

October
2021

The Samaritan

Worship Themes

October 3 -
Serving Neighbors
Near and Far / World
Communion Sunday

October 10 -
Cycle of Blessings:
Relationship

October 17 -
Cycle of Blessings:
Truth

October 24 -
Cycle of Blessings:
Wellness

October 31 -
Cycle of Blessings:
Gracious Leadership

 **GOOD
SAMARITAN**

Shoebox Christmas Gifts

September 12- November 4

Beginning **September 12**, Good Samaritan Families will be collecting donations to create Shoebox Christmas Gifts for Native American children and youth. This ministry is in partnership with the United Methodist Mission in Spirit Lake, ND where youth and adults from the Minnesota Annual conference have served in years past. Good Sam is one of several United Methodist churches that will be gathering donations for more than 6,000 young people living on reservations in the Dakotas and Minnesota who might not otherwise receive a Christmas present. To hear about the impact of this outreach ministry go here:: <https://vimeo.com/170121854>

Each shoebox will include an assortment of toys, winter gear, art supplies, and hygiene essentials. To build one shoebox it will cost **\$25**. Our goal is to be able to make **200** shoebox gifts. If you would like to contribute monetarily Mail checks payable to:
MN Annual Conference
at Minnesota Annual Conference
c/o Youth Ministry
122 West Franklin Avenue, Suite 400
Minneapolis, MN 55404

If you would like the opportunity to shop for toys in addition to sponsoring, we will be collecting

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toys for the following age ranges: Infant, Toddler, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, 13 and up. These gifts can be dropped off in a donation bin in Jan's office or in the narthex on Sundays.

On November 6th, Good Samaritan youth will be joining youth from all over the Twin Cities to thoughtfully pack the shoeboxes as a part of the Serve MSP Fall Day of Service and in ongoing partnership with the United Methodist Mission in Spirit Lake, ND.

OUR STAFF

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Pastor's Page



Our vision here at Good Samaritan UMC is: "Inspiring Joyful Faith; Building a Loving Community; and Serving Neighbors Near and Far." We have recently spent a few weeks in worship looking more closely at each segment of our vision, and I have been particularly struck by how well our vision captures the ideals of discipleship Jesus so often taught.

The first aspect is "Inspiring Joyful Faith." Having faith doesn't mean every moment of every day is going to be filled with ease, but faith does serve a purpose in bringing hope when things are challenging, while also reminding us that we are children of God in the moments when we have lost sight of that. I believe that making the effort to grow deeper in your faith is the most important thing you can do for yourself and your family. It also is what prepares and strengthens us for making a difference in the world.

The second is "Building a Loving Community." This is a process, for sure. Being loving means that grace and forgiveness abound, and yet so does accountability. I always think the best thing about community is the ability to accomplish something greater than an individual can on their own. For me, I find that inspiring. If you also are inspired, and ready to do the hard yet meaningful work this entails, then this is the place for you!

The third aspect is "Serving Neighbors Near and Far." The biblical story of the Good Samaritan is a foundation for this part of our vision. The cover of our weekly worship bulletin contains these words: "Good Samaritan. Who we are. What we do." It is a way of life. May that always be so.

If you're like me, you might gravitate more toward one of these aspects of our vision than another. But I do think that our call as disciples of Jesus requires intentional effort in all three areas. When you reflect on your own life, which of the three is strongest? And which of the three needs a little more attention? No matter where you are, my prayer is that you find an inspiring, loving, joyful and creative place here to serve and grow.

Pastor Carol

Meet & Greet

We have scheduled several meet-and-greet gatherings in October coordinated by Caroline Carlin, Chair of the Staff Parish Relations Committee. Some meet & greets are in our hosts' homes and some are scheduled at Good Sam. We have seven dates posted at this sign-up link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094DA4A92CA57-meet> We'd love to have you find a time to join us! We'll gather to talk and help build our community. Masks are required unless weather cooperates and hosts are able to have you gather outside.

Worship



Michelle Gerhz Farewell

Our deepest thanks to Michelle Gehrz, our interim organist & pianist, for blessing us with beautiful organ and piano music for our online worship throughout the pandemic. Her schedule is filling up, so her final recording session for Good Samaritan UMC was September 28. We offered our appreciation with a bouquet of flowers and a gift bag full of thank you cards written personally to Michelle.

Autumn Images

As the seasons begin to change from summer to autumn, what signs of transformation are you noticing in your corner of the world? We invite you to take a moment to pause, take a picture, short video, or even draw or paint a picture, and post it on our Facebook page or email it to Christian@good.com. It doesn't need to be perfect. We may use your image in an upcoming online worship service. All ages are welcome to participate!



Photo courtesy of Barry Friswold

Homeward Bound Band

The band practices in the band room underneath the sanctuary every Thurs 7:15-9 pm, and we'd love for newcomers to pop by! Players of all ages & any instrument (especially bass guitar) and vocalists are most welcome, and no prior experience is necessary! More info from me at BradleyPCarlin@gmail.com.

Seeking Bellringers

Interested in learning the art of handbell ringing? Do you read music? Do you enjoy fellowship and teamwork? Are you available Wednesdays from 6:00-7:15pm? Contact Paul McKenzie at Paul@good.org

Rally Day Recap

Good Samaritan UMC returned to in-person worship with Rally Day on September 12, 2021. A few modifications were made due to the recent surge in the delta variant, including wearing face masks while inside, no congregational singing, and a limit of 100 people in the pews to enable adequate social distancing. We were blessed with inspiring music from orchestral players, and afterwards enjoyed fellowship under the portico with music by Homeward Bound and an ice cream truck from Ben & Jerry's.

Register for In-Person Worship

For the time being, we are continuing our registration process for Sunday worship. While pre-registration is not required, it has its benefits by 1) ensuring we don't exceed our attendance limit as defined in our COVID Preparedness Plan, 2) speeding up the check-in process once you arrive, and 3) for easier communication back to you in the event that contact tracing is needed. Nursery service is provided if requested during registration by Wednesday of any given week. Thanks for your help with this! Sign up using this link (it's updated weekly for each coming Sunday): <https://www.shelbygiving.com/App/Form/5dd5fbc7-a1c5-4401-a4b9-aa580f4e0453> Online worship remains available at 10:00 am Sundays on our Facebook page as well as any time on our website good.org/watch/sermons.

Congregational Care

As the Director of Congregational Care here at Good Sam, I was hired to care for the "soul" of the congregation. I view this as a ministry of stewardship, one in which I am tasked with teaching, modeling, and supporting the myriad ways in which the adults of this community might be spiritually nourished, healed, and/or tended to. It is my principle belief that there is no fundamentally right or wrong way to do this which frees us up to simply create safe, open spaces within which Spirit might flow and breathe life into us each. On these pages you will find some of such invitations; if you have other ideas or ways in which you would like to care for and/or be cared for by one another, please let me know. With deep blessings, Nikki Holm



Nikki Holm (she/her), Board Certified Chaplain
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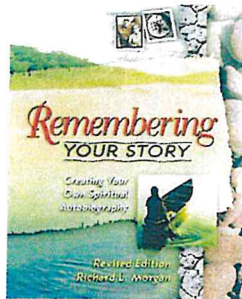
Caring Ministers Update

Our Caring Ministers continue to offer loving presence to fellow Good Samaritans through phone calls, notes, and visits where Covid restrictions allow. If you yourself or another congregant are in want of extra companionship as you navigate this season of life, please remember that they are here for just such connection. Additionally, the Caring Ministers are specifically looking to start offering to read books aloud for pleasure to Well-Seasoned Samaritans who may appreciate such an offering. The Caring Ministers are simultaneously looking for new members to join the committee to expand their outreach and accompaniment. For more information about any of the above including to request support and/or to volunteer, please contact Nikki or Caring Minister Committee Chair, Judy Hillger.



Remembering Your Story Group

Ever wanted to catalogue some of your most meaningful and impactful memories especially through the lens of your spirituality, but haven't known where to start? Here's your chance to have a guided, group experience of both reflecting on your deeply personal past while using it to live more intentionally into your future. This fall, join Nikki Holm and other Good Samaritans as together we walk through Richard L. Morgan's "Remembering Your Story: Creating Your Own Spiritual Autobiography". We will gather for this 10-week series on Wednesday afternoons from 2:30-4:00pm in person at Good Sam starting on October 20th-December 22nd. For further information contact Nikki. Full participation will necessitate procuring your own copy of "Remembering Your Story: Creating Your Own Spiritual Autobiography"; please let Nikki know if this is not a viable option for you. **Registration deadline is: Monday October 11th, 2021.**



The Compassion Collective Continues in Hybrid Format

The Compassion Collective is a gathering of Good Samaritans seeking restoration through practicing vulnerability, self-care, and self-compassion which meets the third Friday of every month from 4-5:15pm both in person at Good Sam in the youth room and virtually simultaneously. There is no need to register or sign-up, however, if you would like to be kept proactively informed, feel free to contact Nikki. **Join Zoom Meeting:**
<https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 880 4810 2109
Passcode: presence

Congregational Care

Prayer for October

Gracious and loving God,

With each passing day, we step further into this season that demonstrates the cyclical nature of things. The falling leaves, the changing colors, the animals scurrying to gather enough food for winter; all of these happenings have things to teach us if only we are paying attention.

Creator God, just like the trees who release their leaves, help us to let go of the relationships, places, situations, expectations, and attachments that are no longer meant to be ours or are no longer serving us well. Help us to be open to change, both internal and external, where change is necessary or unavoidable. Help us to keep and store that which we need to stay warm, nourished, and alive. Help us to remember that dying too is a part of life; stay with us as we say goodbye to the parts of ourselves and our lives that have come to an end. Grant us your comfort and peace as we grieve, resist, and try to re-navigate a world absent of those beings and other losses whom we both love and long for.

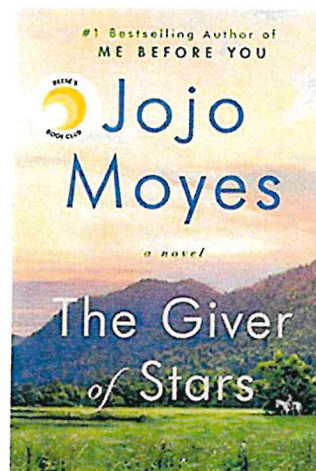
Through it all, God, teach us to experience your steady, constant presence in the wind as it blows against our skin, the sun as it shines upon our face, and the earth as it continues to hold us all. In deep gratitude we pray, Amen.

The Good Sam Prayer Chain Explained

All members of the Good Sam community are invited to participate in this unique and meaningful opportunity to stay informed about the significant happenings in the lives of your fellow Good Samaritans. Within this weekly electronic communication, you will receive a prayer or poem to center your day in addition to an updated list of both local and global prayer concerns as well as joys to hold in gratitude. These requests are identified by other members of the community who have elected to contribute their heartfelt intentions from the previous week. The prayer chain is sent on Wednesdays to the email address provided in Shelby. Prayer requests, changes, or gratitudes can be sent to Nikki at nikki@good.org by the end of the day Tuesday to be included in the following day's prayer chain. Once submitted, those listed on the "ongoing or recent medical issues" list will only be removed upon request to Nikki. Gratitudes will be automatically removed from the prayer chain at regular intervals, no need to request their removal. Once joined, anyone can opt out of the prayer chain again at any time; we would love to have you partner with us in holding one another in light and love for as little or as long as you feel called to do so!



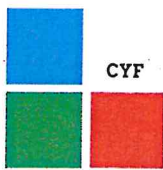
Book Group



The next meeting of the Thursday Afternoon Book Group will be on October 14th at 1:00 in the Fireside Room. This month's title is "The Giver of Stars" by Jojo Moyes. The novel details the lives of five women who become librarians and deliver books to people in Depression era

Kentucky. Please join us for lively discussion and fellowship. Questions? Contact Vicki Dunn, victoria.dunn@a.com, 952-930-3431

Children, Youth and Family Ministries



CHILDREN YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Jan M. Russell (she/her),
Director of Children, Youth
and Family Ministry

jan@good.org

952-452-9398



GOOD SAMARITAN UMC

DRIVE THRU MINI BOO !

DRIVE THROUGH THE PORTICO
FOR A GOODIE BAG!

OCTOBER 31
4PM - 6PM
WWW.GOOD.ORG

Important Dates through December

10-06	WILD Ones	6-7 pm
10-06	Jr High Youth Group	7:30-8:30 pm
10-13	Confirmation	6-7 pm
10-13	Sr High Youth Group	7:30-8:30 pm
10-20	MEA Week	No activities
10-27	Confirmation	6-7 pm
10-27	Sr High Youth Group	7:30-8:30 pm
10-31	Drive Thru Mini Boo	4-6p Portico
11-03	WILD Ones	6-7 pm
11-03	Jr High Youth Group	7:30-8:30 pm
11-06	Serve MSP Pop up Service Project Jr & Sr	2-4 pm
11-10	Confirmation	6-7 pm
11-10	Sr High Youth Group	7:30-8:30 pm
11-17	WILD Ones	6-7 pm
11-17	Jr High Youth Group	7:30-8:30 pm
11-24	Thanksgiving Week	No activities
11-28	Hanging of the Greens Family Event	4 pm
12-1	Confirmation	6-7 pm
12-1	Sr High Youth Group	7:30-8:30 pm
12-8	WILD Ones	6-7 pm
12-8	Jr High Youth Group	7:30-8:30 pm
12-15	Confirmation	6-7 pm
12-15	Sr High Youth Group	7:30-8:30 pm
12-18	Family Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	2 pm
12-19	Family Christmas Pageant	10 am
12-24	Family Christmas Service	4 pm

Did you know? Good Sam's Children's Moments are posted on our YouTube channel at 11am every Sunday.

Youth Groups (WILD Ones, Jr High and Sr High) are all coming back every other Wednesday. See schedule to the left.

Serve MSP Pop Up Service Event

November 6th
2 to 4 pm

We will be packing Shoebox Christmas boxes for Spirit Lake Reservation.



20 Good Samaritans hoping to travel to Appalachia to work with the Appalachia Service Project, shifted focus and worked on a Hearts and Hammers project, painting and landscaping a home in Bloomington.

Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Summer Recap

Discovery of Adventure Island—VBS



Discovery on Adventure Island was a great hit! We had a blast! Over 40 kids, 30 volunteers and a fun and fabulous week! Make sure you notice the two

new trees that we planted near the amphitheater.



SERVE MSP

- 2 hours of sorting replacing 2 weeks of work for Dignity Center, resource center of economically vulnerable people, in downtown Minneapolis.
- 4 pillows, 10 blankets for the Simpson Shelter, a homeless shelter in Minneapolis.
- 100 drains marked for Friends of the Mississippi, helping to educate a neighborhood in St. Paul on how to protect our water.
- 400 school kits for UMCOR, global disaster relief. Kits may go anywhere in the world, including our own backyard.
- 1,100 bags (containing 4,200 meals) for Every Meal, healthy meals for school-age kids here in the Twin Cities area.

Missions Team

THANK YOU, GOOD SAM!

Book Collection was a Success!

Thanks to your generosity with donating over 500 books this summer, the Missions Team has now delivered them, either to 1) needy families right here in Minnesota through VEAP, or to 2) an impoverished school in Baiwalla, in Sierra Leone with an adult literacy rate of only 43% for lack of books. These books will greatly benefit many children because of your caring actions. Much appreciated!



Missions Team

The Wesley Campus Ministry

Celebrated their 100th anniversary of being on the U of M campus on September 18 at Como Park.

UMCOR Cleaning Kits



Earlier in September, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and the Midwest Distribution Center put out an urgent call for UMCOR Cleaning Kits.

Each cleaning kit consists of a standard five-gallon round

bucket with re-sealable lid filled with items such as liquid laundry detergent, dish soap, insect repellent, scrub brush, clothespins, scouring pads, trash bags and work gloves. The Midwest Distribution Center transports these cleaning kits to areas recovering from natural disasters such as floods or tornados.

Our Missions Team went quickly to work purchasing the necessary items and putting together 26 buckets on behalf of Good Samaritan UMC. Between our efforts and many other UMC congregations in Minnesota, we filled a truck that Lyndy Zabel, Conference Director of Missional Impact, then drove to the Midwest Distribution Center for further distribution from there to Louisiana and Haiti as they clean up from recent hurricanes.

Feed My Starving Children

We would like to start up a monthly schedule to pack food at FMSC at the Chanhassen site from 9:00-11:00am on the 2nd Wednesday morning of the month. If you would like to participate call Jane Heimerl at 952-933-6628 or email jane.heimerl@yahoo.com

Joyce Preschool Volunteers Needed

Started in 1966, Joyce became the first bilingual school (Spanish and English) in Minneapolis. Good Sam has volunteered there for decades and right now the current need, besides classroom and library volunteers, is for volunteer painters for their front office and two staff offices – PLUS four volunteers are needed to pack and distribute food to families on two more Fridays: October 15 and December 3 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please contact Jane Heimerl, who now coordinates the volunteers, if you could help.

Hearts and Hammers Evening of Fun !

Join Hearts & Hammers for an evening of fun, magic and fundraising on October 8 at 6:00 pm at Braemar Clubhouse. There will be food, beverages, a silent auction and comedy magic by Kristoff the Magician. Purchase tickets for the event on the Hearts & Hammers website: heartsandhammers.networkforgood.com/events/32475-rag-2021



Free film on Sunday, November 21, 2021 at 6:30 pm. Good Sam will be showing "For They Know Not What They Do", This 90 minute film features four families of faith as they explore the

intersection of religion, sexual orientation and gender identity in the United States. It is appropriate for all ages. We want to invite you, your family and friends to view it and stay for the half hour discussion afterwards. Contact Roy Moeller for more information.

Missions Team

Good Sam comes through again for Hearts and Hammers

On September 11th, 24 volunteers met and worked on a home of a needy person, selected by the Hearts and Hammers program. We painted the exterior and did the landscaping on that beautiful day, and finally finished after about 8 hours. Prior to that, a small group of volunteers did the essential prep work headed by Mike Olason over 3 days by making repairs, power washing, and doing all the scraping! Thank you all who helped make this venture a success – especially the coordinators, Karen Bach and Brian Boysen! Hearts and Hammers utilizes over 2000 volunteers every year to restore and preserve approximately 65 homes annually in the Twin Cities resulting in 697 homes since 1997!



Staff Parish Relations Committee

Welcoming Our New Staff!

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is excited to share with you the news of two new additions to our Good Samaritan staff.

First, SPRC is delighted to welcome Paul McKenzie to Good Samaritan as our new Chancel Chimes Director. He started August 16. Paul recently retired after more than 20 years at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Hopkins as the Director of Worship, Music, and the Fine Arts, where he directed contemporary and traditional adult choirs and handbell choirs, led the worship committee, and managed an art gallery. He was also the assistant director and POPS conductor for the Edina Choral for over 10 years and served as an interim director at the Bach Society. He has a master's degree in Church Music from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ, and a bachelor's degree in Music Education from Concordia College in Moorhead. Paul is also a percussionist, a pianist, and a tenor. The bell choir is delighted to be working with Paul, as he brings extensive experience in teaching and growing both adult and children's choirs.



In addition to his leadership of chancel chimes, Paul has volunteered to work as our Music Coordinator during the balance of 2021. Paul will be the liaison between Pastor Carol and the musical group leads, sharing themes and coordinating schedules and music. As SPRC plans its budget for 2022, consideration will be given for this to be a long-term, part-time staff function.



Most of you also know that Christian Nielsen has been working with Good Samaritan on a temporary basis through the pandemic, helping us craft and implement a strategy for

online worship. As we move back into our sanctuary, we want to maintain this online presence, and leverage the multimedia and streaming capabilities of the technology installed in the sanctuary as a part of our Break Through campaign. We are delighted to announce that, to help us accomplish this, Christian has agreed to join our staff as the new Coordinator of Worship Arts and Online Engagement. He also started August 16.

Under Pastor Carol's leadership, Christian will produce the online version of our worship service, record and edit video performances of our musical groups and guests, add audio and visual elements to our in-sanctuary worship, train and lead members of our community that volunteer to run the audiovisual equipment during in-sanctuary worship, manage and curate Good Samaritan's social media presence, and ensure we have processes in place to have our online presence in compliance with copyright laws. We'll also continue to enjoy Christian's musical talents and occasional worship leadership as a lay preacher.

You've all seen Christian's videography and video editing skills in action, and you've heard his musical talents, both as a soloist and in collaboration with others. You may not know he also has more than 20 years of experience as a board-certified music therapist, having received a bachelor's degree in Music Therapy from Augsburg College, where he also studied Native American Spirituality and History. Christian has extensive experience using music in healing, particularly in hospice and geriatric settings. In addition, Christian is currently studying at the United Theological Seminary, pursuing a master of divinity degree in Theology and the Arts.

We are delighted to add these two strong candidates to our Good Samaritan staff, and encourage you to reach out in welcome to them as new members of our community.

Trustees

Update on Boy Scouts Charters

For many years, Good Samaritan United Methodist Church has been a Charter Organization for Scout groups. We have chartered two Cub Packs and a Scout Troop in recent years. As you may know, the Boy Scouts of America is emerging from a Bankruptcy proceeding due to claims made against them by individuals alleging sexual abuse by Scout leaders.

This situation has raised the issue of what the church's relationship with the Scouts should be going forward. The UMC Council of Bishops have recommended that churches not re-charter Scout groups, but rather consider entering a Facilities Use Agreement with the Scouts to allow use of our building for their programs. (Note: All active and retired UMC Bishops comprise The Council of Bishops, and they are charged with general oversight of our denomination). The Council of Bishops, after having received legal counsel, feel that this will provide some added protection to the church in the event of future incidents. The Boy Scouts of America have provided us with information about the steps they have taken to prevent future incidents of abuse and protect Charter Organizations against liability. They have encouraged churches to continue to charter the Scout groups. The adult leaders of our two Cub Packs and Scout Troop are also engaged in these discussions. (Any incidents in the past are not impacted by this decision, and will be governed by the outcome of the Bankruptcy proceedings).

Two of our Scout units are re-chartered into next year, but one Cub Pack's Charter has expired. They have asked us to sign on for another year. We have put a hold on signing any new Charters while we consider the questions raised by the Bishop and the Boy Scouts of America. The Board of Trustees intends to give these important issues our full consideration and resolve them as quickly as possible. We hope to present our conclusion to the Church Council at their meeting in November. In the meantime we have asked the Scouts to continue their programs at the church as they have in the past.

If you would like to offer any suggestions, or if you have any questions, please direct them to me via e-mail (rlevans1954@gmail.com) with a copy to Pastor Carol (carol@good.org).

Maintenance Minute

Good Sam was hit with a hail storm last year. The trustees committee is working with our insurance company and contractors to get a plan in place. As of now the whole roof over the sanctuary is set to be replaced. Hopefully this will take care of the leaks.

We are also getting all of the gas lines replaced on the roof from copper to a much stronger galvanized pipe. The copper pipe has been bending from ice dams on the roof. The galvanized pipe will not bend from the ice.

The next time you are at good Sam go check out our rain garden! Located in the lower lot, north side. This was done in efforts to help the run-off that drains into Hawkes Lake which drains into 9 mile creek. This was paid for and constructed by 9 mile creek watershed district and their contractors.



Dan Rogers-Green
(he/him)
Building Engineer
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612-889-4015



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Nonprofit Organization
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Twin Cities, MN
 Permit No. 2518

Return Service Requested

Time Dated Material



WORSHIP AT GOOD SAMARITAN

- Sunday Service** 10am (In-Person and Online)
- Nursery** Infants - Age 3 (by reservation)
- Children and Youth Sunday School** All ages Sunday School after Children's Time

OUR VISION

INSPIRING
 Joyful Faith

BUILDING
 a Loving
 Community

SERVING
 Neighbors Near
 and Far

GOOD SAMARITAN OFFICE

- Mon-Thurs Phone** 9am - 4pm
 (952) 929-0049 (Note: phones are generally staffed Tuesday & Wednesday from 9am-1pm)