

Fourth Avenue United  
Methodist Church  
219 Fourth Ave. NW  
Faribault, MN 55021  
507-334-4308

# July Fourth Teller

July 2022

## A Truly Blessed Day

*This is the day the Lord has made;*

*Let us rejoice and be glad in it!*

- Psalm 118:24



Dear Fourth Avenue UMC Friends,

It was a truly blessed day! One of the most joyful and significant days of my life. On Saturday, June 11, my beloved Rebekah and I were united in marriage before the altar in our church's sanctuary before an overflow crowd of witnesses. The worship space was decorated lovingly, simply and elegantly with lit candelabras, new wedding banners, a newly minted and hemmed white cloth on the communion table, and a handcrafted kneeling bench for the nuptial celebration. The presence of God was deeply felt and devotion to God was palpable throughout the prayerful celebration.

We were literally surrounded by the love of family and friends as the worship space was filled to overflowing in every section. The instrumental music from the Koopmann family from Motley, MN lifted the spirits of the gathered body and accompanied our collective voice raised in song rejoicing in God's goodness and faithfulness to the glory of God. As the newly married couple, Rebekah and I walked joyfully down the aisle to Handel's *Hallelujah* amidst voices that broke out in the lyrics of the classic work. And as we left the Sanctuary for the front steps, we were serenaded by the carillon bells as wedding photos were taken with our church's historic, stately Greek columned building as the fitting backdrop. For Rebekah and me, the worshipful wedding celebration in our church's sanctuary was the fulfillment of our highest hopes for our wedding day.

And there's more. My dear friend, seminary classmate, and Christian brother Bill Ivins, pastor at St. Paul UMC in Amarillo, TX, presided over the worship celebration with the perfect balance of faith, humor, joy, dignity and truth. His sermon entitled, "*A Divine Design*" was a masterpiece in the application of God's Word from Ephesians 5:21-33 and his leadership over the rituals and celebration of Holy Communion was nourishing to all. Before the wedding, a men's prayer gathering was held in our church's chapel. Christian men from near and far who have walked with and supported me along my life's journey gathered to shower me with powerful, heartfelt, Word-centered, Holy Spirit drenched prayers as I knelt before the communion rail. As the meeting closed in ample time for the wedding proper, my 83-year-old father addressed the men assembled, "*This was a profound experience!*"



At the rehearsal dinner the night before, wedding participants and out of town guests gathered for a sweet evening. Rebekah and I were able to go around the room and briefly introduce each person and share a bit of our relationship with the guests. My brother and sisters presented me a very special gift - a framed black and white photo from the collection of my parents wedding photos from August 25, 1962. This particular one of my parents in the car carrying them from the church has been among our family's favorites for years. Tearfully, I went around and shared it with all the guests noting that had my mother been alive, my parents would have celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this coming August. Inspired by that gift, Rebekah and I staged a similar photo the next day in the Cadillac that had carried Rebekah to the church and would carry us from the church to our formal reception.

And then, there was a joyful reception in our Church's Fellowship Hall. Many joined in decorating the hall in Rebekah's favorite colors and accents and assisted in serving the voluminous gathering of guests. What a diverse gathering of our two families and friends, fellow Rotarians (where Rebekah and I met), church friends from FAUMC and River Valley, people from my past congregations, fellow clergy and spouses, and other community members. The Lakelanders Barbershop Chorus (with whom I sing) were there in full force to entertain delightfully. There was a wonderful buzz in that room as a diverse gathering of dear people mingled and swapped stories with one another.

It was a most blessed day, the culmination of an incredibly beautiful and healing season in my life. The flowering of a special and unexpected friendship, a joy-filled courtship and engagement, a season of becoming acquainted with one another's family, the integration of Rebekah into our church family, and our beautiful wedding day gathering with so many beautiful, loving, and precious people from different places and walks of life. I am so grateful for your faithful walking with me through a personally challenging season and Rebekah and I are so grateful to God for the ways you have showered us with love, kindness and prayer throughout our journey. We covet your ongoing prayers as we adjust to one another and grow and mature in our marital life and love.

In gratitude for who you are and all you've done for my beloved Rebekah and me,  
I am sincerely yours,

*Pastor Greg*

### **Congratulations to the Hollings**

On Sunday, July 3 after worship, our church family will hold a special coffee in celebration of the 72<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary of **Lloyd and Alta Holling**. The Hollings were married on June 25, 1950 at the Jasper Methodist Church outside nearby Luverne. The unsuspecting teenagers met on a blind date on a Saturday night in a café and the rest is history. They faced a separation when Lloyd was in a combat zone stationed in Korea during the war. The Hollings were blessed with and raised three daughters. They came to Faribault where Lloyd worked as an electrician for 47 years and eventually started his own business. Some of his work was done in our church building. When asked the secret of their long-life and blessed marriage, Lloyd looked to his wife's support and hard work. Alta said, "We worked at it every day." Together they agreed it took patience, understanding, and give and take. Let's shower the Hollings with our love as we mark this wonderful milestone.

You may send cards and notes of congratulations to Lloyd and Alta Holling, 1425 Carriage Circle, Faribault, MN 55021.



### July Memory Verse

*"The harvest is indeed plentiful,  
but the laborers are few.  
Pray therefore to the Lord of the harvest,  
that he may send out laborers  
into his harvest."*

- Luke 10:2

### United Women In Faith Thursday, July 14, 2022 1:00 pm in the Parlor YOU ARE INVITED!

The United Women in Faith will be meeting on  
Thursday, July 14 at 1:00 pm in the Parlor.

Please mark the date and time on your calendar.  
More information will be provided soon.



United  
Women  
in Faith

The Upper Room devotional  
booklet includes a daily reading  
of the scriptures & a brief life  
story. Stop by the information  
center to pick one up, or call the  
church office and we will send  
you one.

Donation - \$1.00.



### Faribault Rotary Club Red Cross Blood Drive

The Faribault Rotary Club is sponsoring a  
Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, July 8th  
from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Fourth  
Avenue United Methodist Church. Please  
use the lower level ramp door for entrance  
to the building. Masks are required per  
the Red Cross.

To register, call  
1-800-733-2767 or go to  
[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)



### Prayer Chain



If you need prayer for any  
reason, there is an active group  
in our congregation committed  
to praying for you.

Contact **Carole Evans** at 507-210-6971 or  
e-mail her at [caroleannjean@gmail.com](mailto:caroleannjean@gmail.com)

### Attendance

	<u>In Person Worship</u>	<u>Online Worship</u>
<u>June 26</u>	58	15

### Offering

<u>June 26</u>	
Unified Budget	\$1,837.00

### Jesus Food Packing Event Saturday, July 2, 10 am - 12 noon at Faribo West Mall

Join us **Saturday, July 2, 10 am - 12 noon** at the  
Faribo West Mall to pack food for individuals in  
need. Be a part of the fellowship and be inspired  
about the mission of Jesus Food and the great need  
we will be alleviating through our act of service.

Bring a friend to share in this  
meaningful experience.



### Average Worship Attendance

<u>Month</u>	<u>In Person</u>	<u>Online</u>
January 2022	32	16
February 2022	45	17
March 2022	48	15
April 2022	73	18
May 2022	68	10
June 2022	69	12



### Bossmann Blessing



**Kim and Tom Bossmann, PROUD** grandparents, are **HAPPY** to announce the birth of **Jack Thomas Bossmann**, son of **Brett and Sonja Bossmann**.

Jack was born April 28, 2022 at a whopping 9 lbs.

Kim says, "He is a beauty! Praise the Lord!"

### Prayer Shawls Needed

For all of you who crochet and/or knit, please know we are in need of Prayer Shawls. The shawls are blessed at a worship service and then made available to individuals/friends who need extra comfort as well as our continued prayers. Thank you for your help.

### Thank You

Thank you for supporting the ministries of Fourth Avenue UMC with your presence and your gifts.

Kathy DuChene,  
Church Treasurer



### Sympathy



Our sympathy to Ann Bicknase, Randy Twiehoff and family upon the passing of Steven L. Twiehoff.

Steven Ludwig Twiehoff, age 69, passed away in

Gilbert, AZ on June 21, 2022, peacefully with family at his bedside. Steve has been dealing with cancer for four years and put up a courageous battle.

He was born April 20, 1953 to George and Mavis Twiehoff. He was baptized on January 8, 1954, and confirmed on September 19, 1967 both at Fourth Avenue UMC. He was received into membership at Fourth Avenue UMC on April 28, 1968 with the Rev. George A. Butters.

Visitation will be Wednesday, July 6, 2022 from 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm at Boldt Funeral Home, Faribault. A memorial service will be held Thursday, July 7, 2022 at 11:00 am at the Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church, Faribault, with visitation one hour prior to the service. Wearing of masks is encouraged, but optional.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be given in Steve's name to the Fourth Avenue UMC, Relay for Life (American Cancer Society) or the Episcopal Church "Community Café" free meal program in Faribault.

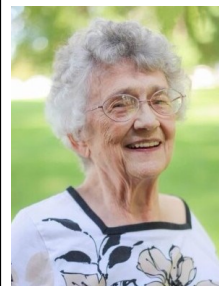
### Sympathy

Our sympathy to Jeff Richards on the passing of his sister, Becky LaBonte.

Becky lived in Burnsville, MN and died on Thursday, June 9, 2022.

Please keep Jeff in your prayers at this difficult time.

### Sympathy



Our sympathy to **Mary (Nathan) Ebert** on the passing of her mother, **Ann C. (Glynn) Swanson**, age 86, on Tuesday June 28, 2022, in Red Wing, MN. Mary is also the aunt of

**Deb Jindra-Pope** of our congregation.

Visitation will be held on Friday July 1, 1 to 2 pm at Divine Mercy Catholic Church in Faribault. Funeral follows at 2 pm at Divine Mercy.

Please send cards to Mary and Nathan Ebert at 19234 440th Street, Kilkenny MN 56052.

## Welcome New Members

On Pentecost Sunday, June 5, we received six new members into our church family.

**Peter & Kirsten Grunnet** were received by transfer of membership from Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Peter is a native of Minneapolis and Kirsten grew up in Montana and the two of them met as students at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. Peter works at the prison as a psychologist. They came to Fourth Avenue UMC because they heard good things in the community about us and have found themselves blessed by the warm, loving, and friendly Christian environment among us. They are eager to get involved and use their gifts to build up the church and its ministry. The Grunnets will celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this coming October and have three adult children.

**Joe and Debra Mueller** were received by transfer of membership from Albert Lea UMC. The Muellers moved to Deb's native Owatonna from Clarks Grove in 2019 and began attending Fourth Avenue UMC having known Pastor Greg from his years at Albert Lea UMC 1997-2003. During the pandemic and facing personal health crises, the Muellers have appreciated the prayers of the church family, the online worship services, and the pastoral care they have received. The Muellers will celebrate their 46<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this August and have two adult children and three granddaughters.

**Dave and Carolyn Hanson** were received by transfer of membership from Hope UMC. Natives of Clarks Grove, the Hansons grew up, were married in, and raised their three children in the First Baptist Church architecturally reminiscent of Fourth Avenue. Dave drives truck for Nerstrand AG and Carolyn, a retired LPN, is active in many community projects including serving on the board of the Community Café. The Hansons came to Fourth Avenue UMC when we opened for in person worship after the pandemic. They have found our church to be a place where their faith is nourished by a vibrant spirit of welcome and worship and a willingness to try new things. Carolyn serves on the board of Rural Evangelism Mission, Liberia (R.E.M.). In addition to their adult children, the Hansons have seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, celebrated their 57<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this past February, and enjoy playing golf, camping, and wintering in their park model in Harlingen, Texas.



### New Members

(Pictured from left to right)  
Kirsten & Peter Grunnet  
Joe & Debra Mueller  
Carolyn & Dave Hanson  
Pastor Greg Ciesluk

## Congratulations, College Graduates!



**Kelsey Kern** graduated from Hamline University with a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree, concentration in Marketing, and a Minor in Strategic Communications, **Cum Laude honors**. She is employed at IN Food Marketing and Design.

**Brandon Kern** graduated from MSU Mankato with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Construction Management and a Minor in Business. He is employed at Holtmeier Construction.

**Kaylee Kern** graduated from MSU Mankato with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Communication Science and Disorders with a Linguistics Minor, **Magna Cum Laude honors** and will continue on with her Masters for Speech Pathology. Kaylee is working as a Camp Counselor for Camp Maverick, a recreation and literacy intervention camp designed to help kids improve reading and writing skills. She will continue on to graduate school in the fall.



**Emily Kiker** graduated from South Central College in Faribault with a nursing degree and **honors** on May 12, 2022. She was the recipient of the Florence Nightingale Award by a vote of her fellow students and South Central College. Emily is the oldest daughter of Kim Luedke of our congregation.



**Brody Kucera** has graduated **cum laude** from Hamline University with a degree in finance and a minor in music. He will be pursuing a career in music as a percussionist. He has been playing and recording with several singer/songwriters in the Twin Cities area. You can follow along on his next adventures at Woodzen on Facebook and Woodzen\_mn on Instagram.



**Suzanne (Suzi) Quigg** graduated in May from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, MA with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History with a Minor in Managing for Social Impact, **Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa**. At the end of the summer, she is excited to do a bit of traveling and then begin working in order to save up for graduate school! Suzi is grateful to Fourth Avenue for the scholarship funds and to be a part of our community.

**\*Andy Prange** will be graduating from the University of Minnesota-Duluth in December of 2022 with a degree in mechanical engineering.\*

## **Congratulations, High School Graduates!**

**Miles Schiffer**, son of Chris & Julie Schiffer, graduated from Faribault Senior High School. He received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Faribault Daily News and also a scholarship from McDonalds.

**Aubrey Hatfield**, daughter of Eric Hatfield and Katie Hatfield, graduated from Faribault Senior High School.

## **Congratulations, Scholarship Recipients!**

**Andy Prange**, son of Brad and Elizabeth Prange, will be receiving a \$1,000 scholarship from the Bequest and Gift Fund.

**Chloe Kucera**, daughter of Dan and Pam Kucera, will be receiving a \$1,000 scholarship from the Bequest and Gift Fund. She is starting her third year at Hamline University with a major in Communication Studies and a minor in Political Science.

### **Calendar of Events**

July 2 ~ Jesus Food Packing Event, 10 am to noon at Faribo West Mall  
July 3 ~ Hollings 72nd Anniversary, coffee in Annex following service  
July 5 ~ SPRC, 6:30 pm in Parlor  
July 6 ~ Steve Twiehoff Visitation, 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Boldt Funeral Home  
July 7 ~ Steve Twiehoff Funeral, at Fourth Avenue UMC  
10:00 am Visitation 11:00 am Service  
July 7 ~ Trustees, 6:30 pm in Parlor  
July 7 ~ Operation 23 to Zero, 7:00 pm in the Library  
July 8 ~ Rotary Blood Drive, 10 am to 4 pm in Fellowship Hall  
July 10 ~ Honoring High School Grads, College Grads and Scholarship  
Recipients 9 am worship 10:15 reception in the Annex  
July 12 ~ SPRC Training, 6:30 pm in the Parlor with Rev. Susan Nienaber  
July 13 ~ Ad Council & SPRC, meets at 5:30 pm with Rev. Susan Nienaber  
**July 13 ~ Rev. Susan Nienaber meets with congregation at 7 pm in Annex**  
July 14 ~ UMW, 1:00 pm in the Parlor  
July 19 ~ Finance, 2:45 pm in the Parlor  
July 21 ~ Piecemakers, 7 pm in Fellowship Hall  
July 26 ~ SPRC, 6:30 pm in the Parlor  
July 4, 11, 18 & 25 ~ Lakelanders, 7:00 pm in Choir Room



## July Birthdays

Lauri Lammin	01
Ian Pope	01
Tena Harren	01
JoAnn Schulz	02
Dan VanDerVeen	02
Ella Prange	03
Pat Pecore	04
Molly Boyd	14
Verus Kandakai	15
Rod Mahler	15
Karen Doehling	18
Sharon Nelson	20
Audrey Eiler	21
Russ Schulz	22
Jack Luedke	25
Ashley Osmundson	27
Patrick Morris	28
Britlynn Kleeberger	30
Robert Nelson	31
Jace Vrieze	31

## July Anniversaries

Dwayne & Wanda Weber	13
Ron & Barb Swartwoudt	14
Grant & Lauri Lammin	18
Dan & Shari VanDerVeen	20

## Students in the News

### FARIBAULT SENIOR HIGH

#### A Honor Roll

##### 9th Grade

Annabel Schiffer

##### 12th Grade

Miles Schiffer

#### Honors for College Graduates

Mankato State-Kaylee Kern-Magna Cum Laude Honors

Hamline University-Kelsey Kern-Cum Laude Honors-

Hamline University-Brody Kucera-Cum Laude Honors

### Mark Your Calendars Graduate Recognition Sunday

July 10, 2022 at 9:00 am

#### Recognition of High School Graduates

#### Recognition of College Graduates

#### Recognition of Scholarship Recipients

### July Worship Servers

#### Ushers

Jean Vincent and Linda Hellevik Stoos

#### Lay Readers

July 03 ~Nicholas Sonpon

July 10 ~Robert Nelson

July 17 ~Sharon Nelson

July 24 ~Shari VanDerVeen

July 31 ~Kelly Landsverk

#### Acolytes

July 03 ~Ella Prange

July 10 ~Comfort Sonpon

July 17 ~William Sonpon

July 24 ~Ella Prange

July 31 ~Comfort Sonpon





This “**Sanctuary Cross**” was designed by Wold Architects and made in 1982 by **Ervin Eiler**. The Cross was made with new cherry and altar wood during a sanctuary renovation. According to the memorial records, Erv dedicated this cross “in Loving Honor of my Church.”



Thank you to **Kelly Landsverk** for your creativity and outpouring of love for Fourth Avenue UMC.

“**Shine, Jesus, Shine!**”

**Fourth Avenue United  
Methodist Church  
219 4th Ave NW  
Faribault, MN  
55021-5170**



♦ **Sunday Worship 9:00 AM**

**Website:**

[www.fourthaveumc.org](http://www.fourthaveumc.org)

Like us on Facebook

**Join us at 2:42 PM daily as we pray our church's Breakthrough Prayer.**

**Pastor Greg Ciesluk**

Phone: 218-310-8813

[Pastorgreg.fourthaveumc@gmail.com](mailto:Pastorgreg.fourthaveumc@gmail.com)



***Our Church's Breakthrough Prayer***

O God, our God, we praise and magnify Your Name!

Great are You, Lord, and greatly to be praised

With you, all things are possible.

We know that you are *with* us and *for* us  
and Your plans are for our good,

for a future and a hope.

Breakthrough into our lives and into our church.

Stir up afresh our faith.

Set our hearts aflame with the fire of your love.

Open our eyes to new, fresh possibilities  
and fill us anew with the power of your Spirit.

Usher us into a new season of faithfulness  
and fruitfulness for your Kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Office Email:**

[fourthaveumcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fourthaveumcoffice@gmail.com)

**Phone: 507-334-4308**

**Office Hours: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

**Tuesday thru Thursday**

**Staff:**

**Choir Director:** Kelly Landsverk

**Organ/Accompanist:** Doug Madow

**Nursery Attendant:** Kim Luedke

**Custodian:** Ken Harren

**Secretary:** Sue Allen

**Office Volunteer:** Kathy DuChene

**Tech Volunteers:** Grant & Lauri Lammin