Faith Messenger

SEPTEMBER

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

Volume 2026
Issue 9

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Administrative Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday:

9:30 am - 12:30 pm

September 2026 Greetings From Pastor Elden

I will join the chorus of all those who are saying: I can't believe that summer is almost over. It came, we saw, and now it is moving on. I do like the autumn season with the fall colors, sweet corn on the cob, and new fall flowers.

We will be starting our 3rd month together. I have enjoyed getting to know you although as I said, I don't do well with remembering names. But as someone said last Sunday, the good thing is that most of us are in the same situation. As summer comes to a close I hope to meet more of you on Sunday. If you are not able to attend, call me or leave a message at church and I will come out for a visit.

On Oct. 4th, 10:30, the churches of Waterville, Janesville, and Blooming Grove have invited Waseca Faith UMC to join them for their Sunday service at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm. You will find the address in the newsletter. This is worldwide communion Sunday and our conference supt. Michelle Hargrave will be providing the message. Plus they have invited any who are interested to join the combined choir. Times will be coming up later. Do remember to bring a lawn chair and maybe extras if some do not have one. It Is covered if it is raining.

What can I do to help our church, I hope is your question. We need readers, choir members, coffee time servers, ushers. So many worthwhile jobs to do. And you can pray. Also remember actions are more important than words at times. If you are in a care center, be a happy greeter to others. If you are out in the community, show your Christianity.

As I put in my daily devotion, it is such a blessing and joy to walk into the church on Sunday morning, and have smiling faces greeting you. I imagine it will be such when we leave for our heavenly home, that we will be greeted with joyful smiles and welcoming.

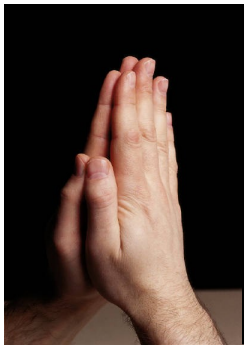
Who God Uses

The next time you feel like God can't use you, just remember...

- Noah was a drunk
- Abraham was too old
- Isaac was a daydreamer
- Jacob was a liar
- Leah was ugly
- Joseph was abused
- Moses had a stuttering problem
- Gideon was afraid
- Samson had long hair and was a womanizer
- Rahab was a prostitute
- Jeremiah and Timothy were too young
- David had an affair and was a murderer
- Elijah was suicidal
- Isaiah preached naked
- Jonah ran from God
- Naomi was a widow
- Job went bankrupt
- John the Baptist ate bugs
- Peter denied Christ
- The Disciples fell asleep while praying
- Martha worried about everything
- The Samaritan woman was divorced, more than once
- Zaccheus was too small
- Paul was too religious
- Timothy had an ulcer...*and*
- Lazarus was dead!

No more excuses now! God can use you to your full potential. Besides you aren't the message, you are just the messenger.

Prayer Requests



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

Whispering Creek, Janesville: Margaret Dahnert

Foxdale: Sherry Scholljegerdes

Lakeshore Inn: Peggy Deno

Latham Place: Joe Tollefson, Wally Ruedy, Ed Herbig

Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship: Kathy Dahnert Johnson, Gail Sauer, Margaret Dahnert, Anna Born, Sherry Scholljegerdes, Darla Dahnert, Lona Williamson, Roger Walker, Doug Dahnert, Bob Stephan, Jamie Gilchrist, those impacted by the floods in Nepal, the Ukraine, the Middle East, 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 12:30 pm. It is best to call ahead if you need to visit the office. Hours for the week are posted in the Sunday bulletins. Please note that Stacy will be out of the office on Thursday, September 10.

October 4 Community Worship Service

On Sunday, October 4 we will participate in a community worship service with Blooming Grove, Janesville and Waterville Evangelical United Methodist Churches at the Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm, 41142 160th St., Waseca.. Please see the flyer on page 6 of the newsletter for all the details. You will need to bring your own chair. If you have an extra chair or two please bring them in case someone forgets or does not have one to bring. We hope to see you there!

For those who may wish to car pool, you can gather at Faith UMC at 9:30am that morning.

There will not be worship service at church on Sunday, October 4.

In case you are unable to attend the community worship, we will have communion on Sunday, October 11 at church.

Bible Study

Pastor Elden will be leading a bible study on Wednesdays at 10:30am in the Gathering Room. This study will begin on Wednesday, September 9. All are welcome to attend.

Faith's Blessing Box Update

We continue to see use of the Blessing Box.

We would welcome food donations of canned or pouched meats, soup, canned fruits and vegetables, rice, instant mashed potatoes, ramen noodles, peanut butter, cereal, oatmeal, pancake mix and syrup.

We appreciate and are grateful for all food and cash donations for the blessing box. Your donations help us to keep this ministry going. Food donations can be placed in the donation box in the narthex or brought into the church office during office hours. Cash donations can be mailed or brought to the church with a notation that they are for the blessing box. Thank you for your donations!

All Blessing Box items must be: shelf-stable (non-perishable), sealed and not past expiration date, able to withstand hot temperatures during the summer months, and able to withstand cold temperatures in the winter months (e.g. pouched meat instead of canned meat). Please no glass jars. Also, please check expiration dates on food donations. We do not accept expired items.

Fall Bazaar

The Women of Faith are sponsoring a Fall Bazaar **Saturday, November 7th**. It may be a ways off to November but it will be here before you know it.

We will have a signup sheet available at church so you can jot down your name, maybe for a monetary donation or some items needed for the luncheon. We will also need 'workers'.

There will be a Luncheon, a thrift type sale, a bake sale with a variety of homemade items, some handmade items and the famous Cookie Sale. That's where you have a variety of cookies to choose from to fill your order. The sales will start at 10:00 and the luncheon will be from 11:00 until 1:00.

You could do your 'fall cleaning' early and find those things you do not want or need anymore. Maybe some holiday décor, vintage linens, books, jewelry, hats, attic finds, glassware, pictures, frames etc.

There is room at the church (one of the Hansel and Gretel rooms) available, so bring your items in whenever. We do not, however want any electrical appliances like television sets.

You have time to be thinking about things you can make or bring to the bazaar for the sales; craft items, baked goods, garden products, items for the thrift (garage) sale.

Proceeds will help support the missions and ministries in and around Waseca.

Every year we try to make this our BIGGEST and BEST Bazaar, and if it isn't, it's going to be close, very close.

Ruth Circle

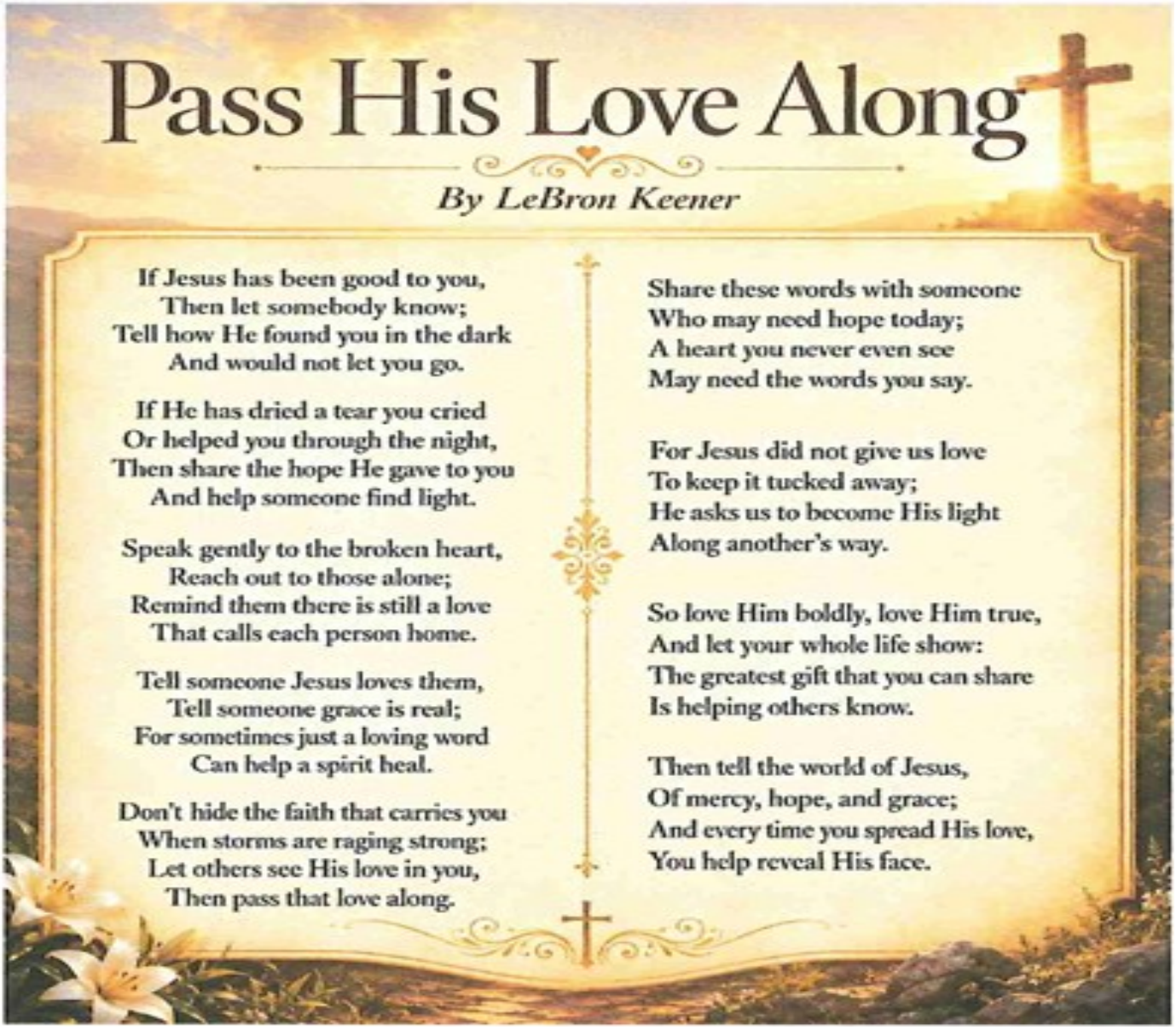
Ruth circle met Tuesday, August 18th at the church and drove to Janesville to visit Margaret D.

Due to construction around the home, a couple of us ladies went through the wrong door and sounded off the alarms, they were very well aware that we had arrived!

It was decided to surprise Margaret and not let her know we were coming. We did surprise her and it definitely brought a smile to her face.

Lots of laughter and of course 'treats' made the visit very enjoyable.

It was great to greet Margaret and let her know that her friends at Faith church keep her in their thoughts and prayers.



The Lord's Prayer

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the words from the word bank in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

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

AMEN, ART, BREAD,
DAILY, DAY, DELIVER,
DONE, EARTH, EVER,
EVIL, FATHER,
FORGIVE, GIVE, GLORY,
HALLOWED, HEAVEN,
KINGDOM, LEAD, LORD,
NAME, POWER, PRAYER,
TEMPTATION, THINE,
THY, TRESPASSES, WILL

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

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Sunday, October 4th, 2026
Community Worship Service & Pizza Lunch
At Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm

Sponsored by the Churches of the
Prairie Lakes Parish
(Blooming Grove, Janesville, and Waterville
Evangelical United Methodist Churches)
And Joined by Faith United Methodist Church, Waseca

Our Time Together at the Pizza Farm

9:15: Pop-up Choir Rehearsal in Pizza Farm Barn

10:00 – 10:30: Gather, settle in, and place pizza orders

- Stop by the welcome tables at the Pizza Farm Barn where volunteers from our congregations will provide worship bulletins and answer any questions. Containers available in which you may place offering gifts for your preferred church.
- Place your pizza order in the Barn.
- Set up your family's lunch-time seating/tables in the beautiful outdoor setting east of the Barn.
- Enjoy a morning cup of coffee, compliments of our Parish.
- Amble your way back to worship seating in the Barn and say hello to others gathered for the morning.

10:30 – 11:30: Morning Worship

- Led by Pastor Kathy King of the Prairie Lakes Parish, Pastor Elden Eklund of Faith United Methodist (Waseca), and Pastor Michelle Hargrave, Conference Superintendent of the Prairie Winds District of the Minnesota United Methodist Church.
- Musicians for the morning: Kristin Ziemke (Janesville United Methodist Church) Judy Mahler (Blooming Grove United Methodist Church), and our multi-church Pop-Up Choir.

11:30 - 1:00: Pizza Lunch on the Grounds

World Communion Sunday

On this day, we will join Christians around the globe in celebrating World Communion Sunday - which always takes place on the first Sunday in October. It is a wonderful opportunity to gather informally in a time of song, scripture, a special message for children, reflection, and prayer, and to share in Jesus' sacred meal. All are welcome at God's Table!

Planning Ahead - Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm Information

- We invite you to be part of this day through our Prairie Lakes Parish group reservation!
- Bring your own seating and a portable table (if desired).
- If you plan to stay for pizza lunch, pack a cooler with items such as the following: beverages, any other food you wish to enjoy with your pizza, plates, cups, utensils, napkins, and a trash bag to pack out your garbage when you leave.
- Hand-washing station provided. Hand sanitizer will be provided at the ordering stations. Please also bring your own.
- No pets allowed.
- 9 main pizzas (14-inch) will be offered + a special 12-inch Breakfast Pizza (eggs, bacon or sausage, cream cheese, and locally sourced maple syrup from Uff Da Acres).
- See https://www.pleasantgrovepizzafarm.com for a detailed menu. 14-inch hand rolled pizza prices range from $23-$27. One 14-inch pizza feeds about 2-3 people. The Pizza Farm takes credit cards and cash. They do not take pre-orders over the phone.

Directions to Pizza Farm from Blooming Grove UMC:

Go south on 180th Street for approximately .2 miles. Turn right onto 430th Ave/ County Hwy 10, travel 2.01 miles. Turn left onto 160th Street and travel 1.8 miles. Pleasant Grove is on the left. If you have any questions, call (507) 456-3937.

A Prayer for our Church

Come Holy Spirit, fill our voices with praise, so that all we speak will glorify you.
Come Holy Spirit, give us such faith that we will go wherever you ask us to go.
Come Holy Spirit, help us to be a friend like Jesus.
Come Holy Spirit, warm our hearts, so that as we love our community, they see you.
In the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

Faith UMC Mission Statement

Faith United Methodist Church Serves God through
Worship, Faith, Friendship, Outreach

Leadership Team

Members of the Faith United Methodist Church Leadership Team:

Elden Eklund, Pastor
Dave Baldini, Chair
Clair Voshell, Trustees
Jarod True, Finances, Trustee Treasurer & SPRC
Stacy True, Recording Secretary
Neil Fruechte
Karen Ferch
Mary Jane Stauffer
Mike Morrissey
Linda Griffin
Janet Welch

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the members.

****Copies of approved Leadership Team minutes can be found on the shelf by the bulletin board in the narthex.**

****Copies of church financial statements can be reviewed by church members in the office upon request.**

Faith United Methodist Church

"Engage, Equip, and Empower"

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Come Worship with Us

We have room.

MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, September 8** at **1:30pm** in the Gathering Room. Guests and visitors are always welcome.