

# Sumner Center UMC

## May 2024



Pastors notes... Oh, the joy of Spring and renewed life blossoming all around us what a perfect time of year. And to celebrate Gods beautiful Spring gifts I am pleased to share with you the joy filled poetry of our poet Kathy Hawkins.

**Happy Spring Everyone!!**

### The Colors of Spring

By Kathy Hawkins

The cold winter snow will soon be a thing of the past  
Looking forward to thick lush green blades of grass  
The birds of all hues are singing from treetops high  
Flitting about looking for worms from morn to nigh  
The puddles grow as the rain falls to the ground  
Out of the earth pops life that abounds  
The colors so vibrant and others light and pale  
The blossoms reaching for the sun as it casts a veil  
Tulips, daffodils, crocus, and snowdrops too  
Filling the air with fragrances fresh and new  
Yellow, orange, purple, pink, white and red  
The brightness paints the world from their flower bed  
Whether in the ditch or strategically placed  
They have come alive to put smiles on our face  
So as the new season of life takes hold  
Share the beauty they bring to this land so bold

### Oh Puppy!

By Kathy Hawkins

Oh puppy, my puppy what shall we do  
The outside world is so exciting and new  
But why must you explore each corner you find  
Filled with dirt, mud, water and much grime  
Then as fast as you can into the house you run  
Leaving behind your signs of filth and fun  
The poor recliner in the corner now sits  
With your perfect muddy puppy paw prints  
The love of your kisses takes the anger away  
I guess a few artistry designs is a small price to pay  
Unconditional love in a four-legged body of hair  
Is the priceless gift that we forever share

**Sunday Worship:  
In Sanctuary at 11:00am  
&  
Sumner Center UMC Facebook  
Page**

Visit our Church Website at:  
<http://www.sumnercenter.com>

**Donations may be sent to our mailing  
address:  
25378 151st Ave  
Spring Valley, Mn 55975**

### Pastoral Support Team

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**Grace and Peace in the name of  
Jesus Christ**

If you have items you would like to be published in the newsletter, please contact Pastor Bridget by the 3rd Thursday of the preceding month by emailing your information or dropping at Church. The light of God remains to shine bright in our community only by your generous giving heart! If you would like to donate a gift, you may send donations to the address above or deliver it in person during Sunday morning worship service

# Calendar of Events

(Subject to change and/or be added to as the need arises)

## May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> Parish SPRC Meeting @ Grand Meadow Church 6:30pm	<b>2</b>  National Day of Prayer	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 11 am Worship  (CINCO DE MAYO)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Confirmation Class Year end gathering @ Hyndt Funeral Home in Grand Meadow 6pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  HAPPY ASCENSION DAY	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 11 am Worship  Happy Mother's Day	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Ad Council Meeting 10 am  Jumpin Jehosafats Concert @ Brownsdale UMC 7pm Dixie-Gospel- jazz
<b>19</b> 11 am Worship  PENTECOST SUNDAY	<b>20</b> Brownsdale UMC Community Noon Potluck Free Will Donations	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 11 am Worship  HOLY TRINITY 	<b>27</b>  MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBER AND HONOR	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  Minnesota Annual Conference 2024 May 29-30	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

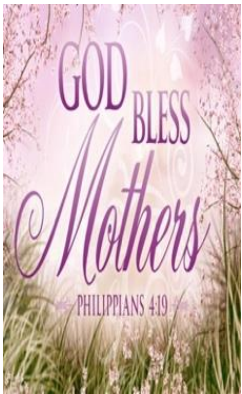
# May Worship Schedule



**May 5, 224**

**Pastor Jon Leading**

Humans have a tendency to think about the world and its resources as limited, but the story of the resurrection is the story of God's limitless power and love. In the resurrection life, God's power does not stagnate or diminish the more people it touches. The gifts of the Holy Spirit increase as they are poured out. We are shown an example of this extending of God's love written in the book of Acts 10:44-47 –



**May 12, 2024**

**Pastor Jon Leading**

Lord, on this day set aside to honor and remember mothers, we give you thanks for our mothers. We are grateful that you chose to give us life through them, and that they received the gift of life from your hands and gave it to us. Thank you for the sacrifices they made in carrying us and giving birth. We thank you for the women who raised us, who were our mothers in childhood. Whether birth mom, adopted mom, older sister, aunt, grandmother, stepmother, or someone else, we thank you for those women who held us and fed us, who cared for us and kissed away our pain. We pray that our lives may reflect the love they showed us, and that they would be pleased to be called our moms.



**May 12, 2024**

**Pastor Abigail Leading**

The day of Pentecost is upon us. May the Spirit of the Living God, dance with us on this day. Come, Whirlwind of Wonder! Sing to the groaning of creation. Come, still small voice of Hope! Enflame us with your passion for justice. Come, Liberator of the Least! Purify us of our grasping greediness. Come, Advocate of selfless living! Silence our gossiping tongues. Come, Harmony of God's Heart! Wind of God, blow through us; Fire of God, burn within us; Tongue of God, speak to us on this day of renewal and birth.



**May 26, 2024**

**Trinity Sunday**

**Certified Lay Speaker Renee Wilson Leading**

Sisters and Brothers, we are launching ourselves on the grand Ordinary Time journey. These Sundays after Pentecost will carry the story of the church at work in the world, the church guided by the Spirit and infused with the presence of Christ. We don't make this journey alone but surrounded by God in all the ways we experience that loving presence. Today on this Trinity Sunday is an acknowledgement of the mysterious and wondrous God we worship. So, let our voices be heard and we proclaim we are here in His presence to worship Him who has given us life. Let us unite in our call to worship.

# Mn Annual Conference 2024: Jesus. Redeemer.

## The DoubleTree in Bloomington is a new venue for Annual Conference



*But now, says the Lord – the one who created you, Jacob, the one who formed you, Israel: Don't fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. –Isaiah 43:1 (CEB)*

At the 2024 Annual Conference, we will gather to be reminded what it means to be named and claimed by Jesus for the sake of our mission. We'll explore how to live together, anchored in our identity as Christ followers who are inspired to live with hope, possibility, and purpose. Drawing from Isaiah 43:1, the theme of this year's Annual Conference is "Jesus. Redeemer."

Planning is well underway for the 170th Session of The Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, to be held May 29-30, 2024, at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Bloomington.

The Book of Discipline reminds us that the purpose of the annual conference is "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by *equipping* its local churches for ministry and by providing a *connection* for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God."

Our hope is that annual conference session will equip attendees with new information, ideas, and inspiration, while strengthening connections in ways that foster beloved community. Here are a few details to note about this year's annual conference:

- Opening worship begins at 9 a.m. Wednesday morning and will feature Bishop Lanette Plambeck's Episcopal Address.
- Several learning sessions focusing on different ministry topics will be offered during lunch on Wednesday.
- The Celebration of Life of Clergy will take place Wednesday, May 29 at 7 p.m. at Hennepin Avenue UMC in Minneapolis. This is a worship service in which we celebrate ordination, commissioning, licensing, associate membership, and retirement. There will be free parking at or near the church as well as a shuttle option from the DoubleTree for a fee.
- Our conference preacher, Rev. Luke Nelson, will deliver the message during Thursday morning worship. We will also receive the Love Offering at this time (stay tuned for more information about it later this month).
- We will hear a couple of TED-style talks sharing a redemption story or unique perspective on our focus scripture, Isaiah 43:1. Watch for an invitation to submit a concept statement or idea for consideration.
- Rev. Chris Kliesen Wehrman and David Nyberg are our worship coordinators, and they have [extended an invitation to participate in offering music and liturgy](#) at our gathering.
- On Tuesday evening before Annual Conference begins, there will be an optional family-friendly social event at a church or local park.

**If you are going to be a lay delegate for Annual Conference this year be sure to log onto the Mn conference website at: [minnesotaumc.org](https://minnesotaumc.org) and register. You will also be responsible for booking your own room accommodations and making your own travel plans. Hotel rooms at the DoubleTree are available at \$149 per night, and you can [reserve one now](#). Annual Conference registration will open April 1. Pre-conference webinars will be offered online May 13 and 14 from 7-8:30 p.m. All voting members are asked to attend one of these calls to become familiarized with the proposed legislation.**

## 20 Easter Bible Verses to Celebrate and Reflect

Easter is a time of rebirth and a deep sense of hope. Our Christian calendar marks 40 days of Eastertide that span from the Day of Easter to the day of Pentecost. We are Easter People and as we proudly bear that title, I encourage you to use these powerful Easter Bible verses to guide you through the journey of Eastertide to help you reflect on the story of Jesus' resurrection. Read one verse each day from May 1<sup>st</sup> to May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**The question and challenge to you is - How can you bring these Scriptures into your own life and feel the power of Jesus' love on Easter and beyond?**

**1. Mark 16:8 – Be Amazed** - So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them. *What would your reaction be if you went to the place where they had buried your beloved Lord and discovered the body was no longer there? The best news in the world can be so startling that we can't embrace it at first. So, it was for Jesus' first followers. Two millennia later, the message of the Resurrection still takes me by surprise. Before singing those "Hallelujahs" at church, I find myself catching my breath. Then I utter the refrain: "The Lord is risen indeed!"*

**2. 1 Peter 1:3 – Give Thanks** - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. *I used to wonder why we praise God. Was God so insecure as to need all that affirmation? No—God loves our praise because it's good for us, like telling a colleague what a great job they did or thanking a friend. Giving credit where credit is due. 'Tis the season of praise and exclamation points! Don't hold back. Flowers, Easter baskets, colored eggs—they're all ways to express our exuberance. To thank the Creator for his gift to us.*

**3. Luke 18:16 – Nurture Your Inner Child** - But Jesus called for them and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs." (Luke 18:16) *As kids dash outside for the egg hunt. Let us be reminded that the eggs and giant bunny are reminders of new life. The event of hunting for eggs mirrors the thrill of any seek-and-find spiritual journey. No matter your age, a youthful spirit is something Jesus valued. Nurture your inner child for the day.*

*I have given you a brief example of how to bring these verses into your own life situation, now I encourage you each day to make a connection with the rest of these verses. Are there questions, thoughts, ideas, inspirations that bubble up as you carry the verse with you throughout the day? Use the space provided to write down your own notes*

**4. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)** \_\_\_\_\_

**5. But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen." (Luke 24:1-6)** \_\_\_\_\_

**6. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. (Philippians 3:10-11)** \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime; it is the Lord who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone. (Zechariah 10:1)** \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? (Romans 8:34-35)**

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9. Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. (James 5:7) \_\_\_\_\_

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10. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. (1 Corinthians 15:20-21)

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11. I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. (John 11:25-26) \_\_\_\_\_

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12. Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge Him. As surely as the sun rises, He will appear; He will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth. (Hosea 6:3) \_\_\_\_\_

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13. I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. (John 8:12)

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14. Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going. (John 14: 1-4) \_\_\_\_\_

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15. It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. (Galatians 5:1) \_\_\_\_\_

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16. He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time. (2 Timothy 1:9) \_\_\_\_\_

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17. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. (1 Timothy 1:15-16) \_\_\_\_\_

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18. The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. (Lamentations 3:25-26) \_\_\_\_\_

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19. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms. (Ephesians 1:18-20) \_\_\_\_\_

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20. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. (1 Peter 4:8) \_\_\_\_\_

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# Around the House

## 100 Hidden Words to Find

C P T E L E V I S I O N C J C C K X B R E F R I G E R A T O R J K P K  
 Y M F S K H G B N N I M D R W U Y W R C X H F O T S K O O Z Z K U D P  
 Z B K N R C F J T S T N M A T T R E S S Z Q X Q N A F O O U H F N I O  
 G Y I A J S V Z B R U V O B U M N T P S I J D Y D B A F T J F L O O R  
 X S T T I L E B A C B U C W N P N C A A B R R F S A N I H T T E T B W  
 K D C I M V S J S O U F U S D G W U U I T M A D J T F L P H O C B F Q  
 F D H O H S E O E M L P N A D U S S W T N T W R X H S B A J Q M K V D  
 H Y E Y A S D A M P L N N H T Y L H C T U S E Y A R U F S V Y E A E F  
 L Y N L R S O M E U I O F W W J R I O C W T R E F O O U T L E T R N I  
 A L G U U Q T M N T G S Y V T I O O N W S G E R M O J S E X W J P T V  
 M P P M L D P E T E H P H O A P B N W A E H D P C M I C R O W A V E X  
 P Q P Z Z I F Z R R T O Y H Q N Q G O Q C R F H S G E O M C U K M S Y  
 Z D O O R S R W O O A N C A R P E T W U H J T O W E L U I V P S C E D  
 S M E V W H A U P J A G S Y Y V T P O H S K C T S R L N R L O M E B U  
 D H O V C W M J N G M E J Z X W H C P K L T J O K G A T R R O F E S Y  
 H K E N Z A E R H D S H I X N T C K L A I H U R N W F E O O Q H D D F  
 Y Z E L J S Z T W J K W P W O R N F T U P T G J Y D D R R S A O B T C  
 T B P F F H H P O A T W E L Y S E A G E P E A X J P I D M O P O L X C  
 V Q X A J E P C M I Z H C Q L T E M V E E Q R B H E E T B S A K E P Q  
 U Y S W N R I A T X L H K K X A B R O B R R N X L B M I I P W N N U B  
 B O O K X L L B M P S E D D B I V A P T S A P M B E A S O O N U D Q O  
 R U G Q W W L I L A U I T B E R T Q W V E M B O B V D S F O N U E C C  
 R H N O H A O N W A B D J F H S T V O C P E N R C I V U R N G E R T Q  
 X G B E D S W E V A N V P C A V K G T A D K D R E S S E R G E J R T Z  
 K F O R K F B T I J S K E I C O M B K N I F E U N W C S E K G O Q Q N  
 E I K E C X K A F A M H E P S O V E N D G C J A M D S H E E T B M D Q  
 C W A V R L M E L M R C E T B E I Q P L C T O O T H B R U S H L P L C  
 Y J F S R U O U Y X X V P R I O Q A T E L T Z A B T Z L F X B R I U L  
 R E J N U G T S C S P S I K H R O S C M O I C P T A W F J U E C S F O  
 K I G C L A Q M E S A U T Y X S O K H Q T N N V D E T E R G E N T C C  
 S H A M P O O O T T N F Q G S L D N C O H L H W S N C H N E Z L Q Y K  
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 Q D W I N D O W V I U Z J R H T E A P O T V P X Y P R Q W B R O O M N

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|----------|-------------|------------|---------|-----------|--------------|------------|------------|
| attic    | brush       | couch      | floor   | mattress  | plate        | soap       | toothbrush |
| basement | cabinet     | counter    | fork    | microwave | pot          | socks      | toothpaste |
| bathroom | candle      | cup        | frame   | mirror    | purse        | spatula    | towel      |
| bathtub  | carpet      | curtains   | glass   | mop       | refrigerator | sponge     | trash      |
| bed      | chair       | cushion    | hanger  | ottoman   | remote       | spoon      | vacuum     |
| bedroom  | clock       | desk       | hook    | outlet    | rug          | stairs     | vent       |
| bench    | closet      | detergent  | iron    | oven      | shampoo      | table      | washcloth  |
| blanket  | clothes     | dishwasher | keys    | pan       | sheet        | teapot     | washer     |
| blender  | coaster     | door       | kitchen | pantry    | shelf        | television | window     |
| book     | coat        | drawer     | knife   | paper     | shoes        | tile       |            |
| bookcase | comb        | dresser    | knob    | pen       | shower       | tissues    |            |
| bowl     | computer    | dryer      | lamp    | photo     | sink         | toaster    |            |
| broom    | conditioner | fan        | light   | pillow    | slippers     | toilet     |            |