SAIL	28	29 9am Food Shelf Open	30



124 Winona St SE
Chatfield, MN 55923

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**Chatfield
United Methodist
Church**

124 Winona St SE
Chatfield, MN 55923

Church Phone:

(507) 867-3529

Secretary E-Mail:

webmaster@chatfieldumc.org

Children E-Mail:

lange.jennifer@mayo.edu

Pastor's E-Mail:

chatfieldpastor@gmail.com

www.chatfieldumc.org

**Final Mortgage Payment Due
December 1**

**Be a part of OWNING the ministry of
Chatfield United Methodist Church!**

**Designate your extra special gift to
the Building Fund during November.**

Celebrate on January 5!

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.**