



United Methodist Church of Owatonna

July 2020 Newsletter

A note from Pastor Lisa

I got a text message yesterday (June 16th) from Kristi's Clothing Store, in downtown Owatonna, to say that they were having a big summer sale. Well, of course, I had to run right down to pick up a few more items for my new "job." As I walked in the door the realization hit me that I haven't done anything like this for so long. I haven't walked into a store other than a grocery store since our state was shut down due to the Corvid 19 pandemic, but when I walked through Kristi's door it felt like life was starting to go back to normal.

Or is it? I don't think we can ever go back to the old way we did things, before masks, Plexiglas barriers, and obsessive sanitation. Going back to normal has to mean we are entering instead into a new normal. We hear these buzz words all the time in the news "we are entering into a new normal" but it is one thing to hear these words it is another thing to live them-to live in this ever changing culture. It feels like the worries we had in February have turned into hard realities today.

It is hard to believe that within the first weeks of June so much has happened in our already unsettled world. On May 25th George Floyd an African American man was killed by police officers in South Minneapolis. What started as a local news story on Memorial Day had by Tuesday exploded into a world-wide protest after the cell phone footage of his death went viral. No more could we look away and pretend thing like this don't happen, especially in Minnesota.

The Bishops of the United Methodist North Central Jurisdiction describe our jurisdiction as "a place of vibrant big cities, small towns, fields, farms, forests, rivers, lakes, the Great Lakes, prairies, is often known for being nice—Midwest nice. The brutal killing of George Floyd laid bare that underneath the veneer of nice exists lingering and persistent racism, a racism that poisons our public life, stifles God-given human potential, and diminishes us all.

In Paul's letter to the churches in Ephesus: "For Christ is our peace... he has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us." Ephesians 2:14

As members of The United Methodist Church we must affirm that racism is sin and antithetical to the gospel, "that racism is a rejection of the teachings of Jesus Christ... denies the redemption and reconciliation of Jesus Christ," and "that racism robs all human beings of their wholeness."

Continued on following page.....

United Methodist Church of Owatonna

815 E University
Owatonna MN 55060
507-451-4734 (Main Office)

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Website: www.owatonnaumc.org
Find us on Facebook: Owatonna United
Methodist Church



Pastor: Lisa Vick
Church Phone: 507-451-4734
Cell: 612-558-5316
E-mail: pastoroumc@gmail.com

Minister of Music: Mary Hitzeman
Phone: 507-451-4734
E-mail: maryhitzeman@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Paula Johnson
Phone: 507-451-4734
E-mail: owatonnaumc@q.com

Because racism is deeply rooted in our history, it is also deeply entangled in our minds, our hearts, and our systems. The Bishops of the North Central Jurisdiction emphasize that “we must confess and denounce our own complicity. We take a stand against any and all expressions of racism and white supremacy, beginning with the racial, cultural, and class disparities highlighted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Together we commit ourselves to our baptismal vows to renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, to repent of our sin, and to use the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.”

Perhaps our living into a new normal means that we recommit ourselves to live out our baptismal vows and go back to our United Methodist roots and realize what it means to be a church that is grounded in these vows.

John Wesley would ask “How is it with your soul” My sister Heidi posted this question on Facebook. Her answer is: “My soul is not well. It hurts and begs to know my part, and to know the actions I am to take to rid our society from the evils of racism.” Let us continue to be a church that continually asks what our part in healing a broken world is. To be a church that is a safe place where people can ask hard question and in doing so our “new” normal will be so much better than the way it was.

Blessings,

Pastor Lisa



Summer Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. – 2 :00 p.m.



OPERATION CLASSROOM

The Mission and Social Action Committee is again promoting school supply donations. This year the supply of donations will go to the Owatonna elementary schools. A list of school supplies needed will be available in the narthex near the bin designated for school supplies.

Cash donations will also be accepted for Owatonna schools. Please put cash into an envelope marked “School Supplies” and put the envelope in the offering plate or take it to the church office. Checks can be made payable to “CRF” (Children’s Remedial Fund). Thank you for your generosity.

Clip out this list to take shopping with you!

3- Ring Binders (1 inch & 1.5 inch)
3 & 5 Subject Notebooks
Backpacks
#2 Pencils
Colored Pencils
Ballpoint Pens
12 Inch Rulers
Pencil Pouch or Container
24 Count Box of Crayons
Protractors
Scissors (blunt tip)
Erasers
Pencil Sharpeners
Varied Colored Folders
Wide Rule Notebooks
Kleenex Packs

Collections need to be in by August 1st!

Pastor Lisa Vick is available for home visits and counseling when requested, as well as hospital visits when informed.

Remember that the hospital does not inform us of your admission. Pastor Lisa can be reached at 612-558-5316.

**NEWSLETTER
SUBMISSION
DEADLINE:**

Wednesday, July 15



July Weekly Prayer List

July 1 - 4: Lanny & Naomi Uber; Fred & Helen Ulrich; Kermit & Susan Urbain; Howard & Mary Van Binsbergen; Chris & Melissa Vavra, Landen & Madysen; Lisa Vick

July 5 - 11: Katie & Brody Voss; Barbara Wall; Dan & Patsy Wall; Derrick & Rachel Wersal; Sharon West; Carl & Denise Wieman

July 12 - 18: Daniel Wieman; Matthew Wieman, Jacob & Evan; Rick Wilker; Debbie Williamson; Steve & Jan Yahnke; Lucinda Abernathy, Melinda

July 19 - 25: Brenda Ambe; Jena Ambe; Mara Ambe; Ethan Anderson; Gwen Anderson; Megan Gochner Andrist

July 26 - 31: Allen & Cheryl Arnold; Alvie & Margery Arnold; Nathan & Julia Arnold; Harriet Bakehouse; Lorraine Bakko; Peter Baxter



UMW Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 7th at 1 pm

Purpose of the United Methodist Women

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.



Coryln Peters	07/05
Michael Downey	07/05
Thomas Beck	07/06
Kim Moen	07/06
Lisa Vick	07/09
Dennis Johnson	07/10
Gary Joachim	07/12
Phillip Parker	07/14
Sharon West	07/17
Audrey Parker	07/18
Chelsea Schneider	07/18
Kent Frette	07/19
Erica Dirks	07/20
Kenneth Casperson	07/21
Samuel Kleeberger	07/21
Jeanne Hankerson	07/22
Dave Kilwine	07/24
Donald Huff	07/27
David Schroht	07/27
Finn Buckley	07/27
Rick Wilker	07/29
Joseph Saufferer	07/29
Rebecca Linders	07/31
Mary Olson	07/31

Jack & Fran Boots	07/17
Howard & Pat Rethemeier	07/25
Tom & Patricia Raetz	07/25
David & Jean Krause	07/30



Pastor Good-Byes



Pastor Linda Boorman

Pastor Joyce Parker



Pastor Scott Jakel

Word Received

Gloria Cherry, the sister
of Jean Krause from
Annandale, MN, passed
away on May 24th, 2020.

Doris Lincoln, the mother
of Connie Scott from
Austin, MN, passed away
on May 26th, 2020.

Jerry Shore, 79, passed
away on May 29th, 2020.

Dean Clark, 95, passed
away on June 14th, 2020.

*Our thoughts
and prayers
Are with you*

THANK YOU

Thank you to the family of the
Owatonna United Methodist Church
for your greetings, cards, and love at
this time of my retirement. I have
been privileged to serve as your
associate pastor for the past five
years. And you will now move
forward with hope under the ministry
and guidance of your new pastor Lisa
Vick. I will pray for her and for you as
you experience God's goodness.

In Christ,
Pastor Linda

I want to thank everyone who came
to our Drive By Good Bye and
expressed their best wishes. It was
so lovely to see everyone's faces
and to have a final goodbye - even
in the midst of coronavirus! Thank
you also for the cards and the gifts.
OUMC is very special to me, and I
will keep you in my prayers as we
both go forward in new endeavors.

Again, thank you and bless you!
Joyce Parker

**Owatonna United Methodist Church
Owatonna, Minnesota**



Introducing Rev. Lisa Vick

Gifts for the Ministry

I love to preach and plan creative worship services. I have a heart for engaging with persons who have no church home as of yet. Since working at Sisters Salon and Day Spa (Owatonna) as an esthetician I have met so many young adults who are searching for a spiritual place to belong. Finally, I am passionate about hospitality - making the Church welcome to all.

Leadership Style

Growing up in a rural church outside of Montevideo, Minnesota, I learned that pastors can't go it alone. They need to collaborate with laity and staff. All hands are needed to ensure that we continue to do God's will as we move forward into the future.

Aspirations for Ministry and for Serving the Local Church

I believe God has a plan for all churches - large, small, rural, urban or suburban - and that is to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Often we concentrate on what we don't have and forget to trust that God has a plan and a ministry already lined up for us!

Spiritual Disciplines and Study

Like everyone else, I become worried about my life and what the future holds. I find hope and comfort in the words of Julia of Norwich "All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well." When I moved into my house in Owatonna, the previous owner had lots of written word art on her walls. I took most of it down with the exception of these words from Proverbs 31:25 that I can see through my kitchen window into the porch: "She is clothed in strength and dignity and laughs without fear of the future." Through Bible study and prayer, I strive to "laugh without fear of the future" so I can do God's work in the world.

Contact Information

Phone: (612) 558-5316

Email: lisajdodd79@gmail.com

March 2020

2020 APPOINTMENT

Family

On November 12, 2017, Shannon and I were married at the Owatonna United Methodist church. To the marriage I brought three grown children and their families:

Tom Torp, his wife Kathleen, Jack Leo (3) and Violet Jane (9 mon.)

Maude Torp and her partner Will

my youngest, Cecelia Torp, a junior at the U of M

Shannon's children live with us half time. Collin is 14 and in ninth grade while Emery is 12 and in seventh grade.



Education

Bachelor of Arts in Art History from St. Cloud State University

Master of Divinity from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities

Appointment History

Pastor of Brownsdale UMC and Zion UMC (Sargeant), 2018-present

Pastor of Ellendale UMC, August 2010 –June 2014

Pastor of Beauford UMC, September 2009 – July 2010

Associate Pastor at Eden Prairie UMC, September 2007-July 2009

Continuing Education and Training

Leadership Academy 2011 – 2014

“The Journeys of Paul in Greece” through EO Ministries November 2010

Service and Community Involvement

I have served on the board of the food shelf in Ellendale.

I helped start the food shelf in Mapleton.

I have facilitated grief support groups in Eden Prairie.

I have been part of and led several mission teams both nationally and internationally.

Call to Ministry

Six years ago I took a break from ministry. My parents had died suddenly and I was going through a divorce. Through prayer and discernment, I felt a need to step away. At the time, I didn't think I would ever go back. Then a dear friend told me, “Don't worry God has your number and will call you back when he wants you.” While I can speak more to this in person, for now I'll share that just over two years ago I felt God's voice whispering in my ear to go back!






Passion for Ministry

During the four years that I was on a break from the ministry, I went to different churches from all denominations and I learned what it felt like to be a stranger. My passion for ministry is to help churches to always be welcoming, no matter if it is a first time visitor or a member who may feel like an outsider. I take Jesus' commandment in Matthew 25 very seriously, “I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”

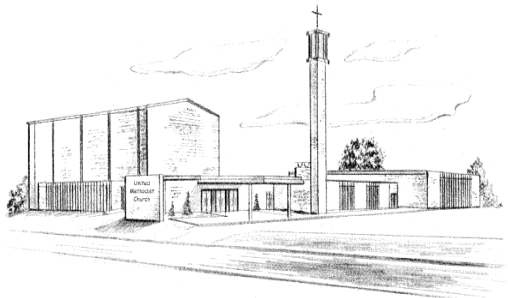
Vision of the Church

To be viable into the future, we must be authentic in our worship and loving of our neighbors. We must listen to where God is calling us. If we remain authentic to God's call and practice radical love of neighbor, the Church will grow.

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 
5 Communion	6	7 UMW Exec. Board Meeting @ 1pm	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 	16	17	18
19 Council of Stewards Meeting 9 a.m./Zoom	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
			Summer Sunday Schedule 9:00 a.m. - Traditional Service 10:00 a.m. - Coffee/Fellowship			

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owatonnaumc@q.com
Pastor Lisa Vick
(507) 451-4734



Return Service Requested



OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME
GROW IN GOD'S LOVE
SERVE ALL PEOPLE
JULY 2020

Sunday worship service can be seen on
Charter channel 181 and Jaguar channel 900 at the
following times:

Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

Services are available 24-7 on

www.owatonnalive.com