

**CLEARWATER UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH NEWSLETTER**

May 2023

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WORSHIP SERVICE:

Sundays at 9:30 AM

Come and join us in worship—our attendance is down—we would love to have your presence. Please stay for coffee after church in the fellowship hall.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY:

Mondays at 10:30 AM (Weather Permitting)

MONTHLY:

United Methodist Women in Faith – MWIF
May 2, 2023 –(1st Tuesday of every month at 2:00 PM).

POTLUCK AND MOVIE NIGHT:

First Saturday of each month-(May 6) at 5:00 PM. Bring a dish to share and after dinner will be a movie. We'll have popcorn also. Invite your friends and family.

PRAYERS OF JOY:

We were blessed to have the Bell Choir play for us on Easter Sunday, thanks to Carol Mason, Vicki Spengler and Helen Cress, it was beautiful! We had 24 present for the Easter service, and 14 for the Noon Good Friday service.

Carol Halvorson and her daughter should be returning home this month, Welcome back!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

16---Sue Solberg

23---Gail Goenner

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please keep Dick and Nita Wells in your prayers.

OUR CHURCH WEBSITE

www.clearwaterumcmn.org

RECIPE: CRAZY FUDGE CAKE

In 8X8 cake pan put in and mix with fork:

1-1/2 cups flour

1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon soda

1 teaspoon salt

1/3 cup cocoa

Make 3 holes and put in:

1 teaspoon vinegar

1/3 cup oil

1 teaspoon vanilla

Pour 1 cup cold water over all.

Blend together with a fork.

Don't beat.

Bake at 350 for 25-35 minutes until Toothpick comes out clean.

Frost as desired.

Submitted by Helen Cress

Q: What did Daniel tell his real estate agent? "

A: I'd prefer a house with no den."

PASTOR ALISON HENDLEY

On a recent Sunday evening, after a long day, I kept hearing about the possibility of visible Northern Lights! I was torn. It was a cloudy night and I was tired, but I have never seen them before. Just before 10 PM, I decided to look outside and see if there were any stars visible...And to my delight there were, so I packed Hawthorn in my car and drove to a nearby county park with a northern view over a large prairie field. We parked on the dark dirt land, and got out, looking up into the sky. The present moon was shining and the stars overhead visible, and soon the lights showed up...faintly but visible. I was awestruck! We stood, the dog and I, looking up at the sky, although Hawthorn was very confused as this is a park we go to walk, and we were not doing that. But he stayed close by and I looked up, and we basked in the beauty for about 30 minutes. Then some other cars came and parked close by and I began to feel unsafe as they sounded loud and high, so Hawthorn and I gave up and drove home.

As soon as we got back, he indicated that he needed a walk. I sighed, put on his leash, and off we went around the field by our house. And as we walked, I saw that the lights were visible, even in town! We walked slowly, the lights grew stronger and then began dancing. It was such a sight to behold, I was moved to tears at the beauty. Thin whips of light dancing right there above my head! I watched for a long time before they began to slow and fade, soon singing The Canticle of the Sun, and feeling my spirit dancing with the sky! You can listen to it here:

<https://hail.to/motu-interislands-magazine/publication/9VmzdeP/article/article/F2BamT8>

I hope that at least once today you get a moment to notice something that just staggers you with amazement and/or delight. Something that reminds you that you are alive on a planet that is spinning and circling and that the massive thing it's circling is in orbit. And that you feel love and

affection for this beautiful planet, which is so generous and biodiverse.

It doesn't have to be your favorite bird or plant or fungus or rock. Or the face of someone you love.

It could just be that one right over there, or the gnarly decomposing stump you walk past.

And remember to give thanks to our God who looked at the wonders of this earth and decided it needed you to be created too!

<https://www.alisonhendleyhealing.com/>

"My soul is striving to remember who I am, to make who I am compatible with who I was born to be, to bring who I am into synch with who I will be."

Steven Foster

Mother's Day Poem

There's no love like a mother's,
Her heart is filled with care.
With Christ as her example,
Her Savior's love she'll share

A mother's love is endless,
Not changing for all time.
When needed by her children,
A mother's love will shine.

God bless these special mothers,
God bless them ever one.
For all their tears and heartaches,
and special work they've done.

When days on earth are over,
A mother's love lives on,
Through many generations,
God's blessings on each one.

Be thankful for our mothers,
who love with higher love,
from power God has given,
And strength from up above.

Submitted by Helen Cress