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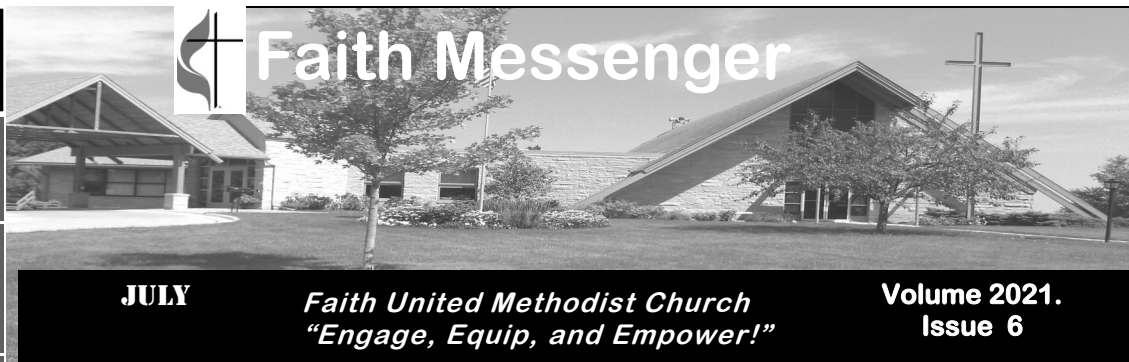
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Special Points of Interest:

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

Administrative Assistant Office Hours:

Administrative Assistant Hours are currently varied and subject to change. Please call ahead if you need to visit the office.



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Ones,

Kirk and I have a Grandson, Colin, who is 3 1/2 years old. He lives in South Dakota. If you asked me for one word to describe Colin, I would say "excited"! Colin is excited about everything – "I got my pants on by myself and they are not backward!" "My boots are yellow!" "I found a rock!" No matter what happens, Colin is excited. You might say he is just excited about life!

There was a time, not so long ago that I, taking into consideration our 61-year age difference, was a lot like Colin. I was excited to get up in the morning, drink my coffee, care for my pets, then go out the door excited to see what God had in store for my day. Then COVID hit. It hit sudden and hard. I went from having my calendar filled with ministry to a blank month. I ordered my groceries online and picked them up curbside from the store. Kirk stayed at his house in Lambertton. It was a lonely time for me, and I know it was for you too. We all thought this would last maybe a month, but things didn't turn out that way. I started to record a sermon on my phone and post to Lakefield's FaceBook page. Then my worship team and I began going to the church and recording the best service we could figure out with just me and Mary, the Piano player. We had a spot on the local cable channel so we hoped more people would be able to worship that way. I did not feel excited anymore. Then a really crazy good thing happened and I was appointed to move to Faith United Methodist church in Waseca – in the middle of a pandemic. That was exciting but also bittersweet. I really did not have a chance to say goodbye to my people in Lakefield or Heron Lake. Not in the way that I wanted – to see their beautiful faces or hug them. My move to Waseca was physically hard for me. Kirk was busy packing up his house and I tried to pack up mine, but those months of inactivity got the best of me! Kirk helped me finish up and we made the move. My people in Waseca greeted me with the love of Christ and we worshiped together in the midst of COVID – with masks and distance. Not the best way to get to know each other. There came a time when COVID was so bad we had to suspend in person Worship. Unfortunately, it was during what should be the most joyous time of year – Advent! Our worship team stepped up and we recorded the best services we could and posted on Face-Book, made DVDs and secured a spot on our local cable channel, hoping everyone could find a way to worship. This was a very hard time – visits to members in the hospital or nursing homes was not possible. Home visits were not possible. We all felt very isolated. I was not very excited.

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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: Joe Tollefson, Janice Kaupa

Janesville Nursing Home: Nina Youngberg

Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna: Ardella Draheim

Foxdale: Elaine Westrum

Koda Living Community: Chuck Youngberg

Lakeshore Inn: Leona Quast

Latham Place: Lucille Kubista

Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship: Anna & Gary Born and the family of Michael Schumacher, Marlys & Ken Garness, Stacy True and her family, the family of Millie White, Les Wells, Marc Dittman, government officials, health care workers, first responders, and those who are most at risk and vulnerable to Covid-19, those who battle chronic illness and pain.



Pastor Vacation

Pastor Carolyn will be on vacation June 28 through July 7. Jon Schultz will be preaching on July 4. We will have communion on July 11 instead of July 4.

Administrative Assistant Hours

Stacy's hours will continue to be varied during the summer. Her anticipated hours will be posted in the Sunday church bulletins. It is best to call ahead if you need to visit the office.

Stacy will be out of the office July 5 through July 9.

Trustees Meeting

Trustees will meet **Thursday, July 15 at 6:30 pm** in the Lakeview Room.

Rock Painting Party

We have a Party scheduled for **Monday, July 12th**. It will be from 4:00 until 7:00 with a light meal being served at 5:30. You can stop in any time to paint rocks. Some of the regular rock painters have brought friends and they appear to enjoy painting rocks. Kids enjoy the event, also.

Any time you can spend with us painting rocks is great. If you know you are going to come to paint rocks, let Roberta (Berts) know so we have an idea how many will be there for the meal.

You may want to drop in just to see what we do.

Further date for Rock painting party: August 9th

Pre-service Coffee

Starting in July we will have **Pre-service coffee**. Grab yourselves a cup of coffee and a tasty treat before church.

Ruth Circle

UMW Ruth Circle will meet **Tuesday, July 13 at 10:30 am** in the Gathering Room. The program will be on 'Spoons' by Linda Griffin, devotions by Roberta Walker and Nancy Tollefson will be the hostess. Visitors are welcome. Please let us know if you plan on attending.

Faith @ the Fair



Join us for worship at the fair on **Sunday, July 18 at 10:00 a.m. (Note the time)**. Please note the fair is not having the Itron tent this year. We have been told the service will most likely be held in building 4. Keep an eye out in the Sunday bulletin announcements for the confirmed location. Come and enjoy great music and a fun get-together with friends. Please spread the word to others to attend.

From the Pastor's Desk

(Continued from Page 1)

It's now been a year since I moved to Waseca, and the COVID restrictions are easing up, and now I am excited!!! Now, when I look out at our congregation from the pulpit, I can see everyone's beautiful face! I must admit that I am back to putting names to faces – there are many of you that I have never seen without a mask! Like Colin, I am excited about life and about ministry again. I am excited to see what God has in store for us in this post COVID world. I am excited to finally get to know all of you better!

We all have a personal COVID year story. I have shared a piece of mine with you and it felt good to talk about it. I would love to hear your COVID story. The challenges you faced and victories you had, how the year of COVID changed you.....and I can't wait to see you in worship!

Blessings

Pastor Carolyn

Liturgical Colors

Have you ever wondered why we change the colors of the vestments on the altar, and the pastor changes the color of her stole to match? Here is some information from the United Methodist Book of Worship:

“The Christian year has two cycles: the Christmas Cycle (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany) and the Easter Cycle (Lent-Easter-Pentecost). Within each cycle are a preparatory season symbolized by the color purple and a festival season symbolized by the color white. After each cycle there is an ordinary time of growth symbolized the color green. Thus there is a sequence of seasons using purple, white, and green in that order twice each year.” (**The United Methodist Book of Worship**)

- **Purple**, representing both royalty and penitence, is traditionally used during Advent and Lent.
- **Blue** symbolizes hope and may also be used during Advent.
- **White** and **gold** are used at Christmas and Easter to symbolize joy and festivities.
- **Red** symbolizes the color of fire to represent the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and times when the work of the Holy Spirit is emphasized. During Holy Week it represents the blood of Christ. Red is also used for ordinations, church anniversaries and civil observances such as Memorial Day and Thanksgiving.
- **Green** represents growth and is used during Ordinary Time (the season after Epiphany and the season after Pentecost.)

A Bit of Humor

Actual Announcements from Church Bulletins

- Thursday night – potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and the community.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.
- This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang, "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- "Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands."
- The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.
- The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing "Break Forth into Joy."
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- Eight new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment, and gracious hostility.
- Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday. Please use the back door.
- The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7:00 p.m. The Congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.
- The Rev. Merriwether spoke briefly, much to the delight of the audience.
- Next Sunday Mrs. Vinson will be soloist for the morning service. The pastor will then speak on "It's a Terrible Experience."
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
- The concert held in Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who labored the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.
- Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Methodist. Come hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.

My Responsibility for a Christian Society

Following is another essay written by Roberta (Berts) Walker's mother Leona Rosenberg. This essay too was written in the mid 1950s. Again remember the wording reflects common usage for that period.

My Responsibility for a Christian Society

Never in the history of mankind has the opportunity for Christian Stewards to exercise the use of their time, talents and possessions to bring about a more Christian society been greater than it is today.

Pick up any newsletter, go into any magazine store, watch television or listen to the radio and you will soon realize that the problems facing our society today are many. The ever increasing divorce rate, stories of race tension, stories of crime and poverty, the obscene literature that can be found on nearly all magazine stands are just some of the forces that are working in opposition to a Christian society.

God's plan for our lives as well as the lives of all society is the way of joyful Christian living and I should be ready to accept the challenge of carrying out his plan by asking myself, "What is my responsibility for a Christian society?" How do I act when I read and hear about the problems facing society? Am I unconcerned about these conditions? Do I act as if these people don't exist?

Sometimes it seems as if these problems facing society are far away from my home. It would be so easy just to close my eyes and forget the situation in a sort of out of sight, out of mind manner. I could probably explain my actions in doing so by saying "The little I can do can't possibly make much of a showing in this great world in which I live." But if I just remember that God says, "Ye are the light of the world," I will realize that even if my part in bringing about a more Christian society is only like one small flickering candle. Putting it alongside the lights of all other Christians will make quite a bright glow in bringing the world of God to parts of the world that are in darkness.

Because of my failure to participate in bringing about good Christian ideals to society, most of the causes of these problems can be traced right back to my own doorstep. What better place would it be for me to start to consider my responsibility than right in my own home.

First of all, I will have to start by doing a little X-raying on myself. Does my outer self reflect what my inner self is really like? Am I like an apple which is delicious looking on the outside, but if you were to cut into it you would find some bad spots? I must reveal by my conduct and my actions what the Christian way is. Just calling myself a Christian is not enough. My whole attitude, manner of speech and actions must be such as to inspire Christian living in all who come in contact with me. If I am to become a pattern which I am not ashamed to have my children imitate, I must be constantly educating myself in order that my own mind might be free from prejudice and hatred.

My responsibility for a Christian society should make me concerned about my family and their role in society. As a parent I may become too concerned with protecting my children. I teach them self-preservation, self-development and self-enjoyment. In other words I am probably giving them the impression that their only mission in life is to take care of themselves. I will have to remedy this situation by reminding myself and my family that God commands us to love others as we do ourselves. I must educate myself and my family in tolerance, brotherhood and interdependence.

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My Responsibility for a Christian Society

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The progress of transportation and communication has knit the world so closely together that I cannot live on this earth without considering others. Just as city families depend on farm families for produce, so the farmer depends on the city manufacturer for machinery and supplies. As it is with the farmer and the man in the city, so it is with people of all nations no matter what color or creed they may be. We are all dependent on each other for our livelihood. I must realize that I need the world just as much as the world needs me, so I should be willing to accept responsibility for understanding of these people by becoming better informed about what other people think, how they live and what their social problems are.

God has chosen each one of us to spread good will to all men no matter what color or creed. I must consider people of every race and color as my brothers and must show them the same respect as I expect from them. Problems of race prejudice will never be eliminated until all of us remember that we are to love our neighbor as ourselves. Reading about how a wounded American soldier on the battlefield owes his life to a Japanese scientist who isolated the tetanus germ or how our children are protected from smallpox by an Englishman's work, how a Negro is shielded from typhoid by the help of what a Russian did, will help me to understand that truly great men never thought in terms of color, country or creed. The fact that these men cared more about the welfare of mankind than the color of a man's skin should make me feel very indebted to these men of different nations and I must shoulder the responsibility in seeing to it that these people are given every chance to become useful citizens of our world society.

In my church I must share the responsibility for the people of our missions. Even though I cannot go to these far off places and perhaps I will never see these men and women, yet I know these people are part of society and my responsibility. Perhaps just sending packets of seeds to the people of the Ozarks, sending used clothing to Biloxi, sewing for World Service, or sending a cash donation to some needy or worthwhile organization will help these people become better citizens. If I see to it that these brothers of mine are fed, given medical aid and provided with adequate homes, I will find these people will feel more secure and less hostile and discouraged.

How I vote and the part I play in civic affairs are important. Sometime the issues are very controversial but I must be a bold witness for my Christian convictions no matter what others think.

I must see to it that all society enjoys the four freedoms, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear. Religious rites may differ but we all can agree on the basic principles of freedom.

If I use my time, talents and possessions in trying to bring about a more Christian society, I shall have the spiritual blessing in knowing that I am building up, not destroying society, that I am spreading love and not hatred toward my brothers, that I am shedding light and not darkness on this world, and with God's help, I will be lifted up with the knowledge that the world is a better place because I have lived in it.



Faith United Methodist Church

"Engage, Equip, and Empower"

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Change Service Requested

Come Worship with Us
We have room.

MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

Elizabeth Circle

UMW Elizabeth Circle will not meet in July.

Ruth Circle

UMW Ruth Circle will meet **Tuesday, July 13**
at 10:30 am in the Gathering Room.

Conversation, Bible & Friends

Conversation, Bible & Friends will **not**
meet on Monday, July 5.