

Prayer Corner

“A Light to Guide, A Hope to Hold ”

Adapted from Church Assistant: Liturgy, Bible Study, Prayer

God of light and revelation, we step into this new year carrying both memories and hopes, aware of the burdens we've known and the grace that has kept us. As the season of Epiphany unfolds, remind us that your light still shines in unexpected places. When direction feels unclear, be the star that leads us forward. Teach us to move not in fear but in faith, trusting that your Spirit is already ahead of us. May your wisdom guide our decisions and your love dwell deeply in our communities. Let this year be marked not just by what we do, but by how we follow—more boldly, more humbly, more faithfully. And like the wise ones of old, may we seek you with open hearts and return changed. In the name of Jesus, our Light and our Way, we pray. Amen.

Prayer Requests

- We extend our Christian love and heartfelt condolences to the family and loved ones of Brenda Bolar-Ford, who transitioned in December 2025. We continue to lift the family in prayer, trusting God's comfort and abiding presence in this season of loss.
- Carlton Garner and Garner Family
- Chaplain Irene Weaver- Recovering from Surgery
- Family of Renee Good & Powderhorn Community
- Immigrant Community
- Linda Anderson-Hill- Biopsy
- People of Venezuela
- All who are experiencing Trauma

Seniors and Homebound

- Doris Douglas
- Johnette Houston
- Pat Jemie
- Barbara Wulf



Loving God. Loving People.

CAMPHOR
Memorial United Methodist Church

585 Fuller Avenue | St. Paul, MN 55103
www.camphorconnects.org

January 18, 2026 | 10 am
MLK Sunday | Epiphany



Rev. Cynthia Williams | Lead Pastor

Welcome to Camphor Memorial UMC!

We are an open, welcoming, and affirming congregation, intentional and inclusive of all God's people. Camphor worship services are filmed, recorded and broadcast on line. Whoever you are – you are safe here.

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Camphor Bulletin Board

- † All stand
 - * Please be Seated
- Where indicated, speak or sing the words in **bold**

Centering Moment: Our Daily Bread

Check out today's passage from
"Our Daily Bread" to get centered for Worship.



Prelude

† Bringing in the Light | Processional

Welcome

Pastor Cynthia Williams

*Camphor welcomes Conference Superintendent Laurie Kantonen &
Hennepin Avenue UMC Confirmation Class*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Jack Franklin

- One: Jesus taught us to pray: "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done." This is not just a prayer—it's a bold vision of hope and justice.
- Many: We gather as a people shaped by that prayer—longing for justice, grounded in grace, and marching toward freedom.**
- One: On this MLK Sunday, we remember those who walked, wept, and witnessed. Their dream was more than words—it was sacrifice, song, and Spirit.
- Many: We are their legacy. We are their living prayer. Called not just to remember, but to continue the work.**
- One: God's kingdom is not far away—it is breaking in now. Wherever love overcomes hate, and truth rises over lies.
- Many: Thy kingdom come—in our hearts, our streets, our systems, our worship. Let it rise in us today.**
- One: So come with open hands, marching feet, and ready hearts. The Spirit is moving.
- Many: We come to worship the One who taught us to pray and calls us to act. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done. On earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

(Adapted from Church Assistant: Liturgy, Bible Study, Prayer)

Announcement Submissions: Please submit announcements for the newsletter, bulletin, and Tuesday weekly email by 10 a.m. two weeks before the desired publication date, ensuring events are promoted at least a month in advance to allow the congregation sufficient time to engage and participate.

This Week @ Camphor Memorial UMC

Tuesday, January 20th 6 pm- Finance Team Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, January 21st 6:30pm- Bible Study (Zoom)

Saturday, January 24th 9 am- Praise Dance Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Sunday, January 25th 8:45 am: Adult Sunday School (Conf. Rm)
10 am: Worship (Sanctuary & Live-Stream)

Change for Change: Small Coins, Big Impact!



We are excited to continue our Change for Change monthly offering—an opportunity to share loose coins and spare dollars to support local organizations making a difference in our community. All funds are received through the Oglesby House of Blessing and distributed to a different recipient each month. The January 2026 recipient is Agape High School, which supports pregnant and parenting teen mothers as they complete their high school education with holistic academic and parenting support.

Welcome Min. Winston Holt to Camphor Memorial UMC!

Min. Winston will serve as Minister of Music for our Sanctuary and Men's Choir. Winston C. Holt, a native of Liberia, West Africa, is passionate about building God's Kingdom through worship and praise, currently serving as Music Director for the African Contemporary Service at Brooklyn UMC; he previously served as Music Director for the Monrovia Community Mass Choir and Martha Tubman UMC for nine years, and after relocating to the U.S. in 2004 served as Organist at St. Matthew UMC (New Jersey) and Music Director at United Christian Assembly Church for 19 years and Mt. Zion Interdenominational Ministries in MN; he is happily married to Mrs. Jowo Holt and has four wonderful children.



Save The Date

Annual Meeting & Chili Cook-Off



Camphor family, you're invited to our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 25, following Sunday service. We will begin with a Chili Cook-Off, sharing food and fellowship, and then gather to reflect on the life of the church and prayerfully plan for the year ahead.

Interested in participating in the Chili Cook-Off? Please email Hannah Matthews, Communications Coordinator via communications@camphorconnects.org

All church members are welcome as we come together to celebrate where God has been at work and look ahead in unity and hope.

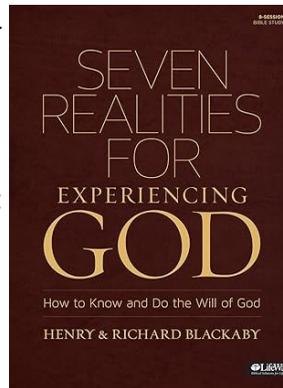
Black Affair Photos for Sale

Photos from the Black Affair are now available for purchase at \$10 per image—visit the front page of camphorconnects.org to access the order form. Complete the form by reviewing all photos, selecting the images you wish to order, and choosing the quantity for each. The order form will remain open through January 31, 2026, with all orders delivered by email beginning the week of February 1, 2026; questions may be directed to office@camphorconnects.org.

Experiencing God Bible Study

Join us for an eight-week study, *Seven Realities for Experiencing God: How to Know and Do the Will of God*, on Wednesday's at 6:30 pm via Zoom

This small-group-friendly study explores seven biblical realities from Exodus 3 that help believers recognize God at work and join in God's activity through an obedient love relationship.



The book is required for this study. You may purchase it by scanning the QR code.



Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89022802750>

† Hymn of Praise

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" AA/HH 540 | UMH 519

[Verse 1]

**Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;
let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.**

[Verse 2]

**Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path thru the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.**

[Verse 3]

**God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.**

(Worshippers May Enter)

Centering Prayer (In Unison)

Jack Franklin

God of justice and joy, Thank You for meeting us here—not with demands, but with divine presence. We come with questions and convictions, with hope and heartache, and You receive it all. In Your kingdom, every voice matters, every cry is heard, every dream is sacred. As we quiet ourselves in this moment, let Your Spirit speak to what still aches and what still believes. Remind us that we are part of Your prayer, part of Your purpose, and part of Your power. In Jesus name, Amen.

(Adapted from Church Assistant: Liturgy, Bible Study, Prayer)

Passing of the Peace

Jack Franklin

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation, peace, and love. Saying, to our neighbors, **"the peace of Christ be with you,"** the response is, **"And also with you!"**

(Worshippers May Enter)

Song of Intercession *Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross* AA/HH 252 | UMH 301

[Verse 1]

*Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain,
free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.*

[Refrain]

*In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,
till my raptured soul shall find, rest beyond the river.*

[Verse 2]

*Near the cross, a trembling soul,
love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star
sheds its beams around me. [Refrain]*

Joys and Concerns | Intercessory Prayer

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Lord's Prayer (In Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Gathering our Community/Announcements

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Ministry of Giving/Offering

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Scan the QR Code to give online via Square or PayPal!

1st Offering: Change for Change

2nd Offering: Tithes & General Offering



† The Doxology

UMH 95 | AA/HH 651

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Ministry of Music

Sanctuary Choir

† Scripture Lesson

Matthew 6:9-13

Dr. Beverly Oliver Hawkins

New Revised Standard Version-Updated Edition

"Pray, then, in this way: Our Father in heaven, may your name be revered as holy. 10 May your kingdom come. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

The Message

With a God like this loving you, you can pray very simply. Like this: Our Father in heaven, Reveal who you are. Set the world right; Do what's best— as above, so below. Keep us alive with three square meals. Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others. Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil. You're in charge! You can do anything you want You're ablaze in beauty! Yes. Yes. Yes.

(Leader: The Word of God for the People of God/ **All: Thanks be to God**)

Ministry of Music

Sanctuary Choir

Sermon

Thy Kingdom Come

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Invitation for Prayer

(Those who desire prayer or anointing with oil may come at this time.)

Pastor Cynthia Williams

† Benediction with Blessings

Pastor Cynthia Williams

**Let the Church say Amen,
Let the Church say Amen
God has spoken, Let the Church say Amen**

(Worshippers may depart. Go in Peace)

Stay Connected with the Camphor Community by scanning the QR Code to subscribe & obtain updates in your inbox!

