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Special Points of Interest:

- December Monthly Meetings, Back Page
- December Birthdays and Anniversaries included with Calendar

Administrative Assistant Office Hours:

Monday:
8:00 AM-4:30 PM

Tuesdays-Fridays
8:00-10:30 AM



DECEMBER

*Faith United Methodist Church
"Engage, Equip, and Empower!"*

**Volume 2016.
Issue 12**

Proverbs: A Mini-Guide to Life

In my regular daily Bible reading over the past year I read through Proverbs 3, a passage I've studied and preached through many times. But during this reading, I realized that in verses 3 through 12 we have all the themes of the rest of the book, and therefore a kind of mini-guide to faithful living. There are five things that comprise a wise, godly life. They function both as means to becoming wise and godly as well as signs that you are growing into such a life:

Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart (Prov 3:3-5a)

Put your heart's deepest trust in God and his grace. Every day remind yourself of his unconditioned, covenantal love for you. Do not instead put your hopes in idols or in your own performance.

Lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. (Prov 3:5b-6)

Submit your whole mind to the Scripture. Don't think you know better than God's word. Bring it to bear on every area of life. Become a person under authority.

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil. This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones. (Prov 3:7-8) Be humble and teachable toward others. Be forgiving and understanding when you want to be critical of them; be ready to learn from others when they come to be critical of you.

Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. (Prov 3:9-10)

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Prayer Requests

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, Dick Westrum

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

Lakeshore Inn: Florence Gutknecht

Latham Place: Liz Corchran

Oaklawn Health Care Center: Jim Keller

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, Peter and Verna Fog, Marilyn and Dan Possin, Millie White, Chuck Youngberg, Lucille and George Kubista, Bob Hunter.



Announcement-Church Position

Kim Maas has been our Administrative Assistant for the last four years and has done a great job. However, she will be taking a full-time position starting January 1st. We now have an opening for the position of Administrative Assistant. This is a 20 hour per week part-time position with flexible hours. Any qualified person in our congregation is welcome to apply. In order to be considered for the position, please have your resume in my box by **December 9th**.

Pastor Victor Waters

Hanging of the Greens

Hanging of the Greens: It's time to decorate for Christmas. Please join us on **Monday, December 5th at 9:00 a.m.** in decorating various areas of our church to help spread the joy and the colors of the advent season throughout. Many hands make light work, so please come and lend YOUR HANDS! There will be coffee and treats provided. All are welcome and can come for a short time or a long time!



Faith Crafters and Stitchers

Faith Crafters and Stitchers will **not meet** in December. Mark your calendar for Thursday, January 12, 2017 as our next meeting date.

A Season of Thanksgiving Our 2017 Stewardship Drive

Our Stewardship Drive will begin after the Thanksgiving holiday and continue through January 8th, 2017. Here is the timetable:

Dec 4 – Speaker during worship service to summarize the plans.... to let everyone know what to expect.

Week of Dec. 5 – Letter to church members with Estimate of Giving form

Dec 11 – Pastor Victor will speak on responding to God's gifts with our gifts.

Jan 8 – pledges to be returned

Jan 15 – potluck victory luncheon

Jan 24 – Church Council meeting to approve the 2017 budget

Here are Four Reasons why our Stewardship Drive is an essential part of our church life.

Our Stewardship Drive is a time when we seek the resources to fulfill our vision for Faith Church which is:

"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."

Our Stewardship Drive is part of our commitment to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. When we give of our personal wealth we acknowledge that all we have comes from God and we are dependent on Him for our future income, and are confident that He is willing and able to provide for all our needs.

Our Stewardship Drive is a means of fulfilling the vows we made when we became a member of the United Methodist Church. We promised: *To faithfully participate in its ministries by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness;*

Our Stewardship Drive is an expression of our confidence in the future that God has for Faith United Methodist Church and that we are called to thrive and grow, not just to survive.

Your pledge is important because it is an expression of your support of the ministries of Faith Church and our steadfast hope in the work of the Holy Spirit as He leads us forward in new and exciting future.

Whatever Happened to That Spiritual Gifts Survey I took?

Be generous with all your possessions, and passionate about justice. Share your time, talent, and treasure with those who have less.

My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent his rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in. (Prov 3:11-12)

5. Accept and learn from difficulties and suffering. Through the gospel, recognize them as not punishment, but a way of refining you.

As I meditated on these five elements--rooted in his grace, obeying and delighting in his Word, humble before other people, sacrificially generous toward our neighbor, and steadfast in trials--I thought of Jesus. The New Testament tells us that the personified 'divine wisdom' of the Old Testament is actually Jesus (Mt 11:19.) And I realized that a) he showed the ultimate trust and faithfulness to God and to us by going to the cross, b) he was saturated with and shaped by Scripture, c) he was meek and lowly in heart (Mt. 11:28-30), d) he, though rich, became poor for us, e) and he bore his suffering, for us, without complaint. We can only grow in these five areas if you know you are saved by costly grace. That keeps you from idols, from self-sufficiency and pride, from selfishness with your things, and from crumbling under troubles. Jesus is wisdom personified, and believing his gospel brings these character qualities into your life.

For a number of weeks I have been spending time praying for these five things for my family and my church leaders. There's no better way to instill these great things in your own heart, than to pray intensely for them in the lives of those you love.-

Tim Keller Redeemer Presbyterian Church

This article is from my favorite Pastor. I hope it encourages your hearts.

Pastor Victor

Festival of Angels



We are inviting people to bring an angel or angels that we could display during Fellowship at Faith Fellowship on Sunday, December 11th.

Please mark your angel with your name and we will display them so that everyone can enjoy the display during fellowship. Please bring your angels down to the fellowship room before Church.

Nurse's Notes

"What are you giving for Christmas?"

What are you giving for Christmas? First, let's narrow it down-Who is it for? How much will I spend? Do I have to mail it? Is it something the receiver would like?

Now think about a most precious gift that you can give. It won't be something you can exchange or re-gift. It doesn't have a dollar value. Have you guessed? The precious gift is your time. YES, TIME.

Your time and attention for others is needed in this crazy time-driven society. So how do we use this valuable commodity? When you share yourself with others, a visit, a phone call, a note. These are precious gifts.

List 3 people or organizations that you would like to spend your time with:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Now describe how much time and when you will do it. Make an action plan and carry it out.

You too, will benefit from volunteering. Loretta Schlaak from RSVP shared these health benefits at our Aging Mastery Program in November.

Health Benefits to Volunteering:

- Volunteering provides a sense of purpose
- Volunteering increases self-confidence
- Volunteering combats depression and isolation
- Volunteering lowers the risk of dementia
- Volunteering helps you stay physically active

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Nurse's Notes

- Volunteering lowers mortality rates
- Volunteering increases social and relationship skills
- Volunteering refreshes your perspective

In this month of commercializing Christmas, let us remember the most Precious Gift God has given us-Jesus Christ.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

John 14:27

May you feel the peace of Christ during this holiday season.

Your Parish Nurse,

Sherry Scholljegerdes, RN



Christmas Word Scramble

Unscramble the letters to find words which have to do with Christmas.

Some of the words have religious meanings, others are secular in nature.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Groceos _____ | 11. Limesotte _____ |
| 2. Naclorig _____ | 12. Vaniyitt _____ |
| 3. Rats _____ | 13. Gotscink _____ |
| 4. Scuntshe _____ | 14. Virasou _____ |
| 5. Porduhl _____ | 15. Traweh _____ |
| 6. Naast _____ | 16. Gisehl _____ |
| 7. Skagceap _____ | 17. Wamsonn _____ |
| 8. Dressephh _____ | 18. Ejuss _____ |
| 9. Gramen _____ | 19. Stranneom _____ |
| 10. Galen _____ | 20. Scamsthir _____ |

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

A	C	C	L	E	R	K	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	U
S	T	H	R	E	E	S	P	I	R	I	T	S	F	N
C	A	R	R	O	L	I	S	T	H	E	C	A	L	D
E	C	I	L	A	A	S	R	E	Z	E	N	E	B	E
S	I	S	C	S	M	T	O	R	Y	I	Y	N	W	R
T	H	T	I	C	R	I	H	A	M	S	E	I	S	T
I	E	M	P	R	F	D	S	L	N	Y	L	M	A	A
N	N	A	N	A	E	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	M	K
Y	S	S	E	R	Z	D	K	E	R	B	A	E	N	E
T	F	E	F	N	Z	C	E	Z	E	R	M	S	O	R
I	U	V	C	R	I	O	O	G	E	L	B	E	D	A
M	T	E	R	D	W	N	S	T	H	E	O	M	N	E
A	U	N	I	T	I	H	C	T	A	R	C	B	O	B
N	R	G	O	F	G	U	B	M	U	H	A	C	L	H
R	E	G	O	O	R	C	S	I	S	T	J	M	A	S

A CHRISTMAS CAROL WORD LIST

ALICE	JACOB MARLEY
BOB CRATCHIT	LONDON
CHRISTMAS EVE	MISER
CLERK	MR. FEZZIWIG
DICKENS	PAST
EBENEZER	PRESENT
FAN	SCROOGE
FRED	THREE SPIRITS
FUTURE	TINY TIM
HUMBUG	UNDERTAKER



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Change Service Requested

Come Worship with Us

We have room.

MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

Elizabeth Circle

UMW Elizabeth Circle will meet **Wednesday, December 14 at 1:00 p.m.** for a potluck lunch in **Lakeview Room**. Each member will share a reading during devotion time. Guests and visitors are welcome.

Ruth Circle

UMW Ruth Circle will be meeting on **Tuesday, December 13 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at the home of **Roberta Walker**.

Mary Circle

Mary Circle will meet at the **Boat House** for their Christmas luncheon on **Tuesday, December 20 at 1 pm.**