

**CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, April 26**

10:30 am Worship  
 11:30 am Coffee Hi  
 3:30 pm Vermillion Children's Choir Gala  
 6:00 pm Confirmation I

**Tuesday, April 28**

10:00am- Noon Coffee with Pastor Katie @ The Bean

**Wednesday, April 29**

6:00 pm Confirmation II  
 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal  
 8:30 pm Taize Reimagined- UCC Sanctuary

**Sunday, May 3**

9:00 am Adult Bible Study  
 10:30 am Worship- Bells  
 6:00 pm Confirmation I

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**Worship Leaders and Church Staff**

Rev. Katie Miller - Sr. Minister	Rev. Elaine Miller - Minister of Visitation
Benjamin Barth - Organist	Kari Jensen - Christian Ed Director
Gretchen Burbach - Choral Director	Taylor Ebsen - Church Administrator
Anthony Burbach - Bell Director/ Piano	Sarah Gregg - Church Financial Officer
Paul Ebsen - Media Director	Kathy Hasenbank, Linda Moe - Custodians

**2025-2026 Interns**

Madison Maschmann- Choir, Alto  
 Maleah Wright - Choir, Soprano  
 Sam VanGerpen - Choir, Tenor  
 Charlee Huska - LAF, Nursery  
 Tommy Gress - Organ  
 Lucas Thomas- Media Intern



April 26, 2026

PRELUDE "Halt!" Franz Schubert

WELCOME

Friendship Pads  
 Announcements  
 Joys and Concerns

*Please also complete a "Prayer Card" and put it in the collection plate.*

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

INTROIT: "In The Midst of New Dimensions"  
*God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar. We your people, ours the journey, now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.  
**You are our refuge, our safe place, our hope.**  
 We say to the Holy One, "You are our God."  
**All the good we know, all the love we share, comes from you.**  
 I keep the Holy One always before me;  
 because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

*(continued on next page)*

**Our hearts are glad, our spirits rejoice, and we are not alone.**  
You show us the path of life.  
In your presence there is fullness of joy.  
**So we come to worship, to trust, and to be made whole.**

\*HYMN                      “Blessed Be the Tie That Binds”                      393

\*INVOCATION  
**God of freedom and courage, you meet us in all the places we are bound in the chains we can name and the ones we carry quietly. Be present with us now, freeing us and opening our hearts to one another. Lead us, step by step, into the life you are always offering of dignity, connection, and love. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE                      Genesis 3:1-7

MUSIC TO INSPIRE                      “Kittery (The Lord’s Prayer)”                      William Billings

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

SCRIPTURE                      Acts 16:16-34

MEDITATION                      “Bound or Free”

HYMN OF MEDITATION                      “You Are Called to Tell the Story”                      357

A TIME FOR PRAYER  
    Silent Prayer  
    Lord’s Prayer

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY  
There are systems in this world that take and take, but the Spirit of God moves differently. The Spirit loosens what binds and restores what has been diminished. So we give not out of obligation, but as people who believe that generosity can loosen chains and love can change lives.

OFFERTORY MUSIC                      “A Vucella”                      Francesco Paolo Tosti

*\*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION  
**Holy God, take these gifts and use them to bring freedom where there is constraint, dignity where there is exploitation, and hope where there is despair. May what we offer today become part of your work in the world, unbinding, restoring, and renewing. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN                      “How Firm a Foundation”                      407

BENEDICTION  
Go now as people who are learning what freedom means.  
Go with courage to notice your chains and the chains of others.  
Go with compassion to loosen what you can.  
Go with trust that even in the shaking, God is near.  
And may the One who shows us the path of life lead you into joy, into courage, into love, this day and always. Amen.

POSTLUDE                      “Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes”                      Arthur Sullivan

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*Sam VanGerpen was accompanied by Larissa de Camango Silva.*  
Their music was a true blessing—thank you both for sharing your incredible talents with our congregation.

USHERS: Confirmation Class. Becky Rider, Diane Leja  
DEACON OF THE DAY: Connie Nelsen  
NURSERY: Quail Family  
COFFEE HI: Mary Edelen

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **TODAY: VCC GALA**

The Vermillion Children's Choir will present their **Spring Gala Concert on Sunday, April 26, at 3:00 pm** at the UCC (226 E. Main St) in Vermillion. Enjoy your Sunday afternoon with these wonderfully talented children as they showcase the selections they have learned throughout the course of the year. There is no cost to attend, but a freewill donation will be collected.

### **ANNUAL CLEAN UP DAY: MAY 2**

We're having our annual Spring Clean to help beautify our grounds! Weather permitting, we'll gather for outdoor clean-up on **Saturday, May 2, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon**. Come lend a hand with trimming, weeding, mulch replacement, and anything else needed to get the property ready for spring. Please bring gloves and any helpful tools you might have. Thank you for helping keep our church beautiful!

### **TAIZE REIMAGINED: APRIL 29**

Join us for meditative song, silence and readings in the manner of Taize. This month we are holding our gathering at UCC in the sanctuary. Starting time is **8:30pm, Wednesday, April 29, 2026** and will be slightly more than a half hour long.

### **CALL FOR USHERS**

We are seeking volunteers for the **4th Sunday of the month and backup** ushers as our schedule has recently changed. Please contact the church office if you're interested.

If you would like to donate to the Vermillion United Church of Christ, Congregational using PayPal, please scan this QR code with your phone.

