

CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 9

10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hi
11:30 am Cabinet Meeting

Sunday, August 16

10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hi

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Worship Leaders and Church Staff

Rev. Jean Morrow - Interim Minister	Rev. Elaine Miller - Minister of Visitation
Tommy Gress - 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

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



August 9, 2026

PRELUDE “Sheep May Safely Graze” Biggs

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
God of the unexpected, God who crashes through our assumptions;
God, whose friends break through the boundaries of preconceived ideas and rules;
God, whose life is written in bold strokes of love beyond anything which we can predict or dream;
We come to worship you in spirit and in truth.
Let us be grateful that God has called us together in this time and place!
Let us celebrate our commitment to this mutual ministry!

*HYMN	“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”	4
*PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION Wondrous God, joy and simplicity, love and play are gifts you graciously give. May we have the courage to come into your presence, bringing our whole selves, looking for moments of joy, living simply and faithfully, and loving boldly and playfully. We are willing to let go. We seek liberation. We are ready. Amen.		
MUSIC TO INSPIRE	“For Good” (from Wicked)	Stephen Schwartz Soloist- Lucas Thomas Guitar- Paul Ebsen
CHILDREN’S MOMENT		
SCRIPTURE	Matthew 14: 22-33	
HYMN OF PREPARATION	“Be Now My Vision”	451
INTERPRETATION	“Clinging onto...and Letting Go”	
OFFERING		
OFFERTORY MUSIC	“Amazing Grace”	Dengler
<i>*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.</i>		
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION God of grace and glory, we ask that you use our offerings to strengthen this church, to simplify its voicing of good news, to encourage its daring of faith through deeds of love. Accept our gifts as expressions of commitment to the ways of Jesus. Amen.		
A TIME FOR PRAYER Silent Prayer Pastoral Prayer Lord’s Prayer		

COMMENTS FROM DEPARTING PASTOR JEAN		
LITURGY OF FAREWELL	<i>(See blue insert)</i>	Led by Moderator Katey Ulrich
*CLOSING HYMN	“Sent Forth By God’s Blessings”	76
*BLESSING Each day, we find ourselves on the verge of a new beginning. We cannot see what lies ahead. We can only be certain that things will not turn out entirely as we expect. As we go from here, may we commit ourselves to God’s vision, crossing the threshold to what lies ahead with confidence and joy!! Go in peace. Amen.		
BENEDICTION	“The Lord Bless and Keep You”	Rutter
POSTLUDE	“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”	Purifoy
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USHERS: Rich Holland, DEACON OF THE DAY: Lydia Anderson ACOLYTE: Dexter Sanderon NURSERY: Wesner Family COFFEE HI: Connie Nelsen and Mary Edelen		

Liturgy of Farewell

From the UCC Book of Worship

GREETING

Moderator: Our church family is constantly changing. People come and go. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives. Individuals move into our community and church life. Others leave us, moving away to new places.

It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of endings and beginnings. Today we share the time of farewell with our friend and teacher, Rev. Jean Morrow, who is stepping away from ministry to the Vermillion United Church of Christ – Congregational.

ENDING OF AUTHORIZED MINISTRY

Moderator: This church called Pastor Jean to serve for 14 months in 2022-2023 as part-time interim minister. From 2023 – 2026, she served as pulpit supply several times when our settled pastor needed coverage. We again asked for Pastor Jean to serve the past 3 months as pulpit supply.

Pastor Jean: I thank the Vermillion United Church of Christ-Congregational, its members and friends, for the love, kindness and support shown me these past 5 years, especially the past 3 months. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my teaching and preaching has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

Congregation: **We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you are now stepping back into retirement. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.**

Pastor Jean: I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

VOWS OF RELEASE

Moderator: Do you, the members of Vermillion United Church of Christ-Congregational release Pastor Jean from the duties of pastor?

Congregation: **We do with the help of God.**

Moderator: Do you, Pastor Jean, release this local church from turning to you and depending on you?

Pastor Jean: I do with the help of God.

PRAYER

Moderator: Let us pray.

All: O God, we give thanks for remembered times when we, together, have shared the life of faith. We thank you for the moments we have shared with Pastor Jean in worship and service. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions. In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.



GAS CARD MINISTRY

Help support our community by donating to our Gas Card Ministry. Financial gifts help purchase gas cards for those in need of transportation to work, medical appointments, and other essential destinations. You may also purchase a gas card from Bob's Sinclair and donate it to the church.

Donations may be placed in the offering plate (please note "Gas Card Ministry" on your check or envelope) or brought to the church office.

Thank you for your generosity!



LAF/BC REGISTRATION

Our children and youth programming resumes with registration on **Wednesday, September 2**. Everyone is welcome! If you'd like to volunteer with our children's ministry or help in the kitchen, we'd love to have you join us. **LAF/BC groups are open to children in pre-kindergarten through seventh grade.**

More details will be shared soon!