

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 23, 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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**..... "Rock-a-Bye, My Dear Little Boy"UMH No. 235

THE LIGHTING OF THE 3rd CANDLE OF ADVENT (pink)

The Shepherd Candle or the Candle of Joy

L: As we grow closer to the coming of the Christ Child our hearts are filled with joy at His coming. Long ago poor and lowly shepherds were keeping their flocks on cold winter's night they received a message of unimaginable joy!

The shepherds received a message of joy!

*And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, **'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.'** Luke 2:7 and following*

ALL: Lord open our hearts to see Jesus who was the word made flesh and who lived among us!

*HYMN OF PRAISE.....“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”.....UMH No. 211 Vs. 4

CANTICLE OF MARY.....UMH No. 199

CHOIR CANTATA

The Glory of Christmas

1. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

2. How Great Our Joy

3. The Lord Is Come

(Joy to the World; Away In a Manger; It Came Upon A Midnight Clear)

4. The Glory of Christmas

(Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light; Good Christians, Come Rejoice; O Come All Ye Faithful)

Narrators: Mark and Terra LaMont

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.

SCRIPTURE LESSON.....**Luke 2:8-21**

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, **“Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising

God and saying, **"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"**

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. **And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.**

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....."The Shepherds Gospel".....Pastor Victor Waters

OFFERTORY....."Glory to God in the Highest Heaven".....Faith Choir

***SONG OF THANKSGIVING**....."Glory Be to the Father".....UMH No. 70

***THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S GIFTS**

*** CLOSING HYMN**....."Hark! The Herald Angels Sing".....UMH No. 240

***SENDING FORTH**.....*Luke 2:20*

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

EXIT MUSIC

REMEMBER OUR CHURCH & MILITARY 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 Memory & Care Suites: Ann Swenson

Colony Court: Ardella Draheim, Nina Youngberg

Leona Quast, Muriel Jenkins

Lakeshore Inn: Florence Gutknecht, Liz Corchran

Latham Place: Elaine Westrum, Lucile and George Kubista

Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship: Beau C., Connie M, Nikki and Jon Schultz, Jo Ann Egness, those who have suffered the loss of a loved one in 2018.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON NOTE OUTLINES are on the table in the Narthex.

Confirmation will begin on Wednesday, January 9 at 6:00 p.m. We will meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month.

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

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.

Newsletter Folding - Newsletter folding is scheduled for **Thursday, December 27 at 10:00 a.m.** in the church office. Please join us if you are able. We would appreciate any extra help!

There will be no Conversation, Bible & Friends on Monday, December 24.

January 13th the fellowship event will be showing '**favorite winter activities**'. Example activities could be indoor games, or outdoor fun depicted by equipment, photos, etc. Please share your winter time fun with us.



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.

Thank you to all who donated poinsettias for Christmas week!

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

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

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

12/25/2018 (Tues.) **Christmas Day - Church Office Closed**

12/26/2018 (Wed.) 7:00 p.m. - Choir Practice

12/27/2018 (Thur.) 10:00 a.m. - Newsletter Folding (Church Office)

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

*Lakeview Room **Fellowship Hall