

**FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**December 16th, 2018~9:30 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.*

NEWS OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY/ WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Grace to you and peace from God,

**All: who is, and was, and is to come. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN....."My Soul Gives Glory to My God" .....UMH No. 198

OPENING PRAYER .....[UNISON]

**Holy God, at the message of an angel, the virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your will. Filled with the light of your Spirit, she became the mother of our Lord. Strengthen us by the example of her humility, so that we may always be ready to do your will, and welcome Jesus into our lives. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE....."To God be the Glory" .....UMH No. 98

THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be

married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think of what the angel could mean. "Don't be afraid Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end.

Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."

The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

**Unison: Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true."**

HYMN OF PRAISE....."O Come, O Come, Emmanuel ".....UMH No. 211 vs. 3

RESPONSIVE READING.....Psalm 40:1-11.....UMH 774

HYMN OF PRAISE....."Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee.....UMH No. 89

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON.....Isaiah 7:10-14

*Isaiah Gives Ahaz the Sign of Immanuel*

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup> Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. <sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

ANTHEM ..... "To a Maiden Meek and Mild" ..... Faith Choir

SUNDAY SCHOOL All children are invited to attend Sunday School at this time. Please go to the back of the sanctuary to meet your teacher.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON..... Hebrews 10:5a-10

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

<sup>8</sup> When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**L: THIS IS THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD.**

**All: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

MESSAGE ..... "A Mary Christmas" ..... Rev. Jon Schultz

OFFERTORY..... "Where's the Line to See Jesus?" ..... Faith Choir

\*SONG OF THANKSGIVING..... "Give Thanks" ..... TFWS No. 2036

\*THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S GIFTS

\*CLOSING HYMN....."I Love to Tell the Story" .....UMH No. 156

\*SENDING FORTH

EXIT MUSIC

**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:**

**Foxdale[Memory Care]:** Ann Swenson

**Colony Court:** Ardella Draheim, Nina Youngberg, Leona Quast, Muriel Jenkins

**Lakeshore Inn:** Florence Gutknecht, Liz Corchran

**Latham Place:** Lucille and George Kubista, Elaine Westrum

**Koda Living Community:** Chuck Youngberg

**Prayer Requests from Sunday:** Jon & Nikki Schultz, Dan & Nancy Thomas, JoAnn Egness, Connie Moran, Bea Callahan, Adeline Buss, Becky Geppert, Linda Taylor, Aurella Johnson, Nick Larson, Pastor Chris Johnson, Bud Deno, Steve Conway

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SERMON NOTE OUTLINES** are on the table in the Narthex.

Confirmation will begin in January.

Please join us downstairs after the service for fellowship. Birthday cake will be served in celebration of Margaret Hasslen's birthday.

Pastor Victor had his second stent procedure on Dec.12<sup>th</sup>. He will be out of the office until December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Pancake Mix Sunday [providing pancake mix, and syrup to the Food Shelf]** is the fourth Sunday of the month. Please bring pancake mix and syrup which will be donated to the Neighborhood Service Center. Thank you for your participation! Last month 50 pounds was donated.

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We would like the congregation to flood the altar area with poinsettias for Christmas week. Please bring them in any time December 16 through December 23. By Saturday the 22nd would be best if you are able. The more we have, the more beautiful our sanctuary will be as we celebrate our Savior's birth. You may leave them in either the nursery or church office.

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Christmas is just around the corner and the Waseca Ministerial Association is again hosting its traditional Christmas Dinner. The menu will consist of baked ham, au gratin potatoes, vegetable, salads, roll, and dessert. The meal will be hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church, Waseca and Trinity Lutheran Church and will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 314 - 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, in Waseca at 12:00 noon on Christmas Day. Delivery and take-out meals are available upon request (with a limit of 4 meals per address). Those wishing to help defray the cost of the meal are invited to give a free-will offering. Please RSVP by calling the Senior Center at 835-4552 or St. Paul Lutheran Church at 835-2647 before Friday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>.

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## **2019 General Conference**

### **United Methodists Seeking a Way Forward**



The Council of Bishops has called a Special Session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church to be held **February 23-26, 2019** in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose will be to receive and act on a report from the Commission on a Way Forward based on the recommendations of the Council of Bishops. The 32-member Commission was authorized by General Conference 2016 and appointed by the Council of Bishops to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church.

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Please note that December 26 through December 28 Stacy True, Administrative Assistant will be in the office from 9:00 to Noon. Stacy will be out of the office on Monday, December 31.

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***CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BE ON DECEMBER 24 AT 4:30 P.M.***

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**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...**

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12/16/2018 (Sun.) 9:30 a.m. - Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School  
10:30-11:30 a.m. - Fellowship

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12/17/2018 (Mon.) **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
**Pastor Victor Out of the Office**  
11:00 a.m. - WACS Board Meeting (\*LV Room)  
3:00-4:00 p.m.-Conversation, Bible & Friends (\*LV Room)

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12/18/2018 (Tues.) **Pastor Victor Out of the Office**

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12/19/2018 (Wed.) 10:00 a.m. - Hansel & Gretel Christmas Program  
12:00 p.m. - Elizabeth Circle (\*LV Room)  
2:00 p.m. - Hansel & Gretel Christmas Program  
7:00 p.m. - Choir Practice

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12/20/2018 (Thur.) 10:00 a.m. - Hansel & Gretel Christmas Program

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12/23/2018 (Sun.) Pancake Mix Sunday  
9:30 a.m. - Worship Service/Choir Cantata - "The Glory of  
Christmas"  
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School  
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. - Fellowship

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12/24/2018 (Mon.) **Christmas Eve - Church Office Closed**  
4:30 p.m. - Christmas Eve Worship Service

\*Lakeview Room \*\*Fellowship Hall