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Special Points of Interest:

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

Administrative Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday:

9:30 am - 12:30 pm



Faith Messenger



FEBRUARY

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

**Volume 2024
Issue 2**

From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings and blessings,

In the waning months of my father's life, I would spend time with him in the care center. We would do what countless others have done, reminisce about the past. As we shared our reflections and memories, I found myself telling stories about all the things we did as kids and young adults that he never knew about. You, know, all the stuff that parental nightmares are made of. As I shared the secrets of my youth in great detail, my father listened with focused intensity. Suddenly in the middle of my recollection of crafting crude ropes from twine and rappelling down the side of the barn, he interrupted me and said, "Stop! Don't tell me anymore! I don't need to know all this stuff." From that moment on, I stopped sharing our secret adventures with dad and our visits focused more on the present.

The need for me to share those secrets with dad was rooted in the desire to confess and seek forgiveness, to ensure the relationship with my father was sure and strong.

"For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you." Psalm 86:5

"And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

Matthew 6:12

My father forgave me that day for the secret things I had done years before, after that day we never talked about them again. Not that we couldn't, but because there was no need to, the slate was clean. Confession purges the soul of the darkness and guilt. Forgiveness is a healing balm for a hurting heart, a filling of a valley of separation. A repairing of the road to relationship. Deepen your Love for God by trusting in His forgiveness. Your confessions will draw you closer to the Savior and give you Peace that only a merciful Jesus can give you. May your Lenten journey be a time of healing, hope and Jesus.

Love your neighbors by being as forgiving to them as God is with you.

Blessings, Pastor Jon

Prayer Requests

Remember our church members & friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they would like, including:

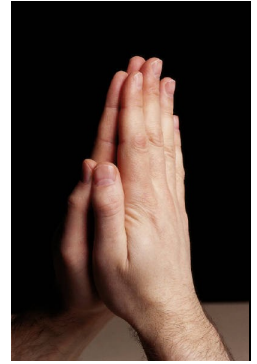
Colony Court: Shirley Burdick, Gloria Rollag

Janesville Nursing Home: Nina Youngberg

Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna: Ardella Draheim

Latham Place: Joe Tollefson

Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship: Sue Baldini, Tim Dahnert, Ron Dahnert, Gail Sauer, Beverly Peppenger, Deene Peppenger, Gloria Rollag, Bob Stephan, Linda Griffin, the Middle East, health care workers, first responders, those who battle cancer, chronic illness and pain.



Administrative Assistant Hours

Stacy's hours are typically Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:30 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. Please note that Stacy will be out of the office on Monday, February 12.

Leadership Team

Members of the Faith United Methodist Church Leadership Team:

Rev. Jon Schultz, Pastor
 Dave Baldini, Chair
 Clair Voshell, Trustees
 Neil Fruechte, Finances
 Duane Griffin, Lay Leader
 Jarod True, Trustee Treasurer & SPRC
 Stacy True, Recording Secretary
 Karen Ferch
 Mark LaMont
 Michelle Hyatt
 Mike Morrissey

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the members.

**Copies of approved Leadership Team minutes can be found on the shelf by the bulletin board in the narthex.

**Copies of church financial statements can be reviewed by church members in the office upon request.

District Superintendent to Preach at Faith

On **Sunday, February 11**, our District Superintendent, Woojae Im, will be preaching at our church.

United Women in Faith Sunday

United Women in Faith Sunday will be on **Sunday, February 25**.

Come and Support UWF Leadership. Find out who are our special recognition women.

Celebrate Our Mission Together!! All Welcome

Potluck

On **Sunday, February 11**, we will be having a potluck following worship service. The potluck will be in honor and thanks to Bob Stephan for his years of service to Faith Church. Please plan to attend and bring a dish to share.

Volunteers Needed

We could use more volunteers to serve as liturgist to read scripture on Sundays. We currently have six volunteers who rotate. If we could get a few more volunteers, the rotation would be once every eight weeks or so. You would be emailed the bulletin the Thursday before your scheduled Sunday so you know what you are reading ahead of time. Our schedule is covered through the end of February. It would be great to get some more names added to the next schedule.

There is also a need for additional communion stewards to assist with communion the first Sunday of the month. This also has a rotated schedule. There is an easy instruction sheet to follow and current stewards will assist in training you.

If you feel called to serve in either of these capacities, please let Stacy know. Thank you!

“Conversations at the Crossroads”

If you were unable to attend the January meeting where we received the report from the “Conversations at the Crossroad’s” process, the written report is available for church members in the narthex. Or, you may request a copy from the church office.

Ruth Circle

Ruth circle met Tuesday, January 9, in the Gathering Room. Roberta served food she harvested from her garden.

We sang 'Happy Birthday' to Linda to help celebrate her birthday.

Before the program we reminisced about the ladies from Ruth circle that passed away in November and December. Leona Quast, Edy Barber and Margaret Hasslen. They will be deeply missed remembering the laughter, love, and joy they brought into our lives and will cherish the moments we shared with them.

Anna did a reading on Santa Claus and Jesus.

Harvest was the title of the program. Harvest is the time for gathering in of a crop.

In Luke 10:2 Jesus said, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field'.

Jesus sent out people to bring in the harvest. The harvest Jesus was talking about was not corn, fruit or vegetables. He was sending out workers to bring people into the kingdom of God. He said there were many souls who were ready to be harvested, but there were not enough workers. One reason it was hard to find workers was that it was very difficult work.

Jesus is still looking for people who will work for him and bring people into his kingdom.

God wants us to be faithful workers, telling others about Jesus and his love.

The ending prayer was:

Lord God, we come before you as a church family united in faith and love for one another. We humbly pray for your blessings and direction as we spread the word of your mercy and love to the rest of the world. There are so many people in this world who are in need. Please show us how we can help. We pray you would show us how to use our resources to help others. We pray that our help is used for a great purpose of drawing hearts to you. In Jesus name Amen

A short meeting was held after the program.

Nancy is our new 'Sunshine' program leader. Many thanks to Lorraine who has taken care of our Sunshine program for a number of years.

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Ruth Circle

Continued from previous page

For our October meeting, we went to visit Ardella and celebrated her birthday with her.

Our November meeting was cancelled.

For our December meeting we went out to eat at the Tasty House for Christmas. We also celebrated Margaret's 102 birthday.

Visits were made in December to our honorary members, Ardella D. and Marian B. for Christmas.

A visit was made to Ardella in January also.

We discussed ideas for mission/outreach. We are going to see if we can get someone from Bethlehem Inn to come to our February meeting.

Ruth circle will meet on Tuesday, February 13th at 1:00 in the Gathering Room.

One Minute Devotion

Fret or Relax; It's Your Choice

Deuteronomy 4:35

God reminds Moses that he can see the works of God in his life if he would make the effort to reflect on them. Sometimes we get so caught up in the 'now' and fret when we could look back at God's faithfulness and relax.

Taken from 100 Minutes with God, 1 Minute Daily Devotions of Timeless Inspiration.

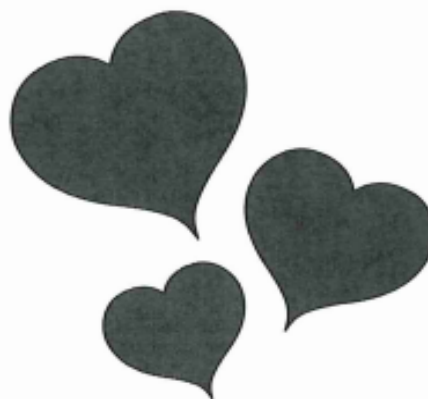


Love Thy Neighbor

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

Word list:

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| BUILD | HUMBLE |
| CARE | KIND |
| COMPASSIONATE | LOVE |
| ENCOURAGE | MIND |
| FORGIVE | NEIGHBOR |
| GOD | PRAY |
| HEART | SHARE |
| HELP | TREAT |



A Prayer for our Church

Come Holy Spirit, fill our voices with praise, so that all we speak will glorify you.

Come Holy Spirit, give us such faith that we will go wherever you ask us to go.

Come Holy Spirit, help us to be a friend like Jesus.

Come Holy Spirit, warm our hearts, so that as we love our community, they see you.

In the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

Faith UMC Mission Statement

Faith United Methodist Church Serves God through
Worship, Faith, Friendship, Outreach

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.



Faith United Methodist Church

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Non-profit Org
Postage Paid
Permit 30
Waseca, MN
56093

Change Service Requested

Come Worship with Us
We have room.

MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet on **Wednesday, February 21 at 2:30 pm** in the Lakeview Room. Hostess: Karen Ferch; Devotions: Sandy Voshell. Guests and visitors are welcome!

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will be meeting on **Tuesday, February 13 at 1:00 pm** in the Gathering Room.

Conversation, Bible & Friends

Conversation, Bible and Friends will meet each Monday in February from 3:00 - 4:30 pm in the Lakeview Room.