



From Pastor David

Welcome to Pastor Cassi!

We are so excited to celebrate that this month Cassi Betker has been approved as a Licensed Local Pastor and has been appointed to Forest Hills Church quarter-time as our Youth Pastor!

Cassi has felt God's calling on her life for many years to work in God's Church and recently more focused in youth ministry. She has volunteered in our church over the years in many capacities. At Red Rock Bible Camp, she has led the youth camp for 18 years as Dean of Women. Four years ago Cassi interviewed for the quarter-time position as youth leader at our church, and we eagerly hired her. She felt drawn to work more hours at our church and so added the half-time position as Director of Office Administration. A year ago, during the pandemic, she added five hours per week as our Director of Visual Media. Cassi wears many hats!

At Annual Conference in 2019 Cassi felt God nudging her to pursue licensing as a Local Pastor. This would provide affirmation and credentialing for her calling in youth ministry. She sought out confirmation and then pursued candidacy with our Conference. A key step was our church unanimously recommending her for candidacy at Charge Conference the fall of 2019. After two years of discerning, mentoring, writing, assessments and interviews, Cassi was approved in July of 2021 as a Licensed Local Pastor of the Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church! Congratulations, Cassi: we celebrate with you!

Our Church Ministry Management Team (CMMT), in its Staff-Parish role, requested that Cassi be appointed to Forest Hills Church as our quarter-time Youth Pastor. Bishop David Bard approved her appointment in July and the Rev. Susan Nienaber (our District Superintendent) officially installed her at Forest Hills starting August 1, 2021.

So, as a church, we not only celebrate Cassi's licensing, we also welcome her in her new title as "Pastor Cassi!"

On one hand, not much has changed. Cassi will continue doing the same 35-hours per week multiple positions for our church.

Monthly Church Events

Aug 1	Holy Communion 10:00 am - In-person and online Worship Service 11:00 am - Grow Group
Aug 2	8:00am - Monday Morning Men, Quilters and Prayer Knitters 9:00 am - Theatre Rehearsal
Aug 3	2:00 pm - Theatre Rehearsal
Aug 4	9:00 am - Kids Bash 9:00 am - Theatre Rehearsal 5:00pm - Missionary Night
Aug 5	10:30 am - Book Club 12:00 pm - Sarah Circle 12:00 pm - Theatre Rehearsal
Aug 6	8:00 am - Grow Group 3:00 pm - Theatre Rehearsal 7:00 pm - Clue Opening Night
Aug 7	9:00 am United Methodist Men 5:00 pm - Theatre Rehearsal 7:00 pm - Clue Performance
Aug 8	10:00am - In-person and online Worship Service - 11:30am - Grow Group 2:00 pm - Clue Performance
Aug 9	8:00am - Monday Morning Men, Quilters and Prayer Knitters
Aug 11	9:00 am - Kids Bash 9:00 am - Mission Day 6:30 pm - Sanctify Rehearsal
Aug 12	9:00 am -Scandia Quilters 6:30 pm - AMT meeting

Pastor David Cont.



Her compensation will remain the same. And Cassi has told us that for now she understands her calling is to continue in these roles at Forest Hills Church. We are so glad to hear that!

On the other hand, there are some changes. We will now be calling her “Pastor Cassi.” She will be able to administer the sacraments (The Lord’s Supper and baptism) at Forest Hills Church. She will have to go to (remote) Licensing School next year and then complete her Course of Study (mostly remote) after that.

Although her relationship with our church has not really changed, her relationship with the Annual Conference has. As a Licensed Local Pastor, Cassi is eligible to serve in any appointment (youth ministry or otherwise) anywhere in the Minnesota Annual Conference. Unlike “Ordained Elders” (such as Pastor David) who serve “in itineracy” (they must go and serve however, wherever and whenever the Bishop appoints), Licensed Local Pastors serve at the request of churches and the Bishop. Ordained Elders are “tenured” with the Conference and are therefore guaranteed an appointment, whereas Licensed Local Pastors are appointed only “as requested.”

For now Pastor Cassi has felt her calling is to continue on in her roles at Forest Hills Church. She still feels called to pursue Youth Ministry and will be focusing her Licensing School and Course of Study in that area. At some point she may discern a calling to serve in some other way or at some other church. But for now, we affirm that God has placed her here among us as a gift, and we vow to serve the youth and the next generations for Jesus along side her.

Welcome, Pastor Cassi! May the Lord continue to bless you as He continues to make you a blessing among us!

Pastor David

Aug 13	8:00 am - Grow Group
Aug 15	10:00am - In-person and online Worship Service - Peter Law Preaching 11:30am - Grow Group 6:30pm - Lifeline
Aug 16	8:00am - Monday Morning Men, Quilters and Prayer Knitters
Aug 17	10:00 am - Rebecca Circle
Aug 18	9:00 am - Kids Bash 10:30 am - UMW / Juliet Outing, Panola Gardens 6:30 pm - Sanctify Rehearsal
Aug 20	8:00 am - Grow Group 2:00 pm - Mission Day - Unload Food Truck
Aug 21	6:00 am - Community Care Set up 8:00 am - Community Care
Aug 22	10:00am - In-person and online Worship Service
Aug 23	8:00am - Monday Morning Men, Quilters and Prayer Knitters
Aug 25	5:00 pm - End of Summer Bash 7:00 pm - Sanctify Rehearsal
Aug 27	8:0 am - Grow Group
Aug 29	10:00am - In-person and online Worship Service
Aug 30	8:00am - Monday Morning Men, Quilters and Prayer Knitters

“He replied, “Look! I see four men, unbound, walking around inside the fire, and they aren’t hurt! And the fourth one looks like one of the gods.”
- Daniel 3:25



KIDS' SUMMER BASH!

Summer is already careening toward its end! But there is still time to make this last month of good use! Leave your Wednesday mornings open and be a part of our Kid's Summer Bash!

Throughout the month of August we will be inviting kids from all around the community to join us in playing games, making crafts, eating snacks and learning more about who God is and how he loves us. Each Wednesday from 9 – 11:30 kids will gather at church for a VBS type of experience where they will become "Truth Sleuths" as they investigate three important mysteries:

- Who is God? (Aug. 4th)
- Why am I here? (Aug. 11th)
- What am I supposed to be doing? (Aug. 18th)

Please share this news with your friends and neighbors. Let them know that they can register for free on our website!



And to put an exclamation point on the summer, join us for our **End of Summer Bash!** On August 25th we want to invite the whole community to join us for food, fun and fellowship! We want everyone to know that our church is present and active in Forest Lake. We are alive and well and able to respond to the needs of others with the love of Jesus. Tell everyone you know about these great events and then find out how you can volunteer to be a part of making them happen!

For the King,

- Pastor Andrew

Missionary Dinner and Concert

Our church is so excited to welcome onsite, for the first time in three years, the missionaries that we support regularly as a church. Tim and Kristina Lewis (alias names...to learn their real names—and see their picture—check out the materials at our church's Welcome Center) and their four children (ages 8-14) are all coming to Forest Hills on Wednesday, August 4 to host an evening concert:



- 5 p.m. Meet and Greet
- 6 p.m. Dinner (in our newly air-conditioned fellowship hall!)
- 7 p.m. Concert (in the sanctuary)

The family serves in central Asia, in a country that only recently lifted its ban on Christianity. It still is illegal, however, to convert people to the Christian faith, and so our missionaries work behind the scenes. Tim had been publicly working as a professor of history but during the pandemic switched to working full-time on the Bible Project to bring the Bible in the local language through video media. Much of their ministry is relationship-based, and they host small groups and events in their home. Through hospitality and meals, discussion leads to talk about the message of Jesus.

Their missions work includes providing education and discipleship among the unreached in central Asia. They work through World Venture, and they have been working in Central Asia for 12 years. Their desire is to see God establish and grow His church in central Asia, by changing how people see Jesus Christ. Their long term mission is to see Central Asian families transformed by Christ into having a biblical worldview that changes not only their own lives, but society as well.

Support them! Most importantly, pray for them regularly. Pray for the work of the Gospel to spread through their ministry.

Also support them financially. Our church takes up an annual offering for them, but we can receive financial support at any time (give in the offering plate, online, or electronically, designated "Missionaries"). We are taking up an offering right now so we can present it to them when they come on August 4. A more consistent way of supporting them financially is to "sponsor" them on a monthly basis. You can request to sign up for that that by emailing them at someday@freckletune.net

Two years ago our church sent hand-made quilts for each of them. Then, when they moved into their new home, we paid for the beds, bedding and fridge. Our special offering last year paid for their long-term green cards. This year, we get to support them with personal greetings and physical hugs! Don't miss the concert, and give generously to support them!

For more information on our missionaries, check out our Welcome Center, our web site at <https://www.foresthillsumc.net/missions/> or request to be put on their email list at someday@frecletuen.net



Wednesday Mission Days

The goal is for people to help every Wednesday or join in when they can. We will be meeting at church at 2pm then heading out to the mission location for the day. Then we will come back to church at 6:30pm for dinner and debrief. This debrief time will walk us through what we did that day and how it matches what God is calling us to do as Christians.

Schedule:

August:

8/4 - 5-8pm (note time change)- Missionaries from Central Asia - Concert, Meal, QA Session

8/11 - 9am-12pm - Help with KIDS BASH

8/20 (note Friday) - 2-6pm - Community Care

8/25 - 5-7pm - END OF SUMMER BASH!

UMW Summer Outing with Juliets

This year the UMW summer outing is combining with the Juliets on Aug 18th. They will be heading to Panola Gardens. The group will meet at church at 10:30am then drive out to the gardens for a tour and luncheon. The cost is \$23. Please sign up in the lobby on the clipboard.



Air Conditioning Installed!

Air conditioning has been installed in the fellowship hall and the upstairs large room, thanks to a generous special donation. We are now able to hold functions in these spaces during hot weather, such as special events, Wednesday meals and children's programming in the fall, and groups using our building (Narcotics Anonymous, Scouts, etc.). We will inaugurate the new air conditioning on August 4th as we enjoy dinner with our church missionaries in our now cooled fellowship hall. Be sure to come! At the request of the donors: To God be the recognition and the glory!

August Birthdays

May your special day be blessed and filled with joy! If your birthday isn't listed, please call the office and let us know so we can add you to the list!

Judy McKee 8/2
Eden Bonsell 8/5
Florence Padrnos 8/20
Paulette Johnson 8/21
Madeline Lindholm 8/14

Bob Rosenbaum 8/3
Donald Richardson 8/17
Teresa Berg 8/20
Arlene Frederickson 8/30

