



From the Pastor

This last Sunday, March 3rd, we shared some tough news at the end of our service: The bishop and the cabinet have determined that Pastor Cassi will be moving on from Forest Hills in order to take an appointment at a church in Rice, MN.

As United Methodists, we understand the system in which we exist: pastors work within a statewide conference and serve churches under the oversight of a team of district superintendents as well as the bishop. This cabinet attempts to meet the needs of each church within the state of MN. It is a daunting task, one that involves much collaboration with the pastors who are currently serving in MN.

To be called away to a new appointment is never an easy transition. It throws both pastors and congregations into new terrain. Given the challenges however, we trust that God works in the midst of those growing pains. We trust that disruption of the status quo can be a good thing. We also trust that Pastor Cassi's new appointment will provide her with new opportunities and avenues for growth. As she steps into a new role, we pray that God continues to use her and guide her ministry moving forward.

On the flip side, we have an opportunity as well: to restructure staffing, to open ourselves to new ministries, to nurture someone else in the crucible of pastoral service.

We are so thankful for Pastor Cassi's contributions to the ministries of Forest Hills Church and, at the same time, we are happy to share her abilities with the wider Church.

Monthly Church Events

Mar 1	8:00am - Grow Group - Brad 9:30am - Grow Group - Tracy H
Mar 3	HOLY COMMUNION 10:00am - Worship
Mar 4	8:00am - Monday morning Men, Prayer Shawl Knitters 8:00am - PAX - Pastor Andrew 10:00am - PAX - Tracy H.
Mar 6	7:30pm - Sanctify Rehearsal
Mar 7	6:30pm - PAX - Julie (Remote)
Mar 8	8:00am - Grow Group -Brad 9:30am - Grow Group - Tracy H
Mar 9	5:30pm - Adult Fellowship
Mar 10	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME 10:00am - Worship
Mar 11	8:00am - Monday Morning Men, Prayer Shawl Knitters 8:00am - PAX - Andrew 10:00am - Comfort Quilters 10:00am PAX - Tracy H.
Mar 12	6:30pm - AD Council
Mar 13	10:00am - Birchwood 11:30am - Romeos/Juliets 4:30pm - PAX - Andrew 5:30 - Community Meal 6:15pm - Evening Programs 7:30pm - Sanctify Rehearsal
Mar 14	10:00am - PAX - Sue 1:00pm - UWF- Exec Board 6:30pm - PAX - Julie (Remote)

Her gifts in administration and in youth ministries will benefit her new appointment greatly. Her husband Steve brings much to the table as he has chaired ministry teams, led numerous small groups, and takes care of Sunday morning sound/tech issues. The Betkers will be missed, but we recognize that at this time, they are now needed elsewhere.

We are thankful to have some additional months with Cassi and Steve. They will continue on at Forest Hills through this summer. This gives us plenty of opportunity to reassess and decide how we ought to move forward. I thank God for slowing down a transition that could have been much faster!

In the end, it is all about the gospel of Jesus Christ! We are the body of Christ, here to serve and make him known. Please be in prayer for this coming transition as we trust that our Heavenly Father is truly the One overseeing our labor down here.

For the King,

Pastor Andrew

Below is a copy of the official announcement of Pastor Cassi's new appointment:

SPR ANNOUNCEMENT

We were just notified that Bishop Lanette Plambeck intends to appoint Pastor Cassi Betker as the new Pastor for Graham United Methodist Church and Cassi has affirmed this decision.

Their current pastor is retiring so there is a fairly short timeline on this. The new appointment will begin Sept. 1st and Pastor Cassi will continue with us until mid-August.

I am saddened by this news but am also excited that this seems like it will be a good fit for Pastor Cassi's gifts and talents.

Since Ad Council (AKA SPR) has not had a chance to meet yet it may be premature to speculate further. We will meet, assess the needs of the church and decide how we will fill the hole in our staff. In the meantime please pray for discernment and guidance, God is good...

Mar 15	8:00am - Grow Group - Brad 9:30am - Grow Group - Tracy H 2:00pm - Unload Food Truck
Mar 16	7:00am - Food Distribution
Mar 17	10:00am - Worship
Mar 18	8:00am - Monday Morning Men 8:00am - PAX - Andrew 9:00am - Birthday Breakfast 10:00am - Comfort Quilters 10:00am - PAX - Tracy H
Mar 19	10:00am - Rebecca Circle
Mar 20	4:30pm - PAX - Andrew 5:30pm - Community Meal 6:15pm - Evening Programs 7:30pm - Sanctify Rehearsal
Mar 21	6:30pm - PAX - Julie (Remote)
Mar 22	8:00am - Grow Group - Brad 9:30am - Grow Group - Tracy H
Mar 24	Palm Sunday 10:00am - Worship 2:00pm - 4:00pm EASTER HOP
Mar 25	8:00am - Monday Morning Men 8:00am - PAX - Andrew 10:00am - Comfort Quilters 10:00am - PAX - Tracy H
Mar 27	4:30pm - PAX - Andrew 5:30pm - Community Meal 6:15pm - Grow Groups 7:30pm - Sanctify Rehearsal
Mar 28	10:00am - PAX - Sue 6:30pm - PAX - Julie (Remote)
Mar 29	GOOD FRIDAY 8:00am - Grow Group - Brad 9:30am - Grow Group - Tracy H 6:30PM -Service PRAYER VIGIL BEGINS AFTER SERVICE
Mar 31	EASTER SUNDAY 10:00am - Worship

Thank you Andrea Hendrickson

EASTER HOP - PALM SUNDAY

March 24th, 2024 2:00pm -4:00pm

Come join the fun and reach out to our neighbors and share the “Good News”.

Opportunities to volunteer and help with making this a memorable event for all!!!

PRAYER VIGIL

Forest Hills Church has a longstanding tradition of hosting an around the clock prayer vigil the weekend following Good Friday.

Before Easter morning dawns, we want to make sure that we have spiritually prepared ourselves for the magnitude of such an event.

We are asking people to sign-up so we can ensure every time slot is covered from the close of our Good Friday Service until Saturday at midnight. The sanctuary will be available for those who sign up to pray or meditate on scripture.

Let's live out Jesus' command: **"Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak."**
Matthew 26:41

March 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!

Vicky Keintz	3/05/74
Kurt Charter	3/08/47
Dan Hair	3/09/47
Duane Dittberner	3/13/51
Diane Geving	3/18/54

Sue Dugdale	3/19/46
Lily Betker	3/25/2003
George Halek	3/25
John Hendrickson	3/29/60

