

Call of Faith

Faith United Methodist Church
2708 33 Ave. N.E.
St. Anthony Village, MN 55418
Web: www.faithumchurch.com

May 21, 2009

In This Issue

Page

Announcing the New Pastor	2
Camp Faith	4
Christian Education Director Resignation Letter	3
Confirmands	4
Faith Church News	6
Farewell for Pastor Kevin	2
Letter from the Pastor	1
Musician of the Year	3
Senior's Page	5
Youth News	4

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:15 AM Hymn Sing
9:30 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Fellowship

Church Contacts:

Kevin Schill:
Pastor@faithumchurch.com
Jo Halvorsen:
Joh@faithumchurch.com
Dave Schneider:
Daves@faithumchurch.com
Kyle Hayes:
Kyleh@faithumchurch.com
LaFonda Shreve:
Lshreve@faithumchurch.com
(Hours: Tues, Wed, Fri. 9:00 - 4:00)
Janet Olson:
Jolson@faithumchurch.com
(Hours: Mon, Thurs, Fri. 8:30 - 2:30)

Other Staff: Marie Kuglin, Fran Cox,
Rod Long

Web: www.faithumchurch.com
Email: Faith@faithumchurch.com

Faith is Handicap Accessible

My Dear Friends,

Blessings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As I approach my final days as the pastor of Faith Church, I am reminded of what a blessing it has been to share these past three years of ministry with all of you. Your faithfulness to the gospel as shown in your compassion and caring for each other and for the broader community of God's people are wonderful gifts, which you have graciously shared with Kathy and me and our family through some of our most joyful and challenging times. I thank you for allowing me to be your pastor, and along with wonderful friendships, I will cherish the laughter and the tears that come with sharing life and fellowship together.

I know that it is time for me to move in a different direction of ministry, and I am looking forward to the opportunity to focus my attention on developing and facilitating opportunities for people to engage in mission and outreach ministries. I am, however, very pleased with what we together, by God's grace, have been able to accomplish. By necessity, we have spent much of our time together building and strengthening the foundational structures which allow ministry to thrive. Through the leadership, hard work and faithful commitment of many who have stepped forward to serve, Faith Church is poised to launch some very important and exciting ministries to reach the community that you have been called to serve.

Sunday, June 14 will be my last day as your pastor. I will continue to hold all of you in my prayers, but I must ask that, following the Discipline of the United Methodist Church, you not call upon me to serve in a pastoral capacity in any way. Pastor Leigh Brown, who has been appointed by Bishop Sally Dyck, will soon come to serve as the pastor of Faith Church. I ask all of you to join me in prayer for God's blessings to be upon her as she comes to share her gifts and graces in ministry among you. Please welcome her with all of the love and grace that Kathy and I have known in our time with you, and honor the pastoral presence and leadership that she will bring.

I thank you for the privilege of sharing in ministry with you and ask God's blessings upon you, beloved and faithful followers of our Lord.

Grace and Peace,

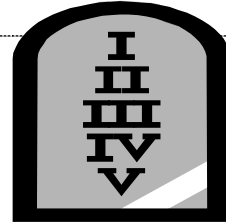
Pastor Kevin



Introducing the New Pastor at Faith UMC

It is the intention of Bishop Sally Dyck to appoint the Reverend Leigh Brown as pastor of Faith United Methodist Church effective June 30, 2009. Pastor Leigh comes to us from Anoka UMC where she has been serving as the Associate pastor since 2005. July 5th will be Pastor Leigh's first Worship Service at FUMC. Please join us for a special Fellowship Time after service to welcome and greet Pastor Leigh.

Ten Commandments For Pastoral Change



1. Thou Shalt Not compare the new pastor with the old pastor, for verily, they are two different people.
2. Thou Shalt Not say to the new pastor "But our last pastor did it this way."
3. Thou Shalt Not call back the outgoing pastor for funerals and weddings, yea, those are the responsibilities of ministry for the new pastor.
4. Thou Shalt Not send to the former pastor, nor in any way communicate with him matters of gossip or problems.
5. Thou Shalt Not withhold thine exceeding great capacity of love for the new pastor.
6. Thou Shalt Not prejudge persons and things for the new pastor. She will have the ability to judge wisdom and truth.
7. Thou Shalt Not fail to review the new pastor's salary annually, and increase it, as a symbol of love and appreciation.
8. Thou Shalt Not speak too often of thy former pastor, and when thou dost, may it be kindly.
9. Thou Shalt Not forget the new pastor at Christmas and birthday with thoughtful remembrance.
10. Thou Shalt Not forget to pray for the new pastor regularly.

Please join the Faith Church family on Sunday, June 14 for a special Worship Service and Fellowship time to celebrate Kevin's ministry and wish him well as he begins the new path God has charted for him.

We are planning to present Pastor Kevin with a farewell gift of appreciation. If you would like to contribute toward this gift you may send or give your donation to Terry Krinke or the church office no later than June 7.

FAREWELL
to the
Pastor



May 20, 2009

To the Church family of Faith United Methodist Church,

Grace and Peace be with you all in Jesus' name! I am writing this letter to you, the congregation and ministers of Faith United Methodist Church. At this time, I have decided to resign my position, effective immediately, as Director of Christian Education at your parish.

These decisions are always met with an incomparable measure of both grief in the parting, and delight in the future ministry calls of God. My time at Faith was focused in partnership with Pastor Schill as a "foundation laying" team. It has been a wonderful experience to see the church emerge as a people committed and caring about the discipleship process of children, youth, and adults. I have absolutely no worries or regrets that you will take your congregation into the future with boldness and purpose.

You will be greatly blessed by the ministry leadership of Pastor Leigh Brown. I did share with Pastor Leigh the strong potential of my resigning prior to her arrival, so she is prepared, along with the staff, to lead the church accordingly.

Nothing is more amazing than the power of the local church working in and for its community. You are a dedicated people that face your obstacles, that stand sure of your calling, and who repeatedly emerge as the hands and feet of Christ in a world that needs you. Memories flood me of dedicated volunteers teaching children with passion, cradling screaming infants during Parents' Night Out, hanging out with youth over dinner on Wednesday nights.....this is what "Jesus with skin on" looks like, every time.

My family and I are staying in New Brighton, so I look forward to seeing you in the community. God bless you all, and thank you for allowing me to be a part of such an important time in your church's history and future.

May the ministry of Faith United Methodist Church go forward in Holy boldness!

Faithfully,

Janet Rodriguez-Ricci

Note from Staff Parish Relations: Regretfully Pastor Kevin and SPR have accepted Janet's resignation and will begin the process of filling her position in our church. Until further arrangements can be made, all questions regarding the Christian Education programs and activities should be directed to the church office.

2009 MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD



In recognition of a lifetime commitment to music and music ministry, the 2009 Musician of the Year award was given on Sunday, May 17, to:

Carla Erpelding

Music has been a part of Carla's entire life. Her mom insisted on piano lessons at a young age but, early on a change from piano lessons to vocal lessons was negotiated. As the years went by, the house was filled with the sounds of piano, voice, and band instruments. Participation in choirs, trios, all sorts of ensembles, as well as solos, led to Carla receiving the high school vocalist of the year award in 1962.

Moving to Minneapolis to attend the Minnesota School of Business, she joined and sang with the University Choir to fulfill her passion for singing.

Married in 1976, Carla and her husband, Ray, joined Hobart Church where she, having been continuously involved in church growing up, became a dedicated member of the sanctuary choir, sang solos, and served faithfully on the worship committee. With her dad's encouragement throughout the years, Carla and her four sisters sang together at many churches and events, sharing their love of music. They even made a CD at a recording studio as a birthday surprise for their mom!

Carla and Ray joined Faith Church in the year 2000. She quickly became – and is – a dedicated member of our sanctuary choir and Tapestry, sings solos for worship services, and frequently leads the hymn sing time in the summer. Carla is also our lead communion steward, assists with the care and arrangement of the altar, is often a liturgist for the traditional service, and serves faithfully on Faith's worship and music team.

Her love of music led her to join the Wayzata Women's Choir nearly 10 years ago and she has personally arranged to have this group present their winter and spring concerts at Faith Church for many years.

We are proud to give this prestigious award to Carla. **Congratulations!**

Youth News

Camp Faith

This summer the Christian Education team is excited to announce Camp Faith, an alternative summer program to the traditional Vacation Bible School format. We are offering six Friday mornings of faith-growing learning, music, FUN, crafts, games, and more for all children ages 3 through completed 5th grade. The dates are:

- June 12 and 26
- July 10 and 24
- August 7 and 14

The time is from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. You may choose any or all Fridays. The cost is just \$7 each or \$38 for all and no one will be turned away due to inability to pay. Participants must bring their own sack lunch each day.

To register, please go to our web site or pick up a form at church. Please feel free to share this information with your family and friends as all children are welcome.

Carolie Carlson has collaborated with Tori Setterholm, the CE director at Nativity Lutheran, and with their blessing has been able to use their programming concept. However, rather than a continuous week of a daily program like Nativity, we are offering ours only on specific Fridays. In the future, Nativity and Faith hope to cross-market this program with an alternating schedule; however, this year there will be some duplicated program dates.

Parent's Night Out Recap

A HUGE thanks to the wonderful volunteers who helped make the Parents' Night Out on May 8th such a big success. We served 30 children a fun-filled night and had the opportunity to share our future programming ideas with many interested parents! This event would have been impossible without: Michele Vance, Kay Kramer, Emily Dennison, Barbara Greicius, Tony Greicius, Pam Pettit, Julie Dale, Nicole Oja, Henry Elholm, Steven Ricci, Will Ricci, and Gail Schaal. Way to go team!

The Shack

This summer we are excited to offer a great formation study. William P. Young's acclaimed novel *The Shack* will be the focus of our four-week discussion. It is the Bishop's desire that everyone read this book, so we are looking forward to the impact this will have on our church as well as on our entire denomination. Miriam Bosveld will facilitate the discussion on Wednesdays July 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 6:30 PM.

Breakthrough Day Camp

Camp Kingswood is holding day camp from July 6-10, 9:30 AM-3:00 PM. for grades K-6. Transportation is available. Jim Murphy camping scholarships may be available. Jr. Counselors from grades 7-12 are also wanted. For more information, brochures are available on the C.E. kiosk.

Congratulations Recent Confirmands:



Participant

Michael Anderson
David Busacker
Marisa Lilley
Erin Mathews
Ross McNall
Grace Miller
Cassia Mullin
Liana Oja
Ryan Vijums

Parents

Dan & April Anderson
Jim & Karolyn Busacker
Doug & Cheryl Lilley
Michael & Darlya Mathews
Dan & Natalie McNall
Cara Miller
Mike & Susan Mullin
John & Vivien Oja
Paul & Judy Vijums

Mentor

William Cox
David Largaespada
Susan Mullin
Andrea Scamehorn
Brenda Brelje
Natalie McNall
David Gottlieb
Karolyn Busacker
David Jose

Outcome of All Church Meeting on May 3rd

106 votes were cast. The following schedule was passed with 56% of the vote and will be effective Fall 2009.

9:00 - 9:50	Celebration Service	9:50 - 10:00	Transition time	9:50 - 11:30	Fellowship/Coffee
10:00 - 10:45	Education time	10:45 - 11:00	Transition time	11:00 - 12:00	Traditional Service

The reason for change was to encourage the congregation to participate in education and to involve children in church services. The current schedule only allowed youth to attend the traditional service if they attend the education time.



Senior Moments

Way back during my Seminary days in Naperville, Illinois, (that is really ancient history!) there was a weekly item in the newspaper entitled something like "Roses for the Living." It was a brief article giving appropriate accolades to someone in the area who deserved some praise and thanks. Nothing spectacular, but just a word of thanks to acknowledge a good job well done, a good deed, or an act of kindness. The editor figured, I suppose, why not a "thank you" while they were still alive? - not just at their funeral.

Recently at a staff meeting we talked about the importance of praise and thanks. We admitted that praise and thanks isn't always spread around like it should be. We reminded ourselves that a "pat on the back" goes a long way to encourage good work, and inspire creativity; expressing gratitude to ordinary people doing ordinary things.

Right now I'm thinking:

When did I last thank my wife?

When did I last thank a co-worker?

When did I last say to a friend "I really am grateful for your friendship."

As parents, we used to say to our children "now remember those *magic* words, 'please' and 'thank you'" and expected our kids to learn them well.

Have we forgotten those words as well?

Pastor Dave Schneider, Sr. Adult Coordinator

LEAFS

Our Adult Council is planning to host the L.E.A.F.S. program this fall at Faith Church. We are looking for volunteers to assist with hosting, greeting, set up, clean up, kitchen help (no food preparation), registration and information tables. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the Commons. If you have questions, please contact Dave Schneider, Carol Vick, Mary Ann Fitzer, or Blanche Burroughs.

Senior Adult Events

A Lakeside Retreat at Beautiful Lake Koronis (near Paynesville, MN) is being planned by Dave and Esther Schneider for June 22-24, sponsored by our MN Conference Camping & Retreats Ministry. The theme is "The World of Nature Beckons: Who Will Listen? Who Will Care?"

You will have a private room in the fully modern Sunrise Inn surrounded by lakeside views and wooded trails. Rooms are equipped with air conditioning and are handicap accessible. Enjoy rewarding fellowship, delicious meals, joyous singing, and times for solitude as well. For more information, pick up a brochure in the Commons. Questions? Call Dave and Es at 763-780-2363.

Coming June 11, 7:00 PM, "**Climate Change in our Region: Evidence and Consequences**" presented by Dr. Mark Seeley, Professor and Meteorologist at the U of M. Dr. Seeley, speaking from extensive research and experience in this field, shares how these changes affect our health, our agriculture, and our forests. His books will also be available. Fellowship with questions time and coffee will follow. A free-will offering will be taken. All are welcome.

Prime Tymers News from Nativity Church

June 6, 6:00 PM Potluck Supper and Music

Prime Tymers and Faith Church seniors work together on these and other events during the year.



Seniors Page

Faith Church News!!

- **Faith United Methodist Women** met on Thursday, April 16. The program included the history of UMW from 1869 to the present. In 1972, WSCS and Wesleyan Service Guild merged to form United Methodist Women.

It was decided to donate \$250 to Christ's Children Ministries run by Rev. Dr. Chris & Lisa McNair in Minneapolis. Christ's Children Ministries works with children without fathers in the home by providing meals, church activities, sponsoring after school groups and a sports team.

Future UMW events are:

- ⇒ April 25 – Twin Cities Day Apart Spring Gathering @ Camphor UMC in St. Paul
- ⇒ May 1-5 – Spirituality Retreat "Living the Sacred" at Koronis in Paynesville
- ⇒ July 14-19 – School of Christian Missions at St. John's
- ⇒ September 19 – Twin Cities Annual Meeting at Brooklyn UMC in Brooklyn Center
- ⇒ October 3 – MN Conference Annual Meeting at Richfield UMC in Minneapolis
- ⇒ FALL RETREAT – We will again sponsor a fall retreat for all church women. This year it will be held at Jo Halvorsen's lake home in Spicer. Watch the bulletin and Call of Faith for details.

- **Family Fun Night** on April 17 was a BLAST and was enjoyed by people of all ages. It started with an icebreaker game, followed by pizza and different games. It was a great way to get acquainted with people that you see at church but have not had a chance to really get to know. A competitive streak appeared in some people especially during the game *Scattergories*. A special thank you to Amy Neuswanger for organizing the games and to Fern Ostberg and Amy Neuswanger for the pizza delivery. Also, thank you to Jennifer Krinke for the publicity and overhead announcement. Plan to join us for the next Family Fun Night – date to be announced.

If you are interested in helping to organize the next event, please contact Amy Neuswanger or Barbara Greicius.

- Unfortunately the **India Children's Choir** will not be able to present their concert at Faith Church on Tuesday, June 30 as previously announced. The choir was not granted the necessary visas to come to the United States and has cancelled their entire tour.

Those who donated to support the tour may receive a refund of their money or the funds may be donated to the Mission Schools to sponsor one of their children. The \$29 per month sponsorship provides for a child's tuition, text books, uniforms, school supplies and emergency medical attention. Currently there are over 2000 children in urgent need of sponsors.

The child recommended for us is named Anna Khiangte. She is a darling 6 year old living with her family in the village of Hmarkhawlien in the state of Assam, India. Her father recently lost his job and without a sponsor she will not be able to continue with her schooling.

Please let us know by June 30, if you want your money refunded. All funds not refunded will be donated toward Anna's sponsorship. Currently we have collected enough money to pay for 16 months of Anna's sponsorship.

- **Family Table at Fridley UMC** was the host for 111 luncheon guests on Saturday, March 25. Eight members of Faith UMC Outreach Committee went to Fridley UMC to help and learn. Because the number of guests was nearly double from the previous month, they learned by doing. Shopping and food preparation were done Thursday and Friday. Cooking began at 7:00 AM. on Saturday with set up from 10 - 11 AM. Guests were welcomed and served from 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM. Volunteers participated by greeting, cooking, serving, hosting, set up, and clean up. Thank you to the following members who participated: Ed and Fern Ostberg, Ken Nelson, Amy and Pete Neuswanger, Mari Donaldson, Barbara and Tony Greicius.

Fridley UMC serves a free noon meal on the 4th Saturday of each month to people in need in the surrounding community. Food is received from government commodities, purchased from Second Harvest (at 12 cents per pound), and purchased from local grocery stores.

If you would like to participate or have any questions, please contact Barbara Greicius or Amy Neuswanger. Any help is greatly appreciated.

- Cancer has touched many people. **Relay for Life** gives each of us an opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer as a church community. You can do this by donating to the American Cancer Society through our team "Full of Faith." For each \$10 donation you may choose to have a luminaria made "In Honor of.." or "In Memory of.." a loved one who has lost to cancer, who is fighting cancer, or who has fought cancer and has won. A table will be set up in the Commons June 7 if you would like to make a contribution. Or you may give your contribution to any team member at any time.

Our team members are: Deb Anderson, Brian Bosveld, Miriam Bosveld, Em Dennison, Barb Greicius, Donna Hageman, Joyce Jose, Gloria Kauls, Kay Kramer, Diane Lewis, Jean Mityb, Sarah Olson, Steve Sattler, Sue Sattler, and Michele Vance.

On Friday, June 19th at 7 PM at the St. Anthony High School Football field there is a "Survivors' Walk"- a lap around the field for any survivors. There is a short program and the luminarias will be lit at dusk. We invite each of you to come!

- Thanks to a generous gift from Bev Hanson, Faith Church will again be able to award the **Hanson Scholarship** to eligible applicants. The money may be used by recent graduates or those in pursuit of continuing education. A brochure about the requirements and an application form are available at the church. The deadline for submitting an application is June 14.

- The **Celebrate Northeast Parade** will be held this year on Tuesday, June 23, at 6:30 PM. The planning committee is looking for 150 volunteers to help with a variety of jobs beginning at 3:00 that day. If you can help out, please complete a volunteer application at www.minneapolischamber.org/parade.