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# The Joyful Noise

ROCK RAPIDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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As most of you know, I am a great lover of music. I especially love the old hymns that I have sung all my life, and how they take the promises of God found in scripture and sing them to my heart. One that has been running through my head lately is "How Firm a Foundation." Sometimes I like to find out more about a hymn, to see if there is some story about the hymn or what was behind the writing of it that I didn't know before. So I took to the internet to see what I could learn. What I learned was interesting and inspirational, so I thought I'd share some of it with all of you.

"How Firm a Foundation" is on page #529 in our United Methodist Hymnal. It's strange how we assume that the way we know something is the way it is known by everyone. I just kind of assumed that everyone sang "How Firm a Foundation" to the same tune we Methodists use. But, as I was reading various articles on the internet about the song, I discovered that through the years the words have been put to numerous tunes. When it first made its way to America it was widely sung to the tune we use for "O Come All Ye Faithful." (It works by repeating the last line.) I also discovered that besides the five verses we Methodists are used to singing, there are two additional verses. The author of the hymn is unknown, or at least that information has been lost over time. The words were first included in a book published in 1787, where it only referenced the author's last initial. There are some good guesses that you can read more about on the internet if you are interested, but the bottom line is that no one really knows.

For the hymns that are in our hymnal, you can find out if they are based on a particular scripture by looking at the bottom of the page. If you look at "How Firm a Foundation" you see that it references three different scriptures. The title and first phrase comes from the first half of 2nd Timothy, verse 19:

"But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his."

Other thoughts reflect passages from Isaiah and Hebrews:

"But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you." (Isaiah 43:1-2)

"Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.'" So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'" (Hebrews 13:5-6)

While reading about the hymn I came across an inspirational story of the spontaneous singing of it by American troops stationed in Cuba on Christmas during the Spanish-American War. The song was started by one voice from a soldier from Iowa, singing "How Firm a Foundation" to the familiar tune of "O Come, All Ye Faithful." The incident was related in "The Sunday-School Times" for December 7th, 1901, by Lieutenant-Colonel Curtis Guild, Jr., Inspector-General of the Seventh Army Corps, as follows:

The corps was encamped along the hills at Quemados, near Havana, Cuba. On Christmas Eve of 1898, Colonel Guild sat before his tent in the balmy tropical night, chatting with a fellow-officer of Christmas and home. Suddenly from the camp of the Forty-ninth Iowa rang a sentinel's call, "Number ten; twelve o'clock, and all's well!"

It was Christmas morning. Scarcely had the cry of the sentinel died away, when from the bandmen's tents of that same regiment there rose the music of an old, familiar hymn, and one clear baritone voice led the chorus that quickly ran along those moonlit fields: 'How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord!' Another voice joined in, and another, and another, and in a moment the whole regiment was singing, and then the Sixth Missouri joined in, with the Fourth Virginia, and all the rest, till there, on the long ridges above the great city whence Spanish tyranny once went forth to enslave the New World, a whole American army corps was singing: - 'Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed; I, I am thy God, and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.'

The Northern soldier knew the hymn as one he had learned beside his mother's knee. To the Southern soldier it was that and something more; it was the favorite hymn of General Robert E. Lee, and was sung at that great commander's funeral. Protestant and Catholic, South and North, singing together on Christmas day in the morning, - that's an American army!

What a powerful experience that must have been, to hear the hymn spread throughout the countryside on that Christmas, sung by soldiers far from home, needing to be reminded of God's promise to be with us wherever we are, no matter the circumstances.

I leave you with the words to "How Firm a Foundation" and hope you will let the words of promise soak in and give you strength and hope.

## How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in his excellent word!  
What more can he say  
than to you he hath said –  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

In every condition, in sickness, in health;  
In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth;  
At home and abroad, on the land, on the sea,  
As thy days may demand,  
shall thy strength ever be.

"Fear not, I am with thee,  
oh, be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee,  
and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
The rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;  
For I will be with thee,  
thy trouble to bless,  
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials  
thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flame shall not harm thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

E'en down to old age all my people shall prove  
My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
And when hoary hairs  
shall their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they shall still  
in my bosom be borne.

The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

*Pastor Kathy*

### **PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED**

If you have recently moved, changed your mailing address, your **email address**, phone number, **or are only using cell phones**, please contact the church office with the current information. **Thank you!**



If you would like to be included in the **Weekly Prayer Partner EMAIL** which includes scripture readings, prayer requests, birthdays, and weekly reminders, please email or call the church; especially if you have not received these lately. If you have email, but do not receive information from the church this way, please give your email address to the office. We may not have it, and it's important that we do going forward so you can stay updated. Thank you.

### **HOSPITALIZED**

Please contact the church office or Pastor Kathy if you know a member has been admitted to the hospital. With the new privacy laws being strictly enforced there are many times we are unaware of hospitalizations. We would rather get ten calls than none at all. Thank you. **Prayer concerns** can be called into the office (472-2324) or emailed to the office at [rockrapidsumc@premieronline.net](mailto:rockrapidsumc@premieronline.net) or Pastor Kathy at [kathysides@hotmail.com](mailto:kathysides@hotmail.com) and they will be sent out.



### Praise God~

- ☺ Sue- thanks for all the prayers- got all the cancer- no treatment
- ☺ Thanks for prayers for Daxton. Keep them coming as we still don't know answers of his muscle weakness.
- ☺ Congratulations to the CL track team at state. Results= Girls 4x200 team with Callie & Sutton- 1<sup>st</sup> place (new school record); Callie 400 Hurdles- 5<sup>th</sup> place; Sprint Medley Girls with Callie & Sutton- 5<sup>th</sup> place; Boys shuttle hurdles with Zed- 5<sup>th</sup> place
- ☺ The graduates of Central Lyon High School
- ☺ Biopsy on Char De Gooyer's foot was benign



### Prayers~

- ✂ Continued prayers for Dave & Barb Fegan.
- ✂ Donna Inderwisch
- ✂ Shirley Kroon Family in her passing away (Terry VB's Aunt)
- ✂ Medical tests
- ✂ Lena Olivier
- ✂ Jon & Dani Markus



## June Birthdays & Anniversaries

- |                            |                             |                          |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 01~ Shelby Kracht          | 17~ Dave & Roxanne Ackerman | 22~ George Shurr         |
| 03~ Tori Figge             | Whitney Waagmeester         | 23~ Terry Van Berkum     |
| 05~ Barb Middle            | 18~ Kim Waagmeester         | Tom & Amy Menage         |
| Carl & Nancy DeJongh       | 19~ Randy Waagmeester       | 24~ Mike & Jackie Austin |
| Jason & Kayla Engleman     | Marion McCormack            | 26~ Ben Docker           |
| 08~ Steve & Diane Sieperda | 20~ Delores Berg            | 29~ Kayden Van Berkum    |
| 09~ Henry & Helen Boeve    | Jashaun Borman              | 30~ Ron & Rita Rice      |
| 15~ Jaime Parkinson        | 21~ Tyler Figge             | Henry Boeve              |
| 16~ Paige Menage           | Ian Wells                   |                          |

\*We apologize for any omissions or incorrect information. Please contact the office with the correct/missing information. Thank you!

# Reminders and Announcements

## June Greeter & Fellowship Schedule

### GREETERS



**Sunday, June 2**

Jay & Mimi Drenth

**Sunday, June 9**

Terry & Kathy Van Berkum

**Sunday, June 16**

Heritage Days

**Sunday, June 23**

Jerry & Elaine Birkey

**Sunday, June 30**

Carl & Nancy DeJongh

### FELLOWSHIP



**Sunday, June 2**

Larry & Bobbie Kracht; Cindi Steenblock

**Sunday, June 9**

George & Margaret Shurr

**Sunday, June 16**

FATHER'S DAY; HERITAGE DAYS-NO FELLOWSHIP

**Sunday, June 23**

Marceia Techen & Judi Sieperda

**Sunday, June 30**

Terry & Kathy Van Berkum

## VACATION

## BIBLE SCHOOL!

### At First Reformed

**Wed., June 5 – Fri., June 7**

**9 a.m. – noon each day**

**Final program will be at 11:30 on Friday.**



One Way Up will again be treating us to a delightful Sunday service on June 9th. A free-will offering will be taken to help with mileage expenses for One Way Up in addition to our weekly offering.

**Transitioning and/or needing a place to belong?** Contact the ATLAS office at (712) 472-9016 and request an appointment to learn more about where and how you can serve! With the ministry growth, opportunities to bless and be blessed exist everywhere: our Lost But Found Store Manager (Vicki) is seeking volunteers to work in the thrift store as well as others with a pickup and hitch to pull a 14 foot trailer to Justice For All in Rock Valley. "Let us spur one another on toward love and good deeds!" (Hebrews 10:24)

**(After May 30<sup>th</sup> the contact person will be Shelby and not Vicki.)**



**RRUMC will be having a float at the Heritage Days Parade on June 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in riding the float, please contact the office and let Amber know. Thank you.**



**Meals on Wheels has 2 open slots left:  
Thursday, June 6 (tomorrow)  
Friday, June 14**

**The new meal pick up location is at the new Avera Hospital (in the back at the double Receiving doors) - at 11 am.  
\*Call Mary at 472-2717 or 712-578-1314.**



One Way Up will again be treating us to a delightful Sunday service on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Please pass the word to your friends and neighbors to join us for an hour of music and fellowship. A free-will offering will be taken to help with mileage expenses for One Way Up in addition to our weekly offering. We are also looking for several volunteers to help the band unload their equipment at 7:30 a.m.

**✠The Sunday Community Church service for Heritage Days will be @ Island park on June 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Bring your lawn chairs.**



**A Message from Trixie – Would Anyone Like to Borrow Me?**

Is there anyone out there that would like to have a doggie friend visit for a week? My family (Pastor Kathy, Earl, Emily and Maggie) will be going on vacation from June 28<sup>th</sup> (My 1<sup>st</sup> birthday!) to July 5<sup>th</sup>, and as hard as it is to believe, the place they are going does **not** allow dogs! They are talking about taking me to a kennel but I like being in a house with people, so I'd much rather not have to sit in a cage, no matter how nice it is. If you like dogs but don't want one ALL the time, then I'm your girl! I don't take up much space, and I love to sit on laps. Please talk to Pastor Kathy if you would like me to visit for a week or know someone who would!

P.S. Even though my company is delightful all by itself, my family is willing to sweeten the deal by paying someone money to have me come and visit!

**Do you have a heart for being a part of a caring and visitation ministry?**

Earlier this spring I attended training at The Church of the Resurrection on developing a team of "Congregational Care Ministers" within a church. These are lay persons who are trained to be in ministry with persons that are in need of care, whether that be ongoing visitation to care center residents and shut-ins, or providing extra support for people going through a challenging time because of health issues or other concerns. The Congregational Care Ministers would not be a replacement for Pastoral care, but would provide folks with an additional person or persons from the congregation reaching out to them to offer care and compassion on behalf of the church. I will be providing training using resources made available from the Church of the Resurrection to those who are interested. The first step is to find out who would be interested in being a part of this team. Those interested will then meet and decide what kind of time frame will work for the training to be provided. If you are interested in being a part of this team, or finding out more about what is involved, please talk with me about it. I would like to hear from those who are interested by the end of June.



*Pastor Kathy*

# CHURCH RENOVATION PROJECT

The following is the tentative schedule for the church renovation project:

**Friday, June 14 is Ken Barker's Funeral**

**Saturday, June 15 is Heritage Days**

**Sunday, June 16 Community Wide Church Service – no church at UMC**

Monday, June 17 removal of alter and sanctuary carpet, removal of loose furniture begins **at 5pm – 8pm**. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED WITH HAMMERS, CROWBARS, NAIL PULLERS, CARPET KNIVES, DRILLS, ETC. A roll off dumpster has been ordered from Denny's Sanitation for the south parking lot. Carpet has been ordered through Mike VandenTop.

Tuesday June 18, removal of fellowship hall carpet, library carpet, alter carpet installation begins 5pm - 8pm. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED WITH HAMMERS, CROWBARS, NAIL PULLERS, CARPET KNIVES, DRILLS, ETC

Wednesday June 19, Removal of entry and narthex carpet, sanctuary carpet installation continues, sanding of new wood floor areas **begins 5-8pm**. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED WITH HAMMERS, CROWBARS, NAIL PULLERS, CARPET KNIVES, DRILLS, ETC

Thursday June 20, Removal of old glue on the entry floors, carpet installation continues, sanding of floors continues, paint prep begins in fellowship **hall 5pm – 8pm**. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED WITH HAMMERS, CROWBARS, NAIL PULLERS, CARPET KNIVES, DRILLS, ETC

\*\*\*\*Project assessment will take place at the end of Thursday night to plan for the following week.

Church will be held Sunday, June 23 in the basement fellowship hall. It will likely be held there through the months of June, July, and August.

If you are at all available to help, please feel free to jump in to the project! We are planning that most of the labor will come from the congregation, and that is a big commitment on our part, but it will keep the costs down.

We are still in need of funds for this project, but we'll have faith that God will provide!  
WE CAN DO THIS!!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Try Automatic Withdrawal

It's easy, convenient and helps your church!  
(and can be changed at any time)

\_\_\_ Yes, I/we are interested in starting automatic withdrawal of  
\$ \_\_\_ from our bank account and have enclosed a voided blank check.  
We prefer withdrawal: \_\_\_ the 5<sup>th</sup> or the \_\_\_25<sup>th</sup> day of each month.  
Return this form in the offering plate or send to the church office.

**Thank You**

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### 2019 ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL ROCK RAPIDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**April 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

Members of Ad. Council: (Names of Absentees underlined)

Randy Waagmeester – chairperson; Sonya Peterson – Recording Secretary/Communications; Shawn Wibben- Treasurer; Rhonda Menning- Evangelism; Evelyn Baldwin- Financial Secretary & Stewardship/Financial; Jackie Austin- Lay Leader to Annual Conference; Judy Griesse- Memorial Committee; Kelli Docker- Missions; Dave Ackerman- SPRC; Kim Waagmeester – Christian Education & SS Superintendent; Linn Menning- Trustees; Heather Heimensen- Youth; Kathy Van Berkum – Worship; Vicki Slack – UMW President; Kathy Sides – Pastor. Patty Halse- Discipleship Process Team; Roxanne Ackerman- Facilities Team; Ryan Christenson. Mary Peterson – member at large.

#### CALL TO ORDER / PRAYER/

Linn called the meeting to order. Pastor Kathy opened with prayer.

#### MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Motion to approve: Rhonda Menning.  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Evelyn Baldwin.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **REPORTS:**

**EDUCATION/Kim:** No report.

**THIRD AVENUE YOUTH UPDATE/Heather:** No report.

**THIRD AVENUE SQUARED UPDATE/Kathy:** Attending movie “*BreakThrough*” on Wednesday, April 17.

**EVANGELISM & WORSHIP/Rhonda & Kathy:** We met and made a Welcome to Visitor information sheet included weekly in the church bulletin. Cards will be given to Amber by the ushers. Amber will contact the visitors via email. Talked about Sack Supper ministry wanting to expand to shut ins on a monthly basis. Rhonda applied for a grant for signage through “New People New Places”. Banners will be placed in front of the church for events.

**TREASURER/Shawn:** April 15<sup>th</sup> – deficit of \$1476.68.

**FINANCE SEC/Evelyn:** Promote automatic withdrawal for tithes and offering.

**MEMORIAL/Judy:** No report.

**MISSION/Kelli:** No report.

**SPRC/Dave:** Annual review for pastor occurred on April 1.

**TRUSTEES/Lainn:** Roofing company will assess the leaks. Elevator is not repaired after not working for 4 weeks. Schomacker Elevator in Sioux Falls was contacted. Their fee is \$70 per year for maintenance contract which includes a quarterly visit. Repairs will be extra as well as the state elevator inspection fee. Patty made the motion to change companies for elevator contract; second by Dave Ackerman.

Facilities committee met with trustees. Paint projects will be done by volunteers. Update light fixtures estimated cost - \$2000. Carpet throughout the sanctuary, overflow room, library, main entry, hallway, secretary office, nurse, and chapel - \$8000. Renovate bathrooms with paint, new lighting, remove stall dividers - \$1000.

Dave will present to the congregation a capital campaign for these projects.

May 15 – Spring Clean Up at 6:00 p.m.

**PASTOR/KATHY/AMBER:** See attached.

Amber: Scott Heibult performed a remote check up on the laptop. He uninstalled a few things and updated a few things. Laptop seems to be working fine now. The battery is more than likely shot, but as long as we keep it plugged in at all times it should be fine. If the laptop is ever needed while unplugged, a new battery runs about \$80.

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE/Sonya:** Each Sunday’s praise song will be posted on Facebook and emailed to congregation.

**UMW:** Salad luncheon on June 14.

**DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY/Patty:** We’ll be meeting in April to finish pathway booklet and discuss implementation of process to Ad council and congregation, including a search for a coordinator.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Authorized Users for Premier Communications – Amber and Sonya.

### **Next Meeting**

May 20 at 7 p.m.

## June 2019

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue  | Wed  | Thu                                      | Fri   | Sat |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|-----|
|  |   |  |  |  |   | 1   |
| <b>2</b> 9:30 a.m.- Worship<br>10:30 a.m.- Fellowship<br>Organist: Marilee Schleusner<br>Greeters: Jay & Mimi Drenth<br>Head Usher: Randy Waagmeester<br>Acolyte: Tate Vande Weerd<br>Sound: Tom Menage<br><b>Fellowship: Larry &amp; Bobbi Kracht;<br/>           Cindi Steenblock</b>  | <b>3</b> 6:00 p.m.-<br>SPRC meeting<br>7:00 p.m.-<br>Finance<br>Meeting | <b>4</b> 1:30 p.m.-<br>Quilters &<br>Crafters  | <b>5</b> 6:30 a.m.- Prayer<br>Team meeting<br>(EVERYONE<br>WELCOME)<br>9:00-2:00 VBS | <b>6</b> 9:00-2:00<br>VBS                | <b>7</b> <b>Pastor Kathy<br/>           to Annual<br/>           conference<br/>           (June 7-10)</b><br>9:00-12:00 VBS<br>11:30 am<br>VBS Program | 8   |
| <b>9</b> 9:30 a.m.- Worship- <b>One Way Up</b><br>10:30 a.m.- Fellowship<br>Organist: Marilee Schleusner<br>Greeters: Terry & Kathy Van Berkum<br>Head Usher: Randy Waagmeester<br>Acolyte: Mitchell Broesder<br><b>Fellowship: George &amp; Margaret<br/>           Shurr</b>   | 10  | <b>11</b> 1:30 p.m.-<br>Quilters &<br>Crafters   | 12   | 13                                       | <b>14</b> <b>SALAD<br/>           LUNCHEON</b><br>11 a.m.- 1p.m.<br>Forster Comm.<br>Bldg   | 15  |
| <b>16</b><br><b>10:30 a.m. Community<br/>           Church Service in Island<br/>           Park<br/>           Father's Day</b>   | 17  | <b>18</b> 1:30 p.m.-<br>Quilters &<br>Crafters   | <b>19</b> 6:30 a.m.- Prayer<br>Team meeting<br>(EVERYONE<br>WELCOME)                 | <b>20</b> 7:00 p.m.- Ms<br>Fits @ Slades | 21  | 22  |
| <b>23</b> 9:30 a.m.- Worship<br>10:30 a.m.- Fellowship<br>Organist: Marilee Schleusner<br>Greeters: Jerry & Elaine Birkey<br>Head Usher: Randy Waagmeester<br>Acolyte: Maggie Sides<br><b>Fellowship: Marceia Techen &amp;<br/>           Judi Sieperda</b><br>3:15 p.m.- Worship @ Health Center<br>4:00 p.m.- Worship @ Lyon Specialty | 24  | <b>25</b> 1:30 p.m.-<br>Quilters &<br>Crafters<br>6:30 p.m.-<br>Meal Ministry-<br>prepare food | <b>26</b> 6:00 p.m.- Bread<br>of Life-distribute<br>sack suppers                     | 27                                       | 28  | 29  |
| <b>30</b> 9:30 a.m.- Worship<br>10:30 a.m.- Fellowship<br>Organist: Marilee Schleusner<br>Greeters: Carl & Nancy DeJongh<br>Head Usher: Randy Waagmeester<br>Acolyte: Rylan Maxwell<br><b>Fellowship: Terry &amp; Kathy Van<br/>           Berkum</b>  |   |  |  |  |   |     |