

Heartline

Keeping in touch with the heart of the Richfield United Methodist Church faith community.

2021
November/December



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Sunday, November 21: MCCI Vote Day
10:30am, Sanctuary

District Superintendent Rev. Dan Johnson will lead us in a church conference as we prayerfully weigh all that is before us. All church members are asked to be present on this special day when we vote on the MCCI Report. Read the report, richfieldumc.org/welcome/mcci/. If those present in real-time in-person or by Zoom **vote by a margin of 75% or greater** to accept the recommended prescriptions, we will have decided as a church to step forward into our next life cycle together with MCCI coaching and resourcing underwritten by the Minnesota Annual Conference. Please see page 5 for more information.



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP
Friday, December 24, 2021

Celebrate the arrival of the Christ child with joy! Come and worship on Christmas Eve in-person, online, and by phone and let us remember we are connected as one worshipping body on this glorious day. Both services feature the same sermon, the Nativity story, prayers of hope and peace, wonderful music, and "Silent Night" by candlelight. Please pray on who in your life needs this meaningful tradition in their lives and invite them to experience Christmas Eve worship with you.

4:00 pm Family-Friendly Worship features guest musician Molly Sioux McDonald and a special time with children. Nursery care available.

9:00 pm Traditional Worship features music from the Chancel Choir and a string quartet.

Worship each Sunday at 9:30 am.

You can worship in-person, online at youtube.com/richfieldumc, or by touchtone phone, 1-888-650-5835.

NATE NOTE



Many years ago while I was in grad school before seminary, it was becoming more and more popular for the grad students in our department to travel to a famous conference. Once a year, students and faculty from all over the nation would come together for it and I admit I loved it both times I attended. The content was always good, of course, and as the locations got more exotic, the destination vibe also got more intoxicating, especially when we went to New York City.

My understanding is in the past, grad students would pay their conference fee and their air fare, while the department would cover the cost of the hotels. But the year we went to New York City, of course more students than ever wanted to go, and we were asked to help chip in for hotel rooms, even put on some fundraisers. Some students were frustrated by this. This had been free for years and years, so why the change now? Isn't this part of where our tuition money goes?!

One day in the TA room, as we sat at our desks grading undergrad students' work, some of my fellow grad students expressed their frustration about the hotel situation and left the room. Alone with one other student, he watched them leave and shook his head.

"They take this for granted," he said.

I said yeah, I see their point, but I don't think it's too much to ask us to help out. It's a lot of money and more people want to go this year, why not help.

He looked at me funny and asked, "Who do you think pays for all those hotel rooms?"

I said I figured the department did. He laughed and said, "No. The professor does."

According to this student, one of the professors in our department played a key role behind the scenes paying for as many of the student hotel rooms out of their own pocket as they could to give their students the opportunity to go to this conference. He had done this for years. Now that more of us wanted to go to NYC, the bill was getting pricey. My fellow student didn't shame me when he shared this, but he did give me a new

outlook on generosity done in secret. I wonder if most students knew this is how the rooms got paid for, it could've impacted classroom dynamics. Instead, the professor knew why he was doing it, and that inspired me to help with the fundraising and even donate several times to the cause as an alumnus. That's not for public kudos, ironically, but to show the impact of inspiration. We are hungry to be part of something bigger.

How we see "change through sharing" depends on our outlook on life. If we have a mindset of abundance - that all truly can be welcome because what is valuable to us is worth sharing - then change is possible. If we have a mindset of scarcity - we must be selective because what is valuable to us is for us - then change is scary. The question then becomes, which master are we trying to serve: God or wealth. Put another way, the God who shares freely with us and all beloved children throughout the world... or all the preferences and habits and other moth-eaten treasures we've accumulated along the way to knowing God. Jesus says no one can serve two masters.

I think about this a lot when it comes to sharing about our church. Our church, and this is a good church, is the way we have chosen to come together, organize, and deploy to grow in love of God and neighbor, reach new people, and heal a broken world. By coming together as a church, we are equipping ourselves and each other to live in faith, justice, and joy every day. How do we share that? How do we get others more than interested but *moved* by that?

As 2021 ends and we look ahead to a bright future in 2022, I want to thank you for all of the ways you have shared of your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness in the life of your church. Sometimes, you were front and center. Other times, you were behind the scenes. We couldn't have done it without you. I know we live in mysterious times. I am grateful we have a God who does some of God's best holy work in, with, and through mystery. God is both front and center and behind the scenes. May we rejoice in a God of abundance and respond accordingly. Enter this season of fall colors, cold nights, Advent wonder, and Christmas joy with the love of Jesus in your bones and the flame of the Holy Spirit in your hearts!

In Christ,
Rev. Nate Melcher
Senior Pastor

MCCI UPDATE: STAY INFORMED AND BE INVOLVED

We are in the midst of praying and discussing the MCCI Report we received in worship on October 17. We have prayed every day for nearly two years for what God has told us are the next steps for our church's vitality and have had excellent conversations together this fall. The MCCI Report and all MCCI details are available at the MCCI Table in the Commons and online at richfieldumc.org/mcci. May we take bold steps into the future together!

There are three key dates this November and you are invited to be part of the process:

- **November 7**—Town Hall to discuss the MCCI Report after worship, 10:35am-11:15am, Sanctuary
- **November 18**—Town Hall to discuss the MCCI Report online, 7:00pm-8:00pm, [Zoom Meeting ID: 881-3166-5678](#) Passcode: 5835
- **November 21**—Church Conference to vote on the MCCI Report after worship, 10:35am-11:00am, Sanctuary. **All members are expected to read the report before voting on it.** See page 5 for more info.

ONLINE-ONLY WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 26

youtube.com/richfieldumc or 888.650.5835
Holiday weekends such as the Sunday after Christmas have historically low worship attendance. Meanwhile, we have had meaningful worship experiences online and this worship format continues to have value. In this transition time of regathering, we will give our hard-working servant volunteers a break and worship on December 26 only online and by touch tone phone. After this long season of distanced worship from necessity, we will experiment with distanced worship with intentionality. Please do not come to campus that day and thank you for your grace.

WORSHIP SERVICE OF HOPE AND HEALING

Wednesday, December 8 at 6:30 pm

The long winter nights, the coming of special holidays, and the close of the year can stir up many emotions. Loss, joy, wonder, exhaustion, grief - feelings like these are normal and we do well to be together for solidarity and support. This special worship service features gentle music, meaningful prayer, candle lighting and other interactive moments that you can engage in whether you worship in-person, online, or by phone. This has been a favorite worship service to either attend in the midst of your own feelings or to invite and be with a friend who is experiencing theirs. May we feel the presence of the Holy Spirit for comfort and strength.



WORSHIP ENTERS REGATHERING PHASE 4

It has been a blessing to gather in-person for worship since Phase 1 of regathering began on August 1. Remember, you are welcome for in-person worship and gatherings when you are ready.

This winter, pending the wider pandemic scenario allows, we will continue in the next phases:

Phase 4 - November 7: In-person/online worship, indoor fellowship, outdoor Sunday School, small group gatherings/classes. Nursery resumes on Christmas Eve and in 2022.

We continue to monitor the recommendations of the Minnesota Annual Conference, Minnesota Department of Health, and Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Your patience, diligence, and cooperation is what has helped your church thrive in pandemic times, thank you.

FRESH CALL FOR YOUR BREAKTHROUGH STORIES!

Pastor Nate needs to hear your stories about feeling God in your lives. Where did God break through this year? When did you feel God's love? What has prayer meant in your life? How did you encounter the Holy Spirit's comfort and strength? Your breakthrough stories, your conflux moments, are a blessing in your faith journey. Please send your story to breakthroughstories@richfieldumc.org or fill out a "Breakthrough Story" card at the Community Table. Your story may end up in a sermon or article to inspire others to seek God in their lives.

CONFLUX: A ONE-YEAR WORSHIP SERIES SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 - MAY 29, 2022

The CONFLUX worship series is made of 7 miniseries that honor the seasons of the church such as Advent and Lent while exploring several themes in the overture of our lives. The series explores what we the church can do when we are at our best: grow in love of God and neighbor, reach new people, and put our faith into action to heal a broken world. Spiritual practices, events, and media will help bring your weekend worship experience into your weekday living with prayer, journaling, daily devotionals, book studies, and video series to watch at your own pace. Get started at richfieldumc.org/ministries/amplify/.



Church Is a People
Overture
Nativity Now
First Thing First
Legacy
Unafraid
X Marks the Spot

Be a church of people who rely on God and each other.
Celebrate the themes that bring us closer to God's dream.
Share the gift of Jesus with hope, peace, joy, and love.
Live a life that reflects the love of God to everyone you meet.
Remember the past, see the present, build the future.
Break away from worry and fear, live with courage and hope.
Follow a road map that crosses paths with the Holy Spirit.

Each worship experience features a wide variety of Spirit-filled music, inclusive and justice-centered liturgy, meaningful interactive moments, and preaching that connects scripture with everyday living. Worship together on Sundays at 9:30 am, online at youtube.com/richfieldumc, or by touch tone phone at 888.650.5835. For the latest updates on worship and the life of the church, visit richfieldumc.org. Let us worship the God who loves all people. All are welcome, and all means all.

FALL WORSHIP SERIES #2 - "OVERTURE" October 24 - November 14

Our lives have had many moments of feeling and sharing God's love. Adding up these moments, these critical themes that bring us closer to God's dream, is an exercise of celebrating the power of our faith and its fruitfulness. We look back to our history, reflect on our present today, and look boldly into our future as we steward our resources and share our gifts as the church. Each week, be blessed by the overture of God's loving impact in your daily life. This worship series is supplemented by the video series, "The Generosity Challenge: 28 Days of Gratitude, Prayer, and Faith," available free to watch at your pace. Get started at richfieldumc.org/ministries/amplify/.

ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES - "NATIVITY NOW" November 28 - December 19

"Nativity" comes from the Latin word "natal," which is where we also get the word "native." Thus, nativity is about our birth, our origins, where we come from. The Nativity story as told in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke explore the birth of Jesus and the arrival of the light of the world. From that cold evening nearly 2,000 years ago, we remember that nativity is now, that light is birthed in the world today. We see the world reflected by the light of Jesus and we see possibilities revealed in hope, peace, joy, and love. This worship series is supplemented by the video series, "Light of the World," featuring Bible scholar Amy-Jill Levine and available free to watch at your pace on Amplify Media. Get started at richfieldumc.org/ministries/amplify/.



Please watch the following videos before worship:

November 28 - The Meaning of Memory
December 5 - The Promise of Potential
December 12 - The Journey to Joy
December 19 - The Gifts of the Gentiles

BORN TO BE GENEROUS

An “overture” is a piece of music played by an orchestra at the beginning of a film, opera, or ballet. Featuring themes that people will hear later, an overture prepares the people for what is to come. We give thanks to the God who has led this church to today and will lead us for what comes tomorrow. Our church’s overture has themes of putting faith in God into action, seeking Holy Spirit-fueled justice, and sharing the grace-filled joy of Jesus. You play a role in the overture of these themes. **Your financial commitment makes a difference. Thank you for your commitment and trust.**



Each of us is called to faithfully participate in the life of the church by our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. **Your financial support builds sustainable ministry as Richfield UMC.** Members and generous friends will receive a letter and commitment sheet in the mail. Please mail it to the church or bring it with you to worship on **November 14, Commitment Sunday**. May the overture we play feature grace notes to grow in love of God and neighbor, reach new people, and heal a broken world.

CHURCH CONFERENCE ON NOVEMBER 21

Sunday, November 21 at 10:35 am in the Sanctuary and by [Zoom](#)
Meeting ID: 881-3166-5678, Passcode: 5835
or call in: 312-626-6799 (standard rates apply)

There will be a church conference after worship to vote on the MCCI Report after worship. It is a simple “yes/no” vote. Discussion on the report is at the three town hall meetings on October 24, November 7, and November 18. District Superintendent Rev. Dan Johnson will preside. All worshippers may attend and all members have vote. All members are expected to read the report before voting on it.

CHARGE CONFERENCE ON NOVEMBER 23

Tuesday, November 23 in the Ad Board meeting by Zoom

Zoom Meeting ID: 886-0975-2661

Passcode: 5835

There will be a charge conference at the Ad Board meeting to approve clergy compensation for 2022. All worshippers and members may attend. Ad Board members may vote.

A FRESH WORSHIP SERIES TO KICK OFF 2022 - “FIRST THING FIRST”

A new year brings new opportunities to live our faith everywhere. When we let our faith lead how we make our decisions, we put God first - including before our desires. Putting God first can also trade feelings of panic - one has so many things to do they don’t know what to do next - for feelings of urgency - it’s time to put the first thing first. By first doing no harm, then doing good, and all along the way staying in love with God, may you live a life that reflects the love of God to everyone you meet. This worship series is supplemented by the book *Three Simple Rules* by Bishop Reuben Job. Pick up your copy at the Christmas Eve worship service and read the following chapters before worship:

January 2 - Preface/Introduction, pages 7-18

January 9 - Do No Harm, pages 19-32

January 16 - Do Good, pages 33-50

January 23 - Stay in Love with God, pages 51-64



SERMON ARCHIVE NOW ONLINE

richfieldumc.org/sermons

Have a favorite sermon or one you missed or one you want to share? All sermons since June 30, 2019 are listed in chronological order at richfieldumc.org/sermons. Look up a sermon by title, preacher, scripture, or date with "Find in Page" in your web browser. Tap/click the sermon title to go directly to it in the worship archives at youtube.com/richfieldumc. The link may go to where you last left off. If so, use the chapter list in the video description.



CALL FOR ADVENT DEVOTIONAL SUBMISSIONS

This favorite tradition returns as we celebrate the gift of a season of regathering as the church. The Advent daily devotional is written by you and your fellow church members and worshippers. Copies will be available online at richfieldumc.org/devo and in print on campus starting November 21. Daily entries will be posted on the [church's Facebook page](#).

The 2021 Advent theme is **Gifts**. We have been writing in our gratitude journals daily all fall and are experiencing God's generosity in our lives. The season of pandemic continues and it has helped many of us understand the precious gifts around us more. And we are grateful that each day is another gift from God.

You are encouraged to put your gifts of imagination and creativity to good use and write a submission for this all-original collection. Maybe you have a favorite gift you have given or received. Perhaps you have a story about learning the value of gifts. Or maybe in the midst of tragedy, you found the gift of a silver lining. However you interpret "gift," may you share it with your church.

Submission Guidelines:

- Your reflection, poem, or prayer should be 250 words or less.
- It must be your own original writing. Sorry, we cannot publish your favorite poem by another writer, no matter how wonderful it is!
- Submit your writing by November 8 to nmelcher@richfieldumc.org.

NEW: MUSIC ARCHIVE NOW ONLINE

richfieldumc.org/music

Have a favorite song or hymn that you want to experience again? All worship music since Palm Sunday on March 28, 2021 is listed in alphabetical order at richfieldumc.org/music. Tap/click the date the piece appeared to go directly to it in the worship archives at youtube.com/richfieldumc. The link may go to where you last left off. If so, use the chapter list in the video description.



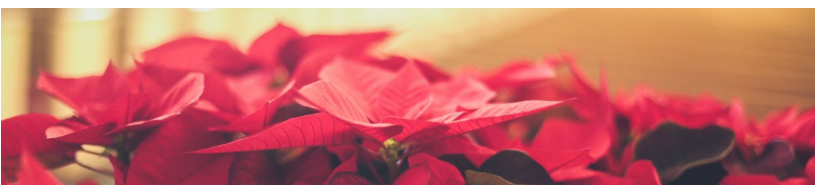
ONLINE WORSHIP: CHAPTER NAVIGATION

youtube.com/richfieldumc

Ever wanted to experience a worship hymn, sermon, or prayer again? All elements of worship since Palm Sunday on March 28, 2021 are time coded in the video description as "chapters." Tap/click the chapter timestamp to skip straight to that chapter. Past worship archives will receive chapter lists soon.

SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES:

- Nov. 07 All Saints' Day
- Nov. 14 Commitment Sunday / New Member Sunday
- Nov. 21 MCCI Vote Day
- Dec. 08 Worship Service of Hope and Healing
- Dec. 12 Christmas Pageant
- Dec. 19 Lessons & Carols
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - Family Service at 4:00 pm,
Traditional Service at 9:00 pm
- Dec. 26 Online-Only Worship Service



RICHFIELD SYMPHONIC BAND IN CONCERT



Get into the spirit of the season with the Richfield Symphonic Band Holiday Concert on **Sunday, December 5 at 4:00 pm**. A free-will offering will be split between Richfield UMC and the band.

The Richfield Symphonic Band has been sharing the magic of making music with its members and the public since 1979. They will entertain us with a wonderful holiday benefit concert on **Sunday, December 5, 4:00 pm at Richfield United Methodist Church**. This concert will also feature our own Nancy Dierauer on the organ.

Learn more about The Richfield Symphonic Band at rsband.org.

RUMC LIBRARY NEWS

In the last two articles I have reported to you that there are a number of new books obtained during the pandemic, or what I have called These Days. This month I would like to note that some of those books are intended for the children of our church. Many were suggested by Rev. Hutchison. Some of them addressed, at a young person's level, some of the tensions of our world that our children would likely hear on TV or hear their parents discuss. Children's books are in two places. Both have wheels! One is a box-like cart that holds a variety of topics, though I have tried to make some divisions by topic and age-level. This cart is on the west side of the library and is at a young person's level. The other cart is to the right of the worship and devotional section of books. It is more of a display cart and it is the one where the newest books are displayed. As Sunday School is re-gathering for our younger persons, I encourage you to draw their attention to what is available. Please follow the appropriate protocols, including a library one (beyond health concerns) of having a good conversation with your sons and daughters about what they have read.

Wayne Albertson

MUSIC MINISTRY

Victor, Paige and I send greetings to you for the months of November and December. We have great music planned for upcoming services.

On All Saints Sunday, **November 7**, the choir will sing two beautiful anthems including one with cello accompaniment. Tiffany and Gretta will sing "*Pie Jesu*" from John Rutter's *Requiem*, and Greg Locke will toll the bell as the Roll Call of Saints is read.

Sunday, **November 14** will be a blended service including the Chancel Handbell Choir and Jan Kirchner playing the organ prelude.

Sunday, **November 21** is a blended service of music including the Chancel Choir. Nancy Dierauer will play "Now Thank We All Our God" by J.S. Bach/arr. Virgil Fox for the offertory.

November 28 is the first Sunday of Advent. This is the season where we prepare once again to celebrate the coming of Christ.

On Wednesday, **December 8** at 6:30 pm there will be a service of Hope and Healing.

A Children's Pageant will be presented on Sunday, **December 12**.

Lessons and Carols will be on Sunday, **December 19** that will include the Chancel Choir and a string quartet.

Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24

- The 4:00 service on Christmas Eve will be presented with guest musician Molly Sioux McDonald.
- The 9:00 Christmas Eve service music will include the Chancel Choir and a string quartet.

We look forward to having you in-person in church or connecting online,

Nancy Dierauer, Organist/Music Director

Children

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES UPDATES



Rev. Hope Hutchison
Dir. of Children & Family Ministries
hhutchison@richfieldumc.org

After over a year of gathering online only, regathering in-person and outdoors as a Sunday School community has been a wonderful opportunity. It has been a fun time of getting to know one another again after a long time apart. Thanks to beautiful fall weather, our Sunday School community will continue meeting outside until either the snow makes this impossible, or vaccines are available to younger children.

While our children have been remaining in worship on the first Sunday of most months, we are still unable to return to Children First Worship, where our children lead us in worship. We hope to be able to return to this in 2022.

There will be a Christmas Pageant on December 12 in worship. Because of this, there will be Sunday School on December 5, but not on December 12.

We are also looking forward to our Sunday School Christmas Party on December 19. While this still may be a quieter party than in years past, it will be fun to celebrate Christmas together!

Returning to in-person activities is exciting! But we need lots of help to make this happen. In particular, we need more people to help lead Sunday School. If you would be interested in teaching or helping with Sunday School once a month, or more, please contact Rev. Hope at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org.

Upcoming Dates:

- November 7: No Sunday School
- December 5: Sunday School during worship
- December 12: Christmas Pageant during worship; No Sunday School
- December 19: Sunday School Christmas Party
- December 24: Christmas Eve Service
- December 26: Online Only Worship Service
No Sunday School



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Our Christmas Pageant is coming up soon on Sunday, December 12. We will have a variety of roles for children of all ages, and we are looking forward to this creative worship experience that allows our children to lead us in remembering the story of Jesus's birth, and in celebrating the Advent season.

If you have any questions, or would be interested in helping with this, please contact Rev. Hope at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org

CARING FOR CHILDREN (CFC)

Richfield UMC's Early Learning Center

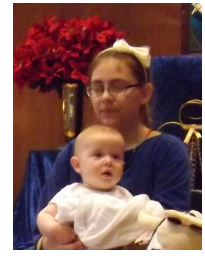
At Caring for Children, we are quickly approaching the final stretch of our year, but still have several exciting and fun activities planned. The classrooms have had fun celebrating friends, family, and community throughout Autumn. The teachers have also completed Parent/Teacher conferences. With winter approaching, we are excited to celebrate the holidays in our classrooms and learn about the nativity with Reverend Hope. We are looking forward to a bright and hopeful 2022.

Kathy Newbauer
Director, Caring for Children

CALL FOR PHOTOS OF CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PAST!

Deadline: November 28

If you have photos of you or your family members participating in a Richfield UMC Christmas Pageant from over the years, please send them in by November 28. Photos from all eras of the church are welcome! We hope to have enough photos from you to make a brief presentation during Advent to celebrate our Christmas church traditions. We are especially interested in photos we can put side-by-side of Baby Jesus past *and* Baby Jesus *today*! You may submit digital copies or scans to rumc@richfieldumc.org or bring them to the church (please label them well, if you want them returned!).



Youth

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATES



Garrett Johnson, Youth Leader
gjohnson@richfieldumc.org

Wednesday Night Youth Group

Join us every Wednesday night we gather in a time of fellowship with each other to play games, have discussions, and hang out together. The Youth Group is open to all High School and Middle School students and their friends. We meet from 7pm-8pm, email Garrett for more information.

Youth Email List

The best way to keep up to date with all the youth happenings is to get on Garrett's email list. Please take the time with your family and make sure that everyone who needs to be getting the emails has been. If you or any one in your family needs to be added to Garrett's list, email him directly at gjohnson@richfieldumc.org.

Adult Volunteers Needed

We are in need of adult volunteers who are willing and able to help our youth program be the best that it can be. We need volunteers who are willing to help with Sunday school this fall, Confirmation, Youth Group, and all the fun events that we do. Whether you are able to commit weekly, monthly, or just from time to time, please email Garrett and let him know what you are interested in helping with so that he can start filling our volunteer needs for this upcoming school year.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY AT RICHFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH THE CHESTER E. AND MARION D. GROTH SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships will be awarded for tuition for the 2022-2023 school year. Previous recipients are eligible to reapply for the scholarship for up to three additional years or until a Bachelor's Degree is earned, whichever occurs first.

The purpose of this Fund is to award annual post-secondary scholarships for qualified students desiring to matriculate and pursue careers in music education, performance, or music therapy.

These scholarships are made possible by the generous gift of Marion Groth on behalf of her husband, Chester. To be eligible to receive this scholarship, an applicant must:

- Be a graduating high school senior from a Minnesota high school.
- Be entering college as a freshman.

Applications must be received in the church office no later than noon, Friday, February 25, 2022. Applicants will be notified if invited to a finalist audition on March 26, 2022.

For more information and an application form, please contact the church office at 612-861-6086 or check the church website at richfieldumc.org/scholarships. If you know someone who may be interested in this scholarship, please encourage them to apply.



2021 FALL FOOD DRIVE Now through Sunday, November 14

1. Use a paper grocery bag and review the “most needed” list. *Bags available at the church if needed.*
2. Fill the bag up the next time you’re at the store.
3. Return the bag to the church by Sunday, November 14.

May your abundant generosity help your neighbors!

Here is a list of VEAP’s most needed items:

- Hearty soups (high protein, low sodium)
- Whole grain cereal (like Shredded Wheat, Kashi, bran cereals, Chex, etc.)
- Baking essentials (flour, sugar, cooking oil, spices, baking soda/powder)
- Birthday items for young visitors (cake mixes, frosting, candles, no gifts)
- Gluten-free products (whole grains like brown rice, wild rice, quinoa, cornmeal; nut flours/butters; rice crackers, GF snacks, etc. Check for gluten-free product labels.)
- Diapers (size 3-6) and baby wipes
- Laundry detergent and dish soap
- Personal care/household items (shampoo, toothpaste, soap, toiletries)
- Paper products (toilet paper, paper towels and napkins)

Return your paper grocery bag by Nov. 14
to Richfield United Methodist Church.

on
Sunday mornings (preferred) or
Tuesdays-Thursdays, 10:00 am-2:00 pm.

For more information, go to richfieldumc.org
or call 612-861-6086.

VEAP (Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People) is one of RUMC’s longstanding mission partners. A basic needs organization, VEAP uses a holistic approach to deliver programs that provide healthy foods, social services, housing stability, and supportive services. Go to veap.org to learn more or donate.

INTRODUCING AMPLIFY MEDIA

Our church now has a subscription to Amplify Media, a multimedia streaming platform. Think of it as “Netflix for Churches,” only instead of you getting your own subscription, the church has one for you! All of us can watch any video on it at any time through your tablet, mobile device, computer, and some smart TVs (Roku-enabled). Amplify Media features thousands of videos and audiobooks you can use for daily devotional and reflection, Bible studies, worship, and inspiration. There’s content for adults as well as children, including some content recommended by Pastor Nate that can enhance several of this year’s worship series and sermons. We hope this is a constant and powerful way for you to put your faith development into your own hands and explore videos at your own pace.

To create your Amplify account and access thousands of videos, follow these simple steps:

- Go to <https://my.amplifymedia.com/richfieldunitedmethodistchurchmi> (The “mi” at the end is from the first two letters in “Minnesota,” so yes, that is supposed to be there.)
- Enter our church’s unique access code: **HTMZFL**
- Create your own user profile with your name, email, and your own private password. (You will *not* be charged a fee. Richfield UMC already has the paid subscription that is for all members.)

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Sunday, November 7, 2021, at 2:00 am
Don’t forget to “fall back” before going to bed on Saturday night and gain an extra hour of sleep before worship on Sunday!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Shopping Sunday

Due to the uncertainty of Covid RUMC's United Methodist Women's group has decided to cancel the craft fair scheduled in November. However, they will be having a **Shopping Sunday after the 9:30 am worship service on Sunday November 7th in Fellowship Hall.** Come get a start on holiday shopping with jewelry from Walker Jewelry, various craft items and pottery.

If you would like to donate items to the UMW table or have a table of your own, please contact Toni Locke at toni@ggrreegg.com or 612-840-9797

UMW Bake Sale: Bake Sale to Go

This year's bake sale will be done a little differently than previous years. It will be a Bake Sale to Go. **We will be taking pre-orders for items starting Sunday November 14th. Your order will be packaged and ready for pick up on Sunday December 12th.**

If you would like to donate certain baked items, please contact Toni Locke at toni@ggrreegg.com or 612-840-9797 with the type of item and amounts you are willing to make.

RICHFIELD UMC FOUNDATION MAKES A SUSTAINING IMPACT

The Richfield UMC Foundation is a set of dedicated funds to help the church fuel specific ministries and expand the capacity of its overall mission in the world. New information about the Foundation is now available online at richfieldumc.org/foundation and available in print upon request. Learn about how our Foundation partners with the Dakota-Minnesota Methodist Foundation as a lead investor. Discover how assets are supervised through Wespath Benefits and Investments for ethical, long-term investment. To make a special year-end gift to the Foundation or to make the Foundation part of your legacy giving, please contact Kathy Gertsema, the Business and Administration Coordinator, today.

A REMINDER TO SHARE SPACE: HERITAGE ROOM ON SUNDAYS

This church has blessed to host the Great Love Mission Church for worship for over thirty years. This dedicated church body worships Sundays in the Chapel at 11:30 am, followed by fellowship in the Heritage Room. Because they are adjacent, sound travels easily from the Heritage Room to the Chapel. Now that Richfield UMC worship begins at 9:30 am, any groups or events in the Heritage Room will likely have a later starting time than before the pandemic, though the ending time remains the same. Please be mindful and remember groups or events must end by 11:15 am so you can quietly and quickly clean-up and depart so the Great Love Mission Church can have a peaceful, respectful time of worship.

YEAR-END GIVING

As 2021 comes to a close, please remember to make your **online contribution by Wednesday, December 29, 2021.** This provides enough time to be received by the bank and avoids any processing delays due to the holidays. Use your electronic giving option by going to the church website: richfieldumc.org/give.

Stock transfers are now handled by the Minnesota UM Foundation office and processed through Wespath Institutional Investments.

Contact Information

MN United Methodist Foundation
122 W Franklin Ave #210
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-230-3337
www.mnumf.org

In person contributions can be made at the church office through Noon on Thursday, December 30, 2021.

Please contact Kathy Gertsema if you have any questions.
kgertsema@richfieldumc.org or 612-861-6086

FROM THE PARISH NURSE

TIME FOR LIFE: LEARNING, INSPIRATION, AND FELLOWSHIP FOR EVERYONE (interim name for Lunch and Learn)



NOVEMBER

Thursday, November 11th, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Program: "Living with Gusto, Guts, Growth, and Grace"

Speaker: Reverend Gretchen Fogo

Both in person in the Heritage Room and via online/phone offerings (see information below)

Lunch and Learn is returning . . . yet not quite in the same way. Keeping everyone's health and well-being foremost in our minds, we will not be serving lunch at this time, but we will be offering an opportunity to come together for Time for LIFE: Learning, Inspiration, and Fellowship for Everyone. We are excited to be able to host this event both in person as well as through online viewing or listening. Whatever fits your day and comfort level the best, please join us!

Our program to kick off this new year is titled "Living with Gusto, Guts, Growth, and Grace." We look forward to welcoming Reverend Gretchen Fogo to share an inspiring and motivating talk for all of us . . . no matter our age. These 4 G's are a good framework to think about life, and Gretchen will share insight and anecdotes that expand on the possibilities and importance of finding gusto, guts, growth, and grace in our aging. Her talk will be drawn from a book she is writing titled "An A to Z Adventure and Aha.Book." This book illuminates the soul words and phrases that have spoken to Gretchen throughout her life journey based on inside discoveries and "just plain luck." An example is the letter C, and her quote: "Healing begins where Comparisons end." What is Gretchen's story behind that? Come listen and find out!

Reverend Gretchen Fogo was called into ministry in her 30's after a career of teaching and also years of being a stay at home mom. She graduated from United Theological Seminary and has served as pastor of both Centennial UMC and Minnetonka UMC. Gretchen's ministry work also included being director of nurture on the program staff for the Minnesota United Methodist Church with camping, Christian education, higher education, and youth responsibilities. In addition, she served as director of church relations at Hamline University for 10 years. Gretchen is a self-acclaimed "life long learner" and "loves God and ministry" with a special interest in aging and has always enjoyed both writing and speaking on this topic. She also delights in gardening, reading, traveling, and making connections.



In-Person and Online

Date: Thursday, November 11th

Time: 1:00 - 2:00 PM (program only, no lunch)

No Cost for this Program

Online Zoom link: Meeting ID: 813-2660-1056 Passcode: 5835 OR Call-In: 312-626-6799, then enter Meeting ID and Passcode (standard rates may apply)

RSVP: For planning purposes, please call the church office (612-861-6086) by Tuesday, November 9th, if you plan to attend in person, or send an email to the Parish Nurse at kbergeland@richfieldumc.org

Church Bus is Available: Again, please call the church office (612-861-6086) by Tuesday, November 9th, if you would like the church bus to pick you up and drop you off from your home.

Questions: Contact Kay Bergeland, Parish Nurse, at 612-861-6086, or email at kbergeland@richfieldumc.org

TIME FOR LIFE: LEARNING, INSPIRATION, AND FELLOWSHIP FOR EVERYONE (interim name for Lunch and Learn)

DECEMBER

Thursday, December 9th, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Program: "Christmas Presence"

Speaker: Pati Kachel

Both in person in the Heritage Room and via online/phone offerings (see information below)

Lunch and Learn is returning . . . yet not quite in the same way. Keeping everyone's health and well-being foremost in our minds, we will not be serving lunch at this time, but we will be offering an opportunity to come together for Time for LIFE: Learning, Inspiration, and Fellowship for Everyone. We are excited to be able to host this event both in person as well as through online viewing or listening. Whatever fits your day and comfort level the best, please join us!

We look forward to welcoming storyteller, Pati Kachel, back to church for her most requested holiday program, "Christmas Presence." Pati joyfully weaves together festive music, light-hearted poems, and tender Christmas stories to help keep Christ in the center of our celebration. Pati describes this show as "both spiritual and fun" and ideal for the Advent season when we prepare and remember the real meaning of Christmas.

Come enjoy this memorable and delightful program!

Pati Kachel is a nationally known performer who inspires listeners with her humorous, heartwarming, and above all, Christ-focused stories and programs. She simply shares heart-to-heart through storytelling, singing, teaching, and testimony. Pati loves God, God's people, and God's Holy Word . . . and she loves to tell stories about all of them!



In-Person and Online

Date: Thursday, December 9th

Time: 1:00 - 2:00 PM (program only, no lunch)

No Cost for this Program

Zoom link: Online: Meeting ID: 813-2660-1056 Passcode: 5835 OR Call-In: 312-626-6799, then enter Meeting ID and Passcode (standard rates may apply)

RSVP: For planning purposes, please call the church office (612-861-6086) by Tuesday, December 7th, if you plan to attend in person, or send an email to the Parish Nurse at kbergeland@richfieldumc.org

Church Bus is Available: Again, please call the church office (612-861-6086) by Tuesday, December 7th, if you would like the church bus to pick you up and drop you off from your home.

Questions: Contact Kay Bergeland, Parish Nurse, at 612-861-6086, or email at kbergeland@richfieldumc.org

CHURCH BUS IS UP AND RUNNING

We are thankful to have a church bus and a team of dedicated drivers to welcome folks to church on Sunday mornings who could not attend worship otherwise. Such a blessing!

We are following these guidelines that subject to change as we keep an eye on evolving and ever changing data.

1. Drivers and riders need to wear appropriate fitting masks while on the bus.
2. Riders are encouraged to spread out throughout the bus when possible.
3. The bus has a maximum number of 14 passengers with no rider limits at this time.
4. Appropriate cleaning measures will be taken between scheduled trips.

If you are interested in riding the bus to church or have any questions, please call the office at 612-861-6086 during open hours for more information.

WELCOME

What a warm, inviting, and friendly word. Are you looking forward to reconnecting with old friends and meeting new people? Consider joining the Greeter Team. Marilyn Dodge, Toni Locke, and Rhonda Olson are taking over coordinating this wonderful ministry and we need you. Some duties include welcoming people as they enter, encourage them to wear their name tag and giving directions if needed. If you have been a greeter in the past or want to join the team, please contact us with your contact information and availability and we will be in touch with the schedule and guidelines for being a great greeter.

Marilyn Dodge: marilyndodge305@msn.com

Rhonda Olson: rhonda.s.olson@gmail.com

Toni Locke: toni@ggrreegg.com

FLU SHOT CLINIC CELEBRATION

We are so grateful to TRUST and Hennepin Healthcare for their partnership once again in hosting a flu shot clinic here at church. It was a success with 29 flu shots administered to folks in our community that morning. The CDC has stated that getting a flu vaccination is the single best way to protect yourself, your coworkers, your family, and your community from the flu. Thank you to all who stopped by and rolled up their sleeves! Although getting your flu shot early provides the best protection, remember that it is never too late. Please keep yourself and others healthy this flu season with a flu shot.

THANK YOU, MCCI ACTIVATION TEAM!

Many people have worked hard in our MCCI process. Members and staff participated in the Breakthrough Prayer workshop and developed a prayer for our church. They compiled history, demography, community studies, and many more documents to create a Self-Study. They drummed up excitement in the church, invited participation, facilitated meetings and offered hospitality, and most importantly they have prayed all along the way for the process. Thank you to the paid staff who assisted the team along the way, and thank you to the MCCI Activation Team: Nick Dewey, Marilyn Dodge, Gail Johnson, Wayne Johnson, Jan Kirchner, Lisa Oster (Chair), Peyton Owens, Steve and Sue Restemayer, Jerry Schilling, and Becca Whitaker.

AN EVERYDAY PRAYER LIFE IS FOR EVERYONE

May we devote time and energy to God and neighbor and pray every day for:

- Open minds and hearts for “conflux moments.”
- People in need of a loving church home.
- Our church’s journey toward vitality.

Prayers for Healing:

Paula Milani, Marylee Fithian, Maxene Schwanke, Jan Hansen, Joyce Walls, Sara Watne’s sisters, Hope and Lora, Laurel Lien, Marilyn Dodge, the family of Roxie and Bill Hillger, and Caroline Riley.

Prayers for Comfort:

All those in hospice and their families.

Prayers for Those Who are Grieving:

- * Grace Cogan and family in the death of RUMC member, John Cogan. A celebration of life will be held at a later time.
- * Randy Matheus and his spouse, Jan, in the death of Jan’s father, James York.
- * The family and friends of former member Gale Mellum, especially his wife Julie.

HAPPY NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November

John Sells	02	Grover Dodds	15
Todd Doncavage	03	Kate Koskey	17
Marj Wittenborg	05	Bonnie Stemme	18
Mitch Wilson	06	Paula Wendt	21
Michael Haines	06	Peyton Owens	28
Buerkley Owens	06	Sandra Overland	29
Kim Knuttila	07	Muza Habeck	30

December

Lauren Gunderson	01	Merry Rendahl	24
Connie Wester	03	Rhonda Olson	24
Sally Knutson	03	Nick Dewey	25
Knox Gaertner	04	Brennan Currie	26
Caroline Riley	06	Mary Kay Petersen	27
Suzann Tarvin	08	Steve Klosinski	28
Noah Dewey	10	Orlean Kovach	29
John Meeker	11	Marilyn Dodge	30
Luzia Tavares	12	David Haines	30
Andi Olson	12	Marissa Moore	31
Curt Stull	18	Ryder Whitaker	31
Brantley Gaertner	19		

BE A “DIGITAL SUPERFAN” OF YOUR CHURCH!

Here are crucial ways to stay informed, be involved, and get invitational digitally:

Sign up or resubscribe to the church email list.



Get weekly news updates in the *eHeartline* announcements, a bulletin link and worship preview with *Worship Launchpad*, and updates on pandemic-related announcements, funerals and memorials. Send the emails to a friend if something in it would interest them. Subscribe or resubscribe in seconds at richfieldumc.org/email. Help your church go from 310 to 320 subscribers.

Engage your church on our Facebook page.



Interacting with [your church's Facebook content](#) puts it in front of new people. “Like,” comment, and share your church's content. “See First” in your News Feed and “Turn On” Notifications so you'll see fresh content. Help your church grow from 526 to 535 fans.

Engage your church on our YouTube channel.



Engage with [your church's YouTube Channel](#) to put our content in front of new people. “Subscribe” and “Ring the Bell” icon to receive Notifications when new videos come up or we go live. “Like” and “Share” the videos with friends. Help your church grow from 303 to 310 subscribers.

UPDATE:

VIDEO CONFERENCING / HYBRID MEETINGS

The church has completed setting up two video conferencing installations. There is a permanent installation in the Grace Room and an AV cart which is housed in the Heritage Room. Each are the type of same setup: a 65” Samsung 4K TV, a physically small yet powerful computer, and a Logitech camera and microphone system to enable teams and small groups to have hybrid meetings. This forward-thinking, future-focused tech upgrade is financed through the generosity of the Memorials Fund. Thanks be to God for all who contribute to this fund and the saints who are honored by such gifts. May this fund continue to grant the church new opportunities to reach new people!

CONTINUING OPEN GROUPS

Women Who Read (WWR)

1st Mondays of the Month

1:30-3:00 pm, online by Zoom

If you are a woman who enjoys good books and thoughtful discussion, then consider joining fellow readers for Women Who Read. The next meetings and books are:

Nov. 1: *Virgil Wander* by Leif Enger

Dec. 6: *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn

To join by Zoom, email **both** Fern WFalbertson@gmail.com and Molly mollyreko@gmail.com.

Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00 am

In-person on the church campus or online by Zoom

You are invited to come in-person or contact Molly Reko, 612-270-4700, our Zoom coordinator, or Ruth Phelps, 952-929-1595, leader. There is plenty of food for thought in scripture, for as old as the scriptures are, they are alive with truth for these days. Try something new-this is a group of Women who will welcome you!

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays, 9:00 am

In-person on campus or online by Zoom or phone

All men are welcome to read and discuss upcoming sermon scripture passages for its context then and its relevance now. This growing group continues to welcome new men to the table for a time to study the Bible and offer one another support.

Connect Online

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95435276775>

Meeting ID: 954 3527 6775

Or call in: 312-626-6799 (standard rates may apply)



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Heartline

Keeping in touch with the heart of the
Richfield United Methodist Church faith community.

Worship on Sundays at 9:30 am

⇒ In-Person Worship
in the Sanctuary

⇒ Online Worship
<http://youtube.com/richfieldumc>

⇒ By touch tone phone at
1.888.650.5835

*Please join your church in
praying the Breakthrough
Prayer daily at 8:35.*

OUR BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

Loving God of all,
renew our hearts and minds.

Reveal your wildest dreams,
breakthrough to each of us.

Unite us in your vision,
equip us for your work.

Transform us by your song,
create our harmony.

May we embrace your future
and be your loving church.

Amen.

Richfield United Methodist Church

Website: richfieldumc.org **email:** rumc@richfieldumc.org **Phone:** (612) 861-6086
Facebook: facebook.com/RichfieldUnitedMethodistChurch **Twitter:** twitter.com/RichfieldUMC