

THE PORTLIGHT

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



August 2024

Contents:

P.2 - Pastor's Letter

P.3 - Trustees; Mission Outreach

P.4 - Happenings @ The PORT

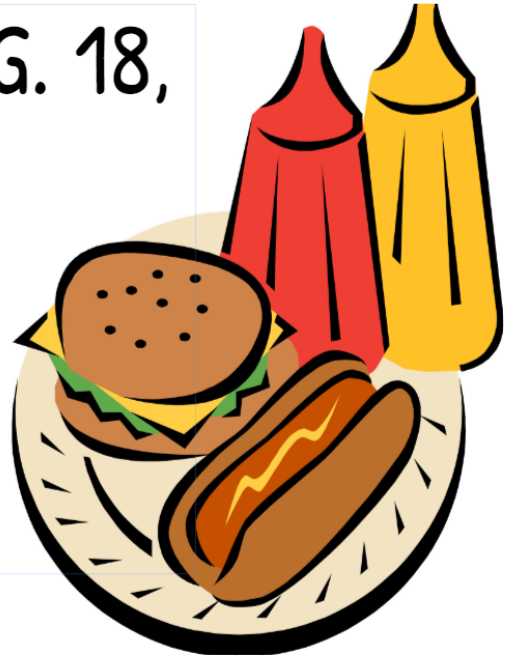
P.5 - Sunday Volunteer Schedule; Change for Change

P.6 - Congregational Care; August Birthdays; 50th Holiday Bazaar News; Church Comics

P.7 - August Calendar

~ It's Our Fun Summer Tradition ~

**SUNDAY, AUG. 18,
10:00 AM
OUTDOOR
WORSHIP &
BBQ**



Invite your friends and neighbors!

**Pray for nice weather ~
we'll move indoors if
we have to!**

Please join us!

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 Members and Friends of The PORT,

It is disheartening to note the increased violence in homes, communities, nations, and our world. What is disheartening the most is the percentage of Christians involvement. In Scripture, **Christians are to be peacemakers.**

The **Sermon on the Mount** (found in Matthew 5, 6 and 7) is one of the most detailed teachings of Jesus Christ recorded in the New Testament. In this vital sermon, Jesus Christ laid out the central theme of the way of life He taught His followers.

One of the central themes of the Sermon on the Mount is Christ's expectation that His followers be characterized by peace—not violence or war. In the Beatitudes, Jesus taught, "Blessed [happy] are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God" (Matthew 5:9). Christ's followers should be characterized by living a way that leads to peace—totally the opposite of a life characterized by violence and strife.

One of the intriguing texts Jesus Christ taught was the Sixth Commandment (of the 10 Commandments). He said: "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire" (Matthew 5:21-22).

Jesus showed that it's not just the physical act of murder that breaks the Sixth Commandment. Inner anger and hostility toward other human beings also break this law.

Yes, having feelings of hatred toward other human beings is a sin and breaks the Sixth Commandment! The rest of the Bible elaborates on this key statement by Christ. Notice what John wrote: "Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that

no murderer has eternal life abiding in him" (1 John 3:15). Many other scriptures make it clear that hating another person is sin and breaks this commandment (2 Corinthians 12:20; Titus 3:3; 1 John 2:9-11).

The ultimate intent of this commandment is to help us understand that God wants us to show love toward other human beings (Mark 12:31; 1 John 2:10).

Furthermore, Jesus said "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you" (Matthew 5:38-39, 43-44).

These words could be considered some of the hardest to apply of all of Jesus Christ's teachings! The Gospel accounts show us that Jesus not only taught this standard, but practiced it (Matthew 10:23; 26:51-53; Luke 4:28-30; John 8:49; 10:39).

The Christian standard of being a peacemaker is found throughout the New Testament. The apostle Paul wrote that Christians are to do whatever possible to "live peaceably with all men" (Romans 12:18). Many scriptures support the basic truth that Christians are to "pursue peace with all people" (Hebrews 12:14; see also 2 Corinthians 13:11; Galatians 5:22; James 3:17).

As a Christian, I promise to be a peacemaker. May you join me to be a peacemaker. We come against every form of violence in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Amen.

Blessings,

Pastor Henry





During a recent storm we lost about one third of the beautiful maple tree that's located in front of the kitchen window of the church. The Trustees had a very hot job cutting down and hauling away those limbs and branches. Please thank these wonderful volunteers the next time you see them!

Left to right: Harvey Erstad, Wayne Andersen, Steve Knopp, Oliver Darnell, Tom Wellman, and behind the camera, Julie Rasmussen. Thank you all!



Mission Outreach

AUGUST MISSION OUTREACH



Join VEAP's monthly community challenge! August is Condiments and Spices. There are two ways to participate:

- Bring non-perishable spice and condiment donations to church and place them in the shopping cart in the Narthex. (Items will be delivered the first week of September.)
- Provide a monetary donation - these donations will be combined and a check sent directly to VEAP. Please make checks payable to PAUMC with "VEAP" in the memo line. You can either mail them to the church or place them in the Offering Boxes.

Together, we can create positive change in our community, one collection at a time. To learn more about their monthly challenge and to see a suggestion list (as it wasn't available at the time of printing), please visit their website at: <https://veap.org/monthly-challenges/>



Happenings @ The PORT

July's Outdoor Worship Service with Blessing of the Animals was rained out so we moved it indoors. We had four happy pups in attendance who were blessed, and a few more were blessed off of their pictures. The dogs and their owners pictured here are Julie Rasmussen with Millie (left) and Tallie (right), Kathy Soucy (Bentley was in the photo in her arms), Lynn Livingston with Mochi, and Bruce Benson with Roger. As you can see, the dogs were very excited to meet each other. Their presence in turn blessed the rest of us! Following the service we all enjoyed some ice cream sundaes!



Tallie was enjoying the hymn with Beth Cameron!



We're Sprucing Up The PORT!

At the last Church Council meeting the approval was given to use some of the Holiday Bazaar Funds to replace the broken drinking fountain in the main hall and to paint the interior of the Fellowship Hall, the south narthex and the main hallway. These heavily used spaces badly needed a facelift. The painting will be completed over the next couple of weeks.

The new drinking fountain was installed this week and it includes a bottle filler that is sure to get lots of use! Be sure to try it out!



AUGUST Schedule for Sunday Volunteers

	August 4	August 11	August 18 Outdoor Worship	August 25
Welcomers	Lynn Livingston	Melinda Matton Kathy Soucy	N/A	Lynn Livingston
Ushers	Trenton Olson Pam Rose	Bruce Benson Myron & Ginny Karki	Bruce Benson Pam Rose	Trenton Olson Wayne Andersen Sharon Beckler
Reader	Mary Nelson	Pam Rose	Pat Ekstrom	Neil Anderson
Sound	Leo Castro	Tim Madsen	Tim Madsen	Eric Richardson-Mahre
Media	Nancy Hagerty	Tim Madsen	N/A	Nancy Hagerty
Livestream	Scott Swenson	Daisy Castro	N/A	Tim Hagerty
Closer	Tom Wellman	Wayne Andersen	Scott Swenson	Harvey Erstad
Counters	Tom Wellman Pam Rose	Merlin Gilbertson Steve Soucy	Merlin Gilbertson Wayne Andersen	Merlin Gilbertson Wayne Andersen
Communion Stewards	Daniel & Tracy Baker	Please Note: If you cannot serve on your scheduled day, it is your responsibility to find a substitute and notify the office.		

Change for Change

If you haven't been to church lately, you haven't seen the jar on the Welcome table labeled with this phrase. We are collecting your change donations so we can use them to make a change in our community! This is an easy and fun way for everyone to make an impactful contribution to The PORT! No matter how young or old you are, change accumulates quickly when it is saved. We will initially use the funds to help with the Community Meal, but it will obviously not cover the entire cost. So, we invite you to leave a check or some cash in the Offering Box and add a note that it is to be used for the meals. That way our finance team can set aside those monies and keep the Meal Leaders informed as to what is available. Anything you leave from now through the months of August and September will be used toward October's meal and beyond. See how quickly it can grow? We can do this and truly start making change in the world!

Congregational Care

Birthday Blessings to our August friends!

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 01 - Darlene Solheim | 18 - Scott Rice |
| 02 - Isabelle Swenson | - Chrissy Wells |
| 04 - Christine Hortenbach | 22 - Paul Richardson |
| 06 - Barb Deese | 25 - Joe Matton |
| 08 - Jean Moore | - Luke Rice |
| 09 - Carol Emdy | - Terry Wells |
| 13 - Becky Rice | 26 - Lynn Livingston |
| 14 - Ethan Runck | 27 - Blessing Wilson |
| | 30 - Annie Comee |

Happy Birthday!



If you have a birthday this month but your name is not on our list, please let the office know so we can update our records for next year.

Our Holiday Bazaar Turns 50!

Our 50th annual Holiday Bazaar is coming November 8 and 9! It will be here before we know it, so why not put together your gift basket now, when you aren't rushed? We can store it for you (as long as there are no perishables) so bring it in anytime. We already have several baskets! We would love to see some woodcrafts, needlework and of course baked goods too! We hope you will all set aside these dates and plan to help in whatever way you can so this can be our best event ever!

Jeff Chamberlain's Celebration of Life Service is Scheduled

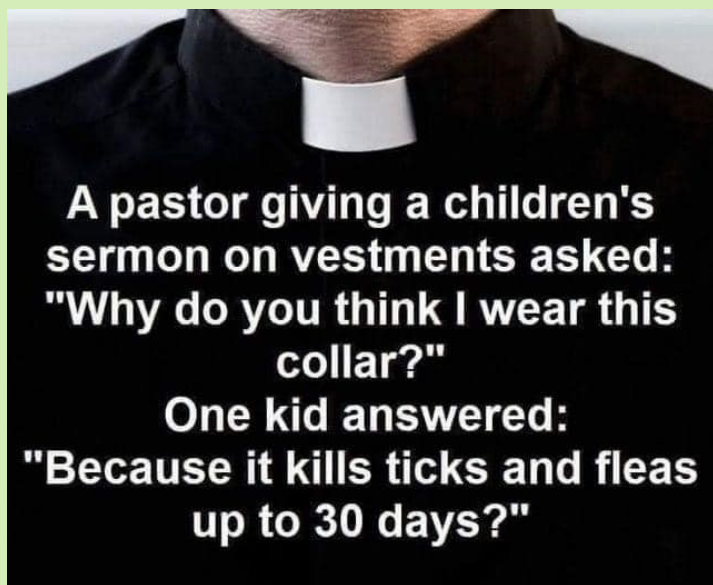
Date: Wednesday, August 21

Time: 11am to 1pm


Location: Dawn Valley Chapel and Memorial Park, 9940 Bush Lake Road, Bloomington.

Jeff's sister Linda said this will be a very casual service with words shared by a few family members. Jeff's ashes will be buried along with their mother Dorothy.

Church Comics



AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:30am Bazaar Workshop	2	3
4 10:00 am Worship / Communion 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship	5 	6	7	8 9:30am Bazaar Workshop	9	10
11 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship	12	13 Primary Election Day	14	15 9:30am Bazaar Workshop September Newsletter Deadline	16	17
18 10:00 am Outdoor Worship 11:00 am Cookout Lunch	19	20	21	22 9:30am Bazaar Workshop	23	24
25 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship	26	27 6:30pm Bazaar Workshop	28	29 9:30am Bazaar Workshop	30	31

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.

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>