

SAVE THE DATE!

Paper Shredding Event/Fund Raiser

to benefit

VEAP

Saturday, October 19

10am to 12pm

@ Chapel Hills United Church of Christ

6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina



Chapel Hills • *Weekly News* • September 26, 2024

Chapel Hills [Webpage](#) || Friend us on [Facebook](#) || [YouTube Channel](#) || Online Giving: [Click HERE](#)

Sunday, September 29, 2024

Worship Service @ 10:15 a.m.

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

**Children ages 5 and older are invited
to attend Sunday School immediately following worship.**

The service will also be available via YouTube for those desiring to participate from home.

Click Here: <http://youtube.com/channel/UCBYMT5pV5dLXGHjX5iaYXYQ/live>



In Prayer

- Keep Amanda Trosen in prayer as she continues to deal with ongoing seizures.
- Tom Ford who is waiting for medical test results.
- Joann's nephew, Russell Hunt Jr, infusions for leukemia.
- Doug Allen, John Burgart, Mykayla Cunningham, Julie Ford, Louise Ford, Cheryl Irwin, Jordan Kerr, Molly Lee-Lafferty Cheryl Marsch, Beau & Kelly Onischuk, Ken and Ann Puglisi, Nolan Sapp, Gail Stalpes, and Traci White-Hobson, Michelle Liebl's nephews, Sam, Noah and Maki.



Birthday Bags for VEAP

Thanks to ALL who generously donated birthday items for VEAP's Birthday Bag program! Our Sunday school class will assemble the bags this Sunday, September 29. They will be delivered to VEAP and will be available to pantry visitors whose children are celebrating a birthday.

We Are Looking for HELP to Promote our October 19th Paper Shredding Fund Raiser

Join us this Sunday, September 29 following worship to deliver flyers to our Chapel Hills' neighbors.

Route maps and great directions will be provided.



Feed My Starving Children – Saturday, November 2, 2024

Please sign-up for a "Hands-on" outreach project at Feed My Starving Children on Saturday, November 2nd 9:30-11:15am. Help with transportation will be available and FMSC appreciates any financial donations to offset meal kit costs. To donate, simply designate FMSC with the check or online. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex and see Barb Okonek with any questions.

All Saints (A Day of Remembrance) - Sunday, November 3, 2024

Sunday, November 3rd marks a day of prayer and remembrance of the "faithfully departed": relatives, friends and those unknown who are no longer living. We will remember and celebrate their lives.

Please send us the names of those you would like to remember in prayer. Also,

- a brief description of who we are praying for (friend, relative, co-worker)
- anything you'd like us to know about them
- a picture if you have one (please send it electronically or bring it in and we will scan it).

Six Haiku Poems from Our Gentle Walk on September 19, 2024

Following our September 19th Walk, we returned for delicious treats from Ruth Unzicker and became reacquainted with haiku poems from Joann Hunt. We were reminded that a **Haiku Poem** is an unrhymed poetic form consisting of 17 syllables arranged in three lines of 5, 7, and 5 syllables respectively.

We took a stab at it, and here they are...

*Walking with church friends,
Sharing treats and devotions,
I feel so lucky.*

*Walking in the woods.
Beauty in all directions,
Awe and wonder shine.*

*Green leaves shine with dew.
Spirit glows bright through us all.
Grateful for all time.*

*Moisture envelops,
Much like a summer sauna.
Makes me indolent.*

*Complex as we are,
The woods keep soothing spirit.
Calm. Loving. Be still.*

*Yellow chair with cat.
Thomas: Do you sleep Deeply?
He sleeps in calm peace.*

Gentle Walk in Nature – October 3rd (8:30 am)

Thursday, October 3rd is our next Gentle Walk in nature. We'll meet at Chapel Hills at 8:30 a.m. and explore the wonderful walking trails in our neighborhood. After the walk you are invited to stay for coffee, treats and conversation. We hope to see you there!

Neighbors in Need (NIN) Offering

In 2024, the Neighbors in Need theme is “**Mental Health Justice For All!**” This year’s focus is on Mental Health Justice. In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. **We will receive the NIN offering on Sunday, October 6th**

Annual Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 13th - 10:15 am

You are invited to bring your pet(s) on Sunday, October 13th for a Blessing of the Animals Celebration at Chapel Hills United Church of Christ. We will give thanks to the special animals in our lives. Rev. Christián will offer a blessing to each pet during the service.

Please:

- keep all small pets in safe travel containers
- keep all dogs/cats on leashes
- make sure all animals are fully vaccinated
- bring treats for your own pet (we’ll provide water)
- pets who prefer to be away from other animals should be left at home
- we will provide “treats” for the owners, companions, and all the humans in attendance following the service.



Chapel Hills United Church of Christ • 6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina • chapelhillsucc.org

Chapel Hills is hosting a ...

Halloween Dress-Rehearsal Party and Trunk-or-Treat

Saturday, October 26

4 to 6 pm

Family friendly games, prizes, crafts and trunk-or-treating. All are welcome!

Volunteers are needed – Signup in the Narthex.



We Need Your Help--Shredding Event on October 19th!

Plans are shaping up for Chapel Hills' first-ever shredding event/fund raiser! We need your help to make this event successful.

Before October 19th, please:



- Volunteer to help us host a smooth and successful shredding event-- it will be a lot of fun! (The sign-up sheet is in the narthex).
- Help us canvas our neighborhood with Fall Event doorhangers--after church on September 29th (or during that week). Whatever works for you!
- Follow "Chapel Hills United Church of Christ" on Facebook and "like" or re-post information about our shredding event. and
- Start gathering your own papers!



Questions? Check in with Chris Solso, Stacy Kehrwald or Ruth Unzicker.

'Tis the Season for Enduring Fund Grant Applications!

Chapel Hills is now accepting applications for 2024 Enduring Fund Grants. For more than 20 years, our Enduring Fund has played an important role in furthering Chapel Hills' mission, ministries, and other special projects.

Grants can vary in amount and range from a few hundred dollars to several thousand. While there is no specific requirement on what the grant can be used for, special consideration will be given to well-defined projects that support children/youth, strengthen communities, or address food/housing insecurity. We also encourage grants seeking to support and strengthen Chapel Hills and its strategic priorities.

We welcome your help in identifying organizations which could benefit from an Enduring Fund Grant! Feel free to download the Grant Application Form from the Chapel Hills website or pick up a copy from the table in the narthex. Note that applications are due no later than October 31, 2024.

Questions? Check with Chris Solso (cksolso@gmail. com or 612-812-9334) or talk to anyone on the Church Council. This year's Enduring Fund Committee includes: Emily Gray, Bonnie Stroessner, and Chris Solso (chair).

Chapel Hills United Church of Christ

Is hosting a Secure On-Site

SHREDDING EVENT

Fund Raiser to benefit 

Twin Cities' largest food pantry, providing access to healthy foods, social services, and financial assistance.

**Saturday,
October 19
10am to 12pm**

**@ Chapel Hills
United Church of Christ
6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina**

Financial donations of cash or checks and/or non-perishable food items will be greatly appreciated.

Suggested donation: \$10/bag, \$20/box
Cash or Checks ONLY (no credit cards)

Together, we will feed families in need and make a positive impact on the environment by promoting responsible document disposal practices.



Contact Information

Reverend Briones can be reached at revcbriones@gmail.com or 952-935-3025.

Christián has open office hours from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If possible, do try and send an email ahead of time so he knows to expect you. Feel free to drop in and say hey! He would love to chat with you.

*Christián's emergency line is **612-495-8203**. In the event of an emergency on a Friday, please call the church (952-935-3025) and leave a voicemail and the message will be passed along to Christián. He will be in touch as soon as possible.*

Looking Ahead

27	SEP, FRI	● 4:30 – 8:30pm	Villard Studio - Cello Group Lessons
29	SEP, SUN	● 9:15 – 10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal
		● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service
		● 11:15 – 11:45am	Sunday School (for Ages 5 & Older)
30	SEP, MON	● 3:30 – 6:45pm	Villard Studio - Cello Lessons
1	OCT, TUE	● 11am – 12:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 1 – 2:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 3:30 – 8pm	Villard Studio - Cello Lessons
		● 6:30 – 8pm	Church Council Meeting
2	OCT, WED	● 4:15 – 9pm	Villard Studio - Cello Lessons
		● 7:30 – 8:30pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal
3	OCT, THU	● 8:30 – 9:30am	Gentle Walk in Nature



GIVE Securely Online

Offering/Donations

- **Online Giving** (convenient & secure) by clicking the following link...
- <https://app.easytith.com/app/giving/chapelhillsuccedina> or by scanning the QR Code on 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



“Courage for Community”

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

An ad sponsored by the Foundation to Combat Antisemitism, which ran during last winter’s Super Bowl, reminded viewers that silence isn’t golden when others are being persecuted.

It featured Clarence B. Jones, a civil rights activist and draft speechwriter for Martin Luther King Jr., who, as images of hate flashed on the screen, spoke these words, “All hate thrives on one thing: silence.”

A Jewish woman named Esther, who would become Queen of Persia, knew all about speaking up for the good of a community. Her story, recorded in the Book of Esther, tells of the Jewish people living in exile in Persia after the destruction of the First Temple. Under the reign of King Achashverosh, a royal advisor named Haman concocted a plot to wipe out the Persian Jewish community. Esther, along with her guardian, Mordechai, were able to foil Haman’s plot and save the Jewish community.

At the climax of this story, when the Jewish community of Persia is facing imminent destruction, Mordechai calls on Esther to speak up on behalf of the Jewish people. Esther hesitates at first for she fears her own safety, being a Jew herself in the inner court. Mordechai reminds her that she is forever tied to the Jewish people and that her voice needs to be heard.

In the end, Esther speaks up and her people are saved. To this day, Esther is remembered and celebrated as a hero and an advocate on the Jewish celebration known as Purim.

The need to speak is great, yet still so very scary for many of us as we fear our own safety and security. Throughout history, though, God calls for voices like Esther’s, like Clarence B. Jones’ — like yours — to speak for those whose voices are not being heard.

Ask God for the courage to do so and trust the words to come.

Loving God, give us the courage of Esther to speak up when we see communities hurting. May our words not be confrontational or hateful. Rather, may they be filled with love and point to your glory. Amen.