

# HAMLIN CHURCH

United Methodist...a new Christian Community

JUNE 2010

Hamline Church  
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## GRACE NOTES, by Pastor Pat

There were more than a few jokes about the 'WE' Church name. It was a name we used for a season, the season in between the seasons of being two separate congregations and becoming one. Some even felt uncomfortable because they thought it sent a message of exclusivity, but I always like the name. I liked the name because it made me think of the line in the familiar hymn, "I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together."

As I am writing, we have worshiped together for the last two Sundays. Looking out over the congregation, it is clear that the two are becoming one worshipping community. We are kind of sitting in 'clumps' of Hamline and Good Shepherd folks, but that will change as everyone finds their new places. The 'Guess Who's Coming to Dinner' event was a great way for us to come to know each other better. There will be more social events as the summer progresses.

The process of moving from 'us' and 'them' to 'we' will take many months. One of the things that will facilitate that process is the experience of being in ministry together. I am continually amazed when I encounter the many gifted leaders in this new Hamline Church. God has gifted you in powerful ways to do the work of ministry in the name of Jesus Christ. Your gifts are complementary, and the new whole – 'Hamline Church' is truly greater than the sum of its parts – the former Church of the Good Shepherd and Hamline United Methodist Church.

The ministry of this new congregation needs all of your gifts. There are countless opportunities to serve: The Nominations Committee is in the process of recruiting the persons who will be elected at a church conference in June. The committee structure, however, is intended to be only the framework through which ministry is done. Not everyone involved in ministry will be elected to a committee. There will be countless opportunities to serve: volunteering at Dorothy Day or Family Place, knitting prayer shawls, serving as a communion visitor, helping to staff the Dining Hall, teaching Sunday School, reading Scripture, providing fellowship hour hospitality, helping to weed the gardens. The list goes on and on. We are in the process now of matching the opportunities for ministry with the gift and talent surveys. If you haven't completed one yet, take the time to do it today. There is a form included in this newsletter.

*Lord, give me eyes clear enough to see the hurt in the world,  
Ears perceptive enough to hear your call,  
A brain wise enough to figure a solution,  
A voice loud enough to tell of the need,  
Feet determined enough to seek out the alleys of misery and despair,  
Hands sensitive enough to hug, mold, and heal,  
A heart strong enough to endure the struggle  
And a spirit thankful enough to ask, "What more may I do?"*

**A Servants Prayer**, by Judy Payne

## CHURCH CONFERENCE

June 27<sup>th</sup> at 11am

June 29 at 7 pm

A **church conference** will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. The purpose is to adopt the merger documents, elect leaders, adopt a budget for July – December, 2010, and to set the salary for the part-time associate pastor. At a church conference all members of the former two congregations have voice and vote. The merger documents will be before us as the first item of business, and that part of the conference will be convened as two church conferences. Each church membership, present and voting will need to adopt the documents. The remaining items of business will be decided by one vote, assuming that the merger documents are adopted.

### Update on Sunday School Time

Thank you to everyone who took the time this spring to share their thoughts about and vision for Sunday School this fall. The education committee has delayed making a recommendation about the time for Sunday School until later in the summer. The extra time will be used for parents in our new faith community to get to know each other and for staff, volunteers and parents to develop a more complete vision of our education programming.

### Pastor/Parent Meet and Greet

Parents of school-aged children are invited join Rev. Peter Boelhke for adult discussion during Bible School June 22 - 24. While your children are taking part in classes and activities, talk with Peter and other parents about family and faith formation, how the church can support families and what spiritual gifts your children bring to the church and family.

### Twilight: A One-Night Study

Twilight fans: how are you passing the time before *Twilight Eclipse* comes out at the end of the month? Join other Twilight Fans on June 29 at 7 pm at Hamline Church for a one-time study of the Twilight series and what it has to say about relationships, spirituality and commitment. Our discussion will be based on material geared for teens and young adults, but anyone who loves Twilight is welcome. The discussion will be lead by someone who has never read the books, so please have your opinions ready and be prepared to share. Refreshments will be served. Please contact Beth Beaty or the church office if you are planning to come.

### James Alison to speak at Hamline June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

We are partnering with House of Mercy (ELCA) Church to bring British Catholic theologian, James Alison, to Hamline Church. Dr. Alison is the author of several books, most notably "**Raising Abel**". On Friday, June 25th 7pm, Dr. Alison will reflect on being Catholic and Gay. On Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> he explores the theme of *Gaze and Desire: Contemplation in the light of the social other*. Both talks will be held at Hamline Church. Contact Beth Beaty with questions or for more information.

### IT'S TIME TO GOLF



We're planning golf league/outings for the new CGS-HAMLIN family. This is a short summer season, so we need to have people indicate their interest. – **NO RESTRICTIONS**. Open to persons of all ages, male or female, novice or professional (yeah right you pros - bring it on). Schedules of golf time and locations will depend on response.

Please call Gerry Lindner at (651) 292-9304 for more information.

## JUNE 2010 EDUCATION NOTES

**Sunday school** is completed for this school year. Thank you to all of the volunteers who made the program a success. Special thanks to Jill Hendrickson for chairing the Education committee for the past two years. Jan Uzlik and Carol Duling will be our new chairs for the transition into our new Sunday school year.

On Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> we will be honoring our high school graduates at church. Congratulations to **Alex Beyer, Mackenzie Marron and Alex Short.**

Mark you calendars for **Vacation Bible School!** VBS is for children preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The dates are June 22, 23, and 24 from 6-8:30 p.m. The theme is **Galactic Blast: A cosmic Adventure Praising God!** Cost is \$20.00/child or no more than \$60.00/family. We are looking for volunteers to help in all areas. If you volunteer for the three evenings, the fee will be waved.

The next Education meeting will be on Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m. We will have a potluck dinner.

**The children of Hamline Church appreciate the many individuals who donated their time and energy to teach Sunday school.**

[ a list of 50 names appeared in the original version]

*\*Thank you to ALL of the volunteers who have made the Sunday school and Youth program a success. If we missed thanking anyone, please know that you are appreciated.*

### SUMMER SUNDAY MUSIC

Do you play an instrument? Would you like to lift your voice in song either as a soloist or in a small group? Contact Chuck Parsons, 612-770-8712 and a place will be found for you!

### CONGRATULATIONS TO GRADUATES

[ 5 names were listed for high school graduates from area high schools]

### DINING HALL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Yes! The Back to the 50's Auto Show is June 18-20.** Workers will be needed for the Dining Hall which will be open all three days. Sign-up in the Fireside Room or contact one of the following team members:

Joyce Evans, Judy Hartman, Theresa Perry, Betty Ward,

### SHOP for GRADS & DADS!

**GRADUATIONS and FATHER'S DAY are FAST APPROACHING.** Plan ahead to shop for your favorite people or give them a gift card. **A new order will be submitted on Sunday, 6/6** and received on 6/13. Order forms are available in the Fireside Room or at [www.hamlinechurch.org](http://www.hamlinechurch.org). Return them to Virginia Anderson in person or by mail. Or you may order online from home at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) once you register and receive our church's code from Virginia Anderson. Check out what cards are on hand for sale each Sunday. Examples are – Cub, Super America, KFC, Olive Garden, Wendy's plus several more. Buy a gift card and support Hamline Church! [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com)

### SCRIP GIFT CARDS - Special Offers for 6/6 Order Only!

Check the display in the Fireside Room for special offers like **L.L. Bean 17%, JC Penney 6% or T.G.I. Fridays at 10%.**

## **SPRING FEVER ANYONE?**

Order your **Linder's**, **Gerten's**, and **Bachman Garden Center** gift cards today! Hamline Church receives **15%** of these sales. Some Linder's cards may be on hand downstairs. Generally, once ordered, cards are received by the next Sunday or contact Virginia Anderson if you want them sooner.

## **FOOD PERSPECTIVES, INC.**

### *Have you registered yet to become a taste tester?*

If you qualify and participate in a taste test, **our church will receive \$10** and you will receive between \$25 - \$175, depending on time involved and the level of commitment. This money you may use as you wish – treat yourself to dinner out, pay bills, or even donate it to our church. To see if you qualify for a test; you may be contacted by a “live” caller who will ask a series of questions, by an Interactive Voice Response (a recording) that asks questions, or online through an email account. If you don't qualify, no money is received and your name is put back for future test possibilities. Tests are done at many locations; some more convenient than others like Hamline Church. Sign up to register at [www.fpitesters.com](http://www.fpitesters.com) or pick up a form in the Fireside Room and give it to Virginia Anderson. Be sure to indicate Hamline United Methodist Church as your charity so our church receives the \$10 per test. Invite your family and friends to participate. If you have any questions, contact Virginia Anderson or visit [www.foodperspectives.com](http://www.foodperspectives.com).

**Good News!** Our church has already **earned over \$625** for being a taste test site.

## **KIDS Needed for Taste Tests!**

Kids ages 6 years old and above are needed for upcoming tests. Parents sign up first and then add the children. All recruiting and scheduling is done through the parents. No contact is made directly with the children.

## **ATTENTION INTERNET USERS - TRY GOODSEARCH AND GOODSHOP !**

Get quality search results from Yahoo by going to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com). Enter Hamline United Methodist Church in the charity window and then click the verify button. You are ready to search away! There is also a button that lets you see how much has been earned. Many retailers participate with online shopping and donate a percentage of the sale. You may link from GoodSearch or go to [www.goodshop.com](http://www.goodshop.com). ***We have earned almost \$137.00. Impressed? Well, that's \$7.00 more since last month or another 700 searches, one penny at a time. Keep searching everyone!***

## **SUMMARY OF THE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING AND THE CHARGE CONFERENCES “WE” UNITED METHODIST CHURCH APRIL 27, 2010**

**Mark Derus, Co-Presiding Officer, convened the Joint Council Meeting of the “WE” Church** [Hamline UMC (HUMC) and the Church of the Good Shepherd UMC (CGS)] on April 27 at 7:02 pm in the HUMC Parlor. Approximately 50 Council Members and Congregants from both churches were present. Pastor Peter Boehlke led us in prayer.

### **CHARGE CONFERENCES**

**Pastor Pat Hinker called the HUMC Charge Conference to order. Similarly, Pastor Peter Boehlke convened the CGS Charge Conference.**

**The item on the agenda was one introduced at the March Council Meeting—A Revised Church Council structure for the new merged Church.**

Background information and a rationale for the new structure of church governance were presented, along with the characteristics of a thriving church and a declining (institutional maintenance) church.

The new decentralized control allows individual members to take active roles through Teams, rather than Committees. All committees stipulated via the Discipline, Trustees, Finance, and Staff-Parish Relations will continue to operate, with the Council being the only other elected committee. Some Council members will be Team leaders, along with those chairing the three standing committees.

The Lay Leadership committee will be serving throughout the year, aided by a computer-base of member service interests. The new structure would be operative as of July 1, 2010. A Charge Conference will be convened in June to vote on names from the Lay Leadership Committee and to formalize articles of incorporation and other essential documents.

**A motion was made and seconded that the HUMC Council members endorse the new governance and committee structure. The motion passed by voice vote.**

**A motion was made and seconded that the CGS Council members endorse the new governance and committee structure. The motion passed by voice vote.**

The Charge Conferences adjourned at 7:26 pm via motions and voice votes.

## JOINT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

**I. Debriefing comments were made on recent joint church activities,** including the Joint Worship at CGS on April 11, the Worship and Parents' Forum at HUMC on April 18, and the "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" activities on April 23. There may be some "Guess Who's Coming to the Barbeque" events this summer.

**II. Greg Ebert and Tom Kunau of the Branding/Identity/Naming Committee made a presentation** on the process and results of the deliberations of the 10-member committee (five from each church, plus the pastors). Valuable input had been received from members of both churches, through usage of questionnaires and other means. Using a process frequently used commercially in creating new identities, the committee ended up with a name recommendation which met three major criteria: Memorable, Relevant, and Protectable. After consideration of pros and cons, the rationale was given for the committee recommendation of:

**HAMLIN CHURCH**  
**United Methodist**  
**A New Christian Community**

The third line is a tag-line, which characterizes the new Church, and reflects Change. This tag-line could be altered as the Church further matures. A new logo will be developed in the near future.

**The Committee report is a recommendation to the Joint Church Councils, to be voted on at the May 25 meeting.** Presentations will be made in each church for explanation and discussion.

**III. Barb Deming gave a review of our decision-making processes.**

Our year-long visioning process meets the request made of all Minnesota UMC congregations via the MN Annual Conference Congregational Ministry Plan, effectively a Strategic Plan. Our Teams will be further developing a number of aspects.

**For the May Council meeting, we were asked to address "Who are we becoming as a Congregation", or What does it mean to be A New Christian Community**

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## UNITED METHODIST TWINS GAME

**Thursday, August 19, 2010, 7:00 PM**

Join friends and family for a night of big-league fun and excitement! Watch one of the first games at Target Field! See Alan Felkner, conference controller, throw out the first pitch, and join Bishop Sally Dyck in singing "*Take Me Out to the Ballgame*" for the seventh inning stretch.

Home plate view seating for \$18 (regular \$24)  
Scoreboard recognition for the group

Contact Laurie Erickson for further information. Order deadline is June 15. Reservations will be filled with the best available seat locations on a first come-first served basis and will be seated together whenever

possible.

### **CHURCH LIBRARY**

Our thanks to Marguerite Pramann and Margaret Smith for cleaning and re-organizing the library in the parlor. Books are arranged by topic and shelves are labeled. Children's books are on the lower shelves. You are welcome to borrow books. Please return them to the church office when you are finished so they can be re-shelved by Marguerite and Margaret.

### **UPCOMING CHURCH CONFERENCES**

June 27 – after worship – Each church voting on the merger documents

June 29 – 7pm – Election of Leaders, Adoption of Budget, Setting Part-time Pastor Salary

At a church conference all members of the former congregations present have voice and vote. The vote on the merger documents will be held as two separate votes, by members of the former congregations. The later church conference will be convened as one merged church conference if that vote passes, to vote on the other business.

### **3rd SUNDAY FORUM - June 20 – 11am**

On June 20<sup>th</sup> at 11am, Jim Schlaeppi, lay member from Hamline United Methodist Church, and Dave Merry, lay member from Church of the Good Shepherd, will present the Annual Conference Report.

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### ***Sharings***

*cards of thanks, some names, phone numbers or addreses etc only found in print form*

*Calendar (HUMC and CoGS) inserts [and possibly others, as well] may be found in the print version*

*To see the "unofficial" website HUMC activity calendar, go to:*

[Website Monthly Calendar](#)

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### **HAMLIN CHURCH STAFF**

Senior Minister: Peter Boehlke

Associate Pastor: Patricia Hinker

Music Director: Charles Parsons

Minister of Worship: Richard Waggoner

Young Adult and Adult Ministries: Beth Beaty

Education/Youth Director: Laurie Erickson

Finance: Frank Evans

Office Administrator: Diane Milbrandt

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