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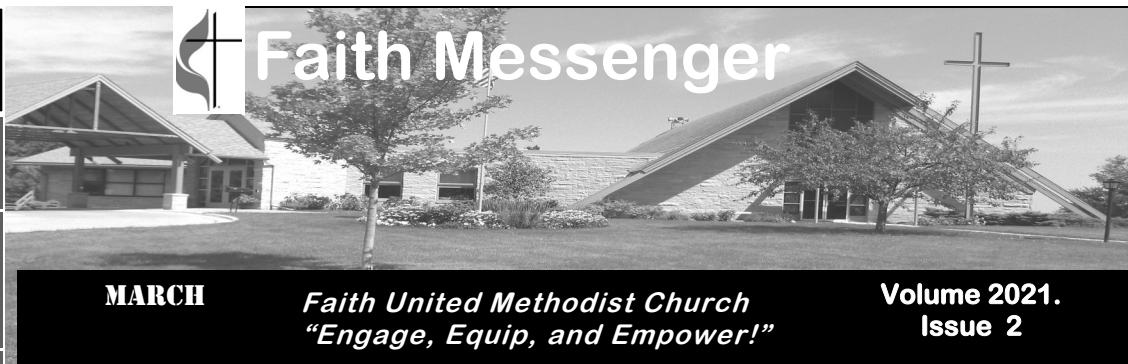
Special Points of Interest:

- March Monthly Meetings, Back Page
- March 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.



Schedule for Lent

Dear Ones,

By the time you read this, we will have already gathered together for Ash Wednesday and the first Wednesday in Lent. I want you to know what to look forward to as we continue to gather Wednesday evenings during Lent and celebrate on Easter Morning. Here is the schedule for the remaining Wednesdays, Holy Week and Easter.

All Wednesday and Holy Week services will be held at 7pm in the sanctuary and will be recorded and posted to Facebook and YouTube – We will not be serving refreshments.

I am using the book, *Lent In Plain Sight, A Devotion Through Ten Objects* by Jill J. Duffield for inspiration this year. This book uses common objects to help us reflect on love, redemption, and God’s promise.

March 3rd - Today’s object is the Cross

Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart Hebrews 12:3

Look to the Cross. Jesus’ example, should inspire and guide us in our own faith, life, thoughts, actions, hopes, and longings.

March 10th – Today’s object is Coins

Making a whip of cords, Jesus drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. John 2:15

What causes Jesus’ anger?

March 17th – Today’s object is Shoes

Then the Lord said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground” Exodus 3:5

Recognizing the holy when we experience it, to turn aside our gaze in humility, follow instructions and listen.

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Schedule for Lent

March 24th – Today's object is Oil

Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. Matthew 26:6-11

What is wasteful extravagance and what is a faithful use of the resources we have?

Palm/Passion Sunday

Sunday the 28th will be a little bit Palm Sunday and a little bit Passion Sunday.

Holy Week Services Also held at 7PM

April 1 Holy Thursday - Communion Service

April 2 Good Friday – Modified Stations of the Cross

Easter Sunday

We will begin our Easter celebration with Sunrise Service in the Fellowship Hall at 7:30. To be COVID safe, we will not be sharing breakfast. We will have our regular service at 9:30.

I am very excited to share Christ's journey to the cross and the promise of the resurrection with you this year.

May God bless you! Pastor Carolyn

Prayer Requests

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

Janesville Nursing Home: Nina Youngberg

Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna: Ardella Draheim

Foxdale: Joe Tollefson, Elaine Westrum

Koda Living Community: Chuck Youngberg

Lakeshore Inn: Liz Corchran, Leona Quast

Latham Place: Lucille Kubista

Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship: Michael Schumacher, Janice Kaupa, Peggy Deno, Marlys & Ken Garness,, 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.



Why Am I United Methodist?

Dear Ones

As we enter this season of Lent, and as we reflect on our Christian faith...this is a good time to ask ourselves, **“Why am I United Methodist?”**

There are as many answers to this question as there are people in United Methodist churches. But, what if someone asked you? How would you respond? A better question might be: “what is it that keeps me in the United Methodist Church?”

I have heard the stories of some who just seem to migrate from church to church, and if something happens that they do not like; well there is always another church down the road. I have trouble with that mentality. I want to know what my church believes and stands for. I want to know its tradition. I want to know that my church will listen to my experience and to my reason. And most important I want to know that my church’s decisions are grounded in Scripture: mind you not worshiping Scripture but respecting the Good News it carries!

A Disciples Path by James A Harnish; offers some very good reasons for following Christ in the Methodist tradition.

*** I follow Christ in the Methodist tradition because of the Wesleyan balance between God’s providence and human freedom.**

*** I follow Christ in the Methodist tradition because of the Wesleyan balance between heart and head.**

*** I follow Christ in the Methodist tradition because of the Wesleyan balance of personal piety with social action.**

*** I follow Christ in the Methodist tradition because of the balance between present and future salvation.**

*** I follow Christ in the Methodist tradition because of the method that is embedded in our heritage.**

“John Wesley said that the characteristics that marked a Methodist are “the common principles of ...plain, old Christianity.” So, what is unique about being a disciple of Jesus Christ in the united Methodist Church?”

I would love to know what you think as we “go on toward perfection”!

Blessings, Pastor Carolyn

Sunday Services Broadcast on Local Channel 8

Our Sunday services are now being broadcast on the local Channel 8 PEG. The service airs at the following times:

Tuesday - 8:30 am

Thursday - 4:30 pm

Saturday - 6:00 pm

Sunday - 12:30 pm

The Holy Spirit at the Cross by the Lake



Our cross by the lake is a powerful symbol during the Easter season of Christ's sacrifice for us. But at Faith Church it reminds us all year long of Christ's presence in our lives. We hang drapes on the cross to signify the different liturgical seasons and events. Lake traffic sees that cross and visitors pause beside it. Perhaps photos are taken. It's part of our identity at 'The Church by the Lake'. It's another way we proclaim our faith to the community. We are proud of that cross. We made it! But we really didn't make it at all, the Holy Spirit did! Let me explain:

The Holy Spirit used a member of the Church Council some twenty years ago to tell the council about a church he knew of that had a cross by a lake. And that congregation had outdoor services there. The council agreed that it was a good idea for us, however no action could be taken at the time.

The Holy Spirit (fifteen years later) inspired our men's group to take on the cross project. However, they couldn't agree on what kind of material would be proper for a facsimile of the crucifixion cross, until.....

The Holy Spirit reminded one member that the Root River Hardwoods company from Albert Lea would have large, rugged white oak timbers. Problem solved. But when the price was determined, where will we get the money?

The Holy Spirit touched the hearts of two donors who covered the timber bill. But how would we transport the timbers from Albert Lea to Waseca?

The Holy Spirit arranged for one church member to rent a large trailer and use his truck to bring the timbers to Faith Church. You may remember those timbers lying on the north side of the church until.....

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The Holy Spirit brought a carpenter from our church forward and with the help of many willing hands and machinery from his boss he assembled the cross, dug the large hole for it, and erected and braced the cross until the hole was backfilled. Concrete for backfill was donated by the local concrete plant.

The Holy Spirit gave ownership and stewardship of the cross to the entire congregation when they were requested to bring rocks to lay at the base of the cross.

The Holy Spirit convinced one church member that the cross needed a seat for visitors to sit and pray when they visited the cross, so, there is a bench there now that fits in with the simple ruggedness of the cross. And finally.....

The Holy Spirit entered the heart of a parishioner who, last year, donated money to have an electrical line trenched from the church to the cross. This provides electricity for dusk-to-dawn lighting of the cross, as well as, power for outdoor services!

So, instead of naming individuals who were involved with the cross project, when someone asks you who built the cross, tell them **The Holy Spirit!**

March Campaign to Benefit the Waseca Neighborhood Service Center

Minnesota FoodShare began its work in 1982 with a campaign advanced by congregations to restock food shelves in the 7-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The effort was so successful and the need was so evident, the March Campaign became a statewide program just one year later.

Faith UMC will be participating in the 2021 Minnesota FoodShare campaign by collecting monetary donations that will help our local food bank restock its shelves. By writing a check to the church with the food bank noted in the memo line, you will be helping our community put food on the table for those in need. We will write one check to the Neighborhood Service Center and gift the money at the end of March. Thank you for your generosity.

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

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Change Service Requested

Come Worship with Us
We have room.

MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

Elizabeth Circle

UMW Elizabeth Circle meeting to be determined

Ruth Circle

UMW Ruth Circle meeting to be determined.

Conversation, Bible & Friends

Conversation, Bible and Friends is to be determined.