



HAMLIN CHURCH  
UNITED METHODIST

# SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2023 PREVIEW



The Dining Hall wrapped up its 126th year at the fair September 4. More photos on page 18.

# PASTOR'S GREETING

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Dear Hamline Church family,

As Minnesotans we want to get as much out of summer as we can – that’s why the “Great Minnesota Get Together” also known as the Minnesota State Fair, is a capstone to the season! Certainly, the fair is a big summer highlight for Hamline Church, and this year was no exception. The 126th season of the Hamline Church Dining Hall was a great success! We had long lines of folks hungry for our new foods and old favorites. I’m so proud of the radical hospitality that was shown to all our guests and the teamwork of our volunteers that makes it possible for us to run a restaurant for 12 days a year. A huge thank you to all who volunteered to help with the dining hall, and a special thank you to the Dining Hall Committee for all their time and effort!

While I’ll be sorry to see summer come to an end, I’m also looking forward to some of the excitement that comes along with fall. The start of the school year to me has always felt like a fresh start and a season of new beginnings.

I love the feeling of church in the fall when there is a buzz of active and energy! People returning from their summer adventures and reconnecting, the chancel choir and the bells back to lead us in worship, Sacred Studio and children’s programming starts again for our kids, new small groups launch to offer the opportunity for deeper connection and spiritual growth, the launch of the new Music and Art series season, the return of students to the Hamline University campus, and outdoor activities around the bread oven – to name just a few of my favorites!

I’m especially excited for our fall worship series: *Living Faith the Wesleyan Way* in which we’ll take a deep dive into the teachings of John Wesley that continues to shape us as the people called Methodists even today. We have a great line up for fall at Hamline Church this year and I hope you’ll take time to read through these pages and mark your calendars with something you’d like to try out.

There is also important work ahead for us as a congregation. We are embarking on a new endeavor with Ministry Architects to do visioning and strategic planning related to children and youth ministry, and our Church Council will be reviewing the results of a facilities condition assessment (alongside our recent energy audit and accessibility audit) to engage in long range planning for our building and grounds.

I look forward to journeying with you through the changing seasons, opening our hearts to the work of the spirit anew, and all the while holding fast to the knowledge that God is with us in all things. In closing, the words of Olympic cyclist Kristin Armstrong: “When the seasons shift, even the subtle beginning, the scent of a promised change, I feel something stir inside me. Hopefulness? Gratitude? Openness? Whatever it is, it’s welcome.”

See you at church!

Blessings,



Pastor Mariah

Rev. Mariah Furness Tollgaard  
mftollgaard@hamlinechurch.org

# UPCOMING WORSHIP

## LIVING FAITH - THE WESLEYAN WAY

New worship series beginning September 10

In our overly complex world, it is important to come back to the basics, to the heart of our faith to discover again what it looks like to live out our beliefs. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, insisted that Christian faith was more than just a set of beliefs or a feeling. Faith changes our lives and results in faithful action in the world. This series will look at the core tenants of Wesleyan teaching that are foundational to the practice of Methodism in Wesley's day and today. Stay tuned for more information about the series and small group opportunities for fall!



### Sunday, September 24 Guest Preacher: Rev. Roger Lynn

Rev Lynn's family were active members of Hamline Church where he became interested in becoming a minister in his youth. Later Pastor Lynn officiated at one of the earliest gay weddings in the United States in the early 1970s. Join us as we welcome Pastor Lynn back to Hamline!



## RALLY SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 17

Join us for worship Sunday, September 17 to kick off our fall program year! We'll bless everyone going back to school (bring your backpack!), celebrate those starting kindergarten and begin Sacred Studio (our spiritual formation) for the fall. After worship join us on the front lawn to celebrate with bread oven treats and a bounce house. Invite a friend to join you for worship!

## HOW DO I BECOME A MEMBER?

Are you interested in going deeper with your spiritual journey here at Hamline Church? Please consider joining us for any/all of the upcoming ways to get connected:

- **Newcomer Meet and Greet, Sunday October 8:** Are you new to the church? Do you have any questions? Some congregation members will be hosting a short get together for visitors and newcomers immediately following the church service at 11am. We'll have coffee and refreshments, as well as info materials about the church. We'd love to meet you!
- **Membership Inquiry Class and Welcome Meal** (beginning of November depending on schedules of folks interested) This will be a laid back, all ages friendly time to get to know one another better and other members/staff of the Hamline Church Community. This will also be a time of dialogue and conversation about the ministry of Hamline Church and how to become involved.
- **New Member Ceremony, Sunday, November 19:** The ceremony for welcoming members into the church will take place during our Thanksgiving worship celebration.

Please contact Heather Grantham ([hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org)) with any questions and/or to RSVP! If you can't make the above times but want to become a member, let Heather know and we can find another time.

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

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

## BUILDING BLOCKS OF FAITH - THE WESLEYAN WAY SMALL GROUP

Starting in September, we will gather in small groups just as they did at the founding of the Methodist Movement led by John Wesley. Sign up online at [hamlinechurch.org/sign-up-central](http://hamlinechurch.org/sign-up-central).

## BUILDING BLOCKS OF FAITH - SPIRITUAL DIRECTION EDITION

Next month and throughout the year, 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 at their scheduling.

The Group Spiritual Direction will take place once a month at the church, October through May, with orientation happening Wednesday, September 27 at 6pm. Contact Gayle ([revpgwilcox@msn.com](mailto:revpgwilcox@msn.com)) and Heather Grantham ([hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org)).



## BUILDING BLOCKS OF FAITH - BIBLE EDITION

Are you interested in learning more about our sacred texts and how to read/understand the Bible? For four weeks in November and continued by 4 weeks in February, join us for an 8-week small group as we seek to make sense of the bible and rediscover the power of our sacred scripture today.

## FICTION AND FELLOWSHIP

After a summer of independent reading, it is time to start reading this year's Fiction and Fellowship selections. Our fall lineup includes a variety of books authored by indigenous voices as well as authors from our very own Hamline Church community. The year promises good reads offering varied perspectives and hopefully author visits! Our lively discussions are led by Kent and Diane Krueger. Please join us whenever you are able to participate and even if you haven't finished the book! Zoom option is available.

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

Fiction and Fellowship meets the 2nd Sunday of the month at 4:30pm in the Green Room. Questions?

Contact JoEllen at [joellen.ambrose@gmail.com](mailto:joellen.ambrose@gmail.com).

## WOMEN'S REST AND RENEWAL RETREAT

**November 4 - 6**

You are invited for a time of rest, relaxation and spiritual transformation with other women in the Hamline Community.

- Who: Hamline Church women-identifying and non-binary persons from any stage of life who are willing to share and learn from one another (up to 20 folks).
- When: Friday evening November 3 to Sunday morning, November 5
- What: A retreat with three facilitated discussion sessions and ample time for recreation, relaxing, centering, and grounding. Location TBD.
- How Much: we are asking folks to pay \$275 (this includes hotel-style lodging and all meals). SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE (please don't let cost hold you back, pay what you can even if that is \$0). The amount we are asking will cover half of costs and church will cover the other half.

Contact Heather ([hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org)) to register and/or with questions.

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# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

## ADULT SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Heather Grantham ([hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org)) for info on any of these opportunities.

- Sunday Morning Book Group: ongoing, Sundays at 9am in Parlor
- Fall Small Groups (multiple days/times) - sign up: [hamlinechurch.org/sign-up-central](http://hamlinechurch.org/sign-up-central)
- Group Spiritual Direction - info session Wednesday, September 27 at 6pm
- Individual Spiritual Direction - info session Wednesday, September 27 at 6pm
- Racial Justice Book Group - third Thursday, 7:30pm via Zoom  
September read: *The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History*, by Ned Blackhawk; October read: *The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation* by Anna Malaika Tubbs
- Men's Breakfast - 4th Thursday 8am at Roseville Perkins
- Women's Connection Group - Tuesday at 3pm via Zoom

## 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](mailto:judyhollyhartman@yahoo.com)) and Barb Brown ([babrown@q.com](mailto:babrown@q.com)) or Heather ([hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org))

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# WEDNESDAY CONNECTION

## WEDNESDAY CONNECTION BEGINS SEPTEMBER 20

Join us for dinner, fellowship, and other opportunities to connect on Wednesday nights! Sign up online at [hamlinechurch.org/sign-up-central/](http://hamlinechurch.org/sign-up-central/) to help with our potluck dinner.

Fall Session: September 20, September 27 & October 4

- 5:30-8:00pm Childcare on the playground
- 5:30-6:15 Children's Music (K-6th grade) in the Parlor
- 6-7 Band Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 6:00-6:45 - Potluck Dinner in the Community Room
- 6:30-7:45 Fall Small Group
- 6:30-8:00 Confirmation Class in the Youth Room
- 7-8:30 Adult Choir in the Sanctuary

# STUDENT MINISTRIES UPDATE

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

## RALLY SUNDAY: SEPTEMBER 17

Join us on Rally Sunday to celebrate the start of our program year! Worship at 10am with backpack blessings for everyone heading back to school, a special milestone for those starting kindergarten, and register your child for Sacred Studio (prek-6th grade). After worship, join us on the lawn for treats from the bread oven, live music from our house band, and a bounce house!

## FALL FESTIVAL: OCTOBER 29

### During and after worship

Enjoy music from the Roe Family Singers, a trunk-or-treat, and fall festivities for all ages. If you'd like to decorate your car trunk for trunk-or-treat or help with other parts of the festival, contact Katie Morris (kmorris@hamlinechurch.org)



## WEDNESDAY CONNECTION

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7-8:30 Adult Choir in the Sanctuary

## CHILDREN'S MUSIC

Children's Music begins Wednesday, September 20 at 5:30pm. Kids in kindergarten through 6th grade are encouraged to join Emily, Kathy, and David in the parlor for 45 minutes of music making using their voices, bodies, and other instruments to increase their self-awareness, musicality, and expressivity - and to have fun! Sessions run Wednesdays 9/20-11/15 (skipping 10/18) from 5:30-6:15pm. This fall, children have a special opportunity to perform some old-time bluegrass music with the Roe Family Singers in Worship on October 29. For more information about children's music at Hamline Church and to sign up, please reach out to David (dkozisek@hamlinechurch.org).

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Birth-6th grade

### Milestones

At Hamline Church, one of the ways we walk alongside our children and their families is through our Faith Milestone Program. Every year, we take a moment to celebrate a milestone in each child's life. Just as throughout the Bible, God's people mark the places where they encounter God with a stone, we present each child with a smooth, cross-embossed stone to mark the occasion. We usually recognize the milestone in the Sunday worship service, where we have a chance to share more about it!



Some milestones include a milestone exploration time, where the child and a parent/guardian can explore the topic together! You'll receive invitations before each milestone with more information. Contact Katie Morris if you have questions, and see the schedule for this year on the next page:

# STUDENT MINISTRIES UPDATE

September 17: Starting Kindergarten, Commission Confirmation Class

September 24: Frolic Bibles – rising 3 year olds

October 15: 3rd Grade Bibles

November 19: 5th Grade Service

January 7: Remembering Our Baptism - 1st Grade

February 11: I Can Pray – Rising 4 and 5 year olds

March 17: The Lord's Prayer – 6th Grade

March 24: Communion – 4th Grade

## Sunday Mornings: Sacred Studio Begins September 17

Sacred Studio is our spiritual formation time for children, prek-6th grade. On Sundays (except for the 1st Sunday of each month) after the children's moment in worship, children can go with staff and volunteers to explore a bible story through art, music, and games. This time is focused on making space for children to know God's love!

- **Godly Play:** Prek-K children will explore bible stories by building a practice of listening, wondering, and responding through art with this Montessori-based curriculum. Families can decide with their 3 and 4 year-olds when you would like to transition from the Frolic room childcare into Sacred Studio.
- **Mini Revolutions:** 1st-4th graders will use Illustrated Ministry's "Mini Revolutions" to explore bible stories through discussion, connections to the world, activities, and mini spiritual practices. This group will split into two depending on numbers each week.
- **Tween Ducks:** 5th and 6th graders will sit together in the worship service along with adult leaders, then gather after the sermon in the youth room to connect and reflect on worship together.

**Seeking Adult Leaders!** Nurturing children in their faith journeys and helping to share with them the stories of God's love are both part of our baptismal promises that we make as a community. We are always looking for caring adults (AND YOUTH!) to be part of our Sacred Studio team – contact Katie Morris ([kmorris@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:kmorris@hamlinechurch.org)) if you would like to learn more.

## Childcare: Frolic Room

Childcare is available during worship for children 5 and under in the Frolic Room with our 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.

## Sprout Garden

Thanks to all of you who have helped to work in Sprout garden this summer, providing food for our Hamline-Midway neighbors, and we especially want to thank Amy Schultz and the Hamline University Interns for leading us each week!



## 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.



# STUDENT MINISTRIES UPDATE

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## YOUTH

6th-12th grade

### Confirmation Class

Confirmation at Hamline is a two-year program for youth in 7th grade and older to explore what it means to be part of a faith community, then make a decision for themselves about joining the church. This year, confirmands will meet on Wednesday evenings. If you'd like to learn more, contact Katie Morris ([kmorris@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:kmorris@hamlinechurch.org))!

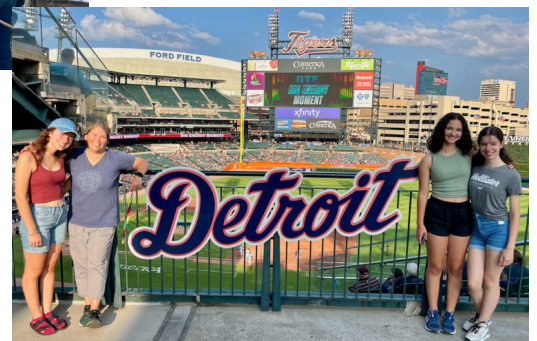
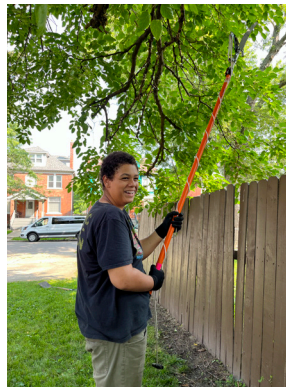


### Youth Lunch: September 24

Join us to walk over to Ginkgos after worship for lunch and to hear about plans for this year! RSVP to Katie ([kmorris@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:kmorris@hamlinechurch.org))

### Summer Trips

Thanks to all of the youth and adults who went on our summer trips to the Boundary Waters and mission trip to Detroit! See more photos from those weeks here:





# STUDENT MINISTRIES UPDATE

## Thanks YLP Interns!

Hamline Church's summer program focuses on fostering leadership within the youth of our community - mid-June through mid August. Paid internships, formally known as the "Young Leaders Program" help students to develop as leaders for the church and the world. This summer, our interns worked primarily with our children's ministry and in Sprout Garden - thanks so much to them for all their work this year! Look out for next year's application in May of 2023!

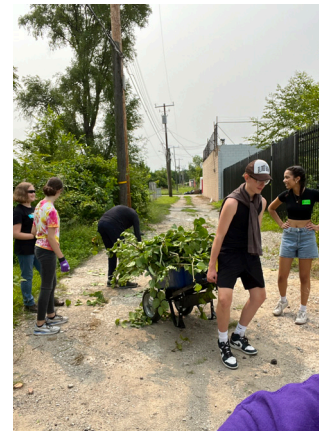
## Seeking Adult Leaders

Do you feel called to accompanying youth in their faith journeys? You can join us as an adult advisor to connect with our confirmands, our youth, or in other ways. Connect with Katie (kmorris@hamlinechurch.org) if you're interested or would like to learn more!



## 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) 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) to join.



# MINISTRY OF MEMORY

Jane McClure, Church Historian  
mcclure50449@aol.com

## OUR FIRST CHURCH IS REMEMBERED

“We extend to yourself and family a cordial invitation . . .”

Thus begins the message in a tiny gray card for Hamline Methodist Episcopal Church’s grand opening on late November and early December of 1900. The card was recently sent to the church office and is now in our archives.

This church was the predecessor of the church we worship at today. It burned in the 1925 Christmas Eve fire. The church building was a great asset to the growing congregation. Services no longer had to be held at Hamline University. The university’s growth meant it had become more difficult to schedule for church needs. This building is remember for many reasons. It was an impetus for the start of the Hamline Church Dining Hall in 1897, as the Ladies Aid Society began selling sandwiches and lemonade at the state fair.

This first church was designed by noted architect Clarence Johnston. Many of his prominent building s till stand throughout Minnesota. He was the Minnesota State Architect between 1901 and 1931. His designs include state institutions, including many buildings on the university of Minnesota St. Paul campus.

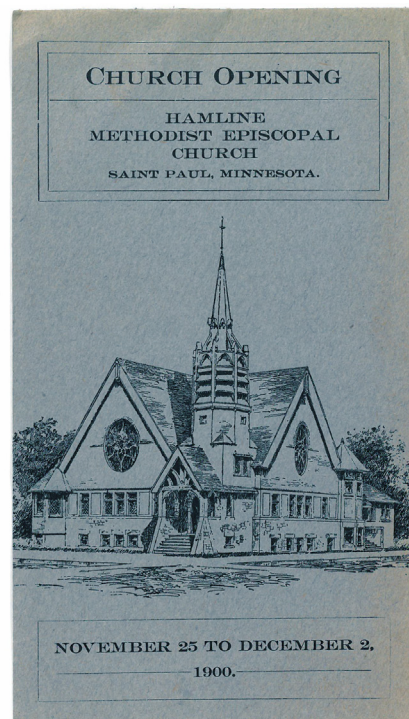
The website MnOpedia is a good source to learn more about Johnston and his buildings. It states, “Though he died in 1936, Johnston remains the most abundantly and persistently present of all Minnesota architects. He is best known for his houses, but his career had another dimension. In his long tenure as state architect and in commissions for institutional clients, he designed for multitudes. Johnston’s works have touched the full spectrum of Minnesotans and continue to do so in the twenty-first century.”

In December 1899 the church foundation was laid. In April 1900 the contract for the superstructure was awarded. Total cost was about \$17,000, not including carpets and furnishings.

It was a proud day when the church was dedicated. It had a beautiful rose (round) window and a splendid pipe organ.

Soon this church would be outgrown. Plans to replace it were being made when the disastrous fire broke out. Ministry of Memory preserves church history. Ask us about joining our committee.

*Jane McClure, Hamline Church Historian*



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

# HAMLIN CHURCH WOMEN

## **DISTRICT GATHERING IS SEPTEMBER 23**

Hamline Church Women host the Twin Cities District Fall Gathering of United Women in Faith on Saturday, September 23. Speaker is Linda Finney from Holy Trinity Church. Holy Trinity and Hamline Church work together to organize community conversations about issues of race. If you haven't attended one, consider putting it on your calendar. These sessions are very thought-provoking. One such conversation is set for 9/24.

As host church for the district gathering, we'll provide the volunteer power for the district gathering. We'll need hosts, greeters, registration desk crew, lunch prep and serving helpers, and cleanup help. A signup genius has been created and is on the church website.

We also invite everyone in the congregation and community to attend the program. It's always very inspiring and a great way to connect with people. The program will also be livestreamed.

One note is that the Walker Methodist Auxiliary will be holding their gently used jewelry sale that day. If you are willing to part with jewelry and even gently used working wristwatches, those would be welcomed. The auxiliary raises funds for the Walker facilities throughout the Twin Cities.

Two more notes:

- Anyone wishing to make things for the mitten tree can get yarn or fleece from Hamline Church Women. We also have yarn and fleece for lap robes for nursing home gifts.
- Because we're hosting the district meeting and not doing a fall market, we held a quick pop-up sale in August to sell our unused fabric and craft supplies. A few vendors joined us and we made more than \$350. Thanks to all who helped or shopped!

## **JINGLE ALL THE WAY TO THE HOLIDAY MARKET**

**Saturday, November 18 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm**

Registration is open for the Hamline Church Holiday Market! This is always a fun event with a wide array of vendors. Vendors include some church members!

We'll have a wide variety of baked goods, jewelry, mittens of all kinds, pottery, woodcraft, and an array of sewn, knitted and crocheted items. We'll have some of your favorite products, too! We'll also have the popular Hamline Church Women's "maker market" in which we sell fabric, yarn, threads, findings and other fun items for makers. Volunteer signup starts after Rally Sunday. Please use the HCW signup genius.

Some changes are coming this year! While we'll keep the book cart out on Sundays for free will donations, we're dropping the big book sale - at least for the Holiday Market. Book sales have declined, and the books take space that vendors could rent. That will have to be evaluated.

Another change is that we will have a hard cutoff of October 15 for registrations. A final change is that markets now have an email address of their own. Get a form or find information at [hcwmarkets@gmail.com](mailto:hcwmarkets@gmail.com)

# MUSIC UPDATE

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

## CHANCEL CHOIR

Please consider singing with the chancel choir this fall. Wednesday rehearsals are from 7-8:30pm and the choir sings most Sunday services at 10:00am arriving at 9:15am for a short warm-up and rehearsal. Our first rehearsal is Wednesday, September 6 and we'll sing in Worship on Sunday September 10. A fall highlight: they will partner with the Roe Family Singers in worship on October 29 offering some old time and bluegrass influenced anthems. Details about additional repertoire for special music Sundays and a Music and Arts Series event will be revealed later this fall! A common misconception in church choirs is that a singer must commit to every rehearsal and service to be in the choir. Not at Hamline Church. Come when you can and know that you are welcome and wanted! Reach out to David (dkozisek@hamlinechurch.org) for more information and encouragement.



## VOCAL SOLOIST / SECTION LEADER UPDATES

It was wonderful to see two different pop-up choruses (with some new singers!) sing in worship this summer led by our section leaders Laura Coale and Brandon Galbraith. We are fortunate to have such gifted leaders that provide vocal and musical expertise in rehearsals and artistic inspiration to us all.

Soprano, Janine Emerick gave birth to a baby girl on Friday, August 25 and will be on maternity leave this fall. Feel free to send cards and well wishes to Janine here:

Janine Emerick  
6081 258th St.  
Wyoming, MN 55092

While we will miss Janine, I know you will enjoy hearing her substitute Jessi McKinnon's soulful singing with the choir and band on occasion.

In June, we celebrated Justin Spenner and his immense contributions to the music ministry at Hamline Church. Justin served as a section leader for almost ten years, singing with the choir, performing as soloist on various projects, being featured in Music and Arts series, jumping in with the house band on electric bass, and even playing auxiliary percussion with the handbell choir! Justin's career is blossoming, and I encourage you to check out his website (<https://www.barispen.com>) and subscribe to his newsletter. Justin will continue to be a great friend to Hamline Church and we wish him well on all of his artistic endeavors.

Please join me in welcoming our new bass section leader, Sullivan Ojala Helmbolt. "Sullie" has been lauded by the Minneapolis Star Tribune as "a strutting, silky toned and frighteningly entitled figure," in his performance of the villain Tarquinius in Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* is an experienced interpreter of music of the 20th century and onward. He has had the pleasure of performing some of Benjamin Britten's other baritone roles including Sid in *Albert Herring* and Junius in *The Rape of Lucretia*. Sullivan also appeared as the medical student at the forefront of the student resistance to the Nazis, Hans Scholl, in a black box production of the underperformed two-person opera *Die Weisse Rose* by Udo Zimmermann. Originally from Washington State, Sullivan moved to Minnesota for his high school and undergraduate studies before teaching English in Spain and attending the University of Memphis. He is now back in the Twin Cities long term, and is excited to reintegrate with its thriving musical scene and at Hamline Church! I know you will enjoy getting to know Sullie and to hear him sing.



SULLIVAN OJALA HELMBOLT

## HANDBELL CHOIR

Hand bells have been rehearsing regularly on Wednesdays throughout the summer and will continue into the fall. The group has added a few new ringers necessitating the addition a 4th octave of bells! Fortunately, one of our ringers Akudo Omeoga has access to these very tiny high bells and very large low bells and has

# MUSIC UPDATE

kindly loaned them to us. They are excited to play in worship again on Rally Sunday, September 17. Several ringers will also participate Bells of Lakes Seminar for Directors and Ringers on Saturday, October 7 at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church. David is always looking to discover new hidden musical talents and the bells are a great place to learn and express yourself. Rehearsals are held Wednesdays at 4:30pm. Please reach out to David ([dkozisek@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:dkozisek@hamlinechurch.org)) to learn more.



## HOUSE BAND

The house band has been happy to feature a variety of new musicians this summer including the experienced song leader Rev. Bryce Johnson - he led some music while Micah was working at the sound board, and we hope he'll continue to play and sing with the band in the future! Some other recent house band highlights include pieces by Andrew Lloyd Weber, Jack Johnson, and Brandi Carlile. Then band is excited to offer a full set of its greatest hits after worship on Rally Sunday, September 17. Please send any song suggestions or feedback to Micah Erickson ([merickson@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:merickson@hamlinechurch.org)).

## MUSIC AND ARTS SERIES

The Music and Arts Series provides exceptional and meaningful performances to enrich the lives of those in the Hamline Midway neighborhood and the greater Twin Cities community. Final touches are being put on the 2023-2024 season, and we are excited to share the full season announcement with you on Rally Sunday, September 17. Some highlights of the fall are Roe Family Singers on October 29, Hamline University's A Cappella Chorus Christmas Concert on December 3, and Christmas with Cantus on December 17. We are always looking for programming ideas and volunteers to assist with the events. Financial contributions are also greatly appreciated and have a profound impact on the accessibility and type of events we can offer. To find out more, please contact David Kozisek ([dkozisek@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:dkozisek@hamlinechurch.org)) or Gregg Dahlke ([gddahlke@usfamily.net](mailto:gddahlke@usfamily.net)) Finally, please consider liking the Music and Art Series Facebook Page here (<https://www.facebook.com/music.arts.hc/>) for updates and information about events.



## NOTE FROM THE ORGANIST

Summer can offer a time of renewal, from simple pleasures such as morning coffee on the patio (one of my favorites!) to opportunities for travel. The last Sunday of July I attended church in London at Westminster Abbey. I found a seat early and was waiting for the prelude to begin when an usher asked if I would like to sit in the choir stalls. What an unexpected pleasure to end up next to the choir with a good view of the organ pipes!

The clergy and choir processed during the opening hymn, "Be Thou My Vision", the same hymn we had sung at Hamline Church the previous Sunday. From the organ prelude to the hymns, liturgy, sermon and communion to the Bach postlude at the end it was a beautiful service.

But however good it is to go somewhere it's always good to come back! I find travel increases my appreciation of home and I love playing the Casavant organ for our services at Hamline Church. I'm working on inspiring postludes for September and October to send us on our way rejoicing each Sunday!

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



# FACILITIES UPDATE

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Stephanie Engebrecht, Facilities Manager  
sengebrecht@hamlinechurch.org

## PLAYGROUND

The playground resurfacing project is complete! We are excited to see the installation of a safe, durable, weather resistant, and accessible surface for the children of our community to play on for years to come! A huge thank you to the Schwichtenberg family for their contribution to this project, made in honor of Karl Schwichtenberg, who loved children so much.



## SECURITY

See if you can spot the additional security cameras that were installed around the building at the end of August! There were also additional motion sensors installed, and a new intercom system that will allow for better accessibility to our entrances in the future.

## SANCTUARY

Lighting and sound upgrades are coming to the Sanctuary soon as well. With the boon of additional gift funds from an anonymous donor, the necessary improvements to our sound and lighting systems seem to be within reach for this fall. These improvements will allow for better directional control, and lower energy consumption with LED bulbs for the stage.

## DAYCARE UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

Miracle Grow Learning Academy is now operating in our lower-level education wing. The new owner, Brandy Henry, is passionate and dedicated to offering young children quality care in a stimulating educational environment. If you are in need of early childcare, please contact them at [info@miraclegrowlearningacademy.com](mailto:info@miraclegrowlearningacademy.com), or call (651) 645-1225. They are enrolling now! <https://miraclegrowlearningacademy.com>



## GROUNDS CARE WORKDAYS IN OCTOBER



Mark your calendars for a few days of service work and building community! Saturday, October 14 and Sunday, October 15 are your opportunities to contribute to the care and keeping of the beautiful grounds and gardens of Hamline Church, as we put the plants to bed for the winter. On both days refreshments will be provided. Watch the weekly announcements for more information, and to sign up please contact [sengebrecht@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:sengebrecht@hamlinechurch.org) or [HamlineEarthkeepers@gmail.com](mailto:HamlineEarthkeepers@gmail.com).

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to Terry Naseth for crafting the cover to disguise a no longer in use utility connection in the greenway. It looks great!



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# EARTH KEEPERS UPDATE

## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT TASK FORCE CONTINUES ITS WORK**

The Land Acknowledgment Task Force will meet on Sunday, September 24 in the Green Room after worship (11:15-12:15). We will have three general topics for discussion and action; 1) implementing a formal land acknowledgment statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and is honest about the legacy of harm caused by Christian institutions, 2) creating opportunities to educate ourselves and others about the history of Indigenous Peoples in Minnesota and the role of Christians generally (and our church in particular) in that history, and 3) developing actions in support of Indigenous organizations in our area. All are welcome!

## **EARTHKEEPERS SLEEP MAT PROJECT: SHOW, TELL AND CELEBRATE!**

Join us to see the sleep mats we have made, learn about the process, and help us celebrate on Sunday September 17 after worship. We will gather in the Parlor to share our progress and decide our next steps. We will have a special guest, JoAnn from the Dakota County Sleep Mat Team, to instruct us in finishing techniques and provide support. (FYI: Their team started in the spring of 2020, and as of August 1 had made 191 mats!)

As you know, Earthkeepers, other Church members and friends have been making sleep mats out of plarn (plastic yarn made from looped plastic bags – thank you for helping us recycle the bags!) for about 6 months. We started the project to make our Spring Eco-Share a more creative and interactive recycling / reusing project. We know that many of you have expressed interest in working with us. Let us know if you are still interested! We will continue to collect bags and work on projects at least through October, longer is there is ongoing interest. If you need plarn or instructions on how to make the mat, email [HamlineEarthkeepers@gmail.com](mailto:HamlineEarthkeepers@gmail.com)

## **PUTTING THE GARDENS TO BED**

The Hamline Church Earthkeepers want to partner with YOU for a few days of caring for the church Greenway and Grounds on October 14 and 15! Refreshments will be provided. Watch the weekly announcements for more information in September. To show your interest or sign up, please contact [HamlineEarthkeepers@gmail.com](mailto:HamlineEarthkeepers@gmail.com) or [sengebrecht@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:sengebrecht@hamlinechurch.org).

# CONNECT

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## WELCOME BACK HAMLINE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Mark Wednesday, September 7 from 6-8pm on your calendar for our annual feeding of our neighbors across the street for our “Welcome Back Hamline Students” food event. We will have a local food truck (Thai Thai Street Food: <https://www.instagram.com/thaithaistreetfood/>) on Englewood for free food for students and church folks! This is a big event for us, so we need lots of helpers to make it happen (hint hint HU Alums), so please contact Heather Grantham ([hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org)) if you feel called.

## RACIAL COVENANTS: GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

On September 24 and October 29 from 3-5 pm Community Conversations Ecumenical Consortium and Hamline Church will host a two-part conversation on “Racial Covenants: Gone but not Forgotten”. We have yet to finalize a speaker for the September program, but have asked if someone from the Mapping Prejudice Project is available. They have a slide presentation to share as well. The October program will include a movie from Just Deeds organization, ‘Adam Ruins Everything - The Disturbing History of Redlining in the Suburbs’.

## FREE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY MEALS

4th Tuesdays of the month from 4:30-8:30pm Hamline Church has partnered with Eureka Compass Vegan Food for a free monthly, sustainable, community meals! All proceeds go to a local non-profit. Contact Colin ([eurekacompassveganfood@gmail.com](mailto:eurekacompassveganfood@gmail.com)).



## CHURCH COUNCIL NICE TO KNOW

**Congratulations to Sharon Fields** who was officially approved as a candidate for ordained ministry at a charge conference meeting on August 22! Sharon has completed two years at Luther Seminary and is entering into the official candidacy process with the MN Annual Conference of the UMC.

**Thank you** to outgoing council members: Rachel Joyeux (secretary), Jeff Dresibach (trustees) and Jay Alexander (SPRC) for their completion of three years of service on church council. Thank you Rachel, Jeff and Jay! Your service and leadership made a difference in our church.

## ACCESSIBILITY AWARENESS

Directly following worship services on Sunday, September 10, please come for a listening session and help us gather more information on the greatest needs for improvement regarding accessibility. Areas include the access into and getting around the building, worship services, and programming. We look forward to hearing from you! Please call the church office at (651) 645-0667 or email [humc@hamlinechurch.org](mailto:humc@hamlinechurch.org) for more information.



## DO-SI-DO AND AWAY WE GO!

Mark your calendars for some family fun. A Halloween-theme barn dance is 6-8 pm Friday, October 13 in the church community room. Dancers follow easy steps, led by a caller. Music is by a small band. It's similar to square dancing but is easier and fun for little ones. People of ages have enjoyed the dances. Admission is free will donation. Hot dogs, popcorn and other snacks will be served.

The first barn dance was held in 2002. Volunteers including Barbara and Rolfe Leary kept the dances going for a long time. The Hamline Church Women took over several years ago, with funding from Midway Men's Club. That funding source has ended.

The community room renovations and the pandemic put dances on hold for a time, but we wanted to hold one final dance. So come out one more time to swing your partner and have some dance fun! Questions? Contact [hamlinewomen@gmail.com](mailto:hamlinewomen@gmail.com)



## SUMMER DONATIONS OFFER MUCH NEEDED HELP TO SAFEZONE SERVICES FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

During the month of May we held a basic needs drive for Face to Face SafeZone Services for homeless youth. The drive focused on the collection of white T-shirts and underwear along with cash contributions to buy these and other basic needs items. While the collection of basic needs was smaller than past drives, we ended up with \$100 worth of T-shirts and underwear. This was combined with cash donations in the amount of \$1170. Then during VBS in June our children packed a total of 150 lunch bags with basic needs snacks purchased by our church in the amount of \$250. Our total giving impact was \$1420. The staff at SafeZone is very grateful to all the caring people at Hamline Church in helping homeless and unsheltered youth over the summer months. Thank you to everyone who made donations. Contact Steve Bloom ([stevebloom4592@gmail.com](mailto:stevebloom4592@gmail.com)).



## THANK YOU FROM INTERFAITH ACTION!

School Tools collection Interfaith Action sends their thanks for donations from Hamline Church to a successful School Tools Drive! We would not have been able to do this work without your generous donation of school supplies, so thank you! And thanks to Shirley Wright for coordinating the drive at Hamline Church.

Over 650 backpacks were donated this year!  
28 area faith communities plus multiple businesses and individuals dropped off donations.  
Over \$36,190 of school supplies collected!



# THANK YOU FROM THE DINING HALL

A big thank you to all who came out to the Dining Hall at the State Fair! We are so thankful for your support in making the 126th year at the fair a success!



# THANK YOU FROM THE DINING HALL



# CONNECT WITH US

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- **GIVE US A CALL** (651-645-0667)  
The church office is open Monday - Thursday 9am-3pm; Friday 9am-Noon.
- **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**  
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