

Special Points of Interest:

- July Calendar with Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Family & Church potluck & POP for a CURE! - July 4.
- AUGUST Newsletter Article & Calendar Reservation deadline— July 17.
- Food @ Faith July 21.
- Faith VBS - Operation Overboard! - August 6-9.

VISIONING PROCESS PART II

On June the 4th our Visioning Team had its first meeting. This team is open to anyone in the church who would like to participate.

Our discussion opened with a power point discussion of the 8 steps involved in creating organizational change, as found in "Our Iceberg Is Melting," a book by John Kotter. (Some of you may know another of his books, "Who Moved My Cheese?")

The Penguin colony had lived happily on the same Iceberg for years; in fact, not only was it the "perfect" place to live, but some would argue it was "heaven." Fred was the first to discover it; he told Alice who was a member of the Council. Alice thought maybe Fred was having a mid-life crisis until she went with him and he showed her where the Iceberg was indeed melting. This began a process, bringing change to their colony. As we followed the story, we found there are 8 steps when creating change within an organization:

Step 1: Reduce complacency and increase urgency.

Step 2: Group of interested people discuss problem and come up with solutions.

Step 3: Have a single Vision Statement to inform decisions. (Please

note, that the Vision Statement does not yet exist and will be generated with the help of this group.)

Step 4: Communicate the new vision.

Step 5: Make everyone feel empowered; get as many people on-board as possible. (Value everyone, even those who don't agree.)

Step 6: Celebrate short-term wins. Set benchmarks within goals to celebrate success.

Step 7: Don't let up.

Step 8: Create new culture; "Rethink Church."

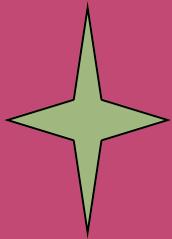
We discussed these eight points and how they relate to the life of our church. We concluded that: **we need a God-given vision** – something that will unify our congregation and outlive us (our current leadership and pastor). We need to celebrate and acknowledge our past, while embracing and moving ahead.

Here is our task: The MN Annual Conference requires Pastors and congregations to create and submit a Ministry Plan. By establishing our Vision Statement and revisiting

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Why
do
people
need
Jesus?



Why
do
people
need
THIS
church?

Faith
Messenger

(... VISIONING Continued from Page 1)

our core values (Faith, Worship, Fellowship & Outreach), Pastor Victor and the vision team can write the Ministry Plan; which will include SMART goals and benchmarks for success. This plan will then be submitted to the Church Council for approval.

Step One: Attitude Check

- A recognition by the leaders that simple fixes and modest improvement is not enough. Everything has to be on the table and open to change.
- We care more about connecting people into a relationship with Jesus Christ, for their sake and God's sake, more than anything else, including our building, our music, our worship, how we do things, our survival.

Step Two: Clarity About Purpose

- Develop a compelling answer to the questions: why do people need Jesus, why do people need the church, and why do people need this church.
- Learn the community and context and be able to answer: who lives in this community; what are their hopes, hurts, needs; who can we best reach/serve; what is the best way to connect with them; who is God calling us to be and what is God calling us to do in and for this community.
- A purpose/vision statement is not a formal page length document that sits in a file...it is the heartbeat of the congregation and it is the lens that drives every ministry decision. The shorter and more memorable it is, the better.

Read!

We invite you to participate in this process, even if you cannot attend the meetings. Join us in our "home work" assignments.

Do!

Consider writing out your own answers to the following questions:

Why Do People Need Jesus?

Why Do People Need The Church?

Why Do People Need THIS Church?

As a church we need a VISION STATEMENT – something simple, memorable and true. What makes Faith UMC so special, so meaningful, so necessary?

Write out your definition for each of our core values Fellowship, Faith, Worship, Outreach and define how these values are Christ-centered.

Share!

Please **submit your homework answers along with your name to Tina**. She will compile them for the meetings and will include your answers in our work.

THANK YOU for being interested and participating in this Visioning Process!

~~ Pastor Victor Waters

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, July 10, 2012
7 p.m. in the Upper Room

JULY & AUGUST SERMON SERIES

When Eliot was younger the local library had a number of reading plans for kids over the summer and a prize for completing them. Here is a spiritual reading plan for adults and kids for the summer with the prize being a deeper knowledge of the God we serve.



well. There are times when we are down and struggling, times that are so hard we feel that God has abandoned us.

Psalm 88 is perhaps the saddest of all the Psalms. It is the story of a crushed and broken heart that reaches out to God who seems to be absent. As we explore this Psalm together, we will find the glimmers of hope that we need when our lives are hard and rough. Other Psalms in this category are 6, 22, 69 and 102.

In July we will explore the Psalms in our Sunday morning worship services.

The Psalms are familiar to all of us and one of the most frequently read parts of scripture. My prayer is that we will be able to take a fresh look at the purpose of the Psalms and how God can use them in our lives to reveal to us more of Himself and his character. It is also my hope that we will be encouraged and strengthened spiritually by what we learn in this series.

JULY 1 - UP:

PSALMS OF PRAISE AND PRESENCE

Up is the direction of progress, the opposite of down, a renewal of strength and joy. PSALMS OF PRAISE AND PRESENCE are Psalms that enable us to rise above the circumstances and disappointments of life. They speak of the greatness of God and His continuous presence even in the most difficult struggles of our lives.

Psalms 8, 18, 26, 52 and 92 are examples. Psalm 26 will be our text: this psalm describes David under personal attack, and his integrity—which is rooted in the continual presence of God.

JULY 8—DOWN: PSALMS OF ABSENCE

Psalms of Absence are Psalms that speak of heart ache and heart break in life, times that are so hard and so painful we feel as if God has abandoned us. Just as there are times when we are up emotionally and our lives are going

JULY 15—UPON:

PSALMS OF CONFIDENCE AND TRUST

These Psalms encourage our hearts as they speak of the great confidence we can have in the character of our God. They encourage us to place our trust in the goodness and mercy of our God. This Sunday we will be at the Fair looking at one of the most beloved and well known Psalms, the 23rd. Other Psalms of Confidence and Trust are 66, 84, 91, and 103.

JULY 22—THROUGH:

PSALMS OF STRUGGLE AND GROWTH

These are Psalms that speak of the spiritual struggles we go through in our lives and the growth in Christ we experience because of them. Our Text will be Psalm 32 which speaks of our struggle against sin and the freedom of a forgiven heart. Others you may want to read in this area are 55, 137, 109, and 51. The word Selah means to pause and think about what you have just read.

JULY 29—DURING: PSALMS OF WAITING

These psalms are the ones that remind us of God's grace and goodness which are present even when we are waiting for the final outcome of our prayers. Psalm 42-43 are our texts for this Sunday and speak of unquenchable desire to

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Look What Came In the Mail!

Many of you, like me, went to your mail box recently and found a book entitled "**The Great Controversy**" and you are wondering who sent it and what it is about. Well here is a Wikipedia article which I found helpful to me and I hope it will be helpful to you as well.



"**The Great Controversy**" is a book written by Ellen G. White, one of the founders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and held in esteem as a prophet of God among SDA members. It describes the "Great Controversy theme" between Jesus and Satan, as played out over the millennia from its start in heaven, to its final end when the world is destroyed and recreated. Regarding the reason for writing the book, the author reported: "In this vision at Lovett's Grove (in 1858), most of the matter of the Great Controversy which I had seen ten years before, was repeated,

and I was shown that I must write it out." [1] The theme of the original small book was expanded first to a four-volume set of books (1870-1884) and then to a separate volume in 1888. The current, 1911 edition is also one of the five-volume Conflict of the Ages set. The 1884, 1888, and 1911 books incorporate historical data from other authors.

The original book was written largely for an Adventist audience with a focus on showing how God had led them up to and through the 1844 movement, and preparing them for the end times by describing the events that will occur in the Christian churches and in the world before Jesus returns. Later editions were written largely for a non-Adventist audience, to be used as an evangelistic tool. The first presentation of the concept was published in 1858, with a later presentation in a four-volume expansion in 1870-1884 (see table below). The book was first published

(MAIL Continued on Page 10...)

Quilters & Sewers Unite!

We have expanded our Mission Projects! We will be making pillow case dresses along with quilts. Come join the fun and fellowship for a good cause. We meet the 2nd Friday of the month from 9:30 a.m. to Noon.

If you don't sew, "like-new" pillow-cases are needed. These dresses go to such places as Africa and Haiti. Be part of this mission cause, you'll be happy in serving the Lord and His people!



Annual Salad Supper

Wednesday, July 11, 2012
6 p.m.

Evangelical UMC
(309—6th Street NE)

Program: The Sonshines

Reservation Deadline: Friday, July 6.

Call to make Reservation:
835-4774 or 835-4687

We are NOW handicapped accessible!

NURSES NOTES: Singles at 80+ Share Wisdom

Recently, I had the honor of interviewing four of our 80+ year-old women, all members of Ruth Circle. First let me thank Eunice Gasner, Margaret Hasslen, Emily Miller and Mary Lou Sahlstrom for their time. It was energetic and insightful. This is some of what they shared about living independently into your 80's and beyond:

- Housing: Look for 1 story living with all the accoutrements (walk-in shower, raised toilets, 36" doors, grab bars, ramps, lower top cabinets, lever knobs, and main floor laundry).
- Lifestyle: Make your own meals. Stay connected—have a very active social life including visits with friends, family, support groups (Circle!), community and cultural events.
- Watch the news and read. They all said they read the UMW magazine, Response, from cover to cover!
- Stay moving: modify exercise to your ability and do it regularly.
- Get a good night's sleep.
- Have Hobbies: make greeting cards, sew, garden, paint, make rag rugs on a loom, read—read—read. Remember to leave time to rest.

- Financial security: save for your retirement. I observed that money is not a stressor in their lives, none live strictly on Social Security.
- Spiritual life: Attend church and church activities, celebrate daily devotions, bible reading and prayer.

My observation is that each of these women has a combination of the following traits: positive attitude, flexibility, zest for life, and laughter. None felt acute stress; they have the ability to say "no". They are their true selves. They plan ahead, but live day by day.

Biblical scriptures support what they are doing!

"The lips of the wise spread knowledge; not so the hearts of fools." (Proverbs 15:7)

"The path of life leads upward for the wise to keep them from going down to the grave" (Proverbs 15:24)

If you get a chance—read all of Proverbs 15.

Hope you are all having a great summer! Thanks, ladies, for sharing!

Peace and Grace, Your Parish Nurse,

~~ Sherry Scholljegerdes, RN



Pictured: Emily Miller, Patrice Waters, Margaret Hasslen, Roberta Walker, Mary Lou Sahlstrom & Eunice Gasner. Photo courtesy of Sherry Scholljegerdes.

Circles are one of the small group opportunities available at Faith where Bible Study, Devotions and Prayer are shared.

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will NOT meet in July or August. Watch for our next meeting in September! Have a great summer :)

Mary Circle

Mary Circle will NOT meet in July or August. Have a safe summer!

Rahab Circle

Rahab Circle will NOT meet through the summer. We'll get together again in September.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet on **Wednesday, July 18** at 9:30 a.m. at Perkins in Owatonna.



Faith UMC

Faith for a Cure!

NEXT MEETING: July 9 @ 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

FUNDRAISING!—The purpose of the Relay is two-fold: to celebrate survival and to raise money for research to find a cure.

- Help us sell Luminaries before and after worship; they are \$10 each, or 3 for \$25. You can decorate them yourself, or our Sunday School class has volunteered to help out.
- **POP FOR A CURE!** - Join us on our lawn and parking lot during the 4th of July fireworks! We'll be selling pop and popcorn as a fundraiser.
- Be a Team sponsor! See a Team Member for more information...
- Volunteer to work in Jack's Root Beer Stand the night of the Relay (July 20)
- We have other fundraising ideas, but need some help... Let us know if you are interested!



Let's make it a success!

THANK YOU'S

To My Faith Family— Thanks for the gift card and water bottle! Your thoughtfulness means so very much! For all that you have done and said, and for all the prayers for me through all these years—Thank You Very Much! ~~ *Paul Norby*

We send a heartfelt thank you to Charity, Layne & Aiden Groskreutz and our family, friends and church family for making our 40th Anniversary so special! ~~ *Tom & Karen Kuyper*

Thank You—I like talking to everyone at church. They are very nice. ~~ *Dylan Frederickson*

UMYF- Youth!

July 11 from 5—7 p.m. at the Parsonage for light meal and devo fun!

July 25 from 5—7 p.m. (meeting at Parsonage) Wild Zone—Laser Tag!

Rock the LOT

—FREE OUTDOOR CONCERT—

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

6:00 p.m.
Destined 2 Win (D2W)
FUMC Praise Band

7:00 p.m.
Callie Syverson




8:00 p.m. Boiling Point
Featuring passionate lyrics and memorable guitar hooks with a positive message that appeals to both religious and secular audiences.

Goodwill offering will be taken for Mount Zion Education Center in Uganda
5:00 p.m. Food and snacks available • Bring your lawn chairs
In case of inclement weather move to inside church

First United Methodist Church
974 6th Street, Windom

Personal Growth & Career Development

Group will meet for six weeks on Wednesdays from 10 a.m.—Noon at the Waseca-Le Sueur Co. Regional Library (408 North State Street., Waseca), **starting on July 11, 2012.**

Please call the Life-Work Planning Center at (507) 345-1577 or 800-369-5166 to register.

Life-Work Planning Center provides a supportive environment where women can explore career/job options, build self-esteem and confidence in their ability to make decisions, set goals and become self-sufficient.

Workshops are free (Displaced Homemakers) or at a minimal fee. Mileage and child care reimbursements are available. Our fee scale is supported by private foundations and area United Ways.

VBS UPDATES & NEEDS

Operation Overboard gets underway in **August**—and we are looking for your help! Look over the list of supplies and let us know if you can share or provide anything!

- Paper Towel Tubes.
- Old nets: fishing, badminton, volleyball.
- Stuffed under-sea creatures.
- Truck for treasure.
- Plastic or silk ferns, which you don't want back.



**Join in our mission project:
Bring new or gently used t-shirts
for the Red Bird Mission!**

Lord! Please hear our prayer...

Cedarview Care Center—Elaine Flathers

Colony Court—Rosalind Peterson

Colony Court Memory Suites—Anna Swenson & Jean Ferry

Lake Shore Inn— Elvira Blowers, Florence Gutknecht, Hazel Henkensiefken, Eleanor Jane Hutchison, Marilyn Lau, Don Lohse & Mable Long

Lakeview Ranch, Dassel— Raymond Pommerenke

Morrow Home, Sparta, WI— Marlene Rietfort

Shorewood Sr. Campus, Rochester—Darlene Lynch

Those who are ill or injured: Peter & Verna Fog, Paul Krause & Willie Mahler

Please remember our family and friends in Military Service.

- *Please pray for the safety of our graduates as they start the next phase of their lives.*
- *Please pray for all our members this summer, during travels, home repairs and recreation.*



News about our Faith Family

• Please update the Church Office with your news! We love to hear from you.

- Are you travelling this summer? Please let us know! And, please don't forget to send in your offering...
- Going to College? Moving? Let us know where you are going and how you are doing!



Annual Ice Cream Social

Sunday, July 22, 2012

4—6:30 p.m.

North Waseca Lutheran Church
(40430 Cty Rd. 73, Waseca)

Menu:

Hot Pork Sandwiches/Sloppy Joes

Baked Beans & Potato Salad

Homemade Pie & Ice Cream

Lemonade & Coffee





UMCOR Updates

NEWS: HUNGER AT HOME

According to the US Department of Agriculture, 16.2 million children in the United States live in households that struggle to put food on the table. More than one in five children in the United States is at risk of going hungry.

In the United States, we produce more than enough food to feed everyone. We have the infrastructure to deliver it and stores to distribute it. Food is available. People only go hungry because they can't afford to buy it.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) helps address these and other causes of hunger through a grant program that awards funds to organizations that are "economic-justice oriented," explains June Kim, executive secretary of UMCOR's World Hunger and Poverty programs.

For example, UMCOR supports the Advocating Congregations project of the Faith Action Network. In the face of economic recession and huge spending cuts at every level, this ecumenical project aims to preserve state-funded programs that help the most vulnerable people in the state of Washington.

UMCOR is "leveraging United Methodist resources to create a lasting impact," says Kim. Your support is what makes it possible. Your gift to World Hunger and Poverty, UMCOR Advance #982920 will help us do it.

MEDIA: FACEBOOK INTERVIEWS

Check out UMCOR's Facebook page to find video interviews with some of our partners and people engaged in mission, such as Dieder Kell, a young United Methodist volunteer in mission, and Gordon Greathouse, Global Ministries missionary in Manaus, Brazil.

RESOURCE: HOW-TO VIDEOS

Use UMCOR's new videos that show how to assemble popular kits to encourage your congregation or group to collect and make these kits that are life-changing for so many people. Learn how to assemble flood buckets, hygiene kits, birthing kits, school kits, and layette kits through these instructional videos.

NEWS: SMALL CHURCH MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE

In 2008, Union United Methodist Church had about 60 people who regularly attended Sunday worship. At that time, the parish leadership met to discuss much-needed repairs, congregational development, and the members' call to respond to the needs of others outside the parish community.

"This calling led Union into a working relationship with the UMCOR. The leadership bodies of Union and UMCOR decided that God was calling us to dig wells and latrines in Africa, specifically in the town of Kamina, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo," explains Rev. Scott Johnson, Union's pastor.

Union UMC began a stewardship campaign to address both church repair and mission needs in equal proportion. Today, funds raised by the church and leveraged with other support have allowed UMCOR to build six wells and nine latrines in DR Congo.

Your gift to Water and Sanitation, UMCOR Advance #3020600, provides safe water and sanitation facilities where they are needed most.

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(... MAIL Continued from Page 4)

on its own in 1888, and then the last edition during the author's lifetime was published in 1911.

Synopsis

This synopsis is of the final volume of the expanded book sets derived from the original Great Controversy book. It covers just the Christian dispensation.

The book begins with a historical overview which begins with the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70, covers the Reformation and Advent movement in detail, and culminates with a lengthy description of the end times. It also outlines several key Seventh-day Adventist doctrines, including the heavenly sanctuary, the investigative judgment and the state of the dead.

Much of the first half of the book is devoted to the historical conflict between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism. White writes that the Papacy propagated a corrupt form of Christianity from the time of Constantine I onwards, and during the Middle Ages was opposed only by the Waldensians and other small groups who preserved an authentic form of Christianity. Beginning with John Wycliffe and John Huss, and continuing with Luther, Zwingli and others, the Reformation led to a partial recovery of biblical truth. In the early 19th century William Miller began to preach

that Jesus was about to return to earth; his movement eventually resulted in the formation of the Adventist church.

The second half of the book is prophetic, looking to a resurgence in Papal supremacy. The civil government of the United States will form a union with the Roman Catholic church as well as with corrupt Protestantism. There will be an enforcement of a universal Sunday law (the mark of the beast) and a great persecution of Sabbath-keepers immediately prior to the second coming of Jesus. From [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Great_Controversy_\(book\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Great_Controversy_(book))

If you read the book remember it was written from a very select point of view and designed to promote the beliefs and convictions of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. The facts about history have some validity but are organized to support the author's point of view. Scripture is interrupted through the same lens as the historical references: the views of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. <http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html>

If you chose to read the Great Controversy please remember there is an agenda in the book designed to make the Seventh Day Adventist views appear to be the correct interpretation of the Christian Faith.

~~ Pastor Victor



Watch us on YouTube!

www.youtube.com/use/wasecafaith/



(... SERMON SERIES Continued from Page 3)

connect with God, to be near Him and know His presence. Other Psalms of Waiting are 25,13, 130 and 63.

* * * * *

In August we will wrap up our series in the Psalms and look at the shortest books in the Bible: Obadiah, Jude and Philemon.

AUGUST 5—FROM: PSALMS OF DELIVERANCE

These Psalms speak of the hand of God which saves and redeems us from our emotional, spiritual and physical struggles, and the praise that is due Him. These are the Psalms you shout from the roof top. God has delivered you from your struggle, your warfare, your stress, and you are sitting back in great wonder at His power and the work of His hands. Our text will be Psalm 1—celebration of God’s goodness toward His people and those who trust in Him. Other Psalms of Deliverance are 9,30,40, and 34.

* * * * *

The rest of August we will look at the short books of the Bible; the one chapter wonders of grace and power.

AUGUST 12—OBADIAH, the shortest book in the Old Testament

What event motivated the Prophet to write? When Jerusalem was plundered and sacked (either by Philistines or Babylonians), the Edomites took delight in its downfall, and shared in its plunder. They caught escaping Judeans, mistreated them, and sold them as slaves. The Book of Obadiah has a twofold purpose: (a) to delineate God’s judgment on Edom for its lack of brotherly concern for Judah, (b) to set forth the final triumph of right in the Day of the Lord.



AUGUST 19 — JUDE

Jude is a short Epistle against false doctrine, emphasizing the need for accurately teaching the word of God. It is a strong condemnation of the false teachers who arise in the church and also a message of encouragement to those who live and walk in the truth.

AUGUST 25—PHILEMON

The core of this Epistle is an appeal by Paul on behalf of one Onesimus, a slave from Colossae (Col. 4:9) whose conduct had contrasted with his name (‘useful’—a pun is involved in Phm. 10–11). It seems that Onesimus had robbed his master (18) and run away (15—not quite explicit). By some means unstated—perhaps his fellow-townsmen Epaphras (Col. 4:12) was instrumental—he was brought into contact with the imprisoned Paul and radically converted. Not only so, but strong affection developed between Paul and his new ‘son’, in whom the veteran saw rich potential.

Under contemporary law, almost limitless vengeance could be wreaked on Onesimus by his owner: Greco-Roman society was never free from the phobia of a servile war, and even an otherwise good master might think it his duty to society to make an example of the runaway. Frightful penalties also awaited those who harbored runaways (cf. P. Oxy. 1422). It is at this point that Paul interposes with his brother (7, 20), not commanding, but begging (8–9) that his owner will receive Onesimus as he would Paul himself (17), and solemnly undertaking all the slave’s debts (18–19).

* * * * *

I encourage you as you relax and enjoy the summer to read these scriptures and keep your heart in tune with God whether you are able to worship with us each Sunday or you are away on vacation or visiting family and friends in another state.

~~ Pastor Victor



You are receiving this newsletter because you are a member of, or have expressed an interest in, this organization. Please recycle this publication when you are finished with it. Thank you!

Faith Messenger is published monthly by Faith United Methodist Church, Waseca, MN. Article deadline is given in the newsletter and may vary every month. The publisher reserves the right to refuse submissions at any time.

For submissions, corrections and address updates, or to be removed from this mailing list, contact Tina England, Administrative Assistant at (507) 835-3167 or faithwaseca@gmail.com or by mail at 801 Fourth Ave. NE, Waseca, MN 56093.

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Barb Klampe, Choir Dir.

Bulletin Board Coordinator

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David Baldini 835-3697

Communion Coordinator

Karen Norby 833-3556

Education Coordinator

Linda Lohse 835-1917

Fellowship Coordinator

Sandy Voshell 835-4122

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Clair Voshell 835-4122

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Greeter & Valet Coordinator

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Lake Shore Video Coord.

Janet Welch 835-4678

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Membership Care

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Bruce Stauffer 833-2979

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Char Frankenberg 833-7489

Newsletter & Bulletin

Church Office 835-3167

Nominations Committee

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835-4304 or

Mary Jane Stauffer
833-2979

Parish Nurse

Sherry Scholljegerdes
835-4304

Prayer Chain Coordinator

Deloris Asmus 835-1367

Staff/Parish Relations

Paul Lohse 835-1917

Trustee's Chair

Neil Fruechte 835-7006

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Roberta Walker 835-3044

UM Youth Fellowship & Confirmation Coordinator

Pastor Victor 835-3167

Usher/Acolyte Coordinator

Roger Walker 835-3044

VBS Coordinator

Julie Blom 837-4046

Worship Team

Pastor Victor 835-3167

**** Looking for Project Volunteers!**

Welcoming Team

Pastor Victor 835-3167

**** Looking for Project Volunteers!**

Don't be shy...

Call Us !

Plug-In!

give us a
call & get
involved!





(... UMCOR Continued from Page 9.)

NEWS: WILDFIRES

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is providing emergency funds to the New Mexico and Rocky Mountain Annual Conferences to help them with their initial response to the wildfires raging in New Mexico and Colorado.

More than 181 homes in Northern Colorado have already been destroyed in the fires that continued to be fueled by high winds. The largest fire in New Mexico's history, in the Gila Wilderness, had destroyed 435 square miles, so far. In Little Bear, some 225 homes were affected by the blazes.

You can help support UMCOR's effort to provide help in the wake of disaster by giving to [US Disaster Response](#), [UMCOR Advance #901670](#).

And, please pray for those who are hungry, displaced, sick or in poverty because of these and other natural and human-made disasters, and for the workers who minister to them....

THANK YOU!

You can donate to any project by placing a contribution in the offering plate at a local United Methodist church; by sending a check to UMCOR, PO Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068; or by calling 1-800-554-8583, where credit card donations are accepted. You can also give online or make a \$10 donation anytime by texting "UMCOR" to 80888. UMCOR is exempt from tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States and qualifies for the maximum charitable contribution deduction by donors.

Duluth Disaster Response

Water needs to recede and basements need to be pumped before it is safe for volunteers to arrive to help in the aftermath of the recent flooding in the Duluth area, said Heather Klason, Minnesota conference disaster response coordinator.

"You can't immediately respond when there is a flood," Klason said. "We need to ensure it is safe for our volunteers to enter the disaster area." Klason expects a disaster response team of 8-10 trained volunteers will be given work orders Friday, June 29.

1,300 flood buckets filled with supplies will be delivered to Duluth as of June 26 from the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. These kits will be warehoused at a Duluth airport hangar and will be distributed from there. 500 kits were also sent to Superior, Wisconsin.

Children's kits from the Dakotas Conference will be received as well—kits that contain books, toys, and a note for parents on children and disasters.

Klason notes that a priority for the city has been restoring access in and out of the city due to damaged roads. Now that it has been restored, the city can shift their priority to cleanup.

UMCOR

Bishop Sally Dyck requested and will receive a \$10,000 disasters grant from United Methodist Committee on Relief. This is for individual assistance, and the money will go toward helping people whose insurance (or lack thereof) does not cover damage.

You can help by giving to the conference Disaster Response Team by making donations through your church. These donations help the disaster response team replace much-used equipment. You can also donate money or kits to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center to replace the kits that are on their way to Duluth.

Individuals can also register to volunteer through United Way of Greater Duluth.

Klason reminds us that no two disasters are alike, and we must respond in accordance to the affected city's wishes. Please continue to pray for all those affected by this disaster.



Faith United Methodist Church

"The Church By The Lake."

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56093

Change Service Requested

JOIN US!



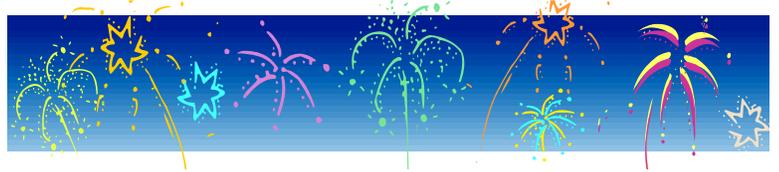
Be sun smart!

Wear hats, glasses, long sleeves, sunscreen.

4TH OF JULY!

Do you have plans? We do...

Join us on the church lawn!



Family Church Potluck



Bring your family and friends, we are also inviting Evangelical UMC and First Congregational to join us for a family friendly potluck with games! Bring a dish; we'll be starting at 5:30 p.m.

Pop for a Cure!

We'll be selling pop and popcorn (starting around 6 p.m.) to those gathering on our lawn and parking lot for fireworks and/or joining us for our Family Church Potluck.

