



**ANNANDALE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

250 OAK AVENUE NORTH

PO BOX 329

ANNANDALE, MN 55302

(320) 274-5127

**The Grapevine  
August - 2021**

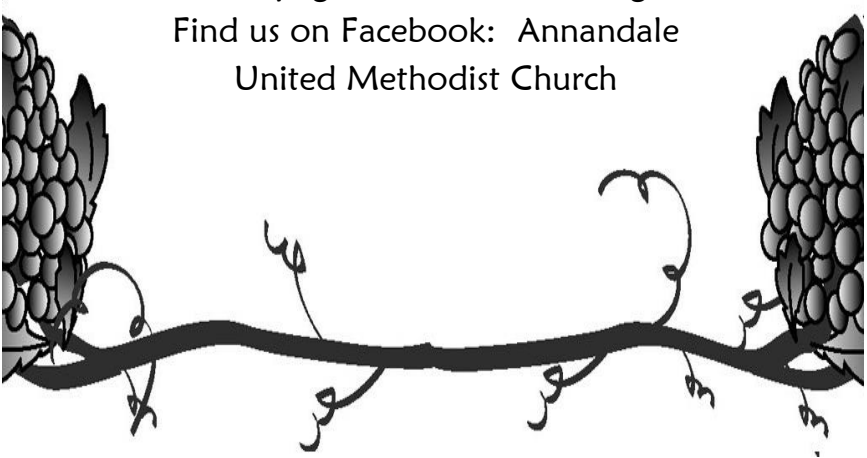
Pastor Paul Baker

(Pastor) [am.umc.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:am.umc.pastor@gmail.com)

(Office) [aumc@lakedalelink.net](mailto:aumc@lakedalelink.net)

Webpage: [annandaleumc.org](http://annandaleumc.org)

Find us on Facebook: Annandale  
United Methodist Church



## August 2021 Grapevine

### It's Hot!

We have had a record number of days over 90 degrees in Minnesota! We certainly hope that you are all staying both cool and safe. If there is anything you might need, please let us know.

It has been an amazing summer so far. It has been wonderful to slowly get back to what seems like normal, however we are constantly hearing that Covid-19 infections are on the rise again among the population that has not received the vaccine. Let's continue to pray for the safety of our entire population.

Coming up soon Debbie and I will be taking a week off to visit family and take a little break in the Seattle area. We are looking forward to a little R and R. I would like to say thank you to Ricki and Don and Betty Danford for filling in for me while we are away. I know that I'm leaving you in good hands.

I would also like to say thank you to the crew that is able to volunteer with Fe-eD in Montrose and with the many other activities in both Montrose and Annandale! What an incredible ministry we have for our community. In Ephesians 4:1 the writer "*encourages you to live as people worthy of the call you received from God.*" I am truly thankful that the people of our church community live amazing lives of faith.

God through Christ has blessed us all with different gifts and different ministries. Ephesians says it this way, 4:12 "*His purpose was to equip God's people for the work of serving and building up the body of Christ until we all reach the unity of faith and knowledge of*

*God's son.*" I am constantly struck by how often the scriptures speak of unity, and yet so many people seem to ignore that message and appear to be trying to drive a wedge between people.

My wish for us is that we may humbly live our lives in recognition that none of us have all the answers, and we must rely on the wisdom of Christ as we are to come together and live our lives to the fullest.

Come Holy Spirit, Come.

We take comfort in John Wesley's words from his death bed, "The best of all, God is with us still."

May God's Kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven!

*Pastor Paul*

Pastor Paul D. Baker

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**Blood Drive**



Tiffany Schulte with the American Red Cross sent us a letter of thanks for all our hard work hosting the blood drive this past month. We collected 36 units which can help up to 108 patients.

Other statistics reported:

Goal: 32

Collected: 36

Appointments: 42

First Time Donors: 4

No Shows: 3

Walk-Ins: 1

Deferrals: 2

## Annandale UMC Giving and Attendance

### Giving – July 2021      Attendance – July 2021

July 4, 2021	\$1,821.00	19 – in-person 44 – online
	\$50.00	4 <sup>th</sup> of July donations Fund
	\$58.00	July Mission March – Grandparent camp
	\$896.00	Brat & Hotdog Stand Sales
July 11, 2021	\$1,743.00	26 – in-person 27 – online
	\$58.00	July Mission March – Grandparent camp
July 17, 2021	\$3,151.00	16 – in-person 35 – online
	\$18.00	Brat & Hotdog Stand Sales
July 25, 2021	\$7,036.00	26 – in-person 42 – online

General funds needed each week:      \$2,519.00

July income as of 07/15/2021: \$4,713.00

July expenses as of 07/15/2021: \$5,717.73

2021 apportionments = \$14,020.00

Monthly apportionments = \$1,170.00

Apportionments paid in July as of 07/15/2021 = \$586.00

Apportionments paid YTD = \$6,466.00



Our August Mission March on Sunday, August 8, 2021 will go to apportionments.

Apportionments are the share each annual conference or local church pays to support international, national, and local missions.



- Tara Smith, Sally Smith's daughter, who is undergoing treatment for breast cancer.
- Debbie Vokaty who is dealing with health concerns.
- Dale Grant, Linda Williams' uncle who is undergoing treatment for cancer.



### Worship Information and DVD's available

We are now operating in the Minnesota Conference's recommended **Blue Phase**. Below you will find the recommendations for this phase of our recovery.

*COVID-19 is still circulating but the infection rate is decreasing or low, and larger gatherings can take place.*

Churches can open with no capacity limits but social distancing is still highly encouraged and masks are recommended for anyone unvaccinated. We would offer these considerations as you determine your requirements in this new phase:

- What is your congregational make-up? If you have children in worship, we would encourage you to continue to require masking for all to protect them until they have an opportunity to be vaccinated. If your congregation is made up of primarily older individuals who have all been vaccinated, then you may consider eliminating your masking requirement.
- Pay attention to the vaccination rates and the COVID positivity rate in your community. If the positivity rate increases above 5 percent, you may want to re-impose masking requirements.
- Remember the essential risk factors of COVID: indoors, proximity, and length of time. A good rule of thumb to keep people safe is to meet two of these three conditions when meeting in a public space, especially when you don't know the vaccination status of participants: outdoors, social distanced, masked.

- If masking is optional in your setting, create an environment of respect for those who continue to wear masks. We all have different vulnerabilities. People should not be chided about their lack of faith or made to feel uncomfortable because they choose to do something that allows them to participate with a degree of comfort. You might want to encourage those with colds to wear a mask when they come to church to protect others. Continue to have masks and hand sanitizer available as an act of hospitality.
- Keep offering people different worship options as we are all emerging from COVID in different phases: outdoor, indoor, online. Make use of all modalities to allow for the fullest participation.
- Congregational singing is still considered a high-risk activity. Consider doing congregational singing outdoors, having people masked if there's congregational singing indoors, or having only members of your worship band sing while others hum along.
- Children's ministries should continue to require that all adult volunteers and all participants wear masks until more children have been vaccinated.
- Be cautious about how you re-introduce coffee fellowship time and potlucks. Eating and mingling indoors creates higher-risk conditions.
- Continue all sanitation practices from the previous phases. All toys and materials in the nursery and children's areas should be cleaned after each use.
- Continue to use no-touch alternatives for the passing of the peace and greeting each other (including the pastor at the end of the service).
- Serve communion in individual cups and pre-cut the bread.



## Summer Worship Themes

### [“Ephesians: GEARING UP for Life”](#)

August 1, 2021     “A Life Worthy”  
Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

August 8, 2021 – Guest Speakers

August 15, 2021     “Speaking Truth”  
Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:25-5:2

August 22, 2021     “Giving Thanks”  
Scripture Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20

August 28, 2021     “Armored”  
Scripture Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

September 5, 2021    Labor Day  
Scripture Reading: James 1:17-27



## Ole-Fashioned Hee-Haw Corn Feed and Fixings

You are invited to a Good Ole Fashioned “Hoe Down” with great fresh corn and lots of fixings. Guitar music for all by our own Garry Elfstrand. This is a free meal for the community. Everyone is welcome! Invite your friends!

When: Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Where: Amundale United Methodist Church

Annandale UMC  
250 Oak Avenue North  
PO Box 329  
Annandale, MN 55302