



**ANNANDALE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

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**The Grapevine  
May - 2021**

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United Methodist Church



## May 2021 Grapevine

### **Spring has Sprung! Hope reigns eternal!**

I'm writing this the day after the jury came back with the verdicts in the Derrick Chauvin trial. And, I find myself at a loss of words. The words that keep coming back to me are the Attorney General's words. The following is a quote I found online. "I would not call today's verdict justice, however, because justice implies true restoration," Ellison said. "But it is accountability, which is the first step towards justice, and now the cause of justice is in your hands." -- I'm now in the process of letting those words sink in.

So, allow me to use this article to briefly touch on what our faith brings to the tragic events in question. Our faith is modeled after the life of Jesus Christ. And as we read about his life, we recognize that his life was filled with compassion for the marginalized people of the world. He stood up for them, he gave them hope, he healed them, and he walked together with them both physically and emotionally. This is the image of God in Jesus the Son. And, since God made us in God's image, we are called to reflect the values of Jesus in our own lives. For me, the word compassion sums up all of the values Jesus expressed, better than any other single word. So, I would like to focus on that word, compassion.

I feel compassion for George Floyd. No one should lose their life because of an incident that started over a dispute concerning a possible counterfeit \$20 bill. I feel compassion for those who watched this incident escalate to the point that things reached on that day. I feel compassion for Floyd's family and friends who will no longer have him with them physically. I feel compassion for each of us, as this event has permanently changed our view of how the world works, some of it for the better, and some for the worse. And I feel compassion for Derrick Chauvin and his family, even though I just don't understand how this incident could have possibly escalated to

the point that it did. – I'm sure I could say more, but my mind is still trying to grasp the enormity of this situation.

I believe the world needs more accountability, the world needs more justice, but most of all the world needs more compassion. The world needs to more clearly reflect the image of Jesus Christ, who actually called for all three of these things, accountability, justice, and compassion.

Another quote from one of the attorneys was this, "Mr. Floyd died because his heart was too big. You heard that testimony. ... And the truth of the matter is, that the reason George Floyd is dead, is because Mr. Chauvin's heart was too small," Blackwell said.

I'm not here to judge anyone. But I would like to remind us all that Jesus has called us to live out our faith in compassionate ways. And apparently the world has not taken that message to heart, **yet**. Hope reigns eternal. --As followers of Jesus, it is our responsibility to treat each other with respect, to give each other a break from time to time, and to hold each other accountable in compassionate ways.

Restoration of God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven is our mission. We humans are not perfect in our actions, but I believe we can become perfect in our love.

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!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Paul". The script is cursive and fluid.

Pastor Paul D. Baker

## **Annandale UMC Giving and Attendance**

### Giving -April 2021      Attendance -April 2021

April 4, 2021	\$3,751.00	37 - in-person 36 - online
	\$50.00 Building Fund	
	\$699.00 Easter Offering	
April 11, 2021	\$1,251.00	24 - in-person 42 - online
	\$280.00 Apportionment Fund	
	\$66.00 Flower Fund	
April 18, 2021	\$1,301.00	24 - in-person 41 - online
	\$50.00 Apportionment Fund	
	\$63.00 Native Am. Ministries Special Offering	
	\$100.00 Easter Offering	
	\$50.00 Flower Fund	
	\$45.00 Memorial Fund	

General funds needed each week:    \$2,519.00

April income as of 04/15/2021: \$6,253.00

April expenses as of 04/15/2021: \$8,129.74

2021 apportionments = \$14,020.00

Monthly apportionments = \$1,170.00

Apportionments paid in March = \$1,173.00

Apportionments paid YTD = \$4,683.00



## Worship Information and DVD's available

We continue to operate in the Minnesota Conference's recommended **Orange Phase**.

As such our in-person worship continues with safety protocols in place.

1)- Our prerecorded video and print worship experiences are still reaching many new people. As in the past, we encourage you to take part in our online worship watching Facebook Live or the prerecorded service on Vimeo.

I have found it easier to record live on my personal Facebook page, Paul D. Baker, and then transfer it to the church Facebook page immediately after the worship service. It will be saved there. Or the prerecorded worship service is available anytime by going to [www.vimeo.com/revwindsurfer](http://www.vimeo.com/revwindsurfer) and choosing which Sunday worship you would like to watch.

--- You can watch Facebook live without having a Facebook account yourself.

2)- Our Zoom Monday Evening Video Bible Study will parallel the sermon series on the 10 Commandments "Words of Life: Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today," with insight from the book of the same title by Adam Hamilton.

If you are on our email list, you will receive an email invitation for that group each week. If you don't receive an invitation, please call the Annandale church office (320-274-5127) and let us know your email address. Thank you.

If you would like a DVD of the prerecorded Sunday services or a printed manuscript of the sermon, please let pastor Paul know at 320-455-7314.



## Spring Worship

### [“Words of Life: Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today”](#)

May 2, 2021 “The Joy of Sabbath”

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:8-11

May 9, 2021 “A Question of Honor”

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:12

May 16, 2021 “The Tragedy of Violence”

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:13

May 23, 2021 “Faithfulness in an Age of Porn”

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:14

May 30, 2021 “We’re All Thieves. Yes, Even You”

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:15

June 6, 2021 “Sticks, Stones, and the Power of Words”

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:16

June 13, 2021 “Keeping up with the Joneses”

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:17



## Forever Remembered, Forever Missed!

- Helen Lucille Allen, age 92, of South Haven passed away on March 12, 2021 at home with her family by her side. A memorial service for friends will be held at a later date. Helen was a long-time member of the Annandale United Methodist Church, having served as a greeter, fellowship server, and memorial committee member.
- Muriel Ann Rudolph, age 97, of Annandale passed away on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at the Buffalo Hospital. A private family memorial service will be held at our church on Saturday, May 1, 2021 with Pastor Paul officiating. Muriel was a member of the Annandale United Methodist Church, Christian Women, Kiwanis Club, Annandale Improvement Club, History Club, and Camp Friendship Auxiliary. She also volunteered at the Annandale Elementary School. Muriel enjoyed volunteering, photography, golfing, and spending time with family and friends.



### THOSE IN OUR PRAYERS:

- Tara Smith, Sally Smith's daughter, who will be starting treatment for breast cancer.
- Berta Monk who is recovering from rotary cuff surgery.
- Trisha Woods who is dealing with health issues.
- Shelly Anderson who is resting and feeling better.
- The family and friends of Muriel Rudolph who passed away on Saturday, April 10, 2021.

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