



The Parish Pulse

**A Monthly Newsletter from the United in Faith Parish
The United Methodist Churches of Burke and Herrick**

Are you getting excited for summer?

Dear Friends in Christ,

Can you believe it's already May? How did that happen? It seems like not very long ago we were making New Years Resolutions and looking expectantly to Lent and Easter. But now we're making plans for graduation and booking camp site dates for summer fun!

What a great time this summer can be. The pace is a little slower for some of us; other jobs get a whole lot busier as small grain crops are ready to harvest usually around the time of second cutting alfalfa. But life definitely changes during the summer.

During June, we'll be walking through some of the Old Testament readings from the Revised Common Lectionary which takes us through the book of 1 Samuel. This will be some familiar territory for our kids that were in Worship Wednesday this year as we learned the story of Hannah, Samuel, and Eli the Priest during our time together. Our conversation about 1 Samuel will help us see some of the major movements of Israel's history and reveal God's purposes not only for the people of Israel but also us, too! God has a plan and a purpose for all of God's children.

We know that you'll be traveling this summer, and Pastor Clay may even be taking a couple Sundays off, so we're working on some creative and fun ways for you to take church with you during your travels this summer. Not only are our Faith Five Home Huddle sheets available in the bulletin, but the readings are updated on our website and there will also be some fun opportunities to have "Worship on the Go" as you explore God's good creation during this summer. Be blessed as we explore God's purposes for us and see first hand the world that God has made.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Clay Lundberg

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5 Ways to Feed Your Soul

This article first appeared on RethinkChurch.org, a division of United Methodist Communications. It was written by Ryan Dunn, Minister of Online Engagement for Rethink Church

How does it with your soul? What kind of answer would you like to have for that question? Back in the 1700's, groups of people regularly gathered to share responses to this question. They were so methodical in addressing the question, and in utilizing practices to nourish their souls, that they were derisively called "Methodists." The name stuck and is still in use today. There are seasons when our souls feel as deep and thriving as a wide river. And other seasons when we feel our souls are parched streams. Perhaps by adopting some of these methods, we, too, can inspire some nourishment for our souls.

How can I feed my soul?

Go silent The early Methodists fasted regularly. Fasting does not simply mean giving up food. Today we might fast from social media, television, or other distracting activities. The goal of fasting is to clear out space and set a feeling of expectation. We set aside distractions or other things in expectation that God will speak a sense of nourishment and satisfaction into us.

Pray Fasting and prayer may sound intimidating to many. And while fasting is meant to be a challenge, prayer is not. Prayer, in its simplest form, is speaking to and listening to God. It could take the form of an internal conversation. Or a pray-er could utilize a practice like Centering Prayer. Read

Read The founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley, said "all who desire the grace of God are to wait for it in 'searching the Scriptures'."¹ His point is that a key means for learning about and experiencing God's goodness is in the stories and ideas of the Bible. Reading the Bible brings us into contact with God's story. Reading other spiritually-based books provides nourishment for the soul, too.

Do good for someone else The early Methodists practiced "works of mercy" like visiting prisons and hospitals, feeding the hungry, and standing up for the oppressed. Such works uplift our souls. Identify the needs around you and look for a way in which you can interrupt the cycles of brokenness. Special feelings spring up when doing good things for those who can never repay the kindness.

Get together We complain that, at times, people around us drain our souls dry. But in reality, people feed our souls even more. In gathering with others we get inspired by their stories and in witnessing the acts of God in their lives. Their ideas shine light and provide nourishment for our own souls. We are especially affected by others when we join them in some of the above-mentioned activities. Give it a try!



Thank you to everyone who was involved in Student Ministries this year! Everyone who volunteered their time, provided a meal or snack, or entrusted their child to our Student Ministries is a **vital** part of this ministry!

Continue to pray for our youth over the summer and stay tuned for Summer Fun Activities at the United in Faith Parish!

The Dakotas Camping Ministry is already gearing up for another season of fun and life-changing camps!



Dakotas United
Methodist Camps

Check out **dakcamps.org** for all the information regarding our camping ministry. You can also talk to Pastor Clay about camp and retreat ministries. He's entering his fifth summer of deaning and counseling at church camp and serves as the Co-Chair of the Camp & Retreat Council for the conference.

May Mission of the Month: Bar Soap



Every month, we are going to focus on one part of the **Hygiene Kit** through UMCOR. Hygiene Kits (formerly known as Health Kits) are distributed in many instances, such as the hurricanes in Puerto Rico. Basic hygiene supplies are one of the fastest ways to return someone who has lost everything to a sense of normalcy.



In May, we will collect 3 oz. bar soap. Bar soap should be left in its original packaging. Due to the moisture content in the soap, please do not bring Jurgens or Ivory soap.

Hygiene Kit

- 1 Hand Towel
- 1 Washcloth
- 1 Toothbrush
- 1 Bath-size soap
- 1 Comb
- 1 Nail clipper
- 6 Band-Aids
- \$1 for toothpaste
- 1 Gallon Ziploc

Journey Renewal Updates: Building Bridges

On June 25, 100% of the church members present at a meeting at the Burke UMC voted to move forward with the Journey Renewal Partnership with the Dakotas Conference. We have already achieved some of our prescriptions (renaming the parish to express a united identity, mission, and ministry and the formation of a Building Bridges of Invitation Team). Progress has also been made on our other two prescriptions (Contemporary Worship on Wednesday evenings and Overcoming our Financial Fears).

Last summer, our Covenant Council took on the task of renaming our parish. During the course of that meeting, we worked our way to a new name for our parish, ***The United in Faith Parish***. As promised in our prescription report, this name change would be reflected in our social media, print and digital communications, website, and so on. We are continuing to embrace this moniker and mindset that it prompts in us. You might have noticed that our weekly ad in our local paper promoting worship times has been reformatted ad to include the name “United in Faith Parish” and include the worship time for the Burke UMC. How else can our name change affect our lives together? What is exciting about being a parish?

A Financial Update

2018 is a new year and a new opportunity to be a faithful steward of our financial resources! To aid our financial accountability and transparency, a financial snapshot will appear in our bulletins one time per month so that we have clear picture of where we are and where we need to go during the next month.

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity in giving to your church!

February Financial Update

	Burke	Herrick
2018 Budget	\$65,828.64	\$40,215.20
April Total Giving	\$4,836.00	\$3,287.00
Weekly Target	\$1,227.09	\$724.22

May Birthdays

May 3: Mark Nelson

May 5: Mary Matucha

May 9: Linda Purvis

May 12:
Elaine Mahanke

May 20: Bobbi Jo
Wischmann

May 23: Twylah Ward

May 27:
Berniece Bauld
Tracy Bosch
Betty Purvis
Jakoby Schonebaum

May 29:
Claire Williams

May 30:
Clay Lundberg

May Anniversaries

May 5:
Mel & Charlene Juran

May 31:
Dan & Cheryl Baxa
Bev & Jerry Vaughn