

**ANNANDALE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

250 OAK AVENUE NORTH

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**The Grapevine  
July 2022**

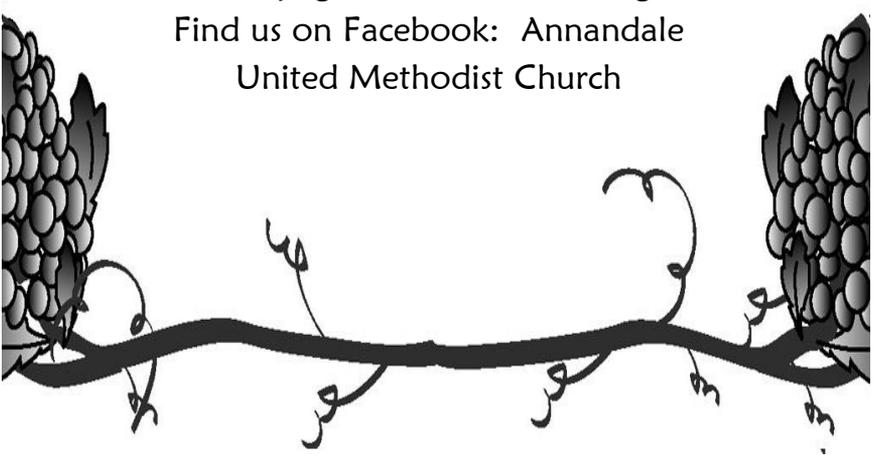
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## July 2022 Grapevine

Yep! Believe it or not; it's construction season! As Minnesotans, we look forward to summer but absolutely despise the construction projects it brings. But as we're reminded in Ecclesiastes:

*There's a season for everything and a time for every matter under the heavens (Ecclesiastes 3:9)*

*Whatever has happened—that's what will happen again; whatever has occurred—that's what will occur again. (Ecclesiastes 1:9)*

As I was maneuvering through the streets of Montrose, I was reminded of the many ways in which we're all under construction. We all have parts of our lives where we're beat up, vulnerable, and in need of some maintenance. It can be frustrating at times when we don't know how long we'll stay this way; unfinished and in process. It can be overwhelmingly difficult with the number of detours our lives take; never quite taking us the way we expected to go.

The worst part of construction season is that it can take forever and there's no real end in sight. At least in Minnesota you have "construction season". In Oklahoma, there was construction 24/7! You could go for years with roads being completely shut down. I don't think anyone but the contractors understood the real reason why it took so long for construction to be completed.

Everyone goes through a time in their lives where they have to work on themselves to either repair what was broken or maybe change for the better. I'm reminded of the Methodist saying

that we're all striving towards perfection. It's true! We're always learning how we can be better Christians. Even as a pastor, I'm expected to attend workshops, training, and meetings which will make me a better spiritual leader. God works on all of us.

God is right there with us through all of it. God is the one exposing our weaknesses, but giving us His strength. It's only when we can rely upon His direction that we'll start to see the end. As God smooths out the concrete and lets it set, then we can see some progress. We'll notice things are going better than before, and we develop loving and lasting relationships. It might not totally be perfect, but it'll be worth it!

So what part of construction season are you experiencing? Are you torn up and in the beginning stages of change? Maybe you're frustrated by the detours that makes your journey longer? Maybe you've been under construction so long you're tired of even thinking about it? Well this July we're gonna work on it together! After all, this is construction season.

Only God! The God who equips me with strength and makes my way perfect. Praise God!

Blessings!

Pastor Mark Schlasner





## July Worship Themes

July 3, 2022      “Rough Road”  
Scripture Reading: Genesis 12:10-20

July 10, 2022     “Road Closed”  
Scripture Reading: Jonah 1:1-3

July 17, 2022     “Detour”  
Scripture Reading: Numbers 14:21-23

July 24, 2022     “Work Zone Speed Limit”  
Scripture Reading: Matthew 14:25-31

July 31, 2022     “Road Work Ahead”  
Scripture Reading: Luke 10:30-36



- Barb Owen who is being treated for breast cancer.
- Beth Young who is recuperating from hip surgery.



## Coffee Fellowship Serving Groups

July 3, 2022: Sally Smith

July 10, 2022: Garry & Linda Elfstrand

July 17, 2022: Betsy Gridley

July 24, 2022: need

July 31, 2022: Joni Walberg



## Usher Schedule

July 3, 2022: need

July 10, 2022: need

July 17, 2022: need

July 24, 2022: need

July 31, 2022: need



Our July mission march which will be taken on Sunday, July 10, 2022 will go to the Parsonage Improvement Project.



## AUMC 2022 Parsonage Improvement Project



Thank you to all of you that participated in the parsonage projects. A very special thank you to Norm Planer and Dan Roller who gave many hours of sweat and labor on the Central Air and New Basement Bathroom.

Donations are still needed to complete this project. Please consider making your own contribution to this long overdue work and help us provide a more welcoming house and home for Pastor Mark Schlasner and his wife Amy Jo.

Contributions should be made to the Annandale United Methodist Church with a note that they are for Parsonage Improvements.

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