

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19th, 2023~9:30 A.M.

*Welcome to Faith United Methodist Church. It is our heart and desire to **engage** the community of Waseca with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, **equip** those who respond to be the next generation of disciples of Jesus Christ and **empower** them to go into the world as partners with God for the healing of the world.*

PRELUDE

GREETING/WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dawn is breaking, Christ's light is shining.

The Light of the world shines in our lives.

Put aside the cares of the night.

In the Lord, we live in the light.

Even in the darkest valley, God illuminates our path.

Even in times of despair, hope shines forth.

Sleeper, awake! Christ's light is shining.

The light of the world shines in our lives.

HYMN....."Open My Eyes, That I May See".....UMH #454

UNISON PRAYER

Light of all lights, be our vision this day. Open our eyes to behold your glory. Open our hearts to the warmth of your love. Open our minds to the flame of your truth. Open our souls to the glory of living as children of light, that others may see in our living the sacred mystery of your kingdom. Amen.

PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME FOR YOUNG METHODISTS AND FRIENDS

ANTHEM....."Lord, I Know I Been Changed".....Faith Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER.....Unison

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY.....UMH #95

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving shepherd, gentile savior, we give you thanks this day. For rest in green pastures, for refreshment beside still waters, for health and wholeness for our souls. As we rejoice in your goodness and mercy, we offer you our gifts this day. Through our offering, may others be blessed, as we have been blessed from your hand. Amen

HYMN....."Be Thou My Vision".....UMH #451

SCRIPTURE READING.....Mark LaMont

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

my whole life long.

Ephesians 5:8-14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

This the Word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God

SCRIPTURE READING.....Pastor Carolyn

John 9:1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform

such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

MESSAGE.....Pastor Carolyn

HYMN....."Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus"UMH #349, 2x

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

REMEMBER OUR CHURCH FAMILIES IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Remember our church members & friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they would like, including:

Colony Court: Joe Tollefson, Shirley Burdick

Janesville Nursing Home: Nina Youngberg

Lakeshore Inn: Leona Quast

Foxdale: Lucille Kubista

Benedictine Living Community: Chuck Youngberg

Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna: Ardella Draheim

Prayer Requests for Sunday: Sue Baldini, Roger Groskreutz and family, Kara Ecoff, Tim Dahnert, government officials, health care workers, first responders, and those who are at risk and most vulnerable to Covid-19, those who battle chronic illness and pain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Update on Offering Envelopes: We have now been informed that our 2023 offering envelopes will not be shipped until sometime in March. You may keep using old envelopes if you have them, just cross out the date and write the current date. Or, you may use the envelopes in the back of the pews. Thank you for your continued patience.

There will be a Pampered Chef party on Saturday, April 1 at 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a friend or two. There will be chips with dips and soups to try. This event is sponsored by UWF. Funds raised will go to our pledge to women, children and youth.

The Greater Ministerial Association Easter Dinner will be held at First Congregational Church on Sunday, April 9 from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm. Dine in, carry out, or delivery (up to 4 meals per household). RSVP by April 5, 2023 by calling First Congregational Church at 835-4548 or Waseca Area Senior Citizens Center at 835-4552. Please leave your name, phone number, and address if requesting delivery.



The Spring Luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. We will need helpers for this event. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet.



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

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| 03/19/2023 (Sun.) | 9:30 am - Worship Service 10:30 am - Fellowship |
| 03/20/2023 (Mon.) | 3:00-4:30 pm-Conversation, Bible & Friends (*LV Room) |
| 03/21/2023 (Tues.) | 7:00 pm - Leadership Team Meeting (*LV Room) |
| 03/22/2023 (Wed.) | 12:00 pm - Lenten Lunch (Grace Lutheran) 7:00 pm - Choir Practice |
| 03/23/2023 (Thurs.) | 10:30 am - Bible Study |
| 03/25/2023 (Sat.) | Fellowship Hall reserved for Bridal Shower (Karen Norby) |
| 03/26/2023 (Sun.) | 9:30 am - Worship Service 10:00 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Fellowship |

*Lakeview Room **Fellowship Hall

Administrative Assistant Hours this Week:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:30 am - 1:00 pm

Pastor Carolyn's Contact Info.:

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