

**FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**First Sunday After Christmas**

**December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015~9:30 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.*

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NEWS OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY/ WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

\* CALL TO WORSHIP ..... "Love Has Come" ...Faith Choir

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

**As we light the Christ candle, we are reminded that Christ is the light of the world, that Christ is light; He came to give us light, so that we might, in turn, give light to others.**

PRAYER.....[UNISON]

**God of love, we are awed by your love and your desire to speak to us. We do not always hear you or understand your witness. Help us to be still and listen. Give us eyes to see how you are alive forever. Pull back the veil that keeps us from seeing your vision for our world. Give us the impulse to seek your meaning for our time. We long for you. Give us trust in your love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.** *(Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today, p. 12)*

HYMN OF PRAISE.....“For the Beauty of the Earth” ...UMH No. 92

RESPONSIVE READING.....**Psalm 148**

L: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the sky! Praise him in the heavens!

**All: Praise him, all his angels! Praise him, all his heavenly assembly!**

L: Praise him, O sun and moon! Praise him, all you shiny stars! Praise him, O highest heaven, and you waters above the sky!

**All: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he gave the command and they came into existence. He established them so they would endure; he issued a decree that will not be revoked.**

L: Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea creatures and all you ocean depths, O fire and hail, snow and clouds, O stormy wind that carries out his orders,

**All: you mountains and all you hills, you fruit trees and all you cedars, you animals and all you cattle, you creeping things and birds,**

L: you kings of the earth and all you nations, you princes and all you leaders on the earth, you young men and young women, you elderly, along with you children!

**All: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty extends over the earth and sky.**

L: He has made his people victorious, and given all his loyal followers reason to praise— the Israelites, the people who are close to him.

**All: Praise the LORD!**

L: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF CELEBRATION....."Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" ...UMH No. 224

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

Give ye heed to what we say: News! News! Jesus Christ is born today;

Ox and ass before Him bow; and He is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;

Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!

He has opened the heavenly door, and man is blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;

Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all, to gain His everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

ANTHEM....."Go Tell the Good News"...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.

KIDS TIME....."Did Jesus Go To Work Every Day?"

SCRIPTURE READING.....**LUKE 2:21-40**

At the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. Now when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Joseph and Mary brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (just as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male will be set apart to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice according to what is specified in the law of the Lord, a pair of doves or two young pigeons.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon, who was righteous and devout, looking for the restoration of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. So Simeon, directed by the Spirit, came into the temple courts, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law, Simeon took him in his arms and blessed God, saying, "Now, according to your word, Sovereign Lord, permit your servant to depart in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples: *a light, for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.*"

So the child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him.

Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother, Mary, "*Listen carefully: This child is destined to be the cause of the falling and rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be rejected. Indeed, as a result of him, the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul as well!*"

There was also a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old, having been married to her husband for seven years until his death. She had lived as a widow since then for eighty-four years. She never left the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment, she came up to them and began to give thanks to God and to speak about the child to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. So when Joseph and Mary had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favor of God was upon him.

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 .....“They Named Him Jesus” ...Pastor Victor Waters

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

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

\*THANKSGIVING FOR GOD’S GIFTS

Almighty God, we thank you for the holy scriptures, in which you have revealed to us your Son, Jesus Christ, as the fulfillment of the law and prophets, the promised Messiah of Israel, and the Redeemer of humankind.

Grant that we, who gratefully celebrate his advent and acknowledge him as your living Word, may walk in the light of his truth and make known the good news of his kingdom in all the world, to the glory of your name. Amen.

\* CLOSING HYMN.....“Go, Tell It on the Mountain " ...UMH No. 251

\*SENDING FORTH.....John 1:1-5;14

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was fully God. The Word was with God in the beginning. All things were created by him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created. 1:4 In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. And the light shines on in the darkness, but the darkness has not mastered it.*

*Now the Word became flesh and took up residence among us. We saw his glory—the glory of the one and only, full of grace and truth, who came from the Father.*

## 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, Deloris Asmus

**Colony Court:** Millie Groh, Ardella Draheim, Nina Youngberg,

Leona Quast, Muriel Jenkins

**Lakeshore Inn:** Florence Gutknecht, Hazel Henkensiefken, Don Lohse

**Latham Place:** Liz Corchran

**Morrow Home, Sparta, WI:** Marlene Rietfort

**Oaklawn Health Care Center:** Jim Keller, Bill Brooks

**Tower Light, St. Louis Park:** Darlene Lynch

**Those who also need our prayers:** Willie Mahler [Home Hospice]

**Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship:** Bruce and Deb Hering,

Leona Quast, Joann Egeness, Kookie Kukacka, Peter and Verna Fog, Marilyn Possin,

Berts Walker, Dick and Elaine Westrum Family, Chuck Youngberg, Marlys Garness,

Deloris Asmus, Jim Keller, Bill Brooks, Brenda and Kipp Westrum, Roger Goetz,

the family of Paul Krause.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



### *Lucille Kubista 95th Birthday Card Shower*

She turns 95 on December 30th. We will celebrate it today during fellowship!

Please send cards to:

Lucille Kubista

431 9th St. SE

Waseca, MN 56093

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Thank you to the donor of two little trucks for our nursery. We are sure they will be well received. *Nursery Staff*

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A special thank you to everyone who helped make last Sunday's cantata, "God is With Us" so special - Mark Lamont for narrating, Neil Fruechte for the power point, Pastor Victor for the technology and the wonderful choir members for sharing their talents. *Barb Klampe*

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

12/27/2015 (Sun.)	Pancake Mix Sunday 9:30-10:30 a.m. -Worship Service 10:00-10:30 a.m. -Sunday School 10:30-11:30 a.m. -Fellowship
12/28/2015 (Mon.)	Faith Messenger mailed this week 3:00 p.m. -Newsletter Collating-Office
12/29/2015 (Tues.)	<b>No Tai Ji Quan Today</b> 3:00-4:30 p.m. -Conversation, Bible & Friends (*LV Room)
12/30/2015 (Weds.)	<b>No Some Time Away Today</b>
12/31/2015 (Thurs.)	New Years Eve <b>No Tai Ji Quan Today</b>
1/1/2016 (Fri.)	Office Closed-New Year's Day
1/3/2015 (Sun.)	9:15 a.m. -Hymn Sing 9:30-10:30 a.m. -Worship Service with Communion 10:00-10:30 a.m. -Sunday School 10:30-11:30 a.m. -Fellowship
1/5/2015 (Tues.)	10:00-11:00 a.m. -Tai Ji Quan 3:00-4:30 p.m. -Conversation, Bible & Friends (*LV Room)
1/6/2015 (Wed.)	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. -Some Time Away (**FH) 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. -Confirmation (Sanctuary) 7:00-8:00 p.m. -Choir Practice

\*Lakeview Room \*\*Fellowship Hall