

CEDAR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

17541 Jefferson St. NE , Ham Lake, MN 55304 | 763-434-7463 | cedarumc.org

Pastor Cliff Nelson

MAY



2026

"We are on a journey, committed to share God's love and the hope of Christ with our community"

A NOTE FROM PASTOR CLIFF



We live in a deeply divided world and there are those who delight in creating division whenever and wherever they can. We see it in government, communities, denominations, social media. It's one of the most painful realities of the culture we live in and it has been with us for some time. For those who seek nothing more than division they do not understand the true spirit of Christ. Jesus was never afraid to speak the truth no matter where. But his life was given to heal wounds and divisions and restoring unity. That was the prayer of Jesus in John 17:11, "Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one." Jesus prayer for us is a call to unity. What would it be like if we lived out that prayer? I think the results would be dramatic, life giving and liberating.

It would mean focusing on the two most important facts about life. God's overwhelming love of humanity and the need for us to accept that love and let it flow through us in our relationship with God and others. It is a reminder of the greatest commandment, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself". I'm not saying it's easy, it's not, it's a possibility only as we yield to the power of the Holy Spirit within us who empowers us to respond to the internal law of the Spirit written in our hearts rather than the way of the world that seeks division.

In a world divided by so much let us pray that the prayer of Jesus will be answered in our time where we live and that we will become a living answer to this fervent prayer of Jesus. It will change the world.

*In Christ,
Pastor Cliff*



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MISSIONS

Our May "mission of the month" on 5/31 will be for Emma Norton Services. Emma Norton has provided housing for girls and women who came to the city from out-state for work or school for over 100 years. They received funding and counseling from UMW groups at churches. Today they have expanded to include those who are homeless due to chemical dependency or mental illness and for whole families, if needed.

Thank you for your continued support. God bless you
Junelle and Sue

MEMORIAL

DID YOU KNOW.....

Our 2 beautiful evergreen trees planted on the church grounds are in memory of Lori Jensen. They were donated by her husband Doug Jensen and family. We are so grateful for this gift.

We cherish and respect every gift.
The Memorial Committee





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WORSHIP

Sunday May 3rd is the last Sunday that choir will be singing for the season.

Please spread the word that choir is looking to fill in the male voices section of the choir.

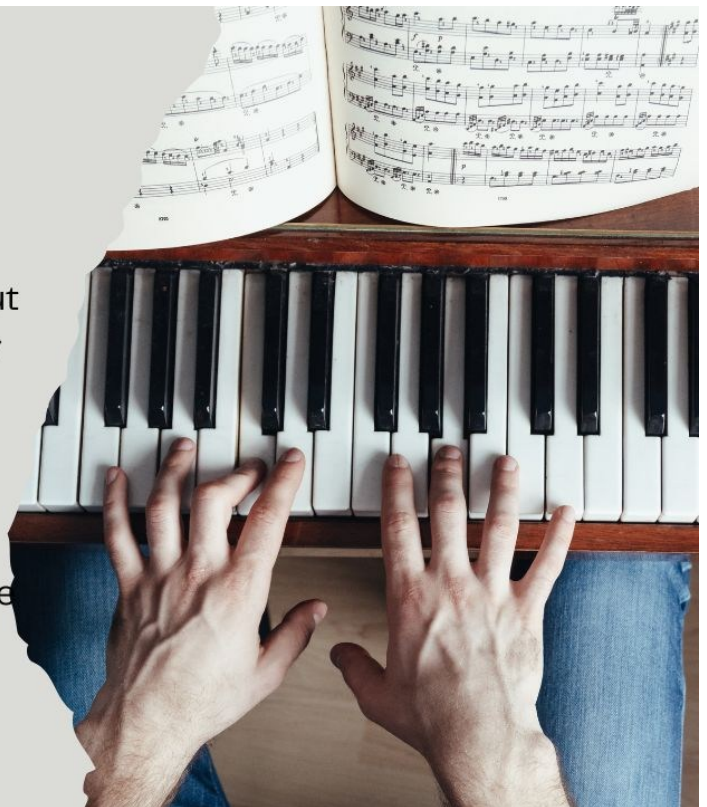
If you or someone you know are interested, please reach out to Marty for information and join us in the fall.

PIANIST WANTED

Pianist Wanted

Cedar UMC is in need of a pianist for Sunday morning worship (three times per month), and for special services throughout the year. The candidate would also play for the choir and on Wednesday evening practices. The choir sings approximately two times per month (Sept.–May).

If interested or have questions, please contact Pastor Cliff at 701-740-1027 or the church office at 763-434-7463.





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TRUSTEES

Dakotas/Minnesota Methodist Builders Club Grant

We have been blessed yet again by again by the Dakotas/Minnesota Methodist Builders Club whose mission is to help Minnesota United Methodist Churches connect with their community and welcome new people by providing grants and loans for building projects that create more welcoming spaces. This is the same group that gave us a generous grant of \$2,500 for the front door openers in 2023.

As you may recall, The Trustees and Annual Church Meeting in January 2025, voted to prioritize Padded Pews and Sound System Improvements for that year. As we looked at our observation of improved sound with more people present, sound system designers told us that padded pew cushion seats and backs would have a significant impact upon the acoustic needs of the sanctuary. We were told that the cushions will greatly reduce our cost for sound system hardware improvements and potential acoustic panel needs. We decided it would be a better option to add cushions to the pew benches and backs to offset the acoustic panel costs of \$15K - \$18K and enjoy the comfort and aesthetic improvements as well.

As you know, we ordered pew cushions and installed them much to everyone's appreciation. We knew cushions and sound system were expensive, so we decided to ask the Minnesota Builders Club, which is part of the Dakotas/Minnesota Methodist Foundation for a grant. They were most gracious and in April awarded us \$2,400 towards our pew pads and sound system.

Blessings to the Builders Club for helping to provide the opportunity for more people to fully take part in Cedar UMC's worship experience. Their website is <https://mnumc-mnumf2024.brtsite.com/files/websites/mnumf2024/Builders+Club+Cedar+MN.pdf>



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MAY BIRTHDAYS



5/3	Luann Cederberg
5/7	Travis Tueffel
5/8	LeRoy Swanson
5/15	Brad Gustafson
5/18	Marty Bartels
	Dawn Swanson
5/21	Donna Bodinski
	Nathan Taylor
5/23	Weston Musker



MAY 2026

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

					1. Friendship Day	2.
3. 10:00 am Worship 10:0 am Sunday school	4. 6:00 pm Caring & Sharing	5.	6.	7. National Day of Prayer 2:30 pm Bible Study	8.	9.
10. Mother's Day 10:00 am Worship 10:00 am Last day of Sunday school	11.	12.	13.	14. Ascension of the Lord 6:00 pm Piecemakers	15.	16.
17. Ascension Sunday 10:00 Worship Celebration for Graduates	18. 6:00 pm Caring & Sharin	19.	20.	21. 6:30 pm Ad Council Meeting	22.	23.
24. Day of Pentecost 10:00 am Worship	25. Memorial Day	26.	27.	28. 6:00 pm Piecemakers	29.	30.
31. Trinity Sunday 10:00 am Worship Noisy Sunday Offering for Emma Norton Services						