Faith Messenger

OCTOBER *Faith United Methodist Church "Engage, Equip, and Empower!"* **Volume 2026 Issue 10**

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Administrative Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday:

9:30 am - 12:30 pm

October Greetings from Pastor Elden:

Hard to believe that another month is almost gone and October is here. A time when summer birds are returning and snow birds are thinking of moving south for the winter. I do like the autumn season with the turning of the leaves and the mum flowers coming in bloom. I guess we could compare it when we go into the autumns of our lives. A time when we are prepared for the winter season, aches and pains, slowing down, but still beautiful as we have time to do more of what we like, and time to get together with our friends. As in our season, we know spring will come after the winter and we know life eternal waits after our passing from one season to another.

I hope most of you are planning on coming to the pizza farm on Oct. 4th for World Wide Communion Sunday. It is a perfect time to spend some time outdoors and to meet new friends from our surrounding United Methodist Churches. There is a building so you will be inside, music is great, and you can meet our new Conference Supt. Michelle Hargrave. If you wish to car pool, meet at the church at 9:30. Thank you to Pastor Kathy King for the invitation.

Also an invite to our Bible study. It is very informal and we even have coffee and treats. We talk about the previous Sunday scripture along with other topics.

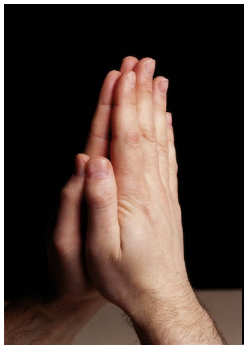
I will be going on a tour to the East Coast in October. Rev. Gordon Orde will be taking the service. Rev. Orde is retired but served in this district for a number of years and you will want to come and meet him and his wife, Dorothy. In fact, they will be serving treats for the fellowship time.

One of the topics we discussed at our Bible study was how to be a welcoming church. We are a church family but always ready to welcome someone new into the family. We have gone back to greeting one another during the service so if you missed somebody coming in, now is a good time to greet them.

It is important, also, that we are a happy church. And to be a happy church, we must have a proper relationship with God and with other people. Jesus tells us that love is essential for happiness and joy. Let us not only show God's love on Sunday but every day of the week.

I pray October is a month of love and happiness for you. See you on Sunday.

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, Sandy Voshell

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, Sandy Voshell, the community of New Richland, 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 Monday, October 5 and October 14 through 16.

Communion Sunday

In case you are unable to attend the community worship service at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm on Sunday, October 4 for Worldwide Communion Sunday, we will have communion during our worship service on Sunday, October 11.

Financial Update

Following worship on Sunday, October 11, Jarod will give a financial update and will inform the congregation of the need for a Special Ask. Please plan to attend so you can stay informed and have the opportunity to ask questions.

Mitten Tree

The Mitten Tree will be going up the end of October/beginning of November. We will collect donations of hats and mittens through mid November. The hats and mittens will be distributed to pre-school and elementary aged children so keep that in mind for sizing. **Please no scarves.**

Faith's Blessing Box Update

We continue to see a lot of use of the Blessing Box.

We would welcome food donations so we can stock up for winter. Suggested items include: pouched meats, rice, instant mashed potatoes, ramen noodles, peanut butter, cereal, oatmeal, pancake mix and syrup. When temperatures are below freezing we do not put out canned goods due to the cans expanding and being damaged.

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.

Soup Sunday

As you know, the fourth Sunday of the month has been Pancake Sunday where we collect donations of pancake mix and syrup for the food shelf. Starting in October, we are changing it up to "Soup Sunday" to begin collecting canned soup for the winter. There is box in the narthex designated for these donations and it will be taken to the food shelf once full.

Fall Bazaar

The Fall Bazaar is coming up on **Saturday, November 7.** We need a lot of volunteers for this event.

Signup sheets for supplies, money donations, and workers are in the narthex. Please sign up as soon as possible so planning can be completed. Crafts, baked goods and nearly new items are also needed. Let's make this Bazaar the Biggest and Best!

Notice of Special Charge Conference

A special charge conference will be held for church members on Monday, October 19 at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. This charge conference will be led by our Conference Superintendent, Michelle Hargrave. The purpose of this charge conference will be to discuss the sale of the parsonage.

Ruth Circle

Ruth circle met Tuesday, September 8th. We welcomed a couple of women to join Ruth circle.

Treats were enjoyed while we discussed a fall gathering and Faith's Fall Bazaar.

Signup sheets are in the Narthex for the Bazaar. We hope to have it filled out soon so we can make the final steps to make this Bazaar one of our Biggest and Best.

The program was Clothesline

Roberta had written that it had been a long time since she used a clothesline but thought it would be a fun program.

Since we had some time-consuming topics on our program Roberta had some notes hanging on a clothesline for the ladies to read while enjoying their treats.

'THE RULES OF GRANDMA'S CLOTHESLINE

It's been a long time since I hung clothes on a clothesline.

In many neighborhoods, hanging laundry followed an unwritten, highly disciplined code. Breaking "the rules" meant risking the judgment of the neighbors:

Before a single piece of wet fabric touched the line, you walked the entire length with a damp cloth to wipe away dust and bird droppings.

Bed sheets and large towels always went on the outermost lines to form a privacy shield, hiding undergarments from public view.

Socks were strictly pinned by the toes (never the tops), pants by the bottom cuffs (never the waistbands), and shirts by the tails to avoid leaving unsightly clip marks on shoulders.

Washing was primarily done on Monday mornings. Hanging clothes out on a Sunday or even over the weekend was widely considered unthinkable.

A long, notched wooden pole (the "prop") was used to hoist the heavily loaded center lines high into the air, preventing sagging sheets from sweeping the grass.

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE LINE:

-A clothesline can represent the process of being "washed white as snow" (Isaiah 1:18).

Just as clothes are scrubbed, rinsed, and hung in the sun to dry, believers are purified through God's grace and "hung" in His light to be restored.

-Use clothespins as a visual for "clinging" to God's promises (Deuteronomy 13:4).
If we disconnect ourselves from the "heavenly clothesline" during trials, we fall; staying attached ensures we remain secure through life's storms.

-Based on Colossians 3:12 hang items or labels representing virtues like compassion, kindness, humility, and patience – on the line to illustrate the spiritual 'clothing' a Christian should wear.

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CLOTHESLINE PROGRAM

John 15:3 states, "You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you"

There is a quiet, rhythmic beauty to a clothesline stretched across a backyard. Gathering a basket of heavy, wet laundry and carrying it out to the line takes effort. One by one, each piece of clothing is lifted up, shaken out, and pinned securely to the wire.

As you step back, you watch the wind and the sun go to work. The heavy, damp fabric begins to catch the breeze. Over time, the moisture is drawn away, the fabric softens, and what was once a heavy burden to carry becomes light, fresh, and restored.

This daily chore mirrors our spiritual lives. So often, we trudge through our days carrying baskets full of heavy burdens—anxieties about the future, the weight of a difficult relationship, or the damp chill of discouragement. We try to carry the weight all by ourselves, and it wears us down.

God invites us to treat our cares the way we treat that wet laundry. He asks us to lift each concern out of our hands and pin it securely to His promises.

Hanging things on a clothesline requires a distinct act of release. You cannot hold onto the shirt and expect the line to carry it. You have to let go and trust the pins to hold.

In the same way, trusting God means letting go of the outcome. Once we pin our worries to His faithfulness, our job is to step back and let the Holy Spirit do the work of drying out our fears and refreshing our souls.

The next time you feel weighed down, imagine yourself pinning those specific worries to God’s unbreakable line. Leave them there in the warmth of His grace, trusting that He is already sustaining you.

What heavy burden are we holding onto today that we need to release into God's hands?

Please join me in a prayer.

"Lord, sometimes our hearts feel as heavy as a basket of wet laundry. We confess that we try to carry these weights on our own strength. Today, we want to lift up our worries and pin them securely to Your faithfulness. Teach us how to truly let go and trust that You are holding us. Refresh our spirit and lighten our load. Amen.

Annual Autumn Fest

Soup & Pie Luncheon

Saturday November 7

Serving 11:00 – 1:00

Free-will DONATIONS Accepted

MENU

Chicken Wild Rice Soup

Freshly-Baked Bread

Assorted Pies Coffee

BAZAAR

Baked Goods

Cookie Sale

Gently Used

Faith United Methodist Church

801 4th Avenue NE Waseca

Leadership Team

Faith UMC Mission Statement

Faith United Methodist Church Serves God through

Worship, Faith, Friendship, Outreach

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.**

Soap Closet

Reminder that Faith UMC is a drop off site for MVAC's Soap Closet to collect hygiene items for those in need. There is a collection box in the narthex. Suggested items 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

Faith United Methodist Church

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Change Service Requested

Non-profit Org
Postage Paid
Permit 30
Waseca, MN
56093

Come Worship with Us

We have room.

MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, October 13** at **1:00pm** in the Gathering Room**.** Elizabeth Circle has now joined with Ruth. Guests and visitors are always welcome.