

JUNE 2024

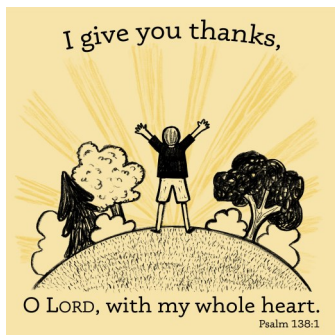


JUNE
Birthdays & Anniversaries

Theresa Reed	6/5
Judy Fowler-Morris	6/8
Chelsea Miller	6/13
Bert Lanstra	6/16
Carl Benson	6/23
Auri Talbot	6/25

Judy and Dick	6/8
Joe and Lynne	6/24

If your Birthday or Anniversary is missing, incorrect, or if you do not wish to have it posted in the Newsletter please contact the UCPC Office.



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UCPC Community Care Line

"We invite all to faith in Jesus Christ and growth in Discipleship through Word, Prayer, and Service."

A Note from the Pastor

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. - Psalm 103:8

Gosh, does it feel good to get dirt under my fingernails again! But resuming garden-ing reminds me just how much more patient God is, compared to me (or any other finite being for that matter).

For example: recently, Otilie (who is 3) was helping me transfer our vegetable starts into the ground. As she was "digging" holes in the soil, she was really just flinging fistfuls of dirt in every direction (much of it landing on me — in my eyes, hair, nose, pockets). I wish I could say that I responded with the same calm de-meanor I possess when she asks for a banana or a cookie in the middle of a sermon. But alas, I cannot. I snapped, let my anger get the better of me, huffed with impa-tient sighs, and all around just wasn't the kind of calm, cool, collected, and grace-filled parent I try to be.

Thankfully though, Ollie and I aren't the only parents Otilie has. She also has an-other parent: God, who sees her attempts at digging holes in a garden as something to be celebrated and worked with or through, rather than something to be put up with or exasperated by. This reality – of having a third parent – is true for you and I as well. Just like Otilie, we *will* attempt many things – we will *try* to be helpful – and also just like Otilie, we will not always succeed. But God still sees our attempts and our effort through a lens of love. God will love us *because* of our attempts *and despite* them.

God does not ask or expect perfection or grandness of service from us. God *does* ask that we strive to perfectly keep the law though. We inevitably cannot however, so Christ has done that for us on the cross, and now we participate in Christ's per-fection – to try, to show up and put effort in, and to communicate through inten-tions and actions that we love God and are committed to being in relationship with God.

So next time you're digging holes or doing something else in an attempt to be help-ful, but it feels like you're failing or falling down on the job, know that yes, you might be! BUT "success" versus "failure" is not how God's love is earned or achieved. Rather, God's love is manifested in our willingness to say "yes" to partici-pating in God's love in the wake of Jesus' action on your behalf. God sees your "yes" and loves it, rather than seeing your failure and snapping at you or huffing in exas-peration. God sees your efforts and works with and through them in sometimes incredibly creative and imaginative ways to achieve God's desired outcome. Your "yes" to God – even if the execution of your "yes" flops – still glorifies and gives praise to God.

To God — who is eternally patient, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love — be the glory! Amen.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Erika

June Potluck

The next Mission Study potluck will be June 9,
immediately after worship,
in the Fellowship Hall



If you like to sing praises to God, join me for an informal singing time in the sanctuary on June 12th from 5:15-6:15. We'll see if this day and time works for people and modify those as needed. This isn't a performance group but for fun and to possibly learn some new songs, too! All ages welcome!

Kathy

June 16, Fathers' Day

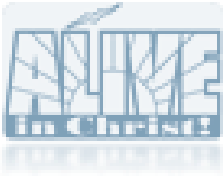
We'll be having worship on the porch again this year, at the regular time of 10:30AM.

Fellowship Hour follows.



**Shout Out
to all the
folks who
came in to
spring clean our build-
ing and grounds!**





June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Trinity Sunday 9:30AM - 10:15AM Adult Bible Study (FH) 10:30AM - 11:30AM Worship Service (S) 2:00PM - 4:00PM Grace Church (S) 7:00PM - 8:00PM 12 Step (MR)	27 Memorial Day 1:30PM - 7:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 4:00PM - 6:00PM Laurie Long (HS)	28 6:30AM - 7:30AM Men's Bible Study (N) 12:00PM - 5:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 6:30PM - 8:00PM Boy Scouts (CE) 6:30PM - 9:00PM Great Land Sounds (MR) 8:00PM - 10:00PM 12 Step AA (L)	29 2:30PM - 6:30PM Cello Charly (MR) 4:00PM - 6:00PM Laurie Long (HS) 6:00PM - 7:00PM Girl Scouts (L) 6:00PM - 9:00PM Red Hackle Pipe Band (CE)	30 11:30AM - 4:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 5:30PM - 6:30PM 12 Step (HS) 6:00PM - 9:30PM Grace Church (MR & FH Classrooms) 6:30PM - 9:00PM Sweet Adelines (CE Basement)	31 2:00PM - 4:00PM Four Winds (MR) 6:30PM - 9:30PM Grace Church (MR) 8:00PM - 10:00PM 12 Step NA (L)	1 1:00PM - 4:00PM D & D (FH Classroom)
2 10:30AM - 11:30AM Worship Service (S) 2:00PM - 4:00PM Grace Church (S) 7:00PM - 8:00PM 12 Step (MR)	3 1:30PM - 7:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 2:30PM - 3:30PM Women's Bible Study (N) 4:00PM - 6:00PM Laurie Long (HS) 5:00PM - 6:00PM Sound Team Meeting (S)	4 6:30AM - 7:30AM Men's Bible Study (N) 12:00PM - 5:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 6:30PM - 8:00PM Boy Scouts (CE) 6:30PM - 9:00PM Great Land Sounds (MR) 8:00PM - 10:00PM 12 Step AA (L)	5 2:30PM - 6:30PM Cello Charly (MR) 4:00PM - 6:00PM Laurie Long (HS) 6:00PM - 7:00PM Girl Scouts (L) 6:00PM - 9:00PM Red Hackle Pipe Band (CE)	6 11:30AM - 4:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 5:30PM - 6:30PM 12 Step (HS) 5:30PM - 7:00PM Deacons Meeting (CR) 6:00PM - 9:30PM Grace Church (MR & FH Classrooms) 6:30PM - 9:00PM Sweet Adelines (CE Basement)	7 2:00PM - 4:00PM Four Winds (MR) 6:30PM - 9:30PM Grace Church (MR) 8:00PM - 10:00PM 12 Step NA (L)	8 1:00PM - 4:00PM D & D (FH Classroom)
9 10:30AM - 11:30AM Worship Service (S) 12:00PM - 3:00PM UCPC June Potluck (FH) 2:00PM - 4:00PM Grace Church (S) 7:00PM - 8:00PM 12 Step (MR)	10 1:30PM - 7:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 2:30PM - 3:30PM Bible Study (N) 4:00PM - 6:00PM Laurie Long (HS)	11 6:30AM - 7:30AM Men's Bible Study (N) 12:00PM - 5:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 6:30PM - 8:00PM Boy Scouts (CE) 6:30PM - 9:00PM Great Land Sounds (MR) 8:00PM - 10:00PM 12 Step AA (L)	12 10:00AM - 11:00AM Mission & Outreach 2:00PM - 4:00PM Alice Nielsen Shane Memorial (S) 2:30PM - 6:30PM Cello Charly (MR) 4:00PM - 6:00PM Alice Nielsen Shane Memorial Reception (FH) 4:00PM - 6:00PM Laurie Long (HS) 4:30PM - 5:30PM Worship Committee (CR) 6:00PM - 7:00PM Girl Scouts (L) 6:00PM - 9:00PM Red Hackle Pipe Band (CE)	13 11:30AM - 4:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 5:30PM - 6:30PM 12 Step (HS) 6:00PM - 9:30PM Grace Church (MR & FH Classrooms) 6:30PM - 9:00PM Sweet Adelines (CE Basement)	14 2:00PM - 4:00PM Four Winds (MR) 6:30PM - 9:30PM Grace Church (MR) 8:00PM - 10:00PM 12 Step NA (L)	15 12:00PM - 5:00PM FNSBSD employee retirement party (Narthex/patio) 1:00PM - 4:00PM D & D (FH Classroom)
16 10:30AM - 11:30AM Worship on the Porch Service (S) 2:00PM - 4:00PM Grace Church (S) 7:00PM - 8:00PM 12 Step (MR)	17 1:30PM - 7:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 2:30PM - 3:30PM Women's Bible Study (N) 4:00PM - 6:00PM Laurie Long (HS) 5:15PM Finance (CR)	18 6:30AM - 7:30AM Men's Bible Study (N) 12:00PM - 5:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 6:30PM - 8:00PM Boy Scouts (CE) 6:30PM - 9:00PM Great Land Sounds (MR) 8:00PM - 10:00PM 12 Step AA (L)	19 2:30PM - 6:30PM Cello Charly (MR) 4:00PM - 6:00PM Laurie Long (HS) 5:30PM - 6:45PM Choir Practice (MR) 6:00PM - 7:00PM Girl Scouts (L) 6:00PM - 9:00PM Red Hackle Pipe Band (CE)	20 11:30AM - 4:00PM Cello Charly (MR) 5:30PM - 6:30PM 12 Step (HS) 6:00PM - 9:30PM Grace Church (MR & FH Classrooms) 6:30PM Session (SL) 6:30PM - 9:00PM Sweet Adelines (CE Basement)	21 2:00PM - 4:00PM Four Winds (MR) 6:30PM - 9:30PM Grace Church (MR) 8:00PM - 10:00PM 12 Step NA (L)	22 1:00PM - 4:00PM D & D (FH Classroom)
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The following is the draft version of the minutes from the May Session meeting. If you would like the committee reports, let me know by email at admin@ucpcfairbanks.org or by phone at 907-479-6728

May 16, 2024 at 6:30 pm, 2nd floor Student Lounge

Present: Rev. Erika Bergh, Doreen McNeill, Matthew Bierer, Joe Krizek, Jim Durst, Pat Babcock, Roger Smith.

Absent: Paula Long.

Guests: Deacon Judy Fowler-Morris

Prayer: Moderator, Rev. Erika Bergh opened in prayer at 6:35 pm.

Scripture and Devotion Matthew Bierer gave a devotion based on Proverbs 3:5–6 and Proverbs 19:20

A quorum was declared

The amended Consent Agenda was ADOPTED with no opposition

Docket

Minutes of the April 18, 2024 Session meeting

Receipt of written reports from committees, Deacons and the Pastor, **with the amendment that the Pastor's and Building Stewards' reports were moved to new business for further discussion.**

Orders of the Day (7 p.m.)

Deacons' report was given by Judy Fowler-Morris. In addition to the written report, prayers were asked for members, including a youngster bitten by a dog. The deacons were thanked for their tireless service.

Comments from the Congregation. There were no verbal or written comments received by the Clerk.

Clerk's Report was given by Doreen McNeill.

New Business:

Pastor's report. In addition to the written report, Pastor Erika shared that

offering the Sacraments is a vital function of pastoring and she is lamenting not offering the Sacraments more often. The session agreed to consider ways that can be done. To start, the Worship Committee will conduct a straw poll of the congregation regarding the number of times communion is regularly offered during worship. The session recognizes that the congregation elected Session members to make this decision, but understanding the needs and desires of congregants is useful in making this decision. Worship committee will further explore this topic.

Pastor Erika will attend a continuing education conference in Minnesota during July 29–31. The conference is fully funded, so costs UCPC nothing. Executive Presbyter, Rev. Elizabeth Schultz will preach that Sunday and meet with the congregation.

Building Stewards report. In addition to the written report, Joe noted that the Borough's contractor that was going to clean up Lutke Ave (the raised area behind the church parking lot) has backed out. So, this clean-up is on hold. Joe continues to work with UAF and AT&T to push them to clean up the garbage on their adjacent property.

Based on a second request received from the Alaska Spay and Neuter Assistance Program (ASNAP), **it was moved and seconded to approve ASNAP to conduct these surgery clinics once a month at UCPC. Motion FAILED by a vote of 0:6.** In addition to concerns about building security, sanitation, and concern for other building users, Session noted that this type of activity does not meet our mission statement. Joe Krizek responded to ASNAP.

The May 19 potluck was discussed and assignments made for the mission study activity.

Questions of the Month. Elders were given assignments to summarize the *Questions of the Week* that were handed out during worship. The summaries will be handed out at the June 9 mission study potluck. Summary assignments are as follows:

April 7 & 14 (4 questions) ~ Doreen
April 21 (2 questions) ~ Roger
April 28 (Question #1) ~ Pat
April 28 (Question #2) ~ Jim
May 5 (2 Questions) ~ Matthew
May 12 (Question #1) Paula
May 12 (Question #2) Joe

Transitional Mission Study work was discussed. Doreen used Rev. James' study design to create questions for the May 19 potluck mission study. Rev. James sent specific study designs for the June 9 and Sept. 8 potluck mission studies. These will be discussed at the May 23 meeting with Rev. James. The contact with our consultant will go on hiatus while Rev. James undergoes surgery and treatment for breast cancer. Prayers were asked for Rev. James.

Mission Committee. It was agreed that **Matthew Bierer will be the liaison with Mission Committee**, which is functioning without a session member on that committee.

Meeting Schedule Next meetings:

May 18 @ 1:00 pm at Christ Lutheran Church, Session quarterly planning meeting.

May 23 @ 3:30 PM meet with consultant Rev. Heather James.

June 6 @ 5:30 pm Deacons' Meeting (Joe Krizek).

June 9 @ noon: Mission Study Potluck #3 – Question of the Week Summaries and Discussion.

June 20 at 6:30 PM regular Session meeting.

June Devotional and Elder of the Month: **Joe Krizek**

Adjourn Closing prayer

Building and Grounds Update

The window project construction start date will be in June and completion will be in July. Exact day and time depends on when the windows are received from the supplier. All of the old windows in the pastor's office, conference room and nursery will be replaced with new triple-pane windows. Each pair will have one operable and one fixed window. The total cost for the project is \$26,500. Currently we have about \$18,000 and we need to raise the remaining funds by the end of July. Please contribute if you are able. This is another major step in reducing our heating costs.

Women's Bible Study
June 3 and 17, at 2:30PM, in the Narthex,
Studying
Sermon on the Mount by John Stott

GOLDPANNERS

sponsored by

THE DOOR

PARTNERED WITH FAIRBANKS WELLNESS CENTER

June 19, 6:30 PM

Growden Memorial Park

Come out to the Ball Park

to promote homeless youth awareness

Pentecost Offering

Thank you to all those who donated to the Pentecost offering!

Thanks to your generosity, we collected a total of

\$986.00

Thank you!

University Community Presbyterian Church



3510 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709

Website: www.ucpcfairbanks.org

Phone: (907) 479-6728

Office Hours

9:00AM to 1:00PM, Monday - Friday

Pastor Erika is in the office Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10AM-2PM



Contacts

Supply Pastor . Rev. Erika Bergh 1-(907)-717-5015 Email: rev.erikabergh@gmail.com

Admin Assistant: Melissa Bierer (907) 479-6728 Email: admin@ucpcfairbanks.org

Session Elders and Committee Leaders

Doreen McNeill ('24)	388-0544
Joe Krizek ('24)	460-4294
Pat Babcock ('25)	978-7187
Matthew Bierer ('25)	474-0106
Jim Durst ('26)	590-9024
Paula Long ('26)	687-7444
Roger Smith ('26)	322-2595

Board of Deacons

Will Haight ('25) President	978-9679
Carol Nielsen ('25)	388-8154
Sarah Lanstra ('25)	378-3929
Melissa Bierer ('24)	474-0106
Janet Johnson ('24)	687-7148
Judy Fowler-Morris ('26)	388-5629
MariJo Larson ('26)	322-9425

Worship Service Leaders

Matthew Bierer	Video Manager
Kathy Dohner	Organist/Pianist
Curtis McNeill	Sound Manager
Theresa Reed	Choir Director

