

Music Box

— MAY 10, 2015 —

Mother's Day

**Laura Anderson, soprano
Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano & organ**

- Ave Maria..... Antonin Dvorak (1841-1904)
J. S. Bach (1685-1750) / Charles Gounod (1818-1893)
Giulio Caccini (1551-1618) / Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)
- Ave Maria..... Franz Schubert (1797-1828)
- Fugue Op. 16 No. 2..... Clara Schumann (1819-1896)

How fitting that Mother's Day comes right after May Day, celebrating (in contrast to the, umm, uhh, primitive and somewhat under-publicized meaning of the Maypole Dance) the feminine spirit of nurturing, cooperation, kindness and order.

This innate difference spoke clearly for itself one morning at a preschool playground. Like oil and water, the four and five-year-olds separated into two groups: (a) boys and (b) girls. The girls formed a cooperative to jump rope, each taking her turn in line to jump, all chanting the rhymes in singsong unison.... "Not last night but the night before...." taking turns holding the rope and allowing—even encouraging—girls who missed on the second or third skip to have another try.

The boys improvised combat games with "hand" guns, chasing and shooting each other. There were two tricycles available, and two creative boys got the idea of accelerating down the hill, full speed into the side of the building directly under my window. By now, years later, those boys have grown up to be crash test dummies. Sometimes you just know.

Moms, you have the hardest and most important job in the world. God bless you and give you strength or we're in real trouble here.

Melinda Coffey Armstead



**Painless and
Economical**

If you use the internet, why don't you have the weekly newsletter sent to you via email? It is fast, easy and saves the church money—here's what to do, Send an email to the office at: cif@mbay.net and ask Sherry to put you on the list. You will receive it early every week!

Church in the Forest
at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School
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Monday morning, May 4, 2015

Dear Members and Friends,

A big “thank you” is in order to Cynthia Perry—our Board member in charge of get-togethers and parties and the like at CitF. The *Spring Breakfast* was again a resounding success with plenty to eat and our usual English Trifle to satisfy our sweet tooth. “Just like home” it is! Thank you also to each of you who brought along floral table centerpieces. They were outstanding! And a special thanks to the staff of “Savory Services,” also known as “Cafe Louie–Louie,” Stevenson School’s food services under the able leadership of Phil Tucker—who has been in that position since 1981. Again, the team at Stevenson did a magnificent job of serving up a fabulous feast. As a church we really know how to party and eat our way through a Sunday morning “over-the-top” breakfast!

Take a Moment to Meditate

Recently I was introduced to a big burly guy who could have been a wrestler or boxer at one time. Tyson, a 37-year-old high school teacher from Oakland, began by inviting students to spend two or three minutes at the beginning of class to meditate, claiming that better focus and less distraction would be the result.

Tyson struggled with addiction in his younger years and credits meditation with helping him conquer his demons, calm his mind, and become the successful teacher he is today. He describes himself before he came to healing and wholeness as having a short fuse dealing with a bunch of rowdy teenagers. “I was reactive and couldn’t defuse confrontations,” he said, “I would get angry and swept up in the emotions of the moment.”

I well recall our own Holly Tunstall who also meditated regularly. She and husband, Dennis, would sit in the second-from-the-front pew and radiate a light that was unmistakable and obvious. She would share about the peace that meditation brought to her as it has to Tyson.

So, I invite you to take a moment or two in your day to meditate. I believe we all would benefit from such a simple experience. I plan to practice it and look forward to seeing where it will lead. Pleasant pastures, I guess.

See you in church,



William B. Rolland

ANNOUNCEMENT: You should have received a congregational letter, questionnaire and referral form this past week. Please return the questionnaire to the church office by **Friday, May 8**, in order to assist the *Search Committee* in its efforts to determine our parish profile. Here again are the names of the members of the Search Committee if you have any questions: Dave Nee—Chair, Marilynn Gustafson—Vice Chair, Jack Davis, Bob Janzen, Linda Mackie, Graeme Robertson, Carol Sullivan, Shirley Temple and Joe Wandke.

Calendar

Sunday, May 10, 2015 — Mother’s Day

8:30 AM Bible Study with Ken Feske. Matthew 13:24-58
Six Parables of The Kingdom

9:15 AM **Music Prelude**

9:30 AM **Morning Prayer**

Passages Genesis 1:24-28; Psalm: 98: 1-9; Luke 15: 11-32

Lector Dave Mackie

Crucifer Judy Fletcher **Acolyte** Jacob McCarthy

Flowers Arno and Linda Hanel

Cookies Paula Beckman and Rae Janzen

Altar Care Martha Jordan

Ushers Mary Towne and Jack Davis

Sermon The Rev. Dr. William B. Rolland

Title “In Whose Image?”

Tuesday, May 19, Small Study Group at Ruth Gleisner’s 10:15-11:30.

Ken Feske leading, “Rest: one of the greatest gifts” Hebrews 4:1-12.