

HAMLIN CHURCH NEWS

A photograph of a winter landscape. A snow-covered path leads from the foreground towards the background, marked with footprints. The path is flanked by snow-covered ground and some bare trees. In the distance, a line of trees is visible against a sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm glow. The overall scene is peaceful and serene.

JANUARY 2015

A WORD FROM THE MINISTER

REV. MARIAH FURNESS TOLLGAARD

What things may come?

I find myself near the end of another year reflecting on the many surprises 2014 brought. In this past year I was reminded of the richness of God's mercy for my life and for others. As I look back over 2014, the sense that I am left with is that I am both amazed and humbled by the things that God does. I have seen God's presence in a wide variety of moments. In the life and death of beloved people, God was there with us in the silence and the prayers; God was there in the memories and the laughter. God was also there in the faces of the young children that entered our congregation this year. God is there when our children mature and go to school. God is there when I visit homes, nursing homes, and hospitals. God is there when I pray and when I plan. God is there surprising me and reminding me that miracles still happen.

And this year I have learned and been reminded of much. As I reflect back over this year, I am struck by how much I have grown as a pastor, a parent and a person. This year has been one where I have been stretched to improve myself and to rise to new challenges. It has not been always comfortable to see and realize my own vulnerability and weakness. Yet I feel I have become better for realizing them and attempting to grow as a person. I also know that I am not yet done growing and improving in my life. The year of 2014 brought me many blessings as well, like celebrating our time in California, returning home to Minnesota, beginning a new phase of ministry at Hamline Church, chasing a (mostly) delightful toddler and anticipating a new baby on the way.

What blessing, challenges, surprises, and lessons will 2015 bring for us? I do not know. Perhaps we might best experience them as God's people always have by stillness and prayer. I wonder if discipleship starts with being still and patient and then allowing God to pull us forward through the Holy Spirit. Sometimes we need be active to bring about God's kingdom; sometimes I think we need to just get out of the way of God's working in the world.

I feel I have grown in 2014 as a disciple and spiritual pilgrim. I hope you feel the same way about this past year for yourselves. Whatever may come in 2015 for all of us, corporately and individually, I pray that you may feel God's presence in your lives and God's hand guiding you to a rich full life of discipleship.

Blessings and peace,
Pastor Mariah



NEWS AND INFO

Give Peace to Every Heart:



On **Wednesday, December 10th**, Hamline University hosted a visit by Pir Saab, a prominent Sufi master from Pakistan. Sufism, sometimes called the mystical branch of Islam, teaches an inclusive message of the unity of all creation and love through the purification of the heart. The interfaith event included talks by Pir Saab and some of his followers, a video about Sufism in Pakistan, and performances by groups representing different religious traditions. In the spirit of interfaith harmony, a group of choir members from Hamline Church represented the Christian tradition with a performance of the Taizé chant "Da Pacem Cordium" ("Give Peace to Every Heart"). All the different contributions reflected Pir Saab's overall message of breaking down the barriers that separate us as human beings and extending love to all.

New Year's Tidying-Up:

The Membership and Outreach Committee has been working on proven ways to make our church more visitor-friendly, one of which is de-cluttering the building. Of course our building itself is lovely, but like any large open space, things collect in the corners and over time we don't even notice them. We're asking our tenants to clean up and clear out some of their extra things, and we're also doing our part to tidy up. If you notice some subtle changes, that's likely the reason. We will make a diligent effort to contact specific people or groups whose areas or items are part of the clean-up plan. Please contact Diane Milbrandt, Virginia Anderson, or Stephanie Bowron with any questions or concerns.

Hamline Church Women/United Methodist Women Update:



Craft Sale

Hamline Church Women/United Methodist Women will host the annual UMW Sunday during services **Sunday, January 25**. This year's speakers will be from the Twin Cities offices of Catholic Charities, to tell us about the new Dorothy Day Center planned for downtown St. Paul. We'll learn about plans to replace the existing center and the clientele to be served by the new and expanded facilities. The women's chorus will sing. Anyone interested in joining the chorus may contact Jan Kimes. We'll also have our soup luncheon following the service and will be kicking off our paper and personal care products drive for Emma Norton Services. (The drive has been moved up one month, so as to not conflict with the March Food

drive. The women thank everyone who attended the craft fair and bought cookies at the cookie walk. We enjoyed a Christmas potluck at the church December 8, with an evening of food and fellowship. We'll go back to our regular second Monday luncheons at Pippins In Roseville in January and invite all church women to join us.

AROUND THE CHURCH

Hanging of the Greens



Christmas Eve Worship



KIDS & FAMILIES

HEATHER GRANTHAM
Director of Children's and Family Ministry



2014 Christmas Pageant

The Christmas Pageant was a big hit, per usual, at Hamline Church last month. We had over 50 kids participating! A big thank you goes out to our directors - Stephanie Bowron and Amy Ireland - who did an amazing job working with all our talented kids! Please take note of some upcoming dates below.

...KIDS & FAMILIES



2015 Family Retreat at Northern Pines Campground January 23th-25th

Come find fellowship while skiing, sledding, and boarding at the 2015 Family Retreat at Northern Pines Campground in Park Rapid!!! All are welcome! Register [here](#).

If you are interested but need more time to decide, please fill out the form and check the "I want to come, but I still need to confirm a few things" box. Feel free to direct questions to Mark Ireland, Maggie and/or Heather! (mnancarow@hamlinechurch.org, hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org)



Dates to Remember:

Sunday, January 4th

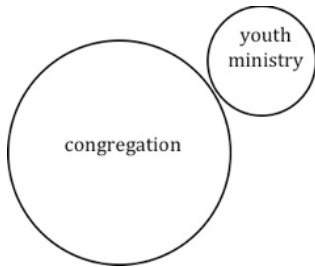
No Sunday School - Kids invited to stay in service
Spiritual Formation Committee Meeting after service

Sunday, January 11th

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESTARTS.

Interested in teaching? Contact Heather Grantham (hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org).

How can I support the Youth Program? What Youth Ministry Looks Like for the Whole Congregation



I believe the congregation as a whole is called to raise children from infancy to adulthood in a wide, extended family. For youth ministry, this means three things:

1. The church guides teens to mature Christian adulthood through mentorship, rituals like Confirmation, and initiation into the congregation's service ministries.
2. The church makes space for teens to be teens with each other.
3. The church supports parents of teenagers and families as a whole to seek fulfilling family lives.

The work of helping these young people become mature Christian adults is the task of the whole congregation, but not everyone is called to organize trips to Skyzone or sleep on the youth room floor.

Luckily, that's only one of the ways to support the youth ministry. With this model, youth ministry extends beyond high-energy events social productions into worship, service, and every day conversation.

Each year, plenty of adults in the congregation work alongside youth at the Dining Hall and help them acclimate to their first jobs. The servers at the Dorothy Day center regularly incorporate the young people of Hamline

Church into their ranks of cooks and servers. There are armies of logistical supporters as well. For nearly every meeting of junior and senior high formation, a parent brings food for hungry brains. The Hamline Women's group raises funds for mission and camping, and the whole congregation comes out to support the mission trip groups for fundraisers.

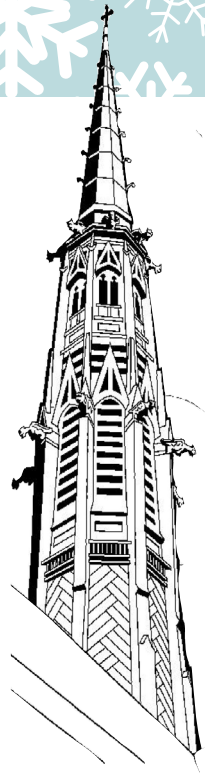
All of these things are youth ministry, too. Youth ministry is also about letting kids know that their contribution matters, and that this community is their community, which respects and nurtures them. We let them know this in two really basic ways:

First, incorporate them into the ministries of the whole church.

When youth are incorporated into Sunday Worship, Dorothy Day service, and the Dining Hall, they are told loud and clear that their contribution matters. When adults wonder with them about the sermon, or about the Bible reading for that day, or have genuine conversation about what they think—that's youth ministry too.

Second, support them in the ministries that are their own.

When the youth take on service projects, special worship services, or fundraisers, each and every member of the congregation who supports them sends the message that their work is important in the wider context of the community. When folks help feed the youth on retreat, or provide snacks for class, a parents meeting, or guide an activity with them during class—that's youth ministry too.



...YOUTH

In addition to showing the kids that their contribution matters, there's also another really important component that adults can offer youth without spending the night on the youth room floor: talk to them seriously about their faith and yours. At this age, kids learn about faith by comparing and contrasting what they know about the faith they see lived out in others. Adults who are capable of speaking about these things, be it their parents or any mature member of the congregation, add to kids' repertoire of information about faith.

With all these ways to support the youth program, here are some really tangible ways that adults in the congregation can minister to the young people here.

1. On January 10th at 7pm, I am hosting a panel of speakers on personal faith and wondering for the Confirmation Class's retreat. I am especially looking for an elder to participate in this conversation. Contact mnancarrow@hamlinechurch.org for more information.
2. I am happy to announce that planning for the Mission Trip to the Tree of Life Mission in South Dakota has begun. They are very excited to welcome us back after two years away, and I am very excited to participate in this long-standing tradition. I need help from previous participants in this ministry.
Contact: mnancarrow@hamlinechurch.org for more information.
3. Strike up a conversation with one of the kids at coffee hour, and figure out who they are and what they care about. Ask him or her seriously about what they thought of the church service that Sunday.
4. Sign up to participate in snack-making for youth formation classes. Parents usually participate, but non-parents can get on a rotation by emailing me.
5. Help organize or contribute to a fundraiser for summer trips.
6. Next time you serve alongside a young person, pay attention to the way that you guide and facilitate their participation.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the young people of this congregation! I am continuously grateful for the way that this place rallies around its young people and shows them how sincerely they matter.

Many Blessings in 2015,

Maggie



CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

SUMMARY OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2014 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

1. **Co-Chair Amy Schultz** convened the November 18 Church Council meeting with an opening prayer.
2. **Reach—Renew—Rejoice, the Minnesota Conference Seven-Year Plan for Congregational Development** was introduced by Pastor Mariah. This church start and existing church revitalization plan extends through all districts. HCUM is slated for one of the early years of the program, with a supplemental financial grant being available. Large churches are asked to make a “tithe” pledge of their annual budget over a 5-year period.
3. **Barb Deming** led a group discussion of ca. 40 proposals which had been submitted on usages of portions of the **Harry Paulson Bequest** (\$184,529.75) received earlier this year. The first allocation will be around \$30,000 to balance the 2014 annual budget. The Discipline stipulates that the Church Council, via a Charge Conference, is to make the allocation of such funds.

Barb helped us divide the proposals into four categories: Ministry (14, Mission (5), Building/Facilities (10), and Savings/Investment (6). Four proposals have either been funded already or in progress. A short-term Task Force, with a representative from each area was proposed. From the Nominating Committee, Pete Theisen, Heidi Brezinka, Diane Krueger, and Amy Schroeder Ireland, along with Pastor Mariah, were presented.

The following Criteria for Request Spending Recommendations came from the discussion:

- Consider all categories (Ministry, Mission, Building, Savings/Investment) evenly
- Long-term, lasting impact
- Macro vs. micro focus
- Consider sustainability—how will it be funded in the future?
- Able to leverage savings and investment
- Measurable-how will we measure?
- Align with/draw on existing committee wisdom
- Toward greater good for all at Hamline Church (not for anyone’s pet project)

A motion was made that the Church Council charges the short-term Paulson Bequest Allocation Task Force (composed as above), using the above Criteria for Request Spending Allocations (including matching and 2nd mile giving fundraising appeal) on the usage of the Harry Paulson Bequest at the January 20, 2015 Church Council meeting. The motion, after seconding, passed by voice vote.

3. Pastor Mariah, in her Pastoral Update, stated that Staff evaluations are proceeding. D.S. Judy Zabel will meet with the SPRC on December 2. Ten new members will be joining HCUM on November 23. Fall projects, including better internet access, a new phone system, website improvements, and data base updates, are proceeding.

A Church Conference is scheduled for December 7. Business includes an Endowment Policy, the 2015 Pastor’s compensation package, and re-endorsing Shawn Moore as a pastoral candidate.

4. Mark Krueger, for the Finance committee, reported that the year-end deficit would be less than the projected \$44,000. The 2014 apportionments will be paid, leaving year-end bills of around \$25,000. The 2015 stewardship campaign will probably result in another deficit budget—an overall increase of 20% is needed. End-of-year statements will be sent out in December, with the final 2014 statements in January.

5. From the Trustees, Roger Greiling stated that the Investment policy is in draft form. The requests for Growth Initiative proposals resulted in 17-18 proposals, including a few from Staff; ca. \$24,000 was available.

6. The meeting adjourned with Pastor Mariah leading us in prayer.

EVENTS

January 4th - What Goes Up Must Come Down

After we celebrate Epiphany (a couple days early!), we take the greens down, pack away the decorations until next year and introduce the new season of white "to celebrate the coming of Christ." We need many hands for this task which is scheduled for Sunday, January 4th, at 11:00 a.m. Please plan to join us to and bring gloves to handle the greens and a small plastic tarp if you have one.

January 4th - Study Group resumes

The 9:00 Book Group resumes meeting on January 4th with *Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths* by Bruce Feiler.

January 10th - BARN DANCE

Come to the Barn Dance Saturday, Jan. 10 6:30 to 8:30 pm. We'll have a great band and caller. All are welcome and no experience is necessary. The dance will be held here at Hamline Church. Please use alley entrance or the south doors. Cost is \$5 individuals; \$15 groups. Come to have fun! All ages welcome. Any questions? Call Jean at 651-771-8421 or thilmanyj@yahoo.com. Our other dance will be Feb. 28, same time, locale, and band.

January 10th and 11th - Confirmation Lock-In Retreat

The Confirmation class will learn about Baptism, Community, and Self over Saturday and Sunday for a lock-in retreat. The retreat is required for Confirmands. There will be lots of food, a pool party (at 3pm on Saturday), and a late night worship service. We'll start to really dig into the question: What will it mean to be confirmed? For more information, contact Maggie Nancarrow (mnancarrow@hamlinechurch.org).

January 11th - Church Tour to Be Offered

Do you know what's carved into the pulpit? Or the story of the church fire? where the McConnell Room is? Now's your chance to find out! After worship on January 11th, Mary Bakeman and Rev. Bob Rollin will take you on a walking tour and answer those and other questions. You'll also be able to see copies of the original plans for the church as well as the artist's conception for three of our large stained glass windows. And the History Committee has put together a new brochure for you to see some of the special places on your own.

January 11th - Author Cary Griffith Joins Book Discussion

On January 11th, Author Cary J. Griffith will join Fiction and Fellowship group at 4:30pm in the Church Parlor for a discussion of his book, *WOLVES*. For more information about Cary Griffith, visit <http://www.caryjgriffith.com/#!bio/c1ktj> Next month, on Feb, 8, 2015, we'll tackle the American classic by Sinclair Lewis, *ELMER GANTRY*. Please join us! For more information, contact Kent Krueger (wkrueger@prodigy.net).

January 23th-25th - 2015 Family Retreat at Northern Pines Campground

Come find fellowship while skiing, sledding, and boarding at the 2015 Family Retreat at Northern Pines Campground in Park Rapid!!! All are welcome! Register [here](http://hamlinechurch.us4.list-manage.com/track/cli ck?u=9c942327f599cfbd5a83ae112&id=83b66d0846&e=a8ac7cf0b3). (<http://hamlinechurch.us4.list-manage.com/track/cli ck?u=9c942327f599cfbd5a83ae112&id=83b66d0846&e=a8ac7cf0b3>)

If you are interested but need more time to decide, please fill out the form and check the "I want to come, but I still need to confirm a few things" box. Feel free to direct questions to Mark Ireland, Maggie and/or Heather! (mnancarrow@hamlinechurch.org, hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org)

Sunday, January 25th - Women's Choir

All women of the church are invited to rehearsals for a women's choir to provide the music for UMW Sunday, January 25, 2015. If you would like to sing for this special celebration of women in the church, rehearsals will be in the chancel on Wednesday, January 14 at 7:00 - 8:15 and on Sundays January 18 at 8:45 - 9:15 and January 25 at 8:45 - 9:45 (both before the worship service). Please plan on joining us for what is always a rewarding music ministry at Hamline Church. Two Sunday mornings before worship and one Wednesday evening. I look forward to making music together in this significant way of offering our musical gifts.

...EVENTS

Sunday, January 25 - Annual UMW Sunday

Hamline Church Women/United Methodist Women will host the annual UMW Sunday during services Sunday, January 25. This year's speakers will be from the Twin Cities offices of Catholic Charities, to tell us about the new Dorothy Day Center planned for downtown St. Paul. We'll learn about plans to replace the existing center and the clientele to be served by the new and expanded facilities. The women's chorus will sing. Anyone interested in joining the chorus may contact Jan Kimes. We'll also have our soup luncheon following the service and will be kicking off our paper and personal care products drive for Emma Norton Services.

Thursday, January 29 - Jim Sazevichto speak on the Historic Hamline Village

Jim Sazevich, St. Paul's house detective, will be speaking at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 29 at Hamline Church, as part of the Hamline Church Women/UMW outreach program. This free talk will focus on the Historic Hamline Village neighborhood and will also offer free tips on researching your home's history or the history of other buildings you are curious about. All are welcome.

February 1, 8, and 15 - SILENT AUCTION - after the worship service

Share your gifts, talents, skills or an item that can be auctioned. Pick up a form in the Fireside Room, in the church office, or on the church's web site. Return the form to Virginia Anderson or leave in the church office by January 25. Any questions, call Virginia at 633-1820.

Check out the items each Sunday in the Fireside Room after the worship service. Bidding will end around noon on Sunday, 2/15. If you are the top bidder, your name will be highlighted. Items may then be picked up after payment by cash or a check made payable to Hamline Church is received. Come share in the fun and excitement of the silent auction!

Helpers are needed each Sunday of the auction to help set up and clean up and at the end to highlight top bidders. Please contact Virginia if you are available.

April 15, 2015 - The Hamline Church Women/ UMW Scholarship Application Deadline

For information contact scholarship committee c/o mlwolsey@stthomas.edu



MOMENT IN HAMLINE CHURCH HISTORY: THE CHRISTMAS FIRE

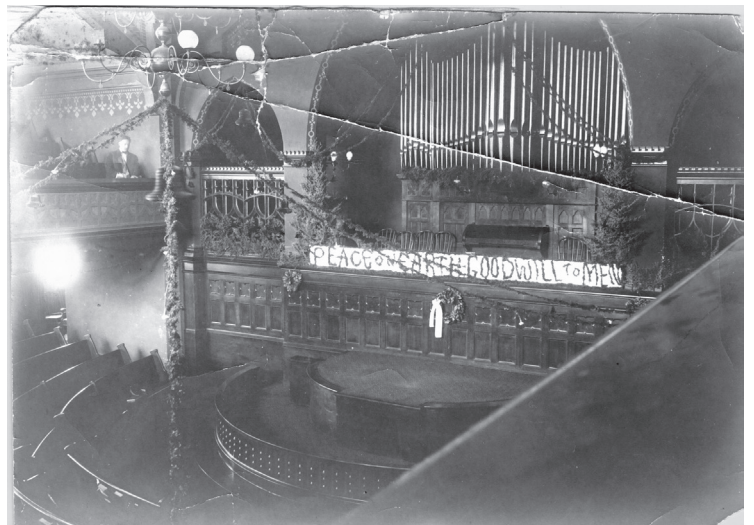
MARY BAKEMAN
Church Historian



Johnston church before lightning struck steeple on July 2, 1910

Prominent architect Clarence Johnston drew the plans for the Hamline congregation's first building, dedicated in 1900. For the first twenty years, University Hall on the Hamline campus had hosted its services.

Then on December 26, 1925, leftover decorations from the Christmas party left on top of a furnace under the chancel broke into flames. The first fire trucks tried to fill the furnace room with water, but unfortunately that was in vain, and two more alarms sounded. Everything in the church was lost, from the glorious rose window to the pipe organ which sank into the basement.

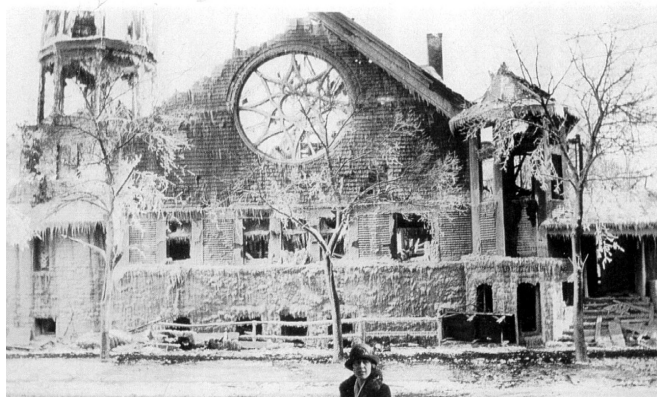


Chancel area with pipe organ



Very close to the church on the east side the parsonage stood, and the firemen were able to save that by spraying the exterior of the burning building and the parsonage with water.

...THE CHRISTMAS FIRE



*View from Asbury, with Margaret Handy,
Director of Religious Education*

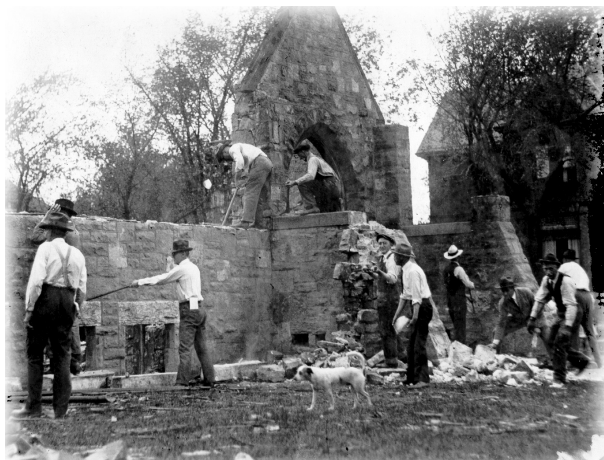


Interior after fire

In the light of day, little remained of the church except the spirit of the congregation to rebuild. On December 27th, 1925, the Official Board set plans to rebuild, and on December 30, various committees necessary to carry out those plans were formed.

In January 1926 architect Fred Slifer (a church member) and his partner Frank Abrahamson were hired to draw up plans for a gothic-style building. In March plans were underway to move the parsonage across Snelling Avenue and to buy additional property for the church building. Two other church members, J.S. Sweitzer and Gus Anderson were contracted for the clean-up and construction.

Clean up of the site began in May, and on June 29, the congregation celebrated groundbreaking for the new church. Work on the basement began. Less than a year after the fire, on December 5, 1926, the congregation held the first worship service in the new church, and welcomed fifty new members. Work began on the superstructure in June 1927. The building was dedicated on Palm Sunday, April 1, 1928.

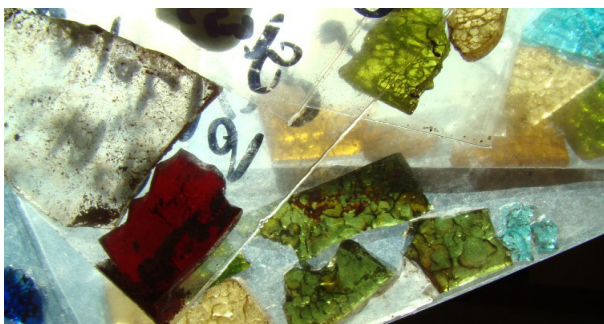


Church members begin site cleanup

With rubble and fire remains buried in place, grass covers the original site. However, in 2005 and 2007, archeology students from Hamline University conducted digs of the site, recovering more stained glass, nails, different kinds of bricks, and various artifacts.



Hamline U student archeologists



Pieces of stained glass discovered during archeological dig

January 2015

hamlinechurchum@gmail.com
US Holidays

December 2014							January 2015							February 2015							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Centering Prayer 9:00 AM Study Group - Speaking Chris-Har' - Parlor 9:45 AM Worship Prep Gathering - Green Room 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Hospitality - Fireside Room 11:30 AM Confirmation- Youth Room 5:00 PM 5 pm House of Mercy Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30 PM Archives Group - Parlor 6:00 PM Pipe Band -Fireside Room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30 PM Archives Group - Parlor 6:00 PM Pipe Band -Fireside Room 6:30 PM Finance Committee - Room 7 7:00 PM Social Justice/Admissions - mittee Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM E.A Group - Room 7 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:45 PM Gratitude - Parlor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wedding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM BARN DANCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Centering Prayer 9:00 AM Study Group -Speaking Chris-Har' - Parlor 9:45 AM Worship Prep Gathering - Green Room 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Hospitality - Fireside Room 11:15 AM Spiritual Formation Meeting - Room 7 7:00 PM Bonsai - Fireside Room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30 AM Hamline Church Women/ UMW Lunch - Pippit's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30 AM Midway Elders Luncheon 1:30 PM Archives Group - Parlor 5:45 PM Finance Committee - Room 7 6:00 PM Pipe Band -Fireside Room 6:30 PM Midway Elders Board Meeting - Room 10 7:00 PM Trustee Meeting - Mariah's Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Caregivers Support Group 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM E.A Group - Room 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:45 PM Gratitude - Parlor 7:00 PM Thirsty Scholars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Tor Time - Fireside Room 8:30 AM Tor Time - Fireside Room 3:45 PM High School Move/Dinner Ex-cursion - Off site 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Centering Prayer 9:00 AM Study Group -Speaking Chris-Har' - Parlor 9:45 AM Worship Prep Gathering - Green Room 10:00 AM Hospitality - Fireside Room 11:00 AM Dorothy Day - Dorothy Day Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30 PM Archives Group -Parlor 6:30 PM Pipe Band -Fireside Room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Craft Group - Fireside Room, 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM E.A Group - Room 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast 5:45 PM Gratitude - Parlor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter Family Retreat 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter Family Retreat UMW Sunday 8:30 AM Centering Prayer 9:00 AM Study Group -Speaking Chris-Har' - Parlor 9:45 AM Worship Prep Gathering - Green Room 10:00 AM Hospitality - Fireside Room 11:00 AM Confirmation- Youth Room 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30 PM Archives Group - Parlor 6:00 PM Pipe Band -Fireside Room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM E.A Group - Room 7 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:45 PM Gratitude - Parlor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dining hall license renewal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wedding



An intimate Christian community, witnessing to the larger dimensions of life in Christ, in ministry, on the inward and outward journey



HAMLIN CHURCH
UNITED METHODIST



ALL ARE WELCOME
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www.hamlinechurch.org