

Tower Notes

October 2018

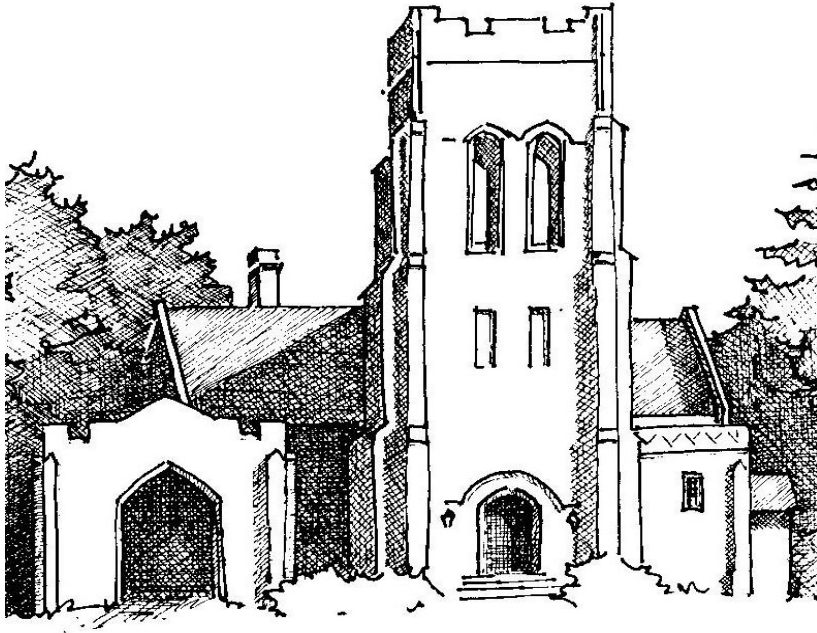
**United Protestant Church
(UCC)**

in Morgan Park
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Pastor

Rev. Paul VanAntwerp
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**Worship Schedule: Sunday at 10:30 AM
YOU ARE INVITED TO WORSHIP WITH US EVERY WEEK**

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| October 7 | Worship Service 10:30 AM
Communion, Food Shelf
Second Offering - Fuel Fund |
| October 14 | Worship Service 10:30 AM |
| October 21 | Worship Service 10:30 AM
Second Offering - Fuel Fund |
| October 28 | Worship Service 10:30 AM |



Pastor's Commentary

October 2018

I'll be the first to confess: it is easy for me to get lost in my head—easy for me to ride a wave of thought and prayer until it comes crashing into the shore, and I'm left having to get up, shake myself off, and head on to more practical matters.

I don't regret it. I like the ride. And quite honestly I think it's a good thing for a pastor to do, as thoughts and prayers like those are the ones that helped many of us hear our calls in first place. So let me offer this by way of preparation: if you walk into the church, or see me about town, and I'm wandering aimlessly and talking to myself, do not be alarmed.

Do, however, say hello.

Because I need it. Because a pastor is not called merely to be lost in thought and prayer, but rather to walk with others, and to live in the real messy-middle of everyday life. A pastor is called to hear stories, to share stories—to share where we hear the presence of God and the pulse of faith beating within us, uniquely and collectively.

This is why I invite you, Monday evenings, to share my first glance at the week's lectionary readings. I want to know what is on your mind, what questions or ideas you have, and where God is nudging you. Sharing scripture with you helps to keep me firmly grounded in everyday life, and helps me find God's presence there. I don't have "answers" in our Monday Bible Study... I celebrate questions.

And likewise, a church is called not to merely be lost in worship, in study and song and prayer. We are called to open our doors—not only to welcome the stranger into our Sanctuary, but also to carry our faith into the world and introduce ourselves to strangers.

As I look toward my service of installation in a few weeks, I find myself reflecting on what the role of a pastor is in a church? I think it is the same as the role of the church in the community. Our work is to meet people where they are at, to honor them, each as unique and beloved children of God. Be it a person mourning loss, a person struggling with addiction, a person who has been rejected or ridiculed—just as much as a person who has fallen in love, a person thriving in a state of curiosity, creativity, and exploration—they are all holy. They are stories longing to be told. They are lives longing to be shared.

So to my church community: just as a wise person might say I should not be lost in the thoughts of my past, so should the church not be lost in its past. Just as I should not spend all my hours lost in my thoughts, so the church should not spend all of its energy lost in our day-to-day maintenance. We both need the wider community, the real life and lives around us—to interrupt us... to say hello. Tune in with faith and we'll find God there.

Enjoying the Journey,

Pastor Paul



Sometimes you just have to meet somebody where they're at.

AROUND UPC

Message from the Moderator

Hello All

I hope everyone had a great summer! It always goes too fast but we have lots of things to look forward to with the coming of fall and winter.

Please update your calendars for these events:

- ◆ Pastor Paul's Installation Service: October 7
- ◆ Halloween Carnival: October 27
- ◆ Fall Bazaar: November 3
- ◆ Breakfast with Santa and church cleaning day: December 1
- ◆ Bastian Concert: December 15

The newly formed "Declutter Committee" has been hard at work cleaning out old unused stuff. Thanks!!

Our church will get the next spray for the control of the bees and beetles this fall. It really seemed to help the first time, but the beetles have been back and need to be dealt with again.

Pastor Paul has started a bible study on Mondays at 6:00 pm, and we hope to have a small choir soon. Anyone interested in adding their voice to the music is welcome. Our Wednesday evening "Bring it to the Table" get-togethers at the Iron Mug have really been lots of fun! We arrive around 6:00 and get food and just visit. Please feel free to come if you can.

See you in church!

Karen Robnik, Moderator

Remember in Prayer

*Faye Hietala's sister-in-law, Betty Hietala, passed away on September 10.

*Chet Johnson's grandson is recovering from a traumatic brain injury. Chet's son was involved in a vehicle/train accident on September 29; thankfully, no serious injuries.

*Arlyne Moore turned 100 years of age on Sept. 18.

*Remember those who are unable to be with us on a regular basis; members, family and friends who are dealing with health problems or surgery; those who grieve; those who have emotional, financial or other hardship; those who are traveling; those who serve our community, country and our world.

*If you would like prayer for yourself, family or friends, you may contact Sue Linde, 626-1272, and she will begin the prayer chain.

All Saints Day

November 4

We will remember family and friends who have passed away in the last year. If you have someone you would like remembered, please leave a message in the office.

Remembering our friends and family who are shut in or find it difficult to be with us. We encourage every member of our congregation to be involved in some way with our shut-in ministry: pay a visit, make a phone call, send a card or offer a prayer. You may never know how much of an impact your small gesture might have.

June Bothun River Hill Assisted Living 126 98th Avenue W. Duluth, MN 55808	Thelma Kortkamp North Shore Estates 7700 Grand Avenue Duluth, MN 55807
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Caroline Caywood Chris Jensen Health Center 2501 Rice Lake Road Duluth, MN 55811	Arlyne Moore 5917 NE Ruby Lane Lees Summit, MO 64064
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John Grondahl Bayshore Health Center 1601 St. Louis Avenue Duluth, MN 55802	Ernie & Flo Strandberg 1304 Evergreen Way Cloquet, MN 55720
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Gerald Holmquist 225 S. 70th Avenue W. Duluth, MN 55807	Jack Stevens Keystone Bluffs #701 2528 Trinity Road Duluth, MN 55811
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Thank You

*To all who contributed to the Shower for the Church on September 16. Many needed items were donated.

*To the lawn mowing crew and caretakers of the flower beds who keep the church yard looking good.

*To all who donated to the Women's Fellowship Bake-less Bake Sale - \$210 was raised.

*Special music was enjoyed on September 30 when Jim Larson played the Appalachian dulcimer during worship.

The "Declutter Committee" is making good progress and finding items that have been at the back of the shelf for years; there are still a number of cupboards, closets and other storage areas to sort through. All who would like to help are welcome on Thursdays at 10:30 am.

BIBLE STUDY

On Mondays at 6:00 pm, Pastor Paul looks ahead at the lectionary for the following Sunday. All are welcome to come to the Fellowship Hall to study the passages with your thoughts, opinions, questions.

2018 Financial Report – year to date (9/30/18)	
Income:	\$ 37,658
Expenses:	<u>34,833</u>
Difference:	\$ + 2,825

UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Lectionary Study 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall	2	3 Office 10-2 Women's Fellowship 1:30 pm Bring it to the Table 6:00 pm	4	5 Office 10-2	6
7 Worship 10:30 Communion Fuel Fund Food Shelf Installation Potluck	8 Columbus Day Lectionary Study 6:00 pm	9 Council 7:30 Trustees & Diaconate 6:30 pm	10 Office 10-2 Bring it to the Table 6:00 pm	11	12 Office 10-2	13 Asbury Fall Pantry 9-11 am
14 Worship 10:30	15 Lectionary Study 6:00 pm	16	17 Office 10-2 Bring it to the Table 6:00 pm	18	19 Office 10-2	20 Norton Park UMC Bazaar 9am-1pm
21 Worship 10:30 Fuel Fund	22 Lectionary Study 6:00 pm	23 Asbury Meatball Supper 4:30-6:30 pm	24 Office 10-2 Bring it to the Table 6:00 pm	25	26 Office 10-2	27 Ruby's Pantry 11:00 am Carnival 4-7 pm
28 Worship 10:30	29 Lectionary Study 6:00 pm	30 	31 Office 10-2 Halloween Bring it to the Table 6:00 pm	Nov 1	2 Office 10-2	3 Bazaar 9am-3pm Daylight Saving ends 2 am Sunday
4 Worship 10:30 Communion Fuel Fund Food Shelf All Saints Day	5 Lectionary Study 6:00 pm	6 Election Day	7 Office 10-2 Women's Fellowship 1:30 pm Bring it to the Table 6:00 pm	8	9 Office 10-2	10
11 Worship 10:30 Veterans Day	12 Lectionary Study 6:00 pm	13 Council 7:30 Trustees & Diaconate 6:30 pm	14 Office 10-2 Bring it to the Table 6:00 pm	15	16 Office 10-2	17

Coming Up in October

- October 3 *Women's Fellowship, 1:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
- October 7 *Communion, Fuel Fund, Food Shelf
*Pastor Paul's Installation, Potluck
- October 8 *Columbus Day
- October 9 *Council Meeting 7:30 pm, Trustees & Diaconate 6:30 pm
- October 13 *Asbury Fall Pantry, 9-11:00 am
- October 20 *Norton Park UMC Fall Holiday Harvest Bazaar, 9:00-1:00
- October 21 *Second Offering - Fuel Fund
- October 23 *Asbury Meatball Supper, 4:30-6:30 pm, Adults \$10, kids 5-12 \$5.00, takeout
- October 27 *Ruby's Pantry at Mission Creek Church, 11 am-12:30 pm
*UPC Halloween Carnival, 4:00-7:00 pm
- October 31 *Halloween

Looking Ahead to November

- November 3 *UPC Fall Craft Sale & Bazaar, 9am-3pm: Food, bake sale, raffle
- November 4 *Daylight Saving ends 2:00 am
*Communion, Fuel Fund, Food Shelf
*All Saints Day
- November 6 *Election Day
- November 11 *Veterans Day
- November 13 *Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, Trustees & Diaconate 6:30 pm
- November 18 *Second Offering - Fuel Fund
- November 22 *Thanksgiving Day
- November 24 *Ruby's Pantry at Mission Creek Church, 11 am-12:30 pm

Upcoming Events - watch for more information

- December 1: Breakfast with Santa - Morgan Park Community Club
- December 15: Bill Bastian & the Highland Quartet, 2:00 pm

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Wednesday Evening: "Bring it to the Table", 6 pm, Iron Mug

You are invited to the Iron Mug on Wednesday evenings for conversation and fellowship. What we talk about depends on what thoughts you bring to the table! C'mon over and let us treat you to some good food and conversation. Need a ride? Call the church or Pastor Paul.

WANTED! Gently used, comfortable furniture to sit in for small groups and conversations at the Church. (Metal folding chairs are efficient, but don't always lend themselves to thoughtful conversation.) Contact Pastor Paul.

MUSIC! Sing? Strum a chord? If you, or anybody you know, can contribute to Sunday worship, we would love to have you. From accordions to zithers, we welcome your song into worship. Contact Pastor Paul. Karen Robnik is putting together a small choir to sing a few times a month and special occasions. If you like to sing, rehearsals are Wednesdays at 5:00 pm.



October Birthdays

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Julie Lowe | 2 Michael Nickila | 6 Dennis Mortorelli | 6 Robin Motley |
| 7 Beth Bagley | 7 Jon Blevins | 7 Marlene Blevins | 10 Marna Fasteland |
| 13 Donna Williamson | 16 Sarah Rogalla | 19 Corey Francisco | 26 Jacob Merila |
| 28 Courtney Moran | 30 Jim Lowe Sr. | 31 Mark Erickson | 31 Eric Merila |

October Anniversaries

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 3 Wendi & Dave Huberty | 19 Cari & Jack Elliot | 25 Jane & Mike Rapaich |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|

Learn more at facebook.com/unitedprotestantchurch

United Protestant Church UCC

830 88th Avenue W.
Duluth, MN 55808
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United Protestant Church Vision Statement

The United Protestant Church aspires to be a vibrant Christian congregation that is sustainable and welcoming to all, putting its faith into practice through its outreach activities. The church strives to be the center of the community's mind, body and spirit through its ministries and the programs it offers.

October 2018

*100 Years
1917 - 2017*

*Also, I heard the voice
of the Lord saying,
Whom shall I send,
and who will go for us?
Then said I,
here am I,
send me.*

Isaiah 6:8

