The Spirit

The Official Publication of New Spirit UCC

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Toni Brown
Billie Walker

Member at Large:
Julie Finnerty

TREASURER'S REPORT
Email: treasurer@newspiritucc.org

Income:	**May 2016**	**Budget**	**% of Budget**
Capital Campaign	2,676	9,800	27%
Memorial Fund	320	0	
Fundraising	2,381	1,100	216%
In-Kind Donations			
Offering	30,497	74,456	41%
Other Income			
Rent Income	1,608	2,090	77%
Special Offerings	2,612	3,100	84%
Total Income	**41,746**	**90,546**	**46%**
Total Expenses	**39,289**	**74,126**	**53%**
Income (Loss)	**2,457**	**16,420**	**15%**
Mortgage Payments	**-6,927**	**-17,000**	**41%**
Cash Flow	**-4,469**	**-580**	
Cash Balance	Unrestricted $2,241	Restricted $3,661	



Interim Pastor Notes

Dear Members & Friends,

We are half way through our "Sundays move to Wednesdays" and I am really happy with all of it. Attendance has been steady at 41 and visitors have joined us - and returned. So many people here at New Spirit have volunteered to help. I am impressed with how smoothly you make things happen. Last week a reporter from the Savage paper came, visited and took pictures. Haven't yet seen the article. The music has been outstanding. My one disappointment has been the weather which made us move indoors. I so wanted the music and noise of our gatherings to filter out over the neighborhood saying to folk, "look, we are here - and we're fun!" But -- even if it hadn't rained, the heat and high humidity made it critical last week to gather inside. Looks like we'll be inside again this week - and next week's prediction is for high temps - but I'm praying for a midweek break! That first Wednesday was so wonderful with just the right temperature and perfect breezes!

As we enter August I am thinking ahead. Two events I hope you'll be part of:

Sunday, September 11 - "Rally Sunday" - we gather to celebrate our life together, we will also remember in prayer the historical events of that day.

Sunday, September 18 - "New Beginning Summit" - In worship and a meeting that follows, this is the chance, as a congregation, to hear the report of the New Beginnings Leadership Team. This report will put together your responses, ideas, feedback from the small group meetings.

This is <u>not</u> a formal congregational meeting with a vote. This <u>is</u> an important time of listening to each other, talking openly and honestly and then deciding on the next steps for New Spirit. This is an important moment in your understanding of your future and the search for a new pastor. PLEASE -- I ask that all of you - members, friends, youth - please - mark it on your calendar today and come.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer - again, I hope to see you in worship on a Wednesday - or Sunday.

Blessings,
Rosemary

Bulletin Bloopers (not at NSUCC!)

The Fasting & Prayer conference includes meal.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

And this one just about sums them all up--

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday:
'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours!'



Moderator's Moment

My name is Todd Gerlach. I am the new moderator at New Spirit United Church of Christ. I am excited to participate in the New Spirit leadership team. I look forward to the completion of the New Beginnings sessions and the upcoming discussion regarding the vision and direction that the congregation will develop for the church. I anticipate that there may be some differences that will be discussed and ultimately will be resolved to the benefit of the entire congregation.

I am also excited for the results of the New Beginnings process to help shape our search for a permanent pastor. I am amazed with the members of this congregation and I am confident that we will continue to serve our community in a positive way. I am happy to assist with this process in any way that I can.

If you have any concerns, thoughts or ideas please do not hesitate to contact me or any other board member. I hope everyone enjoys the rest of this beautiful summer.

—Todd

Paradoxical Commandments of Leadership

by Dr. Kent M Keith

The rules assume that you care. I mean, really. Not just because it's fashionable to appear concerned for those who are "less fortunate." Not because you know that pretending to care is going to earn you the title of Mr. Nice. Not because the redhead in the next row loves charitable people. Not because it's a good way to get attention in the public spotlight. No. Something deep, something sincere and real. Being interested in what others think, how they feel, what's important to them, what they need. ... A lot of sentimental hocus-pocus? Maybe. Personally, I am convinced that unless you really care for the people you are going to lead, you'll never do anything meaningful - except by accident.

1. People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered. Love them anyway.

2. If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. Do good anyway.

3. If you are successful, you win false friends and true enemies. Succeed anyway.

4. The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

5. Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable. Be honest and frank anyway.

6. The biggest men with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men with the smallest minds. Think big anyway.

7. People favor underdogs, but follow only top dogs. Fight for a few underdogs anyway.

8. What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight. Build anyway.

9. People really need help but may attack you if you do help them. Help people anyway.

10. Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth. Give the world the best you have anyway.

Personally, I'm convinced that if you are helping people for your sake and not theirs, you'll never be satisfied: either the "return" in personal glorification won't come, or if it does, it won't for long appease a constantly growing ego. If you're out for glory you'll never have enough, and you'll never be happy. On the other hand, if you really care and want to help, then a lack of recognition is no great tragedy.

This was written in 1968 when Kent was a 19-year-old Harvard sophomore in a booklet for high school leaders. This was at a time when everywhere students were organizing.

DEACONS

Our move of Sunday services to Wednesdays for July are underway! We've averaged 41 attendees at the first two evening events and services including a few new faces. Remaining evenings include:

Wednesday, July 27th at 6:45 pm (dinner served from 6:00-6:30 pm); music by the Flemming Fold a family Blue Grass band

Wednesday, August 3rd at 6:45 pm (dinner served from 6:00-6:30 pm); music by Miriam & Company and Bridge 33, two local youth bands

On these evenings, please join us for dinner, music and worship.

Dinner: 6-6:30 pm – hot dogs, beef & veggie burgers, salad and fruit. Free will offering.

Worship: 6:45-7:45 pm

Rosemary and others have been working hard arranging for different music groups to join us as we eat, socialize, and worship. We will be outside (weather permitting) so please bring your blankets or lawn chairs and join us!

August 2016 VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY	7	14	21	28
Greeter– Upper				
Greeter— Lower				
Ushers				
Altar Flowers				
Acolyte				
Lay Reader		Stacy Montgomery	Michael Stoos	Suzanne Jantscher
Refreshments				

Here are some ways you can help your church and Deacons
Sign up for as many as you wish
Sign the sheet on the table OR contact a Deacon

If you are interested in helping out the Deacons on any Sunday morning, plenty of volunteer spots are open. See a Deacon for more info or the sign-up on the table in the narthex.

See you in church! Plenty of free parking spots are available every Sunday morning and Wednesday evening.

Your Deacons are Jan Marlin, Billie Walker and Cheryl Stoos.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

We hope you are enjoying your summer!!! In August the Sunday School teachers again begin to plan for our Sunday School year. We acknowledge that there is both some excitement in looking ahead and some sadness about seeing the end of summer approaching, but we miss you in the summer and are very excited to see you in the fall.

Due to all our busy schedules, we will not be having a Vacation Bible School Day this summer. We have however been enjoying Wednesday evening services at the church. The services have been very engaging for all ages. It has been fun to have a few of our kids participating on Wednesday evening services; setting up, cooking, cleaning up and even acting in a skit! If you have not had a chance to participate on a Wednesday evening, there is still time. The last Wednesday service will be on August 3rd please plan on joining us.

Early August your CE teachers and our Interim Minister, Rosemary Rocha , will be meeting to plan the Sunday School year and develop the theme and focus. Watch for your Sunday School Invitations and for the September Newsletter to learn more!! In the meantime, mark your calendars for September 11th, Rally Day when we celebrate coming back together for our regular Sunday School season.

We look forward to being with you again. Have a safe and enjoyable summer **R.**

Your Teachers,
Lori, Stacy and Julia

Christians - By Maya Angelou

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'."
I'm whispering "I was lost,
Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble
and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And need His strength to carry on.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed
And need God to clean my mess.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible
But, God believes I am worth it.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches
So I call upon His name.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner
Who received God's good grace ,
somehow.

Don't Mess With Children!

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head.
She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, 'Why are some of your hairs white, Mum?'
Her mother replied, 'Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white.'
The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, 'Mummy, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?'

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray:
'Take only ONE . God is watching.'
Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies.
A child had written a note, 'Take all you want. God is watching the apples...'

Community Outreach

Ruby's Pantry- Volunteers are needed on Monday August 15th. Ruby's Pantry is located at Glendale United Methodist Church,13550 Glendale Rd. Savage. All ages are welcome to volunteer.
Ruby's Pantry distributes corporate surplus food in Minnesota and Wisconsin to fight poverty, hunger and disease in rural communities. They show friendship while trying to meet tangible needs of struggling neighbors, friends and strangers regardless of race, religion or ethnicity. Glendale United Methodist church is the only distribution site of Ruby's Pantry in the Metro area.
Volunteers are needed for Set up from 2:30 until 4:30, distribution of food from 4:30-6 and clean up from 6-6:30.

Families Moving Forward- Families Moving Forward is a program to endi homelessness one family at a time. The program offers families experiencing homelessness hospitality, emergency shelter and a path to home with support for stability. Volunteers from about 80 congregations throughout the Twin Cities metro area create shelter space for a safe place to sleep, a warm meal, and volunteers to share kindness and compassion with families experiencing homelessness. Our professional staff work closely with each family to address their unique barriers to stability so they may leave our shelter program for permanent housing. To read more about the program click this link http://www.beaconinterfaith.org/what-we-do/families-moving-forward

****Locally in our area, New Spirit is working with Spirit of the Lake Lutheran Church in Prior Lake in the fight against hunger and homelessness in the Families Moving Forward Program. Spirit of the Lake Lutheran Church will be hosting local families experiencing homelessness overnight at their church the week of August 21-28. Many volunteer are needed to help set up, serve meals, help and or plan activities. The experience is very rewarding, and your help is very much appreciated! Here is a link the sign up to volunteer http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c4ba8a622a4f49-sollc

New is a volunteer slot for one adult to plan a children's or family activity each night from 6:30 - 8 pm, as well as three time slots for activities on Saturday afternoon. If we can provide more structured activities, everyone has more fun! An activity can be almost anything, such as a baking project, scavenger hunt, BINGO, sing-alongs, crafts, magic show, outdoor games, etc. If you are creative and fun - we need you!

Also everyone is invited to two great training opportunities for us to share and learn.

1. All Families Moving Forward volunteers are invited to a meeting to discuss hosting operations, leadership volunteer roles that are available, and new ideas to freshen things up. This will take place at Spirit of the Lake on Wednesday, August 10th from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. Please come to share in the team conversation.

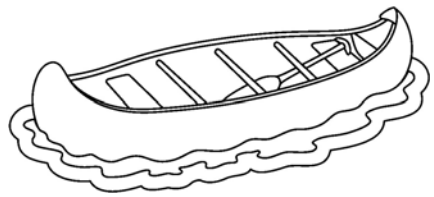
2. Beacon will be holding a hosting volunteer training for all FMF volunteers at SOLLC on Saturday, October 8th from 9 am to noon. The training is an opportunity to better understand reasons behind homelessness in our community, expectations of guests and volunteers, and how the whole program works. Please click here to register.Beacon Trainings There is also an option on August 11th in St. Paul if that works better for you.

Fellowship

Our 5th Annual All generations Canoe Trip on the Cannon River will be on Saturday August 27th. The Cannon River a gentle river which runs through some farmland and the low-bluffs making it very easy to canoe. If you are not comfortable canoeing or have never gone before, we can have you ride with experienced people. We can fit three in a canoe so the middle person can just sit and enjoy the day.

- We will be canoeing the short route. Expect it to take about 4 hours with stops for lunch (bring your own) and swimming. We will be renting from the Cannon River Bike and Canoe Rental, and using their return shuttle service. They do have a few options for renting. Canoe (which holds up to 3 people) $40, 4 person raft $50, or single person kayak $25. If you want to bring your own canoe or kayak the shuttle fee is $20.

We will plan on getting on the river by 10:30 am. Meet at the Cannon River Canoe Rental, 615 North 5th, Street, Cannon Falls, MN 507-407-4111 by 10:15. Please sign up or RSVP to Sue Jantscher by August 23rd so we can reserve the canoes.

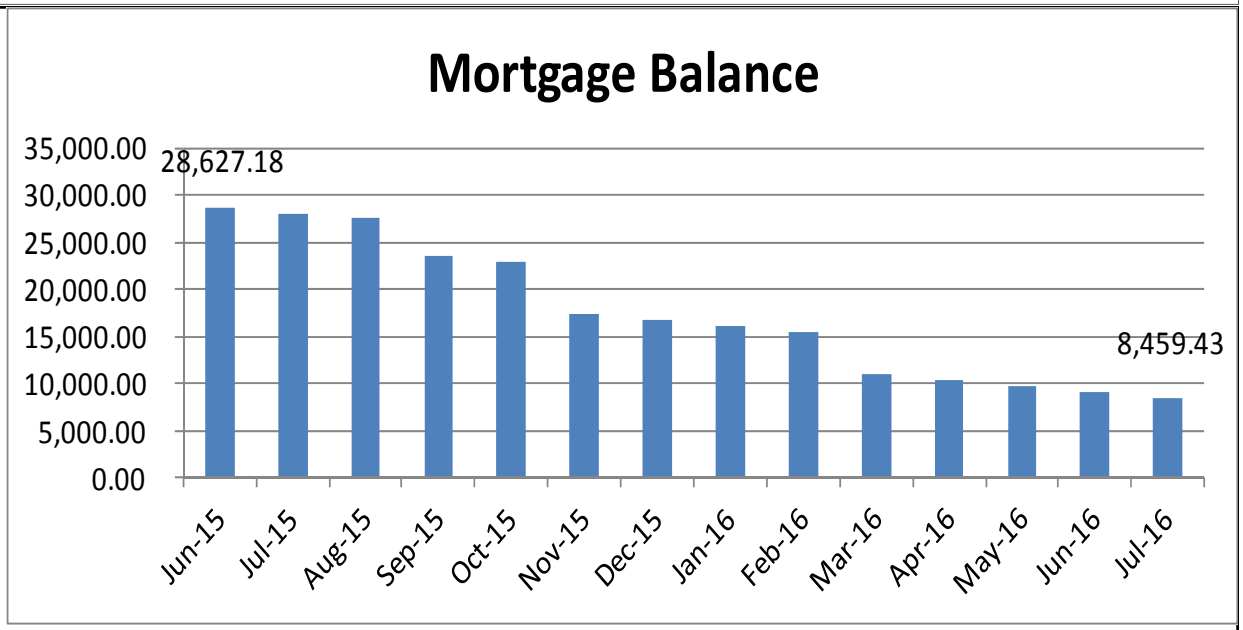


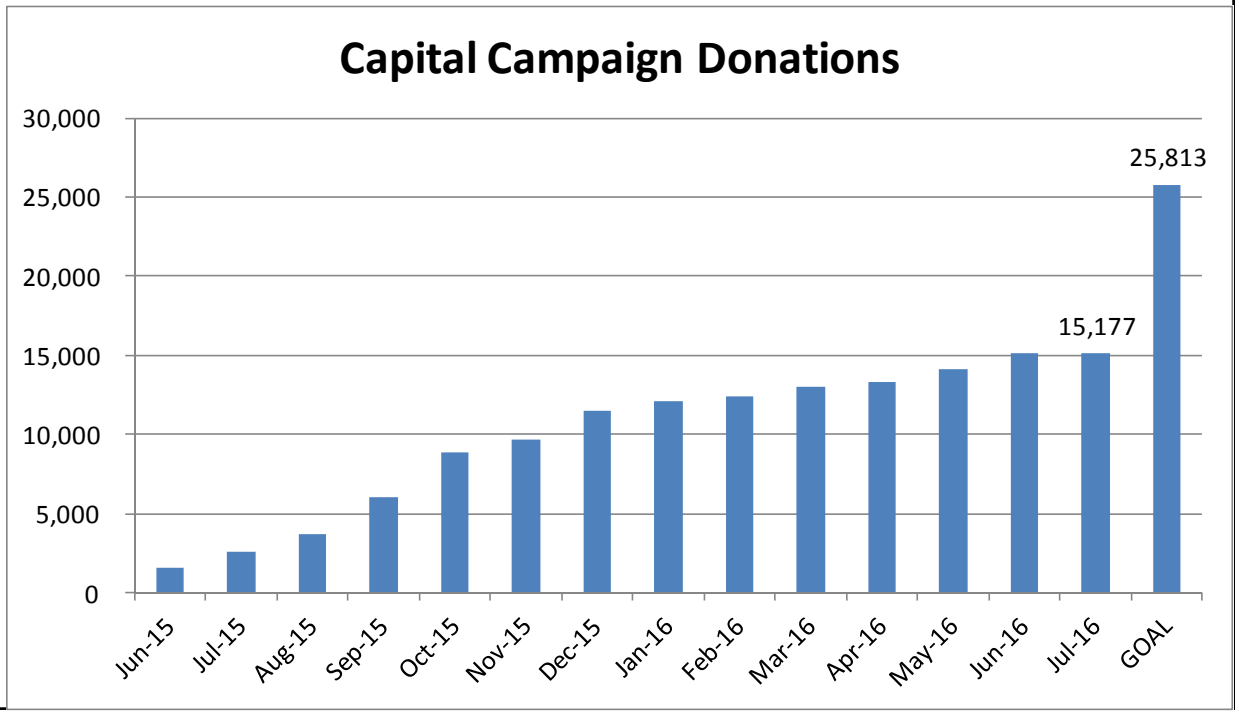
Capital Campaign Update

The graphs at the right show the progress of our capital campaign and the progress of paying off our mortgage. We believe the mortgage will be paid off by the end of the year, but only if people continue to pay as pledged. To date, we have received $15,177 of the pledged amount of $25,813. This is excellent progress. I want to thank everyone for their generosity. Paying off our mortgage will have a major financial impact on our congregation. Paying off the mortgage will improve our cash flow by $8,400 next year. Soon I will be sending out reports that will update each individual/family progress on their capital campaign pledge. I cannot say this enough, so I will say it again. Thank you for your donations.

Phil Hatlie

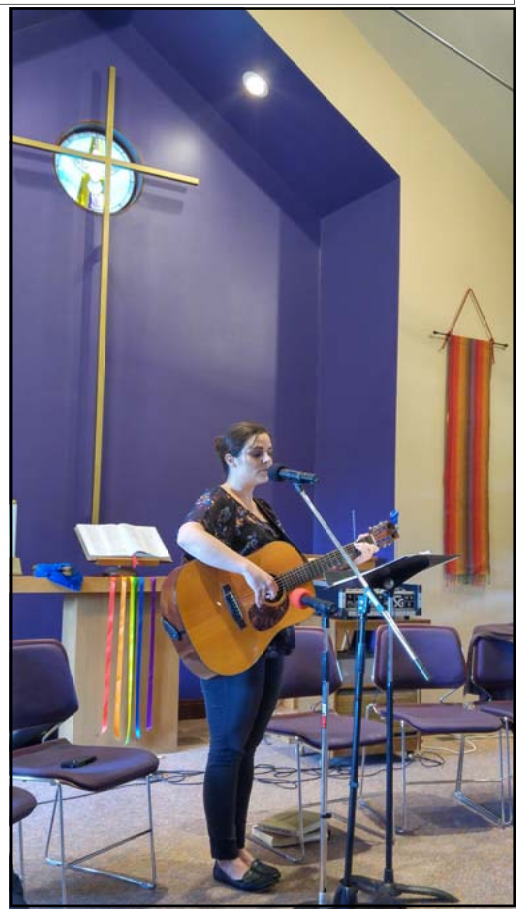








Grill master Jamey teaching Johnny Dunford how to cook!







Birthdays & Anniversaries
August 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Don Moderie	4 Candy & Jim Moffitt	5	6
7	8	9 Billie Walker Sue Jantscher	10	11	12	13
14 Brendan Welch	15	16 Ciaran Finnerty	17	18	19 Eric Trogen Sue Moy	20 Don Moy
21	22	23 Allie Welch	24 Cheryl Stoos	25	26 Virginia Stricker	27 Kara & Pat Prynne
28	29	30	31 Alan Bergeson Anne & Alan Bergeson			



WHAT'S HAPPENING!!
August 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	**2**	**3** Sanctuary Rented 5-6 pm **6 pm - Worship Outdoors**	**4**	***5***	**6**
7 **9:30 Worship w/ Communion** **10:45—Celebrate Birthdays & Anniversaries**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**
14 **9:30 Worship** **11:30—New Beginnings Leadership Meeting**	**15** **Ruby's Pantry**	16	**17**	18	**19**	**20** 9-11—Sanctuary Rented
21 **9:30 Worship**	***22***	23	**24**	25	**26**	**27** **Annual Canoe Trip** 9-11—Sanctuary Rented
28 **9:30 Worship**	***29*** **6:30 p—New Beginnings Leadership Meeting**	30	**31**			

FINAL THOUGHTS

Integrity means that we keep our word and do what we say we are going to do, that we have high moral and ethical values and live by them, that we live in harmony with the laws of God and the laws of the land unless to do the latter would defy the laws of God.

©

Life without coffee? UNTHINKABLE!

Peace Coffee is on a mission to craft a delicious coffee experience in collaboration with communities around the globe. We strive to make the world a better place one cup at a time and have fun while doing it! Proudly roasting, pedaling & brewing outstanding fair trade & organic coffee from the heart of Minneapolis since 1996.



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Want something different?
Contact: Missions@newspiritucc.org