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**From the Pastor's Desk**

Dear Ones,

As Kirk and I prepare for retirement, we are trying to decide on what sort of dwelling we want to put on our land. There are so many options. Tiny house, 4 season camper, modular home, stick built home, yurt – the possibilities are endless. There are many things to consider – cost, the harsh environment of South Dakota winters, environmental impact, creature comforts. Of course, the most important thing is the fact that we will be together. Being near our son and his family is an added bonus. We are looking forward to doing work to improve our own place and make it truly ours. Now, the big hurdle, DOWN-SIZING. I know many of you have gotten over this hurdle, but how? We have furniture that has been in our families for decades. I have my grandfather's desk, where he sat to write his sermons, and a claw - foot end table that was a wedding gift to my mother's parents. And Kirk and I are both pastors, we have so many books! Kirk is more attached to books than I am so he is going through deciding which are must keeps, but what do we do with the ones that are left. No one wants 25-year-old seminary books. We probably have 30 bibles. All kinds of translations written from all kinds of view points. These will maybe go to the thrift shop. I'm thinking of setting them out on a table so people can pick them up during fellowship along with all the children's books we have.

Fred contacted me today (our DS) and asked if I would stay on as chair of the district committee on ministry to help the incoming DS transition. Of course I said yes, I will need to be doing something to further God's kingdom, even in retirement. You all know that disciples never retire, right? God especially needs the older wise ones when it comes to kingdom building. If you would like to read more about discipleship, I have some books for you, free of charge!

The next few months will be challenging, but good. A new chapter to look forward to, life goes on and we have no control on aging, but we do have control on how we handle it. One of the biggest challenges for me is deciding if I should let my hair go gray. This may shock you, but the color hair you see on my head is not natural. It's expensive to color my hair and I know it's just vanity, but still.....I have an appointment on Friday for a cut and color so I'm not completely convinced to go natural. So many adjustments as we age!

Well enough rambling for now. Be on the look-out for some really good books in the fellowship hall and I'll see you in worship on Sunday

Blessings,

Pastor Carolyn

**Special Points of Interest:**

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

**Administrative Assistant**

**Office Hours:**

**Monday, Wednesday & Thursday:**

**9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

## 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:** Joe Tollefson, Shirley Burdick

**Janesville Nursing Home:** Nina Youngberg

**Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna:** Ardella Draheim

**Benedictine Living Community:** Chuck Youngberg

**Lakeshore Inn:** Leona Quast, Wilda Smith

**Foxdale:** Lucille Kubista, Keith Smith

**Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship:** Sue Baldini, Tom Kuyper, Roger Groskreutz and family, Kara Ecoff, Tim Dahnert, Suzanne Saucier, Wilda Smith, Keith Smith, health care workers, first responders, and those who are most at risk and vulnerable to Covid-19, those who battle chronic illness and pain.



## Administrative Assistant Hours

Stacy's hours are typically Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Days or hours are subject to change at times. It is best to call ahead if you need to visit the office. Hours will be posted in the weekly bulletins. Stacy will be out of the office on Monday, February 20.

## 2023 Offering Envelopes

We have been updated that our 2023 offering envelopes will not be shipped until late February. The company is short staffed and has encountered supply chain and equipment issues. If you still have some old envelopes, you may use them and 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 patience as we wait for them to be shipped.

## Directory Photos

If you were unable to have your picture taken in December for the photo directory, you may submit a picture to the church office for the directory. Printed or digital images are accepted. Digital images may be emailed to [faithwaseca@gmail.com](mailto:faithwaseca@gmail.com). The guidelines for printed photos are: they must be printed on photo paper and must be a vertical photo in either wallet or 4 x 6 size. We are able to submit up to 8 photos free of charge. The cost after 8 is \$15.00 per photo. Please submit photos by February 15.

## Suggestion for Lent

I know it seems impossible, but Lent is right around the corner. Ash Wednesday is February 22. We will have a service that afternoon at 4:30. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and so we think about giving something up as a sacrifice to turn us toward God as Jesus set his face toward Jerusalem. Did you know, you can receive the same benefit from adding something to your routine as you can by giving something up? Yes you can, and I have the perfect thing for you to add. Bible Study! You will gain so much if you attend Bible Study, not only will you learn more about God's word and the impact it can have on your life, but you will learn what it is to be in community with other believers. We have a wonderful core group who come together weekly on Thursday mornings at 10:30 in the gathering room. We would LOVE to have you join us. On February 16<sup>th</sup> we are starting a new study on the book of Ephesians. This study is written by New York Times bestselling author Max Lucado: *Since entering the ministry in 1978, Max Lucado has served churches in Miami, Florida; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and San Antonio, Texas. He currently serves a Teaching Minister of Oak Hills Church in San Antonio. He is America's bestselling inspirational author with more than 140 million books in print.*

I am very excited about this study and would love to have you join us. If Thursday morning is not a great time for you, please let me know, we are very willing to change the time/day. The books are here and can be picked up in the office. They are \$10

So start off Lent this year with an addition to your life with Bible Study. You will not be sorry!

Pastor Carolyn

## Fellowship Help Needed

Fellowship is in need of help. Wally has decided to retire from the job of finding servers, so we need to find another way of doing it. I will have a clipboard in the narthex on the coffee table. Please choose a date and sign up for a time that you would be able to serve. Sandy and I will help you as much as we can. We really appreciate all of you who have been helping, and we hope that you will continue to support us. If you have any questions, let me know.

Thank you,

Janet Welch

## Ruth Circle

Ruth circle met in December at The Tasty House and had a great time celebrating Christmas and Margaret H. 101 birthday.

The January meeting was held in The Gathering Room on Tuesday, January 10.

A program was presented on angels. Everyone participated by reading well known angelic stories written in the scriptures to better understand the different roles of angels in the bible.

These stories teach us that angels are everywhere and are always watching over us. Angels are God's servants here to support and guide us through our life journey. Angels may appear in many forms and play many different roles. Angels may deliver messages and guidance, inspire, motivate, heal or protect us. While these biblical stories happened in the distant past, the lessons apply to our lives today. Take notice of how God's messages and angelic interventions are occurring in your life today. Be open and apply that angelic guidance in your life to help you develop, grow and improve the quality of your life just as the characters in our biblical stories did.

Some of the members shared stories about items they brought with them; angels, books, and other things.

To coordinate with our angel theme we were served angel food cake and strawberries.

Ruth circle will be the hostess at the May 15<sup>th</sup> United Women of Faith Unit meeting. A tea party is being planned. Mark your calendar!

*'FOCUS OUR HEARTS AND MINDS OUTWARD ON OTHERS-JUST AS JESUS HIMSELF DID'* is a statement in one of Faith's bible study books. It got us thinking about what Missions or Outreach Ruth circle could do. We will be discussing additional ways to reach out to others.

Our next meeting will be February 14<sup>th</sup>. The program will be on 'Buckets'.

## Please Stay Home if You are Sick

To keep all of us safe, please stay home from church if you have any of these symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat

If you are unable to attend worship, you may view the service online via a link on our Facebook page, Faith United Methodist Church, or our website, [wasecafaithumc.com](http://wasecafaithumc.com). The service is also aired on the local PEG television, channel #8 at the following times:

Sunday 12:30 PM

Thursday 4:30 PM

Tuesday 8:30 AM

Saturday 6:00 PM

## Soap Closet

Faith UMC is participating with Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC) as a drop off site for their "Soap Closet". It is a program to help those in need with hygiene supplies in our county. The drop off box is located in the narthex. Items they are looking for include the following:

- New men's, women's and children's underwear and socks
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Body Wash or bar soap
- Q Tips
- Hand soap/hand sanitizer
- Toilet paper
- Feminine products
- Baby wipes/diapers/powder/soap
- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap
- Deodorant

Please consider donating items to help with this cause. Someone from MVAC will pick up the items monthly.

## BIBLE Word Search: Women in the Bible

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

ABIGAIL	EVE	Mary MAGDELINE
BATHSHEBA	HAGAR	RACHEL
DEBORAH	JEZEBEL	RUTH
DELILAH	LYDIA	SARAH
DORCAS	MARTHA	VASHTI
ESTHER	MARY	ZIPPORAH

**Instructions:**

Find and circle the words shown in all capital letters. Words may be forward, backward, vertical, or diagonal within the puzzle.

# Love Word Search

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Find the hidden words.



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

Is **PATIENT**

Is **KIND**

Is Not **JEALOUS**

Does Not **BRAG**

Is Not **ARROGANT**

Does Not Act **UNBECOMINGLY**

Does Not Seek Its **OWN**

Is Not **PROVOKED**

Does Not Take Into Account A  
Wrong **SUFFERED**

Does Not Rejoice In  
**UNRIGHTEOUSNESS**

**REJOICES** With The Truth

**BEARS** All Things

**BELIEVES** All Things

**HOPES** All Things

**ENDURES** All Things



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**Change Service Requested**

## Come Worship with Us We have room.

### MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

#### **Elizabeth Circle**

Elizabeth Circle will not meet in February. Our circle will serve refreshments at the WIF unit meeting on Monday, February 20. See you there!

#### **Ruth Circle**

Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, February 14 at 1:00 pm** in the Gathering Room. The program will be "Buckets".

#### **Conversation, Bible & Friends**

Conversation, Bible and Friends will **not** meet on Monday, February 20.