



Chapel Hills • *Weekly News* • July 9, 2026

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Sunday, July 12, 2026 Worship Service @ 10:15 am

Nursery is available for infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children.

Participating from home on Sunday morning? Join us via live stream...
Click Here: <http://youtube.com/channel/UCBYMT5pV5dLXGHjX5iaYXYQ/live>

A Note from *Rev. Christian...*

Hi everyone!

I will be gone from Monday July 13th until Tuesday July 28th. My first week will be a continuing education week. I will be spending time in Texas, creating our upcoming confirmation class that will take place in the fall. I will be writing the content of the class, creating the schedule, and doing the admin work to make this class happen. (If you have middle school aged young people in our church and are interested in this class please let me know!) When I won't be creating the class, I will be taking some time to visit my family in the evenings. My second week away will be vacation, I will not be checking emails or reachable in any way from July 20th - July 27th. The Rev. Chris Bonhoff, Lead Minister at Sprit of the Peace will be available for emergency pastoral care. His number is 612-250-8084.

That's all from me! See you Sunday!



In Prayer

- Anne Huber is donating a kidney to Bob. Both the donation and transplant surgeries will take place on July 14th. Please keep Anne, Bob, their medical teams (including those who transport Anne's healthy kidney from DC to MN) and the Huber-Solso family in prayer.
- Jane Berne asks prayers for two of her dear friends that are on cancer journeys. Karen was just diagnosed and Larry is nearing the end.
- Doug Allen, Sherilyn Aske, Charles Camilli, Loretta Centgraf, Dee Chance, Julie Ford, Louise Ford, Bob Huber, Joann Hunt, Jerry Kerr, Jordan Kerr, Kathleen (Kathy) Molony, The Shermans (Sonny, Ashley & Dakota), Kim Vacanti

Please Be Aware...

Please keep your distance from our Little Free Library until further notice.

A wasp nest was found inside, and we want to prevent stings.

**The Facilities Team is addressing the problem and
hopes it will be safe to use again soon.**

Critical Help Needed for Venezuela

Two devastating earthquakes struck Venezuela in late June 2026. In response, the United Church of Christ has launched an urgent appeal working through our trusted partners on the ground like Global Ministries and ACT Alliance, we deliver emergency relief to displaced families, distribute food and water, and offer pastoral care to those facing profound loss and trauma.

Please consider making a gift today. Together, we can provide hope, healing and love to our neighbors in Venezuela. [Easy Ways to Donate:](#)

- Check made payable to Chapel Hills - write Venezuela on the memo line. Put in the offering plate on Sunday or mail to Chapel Hills at 6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina 55436.
- Online (convenient & secure) by clicking this link:
<https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/chapelhillsuccedina>

Looking Ahead — All Are Welcome		
Book Group	Thursday, July 9	1:00 to 3:00 pm
Coffee & Conversation	Thursday, July 16	9:30 am
Outdoor Yoga	Wednesday, July 29	6:30 to 7:15 pm
Night to Unite	Tuesday, August 4	6:00 to 8:00 pm
Book Group	Thursday, August 13	1:00 to 3:00 pm
Coffee & Conversation	Thursday, August 20	9:30 am
Outdoor Worship Service @ Lake Harriet	Sunday, August 23	10:00 am

Book Group

Thursday, July 9: 1:00-3:00 pm at Chapel Hills

Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women (1994) by Geraldine Brooks.

Coffee & Conversation

Thursdays: **July 16** and **August 20**. We'll gather at 9:30 am to enjoy coffee and conversation and if the weather permits, we can take an optional walk in the neighborhood afterward.

Outdoor Yoga

Wednesday, July 29: 6:30-7:15 pm at Chapel Hills.

Suitable for all ages and skill levels (rain or shine). Bring a yoga mat & towel.

Night to Unite

Tuesday, August 4: 6:00-8:00 pm at Chapel Hills

We're hosting our 11th Annual neighborhood party and hope you are able to attend.

Outdoor Worship Service at Lake Harriett

Sunday, August 23: 10:00 am

We're taking our Sunday morning worship service offsite for a shared service with neighboring UCC churches at the Lake Harriet bandshell (4135 W Lake Harriet Pkwy Minneapolis). We will NOT be holding our regular worship service at Chapel Hills on this Sunday.



Chapel Hills Church
(6512 Vernon Ave S)

July Birthdays...

Rob Norris-Weber – 7th

Eshaan Das – 9th

Emily Gray – 12th

Bonnie Stroessner – 13th

Allii Scudder – 17th

Marion Roschen – 20th

John Roschen – 23rd

Nicole Feest – 23rd

Ann Lempke – 25th

Jon Pearson – 26th

Sarah Lis – 26th

Harriet McDonald – 27th

Eli Norris-Weber – 31st



11th Annual

Neighborhood Party!

Tuesday, August 4th

Starting @ 6:00 p.m.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

- ★ Meet & Greet Your Neighbors
- ★ Bring a Snack, Side Dish, or Dessert to Share
- ★ Hot Dogs & Water Provided
- ★ Bouncy House & Games for the Kids
- ★ A Visit from the Edina Police or Fire Department
- ★ Bring a "Food Shelf" Donation to Benefit VEAP
- ★ Rain or Shine

An Invitation from Morningside Hills UCC - Ecclesiastical Council

Please join us at Morningside Hills UCC, 4201 Morningside Rd, Edina, MN 55416 for Katie Johnson Gant's Ecclesiastical Council on Sunday, July 19th at 2pm. Katie has been In Care with Morningside Hills UCC throughout her journey toward ordination since the fall of 2022. We invite delegates, members, and friends to join us as she takes this final step toward approval for ordained ministry in the United Church of Christ. We hope you'll join us in celebrating this important milestone in Katie's ministry!



St Luke's Swedish Casserole – Shared by Laura Feierabend

(Feeds 2-3)

½ lb - ground beef	1.5 - 2 cups – Kluski Noodles, cooked (or medium egg noodles)
½ - medium onion, chopped	
½ cup – celery, chopped	1 can – cream of chicken soup
Sliced mushrooms (optional)	1 block (4 oz) – Velveeta cheese, diced
Salt, to taste	2 oz. jar - pimentos, drained & diced
Pepper, to taste	½ cup - frozen green beans
Worcestershire sauce, to taste	

Brown meat, cook onion, celery and mushrooms until tender; drain. Season with salt, pepper and Worcestershire sauce. Boil noodles as directed; drain. In 2-quart casserole dish mix soup, Velveeta, pimentos and beans. Add meat and vegetable mixture and mix well. Add drained noodles and mix. Bake at 350-degrees for 30 minutes. Enjoy!

**"No matter who you are or where you are
on life's journey, you're welcome here."**

Looking Ahead

9	JUL, THU	● 1 – 3pm	Book Group
12	JUL, SUN	● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service
14	JUL, TUE	● 11am – 12:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 1 – 2:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
16	JUL, THU	● 9:30 – 10:30am	Coffee & Community
19	JUL, SUN	● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service
21	JUL, TUE	● 11am – 12:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 1 – 2:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
26	JUL, SUN	● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service
28	JUL, TUE	● 11am – 12:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 1 – 2:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
29	JUL, WED	● 6:30 – 7:15pm	Outdoor Yoga
2	AUG, SUN	● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service & Communion
4	AUG, TUE	● 6 – 8pm	Night to Unite Neighborhood Party



GIVE Securely Online

Offering/Donations

- **Online Giving** (convenient & secure) by clicking this link... <https://app.easytithethe.com/app/giving/chapelhillsuccedina> or by scanning the QR Code to the left.
- **By Check** (indicate what your donation is for on the memo line)
Send to: Chapel Hills, 6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina, MN 55436



“A House Divided”

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

I can't seem to master the art of growing bountiful rows of vegetables and meadows of bee-friendly wildflowers. My farmer neighbors tell me that my problem is I can't throw seeds down and expect success. Growing something beautiful takes some elbow grease — and education. Starting with understanding what type of soil I have. Is it clay, sand, silt or peat?

Truthfully, I have no idea what language they are speaking. I've tried studying up on soil. I even purchased testers to see what I need to amend my soil with. Still, I can't seem to understand the science of the nutrients needed to help various plants grow. This I do know: My soil is extremely rocky, so any hopes of growing blue-ribbon winning straight carrots are dashed. Rather than deal with the soil I have, I opted for raised beds. But they aren't the carefree option I thought them to be. Even the “good” soil I put into the beds needs care.

My challenges with soil have made me better understand Jesus' Parable of the Sower. When Jesus wanted to make his point about what it meant to grow in God's Word and till the Kingdom here on Earth, he used soil as a metaphor for the conditions of our heart — where the seeds of justice and love grow.

First, there was soil on a path that the Sower threw the seeds on. Being it was a path; the birds easily saw the seeds, swooped in and gobbled them up. The seeds had no chance of taking root. Next, there was the rocky soil. The seeds did begin to grow, but the roots could only go so deep, making the plants easily uprooted. And may I add, making carrots wonky. Then the Sower threw seeds amid the thorns, where they were soon choked by the overgrowth. Finally, the Sower's seeds fell upon good soil where they produced a bountiful yield.

We are all being asked today by Jesus to assess the soil of our hearts. Where are the seeds of faithfulness falling? Are they scattering on safe, well-worn paths that will not lead to deep growth? Are they falling in rocky ground where the roots will not reach deep enough to withstand droughts or even deluges? What about those thorns of distractions and busyness in our overgrown gardens of life? Are they choking our commitment to following in the ways of Christ?

Be honest with your assessment because, as I have learned the hard way, ignoring what needs to be amended doesn't get you the beautiful abundant life God wants for you.

God of green pastures, rich soil and abundant crops, help us to be honest with You about the condition of our heart soil. May we admit where we are failing in the growth of Your Word here in our own lives and communities. And then, may we be willing to amend our ways so that truly a garden of hope and peace will flourish. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today's *Sunday Bulletin*.)