

THE PORTLIGHT

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

June 2024

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Congratulations to our 2024 Confirmands



Pictured above, left to right, are Joshua Rice, Evelyn Runck, Oliver Darnell, Pastor Henry, Leo Castro, Daisy Castro, and Henry Dolopei III



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

Greetings in Christ!

One of the most discouraging aspects of sharing the Gospel is knowing that so many people will reject the message, and yes, even at times reject the messenger... you. At times, we might think that if we could just be a bit more like Jesus then everyone would accept this message because we would minister the way He wants us to minister. We would share the exact words they need to hear to make the decision for Christ.

Yet, let me remind you that even Jesus Himself was often “despised and rejected”, and in fact was rejected so much that He was crucified on a cross! We know that ultimately it was the plan of God to provide a sinless sacrifice for sin, but still, the Bible tells us that Jesus came into the world to “seek and to save the lost”. His love extended to each and every person He came into contact with, including the two thieves who hung on crosses beside Him..

In other words, it's up to us to share the Gospel and leave it in the hands of the Lord, plus we must remember each person has their own free will.

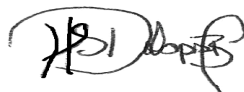
An unbeliever once ridiculed the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ by saying, ‘If Jesus Christ is able to save to the uttermost, why is it that there are so many unbelievers?’ The Christian to whom he

was speaking stopped a very dirty little boy who was passing by and turning to the unbeliever said, “Can you blame soap and water for the filth of this boy? It was available to all, but only those who accept it experience its regenerating power.” The Gospel is still available to all, so, therefore, it must be shared with all.

Probably the most quoted scripture in the Bible tells us this in John 3:16: For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Friends, let's do our part here on earth in sharing the Gospel so that eternity will be the home of those we minister to.

Blessings in Christ!



Pastor Henry



General Conference Summary

A summary of the significant actions taken at the recent General Conference of the United Methodist Church

Here's a breakdown of the key developments:

Regionalization Approval

Delegates approved legislation to restructure the denomination, aiming for greater contextual ministry while maintaining connection and unity in mission and faith.

This move aims to give equal footing to different geographic regions, reducing the focus on the United States.

LGBTQ Inclusion

- The General Conference voted to remove discriminatory language and prohibitions against LGBTQ individuals from the Book of Discipline.

- This included eliminating language deeming homosexuality incompatible with Christian teaching and removing barriers to ordination and marriage for LGBTQ individuals.

Historic Milestones

- Several historic firsts were achieved, including the first black woman president of the Council of Bishops, and the first Native American, Puerto Rican, and Filipino-American bishops to preside over the General Conference.

- Additionally, the first openly gay bishop presided over a General Conference session.

Financial Adjustments

- Delegates approved a compromise regarding annual giving percentages, aiming to balance funding connectional ministries while supporting local churches during financial challenges, including those posed by the pandemic and disaffiliation.

Social Principles and Disaffiliation Policy

- Delegates adopted a review of Social Principles and terminated the disaffiliation policy while approving measures for reaffiliation.

Other Actions

- Approval was granted for ordained deacons to preside over sacraments as appropriate, a new retirement plan for American clergy, and a full communion agreement with the Episcopal Church.

- Additionally, a constitutional amendment addressing the denomination's commitment to eradicating racism and an apology to victims and survivors of sexual misconduct were approved.

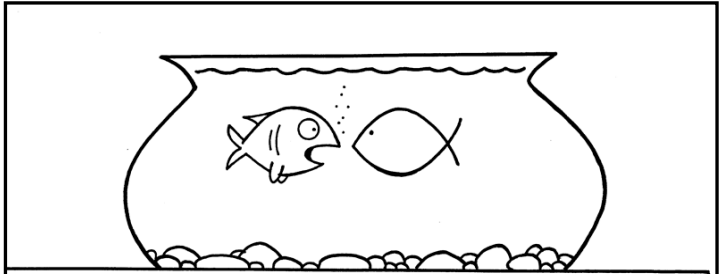
June Schedule for Sunday Volunteers

	June 2	June 9	June 16	June 23	June 30
Welcomers	LaVonne Robinson	Heather Anderson Kathy Swenson	Kathy Soucy Steve Soucy	Heather Anderson Greg Jurek	Neil Anderson
Ushers	Trenton Olson Kathy Soucy	Scott Swenson Myron Karki Ginny Karki	Bruce Benson Trenton Olson	Bruce Benson Scott Swenson	Wayne Andersen Sharon Beckler
Reader	Pat Ekstrom	Lynn Livingston	John Hepola	Greg Jurek	Kathy Bell
Sound	Eric Richardson- Mahre	Leo Castro	Tim Madsen	Leo Castro	Eric Richardson- Mahre
Media	Nancy Hagerty	Barb Andrus	Tim Madsen	Barb Andrus	Nancy Hagerty
Livestream	Tim Hagerty	Clint Andrus	Daisy Castro	Clint Andrus	Tim Hagerty
Closer	Harvey Erstad	Scott Swenson	Don Anderson	Steve Knopp	Tom Wellman
Counters	Merlin Gilbertson Steve Soucy	Merlin Gilbertson Steve Soucy	Merlin Gilbertson Steve Soucy	Merlin Gilbertson Wayne Andersen	Wayne Andersen
Communion Stewards	Daniel & Tracy Baker	<i>We need you for media, sound, livestreaming and more. If you can help please let the office know or ask any of the volunteers!</i>			

You Are Invited...

Please join us for a Graduation Party
in honor of Daisy Mae Castro
on Saturday, June 29,
11:00am to 3:00pm
at Portland Avenue United
Methodist Church.

Enjoy a Filipino Buffet at this
Open House to celebrate
a new beginning.



GLASBERGEN

“Can’t we talk about something
besides religion for a change?”

Mission Outreach

During June, we are accepting monetary donations for Cornerstone Shelter to aid them in providing meals for their guests during their stay. Cornerstone Shelter supports victims/survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, human trafficking, and general crime.

Donations may be mailed to the church office or put into the Offertory Boxes. Please make checks payable to PAUMC with “Cornerstone” in the memo line. Thank you in advance for your generous donations to help our neighbors in need.

Thank you, as always, for your generous giving and support.

~ Nancy Hagerty and Pam Rose, Mission Outreach Co-Chairs



New Website

We are excited to announce an updated, more comprehensive PORT website went live on May 13th. A team of our members worked hard to revamp our outdated one. The goal was to give a fresh look to our site and provide up-to-date information on PAUMC, and provide information on current and upcoming activities. Most of all we wanted to attract people who are visiting our website to come and visit our church in person.

Some of the features on our new site include the ability to connect to our livestreamed worship services, to look for current and upcoming events, and to connect with the Pastor and church office with prayer requests. Eventually we will be adding a Member's section that will provide more information designed specifically for our PORT members.

We will keep you updated with changes and exciting additions to the website as they become available. Log on to www.paumc.org and check it out!

~ Barb Andrus, Chair, Website Team

Happy Birthday to our June Friends!

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



- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 02 - Blaine Daniels | 08 - Peggy Erstad | 19 - Harvey Erstad |
| 03 - Dianne Madsen | 08 - Guy Moore | 21 - Alina Schroeder |
| 03 - Julie Rasmussen | 09 - Joshua Rice | 24 - Ann Benson |
| 06 - Clint Andrus | 16 - Blake Mahre | 26 - Hannah Marie Dolopei |
| 07 - Paul Swenson | 18 - Bryan Darnell | 29 - Heather Anderson |
| 07 - Henry Dolopei III ("Junior") | | |

Address and Phone Changes:

Chuck & Audrey Bartels
6060 Oxboro Ave N, Apt. 128
Oak Park Heights, MN 55082
651-439-6886 (H)

Amelia Liu
8972 Neill Lake Rd, Unit B
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Pam Rose
Remove home phone number

Congratulations to our Graduating Class of 2024

We join with the proud family members of The PORT in celebrating these high school and college graduates. Congratulations to all for your accomplishments. We wish you much success and many blessings in your future endeavors! Join us for worship on Sunday, June 2 as we honor our grads with a reception following the service.

Dorothy Baker, from University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire with a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism and Creative Writing. Her parents are Daniel & Tracy Baker; Uncle, William (Bill) Baker.

Daisy Mae Castro, from Bloomington Jefferson High School. She will be attending Normandale Community College to complete her general classes with a major in Event Planning & Hospitality. Her fathers are Blaine Daniels and the late Les Castro; "Aunts" Lori and Lynn Livingston.

Janea Medzagoh, from Bloomington Jefferson High School and Normandale Community College. Janea plans to attend the University of Minnesota and double major in Interior Design and Business and Marketing Education. Her parents are Jocelyn & Josia Medzagoh.

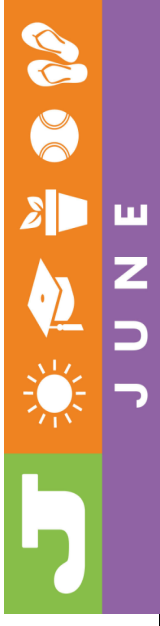
Nathan Lemke, from Simmons University, Boston, with a Master of Library and Information Science degree. His parents are Andrea & Rob Lemke; Grandparents Ginny & Myron Karki.

Christina (Chrissy) Wells, from Bloomington Kennedy High School. She will be attending St. Cloud State University. Her parents are Matt & Nicole Wells; Grandparents are Terry & Sue Wells.



TUNE IN FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP ONLINE @ 10:00 AM:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/>



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Graduate Sunday 10:00am Worship/ Communion 11:00am Reception for Grads 6:30pm	3 6:30pm	4 6:30pm Bazaar Workshop	5 5:30pm Leadership Retreat Part 1 (Wesley Rm)	6	7	8
9 10:00am Worship 11:00am Coffee Fellowship	10	11 6:30pm Bazaar Workshop	12	13 9:30am Bazaar Workshop	14 	15
16 10:00am Worship 11:00am Coffee Fellowship 	17	18 6:30pm Bazaar Workshop	19 5:30pm Leadership Retreat Part 2 (Wesley Rm)	20 9:30am Bazaar Workshop	21	22
23 10:00am Worship 11:00am Coffee Fellowship	24	25 6:30pm Bazaar Workshop	26	27 9:30am Bazaar Workshop	28	29 11:00am-3:00pm Daisy Mae Castro Graduation Open House (Fellowship Hall)
30 10:00am Worship 11:00am Coffee Fellowship						

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



GIVE+
Electronic Giving Options



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE

Join us for in-person and livestreaming worship on Sundays at 10:00am
with Sunday School during worship.

Staff

Rev. Henry Dolopei, II (Pastor) hdolopei@paumc.org Office: 952-888-6070; Cell: 203-508-4874
Lori Livingston (Administrative Assistant) paumc@paumc.org Office: 952-888-6070
Dale Miller (Accompanist) miller.daler@gmail.com
Judy Richardson-Mahre (Sonrise Director) jembrm@charter.net
Greg Jurek (Custodian)

Church Office E-mail: PAUMC@paumc.org PAUMC Website: www.paumc.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PortlandAvenueUMC/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/PortlandAvenueUnitedMethodistChurch>