

Rev. Desiree Gold Pastor

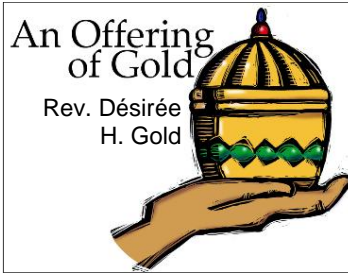
Office Hours
Tuesday—Thursday
10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.
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PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!

Susan Berndt; Daniel Bies; Eric Bies; Rob Biscoe; Kathy Biscoe; Bill and Isabel Board; Ron Bonnevier; Bill Bothun; Beth Davies; Bob Fox; Joyce Fries; Russ Gausman; Don Hanson; Chris Miller; JoAnn Nelson; Leona Perkins; Richard Piel as he mourns the death of his son; Sandy Rabe; Emily, Chris, and Joel Spicer; families facing unemployment issues.

David Bloomquist (at home recovering); Alma Buechler (former pastor's wife); Abi Christopherson (Elaine Mitchell's friend); Dorothy Brown (Ashley & Luke Longmuir's great-aunt); Roxanne Ebarb (Birdie Meyer's daughter); Guzman family (daughter's health); Rev. Frank Hudson (daughter's death); Ken & Nora Krahn (missionaries); Denise Heschke Krech (Marilyn's Heschke's daughter); Richard Lara (in prison); Margie Mattison (Farmers' Market vendor); Mary Schmidt (Karen Schmidt's mother-in-law); Midge Youngquist's grandmother; our soldiers around the world; those affected by flooding in Minnesota and North Dakota; victims of earthquakes in Italy



An Offering
of Gold
Rev. Désirée
H. Gold

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle! Ten easy things we can do to save the earth:

1. Recycle! The cities of Cottage Grove and Hastings currently collect glass bottles and jars; metal beverage and food cans; plastic bottles with narrow necks; newspaper; magazines; junk mail; dry, non-coated food paper boxboard; small flat pieces of corrugated cardboard box material. Woodbury recycles newspaper, glass containers, metal cans, plastic (narrow neck bottles with #1 or 2 on the bottom), cardboard boxes, magazines, paperboard, mixed mail, phone books. See your city web site for more information.

2. Buy things that have been made from recycled products.
3. Use scratch paper whenever you can. I print my sermons on the back of scratch paper. You can use little pieces of scratch paper for notes, etc.
4. When you eat restaurant food, eat in rather than carry out. America goes through a ridiculous number of "take-away" containers, all of which get thrown into the landfill. Many of these containers are made out of Styrofoam, which takes millions of years to biodegrade.
5. If you go out for coffee, either bring your own cup or ask them to serve your drink in a "real" cup rather than a disposable one.
6. When you go grocery shopping, bring your own fabric bags or reuse shopping bags from your previous trip. Some cashiers may look at you funny (most grocery stores are used to this by now, but I occasionally get confused looks when I bring my bags to non-grocery stores), but it's worth it. Some grocery stores even give you several cents discount for each bag you bring.
7. Save electricity. (Electricity production causes some of the worst pollution.) Turn out the lights, turn down the heat or turn up the air conditioner. Warm clothes and blankets in the winter, and fans in the summer, keep you comfortable while saving a lot of energy.
8. Conserve water. You can save an average of 9 gallons by simply turning off the faucet while you brush your teeth.
9. Drive a fuel-efficient car. At the very least, drive slower. It saves gas. Walk, bike, carpool, or take public transportation whenever possible.
10. Pray. At the end of the movie "An Inconvenient Truth" the following two quotes appear: "If you believe in prayer, pray that people will find the strength to change," and, "In the words of the old African proverb, when you pray, move your feet."

**A few of these suggestions come from the book Paper or Plastic: Searching for Solutions to an Overpackaged World by Daniel Imhoff. A good read!*

Grace and peace,
Pastor Gold

(Trash to Treasure Sale—continued from page 1)

Donate food items for the lunch

Thanks to everyone who has offered to donate food items. Call Sheri 651-731-2717 if you would be willing to donate any of the remaining needed grocery items. All food donations should be dropped off in the downstairs kitchen by Sunday, April 19th. Put refrigerated items in the pantry refrigerator.

5 pies – lemon meringue/apple/ cherry/ pecan	14 jumbo onions
1 dozen M & M cookies	3 dozen doughnuts
2 cases potato chips (100 individual bags – Sams)	1 – 24 pk. 7-Up
1 gallon pickle spears (Sams)	3 – 6 pks. Knorr chicken bouillon cubes

Donate Baked Goods for Bake Sale

Drop off by Friday 4/24 by 11:00 a.m. or Saturday, 4/25 by 7:30 a.m. Home baked breads, bars, cakes, cookies, pies, or anything else.

NECESSITIES RAFFLE WIN! WIN! WIN!

Mary Smythe, the Co-Chair of the Trash to Treasure Sale, has donated 2 heaping laundry baskets full of every imaginable household cleaning product and personal care product. Buy a raffle ticket at \$1.00 per chance to win the whole works! The winner will be announced at the end of the Trash to Treasure Sale, 2:00 p.m. on 4/25.

DROP OFF SCHEDULE

We have begun accepting items for the sale. We would like to have the majority of donated items dropped off at church by Sunday, April, 19th, however you can continue bringing items through Wednesday, April 22nd. Someone will be in the basement to accept your donations. A cart will be available in the Gathering Room if you would like to use it to haul from your car, through the handicap entrance and down the elevator. Please check this schedule for drop off dates and times. Please don't drop items off in the garage.

Wed. 4/15 9:00 – 11:00 am
 Thurs. 4/16 7:00 – 9:00 pm
 Sat. 4/18 9:00 – 11:00 am
 Sun. 4/19 9:00 – 11:30 am
 Mon 4/20 9:00 – 11:00 am
 Wed. 4/22 9:00 – 11:00 am

What TO bring:

New or gently used clothing and shoes, kitchen items, bedding, baby clothes, toys, books, records, CDs, tapes, DVDs, jewelry, small working electronics (with manuals if you have them) small appliances, tools, women's accessories, collectibles, antiques, sports equipment, etc.

What NOT to bring:

Hide-a-beds, bunk beds, water beds, pull out sofas, paint, chemicals, car seats, encyclopedia sets, exercise equipment, TVs or computers, curtain rods, car tires, large furniture or large appliances, ceiling fans

Thank you! Together we can make this happen!

Sheri Wohlers and Mary Smythe, Co-Chairs of the Trash to Treasure Sale

Coming Up in Worship

Sunday, April 19, 2009

9:00 a.m. Adult Discussion
 Group
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 10:10 a.m. Announcements
 10:15 a.m. Worship
 11:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship

Sunday, April 26, 2009

9:00 a.m. Adult Discussion
 Group
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 10:10 a.m. Announcements
 10:15 a.m. Worship
 11:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship

Sunday, May 3, 2009

Confirmation Sunday

9:00 a.m. Adult Discussion
 Group
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 10:10 a.m. Announcements
 10:15 a.m. Worship with
 Confirmation
 11:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship

Participating in Worship in April

Head Usher—Gary Thyren
 Altar Team—Midge Youngquist
 Communion Preparation—Jan &
 Ken Huber

Participating in Worship in May

Head Usher—Jerry Biscoe
 Altar Team—Susan Berndt
 Communion Preparation—Krisi
 & Jeff Jacobs

Member Helping Member Directory

Doreen Barta, Worldventures

Travel, Leisure Travel Consultant, (651) 458-9184, doreenbarta.worldventures.biz

Karen Fritze, Cake Cottage

cakes for weddings or special occasions, (651) 459-4460, www.cakestands.com

Brad Huber, B.M.H. Construction, and Realtor

new home construction, remodeling, additions, (651) 459-7545, homebuildings@aol.com; Licensed Real Estate Agent at (651) 379-2939 or bhuber@kw.com

Ken Huber, Home Building Services Inc.

architectural design, plans for new homes, additions, remodeling, kitchens and bathrooms, (651)459-7545, homebuildings@aol.com

Bill Larsen, Larsen Films

video production of events, photo montages, and other video services, (651) 270-2730, www.larsenfilms.com

Ali Manning and Shauna

Meyer, Castle Care child-care program, where we treat the children like royalty, www.castlecare.webs.com, email at castlecare-kids@live.com

Ramona Westerberg, The

Healing Place, massage for facilitating health naturally, pain management, and pain relief, (651) 206-7141, or www.thehealingplacecg.com

Wayne Westerberg, Four Seasons Outdoor Services

tree removal, stump removal, trimming, snow removal and lawn maintenance, (651) 768-0833

Bread and Bakery Items Give Away

for those who need help with their groceries

Thursday mornings, 9:00 a.m.

All Saints Lutheran Church

8100 Belden Blvd, in Cottage Grove (651) 459-1117

Bring Your Own Bag



Minnesota Conference 2009 Annual Meeting

"Together, we will be renewed"

College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN

June 5-7, 2009



A weekend of singing and celebration, with Malcolm Anderson and Scott Dorff of CODA leading music, and Rev. Dr. Karen Smith Sellers giving the special address. Guest speakers include Rev. Dr. Paul Nixon, author of I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church, and Rev. Dr. Susan K. Smith, president of BREAD, "a multiracial, multi-ethnic social justice organization in the city of Columbus, OH." See Pastor Désirée Gold for more information and registration.

Pilgrim Point Camp—50 Years of Changing Lives!!!

It's time to start thinking about your summer plans and coming to Pilgrim Point Camp for fun, friends, fellowship and faith formation. We are certain that you will find a program that will enrich your life and your journey of faith. After all, Pilgrim Point Camp exists to provide places and opportunities to celebrate God's creation, to nurture Christian community, and to foster personal renewal and growth. For fifty years, Pilgrim Point Camp has been the Outdoor Ministries site for the Minnesota Conference of the United Church of Christ. Thousands upon thousands of people have come here over and over again to experience God's presence in their lives and in this special place. Come and be a part of the Pilgrim Point experience in this 50th anniversary year. Please see the special camp brochures on the table in the Gathering Room for opportunities this summer for all ages at camp.



Can You Help?

Since 1967 volunteers have been helping residents of Washington County who have no other means of transportation to get them to medical appointments. The need for transportation has been increasing and we currently have more requests for rides than drivers. Call Cathy Dyball at Community Volunteer Service and Senior Centers to learn more and to see how you can help. Cathy's email address is cathy@volunteerscvcs.org and her phone number is (651)439-7434.



Helping Those in Need

At the last Church Council meeting it was decided to have a discretionary fund for Pastor Gold to use for folks coming to the church for help. If you would like to contribute to this fund, we would appreciate your donating gift cards for food or gas (\$25 or less). Holiday stations have gift cards that can only be used for gas. A box will be on the coffee bar going forth through the year for your gift cards. Thanks for helping others during these difficult economic times.



Caring Bridge for Abi Christopherson

If you have been following Elaine Mitchell's reports of the ups and downs of Abi and her family, now you can track them for yourselves on the internet at www.caringbridge.org/visit/abigail1. Their story and pictures will touch your heart.



Dear UCC,

Thank you so much for all the prayers and cards that were sent my way. I appreciate you all! You are so blessed having such a wonderful congregation. I enjoy coming for a visit.



God Bless,
Denise Heschke-Kresch

Women's Fellowship

The next regular meeting of the Women's Fellowship will be on Thursday, April 16, at 7:00 p.m. The activity for the evening will be working on set-up for the annual Trash to Treasure sale. All women are always welcome.



Help! Help!

Jerry Biscoe, honorary grounds keeper, is unable to locate the wheelbarrow that he uses in caring for the grounds around the church. Do you know where it is?? If anyone can help Jerry locate the wheelbarrow, please give him a call at (715)262-3587, or leave a message in the church office. Thanks!



A Night on the Street

On Friday, April 24, 2009, the Y.A.H.O.O. youth will spend a "Night on the Street" in downtown Minneapolis to raise awareness about the problems of homelessness in Minnesota, and to raise money for homeless people and families in our community. The Y.A.H.O.O.s, along with 400 youth from more than 30 congregations, will sleep overnight in cardboard boxes in the parking lot of Plymouth Congregational Church in downtown Minneapolis. The youth will spend the evening learning about issues specifically related to teen homelessness and how they can work as advocates to help make sure all people have access to affordable housing. Please hold the youth who are participating and their leaders in prayer as they prepare for this event.



Jesus Christ Superstar

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, Lyrics by Tim Rice
Presented by Park High School

April 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25 at 7:00 p.m.
April 26 at 1:00 p.m.

American Sign Language interpreted on April 25

Ticket Cost Adult: \$6.00 Reserved; \$7.00/door
Student/Senior: \$4.00 Reserved; \$5.00/door
Park High School Auditorium, 8040 80th St., Cottage Grove, MN 55016
Reservations: by phone: 651-768-5706
On line: parkhighschooltheatre@yahoo.com

Jesus Christ Superstar is produced by special arrangement with R&H Theatricals, NY

Cross Connection

A Periodical Newsletter of
**Cottage Grove United Church
of Christ**

Published on the 1st and 15th
of every month

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of every month

Edited by Becky Graff

**Back issues available on our
Church web site at
www.cgucc.org**

Deadline	Issue Date
April 27	May 1
May 11	May 15

Submit articles via e-mail at
cgucc@usfamily.net or drop
them off at the office.

Becky Graff, Editor

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STOP!!
If you would rather not receive this news
letter, please call or send an e-mail, and we
will take you off our mailing list. Thanks!

Spring at CGUCC

April 19—Sunday—Adult Discussion Group begins meeting each Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. for informal discussions of topics of interest, prayer, and support for each other.

April 24—Friday—Night on the Street, Y.A.H.O.O. youth and their leaders sleep overnight in cardboard boxes at Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis to raise awareness of homelessness.

April 24-25—Friday and Saturday—Trash to Treasure Sale featuring the Next-to-New room, bake sale, lunch, "Necessities" raffle, and a bag sale on Saturday. See the front page for details.

May 3— Sunday—Confirmation during the morning worship service. Three of our youth will be confirmed.

May 17— Sunday—Sunday School Awards during a special worship service featuring the children, followed by the annual end-of-year family picnic.

May 24—Sunday—Memorial Day weekend—Worship at 9:00 a.m.—We begin our summer worship schedule with no Sunday School, and one worship service at 9:00 a.m.

