



Peace United Methodist Church
Pastor Mickey Olson
303 Ninth Avenue South
Virginia MN 55792

Peace UMC Mission

Peace in our Communities,
offering healing and
wholeness to all in life's
journey.

The Methodist Messenger

February 2020

Church Office

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Phone: 218-741-7739

www.peaceumc.us

E-Mail: pastor@peaceumc.us
office@peaceumc.us

Worship Schedule

10:00 AM Peace UMC
303 South 9th Avenue
Virginia, MN 55792

Note: Communion is the
1st Sunday of the month

Our Staff

Pastor	Rev. Mickey Olson
Youth Coordinator	McKenzie Fossell
PORCH Director	Rachel Bodas
Administrative Assistant	Joan Schriber
Music Director	Jeanene Hagberg
Choir Accompanist	Char Cremers
Nursery Attendant	
Custodian	Jerry Anderson

Thought for the month:

Psalm 40:5

You, LORD my God!
You've done so many things—
your wonderful deeds and your plans for
us—



From the Pastor

The Methodist Church has been in the news this last month. First for the plan to divide and secondly for the Cottage Grove Church which is closing and restarting as a Church for young people. Neither story was a good representation of what is actually happening.

The plan to divide is actually a way for those who wish to divide to do it gracefully. It is only a proposal. General Conference has to happen in May and we don't know what legislation will be passed. Are there groups seeking to leave the Methodist Church? Yes. Do we know if that will happen? No. It seems that it may. The proposal allows for an exit that is not filled with anger and fighting. Who owns the building and how the obligations of financial support are issues that will come up to be negotiated should a division occur. This proposal seeks to avoid contention around these issues and was drafted by church leaders on both sides of this issue. So that all voices and perspectives were heard.

The Cottage Grove Church is an example of reporting done with little knowledge of the situation and only angry voices being represented. I do not know this church, I do not know the pastor, I don't think I know any of the previous pastors. But here are the questions I would ask: What is the history? How many pastors have attempted to lead this church into the future? Was there resistance? Sometimes churches say they want to grow and change but will resist any efforts to do so. Was this an issue of behavior or of age? And what was a risk in creating a totally new church with the same leadership in place? The scriptures tell us you cannot make new wine in old wineskins Matthew 9:17

Many of the challenges facing churches which seek to grow are resistance from the congregation. The old model of church in the decades of the sixties and seventies is not working today. The expectations of the pastor have often not changed from the way pastors used to function. I find myself walking the razor thin edge between meeting expectations and moving the church to functioning in a way that will invite and retain those who are not here.

Does that mean anyone over the age of sixty is not important? Absolutely not! I myself am over sixty and I wonder how often I don't understand how to connect with younger people. This church of all ages has been great at adapting to change. Realistically, we still have work to do to move us into the church of the future. I think we can do it together but we have to put aside old expectations and not try to create a past that doesn't work in this time and place. We cannot take for granted that what worked for us is going to work for young people today.

As we live into this new year, what can we face about ourselves that we can change? Not change for change sake but change that will invite and encourage a new generation of young believers in Christ. The task is ours and I think this church and its people are up to the task.

Wild Blessings,

~Pastor Mickey

PASTORAL CARE

Please notify the Church Office (218-741-7739) if you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care for illness, hospitalization, surgery or emergency.

Pastoral Calls: 218-343-6849
218-744-1515

E-mail: office@peaceumc.us

DISCIPLESHIP

“As a member of this congregation, I will faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church by my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service, and my witness.”

Membership Vows – UMC

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Did you know we have Greeters each Sunday greeting and welcoming everyone as they arrive for Worship? Did you also know you are a Greeter as well? We want to be a church that is genuinely interested in people and has the desire to help them know and love Jesus Christ. We are encouraging everyone to build relationships and friendships. Try the following practices to help all feel welcomed!

CIRCLE OF 10

Greet and engage in conversation with everyone who comes within 10 feet of you. Make a special effort to greet our guests and the people you don't know.

RULE OF 3

It only takes three minutes for people to exit the church. The loneliest time for a guest is after the service when everyone turns to talk with their friends. Seek out our guests; Introduce them to Pastor Mickey and other congregation members; Invite them to join you for Coffee 'an; Thank them for being with us on Sunday morning.

WORSHIP SERVICE – Edgewood Vista

February 12th – (2nd Wednesday of the month) A worship service led by Pastor Mickey is held at Edgewood Vista at 10:30 am. The congregation is invited to worship and visit with the residents.

BOOK STUDY

I will be leading a book study on the book “Word by Word” a daily spiritual practice by Marilyn McEntyre. This will take us through fifteen weeks of focusing on one word a week. Because you can enter this practice at any time, you do not have to be there for every session. I think this is a great book that can lead us to a deeper relationship with God. We will meet on Thursdays at 11:30 am. I look forward to our time together. Pastor Mickey

MINISTRY-METHODIST MOONLIGHTERS

February 12, 2019-Methodist Moonlighters serve at Salvation Army 3:30 pm-5:30 pm.

February 25, 2019-Meet at Wandering Pines, Gilbert 6:00 pm- Theme: “God amongst the pots and pans”

MISSIONS

Red Bird Update

The Red Bird mission team is not going to be making their annual trip to Kentucky this year. We are looking at mission work possibilities in either North Dakota or Wisconsin. We are hoping with a shorter trip, we may find more people interested and able to go. We will send out more information as soon as we have it available. Even though we will not be going to Kentucky, it doesn't mean that it is not an opportunity for anyone else who may be interested. Contact Pam Omersa if you would like information on Red Bird 2020 opportunities.

We will again be having a bazaar to fundraise for this year's mission project. We'll have a sandwich loaf lunch with an additional option of Italian beef sandwiches. A bake sale and white elephant sale will also be included. We are just beginning planning, so watch for future updates. We appreciate all the help you have provided making our last bazaars successful, and hope you're able to help us again this year.

OFFICE NOTES-ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS

ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS: I would like the congregation's input of photos to insert in Sunday Worship power- points. I know .jpeg formats work, if you have another format let me know and we will try it. As always, let me know if you have any questions on this endeavor. Photos may be emailed to office@peaceumc.us.

LOST AND FOUND: We have some scarfs, mittens, and even a pair of glasses whom have lost their home- check out if missing something.

OUTREACH -FIX IT FELLOWSHIP

A new committee is being formed to help our church members with small projects they may have at home that they are unable to complete on their own. If it's a project we could handle, volunteers would complete the work for you. All costs for materials would be the homeowner's responsibility.

We hope to have a form available shortly that you will complete to request help. Be thinking of that special need you may have, and watch the bulletin for further updates.

The Fix It Team

PORCH

February PORCH adult program schedule

February 5th We'll be watching inspirational music videos in the fellowship hall. Decks of cards will also be available for those who want something else to do during the music.

February 12th We'll be knotting a blanket for someone in need. Come join the conversation and try your hand at knotting polar fleece blankets.

February 19th We'll be watching an episode of "The Story of God" with Morgan Freeman Who is God? Host Morgan Freeman traces the evolution of the belief in God across different faiths by delving into neurology and visiting places of worship.

February 26th Ash Wednesday

There will be no PORCH program this evening. Please join us in the sanctuary for the Ash Wednesday service.

In March we will be joining in on the book study "Word by Word, a daily spiritual practice" by Marilyn McEntyre. The book will be available in the church library for purchase. The cost is \$13.00. Otherwise we will have the chapters we are discussing in PORCH available no charge. The book study will be led by Pastor Mickey. It is a great time for reflection, contemplation, and discussion during the Lenten season.

MENUS (Milk, coffee, and water are served during the meals)

February 5, 2020 –White chicken chili, corn bread w/honey butter, jello salad, and pineapple dream fluff

February 12, 2020 –Lasagna, garlic bread, coleslaw, and cupcakes

February 19, 2020 –Pork noodle hot dish, 7-layer salad, roll, and blonde brownies

February 26, 2020-Baked potato bar w/ toppings, salad, and cherry jello fluff

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION UPDATE - KIDS HELPING KIDS!

This year in Sunday School, we have been encouraging our students to bring a weekly offering to be used for Sunday School Missions.

To date: The kids have raised \$30, and have received a matching donation of \$33.

Our first Mission project will be UMCOR School Kits. UMCOR is the United Methodist Committee on Relief, and the school kits will go free of charge to children in need in the United States.

Each kit will contain basic classroom supplies, placed in a 2 gallon resealable bag, along with \$1 to cover the cost of shipping. The cost of each kit is \$11.

Our goal is to complete 12 kits - we are halfway there. Please help our Sunday School reach their goal, so we can assemble the kits in February!

The students will continue to help with their weekly offerings. They are learning a valuable lesson in Stewardship, as well as the joy we receive when we share our time and gifts with others!

Wild Blessings!

Ann Voss and Chris Johnson

NURSERY ATTENDANT

The church is looking for a nursery attendant. This would be a paid position for two hours on Sunday morning. If interested pick up an application in the office. Or if you would like to volunteer to be in the nursery on Sunday morning let Pam Omersa know.