

THE PORTLIGHT

A newsletter for members and friends of Portland Avenue United Methodist Church



LENT

Ash Wednesday, March 1

We will participate in a combined worship service with Hillcrest and Church of Peace UMCs on Wednesday, March 1, at 6:30 pm, at Church of Peace UMC (6345 Xerxes Ave S), with sloppy joe dinner starting at 5:00 pm.

Begin the Lenten season with this special worship service, which calls us to repentance.

Ash Wednesday Worship

March 2017

Our Mission

"To grow followers of Jesus who change the world."

Our Vision

"To be a safe harbor along life's journey."

The **PORT**
A safe harbor along life's journey.

Pastor's Message *Rev. Carol Zaagsma*

The season of Lent is upon us, starting with Ash Wednesday March 1. Lent marks the 40 days prior to Easter, not counting Sundays. It is traditionally a time of prayer and fasting. Many Christians give up certain types of luxuries or add a Lenten spiritual discipline such as reading a daily devotional.

I commend the following chart of activities to any of you who are looking to add a spiritual discipline during

this Lenten season. It is a daily activity list originated by Portico Collective. You may choose what order to do things (check them off as you do), and it works well to complete it on your own or together as a family.

Faith is a journey, so may you find this or another a meaningful way to journey deeper in your faith this Lenten season.

Pastor Carol



40 Days of Spiritual Practice

<input type="checkbox"/> Alone Time Schedule yourself some peace. Be reflective. Think grateful thoughts.	<input type="checkbox"/> Binge Watch/Listen Go ahead and catch up on what you missed, or enjoy it all again.	<input type="checkbox"/> Blanket Fort Make a place to hide. Invite somebody inside. It can be simple or elaborate.	<input type="checkbox"/> Call Pick up the phone; recite Stevie Wonder lyrics "I just called to say 'I love you.'"
<input type="checkbox"/> Compliment Brighten a stranger's day by saying something nice about them.	<input type="checkbox"/> Connect Introduce people you know who should know each other but don't.	<input type="checkbox"/> Cook Have a dinner party. Invite everybody to help prepare the meal together.	<input type="checkbox"/> Create Make something: draw, write, paint, mold, color, compose, or craft.
<input type="checkbox"/> Dance Graceful, wild, or awkward ... it doesn't matter. Just move to the rhythm.	<input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect Put the tech away for the day. Or half the day. Or an hour. Or in the bedroom.	<input type="checkbox"/> Day Trip Go somewhere, anywhere but here. Be adventurous. Eat at a local haunt.	<input type="checkbox"/> Exercise Make your heart work. If you think you need to ask your doctor, work it less.
<input type="checkbox"/> Give Most local charities work on shoestring budgets. Shock them with generosity.	<input type="checkbox"/> Learn Because you don't know everything, do you? Open your mind and experience.	<input type="checkbox"/> Let Go Give up something that's been bothering you. Write it down and throw it away.	<input type="checkbox"/> List Compile as many things/people/places as you can which bring you joy.
<input type="checkbox"/> Move Walk, run, hop, skip, jump, carry or crawl. Engage your kinetic being.	<input type="checkbox"/> Music Mix Make a playlist, CD, or dare we say tape? Give it to someone who needs joy.	<input type="checkbox"/> New Language Learn a bit of a new tongue. Practice with native speaker. Give them a laugh.	<input type="checkbox"/> Organize You know you'll be happier when that pile is gone. Make it happen; celebrate!
<input type="checkbox"/> Play Get out a board game, or the tea set. Build with blocks. Sock skate.	<input type="checkbox"/> Quit Stop the complaining, accusing, worrying, anger, or general party pooping.	<input type="checkbox"/> Read Pick up a book for fun; a good one that makes you forget the clock.	<input type="checkbox"/> Sabbath Pray. Study. Breathe. Worship. Rest. Sing. Praise. Celebrate. Repeat.
<input type="checkbox"/> Pray Grab your address book or cell phone contact list. Pick someone at random and pray for them.	<input type="checkbox"/> Study Open your Bible to a random page and read the chapter you find there.	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship Attend one of the mid-week worship services (Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, or Good Friday).	<input type="checkbox"/> Random Kindness Pay for coffee or lunch for the person in line behind you, or do something nice for a stranger.
<input type="checkbox"/> Scavenger Hunt Invite some friends and discover new things about your neighborhood.	<input type="checkbox"/> Set a Goal No, not a resolution. This needs to be something you can finish and celebrate.	<input type="checkbox"/> Silly Let loose. Stop making sense. Have fun. Pratfalls encouraged (but be safe).	<input type="checkbox"/> Simplify Give away good things. Throw away junk. Empty a drawer, closet, or room.
<input type="checkbox"/> Sing Even if you can't do it well, use the voice God gave you to sing.	<input type="checkbox"/> Sleep Take a nap. Sleep in. Hit snooze. Go to bed early. Nod off in the tub.	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunrise Get up in time for first light. Pro Tip: do this after you get the extra sleep.	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunset Watch the sun go down on the day. As it does, recount the joys from the day.
<input type="checkbox"/> Teach Give of yourself. Help someone grow in knowledge and love.	<input type="checkbox"/> Thank You Write notes of thanks until your hand cramps up. Then, send some emails.	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Yes, your time is valuable, but give some away. Get behind a project.	<input type="checkbox"/> Write Journal your day, making sure to note all the good things that happen.

March 2017



- Mar. 5 Janea & Luke
- Mar. 12 Rylie & Jeremiah
- Mar. 19 Katelyn & Joshua
- Mar. 26 Madolyn & Oliver

Youth Group News

March 11 - 4:30-6:30 pm @ Volunteer at Feed My Starving Children
(990 Lone Oak Road, Suite 136, Eagan)

March 26 - 6:30-8:00 pm @ Hillcrest UMC (9100 Russell Ave S, Bloomington)
Topic: Life and Death

March brings us to one of our favorite volunteering activities, Feed My Starving Children, which has us take time to serve God and those more in need than us. We are all getting excited and gearing up for our spring lock in that will happen early in April!

~Melissa Kuyper, Youth Director



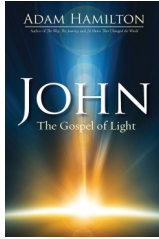
MARCH Schedule for Sunday Volunteers

	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
Coffee & Treats	Carol Cox	Volunteer Needed	Jocelyne Medzagoh	Volunteer Needed
Greeters	Jonathan & Katherine Minks	Tim & Nancy Hagerty	Jim & JoAnne Louisiana	Linda Dicks & Betty Belk
Ushers	Bruce Benson, Pat Ekstrom, Wayne Andersen, Sharon Beckler	Bruce Benson, Laurette Lawson, Scott & Kathy Swenson	Steve & Kathy Soucy, Myron & Ginny Karki	Linda & Dave Schesso, Wayne Andersen, Sharon Beckler
Welcomers	Bob & Barb Deese	Paul Richardson	Jeanne Hansen	Lynn Livingston
Reader	Mary Nelson	Katelyn Hagerty	Linda Dicks	Scott Rice
Sound	Eric Richardson-Mahre	Tim Madsen	Dave Smith	Eric Richardson-Mahre
Media	Dave Smith	Dave Smith	Barb Andrus	Nathan Peine
Nursery	Mary Lou Johnson	Janet Rush	Denise Carroll	Linda Lounsbury
Closer	Paul Richardson	Floyd Ekstrom	Jeff Carroll	Wayne Andersen
Communion Stewards	Peggy Erstad, LaVonne Robinson	<p>Want to serve on Sunday mornings? Let the office know and we'll put you in touch with the appropriate coordinator</p>		
Communion Servers	Laurette Lawson, Jocelyne Medzagoh, Mary Nelson, Verne Witt			

Spiritual Growth

Lenten Small Groups

The apostle John was known as “the disciple whom Jesus loved.” (John 13:23) John’s gospel contains some of the most poetic language in the new testament. Join together in a small group for six weeks to learn more about the gospel of John thru the book *John: The Gospel of Light and Life*, by Adam Hamilton. Nancy Hagerty’s Monday night and Dave Smith’s Tuesday night groups are full, but there is room in Pastor Carol’s groups at church on Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 pm (starting March 1) and Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm (starting March 8). Cost is \$13 for the book.



Holy Baptism



Emilia Louise Runck was baptized on February 12. Her parents are Travis and Amy Runck, and she has a big sister, Evelyn, and a big brother, Ethan. Her grandparents include Harvey and Peggy Erstad. Welcome to the family of Christ, Emilia. We rejoice with you!

Easter Garden Plant Orders

Plant orders for our Easter Garden are being taken now until March 27. The same plants as in the past are available to us again this year:



- Easter Lilies - \$7.75
- Tulips (Red, Purple or Yellow) - \$7.25
- Mums (Purple, Yellow or White) - \$7.75
- Pink Hydrangeas - \$15.00

Please see Ellen Smith before or after church services, or call her at (952) 884-8609 to place your order. Plants may be taken home after the 10:00 am Easter Sunday worship service.

2017 Camp Brochures Available



Camping at one of our organized United Methodist Camps can be a life-changing experience and lead to a profound deepening of one’s faith and relationships with others. Camping Ministries are not just for kids. While there are many opportunities for children and youth, you

might be surprised how many camps there are for adults with specific interests or families who want to get away together. Check out all the possibilities at www.campminnesota.org and/or in the printed brochures now available in the literature racks at church.

Welcome to New Members

We welcome Terry and Sue Wells, who reinstated their membership February 12. They live in the neighborhood but have a seasonal place in Waterville, so spend their summers camping there. Sue is a retired safety specialist for the City of Minneapolis, and Terry works as a building engineer for Minneapolis Public Schools. You might see Terry around town on his motorcycle, or Sue on her scooter. They also have a dog named Etta.



March is Food Share Month

During March we will be collecting items for VEAP. VEAP's goal for this annual drive is to raise \$130,000 and 100,000 pounds of food. Last year PAUMC donated 271 pounds in March, let's see if we can beat that amount this year. Our emphasis this year is healthy foods. When you are shopping for items to donate, please be mindful to purchase items that are low salt, or packed in juice. VEAP is always in need of paper products and baby items such as wipes and diapers.

~Linda Schesso, Mission Outreach Chair

UMCOR Sunday - March 26

Together, we accomplish great things in the name of Christ. Thanks to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), we are poised to reach children, families and communities around the world who have experienced devastation in the wake of disasters. This special offering covers administrative costs associated with this ministry of our church, and by paying for the administrative costs up front, every penny donated later for each specific disaster area as it occurs will be sent to that area to help the people there in need.

Feed My Starving Children

We had a unique opportunity to help pack meals at a mobile Feed My Starving Children packing site in Apple Valley on February 11. Forty volunteers from The PORT joined in with over 900 other volunteers to work from 11:30-1:30. With so many people around the Twin Cities pitching in, we were able to pack 1,215 boxes during our shift. That equals 262,440 meals, which will feed 719 kids for a year. When people say, "Blessed to be a blessing," this is the kind of thing they're referring to. It was truly a blessing to be a part of this great venture.



Congregational Care

We celebrate YOU during MARCH

If you have a birthday during the month of March but your name isn't on our list, PLEASE LET US KNOW, so we can update our records for next year.



04 - Judy Richardson-Mahre	11 - Xavier Cottier	19 - Elijah Peine	27 - Matt Hanson
05 - Katherine Minks	16 - LaVonne Robinson	20 - Bob Rathbun	28 - Ellen Smith
06 - Jeni Cox	17 - Lori Livingston	22 - Veda Anders	30 - Rebecca Carroll
11 - Robert Bump	18 - Myron Karki	24 - Linda Gilbertson	

The Church Basement Ladies in Rise Up, O Men

The Congregational Care Team has reserved 30 tickets to the matinee performance of "Rise Up, O Men," the sixth show in the Church Basement Ladies Series. Set in 1964, the town is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee, which is a central plot point in the story, along with a missing ring, a local talent show and a famous minister coming to visit. Many are saying this is their favorite of all the other Church Basement Ladies shows they've seen.

The show is on Sunday, April 30, at 2:00 pm. Doors open at 1:30 pm. There is plenty of parking at the Plymouth Playhouse (2705 Annapolis Lane N, Plymouth) as it is in the Ramada Hotel, but some will surely carpool from church. There is also a Green Mill right there if you're interested in lunch or dinner. Cost is \$32. Congregational Care Team members will be in the narthex on Sundays to take your reservation until April 9, or until all seats are reserved.



From the Mailbox

Veda's Birthday

Veda was born March 22, 2016, at 23 weeks and 4 days along. Weighing just 1 pound, 2 ounces at birth, she spent her first few months in NICU at Children's Hospital. We have prayed for her and her mom, Jodi Anders, and cheered them both along.



Now they invite you to her first birthday party on Saturday, March 18, from 2:00 - 5:00 pm, here in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

Address Updates

Merlin and Linda Gilbertson both have new email addresses. Please update your directory and your contact list in your computer.

Merlin: merlgil99@gmail.com
Linda: lindagilbertson324@gmail.com



to serve as our congregation's Administrative Assistant.

Camille was raised in New Prague Minnesota as one quarter of a family of four, a younger sister, along with her mom and dad comprised the family. She graduated from New Prague High School and then pursued a Degree in Business Organization and Management from Winona State.

A number of years ago Camille decided to move to Bloomington to pursue an employment opportunity

If you've been around the Church during a weekday, chances are you've seen a relatively new face present. This person's name is Camille Kratochvil (pronounced: Krato-o-vil) Note: the "ch" is completely silent. Camille was hired back in November of 2016

with C. B. Richard Ellis where she remained for five years. While there, she worked and studied to obtain her Real Estate License.

Camille enjoys a number of hobbies to help fill her free time. You may see her walking around Lake Nokomis from time to time. Or dining out in restaurants. She enjoys physical work-outs and also reading. Self-help books are of particular interest. Travel, the outdoors and a good mystery read is a wonderful way to fill time too.

Let's not forget that Camille has that Real Estate License too AND one little known goal she's set...
...She wants to get to Maui!



Leadership Team Roster for 2017

A new slate of leaders was elected at our All Church Conference January 29. We are grateful for the many leaders who serve here at The PORT (teachers, musicians, communion stewards/servers, media presenters, sound technicians, liturgists, acolytes, ushers, greeters, welcomers, funeral luncheon coordinators, kitchen monitors, nursery attendants...the opportunities are endless). With the following list, we recognize and thank our elected leaders for their service:

Church Council: Kathy Swenson (chair), Ellen Smith (secretary), Steve Soucy (lay leader), Blake Mahre (lay member to annual conference), Ted Murphy (SPRC), Bob Deese (SPRC), Nancy Hagerty (SPRC), Dave Smith (treasurer), Merlin Gilbertson (financial secretary), Russ Cox (finance), Jeff Carroll (trustees), Jodi Anders (evangelism), Linda Schesso (mission outreach), Lynn Livingston (congregational care), Pastor Carol.

Staff Parish Relations Sub-Committee: Ted Murphy, Bob Deese, Nancy Hagerty.

Nominations Sub-Committee: Pastor Carol (chair), Linda Lounsbury, Steve Soucy, Blake Mahre.

Finance Sub-Committee: Dave Smith (treasurer), Merlin Gilbertson (financial secretary), Russ Cox.

Trustees: Jeff Carroll (chair), Don Anderson, Tom Wellman, Floyd Ekstrom, Harvey Erstad, Steve Knopp, Eric Richardson-Mahre, Paul Richardson, Wayne Andersen, Clint Andrus, Scott Swenson.

Evangelism & Church Growth: Jodi Anders (chair), Joell Anderson, Ginny Karki, Trenton Olson, Barb Deese.

Spiritual Growth: Beth Cameron, Dave Smith, Nancy Hagerty.

Mission Outreach: Linda Schesso (chair), Mary Nelson, Jocelyn Medzagoh, Trenton Olson, Helen Witt.

Congregational Care: Lynn Livingston (chair), Denise Carroll, Linda Dicks, Pat Ekstrom, Kathy Soucy.

Supported by: Marilyn Anderson (church historian), JoAnne Volden (vice chair), Russ Cox (bazaar liaison), Paul Richardson (member at large).

Portland Avenue United Methodist Church
8000 Portland Ave. S., Bloomington, MN 55420



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE

Join us for worship on Sundays at 10:00 am
Sunday School (8:45 am) and Coffee Fellowship (9:30 am)

Staff

Rev. Carol Zaagsma (Pastor) carol.zaagsma@paumc.org (cell phone for emergencies 651-329-7878)
Camille Kratochvil (Administrative Assistant) paumc@paumc.org
Peggy Larson (Music Director) peggylarson@comcast.net
Dale Miller (Accompanist) miller.daler@gmail.com
Judy Richardson-Mahre (SonRise Singers Director) jembrm@charter.net
Mary Nelson (Handbells Director) nelsonc2m@aol.com
Paul Herrmann (Custodian) 612-916-3376

Church Office E-mail: PAUMC@paumc.org
PAUMC Website: www.paumc.org
www.facebook.com/pages/Portland-Avenue-United-Methodist-Church/109195009206962



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 ASH WEDNESDAY 1:30pm Small Group Study @PAUMC 6:30pm Worship @ 6345 Xerxes Ave S. (dinner at 5 pm) 6:45pm SonRise Rehl 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	2 6:30am Men-Brkfst Grp	3	4
5 8:45am Handbells 8:45am Education 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship/Communion	6 7:00pm Hagerty's Small Group	7 6:00pm Calm Parenting Support Group 6:30pm Caregiver Support Group 7:00pm Smith's Small Group	8 1:30pm Small Group Study @PAUMC 6:15pm SonRise Rehl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Small Group Study @PAUMC	9 6:30am Men-Brkfst Grp	10	11
12 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS 8:45am Handbells 8:45am Education 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship 11:15am Mission Outreach	13 7:00pm Hagerty's Small Group	14 6:00pm Trustees Mtg 7:00pm Smith's Small Group	15 1:30pm Small Group Study @PAUMC 6:15pm SonRise Rehl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Small Group Study @PAUMC	16 Newsletter Deadline 6:30am Men-Brkfst Grp	17	18 2-5 pm Veda's First Birthday Party
19 8:45am Education 8:45am Handbells 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship 11:15am Evangelism & Church Growth	20 7:00pm Hagerty's Small Group	21 7:00pm Smith's Small Group	22 1:30pm Small Group Study @PAUMC 6:15pm SonRise Rehl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Small Group Study @PAUMC	23 6:30am Men-Brkfst Grp	24	25
26 UMCOR SUNDAY 8:45am Handbells 8:45am Education 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship	27 7:00pm Hagerty's Small Group	28 7:00pm Smith's Small Group	29 1:30pm Small Group Study @PAUMC 6:15pm SonRise Rehl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Small Group Study @PAUMC	30 6:30am Men-Brkfst Grp	31	