

Heartline

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

2022

September /October



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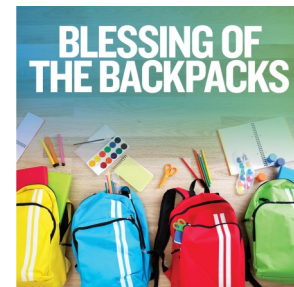
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RALLY DAY

Sunday, September 11
Worship at 9:30 am



FAITHFUL

A One-Year Worship Series Begins
September 11, 2022 - May 28, 2023

Blessing of the Backpacks

Bring your backpacks, purses, laptop bags
to worship for a blessing.

Children, Youth, & Parents

Rally Day is the official registration day
for the school year.

Look for a table in the Commons Area following worship.

Penn Fest

Sunday, September 18
1:00 to 5:00 pm

Everyone is invited to Penn Fest in Richfield. At the time of this printing, we are trying to secure a booth. Whether we have a booth or not, get out and meet your neighbors!

Penn Avenue in Richfield will be closed to cars and open for fun, including food, music, games, biking and crafts on the street. It's a day of celebration when the street becomes a place to explore on foot and bike traffic.



I'm not sure where I'd be without my faith. I think a lot of my life would be different. My job, obviously, but likely a few key life choices, where I put my time, energy, and money, and perhaps some attitudes. I'm grateful to be a faithful person. It hasn't always been that way for me, as you heard in my sermon on June 26 this summer. And I still have lots of questions - as you do, given all the questions you submitted for the "So Many Questions" worship series. And faith has carried me through my everyday "up on the mountain" moments and my everyday "down in the valley" periods, too. Our 2022-2023 worship theme is "FAITHFUL," and it's my hope that you will put your time and energy into deepening your personal faith so it will serve God well in this world. You can read about the overarching theme and individual series in this issue.

A few new things are popping up this fall. The Church & Society Team has built out a calendar for social justice outreach and compassion ministry such as special giving and food drives. I'm starting up a monthly Pub Theology group to talk faith and God over a tasty beverage. We'll have an update on where we're at with our MCCJ prescriptions as we discern our best path forward. We have some new small group opportunities and are excited to see where they lead. And this fall, I'll be taking a 1-month spiritual renewal leave for much of November. This time apart for reflection and growth will serve as respite in a busy life for my family and me. I am so grateful for your support and I look forward to rejoining you for Advent as we prepare for a blessed Christmas season.

I cannot help but reflect on my Nate Notes from September-era editions of *The Heartline* newsletter and think of how different they all have been. In 2019, I wrote of how exciting it can be to enter a fresh fall season, as if September 1 is a sort of "New Year's Day" for people thanks to the academic calendar and program calendar cycle. But in September 2020, I wrote about vacillating between missing you because it had been months since we'd gathered for worship and other ministry with impunity and also not missing you because while

the building was closed, the church was still open and we were engaged in creative new ways to connect with each other and God. Last year in September 2021, I wrote that while it will be exciting to come back together in-person, there are still a lot of unknowns and we will do our best, trusting God to lead the way.

Those are three very different September writings as I helped prepare you, the church, for a fall rally season. For 2022, allow me to be inspired by those 2019-2021 sentiments, amalgamate them for this year, and add something one more thought to tie it all together:

1. It is exciting to enter a fresh fall season! The new school year and programming year brings a fun opportunity to gather and activate our faith as a community.
2. We *continue* to find creative ways to connect with each other and God! We will see a mix of gatherings that are in-person only, online-only, and hybrid. In all gatherings, God is there.
3. There's *lots* we don't know about the future! Though we've felt that quite a bit lately, we get to remember the road ahead always has mystery and that's okay.
4. May *faith* be your key to an amazing life! There is so much potential for what this church can bring to God's world, and you can be a part of that today.

All along during the pandemic, I have affirmed the value of connecting with your church online and I believe that to this day. When we returned to in-person worship, I also affirmed that people should come in-person when they feel safe and ready to do so and I believe that to this day, too. Now in the fall of 2022, I encourage you to be in-person as much as possible for three simple reasons: people would love to see you, being physically in the midst of a community is a special blessing, and you may be exactly the person that new guests need to meet in order to feel welcome in this church. I hope you'll consider this with renewed urgency and whether I see you on campus or "see" you online, please remember God loves you so much. You are a blessing to be a blessing. As always, I am proud to be your pastor!

In Christ,
Rev. Nate Melcher
Senior Pastor

FALL ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

NEW CLASS:

HOW (NOT) TO READ THE BIBLE

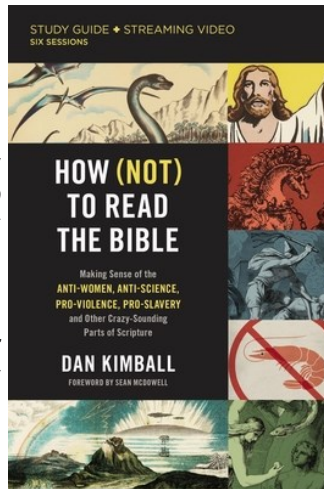
Thursdays at 7:00pm-8:00pm,
Zoom (online-only)

Six Sessions: October 6, 13, 20, 27,
November 3, 10

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81990390338?pwd=UzMtS3lTWXF0T2VtMG5JOG1WclRYdz09>

Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338 Passcode: 5835

Join other church members and friends who wrestle with the Bible in modern times for a discussion of Rev. Dan Kimball's new book *How (Not) to Read the Bible: Making Sense of the Anti-women, Anti-science, Pro-violence, Pro-slavery, and Other Crazy Sounding Parts of Scripture*. Sessions will feature discussion of the book plus video segments featuring the author. RSVP in the Commons on-campus or contact class leader Rexi Warner: rexiwarner@gmail.com.



NEW THIS FALL: PUB THEOLOGY

First Sundays at 7:00pm-8:00pm
(in-person only)

Wild Mind Ales, 6031 Pillsbury Avenue,
Minneapolis, MN 55419 (street parking)

Gatherings: October 2, November 6,
December 4

Pub Theology is a new monthly drop-in group to discuss faith, God, and life over a tasty beverage. Pastor Nate ran a pub theology for five years at his former church and the informal atmosphere was a perfect venue to get people of many generations talking. Arrive early at 6:30pm to order a tasty beverage and/or a bite from the food truck, then stay for discussion led by Pastor Nate.

More information: <https://richfieldumc.org/pubtheology>

WORSHIP REGATHERING UPDATE

The Regathering Taskforce continues to monitor the pandemic landscape and gather to discuss our protocols. Most recently, masking while singing is now optional. As always, the taskforce monitors recommendations from the Minnesota Annual Conference, MN Department of Health, and Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Thank you for your patience, cooperation, and grace.

PLEASE USE THE MAIN ENTRY ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

When you come and worship, please use the main door on the north side by the parking lot to enter the church building. Effective immediately, the south door on the 59th Street side will remain locked on Sunday mornings to provide better safety and security. Thank you for your cooperation.

ONLINE-ONLY WORSHIP PLANNED FOR FIVE SUNDAYS

youtube.com/richfieldumc or 888.650.5835

As announced at the church conference on January 30, the elected leaders of Ad Board approved a proposal to intentionally hold online-only worship with no in-person option on the following Sundays:

- May 29, 2022 (Memorial Day weekend)
- July 3, 2022 (Independence Day weekend)
- September 4, 2022 (Labor Day weekend)
- December 25, 2022 (Christmas Day)
- January 1, 2023 (New Year's Day)

Pandemic concerns linger in 2022 as we live into an era of more stability. We continue to (re)build worship teams and giving our many servant volunteers intentional breaks will give them more excitement and less obligation to lead worship services. There will be a quality worship experience that is online and by phone only. Our Bishop and other conference leaders have affirmed our creative approach and may we affirm the value of online worship as we find God in yet another way.

FAITHFUL: A One-Year Worship Series

September 11, 2022 - May 28, 2023

In 2022-2023, Richfield United Methodist Church begins a one-year worship series: **FAITHFUL**. Faith isn't just an hour a week on Sundays. It's an everyday way of life. Faith is core to who we are. We are called to live boldly on the journey with the God who has faith in us every step of the way. **Wherever life takes us, let us jump in with a commitment to life in faith, justice, and joy.**



The **FAITHFUL** worship series is made of 8 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 how we as individuals and as the church are capable to grow in love of God and neighbor, reach new people, and 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 with [Amplify Media](#).

Full-Time Faith
All Together Now

I Serve God

Tidings of Comfort and Joy

Half Truths

For God So Loved the World

Unwavering Love

Less Mess

Let your faith lead you every day and wherever you go.
Celebrate the good God can do when we work together.
Share stories of how serving God changes your life.
Live with the assurance and strength of the Holy Spirit.
Cut through the platitudes and get real with your faith.
See God's world through a mosaic of perspectives.
Experience the love that Jesus has for all people.
Journey through brokenness and find hope.

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 #1: "FULL-TIME FAITH"

September 11-October 9

Let your faith lead you every day and wherever you go. We have many means of making our way in the world, but sometimes we end up coasting along on autopilot without even realizing it. When we intentionally make our faith in the God who has faith in us be at the center of how we make our everyday decisions, we end up serving God and loving our neighbor. In this fresh equipping series, we'll explore our MCCI church growth prescriptions, discern where we can each take initiative, and embrace the critical spiritual practice of radical hospitality and welcoming new people.



FALL WORSHIP SERIES #2: "ALL TOGETHER NOW"

October 16-November 6

Celebrate the good God can do when we work together. God gathers in spiritual shepherds, systems/task organizers, and vision criers to be a church. We partner with God to get organized and share a holy love with our neighbor. In this financial stewardship-focused series, we'll celebrate the church's accomplishments in the past year, look ahead to what is next, focus on special ministries, commit ourselves to the future, and honor our Saints. This series will use the **Primary Leadership Components Assessment** and you're asked to take/review the assessment beforehand, please see the article on page 8.



THE CLERGY TEAM IS GOING ON SPIRITUAL RENEWAL LEAVE

As announced in worship on August 21, Rev. Nate Melcher will take a spiritual renewal leave from November 7-December 7, 2022 and Rev. Hope Hutchison will take hers from July 24-August 21, 2023. United Methodist clergy are eligible for this time apart for spiritual formation and growth for one month per quadrennium (UM Book of Discipline ¶ 350.2). Neither Pastor Nate or Rev. Hope have taken this leave before, both are long overdue for it, and SPRC and District Superintendent Rev. Dan Johnson have approved this leave. Plans are in the works for leadership, preaching, and emergency on-call pastoral care. Thank you for supporting your clergy team as they enter this renewal time.



MCCI WORK CONTINUES

The MCCI Breakthrough Teams are meeting and working with MCCI coaches to lay the groundwork of implementing our MCCI prescriptions.

Each Team is exploring one prescription, facilities use, revitalizing our campus strategic planning, grow in our hospitality, discern our children's ministry direction, and seek the signature ministry that sets our hearts on fire to share the love of God in our community.

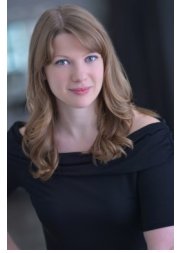
All members are expected to pray for the success of these teams and for God's dreams to be revealed!

And, the fall worship series will lead us in exploring the prescriptions and how we each can play a role in partnering with God to spread love in our congregation, in our neighborhood, and beyond.

MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATES

Farewell Paige Armstrong

It is with deep regret to accept Paige Armstrong's resignation as RUMC's Choir Director. She has been a great leader for the Chancel Choir for the past five years. Her last day with the church is September 25 and we will celebrate her ministry that day. Paige will be greatly missed, and we wish her our best. We are working to fill the position.



-Nancy Dierauer, Music Director

"To everything, there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven..." (Ecclesiastes 3:1)
I am excited to share that I have accepted a new teaching position with the St. Michael-Albertville public schools teaching high school choir. This opportunity is a dream job but comes with many important responsibilities. After much prayer and reflection, I have made the difficult decision to step away from my job at Richfield United Methodist Church. It has been a joy and blessing serving this congregation and facilitating music in worship these past five years. This church is a community full of loving and caring people who worship with joy at the center. I will hold you all in my heart and prayers. Wishing you the very best in all that lies ahead.

Paige Armstrong, Chancel Choir Director

Victor Zupanc In Concert

Victor Zupanc is performing a concert of his original music. The concert is aptly titled, "Welcome To My World." You'll hear classical violin, classical vocal pieces, accordion tunes, songs from theater and pop songs. And a very special world premier of a new piece for marimba and piano. Oak Grove Presbyterian Church recently invested in a new marimba made by a master marimba builder, Oscar Biolley, in Costa Rica. Victor was commissioned to compose a new piece for that instrument to commemorate this very special event. Be the first to ever hear this piece!



This concert will feature Victor and several other musicians performing Victor's original music as well as other music influences from his life. It will be a potpourri of music, old and new, that is perfect for all ages. Please come and enjoy a glimpse into the twisted world of Victor Zupanc.

3:00pm, Sunday September 25

Free will donation. \$15.00 suggested, but pay what you can. There will be no presale or electronic payment. Cash or check.

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church
2200 West Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, MN 55431

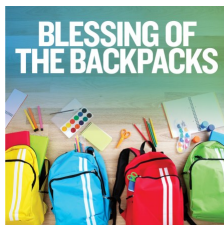
Children

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES UPDATE



Rev. Hope Hutchison
Director of CYF & Outreach Ministries
hhutchison@richfieldumc.org

As we head into fall, I'm excited to start another program year!



Rally Sunday

On Rally Sunday, Sept. 11 during the worship service, we will be blessing backpacks, purses, laptop bags, and more! Whatever kind of bag you bring with you on a regular basis, bring it to worship on September 11 for a blessing.

Registration

On Rally Sunday look for a table in the Commons Area for children and youth to register for the year.

Sunday School

Outdoor Sunday School was such a success last year, we will continue to meet outside as the weather allows this fall. Stay tuned to Rev. Hope's weekly email updates for more information! When Sunday School is inside, we will be in the Fellowship Hall.

The Nook

This fall, you will also see some changes to the Nook Children's Area! I'm so excited that we are expanding this space, and creating an intentional sensory corner for children of all ages and abilities to use. In the back of the worship area you will notice a new coloring wall for children to express themselves, as well as some new sensory toys on the Art Cart. This space is one of many ways that we are seeking to welcome all families into our worship space.

Penn Fest

On Sunday, September 18, RUMC children and families are invited to come to Penn Fest! We're encouraging the whole church community to come out to Penn Fest this year, but we really want to see our children and families there! Come join Pastor Nate and Rev. Hope to have some fun in our community.

Bible Sunday

On Sunday, October 2, we will celebrate Bible Sunday! We will bless the Bibles that we give out to children of all ages! We'll celebrate 3 year old Bibles, 3rd grade Bibles, and our Confirmation class who received their Bibles last spring. Please join us in celebrating these milestones!

Trunk or Treat

Trunk or Treat is coming back once again on Saturday, October 29 from 2-4pm in our parking lot! Let's help bring some Halloween joy into our neighborhood!!

For the first time since 2019, this will be an in-person event! Come join us for an afternoon of fun carnival games, cool costumes, and lots of candy! Please watch Facebook for details, and note that if weather does not permit an outdoor event, this will shift to Drive Thru.

We need lots of volunteers to help make this event fun and safe for our neighborhood families! Will you help?

- Set-up
- Run carnival games
- Decorate your car trunk and hand out candy

To volunteer for any of these needs, please contact Rev. Hope, hhutchison@richfieldumc.org, or go to this link to volunteer: <https://tinyurl.com/RumcTrunkOrTreat2022>

Christmas Pageant

Our annual Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 11 during the worship service! It will be a hybrid pageant with opportunities for children and youth to participate live, as well as through video if they are unable to attend in person. Please contact Rev. Hope if you are interested in participating.

Please mark these dates on your calendars:

Sunday, September 11:

Rally Sunday
Blessing of the Backpack
Registration for the year.

Sunday, September 18:

Sunday School Starts
Penn Fest

Sunday, October 2:

No Sunday School
Bible Sunday
Fall Food Drive Begins (see p. 12 for info)

Saturday, October 29:

Trunk or Treat

Sunday, November 6:

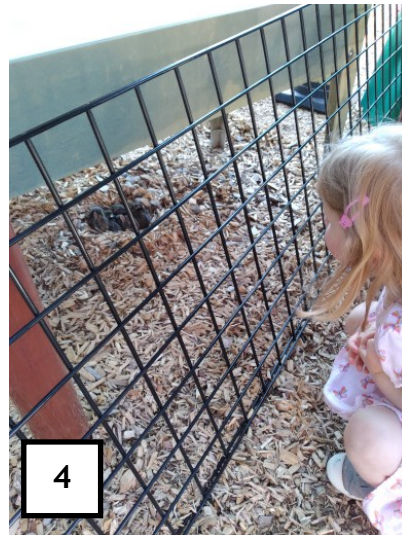
No Sunday School
Fall Food Drive Ends

CARING FOR CHILDREN (CFC)

Richfield UMC's Early Learning Center

It was a summer full of fun at CFC. Our pre-k graduation was a huge success, the families really enjoyed our visit from the Blue Bell Ice Cream Truck! Also, this summer the children, from toddlers through pre-k had lots of fun splish- splashing out in the courtyard. One of our greatest surprises this summer, is finding a family of baby bunnies on our playground. With the help of Tom, our facility custodian, we were able to secure a safe place in the play yard for the bunnies and were able to watch them until their Mama bunny moved them to a new home. The pre-k kiddos ended their summer following the theme, the "crazy days of summer." They had special activities each day, including, "Christmas in August," "Super-Size Day," and "Comfy Cozy Day." As our "graduating" pre-k students have left for kindergarten, several of their siblings have joined our infant program. We're looking forward to a fabulous fall and new beginnings as each classroom begins the new school year.

Kathy Newbauer, Director, Caring for Children



1. Water play
2. Pre-K class photo Aug. 2022
3. Super size sandwich for supersize day
4. Bunnies on the playground

BE THE PERSON WHO WELCOMES NEW GUESTS ON SUNDAYS!

Any given Sunday is an opportunity to welcome new worshippers on campus. But just because that welcome can be done by *anybody* doesn't mean you should leave it to *somebody* else! Being a welcoming congregation is a team effort. **We must never take for granted the courage it takes for someone to walk into a church building for the first time!** Here are three things *anybody* can do to make new people feel welcome - so make sure it's *you* who does them:

1. **Show Up.** If you wake up on Sunday and feel the pull to worship from home more out of convenience than a concern for health and safety, please come to campus. Your church needs people like you here and offering a friendly presence to new faces. **A full Sanctuary is a welcoming Sanctuary.** We hope to see you!
2. **Show Up Early.** With a 9:30 am start time, it's easy for members to walk into the building right before worship begins. However, new guests are more likely to show up between 9:00 am-9:15 am and we don't want them feeling alone or confused. **People in the building brings life to the building.** We hope to see you early!
3. **Show Your Welcome.** Coming to campus is a chance to see old friends and that will always be a joy. It's also an opportunity to help a new person feel at home by introducing yourself, inviting them to a conversation, and listening to their story. **When people feel included, they feel at home.** We hope to see you early and with an inclusive attitude!

GET A RICHFIELD UMC T-SHIRT ON SEPTEMBER 11

At the time of this writing, we are ordering a fresh batch of Richfield UMC t-shirts and anticipate them being ready to pick up on Rally Sunday, September 11. Wear your shirt at community events like Trunk-or-Treat, to worship or other church gatherings, or out in the community.

FIRE DRILL SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 18

There will be an all-campus fire drill immediately following worship on Sunday, September 18. You will receive instructions that day for how to exit the building and other safety protocols. It is important we prepare for emergencies, and your participation this day could help save lives.

TAKE HOME A PEW BIBLE ON SEPTEMBER 25

You're encouraged to take home a pew Bible embossed with the church's name. These are the RSV translation (1947 Revised Standard Version). In worship, we primarily read the NRSV (1989 New Revised Standard Version). Now it's 2022, and the NRSVUE (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition) has arrived. As Biblical scholarship continues to progress, it's time to give these well-loved Bibles a new home - yours! The church will try to connect with member families about Bibles dedicated to loved ones.

LOOK AHEAD, ADVENT DEVOTIONAL WRITERS

Advent begins November 27 and we will be asking writers to write about "Tidings of Comfort and Joy." What brings you comfort in your life? What was some of the best news you've ever received? What was the best news you delivered to someone else? Start thinking about where your writing may take you. The deadline for your original submission of 250 words or less is November 6.

PLEASE TAKE/REVIEW THE PRIMARY LEADERSHIP COMPONENT ASSESSMENT IN SEPTEMBER

In November 2019, 110 people took this inventory as a major first assignment for the MCCI process (Missional Church Consultation Initiative). We reviewed our results in January 2020 and explored how we contribute to the church as Spiritual Shepherds, Systems/Task Organizers, and Vision Criers. A few weeks later, the pandemic hit and this work was set aside. With MCCI prescriptions progressing, it's time to get back to this critical inventory to reflect on how we can best contribute to the life of our church. **The assessment will serve as the backbone of the "All Together Now" worship series beginning October 16.** Here's what you can do:

1. Review your results from 2019/2020 in your email or what was given to you in-person. - OR -
2. Retake the inventory by selecting which 12 of 36 statements fit you best, then reviewing the scoresheet and results summary. All of these PDF documents are available in the Commons on-campus and online: <https://richfieldumc.org/mcci>

FALL MEN'S BWCA CAMP

Perhaps you have never set a foot in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and you think it might be too late for you to learn the ropes. Or maybe you once had an annual BWCA trip but your group has fallen apart. I think this September weekend at our UM Camp Kowakan, just east of Ely, is just the thing for you.

About 16 men from a couple of churches will stay at Kowakan in platform tents, on cots, cook together, sit around the campfire, talk, track stars and satellites each night or maybe play games. During the day you can choose between canoeing, hiking, reading, fishing, photography or more talking.

The weekend is Sept. 23-25. Some may start a day or two earlier. It will cost about \$25 /day plus transportation. To get sent more information contact Kent Johnson or sign up at church. kentjmn@gmail.com.



WE NEED TWO NEW WORSHIP TECH CREW SERVANT VOLUNTEERS

We want to keep livestreaming worship when we gather and this relies on a robust servant volunteer team who are invested in keeping the church connected. Please help build this critical team's rotating roster as we prepare for the fall. You will be trained, you will be welcomed, you will be amazed at how quickly you will become competent with your role. Contact Rev. Bill Johnson at bull6973@gmail.com

VEAP SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Thank you to all who donated the many wonderful school supplies to help the children in the neighborhoods and cities near the church. Your donations of backpacks, calculators and other needed items in addition to \$521.28 will help many children start the school year off well. Thank you for supporting their academic success by making sure they have all the supplies they need for the year.

ONLINE SAFETY AND YOUR CHURCH

From time to time, scammers send fake emails from bogus email accounts pretending to be church staff or clergy. This is known as a "phishing scam." Often, these scammers will "phish" for good people like you who want to be helpful... by pretending the church needs you to buy gift cards or give out banking information! Richfield UMC clergy and staff will *never* solicit money, gift cards, or other "assistance" with this kind of email. Staff email *always* comes from richfieldumc.org. If you receive a scam email, please do not reply in any way. Send a copy to the church, block the sender, and delete the original email. Thank you for your cooperation.

Another area of online safety as a church involves "trolls," or people who harass churches online. If someone makes inflammatory remarks, inappropriate comments, or otherwise tries to provoke the church into a response, please do not respond. Never give out any personal information about staff or members to someone you don't know. If someone needs to "talk to the pastor," send the message to the clergy instead of giving the person the clergy's information. Thank you for your cooperation.

HELP KEEP THE BUILDING SAFE BE MINDFUL WITH HOW YOU ENTER

The main front doors are nearly always locked for the safety and security of those inside. When you visit campus during business hours, please use the Aiphone intercom system to connect with a staff person or volunteer to gain entry. If someone tries to enter with you and you don't know them, it's okay to say, "Sorry, I don't know you. Please use the intercom." Likewise, please do not "piggyback" and enter with someone you don't know and please don't take offense if they tell you no. It takes all of us working together to keep the children of CFC safe, the staff and members safe, and the overall building secure. Thank you for your cooperation.





UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Formerly United Methodist Women



The Fall Craft Fair

The United Women in Faith will be having the craft and vendor fair on Saturday November 5, 10am to 2pm. If you or someone you know is interested in having a table please contact Rhonda Olson at rhonda.s.olson@gmail.com or Toni Locke at toni@ggrreegg.com or 612-840-9797.

Save the Date: Sunday, December 11
UWF Bake Sale

THANK YOU, GOD'S HANDS THRIFT STORE SERVANT VOLUNTEERS!

On July 24, we celebrated and decommissioned the God's Hands Thrift Store after 15 years of powerful ministry to the community. A list of many servant volunteers, staff, and clergy who have contributed to its success over the years were listed in a special bulletin insert that day. We are grateful for the ways we were able to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors and we eagerly listen for God to help us discern what our next signature ministry may be.

RUMC LIBRARY NEWS

Here are some brief notes for this edition's library news:

- On the last Sunday of September, the 25th, there will be a table in the church atrium with books culled from the library (due to age, duplication, or not in harmony with the church mission). You are invited to take the books you wish and leave a donation of your choosing in the box provided.
- Books new to the library are listed in a plastic holder on the kiosk.
- Puzzles have been donated and will soon be put out for your enjoyment. Please note the directions for checking them out and returning them. Thank you to those who have donated.
- And, we have accumulated enough books in some categories now to re-arrange the shelving. While the category titles are not finalized, look for those related to race and culture, and to cooking (interesting combination - eh?) Pages noting library section and categories will be provided.
- Thanks to those who contribute and use the library. It is there for your growth and your enjoyment, and to service the mission and ministry of RUMC.

Wayne Albertson

DEEPEN OUR DISCIPLESHIP: WORSHIP ARCHIVES

Nearly 3 years of worship, sermons, and music are at your fingertips. Worship is archived at youtube.com/richfieldumc. Sermons are timestamped and archived at richfieldumc.org/sermons, listed by sermon series, title, preacher, and scripture passage. Music is timestamped and archived at richfieldumc.org/music, alphabetically listed by title. Sharing a favorite sermon or song with a friend is an invitation for them to learn more about the mission of your church, be glad for your church experience, and perhaps consider if this church is a good fit for them, too.

WHAT IS YOUR "CONFLUX MOMENT"?

Conflux moments are when our life's journey meets God's heart. Have you had a moment in your life this year - or ever - when you can say yes, that is a conflux moment? Pastor Nate wants to hear your story of God breaking through in your life.

Send your story to breakthroughstories@richfieldumc.org, fill out a "Breakthrough Story" card at the Community Table, or reach out to Pastor Nate.

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Youth

Rev. Hope Hutchison
Director of CYF & Outreach Ministries
hhutchison@richfieldumc.org

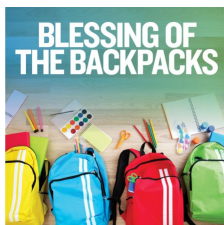
We have had a fun summer as a youth group! We gathered weekly in July, following our movie nights for some fun games and ice cream. And, we went on two different field trips this summer! In July, we traveled down to Chuck E. Cheese in Burnsville, and had some fun with arcade games. In August we had so much fun going to the National Eagle Center in Wabasha! We got to see several of their eagle ambassadors up close, and had lots of fun on Lake Pepin.



I'm so excited to get back into our program year!

Rally Sunday

On Rally Sunday, Sept. 11 during the worship service, we will be blessing backpacks, purses, laptop bags, and more! Whatever kind of bag you bring with you on a regular basis, bring it to worship on September 11 for a blessing.



Registration

On Rally Sunday look for a table in the Commons Area for youth and children to register for the year.

Field Trip Rally Sunday

We are going on one more field trip together on Sunday, September 11 following worship! Come join Rev. Hope and Pastor Nate on a trip to Minnesota's Largest Candy Store. We will meet following worship, and drive down together. The church will pay for transportation, but any candy or snacks are on you! By that time, hopefully the caramel apples will be in stock! We anticipate being back at church by 3pm. Please RSVP to Rev. Hope by Saturday, September 10.

Wednesday Youth Group

We have so many things happening, like Youth Group starting up again on Wednesday, September 14 at 7:30pm.

Confirmation

Confirmation is coming back beginning on Sunday, September 25 following worship.

Penn Fest

On Sunday, September 18, RUMC children and families are invited to come to Penn Fest! We're encouraging the whole church community to come out to Penn Fest this year, but we really want to see our children, youth, and families there! Come join Pastor Nate and Rev. Hope to have some fun in our community.

Lock-In

This fall we will also gather for a lock-in! Starting on Friday, October 14, we will gather at church, then travel to a haunted house, then return for fun and games in the church building. If you prefer not to attend the haunted house, let us know, and you can join us at the church later. Pick up is at 8am the next morning. Contact Rev. Hope for more details.

Christmas Pageant

Finally, the Christmas Pageant is coming up on Sunday, December 11! This year we are doing something special with our Christmas Pageant, and we need as many youth to help as possible. Please speak to Rev. Hope about participating.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:

Sunday, September 11:

Rally Sunday

Field Trip to MN's Largest Candy Store

Wednesday, September 14:

Youth Group Begins 7:30pm

Sunday, September 18:

Penn Fest

Sunday, September 25:

Confirmation 10:45am

Sunday, October 9:

Confirmation 10:45 am

Friday, October 13—Saturday, October 14:

Youth Lock-in

Sunday, October 23:

Confirmation 10:45 am

Saturday, October 29:

Trunk or Treat 2-4pm

CHURCH AND SOCIETY

Fall Food Drive

This fall, Richfield UMC will hold a Fall Food Drive! As rising costs affect more and more of us, food pantries, like our long-time mission partner VEAP, are struggling to keep their shelves stocked with high quality food. This fall, we're going to do our best to support VEAP, and get them the supplies they need. Starting on World Communion Sunday, October 2, and running through Sunday, November 6, RUMC will be collecting food and funds for VEAP. To donate items, please pick up a bag & flyer from the church building. To donate funds, please note VEAP on your check, or give through our online giving portal. Thank you for your generosity.

Aster Commons Prayer Walk

On Sunday, August 14 following our Outdoor Worship at the Richfield Bandshell, several church members joined Rev. Hope and Rev. Emily Goldthwaite Fries on a prayer walk to the future site of Aster Commons. This site will be the future home of around 40 units of deeply affordable homes for neurodivergent youth and young adults. The building will not only provide housing, but also build community and provide on-site support services for its residents. While on site, Rev. Emily and Rev. Hope led a prayer, and provided space for people to dream about the future residents of this site. Stay tuned for more updates on Aster Commons, and how you can be involved in creating homes in our community.



Families Moving Forward

Richfield UMC is signed up to host Families Moving Forward again this fall on the week of November 6-11. But, hosting is different now! After surveying involved parties, Beacon

decided to continue housing shelter families in hotels for the foreseeable future. This means that we will not host families on site in our church building. However, will provide meals Monday-Friday of that week, in coordination with other churches. If you are interested in buying, or helping to deliver a dinner that week, please contact Rev. Hope at hhutchison@richfieldumc.org.

Opportunity to Engage with Beacon

A Vision for Home: A Conversation on Housing with Minnesota Gubernatorial Candidates

September 13 @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Wayzata Community Church,
125 Wayzata Blvd E, Wayzata, MN 55391

Minnesota is in a housing crisis that needs immediate and impactful action. Groups, including Beacon, from across the entire housing continuum are sponsoring the event. This event gives candidates for Governor a chance to share their vision for home. Discussion issues will include homelessness, housing instability and home ownership.

The questions will be provided to the candidates in advance.

Candidates for Governor polling over 10% in a statewide poll conducted after 7/1/22 are invited.

This event is primarily in-person, with a virtual viewing option. Register for details! <https://www.beaconinterfaith.org/event/a-vision-for-home-a-conversation-on-housing-with-minnesota-gubernatorial-candidates/>

World Communion Sunday Special Collection Sunday, October 2, 2022

Holy Communion joins us in Christian unity. On World Communion Sunday, believers around the world, participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ.

Your World Communion Sunday donations support racial and ethnic students in achieving their educational goals and transforming communities.

50% scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries.

35% racial and ethnic scholarships for students pursuing ordained ministry.

15% Ethnic-In-Service Training Grant for leadership development, recruitment, training, and retention of ethnic United Methodist persons in leadership positions in every level of the church and its ministry.

With our gifts, we invest in talented, qualified students from around the globe to transform the world as witnesses for Christ!

FROM THE PARISH NURSE

Time for LIFE: Learning, Inspiration, and Fellowship for Everyone

A Church Bus Outing to Minnesota's Largest Candy Store!

Thursday, October 13th, from 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Our first Time for LIFE event this fall is a bus outing to Jordan, where we will enjoy a visit to Minnesota's Largest Candy Store, also known as Jim's Apple Farm. Anyone with even a chip of a sweet tooth will want to stop in to experience the astonishing collection of candy, sodas, and bakery treats for sale. You will find everything from hard-to-find nostalgic sweets to fresh baked pies and strudels! Sweet stuff not for you? There are also plenty of savory snacks to be found as well, like chips, dips, popcorn, and charcuterie supplies. Join us for this fun afternoon!

Please note that they only accept cash or personal checks.

Date: Thursday, October 13th

Time: The church bus will leave promptly at 1 pm and return to church between 3:00 & 3:30 pm

RSVP: Sign up in the Commons or email Kay at kbergeland@richfieldumc.org.

There is a limit of 14 passengers on the bus.



Save the Dates: Time for LIFE

Thursday, November 10th: Stan Tekiela; a well-known naturalist and wildlife photographer.

Thursday, December 8th: Doug Ohman; a popular historian and entertaining storyteller.

AED/CPR Refresher Training Session

Wednesday, September 21st, from 10:30 am - 12 Noon

Every year, more than 350,000 Americans experience Sudden Cardiac Arrest, when the heart stops beating without any warning. During cardiac arrest, the heart cannot pump blood to the rest of the body, including the brain and lungs. Death can happen in minutes without treatment. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is an emergency procedure that can help save a person's life if their breathing or heart stops. If performed immediately, CPR can double or triple the chance of survival from an out of hospital cardiac arrest. CPR uses chest compressions to mimic how the heart pumps. These compressions help keep blood flowing throughout the body.

The more we can prepare and train for emergency situations, the safer our church community will be for us all. Please come and learn both hands-only CPR and how to use our automated external defibrillator (AED). The speaker will talk about Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA), the difference between SCA and a heart-attack, recognizing SCA, calling 9-1-1, performing hands-only chest compressions, and what an AED is and how it works.

Our speaker is Renee Hamdorf who is currently the Heart Safe Communities Coordinator of Allina Health. She is a retired Firefighter/EMT of 16 years and has been a CPR instructor for 25 years. Renee has performed CPR many times, and her goal in teaching is to prepare a lay-rescuer to be comfortable in saving their loved one if ever put in a position to do so.

You do not need a special certification or formal training to perform CPR, but you do need education. If cardiac arrest happens to someone near you, do not be afraid --- just be prepared! Join us!

Date, Time, Location: Wednesday, September 21st, 10:30 am - 12 Noon, Fellowship Hall

RSVP: Sign up in the Commons or call the church office by Sunday, September 18th

Please note there is no cost for this refresher training session.

No Flu Shot Clinic on Campus this Year

For many years, RUMC has hosted a flu shot clinic in partnership with TRUST and Hennepin Healthcare. TRUST has informed us that Hennepin Healthcare will **not** be providing flu shot clinics this year. Although getting a flu shot at church has been convenient, there are many other locations that will also be very accessible, including your doctor's office and most pharmacies at both local drug and grocery stores. While the Covid-19 pandemic continues to be our focus, we need to be aware of the flu season as well. Flu is a serious disease, caused by influenza viruses, that can lead to hospitalization and even death. Getting a flu vaccination is the single best way to protect yourself and others from flu and its potential complications.

WELCOME

Welcome Tom Boisen to RUMC. You may see Tom in the buildings on Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays as he provides building support.

Tom grew up in Blaine and graduated from Spring Lake Park High School in 2001. He currently resides in Richfield with his girlfriend, Becky, and 8 year-old twin steps sons, Caleb and Travis. He is a diehard fan of the Minnesota Twins and loves to play softball in his free time. Everyone he has met here has made him feel very welcome and he is enjoying the work that he does at the church.



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.

Our prayers are a beautiful expression of care and solidarity for each other.

We pray in celebration:

We pray with gratitude.

We pray for those who grieve.

HAPPY SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

September

Roger Dammer	01	Marna Labelle	17
Kira Locke	02	Vada Klint	18
Jill Williamson	03	Susan Westerdahl	19
Gertie Melcher	04	Amy Reichenberger	19
Dewitt Killam	09	Jim Vetsch	20
Cameron Currie	10	Chloe Novak	22
Jane Barton	11	Mitzi Taylor	24
Nancy Dierauer	12	Yana Reko	24
Marlene Davis	13	Pat Robertson	27
Allan Reko	14		

October

Cori Williamson	03	Jason Teal	19
Elliot Novak	03	Sharon Hall	20
Scott Ellich	04	Dale Olson	20
Jack Exline	05	Phil Williams	22
Barb Larson	05	Tanner Nelson	22
Sandy Nelson	06	SK Johnson	27
Elizabeth Wittenborg	08	Tari Tanhoff	27
Evie Gilmore	10	Sue Burmeister	28
Pat Norton	12		
Susan (Wayne) Johnson	16		

COMMON THREADS

The Common Threads group met for the first time in about 3 years. We enjoyed a luncheon and a lot of sharing. It was a joy to be able to see each other and remember the many things we have done over the years. We started in 2004 and over the years have made baptismal blankets, prayer shawls, lap robes, finger puppets, crocheted and knit military items, hats, mittens, and our biggest project: two quilts that were raffled off.



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 307 to 315 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 543 to 550 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 314 to 320 subscribers.

SAVE THE DATE FOR SPECIAL UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

September 4	Online-Only Worship
September 11	Rally Sunday, Blessing of the Backpacks
October 2	World Communion Sunday, Bible Sunday
November 6	All Saints Sunday, Commitment Sunday
November 8	Election Day Communion (online only)
December 11	Christmas Pageant
December 14	Hope & Healing (in-person only)
December 18	Lessons & Carols
December 24	4:00pm Family Christmas Eve
December 24	9:00pm Traditional Christmas Eve
December 25	Online-Only Worship
January 1	Online-Only Worship

CONTINUING OPEN GROUPS

Women Who Read (WWR)

1st Mondays of the Month

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

To join by Zoom, email Fern wfalbertson@gmail.com.

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

September 12: *In The Night of Memory* -Linda LeGarde Grover
(Note date change because of Labor Day holiday)

October 3: *The Postmistress of Paris* - Meg Waite Clayton

November 7: *State of Terror* - Louise Penny and Hillary Rodham Clinton

December 5: *Ordinary Grace* - William Kent Krueger

Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00 am (no class on Sept. 6, 2022)

Online by Zoom or phone

You are invited to contact Molly, mollyreko@comcast.net or 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 in the Grace Room or by Zoom or phone

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

Meeting ID: 954 3527 6775

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

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.



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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

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Facebook: facebook.com/RichfieldUnitedMethodistChurch **Twitter:** twitter.com/RichfieldUMC