



Call of Faith

February 18, 2010

Faith United Methodist Church
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From the Pen of Pastor Leigh

Living in the moment is a challenge for me. I don't dwell much in the past, but I spend plenty of time in the future! I tend to look ahead, dream big and occasionally take on more than I should. Time seems to move so quickly. It's hard to believe that as I write this, Ash Wednesday is tomorrow and the season of Lent is upon us. And yet, it is because we in our society move so quickly that we need to intentionally take time to slow down, reflect, and find peace in our souls.

Lent is just such a time – a time in our church year when we change direction. The anticipation and waiting of Advent, the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas time, and the many small revelations of God's majesty throughout the season of Epiphany lead us to this time when we follow Jesus on that rocky and treacherous road through the mountains to Jerusalem, and finally to a cross on the hill of Golgotha.

The church has celebrated the season of Lent since the fourth century. It is a forty-day period of prayer, fasting and reflection that mirror the forty years that our ancestors wandered in the wilderness, and the forty days in which Jesus was tempted in the desert. During Lent we pray and embrace other faith practices, reflecting on the ministry of Jesus Christ and on our own discipleship. We "fast" from our own wants and over-indulgences, emptying ourselves so that we can be filled with what *God* wants for us. We remember the sacrifice that Jesus was willing to make so that we might know God's love and forgiveness and freedom.

The journey to Jerusalem and the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Christ are central to our Christian faith. While we study Jesus' teachings to learn how we ought to live, it is through the event at the cross – his willingness to suffer, his forgiveness for his enemies (and friends), his unending love for all of us, and his ultimate triumph over death – it is through this event that we are invited into *an eternal relationship* with Jesus Christ. As we open ourselves fully to this relationship we too find the courage and willingness to confront our fears. We too overcome betrayal and learn to forgive. We too learn to love and find the joy of serving God and our neighbor. We too experience the power of God's ultimate truth that surpasses anything this earthly life can dish out to us.

What wondrous love indeed.

Sunday Worship Schedule

Faith is Handicap Accessible

9:00 Celebration Service

10:00 Christian Education

11:00 Traditional Service

9:30-11:30 Fellowship/Coffee

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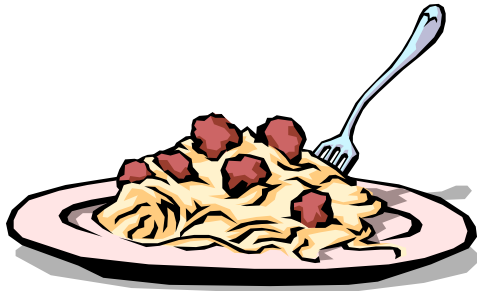
Church Contacts

Pastor:	Rev. Leigh Brown	Pastor@faithumchurch.com
Music Director:	Jo Halvorsen	Joh@faithumchurch.com
Sr. Adult Coordinator:	Dave Schneider	Daves@faithumchurch.com
Administrative Assist:	LaFonda Shreve	Lshreve@faithumchurch.com (Hours: Tues. & Wed. 7:30-2:30, Thurs. 7:30 - 1:30)
Administrative Assist:	Janet Olson	Jolson@faithumchurch.com (Hours: Mon. & Thurs. 8:30-3:30, Friday 8:30 - 2:30)
Organist:	Marie Kuglin	
Nursery Attendant:	Fran Cox	
Treasurer:	Rod Long	

Faith Church Recognized in the Sun Focus Newspaper

Check out the great article about our church in the February 11, 2010 issue of the Sun Focus Weekly Newspaper. We should all be proud of the article and the advancement our congregation has made. If you missed the article you can see it online at www.mnSun.com. The article, along with a color picture of the church, told about our honor of receiving the "Welcoming Congregation" designation from the Igniting Ministry Team at United Methodist Communications.

"Welcoming Congregations" are a select group of United Methodist congregations nationwide that meets criteria including embracing newcomers and providing opportunities in discipleship. The recognition program is part of a larger effort launched in late 2000 by UMCCom, the denomination's communications agency, to use modern technology and the common language of television to spread the Good News of Christ to a world in need.



Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, February 21, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

The Appalachian Service Project (ASP) team is having a spaghetti dinner to raise funds for their 2010 mission trip. The meal is being prepared by our own Chris Dexter, so come hungry and bring the whole family. Tickets at the door cost \$11 for adults and \$6 for children under age 10. Please come out to support this worthy cause.

ASP Bake Sale

Sunday, March 28, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Enjoy some yummy treats and help the Appalachian Service Project (ASP) team raise funds for their summer trip.

Home baked donations are needed. Please bring them that Sunday morning before the 9:00 AM service.

Volunteers Wanted

The Shared Ministry Team is looking for at least ten volunteers to **count the Sunday offerings**. There will be a training class. If enough people volunteer, you will only need to help four Sundays a year. Contact Stan Allen at 651-633-7901 if you are interested.

Volunteers are needed during Lent to **prepare meals on Wednesday evenings**. Simple meals are best and if you turn in your receipts, the cost of food can be reimbursed. Sign up in the Commons. Questions? Call Karolyn Busacker at 612-789-7247

Lenten Study

Miriam Bosveld will lead a Lenten study by John Indermark, titled *Gospeled Lives, Encounters with Jesus*. The author suggests that an encounter with the living Christ demands response. *Gospeled Lives* covers biblical characters who had such an encounter. Some of them responded with joy and gratitude. Some ignored or rejected Christ's offer of good news. These stories, along with daily reading of scripture, written prayers and suggested exercises, make an ideal study over the six week Lenten period.

Come join Miriam from 6-7 PM on Wednesday evenings beginning February 24. It is not necessary to come to all the classes, just come when you can. The book costs \$14.00 and can be purchased at the class.

If you have information for the Call of Faith, contact LaFonda Shreve at 612-781-3167, fax 612-781-4538, or email lshreve@faithumchurch.com. The next deadline is Monday, March 8 at 9:00 AM.

Church News (continued)

Faith Church, in addition to its website, now has a page on **Facebook**. The Communication & Marketing Committee launched the page to provide information about Faith Church for Facebook members who might be seeking a church home and thus facilitate communication between church members and church groups.

The information on the page is limited right now, but they'll be adding to it in the coming weeks. Eventually, it will be possible for groups in the church to use the Facebook page to communicate with themselves as well as our friends and neighbors in the community. If you're already a Facebook member, the easiest way to become a "fan" of Faith's Facebook page is to go to our website, www.faithumchurch.com, and then click on the Facebook link in the lower left corner of our home page.

Congratulations to Pastor Leigh! The Board of Ordained Ministry has recommended Leigh for ordination as an Elder. The Ordination Commissioning Ceremony will be held in June during the 2010 Minnesota Annual Conference. Additional details will be published as they become available.

Some of our members are sensitive to **chemical smells** and have had to leave the worship center because of another's perfume, cologne or scented lotion. Please refrain from using these products when coming to church. Thanks for your understanding.

Recap of All-Church Conference

During the All-Church Conference on February 7, the following officers were elected:

Church Council

Team Leader	Dick Sawyer
Lay Leader	Jennifer Krinke
Lay Member of Conference	Susan Mullin
Caring Ministry	Miriam Bosveld & Pastor Leigh
Christian Education	Neil Carlson
Communication & Mkt.	Joyce Jose & Dick Sawyer
Finance	Terry Krinke
Hospitality	Jean Sweeley & Sue Sattler
Outreach	Amy Neuswanger
Sr. Adult Council	Dave Schneider
Shared Ministries	Stan Allen & Pastor Leigh
Staff-Parish Relations	Sharon Parrill
Trustees	Dan Kramer
Worship & Music	Joyce Jose

Other Team Members

Recorder	Carol Vick
UMW Representative	Barbara Greicius

At Large Members

Emily Dennison	Jim Clarke
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If you would like an entire list of the ministry teams, please contact the church office.

Do you like to learn about and discuss contemporary issues and your faith? Then **Contemporary Christian Issues** is the perfect adult education class for you! This class meets Sundays at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Regardless of your views, you will be informed and challenged as we learn together. Upcoming events:

- February 21 Jennifer Mayotte, Executive Director of Community Partners with Youth (CPY) will share information about this amazing program and the cooperative effort between churches and community members, and community volunteers. CPY supports families by providing supervision and direction for elementary and middle school youth through their after-school, holiday, and summer enrichment programs.
- February 28 Jody Nelson with the Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (MICAH) will help us understand what they have been able to do through the support of our church and others. MICAH envisions a metropolitan area where everyone without exception has a safe, decent and affordable home. MICAH attempts to realize this vision through organizing congregations of faith and community partners to change the political climate and public policies so that all communities preserve and build affordable housing. MICAH tries to live out the prophetic vision that calls us "to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with God" (Micah 6:8).
- March 7 Gene Johnson tells of being revived by an "on the wall" defibrillator after a serious heart attack.
- March 14 To be determined
- March 21 The Highview School Relations Police Officer
- March 28 To be determined

Youth Arcade

Wednesday night activities continue for all 6th-12th grade youth.

We recently made a change to the **Junior High Christian Education program** at Faith Church. The Crossings curriculum that is taught by Susan Mullin and Deb Anderson has moved from Sunday mornings to Wednesday evenings. Dinner is available at 6:00, followed by one hour of Christian education (6:30 - 7:30) in the Junior High room downstairs. During Lent (February 17 through March 24) the schedule is slightly different, with dinner served at 5:30, class from 6:00 - 7:00 and worship at 7:00. Sunday mornings will be an opportunity for fellowship in the Junior High room, led by Kirsten Reed.

This change was made based on Sunday morning sports conflicts for a number of our students. We hope that this new time will allow more students to participate. We are just beginning our discussion of the New Testament, so now is a great time for you to join the class. We will be looking at Jesus' life, and asking questions like: What makes Jesus important? What do we learn about God from Jesus? What can 2000-year-old teachings mean for us today? If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Junior High class, please call Susan at 763-566-8632 or Deb at 651-330-6109.

The **10-12 graders** are meeting in the Senior High Room on Wednesday nights from 6:00 - 7:00 PM during Lent. They are viewing movies and discussing how they relate to Christian themes and symbols. The class is being led by Cassia Mullin.

Adults are always needed! The Wednesday dinner sign-up sheet in the Commons still has plenty of openings. Plus, we could use more occasional volunteers to help lead some events, groups, retreats, etc. If you are able to help out with the youth, let the church office know - we'll find a place for you!



Extend and Serve

Thanks *"It was wonderful to receive a gift of \$250 from Faith United Methodist Church. Your gift will be used to provide much-needed scholarship support. One half of Joyce Preschool's students rely on scholarship assistance to be able to attend. At this difficult time in our economy, your contribution is more important than ever. Donations such as yours make a tremendous difference to us as we work to promote cultural understanding and provide the crucial bridge to success in K-12 education, especially for our Latino students, many of whom would fall behind immediately without kindergarten readiness preparation."*

Laura Johanson, Executive Director, Joyce Preschool

"Thank you for your recent gift of \$600 to Simpson Housing Services. Even though we are seeing a record number of men, women and children who are seeking our services, every day we are witnessing hundreds of people making enormous strides towards stable housing and self-sufficiency. You can read the stories of remarkable and resilient people at our website, www.simpsonhousing.org. Everyday we see the impact that your financial support and partnership makes in the lives of people experiencing homelessness."

Julie Manworren, Executive Director, Simpson Housing Services

"Thank you for your gift of \$189.87 on December 30, 2009. Your gifts are a huge blessing to our organization. They make it possible for us to continue to provide services to seniors in our community. We also appreciate the support of the many volunteers who give their time, and for many their mileage, every week. We appreciate the many volunteers who drive seniors to appointments through rain, snow and summer sun. What a difference they make in the lives of the seniors. They literally give a lift through transportation, but also through their caring attitudes and conversation which helps isolated seniors to feel connected to the community."

Kay Anderson, Executive Director, Northeast Senior Services, Inc.

Extend and Serve (continued)

Hands-On Sunday at Faith Church

Sunday, March 21, Noon

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring Hands-On Sunday. It is a time for the church family (children, youth and adults) to gather for fun, food, and hands-on helping. They will be collecting food to give to the local food shelves. A portion of all food and cash donations given in March are matched by Minnesota FoodShare and the Feinstein Foundation.

Bring food items to share on Sunday, March 21! Suggestions include canned meat, canned vegetables, canned fruit, spaghetti sauce, hamburger helper, tuna helper, sweet cereal, stew and chili, SpaghettiOs with meatballs, peanut butter, ketchup, mustard, mayo, pancake mix, juice, flower, sugar, oil, coffee, rice, toilet paper, dishwasher detergent, liquid dish detergent, laundry detergent, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, shampoo, and diapers sizes 4, 5 & 6. They also appreciate "Birthday Bags" which contain party supplies i.e. cake mix, frosting, party favors, and napkins.

We will gather immediately following the Traditional Worship service (noon) for a lunch of "Stone soup" and bread. You will be asked to join a "Food Fun Team." After lunch, your team will have fun building structures with the food brought! Structures will be judged and a trophy will be awarded. Embrace your inner architect! We will also assemble health kits for victims of the earthquake in Haiti (see article below), and make snacks for the McVay Program (Hamline students helping kids). Come and honor the spirit of Lent through service, and have a great time with your church family!

Help the People of Haiti

For the Lenten season, our outreach focus will be health kits for the earthquake victims in Haiti. The Outreach Committee will be collecting funds to purchase items for the health kits. We will then assemble the kits as a church community on March 21, "Hands-On Sunday."

If you are unable to come for Hands-On Sunday, you may assemble and bring health kits to the designated table in the church Commons. To make a health kit, place the following NEW items in a sealed one-gallon plastic bag:

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27" – no kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste (toothpaste is purchased in bulk to ensure that the product does not expire.)



Because the emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations, and strict rules govern product entry into international countries, UMCOR requires that the kits contain only the requested items – nothing more.

UMC of Anoka, Messiah UMC (Plymouth) and Advent UMC (Eagan) have committed to making 1,000 kits each! We are about half the size of those churches. Knowing your Pastor's competitive side, they have challenged Faith Church to make 500 kits – which they will ship for us. We can do it!!

You may contribute money to this ministry by March 14. Write a check to Faith Church and put "Haiti Health Kits" in the memo line or on your offering envelopes. In addition, there are jars in the Commons you may fill with cash and return to the church by March 14. The Outreach Committee will then do some smart shopping to make sure that we get the best prices on the items needed!

Senior Moments



I'm reading from *Day by Day With Wm. Barclay* each morning. The reading for January 30 was titled "Remove labels and break down fences." He listed Ephesians 2:14 as one of the Bible's guidelines. It reads, "For He is our peace; in His flesh He has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us." Isn't that the hope for a nation divided? "...tear down the wall that divides us.." In this year of elections, can we not "break down the wall" ..reach out and touch with open hands, with listening ears, and loving hearts?

- There **was** a wall in Berlin.
- There **are** thirty-foot-high walls in Israel/Palestine.
- There **is** an unseen wall in the USA.

Can those walls be torn down? "For He is our peace...and has broken down the dividing wall...".
Dave Schneider, Sr. Adult Coordinator

Upcoming Events Sponsored by the Senior Adult Council

- February 27, 1:00 PM** Trip to the Mill City Museum. Cost for the bus and museum entrance is \$20.00. Sign-up in the Commons.
- March 18, 7:00 PM** Sing-A-Long. The life of Christ in hymns and songs (both old and new) Plus, shared experiences with Dr. Rolf Skogerboe, M.D., Christian adventurer and poet.
- April 18, 3:00 PM** Two Rivers Chorale at Bethel University. Car pool from the church.
- May 18, 7:00 PM** Housing Options for Seniors, with a panel of residents sharing their experiences in a variety of residences.
- June (Date TBD)** "Picnic in the Park" at the new Silverwood Park on Silver Lake. "Wonder Walk" - accessible; outdoor devotional; picnic food and fun.

Watch for more information on these and other senior events. Questions? Contact Carol Vick at 651-633-9641 or Dave Schneider at 763-780-2363 or daves@faithumchurch.com.



The Senior's Corner in the Commons has a wealth of information available for seniors. Come take a look!

Farmer's Market

St. Anthony Village Shopping Center

Mondays 3:00-7:00 PM, Mid-July thru Mid-October

Volunteers, vendors, performers, sponsors, and bloggers are all wanted. Apply now at 612-466-1046 or www.thevillagefarmersmarket.org.

Emma Norton Services Theatre Benefit

March 14, 7:00 PM

Park Square Theatre,
20 W 7th Place, St. Paul

Attend a benefit performance of *Painting Churches* by Tina Howe. All tickets are free, however, an offering will be taken to benefit Emma Norton Services. For reservations and further information, please call Paula at 651-224-1329 by March 8 or visit the Park Square Theatre website at www.parksquaretheatre.org/plays/2010/churches.php.

Minnesota Walk to Emmaus

Men—May 13-17; Women—May 20-23

It will be held at Koinonia Retreat Center in Annandale. For more information contact Darlene or visit www.mnemmas.org.

Northeast Minneapolis Spiritual Art Show

March 21-26, 3:00-7:00PM

This tenth annual art show will be held at Elim Church, 685 13th Ave. NE, Minneapolis. Admission is free. Contact Nick & Rosie at 612-789-6527 for more information.

Justice We Pursue, Day on the Hill Joint Religious Legislative Coalition

Thursday, March 25

Begin the day at the RiverCentre and then take the shuttle to the Minnesota State Capitol. Register online at www.jrlc.org. Register by March 10 for early discount.

Emma Norton Scholarships Available

Women currently enrolled in a graduate program leading to full-time Christian vocations may be eligible for a scholarship. Contact Faye at 218-768-4519 for more information and application. Applications are due by June 15.

Camp and Retreat Centers for Youth & Families

Lots of exciting things are happening at United Methodist Camp Sites. Pick up a Camping brochure at the Welcome Center or check them out at www.campminnesota.org.

Bridging the Gap Women's Conference

April 9-10

Their mission is to encourage, equip and empower every woman in her faith journey with Jesus Christ. Visit www.btgevents.org for more information.

Summer Theology Workshop

June 6-10, Lake Koronis Ministries, Paynesville

Hear from Dr. Phil Rolnick, speaker, and Rev. Peter Milloy, book study leader. The theme is "One World, Science and Faith," with book study of God After Darwin, by John F. Haught. Contact Rev. Bruce Buller or the camping office at 612-230-2267 for more information.

Park Avenue Trivia Night

March 12, 7:00 PM

Park Ave UMC, 3400 Park Ave, Mpls

This is a fun event for adults, with teams of 3-6 people competing for the glory and the prizes! Drinks and appetizers provided. This is a fund raiser for Park Avenue Youth & Family Services. Check it out at www.payfs.org or call Tessa at 612-825-6864 x 561.

Project Homeless Connect

Monday, March 29, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Minneapolis Convention Center

This is a one-stop shop for delivering services to people experiencing homelessness. Services include housing providers, employment specialists, medical care, mental health care, etc. Volunteers are requested in assisting the guests connect with the assistance they need or request. With about 1,800 participants expected for this event, at least 1,300 volunteers are needed to make the day successful. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old. To learn more about volunteering and the required training sessions or to make a financial donation visit www.homelessconnectminneapolis.org.

Visible, Real, Life-Changing Faith

Lent is a time to be intentional about our life in faith - to pray, to worship, to give offerings, and to do the things that nurture our spirits for life in God.

Join us at Faith Church as we walk together in the way of Christ.



Join us on Wednesdays during Lent February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24

- 5:30 Light Supper, Fellowship Hall
6:00 Adult Lenten Class, Fellowship Hall
Youth Activities, Lower Level
7:00 Lenten Worship with Communion,
Worship Center

Other Activities You Will Not Want to Miss

Palm Sunday, March 28: Services 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Holy Thursday, April 1: Seder Meal 6:15 PM, Fellowship Hall
Service 7:00 PM, Worship Center

Good Friday, April 2: Prayer Vigil 6:30 AM - 6:30 PM
Service 7:00 PM, Worship Center

Easter, April 4: Celebration Service 8:30 AM
Traditional Services 9:45 & 11:00 AM
Fellowship between all services in the Commons