Millenials: Coming or Leaving the Church?

A new breed of American is about to impact everything you hold sacred. They are called ‘Millenials.’ There are about 80-million of them (1/3 of the adult population in the U.S.); born between 1980 and 1995 (approximately 10,000 turning 21-years of age every day in America); they’re rapidly becoming the largest generation … taking over from the ‘baby boomers’ that are 60+ years of age and dying. They will transform society as it passes through.

Millenials are Consumers
Their annual spending in 2015 is expected to be $2.45 trillion; and by 2018, they will eclipse Boomers in spending power at $3.39 trillion … the most spending power of any generation.

Millenials are Students
They are the most educated generation in American history with over 63% having a Bachelor’s Degree. 50% of Millenial college students say they don’t need a physical classroom; 53% believe that online colleges are reputable; 39% view the future of education as being more virtual.

Millenials are Tech Savvy Entrepreneurs
Millenials are capitalizing on their talents and passion with today’s technology and connected economy. 90% of Millennials surveyed think being an entrepreneur means having a certain mindset rather than starting a company.

Millenials are the New Employees
By 2025, 3 out of every 4 workers globally will be Millennials. They would prefer to choose when and where they work, rather than being placed in a 9-to-5 position; and will choose workplace flexibility and social connectedness over pay.

Millenials are the Next Leaders
63.3% of U.S. executives will be eligible to retire in the next 5-years. Many Millennials will have to leap frog into these positions. In the last 5 years: 87% of Millennial workers took on management roles, vs 38% of Gen X and just 19% of Boomers.

Millenials are Service Minded
96% of Millennials believe they will do something great with their lives. They define greatness as serving others, rather than as making money or seeking status.

Millenials are Leaving the Church
LifeWay Research found 7 in 10 Protestants ages 18-30 who went to church regularly in high school quit attending by age 23. A third of those had not returned by age 30. That means about one-fourth of young Protestants have left the church. 29% of Millennials are less likely to practice organized religion; they are skeptical of religious institutions … as opposed to 21% born between 1963-1982, 15% born between 1948-1962, and only 7% born before 1948. (def. irreligious: the absence of religion; an indifference to, rejection of or hostile toward religion. Typically atheists or secular humanists.)

Yet …
28% of Millennials who stay in church have an intentional (usually “mentoring”) relationship with an older Christian. (Only 11% of Millennials who leave have a mentor.) Mentoring was identified as the #1 most appealing form of leadership development for young adults.” People in their 20’s and early 30’s are actually more likely than are older adults to think of themselves as leaders … and they are much more likely than mature generations to want additional training to become better leaders.” [Barna.org]
President's Corner

We just had a Chapel Foundation Board meeting yesterday. There is a sentiment to become more prominent partners with the charities which benefit from our tithing of 10% of our offerings. In the future, we may contribute to fewer in order to become more meaningful to those we support. Our focus will be centered on our values of remembering veterans, affirming life, and sharing the joy of the Gospel.

We anticipate a twofold benefit. Charities will enjoy a greater monetary benefit from us, of course. Secondly, we will project the Chapel Foundation's prominence in the communities who share our values. We are planning to "partner" rather than just support.

Two key factors in considering organizations for our benevolence will be opportunities for volunteer support and whether Foundation members are already volunteering. Please contact Richard Geis, Chair of the Benevolence Committee, if you have an idea for an opportunity. The Foundation Board decided to "adopt" the volunteer ministry of retired military Chaplain Glen Bloomstrom, Military Director, Living Works Education. It's a program to train people to address the issues of suicide for veterans and active service people. The rate is higher than for the general population, averaging 33 per day nationally. Some of our members have already participated in this training. You'll be hearing more about this in the future.

Please know that there are many opportunities to share your talents. I am continually amazed to discover the many wonderful ministries that our members pursue. Many thanks to all of them.

Tom Coulter
Foundation President
(715) 808-0122
E-Mail: ticoulter@hotmail.com

Board of Directors

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Tom Coulter, President
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Fellowship: Connie Payette
Membership: Robin Nelson
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Personnel: Don Bauman

The Board welcomes input from members. If you have an idea or suggestion, please feel welcome to contact the appropriate Board person.

Chapel Foundation on the Internet

Chapel services livestreaming views continue to increase. There is a link to access at the Foundation website or at http://new livestream com/accounts/3709164

Tune in every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. (Central Time) wherever you have internet/wireless access. Past services are archived there for later viewing as well.

You may also 'Like' the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation on Facebook to view news of upcoming events in your newsfeed.

Scheduled Board Meetings in 2014:
Saturdays ... @ Ft Snelling Officers Club
14 Jun (9:00 a.m.)
20 Sep (9:00 a.m.)
22 Nov (9:00 a.m.)

Sunday ... @ the Chapel Sanctuary
21 Dec (1:00 p.m.)

If you would like a copy of the 2013 Annual Report, please secure one in the Fellowship Hall or call the Foundation Office at (651) 286-7296 and leave your name/mailing address that we may send you a copy of this impressive report.
(Continued ... from page one)

So, How Do We Reach Millennials?

Unleash the Boomers as mentors.

We see this clearly recorded in Scripture as the Apostle Paul mentors young Titus. We read, "For this reason I left you in Crete that you might straighten out what was left unfinished ..." (Titus 1:5-6). The church on Crete was doing poorly in discipleship and was failing to impact its culture. "For there are many rebellious people, mere talkers and deceivers ... They must be silenced, because they are ruining whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach ... They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny Him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good." (Titus 1:10-11, 16) Creteans had a terrible reputation.

So, what is Paul's strategy for Crete? Send Titus — a proven man (not an apostle)

In the interval between the writing of 1 and 2 Corinthians, Paul sent Titus to work with the church at Corinth. "I thank God, who put into the heart of Titus the same concern I have for you. For Titus not only welcomed our appeal, but he is coming to you with much enthusiasm and on his own initiative. And we are sending along with him the brother who is praised by all the churches for his service to the gospel ... As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker among you; as for our brothers, they are representatives of the churches and an honor to Christ. Therefore show these men the proof of your love and the reason for our pride in you, so that the churches can see it." (2 Cor. 8:16-18,23-24) Paul had absolute confidence in Titus' integrity and faithfulness. "Did I exploit you through any of the men I sent you? I urged Titus to go to you and I sent our brother with him. Titus did not exploit you, did he?" (2 Cor. 12:17-18)

Titus had the right heart. He embraced the challenge; took action of his own initiative; and walked with integrity ... so much so that Paul could write, "The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you." (Titus 1:5). In other words, fix it! Paul sent a proven man of God to change a culture.

What Would Happen ...
Imagine if today's Boomers were to mentor today's Millennials? Many of you have been proven in your faith, in your walks ... just as Titus was. The Millennials are here; and they are leaving the church in numbers. Who will reach them? According to Scripture — only proven men and women of God. Are you among the Boomers who will mentor today's Millennials? Are you willing to be used for God? to be obedient to God's call to save this generation?

As we move toward the development and implementation of a Children's Ministry, other Boomers will be needed to mentor the Millennial parents. These Millennial families are the future of our Chapel Foundation. Do you care if this chapel ministry remains for future generations? If so, then let's embrace the Millennials with the love of God through a message of salvation.

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Children's Ministry

Starting on Palm Sunday (13 Apr) we began a weekly 'Children's Sermon' as part of our order of worship ... following the Affirmation of Faith (and before the Special Music). Children come forward to receive a brief (3-5 minute) message (often an object lesson) on the steps of the chancel area. These messages are prepared and presented by lay persons of the congregation.

Beginning in Sep, (Sep-May) we will have a 'Children's Church' for ages 5-10 during worship (approx. 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.). Children would begin worship with parents in the sanctuary, then exit the sanctuary through the front pulpit doors and go into the apartment for Christian education to include: singing, Bible lesson, activities (arts & crafts), refreshments, etc. Parents pick-up their children following the worship service ... prior to the fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall.

Volunteers are needed for this new ministry. Please contact Iain Hodge (Worship Committee chair) if interested or have questions.

Everyone is asked to encourage neighbors and friends with children to be a part of this ministry.
Memorial Day - 26 May 2014

Originally called ‘Decoration Day,’ Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service to our country. It was first widely observed on May 31, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers with a proclamation by General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic — an organization of former sailors and soldiers.

During the first national celebration, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers who were buried there. This event was inspired by local observances of the day that had taken place in several towns throughout America in the three years since the Civil War. By the late 1800s, many more cities and communities had begun to observe Memorial Day, and after World War I, it became an occasion for honoring those who died in all America’s wars.

In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated on the last Monday of May.

Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery each year with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. Traditionally, the President or Vice President lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers. About 3,000 people attend the ceremony annually.

Memorial Day Prayer Vigil for Peace

The gift of prayer is the greatest gift you can give someone.

The Foundation once again, will sponsor our 8th annual Prayer Vigil for Peace on Saturday, 24 May beginning at 8:30 p.m. and will end at 6:30 a.m. on Sunday 25 May. There will be security on site during those hours.

We sincerely hope you can experience God’s presence in the peaceful hours at the Chapel.

We need to hold our country and our military personnel in prayer as well as those families who have experienced the ultimate sacrifice.

Memorial Day Open House

The Chapel Foundation will host an Open House from 11:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. on Memorial Day - Monday, 26 May. This is a great opportunity to introduce your family and friends to the Chapel’s history ... in an informal way.

Also, this will be an opportunity to visit the Memorial Garden of over 300 white crosses ... bearing the names of KIA’s of the Global War on Terror from IA, MN, ND, SD, and WI.
Getting to Know You...

Children running around the streets with no fear, clusters of students strolling to school, and a traditional 'Leave it to Beaver' family element characterize the years in which Tom and Kathy Coulter grew up in.

Tom was born in Robinsdale, MN in 1949 and Kathy was born in North Dakota one year later. Kathy lived in Fargo until the sixth grade when her family moved to Harvey and her father bought a Ben Franklin store. In eighth grade, Kathy started working there and jokes that she learned everything that she needed to know from the Ben Franklin store. She got involved in musicals at her school and truly felt like she had received a good education by the end of her high school years. Both Kathy and Tom were big readers and felt like reading has had perhaps the biggest influence on them because it makes one curious and then before you know it, one interesting thing leads to the next interesting thing. After junior high, more and more of their reading was unassigned and Kathy would simply sit at the table with her dad in the mornings, reading.

After high school, both Tom and Kathy ended up heading off to Concordia in Moorhead, MN where they met. Tom states that his parents made him go to college and that he really resisted and didn’t know where he wanted to be, just that he didn’t want to be there. Tom and Kathy were just friends and after two years, Tom went to sell travel trailers in Arizona and Kathy went on to do student teaching at Moorhead. When Tom got back, his dad told him that he should grow up and get married. And so, being the pragmatist, Tom asked Kathy to marry him after only a couple of months of dating. She said yes of course, and when he told his dad that he was getting married, his dad was still surprised, remarking that he “had never followed his advice before!”

After their marriage, they moved to Minneapolis and stayed there. Kathy taught elementary school art at a Catholic school, in Eden Prairie, and graduate courses at St. Thomas. Meanwhile, Tom became a successful salesman, marketing industrial gas and welding supplies among other things. His job required a lot of travel and thus far, he has been to every state but Alaska. The travelling got to be too much though and Tom realized that he wanted to be home with their two kids. There were many block parties on their street because Tom would walk door to door, making use of his skill for effective communication. After the kids went off to college, Tom decided that he was bored and so, after twenty years of “selling stuff,” he started his own business selling building materials. Unfortunately, the business died with the economy in August of 2009.

Tom retired and on September 12th of 2009, Tom and Kathy attended the march in D.C., which would be the launch of the Tea Party movement. Months later, they discovered that Bill and Sharon Coyne were on the U.S Capitol Mall that day as well. Tom had done business with Bill back in the 70’s. In the fall of 2009, Tom met Tom Emmer and for the next twelve months, Tom became his driver/bodyman. With this connection, Tom got to attend rallies, board room conferences, and many meetings, making great connections along the way. Up until last year, Tom also volunteered at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School.

In 2005 they found the Chapel at a time when they were searching for a place that would honor veterans on Memorial Day. Just recently, they made the speedy decision to move to Hudson and are trying to figure out how they can be useful there. Tom is involved in the Hudson Rod and Gun Club, the Citizens Council for Health Freedom, and, of course, the Fort Snelling Chapel, for which he is the new president. Tom and Kathy enjoy spending time with their two grandchildren, ages six and four.

Tom and Kathy Coulter are two incredibly driven and committed citizens. Their knowledge is vast and their influence appreciated by many.

— Submitted by: Megan Michaelis

We wish to gratefully acknowledge these articles written by Megan. This is her last as she heads off to college. Our best wishes and prayers go with her.
From the Flag-Line

On February 28th, 2014, Minnesota lost another Marine. 20-year old LCPL, Caleb Erickson, was KIA in Afghanistan; he was from Waseca, MN. Caleb was in the last truck of a convoy and was killed by a suicide bomber.

Don and I, along with Bill and Sharon Coyne, left from the Chapel worship service and drove to Waseca to attend Caleb’s visitation in Waseca. When we arrived, there were so many Patriot Guard Riders standing in his honor; it was so impressive to all those attending. We were able to greet Caleb’s parents and sister and present them with a beautiful handmade quilt from the Fort Snelling Chapel Foundation and the Minnesota Fallen Heroes Remembered Calendar.

Since this Snelling Spirit is coming in time for May and the Memorial Day weekend, we are once again reminding everyone of the beautiful and poignant Memorial Day Sunday observance on Sunday, May 25th. It is the best attended service at the Chapel and so meaningful to all those who care about our fallen heroes from all wars. Also, once again, Don and I will be leaving for Washington, DC on Friday, May 23rd and returning on the 27th. We pack in so many wonderful, memorable events over those days: Friday evening we will be attending the Evening Parade at the oldest Marine barracks in the United States and watch the President’s own Marine Band and see the Marine Silent Drill Team. The tickets are free, but you must get them early in the year. I always get extra in case other people decide to attend. Saturday we will spend hours at Section 60 at Arlington and watch the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns. This year we will also be going to Section 59 and take pictures of the Memorial for the Beirut, Lebanon barracks bombing for the 2015 Minnesota Fallen Heroes calendar since we will be honoring the five Minnesota Marines we lost on October 23rd, 1983. In all, we lost 241 Marines in that horrific event.

Sunday, we will visiting the Viet Nam Wall, the Korean Memorial, along with some of the other memorials. Starting at 11:00 a.m. we will be at 23rd and Constitution Avenue in our spot to watch the Lone Marine, Tim Chambers, salute the over 500,000 motorcycles riding in Rolling Thunder. Sunday night we will be at the Capitol for the televised Concert on the Mall. It’s always so beautiful and honors our wounded and fallen. It’s broadcast live on Public TV twice that night.

Monday, Memorial Day, back to Arlington to spend the day there talking with the families and friends of the fallen buried there. There isn’t anywhere we would rather be on Memorial Day than the hallowed grounds of Arlington Cemetery listening to the stories of the heroes told by those who knew them best. Every year we hear some of the most astounding things about those buried from the Global War on Terror, the Viet Nam War and WWII.

Monday night, we meet others from Minnesota at Old Ebbitts Grill behind the White House for a delicious dinner at the oldest tavern in DC. The gas lights are still lit every evening.

Photo: Jill Stephenson, a Gold Star mother, embraces her son’s headstone at Arlington Cemetery.

On Sunday, May 11th (Mother’s Day), Billy & Karen Vaughn will be our Flag Line Honored Guests. They are the parents of fallen Navy SEAL Aaron Carson Vaughn (SEAL Team VI) and authors of the best selling book Betrayed—the story they needed to tell and the questions they deserve to be answered about the loss of, not only, Aaron, but 29 other Special Ops in the chopper crash on August 6th, 2011. Woven in the pages of their book, is the tremendous testimony of Aaron’s and their Christian faith. The Vaughns spend a considerable amount of time on Capitol Hill, and have shared their story on hundreds of local, state and national radio outlets including: Fox & Friends, The Today Show, The Kelly File, The Huckabee Show, Hannity’s America, Geraldo at Large, and more. Karen will give her faith testimony at our worship service.

— Don & Patricia (Boyd) Peerson
Benevolent Giving

A young woman gave birth to her fourth son in 1943. The father left during her pregnancy, so she was alone with four children. She was a woman of strong faith. And so, she gave this son away.

For nine months this child waited, and then another woman, an Irish woman, of strong faith chose him. She did this because she wanted a son. She had been married for eight years, yet with several pregnancies she remained without children.

New life was more highly valued then because many here knew virtue and right. We believe that human life was created by God in His image. With His grace and mercy Jesus Christ redeemed all people.

Today there remains some in our community who believe this still.

So, sadly, now ours is a country that has taken life, allowing by law, from so many millions before they are born. Here in Minnesota some devoted people began saving lives and building families forty years ago, a program called New Life Family Services (NLFS).

NLFS has four locations: St. Paul, the U of MN campus in Mpls, Richfield and Rochester. Here women who have an unplanned pregnancy can receive information and care, guidance in what to do through testing, ultrasound, parenting skills classes, interim foster care, supportive home environment and comfort through the grief process for mothers who place their child for adoption.

Post-abortion one-on-one mentoring and group support for women and men dealing with the pain and difficulties common to those who have had abortions is available from a biblical perspective.

NLFS also provides post-adoptive education and support to birth parents, adoptive families and adoptees. A P-A unit facilitates contact between parties, performs searches for biological family members, and provides pertinent information concerning current and past conditions of various family members.

Last year there were 11,000 abortions in MN. Most of these were by women less than 24 years of age. Of the women who were provided with the life-confirming technology of ultrasound at NLFS, 419 to those considering abortion, 94% chose life for their child.

Ms. Jennifer Meade is the Director of Operations at the Richfield office on East 66 Street. She is a welcoming young lady who will provide encouraging information about NLFS. Telephone 612/866-7643 ext. 156.

Our chaplains have spoken firmly and truthfully about our nation's gravest error. How many of our young mothers and fathers have forgotten our first declaration: endowment by the Creator, our God, with the unalienable right to life. Far more distant in our history is the command not to murder.

NLFS gives non-judgmental education and successful support to our Minnesota families. This is an important work. There are many married couples, unable to have children of their own, who want to adopt. There are parents wishing to adopt. New Life is a Christian source enabling these people.

Because of the young woman in 1943, her child's path led to being with you, our Chapel Family, an unexpected joy.

— Submitted by Richard Geis, Benevolence Committee Chair

This congregation tithe (10%) from its plate offerings. If you know of an organization/ministry that is in keeping with our purpose... please feel free to secure an application to submit for financial support in 2014. Simply call the Foundation Office at 651/286-7296... and provide a name and mailing address.

Getting Out the Good Word

Your 2014 Publicity Committee is dedicated to the mission of sharing the Chapel Foundation's straight forward message and many accomplishments. The accomplishments of previous Publicity Committees have been many with online streaming, a great web presence and a solid relationship with area media to name a few. Building on this solid foundation will assure that we continue this considerable momentum.

It is often valuable for us to look inward prior to efforts spreading the word to members, prospective members or those outside of our congregation. Understanding what brought us and kept us at the Chapel gives us insight as to who and what message we should convey. A non-wavering basis in the Word, with a dedication to God and Country including loving fellowship, are reoccurring reasons we hear. In the near future our committee will be seeking input as to our message and the best way to get out the good Word.

Keep a close watch on our exciting upgrades in Livestreaming capabilities, enhancements in our social media presence and additional web-based capabilities. Please help us get the word out by letting all your friends and family know the many facets that make our exceptional Church and family. — Matt Stokes, Chair
Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation
This is a non-denominational Christian church founded in 1967. We invite you to join us for worship each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. at this historic Chapel.

The Fort Snelling Veterans Memorial Chapel is a unique Minnesota memorial—a splendid monument to the patriotism, the moral earnestness and the convictions of the people of this state—a shrine to commemorate those who have died for their country. Weekly Sunday worship is sponsored by the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation and is not subsidized by the state.

For Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel information call the Foundation Office at (612) 970-7866, or write to the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation P.O. Box 211283 Eagan, MN 55121-2783 or e-mail to info@fortsnellimgmcorg or check our web site at www.fortsnellimgmc.org

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Rev. Michael Wallman, Associate Chaplain
Marlys Wallman, Minister of Music
Carol Nygaard, Accounting Specialist
Bev Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Ruth Fardig, Minister of Music Emeritus

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The Snelling Spirit is a bimonthly publication of the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation. We welcome your input, your letters and your suggestions.

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<td>Chaplain: Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr. — Phone: 612/747-1059 — E-mail: <a href="mailto:KenBeale56A@msn.com">KenBeale56A@msn.com</a></td>
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<td>4-7:00 pm Ephrem Tribe Picnic @ Keller Park Shelter 3, Maplewood</td>
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<td>8:30 pm-6:30 am Prayer Vigil for Peace</td>
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<td>Sermon: &quot;Email With God&quot;</td>
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<td>Music: Mississippi String Quartet</td>
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<td>Sermon: &quot;The Presence of the Lord&quot;</td>
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<td>Music: Tim Dahl, Soloist</td>
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<td>Trinity Sunday</td>
<td>Bev Johnson's B-day</td>
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<td>Father's Day</td>
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<td>Sermon: &quot;The Challenges of Fatherhood&quot;</td>
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<td>Music: Chapel Trio</td>
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<td>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</td>
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<td>Marriage Renewal</td>
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<td>Sermon: &quot;Marriage: Have Knot or Have Not?&quot;</td>
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<td>Music: Rod &amp; Connie Lindberg</td>
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<td>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m. Holy Communion</td>
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<td>Sermon: &quot;They Were Called Christians&quot;</td>
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<td>Music: The Harmony Three</td>
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**Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation Staff**

- Chaplain: Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr. — Phone: 612/747-1059 — E-mail: KenBeale56A@msn.com
- Assoc Chaplain: Rev. Michael Wallman — Phone: 612/214-4600 — E-mail: michaelwallman@msn.com
- Minister of Music: Marilyn Wallman — Phone: 651/702-1031 — E-mail: marinewallman@msn.com
- Accounting Specialist: Carol Nygaard — Phone: 612/970-7866 — E-mail: info@fortsnellingmcf.org
- Administrative Assist: Bev Johnson — Phone: 612/970-7866 — E-mail: info@fortsnellingmcf.org