

# ***Tower Notes***

## ***August 2019***

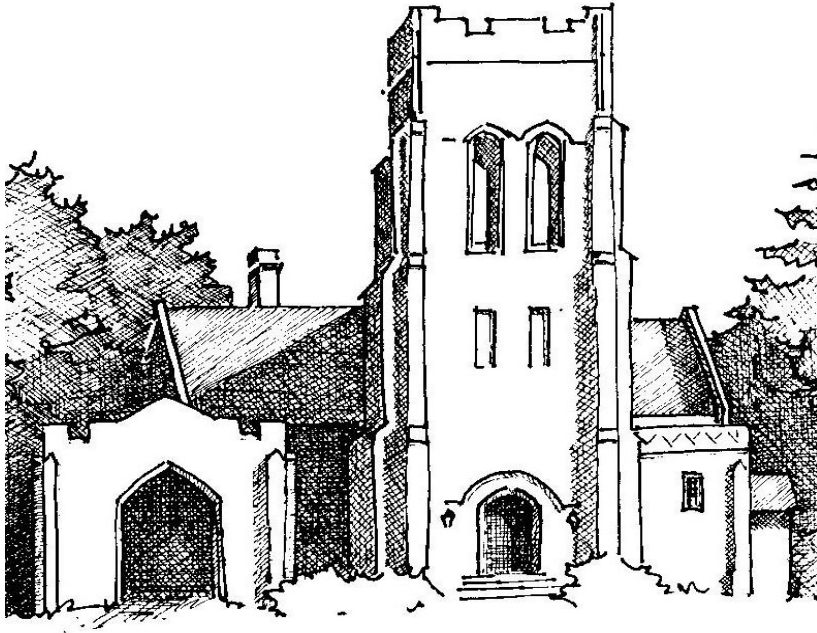
**United Protestant Church  
(UCC)**

in Morgan Park  
830 88th Avenue West  
Duluth, MN 55808  
218-626-2570

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### **Pastor**

Rev. Paul VanAntwerp  
218-349-0143  
pastor@unitedprotestantchurch.org



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

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>August 4</b>  | <b>Worship Service 10:30 AM</b><br><b>Food Shelf</b><br><b>Second Offering - Fuel Fund</b> |
| <b>August 11</b> | <b>Worship Service 10:30 AM</b><br><b>Communion</b><br><b>Church Picnic &amp; Potluck</b>  |
| <b>August 18</b> | <b>Worship Service 10:30 AM</b><br><b>Second Offering - Fuel Fund</b>                      |
| <b>August 25</b> | <b>Worship Service 10:30 AM</b>  |



## Pastor's Commentary

*I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert. ~ Isaiah 43:19*

'Had a friend, a few days back, send me a link to a "new church start" that she was helping with. This was a church that was part of an older denomination - one that, a healthy majority of the existing church determined, was not taking a Jesus-centered stand on issues of justice and equality. The denomination these members are leaving was silent on important moral issues, which, as we have learned from our history with sexism and racism, is akin to complicity and acceptance of the status quo. I'm proud of them for their courage. Proud that they were strong enough to name the brokenness in their midst. Proud that they are standing up and taking action for what they believe is right.

...and it was fun to see the words they chose to summarize their renewed call to ministry, and the ministries they chose to focus on. It was the sort of presentation and call that I would feel proud to call my own.

Here are the words that I wrote to them:

*Just want to congratulate your church on taking a Jesus-centered stand on matters of justice and morality. Often, it is not easy to have the courage and confidence to stand up, name the brokenness, and make choices that risk causing critique and conflict...*

*...but here I tip my hat and remind you that historically, you are in very good company, and I offer my prayers that your faith remains strong amidst negativity, and that you continue to hold in a clear light the call you've been given to step forward in hope.*

*As a UCC pastor serving the "United Protestant Church" in Morgan Park, I understand well what it feels like to share ministry and fellowship with people that do not espouse a uniform theology or morality, so while I cannot speak for the entire congregation, let me assure you that you have kinship, fellowship, and support with this pastor. Keep up the good work!*

If you were to start a new church, what would you do? What would be your statement of welcome and summary? What ministries would you like to be part of? Would you do something different? Even with all of our years, these are questions we continue to ask, because the presence of God is alive and active and constantly changing and growing in each and every one of us.

Lets talk,  
Pastor Paul

## ***Message from the Moderator***

Hello and happy summer to all!

It always amazes me that summer goes by sooo fast but winter drags on forever. Maybe it has something to do with our summers being 3 months long and winters being 6 months long?? I hope everyone is enjoying the time we have with the warm weather.

Remember to drop by the church Thursdays after 5:30 for "grill's on." It's been great meeting neighbors and enjoying the summer weather. We bring something to put on the grill and maybe something to pass around. There is always plenty to eat. It's a great outreach to the community and doesn't cost the church anything except the yard space to put up our chairs and set up the yard games.

I also want to say thank you to all who've been attending Sunday services. It's so good to see so many people there during the summer when folks usually have cabins, vacations, reunions or visitors to be with. Also, thank you to Pastor Paul for giving us the kind of services we want to attend. They have been very meaningful to me and I know to others as well.

Hope to see you in church!  
Karen Robnik, Moderator

## AROUND UPC

*Communion is moved to Sunday, August 11. On August 4, we will have a service of hymns. Thank you to Karen Robnik & Dale Williamson for leading worship that day.*

### Remember in Prayer

\*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 searching or in a time of transition; those who serve our community, our 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.

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### Thank You!

\*Pastor Paul officiated at the funeral for Debbie Leal, on July 9 at UPC. Thank you to all of our church members and friends who brought bars for dessert and/or helped with set-up and serving lunch. The family was very appreciative.

\*To Scott Nickila for taking care of the lawn and dealing with a temperamental lawn mower.

\*We have received several generous donations, and thank friends and family for their thoughtfulness.

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### Candles



Word in the church is that folks really like to see the candelabra lit on Sunday. To offset the cost of candles, we're accepting donations in honor of loved ones. We'll print their names in our Sunday bulletins and lift them up in prayer.

### Church Picnic & Potluck August 11, 11:30 am

Join us after church services for a picnic and potluck. Hot dogs, brats, buns, and drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. Family, friends, neighbors are invited to enjoy fellowship and fun.



### History Work Day

On July 24, a group began gathering the church's many historical papers, photographs and other memorabilia with intent of sorting, labeling and organizing into more easily accessed, chronological order. There was a lot of stories brought to mind as folders of material from as far back as the 1920s were opened - priceless memories! All are welcome to help with this project. Future workdays are scheduled for 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 10 am, but if you have a bit of spare time on another day and would like to look at the material, you will find it on tables at the back of the Fellowship Hall.

### Summer Schedule Changes

**Monday's Bible Study** will begin again on August 12, 6:00 pm.

**Wednesday's "Bring it to the Table" is cancelled for the summer months.** C'mon over to the church on Thursdays for picnics and fun!

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### Thursday "Grill's On!" Community Picnics (5:30 - ?)

Bring a lawn chair, a friend, something to put on the grill, something to share as a side (nothing fancy, just share what you have - and if you don't have anything, we'll have plenty to share!). The plan is to continue with the picnics until the weather gets too cold to be outdoors.

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There will be NO choir in August. Practices will begin again with 1st & 3rd Wednesdays in September at 6:00 pm.

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### 2019 National Night Out

**Tuesday, August 6**

**4:00-8:00 pm**

#### Good Fellowship Community Center

Community Potluck Picnic Feast - all food provided

Outdoor fun for the whole family

Live music with Maintenance Free

Special visits from Mayor Emily Larson, Duluth Fire & Police Departments, Morgan Park Historian Bob Berg, Thunderbird-Wren House, and more.

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### A TESTIMONY...

"To say that I don't need the church is mere bravado. I needed it when my baby was born. I needed it when my father died. I needed it when we were married, and I shall need the church sooner or later again, and need it badly. I am in good health now and could, I suppose, get along for a time without clergy or worship or even a prayer. But what sort of person is it who scorns and neglects and despises his or her best friend until the hour of need? If Sunday finds you not among those who are gathered together to worship God and return thanks, how will you dare to presume upon God in time of stress and trouble and sorrow? The Church will never refuse to help you. She calls! Do you dare refuse her?"

~ Edgar A. Guest

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### 2019 Financial Report – year to date (7/31/19)

Income:	\$ 32,192
Expenses:	\$ <u>37,079</u>
Difference:	\$ - 4,887

# UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH

## August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> Grill's On 5:30 pm	<b>2</b> Office 10-2	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Worship 10:30  Fuel Fund Food Shelf	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> National Night Out 4-8 pm	<b>7</b> Office 10-2	<b>8</b> Grill's On 5:30 pm	<b>9</b> Office 10-2	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Worship 10:30 Communion  Picnic/Potluck	<b>12</b> Lectionary Study 6 pm	<b>13</b> Council Meeting CANCELLED	<b>14</b> Office 10-2	<b>15</b> Grill's On 5:30 pm	<b>16</b> Office 10-2	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Worship 10:30 Fuel Fund	<b>19</b> Lectionary Study 6 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Office 10-2	<b>22</b> Grill's On 5:30 pm	<b>23</b> Office 10-2	<b>24</b> Ruby's Pantry 11:00 am
<b>25</b> Worship 10:30	<b>26</b> Lectionary Study 6 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Office 10-2	<b>29</b> Grill's On 5:30 pm	<b>30</b> Office 10-2	<b>31</b>
<b>Sept 1</b> Worship 10:30 Communion Fuel Fund Food Shelf	<b>2</b> Labor Day  	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Office 10-2 Women's Fellowship 1:30 pm Choir 6 pm	<b>5</b> Grill's On 5:30 pm	<b>6</b> Office 10-2	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Worship 10:30	<b>9</b> Lectionary Study 6 pm	<b>10</b> Council 7:30 Trustees & Diaconate 6:30 pm	<b>11</b> Office 10-2	<b>12</b> Grill's On 5:30 pm	<b>13</b> Office 10-2	<b>14</b>

## Coming Up in August

- August 3 \*Western Garden Tour & Continental Breakfast, Norton Park UMC, 9:30-2:30, \$10 at door, 218-590-1964
- August 4 \*Fuel Fund, Food Shelf  
Pastor Paul has day off
- August 11 \*Communion  
Church Picnic & Potluck
- August 13 \*Council Meeting - CANCELLED
- August 18 \*Second Offering - Fuel Fund
- August 24 \*Ruby's Pantry at Mission Creek Church, 11 am-12:30 pm
- August 25 \*United States Air Force Bank of Mid-America, *Starlifter*, 3:00 pm, outdoor performance pavilion at GND REC

## Looking Ahead to September

- September 1 \*Communion, Fuel Fund, Food Shelf
- September 2 \*Labor Day
- September 4 \*Women's Fellowship, 1:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
- September 7 \*Music from the Alps to the Adriatic featuring the Singing Slovenes and special guest Kerry Christensen, World Champion Yodeler, 1-5 pm, GND REC
- September 11 \*Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, Trustees & Diaconate 6:30 pm
- September 15 \*Second Offering - Fuel Fund
- September 23 \*First Day of Autumn
- September 28 \*Ruby's Pantry at Mission Creek Church, 11 am-12:30 pm

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### **Wednesday, 6:00 pm: Choir Practice** - Choir has August off

Beginning in September, practice will be on first and third Wednesdays. Everyone who likes to sing is welcome to join in. Let Karen Robnik or Pastor Paul know if you have a favorite piece of music you would like to hear.

### **Weekly Email Update**

Each Friday, UP Church sends out a church-wide email including reminders of upcoming events and a note from Pastor Paul. Interested in receiving this? Send a note to the office. Also, paper copies of the updates will be available on Sunday mornings in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.

UP Church Pastoral Relations Committee meets periodically to visit about our Ministry at UP Church. Committee members are Kevin Behm, Marna Fasteland and Dale Williamson. Please feel free to contact any of these folks to share your perspectives on the programs and activities at our church.

Church Contact List: Please let us know if you have a new home address, phone number or email address, so we have up-to-date information.



### August Birthdays

- |                    |                      |                    |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Eric Fredrickson | 7 Joshua Nickila     | 8 Terry Therrell   |
| 9 Wendi Huberty    | 9 Jeri Erickson      | 10 Peter Bagley    |
| 11 Faye Hietala    | 17 Christopher Moran | 18 Mike Fasteland  |
| 19 Lily Lambert    | 22 Kathy Behm        | 26 Alan J. Nickila |
| 30 Jane Rapaich    | 31 Luke Lambert      |                    |

### August Anniversaries

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 14 Debbie & Terry Therrell | 20 Donna & Dale Williamson |
| 22 Kathy & Kevin Behm      | 25 Lynn & Elliot Zunich    |
| 27 Julie & Jim Lowe        | 28 Marna & Mike Fasteland  |
| 29 Mary Beth & Gary Merila |                            |

Learn more at [facebook.com/unitedprotestantchurch](https://facebook.com/unitedprotestantchurch)

## **United Protestant Church UCC**

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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.*

*August 2019*

*100 Years  
1917 - 2017*

THE EARTH BRINGETH FORTH  
FRUIT OF HERSELF;  
FIRST THE BLADE,  
THEN THE EAR,  
AFTER THAT THE FULL CORN IN THE EAR

Mark 4:28

