FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 17, 2024

Jeremiah 31:31-34

"Deep In Our Hearts"

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. Jeremiah 31:32

One of the distinct features of many United Church of Christ conferences, associations and congregations compared to other faith communities is their commitment to become Open and Affirming (O&A). O&A is a stance of radical welcome to LGBTQIA+ people. Because church communities have historically been places of hurt and exclusion, it is even more imperative that churches who are Open and Affirming take a strong and public stance.

A little over a year ago, the ONA Coalition welcomed a new executive director, The Rev. Katrina Roseboro-Marsh. According to a UCC news story that came out at the time,* She is the first Black woman to head the coalition. "I am honored and excited for this opportunity," she said. "I realize how important my selection is, and I recognize the magnitude of what this opportunity will mean for the LGBTQIA+ community. I accept this challenge because the coalition has laid the sturdy groundwork to make its next steps forward in reimaging and revisioning, with regeneration as a goal."

Roseboro-Marsh has more than 16 years of experience as a clinician. Her particular focus has been working with clients who identify as LGBTQIA+, as well as those who also identify as African American with an active religious and/or spiritual practice.

"We are excited to welcome Dr. Katrina to our team because of her unique voice, energy and experience," said search committee chair and Coalition Leadership Team member the Rev. Derek Terry. "With the current attack on queerness in schools and communities across the country, we feel an obligation to protect and ensure the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community.

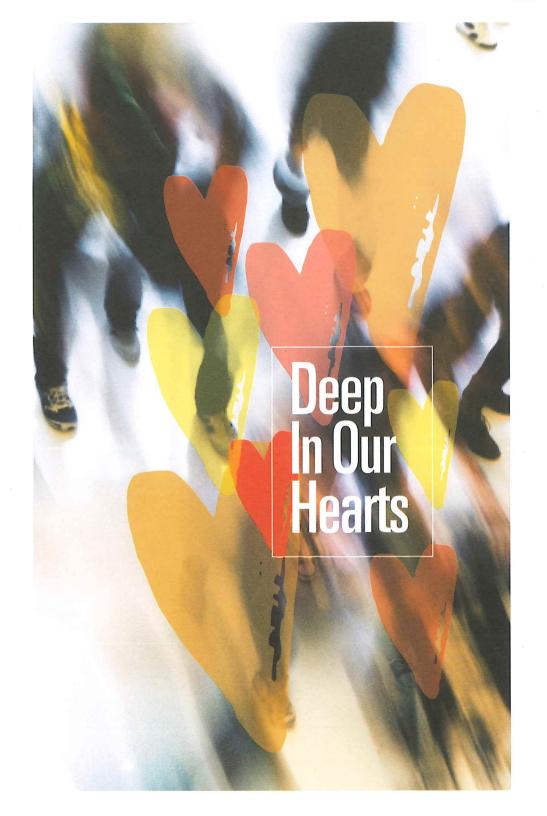
Terry added that "while some work to erase the experiences of BIPOC people from the pages of history books," Roseboro-Marsh will "increase our advocacy work through an intentionally more intersectional approach."

Roseboro-Marsh is ordained clergy and holds ministerial standing with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the Fellowship of Affirming Ministries. She is married to the Rev. Tana Roseboro-Marsh; they reside on the east coast with their Morkie, Xola Darling Roseboro-Marsh.

*https://www.ucc.org/new-ona-director-global-ministries-exec-among-recent-hires/









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1200 E Highland Acres Rd, Bismarck, ND 58501

701-223-2915 www.uccbismarck.org

March 17, 2024 at 10 AM

Pastor: Rev. Gretchen Deeg | Liturgist: Carrie Mandigo Music: Jeanne Kolberg | Video: Dana Jahner

*Rise in body or in spirit.

Sing! 35

*NO MATTER

No matter who, no matter what

No matter where you are on the journey of life;

You're welcome, welcome in this place.

Accepted and welcomed by God's grace.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Choir: Gathered people, why are you here?

All: I am seeking God with my whole heart, with my entire mind, with a fire burning in my bones.

Choir: We see it! You're in the right place! This is God's house. The door is open to you.

All: Why are you here?

Choir: I am seeking God with my whole heart, with my entire mind, with a fire burning in my bones.

All: We see it! You're in the right place. This is God's house. The door is open to you.

Choir: Let us worship God.

All: Let us learn from the Spirit!

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*HYMN Help Us Accept Each Other NCH 388

TIME WITH CHILDREN

After the offering, children are invited to attend Sunday School or remain in worship.

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, our heavenly host; Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we long to be lifelong learners. We long to approach you with curiosity and an open mind. Instead, we often live as if we know best. We forget that the disciples called you "Rabbi, Teacher." Forgive us for the times when we fail to be curious. Forgive us for the times when we assume we know best. Forgive us for the moments when we imagine that our learning is done and that we have all the answers. Make us brave like Peter. Spark a desire in us to learn, and may our curiosity carry our faith into deeper waters. With hope and humility we pray, Amen.

*GLORIA

Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen

SCRIPTURE Psalm 119:9-16

CHOIR ANTHEM Wonderful Grace

SCRIPTURE Matthew 18:15-22

SERMON Rev. Gretchen Deeg

HYMN Here Are Our Hearts Sing! 178

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN Love Your Neighbor and Forgive Insert

*CARRY GOD'S LOVE

Worship liturgy adapted from Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #732302-A.

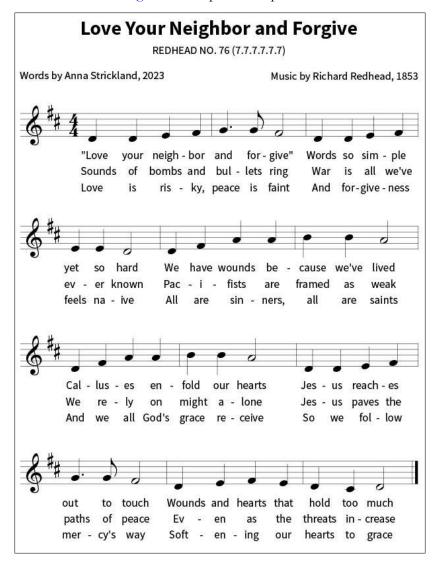


Thank You for Worshiping with Us!

Your offerings are essential for the ongoing ministry of this congregation. Donations can be made using this QR code, online at www.uccbismarck.org/donate, mailed to the church, or placed in the offering box.

Sponsor a Sunday

The 2024 sponsorship calendar is available. If you would like to sponsor a future Sunday, contact the church office at 223-2915 or visit <u>uccbismarck.org/donate</u>. Sponsorships are \$500.



THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES: March 17 - 24

Sunday: 11 AM Fellowship

12 Noon Online Fellowship

Tuesday: 1 PM Quilting/Knitting

5:30 PM Lent Bible Study (in-person & online)

5:30 PM Trustees

Wednesday: 5:30 PM Lent Supper – Buffalo Noodle

6 PM Taizé Choir Practice

6:30 PM Lent Worship - Taizé

7:30 PM Choir Practice

Friday: 8:30 AM Bible Study (in-person & online)

Sunday: 10 AM Palm Sunday Worship (in-person & online)

11 AM Pancake Breakfast 12 Noon Online Fellowship

Taizé Worship - March 20

Join us this Wednesday at 6:30pm for Taizé. This unique service of chants, prayer, and candles began in Taizé, France as an intentionally ecumenical service. St. George's Episcopal Church will be joining us for worship at Bismarck UCC.

Lent & Holy Week Schedule

Mar. 20 – 5:30 PM Soup Supper and 6:30 PM Taize Worship

Mar. 24 at 10 AM – Palm Sunday Worship & Pancake Breakfast

Mar. 28 at 5:30 PM - Maundy Thursday Worship & Soup Supper

Mar. 30 at 7 PM – Community Easter Vigil (at Lord of Life ELCA)

Mar. 31 at 7 AM – Easter Sunrise (front lawn of Haycreek Retirement)

Mar. 31 at 10 AM – Easter Worship & Egg Hunt

OUR PRAYER LIST

Family of Ed Hall, Judi Allen, Jasten Bearstail (Cherly Dank's family friend), Laura Lyons (Louise Zuern's daughter-in-law), Matthew Nitschke and family, Preston Danks (Cheryl Danks' nephew), Robyn Richter (Kyle Eisenbraun's aunt), Amy Thomson (Jane Thomson's daughter-in-law), Herb Ritz, Beryl Dinkins (Kyle Eisenbraun's grandma), Maggie Demaree, Doretta Reule, Macyeo Franks (Jane Thomson's grandson), Bella & Kayla Bruning, Michael Bruning, Perry Weekes, Howard Etson, Camille Grothier, East Timor, Refugees

*Contact the church office to be added to our weekly prayer list.

Help Us Accept Each Other

Fred Kaan, 1974; alt.

- 1 Help us ac-cept each oth-er as Christ ac-cept-ed us; teach us as sis-ter, broth-er, each per-son to em-brace.

 Be pres-ent, God, a-mong us, and bring us to be-lieve we are our-selves ac-cept-ed and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O God, your les-sons, as in our dai-ly life we strug-gle to be hu-man and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for peo-ple, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may be-come.

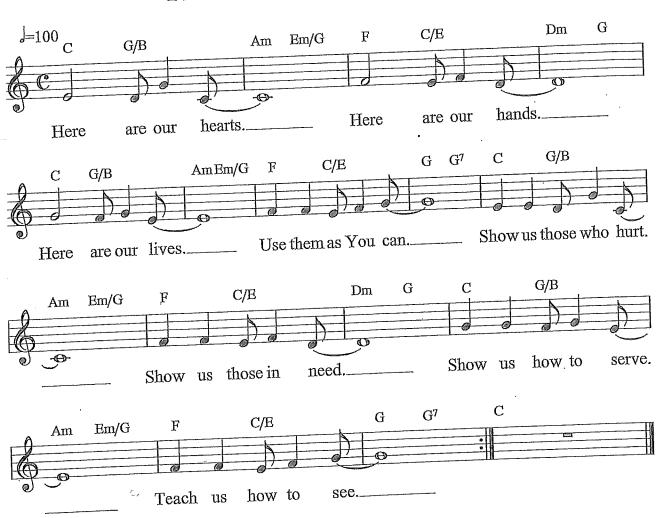
Dutch theologian Fred Kaan was ordained in the United Reformed Church in England and Wales and has served as an international church administrator. Author of more than 200 hvmns. Kaan frequently has addressed contemporary issues in John 15:12; 17:20–23; Eph. 4:1–6, 11–16

- 3 Let your ac-cep-tance change us, so that we may be moved in liv-ing sit-u-a-tions to do the truth in love;
 To prac-tice your ac-cep-tance, un-til we know by heart the ta-ble of for-give-ness and laugh-ter's heal-ing art.
- 4 God, for to-day's en-coun-ters with all who are in need, who hun-ger for ac-cep-tance, for righ-teous-ness and bread, Bring us new eyes for see-ing, new hands for hold-ing on; re-new us with your Spir-it; God! Free us, make us one!

Tune: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D. Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

Here Are Our Hearts

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