



Call of Faith

January 20, 2010

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From the Pen of Pastor Leigh

As I write this note I am thinking of a recent Sunday in worship at Faith Church. We celebrated being certified as a Welcoming Church – meaning that we have made great efforts toward extending hospitality to visitors at Faith. We celebrated your generosity over the Christmas season – a great Christmas offering that erased our operating deficit. We celebrated that our average attendance increased slightly for 2009. One member shared his journey toward recovery from illness, and I was reminded of the many members who have extended love and care to him and his family through providing food, transportation, prayers and a listening ear. What a wonderful congregation we are – energetic, giving and full of hope!

There is a great future for the ministry of Faith Church! Our responsibility is to approach our ministry in a thoughtful way – maximizing these many gifts that God has given us. Ministry is truly dynamic when the will of God unites with the gifts and passions of both the congregation and the pastor.

It is my responsibility to help you discern and clarify *your* vision for Faith Church. Discernment involves prayer and consideration of the knowledge available to us regarding our congregation and our community. Clarification involves decision-making and artful planning.

Your church leaders will begin this visioning process at our Church Council retreat on January 31. We will study God's Word, explore who we are as a group, and begin to dream about our ministry in this community. We will plan to collect needed information about our community, and develop a plan to involve you, the congregation, in this process.

This is important work for Faith Church if we are to be good stewards of the gifts and resources God has given to us. For this same reason, the Minnesota Annual Conference has asked each church to develop a congregational ministry plan – a plan that will state our purpose (what we are called to do), our values, our promise (what the community can expect from us) and our people (what are our gifts as a congregation, and for whom in our community does our heart break). This plan must be submitted to the Conference in May of this year – thus this process will move quickly. All the better, so we can focus on the ministry God has given us to do!

Now I know some of you are thinking, "Haven't we done this before?" But visioning is an ongoing process in the life of a Church. We are not the same congregation that we were a few years ago. This visioning and planning may seem arduous, but with the heart and the talent of this congregation, I think we will find it to be a joy! Please be in prayer for the Church Council as we begin the process, and prayerfully listen to what God is saying to you about the ministry of our Church.

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
Youth Coordinator:	Kyle Hayes	Kyleh@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	

Church News

"If only I had a little more money – my problems would be solved."

"I would love to find a job I love, but I have too much debt to pay off."

"How can I give to the Church or others when I have no money left after paying the bills?"

If you have ever thought or spoken any of the above statements, then the **Freed Up Financial Living Workshop** is for you! Money is a huge factor in our lives, and money is the most frequently mentioned subject in the Scriptures. ***This workshop is different from any financial planning you have in place***, because it examines our financial practices from a Christian perspective, providing solutions grounded in our faith. Are you are willing to consider that God may have a different perspective on your finances than you do?

The Good \$ense Freed Up Financial Living Workshop

Thursday Evenings, February 25, March 4 and 11, 7:00 - 9:00 PM at Faith Church

What it is:

- An opportunity to make a personal values statement with regard to your money
- A double-check, to confirm that your secular life matches your Christian life – where it truly counts
- A new way for you to understand your personal financial picture
- An opportunity to very deliberately filter your expense and investment choices through your God-centered filter, bringing your spirit into alignment with your self

What it isn't:

- A sales pitch to get you to give more money to the church
- A place where you will be judged on how you've chosen to draw your financial picture
- A place where anybody else will know your personal financial picture
- A place where you'll be the only one asking yourself new questions about your financial picture

All are welcome at this workshop. Please register by February 20. There is no charge for this workshop. A free-will offering will be taken. **Register and download pre-work at www.faithumchurch.com.**

For more about this unique event, contact: Terry Krinke at 651-636-4383, terakrinke@aol.com or Neil Carlson at 651-628-0498, carls001@umn.edu.

Birthday Bash & Non-Talent Show

Sunday, January 31, 3:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to join us for the 5th Annual Birthday Bash and Non-Talent Show. Sit at the table of your birth month and enjoy your specially decorated birthday cake. In addition, we will have beverages, great fellowship, and a delightful Non-Talent Show.

For the Non-Talent Show, you may volunteer to sing, dance, play an instrument, tell a joke, or anything else you want.

If you would like to volunteer for baking a cake or participate in the Non-Talent Show, please contact Barb Greicius at 651-340-9855.

Kyle Hayes Receives a Church Call

"Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Faith Church,

Thank you for our time serving together in this place. I will truly miss you all, but especially the youth of this congregation. You are an exceptional bunch! I must inform you that I have been called by the Church to serve as Pastor to a small church in the rural community of St. Clara, West Virginia - St. Johannes Evangelical Lutheran. In perusing this Call, my family and I will be moving from Minnesota on the 30th of January. While I look forward to what God is doing in my life and in that place, I will look back on my time here fondly.

As I come closer to having a date for ordination, which will take place at my home congregation in Woodstock, GA, I will see to it that all of you are invited!"

Church News (continued)



Sunday, February 7

10:00 AM

All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting as we discuss:

- Election of Officers
- Year-End Reports
- 2010 Budget
- Membership Status Changes
- Ministry Candidate for Ordination

There will be no adult Christian Education this Sunday.

The Staff Parish Relations (SPR) Ministry Team is gathering **input on staff and pastor job performance** for the year 2009. We welcome your perspective and comments. Here are the options for providing your feedback:

1. Send an email to skcparrill@aol.com
2. Write a note with your comments, place in a sealed envelope, address to SPR Ministry Team and drop off in the Church Office
3. Contact the church office for a form to be submitted to SPR

All feedback is confidential. Please provide your perspective and comments by Monday, January 25.

The Igniting Ministry Team at United Methodist Communications has recognized Faith United Methodist Church as an official "**Welcoming Congregation**" for 2009! "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.

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

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.

It's that time to secure your preferred Sunday and sponsor the **Chancel flowers** for that week. The cost is \$28.50 and you may take your flowers home after the second service. Flowers may be in honor or memory of a special occasion, or for no occasion at all. The sign-up chart is now available in the Commons. Payment is required at the time of sign-up.

The **Men's Spirituality Group** has been discontinued. Questions? Contact William Cox at 651-633-8727.

Provide your opinion on what's happening in the life of Faith Church. Jot down your thoughts and drop them in the "Feedback Box" located on the shelf in the library adjacent to the Worship Center. Or, if you'd rather, you may email your opinion to faith@faithumchurch.com. and put the word "feedback" in the subject line.

Church News (continued)

Financial Results for 2009

Financial results for December indicates a huge success was achieved in balancing expenses and receipts for 2009. Coming into December expenses for 2009 exceeded receipts by over \$20,000 and the carryover deficit from 2008 was over \$7,000 for a total deficit of almost \$28,000. In the month of December alone, receipts exceeded expenses by almost \$28,000 thus **our deficit balance has been eliminated**. While the upcoming year of 2010 poses similar demands, the congregation's extraordinary response in December demonstrates our strong support in meeting these challenges. Thanks to all!"

December Special Giving

Untrim the Christmas Tree:

Bread for the World	\$ 105.00
Second Harvest	\$ 305.00
Ralph Reeder	\$ 355.39
NEED	\$ 355.39
Simpson Hot Meals	\$ 897.85
TOTAL	\$ 2,018.63

Heifer Project:	\$ 2,230.00
UMCOR	\$ 50.00
ISLA Scholarships	\$ 900.00
Christmas/ End of the Year	\$11,908.00

More than just a card club.....

the 500 Card Club has donated:

- \$100 (\$50 for a serving cart) in 2009, \$50 in 2008 and \$25 in 2006 to the FUMC Coffee Fund
- \$25 in 2008 to Mother Hubbard
- \$25 in 2007 to the Tom Reiner Memorial
- \$50 in 2006 to the Ed Nelson Memorial

Thanks for all you do!!



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:

- January 31 A representative from the United Methodist Camping Office will speak about camping opportunities.
- February 7 Canceled for Charge Conference
- February 14 Senior High /Adult Forum exchange. Every Sunday during the Christian Education hour 12-18 teens show up in the Youth Room for a class lead by Kent Reed and Carroll Vance. These young people are amazing, they are our churches future. This Valentine class will be an opportunity for all of us to participate in intergenerational sharing. There will be fun, laughs, and Valentine cookies and donuts.
- 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).

Youth Arcade

Ongoing: Wednesday night activities continue for all 6th-12th grade youth. Come and join us!

Looking Ahead:

Wednesday night youth activities will continue after Kyle's leaving. As always, there is need for MORE ADULTS! 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!

Musical Score

African Latin Marimba Concert at Faith Church Sunday, February 7, 2:00 PM

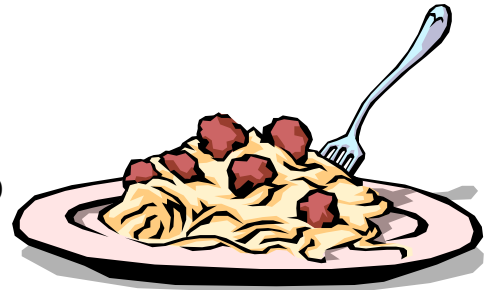


Come enjoy this marimba group led by Carey Serianni, a teacher at Breck School. Some of the concert will be played by her students at Breck and the remainder by her adult group. (They call themselves a "marimba support group".) Pam Pettit is a member of the band. Come and hear a unique sound and program, just in time to get to your Super Bowl parties. A reception will be held after the concert in the Commons. A free-will offering will be taken.

Family Activities

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. Advance tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under age 10, and are available from any ASP member. Tickets at the door will be \$1.00 more. Please come out to support this worthy cause.



Upcoming Services You Won't Want to Miss!

January 31: UMW Sunday
February 14: Scouts Sunday
February 17: Ash Wednesday Service



Senior Moments



I remember so clearly moving from our house to our town home nearly eight years ago. There were many options to choose from, deciding on new or a previously owned unit. It's a big and an emotional decision. But we're glad we "bit the bullet" and did it.

Moving can indeed, be traumatic. You may say "I'm getting too old for the yard work and snow removal." All the while you wonder how you can possibly leave all the many wonderful memories in your house. You would really rather not have to move at all.

If you are considering a move, there is help available! There are a number of excellent housing options within just three to five miles of Faith Church. Numerous publications, agencies, and websites are available with ideas and suggestions. Check out the Senior's Corner in the Commons, for booklets that could give help in making your decision. Also feel free to contact me for more information. You don't have to walk through the transition alone.

Dave Schneider, Sr. Adult Coordinator

Upcoming Events Sponsored by the Senior Adult Council

- January 28, 7:00 PM:** Dr. Mark Seeley, nationally known professor from the University of Minnesota, will share insights on the widespread ramifications of climate change here in our state. He will also have some of his books available. Coffee and fellowship to follow. This event is open to ALL - youth and adults!
- February 27, 1:00 PM:** Trip to the Mill City Museum. Sign-up in the Commons
- March (Date TBD):** Sing-A-Long. The life of Christ in hymns and songs (both old and new)
- April 18, 3:00 PM:** Two Rivers Chorale at Bethel University
- May 18 (Time TBD):** Housing Options for Seniors, with a panel of residents sharing their experiences
- June (Date TBD):** Picnic in the park at the new Silverwood Park on Silver Lake. Wonder hike, outdoor devotional, picnic and fun



Watch for more information on these and other senior events. Questions can be directed to Dave Schneider at 763-780-2363 or daves@faithumchurch.com.

Extend and Serve

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission North Central Jurisdiction

Have you ever considered going on a mission trip? Here are just a few trips happening in the near future:

- Peru, July 29-August 12, 2010. Needs medical and construction volunteers. Estimated cost is \$1,400.
- Nicaragua, June 14-23, 2010. Children's workers and church maintenance volunteers needed.
- Bolivia, July 31-August 15, 2010. Construction volunteers needed. Cost is \$3,300.
- China, June 15-30, 2010. Youth and young adult leaders in conferences, districts and local churches interested in learning best practice methods of UMVIM team leadership.

Contact Lorna Jost, UMVIM-NCJ Coordinator at 605-692-3390 for more information.

Donations Being Accepted for Haiti Relief

The United Methodist Church has a relationship with Haiti through the Methodist Church of Haiti. UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) has had a field office in Haiti since 2005. When you give to UMCOR 100% of your gift will go to relief and development efforts in Haiti. Cash donations are most needed at this time. To donate to this fund, please write your check to Faith Church and include "UMCOR Advance 418325 Haiti" in the memo line. We will make sure your funds are sent promptly. You can also donate online at: <http://secure.gbpm-umc.org/donations/umcor/donate.cfm?code=418325&id=3018760>.

Bishop Sally Dyck has called for Minnesota United Methodists to be a neighbor to the people of Haiti by giving generously to the UMCOR Advance, and by keeping the people of Haiti in our prayers.

"Thank you for your continued financial support to our home delivered meals program. Your recent contribution of \$125 is most generous. As you know we deliver nearly 25,000 meals each year to our homebound neighbors. Other community contributions have been lighter recently. Our service relies on contributions from local churches such as yours. Please express my sincere gratitude to your church."

Eileen Hafften, Executive Director, Northeast Dinner Bell, Inc.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors, Staff and Clients of East Side Neighborhood Services, I want to thank you for your generous donation of \$200 designated to the East Side Thrift Store. We are grateful for your support of the Thrift Store services that are provided to help foster the well-being of individuals and families in our community. Caring individuals make a difference in the lives of many."

William Lade, Executive Director

Community Connections

Wayzata Women's Chorus

Do you have a passion for singing a great variety of fabulous music with wonderful members of the community who share your passion? If so, the Wayzata Women's Chorus is looking for you. Rehearsals are Mondays from 7:15 - 9:15 PM at Peace Lutheran Church, 3965 Co. Rd. 101, Plymouth, MN. Please come a bit early to get music and register.

This award-winning Chorus, celebrating its 25th season, is directed by Carole Birch and accompanied by Mary Fadden and is composed of women from around the Twin Cities who share a love of music and enjoy performing in a variety of venues. The Chorus has traveled and competed internationally, earning a bronze award at the Salzburg Music Competition. It is well respected both for the depth and breadth of its repertoire and the quality of its sound.

We look forward to welcoming new singers to the Wayzata Women's Chorus rehearsals! Please call Carole Birch at 952-473-8029 with any questions you might have.

Concordia Music Department Upcoming Concerts and Events

"Instrumental Ensembles Concert" April 16, 7:30 PM, Beutow Music Center Auditorium

"The 5th Annual Choral Arts Finale" A premier High School Choir Festival, April 18, 7:30 PM, Gala Concert at Orchestra Hall. Tickets: \$12.00/adult by calling 612-371-5656.

Team Report

The purpose of the Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (SPR) is to encourage, nurture, and support the pastor and staff of the church, balancing the needs of the mission and ministry of the congregation with the gifts and skills of the pastor and staff. During the past year, SPR provided information to the District Superintendent that was used to select our new pastor, Leigh Brown. During the summer, we arranged several opportunities for the congregation and Leigh to become acquainted. The SPR is also responsible for developing job descriptions, advertising job openings, and evaluating the performance of the pastor and staff. Last, but not least, the SPR plays a role in identifying and encouraging leadership development within the congregation by recommending lay preachers and candidates for ordained ministry to the annual conference. Our team leader is Sharon Parrill, and the team members are Janet Johnson, Carol Grutkoski, Andrea Scamehorn, Peg Cooper, Pete Neuswanger, Jennifer Krinke, Jim Clarke and Susan Mullin.

Each month we will be highlighting a different team. Everyone at Faith Church is encouraged to be involved.

Prayer Chain at Faith Church



"It has been a great blessing knowing others are praying for me, especially as I fight my own fears and doubts."

Did you know that Faith Church has an active prayer chain ministry? We have both an email and a telephone chain and the pray-ers are ready to pray for you and your needs. To request prayer, simply contact the church office and we will get the chain going on your behalf.

The Bible is one of the ways that God speaks to us and prayer is a way that we can speak to God - bringing Him our deepest heartaches and biggest concerns. He is always there listening, loving and caring for us.

Also, we are always looking for more people to pray. If you want to join the prayer chain, please let LaFonda in the church office know.

John Wesley's Covenant Prayer

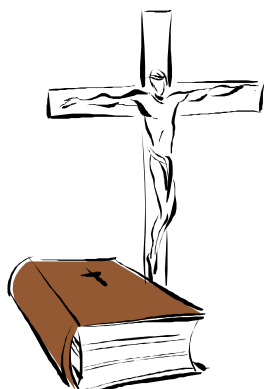
I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by you or laid aside for you,
brought high for you or brought low by you.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
to our pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
you are mine, and I am yours. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen.

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.

February 17, 7:00 PM



Join us on Wednesdays during Lent

February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24

5:30 Light Supper in the Fellowship Hall

6:00 Lenten Class in the Fellowship Hall

7:00 Lenten Worship in the Worship Center

Palm Sunday Services	March 28, 9:00 and 11:00 AM
Holy Thursday Service	April 1, 7:00 PM
Good Friday Prayer Vigil	April 2, begins at 6:30 AM
Good Friday Service	April 2, 7:00 PM
Easter Services	April 4, 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Choose to come for fellowship, education, and worship for
the whole family during the 2010 Lenten season.