



HALF

TRUTHS

a back-to-basics worship series

richfieldumc.org

*** Rise in body or spirit**

Prelude	“What the World Needs Now Is Love” JoeNathan Thomas, soloist	by Burt Bacharach
Welcome		Rev. Nate Melcher
Call to Worship* (Genesis 1, Matthew 3)		Rev. Hope Hutchison

Created in God's loving image,
we gather as the children of God.
Beloved by Christ, who loves us well,
we gather as the beloved body of Christ.
Blessed by the Spirit of God,
we gather in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Gathering Hymn*

“Wade In the Water”

Refrain:

**Wade in the water, wade in the water,
children, wade in the water,
God's a gonna trouble the water.**

1. See that host all dressed in white,
God's a gonna trouble the water;
The leader looks like the Israelite,
God's a gonna trouble the water. (Refrain)
2. See that band all dressed in red,
God's a gonna trouble the water;
Looks like the band that Moses led,
God's a gonna trouble the water. (Refrain)

Centering Prayer

Beloved God, we gather as your beloved community in the name of your beloved Son. Speak to us with your love and your grace. Part the clouds of our frantic, harried lives, that we may recognize your Spirit moving in our very midst. Speak, for your servants are listening. Hear us now in our Breakthrough Prayer...

Breakthrough Prayer

**Loving God of all, renew our hearts and minds.
Reveal your wildest dreams, break through 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.**

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

Time with Children

Sharing the Peace

**May the peace of God be with you.
And also with you.**

Please greet your neighbor with a mutual sign of peace.

Lighting Our Conflux Candles

You are invited to safely light a candle or lamp to celebrate the moments this week where your life's journey met God's heart.

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
4. The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading Psalm 13, 121 (*The Message*) Rev. Wayne Albertson

Psalm 13

Long enough, God—
you've ignored me long enough.
I've looked at the back of your head
long enough. Long enough
I've carried this ton of trouble,
lived with a stomach full of pain.
Long enough my arrogant enemies
have looked down their noses at me.
Take a good look at me, God, my God;
I want to look life in the eye,
So no enemy can get the best of me
or laugh when I fall on my face.
I've thrown myself headlong into your arms—
I'm celebrating your rescue.
I'm singing at the top of my lungs,
I'm so full of answered prayers.

Psalm 121

I look up to the mountains;
does my strength come from mountains?
No, my strength comes from GOD,
who made heaven, and earth, and mountains.
He won't let you stumble,
your Guardian God won't fall asleep.
Not on your life! Israel's
Guardian will never doze or sleep.

The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

The Prayers of the People

The LORD's Prayer

Sharing Our Gifts

Offertory	"A Change Is Gonna Come" JoeNathan Thomas, soloist	by Sam Cooke
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Doxology*

UMH No. 94

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Prayer of Gratitude*

O God, we recognize that we have been blessed with great abundance. In offering these gifts, may we be strengthened to proclaim your faithfulness and your salvation this day and always. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn*

“Steal Away to Jesus”
vs. 1 and 2

UM Hymnal 704

Refrain:

Steal away, steal away; steal away to Jesus.
Steal away, steal away home.
I ain’t got long to stay here.

1. My Lord he calls me,
he calls me by the thunder;
the trumpet sounds within-a my soul.
I ain’t got long to stay here. (Refrain)

2. Green trees a-bending,
poor sinners stand a-trembling;
the trumpet sounds within-a my soul.
I ain’t got long to stay here. (Refrain)

Benediction*

...And until we meet again, let us live...
in faith, justice, and joy! Amen.

Postlude

“Make Them Hear You”
JoeNathan Thomas, soloist

by Stephen Flaherty



Worship is over. Service begins.
Go forth as Richfield United Methodist Church.

Hello, guests! Welcome to worship as Richfield UMC. It's a big step to come to a new church and we're glad you're here. If you have questions, please ask any church member, and we hope you have a good experience.



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Sunday, January 15, 2023

Welcome musical guest, singer/actor, JoeNathan Thomas.

Soup Drive: Souper Bowl of Caring Begins—Today through February 12

Starting today, Sun., Jan. 15, and going through Super Bowl Sunday on Feb. 12, Richfield UMC is collecting canned soup in the Commons area, and collecting online donations for VEAP so that our local food shelf can continue to feed people throughout the coldest months in Minnesota.

It's not too late to pick up your free copy of Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say, the book inspiring the January sermon series and used in the book and video study that's just starting.

Book & Video Study: Half Truths (Two Options Thursdays or Sundays)

In class, we will discuss a chapter and watch a video by Rev. Adam Hamilton. The online Thursday class discusses the chapter for the upcoming Sunday sermon, while the in-person Sunday class discusses the chapter from that day's sermon. If you cannot make the class, you're encouraged to read the book and/or watch the videos on [Amplify Media](#) on your own.

Thursdays at 7:30pm-8:30pm by [Zoom \(online-only\)](#)

1/5 through 2/2—Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338 Passcode: 5835

Sundays at 10:40am-11:30am, Grace Room (in-person only) 1/8 through 2/5

Children's Sunday School today, Children go to Sunday School from worship after the Time for Children

Next Sunday, January 22

Pastoral Care Celebration & Book Launch

The Lay Pastoral Care Program of Richfield UMC will be celebrated during and after worship next Sun., Jan. 22, 2023. Kay Bergeland, Parish Nurse, and Christie Neuger, Lead Consultant for the program, have been recruiting, training, and empowering the work of lay caring ministers at RUMC for the past ten years.

Christie Neuger and Joretta Marshall, both long-time seminary professors of pastoral care, have recently published a book entitled: *Lay Caregiving: A Narrative Approach* (Fortress Press). The book reflects on the approach to training and consultation used at RUMC and will be part of our celebrations and acknowledgements on January 22nd. Both authors will be present after worship to engage in informal conversation about both the program and the book.

Church Conference on February 5

There will be a church conference after worship to receive reports and approve the 2023 operations budget. Sunday, Feb. 5 at 10:35 am in the Sanctuary and by [Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 886-0975-2661, Passcode: 5835 or call in: 312-626-6799 (standard rates)

Ongoing and Open

1st Mondays, 1:30 pm | Women Who Read

February 6th: Sunflower Sisters by Martha Hall Kelly

Contact Fern Albertson, wfalbertson@gmail.com, to get connected.

Tuesdays, 9:30 am | Women's Bible Study

Contact Molly Reko, mollyreko@comcast.net, to get connected.

Wednesdays, 9:00 am | Men's Bible Study

Contact Kent Johnson, kentjmn@gmail.com, to get connected.

Saturdays, 8:30 am | Men's Support Group

Contact Kent Johnson, kentjmn@gmail.com, to get connected.

Families with Young Children are always welcome in worship!

Here are some options to help your family have a good experience when worshipping in the Sanctuary:

The Nook - A space connected to the Sanctuary perfect for having a quiet or wiggly moment in a sensory friendly environment.

Art Cart - Children can use items from the cart while worshipping in the Nook or can fill a bag with items to take into the sanctuary during worship

Time with Children - Children of all ages are invited to experience a message just for them at the front of the sanctuary. Parent/guardians are welcome to join their children too.

Sunday School - Following the Time with Children, children may go to Sunday School or stay in the sanctuary to worship. Children meet Sunday school teachers in the Nook. Sunday school is held in the Fellowship Hall or outside (weather-dependent). There is no Sunday School on the 1st Sunday of the month.

Nursing Mothers - You may nurse wherever you like. There is also a reserved Nursing Room available near the Library area.

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: For Becca Whitaker and Rev. Lynn Borgeson as they both begin new jobs.

We pray with gratitude.

We pray for those who are ill: Paula Milani, Marylee Fithian, Joyce Walls, Laurel Lien, Caroline Riley, Jane Parry, Agnes Danzl, Connie Gillespie, Derek, nephew of Susan and SK Johnson, Bill Mosher, brother of Lori Claussen, Ann E. Butler, niece of David and Mary Martha Butler, Joanne Green, Betsy Petersen, daughter of Mary Kay Petersen, Rhonda Olson, and Bonnie Stemme.

We pray for those who seek comfort.

We pray for those who grieve: The family and friends of Bill Hillger, especially Roxie Hillger. There will be a memorial service in the spring.

We pray for our neighbors.

We pray for all in the RUMC community.

Please call the church office to be included in any of the prayers of our church.

This Week's Calendar

The church office/Campus is open Tues.-Thurs., 8am-4pm.
The Church Library is open when the campus is open.

Sunday, January 15, 2023

Souper Bowl Soup Collection Begins
9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:45 am Sunday School
10:40 am Half Truths Study

Monday, January 16, 2023

MLK Jr. Day—Building Closed

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

9:00 am CFC Children's Church
9:30 am Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

9:00 am Men's Bible Study
6:30 pm Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Youth Group
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 19, 2023

7:30 pm Half Truths Study

Friday, January 20, 2023

Saturday, January 21, 2023

8:30 am Men's Group
10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, January 22, 2023

Souper Bowl Soup Collection Continues
Pastoral Care Celebration & Book Launch
9:30 am Worship Service
(+Live streamed & archived)
9:45 am Sunday School
10:40 am Half Truths Study
10:45 am Confirmation

We thank those who help make this worship a ministry of grace:

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: JoeNathan Thomas, Eric Jensen, Rev. Melcher, Greg Locke, Lyra Olson

Liturgists: Rev. Wayne Albertson, Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech: Rev. Bill Johnson, Steve Warner, Michele Wegscheid

Please let the church office know if you or someone from the church is hospitalized or immediately pre or post hospitalization. The pastoral care team is available to extend care and provide support in times of need. The Parish Minister for the week of January 15 is David Couillard.

Permissions and Acknowledgements:

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Richfield United Methodist Church

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Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational

Richfield UMC gathers on Dakota land. More at richfieldumc.org/land.