

Prayer Corner

Prayer of the Month:

"Rest | For Collective Care" Cole Arthur Riley -Black Liturgies

Loving God, We confess that we are so accustomed to pushing through an exhausted state that we come to expect the same from those nearest to us. We mirror the demands made of us and dissociate from the reality that these demands have harmed us, have left us anxious and unwell. Reorient our souls toward more than self-care. We want more for one another than the same expectations that haunt us, the same brutal experience of living within the systems of this world. Free us from resentment and envy as we bear witness to the prophets in our lives who practice rest and boundaries well. Let them be our guides into deeper freedom. Help us never get used to being used. We were made for more. And together we possess the mysterious power of regeneration wrapped up in our bones. May it be so.

Celebration of Life: Gayle Anderson

We cover in prayer the family of Gayle Anderson who had passed away on Monday, September 8th. He is the husband of May McCoy-Anderson and the brother of Linda Anderson-Hill. Arrangements are pending for the Celebration of Life.

Prayer Requests

- Annunciation Catholic Community
- Cristo Rey Jesuit High School
- Joel McNeill

Covering in Prayer

- Johnny Barker
- Brenda Bolar-Ford
- Rakesha Eaton (daughter of Theresa Phillips)
- Margaret LeFleur
- Gary Martin
- Sharon Martin
- Karen Morgan
- Willie P. McCoy, Jr.



Loving God. Loving People.

Seniors and Homebound

- Verlene Booker
- Glenice Booker-Butler
- Margaret Carter
- James Cummings
- Ginnie Dennis
- Doris Douglas
- Johnette Houston
- Pat Jemie
- Joyce Neal Long
- Barbara Wulf



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

**September 14, 2025 | 10 am
Lost & Found**



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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- ↑ 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

† CALL TO WORSHIP Mary Louise Archer

One: Rejoice, beloved, for the God who seeks has not stopped searching!
When the lost are found, heaven breaks into song.

Many: We come with open hearts and lifted voices – for we, too, have been found by grace.

One: This is not a gathering of strangers, but a family drawn together in love. Here, outsiders become insiders, and the weary find rest.

Many: We come as a welcoming people – big-hearted, light-filled, open-armed in Jesus’ name.

One: Every return is worth celebrating, every soul is precious in God’s sight. So let us lift up joy that shakes the heavens!

Many: We rejoice with the angels, for God’s mercy has found us all.

One: So come, children of God – bring your whole story, your whole self, your whole praise. This is the house of welcome, the place of joy, the table of grace.

Many: For once we were lost, but now we are found. Once we were far off, but now we are brought home. And by grace, we will worship the God who still seeks, still saves, and still celebrates us all!

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

Camphor Bulletin Board

S.E.R.V.E. @ Camphor Memorial UMC

Sharing **Every Resource, Voice, & Experience** | *“Because ministry takes all of us.”*



Are you looking for a way to use your gifts and make a meaningful impact in the life of our church? S.E.R.V.E. @ Camphor is your invitation to share your God-given resources, voice, & experiences in service to our community. This is more than filling a spot—it’s about living your faith out loud & strengthening the body of Christ through love in action. Join one of the ministry areas below & let your presence be a blessing.

Usher Ministry: Help create a welcoming environment for worshippers.
Contact: Saran Cryer – sarancryer@gmail.com

Communion Stewards: Assist in preparing and serving Holy Communion.
Contact: Harold Golden – harold.golden@comcast.net

Digital Ministry: Support worship and outreach through technology.
Contact: Dr. Darlene Fry – darlene-fry1637@comcast.net

Christian Education: Help lead and grow our spiritual formation programs.
Contact: De Anna Conover – deanna.conover@state.mn.us

Special Event Volunteers Needed – 2025 Black Affair

Help make this special event a success! We're looking for volunteers to serve in the following roles:

Event Greeter – Welcome guests and assist with guest flow.

Silent Auction Assistant – Help organize items, assist guests with bidding, and support closing and bid verification.

Ticket Table Assistant – Assist with guest check-in, on-site purchases, and general event information.

To volunteer for the 2025 Black Affair, contact Dr. Beverly Hawkins via beverley.hawkins@comcast.net

sermon title:

key verses:

[illegible]

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

[Verse 1]

[Verse 2]

[Verse 3]

(Worshippers May Enter)

Mary Louise Archer

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

Mary Louise Archer

(Worshippers May Enter)

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!



† **The Doxology | UMH 95**
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

Woman’s Chorale

† Scripture Lesson

Luke 15:1-24 (MSG)

Mary Louise Archer

1-3 By this time a lot of men and women of questionable reputation were hanging around Jesus, listening intently. The Pharisees and religion scholars were not pleased, not at all pleased. They growled, “He takes in sinners and eats meals with them, treating them like old friends.” Their grumbling triggered this story.

4-7 “Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and lost one. Wouldn’t you leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the lost one until you found it? When found, you can be sure you would put it across your shoulders, rejoicing, and when you got home call in your friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Celebrate with me! I’ve found my lost sheep!’ Count on it—there’s more joy in heaven over one sinner’s rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.

8-10 “Or imagine a woman who has ten coins and loses one. Won’t she light a lamp and scour the house, looking in every nook and cranny until she finds it? And when she finds it you can be sure she’ll call her friends and neighbors:

‘Celebrate with me! I found my lost coin!’ Count on it—that’s the kind of party God’s angels throw every time one lost soul turns to God.” 11-12 Then he said, “There was once a man who had two sons. The younger said to his father, ‘Father, I want right now what’s coming to me.’

12-16 “So the father divided the property between them. It wasn’t long before the younger son packed his bags and left for a distant country. There, undisciplined and dissipated, he wasted everything he had. After he had gone through all his money, there was a bad famine all through that country and he began to feel it. He signed on with a citizen there who assigned him to his fields to slop the pigs. He was so hungry he would have eaten the corn-cobs in the pig slop, but no one would give him any.

17-20 “That brought him to his senses. He said, ‘All those farmhands working for my father sit down to three meals a day, and here I am starving to death. I’m going back to my father. I’ll say to him, Father, I’ve sinned against God, I’ve sinned before you; I don’t deserve to be called your son. Take me on as a hired hand.’ He got right up and went home to his father.

20-21 “When he was still a long way off, his father saw him. His heart pounding, he ran out, embraced him, and kissed him. The son started his speech: ‘Father, I’ve sinned against God, I’ve sinned before you; I don’t deserve to be called your son ever again.’

22-24 “But the father wasn’t listening. He was calling to the servants, ‘Quick. Bring a clean set of clothes and dress him. Put the family ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then get a prize-winning heifer and roast it. We’re going to feast! We’re going to have a wonderful time! My son is here—given up for dead and now alive! Given up for lost and now found!’ And they began to have a wonderful time.

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

Ministry of Music

Woman’s Chorale

Sermon

Lost & Found

Pastor Cynthia Williams

Invitation for Prayer

Pastor Cynthia Williams

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

† 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)

Camphor Bulletin Board

This Week @ Camphor Memorial UMC

- Tuesday, September 16th** 6 pm- Admin Council Meeting (Zoom)
- Wednesday, September 17th** 4 pm- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- Thursday, September 19th** 11 am- Dorcas Circle (Lower Level)
- Saturday, September 20th** 9:15 am- Exercise w/Connie (Lg. Sunday School Rm)
1 pm- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- Sunday, September 21st** 8:45 am: Adult Sunday School (Conf. Rm)
10 am: Worship (Sanctuary and Live-Stream)
11:30 am: Congregational Care Team Meeting (Conf. Rm)

What's Happening After Church

Right after worship today, stay and join the Camphor Social Action Team, elected officials, and our community for a Black Church and Community Debrief from 12:00-2:00 p.m. Together we'll reflect on what we've heard through surveys and forums, and plan our next steps to build a strong agenda and respond to challenges.

Stay Connected with the Camphor Community!

We invite you to stay informed and inspired by subscribing to our weekly newsletter and church communications. Scan the QR code below to visit our website. Once you're there, simply scroll down to the "Subscribe" section and enter your email address.

By subscribing, you'll receive regular updates about worship services, upcoming events, ministry opportunities, and more – right in your inbox. Don't miss a moment of what God is doing at Camphor!



Camphor Bulletin Board

Adult Sunday School and Children's Church



Adult Sunday School begins at 8:45 a.m. each Sunday, offering a space for study, reflection, and growing deeper in faith together. During morning worship, Children's Church will resume, giving our young people the opportunity to engage with scripture, prayer, and activities at their own level in a fun and meaningful way. We encourage everyone—adults and children alike—to come and be part of these learning communities.

2025 Women's Ministry: Wellness Retreat | Rise up and Soar (Isaiah 40:31)



The 2025 Women's Ministry Wellness Retreat will take place on Saturday, September 27th at 10:00 AM at The Coven 165 Western Avenue North, Saint Paul, MN 55102. This year's theme is "Rise Up and Soar," based on Isaiah 40:31.

The cost to attend is \$50, which includes a light brunch. All women are invited to join us for a meaningful time of rest, renewal, and encouragement.

To register, please scan the QR code!



Camphor Bulletin Board

Black Childbirth Education Class: One Spot Open



Black Childbirth Education Class

African, African American and mixed-race families, we invite you to spend 8 weeks reclaiming knowledge, building community, addressing your questions and concerns, while we work together to prepare your mind, body and spirit for an empowered birth experience.

Cost: FREE!
September 24th - November 12th
Wednesdays 6pm-8pm
@ Camphor UMC 585 Fuller Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55103

Weekly dinner and onsite childcare provided.
Weekly transportation assistance available.
*Sponsored by Ramsey County Public Health

More information:
joythedoula@gmail.com

Register here:
<https://form.jotform.com/252205080433142>

One spot is now available for Black Childbirth Education Class. Class will be held here at Camphor Church on Wednesday nights at 6pm starting on 9/24. Black Childbirth Ed is a FREE class, curated specifically for African, African American and multi racial families. Expecting parents will spend 8 weeks preparing their mind, body and spirit for an empowered birth experience. The program is facilitated by multiple Black certified birth professionals. Dinner, childcare and transportation assistance is provided weekly.

Interested applicants can scan the QR Code or contact Joy McAfee via email at joythedoula@gmail.com



Support Camphor Through the Builders Club Grant!



Camphor Memorial UMC has been selected for the Spring 2025 Minnesota Methodist Builders Club Grant Call! We are seeking to raise \$64,702 for critical building upgrades—including new hot water heaters, kitchen appliances, and enhanced Wi-Fi for digital ministry.

These updates will help us continue to be a welcoming, connected, and faithful presence in the Rondo community. **Please consider a gift of \$25 or more by September 30, 2025** to support this important work. You may **scan the QR code** or visit **camphorconnects.org** and click the button in the **Builders Club Grant section** on the front page. **Please note "Camphor"** with your gift. Thank you for helping us love God, love people, and build for the future!



Camphor Bulletin Board



CAMPBOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO THE

ALL BLACK AFFAIR

A NIGHT OF FAITH & FELLOWSHIP

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025
6:00PM - 10:00PM

PRICE: \$75 (per person)

DAKOTA LODGE
1200 STASSEN LANE, WEST ST. PAUL, MN 55118

BE FABULOUS IN BLACK
...ALL ARE WELCOMED!

SCAN FOR TICKETS



WWW.CAMPBORCONNECTS.ORG

A Night to Remember: The Black Affair

Mark your calendars for an unforgettable evening of purpose and celebration! On **Friday, October 24, 2025**, join us at the Dakota Lodge in St. Paul for Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church's **The Black Affair**, a fundraising event to support the mission and ministries of our church. Doors open at 6:00 PM, and you are invited to come ready to be inspired.

This will be an extraordinary night, featuring performances by some of Minnesota's most celebrated artists, including our very own **T. Mychael Rambo**, an Emmy Award-winning performer, educator, and storyteller whose stage presence lights up every room, **Greta Oglesby**, a powerhouse vocalist and stage actress who has graced national theaters and wowed audiences from coast to coast, and our Minister of music, **Kevin Jackson**, singer, musician, writer, author, producer and arranger.

Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased by **scanning the QR code** or visiting **camphorconnects.org** and click the button in the **"All Black Affair" section** on the front page. Please join us as we celebrate the strength of our community and God's continued faithfulness.

