



# JULY & AUGUST 2023 PREVIEW





# PASTOR'S GREETING

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Dear Hamline Church,

Summer at times seems like a slow season in the church, and in some ways, it is – several ministries and programming go on summer break or happen less frequently, and the pace seems to slow down. However, there are also a lot of special things that happen just in the summer – Compassion Camp, youth mission trip, Boundary Waters trip, Young Leaders Program, SPROUT Garden, outdoor worship and, of course, the Hamline Dining Hall – to name a few!

In the summer there are also a lot of behind-the-scenes things happening as well including some significant developments for our congregation that I want to share with you.

**Student Ministry Visioning & Strategic Planning Process** - In June the Church Council voted to engage in a visioning and strategic planning process for student ministries in relationship with [Ministry Architects](#), a church consulting firm that specializes in this area. Our children's ministry program is growing, and we continue to rebuild youth ministry after the pandemic. We are blessed by the leadership of Katie Morris and feel this is the right time to really invest in and strengthen this area of ministry. We are hoping this process will help us better meet the needs of our growing membership now and for the future.

**Property Condition Assessment & Accessibility Projects** - We are in the process of conducting a property condition assessment with the generous help of church member and Council Co-Chair Angela Wolf Scott. A property condition assessment is a thorough evaluation of the condition of the building. Additionally, we recently complete an energy audit and are now undertaking an accessibility audit as we seek to improve our welcome and inclusion for people with disabilities. We have already started to address some of the quick fixes for accessibility and we will include the larger improvements into our capital projects list and future financially planning in conjunction with the findings of the assessment and energy audit.

## UPCOMING WORSHIP

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### HEROES OF THE FAITH | Series Overview - Summer 2023

Heroes do not just belong in comic books and blockbuster movies. We have them in real life too – people whose courage, strength, and resilience we can look up to as models for our own lives. In this summer series, we will meet several outstanding heroes from our faith story. For most of these heroes, their stories have often gone untold. Their readiness to listen to God's voice in their lives and act on it inspires us to do the same.

This series continues in July and August as we look at Heroes including:

July 2nd – Lydia

July 9th – Hannah

July 16th – Hannah

July 23rd – Ruth

July 30th – Joseph

And more to be named in August!



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Similarly, we've really, really been wanting to update the sound system in the sanctuary to make for a more accessible and inclusive worship experience for everyone, and especially for those who are hard of hearing. Most of our sound system's infrastructure is over 30-40 years old. We are fortunate to have some bequest funds designated for this project, however we will need some additional financial support to complete the project in the ballpark of \$20-30,000. If you would like to give in support of this particular project - please contact me or the church office or note "Sound System Upgrade" on your contribution.

Childcare Transition Update - We've enjoyed a strong ministry partnership with the Learning Garden/Midwest Child Development as we've shared use of the building for the past 8 years. MCD is now in a time of transition. Brandy Henry will take over as the center Director on July 1 and will eventually move into full ownership. We give thanks for the partnership we've shared with MCD, especially their leadership, staff, and families; and we are looking forward to building another strong relationship with Brandy.

Building & Landscaping projects - You can read more about some of these projects in the update from our Facility Manager, Stephanie Engebrecht, on page 14. But of special note is that the playground will be getting a facelift as we replace the aging rubber tiles and dirt spots with synthetic turf! The installation is scheduled for August, and we look forward to a refreshed space for children to enjoy that is more accessible, safer, easier to maintain, and allows for an expanded playing season in fall and spring months. This renovation was made possible through a generous memorial contribution in honor of Hamline Church member Karl Schwichtenberg.

Though at times the lists seem never ending, we are keeping things moving at Hamline Church this summer! In a season where time seems to move differently, I am reminded of the teaching by the great Teilhard de Chardin who advises us to, "Trust in the slow work of God." As I mark the start of my 9th year of being your pastor, I can attest that to the truth of this statement. Because when I look to the past, present and future - it is clear to me, that God is indeed at work with us and around us. Thanks be to God!

See you in church!



Pastor Mariah

Rev. Mariah Furness Tollgaard  
mftollgaard@hamlinechurch.org

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## UPCOMING WORSHIP

### **SPECIAL SUMMER WORSHIP EVENTS:**

July 2- Blessing of Boundary Waters Trip

July 23 - Commissioning of Youth Mission Trip to Detroit with Motown Mission

August 20 - Youth led worship & Mission Trip Recap

### **OUTDOOR WORSHIP RETURNS 8/20, 8/27 & 9/3!**

Back by popular demand we will have 3 Sundays of outdoor worship on the front lawn again this summer: August 20, 27 and September 3. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket. The worship services will be livestreamed as usual. In case of inclement weather worship will be moved indoors.

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Rev. Heather Grantham, Associate Minister for Spiritual Formation  
hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org

## LOOKING TOWARDS FALL

As we start planning for the fall, we wanted folks to be aware of new faith formation opportunities. If you are interested in deepening your faith and spiritual connection, please consider joining the Building Blocks of Faith spiritual formation series for 2023-2024.

### Building Blocks of Faith - Bible Edition

Are you interested in learning more about our sacred texts and how to read/understand the Bible? Starting in September, join us for a 6-week small group as we seek to make sense of the Bible and rediscover the power of our sacred scripture today. If you are interested, please reach out to Rev. Heather Grantham (hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org).



### Building Blocks of Faith - Spiritual Direction Edition

In the fall, we will offer individual and group spiritual direction led by professional, trained experts in the field. Spiritual direction encourages folks to explore a closer relationship with God by reflecting deeply on experiences in everyday life. This reflection invites a recognition of the Divine's presence and grace in our lives.

Individuals will meet one-on-one with a spiritual director. The Group Spiritual Direction will take place once a month at the church, October through May, with orientation happening this September. If you are interested, please reach out to Rev. Heather Grantham (hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org).

## HAMLIN CHURCH CARE TEAM

The Hamline Church Care Team are the first responders to the spiritual and social needs within our community. Members from this team called and checked in on every single person within our Hamline Church family throughout the pandemic and we are so grateful.

The Care Team cares for this community in all the ways it can through prayer, meals, cards, calls, and more. If you are in need of spiritual care and/or connection, please reach out to the Care Team via Co-Chairs Judy Hartman (judyhollyhartman@yahoo.com) and Barb Brown (babrown@q.com) or Heather (hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org )



# PRIDE SUNDAY

Thanks for a fabulous PRIDE Sunday Worship and special thanks for the Hamline Church friends who helped at the MN Reconciling Congregations booth and marched in the parade! Love Wins!



The Hamline Church Reconciling statement (included below) was re-affirmed during worship on June 25.

## **AFFIRMATION OF RECONCILING STATEMENT**

We worship an inclusive and loving God, who calls all persons into relationship, both with God and with neighbor. We affirm that all people are created in the image of God and as beloved children of God, all are worthy of God's love and grace. We celebrate the gift of diversity reflected in our neighborhood and the world. We welcome the full inclusion of all people in the life and ministries of Hamline Church as we journey toward reconciliation through Christ. We embrace our human family's diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, faith history, economic status, marital status, physical and mental ability, and education. We proclaim this statement of welcome to all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the church and society. We invite all to join on a faith journey toward greater love, understanding, and mutual respect.

# STUDENT MINISTRIES UPDATE

Katie Morris, Director of Student Ministries  
kmmorris@hamlinechurch.org

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Birth-6th grade

### JULY 2023

<b>SUN 9</b>	Worship and summer in SPROUT (prek-5th grade)
<b>SUN 16</b>	Worship with a baptism and summer in SPROUT (prek-5th grade)
<b>SUN 23</b>	Worship and summer in SPROUT (prek-5th grade), commissioning of mission trip group!
<b>SUN 30</b>	Worship and summer in SPROUT (prek-5th grade)

### AUGUST 2023

<b>SUN 6</b>	Worship and communion Sunday, children worship with families
<b>SUN 13</b>	Worship and summer in SPROUT (prek-5th grade)
<b>SUN 20</b>	Worship and summer in SPROUT (prek-5th grade), youth summer trip Sunday!
<b>SUN 27</b>	Worship and final Sunday in SPROUT garden!



## CHILDCARE: FROLIC ROOM

Childcare is available during worship for children age 5 and under in the Frolic Room with our amazing childcare specialists. This is a time for free play, stories, and building connections with church friends! Contact Katie Morris if you have questions about childcare at Hamline Church.

## COMPASSION CAMP VBS

Thanks to all of the families and volunteers who joined us for VBS in June! It was such a joy to play and sing and learn together. Check out more photos from the week on page 18 & 19!



## Summer in the SPROUT Garden

The garden is in full swing! Children can join us in SPROUT Garden on Sunday mornings to work with the Hamline University interns and harvest produce for our Hamline-Midway neighbors. Adults can sign up to volunteer at [hamlinechurch.org/sign-up-central](http://hamlinechurch.org/sign-up-central)



# STUDENT MINISTRIES UPDATE

## CONNECT WITH CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- **Monthly Email Update:** To receive monthly email updates with information about children's ministry at Hamline, contact Katie Morris ([kmorris@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:kmorris@hamlinechurch.org)) or sign up with this QR code!
- **Facebook Group:** Connect with other caregivers for children and youth in the Hamline community! Contact Katie Morris ([kmorris@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:kmorris@hamlinechurch.org)) to join.



## YOUTH MINISTRY

6th-12th grade

### CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2023

Congrats again to our 2023 confirmands: Coralie, Patrick and Lauren!



## SUMMER TRIPS

### Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA)

4 youth and 2 adults are heading on a canoe camping excursion into the Boundary Waters on July 6.

### Mission Trip

We have a group of 14 youth and adults headed to Detroit, Michigan on July 29! Join us in commissioning them on July 23, and help us to pray for them during their week.

## YLP

Our Young Leaders Program interns have begun their summer internships! Keep an eye out for them on Sundays and throughout the summer to say hello and ask about what they're up to.

## CONNECT WITH YOUTH MINISTRY

- **Monthly Email Update:** To receive monthly email updates with information about youth ministry at Hamline, contact Katie Morris ([kmorris@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:kmorris@hamlinechurch.org)) or sign up with this QR code!
- **Facebook Group:** Connect with other caregivers for children and youth in the Hamline community! Contact Katie Morris ([kmorris@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:kmorris@hamlinechurch.org)) to join.





## QUESTIONS ABOUT CHURCH HISTORY? WE HAVE ANSWERS!

Coffee hour isn't the only after-services activity at Hamline Church. It's also a great time to ask questions about the church itself.

What are those carvings on the pulpit? Does our church sanctuary have buttresses or flying buttresses? What are those projections on the steeple? And where is the stained glass window with a squirrel?

We offer sanctuary tours after every service. Volunteer docents can answer questions. We have an "I Spy" stained glass windows game for the young and young at heart.

Church Historian Jane McClure is looking for more docents to lead after-worship tours. Training and "cheat sheets" are provided. It would be great to get some younger people and families to take part, as children can lead others in our "I Spy" game or use our coloring sheets.

If you've not volunteered with a church history project before, this is your chance! We'd like to see new people involved. Find a tour guide after services for more information.

Not able to take a tour this summer? If you'd like to learn more about a specific window or set of windows, you can satisfy your curiosity by requesting a detailed information sheet for any of the sanctuary or commons windows. Each info sheet includes a color image of the window. These sheets are in .pdf format. To request information send an email to: [hamlinewindows@gmail.com](mailto:hamlinewindows@gmail.com), specifying which window(s) you would like to know more about. The information will be sent to you by return email.

- *Ministry of Memory*



A shining light is gone from Hamline Church United Methodist. Marguerite Louise Pramann died in June at age 102. She led a remarkable life of faith and service. Marguerite had a deep appreciation for history and served as a church historian and on the archives committee. A memorial service will be held at 10:00am Saturday, July 22, at Hamline Church United Methodist in St. Paul. Inurnment will be at Crystal Lake Cemetery in Minneapolis following the service. Memorials preferred to Hamline Church. A full obituary is available online:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/twincities/name/marguerite-pramann-obituary?id=52315096>

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Jane McClure & Jean Thilmany, Co-Chairs  
hamlinewomen@gmail.com

# HAMLIN CHURCH WOMEN

## WOMEN LOOK AHEAD TO 2023-2024

Changes are coming to the Hamline Church Women/United Women in Faith. As we look at the 2023-2024 year, we're looking at revised projects and expanded leadership.

Look for an after-church meeting in July to discuss changes and the upcoming Twin Cities District gathering we'll host in late September. The latter will be an "all hands on deck" event as we host Methodist women from around the region for a speaker, special music and a meal.

Some things will continue, including our popular markets. We'll still have an annual Women's Sunday and our annual drive for personal care and paper products for Emma Norton Services. Mitten Tree will continue. We'll handle graduation blankets for at least another year.

With changes at Walker Methodist facilities, we are waiting for word on the longtime Give a Little Gift Christmas drive and whether that will continue. In the meantime our lap robes are going to Walker facilities in Dakota County.

Remember that:

- We'd still like to have a smaller pop-up sale this summer to replace the September sale.
- Need yarn or fleece for your projects? It's never too early to start on caps and scarves for Mitten Tree, or to make some lap robes for elders.
- A poll for HCW activities goes out in July. Let us know what you are interested in and watch for a Saturday lunch date later this summer.

- *Hamline Church Women*

# MUSIC UPDATE

David Kozisek, Director of Music & Worship  
dkozisek@hamlinechurch.org

What a wonderful spring and early summer of music making we've had at Hamline Church, culminating with an "all hands on deck" music celebration in worship on May 21, featuring our Hand Bell Choir, Chancel Choir (with guest singers), Orchestra, House Band, and the organ. We are fortunate to have so many talented and committed music makers to help create a joyful, heartfelt, and meaningful worship experience for all.



This summer we are excited to feature a variety of music makers from our community. Here are some highlights:

- July 9 - Soprano section leader Janine Emerick will sing the exquisite aria "Tune Your Harps to Cheerful Strains" from G.F. Handel's oratorio "Esther." Noted pastor and song leader, Bryce Johnson, will join the House Band and lead hymns with Eileen, who always provides tasteful and thoughtful arrangements!
- July 16 - We celebrate the sacrament of baptism and we feature instrumental music from flutists Gayle Wilcox and Candyce Ostekamp.
- July 23 - The tenors and basses of the Chancel Choir under the direction of Tenor Section Leader, Brandon Galbraith will take over worship, offering two lovely anthems: "I Dreamed of Rain" and "Abide With Me." Interested to join in on the fun? There will be two short rehearsals: Sunday, July 16 immediately after worship, and Wednesday, July 19 at 7:00pm. Please connect with Brandon (b.galbraithmusic@gmail.com) for more information or just show up!
- July 30 features our very own Barbershop Quartet singing "Deep River," with additional music from recent High School Graduate Aeden Evenson-McDermott.
- August 6 brings former Hamline Church Organist Kris Langlois and Violist, Martha Mulcahey who is no stranger to offering beautiful music at Hamline Church. Martha will offer us a preview of some of the repertoire she'll offer an upcoming recital to celebrate the start of her Masters in Viola Performance at University of Michigan in the fall.
- August 13 - Now it's the sopranos and altos turn! Alto section leader, Laura Coale will lead a nSSA pop up chorus on two lovely arrangements of "Come, Thou Fount" by Craig Courtney and "I Believe" by Mark Miller. Rehearsals will be Sunday, August 6 just after worship and again Wednesday, August 9 at 7:00pm. Please consider joining us for this special opportunity!
- August 20 - September 3 - Outdoor worship returns! Bring a chair and enjoy worshipping out on the lawn, featuring a variety from our House Band, led by Micah Erickson.

## SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUTSTANDING ORGAN PERFORMANCES

The Twin Cities American Guild of Organists (AGO) is hosting 8 states for the regional convention of the American Guild of Organists July 4-7. I will be attending and helping and wanted to let you know there are several exciting public events you are welcome to attend! Visit the website for more information and to purchase tickets: [www.NorthCentralAGO2023.org/tickets](http://www.NorthCentralAGO2023.org/tickets)

July 4: Organ Concerti Concert 7:00pm at Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas (St. Paul)

July 5:

Catherine Rodland Concert 1:30pm at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church (Mpls)

Kathrine Handford Concert 3:00pm at St. Olaf Catholic Church (Mpls)

Organ, Brass and Choral Concert 7:00pm at Cathedral of Saint Paul

July 6:

Julia Brown Concert 2:00 pm at St. Mary's Chapel at Saint Paul Seminary

Church Opera, The Three Hermits 7:00 pm at The House of Hope Presbyterian Church (St. Paul)

July 7:

Monica Czauz Berney Concert 3:30 pm at Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral (Mpls)

10 British Organist, Wayne Marshall 7:30 pm at Northrop Auditorium, University of Minnesota

Eileen Miller, Organist ([emiller@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:emiller@hamlinechurch.org))





## SCHOOL TOOLS

It's that time of year when Hamline Church members help preK-12 students in need. The Interfaith Action School Tools Drive starts now and continues until August 15. Look for the gray bins in the commons and narthex to drop off your donations. This drive is an easy way to join together with area faith communities and organizations to help children in our community who are affected by poverty. These students need school supplies this September. The drive is led every year by our Social Justice and Missions Committee.

The collection focuses on new backpacks and school essentials to benefit children from families with low-income who are served through nine different programs in the St. Paul area. Annually faith communities, businesses, and individuals collect more than \$24,000 of school supplies to fill hundreds of backpacks!

Supplies needed are backpacks, calculators, spiral and composition notebooks, pencils, pens, markers, colored pencils, crayons, erasers, highlighters, pencil sharpeners, glue sticks, glue bottles, scissors, rulers, facial tissues, school boxes, hand sanitizer, three-ring binders, loose-leaf paper and folders.

Reusable masks are also a need. Masks can be purchased or if you like to sew, schools would welcome new, reusable cloth, child-sized masks. Hamline Church Women can provide materials.

No time to shop? Go to <https://interfaithaction.org/donate/>. Monetary donations are used to purchase needed supplies not collected at the drive. Give online and designate "School Tools" in the text field, or send a check payable to Interfaith Action with "School Tools" in the memo line.

- Hamline Church Social Justice and Missions Committee



## UPDATE FROM EMMA NORTON - RESTORING WATERS CONSTRUCTION AND CAMPAIGN MAKING GREAT PROGRESS

May and June were exciting months at the construction site for Restoring Waters! Following the completion of the base for level 1, concrete columns were erected last month, then shoring and decking were installed, creating a working surface for the construction of level 2. Post-tension cables, sleeves and conduit were installed on level 2, in preparation for pouring the concrete for that level. Further down on the sublevel of the building, shoring was removed, then conduits, cables, and a vapor mitigation system were installed. We're happy to share that construction is continuing on schedule, and that wood framing for Restoring Waters is set to be completed later this month!

Our Home + Healing: The Campaign for Restoring Waters continues to make great progress as well! We have currently received gifts or pledges for more than \$2.3 million dollars on our way to our goal of \$3.75 million to help provide truly transformational housing and growth for women, individuals, and small families. Gifts from our Foundation partners, corporations, church partners, and individuals are all making a huge difference in our ability to create trauma-informed and healing spaces for our residents. Wondering how best to get involved? Please contact Advancement Director Shawna Nelsen-Wills at [snelsen@emmanorton.org](mailto:snelsen@emmanorton.org) or 651-251-2632.

# 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

By: Christa Meland, Director of Communications  
MN Annual Conference of the UMC



## **Congratulations to Hamline University Chaplain Kelly West Figueroa-Ray on her commissioning as an Elder at the MN Annual Conference!**

**Theme:** Drawing on Luke 24:13-35, the theme of this year's gathering is "Encounter. Transform. Respond. The Emmaus Experience." This post-resurrection story where everything has changed and the implications still seem a bit cloudy mirrors the time and space we are living in as a church. We, like the two disciples, are on the road,

asking deep questions, and trying to make sense of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus today. And we, too, are finding that we encounter Christ in transforming ways when we do.

**Bishop's Episcopal Address:** In the Emmaus Road story, the impossible becomes possible as the world is made right again through encounters with the resurrected Christ, who brings healing, reconciliation, and hope. Bishop Lanette Plambeck, in her inaugural Episcopal Address, reminds us that this story for the two disciples on the road is our story too. During this challenging time in The United Methodist Church, she invited those of us in the Minnesota Conference to lean in to one another and declare that there is enough love for all of us, and she reminded each person: You are loved. You are a child of God and a person of worth. There are no exceptions. (Watch or download Episcopal Address.)

**Milestones in ministry:** Those gathered honored and thanked 14 clergy entering retirement, and they celebrated four pastors ordained as elders, two commissioned as provisional members, three local licensed pastors who completed their five-year course of study, and 13 people authorized to serve as local pastors in the congregations and ministry areas in which they are appointed.



**Fresh expressions with Michael Beck:** Rev. Dr. Michael Beck is Co-Pastor of two Florida churches and a network of "fresh expressions" led by laity that gather in various community venues and public spaces around shared interests and hobbies. He talked about fresh expressions as a new movement of Christian communities where people with no connection to the church are finding life and encountering Christ. Dinner Church whereby people gather to share a meal is an easy starting point for a fresh expression, Beck said. Some of the other fresh expressions he's involved with take place in a tattoo parlor, at a restaurant, in a virtual reality space, at a dog park, and even at Tesla charging stations.

**Connectional address by Bishop McAlilly:** Bishop William (Bill) McAlilly of the Nashville Episcopal Area took part in Annual Conference and reminded attendees that we are a connectional church. In his connectional address, he spoke about what it means to live with courage and boldness. This includes knowing and living our "why" as Christians, loving God and our neighbor, and leaning into the future with "holy boldness"—not knowing exactly what's in store but trusting that God is with us.



**Sermon by Rev. Becky Jo Messenbrink:** This year's Conference Preacher (selected by a random drawing at the end of last year's Annual Conference) was Rev. Becky Jo Messenbrink, who serves Eden Prairie UMC. She talked about her desire for an expandable table and reminded those gathered that Jesus' table was for everyone. "Perhaps the Church is called to mirror the table which Jesus sets—an expansive table of belonging and community where all are welcome, where all are included and celebrated and treasured, an expansive table at which Jesus can be recognized, and where the kingdom of God is present and talk about God turns into encounters with the living God," she said.

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# 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

**Love Offering:** Conference members, on behalf of their churches gave just over \$40,000 to the 2023 Love Offering. Sixty percent of it will fund a new grant to support churches that have partnerships with mental health services offered in local schools or communities, 30 percent will go to three Minnesota nonprofits engaged in mental health education and advocacy, and 10 percent of the Love Offering each year goes to Volunteers in Mission scholarships, which support first-time mission trip participants. You may continue to donate throughout 2023.

**Legislation:** Hundreds of voting members in attendance at Annual Conference approved all pieces of legislation before them, including resolutions opposing assault-style weapons, addressing the Israeli detention of children, and supporting both a U.S. Regional Conference and the removal of all discriminatory policies and harmful language related to sexual orientation from the Book of Discipline.

**Disaffiliating churches:** Members ratified the terms of disaffiliation agreements made between the conference Board of Trustees and 14 local churches that have discerned that their path goes a different direction from the Minnesota Annual Conference. After the vote, Bishop Lanette asked Minnesota United Methodists to keep these congregations in their hearts and to pray that even as we part ways, they may continue to live out their faith and serve as a beacon of light and hope for all.

For more information: <https://www.minnesotaumc.org/annualconference>

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## DINING HALL UPDATE

We're putting the finishing touches on Signup Genius as the State Fair quickly approaches. Please start reviewing your schedule from Thursday, August 24 through Monday, September 4 to see where you can lend a hand serving the Minnesota State Fair community at the wonderful Hamline Dining Hall. Online signup will begin in late July or early August. And mark the morning of Saturday, August 12 to join us at Cleanup Day at the Dining Hall.

The Dining Hall Committee is excited to announce that we will now be serving Gingko Coffee in our dining room! This will be a delicious change for our coffee drinkers.

We are also extremely excited to announce that we've had two items selected for the State Fair New Foods list!!! We can't tell you what they are but they will be announced on July 12 so stay tuned... People will definitely want to come in to try these items!





# FACILITIES UPDATE

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Stephanie Engebrecht, Facilities Manager  
sengebrecht@hamlinechurch.org

## GREENWAY DRAINAGE

A long-time ongoing project has finally seen its completion, with the replacement of the drainage trenches in the Greenway. The original concrete trenches were not effective in moving water away from the building, so for two years we have needed to have very long and unsightly gutter pipes attached. We now have underground drainage pipes that will move the water away from our building and into the rain gardens located on the other side of the sidewalk. We also have some new slow-growing fescue grass that is in the early sprouting phase.

Please enjoy some time in the beautiful Greenway this summer!



## COMPASSION IN ACTION LANDSCAPING PROJECT

During the week of VBS, Katie, Stephanie, and the SPROUT Garden interns (Gabe, Bella, and Clair) assisted the children in stewarding the care of our rock swale on the north side of the building near the playground. Together they cleared it of all weeds and transplanted some of the hostas and pollinator plants. They also converted part of the space to an open play area. Now, next to an existing butterfly garden, we have a berm layered with “fairy rocks” (white colored landscape rocks) and a weather-proof house that was donated by Terry Naseth (thank you Terry!).

The children added some hand-painted rocks and are encouraged to continue contributing to this area. We are excited to see this space be enjoyed as a place for creativity and imagination play.

Before



After



## NEW ALLEYWAY WINDOWS

We are happy to see the completion of the window restoration project with the replacement of the final four remaining windows located along our south entrance and in our lower-level accessible restroom. It is nice to see all our windows looking good and knowing they will be better insulated throughout the changing Minnesota seasons. Thanks to the Trustees and S&J Glass for their dedication in seeing this project through.



## SECURITY

Coming in August, we will see the installation of additional security cameras, more motion sensors, and a new intercom system which will integrate the use of our Asbury west side entrance. While we await these improvements, we would also like to invite church members to be part of the formation of a **Security and Safety Committee/Task Force**.

This committee will be dedicated to identifying safety needs and supporting the implementation of security measures, as they emerge. This will be an important team for the church, as our occupancy continues to increase and church life returns to more in person gatherings!

Please let church staff know if you are interested!  
Email [humc@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:humc@hamlinechurch.org) or call 651.645.0667



# CONNECT

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## AN EVENING TO REFRESH AND RENEW

Thursday, July 13 from 6:30-8:00pm

On Thursday, July 13, the Community Conversations Ecumenical Consortium will host an evening of pizza and music on the church lawn. The event is free and open to all. The Consortium, a partnership of Holy Trinity and St. Matthews Episcopal Churches and Hamline Church, offers opportunities for community members to gather and discuss issues of racial equity and inclusion. Join us to learn more about upcoming conversations, eat pizza from the bread oven, enjoy some music and just relax.

## FREE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY MEALS

Tuesday, July 25 and August 22 (4th Tuesdays of the month) from 4:30-8:30pm

Hamline Church has partnered with Eureka Compass Vegan Food for free monthly, sustainable, community meals! All proceeds go to a local non-profit. Contact Chef Colin (eurekacompassveganfood@gmail.com) or Heather (hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org).



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY NAVID!

The young Afghan family that we sponsored are doing well. It has been a year and a half since they arrived in Minnesota and they continue to thrive! They are comfortably settled in an apartment in St. Louis Park. Sultan has a fulltime job at a printing company near them, drives his own car and is learning English in his spare time. Both Sultan and Nooria continue to actively work on their English language skills. Nooria has passed her next level of English at Hubbs Learning Center and enjoys cooking for her family. Baby Navid attends ECFE class with Nooria and many other Afghan families. Sultan and Nooria take great pride and pleasure in their one-year-old son, Navid. A few of us gathered in Como Park in early June to celebrate Navid's first birthday. He is a happy and very busy delight!





## FICTION AND FELLOWSHIP

Fiction and Fellowship announces this fall's lineup with a variety of books authored by indigenous voices alternating with Hamline Church's own authors. The year promises good reads offering varied perspectives and hopefully author visits! Here are our fall selections:

September 10 - *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson

October 8 - *The Temps* by Andrew DeYoung, Hamline Church

November 12 - *Winter Counts* by David Heska Wanbli Weiden

December 10 - *Man Overboard! A Medical Lifeline for the Aging Male*, by Craig Bowron, Hamline Church

Fiction and Fellowship meets the 2nd Sunday of the month at 4:30pm in the Green Room. Discussions are led by Kent and Diane Krueger and everyone is welcome, even if you haven't read the book. Questions? Contact JoEllen (joellen.ambrose@gmail.com).

## RACIAL JUSTICE READING GROUP

### 3rd Thursdays at 7:30pm via Zoom

The Racial Justice Reading Group explores issues of social and racial justice through reading and discussion. We seek to grow in our understanding of and commitment to racial justice and reconciliation, through our faith that is rooted in Jesus' teachings which are inherently anti-racist. There are many conversations about race and racism, as well as many book groups and social justice clubs. This group focuses on what it means to be anti-racist within a racist society. More info on the book club and where to get books is on our website: [hamlinechurch.org/racial-justice-reading-group](http://hamlinechurch.org/racial-justice-reading-group)

JULY READ - *Diesel Heart* by Melvin Whitfield Carter (discussion July 20)

AUG/SEPT READ - *The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History* by Ned Blackhawk (discussion September 21)

If you'd like help acquiring a copy of the book or to RSVP to attend contact Heather (hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org).

# COMPASSION CAMP VBS

Thanks to all the folks who helped us with our Compassion Camp VBS! It's such a powerful way to share our faith together as a community.

## *Activity Leaders and Shepherds*

(including special projects, SPROUT Garden Interns, and Childcare Staff!):

Mike Coyle  
Emily Wilcox Freeburg  
Stephanie Jones  
Clare Freberg  
Ellen Schroeder  
Max Hodson  
Kathleen Ireland  
Betsey Hodson  
Livy Clemens  
David Kozisek  
Julie Dempsey  
Kathy Evenson-McDermott  
Mariah Furness Tollgaard  
Natalie Freund  
Micah Erickson  
Brittany Pennington  
Stephanie Engebrecht  
Steve Bloom  
Clare Friar  
Gabe Fleischhacker  
Bella Stadheim  
Teddy Faust  
Deangela Huddleston  
Tawny Plenty Horse

## *Materials, Supply and Decorating Team:*

Walker Brault  
Sarah DeYoung  
Livy Clemens  
Jane McClure





# COMPASSION CAMP VBS





# CONNECT WITH US

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- **GIVE US A CALL** (651-645-0667)  
The church office is open Monday - Thursday 9am-3pm.
- **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA** Facebook, YouTube or Instagram
- **SEND US AN EMAIL!** Email [humc@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:humc@hamlinechurch.org) or contact a staff person directly  
(find contact info on our website: [hamlinechurch.org/about/our-staff/](http://hamlinechurch.org/about/our-staff/))

VISIT US AT  
**HAMLINCHURCH.ORG**

**651.645.0667**  
**[humc@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:humc@hamlinechurch.org)**



**HAMLIN CHURCH**

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