



Methodist Messages

Newsletter ~ October 2011



*More people, loving God
more deeply, serving others
more joyfully*

STAFF

Senior Pastor:	Mark B. Miller
Associate Pastor:	Bill Reinhart
Secretary:	Becki Mizell
Administrator:	Cathi Weber
Youth:	Cullen & Jenni Tanner
Children:	Kayla Christensen
Music Director:	Jo Franta
Organist:	Pam Yenor
Pianist:	Deb Salonek
Outreach:	Lauren Snell
Council Chair:	Nancy Mahowald
Custodians:	Jerry & Joyce Bartlett
Day Care Directors:	Linda Fruland Kim Creasey
Wedding Coord:	Margo Tyson

Service Times:
Sundays at
8:30 am & 10 am
The Forum:
Saturdays at 6pm

PASTOR'S LETTER

Minnesota Peaches

Minnesota is having a great year for apples according to David Bedford, an apple breeder at the University of Minnesota. In fact, as our average night-time lows have increased, Minnesota is becoming an even better place to grow apples. Soon we might be able to grow Gala and other varieties that typically thrive in warmer states such as Washington. This gives apple lovers something to look forward to. Unfortunately, even with this greater warmth, there is no good news for peach lovers. Bradford authoritatively states in a recent Star Tribune article, "It's going to take decades to say we can grow peaches in Minnesota."

How strange then, that as I read this article, I was holding in my hand a delicious, juicy, peach picked from the tree next to my driveway in Coon Rapids (which not exactly the tropical part of Minnesota). The apple tree beside it had produced about 2 dozen apples, but this little peach tree had produced **hundreds** of peaches. The expert said it would be decades before such a thing would be possible. Yet, there I was with juice dripping down my chin and a smile on my face.

The world is full of "experts" who may tell you that things are impossible. "Forgiveness is impossible in your situation." "What you are hoping for is impossible." "A better life for you is impossible." "A better community is impossible." "God is impossible." But God just goes ahead anyways and makes peaches grow in a crazy pastor's yard. God loves doing the impossible. So smile. What is impossible for people is very possible for God.

Pastor Mark

(Jesus said) "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" He replied, "What is impossible for people is possible for God." - Luke 18:25-27



Stressed About Aging Parents?

On Saturday, October 8, Norma Olson (RN) will host a discussion offering practical tips and resources for people who are experiencing stress about how best to care for their aging parents. Topics will include issues like "how to take away the car keys." The discussion will be 10-11:30am. RSVP by signing up on the bulletin board or calling the church office.



Wednesday Evening Dinners

We are so blessed to be able to serve you. Our meals have brought in some new families. We love our weekly people; you always bring a smile to our heart. Thank you for joining in fellowship.

Oct 5th ~ hamburger n gravy over mashed potatoes, 12th ~ Taco night, 19th ~ Lets do hotdish, 26th ~ Italian w/ white sauce. *We love because He first loved us. John 4:19*

Cemetery Committee Meeting

The cemetery committee will be having its bi-annual meeting on Oct 10 at 7:30pm. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. All committee members are requested to attend to cover the year end information and look at the next year's format. If you have any questions or thoughts on issues, now would be a great time to join in. We welcome everyone and anyone to join or visit.

A new ministry is being formulated at CRUMC called Phone Fellowship. It is designed to reach out to the elderly and shut-ins of the congregation to show our concern for their well-being. By implementing a buddy system, two people would be paired up to phone one another regularly to make sure all is well. Some people may prefer to be callers; some may prefer to be "callees." If you are interested in this new ministry, please contact Sally Esmay (763-757-2779), Phyllis Seath (763-421-8885), or RoseMarie Dignan (763-427-8968).



United Methodist Women



October UMW Events

Thursday, Oct. 20, 7 p.m. ~ Room 1 - Healthy Homes, Healthy Churches

Saturday, Oct. 28, 9-11:30 a.m. ~ Needle and Thread Group-help make quilts for Alexandra House. We need all skill levels. We also knit and crochet items for charity. Come help make a difference, learn a skill, and join in our fellowship. Contact Lynda Guisinger (763-755-4615) for more information.

Ladies, think about your donation to the fall UMW bazaar. We will be having a craft sale, a bake sale, and a granny's attic sale (lightly used items.) Think Thanksgiving and Christmas. The bazaar will be Sunday November 20.

Top Five Options For Financial Giving:

1. Go to our website www.coonrapidsumc.org and click on the "DONATE" button to give via credit card or PayPal
2. Complete an EFT form and return it to Cathi in the Church Office.
3. Set up 'Bill Pay' through your bank
4. Mail your check to the church
5. Place your cash or check in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Please use your offering envelopes or a Pew envelope and include your name and amount.

Healing For Damaged Emotions

Whether through our own fallen temperament, willful disobedience, or as victims of the hurtful actions of others, many of us struggle with crippling emotions, among them perfectionism, depression, and low self-worth. The pain of such emotions is often present with us even though the incidents and relationships that caused the hurt may be long past. Beginning Thursday, October 13, John Lloyd will facilitate this new group using a workbook by David Seamands, former missionary and pastor and currently professor emeritus at Asbury Theological Seminary. Class time is 7-8:30pm. Call the church office to register or talk to John Lloyd.

Mission Prayer Corner

- *Pray for those who prepare and serve meals at Simpson. Pray for the guests who receive the blessing of food. May they see the light of Christ in those who serve them.
- *Pray for the completion of Living Stones School. Pray that there are no more setbacks and all the money needed comes in.
- *Pray for missionary Shaly Moyal as she ministers to the college students at Drake University in Des Moines. May the students be led in their faith to make positive choices in their lives.
- *Pray for missionary Tom Swartz as he witnesses to foreign students at the universities in Omaha.
- *Pray for missionary Carolyn Eddans in her retirement.
- *Pray for the children and staff at Miracle Ranch.
- *Pray for those who receive food through ACBC.
- *Pray for the drivers for Meals-on-Wheels and those who receive the meals.
- *Pray for the women who are sheltered at Alexandra House.
- *Pray for the women at Emma Norton who are striving to build positive lives.
- *Pray for the shipments of food from Feed My Starving Children that they may arrive at the proper destination. Pray for the children who are nourished by these meals.



October 2011 Mission Offering

The Mission offering for October will be used to support our church's ministry at Simpson Housing Services (SHS, commonly referred to as the Simpson Homeless Shelter). SHS is a non-profit organization serving those who do not have a permanent residence. Those staying at SHS are given a hot meal in the evening and sometimes a hot breakfast, a place to shower and do laundry, and a mattress to sleep on. We are now serving 60 to 70 people. Our monthly breakfast costs around \$200. We rely on individual contributions to support this ministry, which is so appreciated by the shelter guests. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have and will continue to support this ministry through prayer, service, and monetary contributions. If you would like to know more about the SHS ministry, please contact Connie or Tim Gurr at 763-780-3809.

Help feed the starving children of the world. We will be going to Feed My Starving Children on Thursday, November 3 from 6-7:30 p.m. Youth, this is a great way to earn service credit for confirmation or school. Sign up on the bulletin board. For more information call Gail Chalbi at 763-655-3365 or email at gchalbi1146@q.com



Day Care Ministry

CRUMC provides a very special ministry for the Day Care. Three Wednesday mornings a month, volunteers read Bible stories, sing songs, and do crafts with the children. More volunteers are needed to help with this rewarding work. If you interested in participating in this special ministry, call RoseMarie Dignan (763-427-8968) or Laura Camp (763-421-6661).



Come join us on October 20 at 7 p.m. to learn about **Healthy Homes, Healthy Churches**. Christians are called to treat our bodies as temples and be stewards of our environment. So what happens when we put things in our environment that hurt our bodies? Learn about toxic chemicals in household products, how to green up your church, and how to make your home a safer place for your own special part of the body of Christ—your family. Facilitated by Jerad Morey, program organizer for the Minnesota Council of Churches, who lives in a home where ants were controlled by chili powder, not poison. Please sign up on the center mission bulletin board in the hallway by October 13 so we can make sure we have enough supplies. A \$3.00 registration fee needs to be paid by that time in order to hold your place. Put registration and payment in an envelope in the UMW box in the church office or see Gail Chalbi. Checks should be made out to Coon Rapids United Methodist Church.

Grief Support Group

What is grief? Grief is the normal process of reacting to a loss. Coping with grief has a large range of emotions. Grief doesn't just happen after someone dies there is grief while someone you love is dying, you grieve the physical death and there is grief of illness. Any traumatic event, major life change or significant loss—a rape, a divorce, even major financial losses, job losses can cause grief.

We all experience grief throughout our lives and it is important to be able to seek support during these times. Grief does not necessarily have to be recent, many times grief is unresolved and we carry it through our lives for years. You have be support to others with prays, thoughts and good fellowship.

Your grief support group meets every Monday at 6:30 PM in the Chapel.

If you have questions please contact Cindi Foster at her home 763-434-9020 or the church office at 763-755-6990.

Recycling

- ◆ Recycle your dead batteries in the bucket under the table by the bulletin boards.
- ◆ Empty Ink Cartridges can be put in the box on the table.
- ◆ Eye Glasses will be donated to the Lion's Club.

New or Changing Addresses

Please let us know if you are moving out of the area or are changing addresses. We ask for your new address and phone number to keep our records current and our postage costs down. Call the Church Office or return the form below to the office. Thanks for your help!

Name _____ Envelope. # _____

Current Address _____

New Address _____

New Phone & Email _____

Effective Date _____ Stay in the Church? Yes No

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Have you remembered your church in your will?

The Monthly Newsletter is now available on our website: coonrapidsumc.org.

