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**Special Points of Interest:**

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



# Faith Messenger

**JULY  
2015**

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

**Volume 2015,  
Issue 7**

## **MN Connect: Annual Conference Special Edition Highlights May 27-29, 2015**

**CHANGING THE WORLD: 2014-2015 MISSIONAL REPORT** Highlights celebrated during a look back over the past year: Reach • Renew • Rejoice- To date, **\$3,038,968** has been pledged to this congregational development initiative that aims to raise \$3.7 million to start new churches and revitalize existing churches across Transformational processes. Twenty-four churches are currently engaged in a revitalization process— Missional Journey for small churches, Healthy Church Initiative for 2014-2015 Report Missional Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. The report can be downloaded from the "Conference Session" section of the Conference website ([www.minnesotaumc.org](http://www.minnesotaumc.org)) mid-sized churches, or Missional Church Consultation Initiative for large churches. These churches have all said "yes" to starting a new lifecycle of vitality and are working to position themselves for growth in number, spirituality, and community impact. Church Planting: The Minnesota Conference currently has 15 faith communities that are less than seven years old. One of them is a second site for Centennial that will launch later this year. Another is a new Minneapolis church that Tyler Sit, who just finished a church-planting residency in Chicago and will be commissioned Thursday, has been appointed to launch this summer. That church will be focused on ecojustice, which Sit describes as the intersection between race, economy, and ecology.

**The ELI Project:** Thanks to a \$60,000 grant from the United Methodist Church's Young Clergy Initiative, the Minnesota Conference just launched The Exploring Leadership Internship (ELI) Project, an internship program for college students exploring a call to vocational ministry.

### CONFERENCE APPROVES BIGGER 2016 BUDGET TO BOOST LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

Members of the 2015 Annual Conference Session voted Friday to approve a 2016 apportioned budget totaling \$6,120,770. That's roughly \$121,000 more than the 2015 apportioned budget and \$90,000 above the budget "ceiling", the maximum allowed under Conference standing rules. Members approved going \$90,000 above ceiling in order to continue two critical leadership development initiatives. With an "uncollectible contingency" of \$605,000, the total amount to be apportioned in 2016 is \$6,725,770. The uncollectible contingency accommodates anticipated shortfalls in some churches' apportionment payments. Apportionments are the share each annual conference or local church pays to support international, national, and local missions. Some of the funds remitted by Minnesota congregations stay within the state and help fund various Minnesota Conference programs and mission efforts, and about a quarter of the funds remitted by local churches go to the global United Methodist Church. Apportionments also pay for the internal support system that allows for 100 percent of "second-mile" giving (to Imagine No Malaria and other Advance Specials) to go to the intended mission or ministry.

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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, Rosalind Peterson, Gerri Peterson

**Colony Court:** Millie Groh , Ardella Draheim, Nina Youngberg, Leona Quast, Muriel Jenkins, Paul Krause

**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, Dave and Joann Egeness, Kookie Kukacka, Deloris Asmus,

Peter and Verna Fog, Floyd Lamont, Marilyn Possin, Marlin Olson (Patrice's dad), Adeline Buss, Bert Dyer, Douglas Muesing, Alvin, David Vent and his wife.



## Men of Faith Meeting Minutes

At 6:40 p.m., Les called the meeting to order with prayer. He welcomed Barb Freidl to the meeting and thanked her for being there. Barb explained meals on wheels. She said routes are the sections of Waseca. The meals are prepared by HyVee and delivered to the Senior Citizens Center where they are separated for the various meals. If anyone has special needs, they are also included. The meals are ready by 11 for the driver to deliver. You are paid for mileage from your home to Senior Citizens Center then on the route and back home. You can deliver as many days as you want to which is Monday thru Friday. The routes are pretty well in town. They do have enough drivers presently but can use substitute drivers. When winter comes then they will need more drivers as that is when the snowbirds leave. Barb will get the name of the contact person for this. Church bus meets at the fairgrounds at 8:00 a.m. and usually is back by noon. Our church is responsible for April and October and would like 4 people each month. She usually starts getting requests the month before. She would like one from our group in October. With no further questions, we thanked her again. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. Ones in attendance were Clair Voshell, Bruce Stauffer, and Les Wells.

Leslie W. Wells

## Faith Crafters and Stitchers

Calling all stitchers and crafters! Pack up your projects and join us for an afternoon of work, conversation, coffee and treats. We will meet on **Thursday, July 9**, from **1:00-3:00 p.m.** in the **Fellowship Hall**. Bring a friend. Call Sandy Voshell at 835-4122 if you have questions.

## Arm Chair Ministry

Yes, it's true. You can participate in the ministry of church from your armchair. Cup of coffee, leaning back, feet up, talking to old and new friends-now that's a cushy job.

Calling friends to greet and arranging the schedule for nursery attendants is what the ministry entails. There is a list of greeters and nursery staff available. It doesn't take long. And you can feel good about serving.

The hope is each person will sign up for three months then pass the list on to someone else for the next three months and so on. Please call the church office and sign up for September through November. You'll be happy you did.

*You're  
Invited*

50th Anniversary Celebration  
Sherry and Gary Scholljegerdes  
"Can you believe it? We can't either!"  
Saturday, August 1, 2015  
Open House 5:00-9:00 pm  
at Our Home

## MN Annual Conference Highlights Continued

The budget is still the lowest one since 2002 (with the exception of 2015). The Council on Finance and Administration is required to comply with the ceiling rule and recommended a budget totaling \$6,031,234.

The two items that the \$90,000 above ceiling will fund are:

- **The Exploring Leadership Internship (ELI) Project:** This is a summer internship for college students who are discerning a call to vocational ministry.
- **Soul Leaders:** This umbrella title refers to clergy peer groups. Right now, Soul Leaders is a retreat series that offers small groups of clergy the opportunity to reconnect with their peers. The areas of the budget, and the 2016 apportioned amount budgeted for each, are:
  - Developing missional leaders: \$1,114,680
  - Equipping missional congregations: \$706,242
  - Extending missional impact: \$1,862,240
  - Generating missional resources: \$233,508
  - Aligning our work: Leadership of the annual conference: \$930,238
  - Aligning our work: Support of the annual conference: \$1,273,862
  - Uncollectible contingency (under direction of the Council of Finance and Administration): \$605,000

### LEGISLATION ROUNDUP:

- ENDORSEMENT OF DAVID BARD TO EPISCOPACY: Members voted unanimously (through a round of applause) in favor of nominating and endorsing Rev. Dr. David Bard for the office of Bishop.
- HAMLIN UMC AS 15TH CONFERENCE HISTORIC SITE: Members voted to designate Hamline United Methodist Church as the 15th Minnesota Conference historic site.
- RADON TESTING FOR PARSONAGES: Members approved an addition to existing standards for church-owned parsonages that includes testing for radon. If testing shows that radon is found to be at an unacceptable level, the congregation must take steps to bring the levels into the acceptable range.
- GENERAL CONFERENCE PETITIONS Here's a very brief summary of each one:
- AVOID INVESTMENTS IN PETROLEUM, COAL, AND NATURAL GAS: This petition asks the 2016 General Conference to amend a paragraph in the Book of Discipline in order to add the production of petroleum, coal, and natural gas to a list of types of investments that United Methodist agencies and institutions are asked to try to avoid.

(Continued on next page.)

## MN Annual Conference Highlights Continued

- AVOID INVESTMENT IN PRODUCTION OF PETROLEUM, COAL, AND NATURAL GAS: This petition requests an amendment to the Book of Resolutions that says that the United Methodist Church shall pursue its investment policy goals through widely practiced responsible investing tools such as portfolio screening.
- PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS INVESTMENT SCREENS: This petition asks the 2016 General Conference to adopt a resolution to create petroleum and natural gas investment screens.
- RENEW “EVOLUTION AND INTELLIGENT DESIGN” RESOLUTION: This petition asks the 2016 General Conference to re-adopt Resolution 5052 from the Book of Discipline, which goes on record as opposing the introduction of any faith-based theories such as Creationism or Intelligent Design into the science curriculum for our public schools.
- WATER, ELECTRICITY, AND RECOGNITION OF LAND TITLES IN WEST BANK: This petition requests that the 2016 General Conference call on the nation of Israel to provide the same access to water and electricity in the West Bank as settlers in the Israeli settlements in the area receive—and to recognize existing titles to land within the West Bank that Palestinians hold.
- ESTABLISH SCREEN TO REMOVE AND AVOID INVESTMENTS IN ILLEGAL SETTLEMENTS: This petition requests that the 2016 General Conference establish a screen that excludes investment in companies with involvement in illegal settlements—defined as an Israeli settlement built on recognized Palestinian land.

Members also defeated several pieces of proposed legislation. After much discussion, members voted 272-210 against legislation that asked the Minnesota Conference to call on its investment managers to apply a screen that excludes investment in companies with involvement in illegal settlements—defined as an Israeli settlement built on recognized Palestinian land.

Another defeated item proposed adding \$5,000 to the proposed 2016 budget for a program in North Minneapolis that would “help communicate our concern for young persons who may choose to go fight with extreme persons or communities in the Middle East.”

Members also voted against a proposal to add \$100,000 in apportionments to the 2016 budget for initiatives related to all-day kindergarten, health care, a children’s ministry in Texas near the Mexico border, and programs in the Ukraine.

They defeated a proposal to call upon Israel to enter into conversations with its neighbors “that will lead to a just and lasting peace”.

*Pastor Victor*

## Nurse's Notes

### Give me a Big Smile!

Recently, we were at a motel swimming pool. We were having a great time in the water. A new family came in with three kids. They were splashing and having fun. The mother turned to me and smiled. I was taken aback; she had no front teeth. What is the automatic reaction to this? Usually not good.

Dental care is important. It not only affects your appearance but also your health. Poor nutrition and heart problems are associated with tooth decay.

Seeing the dentist is expensive. Many of us don't have dental insurance. So here are some facts about soda pop and sour candy. Let's prevent tooth decay instead of repairing the damage.

If there isn't soda and sour candy at home, everyone will reduce their sugar and acid intake.

### How to reduce tooth decay:

- Drink soft drinks in moderation.
- Don't sip for extended periods of time. Ongoing sipping prolongs sugar and acid attacks on your teeth.
- Use a straw to keep the sugar away from your teeth.
- After drinking, swish your mouth out with water to dilute the sugar.
- Never drink pop or juice before bedtime because the liquid pools in your mouth and coats your tongue and teeth with sugar and acid.
- Read labels. Regular pop is high in sugar. And diet or "sugar-free" pop is high in acid. Sugar and acid are bad for your teeth.
- Drink water instead of pop. It has no sugar, no acid and no calories.
- Get regular checkups and cleanings to remove bacteria buildup (plaque). Floss, too.
- Use a fluoride toothpaste to protect your teeth.

Keep Smiling,

Sherry Scholljegerdes, RN

Your Parish Nurse

### THE HARD FACTS ABOUT SOUR CANDIES.

- In the past 20 years, candies marketed to children have increasingly been of a "fruity" or "sour" variety.
- Sour candies are very acidic, with a low pH level (see chart).
- Some candy is so acidic it can actually burn gums and cheeks.
- Acid weakens and wears away tooth enamel.
- Teeth without protective enamel are prone to tooth decay.
- Each acid attack lasts about 20 minutes.
- Holding the acid in your mouth by prolonged candy sucking or chewing continues the acid attack.

### HOW TO PROTECT YOUR TEETH.

The best protection against tooth erosion is preventing acid attacks on your teeth. Eliminating or decreasing consumption of sour candies is the first line of defense against potential permanent damage of your teeth.

- Reduce or eliminate consumption of sour candies.
- Don't suck or chew sour candies for long periods of time. Ongoing sucking prolongs acid attacks on your teeth.
- If you do eat a sour candy, swish your mouth with water, drink milk, or eat cheese afterwards to neutralize the acids.
- Chew sugar-free gum to produce saliva which protects tooth enamel.
- After eating sour candy or other acidic food or drinks, wait one hour before brushing teeth. Brushing right away increases the harmful effects of acid on teeth.
- Ask your dentist about ways to reduce sensitivity or minimize enamel loss if erosion has begun.
- Use fluoride toothpaste and a soft toothbrush to protect your teeth.

## UMW Update

**July 14-17th** Mission U will be taking place at St. John's in Collegeville. Mission u too will be held on Saturday, **July 18th**.

The next **UMW Unit Meeting** will be held in the afternoon of **August 17th**. This is a change from our evening meetings and hopefully will attract more women of Faith United Methodist Church as driving after dark won't be a problem. Instead of a full meal, a light dessert and coffee/tea will be served.

**Looking Ahead:** On **September 12th**, the Southern Prairie Annual Gathering will be held at the Worthington United Methodist Church. Please check your calendar and, if you are able to attend, please contact Barbara Friedl or Shirley Hansen so reservations can be made.

Also on **September 12th**, the Jolly Ramblers will have a Polka Service at Faith. This is not a UMW sponsored event; however, everyone is encouraged to attend. The service will be held in the Sanctuary with no charge, but we will be selling tickets for reservations at the meal in the Fellowship Hall so the correct amount of food will be ordered.

**September 22** will be the date for our Guest Night. Mark Seeley, a University of Minnesota Climatologist, will be our guest speaker. Please put the date on your calendars and everyone should think of a guest or two they may want to invite. It is sure to be a night of great information about the weather conditions we are living with and possible climate changes in our future. More information regarding this presentation will be listed in the August newsletter. Dessert will follow his talk in the Fellowship Hall.

We would like to encourage all women of Faith to attend UMW sponsored events - come to our meetings and enjoy fellowship with others as we learn more and encourage others in our daily walk with our Lord!



Faith United Methodist Church

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## Change Service Requested

### MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

#### Elizabeth Circle

UMW Elizabeth Circle will meet **not meet in July.**

#### Mary Circle

UMW Mary circle will **not meet again until September.**

#### Ruth Circle

UMW Ruth Circle will meet **Wednesday, July 15th, from 9:30-10:30 a.m.** The location is to be determined.

#### Men of Faith

Men of Faith will meet **Thursday, July 9th, at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Fellowship Hall.**