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Special Points of Interest:

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

Administrative Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday:

9:30 am - 12:30 pm



# Faith Messenger



**SEPTEMBER**

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

**Volume 2023  
Issue 9**

## From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings and blessings,  
For your consideration,

**F**oundation. Our faith is built on the Rock that is Jesus Christ, our righteousness.

**A**ssurance. I am a new creation in Christ. It is He who lives in me.

**I**nvitation. It is at the invitation of Jesus that the gift of Grace is offered.

**T**rust. Jesus is trustworthy and true. There is no deceit in him.

**H**ope. Without Jesus, we are hope-less. With Jesus we are hope-full.

As the world seems to dip deeper into chaos, as nature seems to be ever angrier, as our hearts are a bit more fearful, I encourage you to love one another, comfort one another, speak words of encouragement to one another. Do all this in the name of Jesus, the one on whom our faith is built. Remember, our faith is alive and active, to be lived through our actions, as well as our words.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. Stay in love with each other, and make room within yourselves to love your neighbor.

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

**Lakeshore Inn:** Leona Quast, Marian Broughten

**Foxdale:** Lucille Kubista

**Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship:** Sue Baldini, Tim Dahnert, Ron Dahnert, Gail Sauer, Beverly Peppenger, Gloria Rollag, Bob Stephan, family and friends of Lucille Kubista, family and friends of Chuck Youngberg, 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.

## Mitten Tree



Yes, it's early, but not too early, to begin thinking about the upcoming winter season. The mitten tree will be going up on the last Sunday of September this year so we can collect hats and mittens before winter. Our plan is to have the Sunday school children involved with putting up the tree as we discuss the importance of helping our neighbors. We will need hats and mittens of all sizes, small to large. You can start bringing in your items after September 24. They will be delivered to local schools and other organizations to help those in need.



## Sunday School News

Sunday school will begin on September 10. We will begin by holding Sunday school on the second and fourth Sundays of the month as we did last year. Linda Griffin and Stacy True will once again be rotating as teachers. We will be using the Sermons4Kids curriculum which follows the lectionary calendar.

At some point we would like to hold Sunday school every Sunday. In order to do this, we need more volunteers who would be willing to fill in as substitute teachers. If you are interested in serving as a substitute, please let Pastor Jon or Stacy know.

On Sunday, September 24, Linda and Stacy will be working together and have the Sunday school children help with putting up the Mitten Tree.

This year we will also have each family fill out a registration form for their children. We want to make sure we have emergency contact information and are aware of any allergies.

We're looking forward to a great year!



## Choir News



The choir season will begin with practice on Wednesday, September 6 and will sing September 10. Anyone is welcome to join us for fun fellowship and service to the Lord.

## United Women in Faith Potluck Picnic



**Thursday, September 7 at Noon Potluck Picnic**  
 Root beer floats will be provided for dessert.  
 Pat Miller from Shepherd's Robe will be the speaker.



## Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle met Tuesday, August 8, 2023. It was great having some guests join us at our meeting.

Yellow was the theme for the day and that was also the title of the program.

The Bible is rich in symbolism and color is no exception.

In modern Christianity, colors are used frequently to represent the differing facets of God's character and promises.

Yellow is believed to symbolize faith and Glory of God, anointing, and joy. Gold represents God's holiness, divine nature, and majesty. Gold and or yellow cloth is sometimes used in the place of white to celebrate the holiest days of the year such as at Easter and Christmas.

Colors have significant meaning in the Bible. Understanding what different colors symbolize may help us gain a deeper understanding of Scripture and give us revelation in our faith walk.

The next time you open your Bible, pay special attention to the colors that are used. They are rich with meaning and are intended to convey something important from God to mankind.

A short meeting was held after the program.

Some discussion was done on mission/outreach ideas and ideas for upcoming meetings.

Ruth circle's next meeting will be in The Gathering Room on Tuesday, September 12 at 1:00. Linda will be hostess.

'The Wick Home' may possibly be the program for the meeting.

## Circles...circles...

Sometimes when I have a very scheduled calendar page I look at the daily squares and wish for a few with nothing written on them. Then I do a “180” and thank the Lord that I have things to do and places to go, people to see. August 8th was one of those busy days with four places I wanted to be—at least each happening had its own time slot—beginning with my weekly McDonalds early morning coffee group. Moving right along, there was our Tuesday coffee-and-treats gathering with Realife neighbors...a lunch gathering at 11:00 at the BoatHouse with good friends from out of town, and finally Faith Church’s Ruth Circle meeting at 1:00.

Wait. I’ve been a member of Elizabeth Circle for years...why did I plan to visit Ruth? For several reasons, actually...visit being the operative word, but also I just wated to see how the ‘other half’ was doing. I knew their lesson for the meeting was “Yellow”...also, like our Circle, there would be coffee and treats (no, there was no dessert at lunch!)

Everything from the pretty yellow-themed table décor to the delicious desserts to the lesson-held to that lovely summer color; it was like a party celebrating God’s gifts we enjoy in abundance, the greatest of those being the loving, laughing, learning in fellowship with Christian sisters.

So yes this is a sort of commercial for church Circles. I would encourage women who read this to just consider visiting — one or both. Anytime. Meeting dates and times are always listed in our church bulletins and newsletters. On a busy day when I nearly felt I was going around in circles, so to speak, the truth is that I was...and I loved every minute of it. Women of Faith, come and see.

— *Karen Ferch*

## 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.

## One Minute Devotion

Exodus 4:13

Moses tried his way to help the enslaved Israelites in Egypt and failed. God tells him at the burning bush to do the job His way and promises "I will help you speak and will teach you what to say". God will always help His people when they need it.

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

## Traditional Christian Hymns Word Search

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

A Mighty FORTRESS Is Our God  
 All Hail the POWER of Jesus' Name  
 Amazing GRACE  
 Because He LIVES  
 BLESSED Assurance  
 Christ the Lord Is RISEN Today  
 Great Is Thy FAITHFULNESS

How GREAT Thou Art  
 HOLY, Holy, Holy  
 How Firm a FOUNDATION  
 It Is WELL with My Soul  
 JOYFUL, Joyful, We Adore Thee  
 What a FRIEND We Have in Jesus  
 When I SURVEY the Wondrous Cross

### Instructions:

Find and circle the words in ALL CAPS listed above. Words may be forward, backward, vertical, or diagonal within the puzzle.

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## Change Service Requested

**Come Worship with Us**  
We have room.

### MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

#### **Elizabeth Circle**

Elizabeth Circle will meet **Wednesday, September 20**, at **2:30 pm** in Lakeview. Our hostes will be Wilda Smith with Karen Ferch as devotion leader. Guests and visitors are always welcome..

#### **Ruth Circle**

Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, September 12** at **1:00 pm** in the Gathering Room. Linda will be the hostess.

#### **Conversation, Bible & Friends**

Conversation, Bible and Friends will **not** meet on Monday, September 7.