**GILBERT COMMUNITY CHURCH – UNITED METHODIST**

**202 Wisconsin Avenue West**

**MAY - JUNE 2025**

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**PASTOR’S CORNER**

We are now in the season of Easter, so Lenten is completed and I hope everyone enjoyed their devotionals. I need to thank everyone who provided flowering plants for the altar area on Easter morning. Their beauty added to the service. They made it look like a spring Easter Garden and at the same time hopefully, gave us hope that spring will arrive to stay. Personally, I know that I am more than ready for Spring to arrive and stay. Stopping at the greenhouse to pick up my Easter plants made me start thinking about the garden plants I am going to need for my garden when that time finally arrives.

We are going to need to pick a date to assemble the 120 hygiene kits in May since we will need to take them to St. Cloud for the MN Annual Conference in June. It will be June 11th through the 13th this year. Keep your ears open for the announcement of assembling day. So again, we need to raise at least $120.00 to pay for the toothpaste which will be added when they are sent out to a disaster situation. It would be great if we could raise an extra $120.00 to pay for the shipping of those kits to the disaster area so our goal is $240.00. Before DeEtta and I leave for the MN Annual Conference, we will need to collect for the Love Offering to take with us. Besides all this there are twenty mission quilts all packed and ready to go too from last year’s Vacation Bible School kids.

Talking about VBS, with Sue Malevich’s leadership we will again hosting Vacation Bible School with the study of the Ten Commandments. This year it will be held in June for a full week, June 16th through the 20th. Since there are ten commandments, and we plan to cover two a day, we had to extend it for the full five days. Everyone is welcome to come and join the fun and energy. It might be a good week to invite some grandkids to stay with you, so they can come too. In fact, hopefully you will remember that you are encouraged to bring anyone visiting you on Sunday mornings to attend services with you. May each of you enjoy the far too short season of summer with family, friends and your church family, too.

What seems to be the norm in my life, I am waiting to hear when my granddaughter is having her birthday party in June, so I can ask DeEtta to fill the pulpit which I think it is a treat to hear someone else preaching. I also have a great niece graduating this spring and have asked DeEtta to cover for me on May 18th, so I can attend her party.

With all this talk of summer and spring, please remember to check the lawn care list so we can keep the church yard looking trimmed and taken care of. We got a new self-propelled mower to make it easier this year.

Stay safe. Stay healthy. Take care of yourselves and your loved ones. God Bless each of you. Remember God is always only a prayer away.

Pastor Mary Lou

**2025 LOVE OFFERING**

30% of the Love Offering will be going to the Africa University for Student Scholarships. Africa University, a United Methodist-related school in Zimbabwe, currently educates 2,500 students from 24 African countries. Africa University is committed to increasing the number of students who enroll from all the countries of Sub-Saharan Africa where the UMC is growing and in need of ethical and well-formed leaders.

30% of the Love Offering will be going to Immigration Law and Justice Network. Immigration Law and Justice Network, an organization first established by the United Methodist Committee of Relief (UMCOR), supports 19 sites across the country, each providing low-income immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers with urgently needed immigration legal services, advocacy and education.

20% will go to OC Ministries. OC Ministries, a Minnesota Conference Advance Special that’s celebrating its 35th anniversary, supports schools, medical clinics, churches, agriculture projects, vision clinics, curriculum writing and student scholarships in Chile, Haiti, Jamaica, Liberia, Puerto Rico, Sierra Leone and Uganda. This is formerly known as Operation Classroom.

20% of the Love Offering will go to Midwest Mission. Midwest Mission, a depot in the United Methodist Committee of Relief (UMCOR) relief supply network, brings people together to transform resources into humanitarian relief so that people’s lives are changed for the better, alleviating the from poverty and crisis.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Remember that all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend. Join us for 45 minutes of Bible stories, music and crafts!

**AD COUNCIL/EVA KIEREN CIRCLE**

Next Ad Council will be held on Monday, May 5th at 10:00 a.m. Or Wednesday, May 7th at 11:00 a.m. Please join us!

**CHURCH CLEANING.**

Cleaning is scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. If you are available, please come and help. Many hands make light work!

**DIRECTIONS FOR CHURCH WEBSITE**

Type in [www.gilbertcommunitychurch.org](http://www.gilbertcommunitychurch.org) – HIT ENTER – this will bring you to the church website. Once into the church website, click on the section you would like to access, for example Daily Devotionals, click and it will open at the bottom of the page. If you choose to watch a Sunday Service, just click on the zoom service (RED) and click the picture of the church with the date of the service you would like to view.

**NOISY OFFERING**

The last Sunday of each month we will be holding a Noisy Offering…. In this offering we will pass a can and everyone will bring pocketfuls of change to put in the can and make lots of noise. The offering for 2025 is for Katherine’s House in Eveleth. Katherine’s House provides services for women with mental health, chemical dependence issues, homelessness, high behavioral needs, trauma victims, pregnant women needing a safe and stable environment, women involved in the Criminal Justice system, women with children placed outside of the home, women who are currently utilizing medication assisted therapy, women needing help managing needs, all in a comprehensive trauma informed welcoming home.

**COFFEE AN’s**

May 11th Served by Candace and Bubs

No Coffee An’ June, July and August

**BIRTHDAYS** **BIRTHDAYS**

May 2nd Thor Thelen June 7th Tom Hafdahl

May 11th Courtney Thelen June 10th DeEtta Annala

May 28th Norma Purkat June 14th Terri Peterson

 June 24th Joey Heitzman

**ANNIVERSARIES ANNIVERSARIES**

 June 12, 1993 Penny and Joe Calger

 June 13, 1986 Bob and Barb Kern

**SCRIPTURE**

May 4th … June 1st …

 Psalm 30 Psalm 97

 Acts 9:1-6 (7-20) Acts 16:16-34

 Revelations 5:11-14 Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-26

May 11th… June 8th…

 Psalm 23 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

 Acts 9:36-43 Acts 2:1-21

 Revelation 7:9-17 Romans 8:14-17

May 18th … June 15th…

 Psalm 148 Psalm 8

 Acts 11:1-18 Proverbs 8:1-4, 2-31

 Revelation 21:1-6 Romans 5:1-5

May 25th… June 22nd…

 Psalm 67 Psalm 42

 Acts 16:9-15 1 Kings 19:1-15a

 Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 Galatians 3:23-29

 June 29th…

 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

 Galatians 5:1, 13-25

**LITURGIST SCHEDULES**

May 4th Norma Purkat June 1st Sue Malevich

May 11th John Malevich June 8th Warren Ross

May 18th DeEtta Annala June 15th Don Peterson

May 25th Deborah Ross-Jaguncih June 22nd Norma Purkat

 June 29th John Malevich

**USHER SCHEDULES**

May 4th Tom and Deanna Hafdahl June 1st Warren Ross

May 11th DeEtta Annala June 8th Norma Purkat

May 18th Deborah Ross-Jagunich June 15th Don Peterson

May 25th Candace Barshaw June 22nd DeEtta Annala

 June 29th John Malevich

**YARD WORK SCHEDULES** weeks run Monday-Sunday

April 28th-May 4th Kern June 2nd-8th Matteson

May 5th-11th Malevich June 9th-15th Jagunich

May 12th-18th John and Norma June 16th-22nd Malevich

May 19th-25th Warren Ross June 23rd-29th Kerzie/Hafdahl

May 26th-June 1st Kern